

MAPLE VALLEY news

A local paper of today!

Hastings Public Library
227 E State St
Hastings MI 49058-1817

MVN

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
HASTINGS MI
PERMIT NO.7

Published by J-Ad Graphics, Inc.
1351 N. M-43 Highway, Hastings, MI 49058
Phone: (269) 945-9554
Vol. 137-No. 29, July 18, 2009

Secretary of Agriculture discusses the future of farming in Michigan

by Amy Jo Parish
Staff Writer

The role of the United States Department of Agriculture and possible changes that could help stimulate the agricultural community were part of a town-hall-style discussion last Sunday with the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack.

The event was part of the Obama Administration's Rural Tour. Nearly 400 people gathered at the Country Mill north of Charlotte, each with a vested interest in at least one part of the agricultural field. Katie Eldred of Vermontville was there to find out if ag education will see any changes in the near future. Peggy Beals of Grass Lake attended to see if the

USDA will help make it easier for small dairy farmers to communicate directly with consumers and provide a fresher product. Joe Harvey of Vermontville was interested in new programs being developed by the USDA and the expansion of solar energy possibilities.

Whatever their interest, it was evident from the packed barn that Vilsack's visit created a unique opportunity for residents to have direct dialogue with Washington, D.C.

Vilsack opened his portion of the meeting by stressing to the crowd how instrumental farmers are to the world's economy.

"Every family needs a farmer," said Vilsack. "Every family in the nation needs a farm producing food for

them."

Sen. Debbie Stabenow and Rep. Mark Schauer hosted the event and opened the program by looking to the role agriculture can play in helping the economy rebound.

"There's an important role agriculture can play as a positive part of the solution," said Stabenow. "I continue to believe that this is so important for our country, especially for our state and our way of life."

Stabenow detailed a training center being developed by with the Kellogg Foundation in Battle Creek. The center would provide standardized training for food producers in the state and around the nation. The Kellogg company has

already contributed \$5 million toward the creation of the facility. Currently there is no uniform training system in place for producers, and Stabenow said it is a natural fit to have the institution in a state where agriculture is the second leading industry.

"It ought to be right here in Michigan. We should be bringing people here to train," said Stabenow.

Vilsack talked to the crowd about the financial situation of many farming families and the need to revamp agriculture as a viable business for producers, both large and small.

"Ninety percent of farm families require off-farm employment to make the farm profitable and equitable," said Vilsack.



United States Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack addresses the crowd at the Country Mill in Charlotte. Representative Mark Schauer and Senator Debbie Stabenow also took part in the event. (photo by Amy Jo Parish)

Beyond the financial side of farming, Vilsack said **SECRETARY, continued on page 4**

Astronaut takes time for local friends and family

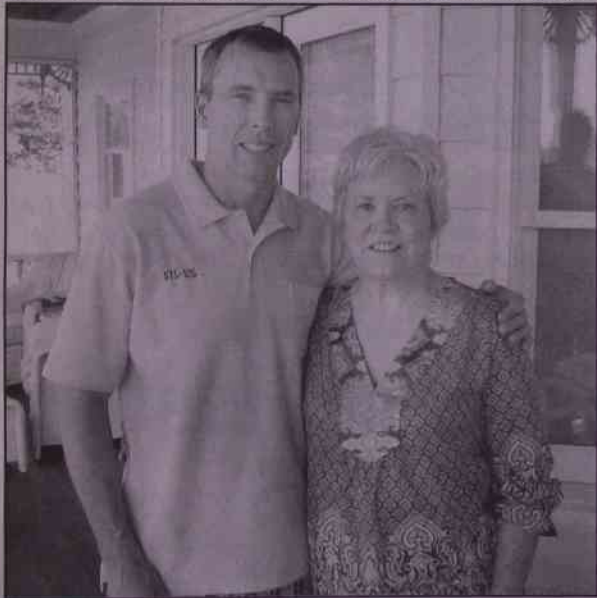
Son of Nashville woman is 'living a dream'

by Nick Smith

Dr. Andrew Feustel has a perspective that not many can claim this side of space. He

has seen Earth from above, with just a space suit separating him from this planet.

Feustel, an astronaut with



Nashville resident Barb Burrill poses with her son, astronaut Dr. Andrew Feustel at an open house held in his honor. (Photo by Nick Smith)

NASA, recently returned to gravity after his first space mission.

His mother, Barb Burrill of Nashville, held an open house for him Saturday, July 11. Friends and family had the opportunity to show their support for Feustel and learn about his unique experiences.

Burrill, a pastor at the First Wesleyan Church in Battle Creek, is proud of her son's accomplishments but said she never imagined he would choose to pursue a career with NASA.

"It's the most wonderful thing," said Burrill. "He's living a dream."

Feustel's dream began in his early teens in Lake Orion when he discovered his passion for space. Fast forward a few years, and he was at Purdue University on his way to earning a bachelor's degree in solid earth sciences and a master's in geophysics. He then went on to pursue a doctorate of geological sciences from Queens University in Kingston,

Ontario.

While applying to get into the space program, Feustel held several jobs, ranging from mechanic to seismologist. He was accepted into the program in 2000, and in 2006 he was assigned to his first space mission and Hubble's last repair mission, STS-125.

The Hubble Telescope, in operation since 1990, has had four previous repair missions. On this, the fifth, Feustel and the team repaired faulty devices and added some technology to the telescope. No further missions are planned to repair the telescope, and in five years a new telescope is set to replace Hubble.

In the midst of all of the technology, there were some unforgettable moments on the mission, said Feustel. From the first time in null gravity to the last space walk, the crew melded and worked as a team he said. But the most profound moments were those quite separate from the rest of the



The STS-125 crew poses for a photo near Space Shuttle Atlantis on Runway 22 at Edwards Air Force Base in California following their landing which ended the STS-125 mission to repair and upgrade NASA's Hubble Space Telescope. From the left are mission specialist Mike Massimino, pilot Gregory C. Johnson, Commander Scott Altman; and mission specialists Megan McArthur, John Grunsfeld, Andrew Feustel and Michael Good. (Photo courtesy of NASA.gov)

astronauts. On his first space walk, Feustel had a vision most can only dream of.

Due to the way the shuttle was positioned, he could see nothing on either side except

space. Directly in front of him was Earth, and for a few moments, he said it seemed as if he and the Earth were alone.

ASTRONAUT, continued on page 4

Maple Valley graduate victim of neighbor's anger

Former Maple Valley resident, Tracy Beardslee was shot to death by his Musselshell County, Montana, neighbor on Tuesday, July 7.

The Associated Press reports that Beardslee's neighbor Robert Cooksey

was charged Wednesday, July 8, with deliberate homicide. His bail was set at \$500,000.

Court records say Beardslee was found lying in the grass along a fence line with a gunshot wound to his shoulder. He had apparently been trimming weeds at the

time of the shooting, and the trimmer was still running.

Cooksey used a high-powered rifle. The two apparently had an ongoing dispute over the use of a driveway.

Musselshell County Sheriff Woodrow Weitzel said Cooksey was detained

Tuesday after calling the sheriff's office to say he'd shot a man at his house 12 miles southeast of Roundup, Mont., and needed an ambulance.

Beardslee graduated from Maple Valley High School in 1979.

In This Issue...

- Putnam Library hosts acting troupe
- Donation upgrades equipment at library
- Teen library group awarded grant
- Summer is time for bats, bugs and bacteria
- Assassins make for unconventional musical

Assassins make for unconventional musical

by Amy Jo Parish
Staff Writer

Throughout past couple of centuries, a handful of individuals have attempted or succeeded in killing an American president. The musical "Assassins" combines each of their stories into one and takes the audience through a virtual history book of those incidents.

