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Local authors to share stories at Putnam library

by Amy Jo Parish

Staff Writer

Two local authors will bring their written works to the Putnam District Library this week as part of the Nashville library's summer reading program. Sue Trowbridge and John Boggs will share their creations with patrons of the library and will have copies of their works available for purchase and signing.

Boggs used his experiences as a member of the Michigan State Police to develop the story line of his book. He joined the MSP when he was just 21 and spent 17 years of his career as a detective.

Boggs' fictional story follows the investigation surrounding the kidnapping of an Indiana State Trooper. Local officers fail to realize immediately that the deed is just one in a long string of crimes perpetrated by a sociopathic killer making his way across the country.

"I used some of my own experiences in investigations," said Boggs. "It's a true-to-life police investigation but not a true-to-life crime."

Making the change from writing police reports to a novel was a bit of a challenge for Boggs.

"As a police officer, you're trained to write short, concise reports. What was fun trying to do was use vocabulary and imagery to lengthen the story out so it would be interesting to read," said Boggs. "That was a fun thing for me to do to — get out of the police style where you don't want to add anything special."

Television programs such as NCIS and others have given the public some misconceptions about how investigations are typically run, said Boggs.

"On television today, everything is solved in one hour, and DNA results are back in three minutes," laughed Boggs. "I

think the current backlog for the DNA at the MSP lab is at least nine months."

This is the first book Boggs has published, and he hopes that readers enjoy it.

"I hope (readers) say that it was an interesting story and they enjoyed it," said Boggs. "I hope they come away learning some things about how investigations are done."

Boggs resides in Nashville with his wife Rachel, to whom he dedicated the book. The couple has two grown children.

He will hold a book signing at Putnam District Library Tuesday, June 23, at 6:30 p.m.

Sue Trowbridge of Nashville also will make an appearance at Putnam library to promote her first published work, a children's book she based on her own experiences.

Trowbridge said writing and illustrating the book has been the fulfillment of a

dream.

"Throughout her life, Sue Trowbridge dreamed of having a child, then writing and illustrating a children's book for that child. This dream has finally come true. The name of the child is Seth and the name of the book is *Red the Rooster*," Trowbridge wrote in a press release.

When Seth was in the second grade, Trowbridge wrote the story and shared it with the class. At that time, she also displayed five of the illustrations that were completed and would later be added into the book. She completed the illustrations in five months and even let students from Seth's class contribute to the artwork.

When the book was published and ready to be picked up, Sue blindfolded Seth and presented him with a copy of the book.

"Seth was a great teenager, he sat down with Sue and

AUTHORS, continued on page 9



Sue Trowbridge presents a completed copy of her book, *Red the Rooster* to her son Seth.

Stimulus funds fill hole, for now

by Amy Jo Parish

Staff Writer

Maple Valley School District received word this week that it has been granted close to \$550,000 in stabi-

lization/stimulus funds. However, it also received word that the state has cut that same amount from per-pupil funding for the 2008-09 school year.

Superintendent Kim Kramer said the stabilization funds came and went in one day.

"It's unfortunate," said Kramer. "On the one

hand, they give it to us, and on the other, they take it back. So we're left in the same financial situation."

The \$370 per-pupil cut marked a big change from projected cuts the state announced earlier in the year.

Darryl Sydloski, director of finance for Maple Valley schools, said the state had predicted a \$54 cut per pupil in January and then announced further reduction in the amount to \$265 per pupil at a May revenue conference.

Rather than being a boost to next year's budget, Sydloski said it now has to work as a Band-Aid for the current budget that ends in 10 days.

"These are not additional funds. They are just filling the holes," said Sydloski. "Now, it is just a replacement for what has been taken away."

Both Kramer and Sydloski are looking to the future of the district and what will happen when the stimulus funds are no longer available. That time will come even more quickly for the district now that the funds have to be applied to this year's numbers. With an anticipated shortfall of

\$590 per pupil from the state for next year's budget, the future is nothing if not uncertain.

"The stimulus money, we understood that it was for next year and the year after," said Kramer. "That means that two years down the road the stimulus funds are out, and I don't know where we'll be."

Along with stimulus funds, however, comes paperwork and specific reporting guidelines that have to be followed. Sydloski said he has worked on applications and paperwork for the stimulus funds for nearly two complete days. Specific budget paperwork must be filed, detailing how and where the stimulus money will

be used and follow-up reporting will also take place.

"It seems like things change daily," said Sydloski. "Now that there are federal moneys involved, there are new account numbers and they have to be reported differently. Anything over \$300,000 is classified as a major program and has to be audited. There will be quarterly reports and also the Feds will come to visit the local districts for the next two years to make sure that they are adhering to all the rules."

The board of education will hold a truth in taxation budget hearing Monday at 7 p.m. in the

STIMULUS, continued on page 9



Nashville car show takes over downtown

Along with vintage vehicles, the community of Nashville will also be on display today, June 20 at the ninth annual car show. For the first time the event will feature a parade (at 11 a.m.) and a host of other free events are slated to take place. Several local merchants are offering special deals and discounts during the day. There will be a pancake breakfast at the N-MG-C Firestation, a dunk tank sponsored by the Nashville VFW, a book sale at the library, free pony rides at MOO-ville, free horse drawn wagon rides sponsored by the Hale Family and a host of other free activities. Other events and specials planned for the day include, free trolley rides from Musser's Gas Station to MOO-ville, free five minutes massages at Maple Valley Pharmacy, music by Kyle Christopher, at 10 percent off products at the Main Street Salon.

In This Issue...

- Library creativity continues in Vermontville
- Dads get in free on Father's Day at the zoo
- HGB upgrades technology to enhance diagnostics
- Vermontville native takes place in MSU sale

Nutrition and entrepreneurial gardening program begins



Children work on projects for the F-3 energy program

MSU Extension recently received a \$5,600 grant from the Barry Community Foundation along with \$5,000 in funding through the state 4-H participation fee grant program for a nutrition education and gardening project for young entrepreneurs.

The program, called F3 ENERGY (Fundamentals of Food and Fitness plus Entrepreneurship + Nutrition + Eating Right = Great Youth), fosters healthy choices among school-aged children while encouraging local entrepreneurial gardening activities.

The project encourages local food production and how it relates to a healthy lifestyle. Program activities include healthy food and fitness choices for everyday life, creating a simple business and marketing plan, presenting at the Barry County Fair and

planting, tending and selling garden products.

The F3 ENERGY one-sixth acre garden site was donated by MOO-ville Creamery south of Nashville. Currently 10 elementary and middle school youths from Maple Valley and Hastings schools are participants. Each youth is given a plot to tend for the season.

The project utilizes the expertise of a summer intern, staff and volunteer expert from four Barry County MSU Extension programs (4-H, Food and Nutrition, Agriculture and Natural Resources, and Master Gardener programs) and engages community partners in the targeted rural community including the Maple Valley School District, local businesses, restaurateurs, farmers and farm market outlets.

As part of the program,

the young gardeners participate in nutrition education and physical fitness activities prior to work in the garden. They are encouraged to return to the garden at least twice a week to tend their plots. Parent and family involvement is encouraged.

According to Laura Anderson, MSU Extension educator and coordinator of the F3 ENERGY program, research backs up the educational portion of the program.

value of eating fresh vegetables far longer than those children who just read it in a book," she said.

