

# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 40

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, July 3, 2002

## Summer vacation in U.S. provides Belarus 10 year old with needed rest and medical evaluation

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

Anya Maschenok will never forget her summer vacation.

In fact, there's a good chance it will be a more lasting memory for the Belarus (Russia) resident than she may realize at the young age of 10.

Maschenok is one of roughly 640 children brought over to the United States through the American Belarussian Relief Organization (ABRO) for six weeks each summer to give their bodies a rest from the country's contamination.

Belarus is a small country whose southern border is just 12 kilometers north of Chernobyl Reactor #4, site of the terrible nuclear accident of April 26, 1986.

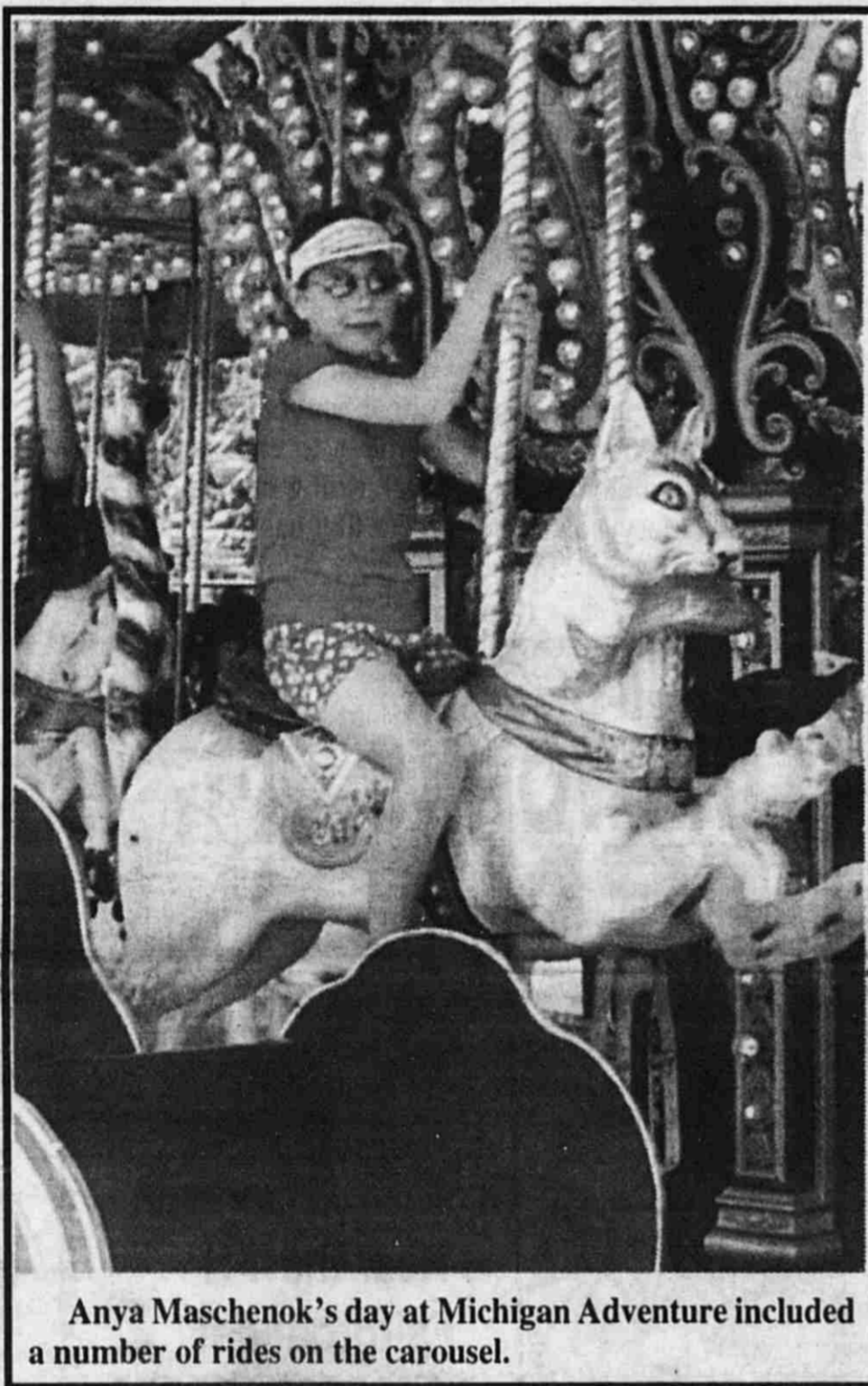
By its scale, complexity and long-term consequences, it is the most severe catastrophe throughout the entire

world history of atomic use. Seventy percent of this radiation fell on the country of Belarus.

The children are all affected by the radiation, either directly or indirectly.

Some of the children are orphans; some come from small, highly contaminated villages; some have had medical conditions such as leukemia or thyroid problems; and some deal with physical handicaps. Most arrive with suppressed immune systems.

"Studies indicate that these six weeks will give Anya an extra two years to her life," said Maruszka Hufstader. Maschenok is staying with Hufstader and her husband, Tim, and their daughter, Kristin.



Anya Maschenok's day at Michigan Adventure included a number of rides on the carousel.

She will leave Hufstader's with a stronger immune system and a more sturdy frame. The 10-year-old arrived on Father's Day weighing just 65 pounds.

While in America, besides enjoying a loving, caring home environment, Maschenok will receive medical, dental, and eye care. "Jim Reagan has graciously offered to provide free dental care for Anya," Hufstader said.

Since 1991, ABRO has been able to arrange over 2,000 trips for children from Belarus to the United States for rest and medical evaluation.

Sadly, Maschenok's troubles don't stop with radiation exposure. She is also an orphan, as are 30 percent of the children in Russia (Belarus). While her parents have given their daughter up to the orphanage, they haven't relinquished custody, which prevents Anya from being adopted.

"Anya was abandoned by her parents as a young girl. That's typical.

A lot of parents can't afford to care for their children so they give them up to orphanages," said Tim Hufstader.

The length of that care is limited. At the age of 14, a child is kicked out of the orphanage and onto the street.

Anya has no contact with her parents but does continue to visit with her grandparents and uncle.

"There's a lot we take for granted that is a rarity where Anya lives," explains Tim Hufstader. "Anya came to us with basically the clothes on her back."

She leaves Hufstader's at the end of July, healthier, and with two filled suitcases.

## Local bands lead July 4 celebration on the fairgrounds

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

Lowell played home to a handful of high school rock-'n'-roll bands in the 60's and 70's.

Some 30/40 years later, some of those bands and their musicians have demonstrated they are clearly alive and well.

"The reunion tour over the last year has been great fun," said Great Lakes Band drummer, Rick Seese. "As long as it remains fun, I think it is something we'd all like to continue to do."

In last year's Showboat Summer Concert Series, the reunion of the local bands was a highlight of the inaugural series.

"I still get goose bumps when I think about that night. The entire crowd was into it; they were dancing on the roofs as well as on the Showboat," says Alive and Well singer, Cindy Kropf.

"There has been an ongoing debate whether the musicians or audience had more fun that night," states Great Lakes

July 4 Celebration, cont'd. pg. 8



Pictured, from left to right, are: Roger MacNaughton, Brian Adams, Carl Andrews, Dan Lomas, Cindy Kropf and Dale Kropf. Missing from the picture is Jerry Adams.



Pictured, from left to right, are: Chris Collins, Rick Seese, Doug Slocum, Charlie Luscombe, Pam Jones, Mitch McMahon, Dave Jones and Ken Gregersen.

## Council supports Museum's ballot request

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

In an effort to stabilize funding for the Lowell Area Historical Museum, board of directors officially asked that a .25 mill tax request be placed on the November ballot.

The request received unanimous support from the Lowell City Council. The ballot issue will now be referred to city attorney, Richard Wendt for wording.

The museum board asked that it be allowed input into the actual language that appears on the ballot.

The issue was whether the .25 mill tax request should be in perpetuity if passed or if it should be for a specified number of years.

Museum president, Jim Doyle said the board favored perpetuity.

Lowell councilman Mike Blough said he thought the .25 operational tax mill should be for a specified time frame so voters have an opportunity to validate its value. The council will look to Wendt to provide input as to the length of the request.

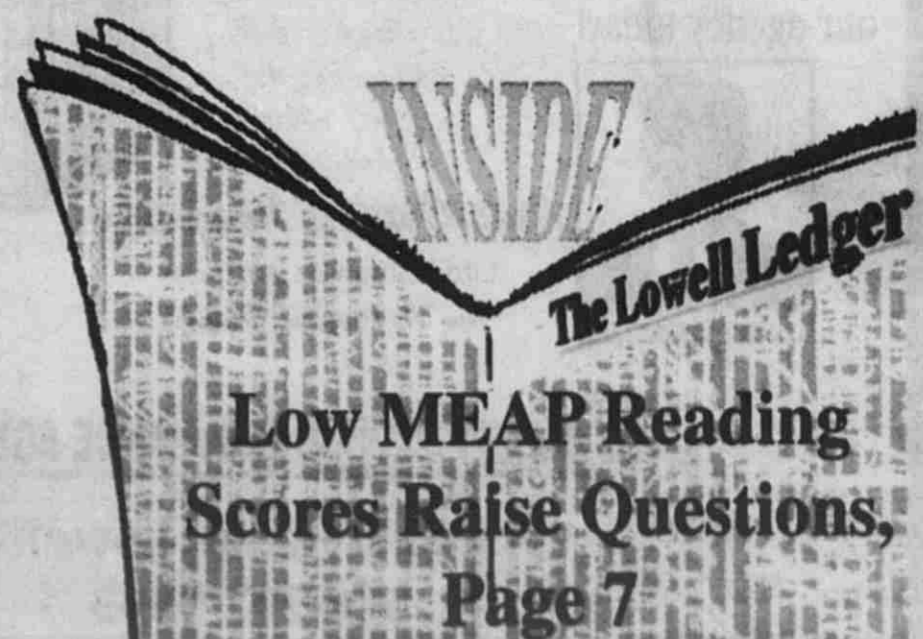
Doyle and museum supporters were faced with losing the museum - or at least shortening its hours when the council was considering deferring contributions of \$20,000 toward operational costs due to a tight 2002-03 city budget.

