

MAPLE VALLEY news

A local paper of today!

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Vol. 137-No. 41, October 10, 2009

Residents asked to share stories, photos of Nashville Dam

The Bonefish Grill Conservation District to Thornapple River Nashville Dam," will take place Saturday, Oct. 17, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event will begin at Good Time Pizza in Nashville and feature a presentation of the way fisheries benefit from dam removal, with emphasis on the improvements expected in the 60-mile stretch of the Thornapple River now open through the removal of the Nashville and Maple Hill dams. Following the presentation, participants will be invited to take a free kayak trip around the new stretch of river upstream of the Nashville dam to see the early effects of river restoration.

The Putnam Library will be open from 9 a.m. to noon to scan historic photos of the Nashville Dam area. The library's upstairs local history rooms will be open for public visits.

wish to participate in the kayak tour.

Residents with historic photos of the dam site and Nashville area or those with recollections of fishing, swimming or boating on the Thornapple in the Nashville area are strongly encouraged to share their memories at this event.

After the event, photos and recordings will be put together into an audio-visual documentary of the dam's history to be previewed in Nashville in spring of 2010.

At noon, a free buffet lunch at Good Time Pizza will be provided for all participants. Participants will also receive event T-shirts. The Barry Conservation District requests that those who wish to participate RSVP for the event by Thursday, Oct. 15, by calling the district office at 269-948-8056 ext. 3, or by e-mailing hailey.norton@mi.nacdn.net, telling how many people will be attending and if they

Those who remember area businesses, especially the mills that operated on the dam site, are also asked to share their stories. Those who wish to contribute a story but are unable to attend the event, may contact the Barry Conservation District to arrange a separate time for recording. Putnam Library is willing to continue to scan historic photos during the library's regular business hours.

Pianos to help spark creativity in Nashville

Residents of Nashville this week have been asking each other why a piano is on the sidewalk. Answers have varied, but one thing is certain: the pianos have sparked conversation — which is exactly what the Thornapple Arts Council had in mind when it embarked on the public art project entitled "Pianos, Pianos, Everywhere."

"Public art pianos have popped up in metropolitan cities around the world. When some TAC members saw clips of the London project on TV, we wondered what would happen if we tried it in Barry County," said Tom Wiswell, president of the organization. "As an organization, we are known



Artists Sue Trowbridge and Shauna Swantek pose by their rockin' piano outside Maple Valley Pharmacy.



Working outside in the garage, artists begin painting their pianos in much warmer weather.

for the jazz festival, Fridays at the Fountain, and art hops, but we want to reach as broad of an audience as possible. The pianos seemed an interesting way to accomplish this."

After seeking donations on Craigslist and volunteer artist time, the group ended up with four painted pianos ready to debut during Hastings Summerfest. The pianos spent nearly a month on the sidewalks of Hastings

and were featured in local papers.

In an effort to reach the corners of Barry County, the pianos moved to Nashville last week just in time for Maple Valley's homecoming parade.

Putnam District Library director and arts council board member partnered with Maple Valley artist Sue Trowbridge to create their piece entitled "Rock the Piano" which now sits in

front of Maple Valley Pharmacy.

"The vision of the arts council is to spark creativity, community, and culture throughout Barry County, and we feel strongly about being visible in all of the communities in the county," said Shauna Swantek. "We've hosted art hops in Delton, Gun Lake, and do many Hastings-based activities. Bringing the pianos to Nashville is a big step toward making the arts community more visible in Nashville."

Other pianos are being hosted by All That Glitters Florist, Green Light Driving School, and Roush's Sidewalk Cafe. The pianos are expected to stay as long as the weather cooperates and the community enjoys them.

For more information on the council, visit www.thornapplearts.org or call 269-945-2002.

Foundation's annual fundraiser dinner is Saturday, Oct. 24

Members of the Maple Valley Memorial Scholarship Foundation are making plans for their annual fundraiser Saturday, Oct. 24, at MOO-ville Creamery. A percentage of the day's proceeds will be given to the foundation. The fundraiser covers business expenses for the all-volunteer foundation. Donations other than those from such fundraisers go toward the base fund, the interest from which scholarships are awarded annually.

For three years, MOO-ville has hosted a fundraiser to help cover expenses for printing, postage and office supplies. Other fundraisers have been helpful during the past 24 years, including spaghetti dinners, kiss-the-pig contests

and others.

Maple Valley teacher Ryan Rosin has again agreed to have students provide entertainment during the day.

Watch for flyers around Nashville and Vermontville and check next week's *Maple Valley News* for an ad with more details.



Maple Valley teacher Ryan Rosin and students provide entertainment at a previous fundraiser.