On May 2, F3 ENERGY provided a workshop called "Going Solo" for seven youths as an outreach component of the program. This program focuses on the "nuts and bolts" of creating and successfully maintaining a business. This curriculum, along with "Be the E," are two business programs used with the F3 ENER-

markets which will give the youth garden entrepreneurs money for next year's seeds and plants to help sustain the program as well as offer a taste of fresh food to the community.

"F3 ENERGY is actually part of a larger local foods network that Barry County MSU Extension is promoting and facilitating," said Ginger Hentz, MSU Extension director for Barry County. "In a concrete way, it teaches our youth and encourages our businesses and residents to grow local and buy local food."

The F3 ENERGY program provides outreach to other areas of the county including Delton's community garden. Nutrition

education activities are offered twice per week for the student participants during the summer lunch program. The students then head to the new community garden to work with PIE (Partners in Education) group growing a variety of vegetables.

MSUE did the soil testing and donated seeds and a number of flats of vegetable plants along with other resources and information to assist with making the garden a success.

The MOO-ville garden is planted and growing. Anyone interested in learning more about the F3 ENERGY program may contact MSU Extension at 269-945-1388 or stop in at the MOO-ville garden site.



Dylan Brooks and his mom Tammy Eisner are from Nashville. They are working on their garden at Moo-ville which is part of the F-3 Energy Project.

"The research tells us that children and youth who get the hands-on experience of planting garden vegetables will retain the knowledge about healthy eating and the

GY project. F3 ENERGY youths will cultivate markets for produce with local restaurants, farmers markets and schools. Once harvested, food will be sold in these



The garden plot area was donated by Moo-ville for this summer's F3-Energy project.

BCF celebrates 14th anniversary with reading

To celebrate the Barry Community Foundation's (BCF) 14th anniversary, foundation board members and volunteers are joining Barry County libraries to promote literacy while sharing the importance of philanthropy.

During the first two weeks in July, foundation representatives will visit all of the libraries in Barry County, reading stories from the "Circle of Giving" program about philanthropy in Barry County written by Barry County citizens.

At many of the libraries, volunteers also will create a "giving quilt" with the young

people at the library that day. The giving quilt is an art project constructed from paper and pictures about philanthropy created by the children. The concept behind the quilt is to allow children to expand their definition of philanthropy to include time, talent and treasure.

A short discussion with foundation volunteers will lead the children into drawing their vision of how they see themselves contributing to the community through their own form of giving. The "quilt" will be assembled from the pictures and hung in the library for all to view.

BCF is happy to share its anniversary with the community and to encourage the positive growth of Barry County children as an essential piece of sustaining the

future.

The Circle of Giving Program will be at the following libraries: Freeport District Library Wednesday, July 1, at 10 a.m.; Thornapple Kellogg School and Community Library (at Lee Elementary) in Middleville Monday, July 6, at 1 p.m.; Hastings Public Library, Monday, July 6, at 2 p.m.; Putnam Public Library

in Nashville Tuesday, July 7, at 6:30 p.m.; Dowling Public Library, Wednesday, July 8, at 1 p.m.; Spindler Memorial Library in Woodland, Thursday, July 9, at 10 a.m.; and Delton District Library, Friday, July 10, at 10:30 a.m.

For more information about the Circle of Giving reading program, call the Barry Community Foundation at 269-945-0526.

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Calley's summer reading contest runs through Sept. 4

Local elementary school students and sixth graders could find themselves at the state Capitol as a "lawmaker for a day" if they participate in

Rep. Brian Calley's third annual summer reading contest.

Calley has sponsored the contest every summer to help

retain and improve students' reading skills. Students in Barry and Ionia counties can pick up special contest book-

marks at local libraries and keep track of the books they read over the summer. They can then drop off the book-

marks in contest boxes at the libraries. "The reading contest is a great way for young people to hone their reading skills during the summer months and hit the ground running when school starts back up," said Calley, R-Portland. "I encourage area parents to get their children involved. It's a fun way for students to learn during summer break."

Libraries in Hastings, Ionia, Lake Odessa, Middleville, Nashville and

Portland are participating in the contest.

Winners from each library will be chosen. The students and their families will be invited to participate in "Lawmaker for a Day" events in Lansing in the fall.

For more information about the contest, residents may call Calley at 517-373-0842 or e-mail him at brian-calley@house.mi.gov.

Local golf experts to hold youth clinic

by Amy Jo Parish
Staff Writer

Golfers from age 7 to 17 will have the chance to hone their skills and develop new techniques at a junior golf clinic being held at Mulberry Fore in Nashville. Ryan Rosin, golf coach at Maple Valley High School, is helping organize the event and is hopeful that participants will develop more than just the mechanics of the game.

"We want to build a love of the game along with a knowledge of the game," said Rosin. "We also want them to learn to respect the game."

Don Roy, a PGA card member and Ryan Simon, an all-state golf player in high school, have been working with Rosin to put together the clinic. Rosin said he is certain that the amount of experience and skill represented in the instructors will ensure the success of the clinic.

Rosin has been "hitting the green" since he was no taller than a putter and said golfing isn't a solo activity but one that can bring families together.

"I've been playing since I was about 4 years old, and I grew up at Mulberry Fore and on the golf course. It's something I've done with my Dad for the last 32 years," said Rosin. "It's kind of like hunting and fishing; it's a fun past-time you can do with family and friends."

It's not the relaxing time spent outdoors or the time away from the office that appeals the most to Rosin and keeps him chipping one up on the green. The challenges and ever-changing atmosphere of the game appeal to him the most.

"It's the challenges that I enjoy. It's not challenging like a video game — you never master a level. There's always something more to learn and it's always changing," said Rosin.

The clinic will run June 22 to 26 with a cost of \$20 for the first child and \$10 for each sibling. Sessions are from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. or 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

For more information about the clinic and how to sign up, contact Mulberry Fore at 517-852-0760.



Ryan Rosin, golf coach at Maple Valley High School, is helping organize the event.

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Engagements

Wanland-Magoon
Rod and Sally Magoon of Nashville would like to announce the engagement of their son, Mitchell Ryan Magoon to Jennifer Robin Wanland, daughter of Chris Wanland, formally of Hastings.

The bride-elect is a graduate of Hastings High School and is currently employed with the American Cancer Society as an administrative assistant.

The groom-elect is a graduate of Maple Valley Schools and ITT Tech and is employed with U.S. Signal of Grand Rapids as a Telecon Engineer.

A July 18th wedding date has been set and will take place in Hastings at Everafter.

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Festivals abound in Eaton County

A variety of events and festival are slated for Eaton County communities in the coming months. Below are a list of some of the special events that residents can take part in.

• **Yankee Doodle Days** — June 18 to 20, downtown Grand Ledge. A three-day festival in late June celebrates the country's independence. Call 517-627-2383.

• **Celebrate Charlotte** — Always held Father's Day weekend in downtown Charlotte, the event features a Friday night car show, arts and crafts on Saturday and a Saturday night balloon glow. Visit www.celebratecharlotte.net for more information.

• **Delta Rocks Family Festival** — fourth Saturday in June at Sharp Park, 1401 Elmwood Road with a free shuttle from the Lansing Mall parking lot 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Call 517-323-8555 or visit www.deltami.gov/parks/even

ts/DR. This festival is designed to provide affordable fun for the entire family with an emphasis on children.

• **Charlotte Bluegrass Festival** — June 25 to 27 at the Eaton County Fairgrounds. This is the oldest continuous bluegrass festival in Michigan and is in its 37th year. Call 517-543-4510.

