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Published by J-Ad Graphics, Inc.  
1351 N. M-43 Highway, Hastings, MI 49058  
Phone: (269) 945-9554  
Vol. 137-No. 26, June 27, 2009

## School cuts one position, votes to consider privatization

by Amy Jo Parish  
Staff Writer

Budget issues are no longer a surprise for the Maple Valley School District. With state aid funding being cut by \$370 per pupil for the 2008-09 year with less than two weeks left in the fiscal year, federal stimulus funds meant to boost the financial situation merely evened it back out.

"Things are changing so fast, we can't keep up," said Superintendent Kim Kramer. "In just the last 11 days, I have learned that the State of Michigan is in a much deeper hole than we were led to believe."

In what may be a move filled with either heavy irony or pre-planned precision, the state awarded the district almost the same amount that was being cut.

"We learned that Maple Valley would receive \$556,000, but almost within the same hour we received word that we would receive a \$370 per student cut on this year's budget," said Kramer. "Then five days ago, we were alerted that the state senate passed recommendations that next year's budget be cut by nearly \$550 per student."

With such huge cut looming, the board voted 5-1 to accept a budget for the 2009-10 year that makes some large slashes in the district's numbers. Trustee Tim Burd cast the only dissenting vote.

The position of elementary music teacher has been eliminated for next year, five teaching positions will not be filled after several retired through the early leave incentive program, and the

board approved seeking requests for proposals (RFP) for privatizing some or all of the custodial services. Negotiations with the teachers union also are being investigated to help cut costs on the payroll end of the budget. Wages make up nearly 75 percent of the overall budget for the district.

"This is not a good cut, as music is so important in the development of the whole child," said Kramer. "We're building into the budget an additional \$80,000 in cost reductions. These reductions may come from wages, benefits or possibly further privatization of some positions."

The new budget also freezes administrator's salaries and reduces pay increases by \$150,000.

Both Kramer and Board President Teresa Allen said the cuts need to create long-term savings for the district and not temporarily fix a problem that may not be solved in the near future.

"You have to support the local community, but when it's a choice between privatization or losing more teachers, where do you choose? Because, that's the truth of where we're at," said Allen. "The decision to pursue privatization has nothing to do with the quality of service, the quality of our employees or the reputation they have helped the district build, which is an outstanding reputation."

Maple Valley Business Manager Darryl Syldoski outlined the budget for next school year and detailed the hit that the district's fund

equity has taken as a result of the cuts. Just four years ago, the fund equity totaled \$4.2 million or 34 percent, now that has been reduced to \$1.3 million or 10 percent. Not a savings account, the fund equity is used to cover the costs of wages during the first month and a half of the school year, before the state aid funding is distributed to districts. When districts do not have enough funds in their equity to cover those costs, they must borrow from the state and pay around 5 percent interest, something Maple Valley has done for at least the past two years.

Several members of the more than 100-person audience voiced concern about the cuts and the possibility of privatization.

"What kind of a job do you expect for \$7.50 an

hour?" asked Greg Wendorf, in reference to privatization. "You would pay more money to get your car washed ... Consider outsourcing jobs to China, Mexico or wherever these jobs are going to come from."

"We really do want to look at educating the whole child," said High School Teacher Ryan Rosin. "I want you to think about the reputation we have ... What ramifications are there going to be when it comes out in the *Maple Valley News* that Maple Valley makes huge cuts to the arts? We need to come together as a group and community. I'm afraid that if we lose one program, we will lose students and lose another program. Next it

*SCHOOL BOARD, continued on page 6*

## Confrontation leads to third police report against township trustee

by Amy Jo Parish  
Staff Writer

The Eaton County Sheriff's office now has three reports on file concerning Vermontville Township Trustee Blair Miller.

This latest report was filed by Vermontville Township Library Director Carla Rumsey after a confrontation with Miller Wednesday night. Rumsey is part of the fire and ambulance board as a representative of Kalamo Township and participated in a special meeting of the Vermontville Township Board Wednesday evening.

The purpose of the meet-

ing was to "clarify what our fire and ambulance board is, and a lot of people thought it was a board, but it really wasn't; it was formed under what was called a non-statutory committee," said Township Supervisor Jack Owens. "Our township board had gotten to the point with Blair's recommendation, they didn't understand whether they should recognize it or not because didn't know what they were founded under. This meeting and a couple of others were to establish what (the fire and ambulance board/committee) were created under."

Rumsey said that during the meeting there was talk of creating a fire authority between surrounding townships, which has been discussed in the past.

"There was talk of forming a fire authority. That was one of the reasons Kalamo (Township) was appointed to the board was to work towards this in the future," said Rumsey. "(Blair) said that I said that (the townships) had to compromise every time. Even though it wasn't public comment time, I said, 'That's not what I said.'"

A bit of discussion

between the two ensued during public comment. Miller approached Rumsey after the meeting had been adjourned and attempted to resume the conversation.