Maple Valley celebrated Homecoming 2009

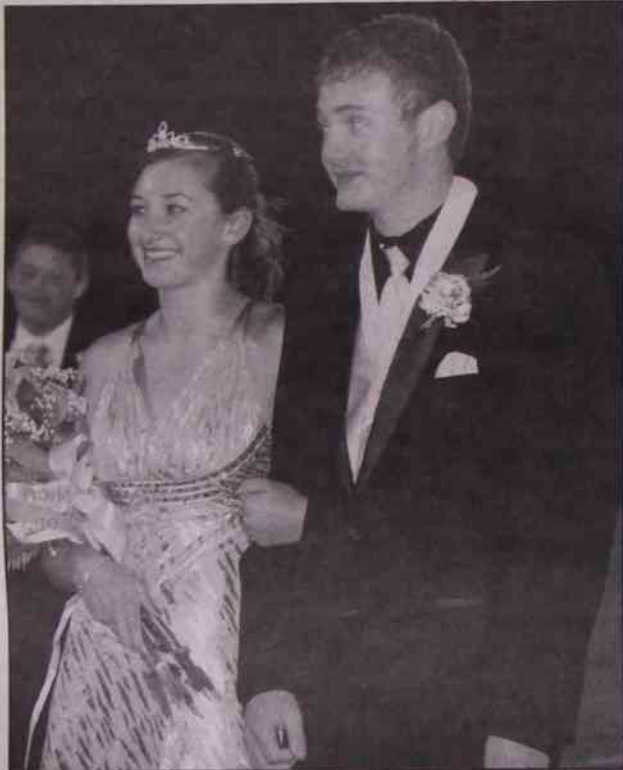


The Maple Valley High School Band entertains the crowd during the parade. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon) See more photos inside this weeks edition.

In This Issue...

- Young entrepreneurs complete first agricultural endeavor
- Ellard to retire from MSU Extension
- Tutoring program going strong into second year
- Kenyan children share culture with local students

Maple Valley celebrated Homecoming 2009



McKenna Mater and Taylor Owens were chosen as the princess and prince of the festivities. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)



Members of the Benedict family enjoy the game from their custom seating. (Photo by Amy Jo Parish)



Tabitha Leonard, Haley Jones, Corbin Spiker, Evan Adrianson, Tanner Brownell and Austin Gonser were all winners in the NFL Punt and Pass competition held recently at Maple Valley. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)



Macy Mund gets her face painted by Maple Valley Kiwanis member Becky Ewing. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)



Seniors Jordan Sprague and Elizabeth Stewart were two of the candidates for homecoming royalty. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)



Long-time Lions fan Kent Mead was chosen as the 2009 Homecoming Parade Grand Marshal. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)



The junior class won first place for their float which featured a giant, soccer-ball-kicking lion. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)



Decked out in their Maple Valley attire, these two Lion fans make their way through the parade. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)

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Wednesday Evening: Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.
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MINISTER: VIRGINIA HELLER

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301 Fuller St., Nashville
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
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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

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6:00-7:15 Pioneer Club
Sun: 9:00 Sunday School
10:00 Church Service
11:00 Fellowship

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e-mail: grace@gc3.org

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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.
United Methodist Women: 3rd Thursday

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

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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 6 p.m.
Wed. Service 7 p.m.
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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
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Church Phone: 852-2043

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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
Adult and Youth Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.
United Methodist Women: 2nd Tuesday

Young entrepreneurs complete first agricultural endeavor

by Amy Jo Kinyon
Staff Writer

Reaping the benefits of their hard work, youths gathered Wednesday night at MOO-ville Creamery in Nashville to celebrate the end of the first F3 Energy project.

The project, operated through the Barry County MSU Extension office, gave kids the opportunity to plan, organize, plant, harvest and sell vegetables in a custom garden.

Laura Anderson was one of the organizers of the program and said the program was unique in that it developed more than just gardening skills.

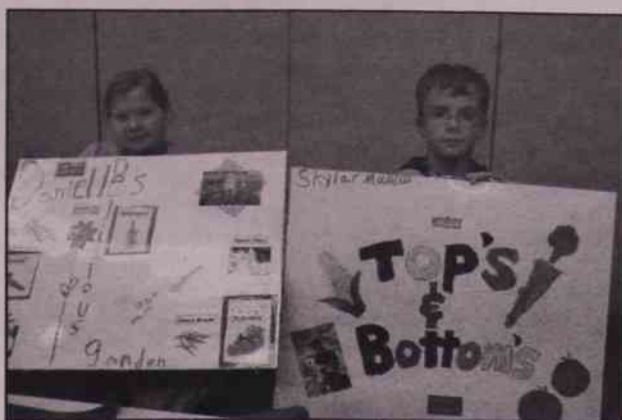
"The kids learned about nutrition, physical fitness and gardening," said Anderson. "They also had a

bit of business education. They learned about expenses, different kind of businesses and how some of the profits need to go back into the business to make sure it can operate next year."

Much of the decision-making was left up to the participants. They were able to decide which plants to grow based on how they thought the vegetables would sell at market. They also were able to choose either a sole proprietorship garden or a partnership.