• **Dam Festival** — June 27 and 28, 635 State St., Eaton Rapids. Dam tours, arts and crafts show, car show, 5K run, children's activities, Funny Boat Race, live music, pedal tractor pull, plus lots of food and ice cream. Call 517-663-3288 to learn more.

• **Delta Township Fireworks** — July 3 (rain date July 5) at Sharp Park, 1401 Elmwood Road, Delta Township. Held for more than 41 years, Delta Township's fireworks have become known in the Greater Lansing Area. Call

517-323-8555 or visit www.deltami.gov/parks.

• **Eaton County Fair** — July 13 to 18 at the Eaton County Fairgrounds, Charlotte. From carnival rides and harness racing to a collection of 4-H exhibits there is something for everyone at the fair. Visit www.eatoncounty-fair.com.

• **Bellevue Athletic Boosters Car and Truck Show** — second weekend of July in downtown Bellevue. Enjoy historic downtown Bellevue, join a street dance, view a vintage car show and play in the local golf tournament. Contact Les Greenfield at 269-763-2247.

• **Olivet Fireman's Festival** — Last weekend of July in downtown Olivet. Features a parade, tractor, car, truck and motorcycle show and much more. Call 269-749-4085 for more information.

• **Island Art Fair** — first Saturday in August at Grand Ledge's Island Park. The

oldest one-day art fair in Mid-Michigan with 130 artists and craftsmen. Call Julie Beiver at 517-944-1439 or Marilyn Smith 517-627-9843.

• **Antique Engine and Machinery Show** — second weekend of August in downtown Bellevue. Call Bernie Holcomb at 269-763-9324.

• **Frontier Days** — Always the weekend after Labor Day in downtown Charlotte. A Tradition for over 38 years, this celebration is Charlotte's largest. The event kicks off with the Saloon ribbon-cutting on Wednesday and grows from there. More than 40,000 people attend for the entertainment, shopping, food, parade and the professional rodeo.

(Information on these festivals was provided by eaton-county.org. Anyone who has additional news on upcoming festivals may contact amy@j-adgraphics.com.)

Area Obituaries

Jean Primm

Jean passed away on Friday, June 12, 2009 after a battle with cancer at the age of 76.

She was born February 4, 1933 to Farin (Son) and Edna Eldred in St. Johns where she lived until she married J.T. Primm on June 6, 1951. They had seven sons and one daughter, Bill (Vicky), David, Steve (Edith), Jeff (Karen), John (Nikki), and Deborah Jean Primm; 22 grandchildren Jeannie Gilbert, Tom (Mavis) Primm, Roger Primm, Warren Primm, Donna Primm, Candra Morrel, Robin (Jason) Freer, Charles (Cindy) Primm, James Primm, David Primm, Jessica Primm, Brooklyn Primm, Dustin (Jessica) Primm, Alyssa Primm, Jacob Primm, Andrew Primm, Kristina (Josh) Primm, Jennifer (Ben) Fust, Amber (Kenny) Carns, Heather Primm, Megan Primm, Teresa Primm, Kristin Primm; 20 and 11 great grandchildren.

Jean is preceded in death by her parents, her husband of 53 years; her daughter Debbie; a sister, Mary Eldred; a brother, Dwayne; half brothers, Robert and Richard Smith; one grandson Roger Primm.

Jean leaves her sons and



grandchildren; one sister, Joan (Marvin) Whitford of St. Johns and a brother, Charles (Ann) Eldred of North Carolina; many nieces and nephews; also brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law in Jonesboro, Arkansas.

JT and Jean owned and operated their business in Vermontville for 30 years when their son John took over because of ill health.

JT and Jean volunteered to dress-up for holidays in nursing homes, hospitals, doctor offices, and parades.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, June 16, 2009 at Daniels Funeral Home, conducted by Bruce Primm.

Memorial contributions can be made to the family.

Arrangements were made by Daniels Funeral Home.

www.danielsfuneralhome.net

Sunfield VBS is 'Amazon Expedition'



Kurt Lanberg plays the part of Noah for the Sunfield United Brethren Bible School.



The Sunfield United Brethren Church Bible School crew has been practicing to present the Amazon Expedition.

Sunfield United Brethren Church invites children to a

vacation Bible school "Amazon Expedition" Monday, June 22, to Friday, June 26.

Classes are 5 to 8 p.m. for children 2 years old to sixth grade. Dinner is included each evening.

The expedition continues Saturday, June 27, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. with a free family food and fun day. Games and inflatables from Bouncing Palace will be included.

Children will go on a jour-

ney through the Amazon, learning about the breathtaking beauty and dreadful danger of the remote areas of the rainforest.

The curriculum includes lessons on creation, corruption, catastrophe, confusion, Christ and consummation.

Sunfield United Brethren is on M-43, west of Sunfield. Call 517-566-8481 for more information.

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Vermontville church hosting Bible school

The Vermontville United Methodist Church at 108 N. Main St., is sponsoring a Bible school program for children from kindergarten through sixth grade, Monday, July 6 through Friday, July 10, from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Good News Clues is an interactive learning experience where the kids will learn about living for Jesus in five different discovery sites.

They will find clues of Creation in the garden; clues of Jesus' love in the dining room; clues of Jesus' forgiveness in the family room; clues for growing in God's grace in the kitchen; and clues of Heaven in the living room.

For more information, contact Pastor Kathy at 517-726-0526.

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From Our Readers Local Citizens Speak Out On Issues

Privatization is not the solution

To the editor:

I write this letter both as a taxpayer whose Castleton Township property taxes support this community and as a business person who supports Maple Valley schools in many different ways. I will be unable to attend this Monday's meeting.

I begin with appreciation for the Maple Valley school board members who have each offered themselves up for the thankless job in serving on the school board. There is certainly no elected position more thankless than serving on the school board. I am sure your positions are personally rewarding because each of you would not serve if your interest was not trying to make the best school system for our community. You will be heavily criticized however you decide. I wish you well and offer you my prayers.

I read the article written by Amy Jo Parish on the difficult decisions you are currently faced with, and do not envy being in your position, whatever decision you make.

My concern and reason for writing is the reference in the article to the privatization of "non-instructional positions, including custodial and transportation employees."

When General Motors decided to mandate mail-order prescriptions for their retirees and then their employees, I am sure they made this decision with the bottom line in mind. There was little to no thought to the local impact on each community. Personally, I think they were sold a bill of goods in that there are no real savings in mandating mail

order. The playing field should be even. Instead, Michigan taxpayers are forced to send their dollars out of state, never to return, never to trickle down within their individual communities.

What GM did not factor in and what the Michigan legislature continues to ignore in refusing to permit a level playing field for local community pharmacies by continuing to allow mandatory mail order is the local impact of these bottom-line decisions.

When you mandate away from the local comfort level of a community, not only does this financially decimate the local economy by sending a vast majority of business, income and jobs away, never to return, but it also guts the confidence, familiarity and peace of mind that exists in every small community by killing the relationship of doing business with people you know and trust — your friends and neighbors.

When people call and complain about having to go mail order, they do so because they do not have the trust and faith that is built when you know who you are dealing with and you know who is responsible and will be held accountable to make things right. When a mail order pharmacist in Nevada makes an error or you need some advice on a prescription, people tend to realize the value of getting things done locally.