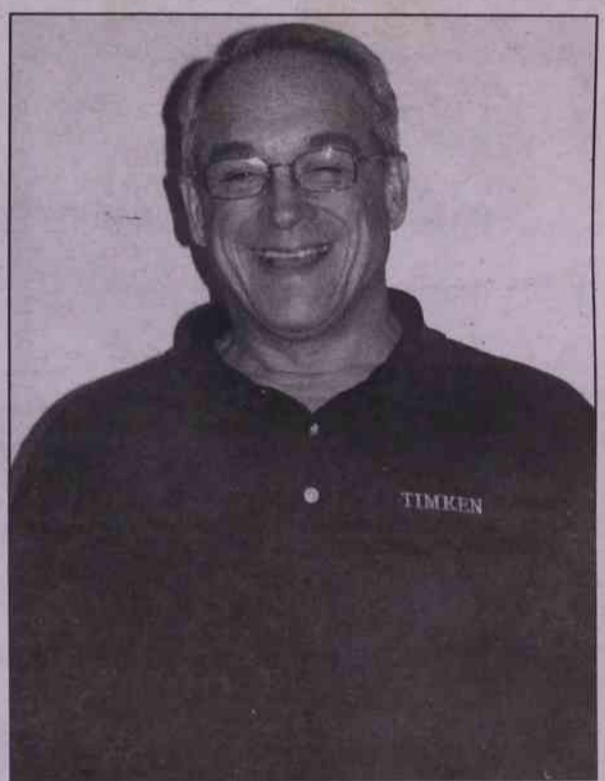
"I was talking with (Vermontville Fire Chief) Monte O'Dell and Blair came up to me, shook his finger in my face, and started yelling at me, 'You said compromise and don't you ever call me a liar again,'" recalled Rumsey.

Rumsey said she held her hand up toward Blair and requested that he stop and then turned away. Rumsey said that another audience member, Dawn Conklin, held up a notebook between Miller's finger and Rumsey's face while he was yelling.

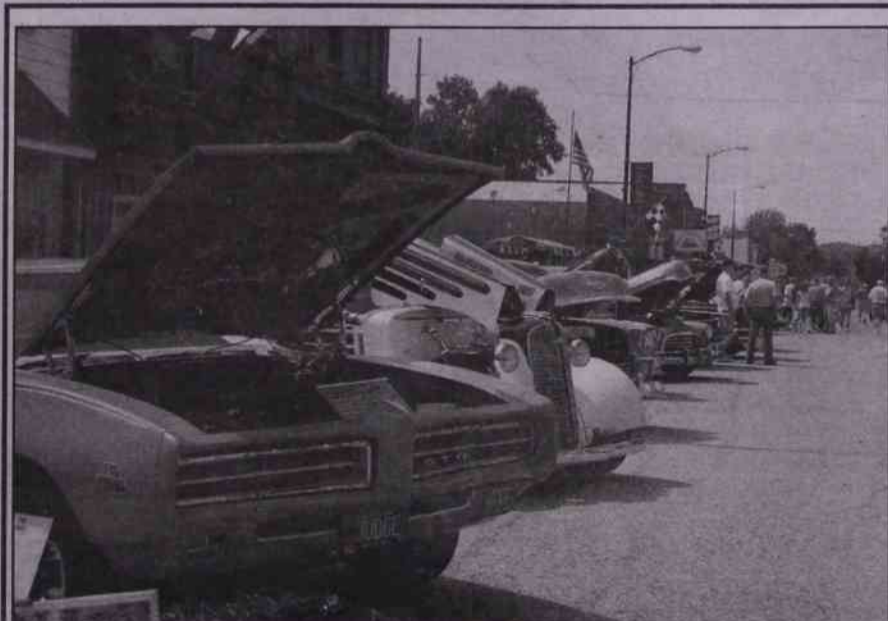
"During the meeting, Blair was getting pretty agitated because things weren't really going his way. Blair always accuses Kalamo, which makes it personal, that they don't pay their share and they're always 'ripping off' Vermontville Township," commented Owens. "Carla said something about in previous meetings they maybe talked about compromise. That set Blair off, and he basically said, 'you're lying,' but that had nothing to do with the committee anyway, so I put a stop to that."

"Then after (the meeting)," continued Owens, "that stuff still weighs on his mind and he got up and went out and right into the crowd

*TRUSTEE, continued on page 7*



Three police reports have been filed with the Eaton County Sheriff's Office concerning Township Trustee Blair Miller.



## Sun shines on Nashville Car Show

Nearly 200 vehicles line M-66 for the ninth annual Nashville Car Show Saturday, June 20. (Photo by Amy Jo Parish) See more photos inside.

