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# Putnam Tuesday nights 'off to a great start'

Putnam Library's Tuesday night programs, which are held from 6:30 to 8 p.m., are off to a good start according to Assistant Library Director Sandy Hosey.

"Our calendar was filled up for October. Everything is going fabulously. We have a lot of people coming in," she said. "I wish there were six weeks in a month instead of four."

Hosey said the genealogy group that meets on the first Tuesday of the month is up and running.

There are a lot of differ-

ent options for people to use when researching their genealogy," said Hosey. "We have a husband and wife who attend the genealogy group. The husband had never been on a computer before and wasn't too interested in it until I got him on it. Now he's saying, 'Oh, wow! This is really neat!'"

The Friends of the Library meet on the third Tuesday of the month. The friends help with fund-raisers and help with the children's and other programs at the library.

The writers' group, which meets on the second Tuesday, can provide local writers with invaluable resources and information, according to Hosey.

"Our writers group is really busy. Sometimes they bring in things they are working on," said Hosey. "We've also had people from two different groups, one out of Lansing and the other from Kalamazoo come in and talk to us and help with different projects."

"One guy told about how

to submit a book proposal to a publisher. A lot of people don't know the about how to submit materials to a publisher," she added. "One lady had to redo her manuscript because she found out her spacing was all wrong."

"We're going to do some stuff like how to find an illustrator, proof-reading, self-publishing and more," she added. "There are a lot of people who are willing to come in and talk to us and

help out. There are even grants available for writers to use."

Other programs during the week have also been well attended, according to Hosey.

The Senior Citizens Coffee and Doughnut hour has also proved popular, according to Hosey.

"I've been taping and transcribing a lot of their Nashville stories about what it was like growing up here

during World War II, and all kinds of different stories," she said.

The first meeting for an adoption search and support group is planned for Monday, Dec. 2. The following Monday, Dec. 9, will be the first meeting of a new book club at the library.

The library is located at 327 N. Main in Nashville. For more information about programs at the library, call (517) 852-9723.

## Vermontville alleyways open to two-way traffic

by Sandra Ponsetto  
 Staff Writer

What started out as an admonition by Vermontville Village Council President Sue Villanueva to council members to set an example by heeding the one-way traffic signs on Vermontville alleyways ended up as motion

to open the alleys to two-way traffic.

"I have seen some of our employees and a few others going down the one-way alleys the wrong way," said Villanueva. "I'm not pointing fingers because some of us do it too. But, we're council members, let's try to

obey those signs."

"Move to abolish the one-way streets on the alleys," said council member Doug Kelsey.

"May I ask why? Is it because we drive down them the wrong way?" asked Villanueva.

**See alleys, page 2**

## The Revue sets auditions for 'How to Succeed in Business'

The Revue will be holding auditions for the musical "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying," Monday, Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. at the Vermontville Opera House, 211 S. Main St. in Vermontville.

A cast of 30-40 people is needed. Material and music will be provided at the audition. However, prepared music auditions are welcome.

Show dates will be Feb. 7-9 and Feb. 14-16, 2003.

Rehearsals are Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 7-10 p.m. and some Saturdays.

The director/music direc-

tor and choreographer is Bill Reynolds. For more information contact Reynolds at (616) 367-4455 or e-mail therevue1@yahoo.com.

## Maplewood students give back to community

Despite the cold and a mix of rain and snow, students and teachers at Maplewood Elementary were out raking leaves last week for the school's annual "Give Back to the Community Day."

"I was pleased that so many students and teachers

wanted to go out despite the weather," said Maplewood Principal Fred Davenport. "It's a nice gesture on the part of the teachers and the students to show their appreciation for all the support they get from the community."

Davenport said that he

would like to expand the school's participation in community service.

"I've talked to some of the village officials and they have suggested that maybe the students could plant bulbs in some of the flower pots throughout the community," he said. "We are open

to suggestions about different ways the students could give back to the community."

Anyone who would like to suggest a community service activity can call Davenport at Maplewood Elementary (517) 726-0600.



Students from Patti Braun's fifth grade class at Maplewood Elementary rake leaves behind the Vermontville United Methodist Church.



The Vermontville Opera House, home of The Revue, will be the venue for Bill Reynolds's next production, "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying."

**In This Issue...**

- Maple Valley Alternative Ed unveils life skills center
- Vermontville teens planned trip to Australia
- Local FFA members attend national convention
- Lion gridders end season at Montrose

# Maple Valley Alternative Ed unveils life skills center

by Sandra Ponsetto  
Staff Writer

An old modular classroom behind Kellogg School in Nashville has been renovated to provide Maple Valley's Alternative Education program with a new life skills center, where students can learn how to cook, clean, do laundry and other household tasks.

Alternative Education Principal Tate Mix said the life skills center, which features a classroom, kitchen and washer and dryer, fills a need for many alternative education students.

"A lot of these kids don't even know how to boil water, let alone cook a meal," he said. "A typical kid learns how to cook, clean and do laundry at home. But a lot of these kids haven't had that opportunity because many of them don't have a

real home. Many of them stay with an aunt or an uncle or a friend. They have a place to sleep and maybe get a meal and that's all."

Mix said that some students don't even get regular meals, "A lot of the kids come to school hungry. The only meal they get is the free or reduced price lunch they get here at the school."

Mix said the State Board of Education recently issued a new definition of what constitutes homelessness for students.

"Homeless used to mean being homeless and living in the street or in a car. Now, it means that the student doesn't live in a permanent residence," he said. "In alternative ed, we have a lot of homeless or semi-homeless students.

"Some of them don't even have a place where they can

wash their clothes. Now, we can help in that regard. With the life skills center, they will be able to bring their clothes in and do them here," added Mix.

"We can also teach the students how to separate their lights from their darks when they do laundry. It's those kinds of things that they don't have a chance to learn at home."

For years, teachers at Kellogg school have used hot plates and toaster ovens in their classrooms to prepare snacks and other food items that tie in with some of the subjects the students were studying.

"Now our world geography class will be able to go out and cook Asian meals, or maybe the Early 4s can come over and prepare a snack."

Hot plate and toaster oven



Maple Valley Alternative Education Principal Tate Mix looks on as Kim Hansen from the Maple Valley Schools maintenance department installs hardware on the kitchen cabinets in the new life skills center at Kellogg School in Nashville. Not pictured is Steve Augustine, from the Maple Valley Schools maintenance department.

ens were too limiting, according to Mix.

"We were just showing them how to warm things up essentially. We couldn't show them how to cook from scratch and how you can make things a lot cheaper than you can buy

## Alleys, continued from page 1

lanueva.

"No, it's because they have been a pain in the butt and everybody has been abusing them anyhow," responded Kelsey.

After further discussion, the village council voted unanimously to open all alleys in Vermontville to two-way traffic except Westside Drive from the grocery store to the bank because of limited sight distance near the fire barn.

In other business, Monte O'Dell, Vermontville's street supervisor, said that due to the weather, leaf pick-up will continue in the village as long as needed.

The next regular meeting of the village council will be Thursday, Dec. 5 at 7 p.m..

frozen food dinners."

The \$1,500 for the new appliances and renovations to the modular classroom came from the school's budget.

However, some of the classes taught in the life skills center are being provided free of charge by the local chapter of MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers).

Mix said the Christian-based organization has volunteered to come in and teach life skills, parenting skills, cooking, sanitation, infant and toddler CPR and discuss the pitfalls of being a young mother raising young children.

"Two days each month, students will be dismissed

from their regular classes to attend MOPs," said Mix. "I required that at least 75% of what MOPs teaches has to be hands on. If you try to lecture these kids they'll just tune out and refuse to attend."

Mix said that he has approached some of the local churches for donations of small appliances and other household items needed for a functional kitchen and life skills center (see sidebar for wish list).

"The teachers here are really excited about the life skills center," said Mix. "It's an improvement that will help us teach the kids some of the skills they need to learn."

## Life Skills Center seeks donations

Maple Valley Alternative Education has a new life skills center, and now it needs a variety of small household items to equip it.