The real problem is your local pharmacy has no voice is even being considered to compete against the mandated mail-order plans. They make the rules. The same is

true for our "non-instructional positions" in this instance. The decision, whatever it may be, will not be made by them, but they will have to deal with the consequences, as will their current customers, the local community. When local jobs are outsourced, there may be a tangible savings of a few dollars, but the intangible loss of losing the people our children look to and interact with every day being replaced by strangers will soon be realized.

If these positions are outsourced, no one is going to know who next year's custodians or bus drivers may be. Parents will ask of you: "Did whoever is responsible for doing background checks actually do their job?" This also will be in the back of the minds of children and anxious parents who never had to worry about things like that when their neighbors and friends still had these positions.

Other communities have made headlines for having custodians and school bus drivers brought up on criminal or disciplinary proceedings for harming or neglecting children. In my time here, Maple Valley has had no such issues.

These "non-instructional positions" are the backbone of our school system, if not our community. They are the local comfort level that will never be replaced if their jobs are farmed out to people who don't live in the community, don't shop in the community, don't pay taxes in the community, don't care about the community or possibly much else other than getting their paycheck until something better comes

along. (I personally know several Dean transportation drivers and would absolutely trust them to transport my children. But these select few drivers are from our community, and I know them. They are not strangers; they are our friends and customers of the store. Any new drivers would be unknown to our community — they don't live here; they don't raise their families here; they don't have a vested interest in our community.)

These "non-instructional positions" have years of experience and years of familiarity with generations of families. They live in and care for this community. It's comforting that the Maple Valley school district community has our neighbors and friends serving our children as bus drivers and custodians. These are the people who personally know and care about our kids, look out for them, answer their questions, give them directions and guidance.

Cuts have to be made, and difficult decisions are ahead for our school board, but we get what we pay for. And the school board should consider not breaking up a system that is trusted, known and has served our community so well. Shortcuts and "cost-saving measures" will catch up with us. When this community gives its last job away and there is no one left to pay the taxes, it will be too late. We are fortunate to have people that our kids trust, like, know and respect looking out for them every day. These are not "non-instructional positions;" these are our neighbors and friends.

Administrators have a voice in what happens and a platform from which to be heard. Our school bus drivers and custodians do not have the same platform or voice. Every day for years, these neighbors and friends have been there for our children. They now need our support, our thanks and our voice.

It is important to thank these public servants, our custodians, our bus drivers, and our school board members for what they have done and for what we have not had to worry about because each of them are professionals who took the time to care and did more than just show up at their jobs.

I do not know what the correct or best decision is, but I can tell you loyalty goes out the window when the important things that few people appreciate get taken for granted and outsourced. GM had great customer loyalty. I doubt that their outsourcing almost all of their retirees and employees prescription business to anywhere but Michigan is what brought GM down, but a failure to appreciate the importance of keeping things local and having peace of mind is never healthy for a community's long-term best interests.

Shane McNeill,
Nashville

Community invited to help give facelift to library



Mara and Andy Pena invite the community to join them and their friends as they paint the ceiling of Putnam District Library. Saturday, June 27, at 10 a.m., the library will share the book *It Looked Like Spilt Milk* and encourage guests to create similar patterns on the ceiling of the children's room. Volunteers should wear old clothes and be sure younger children are accompanied by an adult. Contact the library for more information at 517-852-9723.

KCC announces spring dean's list

Kellogg Community College has announced its spring 2009 full time dean's list. Highest honors (3.9 to 4.0 grade point average) among full-time students in the spring semester went to:

Bellevue — Sheryl Williams.
Hastings — Josh Angoli, Kaylyn Armstrong, Jessica Chaffee, Tanya Edger, Catherine Engle, Rebecca Lyles, Tammy Ray, Julia Thomas, Shelby Winans.

Nashville — Erika Hummell.
Sunfield — Karlyn Beavers.

Earning high honors (3.5 to 3.89 GPA) as full-time students at Kellogg Community College in the spring semester were the following:

Bellevue — Michael Church, Kelcey Clevenger, Cody Cook, Kalyn Gable, Melissa Hutchings, Devon Kauffman, Brian Kerwin, Benjamin

Klepper, Jennifer Mason, Charles Potter, Luke Schafer, Laura Trumble.

Dowling — Loretta Franklin.

Hastings — Paula Allerding, Heidi Banning, Michael Bush, Joseph Cary, Catherine Chandler, Rebecca Davis, Ellen Frey, Stewart Hadley Jr., Lyndi Henry, Austin Hurless, Heather Huska, Abel Johnston, Tyler Kalmink, Amanda Kloostra, Carson Letot, Samantha Mater, Mark McNatt, April Mix, Jodi Pennington, Leanne Pratt, Kaitlyn Semler, Dakota Storey, Kevin Taylor, Denise VanBuren, Stephen Vandermade Jr., Kailey Vanengen, Stephanie Wingeier.

Nashville — Tara Stewart, Shawna Tevelde, Felicia Tomich, Rachel Vincent.

Vermontville — Laura Lewis.

Good News from the Pulpit

Fatherhood is a tall order

by Kathy Smith
Vermontville United
Methodist Church

Father's Day is celebrated this year on June 21. What a wonderful world this would be if all fathers were so filled with the Spirit of the Lord that homes would be places where God is glorified all the time and love for Jesus just exudes from each family member. Sounds too good to be true, doesn't it?

There would be no more fractured families, no more emotionally crippled men, no more homes filled with abuse of any kind. Laughter and joy would fill each home. Adam and Eve really spoiled it for us, didn't they? Good thing Jesus came to redeem it.

The Bible does have some things to say about husbands and fathers. In Ephesians 5 we read: "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy ... In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies."

Now this doesn't let the wives off the hook, by any means, but what would the Christian

home be like if husbands took this passage of Scripture seriously; if they truly love their wives the way Christ loves the church? Christ loves the church so much that he gave his life for her. He sacrificed everything. That's a tall order, husbands.

The Bible also has something to say about fathers. In Ephesians 6 it says: "Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."

So, fathers, if your relationship with Christ is real, it will prove itself in the home — the hardest place of all. Being a father is not easy; it takes patience to raise children in a loving, Christ-honoring manner. Statistics show that if the father of a household is a Christian, there is an 80 percent probability that the children will be as well.

God bless all our Christian fathers. They are important role models for the young men who are new at it or who have yet to become husbands and fathers. Have a happy Father's Day, men.

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Vermontville native takes part in MSU sale

Students are accustomed to writing term papers and making presentations in front of classmates and instructors, but 20 Michigan State University animal science students — including one from Vermontville — tackled a much larger project as part of regular coursework. They managed a purebred sheep sale from start to finish.

Students in Professor John Shelle's animal science course, merchandising purebred livestock, gained real-world experience managing the MSU Sheep Production Sale held May 2 at the MSU Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education.

Jamie Hayes, of Vermontville, along with 19 other students were engaged with each step of the process, from creating and placing sale advertisements to designing the sale catalog to fitting (preparing) the sheep for sale to setting up the sale area to registering buyers and clerking to accepting bids in the sale ring.

Shelle said the course on merchandising purebred livestock, developed in the 1970s by animal science professor emeritus David Hawkins, grew out of student demand.

"Students have a chance to learn from the experts because industry representatives provide many of the course lectures. Students also benefit by having a firsthand opportunity to become involved with any of the purebred sales associated

with the MSU livestock herds, which equips them with real-life experience," he said. "In merchandising programs, there really is no substitute for 'hands-on' learning, so many of the skills needed to effectively merchandise livestock are difficult to teach in a traditional classroom environment."