The .25 mill levy would assure that the museum would continue to receive the needed operational costs.

The operational mill for the museum would be above what the city currently levies which is 15.83 mills; that includes the 1.98 mills for the City Hall/police station bond issue.

## Come build with us

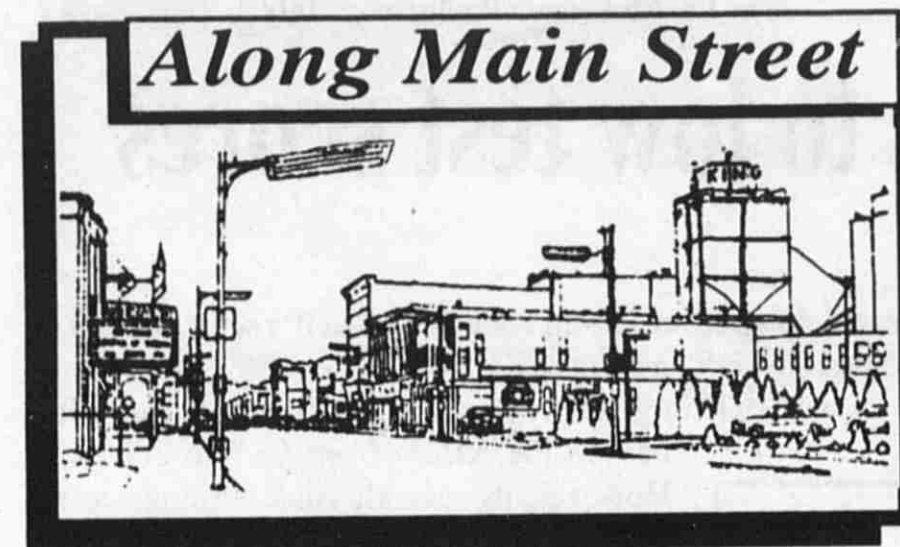
The Colby Park in Alto is building a new play set for children. We need your help! Building days are July 12 and 13. If you would like to volunteer, please call Sandy Graham at 647-3825











**SHOWBOAT SIZZLIN' SUMMER CONCERT: ROCKIN' REUNION**  
Celebrate the 4th of July at the Lowell Fairgrounds this Thursday after the downtown parade at 6 p.m. Local bands "Alive and Well" and "The Great Lakes Band" will perform from 7 - 9 p.m.

**LHS ROCKIN' REUNION FOR CLASSES OF 1970, '71 & '72**  
The reunion will be held Aug. 3 at English Hills Golf Club from 6 p.m. - midnight. Registration and payment (\$30 per person) are due no later than July 5 and may be sent to Maureen Kissinger at 210 Valley Vista Dr., Lowell 49331 or call her at 897-8423. Classes other than those listed above are also welcome.

## July 4 Celebration, cont'd ... From Page 1

Band singer, Mitch McMahon. "I think we did." For those who missed or wish to savor this nostalgia once again, the ever popular bands of "Alive and Well" and "The Great Lakes Band" will perform on July 4 at the Lowell Fairgrounds from 7 until 9 p.m. "The camaraderie of your past and the true friendships are what keeps us together," Seese said. "I think we're discovering we have more talent now than years ago. We're more creative and better able to express ourselves."

From "Headhunters" to "Alive and Well," the local bands have intertwined and grown into professional musicians.

At the base of Lowell's tree of rock-'n'-roll is the "Headhunters", springing up on the west side in the early sixties, pre-dating the

"Shaggs" by three or four weeks. The "Plague" came on the scene in 1965. The 70's gives birth to "Scragg Foster", "Stillwater", and the "Great Lakes Band." "Alive and Well's" run covers the 80's. Since last year's Summer Concert Series performance, the bands have performed benefit concerts for the Red Cross and Lowell Area Arts Council.

### COME BUILD WITH US

The Colby Park in Alto is building a new play set for children. We need your help! Building days are July 12 and 13. If you would like to volunteer, please call Sandy Graham at 647-3825.

### COVERED BRIDGE BIKE TOUR

The Fallasburg Historical Village will sponsor their 8th annual bike tour (12, 28, 50, 62 and 100 miles) on Saturday, July 13. Register at the schoolhouse from 7-9 a.m. that day; pre-registration also available by calling Kerry at 897-7161. Helmets are mandatory.

### HOW TO BECOME A "NETWORKER"

The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce will offer a workshop: "A Winning Workout in Networking" with Laurie Freshour, professional speaker/sales trainer, on Wednesday, July 17 in the Administration Building, 300 High St. Chamber members: \$35; non-chamber members: \$50. Deadline: July 5. Call 897-9161.

### FREE FOOD - ANYONE?

The Foodmobile will be at the 4-H Fairgrounds again Saturday, July 20 from 10 a.m. to noon. Bring your family and

neighbors - and your own box or bag. Distributed by Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc.

### 5TH ANNUAL STREET MARKET DAYS

Street Market Days will take place on July 26 and 27 from 10 a.m.- 6 p.m., sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and the Main Street Downtown merchants. Call Linda at D & L Tax Service (897-1140) for an application form.

### CALL FOR AUDITIONS

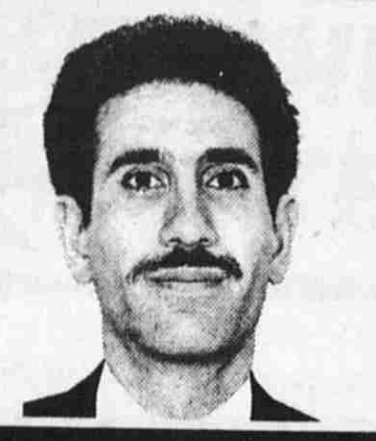
The Lowell Area Arts Council's Thebes Players are seeking actors for "Steel Magnolias" to be held later this fall at Larkin's - The Other Place. Auditions for the two-act play will be Aug. 26-28 from 7-9 p.m. at the arts council. For more information and to borrow a script, call 897-8545.

### GOLF SCRAMBLE

Lowell Area Chamber members and guests are invited to participate in an 18-hole golf scramble and luncheon at Deer Run Golf Course on Friday, July 12. Call 897-9161 (Chamber) or 897-8481 (Deer Run) for more information.

## LEGAL EASE

By Jonathan David



**EAR JONATHAN:** mother, who was a v. died last month. There probate estate because thing she owned was in her living trust at the of her death. The trust's st asset is her house and e recently listed it for Does the trust continue benefit by the homestead pation on my mother's until I am able to sell it, d it automatically lose exemption upon my er's death?

**ONATHAN SAYS:** Un- flichigan Law, a Michi- sident is eligible for a stead exemption on that idual's principal resi-. The homestead ex- ion is also available for ividual's revocable if the property is trans- l to that individual's re- ste trust. However, once ividual dies, the prop- no longer qualifies for mstead exemption and ch, a rescission of the

homestead exemption must be filed within 90 days of that person's death. The rescission needs to be filed with the assessor's office in the city where the residence is located.

In your circumstances, you, as trustee, have 90 days from the date of your mother's death to file that rescission of homestead exemption with the city assessor's office. If the rescission is not filed timely, the trust could be penalized \$5 per day up to a maximum penalty of \$200.

### DEAR JONATHAN:

What real estate taxes apply upon the transfer of real estate in Michigan?

**JONATHAN SAYS:** There are two transfer taxes applicable when Michigan real estate is transferred. There is a county transfer tax and a state transfer tax. The county transfer tax is imposed at the rate of \$55 per \$500 of consideration. The state transfer tax is imposed at the rate of

\$3.75 per \$500 of consideration. For example, if the real estate is transferred for the sum of \$100,000, then the county transfer tax would be equal to \$110 and the state transfer tax would be equal to \$750, for a total transfer tax due and owing of \$860.

### DEAR JONATHAN:

What is the amount of the annual gift tax exclusion for 2002?

**JONATHAN SAYS:** The annual gift tax exclusion for 2002 is \$11,000.

### DEAR JONATHAN:

I know the unified credit exemption amount this year is equal to \$1,000,000. When is that scheduled to go up and by how much?

**JONATHAN SAYS:** The unified credit exemption amount is scheduled to stay at \$1,000,000 for 2003 and then be increased pursuant to the following schedule:

2004	\$1,500,000
2005	\$1,500,000
2006	\$2,000,000
2007	\$2,000,000
2008	\$2,000,000
2009	\$3,500,000

Under the current law, the federal estate tax is due to be repealed for one year in 2010, in which case the unified credit exemption will not be

necessary and will not apply. However, unless the law is changed, the federal estate tax resumes in 2011, at which point the unified credit exemption will be reduced back to the \$1,000,000 amount.