Though the years are meshed together to allow the characters a chance to interact with each other, their sto-

ries are each given a turn on the stage.

The unconventional story line appealed to Director Amanda Wells, though it was The Revue's Producer Bill Reynolds who first presented the idea of performing "Assassins."

"Actually, Bill chose 'Assassins' because he really wanted to be in it," said Wells. "He wants to expand our horizons as a theater troupe. As luck would have it, however, Bill then bought

Good Time Pizza and didn't have the time needed to be part of the cast."

The show runs July 23 to 25 and July 30 to Aug. 1. All shows begin at 8 p.m. at The Revue located at 301 N. Main Street in Nashville.

The story opens with the proprietor, played by Revue regular Adam Zank, who encourages the characters to "Come on and Kill a President" in the opening song. Wells said that the character of John Wilkes Booth acts as the forefather to the other criminals, and Lee Harvey Oswald is the culmination of their efforts.

Rather than glorify their efforts, the show conveys an important lesson to the audience.

"The point of the show is not to glorify these people but to make us think about what's important," said Wells. "We're in a free

country, and there's bad that comes with the good. It's a reminder of how important our freedom is."

Parallels can be drawn between the show's plot and the current plight of the country.

"We are facing a difficult time, now but we've faced them before," said Wells. "We heal and we move on. That's what we do as Americans. We pick ourselves up and forge ahead."

Wells said the cast has been working hard to master their roles, a task that is a bit more difficult since the characters are based on actual people and not fictional personalities.

"It's always a challenge playing a person that really existed and that's something that's different for most of them," said Wells. "They're doing a fantastic job with it, but it has taken a lot of hard

work to get where we are."

The cast includes: Proprietor - Adam Zank; Balladeer - Jeremy Schneider; John Wilkes Booth - Kenneth H. Smith; Charles Guiteau - Steve Shaughnessy; Leon Czolgosz - Mark Shoemaker; Giuseppe Zanagara - Mac Arney; Lee Harvey Oswald - Brandon Shapley; Samuel Byck - Scott Peters; Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme - Lindsey Hemming; Sara Jane Moore - Laura Soule; John Hinckley Jr. - Chris Caldwell; David Herold - Zac Coddaira;

Emma Goldman - Maria Licari; and Billie - Alivia Benedict.

The ensemble includes: Zac Coddaira, Terry Dennison, Lynette King, Maria Licari, Kelly Schneider, Nick Smith, Heather Wortley, Dale White and Tarah Yenger.

Patrons are encouraged to reserve their seats by calling Wells at 616-902-4193. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and children under 12, although parental discretion is advised due to the mature story line.



Ken Smith plays the character of John Wilkes Booth in The Revue's production of "Assassins." (Photo by Amanda Wells)



Mark Shoemaker plays the role of Leon Czolgosz, President McKinley's assassin. Here he rehearses a scene with Maria Licari who plays the anarchist Emma Goldman. (Photo by Amanda Wells)



Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme (Lindsey Hemming) and Sara Jane Moore (Laura Soule) discuss their attempts to kill President Gerald Ford in a scene. (Photo by Amanda Wells)



Members of the ensemble rehearse a scene for The Revue's production of Assassins. Pictured are Nick Smith, Heather Wortley, Terry Dennison, Kelly Schneider, and Zac Coddaira. (Photo by Amanda Wells)

Diana's Place
The Place to Go for Professional Styling
MEN, WOMEN & CHILDREN
HAIR STYLING & NAILS
Open Tuesday - Friday
S.E. Corner of M-66 & Thornapple Lake Rd.
1-517-852-9481

POOL CARE PRODUCTS

Shock Products Specialty
Algaecides
Sanitizers
Balancers

Now Available! Liquid Chlorine 1 Gallon

Pool Time
06694791

Propane Fill Station Available

HOMETOWN LUMBER & HARDWARE
Monday thru Saturday 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
219 S. State in Nashville • 517-852-0882 • www.hometownlumber.com

Baseline church hosting 'family-style' VBS

Bellevue United Methodist and Baseline United Methodist churches invite area residents to join in "VeggieTown Family Values" - sharing God's love from generation to generation.

Two-and-a-half hours of fun have been planned for five different Sunday afternoons this summer. The activities are appropriate for all ages, children and adults, families and singles.

Participants will sing, play games, hear Bible stories and end the evening with a simple meal - all at no cost to guests - as a way for the family to spend time together.

The dates are July 19 and 26 and Aug. 9, 16 and 23 from 4 to 6:30 p.m. at Baseline United Methodist Church, 9617 E. Baseline Road, one mile east of M-66 North, at the corner of Baseline Road and Church Road.

For more information, call Baseline United Methodist at 269-963-7710.

SMOKE-FREE RESTAURANT

Home Cookin' Jack & Judy's
Country Kettle Cafe

It's Fair Time!
Bring the Family in and enjoy a Home Cooked Meal at Family-Friendly Prices before you head to the Fair.

113 N. Main, Nashville • 517-852-9700
Hours: Open 7 Days 6AM - 8PM

Summer is time for bats, bugs and bacteria

As Michigan residents enjoy camping, swimming, and fresh homegrown food this summer, health officials are reminding everyone to reduce their risks of exposure to bacteria and viruses that can cause illness.

The Barry-Eaton District Health Department kicked off a month-long awareness campaign July 1 to inform local residents about what they can do to prevent illness and what the health department is doing to protect of Barry and Eaton residents and visitors.

"Be aware of potential infection from various sources during the summer months, but do not let it keep you from enjoying the many activities that the county has to offer for fun and recreation," said Heather Sanders, health educator for the Barry-Eaton District Health Department. "You can protect yourself and your family by taking special precautions."

Michigan residents should be aware of and protect themselves from illnesses such as Lyme disease, rabies and West Nile virus. Lyme disease is a bacterial infection resulting from the bite of an infected deer tick. If left untreated, it can cause chills, fever, headaches and muscle and joint pain. Although the risk of developing Lyme disease is minimal in Michigan, residents should be aware of the risk of infection and seek immediate diagnosis and treatment upon possible

exposure.

Rabies and West Nile virus are both viral infections. Rabies is contracted through a bite or scratch from an infected animal. It also can be transmitted if saliva from an infected animal gets into an open wound or into a person's eyes, nose or mouth.

In Michigan, rabies has been reported most often in bats. There is no treatment for rabies once a person or animal shows signs of the disease, so reducing exposure is crucial.

West Nile virus is spread to humans primarily by the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes become infected after biting birds that carry the virus. Most people who are infected with West Nile virus either have no symptoms or experience mild illness such as fever, headache and body aches. Those suspecting exposure should seek medical care immediately.

Not only should a person be aware of potential illnesses from animal and tick bites during the summer months but also illness from consuming contaminated food and beverages.

Here are some precautions to take to protect against food-borne illness:

- When carrying food to another location, keep it cold to minimize bacterial growth. Cold food should be held at or below 40° F. Pack food right from the refrigerator into a cooler immediately

before leaving home.

- When using a cooler, keep it out of the direct sun by placing it in the shade or shelter. Avoid opening the

lid too often, which lets cold air out and warm air in.

- Be sure there are plenty of clean utensils and platters. To prevent food-borne ill-

ness, don't use the same platter and utensils for raw and cooked meats and poultry. Harmful bacteria present in raw meat and poultry and

their juices can contaminate safely cooked food.

Teen library group awarded grant

The Teen Advisory Group at Putnam District Library recently was awarded a grant from the Barry County Foundation's Youth Advisory Council. The grant will allow the library to add a technology center for teens in the newly created teen area.

The Teen Advisory Group started in June of 2008 as part of Putnam District Library's summer reading program. The group looks for new and fun ways to bring teens to the library and recommends materials specifically for teens.