Indeed, learning the ropes from Alan Culham, MSU Sheep Teaching and Research Center farm manager, was a key component of the class project. Culham, a 1978 graduate of the MSU animal science program, brings more than 40 years' worth of sheep industry experience and insight to share with the students. A leader in the industry's genetic evaluation program (National Sheep Improvement Program) since its inception, he is also skilled in evaluating both live animals and carcasses and is often called on to judge shows and contests.

"Too often, students are taught how to breed, feed and care for the livestock, but little effort is made to teach them how to sell their product," he said. "All the expertise in the world in the other disciplines can be wasted if one can't sell the resulting product."

Hayes, a 2009 animal science graduate and the sale chairman, concurred about the value of learning about merchandising first-hand. She said the project provided students with hands-on sale preparation and auction

experience that they may not have received otherwise.

"Not all of the students have a background in agriculture, so this experience went far beyond reading about something in a book," she said. "We all had jobs to do, and we had to dive right in and work at every aspect of the sale process, from getting the animals ready to learning how we selected the ones to sell to how we would advertise them. Students were able to get the full perspective of what goes into a sale — something you don't get by just being there on

sale day."

The top-selling animal was a Suffolk yearling ram that brought a final bid of \$3,000 from John Phillips of Paul, Idaho.

Thirty-four MSU-bred breeding stock lots sold for an average price of \$547. By breed, the Suffolks averaged \$688 and the Dorsets averaged \$265. The current slaughter lamb price is \$135.

This year's sale was the first held at MSU since 1997. Plans are to hold the MSU Sheep Production Sale every two years; the next sale is planned for 2011.

The MSU Sheep Teaching and Research Center is located on 90 acres south of the main MSU campus in East Lansing. Home to approximately 125 breeding ewes and their lambs, the farm maintains a purebred Suffolk flock with 50 breeding females and a flock of 40 Dorset ewes in addition to 35 crossbred commercial ewes.

The sheep at MSU offer students the opportunity to gain management experience. Animals are also used for undergraduate coursework in livestock evaluation and undergraduate and grad-

uate research projects. The farm regularly employs eight to 12 MSU students.

The MSU Sheep Teaching and Research Center will be exhibiting animals at the Michigan Suffolk Show, the Michigan State Fair and the North American International Livestock Exhibition in Louisville, Ky., in November. MSU-bred animals will be consigned to the Center of the Nation National Sheep Improvement Program Sale in Spencer, Iowa, and the North American Suffolk Sale in Louisville.

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2. 2005 Ford Taurus

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Special Tort Liability	\$500
Property Protection	\$1,000,000
Personal Injury Protection	Included
MCCA/MAIPF/MATPA	Included
Comprehensive (Zero Glass Ded.)	\$250 Deductible
Broad Form Collision	\$500 Deductible
Road Trouble Service	\$75 per occurrence
Rental	\$30 per day/\$600 each occ.

Home Rating Basis: Auto/Life Multiple Policy Disc., Superior Insurance Score, 10% Group Discount, Age of Construction Discount 2008, Protection Class 6, Frame, Mature Homeowner Discount, 0 Claims in 3 years, Home-Owners Insurance Company. Rates Effective 11/26/2008. Auto Rating Basis: Home/Life Multiple Policy Discount, Superior Insurance Score, 12% Group Discount, PIP includes excess medical and wage loss coverage, Premier Driver Discount, Driver Age 59, Vehicle 1. Use up to 3 miles drives to work, Vehicle 2. Please use, anti-theft, anti-lock brakes. Rates Effective 12/29/2008.

See policy for complete terms, conditions and exclusions. This is not a policy. Contact us to get proposal specific to you.

Patrons learn comic cartooning



Battle Creek artist John McNees demonstrates cartooning techniques and the fundamentals of comics at Putnam District Library's last week. The event was just one of many planned during the summer reading program. Monday, June 22, attendees will explore watercolor techniques with Maple Valley artist and author Sue Trowbridge at 11 a.m.

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Civil War history series to spotlight capitol architect

The Lansing/Sunfield, Curtenius Guard Camp 17, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) will host the next in its series of free Civil War history seminars at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 30, at Sunfield United Brethren Church on M-43, west of Sunfield. (Note new location.) The topic of the presentation will be "Elijah E. Myers — America's Greatest Capitol Architect."

Myers was an American architect. He was born in Philadelphia in 1832 and studied law and carpentry before apprenticing with a friend who was an architect. Myers started his own

architectural firm in Springfield, Ill. His first important commission was an Illinois county courthouse. In 1872, Myers' life changed dramatically when he won the commission to design the new State of Michigan capitol.

Myers based his design for the Michigan Capitol on the U.S. Capitol by adopting two important features: a tall dome and balanced wings. When the Michigan Capitol opened in 1879, it set the standard for state capitols and similar public buildings.

Myers went on to design capitol buildings in Texas, Colorado, Utah and Idaho. He also designed many

other buildings in Michigan. Some have been demolished, including the 1875 Lansing High School, the 1878 Eastern Michigan Asylum for the Insane and the 1888 Grand Rapids City Hall. Others that survive are the 1888 Central United Methodist Church in Lansing, the 1892 Stockbridge Town Hall and the 1902 Howell Carnegie District Library). By the time of his death in 1909, (and subsequent burial in Detroit. Myers had become one of the most successful and important architects of public buildings in America.

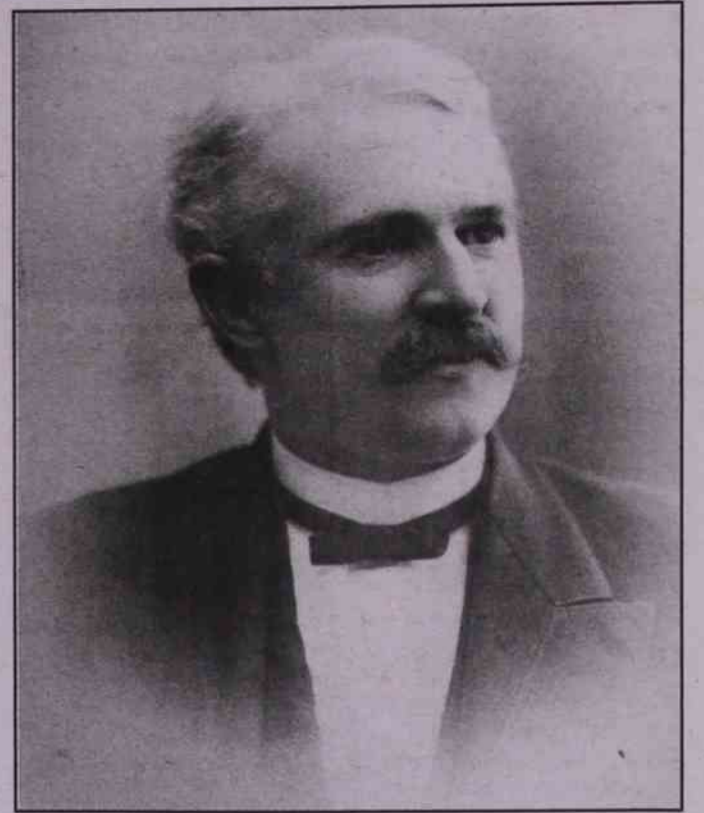
Egotistical, temperamental, flamboyant and exceedingly talented, Myers left his mark across the country both through the buildings

he designed and the events in which he participated, including President Lincoln's funeral, and both the Philadelphia and Columbian expositions. Yet despite his contributions to architecture, Myers today is largely forgotten.