### In This Issue...

- Maple Hill Cemetery Dam removed
- Local author and artist shares lessons
- Township residents want to clear the air on dust control
- Local resident recalls early Nashville history
- 35th annual Art in the Park is July 4

# Maple Hill Cemetery Dam removed

Representatives from the Department of Natural Resources have completed the work of removing the small dam at Maple Hill Cemetery and have begun restoring the stream.

Originally, the dam at Maple Hill Cemetery was built to provide irrigation for the cemetery but has been abandoned for many years. Over the decades, the river eroded the unstable banks, and more concrete and fill were added.

The Eaton Conservation District has partnered with the Maple Hill Cemetery, Barry Conservation District and the Department of Natural Resources to remove this dam. A Michigan Department of

Environmental Quality permit for the dam's removal was approved May 23. The project will remove the remnants of the small dam, add two cross-vanes and shore up the banks with boulders and fill.

Butternut Creek is a tributary to the Thornapple River. This dam removal was part of a larger watershed project to improve the water quality in the Thornapple Watershed. The Eaton Conservation District has been involved with many watershed improvement projects in the past including river clean-ups, implementation of buffer strips, community and school presentations, storm drain labeling and the Bennett Park Dam

removal and restoration of a mile of river upstream.

Later this summer, the Barry Conservation District and Department of Natural Resources will be removing the Nashville Dam and replacing the existing structure with a series of four C-shaped weirs that will form rock arch rapids. The rapids will be constructed of fieldstone varying in size from about seven inches to five feet, with smaller cobble added to fill in voids.

The design will allow for canoe and kayak passage through the center of the structure and also permit fish to move upstream.

With regard to resource management, the most significant environmental benefits of dam removal include:

- Re-connection of important seasonal fish habitat.
- Normalized temperature regimes.
- Improved water clarity (in most cases).
- Improved dissolved oxygen concentrations.
- Normalized sediment and energy transport.
- Improved biological diversity.



DNR construction crew works to remove remnants of the Maple Hill Dam on Butternut Creek in the Thornapple River Watershed.

## Duane Thatcher to conduct patriotic concert Wednesday

The Hastings City Band returns Wednesday, July 1, with patriotic music in anticipation of America's birthday. Duane Thatcher, former Maple Valley band director, will take the baton and lead the 65-member band as it presents several familiar tunes.

Included will be a salute to the Armed Forces, the ever-popular "America The Beautiful," and to make the concert complete, the band will perform the "Stars and Stripes" by John Phillip

Sousa. Other light classics will be included.

Thatcher is known in the Barry County area for his career as a music teacher at Thornapple Kellogg and Maple Valley high schools. He brings his expertise and musical knowledge to the podium as he and the band present this annual concert of patriotic favorites.

All city band concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. and take place in Fish Hatchery Park in Hastings. Guests should bring chairs or blankets.

The mission of the Eaton Conservation District is to promote and encourage cooperation with other individuals, groups, organiza-

tions, or agencies in an organized effort to conserve and improve the natural resources in Eaton County. For more information about

the above project, call 517-543-5848 ext. 5 or e-mail to [andrea.stay@mi.nacdn.net](mailto:andrea.stay@mi.nacdn.net).

## 4-H clubs support hometown heroes

The 4-H clubs of Eaton County are working on a project to help deployed service members and their families. The group will be collecting donations at the Eaton County Fair to compile hero packs, as well as items for care packages to send to deployed local service members.

Hero packs are book bags filled with items to show appreciation and to assist children who have parents serving away from home. Each hero pack will include support information for parents, a hand-written letter to

the child, a fun item, and three communication tools to help the youths stay connected with their deployed family members.

According to Jenny O'Neal 4-H Extension Educator, "This project is about bringing the community together and boosting the morale of service men and women and their families in these tough times."

In order for this project to be a success, the support and involvement of community members and local businesses are essential.

The community is encour-

aged to stop by the booth in the gray building at the Eaton County Fair and donate items, money and time to write letters to service members and their children. Items needed for hero packs include: pens, envelopes, stamps, lined paper, disposable cameras, stationery, journals, photo albums and toys. Items needed for service member care packages are: hand sanitizer, packets of tuna, gum, energy/granola bars, cans of stew, DVDs and CDs.

For more information on how to donate or get

involved, contact the Eaton County MSU Extension Office at 517-543-2310 or [onealj7@msu.edu](mailto:onealj7@msu.edu).