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**BACKYARD VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:**  
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July 8-12, 2002  
10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

"Where Kids Catch The Buzz About God's Love!"

For More Information & To Pre-Register Call:  
**676-1667**  
or **676-0408**

**Bug Safari**

**THE LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL & THE LOWELL AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** proudly present the...

**Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concerts**

**THURSDAY NIGHTS • 7:00-9:00PM**

Come to Lowell & enjoy music on the river!  
The **SIZZLIN' SUMMER CONCERTS** are located by the **Lowell Showboat (east side of the river) in downtown Lowell.**  
Call 897-9161 or visit [www.lowellchamber.org](http://www.lowellchamber.org) for more information!  
**Admission and parking are free!**  
The concert venue is wheelchair accessible and handicap/senior parking is available.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THURSDAY NITE FUN: Cut 'n' save!

**July 4 - Alive & Well & The Great Lakes Band**  
Classic rock at the Lowell Fairgrounds!  
Don't miss all the 4th of July fun! Parade downtown at 6:00, Sizzlin' Summer Concert at 7:00, Fireworks at dusk!

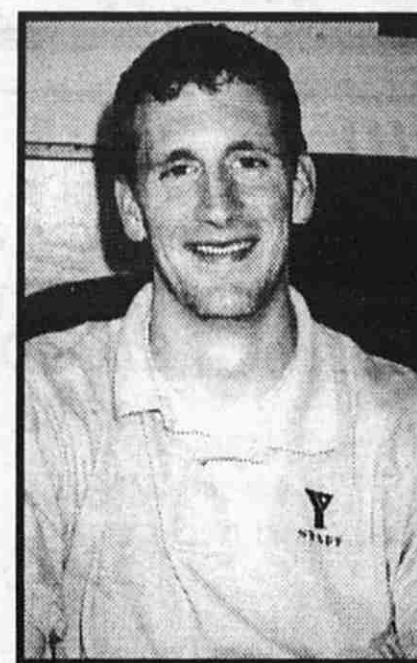
**July 11 - The Raisin Pickers** - bluegrass  
**July 18 - Odd Men Out & The Dave Collee Trio** - jazz  
**July 25 - The Willeys** - folkwave  
**August 1 - Beltline Big Band** - big band  
**August 8 - Vanishing Point** - Christian rock  
**August 15- Mane Street** - country

**FREE!**

(Artists scheduled to appear)

## CA welcomes new teen/sports director

Justin Belgiano studied biology because he liked



Justin Belgiano

The Detroit native now works as a teen and sports director for the Lowell CA branch because he

loves it. "I knew I wanted to be involved in a relational job," Belgiano explained. "This job is a great involvement with teens programs that avenue."

Belgiano earned his degree from Taylor University, Indiana, last year. Following his marriage to his wife, Michelle, the couple moved to Grand Rapids in 2001. The graduate started his job with the YMCA on June 10. "The more I learn and grasp this job, the more ex-

citied I am about it and the possibilities.

His position includes involvement in sports, the Teen Center and Leaders Club.

## ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS LOWELL HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION LOWELL, MICHIGAN

Sealed bids for re-roofing the Lowell Area Historical Museum at 325 West Main Street, Lowell, Michigan will be accepted by the Lowell Historic District Commission at the Museum on Tuesday July 16, 2002 at 3:00 pm. Contact Winter-Troutwine Associates at 616-451-8331 for bid packages. Bids will be publicly opened and read on Tuesday, July 16, 2002 at 3:00 pm. Envelopes must be marked "Re-Roofing Bid".

The Lowell Historic District Commission (LHDC) reserves the right to reject any or all bids and also the right to waive any formal defects in bids when deemed in the best interest of the LHDC. Further, the LHDC reserves the right to accept a bid higher than the lowest bid if the LHDC's interest will be better served.

## NOTICE OF LAST DAY FOR RECEIVING REGISTRATION FOR THE AUGUST PRIMARY WILL BE:

**JULY 8, 2002 AT 4:00 P.M.**

Please take notice that any qualified elector of Grattan Township, who is not already registered to vote for the August Primary Election may register at any Secretary of State Office; County Clerk or local Clerks Office on or before Monday, July 8, 2002 at 4:00 p.m.

### QUALIFICATIONS TO REGISTER TO VOTE:

- Citizen of the United States
  - At least 18 years of age on or before July 8, 2002
  - Resident of Grattan Township
- You must be registered to qualify as a voter

Lana F. Green  
Grattan Township Clerk

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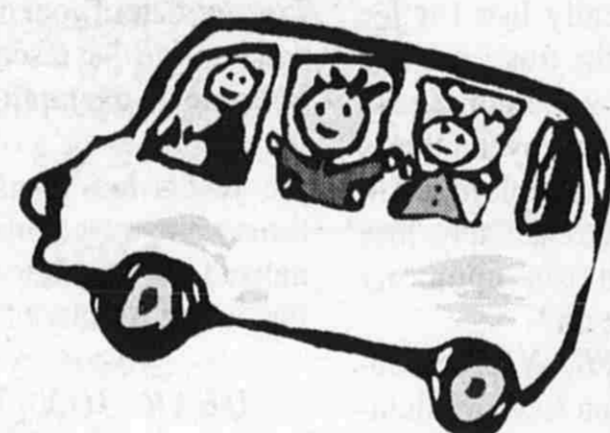
visit us at [www.heatingcoolingonline.com](http://www.heatingcoolingonline.com)  
1301 Bowes Rd., Lowell, MI 49331 (616) 897-4123 or toll free 1-866-814 HEAT

# Lowell Branch YMCA YCHILD CARE



**Child Care Openings - Infant through School Age**

**Cost:**  
 Infant/Toddler - \$162/week • Preschool/Kindergarten - \$142/week  
 School Age - \$135/week or \$125 if you have a YMCA Family Facility Membership  
 Part-time rates are available for 2-1/2 year olds through school age.  
 \$50.00 registration fee for non-members  
 Enjoy bike day, water day, local field trips and visits to local parks.  
**Center Hours: 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.**  
**Contact Beth at 897-4371 for more information.**



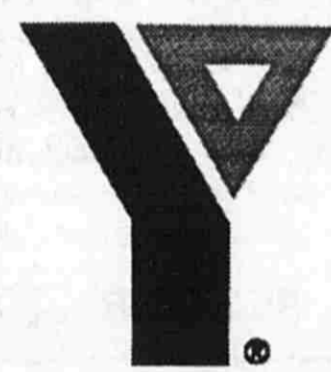
## Extreme FUN YDAY CAMP

For boys and girls first grade through 12 years old.  
 Teri Sikkenga is back part-time in the afternoons.  
 Enjoy field trips, swimming, water day, wheels day, Camp  
 Manitou-lin, Service-Learning, and trips to local parks.

**Contact Cynthia at 897-2688  
 for more information.**

Financial assistance is available  
 to those who qualify.

897-8445



### New Dance Classes!!!

Offered at the Lowell YMCA's Wellness Center. Classes will be Monday, Wednesday and Friday beginning July 15th and continuing through August 23. Enroll today to make the most of your summer!

CLASS	PARTICIPANTS	DAYS OFFERED	START DATE
Ballet, Jazz & Tumbling	4-6 yrs. of age	MWF	7/15/02
Ballet & Jazz	7-10 yrs. of age	MWF	7/15/02
Hip Hop	11-14 yrs. of age	MWF	7/15/02

COST:	Member	Program Member	Non-Member
	\$65	\$75	\$90

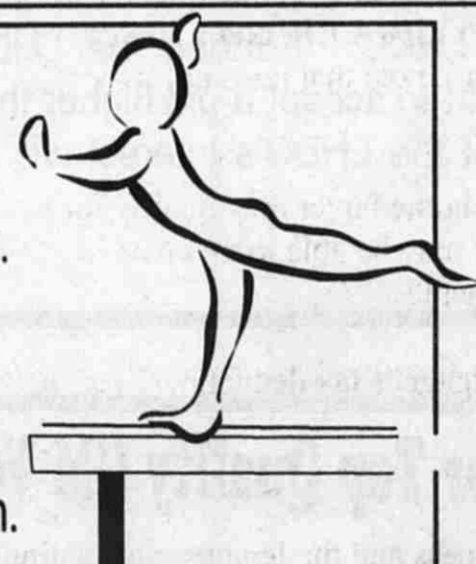
Registration Deadline 7/12/02 (\$5 late fee after deadline has passed)

### Gymnastics Camp!

July 29 - August 2.

Registration deadline one week prior to start of camp.

Location: Runciman School



	Member	Program Member	Non-Member
Preschool 3 yrs. old		9:30-10:30 a.m.	
Preschool 4 & 5 yrs. old		10:30-11:30 a.m.	
COST:	\$30	\$40	\$50

### Soccer Camp!

(July 22-26) - (August 5-9)



AGE	DATES	TIME
4-5 yrs. old	7/22-26	10:45-11:45 a.m.
K-1st grade	7/22-26	9:30-10:30 a.m.
2nd - 5th grade	8/5-9	6:00-8:00 p.m.

COST:	Member	Program Member	Non-Member
	\$10	\$20	\$30

### Roller Hockey Camp!

August 5-9 • 9:10-10:30 a.m.

