

# MAPLE VALLEY news

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## High school to be site of H1N1 clinic

The Barry-Eaton Health Department will hold a free H1N1 flu clinic on Tuesday, Dec. 1, from 4 to 8 p.m. at Maple Valley High School, and vaccines are available for those who fall within the target groups.

H1N1 influenza vaccine remains available in limited quantities in Barry and Eaton counties, with two sources for H1N1 vaccine.

H1N1 vaccine for all of the target groups (defined below) has been made available to many Barry and Eaton county health care providers. For a list of physicians providing vaccine to established patients, see 'H1N1 Vaccine Clinic Information' at [www.barryeatonhealth.org](http://www.barryeatonhealth.org).

The Barry-Eaton District Health Department continues to receive H1N1 influenza vaccine in limited quantities which it distributes to

vaccine providers in the district. As in previous weeks, there are two sources for H1N1 influenza vaccine.

Two county-wide walk-in community clinics and two appointment-only clinics will be held for those without a primary health care provider or whose provider cannot obtain the vaccine. Additional clinics will be scheduled when vaccine supplies increase.

In Barry County, the walk-in community clinic is scheduled for Tuesday Nov. 24, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Fehsenfeld Center, Kellogg Community College, 2590 Gun Lake Road, Hastings.

The appointment-only clinic is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 3, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Barry-Eaton District Health Department in Hastings at 330 W. Woodlawn Ave., Hastings,

MI 49058. Please call 269-945-9516 (ext. 660) to schedule an appointment.

In Eaton County, the appointment-only clinic is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 4, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Barry-Eaton District Health Department in Charlotte at 1033 Health Care Drive, Charlotte, MI 48813. Please call 517-541-2660 to schedule an appointment.

In Eaton County, the walk-in community clinic is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 23, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Charlotte Assembly of God Church, 1100 E. Clinton Trail (across from Meijer).

Additional clinics will be scheduled when vaccine supplies increase.

In Eaton County, the walk-in community clinics are scheduled for Saturday Nov. 14, and Monday, Nov. 16, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Charlotte Assembly of

God Church, 1100 E. Clinton Trail (across from Meijer).

Only Barry and Eaton County residents in the target groups will receive H1N1 vaccine at the walk-in community clinics. The target groups include: pregnant women, persons who live with or provide care for infants under age 6 months, health care and emergency services personnel, those age 6 months to 24 years old, persons aged 25 to 64 years old who have medical conditions that put them at increased risk for influenza-related complications.

At the clinic, all persons must provide proof of residency in Barry or Eaton County, such as a driver's license. Health care and EMS workers must present work identification badges. Anyone less than 18 years old must be accompanied by a legal guardian to provide

consent. All adults must provide proof of age, such as a driver's license.

Conditions that give a higher risk for flu-related complications include chronic pulmonary (including asthma), cardiovascular (except high blood pressure), kidney, liver, blood, neuromuscular (muscular dystrophy) or metabolic disorders (including diabetes) and immunosuppression (including medications or disease).

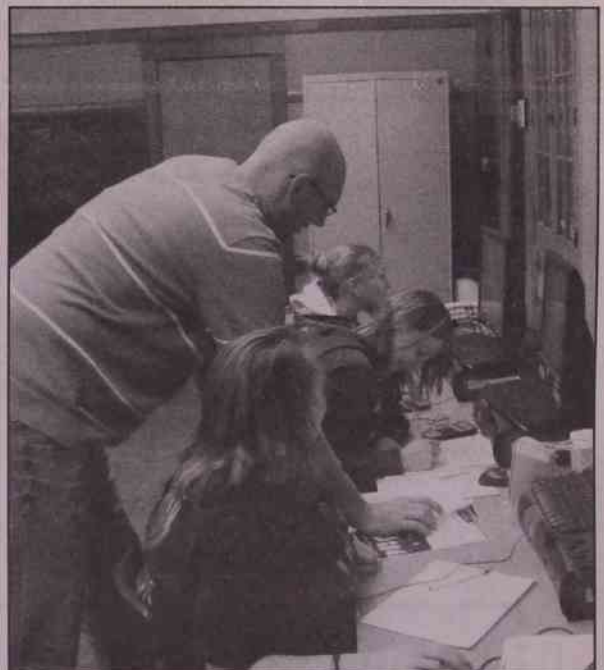
Anyone not in the target group will be asked to return for a clinic at a later time. Once the demand for vaccine for these target groups has

been met, vaccine will be offered to everyone ages 25 through 64 years, followed by those 65 years and older. Eventually, there will be enough vaccine for everyone who wants to be vaccinated, according to Heather Sanders at the health department.

Vaccinations are not 100 percent effective in preventing influenza, especially in individuals with chronic disease. And immunity may take weeks to develop, particularly in children under 10 years who require two doses of vaccine 28 days or more

**H1N1, continued on page 10**

## Kellogg Foundation's effects felt locally



Alternative Education Teacher Elliott London (left) works with Phoebe Hester, Celina Blowers and Chantel Dupuis. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)

by Amy Jo Kinyon  
Staff Writer

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation in Battle Creek will be celebrating the 80th anniversary of its founding in the coming months and the 150th year of Will Keith

Kellogg's birth. Along with the celebration of Kellogg's business success, his philanthropic ventures also are being celebrated.

The residents of Maple Valley School District have

**FOUNDATION, continued on page 12**

## Nimrods abound in Maple Valley

by Amy Jo Kinyon  
Staff Writer

Winston Churchill is quoted as saying, "The short words are the best and the old words are the best of all." Maplewood Elementary School Principal Fred Davenport used a word both short and old to stir up discussion in the Maple Valley community recently. Using the marquee sign in front of the school, Davenport wished local hunters a successful season with the phrase, "Good luck nimrods."

Though the word may have a negative connotation and was used by Bugs Bunny to describe Elmer Fudd as "Poor little nimrod," the actual definition is a bit different. The word is defined by Merriam Webster as "a person expert in or devoted to hunting."

Its earliest use can be found in the book of Genesis in the Bible where a man named Nimrod is described as "the first on Earth to be a mighty hunter before the Lord."

Though it is no longer used commonly today, the word nimrod still has at least one claim to fame. Students in the Michigan town of Watersmeet in the Upper Peninsula use nimrod as their mascot. The town has a population of 1,472 and features a hunter as its logo and mascot.

"You may be offended if

someone calls you a nimrod, but in Watersmeet to be called a nimrod is a badge of honor," reads the school's Web site.

Seizing the opportunity to use the sign as a learning tool in the Maple Valley district, Davenport announced to the fourth, fifth and sixth grade student body the phrase he was going to put on the sign and offered prizes to those who used the word correctly

in a sentence.

The inspiration for using the word, he said, came from a National Public Radio program he heard on the way to school one day. The commentators were discussing words that were used 50 years ago but are no longer part of everyday vocabulary. The word nimrod was brought up and piqued Davenport's interest.

Davenport previously

used the word on the school sign to send a message to hunters and said he has enjoyed the discussion it has created both times. He said he's had many inquiries into the sign and the use of the term nimrod.

"It gets a lot of discussion going in the community, and that's what I like," said Davenport.



When the above phrase appeared on the sign outside of Maplewood Elementary School in Vermontville recently, it sparked a lot of discussion — and proved to be a learning opportunity. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)

### In This Issue...

- Bank, Kiwanis team up to strengthen vocabulary
- Eaton County sergeant graduates from national academy
- Generous residents bring back the bells
- Kent chooses to play basketball at U. of Findlay

# Christmas 'Round Town coming soon

Thanksgiving is almost here, and that means it's time for Lakewood's 18th annual Christmas 'Round the Town.

The stops will be open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 27, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 28. This year shoppers have 14 stops on the tour. Fliers with maps to the stops are available at many area businesses.

Most stops will have Christmas cookies to nibble, and many stops are serving lunch. Each venue will have a door prize. To qualify for the prize, have fliers marked at each stop. Those with six stops marked will be entered into the drawing for the door prize at the stop where they turn in the flier.

As a bonus prize, those who go to all 14 stops, in addition to being entered into the drawing for the door prize, they will be entered into a drawing to win a \$25 gas gift card.

• Stop 1 Eagle Point Crafters at 1423 Fourth Avenue in Lake Odessa — current organizers of this event have been a stop on this tour for 12 years. They will feature their popular "Gifts to Go" (unique gifts ready to give for adults and kids), painted wooden items, angel and seasonal towels, pet Christmas stockings, fleece blankets, holiday and regular jewelry, cloth totes and purses; little girl dress-up kits, sucker bouquets and a little of this and a little of

that.

• Stop 2 MADE with Love Crafts at 3 C's Fitness Center located at 1137 Fourth Ave., Lake Odessa. Megan, Andrea, Della and Elaine have a wide variety of affordable gifts and crafts for Christmas. See lighted glass box presents, soy candles, Old World Santas, crocheted and knitted items, jewelry, stuffed animals, wreath bows, tabletop Christmas trees, etched glass, kitty toys, decorated pails and notebooks, Christmas ornaments and more.