Grace Beauchamp partnered with her best friend Clair Anderson for their garden plot. Taking part in the program has not only been a fun experience but it also has changed how her family plans meals, she said.

"We learned how to work



Skylar Mullins (right) and Danielle Ryan hold up the posters they created for their project. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)



Dylan Brooks explains his garden plot to Nashville chiropractor Mike Callton. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)

Anderson said the program will be evaluated and plans made to create an even more successful program next year.

"We're going to sit down, do some brainstorming and work on making it an even more solid program," said Anderson.

Good News From the Pulpit

Growing tall

by Pastor Izzy Young
First Congregational Church Vermontville

Throughout elementary school, I was one of the smallest kids in class. Somewhere in my files, I think I still have a photograph of my entire fifth grade class on picture day. There were about 21 of us. I was positioned on the bottom row near the end where the rest of the short kids stood. It would be easy to spot me. I was the one with the scowl on my face. I didn't want to be one of the small kids, and I knew my teacher wasn't measuring me accurately.

Over the course of the next school year, though, God made a remarkable change in me. It is the change that He has built into the DNA of each and every one of us. I grew five inches in nine months. I went from being very small in size to being very average in size. God was preparing me for "next." I was changing, and I was looking forward to the new me.

Looking out the window, I see change everywhere. God is preparing the landscape for "next." Many people I talk with enjoy autumn and the change it brings. Yet, I don't know many who enjoy the change from autumn to winter. Change in life is inevitable. We may welcome the change that God brings (such as fall) or we may resent the change that God is trying to bring (such as winter).

God never intends for us to stay the same. I am reminded of the story of Jesus greeting the woman at the well (John 4:4-26). She needed change in her life. Jesus offered her the chance for change. He offered her freedom from her past and the chance for a fresh start. Jesus offered her the words, "Your sins are forgiven; go and sin no more." She easily could have resented the opportunity for change but instead gladly accepted Jesus' offer for a second chance on life.

There is a saying that, "The only people who like change are babies with dirty diapers." What challenges are currently in your life? Do these challenges require a change in you? Is it time to meet Jesus at the water and ask Him to begin a change in you so you are ready for "next?"



Clair Anderson and Grace Beauchamp show some of the peppers, eggplant and other vegetables grown during the F3 Energy Program. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)

in a partnership on a garden and weeding," said Beauchamp. "My family, we're now eating a bit healthier since we started this because we learned about what healthy things can do with your body."

Along with growing the vegetables, the group also sold their crops to four restaurants in Barry County. Some of the participants also used their crops in projects

they entered into the Barry County Fair.

The project was made possible through grants from the Barry Community Foundation and 4-H participation fees. MOO-ville donated the land for the group to use and also has pledged the space for next year's program.

During the summer, the

group of nine youngsters also was able to get a glimpse into possible food-related careers through field trips. Trips to Kellogg's in Battle Creek to speak with food scientists and MSU helped the kids see how crops are developed into products on the grocery store shelves.

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MON-TH 5:00, 7:25, 9:50

LOVE HAPPENS (PG-13)
SAT-SUN 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45
MON-TH 5:30, 7:45

ZOMBIELAND (R)
SAT-SUN 12:20, 2:25, 4:40, 7:10, 9:25
MON-TH 4:40, 7:10, 9:25

SURROGATES (PG-13) DAILY 10:00
CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS (PG)
SAT-SUN 12:10, 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 9:00
MON-TH 4:30, 6:45, 9:00

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Kalamo church to host 'Living Waters'

The public is invited to a special evening service of worship with music provided by "Living Waters" at Kalamo United Methodist Church Saturday, Oct. 17.

The will mark the debut of a new, local musical duo, featuring Pastor Marty Saunders and Chris Hillabrand. They will be playing a variety of Gospel songs, beginning at 6 p.m.

Kalamo United Methodist Church is on Ionia Road, one and a half miles south of M-79. For more information, call 517-652-1580 or visit www.kalamochurch.org.

Health department delays seasonal flu clinics until further notice

The Barry-Eaton District Health Department is suspending all seasonal flu clinics until further notice, due to delay in shipment from the manufacturer.

Nashville VFW Presents...
The Big Grill Burger Every Third Friday
Flame grilled on our outside BBQ Pit. Build your own burger.
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Ellard to retire from MSU Extension

After 27 years of service to the Eaton County Michigan State University Extension, Director Mona J. Ellard will retire, effective Oct. 30.

She received a bachelor of science degree from Western Michigan University and a master's degree in human ecology education from

Michigan State University in 1975. She was a high school teacher for Bentley Community Schools, in Burton, from 1969 to 1982.

During this time, she established one of the first in-school food service programs which ran a public restaurant, bakery and catering service staffed by stu-

dents, giving youths an opportunity to gain career skills while attending high school.

Ellard began her career at the Eaton County MSU Extension in 1982 as the Extension home economist. Some of her hallmark programs offered to Eaton County citizens included Be Your Own Caterer, Leadership Eaton, How to Start a Home-Based Business, retirement planning, Smile, a parenting education program for divorcing parents, Money Smart and dining with diabetes.