New members are always welcome. Contact the library for more information.

The Youth Advisory

Council received nearly \$20,000 in grant requests and had only \$6,000 to award. Putnam District Library's teen group received \$1,060 to fund exactly half of what was requested. With the money, the group plans to purchase one multi-media laptop computer, one mini-laptop and accessories.

The new computer workstations will be reserved solely for teen use but will be available to adult patrons if not in use by teens. Putnam District Library will work with Maple Valley High School's leadership class to host a kick-off party to present these new items to the community in the fall.



Receiving a check for new technology at Putnam District Library is the Teen Advisory Group grant-writing team of Vickie Casteel, Courtney Cady, Jenna Kopka, Erika Hummell, Kari Hummell and Catalina Mata. Youth Advisory Council member Kayla Vogel presents the check.

Donation upgrades equipment at library

by Amy Jo Parish
Staff Writer

Patrons of the Vermontville Township

Library may notice a few upgrades to the equipment used to check out resources. A new receipt printer has

eliminated the need to stamp due dates inside books, and a cordless handheld scanner will be used during busy times to help patrons check out even more quickly.

Residents attending the summer movies also will hear the new upgrade. A sound system has been installed for use during the summer program, making the flicks much more enjoyable for the audience.

"One week we watched the movie without a system and the children couldn't hear the movie, so it didn't hold their attention," said Rita Miller, assistant library director. "The next week we had the system, and it made all the difference."

The new equipment was donated to the library by the Vermontville Maple Syrup Association. Miller said the gifts are "very appreciated"

by the library staff and come at a time when financial constraints make purchasing new equipment difficult.

"Because of our budget, they gave us the extra things that we cannot afford but are very useful to the library," said Miller. "They came and asked us for a list, and we were very surprised that they bought all three. That was over the top."

Upcoming events at the library include Castles in the Sand on July 21, a showing of the movie "Muppet Treasure Island" on July 28, a showing of the movie "Journey to the Center of the Earth" on Aug. 4 and Take Part in Art at the Library on Aug. 11. All programs begin at 6:30 p.m.

Visit the library's Web site at www.vermontvillelibrary.blogspot.com for more information.



Assistant Library Director Rita Miller uses a new receipt printer to check out books for Tony Strotheide. The printer is one of the donations to the library from the Vermontville Maple Syrup Association. (Photo by Amy Jo Parish)

Red Cross hosting two blood drives Tuesday

American Red Cross personnel hope eligible area residents will attend one of two blood drives Tuesday, July 21. A blood drive in Charlotte will be held at the Lawrence Avenue United Methodist Church from 11 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

At noon the same day, the Pottsville United Methodist

Church will host a drive until 5:45 p.m.

Blood donors must be at least 17 years of age, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and be in good general health.

"The need for blood is constant, and during the summer months, we see a decrease in the number of individuals donating blood," said Susan Clements, donor recruitment representative with the American Red Cross. "People get busy with summer activities, and donating blood is not in the forefront of their minds. However, with increased traffic on the roadways and waterways, the hospitals we service see an increase in traumas and an increase in the need for blood."

All presenting donors at Tuesday's drives may enter to win a \$500 Meijer gift card.

Walk-in donors are welcome or call 800 GIVE-LIFE to schedule an appointment.

HASTINGS 4
269-205-4900
Downtown Hastings on State St.
www.GQT.com

Rocking Seats • All Digital Sound

\$4.25 to \$4.75 ALL SEATS
except adult evening

Stadium Seating • No passes
SHOWTIMES 7/18 - 7/23

© HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE (PG)
FRI-SUN 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30
MON-TH 3:30, 6:30, 9:30

PUBLIC ENEMIES (R)
FRI-SUN 1:00, 9:15
MON-TH 9:15

ICE AGE: DAWN OF THE DINOSAURS (PG)
FRI-SUN 11:45, 2:00, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00
MON-TH 4:20, 6:40, 9:00

© TRANSFORMERS: THE REVENGE OF THE FALLEN (PG-13)
FRI-SUN 12:45, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55
MON-TH 4:00, 7:00, 9:55

MY SISTER'S KEEPER (PG-13)
DAILY 4-10, 6:50

Saturday, July 18, 2009 COME BID ON THESE

Bachelors
AND THEIR DATE PACKAGES!

CHARLOTTE FRONTIER DAYS Stud Auction

At The Eaton Area Senior Center • Charlotte
Doors Open at 6:00 p.m.
Auction Starts at 7:00 p.m.

Proceeds to benefit Eaton County Hospice & Charlotte Frontier Days
Running The Auction, Kip & Linda Williams of United Auctioneers

Ticket Prices Include Appetizers And One Complementary Drink
Girls Night Out!

• Silent Auction
• 50/50's
• Jewelry Raffles from Carl V. Reck & Hodges Jewelers
• Cash Bar

TICKETS \$20 At The Door

ALLEN, DARREL, MICHAEL, JASON, BRANDON, JASON, ROB, CHRIS, SHANNON, RYAN, TRENT, CHAD, MIKE, DEAN, JUSTIN, DEREK, ANTHONY

Must Be 21 Or Older
WWW.CHARLOTTEFRONTIERDAYS.COM

SECRETARY, continued from page 1

agriculture should be preserved and expanded for less tangible reasons.

"It's important because there's a value system here. A value system of hard work, community and genuinely caring about other people in the community," said

Vilsack. "I think, for the first time in a long, long while, we're providing tools to protect that value system."

All three speakers urged those in attendance to think outside the box in terms of the future of agriculture and incorporate other areas such



Senator Debbie Stabenow and United States Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack answer questions from the media after the event. (photo by Amy Jo Parish)



It was standing room only at the town hall meeting held last week at the Country Mill in Charlotte. (photo by Amy Jo Parish)

as technology into their businesses.

"Our challenge in rural development is to figure out how to focus to create those economic opportunities," said Vilsack. "Think creativity. Innovation doesn't have to be limited to urban centers ... Creativity and innovation is out on a farm when the combine breaks down out in the field. You use 'a little of this' and 'a little of that' to make it

go."

Stabenow used wind turbines as an example of how their use in the agriculture world would create even more opportunities in other areas such as manufacturing.

"We can build every single part (of a wind turbine) right here in Michigan," said Stabenow. "There's a lot of innovation here, and we just can't sell ourselves short."

ASTRONAUT, continued from page 1

Though he was thousands of miles away, home was never that far, thanks to daily reminders. Each morning, Ground Control in Houston played a song chosen by one of the team's families as a wake-up call.

"Each morning, we had all this equipment to take off, and we all had to rush to the mic by the time the song was done," laughed Feustel. "Then Houston would say 'Good morning (astronaut's name), this song's for you,' and the person who the song was for would have to get to the mic and reply."

Feustel said he appreciated the support of everyone who came to the open house Saturday and everyone who prayed for him during the mission.

From now until August Feustel is educating politicians and the public through events like the open house. His goal is to show the importance of his mission, the space program as a whole, and to justify funding.

Feustel said the biggest misconception of astronauts is a misunderstanding of what being an astronaut entails and the day-to-day work it involves.

"The public doesn't understand what we do," said Feustel. "It's important to continue exploring space ... We need to expand our culture beyond Earth."

Antiques

ALLEGAN ANTIQUE MARKET, Sunday, July 26th. 400 exhibitors. Rain or shine. 7:30am-4:00pm. Located at the fairgrounds right in Allegan, MI. \$4.00 admission.

Lawn & Garden

AQUATIC PLANTS: WATER Lilies & Lotus, Goldfish & Koi, Liners, Pumps, Filters. Apol's Landscaping Co., 9340 Kalamazoo, Caledonia. (616)698-1030. Open Monday-Friday 9am-5:30pm; Saturday, 9am-2pm.

