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Vol. 130-No. 29 July 16, 2002

Nashville Council approves Mulberry Fore preliminary site

by Sandra Ponsetto
Staff Writer

The Nashville Village Council voted unanimously to adopt the resolutions and ordinances necessary for Mulberry Fore developers to begin building the model home for their proposed 22-unit condominium development.

"We're happy with the results," said Mulberry Fore Developer Tad Davis, speaking on behalf of himself and business partner Orvin Moore, at a later interview.

"We were very impressed with the attitude of the council. They seemed very positive and willing to make

suggestions to get the project going quicker, and they seemed very proactive," Davis said.

The council held a public hearing concerning the Mulberry Fore development before the regular meeting of the council. Moore presented Mulberry Fore's preliminary site plan for the council and public.

While there were no questions or comments from the audience, council members questions and comments were primarily concerned with how far from the road the units would be built.

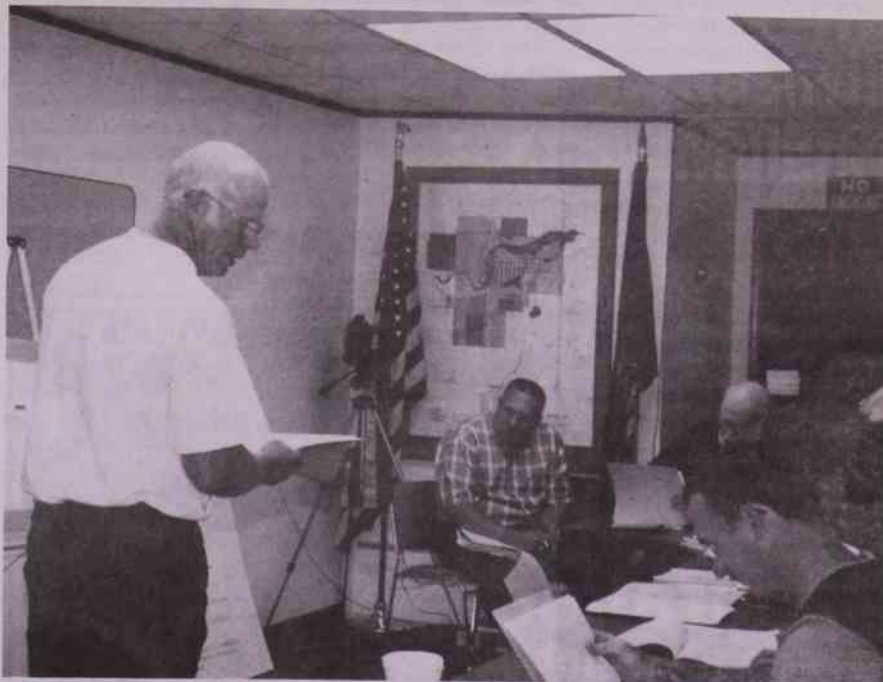
"How far are you set back from the center line of the interior roads?" asked Ralph

Kirk. "We try to do at least what the ordinance says," responded Moore. "Mostly we try to be more than that. We have 25 to 30 feet at the closest point."

The council also asked how many units were planned for the parcel.

"It's a benefit to leave as much open space as we can. We do not want the homes crammed in there; that would be a detriment to sales," said Davis. "We want open spaces."

"When the zoning was approved back in '92, it was actually set up for four four-plexes and two duplexes on that property. So, in essence,



Mulberry Fore Developer Orvin Moore presents a preliminary site plan to the Nashville Village Council.

we have actually lessened the density of that area in the proposal we have right here."

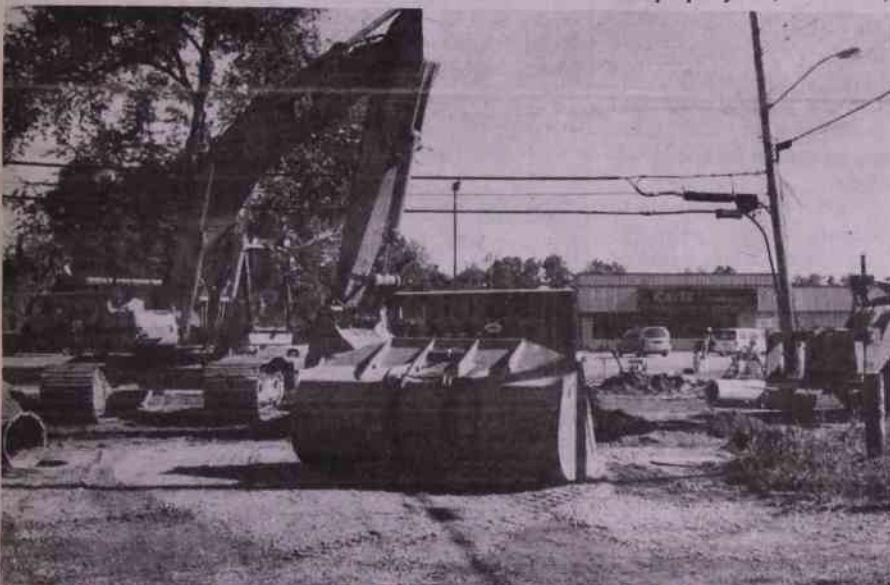
Council President Frank Dunham noted that one of the ordinance amendments

on the docket for approval during the regular meeting was actually unfinished business from 1992.

"In '92 the council had voted to change the zoning on that property for the golf

course. But, after the board changed that zoning, they did not follow the process...of...recording the change on the zoning

See site plan, page 2



Work continues in Nashville

Heavy machinery sits in front of Carl's Market on the east end of the Reed Street Project last week when castings for storm drains were being set. Curbs are planned to be set in this area later this week.



Workers smooth a layer of asphalt near the corner of Reed and Main Street. The first phase of the work is completed except for the top coat. Driveway approaches have been installed and grass has been re-seeded.

Callton re-elected as Board of Education president

by Sandra Ponsetto
Staff Writer

The Maple Valley Board of Education selected its panel of officers for the 2002-2003 school year during its annual organizational meeting last week.

Mike Callton has been re-elected president; Jerry Sessions, vice president; Allison Avery, secretary and representative for the scholarship board of directors; Tim James, treasurer; Wayne Curtis, legislative representative for Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) and Mark Shoemaker, representative for the Eaton County School Board Association.

The board also approved the following committee assignments for the coming year: Community and School, David Favre, chair; Allison Avery and Jerry Sessions; Labor and Finance, Tim James, chair, Mike Callton and Wayne Curtis; Physical Facilities, Jerry Sessions, chair, Mike Callton and Mark Shoemaker.

"I took your recommendations and, in some cases looked at them and in other cases, never looked at them," quipped Callton. "I knew I was missing a few; so it really didn't matter

anyway. I basically cut up your names, scattered them about and put them in piles and that's how I came up with this year's committee assignments."

In other business, the board:

- Approved the hiring of teachers Andrew Peabody, first grade Fuller Street School; Kelly VanDorpe, second grade, Fuller Street School; Erin Gilding, special education, Fuller Street School and Dr. Sandra Cade, Maple Valley High School, Spanish. In separate action the board approved hiring Cade at Step 8, with a salary of approximately \$50,000 in recognition of her education and teaching experience.

- Set the board of education meeting dates for 2002-2003. All meetings of the board will be held at 7 p.m. on the second Monday of each month, except April 2003, when the board will meet on the April 21, the third Monday of the month.

- Approved the following fall season coaching assignments for 2002: Varsity Football, Guenther Mittelstaedt, assistants, Chris Ricketts, Don Roscoe and Kevin Stewart; J.V. Football, Brain Lincoln and Bryan Carpenter, assistants Tony Wawiernia and Steve Hopkins; Varsity Girls Basketball, Craig Kitching and assistant Landon Wilkes;

See school board, page 3

In This Issue...

- State rodeo champ heads to national competition
- County won't let voters decide on COA, Health Dept. projects
- 150th Barry County Fair full of surprises
- Kid's Cafe brings nutrition fun to schools

Site plan, continued from page 1

map..." said Dunham. "Part of this is an ordinance to amend the Nashville zoning ordinance to rezone approximately 50 acres of RR (rural residential) to PUD (planned unit development) district and ordering the map to be changed to represent previous action of the council."

Later, during the council's round table discussion, after all the resolutions and ordinances had been passed, Mapes remarked that the local press has been unfair by, "pointing a finger at the village council," when the current council was, "just trying to finish what should have been done 10 years ago."

"You (the village council) took flak that was unnecessary. You can't bypass the

system because it's written in the law, and if someone challenges you later, it gets to be worse later than it is right now."

Davis and Moore are pleased that they can now take the next step in the development process.

"We're planning to start building the model home," said Davis.

The model will be one of the eleven duplexes planned for the site.

"Each of the units will be approximately 1,200 square feet. The first unit we're building will have a basement with daylight windows," said Davis.

"We're going to stake it out and once Dennis (Mapes, Zoning Board of

Appeals administrator) gives us the zoning permit, we'll take it to Castleton Township to get the building permit."

"Both Orvin and I are very happy with the decision. Now we can proceed with what we need to do to go on," said Davis. "I feel like a weight has been lifted from my shoulders."

Adopted by the council were Resolution 7-11-02 (PUD Approval), Ordinance 7-11-02 A (PUD Amendment), Ordinance 7-11-02 B (PUD Restrictions Amendment), and Ordinance 7-11-02 C (Final Plat Application Amendment).

The council appointed Ronda Edinger to the seat on the council vacated last

month by Chelsey Wetzel. Edinger was appointed to the board by a 5 to 1 vote.

Councilman Steve Wheeler said his no vote was not a reflection on Edinger, rather he felt the council should interview candidates for seats on the council in an attempt to prevent turnover. Wheeler cited a recent incident where an appointee never attended council meetings, yet failed to resign from the council.