The following is a "wish list" put together by the staff at Kellogg School in Nashville where the alternative education program is located:

- cookie sheets
- dish towels
- pots and pans
- cake pans
- dish cloths
- silverware
- blender
- pot holders
- serving spoons
- mixer
- can openers.
- spatulas
- bread pans
- plates and bowls
- baking dishes
- crock pot
- clothes iron

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# LOCAL CHURCH SCHEDULE

## ABUNDANT LIFE FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES

A Spirit-filled Church  
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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 Some-  
one Special." For information call 1-  
616-731-5194 or 1-517-852-1806.

## ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH

803 Reed St., Nashville  
Sunday School ..... 10 a.m.  
Sunday ..... 11 a.m.  
A.M. Worship ..... 11 a.m.  
Evening Worship ..... 6 p.m.  
Wednesday Evening  
Prayer Meeting ..... 7 p.m.  
PASTOR GLENN BRANHAM

## 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

## CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

301 Fuller St., Nashville  
Sunday School ..... 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday ..... 11 a.m.  
A.M. Worship ..... 11 a.m.  
P.M. Worship ..... 5 p.m.  
Wednesday Evening  
Worship ..... 7 p.m.  
REV. ALAN METTLER

## CHESTER GOSPEL CHURCH

3744 W. Vermontville Hwy.  
Sunday School ..... 9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship ..... 11 a.m.  
Evening Worship ..... 5 p.m.  
Wednesday Family  
Night Service ..... 6:45 p.m.  
PASTOR MARC S. LIVINGSTON  
Phone: 543-5488

## FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

110 S. Main, Vermontville  
Morning Worship ..... 11 a.m.  
Church School ..... 10 a.m.  
Fellowship Time  
After Worship  
REV. ERIC LISON

## 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

## 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

## 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 KATHY SMITH

## NORTH KALAMO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Service ..... 9:30 a.m.  
PASTOR MARK THOMPSON

## 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

## 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

## 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

## 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. & 11:00 a.m.  
(Includes Children's Sunday School)  
Other: Prayer Walk, Youth Group,  
U.M. Women, Bible Study, Choir,  
Mission Projects & more.  
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Phone (517) 726-1495  
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## QUIMBY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

M-79 West  
Sunday School ..... 10 a.m.  
Worship ..... 11 a.m.  
PASTOR KENNETH VAUGHT  
(616) 945-9392

## 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. Huswick 945-9604  
Traditional 1928 Book of Common Prayer used  
for all services. Affiliated with the Independent  
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## 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

## 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

## VERMONTVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

108 N. Main, Vermontville  
Sunday School ..... 9:45 a.m.  
Church Service ..... 11 a.m.  
PASTOR KATHY SMITH

## MOST HOLY ROSARY CHURCH

Roman Catholic Latin Mass  
314 Main, Middleville  
Sunday Mass ..... 9 a.m.  
616-795-9030  
FATHER PAUL ANDRADE

# Maplewood announces honor roll students

## 4th Grade

All A's - Cody Brumm, Lauren Ewing, Brad Laverty, Taylor Owens, Austin Pool, Matt Woodman.

A's & B's - Tiffani Allwardt, Zach Baird, Clayton Beers, Terra Bragg, Jessica Cheeseman, Allyssa Childers, Ian Cogswell, Trenton Courtney, Alysha Curtis, Jessica Curtis, Brad Dalek, Riley Fisher, Coty Franklin, Max Gibson, Joe Grinage, Anastasia Hakenjos, Eric Hale, Charlene Harmon, Alex Hill, Kari Hummell, Hana Hunt, Cody Leinhart, Jayson Martin, Karlee Mater, Kelsey Miller, Desirae Newland, Robbie Sebastian, Megan Shoemaker, Ashley Shook, Miranda Sprague, Damian

Stephens, Chandralyn Thornton, Amber Todd, Darcey Turner, Travis Reese, Kimberli Rininger, Tyler Rugg, Zachary Siple, Ryleigh Theisen, Amber Todd, Michael Vaskovic, Brittney Wall, Mark Wehr.

## 5th Grade

All A's - Jordan Beachnau, Leila Dean, Amanda Erwin, Sarah Greiner, Courtney Howard, Chelsea Khouri, Lydia Richards, Brayana Rose, Elizabeth Smith, Ross Smith, Lauren Trumble, Adam Zank.

A's & B's - Stephen Abbott, Tyler Blodgett, Jimmy Brown, Kylie Bryans, Kyle Burns, Shelby Christopher, Chris Clark, Brandon Cosgrove, Stephanie Courtney, Chase Cushing, Des-

cray DePiper, Marcus Eckhoff, Zac Eddy, Lindsey Fisher, Shawna Frailey, Tyler Franks, Kaytlin Furlong, Hannah Gardner, Victoria Hansen, Hutch Joppie, Katelynn Kellogg, Jennifer Kent, Ayla Kranz, Lanne' Matheson, Paul May, Brandy McKelvey, Zach Melville, Amber Napier, Robbie Richardson, Leslee Rigelman, Katherine Rood, Shawndenae Rost, Brandon Sams, Adam Sears, Page Semrau, Bethany Shaver, Kayla Shaw, Martin Shilton, Kimberly Smith, Shawn Smith, Lizzy Stewart, Matt Turner, Justin VanVleet.

## 6th Grade

All's A's - Kinsey Bartlett, Kayla Chapman, Paige Kaczanowski, Ryan Lennox,

Kaylea Piercefield.

A's & B's - MacKensye Ancona, Lauren Baker, Lakely Flower, Andrew Goedert, Tawnie Griesmer, Jasmine Grinage, Traci Grinage, Aleena Hamilton, Brandon Hoffman, Dustin Houghton, Justin Kennedy, Nate Konopinski, John Knox, Christian Main, Cat Mata, John Mater, April Matthews, Kevin McDonald, Jesse Miller, Jorge Miller, Erica Myers, Samantha Newton, Nick Parks, Amanda Paxson,

Amber Farnum, Stacey Fasset, Cheyanne Fighter, Bailey Flower, Andrew Goedert, Tawnie Griesmer, Jasmine Grinage, Traci Grinage, Aleena Hamilton, Brandon Hoffman, Dustin Houghton, Justin Kennedy, Nate Konopinski, John Knox, Christian Main, Cat Mata, John Mater, April Matthews, Kevin McDonald, Jesse Miller, Jorge Miller, Erica Myers, Samantha Newton, Nick Parks, Amanda Paxson,

Marcus Pearce, Samantha Phillips, Dustin Primm, Tasha Purchis, Holly Rathburn, Autumn Rose, Cierra Royston, Katie Rucinski, Chris Rugg, Lucas Russell, Erin Shoemaker, Nick Smith, SaraJane Smith, Stephanie Sparks, Olivia Sprague, Austin Tabor, Danielle Tobias, Austin Coplin, Cody Olmstead, Brandon Vaughn, Brandi Wenger, Nicole Woodman, Ashley Zander.

## Rose Heaton named to advertising sales position

It was both a sad and happy day for Rose Heaton on Nov. 1 when she officially resigned as managing director of the Thornapple Arts Council to take a new position in advertising sales at J-Ad Graphics.

Barbara Clare was named interim director of the Arts Council. Clare and Heaton have worked closely over the past year and "I know she will guide the TAC well until a new (permanent) director is named," Heaton said.

Heaton is excited about her new position as a sales representative for the Maple Valley and Lakewood areas.

She was born and raised in Nashville. She says, "I love our beautiful Barry County."

She graduated from West-



Rose Heaton

ern Michigan University in 1982. She has been married to her husband David for more than 19 years.

Her daughter Kristen Frith is a student at WMU and her son Spencer Heaton is a junior at Maple Valley High School.

Heaton's parents owned and operated small businesses in Nashville. "I grew up on Main Street," she says.

"I understand the concerns which small independent business owners have. I think they are an important part of our rural communi-

ties," Heaton says.

For information about display advertising and other ways J-Ad Graphics can assist local businesses call Heaton at 269-945-9554.

## PTO meeting planned for Thursday

The Maple Valley PTO will hold its monthly meeting Thursday, Nov. 14.