BRUSH HOGGING, drill holes, Tilling, with 45hp tractor. (269)908-2035.

Jobs Wanted

DAYCARE HAS OPENINGS. Maple Valley Schools, all ages. Please call Donna (517)852-0319.

Lost & Found

WANTED: SET OF keys mistakenly taken from the Maple Valley Community Center of Hope on 7/14/09. Please return next week.

Real Estate

FOR SALE: TWO bedroom house, new carpet, roof and hardwood floors. This 2-bedroom house has been completely remodeled and has a large double lot with a large shade tree and room for a garden, \$55,000. Call 616-481-5571.

NASHVILLE HOUSE FOR sale: Two bedroom house on a double lot has new carpet, roof, and hardwood floors, hook up for washer and dryer, detached garage - low monthly payments. \$55,000. Call (616)481-5571

For Rent

COMPLETELY REMODELED 2-BEDROOM house for rent in Nashville. Large double lot and detached garage for storage. Deposit and references required. (616)481-5571 leave w/return phone number.

COMPLETELY REMODELED 2-BEDROOM house for rent in Nashville. Large double lot and detached garage for storage. Deposit and references required. (616)481-5571 leave w/return phone number.

NASHVILLE: 2 BEDROOM trailer also 2 bedroom apartment. (517)852-9386.

Farm

EARTH SERVICES is in urgent need of **HAY DONATIONS**. We will come pick it up, clean out your barn of old hay - (Any type of hay that isn't moldy). We are also looking for pasture land and hay fields. **EARTH SERVICES** is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All donations are tax deductible. PLEASE CALL (269)962-2015

clearview Vinyl
Custom Built Vinyl Windows
Gary & Alta Mast • 517-726-0232
8821 Valley Hwy., Vermontville, MI 49096
Replacement and New Construction

DANIELS
Funeral Home

"Our Family Serving Yours"

- Nashville's Only Family Owned, Independently Operated Funeral Home
- Fully Staffed Children's Resource Room
- Free Video Tribute • Barrier Free
- Ample Parking • Accommodations Up to 300

(517) 852-9712
9200 E M-79 Hwy • Nashville

Scott A. Daniels & Family
Owner/Manager

Call for Classifieds
945-9554 or
1-800-870-7085

Area Obituaries

Lavern DeWitt

Born Saturday, June 4, 1910 of Herbert DeWitt and Core E. Biggs in Evart, Herbert Lavern DeWitt died Thursday, June 4, 2009.

In 1917 the family moved to Hastings from Evart and resided at 515 Montgomery Street, Hastings, until moving to Nashville in 1920.

During the 1920's, the era of two reel silent films, Lavern was Nashville's favored projectionist at the local movie theatre because he could change reels faster than other projectionist's. He also worked as delivery boy for Nashville's Belson's Bakery and sold magazine subscriptions to "Successful Farming" door-to-door, and raised sheep until his Aunt Mable (DeWitt) Little got him a job at Milling's Drop Forge in Lansing during the summer of 1938 where he remained through World War II and into the late 1940's.

Lavern was graduated from Nashville High School, class of 1931.

On June 11, 1939 he married Marian E. Cheeseman in a double wedding ceremony with his sister, Lucille

(DeWitt) Hecker, on the front lawn of the Ostroth place on Nashville's north side.

By 1950 Lavern had been hired by his mother to manage the DeWitt Convalescent Home in the Striker House located at the corner of Jefferson and Green streets in Hastings. Later in the 1950's he bought and moved to the Dave Goodyear Algonquin Lake cottage located on Ogimas Street. He subsequently bought property across that street and built a spec house.

By 1960 he had purchased the Patton brothers Velvet-Soft water softener business while working nights at Eaton's in Battle Creek. He owned and operated Velvet-Soft until its sale in 1977 at which time he retired and moved to Sebring, Florida.

At the time of his death, he was living with his only son, Robert DeWitt, in Lexington, North Carolina.

He is survived by his son, numerous grandchildren, nephew Gordon Hecker, and his younger sister, Lucille DeWitt Hecker.

Mary Jane Norberg

NASHVILLE - Mary Jane Norberg, age 85, of Nashville, formerly Pontiac died July 16, 2009.

She worked as a GMC secretary, at the Oakland Press, and Sears.

She was a past president of the PTA and Campfire leader, church leader of the Pontiac Aldersgate United Methodist and Nashville United Methodist church.

She was the mother of Nancy Turk of Decatur, Sharon (Jerry) Reese of Nashville, Susan (Gary) Pyle of Dennis, MS; grandmother of Kris Vanderveen, Heidi Watson, Michael Turk, Chip Reese, Lee Ann Pyle, Joey

Pyle, Cathryn Turk and four great grandchildren.

Mrs. Norberg was preceded in death by her loving husband, Melvin S. Norberg; brother, Bill Thompson, and sister, Lillian Richman.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, July 20, 2009 at the Nashville United Methodist Church, 210 Washington, Nashville.

Memorial contributions may be made to Nashville UMC, P.O. Box 370 or Maple Valley Community Center of Hope, P.O. Box 683 Nashville.

Arrangements made by Daniels Funeral Home.

JOE MONTGOMERY BUILDERS, INC.
We build on our reputation...just ask our customers!

Building dreams since 1978
New Construction and Home Improvement
122 S. Lincoln, Charlotte
(517) 543-1718

Hansbarger Heating & Air Conditioning
517-490-1287
Vermontville, MI

LICENSED INSURED
COLE HANSBARGER Owner
RUUD

Featuring Ruud Gas Furnaces and Air Conditioners.
Full Line of Indoor Air Quality Products • FREE Estimates

July is National Ice Cream Month

Here are some tidbits to think about when celebrating National Ice Cream Month:

- In 1984, President Ronald Reagan designated July as National Ice Cream Month and the third Sunday of the month as National Ice Cream Day. This year, National Ice Cream Day is July 19 (which is also the day the

little red barn arrives at the Barry County Fair.)

- The U.S. ice cream industry generates more than \$21 billion in annual sales.

- The first ice cream cone was produced in 1896 by Italo Marchiony. Marchiony, who emigrated from Italy in the late 1800s, invented his ice cream

cone in New York City. He was granted a patent in December 1903.

- America's top five favorite individual ice cream flavors are vanilla, chocolate, butter pecan, strawberry and mint chocolate chip.

Source: International Dairy Foods Association

FROST HEATING & COOLING

QUALITY, VALUE & SERVICE

- New Construction Designed and Installed
- Boiler Installation and Service
- Radiant Floor Tubing and Ceiling Installation
- Duct Cleaning and Sanitizing
- High-Efficiency Furnace and Air Conditioning Installation
- 24-Hour Phone Service
- Free Estimates

Goodman

Air Conditioning & Heating

**Up to 30% Tax Credit available on many products.*

Serving Your Community for Over 40 Years

Lake Odessa (616) 374-7595

Nashville (517) 852-9565

- Fuel Oil Furnace Installation and Service
- Geo-Thermal Installation and Service
- Rinnal Tankless Water Heater Sales and Service
- A O Smith Water Heater Sales and Service
- Empire Space Heater Sales and Service

HOMETOWN

LUMBER & HARDWARE

219 S. State St., Nashville, MI
852-0882

Monday-Saturday 7:30 am to 5:30 pm

www.hometownlumber.com

Jack & Judy's
Country Kettle Cafe
113 N. Main, Nashville (517) 852-9700
HOURS: Open 7 Days 6am to 8pm
Nashville's Friendly Family Restaurant with Family Prices!