• Stop 3 A Village Christmas is located at the Clarksville Village Hall, Main Street, with more than 10 crafters and vendors. Many are returning from last year. Simple Pleasures Body and Bath from Lowell will have lotions, soaps, body sprays and more. Laura's Luminaries features candles, candle holders, fire starters, car air freshener and more. Main Street Embroidery has a variety of embroidered household items. Carmine Bennett will be back with her all-natural soaps. Shekinah Reser will have tea towels with a crocheted edge, hanging kitchen towels and knit dishcloths.

Bijou by Paula features hand-crafted jewelry by Paula Reser. Bud Brown will once again have his hand-crafted wooden wine stoppers, pens and toothpick holders. Judith Transue will

have hand-crafted jewelry. Angel Valley Photography will be available to schedule a family Christmas portrait as well as photographic prints for sale. Pat Reser and Jerry Womboldt will have hand-crafted pins and more. They will also have vendors from home-based party organization including Tupperware (Jean Huver) Stampin' Up (Missy Cronk), Rada Cutlery (Michele Erb) and Avon (Dawn Reser).

• Stop 4 Farm House Crafts will be held in the centennial house at 370 S. Main St. in Clarksville. It is the big white house on the sesquicentennial farm near the railroad crossing. At this stop will be Pam's Paintings (Pam Nash) with hand-painted ornaments of wood, glass, porcelain, metal, glass and wooden items and more. Ashley's Dream (Cindy Southworth) will also be there with baked goods, handmade cards, bookmarks, note holders, gift tags, needle felted ornaments and more. They have enjoyed being part of this event and have made many friends from far and wide.

• Stop 5 Welcome to Pleasant Valley United Brethren Church located at 13120 Bell Road (corner of M-50 and Bell Road.) Lake Odessa. This is a one-stop shopping site for Christmas 'Round the Town 2009, with a baked potato and soup bar both days. The church will host 15 crafters who specialize in everything from doilies and dolls to kitchen items. Many handmade decorations for the holidays, jewelry, wooden crafts, wearable art and plus clothing can be found here.

• Stop 6 Main Street Crafters stop located at 520 Fourth Ave., Lake Odessa, will present wooden toys, tables, clothes bars, tablecloths and runners, handbags and other cloth items plus

more. Visit Terri and Theresa and check what they have been making.

• Stop 7 Support the VFW Ladies Auxiliary Post 4461 located at 3600 Tupper Lake Road, Lake Odessa. Homemade soups, desserts, sandwiches, coffee and rolls will be served to shoppers who visit the four-plus crafters located here.

• Stop 8 Warm, country charm will envelop visitors to the showroom at Kathy's Flower Patch, 1453 Jordan Lake St., Lake Odessa. From warm and spicy candles to gift ware, Kathy's has it all for holiday gift-giving. Kathy's Flower Patch has several Christmas trees, all decorated in an array of themes. Seasonal accents and unique floral designs are available to embellish homes for the holidays. Kathy and her staff can also create custom designs to complement personal styles. Kathy's also offers tasty treats from appetizer dips to coffees, cocoas, and mulling spices. Custom gift baskets can be made to order. As always, Kathy's annual holiday open house will be during Christmas 'Round the Town.

• Stop 9 Catt Creations at 862 Beech St., Lake Odessa. Canda Flores is presenting her handmade jewelry from Swarovski crystals and pendants from Scrabble tiles. Sadie Catt has made precious baby bibs, burp cloths and changing pads. Kim (Catt) Leadbetter has quilted items for home decor and for baby dolls. Georgia Catt has monogrammed pillows (collegiate, nautical and personal decor) also wool felted purses and various winter scarves to complete the showcase.

• Stop 10 4 Ever Friends and Wellman Wonderland are together at 6834 E. Brown Road, Lake Odessa. This stop is the original home of Christmas 'Round the Town hosted by Jeanne Ayres. New items this year

include American Girl doll clothes and chairs, homemade soaps, toiletries and stitcheries. They also have favorites from the past, including primitives, snowmen, Raggedy Ann and Andy, Santas, tree ornaments, wooden snowmen light boxes and snowmen totes and a large selection of bird houses.

They will have jewelry with real gems and hand-painted holiday pictures and baked goods. This stop has been doing shows for 39 years. The crafters are Jeanne, Jeannette, Ann and Laurie. Stop in for a hot gingerbread man and spiced cider.

• Stop 11 The Cinnamon House at 7653 Davenport Road, Woodland will feature ornaments, swag starter kits, wreaths, cookies, treats, rag dolls, soaps, gift combos, seasonal decorations, grungy candles and much more. Sue Benjamin and Karen Winebrenner are the crafters.

• Stop 12 The Lake Odessa Museum Complex will be hosting a great variety of crafters. The museum is operated by the Lake Odessa Area Historical Society and is funded through projects such as this. Santa will be at the museum Friday from 1 to 5 p.m. The Depot Gift Shop will feature a large stock of Christmas and holiday items as well as a wide selection of Sechler's Pickles.

A home-made baked goods sale also will be offered at this stop. The crafters scheduled to be a part of this year's event include Forget-Me-Nots by Kay Klein with silk and dried flowers; Mom's Candles by Serina Currier with soy soaps and candles; Down Home Crafts by Mary Pennington and Kathy Addison with holiday crafts, hats, scarves and more; Carolyn Jackson with hand-crafted jewelry; Anita's Art

by Anita Villanueva with woodburning and artwork; Friendly Folks by Betty Carey with hand-painted folk art; handmade country gifts by Kathy Bengel with fabric Santas, snowmen and ornaments, plus several more crafters with a diverse selection. Lakewood Habitat for Humanity also will have a fundraising booth at this stop.

As always there are lots of surprises with something for all ages.

• Stop 13 Endless Expressions located at 934 Fourth Ave., Lake Odessa.

Owner Lana Tuitman's shop is nostalgic and whimsical, offering everything personalized, right down to holiday-scented candles and aprons for preparing holiday meals.

Lana offers custom-designed varsity coats. Be sure to see her own design on individually crafted shirts.

Louise Diehl, a local artist, is featuring one-of-a-kind art pieces during the season.

• Stop 14. A visit to this stop at 14194 Tasker Road Lake Odessa will be lots of fun. At Memories Portrait Studio enjoy a gift of a free 4-by-6 portrait on site, in a single photo, a mother-daughter portrait, a group of friends or any combination.

Lynette's Designs will have many adorable hand-made purses and baby items such as bibs, burp cloths, diaper bags and bath towels.

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 FRI-SUN 11:00, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40  
 MON-TUE 4:20, 7:00, 9:40  
 PLANET 51 (PG)  
 FRI-SUN 11:15, 1:50, 4:05, 6:50, 9:10  
 MON-TUE 4:05, 6:50, 9:10  
 2012 (PG-13)  
 FRI-SUN 11:40, 3:00, 6:10, 9:25  
 MON-TUE 6:10, 9:25  
**DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL (PG)**  
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# Santa to visit library

Santa Claus will kick off the holiday season by arriving at the Vermontville Township Library on Friday, Dec. 4. Due to the popularity of this event, Santa will be visiting with children inside the opera house from 6 to 8

p.m., and parents are asked to bring a camera for their holiday photos.

As they wait for their turn with Santa, children can make an ornament, color a holiday picture and enjoy a snack.

New this year, each family will be able to decorate a gingerbread house to take home. The library staff will be providing pre-assembled gingerbread houses, and families can decorate their houses while they wait. To

offset the cost of this project, the library is asking for donations of candy and other items suitable for decorating the houses. These donations may be dropped off at the library during regular library hours.

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**Faithfulness**

Faithfulness is the seventh quality which Paul lists as the fruit of the Spirit. (Galatians 5:22-23) Faithfulness is the translation of the Greek word "pistis," which can also be rendered as conviction or belief. Although it usually has the connotation of fidelity or loyalty, and applies particularly to someone who exhibits the virtue of reliability. A person who is faithful will be true to their faith, but will also be true to their friends and family. They will be someone whose word can be relied upon. Faithfulness is extremely important to maintaining good relations. True friends will strive to keep their word, and of course, families cannot function without everyone being faithful to each other. But, in addition to being faithful to others, we should also be faithful to ourselves. Being faithful to oneself entails being honest with oneself which is harder than it sounds. It also requires that you stick to your word when you have made a promise to yourself. There was a time when a gentleman could ensure that he would keep a promise to himself by simply saying to himself that he was honor bound to keep the promise. He would only break the promise to himself by simultaneously destroying his sense of honor, which no self-respecting gentleman would ever do. So we should be faithful, first and foremost to ourselves and faithfulness to others will follow naturally.

This above all: to thine own self be true, and it must follow, as the night the day, that thou const not be false to any man.