The meeting will take place at 11:30 a.m. at Good Time Pizza in Nashville.

**A big THANK YOU**  
for all the patience  
customers at  
**SUGAR HUT CAFE**  
had on November 1

## MAPLE VALLEY SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

### Maple Valley Elementary Schools (Maplewood & Fuller) Lunch Menu

#### Wednesday, Nov. 13

Cheesie bread sticks, spaghetti, peaches, treat, 1/2 pt. milk.

#### Thursday, Nov. 14

M.W. Hungry Howies, Pizza, tossed salad, pear halves, trail mix, 1/2 pt. milk.

#### Friday, Nov. 15

French toast sticks and link sausage, potato wedges, applesauce, 1/2 pt. milk.

#### Monday, Nov. 18

Chicken tenders, mashed potatoes, peaches, pretzel rod, 1/2 pt. milk.

#### Tuesday, Nov. 19

Macaroni and cheese, green beans, applesauce, bread stick, 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, Nov. 13

Choose One - Wet burrito,

pizza, cheeseburger, taco bar. **Choose Two** - Garden salad, baked beans, fresh fruit, juice, Milk.

#### Thursday, Nov. 14

**Choose One** - Rib sandwich, pizza, cheeseburger, taco bar. **Choose Two** - Garden salad, glazed carrots, pear halves, juice, Milk.

#### Friday, Nov. 15

**Choose One** - Chicken pot pie, pizza, chicken sandwich, salad bar. **Choose Two**

- Garden salad, green beans, peaches, juice, Milk.

#### Monday, Nov. 18

**Choose One** - Chicken tenders, pizza, chicken sandwich, salad bar. **Choose Two**

- Garden salad, whole kernel corn, peaches, juice, Milk.

#### Tuesday, Nov. 19

**Choose One** - Macaroni and cheese, cheeseburger, pizza, taco bar. **Choose Two**

- Garden salad, green beans, applesauce, juice, Milk.

**Nashville VFW**  
**Dinner & Dance**  
**Saturday, Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**Dale's B-B-Q Ribs**  
Complete dinner, salad, dessert  
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.  
*Dance to follow*  
Music by Round & Round D.J.  
Adults - \$8  
Children 5-12 yrs. - \$4

Can Call for reservations  
after 4 p.m., 517-852-9260

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**FREE SHOWS**  
EVERYONE  
SAT & SUN @ 10 & 11 AM  
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**MASTER OF DISGUISE (PG)**

**SHOWTIMES 11/11 - 11/14**  
**THE SANTA CLAUSE 2 (G)**  
DIGITAL STADIUM SEATING  
12:10, 2:20, 4:30, 7:00, 9:20  
**MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING (PG)** DIGITAL STADIUM SEATING  
12:50, 2:50, 5:00, 7:00, 9:10  
**OSPIY (PG-13)**  
12:30, 3:00, 5:10, 7:30, 9:40  
**THE RING (PG-13)**  
12:00, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30

**Harry Potter**  
THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS  
ADVANCE TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE

**COUPON**  
**FREE 20oz DRINK**  
with \$1.50 (1/2 price) purchase of 46oz. bag of buttery popcorn  
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**Be their Hero**  
from age Zero

**LOVE**

**L**isten to your child  
**O**pen your heart to your child  
**V**alue every child  
**E**mphasize your child's positives

Children learn to love because they are loved. Beginning at birth, your baby starts to develop what scientists call *social attachment*. This simply means that your baby grows to love you.

Research shows that children who form social attachments to a few very important people early in their lives are more likely to relate well to others as they grow up. They tend to be more curious and to do well in school. They are frequently better able to handle stress and are less likely to have behavior problems. They get along well with other children and tend to be happier people. Attachment to a few important people is what prepares a child for a lifetime of learning.

*November is National Family Month and Family Stories Month - Celebrate your family. Share your childhood stories with your children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.*

**Early childhood connections**  
400 S. Nelson St., Potterville, MI 48876  
(517) 645-4500

# Vermontville teen plans trip to Australia

by Sandra Ponsetto  
Staff Writer

Jessica Lawless, a 16-year old sophomore at Maple Valley High School, is in the process of raising money to go on the trip of a lifetime to Australia where she will live with a host family for six to eight weeks.

Lawless is taking odd-jobs, planning fund-raisers and looking for sponsors to help her raise the approximately \$3,000 she will need to take part in the Lions Club Youth Exchange program.

Lawless had already started to make plans to go to Australia with the People to People Student Ambassador program, but a chance encounter at the Vermontville Hardware store changed her mind.

"Bill Mason, who is the state chairman of the Lions Club, works at the Vermontville Hardware store. My Dad went in there to pick up

something he needed, and Bill asked him if I would like to go to Australia," said Lawless. "My dad asked him if he (Mason) knew I was planning on going to Australia, and he said he didn't."

Lawless had attended the People to People orientation meetings and went through the lengthy application process, which included getting three letters of reference and attending a half an hour long interview with six other prospective candidates.

The People to People program would have consisted of a 20 day whirlwind educational tour of the east coast of Australia, with only one day spent living and going to school with an Australian family.

The Lions' Club Youth Exchange program appealed to Lawless a lot more.

"It's an exchange program, which is what I was

really interested in," said Lawless.

She said her parents are very supportive of her desire to go to Australia.

Lawless has dreamed of going to Australia since her father, Mark Lawless, spent five weeks there in 1999 as part of a worker exchange program through United Agri Products where he was employed at the time.

Later, the Lawless family played host to an Australian worker for several weeks as part of the same program.

"We had a guy named Andrew stay with us," said Jessica's mother, Vicki. "He went camping with us and did a lot of other things with us to experience our culture."

"We took him to a Lugsnuts game," she added. "He said that in Australia they play a game called cricket that is a lot like baseball. But, he said cricket was a lot more boring; he liked baseball better."

Lawless said that her father's experience is also helping to prepare her for her trip.

"He told us how the food over there was really different, even a hamburger," said Lawless. "They eat hamburgers with beets, onions, mushroom and a lot of other stuff. They also eat Vegimite, which they use like peanut butter, but it is really salty."

Lawless said her dad also told her about some of the differences in language as well.

"If you asked for a napkin at dinner you would actually be asking for a diaper," she said with a smile.

But, right now Lawless is focused on raising funds for the trip. She is taking on a



Jessica Lawless (left) and her mother, Vicki, look over the travel brochures for Australia. Lawless is making plans to go to Australia as part of the Lions Club Youth Exchange Program.

variety of fund-raisers in addition to sending out letters to family and friends asking for their support.

Lawless said that the people her father works with at

the Caledonia Farmers Elevator have started collecting pop bottles and cans to help defray her costs.

"I'd appreciate any help anyone is willing to give,"

said Lawless.

Anyone interested in helping to sponsor Lawless' participation in the youth exchange program can contact her at (517) 726-1317.



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## Local sophomores urged to apply for HOBY award

The General Federation of Women's Clubs-Vermontville encourages all sophomores at Maple Valley High School to apply to the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership program, especially students with strong leadership skills.

The purpose of the program is to help in preparing today's student leaders for important leadership roles in the future.

The Maple Valley High School selection committee will choose two sophomores from those applying to become the school's HOBY ambassadors. These students will have the opportunity to attend an all-expense-paid HOBY Leadership Seminar next spring.

At the conclusion of the HOBY seminar in Michigan, one boy and girl will be selected to attend the all-expense-paid, week-long HOBY World Leadership Congress, which will be coordinated by the George Washington University in Washington, D.C. in July 2003.

Application is available in the guidance office. The deadline for submitting applications is Nov. 14.

GFVC Vermontville provides funds for the students to represent Maple Valley High School as their ambassadors.

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# From Our Readers

## Local Citizens Speak Out On Issues

### Losing a child is parent's worst nightmare

To the editor:

I want to address a comment that the Maple Valley News reporter made in her column shortly after my son's death.

You can no way shape or form even compare his death and what happened with buying new clothes for your children. Obviously, she has never lost a child, if she even has any. I trusted my child's well being to another parent, so I guess the question should have been directed at her. Where was she when all these teenagers were in her home drinking? I sure would like an answer to that one, and who was supplying them with liquor?