In 1997, she replaced Allen P. Krizek and was appointed director. She has taken a leadership role in developing many partnerships among individuals, one

of those initiatives led to the formation of the Charlotte CAN Do organization.

She also has the distinction of co-founding the Eaton County Community Foundation with Hon. Thomas Eveland, which is today providing financial resources to organizations and communities in Eaton County.

In 2004, Ellard was presented with the Supervisor Recognition Award by Michigan State University in recognition of her support of work and life balance and sensitivity to individual needs. This honor is awarded annually to outstanding unit supervisors, with Ellard

being the first off-campus supervisor to be recognized by the university.

A retirement open house will be held to honor Ellard Friday, Oct. 30, from 3 to 6 p.m. in the public meeting room of the 551 building in Charlotte. The open house will include light refreshments, a slideshow and formal presentations from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

The public is encouraged to celebrate Ellard's years of service and wish her well in her future endeavors.

Anyone interested in speaking during the presentation period or contributing pictures or memories of Ellard for the slideshow



Mona Ellard has worked for the Eaton County Michigan State University Extension office for nearly 30 years and will retire later this month.

should contact Jenny O'Neal at the MSU Extension office 517-543-2310.

Celebrate with the new Kiwanis Club of Maple Valley!

When: October 24, 2009 7pm
Where: GoodTime Pizza in Nashville, Mi
Cost: \$10 for an all you can eat pizza extravaganza!
RSVP: amyjokinyon@hotmail.com or 517-231-1554
What: A dinner and silent auction held in celebration of the new Maple Valley Kiwanis Club and its goal to impact the community, one child at a time

We are also holding a 9-hole, 4-person team scramble at Mulberry Fore in Nashville. The Halloween themed fun starts at 3pm with prizes and games at each hole. Cost is just \$25 for each player. Sign up today!

Golf Team Registration

Player 1 _____
 Player 2 _____
 Player 3 _____
 Player 4 _____

Sign up for both the dinner and golf scramble for just \$30, a \$5 savings!

Register early to be entered in the early bird drawing that will take place at the scramble! Send form and payment to: Amy Jo Kinyon 10269 Kelly Hwy Vermontville, Mi

GET MORE NEWS!
Subscribe to the Hastings Banner.
 Call 945-9554 for more information.

Bellevue church celebrating 175th anniversary

Sunday, Oct. 18, Bellevue United Methodist Church, 122 W. Capital, will celebrate 175 years of service in Eaton County. The celebration service begins at 11 a.m., and all are welcome.

According to church members, Methodism started in Bellevue in 1834 with just seven people in attendance. As it grew, pews were "sold" to families to support the building, programs and pastors.

The present Bellevue United Methodist church was built in 1899, so the con-



Bellevue United Methodist Church will celebrate its 175th anniversary Oct. 18.

gregation also is celebrating the 110th anniversary of the present building. In February 1933, the upper portion of the sanctuary was destroyed. The church was rebuilt in 1966, with an added dining room, kitchen, and Sunday school rooms.

In 2008 the members' long-awaited dream came

true when a new entrance, including an elevator became a reality.

The public is encouraged to celebrate with Sunday, Oct. 18, in worship, song, prayer, praise, and food.

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Ionia County Memorial Hospital is pleased to welcome

Laura M. Brisboe, FNP-BC Family Nurse Practitioner

Laura Brisboe, Board Certified Family Nurse Practitioner, has joined the medical staff at the Tony Balice Clinic in Ionia. She will be providing out-patient health care to patients of all ages. She emphasizes wellness care and health promotion.

She earned her Associates Degree in Nursing from Monroe County Community College, Monroe, Michigan, a Bachelor's Degree in Dietetics from Central Michigan University, and her Master's Degree as a Family Nurse Practitioner from Michigan State University.

Laura has been providing care at Thornapple Valley Family Health in Hastings since March of 1999.

Her office is located in the Family Health Center Building, next to the hospital, at 550 E. Washington St., 2nd floor, Ionia. Laura has joined the team of Dr. Christopher Ruthruff, Dr. Lynn Toaz, Dr. Lauren Smith and Dr. Mark Grenquist.

Tony Balice Clinic To schedule an appointment. Call her office at 616-527-8293

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Tutoring program going strong into second year

by Amy Jo Kinyon
Staff Writer

For the second year, students in the Maple Valley School District have the opportunity to improve academically through a free tutoring program. The program is sponsored by the Maple Valley Community Center of Hope and partners volunteers with students who

might need a bit of help in their studies.

During the 2008-09 school year, first year of the program, more than 30 students took advantage of the free services, and Sue Trowbridge said the group is hoping to serve even more students this year. To help reach that goal, the program has been expanded to all

three schools in the district.

"We're hoping, first of all, that we'll get more students," said Trowbridge. "We're trying to provide help for kids who learn differently than the average kid in the class — whether they are more advanced or have a different style of learning."