Shakespeare

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Wed. Service . . . . . 7 p.m.

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Sunday Mass . . . . . 9:45 a.m.  
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A mission of St. Rose Catholic Church, Hastings

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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.



## New Lion welcomed into 'den'

Gary Russell (center) was recently inducted as a member of the Nashville Lions Club. Russell is joined by Lion President Dave Mace (left) and fellow Lion Blair Hawblitz. According to its Web site, Lions is an international organization with 45,000 clubs and 1.3 million members, making it the world's largest service organization.

## Ilah L. Englerth

HASTINGS - Ilah L. Englerth, age 91, of Hastings, passed away peacefully on Monday, November 16, 2009 at Pennock Hospital in Hastings.

Ilah was born in Otsego, on December 11, 1917, the daughter of the late Frank E. and Valia I. (Brown) Bradfield. She was raised in the Boyne City area and attended area schools there.

Ilah was a wonderful cook; She spent over 20 years employed at the Barry County Sheriff's Department where she cooked meals for inmates at the correctional facility. During that time she also worked part time at the Court Street Grill. Ilah was famous for her homemade cinnamon rolls which she would prepare Sunday evening, so they would be fresh when the restaurant opened on Monday morning.

Ilah enjoyed being outdoors spending time in her flower and vegetable gardens. Over the years, Ilah also enjoyed sewing, reading a good book, and doing a challenging puzzle.

Ilah is survived by her daughter Pam Bauer; her son, Gary Englerth; two sisters, Mary Jane Bradfield and Jeanne Cembrowicz; two brothers, Charles (Darlene) Bradfield and Frank Bradfield Jr.

She is also survived by her



## Area Obituaries

### Kathryn N. Davidson

NASHVILLE - Kathryn N. Davidson, age 69, of Nashville, passed away Wednesday, November 18, 2009 at Ingham Regional Medical Center in Lansing.

Kathryn was born in Eaton Rapids, on July 24, 1940, the daughter of the late Donald K. and Betty J. (Isbell) Harris. She was raised in the Eaton Rapids area and attended area schools graduating from Eaton Rapids High School in 1958.

She was the wife of Duane K. Davidson. The couple was married August 29, 1959 at the Congregational Church in Eaton Rapids. They began their lives together in the Olivet area, then began farming near Bellevue where they owned several farms throughout the years. In 1994 Duane and Kathryn purchased their farm in Maple Grove Township where they have farmed since.

Kathryn was lifetime member of the Order of the Eastern Star, which she joined when she was only 18 years old. Over the years she had remained very active in the organization serving as the worthy matron for several years, county president, and also the grand representative of Vermont in Michigan. Kathryn had served as an officer for the past 20 years and currently served as Electa.

She also enjoyed doing needlepoint and playing the organ. Taking care of her family was always a great source of pride for Kathryn.

Kathryn is survived by her beloved husband Duane; a son, Walter (Joyce) Davidson; two daughters, Kimberlee (Jack Woods) Davidson, Cassandra (Brett) Ramey; her eight grandchild-



dren, Amber Garcia, Nathan (Ashlee) Davidson, Seneca Fosgate, Chalet Fosgate, Cheyenne Martin, Shawnee Martin, Matthew Ramey, and Addison Ramey; two great grandchildren, Ethan Davidson and Ariana Garcia.

Kathryn is also survived by her brother, Michael (Mary) Harris and two sisters, Donna Johnson and Nancy Cherry and many nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at The Daniels Funeral Home, Nashville, at 11 a.m. on Monday, November 23, 2009 with Jeff Burpee officiating.

The family will receive visitors Sunday, November 22 from 1-4 pm at The Daniels Funeral Home.

Interment will take place immediately following the funeral service at Hillside Cemetery in Kalamo.

Memorial contributions can be made to Kalamo Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star and the Siren/Eaton Shelter in Charlotte.

For further details please visit our website at [www.danielsfuneralhome.net](http://www.danielsfuneralhome.net) Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Daniels Funeral Home in Nashville.

Thank You THANK YOU Thank You THANK YOU

## Thank You

for the generous donations that helped make the new electronic **Carillon System** possible

Laura Berry	Monte and Teresa
Mike and Jill Booher	O'Dell
Charmane Bridges	Bob and Linda
Margaret Cook	Randall
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Vermontville	Rathburn
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From Bill Mason, Chair  
First Congregational Church Carillon Committee

Thank You Thank You Thank You THANK YOU

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

### Friendship Sites

#### Congregate Menu

**Monday, November 23**  
Sloppy Jo, corn, coleslaw, apple, hamburger bun.

**Tuesday, November 24**  
Baked potato bar, tossed salad, tropical fruit.

**Wednesday, November 25**  
Roast turkey and stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, green bean casserole, cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie.

**Thursday, November 26**  
Happy Thanksgiving Day. COA closed. No meal delivery.

**Friday, November 27**  
COA closed.

#### Home Delivered Cold Menu

**Monday, November 23**  
Egg salad, pickled beets, applesauce, wheat bread.

**Tuesday, November 24**  
Chicken salad, coleslaw, diced peaches, wheat bread.

**Wednesday, November 25**  
Ground bologna and

cheese, potato salad, tropical fruit, wheat bread.

**Thursday, November 26**  
Happy Thanksgiving Day. COA closed. No meal delivery.

**Friday, November 27**  
COA closed.

#### Home Delivered Hearty Menu

**Monday, November 23**  
Sloppy Jo, corn, broccoli, apple, hamburger bun.

**Tuesday, November 24**  
Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, diced carrots, applesauce.

**Wednesday, November 25**  
Roast turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, stuffing, green bean casserole, pumpkin pie.

**Thursday, November 26**  
Happy Thanksgiving Day. COA closed. No meal delivery.

**Friday, November 27**  
COA closed.

#### Activities Calendar

**Monday, November 23:**  
Hastings - Music with Sam 10:30 a.m.; November craft 10:30; card making 12:30 p.m. Delton - Nashville 5+ 11 a.m. H,W,N - Reminiscence.

**Tuesday, November 24:**  
Hastings - Line Dancing 9:30 a.m.; play Wii 10:30 a.m. GL -Cards 10:30-12:30.

**Wednesday, November 25:**  
Hastings - Thanksgiving Feast. Euchre 12:30-2:30 p.m. Delton - Birthday Party.

**Thursday, November 26**  
Happy Thanksgiving Day. COA closed. No meal delivery.

**Friday, November 27**  
COA closed.

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## Area Obituaries

### Alberta M. Townsend

NASHVILLE - Alberta M. Townsend, age 86, of Nashville passed away November 18, 2009 peacefully at Penneck Hospital, in Hastings.

Alberta was born in Woodland, on March 4, 1923, the daughter of the late Charles and Lelia (Hynes) Furlong. She was raised in the Woodland area and attended Shores School, Woodland High School, and later graduated from Nashville W.K. Kellogg High School in 1941.

She was the widow of Buryl E. Townsend. Albert and Buryl were married on January 4, 1944 while Buryl was serving in the United States Army during WWII.

Alberta followed her husband to Texas and Oklahoma for a year before returning home where she found work at Hastings Manufacturing, and E.W. Bliss. When Buryl returned home from the war the couple began farming in the Woodland area, and in 1948 purchased their Nashville farm where they raised their family together.

Alberta loved her family; she took great pride in taking care of them and watching them grow together.

She loved to be outdoors and during her walks would collect unique stones and pick wild flowers. Each year Alberta cultivated her garden

so when it was time to pick the vegetables she could preserve them so her family could enjoy fresh vegetables throughout the year.

Alberta is survived by her daughter, Joan (Wayne) Rumsey; grandchildren Wanda (Mike) Loveland, Randy (Teressa) Rumsey, Scott (Carla) Rumsey, Tim (Darlene) Rumsey, Dennis (Danette) Carroll, Sue Rumsey, Diana (Mike) Line, Angie (Bill) White; 18 great grandchildren and seven great great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 51 years Buryl who passed away on January 13, 1995 and a grandson

Funeral services will be held at The Daniels Funeral Home, Nashville, at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 21, 2009 with Pastor Cathy Christman officiating. Interment will take place immediately following the funeral service at Woodland Memorial Park, in Woodland.

Memorial contributions can be made to Thornapple Manor, or the Nashville Ambulance.

Funeral Arrangements have been entrusted to the Daniels Funeral Home in Nashville. For further details please visit our website at [www.danielsfuneralhome.net](http://www.danielsfuneralhome.net)

### Norma Jean Varney

NASHVILLE - Norma Jean Varney, age 74, of Nashville, passed away Sunday, November 15, 2009 peacefully at Battle Creek Health Systems, in Battle Creek.

Norma was born in Marshall on April 15, 1935, the daughter of Albert and LaVerna Boden-VanScyoc. She was raised in the Marshall area and attended area schools graduating from Marshall High School in 1953.

