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# Library's children section to receive facelift in new year

by Amy Jo Kinyon  
 Staff Writer

Christmas came a little early this year for the Vermontville Township Library. A \$25,000 check from the Robert C. Reinhardt Library Fund was unwrapped after it arrived in the mail Tuesday afternoon.

The grant will be used to renovate the children's section of the library, install a new ceiling throughout the facility and replace the carpeting, among other items.

Library Director Carla Rumsey said she could not

be happier with the grant and the positive changes it will create in the coming months.

"It's going to create a much more user-friendly kid's section," said Rumsey.

New shelves that will better accommodate books and allow for displaying select titles will make items more accessible to students. The new shelves will be built 42 inches high so children will be able to reach titles more easily, she added.

Rumsey said the current carpet was installed nearly 15 years ago when the previ-

ous green and white striped shag carpet was replaced.

Unlike other grants, the funds can only be applied for on an invitation basis; the Reinhardt organization contacted the library. After that initial phone call, Rumsey said the library decided to send a proposal, not truly believing they would be successful.

"They called and wanted to know if we owned the building since libraries who lease their facility are not eligible for the grant. We had never heard of them before,"

said Rumsey. "At that time, they didn't say what the grant was for or how much it was for. We thought, 'Well, we'll do this, but what are the chances?'"

Turns out, the chances were in the library's favor. The library received the application via e-mail near the end of October, and Rumsey said she worked on the application through most of November. Along with the application, Rumsey had to provide plans and cost estimates for the projects included, something she had

to start from scratch. "We had no plans for renovations, so we had to decide

library. I like to read all the books the library has so please re-do the children's

## Car collision proves fatal for Lansing pedestrian

Eaton County Sheriff's deputies responded to a car and pedestrian fatal crash Wednesday at 5:30 a.m. on West Saginaw Highway east of Canal Road in Delta Township across from the Speedway gas station.

The pedestrian, who was struck and killed, was identified as Michael Bicknese, age 39, of Lansing.

The vehicle, a 2004 Saturn Vue, was driven by a 63-year-old Grand Ledge man.

Bicknese, who was wearing dark clothing, was

walking in the curb lane of the roadway when he was struck and killed. Investigators are not sure why Bicknese was walking in the roadway since there was a plowed sidewalk available to him.

Alcohol consumption by Bicknese may have been a factor in the incident, according to the sheriff's department, although toxicology results will not be available for several weeks.

The incident remains under investigation.



Showing one of her favorite books, Brooklyn Scott helped the library win the grant by writing a letter in support of the project. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)



Vermontville Library Director Carla Rumsey shows the \$25,000 check from the Robert C. Reinhardt Library fund. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)

what we could do if given the money," said Rumsey. "We have no budget for improvements of that kind, anyway."

The library also had a bit of help from its patrons. Brooklyn Scott, a fourth grade student at Maplewood Elementary, wrote a letter and included a picture of the library.

"Will you please re-do the children's part of the library? I would really appreciate it if you would, pretty please. I like all the stuff we do at the

part," Scott wrote in her letter.

The Reinhardt fund provides grants to libraries in comparatively isolated rural and less populated areas in Michigan, according to information on the grant application. Building improvements or library components such as computers or other technology fall within the grant parameters.

The library is housed in the lower level of the Vermontville Opera House located at 120 E. First St.



## Leadership students, local crafters help elementary students

Maple Valley High School leadership students, Shawndenae Rost (left) and Aliena Frahy help wrap presents for students during the 'gift shoppe' at Maplewood Elementary. The event was postponed due to snow days but was held Dec. 14 and 15 in the school gym.

## Students collect for people in need

Skills USA students from the Eaton Intermediate School District Career Preparation Center collected canned food items for the Mid-Michigan Red Cross Food Distribution Center.

Students collected 996 canned and non-perishable items to help the needy. The classes competed against each other to see who could collect the most. The computer-aided drafting class (instructor Dave Kocsis) earned first place in the morning session after collecting 175 items. The auto technology class (instructor Erik Schachterle) earned first place in the afternoon session with a total of 243 items collected.

The center distributes food to several area counties including Clinton, Eaton, Ingham, Shiawassee, Ionia and Barry.