	Member	Program Member	Non-Member
COST:	\$33	\$38	\$48

This camp is for 4th through 7th graders who want to improve their skills of the game, as well as have a lot of fun getting to play hockey. They will receive instruction from the Lowell Varsity Hockey Team.

### Basketball Camp!

August 12-16 • 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
 Pre-school through 5th grades.



This camp is designed for youth to really enjoy the game, while improving on their skills. We will emphasize sound instruction, while providing a place for fun with friends. This will be helpful for complete beginners through advanced players.

## BUSINESS MATTERS

Michael J. Flohr, M.D., of Advanced Eyecare Professionals in Lowell, attended the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ASCRS) symposium in June.

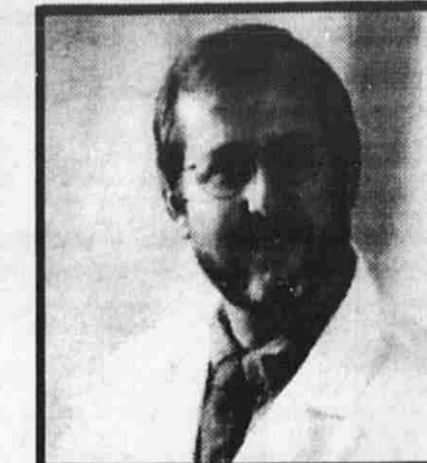
ASCRS is an international and scientific organization of ophthalmologists specializing in cataract and refractive sur-

gery, raising the standards of skill of anterior segment surgeons through clinical education.

Possessing 25 years of surgical experience, Flohr performs over 400 small incision or "no-stitch" cataract surgeries with intra-ocular lens implants annually.

He offers patients Limbal Relaxing Incision (LRI), an in-office surgical procedure to permanently correct astigmatism. Candidates for the procedure enjoy significant reduction or elimination of corneal astigmatism needed in glasses or toric contact lens correction. LRI can also be done as an enhancement during cataract surgery as well.

The latest in glaucoma diagnostic equipment is also available through Flohr's acquisition of the GDx Access, a retinal nerve fiber layer analyzer that can detect early optic nerve damage due to glaucoma, primarily advantageous for individuals not yet diagnosed or those with a family history of



Michael J. Flohr, M.D.

glaucoma. The American Medical Association recommends anyone over the age of 40 be checked for glaucoma every two years, and if over the age of 60, checked annually. Glaucoma is the leading cause of preventable blindness. Medicare benefits are now approved for glaucoma screenings for individuals with a family history of glaucoma, African Americans over the age of 50 who are eligible for Medicare or anyone with diabetes.

Advanced Eyecare Professionals are located at 1335 W. Main, Lowell, across from McDonald's.

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## Public hearing should put to bed RV storage issue

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
 Lowell Ledger Editor

The issue that would not go away ... now appears to be one public hearing away from being resolved.

After many months of review and study involving the planning commission and citizens advisory committee, a zoning ordinance amendment regarding RV storage will go before the city council for a vote on July 15 following a public hearing.

The ordinance amendment was considered for recommendation by the planning

commission following a public hearing on Monday, June 24. The commission then unanimously recommended its approval.

The proposed ordinance will allow recreational vehicles to be stored or parked in residential districts provided the following regulations are met:

1. Recreational vehicles are to be stored or parked to the rear of the front building line of the primary structure.

2. Recreational vehicles are to be stored or parked in a driveway not less than 10 feet

from the front lot line.

3. Recreational vehicles are to be used for temporary occupancy for one period not to exceed nine consecutive days during any six consecutive calendar months as long as they are otherwise in compliance with the ordinance.

If passed by the council, it will end months of controversy over the recreational vehicle ordinance, which currently does not allow such vehicles to be parked in a person's driveway.



### REAL ESTATE NEWS:

FROM PETER SMITH  
 REALTOR ASSOCIATE  
 REMAX SUNQUEST

6255 28th STREET GRAND RAPIDS  
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**Did you know** that I am looking forward to helping and assisting you in your Real Estate needs? I am a full-time Professional Realtor who gives each of my clients 100% support.

I look forward to helping you purchase your home or property to build your dream home on. My commitment of time and effort will help you to reach your goals and objectives-this is a promise!

**Did you know** that interest rates are still a great opportunity at this time for most buyers? A 15-year fixed interest rate mortgage is 6.25% A.P.R. and a 30-year fixed interest rate mortgage is 6.875% A.P.R. Please note that rates are subject to change at anytime.

**Did you know** that low interest rates mean that a home buyer may qualify for a greater mortgage amount or a current homeowner may be able to move up in value while still keeping a similar mortgage payment?

**Did you know** that the interest you pay on a mortgage is tax deductible? Yes, it is!

**Did you know** that there are zero down mortgages for first time buyers? The lending institutions are in a very competitive business and the lenders are creating some dynamite mortgage programs to better help you out!

For more information, please call me with no obligation at 616-460-6634. My goal is to keep my clients informed, up to date, and to never stop working until the job is completed to your full satisfaction.

Sincerely, Peter Smith



Peter Smith  
 REALTOR-ASSOCIATE

*Peter Smith*

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## GARAGE SALE PAGE

### FOURTH OF JULY GARAGE SALE

1201 Sibley (behind Calvary Church). Reasonable prices, toys, K'Nex, Legos, robots, books, clothes, knick knacks, wall decor, dishes, everything else I could find. All must go! Sale continues on July 5 at reduced prices. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### 1237 LAURIE GAIL

(off Valley Vista) July 4, 5 & 6, 9 a.m. - ? A-Bit-Different-Sale- featuring toys for the Grown But Young @ Heart Kids (Collectors toys most N.I.B.) Toys for the little ones too. Books, movies, much more for house & yard. Great Stuff-Great Prices. All must go!

### GARAGE SALE

At Pebble Beach Apartments, July 4, 5 & 6, Thur., 9-3, Fri., 9-5 & Sat. 9-3. Clothes & furniture.

### GRATTAN GARAGE SALE

Hammond organ, lots of goodies, 6124 Lincoln Lake Ave. Thurs. & Fri., July 11 & 12, 8-5 pm.

### PRICES FOR THIS PAGE!

15 words - \$7  
 +25¢ each additional word.







# CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

wanting sewer there. However, he saw this as a distinct development. The area is different from most of what is in Lowell. These will be attractive homes and would be well served by the private septic tanks.

Blough could not support the motion. The observation is while motion is for in favor of water and against sewer, Sundry is already incurring the majority of the cost to install the water main. It only makes good fiscal sense to install the additional utility along with it. Myers questioned the issue of extending the lines to the homes. Blough believed this was an issue of negotiation between the City and Sundry.

Myers felt the development was what SR is defined as and agrees with the spirit of how the eight homes have been laid out. He was also in agreement if there was never the ability of moving north or south for another development. If any possibility exists for a development in either of these two directions, then a harder line on the waivers should be taken.

Myers believed one of the waivers would not even have to be considered if the road to the south was not part of the picture. He did not believe we are considering just at this road and these eight houses. Myers felt there would be an access to the south and possibly to the north.

Myers wanted lighting.

He was not concerned with the road width, if it wasn't being used by other vehicles serving another part of the City.

Shores agreed and believed there was more to the picture than just the eight homes.  
YEA: 2. (Councilmembers Pfaller and Brubaker).  
NAY: 3. (Councilmembers Blough, Myers and Mayor Shores)  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION DENIED. Water and sewer service must be part of the development.

Blough agreed with the length of the road as long as water and hydrants were in place. He wanted to ensure safety issues were served.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by BRUBAKER to support the waiver request of a maximum dead end road length from 800 to approximately 1200 lineal feet.  
YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY PFALLER and seconded by BRUBAKER to grant the waiver to allow a 24 foot wide bituminous surface with valley gutter built, with specifications as determined by City staff.

Blough had a problem with the motion. He believed either the Master Plan should be changed at some point to address a private road with different standards or run the risk of "shooting from the hip" on every private development. Blough urged the waiver to be defeated until the Master Plan is reviewed.

Brubaker supported the motion because most private roads do not require curb and gutter. He believed it was better to consider this issue on a case by case basis. In this situation, there are only eight homes, which are set back.

YEA: 4. (Councilmember Brubaker, Myers, Pfaller and Mayor Shores)  
NAY: 1. (Councilmember Blough)  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY BRUBAKER and seconded by MYERS to waive the requirement for sidewalks in the development based on reasons discussed previously.

Blough stated he would support this based on it does not exist in the Master Plan.  
YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY PFALLER and seconded by MYERS to deny the request to waive street lighting.  
YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman Brubaker stated the application concerns the lot width variance for Lots 2, 3 and 7 because of the flag lot configuration.

Mullins questioned the actual footage. Cole stated Unit 2 proposes 110 feet of width.

Mathews stated he voted against this waiver at the Planning Commission. He did not want an access road.

VanderWilp did not view any significant issues of granting the variance. There are many other properties in the neighborhood, which have been downsized to allow access for another road. He did not believe this was unusual.

DesJarden wanted the Council to ask themselves, "Did the developer or applicant develop the problem?"

Mark Osborn of 743 Grindle stated the property is zoned SR and should be developed SR with the 165 foot right of way. Rules should be followed.