She was the wife of Lyle Varney. Lyle and Norma Jean were married on Valentine's Day 1966. The couple made their home together in Castleton Township where they have spent the past 43 years together.

Norma Jean was a world class Avon Representative for over 40 years. During that time she also worked on the election board for Castleton Township. She was a member of the Stoney Point Women's Club, the Hastings Moose Lodge, Michigan Harness Horse Assoc., the United States Trotters Assoc., and the Northern Michigan Fair Assoc. for over 40 years.

Norma Jean's family and friends were the joy of her life. Those close to Norma Jean knew they could count on receiving a card for those special days in their lives like birthdays, or anniversaries every year. Norma's cards were anything but ordinary, she knew each individual's birthday, or anniversary and would make sure to indicate that specific day with each card. Doing things for others was what made Norma Jean so special to everyone who knew her. If it was your birthday and you came to Norma Jean's home you had your very own birthday cake; and store bought ice cream was never an option. Norma made sure that the ice cream served on your birthday was ice cream she had made herself. Her family was always very special to Norma Jean, and family gatherings were cherished events every time. During Christmas Norma Jean would begin cooking and planning the holiday meals sometimes days in advance to ensure that there



was plenty for everyone.

Along with her husband and family, Norma Jean followed the Michigan County Fair Circuit racing harness horses. Even after they stopped racing, she remained active helping the local fairs with registration, entry fees and administration for the racers which she had done for over 40 years.

Norma Jean loved to spend time in her garden and loved to feed and watch the birds as they ate in the backyard. She was a proud American and displayed her love of country through the red, white and blue theme she used to decorate her home.

Norma is survived by her beloved husband Lyle; her mother, LaVerna VanScyoc; daughters, Patty (Jack) Cook, Barbara (Carl) Woodard, Carol (Patrick) Lewis, Deborah Jean Seeber; two sons, Steven Varney and Scott (Jodi) Varney; her sisters, Geraldine Brinkert, Donna (Ernie) Morgan; brother, George Boden; and two very special neighbors, Yvonne Eckelbecker and Pat Ehret.

She is also survived by nine grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her father, Albert Boden; son, William VanNortwick and son-in-law, Doug Seeber.

Funeral services were held at the Daniels Funeral Home, Nashville, on Thursday, November 19, 2009 with Pastor Carla Smith officiating. Interment took place immediately following the funeral service at Stoney Point Cemetery in Castleton Township.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Legion Post 45 in Hastings or a charity of donors choice.

## Bank, Kiwanis team up to strengthen vocabulary



Eaton Federal Savings Bank again this year, through the Maple Valley Kiwanis Club, gave each third grader at Fuller Street School a dictionary to keep and use throughout the school year and beyond. Pictured here are Dawn Meade of Eaton Federal (left), Mikayla Brighton (center) and Cathy Felder of Eaton Federal Savings Bank.

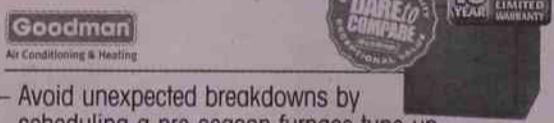
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Our Menu Will Be Roast Turkey & Dressing -or- Baked Ham & Yams with Soup & Salad Bar, Real Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, a piece of Pie and your Drink

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A lady was pawing through the frozen turkeys at the grocery store, but couldn't find one big enough to feed her large family.

Annoyed, she asked the stock boy, "Do these turkeys get any bigger?"

The startled stock boy replied, "No, ma'am, they're all dead."

Happy Thanksgiving From the Roush's

**Pasta's Back @ [www.roushs.net](http://www.roushs.net)**

# Burro riding to raise funds at high school Dec. 3

Plenty of hilarious action and a good crowd are expected to keep the Maple Valley High School gym buzzing Thursday, Dec. 3, at 7 p.m. when a donkey basketball

tournament is staged at Maple Valley Jr./Sr. High School.

The teams this year are the juniors, community members, seniors, and the Maple Valley

staff who will provide entertainment for the night. Advance ticket sales indicate a large crowd will be on hand for the tournament.

Tickets are still on sale at the high school at \$6 for adults, high school students, grade school students, and senior citizens. Tickets at the door will be \$8 for everyone. All proceeds will go to the Maple Valley FFA chapter to sponsor leadership programs throughout the year.

The first game of the single-elimination tournament will feature a band of rough and ready community mem-

bers from the Maple Valley area who will play against a selected group of equestrians from the Maple Valley junior class. After this battle has been waged, several members of the Maple Valley staff will collide with the team of seniors. The winners of the two hardwood wars will go for the title in the championship game. Many fans believe it is the donkeys that are the very pride of the court and the stars of the show. The talented and sports-minded animals are from Marengo, Ohio, and all of them know their way

around the basketball court, said FFA Advisor Aaron Saari.

"This is a great way for the community to support the FFA as well as having a great night of entertainment," he added.

Donkey basketball is played with eight donkeys and four riders on each team. One of the donkey teams will be comprised of Thunder Ball, Snuffy, Kilroy and Honey Pot. The other donkey team will include Beetle Bomb, Super Stupid, Rigor Mortis and Elvis, the world's most buckin' donkey.

The teams have been chosen, the battle lines drawn, and the donkeys are ready to go. All that is needed is a full house at the Maple Valley gym. The doors will open at 6:15 p.m. to let the fans pour in and watch what the donkey-backers claim to be "wilder than a rodeo" and "funnier than a circus."

Maple Valley FFA members are all selling tickets. Tickets are also available at Duey's Corner and Ace Auto in Vermontville or at the high school office.

## Barry County Extension Calendar of Events

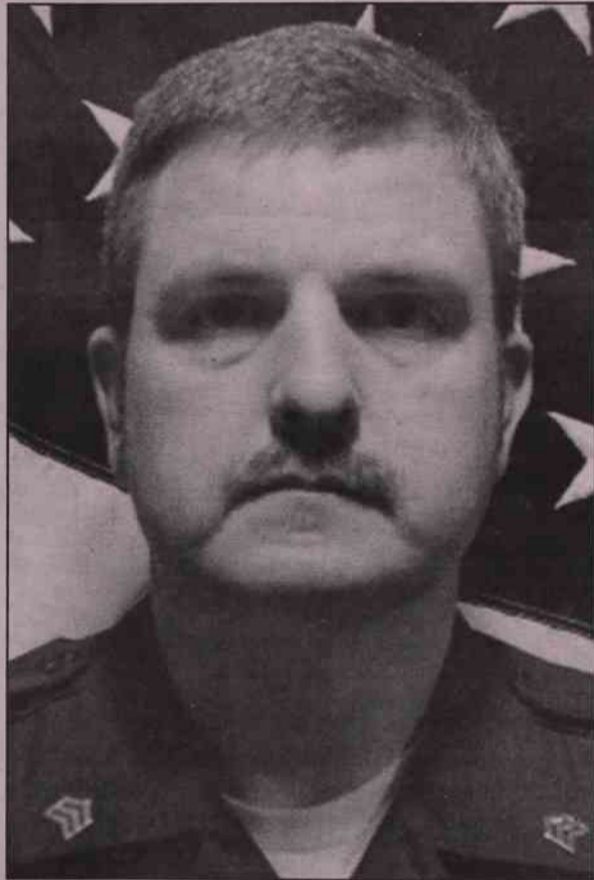
- Nov. 23 Rabbit Developmental Committee Meeting.
- Nov. 23-25 MSU Extension Office closed during lunch (approximately 12:30-1:30 p.m.)
- Nov. 26-27 MSU Extension Office closed for Thanksgiving holiday.
- Nov. 27 Beef Rate of Gain Weigh-In, 10 a.m.-noon, Barry Expo Center.
- Nov. 30 Parliamentary Procedure Workshop, 6:30 p.m., First Baptist Church in Hastings.
- Dec. 5 MSU Student Organic Farm Tour, 10 a.m., 3291 College Rd., Holt, MI.
- Dec. 8-10 Great Lakes Fruit, Vegetable and Farm Market Expo, Grand Rapids.
- Dec. 10 Master Gardener Annual Christmas Craft/Bake sale, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Courts and Law Building.
- Dec. 15 RUP Credits Available, 6-10 p.m., Courts and Law Building.
- Dec. 16 RUP Credits Available, 1-5 p.m., MSU Extension Ionia County.
- Dec. 18 Integrated Pest Management Update, MSU Pavilion.
- Dec. 24-25 MSU Extension Office closed for Christmas holiday.
- Dec. 31 MSU Extension Office closed for New Year holiday.

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## Eaton County sergeant graduates from national academy

Sgt. Rick Bushong, CJM of the Eaton County Sheriff's Office, Corrections Division, recently attended and graduated from the National Jail Leadership Command Academy in Huntsville, Texas.