At right, skills USA students collected canned food items for the Mid-Michigan Red Cross Food Distribution Center.



**In This Issue...**

- Hundreds benefit from Center of Hope event
- Choir gets workout with busy performance schedule
- Hastings City Bank earns five-star rating
- Lions need overtime to get past Pennfield's Panthers



## Red hatters dine and shop

The Nashville Red Hatters group met at the English Inn in Eaton Rapids. After lunch, the group went to Mason to peruse the antique shops. Red Hatters who took part in the trip included (from left) Marilyn Rousch, Theresa Hull, Anita Pyle, Bernie Murdoch, Gerrie Long, Cathy Nichols, Marge Wolfe, Mary Gurd, Ardy Robotham, Jeri Brinks and Judy Degroot.

# Hundreds benefit from Center of Hope event

by Amy Jo Kinyon  
Staff Writer

Santa's workshop at the Maple Valley Community Center of Hope helped more than 200 individuals have a brighter Christmas. The center and its volunteers gave local residents in need an opportunity to have gifts for family members. Children in those families also were given a chance to shop separately from their parents, to keep the presents a surprise until Christmas.

The workshop has been held for almost a decade and over the years has helped thousands of local residents have a little less stress during the holiday season. This year, Shane McNeill of Maple Valley Pharmacy was able to make special arrangements with the North Pole and have Santa make a stop.

Jan Johnson has worked at the event and said it comes down to a simple desire to help those in need.

"I guess I've worked each year just to provide Christmas to people who might not otherwise have a Christmas," said Johnson.

She, along with Karen Snyder, worked to put together this year's event, which can be counted as a success, according to Cathy



Mary Chapman (left) and Nancy Carpenter help wrap presents at the workshop. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)



Janet Jarman tends the check-in station at the workshop. (Photo by Amy Jo Kinyon)

Christman, pastor of the Nashville United Methodist Church and executive director for the Center of Hope.

"It was a great success," she said, adding her appreciation to "all those who donated and volunteered."

Many people, as they were leaving, said thanked the organizers and others who made the distribution possible.

"Without you, we wouldn't have a Christmas," Christman said they were told.

## Happy New Year to All

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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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Sun: 9:00 ..... Sunday School  
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11:00 ..... Fellowship

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Children's Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.  
Adult Sunday School: 10:50 a.m.  
United Methodist Women: 3rd Thursday

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### NASHVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

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Sunday School ..... 9:45 a.m.  
A.M. Service ..... 11 a.m.  
P.M. Service ..... 6 p.m.  
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Evening Worship ..... 6 p.m.  
Wednesday Evening at 6 p.m.: PASTOR JEFF SWIFT  
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Sunday Mass ..... 9:45 a.m.  
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250 N. Main St., Vermontville  
Sunday School ..... 9:45 a.m.  
Worship Service ..... 11 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Service ..... 6 p.m.  
Wed. Evening Service ..... 6:30 p.m.  
AWANA ..... 6:30-8 p.m. Wed.  
PASTOR DANIEL E. SMITH

### VERMONTVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

108 North Main, Vermontville  
PASTOR KATHY SMITH  
517-726-0526  
Adult and Youth Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.  
United Methodist Women: 2nd Tuesday

# Choir gets workout with busy performance schedule

by Amy Jo Kinyon  
Staff Writer

The Maple Valley High School Honors Choir has performed at a variety of events during the past year. Director Ryan Rosin has worked not just the "vocal chops" of the students but also on entertaining the community.

"We have enjoyed enter-



The concert featured more than 10 student solos, including one by Joe Benedict. (Photo provided)

taining for numerous service organizations this year including fundraiser for the Maple Valley Memorial Scholarship Foundation, multiple sclerosis benefit, Barry County women's service organization, and now the Eaton County Youth Facility benefit, as well as high school concerts and assemblies," wrote Rosin in a recent e-mail.

For the first time, the group performed at the Eaton County Juvenile Court Christmas Luncheon Wednesday, Dec. 16. Each year, an invitation is sent out to one high school group to provide the entertainment for the event. The choir performed five songs and featured a mix of a capella music, piano accompaniment and a live rock band featuring high school students.