WOLEVER'S Real Estate

Elsie E. Wolever
Broker
Res. (517) 726-0637

135 Washington P.O. Box 95
Vermontville, MI 49096-0095

Peace

The third grace mentioned by Paul as a fruit of the Spirit is peace. Peace can be both internal as well as external; it is possible to be at peace within oneself while all around loom chaos and mayhem, just as it is possible for one to be at peace externally, and even to have a calm outward disposition, while war and strife rage within. Ideally, we should strive to have both internal and external peace, to be at peace with everyone, and to live harmoniously with those around us while being in a tranquil state of mind. Peace with others can only come from good relations and the active goodwill towards all that is characteristic of true Christian love. Peace within ourselves requires that we truly trust in God and believe that He has us safely in His hands, and from knowing that we are doing His will. This last point is crucial. This is, we must love God's word and heed His commandments to have real peace within ourselves. Those who knowingly do wrong cannot know peace, for they will have a dissonant spirit from knowing what is right but still doing what is wrong. So, we should study God's word and do the good works that He has set before us as our task. Love God and love one another, and peace will follow.



O that you had hearkened to my commandments! Then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea...

R.S.V. Isaiah 48:18

SHIRLEYS CHUCKWAGON CAFE
202 N. Main St., Nashville, MI 49073
Sun.-Thurs. 6 am-2 pm; Fri. & Sat. 6 am-8 pm
517-852-2500
HAPPY TRAILS...
THE GARDNERS: SHIRLEY AND RICHARD

Low-priced prescriptions, great coffee & relaxing massage. We'll help you feel better!

Maple Valley pharmacy.

regular hours • Mon-Fri 9-6 • Sat 9-1
219 N. Main • Nashville
517.852.0845 • toll free 877.852.2601 • fax 517.852.0461
www.maplevallieyrx.com

the bean counter MVP massage therapy

All That Glitters

Full Service Floral & Vintage Jewelry

FLOWERS, PLANTS, BALLOONS & GIFTS
for Weddings, Sympathy, Birthdays, Anniversaries and Every Day!

Delivery Available • We Rent Tuxes

234 N. Main, Nashville
517-852-9224 • 517-852-1691
CINDY HEINSEN, OWNER

LOCAL CHURCH SCHEDULE

ABUNDANT GRACE WORLD OUTREACH CENTER
Come as you are but don't leave the same.
Meet at Kalamo Twp. Hall 8960 Spore Ave. Vermontville, MI 49096
Morning Service 10:30 a.m.
Evening Service: (Every 1st & 3rd Sunday) 6 p.m.
REV. DAWN GOODMAN
Contact numbers: (517) 852-0896 or (517) 852-9606, leave message

ABUNDANT LIFE FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES
A Spirit-filled Church
Meeting at the Maple Leaf Grange Hwy. M-66 south of Assyria Rd. Nashville, MI 49073
Sun. Praise & Worship 10:30 a.m., 6:00 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.m. Jesus Club for boys & girls ages 4-12. Pastors David & Rose MacDonald. An oasis of God's love. "Where Everyone is Someone Special." For information call 1-616-731-5194 or 1-517-852-1806.

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

BASELINE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
9617 E. Baseline Rd. Corner of Baseline & 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

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
301 Fuller St., Nashville
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday: A.M. Worship 11 a.m.
P.M. Worship 6 p.m.
Wednesday Evening: Worship 7 p.m.
REV. ALAN METTLER

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

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERMONTVILLE
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

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH
8950 East M-79 Highway, Nashville
Morning Celebration 9 & 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: grace@gc3.org

GRESHAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
5505 North Mulliken Road, Charlotte one mile north of Vermontville Hwy.
PASTOR KATHY SMITH 517-726-0526
Combined Sunday Morning Worship with Vermontville UMC as follows:
July 5 & 19, Aug. 2, 16 & 30 at Vermontville
July 12 & 26, Aug. 9 & 23 at Gresham
Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Worship Time: 10:00 a.m.

KALAMO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Worship Services 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School for All Ages 10:30 a.m.
PASTOR BRYCE FEIGNER 517-541-1144

MAPLE GROVE BIBLE CHURCH
8593 Cloverdale Road (1/2 mile East of M-66, 5 mi. south of Nashville)
Sunday School 10 a.m.
A.M. Service 11:15 a.m.
P.M. Service 6 p.m.
PASTOR GEORGE GAY

NASHVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
304 Phillips St., Nashville
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
A.M. Service 11 a.m.
P.M. Service 7 p.m.
Wed. Service 7 p.m.
PASTOR LESTER DeGROOT
PASTOR DEANO LAMPHERE
PASTOR MATT ROHDE

NASHVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Located on the corner of State and Washington streets
Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 11:15 a.m.
PASTOR CATHY CHRISTMAN
At Home: 852-0685
Church Phone: 852-2043

PEACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BARRYVILLE
6043 E. M-79 Highway, 4 miles west of Nashville (cor. M-79 & Barryville Rd.)
Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.
Other: Prayer Walk, U.M. Women, Bible Study, Mission Projects & more.
PASTOR SUSAN OLSEN
Phone 517-852-1993
IGNITING MINISTRY
Open Hearts-Open Minds-Open Doors

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

ST. ANDREW & MATTHIAS INDEPENDENT ANGLICAN CHURCH
2415 McCann Road
Sunday Services: 9:15 a.m. Morning Prayer 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion
For more information call: 795-2370 or Rt. Rev. David Hustwick 948-9327
Traditional 1928 Book of Common Prayer used for all services.
RT. REV. DAVID HUSTWICK

SOUTH KALAMO CHURCH
Corner of Kalamo Highway & Ionia Rd.
Sunday A.M. Worship 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship 6 p.m.
Wednesday Evening at 6 p.m.: PASTOR JEFF SWIFT (517) 852-9154

ST. CYRIL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
203 N. State, Nashville
Sunday Mass 9:45 a.m.
FATHER AL RUSSELL
A mission of St. Rose Catholic Church, Hastings

VERMONTVILLE BIBLE CHURCH
250 N. Main St., Vermontville
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wed. Evening Service 6:30 p.m.
AWANA 6:30-8 p.m. Wed.
PASTOR DANIEL E. SMITH

VERMONTVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
108 North Main, Vermontville
PASTOR KATHY SMITH 517-726-0526
Combined Sunday Morning Worship with Vermontville UMC as follows:
July 5 & 19, Aug. 2, 16 & 30 at Vermontville
July 12 & 26, Aug. 9 & 23 at Gresham
Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Worship Time: 10:00 a.m.

From Our Readers Local Citizens Speak Out On Issues

Supervisor, others tell different story

To the editor:

I am truly disappointed by the article written by Amy Jo Parish regarding the confrontation of a Vermontville Township trustee at a township board meeting.

I was also amazed by the large picture and the negative headline. That trustee just happens to be my husband. I, too, was at that meeting. My version is different than what was written in the paper. I am not sure why Amy (who was not at the meeting) wrote the article in the manner that she did. Why was there nothing in the article about anything else that was discussed at the meeting? I guess you thought the article you chose to put in the paper made for good reading. The people who commented on the "incident" are the very people who are trying to make my husband's life miserable. They will complain about almost anything he says or does.

Not being at the meeting and taking the word of a small group of people and reporting after the fact is just not right. Just because people say things does not make them true.

Carla Rumsey's quotes in the paper might have been what she remembered, but it is not what I remember.

Carla and Dawn Conklin, a member of the Kalamo Township Board, were standing together in front of me.

After the meeting ended, my husband was walking toward the back of the room when he stopped to talk to Carla Rumsey. Before he even said anything, Carla put her hands up in front of her and said in a loud voice (not yelling) as she stated in the paper "Don't go there Blair, don't go there."