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<p><b>ABUNDANT GRACE WORLD OUTREACH CENTER</b> <i>Come as you are but don't leave the same.</i> Meet at Kalamo Twp. Hall 8960 Spore Ave. Vermontville, MI 49096 Morning Service ..... 10:30 a.m. Evening Service: (Every 1st &amp; 3rd Sunday) ... 6 p.m. REV. DAWN GOODMAN Contact numbers: (517) 852-0896 or (517) 852-9606, leave message</p>	<p><b>BASELINE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 9617 E. Baseline Rd. Corner of Baseline &amp; Church Roads (2 miles east of M-66 on Baseline) Church Service ..... 9 a.m. Sunday School ..... 10:30 a.m. (Nursery Provided) Youth Groups, Bible Study and many other activities. Phone (616) 963-7710 MINISTER: VIRGINIA HELLER</p>	<p><b>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERMONTVILLE</b> 110 S. Main St., Vermontville, MI 49096 (517) 726-0258 PASTOR: ISRAEL (IZZY) YOUNG Wed. 5:30 p.m. .... Family Supper 6:00-7:15 ..... Pioneer Club Sun: 9:00 ..... Sunday School 10:00 ..... Church Service 11:00 ..... Fellowship</p>	<p><b>KALAMO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> Worship Services ..... 9:00 &amp; 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages ... 10:30 a.m. PASTOR BRYCE FEIGNER 517-541-1144</p>
<p><b>ABUNDANT LIFE FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES</b> A Spirit-filled Church Meeting at the Maple Leaf Grange Hwy. M-66 south of Assytia Rd. Nashville, MI 49073 Sun. Praise &amp; Worship 10:30 a.m., 6:00 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.m. Jesus Club for boys &amp; girls ages 4-12. Pastors David &amp; Rose MacDonald. An oasis of God's love. "Where Everyone is Someone Special." For information call 1-616-731-5194 or 1-517-852-1806.</p>	<p><b>CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b> 301 Fuller St., Nashville Sunday School ..... 9:45 a.m. Sunday: ..... A.M. Worship ..... 11 a.m. P.M. Worship ..... 6 p.m. Wednesday Evening: Worship ..... 7 p.m. REV. ALAN METTLER</p>	<p><b>GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH</b> 8950 East M-79 Highway, Nashville Morning Celebration ..... 9 &amp; 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Service, Relevant Practical Teaching, Nursery, Children's Classes, Youth Group, Adult Small Groups, Leadership Training PASTOR: DON ROSCOE Phone: (517) 852-1783 e-mail: <a href="mailto:grace@gc3.org">grace@gc3.org</a></p>	<p><b>MAPLE GROVE BIBLE CHURCH</b> 8593 Cloverdale Road (1/2 mile East of M-66, 5 mi. south of Nashville) Sunday School ..... 10 a.m. A.M. Service ..... 11:15 a.m. P.M. Service ..... 6 p.m. PASTOR GEORGE GAY</p>
<p><b>ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH</b> 803 Reed St., Nashville Sunday School ..... 10 a.m. Sunday: ..... A.M. Worship ..... 11 a.m. Evening Worship ..... 6 p.m. Wednesday Evening: Prayer Meeting ..... 7 p.m. PASTOR GLENN BRANHAM</p>	<p><b>CHESTER GOSPEL CHURCH</b> 3744 W. Vermontville Hwy. Sunday School ..... 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship ..... 11 a.m. Evening Worship ..... 6 p.m. Wednesday Family Night Service ..... 6:45 p.m. PASTOR MARC S. LIVINGSTON Phone: 543-5488</p>	<p><b>GRESHAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 5505 North Mulliken Road, Charlotte one mile north of Vermontville Hwy. PASTOR KATHY SMITH 517-726-0526 Sunday Morning Worship: 9:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School: 10:50 a.m. Weekly Bible Studies United Methodist Women: 3rd Thursday</p>	<p><b>NASHVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH</b> 304 Phillips St., Nashville Sunday School ..... 9:45 a.m. A.M. Service ..... 11 a.m. P.M. Service ..... 6 p.m. Wed. Service ..... 7 p.m. PASTOR LESTER DEGROOT PASTOR DEANO LAMPHERE PASTOR MATT ROHDE</p>
<p><b>PEACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BARRYVILLE</b> 6043 E. M-79 Highway, 4 miles west of Nashville (cor. M-79 &amp; Barryville Rd.) Sunday Worship ..... 8:30 a.m. Other: Prayer Walk, U.M. Women, Bible Study, Mission Projects &amp; more PASTOR SUSAN OLSEN Phone 517-852-1993 IGNITING MINISTRY Open Hearts—Open Minds—Open Doors</p>	<p><b>QUIMBY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> M-79 West Sunday School ..... 10 a.m. Worship ..... 11 a.m. PASTOR KENNETH VAUGHT (616) 945-9392</p>	<p><b>ST. ANDREW &amp; MATTHIAS INDEPENDENT ANGLICAN CHURCH</b> 2415 McCann Road Sunday Services: ..... 9:15 a.m. Morning Prayer ..... 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion For more information call: 795-2370 or Rt. Rev. David Hustwick 948-9327 Traditional 1928 Book of Common Prayer used for all services. RT. REV. DAVID HUSTWICK</p>	<p><b>SOUTH KALAMO CHURCH</b> Corner of Kalamo Highway &amp; Ionia Rd. Sunday A.M. Worship ... 10:30 a.m. Evening Worship ..... 6 p.m. Wednesday Evening at 6 p.m.: PASTOR JEFF SWIFT (517) 852-9154</p>
<p><b>NASHVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> Located on the corner of State and Washington streets Worship Service ..... 9:30 a.m. Sunday School ..... 11:15 a.m. PASTOR CATHY CHRISTMAN At Home: 852-0685 Church Phone: 852-2043</p>	<p><b>ST. CYRIL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> 203 N. State, Nashville Sunday Mass ..... 9:45 a.m. FATHER AL RUSSELL A mission of St. Rose Catholic Church, Hastings</p>	<p><b>VERMONTVILLE BIBLE CHURCH</b> 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 ... 6:30 p.m. AWANA ..... 6:30-8 p.m. Wed. PASTOR DANIEL E. SMITH</p>	<p><b>VERMONTVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 108 North Main, Vermontville PASTOR KATHY SMITH 517-726-0526 Adult and Youth Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m. Weekly Bible Studies United Methodist Women: 2nd Tuesday</p>