At the concert, several vocalists showed off their singing talents with solos including Joe Benedict, Lauren Trumble, Megan Shoemaker, Emily Franks,

Adam Zank, Ian Cogswell, Kaitlin Furlong, Clint Franklin, Brittany Snook and

different communities and showcasing their talent," Gonser told the school board

received several very nice comments afterwards on the performance," said Gonser;

"another great showing by the kids of the Valley for the surrounding communities."



Megan Shoemaker (center) shares her vocal skills during a solo. (Photo provided)



The Maple Valley Honors Choir recently performed at the Eaton County Youth Facility Christmas luncheon. (Photo provided)

Sydney Khouri.

High School Principal Todd Gonser said Rosin has created a dynamic program that benefits students and residents.

"Ryan has done a nice job of exposing our group to the

at its most recent meeting.

Gonser said the honors choir is just one of the many ways Maple Valley students are given to develop their skills and talents.

"Ryan and the kids turned it up for the group, and I



A live band backs the honors choir during some of its performances. (Photo provided)

## Everyone wins in Santa contest



Posting an invitation on Facebook Sunday evening, Dec. 20, owner Duane Eldred asked local residents to show off their best Santa costume. Four Santas made their way to Duey's Corner in Vermontville. Eldred said the decision to pick just one winner was so difficult that all four contestant received a prize. Kevin Desgrange (from left), Tyler Desgrange, Ford Feigner and Quintin Feigner pose with Eldred for a photo during the contest. "The contest went well, it made for a fun night," said Eldred. "It was so hard to pick, we crowned them all."

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## State seeks grant proposals to promote agricultural products

Michigan Department of Agriculture Director Don Koivisto has announced that the United States Department of Agriculture's Federal/State Marketing Improvement Program (FSMIP) will distribute \$1.3 million in federal matching funds nationwide to the food and agriculture industry. The program is administered by state departments of agriculture.

"The program allows us to leverage federal and private resources to develop and enhance Michigan's dynamic agriculture industry," said Koivisto. "We encourage

Michigan food and agriculture organizations to take advantage of this opportunity to expand their programs."

Proposals may deal with barriers, challenges or opportunities manifesting at any stage of the marketing chain including direct, wholesale and retail. Proposals may involve small, medium or large-scale agricultural entities, but should potentially benefit multiple producers or agribusinesses.

Proposals that benefit one business or individual will not be considered.

Eligible agricultural categories include livestock, livestock products, food and feed crops, fish, horticulture, viticulture, apiary, forest products and processed or manufactured products derived from such commodities. Reflecting the growing diversity of U.S. agriculture in recent years, FSMIP has funded projects dealing with nutraceuticals, bioenergy, compost and products made from agricultural residues.

Proposals reflecting a collaborative approach between scientists, academia, and the farm sector are of particular

interest.

The application and guidelines are available at [www.ams.usda.gov/FSMIP](http://www.ams.usda.gov/FSMIP) and [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). Applicants should be sure to read the guidelines carefully, which have had some changes. Proposals must be received by 5 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 27, 2010.

MDA will review and forward approved submissions to USDA/AMS. Applications should be submitted electronically to Mike DiBernardo at [dibernardom@michigan.gov](mailto:dibernardom@michigan.gov) or call 517-373-9144, with any questions.

Good News From the Pulpit

## Leave failures behind in 2009

by Pastor Daniel E. Smith  
Vermontville Bible Church

As we look back over the year 2009, we all have so many things for which to be thankful. However, there are always failures that we feel badly about. I often say, "failure doesn't have to be terminal."

I love reading the story of Abraham Lincoln, who over the years failed in business, failed to be elected to congress twice (he was elected once for one term), failed to be elected to the senate, and as vice president, but who eventually became one of the greatest presidents we ever had.

Failure doesn't have to be terminal. That is especially true in the spiritual realm. We have a pardoning God who will forgive all of our sin. One of the more interesting stories of God's forgiveness is John Mark. According to Acts 12, John Mark apparently came from a wealthy home, with servants. I Peter 5:13 says that Peter himself led John Mark to Christ. Colossians 4:10 says that John Mark was Barnabas' cousin. He had so much potential. But then you read about him washing out on the first missionary journey in Acts 12:13, "John Mark left them (Paul and Barnabas) and returned to Jerusalem." We are never told why he went home to mama, but he did.