She also stated in the paper that she was talking to Monte O'Dell, our fire chief. She was talking with Dawn Conklin, the Kalamo Township treasurer, not Monte. Carla also stated that my husband shook his finger at her, and that is not true, either. She did not request my husband to stop (as she said in the paper), since he was not doing anything. A conversation ensued which lasted about one minute before Dawn Conklin said to Carla, "Let's go," and told Carla to file a police report.

There were some quotes in the paper made by Jack Owens which also need some clarification: The people who attend the township board meetings know how much Jack Owens likes my husband.

Jack was quoted as saying, "Blair always accuses Kalamo, which makes it personal, that they don't pay their share and they're always 'ripping off' Vermontville Township." My husband did not nor has he ever said that Kalamo Township is "ripping off" Vermontville Township." He has stated several times he believes that Kalamo Township should pay its fair share when it comes to its contracts for the fire and ambulance.

When Vermontville Township contracted with Kalamo Township for our ambulance service, the residents of Vermontville

Township were paying twice what Kalamo residents were paying. He has a right to be upset, as do all of the Vermontville Township residents. Why should we have to pay double of what Kalamo was paying? Vermontville Township residents need to be more aware of what is going on around their township.

Jack also stated, "That set Blair off, and he basically said, 'you're lying,' but that had nothing to do with the committee, so I put a stop to that." How can Jack say he basically said that he was lying when he did not actually say that?

Also, Jack stated that my husband ran between chairs to talk to Carla. My husband walked down the outside aisle to where Carla was standing.

Jack also must have super hearing to know what Carla said exactly since he was sitting at the table up front with some of the other board members. She was loud to begin with, but then she spoke normal, so how could he hear it all? My husband was not yelling; Carla was, apparently so she could get some attention.

Everyone knows that Jack dislikes Blair and shows it every chance he gets at the board meetings. Jack even goes so far as to let people call Blair names at the meetings. Has he ever complimented Blair for anything that he has done? Blair offered to move the assessor or to work with Jack to do it, but Jack would have no part of it. He stated this at a meeting.

Jack was not very happy to see Blair wiring the new phone line for the assessor at the fire station, either. Blair complimented him on the purchase of the "on-call" fire books and instead of thanking him for that, Jack turned right around and criticized him saying, "Well, the board has been asking me to pur-

chase those for a long time." Wow.

I have even witnessed Jack's actions at a fire and ambulance board meeting. I happened to be sitting where I could see him and every time Blair spoke Jack was in the corner giggling with someone. Is that the way a supervisor should be acting?

His next quote stated, "that stuff still weighs on his mind ..." How does Jack know that? Is he a mind reader?

Are these the actions a supervisor is supposed to take toward a board member? My husband is a smart man and is very knowledgeable about many things, yet the only time Jack says anything about him, it is negative. I sometimes wonder if Jack just make things up at these board meetings as he goes along.

The way Jack Owens runs his meetings is not the way meetings are intended to be run. He lets everyone run the meeting instead of running it himself. There are so many interruptions, why does he even bother with public comment? Oh, I know why. The people who actually wait their turn to talk during public comment need to be heard, too. Most of the people do not raise their hand to speak; they just speak whenever they want to.

The township board should be working together, not tearing each other apart.

Jack Owens' misquotes in the paper are just not right. He is the supervisor, the one the people elected to do a job who should not be biased against one of his board members. I don't think he is grasping the whole picture of what a supervisor's job is. As much as I disliked Russ Laverty as supervisor, he never showed what Jack Owens showed when he did this interview in the paper. Like it or not, there were plenty of untruths to what Jack said in the article. I for one am not his biggest fan.

What a shame. All of the people who were quoted in the paper should be ashamed of themselves. They did not tell the whole truth to the paper, and it was just because they don't like some of the things Blair does or they don't like Blair. The people who do know him also know that he is a hard worker and not afraid to speak what he thinks. Maybe that is why the people try to make him look bad every opportunity they get. I know better, since I am married to him, and he is a wonderful person.

There also needs to be a correction in this article. Marcia Grant is not with the ambulance, she quit her job some time ago. She is now just a resident like the rest of us.

Lauren Miller,
Vermontville

(Editor's note: Reporter Amy Jo Parish was not able to attend the meeting, but she did contact people to share "both sides" of the issue. Blair Miller repeatedly responded, "No comment.")

Shop classes are creating craftsmen?

To the editor:

Possibly unknown to many members of our community, our own Maple Valley High School offers to our students the chance to learn about working with different metals in our metal shop - forming, casting, and gas and electric welding.

Across the hall from the metal shop, they learn wood working, including lathe work, power and hand sawing, routing, planing and using a raised panel machine for making door and drawer fronts. The school also has its own sawmill for cutting logs into the wood they use.

Another great program offered is the building trades. We have had the opportunity to work with these classes this year. Early in the school year, students took on the task of building raised panel doors and drawer fronts for our kitchen. The workmanship, quality, finished product and attitude of the students was more than we expected.

Over the past few months, we have been making repairs

to our basement from a flood that happened during the February thaw last year. Students have been working with contractor Jeff Wetzel doing concrete, replacing studding, dry walling and mudding, to name only a few of the repairs.

Wetzel contacted Jeff Sevolt and offered the building trades students a chance to do the finish work on our basement. Their task including cutting down the new doors and frames to fit each room. Setting new counters and tops, cutting, fitting and installing window trim, door trim, base boards, and hanging dropped ceilings in the bedrooms, kitchen and bathroom.

My wife, Cindy, and I appreciate the Maple Valley High School shop and building trades teachers for their efforts showing these young men and women the right way to do projects like these. The students who worked on them are craftsmen.

Jim and Cindy Whelpley,
Nashville

Native Americans and cranes return to Bellevue

Bellevue, the oldest settlement in Eaton County and former home to a large community of Native Americans, will play host to the Bellevue Dancing Cranes Powwow.

Honoring the Medicine of the Crane, the event will be held Saturday and Sunday, July 25 and 26, at the Elementary School grounds at 201 West St.

All traditional wigwams and teepees are welcome. Free camping is available for vendors, dancers and drums. The public is welcome and should bring chairs.

Saturday, gates open at 10:30 a.m. Grand entry will be at 1 and 7 p.m. On Sunday, gates open at 10:30

a.m. with grand entry at noon.

No alcohol, drugs, politics or open drum will be allowed.

Admission is \$4 for adults and kids under 5 will be admitted without charge. Parking is free.

For powwow and vendor information, contact Frank Snyder or Leslea Boyd at 269-763-3197 or e-mail bellevuepowwow@ayhoo.com.

FEDERAL LAW REQUIRES US TO ADVISE YOU THAT COMMUNICATION WITH OUR OFFICE COULD BE INTERPRETED AS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND THAT ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE, PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE, AS YOU ARE ENTITLED TO SPECIAL PROTECTIONS. To: Warren Searles and Charlotte Searles Thomas J. Alvey and Christina N. Alvey 8877 Dunkley Road Deltou, MI 49046 State law requires that you receive the following notice: You have the right to request a meeting with your mortgage holder or mortgage servicer. The person to contact and that has the authority to make agreements for a loan modification with you is: Orleans Associates, P.C. Loss Mitigation Department, P.O. Box 5041, Troy, MI 48007-5041, (248) 502-1331. You may contact a housing counselor by visiting the Michigan State Housing Development Authority ("MSHDA") website or by calling MSHDA. The website address and telephone number of MSHDA is: (www.mshda.info/counseling_search/), telephone (517) 373-8370, TTY# 1-800-382-4568. If you request a meeting with the servicer's designate, foreclosure will not start until 90 days after the date the Notice was mailed to you. If you and the servicer's Designate reach an agreement to modify the mortgage loan, the mortgage will not be foreclosed if you abide by the terms of the agreement. You have the right to contact an attorney. You may contact attorney of your choice. If you do not have an attorney, the telephone number for the Michigan State Bar Association's Lawyer Referral Service is 1-800-968-0738. Dated: July 18, 2009 Orleans Associates P.C. Attorneys for Servicer P.O. Box 5041 Troy, MI 48007-5041 File Number: 200.4636 ASAP# 3184527 07/18/2009 06984671

NOTICE

VILLAGE OF VERMONTVILLE RESIDENTS

2 positions are open on the Planning Commission and on the Zoning Board of Appeals

Send letters of interest to:

PO Box K
Vermontville, MI 49096
or vermontville@itwifi.net by July 24th

06984406

NOTICE CASTLETON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF REVIEW

The July 2009 Board of Review will meet on Tuesday, July 21, 2009, at 9:00 A.M. to correct clerical errors, approve Principal Residence Exemptions not timely filed and take any other action allowed by statute.