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# Sun shines on Nashville Car Show



The parade featured a tram full of representatives from Centennial Farms, Charlton Park, Putnam Library and other organizations. (Photo by Amy Jo Parish)



Traveling in a custom ride, Larry Snowden makes his way through the parade route. (Photo by Amy Jo Parish)



Earl Wilson's 1952 Farmall puts its way through the first parade of the Nashville Car Show. (Photo by Amy Jo Parish)



Buffing up Carrie Varney's 1968 Chevy C-10 350 turbo truck, Scott Reed makes sure he can see his reflection in the bumper. (Photo by Amy Jo Parish)



Barry County Sheriff Posse Members Ron Hayes and Michael Maring help 1-year-old Spencer Babcock and 7-year-old Rachel Babcock complete a set of fingerprints. (Photo by Amy Jo Parish)

## Hamilton on Owens honors list

More than 2,800 students were named to the academic honors list at Owens Community College for spring semester 2009, including Matthew Hamilton of Nashville.

Students must achieve at least a 3.5 grade point average to be eligible for academic honors at the Findlay, Ohio, School.

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 MON-TUE 4:50, 7:20, 9:30

THE PROPOSAL (PG-13)  
 SAT-SUN 11:30, 1:50, 4:25, 6:50, 9:10  
 MON-TUE 4:25, 6:50, 9:10

UP (PG)  
 SAT-SUN 11:40, 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:20  
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# Local author and artist shares lessons

Putnam District Library was full of energy inside and out on Monday, June 22, when local artist and author Sue Trowbridge visited.

Trowbridge read her

recently self-published picture book titled *Red the Rooster* and shared the techniques she used to create the art for the book. Following the reading, 43 young artists

spent time watercolor painting outside and experimenting with pasta and salt effects on their paintings. Finally, the young artists started working with collage

techniques.

Trowbridge had her book (and other items) available for purchase and signing. Those interested in purchasing a copy may e-mail



Gavin and Alexis Booher begin their watercolor paintings.



Artist Sue Trowbridge gives directions to a sidewalk full of aspiring artists.



Sue Trowbridge, local artist and author, shares her recently self-published book *Red the Rooster* with a full house at Putnam District Library June 22.

suetrowbridgeart@yahoo.com.

Trowbridge's visit was part of the library's summer reading program, "Be Creative at Your Library," where library patrons get to interact with area artists while exploring ways the library can inspire them. The reading program continues through July.

Residents are encouraged to stop by the library and

sign up for the reading program appropriate for their age level ranging from read-with-me youngsters through adult. Visit the library's blog for a calendar of events at [www.putnamlibrary.blogspot.com](http://www.putnamlibrary.blogspot.com).



Lyssa Walker concentrates on her creation.

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## Electronics stolen from Nashville home

Nearly \$9,000 worth of items were stolen from a Nashville residence April 29.

Barry County Sheriff deputies discovered footprints outside of a window through which the thieves entered.

Several gaming systems, a flat-screen television, DVD players and other items were taken during night.

The resident left the premises around 9 p.m. and returned several hours later to find the items missing.

The sheriff's department is still investigating the incident.

# Upcoming events at Putnam Library

Putnam District Library in Nashville has what it calls some exciting events planned over the next couple of weeks. However, the library will be closed Friday, July 3, and Saturday, July 4, for the Independence Day holiday.

Monday, June 29, at 11 a.m., local storyteller Beverly Baron will share an hour of storytelling. Baron teaches third grade at

Southeastern Elementary in Hastings and volunteers at the Caledonia Library during the summer.

Monday, July 6, at 11 a.m. Middle Eastern dancer Christine Kiel will share the folklore behind belly dancing with everyone and instruct older attendees on the beginning techniques of the dance. Kiel teaches at Delton Kellogg High School and coaches the school's

Middle Eastern dance team. All ages are welcome at this event.