Bushong was one of 34 graduates selected nationwide. The academy is sponsored by the Correctional Management Institute of Texas and the American Jail Association. The academy provides intense week-long training in upper-level leadership skills including,

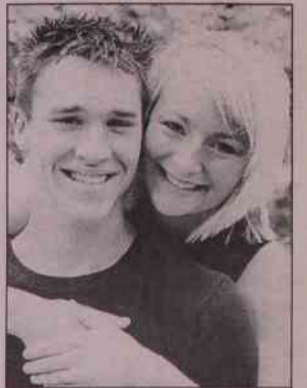


Sgt. Rick Bushong

ethics, communication, problem-solving, jail budgets, leading and managing change.

Bushong is a 20-year veteran of the sheriff's office, with the last 11 1/2 years as a sergeant. He is the correction

divisions training coordinator, managing the new employee CTO training program, and classification and shift sergeant.



Ewing-Jones

Matthew Ewing of Vermontville and Lori Knechtel of Charlotte wish to announce the engagement of their daughter, Victoria Ewing to Dustin Jones, the son of Keith and Kelly Jones.

The bride-elect is a graduate of Waverly High School and is currently attending Lansing Community College.

The prospective bridegroom is a graduate of Maple Valley High School and is currently attending Central Michigan University.

A July, 2010 wedding is being planned at Nashville Baptist Church with a reception to follow at the American Legion Post 42 in Charlotte.

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**927 Wintergreen**

3 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace, 1500 sq. ft., all appliances included. Freshly painted, new carpet throughout.

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**927 Wintergreen**

3 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace, 1500 sq. ft., all appliances included. Freshly painted, new carpet throughout.

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Monday, Nov. 23rd

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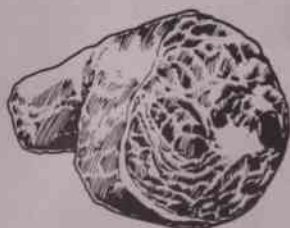
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2 Lbs. Powdered & Brown Sugars	\$1 <sup>39</sup>
8 oz. Whipped Topping	99¢
6 oz. Ripe Olives	\$1 <sup>39</sup>
6 oz. Stuffing Chicken/Pork	5/\$5
48 oz. Canola Oil	\$2 <sup>99</sup>

2-Pk. Mama Rosa's 14" Pizza	2/\$11
8 oz. Kraft Shredded Cheese	2/\$4
30 oz. Hellman's Mayonnaise	\$3 <sup>99</sup>
7 oz. Cool Whip Aerosol	2/\$4
22.6 - 34.5 oz. Can Folger's Roasted Coffee	\$6 <sup>99</sup>
40 oz. Bruce Cut Yams	\$1 <sup>99</sup>
1 Jello Cheesecake & No Bake Oreo Desserts	\$2 <sup>49</sup>
Stick Imperial Margarine	99¢

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# Generous residents bring back the bells



Carillon Committee Chair Bill Mason shows how to operate the new carillon system at the Vermontville Congregational Church. The equipment was purchased with donations from community members. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)

by Amy Jo Kinyon  
Staff Writer

When Vermontville resident Bill Mason asked community members to consider a donation to the new carillons at the congregational church, he was taken by surprise at the response. The money needed to purchase the new system was raised completely by contributions from residents in just under three months.

"I thought it was very good of the community to come out when times are so tough," said Mason.

The previous system used recorded tapes to peel the bells throughout downtown Vermontville, but after a few decades of use the tapes had become unusable. The new system is completely electronic and plays songs, along with the chimes on the hour.

Beginning in the first week of December, those songs will include Christmas favorites that will be played until the first week of January.

Mason expressed gratitude to those who donated and said he hopes the other residents enjoy the new sounds.

"The Vermontville Congregational Church appreciates the generosity of



After tapes for the former system broke a few years ago, bells no longer pealed throughout downtown Vermontville. They have been brought back through contributions from residents. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)

the village of Vermontville," said Mason. "I've had a lot of people comment that they

didn't realize how much they missed the carillons until they brought back."

## LEGAL NOTICE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY. MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Richard J. Robbins and Denise M. Robbins, husband and wife, to Homecomings Financial Network, Inc., Mortgagee, dated September 15, 2000 and recorded September 20, 2000 in Instrument Number 1049736, and re-recorded to correct legal description on 7/13/04 in Instrument Number 1130736, Barry County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by GMAC Mortgage Corporation by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Thirty Thousand Two Hundred Thirty-One and 89/100 Dollars (\$103,231.89) including interest at 7.875% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the Barry County Courthouse in Hastings in Barry County, Michigan at 1:00 p.m. on DECEMBER 17, 2009. Said premises are located in the Township of Johnstown, Barry County, Michigan, and are described as: Beginning at the Southeast corner of the Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 11, Town 1 North, Range 8 West; thence North along said 1/4 Section line 540 feet for the place of beginning; thence North 275 feet; thence West 500 feet; thence South 275 feet; thence East 500 feet to the place of beginning. Also commencing at the Southwest corner of the Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 11, Town 1 North, Range 8 West; thence North along said 1/4 section line 815 feet for the place of beginning; thence North 200 feet along 1/4 section line; thence West 500 feet; thence South 200 feet; thence East 500 feet to the place of beginning. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. If you are a tenant in the property, please contact our office as you may have certain rights. Dated: November 14, 2009 Orlans Associates, P.C. Attorneys for Servicer P.O. Box 5041 Troy, MI 48007-5041 248-502-1400 File No. 280.9976 ASAP# 3341851 11/14/2009, 11/21/2009, 11/28/2009, 12/05/2009 06700338

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THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY. MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Anthony Mosley and Tricia Mosley aka Tricia M. Mosley, husband and wife as joint tenants, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns, Mortgagee, dated August 30, 2004 and recorded September 13, 2004 in Instrument Number 1133841, Barry County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by OneWest Bank FSB by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Fifty-Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Forty-Three and 11/100 Dollars (\$158,843.11) including interest at 5.75% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the Barry County Courthouse in Hastings in Barry County, Michigan at 1:00 p.m. on DECEMBER 10, 2009. Said premises are located in the Village of Middleville, Barry County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 17, Bryanwood Estates, according to the recorded Plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 6 of Plats, Page 14. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. If you are a tenant in the property, please contact our office as you may have certain rights. Dated: November 7, 2009 Orlans Associates, P.C. Attorneys for Servicer P.O. Box 5041 Troy, MI 48007-5041 248-502-1400 File No. 225.3012 ASAP# 3331963 11/07/2009, 11/14/2009, 11/21/2009, 11/28/2009 06699758

## LEGAL NOTICE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY. MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Jay D. Dekleine, a married person and Jacob C. Dekleine, a married person, to CitiMortgage, Inc. fka ABN AMRO Mortgage Group, Inc., Mortgagee, dated December 20, 2006 and recorded January 2, 2007 in Instrument Number 1174494, Barry County Records, Michigan. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Two Hundred Twenty-One and 99/100 Dollars (\$75,221.99) including interest at 7.25% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the Barry County Courthouse in Hastings in Barry County, Michigan at 1:00 p.m. on DECEMBER 10, 2009. Said premises are located in the City of Middleville, Barry County, Michigan, and are described as: Unit 11, of East Town Homes, according to the Master Deed recorded in Instrument Number 1074113, Barry County Records and designated as Barry County Condominium Subdivision Plan Number 23, and any amendments thereto, together with an undivided interest in the general common elements and limited common elements as set forth in the above described Master Deed in Act 59 of the Public Acts of 1978, as amended. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. If you are a tenant in the property, please contact our office as you may have certain rights. Dated: November 7, 2009 Orlans Associates, P.C. Attorneys for Servicer P.O. Box 5041 Troy, MI 48007-5041 248-502-1400 File No. 241.7100 ASAP# 3332494 11/07/2009, 11/14/2009, 11/21/2009, 11/28/2009 06699823

## United Way applications due Dec. 3

The Barry County United Way allocations applications are now available for the 2010-11 funding year.

Agencies applying for funding must be a health and human service charitable organization 501(c) 3 as determined by the Internal Revenue Service or be a 501(c), incorporated in the state of Michigan. The not-for-profit agency must provide services to Barry County residents in one of the four funding areas:

- Helping youths achieve their full potential.
- Supporting families to achieve well being and success.
- Assisting senior adults find support and maintain independence.
- Addressing urgent and emerging needs in Barry

County.

Last year, more than 56,000 times, residents of Barry County utilized services of United Way and its partner agencies. This is possible through the allocations process that begins with filling out the application. Submissions are due by 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3, and are available at the Barry County United Way office located at 450 Meadow Run,

Hastings, MI 49058.

More than 30 local volunteers will then meet with the applicants to evaluate the health and human services programs, including, how successful they are in improving the lives of residents through measurable results.

For more information, call Barry County United Way Executive Director Lani Forbes 269-945-4010.

## SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

**Monday, November 23**  
Cook's Choice.

**Tuesday, November 24**  
Cook's Choice.

**Wednesday, November 25**  
No School.

**Thursday, November 26**  
Happy Thanksgiving.

**Friday, November 27**  
No School.

**NOTE:** Fuller Alternative Entree Choices: Peanut butter and jelly sandwich.

**Maplewood Alternate Entree Choices:** 6 oz. Yogurt w/string cheese, chef salad, peanut butter and jelly sandwich.

Milk is included with all full meal purchases. Assorted bread choices daily.

Breakfast price: \$1.30;  
Lunch price: \$1.90; Adult price: \$2.75; milk only: \$.45.

**Maple Valley Jr.-Sr. High School Lunch Menu**

**Monday, November 23**  
Chicken casserole.

Scalloped potatoes, peaches. Salad bar.

**Tuesday, November 24**  
Cook's Choice.

**Wednesday, November 25**  
No School.

**Thursday, November 26**  
Happy Thanksgiving.

**Friday, November 27**  
No School.

**NOTE:** Entree's available daily: cheeseburger, variety of chicken sandwiches, pizza, peanut butter and jelly sandwich, fish sandwich, 6 oz. yogurt w/string cheese.

Side choices available daily: garden salad, juice, fresh fruit.

Milk is included with all full meal purchases. Seconds available on vegetables at no additional charge. Assorted bread choices daily.

Breakfast price: \$1.45;  
Lunch price: \$2.25-\$2.50;  
Adult prices: \$2.75-\$3.00.  
Milk only: \$.45.

\* Menu subject to change.

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



06682644

# Family Financial Mentoring Program focus breakfast

by **Bannon Backhus**  
Staff Writer  
At the Barry County Community Breakfast  
Tuesday morning, Lani Forbes, executive director of

the Barry County United Way, delivered a presentation on the Family Financial Mentoring Program, a program recently made available through the local United Way to help people facing money problems learn how to take control of their finances.

Even though the program is offered through the local organization, Forbes stressed that it should not be seen as a program exclusive to the Barry County United Way.

"We're not saying this is our program," she explained. "We're saying that this is a community program that can help the community."

Forbes, who was instrumental in developing the program for the local United Way, said that she first began thinking about such an idea five years ago.

"We were seeing families that were coming in, asking for emergency assistance, that really had some adequate income," she explained.

According to Forbes, the program was inspired by not only a financial seminar previously delivered by the local Community Action, but a similar program offered by Chemical Bank and Steepletown Ministries, a faith-based organization located in Grand Rapids.

Forbes said that people facing money problems are paired up with volunteers who have received training on how to be financial mentors.

"The program is about helping them to see what the issues are in their family, not about telling them how they should be using their dollars," she explained. "We certainly are not trying to tell anyone what to do, but we are trying to help them realize where their dollars are spent. And that is a very fine line that we need to walk with our 'mentees.'"

In addition to helping people trace the paths of their incomes, Forbes said the mentors also educate their pupils on credit reparation, earned-income tax credits, predatory tax preparation and a variety of programming available to help those struggling to make ends meet.

Providing examples of the need for such education in Barry County, Forbes said that 21 percent of the families in the county receive some type of assistance with food purchases, adding that five years ago, millions of dollars in tax credits went unclaimed by area residents.

"We know that, in 2004, there was \$18.4 million not claimed by Barry County residents through the earned-income tax credit," she explained.

For couples participating in the program, Forbes said the most important factor in their success is agreement.

"It has to be their decision," she explained. "If it's a couple, both of them have to be very committed. You can have a couple that come into the program, but when only one of them is committed to that, it makes it very difficult to follow through."

"Can you imagine sitting down with someone and discussing your finances? This is not an easy process for people to work with. We have to remember that money management is not their top priority. Often times, their top priority ... is just trying to survive until tomorrow."

According to Forbes, 25 couples and individuals have served as mentors for the program so far. For those interested in becoming mentors, training is available nearly any time, she added.

"The more people that are familiar with this process, the more families we can provide assistance to," she said.

The Barry County United Way can be reached at 269-945-4010 or via e-mail to bcuw@sbcglobal.net.

# Good News From the Pulpit

## Be thankful

by **Glenn Branham**  
Pastor of Nashville Assembly of God

"I will praise God's name in song and glorify Him with thanksgiving. (Psalms 69:30)"

"If we cease to be thankful, maybe the Lord should withhold some of our blessings for a while." - Delbert Cole

The words, "thank you" are among our most potent expressions. They do good for the giver and recipient, alike. They're easy to say. They are so recognizable we can mouth them from a distance to convey gratitude. Plus, we have a lot for which to be thankful. Let's enumerate a few blessings.

**Sleep.** If you've ever lost a considerable amount you know how precious it is to sleep peacefully.

**Food.** Nothing fancy, just simple fare to nourish our bodies. (Think turkey, succotash, mashed potatoes, cranberries and pumpkin pie.)

**Family.** People we often take for granted but whom we would miss horribly if they were not in our lives.

**Friends.** More people we often fail to fully appreciate. When's the last time you've said, "Thank you for being a friend?"

**Health.** Not compared with someone else's. Be thankful for your health; it could always be worse. You ache, but you still get around. You might be sick, but it's not terminal. It's terminal, but you've got today.

**Freedom.** Not everyone reading this goes to church. We have the freedom to worship if, when, where and how we choose - if we choose. Many are denied this liberty.

And, for believers, salvation through Jesus.

All this is good, but remember, Thanksgiving is about thanking God for all He's given us - and done for us. Some textbooks imply the Pilgrims held Thanksgiving to show their gratitude to the Native Americans for their help. While that was part of why they were invited to the feast, it was a secondary reason, not the primary cause for their presence. The Pilgrims would have had the observance even had the Indians not come. They were grateful to God for His provision in all their hardships - the trip across the ocean, the death of half their group, the bitter winter, lack of food. Still, God had been good to them. He had blessed them and seen them through by His providence. They were thankful to Him.

Pause this week for thank-counting and thanks-giving.

# In My Own Write

by **Amy Jo Kinyon**



I have to say that my favorite holiday is coming up. Thanksgiving is such a great holiday. Its sole purpose is to reflect on all of the good things that have happened over the past year and give thanks to the one who made them all possible.

There's no pressure about buying the right gift, or hiding eggs in the right places. It's just a time of family, friends and good thoughts. Oh, there will be plenty of present pressure when Black Friday hits, and we start to get worried about getting all of our Christmas shopping done. But for one afternoon, it's all about relaxing.

This year, many may be grumbling, "What do I have to be thankful about?" Sure, the economy is in awful shape. There's a war raging, and our men and women are sent into harm's way each day. The stimulus funds don't seem to be stimulating anything except commentator chatter on the news. Michigan's unemployment rate is the lowest in the nation. Winter is on its way, bringing frigid temperatures and icy roads.

Along with all of these negatives, there are still plenty of positives happening. You can always find things for which to be thankful. Sometimes it just takes longer to find those positives when the negatives seem to be so prominent.

If we can't pay the bills, at least we can be thankful we're not our creditors.

We can be thankful to the soldiers who are willing to risk it all in another country while we stay home and complain about what we don't have.

Even if we can't see a lot of difference due to the stimulus funds, at least the government tried to do something to help, no matter how ineffective. Like Will Rogers said, "Be thankful we're not getting all the government we're paying for."

If we didn't have the cold days of winter, we probably wouldn't appreciate the warm, sunny days of spring and summer as much.

Though not a Buddhist, I still find some truth in a quote from Hindu Prince Gautama Siddharta, the founder of Buddhism, "Let us rise up and be thankful, for if we didn't learn a lot today, at least we learned a little, and if we didn't learn a little, at least we didn't get sick, and if we got sick, at least we didn't die; so, let us all be thankful."

So, to quote a children's book, even if we have a "terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day," we can be thankful that we even had a day at all.

## PLANNING COMMISSION DATE CHANGE FOR REGULAR MEETING

The Nashville Planning Commission regularly scheduled meeting for December 1, 2009 has been changed to November 30, 2009 at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers which is located at 203 N Main St. Nashville, MI. The Planning Commission discussion will include information on the county zoning overlay for the Village of Nashville. 06700353

## ATTENTION VERMONTVILLE VILLAGE RESIDENTS - NOTICE - PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing has been scheduled for 7:00pm, December 3, 2009 at the Regular Council Meeting at the Village Office, for the purpose of discussing adoption of the 2010 Budget. A copy of the budget is available for public inspection in the Clerk's Office at 121 Eastside Drive or at the Village Garage at 134 Westside Drive.

## THE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE PROPOSED TO BE LEVIED TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE A SUBJECT OF THIS HEARING.

The Village of Vermontville levies 15 mills. Public comments, either oral or written, are welcome at the Public Hearing. Handicapped persons needing assistance or aid should contact the Village Office during regular working hours forty eight hours prior to the meeting.