The council made appointments for the two vacancies on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Susan Aiken was appointed to the vacant position which expires in April, 2002. Ron Ohler was appointed to the post which expires in April, 2005.

Nashville Police Officer Jeff Miller reported to the council about an attempted child abduction that had been reported in the local media.

"We still have that case open, and we are looking at it with extreme caution," said Miller. "Basically, at this point we are looking at that complaint as an informational notice to parents and children to be cautious of their activities and be aware of where children are at."

"We do have a description of the vehicle. It is a very unique vehicle, so if we run across it, we are following up on any contacts. We have had only one from the Lansing Police Department at this time, so we are keeping an eye out for similar activity."

"It's just a reminder to parents, at this point, to make sure you are aware of where your children are."

Miller also reported on his involvement with a high speed chase.

Millers said the Barry County Sheriff's Department initiated the chase north of the village. It involved a single officer pursuing the vehicle with no

available back-up.

"I assisted him until he ended up at the Eaton County, Ionia border," he said. "Eaton County was in the area to assist the officer so I did disengage."

"It was a safety issue so that is why our department chose participation to keep that officer safe."

Miller reported that a supervisor from the Barry County Sheriff's Department approved the deputy's pursuit and monitored it for safety issues.

Council members questioned Miller about the amount of time the Nashville Police Department spends outside the village.

"Some of it depends on the circumstances," replied Miller. "It did go up this year (time spent outside the village limits). I don't know if we've become more cognizant about recording the times we go in and out of the village with the vouchers..."

"We've all made a conscious effort to be more accountable about where we are at and what we are doing and recording all of that."

Council Member Carroll Wolff asked if the incident described earlier by Miller, involving assistance to another law enforcement agency, was typical.

"Generally we're staying in the two township area. We're in either Castleton or Maple Grove," replied Miller. "Three of them were assists where they had officers responding to take pri-

mary complaints; but there were safety issues either of property damage or an accident or a complaint where it might be an 'in progress' like a domestic or a break-in."

In response to other questions along the same vein, Miller said the department has to weigh officer safety against time spent outside the village.

"We don't do it to make ourselves busy. We do it to make sure they (officers from other departments) are safe so when we need help, they will come help us."

"They are useful to us as we make ourselves useful to them," concluded Miller.

Also during his report, Miller stated that there were no major complaints, incidents or fires during the Fourth of July holiday.

Miller also introduced the village's new part-time officer, Adam Dent. Dent comes from the Greenville Police Department where he worked and was pre-certified.

Darrell Clements, Nashville's interim director of the Department of Public Works, reported on the status of the water main installation in downtown Nashville. He said workers would concentrate on boring holes for the Main Street project so the buildings would connect with the water mains from the back of the buildings instead of the front where they are now.

Continued next page

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<p>ABUNDANT LIFE FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES A Spirit-filled Church Meeting at the Maple Leaf Grange Hwy. M-66 south of Assynia Rd. Nashville, MI 49073 Sun. Praise & Worship 10:30 a.m., 6:00 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.m. Jesus Club for boys & girls ages 4-12. Pastors David & Rose MacDonald. An oasis of God's love. "Where Everyone is Someone Special." For information call 1-616-731-5194 or 1-517-852-1806.</p> <p>ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH 803 Reed St., Nashville Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday: A.M. Worship 11 a.m. Evening Worship 6 p.m. Wednesday Evening: Prayer Meeting 7 p.m. PASTOR GLENN BRANHAM</p> <p>BASELINE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 9617 E. Baseline Rd. Corner of Baseline & Church Roads (2 miles east of M-66 on Baseline) Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 11 a.m. (Nursery Provided) Youth Groups, Bible Study and many other activities. Phone (616) 963-7710 REV. GLEN WEGNER</p>	<p>CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 301 Fuller St., Nashville Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Sunday: 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. Worship 10:30 a.m. Evening Worship 6 p.m. Wednesday Evening at 7 p.m.: Children's Classes Youth Group • Adult Worship PASTOR JEFF SWIFT</p> <p>GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH Meeting at Maple Valley High School Morning Celebration 10 a.m. Contemporary Service, Relevant Practical Teaching, Nursery, Children's Classes, Youth Group, Ad. Small Groups, Leaders'up Training PASTORS: DON ROSCOE and ROB VAN ENGEN Phone: (517) 852-9228</p> <p>GRESHAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH One mile N. of Vermontville Hwy. on Mulliken Road Church Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Adult Class 10:50 a.m. PASTOR JEFF BOWMAN</p>	<p>NORTH KALAMO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Worship Service 9:30 a.m. PASTOR MARK THOMPSON</p> <p>MAPLE GROVE BIBLE CHURCH 8593 Cloverdale Road (1/2 mile East of M-66, 5 mi. south of Nashville) Sunday School 10 a.m. A.M. Service 11:15 a.m. P.M. Service 6 p.m. PASTOR GEORGE GAY</p> <p>NASHVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH 304 Phillips St., Nashville Sunday School 9:45 a.m. A.M. Service 11 a.m. P.M. Service 7 p.m. Wed. Service 7 p.m. PASTOR LESTER 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 E. M-79 Highway 4 miles west of Nashville (cor. M-79 & Barryville Rd.) Sunday Worship 9:15 a.m. Children's Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Other: Prayer Walk, Youth Group, U.M. Women, Bible Study, Choir, Mission Projects & more. PASTOR SUSAN TROWBRIDGE Phone (517) 726-1495 IGNITING MINISTRY Open Hears-Open Minds-Open Doors</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. Hutwick 948-9604 Traditional 1928 Book of Common Prayer used for all services. Affiliated with the Independent Anglican Church (Canada Synod).</p>	<p>ST. CYRIL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 203 N. State, Nashville Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m. FATHER MIKE STAFFORD A mission of St. Rose Catholic Church, Hastings</p> <p>VERMONTVILLE BIBLE CHURCH 250 N. Main St., Vermontville Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship Service 11 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m. Wed. Evening Service 7 p.m. AWANA 7-8:30 p.m. Wed. PASTOR DANIEL E. SMITH</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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Area Obituaries

Gladys H. Gutches

NASHVILLE - Gladys H. Gutches, age 90, of Nashville, passed away Monday, July 8, 2002 at Thornapple Manor in Hastings, Michigan.

Gladys was born December 19, 1911 in Thompson, Michigan, the daughter of William and Lillian (Heric) Rogers. She lived in the Dowling and Nashville areas for over 50 years and attended local schools.

She was married to Vern Gutches for over 50 years and he preceded her in death in April 1991.

She was employed as a practical nurse and retired from Fort Custer State Home.

She was a member of the Nashville Assembly of God Church.

Gladys is survived by her sons Robert of West Virginia and John of Bellevue; daughter, Karen of Ohio; sister, Rachel of Washington, Michigan; six grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Vern and nine siblings.

Funeral service will be held on Thursday, July 11, 2002 at the Maple Valley Chapel in Nashville. Pastor Glenn Branham officiated.

Burial was at Lakeview Cemetery in Nashville.

Memorial contributions may be made to Thornapple Manor in Hastings.

Arrangements were made by the Maple Valley Chapel in Nashville.

Site plan, continued from page 2

"Once the water samples come back, they will proceed in hooking the main part of downtown into the water main," said Clements.

Clements said the first phase of the Reed Street Project is finished except for the final coat. He reported that driveway approaches are finished and the grass has been seeded.

"They are going to wait until the second phase has the first coat of asphalt on it, then they're going to do one complete coat from Main Street to Curtis Road. Then that will be complete," said

Clements. "They have two more castings to be set out by Carl's (Market) for storm drains. They hope to have the curbs set by Wednesday."

During the audience question and comments portion of the meeting, the council heard a report from Jeff Beebe that he would be demolishing the burned-out house at 202 South Main Street within the next 30-60 days, now that he has the clear title of ownership for that property.

Beebe also discussed the issue of a village sewer easement, which is located

under his Dollar General Store. He showed the council paper work, including his certified survey and title, none of which showed the easement.

"I'm not here to point fingers or say who did what or who didn't do what," said Beebe. "I think there is a workable solution, I'm sorry this has happened, I guess we probably all are."

"If I had known it was there I would have redesigned the building," he said. "Hopefully you can give someone the authorization without going to the legal beagles... or open a can of worms... that would create more liability and damages for everybody."

Beebe said he had already obtained a quote on how much it would cost to relocate the sewer easement, if the council chose to pursue that course of action.

"I guess what I am saying is, whether the building stays the way it is or whether it is finished, in either case the issue still resides that there is a 12-inch sewer main underneath one of my buildings," said Beebe. "That's not something that is going to inhibit Nashville's ability to function."

Dunham said he thought an engineering report should be done.

Clements said the only problem would be if the tile

collapsed because there would be no way of reaching the sewer main under the building.

Beebe proposed that the village and he could jointly shoulder the cost of rerouting the sewer line.

Dunham said he would consult with the village attorney, but he hoped the issue could be resolved in a friendly manner.

"I don't see any reason why it shouldn't," said Beebe.

In other business, the board:

- Heard a report from Mapes regarding the old Hastings City Bank building which the bank donated to the village earlier this year. He said that a title search is still being conducted on the property, so they don't know when the village offices will be able to move in. However, Mapes reported that the village had received a large quantity of high-quality furniture from the Kellogg Corporation for use in the new facility.

- Approved the payment of bills for July totaling \$62,950.77, payments to contractors totaling \$265,275.28, the quarterly payments to the fire department (\$1,500) and the ambulance service (\$ 6,250) and the purchase of an aeration pump for the sewer ponds at a cost of \$4,800.

School board, from page 1

J.V. Girls Basketball, Duska Brumm and assistant Tuesday Van Engen; 8th Grade Girls Basketball, Paul Robles; Varsity/ J.V. Cross Country, Gary Hamilton, assistants, Jerry Sessions and Cindy Allwardt; Varsity/ J.V. Golf, John Hughes; Varsity Cheerleading, Janel Pena; J.V. Cheerleading, Kristy Priddy; and Boys Soccer, Josh Meersma.