When Barnabas wanted to take John Mark on another missionary journey, Paul refused. Paul no longer trusted him. The disagreement was so great that Barnabas went one way, and Paul went another. The fascinating truth is that years later, Paul realized that John Mark had matured and was of great value to God and to himself. Paul wrote to Timothy in 2 Timothy 4:12, "Pick up Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for service." Later John Mark is the man God used to write the Gospel of Mark.

None of us have arrived. We all fail. But we serve an incredibly forgiving God.

As we remember the past year, remember John Mark and remember that failure doesn't have to be terminal.

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Thursday, December 31st  
New Year's Eve Day - Close at 5 pm

Friday, January 1st  
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Left to right: Jane, Cathy, Anita, Dawn, Dawn



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(Note... As of Jan. 1st, there will be no more lunches or soft serve until March 1st. Thank you!)

WINTER HOURS: MON-THU 9-7 & FRI-SAT 9-8

## Nashville VFW Post 8260

### New Years Eve Celebration

December 31st • 8pm

Welcome in 2010 with horns, leis, hats, noise maker, streamers, champagne toast, ballon drop.

Food Buffet throughout the evening.  
Breakfast Buffet at 12:30am.

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(8 or more reserve early. Call after 4pm except Tuesday)

517-852-9260

# Independent Bank partners with Freddie Mac in homeowner outreach and counseling

Independent Bank, which has a branch in Vermontville, announced Tuesday that it is partnering with Freddie Mac in an effort to expand outreach for home ownership counseling.

Freddie Mac will be donating an operating grant and counseling materials, while Independent Bank associates will donate additional support for two counseling initiatives provided by

Freddie Mac.

The first program, "Get the Facts," is an outreach and education initiative intended to dispel common misconceptions about buying and owning a home. The second initiative, "Get Credit Smart," is a comprehensive consumer financial literacy curriculum that was developed by Freddie Mac in partnership with various local and national nonprofit agen-

cies.

Several nonprofit organizations have been selected statewide to receive the grants, materials and counseling support. The organizations that will receive the grants and support include: Neighborhoods Inc. of Battle Creek, the Center for Financial Health, with offices in Lansing and East Lansing and Circle of Love CDC in Saginaw.

Neighborhoods Inc. of Battle Creek is a chartered member of NeighborWorks America.

"This initiative demonstrates our commitment to the nonprofit organizations and communities we serve," said Russ Daniel, senior vice president of mortgage lending at Independent Bank. "We are one of only a few banks to engage in this sort of initiative. There is a great need for this type of educa-

tion right now, and we are proud to go above and beyond to make sure people can get that education."

The goal is to reach at least 100 people at each agency over the next 12 months through counseling

seminars. To help reach that goal, Independent Bank loan officers will donate their time to assist with the seminars.