I know the writer only reported what she was told, but Corbin did not take anyone's car, those keys were

given to him, and it is really too bad they are all too cowardly to want to tell the truth of what really happened that night.

My son died! If they were truly Corbin's friends and cared about him, they would not be protecting whomever they are trying to protect and they would tell the detective everything

hey know. In my eyes they were never his friends, they just used him for whatever they could get. Corbin was not a leader he was a follower and he would do anything for anyone just to fit in.

What would the parents of the friends Corbin was with do if it was their child who died? They can see, touch and feel their children. If I want to feel my son or talk to him, I have to visit

his gravesite! I hope and pray that it does not happen to one of their children, or if some day it should, somebody would be brave and courageous enough to step forward and tell the truth.

My son's death was a tragic and yet I have to go through the pain of overcoming the tragedy. Life is too precious to let this make our lives become a tragedy. I have to face what has happened to my son and find a way to bless our future by remembering the blessings we had because of what I shared with Corbin. All the wonderful things past become more wonderful future because I have learned or will learn to cherish him and grow and pass it on to the ones who affect my life. As long as I can hold the promise that he is not lost from me forever, not gone from me forever and not gone from me completely, I can learn to live with peace in my heart knowing that Corbin watches over me always. I can't touch or see him, but I will always feel him in my heart and spirit.

Gail Gray, Marshall, Corbin Gardner's mother

### SERVING OUR COUNTRY

Joe E. Dusenbery

Marine Corps Pfc. Joe E. Dusenbery, son of Tammy S. Wheeler of Portage and Royal E. Dusenbery of Vermontville, recently completed basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego.

Dusenbery successfully completed 12 weeks of training designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally.

Dusenbery and fellow recruits began their training at 5 a.m., by running three miles and performing calisthenics. In addition to the physical conditioning program, Dusenbery spent numerous hours in classroom and field assignments which included learning, first aid, uniform regulations, combat water survival, marksmanship, hand-to-hand combat

and assorted weapons training. They performed close order drill and operated as a small infantry unit during field training.

Dusenbery and other recruits also received instruction on the Marine Corps' core values - honor, courage and commitment, and what the words mean in guiding personal and professional conduct.

Dusenbery and fellow recruits ended the training phase with The Crucible, a 54-hour team effort, problem solving evolution which culminated with an emotional ceremony in which the recruits were presented the Marine Corps Emblem, and were addressed as "Marines" for the first time since boot camp began.

Dusenbery is a 1998 graduate of Portage Northern High School.

Call 945-9554 for classified ads

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# Massive search rescues hunter 43 hours after fall

by Shelly Sulser  
Staff Writer

A bow hunter believed to have fallen 20 feet from a Martin Road area tree stand Tuesday night was found alive Thursday afternoon after a four-hour search by West Michigan Search and Rescue, Wolverine Canine, one helicopter and 16 volunteers.

Shannon L. Brischke, 33, of Woodland is listed in critical condition at Spectrum Hospital, reportedly suffering from a broken neck suffered in the fall.

"He had paralysis in his legs when he was found," said Sgt. Bill House of the Hastings Post of the Michigan State Police. "Something is probably broken but

I'm not sure what if anything."

House said Brischke rents a room from Woodland resident James Kinney, who told troopers Brischke left Tuesday to go hunting by himself.

When Kinney returned home from work Wednesday he became concerned that Brischke still had not returned.

"Kinney then checked the area where Brischke hunts with no success," police reported.

House said Kinney then contacted Hastings resident JoBeth Bridleman, who formerly owned a search and rescue dog, which is now deceased.

"She put him into contact

with these other people," said House.

Charles C. Stark of West Michigan Search and Rescue was contacted and began the search Thursday morning, said House.

"Stark arrived on scene with Wolverine Canine, West Michigan Search Dogs, one helicopter and 16 volunteers," said House. "A search was started at about 10 a.m. Brischke was located by rescuers in Woodland Township at about 2:15 p.m."

House said his department did not immediately begin a search Wednesday night when troopers were first contacted "because it was dark," and because Brischke reportedly had been known to disappear for short periods of time in the past.

"And Mr. Kinney had been to the area and searched already," said House. "He said Mr. Brischke disappears regularly and shows up a few days later."

Kinney had also called Brischke's employer who reported that Brischke had gone hunting with a couple of other co-workers.

Brischke was also reportedly known to move around to various locations while hunting, which led volunteers to a very large search area.



West Michigan AirCare transported a hunter to a Grand Rapids hospital Thursday, two days after he is believed to have fallen 20 feet from a tree stand in Woodland Township. The 33-year-old man was found by volunteers with search and rescue dogs and is listed in critical condition.

House called the search "methodical."

Brischke was eventually located, still conscious, when a volunteer using a whistle to call his dog heard a noise in return.

"Brischke was on the ground in a heavily wooded area below a tree stand," said House. "At that time, Brischke stated he couldn't move his legs."

The victim was removed from the woods by the Woodland Fire Department and Lakewood Ambulance personnel. He was then airlifted by West Michigan AirCare helicopter to Spectrum Hospital's Butterworth Campus in Grand Rapids.

"The extent of his injuries are unknown at this time," House said Friday.

House said Brischke was unable to explain his accident to rescuers, but "I'm assuming it happened when he was climbing down from

his tree stand, probably Tuesday night."

Kinney and Stark could not be reached for comment

Friday. Fire Chief Tom Clark also was unavailable for comment.

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## GFWC book review is Wednesday

The Vermontville General Federation Women's Club, in conjunction with the Vermontville Public Library, will hold its monthly book review in the library Wednesday, Nov. 13, at 7 p.m.

"The Girls" by Helen Yglesias will be the topic of discussion.

These days the news is full of reports about the graying of America, yet it's rare that old people appear in contemporary fiction except as stock characters - the indulgent grandmother, the wicked witch. This acclaimed author presents four grand old ladies, sisters, each unique and indelibly real, in a poignant and very funny story about the last American taboos, old age and dying.

Books for the review are provided to readers on loan through the library. As always, discussion is open to the public and anyone with an interest in reading is encouraged to join in.

If interested in upcoming December books, call the library.

## JV girls tack on two more wins

The Maple Valley jayvee girls' basketball team improved their record to 13-6 with two more SMAA wins last week.

The first time the Lions met up with Lansing Christian they were downed by 17 points.

This time, eight different Lions scored to pull out a 39-36 Maple Valley victory.

Valley trailed by five at the half, and cut the Lansing Christian lead to three points before the start of the final period.

Mindy Newton led Valley with eight points, nine rebounds, and three blocked shots.

Amy Abbott also had eight points for Valley, to go with six rebounds. Kyndra Root added seven points, and Krista Driksna scored six points while also pulling down eight rebounds and blocking three shots.

Nov. 5 against Dansville the Lions held their oppo-

nent to only four points in the final period while scoring ten of their own to come away with a 39-35 victory.

The Lions hit only five of 11 free throws on the night, but were four of five down the stretch to take the lead. "We made them when we needed them," said Lions coach Duska Brumm.

Abbott led the Lions with 10 points Driksna and Allison Oleson both added six points.

All six of Oleson's points came in the second quarter to help push Valley to a 22-15 halftime lead.

Driksna also added eight rebounds and five blocks. Root led the Lions with 12 rebounds, to go with her four points.

Lynzie Rigelman combined five assists with four points.

The girls finish up their season Friday Nov. 15 against Olivet.

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## Cheering on the Lions

Leading the Lions' fans through another successful football season are the varsity cheerleaders (front row from left) Cashel Harp, Kaylene Rutledge, (middle) Maria Yusupova, Krystal Root, Melissa Nisse, Laci Burkett, Nika Dargah-zade, (back) Jerrica Ashcroft, Andrea Eaton, coach Mandy Hansen, coach Ashley Collier, Ashley Trumble.