At the seminar, guests will learn more about the "mysterious" of Myers when Valerie Marvin, of the Michigan State Capitol Tour and Information Services Division, shares the story of the "Capitol Architect"

Light refreshments will be provided.

Directions and maps to the meeting location can be found on the Curtenius Guard, Camp 17 Web site at <http://suvcw.org/mi/017/017home.htm> and clicking on the 'Announcement' link.



Elijah E. Myers was the architect of the capitol in Lansing.

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THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY. MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Loraine Fahling and Ronald Fahling, wife and husband, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns, Mortgagee, dated September 15, 2006 and recorded September 22, 2006 in Instrument Number 1170427, Barry County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Morgan Stanley ABS Capital I Inc. Trust 2007-HE2 by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Two Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand Nine Hundred Three and 44/100 Dollars (\$255,903.44) including interest at 7.99% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the Barry County Courthouse in Hastings in Barry County, Michigan at 1:00 p.m. on JULY 2, 2009. Said premises are located in the Township of Maple Grove, Barry County, Michigan, and are described as: The East 1/2 of the East 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4, Section 23, Town 2 North, Range 7 West, Maple Grove Township, Barry County, Michigan. Except: that part of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 23, Town 2 North, Range 7 West, Maple Grove Township, Barry County, Michigan, described as: Commencing at the South 1/4 corner of said Section 23, thence Westerly, 660 feet to the point of beginning; thence East along the South section line a distance of 594 feet; thence North a distance of 586 feet; thence West 594 feet; thence South 586 feet to the point of beginning. The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Dated: May 30, 2009 Orlans Associates, P.C. Attorneys for Servicer P.O. Box 5041 Troy, MI 48007-5041 248-502-1400 File No. 306.2710 ASAP# 3123738 05/30/2009, 06/06/2009, 06/13/2009, 06/20/2009

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LEGAL NOTICE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY. MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Wade Kriekaard and Christina Kriekaard, husband and wife, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns, Mortgagee, dated March 9, 2007 and recorded March 16, 2007 in Instrument Number 1177568, Barry County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by CitMortgage, Inc. by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Two Hundred Fifty-Nine Thousand Eighty and 90/100 Dollars (\$259,080.90) including interest at 9.65% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the Barry County Courthouse in Hastings in Barry County, Michigan at 1:00 p.m. on JULY 9, 2009. Said premises are located in the Township of Irving, Barry County, Michigan, and are described as: Unit 8 of Romeyn Condominium, a Condominium according to the Master Deed recorded in Liber 679 on Page 4, and amendments thereto, and designated as Barry County Condominium Subdivision Plan Number 9, together with rights in general common elements and limited common elements as set forth in said Master Deed and as described in Act 59 of Public Acts of 1978, as amended The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. If you are a tenant in the property, please contact our office as you may have certain rights. Dated: June 6, 2009 Orlans Associates, P.C. Attorneys for Servicer P.O. Box 5041 Troy, MI 48007-5041 248-502-1400 File No. 241.6275 ASAP# 3136220 06/06/2009, 06/13/2009, 06/20/2009, 06/27/2009

Lions' Hurosky helps U-18 Bombers to title in Indiana

The Michigan Bombers U-18 Girls Softball Team finished this last weekend with a 6-1 record to win the Diamonds of the North National Qualifier in Portage, Ind.

In the Championship game against the Indiana

Inferno Maple Valley's Terri Hurosky was 3-for-4 with an RBI to lead the Bombers' attack.

Lansing Catholic's Lina Harrington and Olivet's Chelsea Sunberg teamed up to pitch the Bombers to victory, combining for nine strike outs. Sunberg was voted the Most Outstanding Player at the tournament, earning four wins.

Other players from around the Lansing area who are a part of the Bombers are Olivet's Page Richmond,

DeWitt's Rayanne Burl, Eaton Rapids' Ashley Milheim, Amber Sawyer and Amanda Wolfe, Waverly's DeAnne Stickler Gatson, Lansing Catholic's Lauren Lenard, and Okemos' Kimberly Lohman. The team is coached by Megann Lohman, Tom Smith, and Hub Waite.

Garage Sale

BIG MOVING SALE: June 27th-28th, 8am-5pm, 9493 E. Cloverdale Road, Nashville. Furniture, appliances, household items, etc.

LARGE GARAGE SALE: Friday & Saturday, June 19th-20th, 9am-5pm. 30" gas range, 3 dressers w/mirrors. Something for everyone! 9613 Brumm Road, Nashville, off M66 by Putman Park.

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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act and the Michigan Civil Rights Act which collectively make it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, age or marital status, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To report discrimination call the Fair Housing Center at 616-451-2980. The HUD toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



06682644

Antiques

ALLEGAN ANTIQUE MARKET, Sunday, June 28th. 400 exhibitors. Rain or shine. 7:30am-4:00pm. Located at the fairgrounds right in Allegan, MI. \$4.00 admission.

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NASHVILLE: 2 bedroom apartment; also 2 bedroom house at Thornapple Lake. (517)852-9386.

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• NOTICE • VILLAGE OF VERMONTVILLE RESIDENTS There will NO longer be Brush Pickup in the village

You must call the garage during normal business hours (726-1444) for the lagoon gates to be open for you to haul your brush there. Leaves will be picked up in the fall during posted dates only, at a cost of \$10.00 per month. Winter storm damage brush will be picked up during the second week of April only, at the same cost.

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HGB upgrades technology to enhance diagnostics

A new CT scanner is now up and running at Hayes Green Beach Hospital in Charlotte. The 32-picture scanner is faster, healthier for the patient and more efficient overall, say HGB officials.

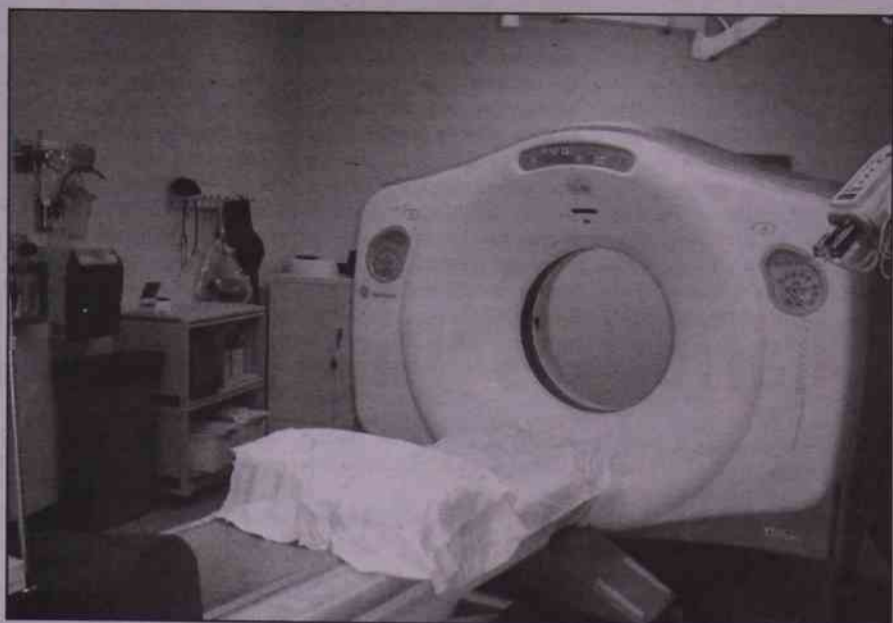
Installed in April, the new GE Lightspeed VCT takes eight times more pictures than the previous scanner in

the same amount of time. This means doctors can see more extensive and detailed "slices," or pictures, of the area being scanned. Instead of the four views provided by the previous machine, there are now 32. Faster scan times also mean patients do not have to hold their breath as long or worry about making any sudden movements during the process, thus resulting in fewer rescans.