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## LEGAL NOTICE

AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. NOTIFY (248) 362-6100 IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY. MORTGAGE SALE - Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Keith R. Gilbert, a single man of Barry County, Michigan, Mortgagor to U.S. Bank National Association ND dated the 20th day of January, A.D. 2006, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds, for the County of Barry and State of Michigan, on the 26th day of January, A.D. 2006, in Instrument No. 1159376 of Barry Records, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, for principal of \$109,591.08 (one hundred nine thousand five hundred ninety-one and 08/100) plus accrued interest at 6.1% (six point one) percent per annum. And no suit proceedings at law or in equity having been instituted to recover the debt secured by said mortgage or any part thereof. Now, therefore, by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, and pursuant to the statute of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that on, the 7th day of January, A.D., 2010, at 1:00:00 PM said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at public auction, to the highest bidder, at the Barry County Courthouse in Hastings, MI, Barry County, Michigan, of the premises described in said mortgage. Which said premises are described as follows: All that certain piece or parcel of land situate in the Township of Hope, in the County of Barry and State of Michigan and described as follows to wit: Township of Hope, County of Barry, Michigan: Parcel of land located in the Southeast 1/4 of Section 9, Town 2 North, Range 9 West, described as: Commencing at the South 1/4 corner of said Section 9, thence North 03 degrees 06 minutes 51 seconds East, along the North and South 1/4 line of said Section 9, thence North 03 degrees 06 minutes 51 seconds East, 107.35 feet; thence North 19 degrees 28 minutes 04 seconds West, 142.65 feet; thence North 50 degrees 22 minutes 08 seconds West, 68.88 feet; thence North 84 degrees 26 minutes 46 seconds West, 160.58 feet to said North and South 1/4 line and the point of beginning. AND Parcel of land located in the Southeast 1/4 of Section 9, Town 2 North, Range 9 West, described as: Commencing at the South 1/4 corner of said Section 9, thence North 03 degrees 06 minutes 51 seconds East, along the North and South 1/4 line of said Section, 2,029.23 feet to the point of beginning; thence continuing North 03 degrees 06 minutes 51 seconds East, along said North and South 1/4 line, 66.06 feet; thence South 84 degrees 26 minutes 46 seconds East, 183.62 feet; thence South 50 degrees 22 minutes 08 seconds East, 107.35 feet; thence South 19 degrees 28 minutes 04 seconds East, 122.88 feet; thence South 79 degrees 20 minutes 05 seconds East, 184.57 feet; thence South 03 degrees 06 minutes 51 seconds West, 66.58 feet; thence North 79 degrees 20 minutes 05 seconds West, 231.32 feet; thence North 19 degrees 28 minutes 04 seconds West, 142.65 feet; thence North 50 degrees 22 minutes 08 seconds West, 68.88 feet; thence North 84 degrees 26 minutes 46 seconds West, 160.58 feet to said North and South 1/4 line and the point of beginning. AND Parcel of land located in the Southeast 1/4 of Section 9, Town 2 North, Range 9 West, described as: Commencing at the South 1/4 corner of said Section 9, thence North 03 degrees 06 minutes 51 seconds East, along the North and South 1/4 line of said Section, 2,029.23 feet to the point of beginning; thence continuing North 03 degrees 06 minutes 51 seconds East, along said North and South 1/4 line, 66.06 feet; thence South 84 degrees 26 minutes 46 seconds East, 183.62 feet; thence South 50 degrees 22 minutes 08 seconds East, 107.35 feet; thence South 19 degrees 28 minutes 04 seconds West, 142.65 feet; thence North 50 degrees 22 minutes 08 seconds West, 68.88 feet; thence North 84 degrees 26 minutes 46 seconds West, 160.58 feet to said North and South 1/4 line and the point of beginning. Commonly known as: 4422 Carr Drive Parcel Number 08-07-009-001-67 The redemption period shall be six months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. Dated: December 5, 2009 WELTMAN, WEINBERG & REIS CO., L.P.A. By: Michael I. Rich (P-41938) Attorney for Plaintiff Weltman, Weinberg & Reis Co., L.P.A. 2155 Butterfield Drive Suite 200-S Troy, MI 48064 WWR# 10029093 ASAP# 3362884 12/05/2009, 12/12/2009, 12/19/2009, 12/26/2009

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## Hastings City Bank earns five-star rating

Hastings City Bank has been awarded a 5-Star Superior rating from BauerFinancial Inc. of Coral Gables, Fla. The five-star rating is based on the overall financial condition of the bank and is the highest rating attainable from BauerFinancial (the nation's

bank rating firm for over a quarter of a century).

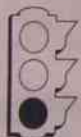
"Sheila Bair, chairman of the FDIC, said recently that community banks are the lifeblood of our financial system, and that certainly is true," said Karen L. Dorway, president of BauerFinancial. "What she doesn't say is that

not all community banks, or all banks for that matter, are created equal. Hastings City Bank has passed BauerFinancial's stringent stress test with flying colors. Not only is it a vital part of its community, it is a prime example of what all community banks should strive for."

Established in 1886, Hastings City Bank has been serving the banking needs of its neighbors and friends for 123 years. It operates through six offices in Bellevue, Caledonia, Hastings, Middleville, Nashville and Wayland or online at [www.hastingscitybank.com](http://www.hastingscitybank.com).