Tuesday, July 7, at 6:30 p.m., board members from the Barry Community Foundation will present a program focused on creating a "community of caring." This evening program will include the creation of a community quilt.

Wednesday, July 8, from 1 to 3 p.m., artist Sue

Trowbridge will lead an acrylic painting workshop for all ages. Attendees will work with acrylic paints on canvas. Pre-registration is required, and only a few spots remain.

For more information about any of the library's programs, stop by or call 517-852-9723.

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# Charlton Park July 4 celebration is Saturday

The U.S. will celebrate its 233rd birthday Saturday, July 4, and Historic Charlton Park wants to welcome everyone to join in a patriotic party.

Observe the Fourth of July the Barry County way and bring the whole family to the 27th annual Old-Fashioned Fourth of July and Veterans Barbecue at Charlton Park.

Admission to this event is free.

The chicken and pork barbecue buffet runs from noon to 4 p.m. in the park's Walnut Grove, sponsored by the Fourth of July Veterans Association. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$7 for children.

Guests can bake a pie and enter it in the judging contest. First place wins four Charlton Park event passes, and second place wins two

Charlton Park event passes. All entry pies will be auctioned off to the highest bidders.

Join in or watch the old-fashioned games on the village green starting at 1:30 p.m. Children and adults can participate in sack races, eating contests and many other games.

Buy a pie at the auction, enjoy live music by the Upjohn House, visit the vil-

lage buildings, and be sure to enjoy hand-cranked ice cream. Historic Charlton Park will show people how to have fun on the Fourth the old-fashioned way.

The park is located just north of M-79 between Hastings and Nashville. Visit [www.charltonpark.org](http://www.charltonpark.org) for more information, look on Facebook, or call 269-945-3775.

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**Furlong on NMU dean's list**

Michael Furlong of Vermontville was named to the dean's list at Northern Michigan University in Marquette for the winter semester of 2009.

To qualify, students must earn a grade point average of 3.25 to 4.00.

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# Township residents want to clear the air on dust control

by Amy Jo Parish  
Staff Writer  
Several Vermontville Township residents attended the regular meeting of the township board Thursday night to voice concern over

the elimination of dust control. The township board voted more than two months ago to eliminate dust control and use the money to fund the ambulance program that was in the red.

Joanne Weiler, one of those residents, asked the board what had happened to the service.

"How come there's no dust control or chloride this year?" questioned Weiler. "We pay taxes. That money was appropriated for it, why aren't we getting it? ... We're eating dust. We can't even be outside, it's so bad."

Township Supervisor Jack Owens described the steps that led to elimination of dust control. The township board voted to cut one of the two dust control treatments of the year when it discovered that the ambulance's budget was in a precarious position.

"Our ambulance was losing so much money. We were afraid we were going to lose our ambulance," said Owens. "We cut one dust control and then found we were still in danger of losing the ambulance."

Owens said the township is not obligated to supply dust control but will do so when the budget allows.

"If the general public says we don't need the ambulance, then we'll get rid of the ambulance and put it back into the roads," said Owens.

He said he will research options for residents and bring that information to the next board meeting. Companies will not contract with private individuals for chloride treatments, said Owens, but the board has offered to collect funds from residents and pay a company to perform the treatments if there is enough interest. Anyone wishing to take part should attend the next board

meeting July 24 to learn more. The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the opera house.

In other business, the board:

- Heard a report from Eaton County Sheriff Deputy Brian Peacock about calls for service during the month of May. The department received 29 calls from the township and 22 from the village during the month.

## 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 CitiMortgage, 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 06692853

Monte O'Dell that the department had been on eight runs during the month and completed training with landing zones.

- Listened as Dan Sowles told the board that the ambulance had completed six calls, including one fire standby and five patient transports.

- Agreed to remove a bill for Michigan Township Association on-call manuals back to the fire department. Board member Joanne

Nehmer said the books should be charged to the fire department because they relate to that department. The five manuals cost \$125.

- Heard a report for Trustee Brian Moore concerning an insurance claim the township is looking into to fix the roof of the opera house after a recent storm.

- Approved of Moore working on re-keying the opera house locks before the next regular meeting of the township.


## SCHOOL BOARD, continued from page 1

could be art, then PE. It's about reputation."

At the meeting, the board also voted to accept applica-


tion for an empty board seat until July 1. Those who apply for the position are asked to attend the July 6 school board meeting where interviews will take place. Applications can be picked up and returned to the administration office, and the meeting will take place at 6 p.m. in the board room of the administration office. If the board room becomes too crowded, the meeting will be moved to into the high school.

The seat has been left vacant after the resignation of Trustee Mark Wenger. Wenger won the election for the position in November of last year but failed to attend any meetings, citing an employment conflict.

**PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:**  
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.  
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## Desrochers earns degree at Olivet College

Olivet College recognized 154 graduates for the 2008-09 academic year during commencement ceremonies May 16.