- Voted to continue membership in the MASH, the Michigan High School Athletic Association and the School Equity Caucus.

- Approved Hastings City Bank as the main depository; Foote & Lloyd as investment auditors and Thrun, Maatsch & Nordberg, P.C. as attorneys for the school system.

- Accepted a bid from Lifetouch Photography for

team pictures and prom, homecoming and musical photos.

- Approved increasing compensation for board members from \$20 to \$30 per meeting. Superintendent Clark Volz said that he recommended the motion, not because he had received any complaints about compensation or was asked to increase it. He said he felt the amount was fair compensation for the time and energy of board members and is based on the compensation received by members of other school boards within the Barry and Eaton Intermediate School districts.

- Heard form Athletic Director Mike Sparks who reported the athletic department was planning on running a conditioning camp for all athletes Monday through Friday during the last week in July.

Sparks also mentioned that he has reserved Saturday, August 17 for the "Be an 11" seminar. He said the community is invited to attend the seminar which he wants to be "a grand event." Clinicians from the Bigger, Faster, Stronger organization will speak directly to kids about everyday life, behaviors and discipline outside of athletics and extracurricular activities.

Bellevue adult care center wins award from Governor

Bellevue residents Dave and Eve Smith have received a 2002 Governor's Quality Care Award.

The Smiths operate Serenity Acres, a small family home adult foster care facility located in Bellevue.

"Adult care centers fulfill a vital role in our community, one that is often overlooked," said State Rep. Susan Tabor, R-Delta Township. "I am pleased to see this superb Eaton County facility given the recognition it deserves."

The award recognizes facilities that provide excellent care in nursing home, day care, and adult foster care facilities. Presented by the state Department of Consumer and Industry Services, the program is in its fifth year. Nearly 1,000 entries were received from across the state.

"Dave and Eve Smith are just a few of the many wonderful caregivers providing quality of life service to Eaton County families and their loved ones," Tabor said. "They deserve this great honor."

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MOVIE GUIDE




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MEN IN BLACK 2 (PG-13)
DIGITAL/STADIUM SEATING
12:00, 2:30, 4:20, 7:30, 9:30

POWERPUFF GIRLS (PG)
DIGITAL/STADIUM SEATING 11:30 AM

MR. DEEDS (PG-13)
DIGITAL/STADIUM SEATING
1:10, 3:10, 5:10, 7:20, 9:20

DIVINE SECRETS OF THE YA-YA SISTERHOOD (PG-13)
12:00, 2:30, 4:20, 7:30, 9:30

BOURNE IDENTITY (PG-13)
11:45, 4:30, 9:40

LIL & STITCH (PG)
12:30, 2:45, 4:50, 7:10, 9:00

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State rodeo champ heads to National competition



Vermontville's Brandon Bowen shows off his state championship buckle after taking the Michigan title in Junior Boys' Bull Riding.

by **Matt Cowall**
Sports Editor

Vermontville's Brandon Bowen is not your average 11-year-old. That is, unless your idea of "average" has something to do with an angry 2,000-pound bull.

While most kids his age — heck, most people — wouldn't want to be anywhere near such beasts, Bowen gets his kicks riding them. Over the Fourth of July weekend, the four-year veteran of the National Little

Britches Rodeo Association won the year-end Championship Buck for Junior Boys' Bull Riding in Michigan.

The state title placed Bowen in the short go (top 15) for the National Championships in Colorado Springs at the end of the month. He leaves Michigan on July 26 to check in for the competition on July 29.

Bowen has been riding bulls since he started rodeo at the age of 7. He's learned to walk the walk in the rodeo arena, and he's also learned to talk the talk. Like cowboys of lore, he's a poke of few words.

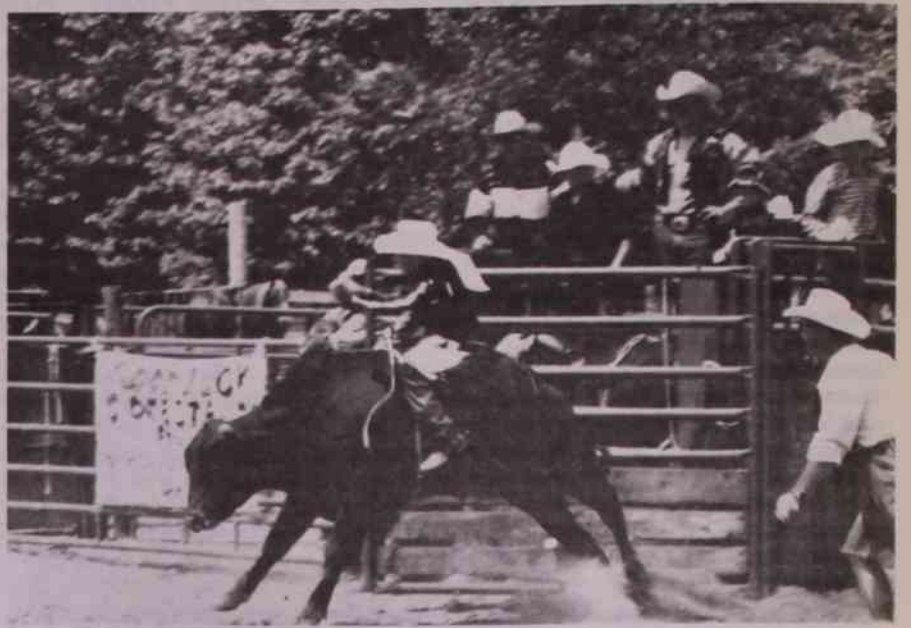
Say Brandon, why did you start riding bulls?
"Cause I wanted to."

Good enough. After seeing a movie about rodeo legend Lane Frost, Bowen knew that's what he wanted to do.

How does it feel to be a state champion?
"Good."

Yep. And did you ever think you'd get this far in the sport?
"Yeah."

'Nuff said, pardner, although he gets downright wordy when asked about his future: "I want to be a professional bull rider and be a pick-up man (a rodeo worker who collects riders from bucking animals)."



Brandon Bowen in action at the Michigan Championships earlier this month.

Bowen, a fifth grader at Maplewood Elementary, has grown up around animals, and proud parents Steve and Sue Bowen currently keep

three horses, three steers and a goat. Bowen also credits the support of his equally-proud grandparents Richard and Char Bowen.

In addition to bull riding, Bowen competes in other rodeo events such as the flag race and goat tying.

Fun Zone programs wrap up first year

The 4-H Fun Zone program in Maple Valley celebrated the end of its first year with parents and children enjoying an ice cream social and an animal petting and information exhibit.

The festivities also included a program in which Cathy Walters-Surratt, Barry County's 4-H director, presented a history of 4-H in the county, and acknowledged the baby-sitting certificates earned through the Red Cross Baby-sitting Program, which was one of the Fun Zone's many offerings.

Fun Zone was designed as an after school program for first through eighth grade children in the Maple Valley School District. The program's primary goal was to provide a safe setting for school age children after the formal school day has ended. The program was also designed to demonstrate to the children the benefits of after school activities by providing a fun learning environment and the opportunity for children and adults to interact in an informal setting. Additionally, making direct contact with families and their needs is a way to help integrate schools and community.

Each Tuesday after school, the program began with nutritious foods presented on tables where the children would have time to sit, talk and participate in a discussion about nutrition with an expert in the field. Courses offered each week included open gym, Kid's Cafe, hands-on science (Cornell University Resource Center, Media & Technology Services science curriculum) and Baby-sitting for Pre-teens (American Red Cross curriculum).

Bob Oliver taught In Touch with Science through the Michigan State University (MSU) Extension, Barry County 4-H Program. Oliver received specialized training

to teach the Cornell University designed hands-on science class.

Laura Anderson and Cathy Liccaga from the MSU Extension, Family Nutrition Program, offered nutritional education and provided healthy foods for the Kid's Cafe program each week.

Walters-Surratt taught the certified Red Cross baby-sitting course.

Volunteers who helped with the program each week included students from Norma Acker's leadership class at Maple Valley High School, including Andrew Gaber. Stacey Hamilton and Andrew Burns from the Barry County 4-H Program worked, with Acker as their adult supervisor, on drafting grants to seek funding for the program.

In addition, Steve Cates, a lay leader from Grace Community Church in Nashville and two youth members from that church donated their time and energy to the project.

The program was spearheaded by Walters-Surratt,

Michelle Skedgell, executive director of the Pierce Foundation; Clark Volz, superintendent of Maple Valley schools; Tate Mix, alternative education principal and community education director; Mike Sparks, athletic director and facilities director; Fred Davenport, principal of Maplewood Elementary; Judy Farnsworth, principal of Fuller Street Elementary and Joan Leos, administrative assistant at Fuller Street Elementary.

Leah Pumford, a VISTA worker, helped design the program and was paid by the 4-H Fun Zone Project and a matching grant from the MSU VISTA program.

Terry Woodman, administrative assistant to the Maple Valley transportation director, designed the busing route and assembled emergency information for each child being transported.

Skedgell and the Pierce Foundation kicked off the fundraising campaign by making the first contribution. Skedgell also proofread

See wrap up, page 5

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FROM OUR READERS Local Citizens Speak Out On Issues

County needs Wayne Curtis

To the editor:

I would like to inform people of this community a few facts about Barry County Commissioner Jeffrey MacKenzie. Maybe they will think before they vote for him again if they know the facts.

MacKenzie is our highest paid commissioner, with add-ons he is well over \$20,000 a year, for a very part-time job. It's sad this is more than people of our community earn on some full time jobs.

MacKenzie helped put up road blocks to stop the people of this country from building the new animal shelter.