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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

## Lions need overtime to get past Pennfield's Panthers

by Brett Bremer  
 Sports Editor

The Lions lost a decent sized lead, then had to overcome a small deficit in overtime to get their second Kalamazoo Valley Association win of the season Tuesday night at Pennfield.

Jordan Beachnau knocked down the front end of a one-and-one, then hit a shot following a Jennifer Kent rebound of her missed second attempt to put the Lions in front for good in the extra session. They scored a 51-48 victory.

"We squeaked one out in OT," said Maple Valley varsity girls' basketball coach Landon Wilkes. "It wasn't pretty, but we squeaked one out."

The Lions led the ball game 18-9 at the end of the first quarter. Maple Valley did a better job of running the floor than the host Panthers early on in the ball game.

"We actually ran out to a pretty decent lead, but we even had a bigger lead than (18-9)," said Wilkes. "We were up 12 one time. They kept on fighting back, and fighting back."

By the end of the third quarter, the two teams were tied at 36-36. Both teams tallied six points in the fourth to go into overtime tied at 42-42.

Elizabeth Stewart paced the Lions on the night with 16 points. Kent finished with 15 and Mikaela Bromley seven.

Breanna Pelloni led the Panthers with 22 points.

"She just plays inside," Wilkes said of Pelloni. "She was 6-of-10 from the line with eight field goals. She just roams around the basket and causes havoc in there."

Pennfield also got eight points each from Megan Parker and Megan Ethier.

Maple Valley is now 3-3 overall, and 2-3 in the KVA.

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Happy Holidays

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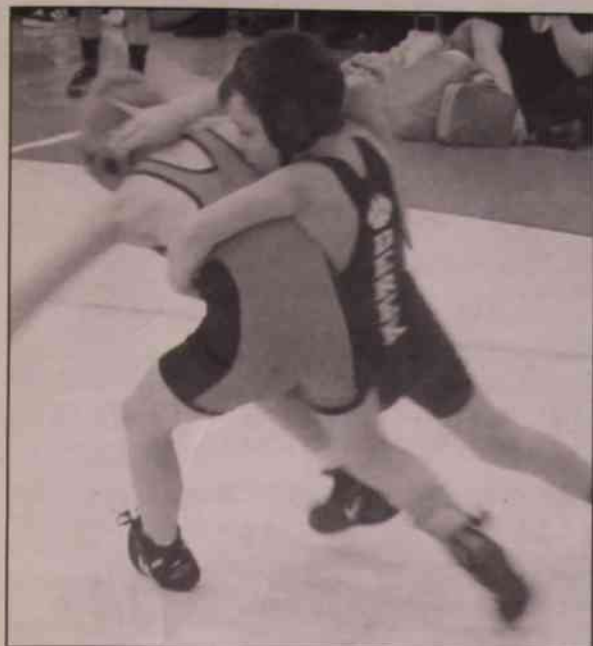
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Derek Sackitt took second place in his novice division weight class Monday at Northview.

## Young wrestlers do well at Northview

The Maple Valley Youth Wrestling Club had eight wrestlers compete at Monday's Northview Open/Novice Tournament, five in the open class and three in the novice class.

Chandler Murton, Jesse Brumm, and Christian Schrader all took first place honors in their Open weight classes. Sam Bonney and Gavin Bartley took third place in their open weight classes.

Klyne Hughes and Derek Sackitt took second place, and David Hosack-Frizzell took third place in their respective novice weight classes.

The boys will be taking a short break from competition

over the Christmas holidays and will be competing again at the Spartan Country Tournament held at Michigan State University Jan. 3.

## Pennfield hands MVHS boys their third defeat

The Lions couldn't stay hot after a strong start at Pennfield Tuesday night.

Pennfield scored a 64-41 win over the Maple Valley varsity boys' basketball team in Kalamazoo Valley Association action.

Maple Valley led 14-12 after one quarter, but was held to just five points in the second as the host Panthers ran out to a 30-19 half-time lead.

The Panthers then extended their lead in the fourth quarter, outscoring the Lions 19-8 in the final eight min-

utes. The Lions fall to 0-3 on the season with the loss.