Sue and husband Roger Trowbridge helped organized the program, and Sue said the inspiration to develop the program grew out of Roger's own experiences.

"The program started last January and the inspiration came when Roger was at lunch one day and felt like God was telling him to help the kids. He had struggled as a student when he was young," explained Sue.

Soon after, the Maple Valley Support for Student Success group was developed.

Striving to help as many people as possible, Sue said the group is also willing to help parents prepare to tutor their children in subjects that might not have been available when they were students themselves.

Working to develop well-rounded students, Sue Trowbridge said the volunteers focus on how the students do outside of the classroom, along with the textbook lessons.

"Besides just teaching the kids, we are helping them grow in confidence and mentoring them to believe in themselves," she said.

Along with the students, she said she believes the volunteers are learning valuable lessons about what it means to give back to the community and how they positively affect someone else.

"I think there's a strong sense of bonding with the kids, and I think there's also a sense of satisfaction because you know you're helping kids do better in school," added Trowbridge.

The group is always looking for community input on how they can better serve the youths of the district. Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Center of Hope in Nashville.



Sue Trowbridge helps Nathan Gorman and Elizabeth Hosack-Frizzell with their multiplication at a tutoring session. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)



Rita Hassouna, Sue Trowbridge, Cedric Lueke, Fez Rahman and Sandy Hosey volunteer for the tutoring program to help students like Nathan Gorman and Elizabeth Hosack-Frizzell get ahead in their studies. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)

Syrup festival shot donated to village



Jim Miller of Miller's Photographic Studio presented Vermontville Village President Doug Kelsey with a print taken from atop the opera house during this year's syrup festival. The framing and matting of the photo was donated by Maple Leaf Gallery. The photo also was chosen as the highlighted picture on the community calendar. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)

New titles added to shelves of Putnam

New titles recently added to the children's room at Putnam District Library include the following:

Junior fiction

Blinky the Space Cat by Ashley Spiers; Grown-Ups Are Dumb (No Offense) by Alexa Kitchen; Escapade Johnson and the Witches of Belknap County by Michael Sullivan; Escapade Johnson and the Coffee Shop of the Living Dead by Michael Sullivan; Escapade Johnson and Mayem at Mount Moosilauke by Michael Sullivan; Horse Diaries: Bell's Star by Alison Hart; The Terrible Secrets of the Tell All Club by Catherine Stier; NERDS by Michael Buckley; Junie B's Essential Survival Guide to School by Barbara Park; Wood and Cord by Anna Llimos Plomer; Goof-off Goalie by

Betty Hicks;

An Island Grows by Lola M. Schaefer; Spider-Man Versus Sandman by Harry Lime; Spider-Man: Meet the Heroes and Villains by Harry Lime; Horse Diaries: Elska by Catherine Hapka; Christmas in Camelot by Mary Pope Osborne; A Good Night for Ghosts by Mary Pope Osborne; Pickles to Pittsburg by Judi Barrett; Dewey by Vicki Myron; 17 Things I'm Not Allowed to Do Anymore by Jenny Offill; Alphabet Under Construction by Denise Fleming; Clementine by Sara Pennypacker;

Click, Clack, Quackity-Quack by Doreen Cronin; Guys Write for Guys Read by Jon Scieszka; The Hat by Jan Brett; Here Comes Mother Goose by Iona Opie; Ish by Peter Reynolds;

Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse by Kevin Henkes; Mail Harry to the Moon! by Robie Harris; Mmerry Watson to the Rescue by Kate DiCamillo; Merlin and the Making of the King by Margaret Hodges; Mother Goose Numbers on the Loose by Leo and Diane Dillon; My Animals/Mis Aimals by Rebecca Emberley;

My Colors/Mis Colores by Rebecca Emberley; My Colors, My World/Mis Colores, Mi Mundo by Maya Christina Gonzalez; My Numbers/Mis Numeros by Rebecca Emberley; Olivia by Ian Falconer; Olivia Counts by Ian Falconer; One Little Lamb by Elaine Greenstein; The Thief Lord by Cornelia Funke; Trucks, Trucks, Trucks by Peter Sis; Writing Magic by Gail Cason Levine and School of Fear by Gitty Daneshvari.

Junior nonfiction

Draw Dogs by Lee J. Ames; A is for Art by Stephen T. Johnson; African Critters by Robert B. Haas; Animal Poems by Valerie Worth; Ballpark by Lynn Curlee; Black? White! Day? Night! By Laura Vaccaro Seeger; Bodies from the Ash by James M. Deem; A Dinosaur Named Sue by Pat Relf;

Face to Face with

Cheetahs by Chris Johns; Face to Face with Elephants by Beverly Joubert; Face to Face with Lions by Beverly Joubert; Face to Face with Whales by Flip Nicklin; Gathering the Sun by Alma Flor Ada; I Have a Dream by Martin Luther King, Jr.; I Pledge Allegiance by Bill Martin, Jr.; Leonardo da Vinci by Kathleen Krull; Listen to the Wind by Greg Mortenson; Maya Angelou by Edwin Graves Wilson;

My Librarian is a Camel by Margriet Ruurs; National Geographic Prehistoric Mammals by Alan Turner; Please Bury Me in the Library by Patrick J. Lewis; Prehistoric Actual Size by Steve Jenkins; The Real Mother Goose by Blanche Fisher Wright; Red-Eyed Tree Frog by Joy Cowley; Volcanoes by Judy Fradin and Wild Tracks! By Jim Arnosky.