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**Wednesday, Nov. 13**  
 BBQ Chicken, spinach, baked potato, cornbread, applesauce.
- Thursday, Nov. 14**  
 Roast beef, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, peaches, dinner roll.
- Friday, Nov. 15**  
 Baked fish, California blend, wax beans, rice pilaf, plums.
- Monday, Nov. 18**  
 Chicken parmesan, cauliflower, green beans, pasta, cookie.
- Tuesday, Nov. 19**  
 Turkey noodle casserole, broccoli, winter squash, pudding.
- Lite Menu**  
**Wednesday, Nov. 13**  
 Chef salad, macaroni salad, apricots.
- Thursday, Nov. 14**  
 Homemade egg salad, tomato salad, pears, whole wheat crackers.
- Friday, Nov. 15**  
 Turkey pasta salad, cole slaw, mandarin oranges.
- Monday, Nov. 18**  
 Ground bologna, German potato salad, applesauce, whole wheat bread.

- Tuesday, Nov. 19**  
 Wing digs, cole slaw, tropical fruit, dinner roll.
- Events**  
**Wednesday, Nov. 13** - Hastings, crafts/nails; Nashville, Nashville +5; Woodland, Check Credit w/Deb (11:30 a.m.); Delton, Exercise (11:00 a.m.).
- Thursday, Nov. 14** - Hastings, Check Credit w/Deb (10:30 a.m.); Nashville, Reminiscent Corner; Delton, Reminiscent Corner.
- Friday, Nov. 15** - Hastings, bingo; Nashville, birthday party; Woodland, puzzle day.
- Monday, Nov. 18** - Hastings, Exercise, Christmas List; Nashville, Game Day; Woodland, Reminiscent Corner; Delton, Read-A-Book.
- Tuesday, Nov. 19** - Hastings, Line Dancing (9:30-11:30 a.m.), Moorehouse Kids, Alz. Meeting (1:00 p.m.); Board meeting, (2:00 p.m.); Nashville, Crafts/Bingo, Grandma's Kids.

### MAINTENANCE POSITIONS

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Job descriptions and qualifications are available upon request. Wages based upon experience. Excellent benefits and working conditions. All applicants are subject to a criminal background check and drug screen. Please submit resume or apply to:

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**Thornapple Manor**  
**2700 Nashville Road • Hastings, MI 49058**  
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*Thornapple Manor*

## Nashville Garden Club to hold tree lighting

Everyone is invited to the second annual lighting of the Christmas tree at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 22, in the park in downtown Nashville.

In addition to the tree lighting, there will be a Christmas carolers, hot chocolate and cookies for sale and a canned goods drive.

For more information, call Gay Goodnoe at (517) 852-9520.

## Nashville woman is area's Tastefully Simple consultant

Susan Morris of Nashville, recently became a consultant for Tastefully Simple Inc., a national direct sales company based in Alexandria, Minn.

As a consultant, Morris conducts in-home presentations of upscale, convenience driven gourmet foods. During interactive taste-testing parties, guests receive meal ideas, recipes and entertainment suggestions. Products are received at the party; gift boxes may be ordered for personal and corporate gifts.

Morris joins more than

8,500 consultants in 50 states and Puerto Rico. Founded in 1995, Tastefully Simple offers small indulgences for busy lives.

For more information on Tastefully Simple and business opportunities, contact Susan Morris at 517-852-1897.

## Activity rescheduled at Putnam Library

The activity dates have been changed for November and December at Putnam Library. Dates are as follows and the times will be from 6:30 to 8 p.m.: Nov. 12, Writers Workshop; Nov. 19 -

Friends of the Library; Dec. 3 - Adoption Search and Support Group; and Dec. 10 - Book Club.

If you have any questions please contact the library at 852-9723.

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| <p><b>IN COUNTRY ON 20 ACRES NASHVILLE.</b> Beautifully updated &amp; remodeled farm house on 20 +/- acres, oak kitchen cabinets, garden area, fruit trees, too many newer updates to mention. Central air, peaceful setting, possible acreage split. Horse enthusiast, take a look! \$179,900. Call Jerry. (CH-168)</p> | <p><b>"MANY NEWER IMPROVEMENTS" IN NASHVILLE</b> 2 story, 3 bedroom home, tastefully decorated, hardwood floors in kitchen &amp; dining room, newer vinyl siding, windows &amp; roof. Some appliances included. Call Nyle to see. FHA/VA Terms (N-174)</p>  | <p><b>JUST LISTED NORTH OF VERMONTVILLE - SECLUDED SETTING IN THE WOODS ON 10 ACRES OF LAND</b> Ranch home, 5 bedrooms &amp; 3 baths. Room for the family to have horses &amp; animals, lots of wildlife to enjoy. Call Homer. (CH-177)</p>  |  |
| <p><b>NASHVILLE LARGE FAMILY 4 BEDROOMS</b> 2 story house on large corner lot, "updated" home, well maintained, 4 sheds, immediate possession. Call Jerry. (N-172)</p>   | <p><b>COUNTRY LIVING AT ITS BEST! SOUTH OF NASHVILLE ON BLACKTOP ROAD.</b> 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, full walkout basement, 2 car garage, fenced back yard are just a few of the features. This one won't last!! Call Nyle today! (CH-166)</p>   | <p><b>AFFORDABLE COUNTRY LIVING!</b> Cute 3 bedroom, 1 bath home on 1 acre with 2 car garage &amp; additional shop or storage area. Priced to buy. Call Nyle. (CH-167)</p>   |  |
| <p><b>JUST LISTED! NICE COUNTRY HOME.</b> Nashville 2 story 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, fieldstone fireplace, oak kitchen, home office, main floor laundry, two "3 season porches", includes appliances, central air &amp; barn. Call Jerry. \$159,900. (CH-175)</p>  | <p><b>NEW LISTING! COUNTRY GET AWAY!</b> Sharp ranch on 5 acres, 3 car garage, plus small barn for horses etc. Complete with pond and in-ground pool, walkout basement, partly finished. Call Nyle today before it is gone! (CH-176)</p>  | <p><b>OCCUPANCY AT CLOSE - NASHVILLE \$75,000! GREAT "STARTER" OR "RETIREMENT" HOME.</b> 2 bedroom, kitchen, living room, dining, 1st floor laundry, appliances included, many newer improvements, 1 1/2 car garage. Very nice property &amp; yard. Call Homer. Occupancy at close!! (N-173)</p> |  |
| <p><b>TOO NEW FOR PICTURE</b> Great starter or retirement home. Cute 2 bedroom one story home. Many recent updates. Vinyl siding. Nice corner lot. Priced to buy at \$69,900. Appliances are included. Call Niel today. (N-178)</p>  | <p><b>VACANT LAND:</b> VERMONTVILLE - BUILDING LOT - PRICED REDUCED!! Suitable for "walk-out" basement, wooded, good location, all surveyed. Call Nyle for details. City water &amp; sewer. (VL-150)</p>  | <p><b>PRICE REDUCED TO \$145,000!!! 3 BEDROOM RANCH ON 1.8 ACRES.</b> 2 full baths, walkout basement, fenced yard, 2 car garage/shop building. All on blacktop road, south of Vermontville. Call Nyle for private showing. (CH-165)</p>  |  |
| <p><b>7 ACRE PARCEL AND A 10 ACRE PARCEL</b> Both north of Vermontville on black top road. Both have possible pond sites, &amp; possible walkout building sites, surveyed, perked &amp; driveway permits. Parcels are seeded to hay. Natural gas available on 7 acre parcel. Call Homer. (VL-137 &amp; 145)</p>          |   |  |  |

## Discover what students are learning

Citizens throughout Michigan are heading back to school this week Nov. 11-15 to discover for themselves how the MEAP measures what kids know and how well they can use their knowledge.

"Come take the test," urges State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Watkins, "and discover what our students are learning in school today."

This open invitations is issued jointly by the

Treasury Department, which administers the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP), and the Education Department.

Take the Test Week is part of a new effort to help communities understand what's being taught in local classrooms and why their students need to excel on these annual tests. Statewide education groups are working with MDE and Treasury to sponsor community MEAP events statewide.

For many parents and local business leaders, Take the Test Week (Nov. 11-15) offers a first-ever, hands-on connection to the critical thinking skills required of today's students.