Among the graduates was Joseph Desrochers of Nashville, who earned a bachelor of arts degree.

Call 269-945-9554  
for Maple Valley  
News classified ads

**— NOTICE —**  
**PUBLIC HEARING**  
**VILLAGE OF VERMONTVILLE RESIDENTS**  
On July 14th at 7pm at the village office, 121 Eastside Dr. Topic for consideration is the Rezoning of 122 Round Lake from RS1 (Low Density Residential) to B1 (General Business) so that Kelly Fuels may expand and reposition the Mobil Station.  
Village of Vermontville Planning Commission 06693829

**• 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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**— NOTICE —**  
**MAPLE VALLEY SCHOOLS** has a vacancy on the Board of Education. Anyone interested in filling this position until approximately December 31, 2010 should contact the Administration Office, 11090 Nashville Highway, Vermontville, MI (852-9699) by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 1, 2009.  
06694060

# Local resident recalls early Nashville history



Pauline Lehman still has postcards from 1925 that she sent to her sister. The postcards show both the downtown of the village (right) and the train depot in its busiest years. (left)

Pauline Lehman grew up in Nashville and remembers businesses and people from its past. Here, she looks over photos of the village and her family who emigrated from Austria. (Photo provided)

by Amy Jo Parish  
Staff Writer

Having a conversation with Pauline (Daus) Lehman is like stepping into the pages of a history book about Nashville. The 91-year-old Bellevue resident grew up in the village of Nashville and remembers a variety of stories about its past.

One of five children, Pauline and her parents emigrated from Austria to New York and eventually made their way to Nashville, all without being able to speak English.

Their only connection to this area was a cousin in Detroit. After living with those cousins for awhile, Pauline's parents traveled across the state to learn more about a potential job.

"They saw an ad for someone to help farm. They would give the person who answered a fully furnished house to live in," said Pauline. "They couldn't

speak English but Uncle Charlie put them on a train with the clipping, and when they got to Nashville, they showed one of the railroad workers the clipping. He recognized the farm and showed them how to get there."

Afraid that by the time they traveled the long distance the opportunity would have vanished, the Dauses were relieved to discover that the job was still available, said Pauline.

Through the years, she witnessed a score of changes to the village. Her brother Adolf helped build the Masonic Temple (now the home of The Revue) on Main Street and even gave Pauline and her friends a chance to make their mark on the "new" structure.

"All of us young kids would watch it being built and Adolf said, 'How would you like to help build this?' He showed us how to put the mortar on the bricks and let each of us add one to the

wall. Of course, he cleaned up our work and made it smooth," said Pauline with a chuckle. "So, I've got a brick there but my initials aren't on it, and I don't remember which one it is."

A furniture store was torn down to build the Masonic Lodge, and the structure held a certain amount of awe for the children of the neighborhood. In a time when funeral directors weren't paid until after estates were settled, funeral directors often operated furniture stores in the same location.

"We — the other kids and I — would walk quietly and slowly past the preparation room. That was where they embalmed the bodies, and we always thought it was a bit haunted," laughed

Pauline. Little did she know that she would have to overcome those feelings when she would marry Carl Lehman, a funeral director.

Called into service in World War II, Carl found a way to communicate his location to Pauline, despite having each of his letters censored by the military.

"We were married just at the beginning of the war," said Pauline. "He was gone for three years, and when he landed in England on his assignment, he didn't know that I had had the baby, and I didn't know that he had landed in England."

When letters began arriving from Carl, Pauline's middle initial would be a different letter on each envelope.

## TRUSTEE, continued from page 1

in between the chairs and everything and approached Carla, aggressively, and she held up her hand and said, 'Please don't.' That didn't stop him, and he got right in her face and started yelling."

After witnessing the confrontation, Owens said he told Miller that his actions were not appropriate and he needed to stop.

"Then he walked around the chairs, came over to here, I leaned all the way over (the table) put his face four inches from me and started screaming at me and said, 'I'll get in anybody's face I want to,'" recalled Owens.

Rumsey filed a report with the Eaton County Sheriff's Department concerning the incident and said she had considered filing a report after other confrontations

that had happened during the past year or more. Rumsey said she felt threatened enough this time to take action.

Miller responded, "No comment," to a series of questions concerning the incident and refused to talk on record. He did, however, submit his resignation from the fire and ambulance board at the township's regular meeting Thursday night. He again answered, "No comment," when asked about his reasons for resigning.

The two other reports filed with Eaton County stem from similar incidents with former Township Supervisor Russ Laverty and former Township Clerk Marcia Grant, a member of the ambulance crew.

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## Property dispute uncovers outstanding warrant

A civil dispute over property resulted in the discovery of a felony warrant against one of the parties.

Barry County Sheriff deputies found that Jeffrey John Smith, 39, of Bellevue held a valid warrant out of 56-B district court in Hastings when they checked his name after responding to an argument over property last week.