Cheryl L. Hartwell, Supervisor

77536640

GET ALL THE NEWS OF BARRY COUNTY! Subscribe to the Hastings Banner. Call 945-9554 for more information.

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.



06982644

FREE Landscape Estimates
(Book your landscape job by 8/1/09 and get **10% Off**)

Buy 1 Tree, Get 1 Shrub 50% OFF
(Offer on any trees & shrubs in stock now through 7/25/09)

Shop Local and SAVE

All Flats \$4.00 / **Perennials Buy 4, get 1 FREE**

NEW Becky's Flower Barn - Floral Design & Wedding Consulting

Ewing Garden Center & Landscaping
5715 South M-66 • Nashville
(Just North of MOO-ville) 517-852-1864

Bellevue craft show seeking vendors

Bellevue's 10th annual "Made in the USA" craft show will be Oct. 17. To reserve a booth to showcase homemade crafts,

call Tandra Angus at 269-758-3318. The show runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Craft carriers and concessions will be available.

Bellevue old-time tractor show is Aug. 7-9

The sixth annual Bellevue Antique Tractor and Machinery show will be held Aug. 7, 8 and 9 in the park, open to the public with free admission. Exhibitors are encouraged to attend and vendors are welcome but space is limited. Saturday's events will include music in the park,

tractor games, a parade, children's pedal pull and more. Guests can come out for some old-fashioned fun, learn about America's agricultural heritage and see the world of old-time tractors. For more information, contact Bernard Holcomb at 269-763-9324 or Brian Holcomb at 269-968-8082.

Social News

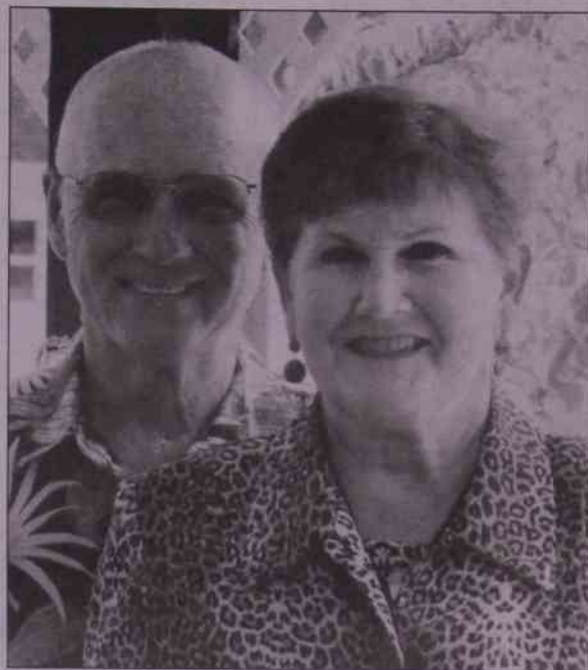


Varneys to celebrate 60th wedding anniversary

Bob and Ardeen (Decker) Varney will celebrate their 60th anniversary July 17, 2009. They were married at Ardeen's parents' home on Thornapple Lake Road, Nashville. Their children are Lorna Dickinson of Nashville and Russell Varney (Sharon Warner) of Middleville. They have four grandchildren, Brenda and Kristen Dickinson, Brandon Warner and Ryan Varney.



To send them a card, please mail to 610 S. Wellman Road, Nashville, MI 49073.



Gardners to celebrate golden wedding anniversary

Bob and Lois (Mahar) Gardner were married on July 31, 1959. Today their children and grandchildren cordially invite you to celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Please let your presence be their present at a card shower social on Saturday, Aug. 1, 2009 from 3 to 5 p.m. at First Congregational Church, 110 S. Main St., Vermontville, MI 49096.

BARRY CO. EXTENSION CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- July 18 Non-Livestock Judging Day, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Fairgrounds.
- July 18-19 4-H Advisory Council Scholarship Fundraiser, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Fairgrounds.
- July 18-25 Fair Week!
- July 29 ACRE (Average Crop Revenue Election) Informational program, 7-10 p.m., MSU Horticulture Station, 9202 Portland Rd., Clarksville.
- Aug. 6 Fair Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Expo Center.
- Aug. 13 Dog Developmental Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Extension Office.

Barry County Commission on Aging Menu and Schedule of Events

- Hearty Menu Monday, July 20**
Beef Stroganoff, noodles, corn, California blend, apple-sauce.
- Tuesday, July 21**
Goulash, corn, Brussels sprouts, apple.
- Wednesday, July 22**
Chicken chop suey, peas, peach crisp, wheat bread.
- Thursday, July 23**
Hamburger, baked beans, glazed diced carrots, hamburger bun.
- Friday, July 24**
Baked chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, blueberry crisp, dinner roll.
- Cold Menu Monday, July 20**
Cottage cheese, macaroni salad, mandarin oranges, muffin.
- Tuesday, July 21**
Chicken salad, coleslaw, pears, wheat bread.
- Wednesday, July 22**
Ground bologna, cheese, pickled beets, tropical fruit, hamburger bun.
- Thursday, July 23**
Sliced turkey, Swiss cheese, carrot raisin salad, pineapple, wheat bread.
- Friday, July 24**
Tuna pasta salad, broccoli raisin salad, plums, graham crackers.
- Activities Calendar Monday, July 20:** Hastings - Music with Sam; Crafts 10:30 a.m.; Card Making 12:30 p.m.; Kinship Care 6:30 p.m. H,W,N - Reminiscence.
- Tuesday, July 21:** Hastings - Line Dancing 9:30 a.m.; Wii in the lunchroom 10 a.m. GL -10:30-12:30 Cards.
- Wednesday, July 22:** Hastings - Music with Sam; Nails; Euchre 12:30-2:30 p.m.; Red Hats to Marshall. Delton - Reminiscence.
- Thursday, July 23:** Hastings - Line Dancing 9:30 a.m.; Music with Don and Pearl; Beading 5 p.m. Nashville - TV Time. Delton - Puzzles, Trivia.
- Friday, July 24 -** Hastings - Exercise 9 a.m.; Mixed Media Painting 9:30 a.m.; Model Railroad 10 a.m. Nashville - Bingo. Woodland - Visiting. Kinship Camp July 24 Camp Mishawana.



Ardeen Varney to celebrate 80th birthday

Ardeen (Decker) Varney is celebrating her 80th birthday on July 24th. Her special day will be celebrated at an open house on Sunday, July 26th from 2 to 6 p.m. held at Russell Varney's home located at 1645 Norris Road, Middleville. Relatives, friends and neighbors are welcome. Please stop by and say hello. No gifts please. Birthday wishes can be sent to 610 S. Wellman Road, Nashville, MI 49073.



Smiths to celebrate golden wedding anniversary

Edgar and Phyllis (Woodbury) Smith of Charlotte will celebrate their 50th anniversary, Saturday, July 25, 2009 from 1 to 5 p.m. at their home at 2436 N. Chester, Charlotte. The couple have three children, Carol (Tom) Pell, Bob Smith and Marc (Pat) Smith; five grandchildren; one great-grandchild. Please join us in the celebration if you know the happy couple. No gifts, please, your presence will be enough. Casual attire.