According to Michael Boulus, Director of the Merit Award Office, "Citizens will be surprised at the complexity of skills tested, and most will probably be challenged by the sample questions on the test."

However, what the adult test-takers see is just a half-

hour sample of questions taken from all five areas and all grade levels, says Boulus.

"What's more important for those who accept our invitation," explain Watkins and Boulus, "is the opportunity to ask questions and get answers about Michigan's new accreditation system and to learn about upcoming changes to the MEAP."

"We all know that kids are more than a single test on a single day," they note. "But, because testing is the way we evaluate our schools, all Michigan citizens need to understand the rigorous state standards we are setting for our students and our teachers."

For those who can't go to a school where the Take the Test event is being held, they can visit web sites of the co-sponsoring education groups to review test questions, get MEAP tips and homework help ([www.mspra.org](http://www.mspra.org), [www.masb.org](http://www.masb.org), [www.gorn-masa.org](http://www.gorn-masa.org), or [www.kentisd.org](http://www.kentisd.org)).

## Handwriting analysis class offered by KCC

Sue Rathe, handwriting analysis expert, will present a program for the Institute for Learning in Retirement Thursday, Nov. 14, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Fehsenfeld Center, Kellogg Community College campus west of Hastings.

Rathe will discuss the importance of handwriting analysts, why they are used in various occupations and the techniques used in analyzing handwriting. She will

also have time to analyze participants own penmanship.

This fun and informative class is open to adults of all ages. The fee is \$5. Those attending are asked to bring a pen and paper to class.

The Fehsenfeld Center is located at 2950 M-179 Highway, just west of M-37. Registration is required. Registration can be made by phone at 948-9500, extension 2642, by mail, or on-site.

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## Shipshewana on the Road coming to area

Shipshewana on the Road will be at the Delta Plex Saturday, Nov. 23, and Sunday, Nov. 24.

Vendors will fill the Delta Plex with merchandise from

around the world to offer something for everybody. Country pine furniture, radio controlled cars, trucks and construction equipment, fine 14kt gold jewelry and diamonds, Minnetonka moccasins, home decorating accents, appliqued T-shirts and sweat shirts, name brand perfumes, household and cooking utensils, DVD's and CD's, cleaners for wood, upholstery and carpets, turquoise jewelry, framed tapestries and pictures, toys, games, novelties, sterling silver jewelry, Native American style clothing, crafts and gifts are some of the things available.

Customers can get their jewelry repaired - on the spot - while they wait.

The hours will be from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and again Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. There is a \$3 admission for adults, but accompanying children 12 and under are free. Strollers are allowed and refreshments will be available at the Delta Plex concession stand.

The Delta Plex is located in Walker, the northwest part of Grand Rapids.

## Holiday Cooking

Cook Like A French Chef: Recipes From The Ritz Paris

(NAPS)—This holiday season you may care to try something different. Impress your guests with a French gourmet feast. The chefs at NextDayGourmet.com worked closely with The Ritz Escoffier Cooking School in Paris to bring the recipes below to you.



### Sea Scallops Studded With Truffles

Ingredients for 4 servings  
20 sea scallops  
2 oz (60 g) clarified butter  
2 1/2 oz (70 g) truffles and their juice  
Peanut and Ritz Escoffier walnut or hazelnut oils  
Sherry vinegar  
10- 12 oz (300 g) celeriac cut into thin matchsticks (julienne)  
Salt  
Pepper  
Chervil and celery leaves

**The Recipe**  
• Slit open the sea scallops in the middle and insert a sliver of truffle.  
• Make a vinaigrette with the Sherry vinegar, truffle juice and salt.  
• Whisk in the peanut oil and finish by adding the Ritz Escoffier walnut or hazelnut oil, then season with pepper.  
• Season the celeriac julienne, the chervil and celery leaf with the vinaigrette.  
• Sauté the sea scallops in the clarified butter until a golden color is obtained.

**To Serve**  
• Use the remaining vinaigrette as a sauce for the sea scallops.

### Lavender Tile Cookies With Lavender Flowers

Ingredients for 25 to 30 cookies  
5 oz (150g) butter  
11 oz (350g) confectionery sugar

1 1/2 oz Lavender honey  
3 1/2 oz (100g) flour  
5 oz (150g) orange juice  
2 Tbsp Ritz Escoffier lavender flowers

**The Recipe**  
• Melt the butter.  
• Mix icing sugar, flour, the lavender honey, and the flowers.  
• Add the orange juice and mix carefully.  
• Then incorporate the melted butter. Store in a cool place.  
• Line the baking sheets with non-stick parchment paper.  
• Distribute spoonfuls of the batter over the paper.  
• Bake at 375°F (180°C) until the tiles are an even golden brown.

**To Finish**  
• Allow to cool slightly, then form and store like almond tile cookies.

**Important**  
• If possible, make tile cookie batter a day before baking cookies.  
• Tile cookies do not keep well; it's best to make them strictly as needed and as little in advance as possible.

For gourmet cooking supplies and Ritz Escoffier ingredients as well as additional French recipes, visit [NextDayGourmet.com](http://NextDayGourmet.com).

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**Tuesday, November 19, 2002**

**8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

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**ATTENTION VILLAGE RESIDENTS**

It is time to think about the general village election that will be held on March 10, 2003. For those residents interested in serving as a Nashville Village official, the following positions will be on the ballot:

**Council Trustees (3) 2 year terms**

Eligibility: Must be a resident and a registered voter in the Village of Nashville.

Nominating petitions can be obtained at 206 N. Main St. anytime during regular business hours (9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays). The clerk will be available to assist with any questions regarding nominating petitions. The deadline for filing petitions with the clerk is 4:00 p.m. on November 26, 2002.

# Local FFA members attend national convention



Maple Valley FFA members Jeremy Dunn, Ben Owens, Tommy Griffin, Jennifer Dunn and Brandon Montgomery pose for a photo at the National FFA Convention in Louisville, Ky.

Five Maple Valley FFA students attended the 75th National FFA Convention last month in Louisville, Kentucky.

Students Jeremy Dunn, Tommy Griffin, Ben Owens, Brandon Montgomery and Jennifer Dunn, along with advisor Aaron Saari, chaperone Mark Montgomery and Maple Valley Assistant Principal Scott Eckhart, were among the approximately 50,000 FFA members from around the nation

who attended the event. The Maple Valley students traveled to their destination on a charter bus ac-

companied by members of other local FFA chapters, including Branch Area Careers Center, Charlotte, Centerville and Olivet.

On their trip the group stopped at various sites along the way, including the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, the Merengo Caves, Louisville Slugger Museum and Factory, Churchill Downs

race track, a buffalo farm and Falls of the Ohio.

While at the convention itself, the students attended sessions that included motivational speakers such as Rick Rigsby of Texas A&M and the 2002-2003 national FFA officers. One of the sessions included former heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali.

The convention center also featured a FFA shopping mall.

While in Louisville they took a cruise on the Ohio River on a boat called the Star of Louisville. They also attended a career fair with more than 250 exhibitors, including John Deere, Ford Trucks and the United States department of agriculture.

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### Correction:

The Vermontville Township treasurer will be collecting the school portion of the 2003 winter tax during the summer of 2003. She will not be collecting summer taxes as reported last week.

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In My Own

Write

by Sandra Ponsetto

## Grandma's garden

This column was originally written as an essay for the Daughters Banquet at First Presbyterian Church in Hastings in the spring of 1998. It is reprinted here in memory of my grandma, Arlene Shick, December 5, 1915 - November 10, 2002.

I remember riding the school bus home on one of the first warm sweet days of summer. As the bus reached the top of a long hill, I caught a glimpse of my grandma's house in the valley below.

It was a small house sur-

rounded by flowers and trees. The carefully tended lawn stretched beyond the house to a garden shaped like a wagon wheel.

Between the grassy spokes, flowers bloomed in a rainbow of colors.

Catching sight of the garden, I leaned forward straining to see. As the bus drew nearer, I caught a glimpse of my grandma working in her garden.