In addition to being faster and more efficient, the new unit gives off less radiation than the previous scanner. With up to 40 percent less radiation and a decrease in the amount of IV contrast (dye) used by 25 to 50 percent, patients receive a safer scan.

"We are very proud of our new technology that offers a more relaxed environment for our patients and allows us to improve the quality of diagnostic work we do. While this type of technology has always been safe, it is always more comforting to the patient and the physician when even more safeguards are in place. This scanner brings that enhanced type of service closer to home for the residents of our area," said Dr. Mark Cimmerer, medical director of the HGB Radiology Department.

Previously, when undergoing a CT, a cerebral angiogram (an image of the brain's vessels) and a carotid angiogram (an image of the



A new scanner has been added to the inventory at Hayes Green Beach Hospital. The scanner takes eight times more pictures than the old scanner in the same amount of time. (Photo provided)

large arteries in the neck that lead to the brain), had to be scheduled on different days. With the new speed of the CT scan, however, the whole process can be undergone in one day and with only one injection of dye, making the process of undergoing a CT scan easier and more time efficient, he added.

HGB is continuing to advance its technology and improve the patient experience. A physician referral is required for diagnostic services such as CT scans. Contact the radiology department at 517-543-1050.

For more information about HGB and its services, including a directory of its

more than 70 doctors from a variety of specialties, visit www.hgbhealth.com.

In My Own Write

by Amy Jo Parish



Can you fix the economy?

John F. Kennedy once said, "If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich." There has much talk of stimulus funds and government health care reform to fix the economy but I think the change that is going to spur the economy needs to happen right here.

It occurred to me during the past few weeks what an opportunity the recession has created. Not an opportunity for business or profit but an opportunity for the human spirit. We've all seen the commercials on television for wonderful groups like Compassion International that help those less fortunate in other parts of the world. There has always been, however, those right here in our communities that also need help. If nothing else, this recession has shined a light on those around us who could benefit from a little compassion locally.

Whether the recession is the fault of the banks or the families who have over extended their resources to the point of breaking, it makes little difference. I personally think that much of the responsibility lies on the shoulders of those who took out the loans, knowing full well that two brand new vehicles, a new house with more bedrooms than needed, jet skis, quads, and a host of others toys would stretch their finances too thin. That, however, is a whole different column.

Now that these families, our neighbors and friends, are in these situations, I think it's time for those who can to step up to the plate. We may not be in a position to help out financially but we can help out in so many other ways.

"I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catchers mitt on both hands. You need to be able to throw something back," wrote the poet Maya Angelou.

Those who can, should help out those how are in need and there has never been a greater needs for volunteers than right now.

The Center of Hope in Nashville has a list of programs and services they provide. Each one of them, however, is dependent upon volunteers who give of their time and talent to help. From the food bank every Tuesday to the clothing ministry, backpack drive at the start of school and Christmas programs, the board and volunteers of the center work hard to fill the needs of those in the community.

Service clubs like the Lions and newly formed Maple Valley Kiwanis group also work year-around to benefit the local community. We don't have to be the next Mother Teresa, just do what we can to help out those around us. It isn't the industry, the buildings or the programs that make a community stand out, it's the people.

It's the people who work both behind the scenes and also in the spotlight that give a town its style and flavor. I just wanted to take a moment to say thanks to all those who contribute to the Maple Valley community by taking the time and effort to help others. Great examples of this are the members of the school board who have a tough job that keeps getting more complicated in these budget straining times. Or, the Nashville car committee who volunteer each year to bring hundreds of hot rods and people to downtown Nashville. The list of those who give of themselves could go on and on, a testament to how giving this community already is. Let's not get so caught up in the financial situation of the world that we forget about the day-to-day situations of those around us.

Giving of yourself often has selfish results. Ask just about anyone who has volunteered and they will tell you that the rewards they receive are often greater than those they are helping.

In her keynote address at graduation, Teacher Norma Jean Acker gave the graduates advice that I think can be applied to all of us.

"You have talents and abilities. You need to share these by being generous. Not financially, but show compassion and encourage others to lift up their spirit," said Acker. "Volunteer, if you have not already learned the value of it talk to someone in leadership class. Your time is the most valuable thing you can give."

STIMULUS, continued from page 1

high school cafeteria. Kramer said the board will, hopefully, adopt a budget for the 2009-10 year. The board is working to balance a budget that is \$143,494 in the red. The district has already cut \$2.5 million from budgets in recent years and must now take a hard look at programs and offerings available.

Freezing administration salaries, eliminating the liaison police officer position, eliminating jun-

AUTHORS, continued from page 1

let her read the book to him," wrote Trowbridge in the press release. "He loved it. The theme of the book is to wait until the time is right before having children. This lesson is taught in a fun-loving way through a story about a rooster who cannot crow."

Trowbridge said she was concerned about raising a child in a society with such a high rate of teen pregnancy. She is hopeful that the book

will teach young children about the value of waiting. She will be holding a watercolor class on Monday, June 22, at Putnam library and will have copies of the book available for signing. The class will run from 11 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. and will include activities for all ages. Those wishing to purchase a copy may contact Trowbridge at 517-726-0541 or suetrowbridgeart@yahoo.com.

More foods are made with wheat than any other cereal grain.

One bushel of wheat weighs approximately 60 pounds.

A bushel of wheat yields 42 commercial loaves of white bread (1.5 pound

loaves). A bushel of wheat makes about 90 1-pound loaves of whole wheat bread.

Anheuser-Busch plans to launch a wheat version of Bud Light beer this fall. Consumers are asking for wheat beer because it offers more flavor, according to the company.

The main ingredient in crackers is unbleached flour from soft red or soft white wheat.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, Wheat Foods Council and American Farm Bureau Federation

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State cuts impact Barry County Fair

by Patricia Johns
Staff Writer

The 2009 Barry County Fair, scheduled for July 20 to 25 with 4-H events beginning July 18 and 19 will go on as planned, mostly.

The state has cut its \$1.4 million in premium payments to county fairs. In the past, the Barry County Fair

has paid one-third of premiums, or ribbon money, and the state has paid two-thirds. Members of the Barry County Agriculture Society Board of Directors, the fair board, recently voted to continue to pay its one-third of premiums.

Board President Ron Tobias explained that this

means that instead of \$3 paid for a non-livestock blue ribbon, the premium will now be \$1. Open class, which is traditionally an adult competition in a variety of areas, also will continue, but with reduced premiums, and ribbons.

"We hope everyone interested in open class will regis-

ter by the June 18 deadline," Tobias said.

Another change to the 2009 fair will be a reduction in harness racing from three days to one. The colt stakes will be held on Sunday. Racing begins at noon.