Brubaker read an e-mail from Jayne Mathews of 822 Grindle Drive as follows:

Dear Council,

Because of my absence tonight, I am submitting this letter to the Zoning Board of Appeals & City Council concerning the variances requested by Sundry Development Corp.

My one main concern is the possibility of a connecting road to the south parcel of this development, as shown in submitted plans to the Council.

This possibility cannot even be entertained by the Council for the following reasons:

1. Because of the location of the proposed private drive just north of the infamous "Grindle Curve," a connecting road would allow future houses developed in the south parcel (Leeman property) to use this private drive and add too much traffic and pose a greater safety threat onto the Grindle curve.

2. By eliminating the possibility of the 66' private right of way (or connecting road), Lots #2 & 3 could be widened and therefore not need a variance of more than 15' each. (Add the 66' to the total of the two lot frontages and divide in half = 150' frontage for each lot.)

You as the Zoning Board of Appeals can NOT allow the lot width variance asked of Sundry for Lots 2 & 3, therefore forcing them to eliminate the 66' R.O.W. and the possibility of a connecting road.

Thank you for your attention in this matter, Jayne Mathews

Blough believed this issue could be eliminated from a variance condition. A few Commissioners have discussed resetting the lineal frontage requirement for SR. With the elimination of the possible stub road, making an easement and giving 66 additional feet, then with a small adjustment on the lineal frontage of the SR area, the requirement for variances could be eliminated. There would be an easement through there, as opposed to road.

Brubaker agreed with an easement rather than a road.

Shores stated she would be more comfortable if this was just an easement and not a stub road.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by SHORES to accept a variance on the width of Lot 3 to 126 feet.

Blough noted he would not be in favor of supporting the motion due to it being out of the plan.

YEA: 4.  
NAY: 1. (Councilmember Blough)  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by SHORES to grant the lot width variances conditioned upon the 66 foot private road easement being redesignated as an easement for utilities being reduced to 30 feet with the remaining 30 being split between Lots 2 & 3.

Blough noted he would not be in favor of supporting the motion due to not complying with the Zoning Ordinance.  
YEA: 4.

NAY: 1. (Councilmember Blough)  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.  
No further action was taken.

B. 1580 Faith Drive - Edward Oracz - side yard variance for constructing an attached garage - set a public hearing (7/1). Edward Oracz wished to build an attached garage to his residence located at 1580 Faith Drive. The garage is proposed to be 3 feet from the side lot line, where 6 feet is required.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by MYERS to set a public hearing for July 1, 2002.  
YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

Pfller requested a site plan drawing for the hearing.

## Item #4. TEMPORARY STREET CLOSURES

A. Lafayette Street from one lot north of King Street to North Street - Saturday, June 22 from 3:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. For their wedding ceremony and reception at 432 Lafayette, Tom Alexander and Jodi Bishop have requested a temporary closure of Lafayette Street from homes located at 424 and 425 Lafayette (one lot north of King Street) to North Street on Saturday, June 22 from 3:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Police Chief Valentine stated this portion of Lafayette is not heavily traveled and did not believe this would disrupt any of the neighborhood.

IT WAS MOVED BY PFALLER and seconded by BLOUGH to authorize the closing of Lafayette Street from one lot north of King Street to North Street on Saturday, June 22 from 3:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

B. Chatham Street between Smith and Amity Streets - Saturday, July 20 from 10:00 a.m. to 12 midnight. Jeff Altoff has requested a temporary closure of Chatham between Smith and Amity on Saturday, July 20 from 10 a.m. to 12 midnight for a wedding reception.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by BRUBAKER to allow Chatham Street to be closed from 10 a.m. to midnight on July 20, 2002 with the sound ordinance being observed after 9:00 p.m.  
YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

**Item #5. RESOLUTION APPROVING USE OF SHEPARD DRIVE COMMUNICATION TOWER BY WIF NET, INC.** Wif Net, Inc. had requested the use of the communication tower located near the reservoir off of Shepard Drive. The tower was constructed in 1993 by RAM/BSE Paging Company. The ten year agreement has been assumed by Pinnacle Towers, Inc. In 2003, this tower will be owned by the City. Anyone other than Pinnacle requires Council approval.

City Attorney Richard Wendt has reviewed the agreement. The resolution prepared states the rent the Wif Net pays will be split on a 50/50 basis with Pinnacle. Currently, the monthly rate is \$525 of which the City will receive \$262.50. Also, a 5% increase for the rent is calculated each year.

The resolution is concurrent with the present site lease. Upon when the City takes possession, the City may renegotiate a new lease with Wif Net.

Wif Net's use of the tower will not interfere with the Police Department's communication use.

Wif Net is to provide evidence that their insurance names the City as an additional insured.

IT WAS MOVED BY BRUBAKER and seconded by MYERS to approve the resolution agreement with Wif Net for the usage of the Shepard Drive communication tower with Pinnacle Towers, Inc. as proposed.  
YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

# Lowell, Traverse City, Petoskey, Charlevoix, Harbor Springs break ground on power plant

In conjunction with the Michigan Public Power Agency (MPPA), Traverse City Light and Power, Lowell Light and Power, Harbor Springs Municipal Utility and the cities of Petoskey and Charlevoix have broken ground on a \$34.6 million natural gas-fired combustion turbine power plant in Kalkaska County.

The combustion turbine power plant is being built on a 10-acre site that MPPA owns within the Shell Western E&P facility off Thomas and Prough roads in Kalkaska County. Light & Power executive director, Jeff Feldt expects the new plant will be completed and operational by the end of 2002.

A dedication ceremony involving MPPA and local officials was held at the Kalkaska County construction site July 1.

Once the new plant goes on line, Feldt said decommissioning of the Bayside Power Plant in Traverse City will begin. That process is expected to take 12 months to complete and will include the salvaging and selling of equipment that has value, the demolition of the Bayside plant and substation and restoration of the land into open space. That process is expected to be completed by Dec. 31, 2003 and once concluded, the property reverts to the city of Traverse City.

Feldt said work on the new power plant is part of Light & Power's \$42 million capital improvement program, which also includes a new substation and underground project in the Hall/Garland street area, and a high voltage transmission line project that will increase the reliability and operational capability of the electric transmission system.

"We are very excited to start work on the new combustion

turbine plant for many reasons," Feldt said. "The No. 1 benefit is that it will provide a more reliable source of power for many years to come. It will also result in the removal of the old plant, which will be a major aesthetic improvement while providing new open space for the city. And, no rate increases to our customers will be required as a result of the new plant, which means Light & Power will continue to offer the lowest electric rates of any utility in the region."

Feldt said other advantages include remote start capabilities, which will allow Light & Power employees to fire up the plant from its new Traverse City Service Center, and the fact that it will take only 15 minutes to come fully on line. The current Bayside plant takes about 24 hours to come on line from a cold start. Feldt added that the Bayside Power Plant has reached the end of its economic life, and is presently being used only for reserve and peaking supply for the MPPA Power Pool.

## KDL News ..

Kent District Library branches will be offering an exciting journey around the world through crafts from many countries. Several make-and-take projects will be available for a variety of age and skill levels.

The Alto branch will present the free program on Monday, July 15 at 11:30 a.m. (647-3820) and the Englehardt branch will offer the program on Thursday, July 18 at 1:30 p.m. (647-3920).

Feldt said the MPPA issued \$34.6 million in bonds to finance the project, which includes a Pratt & Whitney FT-8 Twin-Pac 50-megawatt combustion turbine, natural gas pipeline and metering equipment to connect the generator to natural gas facilities, and associated electrical equipment including substation and transmission facilities. The transmission facilities will provide 50 megawatts of capacity on the high voltage transmission grid to move power from the Kalkaska facility.

Light & Power is the major participant in the project with a 75.9 percent ownership entitlement and will operate and maintain the unit for MPPA. The other four cities will own the remaining 24.1 percent of the plant as follows: Petoskey (9.45 percent), Lowell (5.63 percent), Charlevoix (4.72 percent), and Harbor Springs (4.3 percent).

Kent District Library will present a beaded jewelry workshop for teens as part of Summer Reading Club 2002. Teens will be introduced to a wide variety of specialty beads and beading techniques. Using a wire foundation, participants can create an original piece of jewelry during this one-hour workshop.

The Englehardt branch will offer the program on Tuesday, July 16 at 6:30 p.m. Registration is required and limited to 15 participants. Call 647-3920 to sign up or for more information.

# CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

**Item #6. RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT OF LEASE WITH THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IN CONNECTION WITH ISSUANCE OF BONDS FOR THE CITY HALL - POLICE STATION PROJECT.** With the approval of bids for the City Hall - Police Station project, financing now must be secured through bonds issued through the Building Authority. A bond authorizing resolution was approved by the Building Authority Monday afternoon. The resolution approves a contract lease between the City and the Building Authority, pledging the City's bonded full faith and credit as security for the bonds.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by BRUBAKER to approve the resolution as presented for the execution of a contract of lease with the Building Authority in connection with issuance of bonds for the City Hall - Police Station project.  
YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

**Item #7. REVIEW OF CITIZEN INITIATED PROPOSAL REGARDING A FOREMAN ROAD TRUCK ROUTE.** Police Chief Jim Valentine appreciated the fact there are citizens such as Alan Davidson (1225 E. Main) who are willing to come forward and assist in matters of the City. The plan prepared by Davidson displays an alternate truck route in the Foreman - North Hudson area.