I can still remember how she looked that day. Her once-blue housedress was blowing about her sturdy legs and her strong arms and hands were raising and lowering the hoe with the grace and sureness that comes from years of hard work.

Hearing the bus grind to a halt on the shoulder of the road, she straightened up and leaned against her hoe, resting for a moment. A work-roughened hand pushed back a stray lock of earth brown hair tinged with gold from the sun.

Her face reflected years of hard work and worry and, for a moment, her gray eyes seemed nearly as faded as the dress she wore. Fine lines of care had begun to trace their way across her forehead and beneath her eyes.

But, as I leapt from the bus, she was suddenly transformed. Her eyes sparkled like the clear blue sky overhead and the lines disappeared as her face crinkled into a warm and generous smile.

As her strong arms wrapped around me, I inhaled the warm fragrance of earth, flowers and summer sunlight in her tousled hair.

Nearly thirty years have passed since that warm summer day and many things have changed. I have married, moved across the state and have a home and family of my own. The lawn has long since reclaimed the wagon wheel garden so Grandma no longer waits for me there.

When I visit Grandma I find her sitting alone in a house that once rang with the laughter of children. Her hair gleams with pewter highlights and the years have deepened the lines care and worry have etched across her face. Her strong arms have become frail and arthritic and her embrace is as light as a cloud shadow.

Despite all the changes, one thing remains the same. When I come through the door, her face is once again transformed as her eyes sparkle and her smile reveals the warmth within.

Still, I sometimes feel sad when I look out at the garden in my own yard and think about the changes that time has wrought. But, just when I begin to feel overwhelmed by it, I hear conspiratorial giggles and the padding of little feet running down the hall. I feel the gentle thud of two small bodies as my daughters fling their arms around my neck and shower me with kisses and whisper, "I love you Mama."

I gather them in my arms and bury my face in their hair, the color of sunlight and shadow, and I breathe deep the fragrance of fresh-air and springtime which clings to them. As I hold them close, I feel an endless joy rising up within me and I know the garden Grandma planted so long ago is still growing today.

## Senior citizens luncheon slated

All Vermontville area senior citizens are invited to attend a senior citizens luncheon at the Vermontville United Methodist

Church, located at 108 N. Main St., at noon on Wednesday, Nov. 20. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to pass.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS MSU Extension Office

- Nov. 12 Goat Developmental Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Extension Office.
- Nov. 13 Horse Judging Meeting, 7 p.m., Stacey Campeau's.
- Nov. 18 Extension Advisory Board meeting, 7 p.m., Community Room, Courts & Law Building.
- Nov. 19 Master Gardener meeting, 7 p.m., Community Room, Courts & Law Building.
- Nov. 20 4-H Advisory Council Meeting, 7 p.m., Community Room, Courts & Law Building.
- Nov. 21 Fair Board Meeting.
- Nov. 21 Dairy Developmental Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Extension Office.
- Nov. 23 Horse Judging Clinic, 10 a.m., Infinity Quarter Horses.
- Nov. 25 Rabbit Developmental Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., HHS Cafeteria.
- Nov. 26 New 4-H Leader Orientation, 7 p.m., Community Room, Courts & Law Building.
- Nov. 26 4-H Trail Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Extension Office.
- Nov. 29 4-H Beef Weigh-In, for rate of gain fair contest, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Horse barn, fair grounds.
- Dec. 2 Extension Homemakers Christmas Party, 6 p.m., home of Cathy Bachman.

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## Thanksgiving Holiday Deadlines for

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MAPLE VALLEY news

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for The Reminder, The Sun and News, The Lakewood News and the Maple Valley News will be  
**Thursday, November 21 at 5 p.m.**

~ Classified Deadlines ~  
for The Sun and News, Lakewood News and Maple Valley News, will be  
**Friday November 22 at Noon.**  
Deadline for The Reminder will be  
**Friday November 22 at 5 p.m.**

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# Lady Lion cagers clash with Olivet again Friday

The showdown is Friday night, Nov. 15.

It may have lost a little of its luster when the Lions' varsity girls' basketball team fell 58-37 last Thursday, but it'll still be a battle between two of the best girls' basketball teams in the area when undefeated Olivet comes to Valley for the final SMAA game of the season.

The first time the two teams met, in Olivet, Valley fell 42-33. Lions' head coach Craig Kitching says that his girls are "planning on being there" for the game between the top two teams in the league.

The injustice of it all is that the two teams could meet again, as early as Monday Nov. 25, and that time with the season on the line. Both teams are in the same district. The draw was Monday after press time.

The Lions come into the final stretch with a 16-3 record after going one and one last week.

Lansing Christian showed that they are right there at the top of the league with Olivet and Valley, by handing Valley only its second league loss of the season.

Kitching said that his Lions gave an excellent effort. "They played as hard as they could. We just didn't execute as well as we can."

Valley ran its offense, and got the good looks its used to getting, but the shots weren't falling.

Only four of 26 shots from the floor went in the entire second half for the Lions.

The Lions were only eight of 31 in the first half.

"We were getting good shots," said Kitching. "They were just not going in. That happens sometimes. That's

not an excuse."

The Lions had been preparing to stop Christian's sensational sophomore, Tiffany Shibbes, but it didn't work out on the court.

She hit seven three's, from all over the court. Shibbes also had nine assists, ten rebounds, and four steals.

Valley's press that really bothered Christian the first time the two teams met wasn't as effective on this night.

The Lions led at halftime, playing Christian's slower tempo style where they slow it up and let Shibbes do her thing.

Kitching said that the Lions tried to get the tempo going in the second half with their press, and it backfired. "They (Christian) did a very good job. If they broke it they scored."

The Lions had planned to make Shibbes give up the ball, and force other players to get the ball up the court, but Lansing was able to get past the Valley defense, and when Shibbes was forced to give the ball up, she found teammates for good looks at the basket.

Jessie Grant tried to steer Shibbes into her teammates on the defensive end, but Kitching said that his team just didn't get the job of containing her done.

As important as Christian's press break, and the rough shooting night was the fact that the Lions were out rebounded in the second half 22-7, and weren't getting any second chance shots.

Brianna Treloar led the Lions on the night with 12 points, nine rebounds, and four steals.

Megan Garvey put in eight, and Veronika Pitukova seven.

Chayla Robles came off the bench and knocked down a couple of three's in the second half for Valley. That was one of the things going through Kitching's head after the game.

"I'm not convinced I used my bench as effectively as I could have," said Kitching. "We'll take the lessons to be a stronger and better team."

The rough shooting night against Christian was quite a contrast from the night the Lions had, Nov. 5, against Dansville.

Dansville came in with a tight zone defense, daring Valley to shoot from the outside.

"We shot 'em out of that," said Kitching. Valley connected on a season high eight three pointers.

The Lions press was effective in the second half to push a nine point lead to a 64-33 Lions victory.

Kitching said that Pitukova had a breakout game, knocking down four three's and leading Valley in scoring with 17 points, and doing a good job on defense.

Another bright spot for the games ahead was the return of junior Stefanie Joostberns.

Joostberns was first team all-SMAA last season, and returned for the first time following a torn ACL to see some limited time. "She's going to get nothing but better," says Kitching.

Jessie Grant played a "great all around floor game," said Kitching, as usual.

Grant combined 14 points with six steals and eight assists.

Garvey hit a couple of three's and finished with eleven points in the contest.

Kitching said that he liked Treloar's defense, and the job she did running the floor, and that Ashley Gordenier did her usual good job in the trenches.

Robles knocked down a three while leading the team in the fourth quarter. Kitching thought it was a good sign that with his starters on the bench in the fourth, his team could continue to put up points. Valley scored 19 points in the final stanza.

All the kids are playing very hard, and really giving good effort," says Kitching. "Really, that's all you can ask."

# Area Obituaries

## George F. Mendonca

VERMONTVILLE - George F. Mendonca, age 91, of Vermontville and formerly of Battle Creek, died Saturday, Nov. 2, 2002 at home in Vermontville.

He was born Aug. 14, 1911 in New Bedford, MA, the son of John Furtado and Maria Christina Perry De Silva Mendonca.

For over 40 years he lived in San Diego, CA before moving to Battle Creek.