Shirley Harmon  
Village Clerk  
06700309

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## VILLAGE OF VERMONTVILLE County of Eaton, Michigan

**PUBLIC NOTICE** is hereby given that the Village Council of the Village of Vermontville will hold a public hearing on December 3, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at the Vermontville Village Hall, 121 Eastside Drive, on an increase of 3.4% COLA per thousand gallons usage in water and sewer rates. All comments are to be made in person or written and mailed to office, PO Box K, Vermontville MI 49096, up to the time of the public hearing. 06700312

## SCHOOLS OF CHOICE

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We are now accepting Schools of Choice applications for the second trimester, and remainder of the 2009-2010 school year. Enrollment is available for all grades K-12 and in the Alternative Education Program. Residents of Eaton, Barry, Calhoun, Ionia or Ingham County Intermediate School Districts are welcome to join our schools.

At Maple Valley Schools, your child receives the best of both worlds. The safety and personal care of a smaller rural school is combined with the program offerings of the larger urban districts. Teachers at "The Valley" will know and care for your child as an individual. Your child will be accepted for their strengths and skillfully challenged to improve on their weaknesses. Maple Valley Schools offers programs that prepare your children for their future.

Applications will be accepted from November 16, 2009 until November 27, 2009. For enrollment information, call 517/852-9699. 06700021

# Christmas 'Round the Town is next weekend

Thanksgiving is almost here, and that means it's time for Lakewood's 18th annual Christmas 'Round the Town.

The stops will be open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 27, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 28. This year shoppers have 14 stops on the tour. Fliers with maps to the stops are available at many area businesses.

Most stops will have Christmas cookies to nibble, and many stops are serving lunch. Each venue will have a door prize. To qualify for the prize, have fliers marked at each stop. Those with six stops marked will be entered into the drawing for the door prize at the stop where they turn in the flier.

As a bonus prize, those who go to all 14 stops, in addition to being entered into the drawing for the door prize, they will be entered into a drawing to win a \$25 gas gift card.

• Stop 1 Eagle Point Crafters at 1423 Fourth Avenue in Lake Odessa — current organizers of this event have been a stop on this tour for 12 years. They will feature their popular "Gifts to Go" (unique gifts

ready to give for adults and kids), painted wooden items, angel and seasonal towels, pet Christmas stockings, fleece blankets, holiday and regular jewelry, cloth totes and purses; little girl dress-up kits, sucker bouquets and a little of this and that.

• Stop 2 MADE with Love Crafts at 3 C's Fitness Center located at 1137 Fourth Ave., Lake Odessa. Megan, Andrea, Della and Elaine have a wide variety of affordable gifts and crafts for Christmas. See lighted glass box presents, soy candles, Old World Santas, crocheted and knitted items, jewelry, stuffed animals, wreath bows, tabletop Christmas trees, etched glass, kitty toys, decorated pails and notebooks, Christmas ornaments and more.

• Stop 3 A Village Christmas is located at the Clarksville Village Hall, Main Street, with more than 10 crafters and vendors. Many are returning from last year. Simple Pleasures Body and Bath from Lowell will have lotions, soaps, body sprays and more. Laura's Luminaries features candles, candle holders, fire starters,

car air freshener and more. Main Street Embroidery has a variety of embroidered household items. Carmine Bennett will be back with her all-natural soaps. Shekinah Reser will have tea towels with a crocheted edge, hanging kitchen towels and knit dishcloths.

Bijou by Paula features hand-crafted jewelry by Paula Reser. Bud Brown will once again have his hand-crafted wooden wine stoppers, pens and toothpick holders. Judith Transue will have hand-crafted jewelry. Angel Valley Photography will be available to schedule a family Christmas portrait as well as photographic prints for sale. Pat Reser and Jerry Womboldt will have hand-crafted pins and more. They will also have vendors from home-based party organization including Tupperware (Jean Huver) Stampin' Up (Missy Cronk), Rada Cutlery (Michele Erb) and Avon (Dawn Reser).

• Stop 4 Farm House Crafts will be held in the centennial house at 370 S. Main St. in Clarksville. It is the big white house on the sesquicentennial farm near the railroad crossing. At this stop will be Pam's Paintings (Pam Nash) with hand-painted ornaments of wood, glass, porcelain, metal, glass and wooden items and more. Ashley's Dream (Cindy Southworth) will also be there with baked goods, handmade cards, bookmarks, note holders, gift tags, needle felted ornaments and more. They have enjoyed being part of this event and have made many friends from far and wide.

• Stop 5 Welcome to Pleasant Valley United Brethren Church located at 13120 Bell Road (corner of M-50 and Bell Road.) Lake Odessa. This is a one-stop shopping site for Christmas 'Round the Town 2009, with a baked potato and soup bar

both days. The church will host 15 crafters who specialize in everything from doilies and dolls to kitchen items. Many handmade decorations for the holidays, jewelry, wooden crafts, wearable art and plus clothing can be found here.

• Stop 6 Main Street Crafters stop located at 520 Fourth Ave., Lake Odessa, will present wooden toys, tables, clothes bars, tablecloths and runners, handbags and other cloth items plus more. Visit Terri and Theresa and check what they have been making.

• Stop 7 Support the VFW Ladies Auxiliary Post 4461 located at 3600 Tupper Lake Road, Lake Odessa. Homemade soups, desserts, sandwiches, coffee and rolls will be served to shoppers who visit the four-plus crafters located here.

• Stop 8 Warm, country charm will envelop visitors to the showroom at Kathy's Flower Patch, 1453 Jordan Lake St., Lake Odessa. From warm and spicy candles to gift ware, Kathy's has it all for holiday gift-giving. Kathy's Flower Patch has several Christmas trees, all decorated in an array of themes. Seasonal accents and unique floral designs are available to embellish homes for the holidays. Kathy and her staff can also create custom designs to complement personal styles. Kathy's also offers tasty treats from appetizer dips to coffees, cocoas, and mulling spices. Custom gift baskets can be made to order. As always, Kathy's annual holiday open house will be during Christmas 'Round the Town.

• Stop 9 Catt Creations at 862 Beech St., Lake Odessa. Canda Flores is presenting her handmade jewelry from Swarovski crystals and pendants from Scrabble tiles. Sadie Catt has made precious baby bibs, burp cloths and changing pads. Kim (Catt)

Leadbetter has quilted items for home decor and for baby dolls. Georgia Catt has monogrammed pillows (collegiate, nautical and personal decor) also wool felted purses and various winter scarves to complete the showcase.

• Stop 10 4 Ever Friends and Wellman Wonderland are together at 6834 E. Brown Road, Lake Odessa. This stop is the original home of Christmas 'Round the Town hosted by Jeanne Ayres. New items this year include American Girl doll clothes and chairs, home-made soaps, toiletries and stitcheries. They also have favorites from the past, including primitives, snowmen, Raggedy Ann and Andy, Santas, tree ornaments, wooden snowmen light boxes and snowmen totes and a large selection of bird houses.

They will have jewelry with real gems and hand-painted holiday pictures and baked goods. This stop has been doing shows for 39 years. The crafters are Jeanne, Jeannette, Ann and Laurie. Stop in for a hot gingerbread man and spiced cider.

• Stop 11 The Cinnamon House at 7653 Davenport Road, Woodland will feature ornaments, swag starter kits, wreaths, cookies, treats, rag dolls, soaps, gift combos, seasonal decorations, grungy candles and much more. Sue Benjamin and Karen Winebrenner are the crafters.

• Stop 12 The Lake Odessa Museum Complex will be hosting a great variety of crafters. The museum is operated by the Lake Odessa Area Historical Society and is funded through projects such as this. Santa will be at the museum Friday from 1 to 5 p.m. The Depot Gift Shop will feature a large stock of Christmas and holiday items as well as a wide selection of Sechler's Pickles.

A home-made baked goods sale also will be offered at this stop. The crafters scheduled to be a part of this year's event include Forget-Me-Nots by Kay Klein with silk and dried flowers; Mom's Candles by Serina Currier with soy soaps and candles; Down Home Crafts by Mary Pennington and Kathy Addison with holiday crafts, hats, scarves and more; Carolyn Jackson with handcrafted jewelry; Anita's Art by Anita Villanueva with woodburning and artwork; Friendly Folks by Betty Carey with hand-painted folk art; handmade country gifts by Kathy Bengel with fabric Santas, snowmen and ornaments, plus several more crafters with a diverse selection. Lakewood Habitat for Humanity also will have a fundraising booth at this stop.

As always there are lots of surprises with something for all ages.

• Stop 13 Endless Expressions located at 934 Fourth Ave., Lake Odessa.

Owner Lana Tuitman's shop is nostalgic and whimsical, offering everything personalized, right down to holiday-scented candles and aprons for preparing holiday meals.

Lana offers custom-designed varsity coats. Be sure to see her own design on individually crafted shirts.

Louise Diehl, a local artist, is featuring one-of-a-kind art pieces during the season.