There are some drawbacks to this particular suggestion. The intersection of Lincoln Lake and Suffolk Street would need to be reconstructed to allow semi-turning movements. Trucks can not legally make a right turn from a left lane nor can a truck make a left turn from a right land regardless of signage.

Valentine also believed the intersection of Lincoln Lake Avenue and Foreman would be an extremely tight left turn given the existing width of Foreman Street at this location, thus making an intersection modification necessary.

Setting aside the difficult turning movements cited above, the City possibly could be making bad matters worse by directing commercial vehicles (trucks) onto streets with even more residences than currently exist on the Foreman Road truck route.

This could be complicated even more with the notion of a safe school route, (i.e. Middle School pedestrian traffic walking through the area of Suffolk and Lincoln Lake), thus posing more of a safety issue than is present with the existing truck route.

Restricting Foreman Road from Lincoln Lake Avenue to Hudson Street to eastbound one-way traffic only would

be a major hardship for non-commercial vehicle traffic. A traffic count study conducted last year by the Grand Valley Metro Council reported traffic counts nearing 2000 vehicles in a 24-hour period. The result of Traffic Engineer Ed Swanson's study of commercial vehicle movements at Foreman and Hudson was a very low percentage of these vehicles are commercial or school bus.

This one-way restriction would pose a major inconvenience for the noncommercial traffic using Foreman Road from Hudson Street. Valentine also thought this would be a major point of contention for the residents of Suffolk and Lincoln Lake to put an additional 2000 vehicles on these streets. Again, it would be taking bad matters and making them worse.

Blough felt it was great to have interested citizens. He suggested taking this report, add it to the additional dialogues on the issue and address the various kinds of configurations which are out there.

No further information was provided.

**Item #8. PERMISSION FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY FIREWORKS DISPLAY.** The Lowell Area Jaycees have requested permission to have a fireworks display on Thursday evening, July 4. As with recent years, the fireworks would be launched from Stoney Lakeside Park.

IT WAS MOVED BY PFALLER and seconded by MYERS to grant permission for the Fourth of July fireworks, as requested by the Lowell Area Jaycees, contingent upon the clean up of the debris before citizens complaints are received.  
YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

**Item #9. MONTHLY REPORTS.** No comments were received.

**Item #10. APPOINTMENTS.** None.

**Item #11. CITIZEN COMMENTS.** No comments were received.

**Item #12. COUNCIL COMMENTS.** Councilmember Pfaller asked if agenda packets could be delivered on Wednesday night. This will be discussed during the first meeting in August.

Pfaller also requested a list of current members from the Boards and Commissions.

Councilmember Myers suggested the individual items

and supporting data be placed together in the agenda packet.

Myers also commented on the well attended Celtic concert. All went very well.

Councilmember Blough commented on the substation project being completed by Light and Power off of Bowes Road. He requested a status report.

**Item #13. MANAGER'S REPORT.** City Manager Pasquale reported on the following:

1. The following meetings minutes were provided:

- Airport Board meeting of May 7, 2002
- Historic District Commission meeting of April 17, 2002
- Parks and Recreation Commission meetings of April 13 and May 11, 2002
- Chamber of Commerce meeting of May 8, 2002

2. A request from City Councilmember Pfaller asking that Council packets be delivered on Wednesday before the scheduled meeting. Pasquale noted he would hold his comments until the issue is discussed during a council meeting.

With the approval of the bank lease for temporary quarters involving City Hall and the Police Station, the VFW Building is being advertised for sale.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by BRUBAKER to adjourn to closed session at 10:16 p.m. pursuant to the provisions of the Open Meetings Act.  
YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by BRUBAKER to return to open session at 11:09 p.m.  
YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY PFALLER AND SECONDED BY BLOUGH to increase the City Manager David Pasquale's salary from \$72,336 to \$74,500 total, eliminating the \$2,500 lump sum.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS to adjourn at 11:11 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: Monday, July 1, 2002

C. Jeanne Shores, Mayor  
Betty R. Morlock, Clerk



By J.N. Boorsma  
Contributing Writer

# Aim & Shoot

••• Lowell's Roth sets his sights on being the best in the world. He will compete in the team World Archery Target Junior Championship in August.

California, provided he wins at the Joad Nationals and the NAA National Outdoors.

Quite a busy summer for a Lowell teen who is learning to drive and helping out on the family farm located in Vergennes Township.

"I want to be the best in the world," Roth said matter-of-factly. He might have that chance at the World competition. His coach has indicated there is a good chance the team could walk away with the world title. Roth also will compete individually for a title.

But other than that declarative statement, Roth has little to say about the sport... other than he shoots compound, but he is thinking of going recurve after this season to see if he can make it to the Olympic team.

"I think it would be neat to see if I could get this far in recurve," he said, adding that the technique is different and would require some time to learn.

Roth began shooting at the age of seven, although he really couldn't say what got him started. He has been helped along

the way: a former farmhand named Ed Bignall got him interested in the hunting aspect of archery. Four years ago, he joined leagues through Archery Unlimited and three years ago he started competing. He just seemed to be a natural at it, said his dad, Ken Roth. In the winter, David Roth picked up titles at the Canadian Nationals and the World Archery Festival.

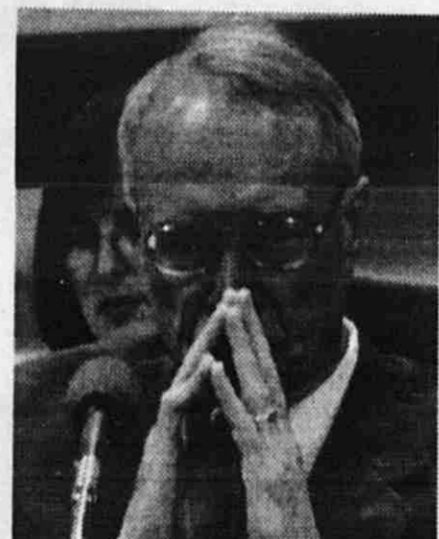
"The big goal was just to make the team," Roth said about the World competition coming up. Of course, we already know the new goal.

Training involves shooting from one to four hours daily along with lifting weights. Pulling the bow out to shoot is equivalent to lifting 61 pounds, Roth said, adding that every time you shoot, it's still 61 pounds. He practices on the family farm with a target leaning against a truck. He also gets coaching from a couple of people, including a coach of a current silver medalist from the last Olympics.

"2008, the Olympics in China," Ken Roth said. David Roth just smiles. For now, he'll settle for best in the world.

# Bleke leaves Lowell with challenge to push itself to improve

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor



Editor's Note: Former Lowell superintendent, Bert Bleke officially began his role as Grand Rapids superintendent on Monday. The Ledger caught up with him prior to his departure. Here is that interview.

of different communities and jobs is that they all build and prepare you for the next job you do and each day of your life. Seven years of superintendent experience... that's invaluable. The size changes and complexity changes, I understand that, although a system is still a system. Good leadership and good management skills are still the same. You take those skills, address them and use them in a different fashion. All these experiences have prepared me to do a fine job for Grand Rapids.

Ledger: I've heard people describe you as a leader, a visionary, a consensus builder and a listener. If you could take only one of these traits with you to the Grand Rapids' post, which would it be?

Bleke: To me it's building success by bringing people together. If I have to take one of those, it's the person who cares about people and brings them together for the common good. I'll take that one if I can.

Ledger: What do you take from your Lowell experience that you'll use at your next job?

Bleke: I think what I have learned over 35 years in a lot

would be - you always want to see higher learning.

Ledger: I was asked if there was anyone in this community who doesn't like Bert Bleke. I know people who haven't been happy with some of your decisions, but I couldn't think of anyone who didn't like you. Can you?

Bleke: It isn't my goal to go out and have everybody like me. That's not a goal. It's a result of trying to do the right thing for people and treating people with respect. A lot of times you have to say "no" to people, or tell them things they don't like. If you do it and explain it, and do it the right way, people can accept that. The fact that people like you - that's just an offshoot of treating people the right way. You have to like people. You're in the wrong business if you don't.

Ledger: Aside from fiscal concerns, what challenges specific to this district does Lowell face down the road?

Bleke: One of the challenges is to see that it doesn't

become complacent. I think the system, teachers, principals, the community can't begin to feel we're pretty good. That's the kiss of death. The biggest challenge is to find ways to push themselves to improve.

Ledger: In your first interview with the Grand Rapids Board of Education, you identified a lack of diversity as a softness in the Lowell School District. What's the district's strength?

Bleke: The people. It has to do with helping each other and working together to be a good school, and a good community. I think teachers have the best interest of kids at heart. It just has a nice feel to it. Kind of like Mayberry (laugh).

Ledger: The fact the Lowell School District is well-respected and looked at as a

model in many areas, does that make the job for the new superintendent easy or more difficult?

Bleke: More difficult. On one hand the district is in great shape. On the other hand, you have the old comparison problem.

Ledger: Is Lowell more attractive now to other superintendent candidates?

Bleke: I hope Lowell is more attractive; I think they will get a number of quality candidates.

Ledger: Did I read or hear that your wife, Jan thinks you're nuts for taking the Grand Rapids' job?

Bleke: She thought I was nuts before this, but she's on board with my decision. That, however, hasn't changed her opinion of me.

One of the challenges facing Lowell is not to become complacent - to begin feeling we're pretty good. That's the kiss of death. The biggest challenge is to find ways to push themselves to improve.