To Become A Foster Parent to Barry-Eaton County Children

Singles or couples with extra bedroom space can start by taking no-cost, no-obligation Orientation:

Wednesday, October 14, 6-9pm, followed by 24-hour course. Saturdays, October 17, 24, 31, & November 7 9am-4pm.

Location is Charlotte Dept. of Human Services, 1050 Independence Blvd., Charlotte, MI 48813.

Pre-registration required: 269-948-3216 (message). Immediate Questions? Telephone: 517-420-4144.

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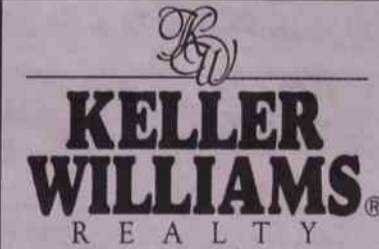
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Kenyan children share culture with local students

by Amy Jo Kinyon
Staff Writer

The country of Kenya was brought alive Tuesday at Clarksville and Sunfield Elementary Schools. Students and staff from each school were treated to performances by a group from Mully Children's Family.

One of the largest rehabilitation homes for children in Africa, Mully currently houses

more than 2,000 children, from 1 week old to age 24.

Edward Shepard organized the trip and said he is certain it has been an educational experience for everyone involved.

"I think it's bringing cultural awareness and sharing a little bit of diversity with students who might not get the chance to see a different country," he said.

Shepard has visited Kenya



The group opens with a selection of songs in their native language.

several times and said that while he enjoyed taking friends and family to experience Africa, he wanted to reverse the roles a bit.

"I've been there 10 times, and I bring teams with me. I thought it would be really cool to bring part of Kenya here for school kids. It has

taken years, but it has finally come together."

The group flew into Grand Rapids last Thursday, and Shepard said they have had to adjust a bit to the weather.

"There has been a three-year drought in Kenya, and every day they've been here, it has rained," he said.

"Mostly what I've heard them talk about is the greenness, the farms and that they are freezing."

The group will be in the United States until Oct. 16, after which they will spend a month performing in Canada before heading home across the ocean.

Mully's target group of children include orphans, street children, those from juvenile remand homes and government rehabilitation centers, child laborers, children with physical disabilities, destitute mothers and child mothers.

The local PTOs sponsored the Kenyan children but encouraged their own students to earn some change at

home to contribute.

The 22 visitors opened Tuesday's performance by singing and dancing to three songs. After a quick costume change, they took to the floor again and performed a fast-paced dance and acrobatic stunts.

Throughout the performance, members shared a bit about their country and culture.

"In Africa, to go to school costs a lot of money," one of the performers told the students. "When your teachers are teaching you mathematics, English and the sciences, you should love them. They are preparing you for a very bright future."



The group tours a local farm and gets to see how the equipment works first-hand.

Kiwanis Club collecting canned goods

The Maple Valley Kiwanis Club is partnering with Wish-Upon-A-Star to provide holiday food baskets for needy families in the Maple Valley area. Drop off of canned and other non-per-

ishable food items will take place Oct. 12 to 24 and Nov. 2 to 14.

Items may be dropped off at participating area merchants in boxes featuring the Kiwanis logo.

Residents also are encouraged to drop off a favorite holiday recipe using canned food items. These recipes will be compiled into a holiday recipe booklet to accompany the food baskets.

Consider browsing cookbooks at Putnam District Library for the recipes to submit to this effort of community caring.

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Eaton County harvest fest is next Saturday

The Eaton County 4-H Council is sponsoring its second annual fall harvest festival at the Eaton County Fairgrounds Saturday, Oct. 17, from 6 to 10 p.m.

The event is open to the public, and families are welcome to attend. The festival will begin with games and activities including doughnut eating contests, face paint-



Ann Marie Paparelli paints Jack McDevitt's face during the 2008 harvest festival

ing, spook house, and many fall snacks including apple cider, caramel apples and popcorn.

Following the games and activities will be a dance with a disc jockey. Anyone bringing a non-perishable food item will be admitted free.

Booths and information will be available about 4-H clubs, projects and other youth development programs offered by the MSU Extension office.

4-H is a youth development organization for youths aged 5 to 19. The general public may be aware of the presence of 4-H in the greater community based on the program's involvement in the Eaton County Fair. Opportunities in 4-H, however, continue year-round and are centered on activities that foster leadership development.