• Stop 14: A visit to this stop at 14194 Tasker Road Lake Odessa will be lots of fun. At Memories Portrait Studio enjoy a gift of a free 4-by-6 portrait on site, in a single photo, a mother-daughter portrait, a group of friends or any combination.

Lynette's Designs will have many adorable hand-made purses and baby items such as bibs, burp cloths, diaper bags and bath towels.

## Talking turkey

In the fall of 1621, the Pilgrims, early settlers of Plymouth Colony, held a three-day feast to celebrate a bountiful harvest, an event many regard as the nation's first Thanksgiving.

It eventually became a national holiday in 1863 when President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday of November as a national day of Thanksgiving.

Later, President Franklin Roosevelt clarified that Thanksgiving should always be celebrated on the fourth Thursday of the month to encourage earlier holiday shopping, never on the occasional fifth Thursday.

The preliminary estimate of turkeys raised in the United States in 2009 is 250 million. That's down 8 percent from the number raised during 2008. The turkeys produced in 2008 together weighed 7.9 billion pounds and were valued at \$4.5 billion.

In 2009, Barry County ranked eighth in the state of Michigan for revenue from poultry and egg production and 18th among the state's 83 counties for the number of poultry operations.

Sources: American Farm Bureau Federation, U.S. Census Bureau, and Michigan Department of Agriculture.

## Vermontville Christmas Basket program now accepting donations

The Vermontville Christmas Basket program, which is coordinated by the Vermontville Women's Club and supported by local churches, businesses and service organizations, is seeking donations to make

the holidays brighter for local families.

Donation sites for toys and non-perishable food items have been set up at Maplewood Elementary in Vermontville, the Vermontville Post Office

and Independent Bank on Main Street. The deadline for toy donations is Friday, Nov. 27, and the deadline for food donations is Friday, Dec. 18.

Those who wish to receive a Christmas basket need to

register with the Family Independence Agency in Charlotte, 517-543-0860. The baskets will be available for pickup at the Vermontville Bible Church Saturday, Dec. 19, from 9 to 11 a.m.

For more information about the Christmas basket program, call Mary Fisher at 517-726-0670.

H1N1, continued from page 1

apart.

Therefore before and after receiving H1N1 and seasonal influenza vaccine those at risk for complications should plan with their doctor for early access to antiviral medications; know when to seek emergency medical care, and practice personal hygiene.

For additional information please see [www.barryeaton-health.org](http://www.barryeaton-health.org) and [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu)

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**Community Notices**  
**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD.** Shoe boxes may be dropped off at Grace Ministry Center at 8950 E. M-79 Hwy., just west of Nashville. Receiving hours are on November 16th-22nd, M-T-TH-F by appointment W., 6pm-8pm, Sat., 11am-noon, Sun., 9am-12:30pm. To set up appointments or ask questions call Lisa at church office (517)852-1783

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# Kent chooses to play basketball at U. of Findlay

by Brett Bremer  
Sports Editor

"Tennessee and Clemson wanted me really bad," joked Maple Valley senior Jennifer Kent before signing her National Letter of Intent Tuesday afternoon to join the University of Findlay Women's Basketball program.

While the top Division I programs in the country weren't beating down her door, she did have plenty of options and feels she made a good choice.

Kent called it the "worst day" in early July when she made her decision. She planned on calling Findlay and telling them she planned on joining their program. An hour before the planned call, she got a call from Northwood with a scholarship offer, then an hour later got a call from Saginaw Valley State University, and later still an e-mail from the University of Pennsylvania.

"I was still happy, and didn't regret my decision" said Kent. "The coaches at Findlay are amazing, and the girls are the type of girls I fit

in with. They remind me of the girls I play AAU with."

Kent started on traveling teams in fourth grade, in 8th grade played AAU ball out of the Lansing area for the first time, and also has been a member of the Maple Valley varsity girls' basketball team since her freshman year.

There have been ups and downs in those three seasons at Maple Valley. Because of her size, Kent has been a post player for most of her time on the varsity team. She expects to play a forward or even a guard spot in college.

"I would rather play the two or the three," said Kent. "My freshman and sophomore years I resented (playing center), because I knew in college I wouldn't be playing center.

"But it will benefit me. I have that experience."

Even away from her natural position, Kent has earned all-conference honors in the Kalamazoo Valley Association in each of the past two seasons. As a junior, she led the Lions in scoring at 11.7 points per game and rebounding at 6.6 per

contest. She also blocked nearly three shots a game.

Maple Valley varsity girls' basketball coach Landon Wilkes has seen Kent's growth both on and off the court.

"Maturity. She's matured," said Wilkes. "You have to put it out there for them in black and white. In an ideal situation you'd get to play a 2-3-4, and in a small school like ours the team needs you down there (in the post)."

Kent will need to continue to mature and grow at Findlay.

"They're going to demand a lot more from here than I ever have," Wilkes said.

Kent has already heard about some of that.

"I need to get bigger, which is what every coach says," said Kent. "I need to get in the weight room, and work on my ball handling."

In the classroom, Kent said she plans on studying business at Findlay with an eye on accounting at the start.



Maple Valley senior Jennifer Kent is all smiles as she signs her National Letter of Intent to join the University of Findlay Women's Basketball program on Tuesday. She was joined by her parents Denise and John (from left) and Maple Valley varsity girls' basketball coach Landon Wilkes. (Photo by Brett Bremer)

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## Festival of trees set at Putnam

Putnam District Library in Nashville has announced its second annual festival of trees. Any local organization or business is invited to participate by decorating a small tabletop tree to reflect the unique ways they serve the community.

Reservations are being accepted now and spots are on a first-come, first-served basis. Drop-off dates for decorated trees will be Nov. 31 and Dec. 1.

Space and trees are limited, so organizations are encouraged to reserve spots as soon as possible. Stop by or call the library or e-mail Shauna Swantek at putnamlibrary.director@yahoo.com

to reserve your tree. Residents also are asked to note that the library will be closed on the Friday and Saturday following Thanksgiving.

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## FOUNDATION, continued from page 1

benefited for the past 70 years from the man who invented breakfast cereal.

Built in 1939, the Kellogg School in Nashville has witnessed hundreds, if not thousands, of students pass through its halls. The school was built with contributions from W.K. Kellogg Foundation, founded in 1930. The creator of corn flakes donated hundreds of thousands of dollars toward the construction of area schools, many in Battle Creek and Barry County. The contributions had the stipulation that each school must include the philan-

thropist's name in the title, hence the Nashville W. K. Kellogg School.

Prior to the consolidation of the Vermontville and Nashville districts in 1963, Kellogg School was home of the Tigers. After the two districts joined together, the building housed elementary students. Students in fourth grade attended that school until they were moved to Maplewood Elementary in 1999. Now, the facility is used for the alternative and adult education programs.

Those two programs are celebrating a birthday of their own, their 10th year in

the building, and Principal Chris Parkinson recalls the move from a small church building across the street into the spacious halls of the school.

"Just the space alone — we tried to cram three classrooms into that little building," said Parkinson, pointing to the small chapel. "What the move did is it allowed the program to expand in numbers."

At the time of the move, about 60 students were enrolled. Most years that number has been nearly tripled, though this year 115 students are currently attend-

ing. When the program began, administrators were instructed that they needed 20 students enrolled. The initial number of students was double that total and has continued to increase ever since.

Debbie Baker has worked in the program since the beginning and said the move provided more opportunities and a better learning environment for the students.

"I thought it was heaven, having an actual gym," recalled Baker.

Parkinson said the school is used throughout the year for evening activities and on an almost nightly basis during the winter months. Floor hockey, basketball and an antiques show are just a few of the activities that occur within its historic walls (this reporter can even remember a baton twirling class in its gym, though she dropped the baton more often than she caught it).

Throughout 2010, the foundation will be celebrating Kellogg's sesquicentennial birthday with a variety of events. A press release distributed by the foundation explains its goal in celebrating his birthday:

"As the celebrations continue throughout the year, residents and visitors alike will find opportunities to reflect on the many ways W. K. Kellogg made a lasting impact on not only our community, but on the world, as well."



The W. K. Kellogg School in Nashville was built with the help of contributions from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation and is one of many to bear the cereal maker's name. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)

Locally, that impact can be seen in the tall white pillars of the Nashville W. K. Kellogg School and also on the faces of proud families and teachers who witness the graduation of students each year in the gym.

"Our programs are geared toward students who, for whatever reason, struggled in a traditional high school setting. We're attempting more and more each year to align the curriculum with the high school. It makes it tough because some of our kids have struggled in the traditional classroom," said Parkinson. "When you see

the kids graduating each year, it is so rewarding. It's just a great feeling to know you've helped these kids get to that point."

From his entrepreneurial beginnings, Kellogg built a global company that now enjoys \$13 billion dollars in annual sales. The company's success allowed him to establish the W.K. Kellogg Foundation in 1930, to which by his death in 1951, he was said to have given more than \$44 million, to continue his philosophy of investing his money in people.

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