MacKenzie is a lawyer and claims this will help him better serve you in office. Yet, if there is a legal issue, he refers it to the county attorney (remember the E-mail issue). I wonder how much that cost the taxpayers of this county?

I thought commissioners were elected to serve us, not bicker and name all amongst themselves. If they have personal problems with each other, they need to take care of it on a personal level, not out in public (remember the Scottish Nazi issue).

When MacKenzie appoints people to commissions, guess that? He likes to pick his lawyer friends. MacKenzie appointed lawyer friend Jim Kinney to Planning and Zoning. Just what this county needs is more lawyers involved in government. And Kinney has been no real friend to this county and the people of Woodland in my opinion. Remember back a few years ago when Kinney was going after Lakewood schools. MacKenzie probably has more lawyer friends that he can put in office too or maybe his buddy Kinney would like another spot in the county. In fact, at a

recent commissioner meeting, MacKenzie ignored a commissioner and asked Kinney's advice and opinion on a issue up for vote.

Does MacKenzie listen to other elected officials? No way. When Castleton Township Supervisor Cooley wanted to talk to him about the COA and voice his opinion against how the county is funding it, he never returned his calls. In fact, Cooley had to write a letter to the editor to get his ideas made known. (Who is Mr. MacKenzie working for?) In my opinion, he continues to ignore what others think and votes his own way, not always for the good of the county.

We need a commissioner that will work together with the townships and everyone for the good of the county. On Aug. 6 we need to vote

for a change in leadership. We need a commissioner that is dedicated to this community. We need Wayne Curtis. He is a local business owner who employs people of this community. He serves on Maple Valley School board.

I remember back a few years ago when they cut the music program from the elementary schools, Curtis started an after school program for these kids. Curtis works hard to do great things for the kids and the community. He is also volunteering to help with Terry Geiger's campaign for our Senate seat, going door to door and in parades. Geiger also needs our vote Aug. 6. I hope you will remember to vote for a change.

Randy L. Easey
Nashville

Programs wrap up, continued from page 4

grant applications for the project that were sent to other organizations. Leos, who wrote the grants for the project, said she appreciated the time and dedication Skedgell gave to ensure the success of getting the Fun Zone program funded and launched.

Mix and other members of the original organizational team solicited donations from the following local organizations and businesses: the Maple Valley PTO, Masons, Pierce Foundation, Barry County Child Abuse Prevention Council, the Nashville and Vermontville Lions, Barry County YMCA, Hastings Rotary, South Central Michigan Food Bank in Battle Creek, Felpausch Food Center in Hastings, Plumbs of Hastings, Good Time Pizza of Nashville and Cotant's farm Market in Hastings.

The mission of 4-H programs in Michigan is to provide youth development programs which involve volunteers and collaboration to provide experiential educa-

tional opportunities which build strong, healthy, proactive youths.

The goals for Maple Valley's after school programs are as follows:

- Fulfillment of Maple Valley School's and their community's goal of having children in a safe, supervised environment after school, while providing a setting for learning opportunities that is different from what is offered in a traditional classroom.

- Positive results of having after school interactions between students and adults from the community.

- Opportunities to set examples for behavior and social interaction.

- Improved child-care standards and nutrition for area families that may be suffering income loss due to current economic conditions in the immediate geographic area.

- Impact of establishing mentoring relationships between students and adults within the community.

Fun Zone organizers said they are pleased with the success of the program's first year and are already making plans for the upcoming school year.

Thank You ...

William and Virginia Cox wish to thank all their friends and relatives for the cards and letters for their 25th wedding anniversary. The cards were really enjoyed and appreciated.

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Auditions set for '12 Angry Jurors'

The Revue, the theater group which performs at the Vermontville Opera House, will hold auditions for "12 Angry Jurors" from 7-9 p.m. Monday, July 22 at the opera house.

Twelve actors, male and female, are needed. Rehearsals will be held Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Show dates are September 5-8.

For more information call Producer/Director Bill Reynolds at (616) 367-4455 or write to 5084 Saddlebag Lake Road, Woodland, MI 48897 or e-mail therevue1@yahoo.com.

County won't let voters decide on COA, Health Dept. projects

by Elaine Gilbert
Assistant Editor

Unless the Barry County Board of Commissioners changes its mind, citizens will not be allowed to decide whether the board should proceed with new facilities for the Commission on Aging and the Barry-Eaton District Health Department.

Voting 6-2, the County Board Tuesday voted against a motion by Commissioner Tom Wilkinson to place the issue in the hands of voters at the November general election.

Wilkinson and Commis-

sioner Tom Wing voted in favor of letting the people decide.

Wilkinson, in the motion, wanted voters to decide whether the county should spend up to \$3,276,687 for the projects.

County Board Chairman Jeff MacKenzie said he was not aware of a specific state law that would permit the board to place such a proposal on the ballot. He admitted that he only did a cursory search of state statutes and invited others to inform him if a law exists that mandates such power.

"If we can't find a law that allows us to put it on the ballot, I think we have to make the decision here, as tough as it might be and as unpopular as it might be, we have to follow the law," MacKenzie said.

The County Board finalized the purchase of 6.75 acres last May on the southwest corner of Woodlawn and M-43 and plans to remodel a vacant church on the property for the COA and construct a new health building on the same lot. The board is planning to pay for all the costs from the

county's Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund.

The board has the authority to put millage proposals on the ballot, but there is no tax increase involved with the COA and health building projects.

After the meeting, Wilkinson was asked why a motion to put the proposal on the ballot wasn't made six or seven months ago, before the property was purchased and a construction manager hired.

"Maybe we didn't think far enough ahead," he responded. He said "a lot" of people have approached him about what he is going to do "to stop the project."

During public comment at this week's meeting, Jim Alden of Delton, who is opposing Commissioner Wayne Adams for the County Board's District 8 seat, spoke in favor of a referendum vote about the COA and health building projects.

"The citizens of Barry County should be consulted and be part of any major or important decisions," Alden said.

He also claimed that "Delton area citizens made it very clear the night of the COA survey meeting they did not want the county to purchase or be involved with the relocation of the COA building. They want community buildings in the four quadrants of the county," Adams disagreed with that claim, saying there is support in Delton for the project.

Commissioner Wing said, "I don't think it's entirely wrong for a publisher to have an opinion on anything either."

"It's pretty pre-meditated," Adams said.

Wing asked if it was against the law for someone to discuss political tactics.

MacKenzie said he would never chastise Jacobs for his views.

"We are all entitled to our views. I doubt if something has been done that's illegal. Has something that's morally reprehensible been done? I think, in my opinion, yes," MacKenzie said.

"That's your opinion," Wing said.

During the interview, Jacobs said, "MacKenzie talks about the Hearst issue. I look back at the Nixon era when government was so obsessed with power...The bigger issue here today is the freedom of expression. That's my personal opinion. I can express my personal opinion."

He said the only commissioners he has spoken with about the project are Wing and Wilkinson "because they wanted to talk to me about it." None of the other commissioners have contacted him, he said.

Talking about the Banner, Jacobs said the goal is accurate stories.

"Our headlines don't editorialize or sensationalize. We might write a catchy phrase to get some interest in a headline or in a story, but we certainly don't editorialize in our headlines."

"The only place that we've editorialized about this issue is when we've had editorials where I've put my name on them or Editor David Young put his name on them."

"I have analyzed the (County Board) stories and what's really going on in

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and his call for a referendum vote by citizens are strictly his own personal opinions. His role as vice president of J-Ad Graphics, publishers of the Banner and other newspapers, does not include writing headlines for the Banner.

Jacobs said he has "never e-mailed anyone."

He said MacKenzie had never contacted him personally to talk about the e-mail.

"Don't we have any freedom to express ourselves?" Jacobs asked. "Can't I sit and talk to Jim Alden about an issue that the county board and I may differ? Is that against the law now?"

Regarding the contents of the e-mail, he said, "we were just talking about politics and this issue and Jim Alden wondered if it would be possible to have a referendum vote. And I said if it was brought to the board for a referendum vote and it lost, the outcome most likely would be back to the 6-2 vote and that it was going to look bad because it's the same old thing, six against two. They (the majority of commissioners) don't want a referendum vote."

"Anytime a board votes 6-2 against allowing people to vote, that's news. That's not a citizen creating the headlines. Commissioners voting against the referendum have created their own headlines," Jacobs said.

MacKenzie told the board, "personally, I am disgusted and repulsed that certain candidates for office and certain individuals and an owner and publisher of a newspaper would conspire to create headlines...and to tell an individual what the headlines will be in advance of the paper being written or published, to me, there's something very wrong with that. I hesitate to speak out, but I can't sit back and see this happen," MacKenzie said.

Continued next page

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From previous page
 this whole process. And then I said I don't think this is right," Jacobs said. "The reason I don't think this is right is because we are allowing eight people to spend the largest amount of money that the county has ever spent in the history of this county on one main project."

He said commissioners have never answered questions he has about the project.

"They (commissioners) have never held a public forum to bring all the people of Barry County into the process...They have made this decision and now when people question it, it's like 'you're getting in the way of government, you're trying to be an obstructionist.' I'm not an obstructionist I don't think. I'm just calling the question," Jacobs said.

"I think the way to solve this for everybody, in the best interest of all the parties - taxpayers and the government - is to put it to a referendum vote."

"In Michigan we need to have legislation to protect the citizens against government - whether it be township, city or school boards, where you have to go to a referendum vote on major, major decisions...not everyday business," Jacobs said.

"I look at the county board and specifically MacKenzie, as the leader of an orchestra. He's the musical director as the (board's) chair. I think right now he is out of tune with the community. I think there are more people in the community who don't like what's going on, but they don't know how to say anything because of the intimidation factor. Going to a county board meeting and standing up and saying something is intimidating to the average person so they just don't do it."