Tobias noted that the fair will receive less money since racing has been cut. Tobias

says he feels very positive about this year's fair. However, due to scheduling concerns, the fair will not host a concert by Jessica Price this year. She will be appearing at other concerts in the area this summer.

For more information about the Barry County Fair call the fair office at 269-945-2224 or

go online to www.barryex-pocenter.com.

Michigan has 85 county and local agricultural fairs, which were attended by 4 million citizens in 2008. The fairs attract 78,000 exhibitors.

Charlotte's 'Hurry the Jug' to perform in Hastings

Hurry the Jug, a Celtic folk group, will perform a Fridays at the Fountain concert from 11:30 a.m. to 1

p.m. Friday, June 26, on the Barry County Courthouse lawn.

The Celtic folk group is

led by co-founder Patrick DeWitt who, in addition to his schedule as a performer, is also a band director for the Alma Public Schools. DeWitt is a multi-instrumentalist on penny whistle, great D whistle, flute, bagpipes and vocals for Hurry The Jug.

The DeWitt family is well represented in the group with the inclusion of Pat's son Collin. He can be seen play-

ing bodhran, as well as singing and even dancing in the group. Collin is a graduate of Charlotte High School where he also played trumpet and finds time to study piano.

The guitarist for Hurry The Jug is Ted Troxell. In addition to be a doctoral student at Michigan State University, Troxell teaches music history and other music courses at Central

Michigan University and Spring Arbor College. He began playing with the Celtic group after becoming acquainted with Pat DeWitt during their graduate studies. Troxell also adds vocal stylings to the mix.


The fourth member and co-founder of the group is Mark Boughner from Mt. Pleasant. Boughner is an ICU nurse who, in addition to his musical contributions

can always be found working at the Wheatland medical building.

The Fridays at the Fountain concert series is co-sponsored by the Thornapple Arts Council and the City of Hastings. In the event of rain the concert will be held in the community room of Hastings City Bank, located at 150 W. Court Street.

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Dads get in free on Father's Day at the zoo

This Father's Day, dads can see something that does zero to 60 in three seconds, or go somewhere that they can spend a fun-filled day with the family and still have time in the evening for a round of golf. Binder Park Zoo offers both this Father's Day.

Kids can take their dads by the cheetah exhibit to see the world's fastest land mammal and spend the day discussing who would win in a street race, a cheetah or dad's vehicle.

Dads will be admitted free when accompanied by their children or grandchildren. The zoo is hosting a special Father's Day event Sunday, June 21, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

In addition to free admission, dads can enter fun contests and receive a free small soft drink or coffee in Beulah's Restaurant or Kalahari Kitchen. The whole family can enjoy programs all about "Animal Dads" — some animal dads are pretty amazing, too. Program times are 11 a.m., 2 p.m. and 4

p.m. and will take place on the lawn adjacent to the Smith Snow Leopard Encounter.

Kids don't have to give Dad another tie or a new razor; they can give him their time by spending the day at Binder Park Zoo. What better way to spend Father's Day than by going on an African safari with the family.

Binder Park Zoo is open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information about upcoming events or Binder Park Zoo general information go to www.binderparkzoo.org or call 269-979-1351.

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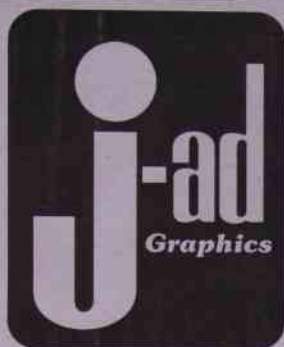
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Library creativity continues in Vermontville

The Vermontville Township Library 2009 Summer Reading Program "Be Creative at Your Library" is underway. Registration is recommended so that enough materials are available, but is not required to participate. And patrons can join the program at any point throughout the summer.



"Be Creative at Your Library" is a reading program designed to encourage children to keep reading during the summer, to use the library and its resources and to have fun. The summer-long program will run through Aug. 25.

Readers in the summer program at the Vermontville Library were able to complete a hacky-sack craft at one of the recent sessions. Programs and events are scheduled throughout the summer as part of the program.

Pre-readers through age 14 are invited to participate in the programs and reading challenge. Participants will receive an activity packet for each month of the program, with required and optional reading activities. "Library loot" will be earned for each activity completed in the packet. The "loot" can then be used at the auction for prizes donated by local business at the end of the program.

The schedule for this year's program is June 23 Stormy the Clown; "Being Creative is Magic;" June 30 Movie: E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial; July 7, Imagine, Create, Participate; July 14, The Puzzle Palooza Show; July 21, Castles in the Sand; July 28, Movie: Muppet Treasure Island; Aug. 4, Movie: Journey to the Center of the Earth; Aug. 11, Take Part in Art at the Library; Aug. 18, Movie: Chitty Chitty Bang Bang; Aug. 25 prize auction wrap-up party.

There will again be a separate program for teens 14 and over. The schedule for the teen program is June 25, CD Scrapbook and Origami Fun; July 9, Art with Sue Trowbridge; July 16, Wii Music Night; July 20, Castles in the Sand; Aug. 13, Drama Workshop; Aug. 25, prize auction wrap-up party.

Refreshments furnished with a donation from the Vermontville GF Women's Club will be served at all programs.

Flyers with complete details on each program are available in the library.

Program registration is encouraged but not required. All teen programs begin at 6 p.m. in the library and last for about two hours.

For more information call 726-13612 or visit the library.



Commission on Aging Menu and Schedule of Events

Hearty Menu
Monday, June 22
Roast pork w/gravy, corn-bread stuffing, mashed-potatoes, green beans, apple crisp.

Tuesday, June 23
Sausage ziti, broccoli, corn, applesauce.

Wednesday, June 24
Macaroni and cheese, cauliflower, asparagus, pineapple, wheat bread.

Thursday, June 25
Swiss steak w/gravy, mashed potatoes, glazed carrots, cherry crisp, wheat bread.

Friday, June 26
Hawaiian meatballs, rice, broccoli, peas, grape juice.

Cold Menu
Monday, June 22
Egg salad, coleslaw, peaches, wheat bread.

Tuesday, June 23
Turkey pasta salad, sweet and sour carrots, tropical fruit, wheat crackers.

Wednesday, June 24
Sliced roast beef, Swiss cheese, broccoli raisin salad, pears, wheat bread.

Thursday, June 25
Sliced turkey, American cheese, potato salad, plums, bun.

Friday, June 26
Ham salad, zesty tomato salad, apricots, wheat bread.

Activities Calendar
Monday, June 22: Hastings - Music with Sam; Crafts 10:30 a.m.; Card Making 12:30 p.m. H,W,N - Reminiscence. Nashville -

Nashville 5+ 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, June 23: Hastings - Line Dancing 9:30 a.m. GL -10:30-12:30 Cards.

Wednesday, June 24: Hastings - Tendercare Craft 11 a.m.; Nails; Euchre 12:30-2:30 p.m.; Bible Study 12:30 p.m. Woodland - Nashville 5+ 11:30 a.m. Delton - Birthday Party; Reminiscence.

Thursday, June 25: Hastings - Line Dancing 9:30

a.m.; Beading 5 p.m.; Nashville - TV Time. Delton - Puzzles, Trivia.

Friday, June 26 - Hastings - Exercise 9 a.m.; Mixed Media Painting 9:30 a.m.; Model Railroad 10 a.m. Woodland - Visiting. Nashville - Bingo.

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