Garrett Reid and Riley Fisher had ten points each for Maple Valley, and Austin Tobias chipped in six points. Fisher also had a team-high seven rebounds.

Pennfield got 19 points from Joshua Howard, 15 from Aaron Fox, and ten from Brendon Clements.

The Lions are off for the holiday break now until returning to action Jan. 2 at Springport.

## Safety is key to snowmobile fun

Barry County Sheriff Dar Leaf reminds snowmobile operators and riders to take extra precautions on the new fallen snow.

Because it can take two weeks or more of below freezing temperatures for the ice on lakes, streams and ponds to freeze thick enough to support a snowmobile, Sheriff Leaf urges riders to stay off the ice.

Further safety tips from Sheriff Leaf include:

- Always keep snowmobile in top mechanical condition.
- Always wear insulated boots and protective clothing, including a helmet, gloves and eye protection.
- Never ride alone.
- Avoid, when possible, crossing frozen bodies of water.
- Always be alert to avoid fences and low strung wires.

• Never operate snowmobiles in a single-file line when crossing frozen bodies of water.

• Never operate snowmobiles on a street or highway.

• Always look for depressions in the snow.

• Keep headlights and tail-lights on at all times.

• When approaching an intersection, come to a complete stop, stand and look for traffic.

• Check weather conditions before departing.

• Never operate a snowmobile on railroad tracks.

• Never operate a snowmobile while under the influence of alcohol.

Snowmobiles must abide by the same regulations as drivers, and Sheriff Leaf will have his deputies out on patrol to make sure Barry County residents stay safe this winter.

## Barry County Extension Calendar of Events

- Dec. 29-30 MSU Extension Office closed during lunch.
- Dec. 31 County Buildings closed for New Year Holiday
- Jan. 1 County Buildings closed for New Year Holiday
- Jan. 11 Horse Developmental Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church in Hastings.
- Jan. 14 Dog Developmental Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Extension Office.
- Jan. 16 Mid Winter Rabbit/Cavy Workshop, 9 a.m.-2:15 p.m., MSU Pavilion, MSU Campus.
- Jan. 25 Poultry Developmental Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Extension Office.
- Jan. 30 State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show, MSU Campus.

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU & YOURS!

 Jeff Hynes	 Chris Hartwell	 Jerry Binns	 John Kent	 Steve Graham
 Adam Brumm	 Denise Kent	 Brenda Valiquette	 Shelbi Oleson	 Vaughn Reid

  
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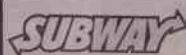
12 oz. **Garden Salad Mix** \$1<sup>39</sup>  
Pints **Grape Tomatoes** \$2<sup>39</sup>  
MI 3 Lbs. Fuji/Gala **Apples** \$1<sup>99</sup>  
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1 Lb. Jumbo or Bun Size <b>Bar-S Franks</b> .....	99¢	16 oz. <b>International Delight Creamers</b> .....	2/\$4
2 Lb. Stick <b>Johnsonville Old World Sausage</b> .....	\$7 <sup>99</sup>	1 Lb. Otrs. <b>Imperial Margarine</b> .....	99¢
Gallon <b>Hawaiian Punch</b> .....	2/\$5	8 oz. Tub <b>Schuler's Cheese Spread</b> .....	2/\$5
12 oz. Heinz <b>Seafood Cocktail Sauce</b> .....	2/\$4	10 oz. <b>Schuler's Cheese Balls</b> .....	\$3 <sup>49</sup>
15.5 - 16 oz. <b>Hunt's Manwich</b> .....	\$1 <sup>29</sup>	8.5 oz. Frito Lay <b>Doritos &amp; Cheetos</b> .....	2/\$5 <small>Or 1 @ \$2.89</small>
16 oz. <b>Chi-Chi's Salsas</b> .....	2/\$4	<b>IGA ITEM</b>	
15 oz. <b>Hormel Chili No Beans</b> .....	2/\$4	6-7 oz. <b>Ripe &amp; Stuffed Olives</b> .....	2/\$3

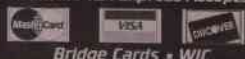


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