"Like a lot of people, when it comes to government decisions, they just gripe about it at the coffee shops, the barber shop, and whenever they get together. I chose to do more than just complain about it. I chose to take it on as a major issue because I don't think it's fair to the citizens of Barry County based on the economic times that we're in, and they are taking land out

of the city, which they shouldn't be doing," Jacobs said.

When the County Board bought nearly a city block downtown in recent years, they said the decision was to keep government offices downtown, he noted.

"They seem to want a government without the people. That's not what they were elected to do," Jacobs said.

He said if the proposal lost on a referendum vote, the county could sell the Woodlawn-M-43 property. "In business, we call that cutting our losses."

"Hopefully, if they don't give the people a chance (to vote), they (voters) will throw them out of office," he said.

"If you go to any leadership book it will tell you that you have to build consensus. The way you build consensus on an issue like this is you inform the people, educate them as to the issues. Have some open forums. When you get to the end, everybody will be pretty much in consensus. You are always going to have these people on the fringes...who don't want it to happen. That's understandable. That's part of life. If you build consensus in a community, you avoid these problems."

"I'm really disappointed. This board has changed the climate of Barry County. Through these accusations, e-mails...it's like the Gestapo has come in and taken over," Jacobs said. "I'm not out to get these people. That's not my mission. My mission is good government...When you're elected to represent the people, you better...you can't run government as a sole proprietorship."

During discussion at this week's meeting, before the vote, Commissioner Jim French asked County Clerk Debbie Smith if Wilkinson's motion was proper procedure. She said the board can put certain issues on the ballot, but she was not sure if that proposal was one of them.

"I think the law is set up to protect the interest of the citizens," Wilkinson said.

French questioned whether all projects would have to be scrutinized by a referendum if a "group

doesn't like it...We're doing this to help the aged."

"I don't think there was ever any premeditation or preconceived intentions by the Board of Commissioners to keep this from the people...," Adams said. "This project is one the majority of the board felt was good for the community. We had the money saved for it, without increasing taxes so we voted that way," Adams said.

"I disagree with (Alden's) public comment earlier today that the meeting in Delton was overwhelming opposed to it," he said. "I was at that meeting and I disagree with it. I have talked to people since then and I'm sure that the people there are in favor of this project. I was at a meeting yesterday, and they are very happy that we're going forward with it. I feel this is an attempt to sensationalize this issue to try to gain votes and help in the primary election. I don't think it's the proper thing to do and I'll vote against it."

County Board Vice Chairwoman Sandy James tearfully told the board that the COA and Health Department should not be political issues.

James said the COA Board has been visiting the four COA Friendship Centers. During the time at the Delton COA Friendship Center, she said "there was not one concerned citizen (against the project) who came to that. It was advertised. We talked to the citizens of that area."

The COA is increasing programs and is not ignoring other parts of the county, she said. "We could not have nearly the service we have by having one main hub and four other (satellite) locations" as a few people have suggested.


"It's our job to manage that money and that's what we're doing," said Commissioner Ken Neil of going forward with the project.

County Clerk Smith, speaking as a voting member of the public, noted that everything the County Board does is by majority vote.

"The vote has been made. The decision has been made on the COA building. Get on with it," Smith said. "If you can't get on with it, then maybe you don't belong on this board. The decision has been made. The majority has ruled. The time has come to go with the flow and quit digging up dead issues, old issues...You don't have to agree with what's happened, but the time has come to move on...and quit dragging the whole board of commissioners down by doing what

you're doing." certain candidates to continue to make the project a political issue.

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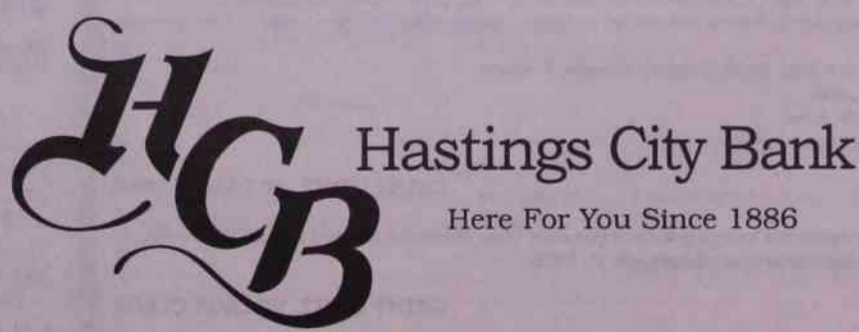
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Local woman to demonstrate china painting

by Sandra Ponsetto
Staff Writer

Marie Batchelder of Nashville will bring 27 years of experience to the Thornapple Arts Council Building in Hastings on Wednesday July 24, when she conducts a china painting workshop from 1-4 p.m. The Arts Council is located at 117 W. State St.

Batchelder leads the Shades of Violet China Painters, which meets at the United Methodist Church in Nashville. She said the group is named after Violet Feighner, who taught her and many of the other ladies how to paint china.

"Violet used to bring some of the things she made into work with her at Hastings Manufacturing where a lot of us used to worked. Pretty soon people started asking her to show them how she did it," said Batchelder.

Feighner's china painting lessons were Batchelder's first foray into the art world.

"I had always wanted to do crafts like that, but I hadn't done any before. The only training I had was the art classes that they taught in school," she said.

"Violet started us out painting yellow wild roses. When I took my first project home and showed it to my husband, he said, 'well, it looks like a flower,' and that was it."

Batchelder began the china painting club two years ago when the Methodist church was looking for activities for their Wednes-

day night program.

"I have done three demonstrations at the veteran's facility in Battle Creek for their employees club," said Batchelder. "But, with the girls here, I just say, let's get together and paint."

Batchelder and the women in her club paint on everything from floor tiles to china. The designs they paint range from traditional flower motifs to Disney characters.

Designs can either be drawn onto the piece free hand or traced on using graphite paper.

"If a person is talented enough and they can draw the pattern onto the piece freehand that's wonderful. If you can't, you can buy patterns that show you what colors to use, painting ideas and have an outline that you can trace," said Batchelder who uses patterns herself.

Batchelder said there are many books, magazines, catalogues and shops that cater to those interested in china painting.

"You can even go on the Internet," she added.

China painting is done with special powdered paints made from glass that come in tiny vials and are mixed with a special non-drying oil.

"The color you see on the palette is the same as the one you will see on the finished project," said Batchelder.

Because the oil doesn't dry until the piece is fired, china painters can easily correct mistakes or change a



Marie Batchelder helps Sharon Bromley with a china painting project during a recent meeting of the Shades of Violet China Painters.

pattern without having to start over from the beginning.

A china painter starts by applying the lightest colors first and then adding the

darker ones.

"You build up your colors like you do with watercolors," said Batchelder.

Each layer of paint requires a separate firing. A

Eaton County father, son breakfast planned

Michigan State University Extension of Eaton County is sponsoring the first First-Child Breakfast for fathers and their children, infant to five years of age, who live in Eaton County. It will be held Saturday, Aug. 3, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Enjoy a free meal from the breakfast buffet at Don's Restaurant, located on Lansing Road between Potterville and Lansing.

Come and enjoy a special morning for dads and children. Additional information will be provided. Pre-registration is required by calling 517-543-2310 or 372-5594 by Aug. 1. There is no cost. This is provided by a mini grant from ASAP-PIE through the Early Childhood Connections in Eaton County.

Senior citizens invited to potluck

Area seniors are invited to join the Vermontville Senior Citizens for a potluck lunch and monthly meeting at 12 p.m. Wednesday, July 17 at the Vermontville United Methodist Church.

Table service and a main dish will be provided. Please come and bring a dish to pass.

typical piece takes three firings, according to Batchelder. Larger pieces, like vases and those with a lot of background painting, may require more.

Batchelder said that china painting differs from ceramics because in ceramics you apply the clear glaze after the color is applied, but in china painting the piece must be glazed and fired first.

China painting can be done on pieces purchased from suppliers or on pieces of old china if desired.

Batchelder cautions

against buying American made china pieces.

"American china is made from a softer clay and it can warp at high temperatures in the kiln," she said. "I try to buy china that is from China, Japan or Europe."

Batchelder said there is a lot of interest in china painting, and she is thinking about starting a class in the evenings for those who work during the day.

For more information about china painting and the Shades of Violet China Painters call Batchelder at (517) 852-0937.



Raseys to celebrate silver wedding anniversary

On July 16th, 1977, Dion and Rex-Ann Rasey were united in marriage. Their children, Jarrod, Jamie (Chad), and Jeremy (Tina) helped them celebrate on July 13th with a surprise party.

PUBLIC HEARING

The Nashville Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on July 18, 2002, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council chambers. The Purpose is to hear comments on a zoning variance request by Troy Teneyck, 111 E. Casgrove, to erect a new garage. This request did not meet side and rear lot line clearance. Any written comments can be sent to the Village office at 206 N. Main, Nashville, MI 49073, and must be received by July 18, 2002.

Zoning Board of Appeals

106

NOTICE VILLAGE OF VERMONTVILLE

The first week of every month has been designated as BRUSH PICKUP week.

Work hours: Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fridays 7 a.m. to noon.

There is a \$5 charge for this service.

For other days of the month call the village garage at 726-1444 to have lagoon gates opened during work hours.

Vermontville Village Council

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VILLAGE OF NASHVILLE ORDINANCE NO. 7-11-02 C

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE VILLAGE OF NASHVILLE ZONING ORDINANCE, TO ADD UNDER GENERAL PROVISION SECTION 3.21 FINAL PLAT APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCEDURES

THE VILLAGE OF NASHVILLE ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. The Zoning Ordinance of Nashville is hereby amended to add the following section to the General Provision as follows:

Section 3.21 Final Plat Application and Review Procedures.

A final plat must be approved by the Planning Commission prior to the issuance of any building permit for any structures within the plat, unless there are structures already occupied prior to the approval of the preliminary plat. Prior to issuance of a building permit for any building in the plat, the following items must be fulfilled, unless waived by the appropriate Village department.