Bert Bleke

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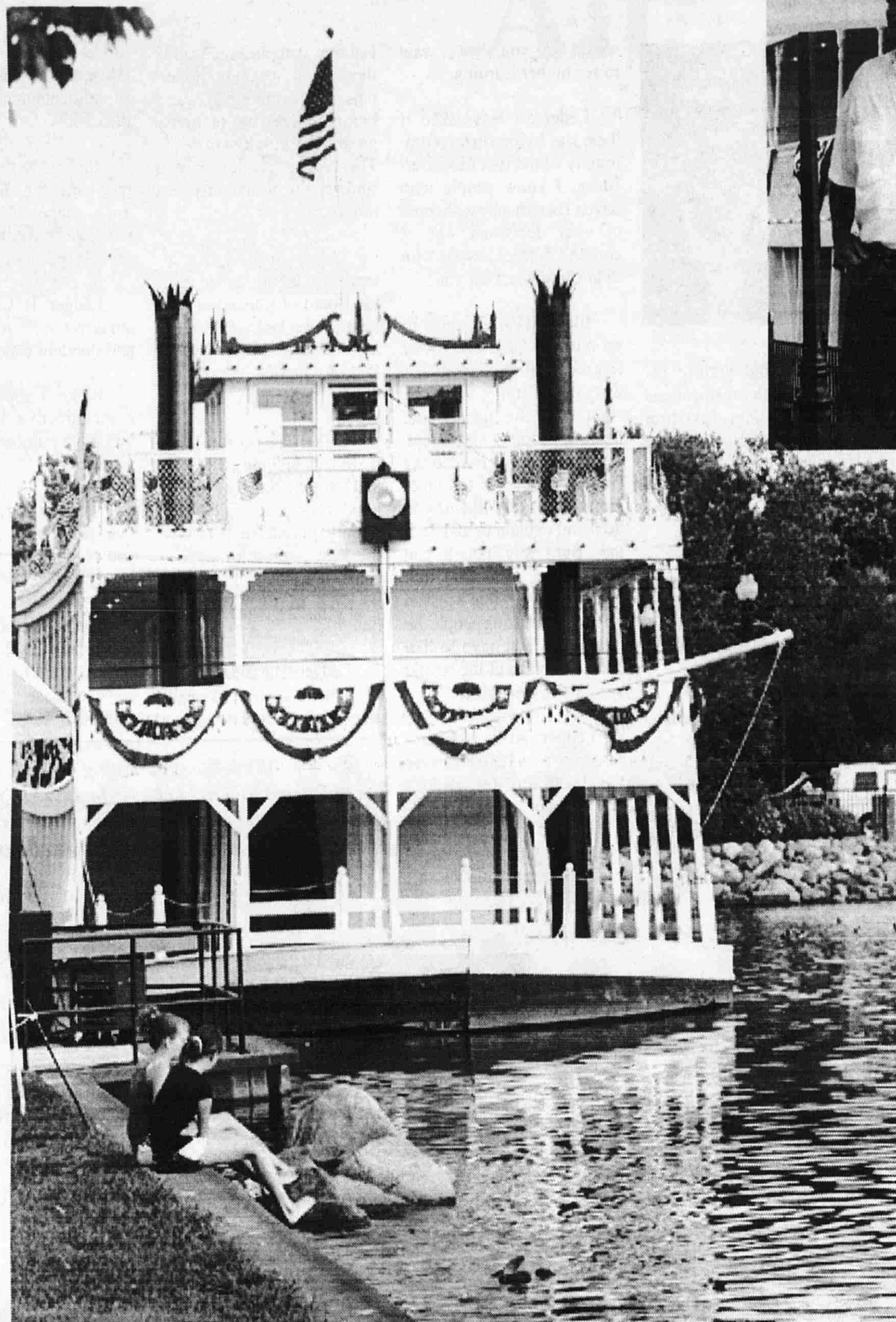
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**MIKA MEYERS BECKETT & JONES PLC**  
117 West Main Street  
Lowell, MI 49331  
(616) 897-3111  
Ross A. Leisman  
Daniel C. Brubaker  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

**JULY SPECIALS**  
**25% OFF**  
INCOMING DRYCLEANING ORDERS OF 4 ITEMS OR MORE  
Bring in 6 shirts pay for 5  
**CURTIS CLEANERS**  
SHIRT LAUNDRY • TUX RENTAL  
Open 7 Days • 897-9808 • 1410 W. Main

**Have A Happy, Safe Fourth of July!**  
Professional & Permanent Makeup & Electrolysis (hair removal)  
**SPECIAL 15% OFF**  
STATE CERTIFIED & INSURED  
897-8070



Harry Lucas feels the blues.

## Sounds of Blues Docks at Riverwalk

Alecia Strab and Carly Springer cooled their feet while the hot blues were played by Harry Lucas & the Lowdown at Thursday's concert.

Photo Courtesy of Bruce T. Doll



Christina Fiegner, four of Lowell, enjoys the coolness of a popsicle and the sounds of the rock'n blues.



## Financial Focus

**Edward Jones**  
Serving Individual Investors Since 1871  
With Christopher C. Godbold



### Take Steps To Move Up Your "Tax Freedom Day"

You won't find it printed on your calendar. You won't find it in the greeting cards aisle of the drug store. And you won't find it celebrated with a television special. Nonetheless, "Tax Freedom Day" may have a bigger impact on your life than many of the biggest holidays.

Tax Freedom Day isn't an official holiday. It's just the date on which average Americans can expect to start earning their first tax-free dollars of the year, after paying federal and state taxes. Tax Freedom Day generally occurs on a different date each year, depending on changes in tax laws and the health of the economy. In 2001 Tax Freedom Day fell on April 29, but in 2002, it happened two days earlier, on April 27.

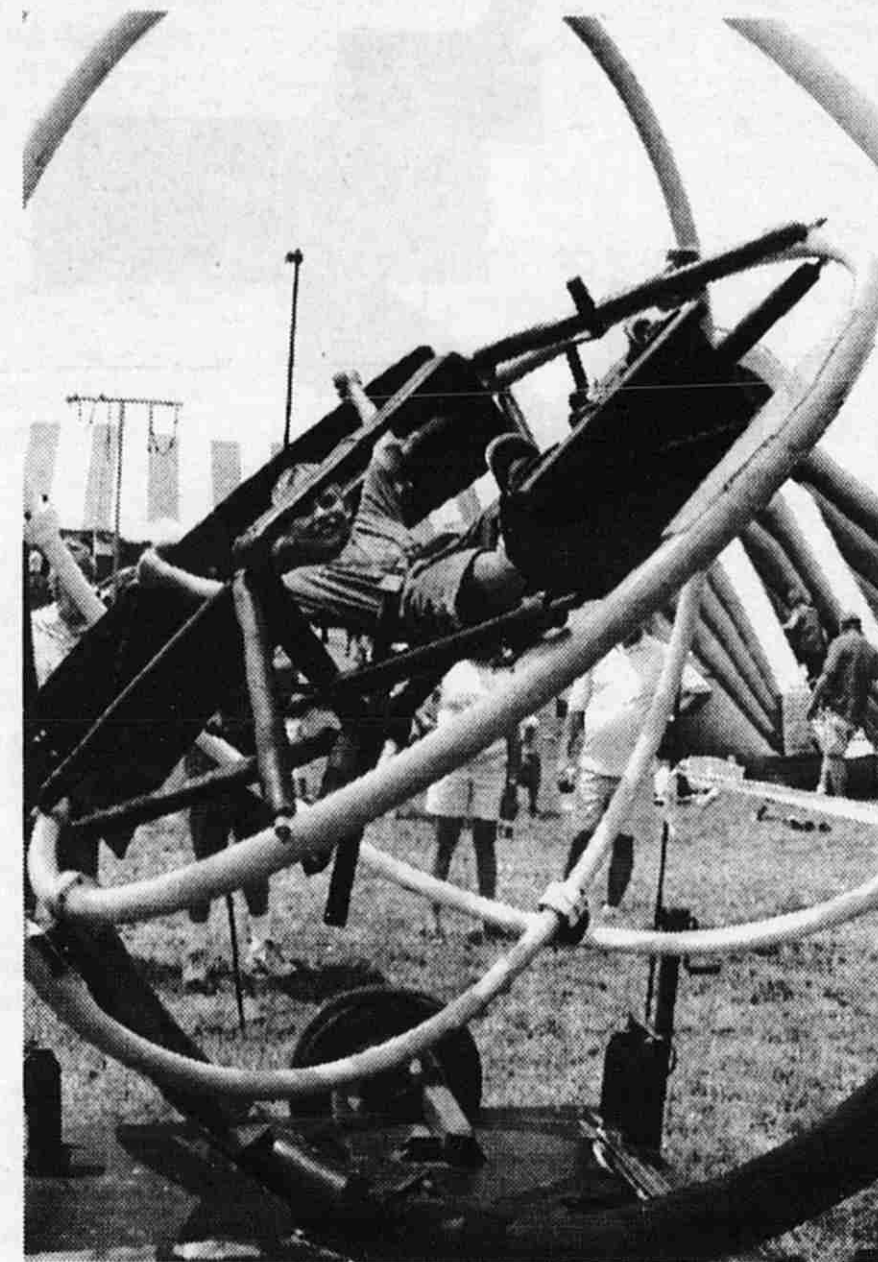
Of course, Tax Freedom Day is really something of a fiction, because we all pay taxes through the year. If you're an employee, you'll have taxes taken out of all your paychecks. If you're self-employed or a business owner, you probably pay quarterly taxes. Then, on April 15, of each year, you may pay still more taxes.