For more information, contact the MSU Extension Office at 517-543-2310.

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ALERT

FOG DAY CHANGE IN-SERVICE DAYS

This year all weather related delays will be a standard three (3) hours.

&

Eight times throughout the year the district will conduct State mandated teacher in-service training in three hour blocks by delaying the start of school. The dates of these delayed start training days are:

- Wednesday, October 14
- Wednesday, November 11
- Wednesday, December 9 (tentative pending negotiations)
- Wednesday, February 3 (tentative pending negotiations)
- Wednesday, February 24 (tentative pending negotiations)
- Wednesday, March 24 (tentative pending negotiations)
- Wednesday, April 21 (tentative pending negotiations)
- Wednesday, May 5 (tentative pending negotiations)

In order for parents and students to prepare for these and NOT to confuse people, the District has decided that all delays from now on - weather related on in-service related, will all be the same three (3) hour delays.

On these delay days classes will begin as follows:

- Jr/Sr High School @ 10:40am
- Maplewood School @ 10:55am
- Fuller Elementary @ 10:55am
- Kellogg School @ 10:50am

** Some students will arrive just in time to start lunch and we will be ready to serve lunch

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.

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Maple Valley solid at Harper Creek, then tops Hackett C.C.

The Lions were 2-3 on the day at the Harper Creek Invitational last Saturday in Battle Creek.

Maple Valley's varsity volleyball team started the day with a 25-20, 27-26 win over Battle Creek Central. The Bearcats had beaten the Lions at their invitational in Battle Creek earlier in the year.

"We not only played well, we had a little bit of fun along the way," said Maple Valley head coach Sarah Carpenter.

The Lions also had a 25-21, 23-25, 15-12 win over Union City and a 25-13, 25-6 win over Lake Michigan

Catholic. St. Phil defeated the Lions twice on the day, first 25-13, 25-15, and then 25-14, 25-8. The Lions' other loss was a 25-17, 25-23 decision against Harper Creek.

Tina Westendorp had a team high 36 kills on the day, and Jennifer Kent added 21. Westendorp also had 34 digs and a pair of aces.

Sam Bissett led the Lions in digs with 52, and Tiffani Allwardt had 42. Elizabeth Stewart had 54 assists.

Maple Valley followed up that performance by scoring a 3-0 victory over Hackett Catholic Central in Kalamazoo Valley

Association action Wednesday.

The Lions jumped out to a great start, winning game one 25-7. The Lions then topped the Irish 25-20, 25-23 in the final two games.

Kent led Maple Valley with 11 kills. Karlee Mater had five aces and Westendorp four.

Westendorp also tied Allwardt for the team lead in digs with 11. Stewart had 10 digs.

Maple Valley is now 2-4 in the KVA this season. The Lions travel to Parchment this Wednesday. Today, the Lions head to the Saranac Invitational.

Parchment earns its first win by shutting out Maple Valley

Maple Valley's offensive struggles in the Kalamazoo Valley Association continued Friday night, as the Lions were shut out and shut down at Parchment in a 21-0 loss.

Neither team had that much success moving the football. While the Lions had just 89 total yards of offense and six first downs, Parchment had just seven first downs and 156 total yards.

The Parchment defense kept coming up big. The Panthers intercepted Lion quarterback Brad Laverty four times.

The only offensive points that came in the regular flow of the night came from the combo of quarterback Brad VanderWeele to Adrian Patton. VanderWeele hit Patton with a 17-yard touch-

down pass with 2:15 remaining in the first half. That duo hooked up again as the Panthers sealed the win early in the fourth quarter, on a 14-yard scoring strike.

Parchment also got a touchdown from Zack Weber on a fumble recovery.

VanderWeele was just 4-of-12 passing the ball, for 46 yards. The Panthers had 110 yards on the ground, led by Brysen Beals who carried 15 times for 50 yards. Jose Garcia added 12 carries for 47 yards, including a two-point run after the Weber TD.

Laverty led the Lion offense, rushing 20 times for 46 yards. He completed 2-of-nine passes for 28 yards.

The Lion defense was led by Mike Caldwell, who had 12 tackles. Kyle Burns added

eight.

Trevor Rinehart was the top Parchment tackler with ten. Beals, Garcia, Adrean Cole, and Rob Draves had the four interceptions for Parchment.

Both teams are now 1-6 in the KVA this season.

The Lions return to action next Friday night at Constantine. The Falcons improved to 5-2 on the year with a 20-0 win over Delton Kellogg last night. In other KVA action Friday, Pennfield topped Kalamazoo Christian 28-21 to remain unbeaten at 7-0. Pennfield is now the lone unbeaten team in the KVA thanks to Olivet's 23-22 win over Schoolcraft. Hackett Catholic Central also scored a 33-20 win over Galesburg-Augusta Friday.