1. Improvement plan approval.
2. Block grading, flood way, soil erosion plan approval.
3. Basement elevation and building opening restriction approval.
4. Construction of hydrant water, adequate fire access, storm water detention, flood ways and soil erosion controls.
5. Security for non-completed construction.
6. Approval of the Final Plat.

The Village Planning Commission may recommend issuance of zoning permit to allow for gaining the required building permits prior to the approval of the final plat in exceptional or unusual circumstances. If so, financial, engineering and liability assurances including an indemnification agreement shall be provided by the proprietor in a form satisfactory to the Village. Recommendations to the Planning Commission on the permit issuance shall be made by the Village of Nashville Department of Public Works, Engineering, Fire and Police Departments. The Planning Commission shall adopt a policy and fees and charges to implement this section.

SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall be effective ten (10) days following its publication.

The foregoing Ordinance was offered by Council member Sheldon, supported by Council member Wolff.

YEAS: Kirk, Coll, Wolff, Sheldon, Wheeler, Dunham.

NAYS: none.

ABSTAIN: none.

ABSENT: one open seat.

CATHY LENTZ, VILLAGE CLERK

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of an ordinance adopted at a regular meeting of the Nashville Village Council held July 11, 2002.

CATHY LENTZ, VILLAGE CLERK

109

150th Barry County Fair full of surprises

by Patricia Johns
Staff Writer

In 1852, the first Barry County Fair was held on a farm in Prairieville. The location of the fair has changed over the past 150 years but not the commitment of farmers, 4-H members and local residents.

This year's fair, held at the Barry County Expo Center, on M-37 Highway between Hastings and Middleville began Saturday, July 13. The week continues with old favorite and many special exhibits and events in honor of the 150th anniversary.

A quilt show calls on the talents of local artists with some demonstrations planned should attract fair goers. In the words of this

year's theme, "Meet me at the fair, where the past meets the future." The past is celebrated in a display honoring the centennial and sesquicentennial farms in Barry County.

This year 4-H is celebrating its 100th anniversary and there will be historic exhibits of 4-H activities as well as the regular fair activities. Competition began on Saturday, July 13 and continues through the week.

There should be enough entertainment this week to satisfy most visitors. There will be music, laughter, animals and even lots of banging and crashing. The week ends with a Sesquicentennial Square Dance at 8 p.m. on Saturday and fireworks following the Demo Derby.

Children ages 5 - 18 are invited to learn to draw with local artists during the Youth Art Reach program held in the Farm Bureau Tent tonight through Saturday from 5:30 - 8 p.m. This program is sponsored by the Thornapple Arts Council, Barry County 4-H and the Barry Community Foundation.

Kids Day on Wednesday, July 17 will bring the popular pedal pull, clowns, kid friendly activities, safety displays and garden fun in the Children's and Demonstration gardens. The 4-H clown competition at noon should entertain children as well. The Barnyard Express with Farmer John will present special shows for children on Thursday, Friday

and Saturday afternoons and evenings on July 18-20.

Ladies Day on Thursday, July 18 will feature an apron show and the naming of the Barry County Homemaker of the Year. Best selling cookbook author Deanna House will be the speaker. She will be preparing recipes from the past 150 years. Admission to the grounds is only \$1.50 until 1 p.m.

Karaoke, on Thursday and Friday nights, always draws a crowd. Aspiring singers qualified before July 6 to perform at the fair. The youth Karaoke performance is on Wednesday at 3 p.m. in the Variety Tent.

Free with gate admission through Saturday are performances at 6:30, 7:30 and 8:30 p.m. by the Thunderfloor Cloggers. The tractor parade will navigate the grounds each night around 7 p.m. as well. The gardens will be lit by candles on Thursday and Friday nights. Barry County master gardeners will be on hand to answer questions all week and cookbooks will be for sale at the gardens on Wednesday and Thursday during the day and on Thursday and Friday evenings.

There will be balloon ride giveaways again this year. Fair visitors are encouraged to visit the tent with displays by local businesses and drop off their entries.

The antique tractor pull at noon on Saturday will draw

the ancient machinery aficionado.

Special 150th Barry County Fair memorabilia will be for sale including shirts, hats, shingles cut on an antique shingle mill and branded with the logo and a fair history book. Look for the booth in the Thornapple Exhibit Hall where the open class exhibits and the special quilt show will be located.

The exhibits from 4-H clubs across the county will fill the Prairie Exhibit Hall. The barns and show rings will be full of young people, their animals and judges. Open class booths are full as well here.

The small animal auction is on Thursday at 5:30 p.m. and the large animal auction on Friday at 1 p.m. are open to the public.

Fair food will be found at the midway, by the grandstand and this year Sharon

Haney from Annalaine's restaurant and catering will be providing breakfast, lunch and dinner in the Expo building. She will be baking pies and desserts to satisfy any sweet tooth as well. The Milk Barn by the animal barns returns as well with ice cream and both white and chocolate milk.

In addition to the Demolition Derby on Saturday night, special programs at an additional fee will wow spectators at the grandstand. There will be an Auto Cross on Tuesday, July 16, the rodeo returns on Wednesday, July 17 and Thursday and Friday's motocross events will keep the crowds on the edge of their seats.

For information on the schedule for this year's Barry County Fair check the Expo Center web site, www.barryexpoenter.com or call 945-2224.

Hans and Pat Langmaark honored by Eaton fair board

Hans and Pat Langmaark, longtime farmers of Charlotte, were honored by the Eaton County Fair Board with the Emerald Award, presented before the Livestock Auction crowd of 300 fairgoers on Thursday, July 11. The Emerald Award is presented annually to individuals who have distinguished themselves in service to youth at the Eaton County Fair.

Hans and Pat Langmaark have been behind-the-scenes leaders at the fair. Pat is a 4-H adult volunteer offering youth programs in the areas of clothing construction and food preparation. She was also administration leader for five years.

"As 4-H is celebrating its

first 100 years, it is people such as Pat who have generously donated their skills, time and home to teach youngsters a set of new skills," Eaton Extension Director Mona Ellard said. "Besides new skills, youth also develop special relationships with their adult 4-H leaders - children feel comforted knowing other adults 'value me to give up their time to teach me.' Pat has been an excellent youth role model in Eaton County."

Ellard said Hans's service for youth has come in the support he lends to transporting animals for youth to the fair, from fair to livestock auction or slaughter houses over many years.

"Hans has jumped to help a youth with a critical transportation issue," Ellard said.

They are the parents of five adult children: Robert, Peggy, Karl, Chris and Amy, who have been involved with the Eaton County Fair during their lives. Collectively with children and grandchildren the Langmaarks have been involved with the Eaton County 4-H Fair 37 years.

The Langmaarks received a plaque and their names were placed on a collective plaque that hangs in the Eaton Fair Office. In addition, the fair board has bestowed on them lifetime passes to the Eaton County 4-H Fair.

VILLAGE OF NASHVILLE ORDINANCE NO. 7-11-02 B

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE VILLAGE OF NASHVILLE ZONING ORDINANCE, RESTRICTIONS ON PUD DISTRICT

THE VILLAGE OF NASHVILLE ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. The Zoning Ordinance of Nashville is hereby amended to add the following restrictions on the PUD area described:

Location: North side of Kellogg St, also known as Mulberry Estates and that portion of the southwest corner of the 50-acre parcel, as described in Ordinance 7-11-02 A.

Zoning: PUD
Ordinance: 7-11-02 A
Acres: Approx. 8

Restrictions:

1. Twenty-five (25) foot minimum landscaped rear yard.
2. Twenty (20) foot minimum side yard.
3. Twenty-five (25) foot minimum front setback from the edge of the road.
4. Not more than eleven (11) two (2) story duplexes with sloped roofs and brick and/or vinyl siding facade.
5. The internal walkway according to final plan, as approved by the Planning Commission.
6. Public water and sewer shall be provided.
7. Additional requirements—as provided in final plan and as agreed by the Planning Commission.

SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall be effective ten (10) days following its publication. The foregoing Ordinance was offered by Council member Kirk, supported by Council member Coll.

YEAS: Wheeler, Sheldon, Wolff, Coll, Kirk, Dunham.
NAYS: none.
ABSTAIN: none.
ABSENT: one open seat.

CATHY LENTZ, VILLAGE CLERK

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of an ordinance adopted at a regular meeting of the Nashville Village Council held July 11, 2002.

CATHY LENTZ, VILLAGE CLERK

VILLAGE OF NASHVILLE ORDINANCE NO. 7-11-02 A

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE VILLAGE OF NASHVILLE ZONING ORDINANCE, TO REZONE APPROXIMATELY FIFTY (50) ACRES FROM R-R (RURAL RESIDENTIAL) TO PUD (PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT)

THE VILLAGE OF NASHVILLE ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. The Zoning District Map of Nashville is hereby amended to change the following described area of land from RR to PUD:

South 1/2 of South West 1/4 section 25-3-7 lying East of center M-66 ex commencing at center M-66 375 feet North of South line of said section 25. Thence East par with South line of said section to a point 100 feet East of easterly line of M-66 thence North par with West line of said section 100 feet thence West par with South line of center of M-66 thence southeasterly along center line to beginning. Also exc commencing 732.91 feet North 0 degrees 10'40" West of South 1/4 post said section; thence North 72 degrees 47'28" West 381.19 feet; thence North 48 degrees 27'9" West 129.29 feet; thence North 5 degrees 9'54" East 378.82 feet; thence North 89 degrees 26'8" East along North line South 1/2 South West 1/4 said section 425 feet to North-South 1/4 line; thence South 0 degrees 10'40" East along said 1/4 line 580 feet to point of beginning. Also exc East 32 feet of said South 1/2 South West 1/4; also exc commencing North West corner South West 1/4 said section 25 thence East 64.5 feet to center highway for point of beginning thence easterly 690.3 feet thence Southerly 575.3 feet thence westerly 497.4 feet to center highway thence Northerly 607 feet along center line point of beginning. 48.36 acres.

and;

Commencing at the North 1/4 post of section 36, town 3 north, range 7 west, Castleton township, Village of Nashville, Barry County, Michigan; thence north 90 degrees 00'00" west along the north line of said section 36, 1056.87 feet to the place of beginning; thence north 90 degrees 00'00" west along the north line of said section 36 (+) 461 feet; thence south 00 degrees 00'00" east 435 feet to the north edge of Kellogg St.; thence easterly along the north edge of Kellogg St. (+) 477.86 feet; thence north 46 degrees 54'47" west 58.36 feet, thence north 00 degrees 00'00" west 67.17 feet, thence north 38 degrees 13'58" east 74.18 feet; thence north 38 degrees 22'31" east 65.99 feet to place of beginning.

SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall be effective ten (10) days following its publication.

The foregoing Ordinance was offered by Council member Kirk supported by Council member Wolff.

YEAS: Kirk, Coll, Wolff, Sheldon, Wheeler, Dunham.
NAYS: none.
ABSTAIN: none.
ABSENT: one open seat.

CATHY LENTZ, VILLAGE CLERK

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of an ordinance adopted at a regular meeting of the Nashville Village Council held July 11, 2002.

CATHY LENTZ, VILLAGE CLERK

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PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE OF VERMONTVILLE

Residency challenge places candidacy into question

by Shelly Sulser
Staff Writer

District 4 County Commission candidate Dave Yonker will not face a criminal perjury charge stemming from a question about his address of residence, Barry County Prosecutor Gordon Shane McNeill said Wednesday.

However, the Barry County Board of Canvassers will have to decide whether Yonker can remain a valid candidate in the Aug. 8 democratic primary election.

When completing his affidavit of identity form to seek office May 14, Yonker listed his Ragla Road address where he is building a home in Carlton Township, which is part of District 4. He has been living in Hastings Township, also in District 4, while he finishes the home.

Yonker said he must have overlooked the fine print on the affidavit stated that making a false statement on the affidavit is perjury punishable by up to \$1,000 or imprisonment for up to five years.

"I made a mistake when I put down the address," said Yonker, who expects to be granted an occupancy permit on his new home any day. "I didn't read the small print, I guess I didn't think I was committing a crime."

Yonker said he also listed Ragla Road as his address in January when he applied for his new driver's license and when he registered to vote, an act Carlton Township Clerk Wilma Daniels said would disqualify him not only from being a candidate, but from voting.

"We'll have to cancel his registration," said Daniels about what action would be taken by the township if Yonker cannot prove within 30 days of receiving her registered letter that he was a resident when he registered to vote.

Daniels said she received a letter from a non-resident of Carlton Township claiming that Yonker was not living at the address he had listed when he filed for office.

The Banner has obtained a copy of a letter to Daniels dated June 19 and signed by former Barry County Board of Commissioners Chairman James Bailey who stated, "I know he wasn't living at that address 30 days prior to the filing deadline without water or an occupancy permit."

Bailey went on to state, "I feel this needs to be looked into and if the above information is true, he needs to remove his name from the election ballot," according to the letter.

On July 2, Daniels sent a registered letter to Yonker advising him that a complaint had been made about his qualification as a registered voter of Carlton Township.

"You have 30 days (until Aug. 1) to appear before us or send a written affidavit stating you are a resident there," Daniels wrote in the letter. "You may contact me at the Township Hall or at my home. Please call for an appointment."

Daniels said she does not know why attorney James Kinney filed a complaint against Yonker with the Barry County Sheriff's Office on July 8 when Yonker had only signed for the registered letter three days prior.

"He's got to respond to us in writing," Daniels said. "Everybody else has been after him. I've gotten calls from Jim Brown (Hastings Township Supervisor) and Kenny Neil (District 4 incumbent County Commissioner). I heard James Kinney was going after him, too. He (Yonker) just did something that wasn't right."

McNeill said he received a copy of Det. Sgt. David Oakland's report on Tuesday afternoon, which he filed after interviewing Yonker at the Ragla Road address. McNeill said he has denied a criminal charge against Yonker.

"There's no indication of any general or specific intent to engage in any criminal activity," said McNeill. "Based on the investigation and the defendant's explanations and cooperation with law enforcement, it apparently is consistent with what happened in this matter. I don't think it's criminal. My impression is it was a misunderstanding."

Whether the police report and Bailey's letter to Daniels are politically motivated, McNeill said he does not know.

Yonker suspects the residency challenge was politically motivated to get his name removed from the election ballot in which he and Democrat John Loftus

are opposed by Republican incumbent Ken Neil.

"I don't know what's all behind it," said Yonker. "I think it's because they found out that I'm Fred's (Jacobs) son-in-law."

Jacobs, who is an owner and officer of J-Ad Graphics, has aggressively challenged the Barry County Board of Commissioners on their methods for purchasing property and making plans to build a Commission on Aging and Health Department.

Yonker said he chose to run for office because he has been interested in politics for a long time and attended township meetings when he lived in Muskegon County.

"I just hate to see people lose their freedom to choose," he said. "Each time they pass a new ordinance, people lose their freedom to choose."

Yonker said he was not asked by Jacobs to run for the county commission,

though he did advise him on the issues.

"I was already thinking about running, but not necessarily this year," he said. "He kind of persuaded me that it was a good idea to run. I have my own ideas, I don't go along with the status quo."

District 4 consists of both Carlton and Hastings Townships, along with Irving Township and part of Woodland Township.

Jacobs said the address mistake was a mere technicality because though Yonker listed his Carlton Township address rather than his Hastings Township address, he was living in District 4 when he filed for office in May.

"Dave has been a resident of Barry County and owned that land since December," said Jacobs. "He moved here in January with my daughter, Jennie. They moved into my folks' house, which is located in Hastings Town-

ship. It's a technicality."

Jacobs feels Bailey, Kinney and other county commissioners are "out to get me" because "I'm not on the team with two issues in this county. I'm like an out-cast."

He added that he and his family have dedicated their lives to the community.

"I've worked hard," he said. "This is definitely a serious issue."

Jacobs suspects that Bailey's motivation for questioning the affidavit is because he is a personal friend of County Board Chairman Jeff MacKenzie.

"All they had to do was to call the township clerk and ask her to investigate it," said Jacobs. "They didn't need to put a formal document together and send a detective to his home. This whole thing is not meditated out of a technicality, they are concerned because Dave is my son-in-law."

Monthly brush pick-up OK'd in Vermontville

by Marcie Westover
J-Ad Graphics Intern

Beginning Aug. 1, Vermontville residents will be able to have a regular brush pick-up the first week of every month.

Vermontville Village Council members July 11 approved the pick-up because people have continued to place their brush in the street. There will be a \$5 fee for the service, which will be only for brush or leaves. Other "junk" will be left.

Citizens who want to dispose of their own brush and leaves can go to the Village garage Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and on Friday from 7 a.m. to noon. The gate will be open and citizens are welcome to bring their own brush.

There will still be a continued ban on fires due to the recent warm and dry weather. When the ban is lifted citizens can obtain permits from the village office.

In other business, the council:

- Learned that Williams and Works had requested an additional \$2,600. The Williams and Works is working on a master plan and ordinances for the village of Vermontville. The firm will organize the ordinances and make them easier to read.

- The council still needed to pay around \$335 for April. Council members decided to pay the small amount by taking money out of the Planning Commission's extra funds. The Planning Commission's extra funds are from the decision of its members to forgo salary this term.

- Doug Kelsey suggested the remaining amount owed to Williams and Works will be taken out of the next fiscal year's funds, and the council approved the motion.

- Received a request from a local family to have permission to own a bunny. Currently, the council guidelines view rabbits as farm animals and citizens must receive permission to own them in town. The council made plans to re-visit the issue and possibly change the current guidelines on in-town pets.

- Discussed the chip/seal project on Round Lake Road and determined that the work would begin near the end of July or possibly the beginning of August. The project will be done by the Eaton County Road Commission for \$2,160. The road work is required due to cracks and breaking of the road. If not fixed, the road would go back to dirt.

- Decided to look into a proposed ordinance by the Planning Commission regarding restrictions for semi-truck parking. Semi-trucks have been causing problems when they are parked on streets. The new proposed restriction would

limit semi-truck parking in the downtown area. The council could possibly address this at their next meeting.

- Heard Councilman Tom Williams say he wants members of the community who "blast" their radios to look out. The council is looking at the current noise ordinance with the possibility of stricter guidelines that include fines.

- Approved two "Hidden Drive" signs for the corner of South Main and Orchard streets. Citizens who live on Orchard Street were concerned that on-coming traffic would not see them.

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County Commission

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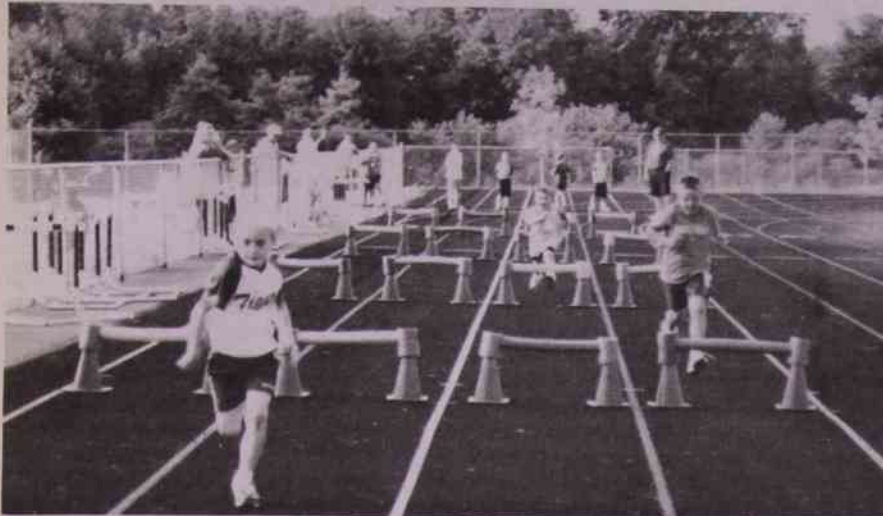
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MAPLE VALLEY TRACK CLUB SUMMER MEET RESULTS



Garrett Reid (left) is on his way to a meet record.