He married Helen Gonsalves in 1931. Helen preceded him in death in 1981. In 1992 George married the former Marquerite Flanders in Battle Creek. She died last year.

George worked as a skilled carpenter and contractor. He generously shared his trade with others, including his extended family. George included his

entire family in his love of building. They often helped him in the planning, building and selling of homes together.

He was a member of St. Philip Catholic Church and the Burnham Brook Center in Battle Creek, and St. Mary Catholic Church in Charlotte. Since age 12 he was involved in his lifelong love of flying and breeding racing pigeons, which he did with clubs in San Diego and the Battle Creek area. George found great joy in spending time with his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

George is survived by daughters Joyce Ann (Jan) Haney and Cynthia Marie (Leonard) Weidig of Vermontville; sons, Ronald George (Muriel) Mendonca of West Linn, OR, Tobias

George (Lis) Mendonca of Tombstone, AZ and Roger George (Nancy) Mendonca of Saugatuck. Also surviving are 14 grandchildren; 26 great grandchildren; one great grandchild and a sister, Mary Lively of Gainesville, Fla.

He was also preceded in death by a daughter, Cynthia Ann Mendonca in 1945 and several brothers and sisters.

Mass of Christian burial was held on Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2002 at St. Philip Catholic Church celebrated by Rev. William J. Fitzgerald and Rev. Jaye Rao Polimera. Interment was at Newbre Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Mary Catholic Church, Charlotte. [www.farleystatesdowdle.com](http://www.farleystatesdowdle.com).

## Robert John Wyble

CHARLOTTE - Robert John Wyble, age 91, of Charlotte, Mich., died Thursday, Nov. 7, 2002.

Mr. Wyble was born March 1, 1911, in Kalamo, Mich., the son of Thomas and Cecile (Rolf) Wyble.

Robert was production worker for AE Hoover for

20 years. He enjoyed gardening, fishing, helping his neighbors and coffee at McDonalds.

He is survived by companion Bernie Eaton; daughter Alice (James) Lundeen of Charlotte, Mich.; two grandchildren; three great grandchildren;

brother Ted Wyble of Lansing; sister Lois Rich of Eaton Rapids, Mich., and many nieces and nephews.

His wife Madeline preceded him in death in 1980.

Funeral services were Monday, Nov. 11, 2002 at Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte, Mich. Pastor Mark Thompson officiated. Interment was in Hillside Cemetery in Kalamo, Mich.

If desired, memorial contributions may be made to the Michigan Parkinson Foundation. Further information available at [www.prayfuneral.com](http://www.prayfuneral.com).

## Thomas Leroy Cramer

SUNFIELD - Thomas Leroy Cramer, of Sunfield Michigan, passed away Monday, Nov. 4, 2002 at his residence in Sunfield at the age of 79.

Tom was born Nov. 25, 1922 in Sunfield, MI, the son of Arthur and Carrie (Gardner) Cramer, and was raised by Glen Cramer.

Mr. Cramer was a lieutenant colonel in the United States Air Force, and he also enjoyed farming for many years.

Tom was preceded in death by his wife, Betty Anne Cramer, Aug. 10, 2002.

Surviving are his children, Mark, Anne (Greg), Matt (Debra), and Clay (Gayle); grandchildren, Cole, Shad, Joseph, Daniel, Matthew, Casandra, Caroline, Tiffany, Theresa, Wesley, Ethan, and Cameron; great grandchildren, Carrie and Hawkins.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, Nov. 7, 2002 at the Kilpatrick United Brethren Church. The Rev. Darrel Bosworth and Barb Bosworth officiated. The pallbearers were Joseph and Daniel Stratton, Matthew, Cole and Shad Cramer, and Theodore Crandall. Honorary pallbearers were Wesley, Ethan, and Cameron Cramer.

A full military grave side service was held at the Sunfield Cemetery after the funeral at the church.

For those wishing, contributions may be made to the Alzheimers Foundation, c/o RFH, P.O. Box 36, Sunfield, MI 48890.

The arrangements were made by the Independent

Family Owned Funeral Home in Sunfield, Rosier Funeral Home, Mapes-Fisher Chapel, Sunfield, MI.

For more information, log onto [www.legacy.com](http://www.legacy.com).

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**Athlete of the Week**  
 Veronika Pitukova  
 Maple Valley High School (Nashville) Basketball  
 Maple Valley varsity girls' basketball coach Craig Kitching said that Pitukova had a "breakout game" against Dansville, knocking down four three's and leading the Lions with 17 points. Pitukova also scored seven points in the Lions' loss at Lansing Christian.  
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# Lions' dream ends in Montrose

By Jon Gambee

How do you say good-by to a dream? You might think it gets easier as you get older, perhaps because the older you get the more dreams you have that expire. But try telling that to Coach Guenther Mittelstaedt today. Try telling that to the Eric Smith, or Britt Leonard, or Jimmy Hirceiss.

Try telling that to Brian Dunlap.

Or any of the other 12 seniors on the Maple Valley Lions today. Their dream of a MHSAA championship

died Friday, brutally slain by a fired up Montrose football team, 16-6.

OK, a state championship is nothing more than a dream when you start out lifting weights in the off-season. But it is a dream that begins to take on form and substance as you progress through the two-a-days in the staggering heat of August. It begins to take life when you play that first scrimmage and the idea starts to expand when you get into the regular season and the victories start piling



Lions' senior running back Eric Smith (22) points guard Cam Smith (51) in the right direction before breaking free on his 80-yard touchdown run. (Photo by Perry Hardin)



Defensive tackle Josh Cook (77) fights off a block in the back ground, while Brandon Schantz (34) sets his sights on the Rams' ball carrier. (Photo by Perry Hardin)



Emotions run high when a dream comes to an end. Coach Don Foscoe (left) and Guenther Mittelstaedt try to calm senior Bryan Dunlap after his final snap as a Lion. (Photo by Perry Hardin)

up. One loss, to the state's number four ranked Leslic football team, is a setback, but that only makes you more determined because you battle them evenly throughout the contest and come up only inches short of victory in the waning moments.

When you stage a stunning comeback to beat a powerful Portland team in the last minute of regulation, you come away thinking, "Yea, this is it. We can do this!"

The dream is alive. When the regular season ends and you enter the play-offs 8-1, its anybody's tournament. The playoffs begin at Williamston, a 7-2 team that has more tournament points than you because they have proven themselves against bigger and better

schools. When you manhandle them 26-7, you have to think that the dream has now taken on a life of its own, conceived by effort and brought to fruition by blood and sweat.

And then, Montrose. Undeclared Montrose.

At half-time it is 3-0 Rams and you come back on the field knowing that one big play can turn the tide. Just stay the course. Keep working. Keep hitting. Keep pushing. Keep the faith.

Keep on keeping on. Then Smith runs right, cuts left, gets that one big block and hits the sideline at full speed and no one on God's green earth can catch him on this night. He goes 80 yards to glory and the dream rises like a mythical winged Phoenix.

The Rams come right

back, going 71 yards in only six plays to recapture the lead 10-6 on quarterback James Hitchcock's two yard plunge, but not to worry. The fourth quarter always belongs to the Lions, right? It's what your rich tradition has been built on. Maple Valley owns the fourth quarter.

Just keep working. Just keep hitting. Just keep fighting.

Not this time. Instead, Montrose comes up with one big play of their own and it proves to be the biggest play of the game. Hitchcock fakes the hand-off, spins 360 degrees and slides off tackle, bounces to the outside and dashes 55

yards to effectively slay that Phoenix for all eternity. And with it your dream.

Now it's time to put away the helmets.

Time to pack up the pads. Time to bury the dream.

You want statistics? OK. Montrose won there, too. The Rams had 342 yards of total offense, the Lions, 229. Eric Smith led all rushers with 145 yards on 17 carries.

For Montrose, Hitchcock finished with 207 total yards, 133 passing and 74 on the ground. 55 on one play.

One play.  
One game.  
One season.  
One dream.



Maple Valley's gridders pack up their gear, and their season after last Friday night's season ending loss at Montrose. (Photo by Perry Hardin)

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