EWING WELL DRILLING INC.

OFFERING COMPLETE WATER & WELL DRILLING & PUMP

SALES & SERVICE 4" TO 12" WELLS

- Residential
- Commercial
- Farm

We stock a complete line of...

- Pumps • Tanks
- Plastic & Steel Pipe
- Other Well Supplies

WE OWN OUR OWN EQUIPMENT & DO OUR OWN WORK.

Richard Ewing Owner

GRAVEL WELLS A SPECIALTY

Estimates Available

(517) 726-0088
10076 NASHVILLE HWY. VERMONTVILLE

Now accepting MasterCard & Visa

COBB WELL DRILLING & REPAIR

- 7 Day Service
- Pumps Installed & Repaired
- Service On Submersible Pumps
- 2" - 5" Well Drilling and Repair

30 Years Experience

Estimates Available
517-726-0377

356 N. Pease Rd., Vermontville

Richard Cobb
David Cobb

MI Lic. #1748

- Lockouts
- Tire Service
- Accident Recovery
- Long-Haul & Off-Road

Dependable, damage-free towing!

DOBBIN'S (269) 945-0191
Towing & Recovery

JEFF DOBBIN'S
AUTO SERVICE, INC.
Owner, Jeff Dobbin, ASE Master Technician over 20 years experience

Attention MAPLE VALLEY YOUTH FOOTBALL CAMP IS COMING SOON

July 20th
Coaches Camp 6-7:30 pm
July 21, 22, 23
Player Camp 6-8 pm
Held at the practice field

It's not too late to sign up
Call Lynn Denton, 517-852-0964

OPEN: 7 DAYS A WEEK **24 HOURS**


NASHVILLE IGA EXPRESS

133 S. Main
Nashville, MI
517-852-0868

You're In, You're Out...
You're Home

ONE STOP SHOPPING

Grocery Store Pricing With Party Store Convenience!

SALE	SUN. JULY 19	MON. JULY 20	TUE. JULY 21	WED. JULY 22	THUR. JULY 23	FRI. JULY 24	SAT. JULY 25
15-PK. CANS BUD LIGHT OR MILLER LITE							
\$10⁹⁹							
<small>+Tax/Dep.</small>							
DRUMS & THIGHS CHICKEN							
99¢							
<small>Lb.</small>							
IDAHO POTATOES							
\$1⁷⁹							
<small>5 Lbs.</small>							
IGA CEREALS							
2/\$4							
<small>TOASTED OATS BRAN FLAKES CRISPY RICE 13-20 oz.</small>							
7-UP • VERNORS A&W • SQUIRT							
2 LITERS							
BUY 2 GET 2 FREE							
TROYER STUFFED CHICKEN BREASTS							
4/\$5⁰⁰							
<small>6 oz.</small>							
STRAW- BERRIES							
2/\$4⁰⁰							
<small>1 Lb.</small>							
IGA POWDERED & LIGHT BROWN SUGAR							
2/\$3⁰⁰							
<small>2 Lb. Bags</small>							
IGA CANNED TOMATOES							
99¢							
<small>28 oz.</small>							
IGA EGG NOODLES							
2/\$3⁰⁰							
<small>1 Lb.</small>							
IGA CANNED TOMATOES							
99¢							
<small>28 oz.</small>							
2X LAUNDRY SOAP X-tra							
2/\$5⁰⁰							
<small>68-78 oz.</small>							
NORTHERN DOUBLE-ROLL TOILET PAPER							
\$2⁹⁹							
<small>4-PK.</small>							
SUBWAY 8 GREAT \$5⁰⁰ SUBS!							
<small>TRY OUR FRESH BREWED FUZZ TEA</small>							
<small>We reserve the right to limited quantities and correct printing errors. None sold to dealers or minors. Some items not always as pictured.</small>							
SUBWAY							
<small>Mon.-Thur. 6AM-10PM; Fri./Sat. 6AM-Midnight;</small>							
Nashville IGA Express Accepts:							
  							

Putnam Library hosts acting troupe

The Putnam Library lawn was again filled with laughter Monday morning when Storybook Theatre, a teenage acting troupe from Lansing, entertained the group with improvisational comedy. Using suggestions from the audience, the group had guests of all ages laughing and smiling while learning what setting and genres are.

Monday, July 20, at 11 a.m. patrons can join the library staff on adventures with *Harold and the Purple Crayon*. A morning of multi-media entertainment is planned for all ages to enjoy creating their own adventure stories.

The following Monday morning, July 27) will be the final summer reading event. All will be encouraged to use their voices to make some noise.

Readers are reminded that reading logs are due by Saturday, Aug. 1, and teen trade-ups for prizes must be completed at this time, as well.

Contact the library for more information.



Kyla VanAlstine, Travis Mater, Jared Mater, Curtis Walker, Logan Boldrey, Kyle Knoll, Blake Joppie, Gavin Booher, Lyssa Walker, Courtney Walker and Molly Walker watch a performance on the lawn.

Good News From The Pulpit

Marc S. Livingston

Pastor, Chester Gospel Church

Psalm 150:1-6 (NIV) says, "Praise the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens. Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing greatness. Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre, praise him with tambourine and dancing, praise him with the strings and flute, praise him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with resounding cymbals. Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord."

Over the years, I've been encouraging people to remember to "praise the Lord." I simply say that if God has answered us when we've prayed, than we ought to do what God says. The word "praise" means: to give glory; boast; to make shine; to commend; and yes, even to celebrate.

Psalm 150 gives us some instructions on the aspect of "praise." Where should we "praise" God? In His sanctuary — the church, and in his mighty heavens — outdoors. What should we praise God for? His acts of power and his surpassing greatness. How can we praise God? By the sounding of the trumpet, with the harp and lyre, with tambourine and dancing (to whirl about), with the clash of symbols, and with resounding symbols. We should "praise" God with music — loudly and energetically. And lastly, who should be doing these acts of praise? Everyone who has been given breath. Maybe it's time the church quits bemoaning what it doesn't have and starts praising God for what it does have. Maybe America should start doing the same.

And maybe, just maybe, this praise should start with you and me.

Start your "praise" life by inviting the "praisemaker" into your life as Savior.

Psalm 46:10a says, "Be still and know that I am God..." Think about it...



The end to an impromptu skit by Storybook Theatre actors features humorous superheroes.

Football camp starts Monday at high school

The Maple Valley High School football camp, for student-athletes entering grades nine through 12 this fall will be held from 8 a.m. to noon each day from July 20-23.

Sessions will be held at the varsity football field behind the Maple Valley Jr/Sr High School.

The cost is \$20, and campers receive a camp T-shirt.

GET MORE NEWS!

Subscribe to the **Hastings Banner**. Call 269-945-9554 to start getting all the news of Barry County.

What is the Pennock Promise?

The mission of the Pennock Promise is to advance, through philanthropy, the health of the Barry County Community by supporting excellence in health care at Pennock Hospital.

One of the ways individuals give to the Pennock Promise is through wills and trusts. Many plans allow you to make charitable gifts and at the same time provide yourself with an income for life. By making a donation, you will be having a direct impact on our community for years to come.

Please give your tax deductible donation to the Pennock Foundation and consider the Pennock Promise in your estate plans. For additional information, please contact Janine Dalman, Pennock Foundation Executive Director, at (269) 945-3651 or via email, jdalman@pennockhealth.com. All inquires are confidential.

Pennock

FOUNDATION
Your Legacy of Caring

www.pennockhealth.com/pennock_foundation
1009 W. Green St. • Hastings, MI • 49058