Pole Vault - female - kdg.-3rd division, Megan Shoemaker, 3'; **7th-9th division,** Jenny Ellison, 6'; **10th-12th division,** Tara Gordenski, 8'; **male - 4th-6th division,** Rob Felmlee, 4'; **Dustin Jones, 7'6"; adult,** Dennis Rodeman, 11'.

High Jump - female - 7th-9th division, Tasha Foreman, 4'2"; **10th-12th division,** Tara Gordenski, 3'10"; **male - 10th-12th division,** Dustin Jones, 4'10"; **veteran,** Robert Brown, 4'10".

Long Jump - female - kdg.-3rd division, Megan Shoemaker 9'2"; **4th-6th division,** Melissa Browne, 8'10"; **7th-9th division,** Brita Kuiper, 11'3"; **10th-12th division,** Tara Gordenski, 11'11"; **veteran,** Deb Reid, 9'11"; **male - kdg.-3rd Division,** Garrett Reid, 9'6"; **4th-6th division,** Eric Reid,



Melissa Browne (left) and Tasha Foreman stride toward the finish line.

11'9"; **10th-12th Division,** Dustin Jones, 14'; **veterans,** Gary Reid, 15'10".

Shot Put - female - 7th-9th Division, Kayleigh Browne, 30'10".

Discus - female - 7th-9th division; male - adult, Dennis Rodeman, 75'2".

55M Hurdles - female, Kdg. 3rd division, Megan Shoemaker, 11:03; **4th-6th division,** Erin Shoemaker, 10:03; **male, Kdg.-3rd division,** Garrett Reid, 8:09 and **Ross Smith, 8:09.**

Prediction Mile - female - adult division, Sonya Parshall, 8:11; **adult division,** Carole Bolthouse, 6:18; **male - 4th-6th division,** Ross Smith, 7:57; **7th-9th division,** Dustin Dodge, 6:04; **veterans,** David Eddy, 6:14.

70M Dash - female, 4th-6th division, Melissa Browne, 11:17; **male - kdg.-3rd division,** Garrett Reid,

11:96; **4th-6th,** Rob Felmlee, 11:83.

100M Dash - female, 7th-9th division, Kayleigh Browne, 14:83; **adult division,** Tiffany Seitz, 14:48; **male - 7th-9th division,** Nathan Blakely, 19:16.

400M Dash - female, 7th-9th division, Emily Bolthouse, 1:21.10; **male,** 4th-6th division, Eric Reid, 1:48.85.

200M Dash - female, 10th-12th division, Tara Gordenski, 34.25; **male,** Kdg.-3rd division, Garrett Reid, 37.89.

3200M Run - female, adult division, Tiffany Seitz, 14:11; **veterans,** Carole Bolthouse, 15:37; **male,** 4th-6th division, Ross Smith, 18:03.

800M Relay - female, 4th-6th division, Browne, M. Shoemaker, Howard, E. Shoemaker, 2:53; **7th-9th division,** Franklin, Kuiper, Bolthouse, Cook, 2:27; **male,** 4th-6th division, Felmlee, Smith, Eddy, Jones, 2:35.

800M Run - female, 7th-9th division, Emily Bolthouse, 3:18; **male,** 7th-9th division, Dustin Dodge, 2:30; **10th-12th division,** Dustin Jones, 2:32.

There are two more practices: **July 16th and July 23rd.** Time 6:30-8 p.m.

Ribbon Meet, July 19th. Time 6:00 p.m.

The Meet of Champions, July 26th. Time 6:00 p.m.

People of all ages can join the Summer Track at any time. Any questions, call Jerry Sessions (517) 852-9826.

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CABLE/HOME-HOOKUP- TO \$19.23/HR. Lots of hours, entry/level, major co! Start now! (616)949-2424 Jobline fee.

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Real Estate

604 S. MARKET - For sale by owner, a few blocks from Hastings Elementary, Middle & High Schools: 5 bedrooms, asking, \$149,900. Call (616)945-3733 or view home on web site; www20.brinkster.com/johnbell.

FORECLOSED HOMES! Low or \$0 down! Gov't & Bank Repos being sold now! Financing available! Call for listings, 1-800-501-1777 ext. 5225.

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 6

Vote to Re-elect As Your COUNTY COMMISSIONER

5th District; Castleton, Maple Grove & Woodland Townships

JEFFREY S. MacKENZIE

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- NO TAX INCREASES
- BUDGET SURPLUS
Barry County completed 2001 with a \$600,000 budget surplus and is on budget for 2002.
- ACCESSIBILITY
Night meetings of the county board were held in township halls for the first time ever.
- A Discount Prescription Drug Program is being implemented to benefit every county citizen.



JEFFREY S. MacKENZIE
REPUBLICAN
Call me at
(517) 852-9885

EXPERIENCE:

- Farmer of 1,000 acres in family business.
- Attorney with degree in accounting from Michigan State University.

ENDORSED by the following elected township officials:

Maple Grove—Rod Crothers, Susan Butler, Darla Cady, Jim Heyboer
Woodland—Doug MacKenzie, Cheryl Allen, Nancy Potter, Gary Smith
Castleton: Justin Cooley, Lorna Wilson, David DeMond,
Patricia Baker-Smith

Paid for by Jeffrey S. MacKenzie, 205 Maple Street, P.O. Box 497, Nashville, MI 48073

Kid's Cafe brings nutrition fun to schools

Michigan State University's Family Nutrition Program teamed up with 4-H to bring the Fun Zone After

School Program to Maple Valley schools. Every Tuesday after school, beginning in Febru-

ary, children from first through eighth grades met in the gymnasium at Fuller Street School in Nashville to

begin an afternoon of fun and learning.

One of the activities offered was the Kid's Cafe. The Kid's Cafe was made possible by a mini-grant awarded to the Fun Zone from the Food Bank of South Central Michigan in Battle Creek.

Cathy Liceaga and Laura Anderson from the MSU Extension Family Nutrition Program served the children full meals along with nutrition education. The children participated in set-up, food preparation and the break-down of the Kid's Cafe.

Liceaga and Anderson emphasized the importance of table manners, saying, "please," and "thank you," and respecting others. The women reported that they noticed higher self-esteem from the kids, more involvement in the program as well as improved manners as the program progressed.

A full meal was served in case some of the children went home and had no dinner. One day at the Kid's Cafe, the children were served a breakfast of French toast, bacon, sausage, yogurt, pears, orange juice and milk. Some of the children said they didn't realize that breakfast could be eaten at any time of the day.

A small snack was sent home with the kids, usually pertaining to the nutrition lesson given that day. Nutrition education themes included food safety, hand washing, microwave safety, the food pyramid, fruits, vegetables and more.

The Family Nutrition Program also included a cooking class that incorporated the children who were participating in the Fun Zone's baby-sitting class for pre-



Laura Anderson from the Michigan State University Extension family Nutrition program serves food to Maple Valley children who participated in the district's Fun Zone program.



Maple Valley students do food preparation during Kid's Cafe, part of the 4-H after school Fun Zone program which ran from February through June.

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 Ranch Steak \$1.99 lb	 New York Strip Steak \$4.09 lb	 Pork Cutlets \$1.99 lb	 Amish Potato Salad \$1.09 lb

Bareman's 1/2% or Fat Free Milk \$1.99 Gal.	16 oz. Bareman's Cottage Cheese \$1.19	5.75 oz. Mario Stuffed Manz Olives 99¢	15 oz. Van Camp's Pork & Beans 2/\$1	6-16 oz. Asst. Var. Stove Top Classics 2/\$3	2 lb. West Pac French Fries or Tater Puffs 89¢
5 qt. Pails Country Maid Ice Cream \$4.99	20 oz. Parade Ketchup 79¢	10 oz. Parade Sweet Relish 89¢	Parade Stick Margarine 2/\$1	26 oz. ADC Folger's Coffee \$2.99	6-10 oz. Asst. Var. Banquet Select Meals 99¢

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teens. Liceaga and Anderson gave the kids basic cooking lessons including ingredient measurement, mixing, baking and reading recipes.

During one session, the kids created casseroles. They needed a base, a vegetable, a meat (optional), and a sauce. The kids wrote down their recipes, put together their casseroles, baked them and then taste-tested each others creations.

Many area businesses donated food items for the Fun Zone. Food for the Kid's Cafe snacks came from Felpausch Food Center in Hastings, Good Time Pizza in

Nashville, Plumbs of Hastings and Cotant's Farm Market in Hastings.

The last day of Fun Zone was Parent's Day in which the children invited their parents to join them at Fun Zone. This gave the parents an opportunity to experience Fun Zone themselves and spend time with their children.

For more information about the Family Nutrition Program call MSU Extension- Barry County at (616) 945-1388 or check the web at www.msue.msu.edu/barry.

Rent help available

Are you disabled and having trouble paying your rent?

Housing Services for Eaton County announces the opening of the Mainstream Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Waiting List for individuals with disabilities in Eaton County. To qualify you must have a verifiable disability, be a resident of Eaton County, and agree to live in Eaton County.

Packets will be available on July 15, and can be obtained from the office at 104 W. Seminary, Charlotte or through the mail by calling 517-541-1180 Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. All packets must be postponed no later than Aug. 5, to be considered for the waiting list.

The waiting list for eligible candidates will be determined by a lottery.