Smith was transported and lodged at the Barry County Jail on the warrant.

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## Lake Odessa's 35th annual Art in the Park is July 4

The Lake Odessa Arts Commission and the Lakewood Area Chamber of Commerce have planned a Fourth of July "staycation" at the Lake Odessa Village Park on M-50 and Jordan Lake Beach.

The village park will be a bustling place on the Fourth, filled with juried artists and shoppers looking for that special painting, piece of jewelry or other artwork.

Besides art, there will be favorite food vendors and live entertainment.

Free parking will be available at the Lake Odessa fairgrounds as well as the Lake

Odessa Township parking lot with shuttle services provided by area church organizations every hour to and from the park throughout the day.

The morning's show starts off at 10 a.m. with the Lakewood Area Choral Society singing the national anthem. A color guard will be in attendance, representing each branch of the Armed Forces.

Folk musician Jeff Speas takes the stage from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

At 11:30 a.m., Highway 94 will sing traditional, classic country and Gospel.

Center Stage Dancers will

perform from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

The Thunder Floor Cloggers will end the art show with clogging from 3 to 4 p.m.

From 5 to 7 p.m. the Nowhere Band will perform Beatles tunes, and the Lakewood Area Chamber of Commerce will host a chicken barbecue in the park.

The action then moves lakeside to the Jordan Lake Beach pavilion where the Rock the Port concert series continues with the Decibel Doctors from 8 to 10 p.m.

Lake Odessa's Fourth of July ends with a fireworks display over the lake.

## Barry County Commission on Aging Menu and Schedule of Events

**Monday, June 29**

Polish sausage, sauerkraut, seasoned Redskin potatoes, blueberry crisp, bun.

**Tuesday, June 30**

Honey mustard chicken, California blend, seasoned Redskin potatoes, peaches, wheat bread.

**Wednesday, July 1**

Oven fried chicken, seasoned Redskins, spinach, apple, dinner roll.

**Thursday, July 2**

Goulash, corn, California blend, apricots.

**Friday, July 3**

COA closed in observance of Independence Day. No meal delivery.

**Cold Menu**

**Monday, June 29**

Sliced bologna, American cheese, pickled beets, mandarin oranges, wheat bread.

**Tuesday, June 30**

Tuna salad, potato salad, peaches, wheat bread.

**Wednesday, July 1**

Chicken salad, coleslaw, pineapple, hamburger bun.

**Thursday, July 2**

Italian pasta salad, creamy cucumber salad, tropical fruit, graham crackers.

**Friday, July 3**

COA closed in observance of Independence Day. No meal delivery.

**Activities Calendar**

**Monday, June 29:**

Hastings - Music with Sam; Crafts 10:30 a.m.; Card Making 12:30 p.m. H,W,N - Reminiscence.

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

**Wednesday, July 1:**

Hastings - Music with Sam; Nails; Euchre 12:30-2:30 p.m. Nashville - Legal Aid 10:30-noon. Delton - Reminiscence.

**Thursday, July 2:** Hastings - Line Dancing 9:30 a.m.; Patriotic Fun 11 a.m. Nashville - TV Time. Delton - Puzzles, Trivia.

**Friday, July 3 -** COA closed in observance of Independence Day.

## Summer Reading Academy begins at Maple Valley

Eaton Intermediate School District (EISD) has designed and is implementing a model reading intervention for students in kindergarten through sixth grade in Charlotte, Eaton Rapids, Maple Valley and Pottsville.

On June 16, pre-kindergarten through second grade students gathered at Maple Valley's Fuller Street Elementary to attend a summer reading academy on Tuesday and Wednesdays, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. for eight weeks.

Students in all four districts

will receive specialized instruction in reading through creative, lively, activities for students K through 6th grade. Activities include group unison reading word and letter recognition, Zoo Phonics, comprehension activities, fluency phrases, partner reading and read-alouds.

The goal of the summer reading academies is for struggling readers to learn skills necessary to read fluently, with understanding and to learn to love the adventure of reading. Since reading and mathematics are the

gatekeepers to all other learning, it is essential that all students learn to read well.

Research shows that third grade is a benchmark year that determines in large measure a child's ultimate reading ability. In support of the need for every child to read and comprehend by the end of third grade, the EISD is supporting balanced literacy training and collaborating with each partner district to implement a literacy guarantee that calls for enhanced reading instruction for K-6 students throughout the school year.

The EISD's strategic approach to intervening on behalf of struggling readers was piloted in 2006-07 in Pottsville. During the school year, struggling readers were supported through supplemental reading instruction, and the first reading academy occurred last summer in Pottsville and Eaton Rapids.

This summer, the program has grown to include Charlotte and Maple Valley. Data shows that children who participated in both parts of the pilot in 2006-07 either gained in reading fluency or, at a minimum, maintained the reading progress they had made during the prior school year.

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