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Lion cross country wins its dual against Lakewood girls

The top three finishers were Lions in the girls' race Thursday as Maple Valley won its dual with Lakewood

Long-time employee retires, again



Long-time J-Ad Graphics employee Petie Latta is retiring after working in telemarketing and as a proof-reader in the advertising department for the past 20 years. She began working part-time at J-Ad after her first retirement from Hastings Manufacturing Company because "she wanted to buy a new car." She has bought a few cars since, the most recent which bears the sign, "I may be old, but I refuse to grow up." Petie, 83, said now that she is retired, she plans to spend more time on her favorite hobbies — plastic canvas needlepoint, scrapbooking for grandchildren, walking and doing puzzles.

17-41. Lakewood had just one girl among the top six. Jessica Rushford was first in 21 minutes 1 second to lead Maple Valley. Teammate Lauren Trumble was second in 21:55, Kaytlin Furlong third in 22:03, Panterra Rider fifth in 22:23, and Megan Shoemaker sixth in 22:28.

The only Viking to break up that pack was Roxanne Powelson, who was fourth in 22:07.

Lakewood's Cassie Thelen was ninth in 23:05. She was the only Viking scorer who didn't set a new personal record on the day. Maria Patrick tenth in 24:30, Susie Quint 11th in 24:49, and Mariah Dye 12th in 24:56.

Every Lakewood boy had a P.R. and their team scored a 20-41 victory over the Lions.

Lakewood had four of the top five runners in the boys' race, led by champion Tucker Seese who finished in 17:11.

The Lions' Joe Benedict

was second in 17:36.

The next three finishers were Vikings. Jason Foltz was third in 17:42, Eddie Barta fourth in 18:09, and Adam Senters fifth in 18:24. Lakewood's fifth scorer was Nick Blocher, who finished seventh in 19:56.

Behind Benedict for the Lions, Brady Halliwill was sixth in 18:44, Christian Schmadicke tenth in 20:31, Zach Mellville 11th in 20:57, and Darius France 12th in 21:01.

Delton Kellogg freshman Brianna Russell edged Olivet's Katy Barkley by two and a half seconds to win Tuesday afternoon's Kalamazoo Valley Association jamboree at Schoolcraft.

Russell hit the finish line in 20 minutes 5.6 seconds, and Barkley in 20:08.0.

Her performance helped the Panthers finish in second place behind Schoolcraft on the day. The Eagle girls fin-

ished with 48 points. Delton Kellogg scored 100, followed by Hackett Catholic Central 110, Maple Valley 114, Pennfield 136, Kalamazoo Christian 140, Olivet 162, Constantine 185, Parchment 203, and Galesburg-Augusta 228.

Maple Valley's girls placed fourth with a solid pack behind Rushford who was ninth in 21:25.7. The Lions' Trumble was 21st in 22:34.1, Rider 23rd in 22:40.3, and Furlong 24th in 22:49.9. Finishing fifth for Maple Valley was Shoemaker, who came in 37th overall in 23:45.6.

Jolene Drum was second for Delton, placing fifth overall in 20:34.9. Renee McConahay was 25th in 22:52.7, Taylor Hennessey 33rd in 23:26.9, and Kelsey Sofia 36th in 23:28.2.

Schoolcraft's top five girls were all in the top 14. Krista Broekema led the Eagles with a third-place finish in

20:21.9. Sarah Hartlieb was eighth in 21:15.1, Leah DeVoe 11th in 21:38.4, Madeline Hartlieb 12th in 21:41.1, and Monica Lawrence 14th in 21:47.4.

The Fighting Irish won Tuesday's boys' race with 51 points, ahead of Schoolcraft 72, Delton Kellogg 83, Parchment 91, Pennfield 137, Olivet 164, Constantine 184, Kalamazoo Christian 187, and Maple Valley 188.

The individual champ was Parchment's Stuart Crowell, who came in in 16:54.0. Schoolcraft's Charlton Craig was second in 17:06.8, Hackett's Peter Herzog third in 17:30.4, and his teammate Brendan Molony fourth in 17:35.4.

Benedict was tenth to lead Maple Valley. He hit the finish line in 18:13.8. Halliwill was 18th in 18:59.1, Schmadicke 48th in 20:50.9, Mellville 51st in 21:05.4, and France 61st in 22:45.8.

The league gets together again Oct. 20 as Parchment hosts the league championship meet.

Putnam winners announced, pumpkin contest planned

Putnam District Library's Teen Advisory Group recently held a scavenger hunt that took participants throughout Nashville. The winning team was made up of Davita Mater, Larissa Mater, Justin Heinsen, Noelle Rohde, Emily Kopka, Abigail Mater, and Catalina

Mata.

The group also will host a pumpkin decorating contest to complement its annual haunted house at the library. The library will accept entries in two age groups: child (under 12) and tween and adult (12 and up.) The entry fee, to help with the

cost of the haunted house, is \$1 or a large bag of candy. The winner of each age group will be awarded a \$20 gift card. Official guidelines for the contest and an entry form may be picked up at the library.

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