Nonetheless, the idea of a Tax Freedom Day is useful in understanding the relative size of your tax burden. And the good news is that you can help control when your personal Tax Freedom Day comes around. How? By becoming a tax smart investor, specifically, look for tax-free and tax-deferred

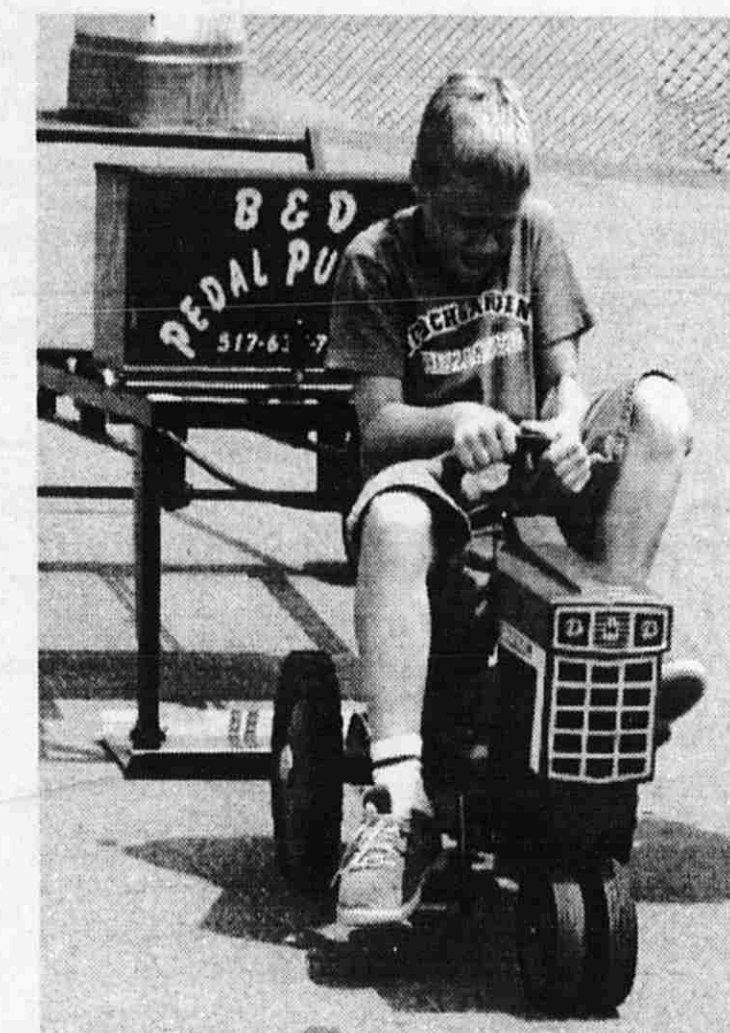
investment opportunities. Which investments are tax-free? Start by considering municipal bonds. The interest on these bonds is free from federal taxes; interest payments may also be free from state and local taxes, depending on the bond and on where you live; consequently, municipal bonds offer a high "taxable equivalent yield." In other words, you'd have to find a taxable bond—such as a corporate bond—that pays a much higher yield than your municipal bond to overcome the tax benefits offered by the "muni." And in a low interest rate environment such as we've been in for quite some time, you may have trouble finding high quality corporate bonds that pay these high yields.

You'll get the most benefit from municipal bonds if you're in one of the higher tax brackets. But no matter what bracket you're in, you may be able to benefit from another tax-free investment—the Roth IRA. Now, thanks to recent tax law changes, you can put up to \$3,000 a year in your Roth IRA. And your earnings will grow totally tax-free, provided you're at least 59 1/2 when you begin making withdrawals and you've had your account for at least five years.

You may also want to look at tax-deferred investments, such as a Traditional IRA or annuities. You can invest up to \$3,000 a year in a Traditional IRA. Your contributions may be tax-deductible, but even if they aren't, your earnings will grow on a tax deferred basis. If you've already "maxed out" on your Traditional or Roth IRA, and you still want to save for retirement, you may want to invest in a fixed or variable annuity. In addition to tax deferral, annuities offer you high contribution limits and a variety of payout options. Before making any moves affecting your taxes, consult with our tax advisor...but don't wait too long. The quicker you take action, the better chance you'll have of bumping up your own Tax Freedom Day next year.



Carlton Rector enjoys his stomach turning ride on the gyro wheel.



Elliot Vickers, nine years old, Rockford

## Games Kids Play at St. Pat's Festival



Sarah Kramer, nine years old, Rockford.



Tina Poulias, five years old, Rockford, enjoys a horseback ride.

## LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 02-173-522-DM

Estate of  
GEORGETTE PULASKI,  
Deceased  
Date of birth: 05/27/81

TO ALL CREDITORS:  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS:

The decedent, GEORGETTE PULASKI, who lived at 1801 Indian Lakes Rd., Kent City, Michigan died 10/10/01. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented

to GEORGIA LITZENBURG, named personal representative, or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at Kent County Probate Court, 180 Ottawa Ave. N.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

SUSAN M. POTYRAJ (P46249)  
410 Bridge St. N.W.  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504  
(616) 454-4119

06/24/02

GEORGIA LITZENBURG  
1801 Indian Lakes Rd.  
Kent City, MI 49330

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 02-173-736-DE

Estate of  
DORIS MAE SZCZEPANEK,  
Deceased  
SSN: 378-26-8228

TO ALL CREDITORS:  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS:  
The decedent, DORIS MAE SZCZEPANEK, who lived at 5025 Wallingford, Comstock Park, Michigan died 6/15/02. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to

PATRICE SALINAS, named personal representative, or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 5025 Wallingford, Comstock Park, MI 49321 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

CRAIG AVERY (P10311)  
3875 West River Drive  
Comstock Park, MI 49321

06/28/02

PATRICE SALINAS  
5025 Wallingford  
Comstock Park, MI 49321  
784-1900

# The Laurels of Kent Present...

# independence day activities

## Events

**Patriotic Pet Parade**

3:00pm at the Laurels of Kent

**Parade - 6:00 pm**

Immediately Following the Parade  
at the Lowell Fairgrounds:

\* **Monster Truck Rides**

\* **Petting Zoo**

\* **Waterball Fight**

With the Lowell Fire Department

**Summer Concert Series**

Rock'n Reunion 7:00pm  
at the Lowell Fairgrounds

**Fireworks at Dusk**  
Stoney Creekside Park

Brought to you by the Laurels of Kent, your  
closer to home Sub-Acute Rehab Center

**Glow Necklaces**  
\$2 each or 3 for \$5

**Concessions**

Be sure to bring lawn  
chairs and blankets so  
you and your family  
can enjoy the  
fireworks

Artwork Courtesy of Marc Scaturro

# 4th OF JULY CLASSIFIEDS

HAVE A HAPPY & SAFE 4TH OF JULY!

## HELP WANTED FOR SALE FOR SALE FOR SALE PERSONALS SERVICES

**RESIDENT AIDE/MEDICAL TECHNICIAN** - Now hiring at Cumberland Retirement Village for 2nd & 3rd shift! Apply today! 11535 East Fulton St.

**TONNEAU COVER** - for a F150 will fit a 1997-2002 model. Solid fiberglass with interior dome light. Call 616-642-0218 after 5pm.

**DISH NETWORK** - now has your LOCAL CHANNELS. Yes: 3 8 13 17 35 41 & 54 are now available with Dish Network. Call Tom's Satellite Systems at 897-2016.

**FOR SALE BY OWNER** - Lowell 3 story historical building, formerly Cranberry Inn Antiques, 208 E. Main. Ph. 897-9145 or 897-9890.

**ANYONE WITH INFO ON THE VANDALISM OF THE SEMI** - parked at the Riverview over the weekend of June 21-24, please call 897-9715. Any info would be helpful & much appreciated.

**www.sundrydev.com \$\$** - Turn Your Land Into Money. \$\$ 616.676.4043.

**LOWELL SCHOOL DISTRICT - ZERO DOWN** - & low downpayment mortgages. Call Michelle at CTX Mortgage Company for a free pre-approval (616) 464-1348/(800) 282-0325 or Peter Smith Re/Max SunQuest (616) 460-6634 for a list of homes. CTX is an Equal Housing Opportunity Lender.

**FAMILY NEEDS** - mature, loving caregiver for 2 children, 30-40 hours per week. Call Jennifer 987-9274.

**1991 CHEVY ASTRO VAN** - Engine & transmission gone. \$300. Call 897-9440.

**BED** - Log post king. Never used. Includes mattress. Cost \$1,100. Sell \$195. (989)227-2986.

**10 QUIET ACRES** - Planted alfalfa, suitable for hobby or horse farm, 20 min. from GR, driveway permit, perked & surveyed, close to Freeport & Hastings. \$58,500. Call Karen Echitnaw, Greenridge Witzel (800) 948-6128.

### EVENTS

**THE FLAG LADY'S JULY 4TH OPEN HOUSE** - An open invitation is extended to all to come & view the FLAGS on July 4th, 2002 from 11 a.m. - ? 977 Lincoln Lake Ave SE (1 1/10 mile N. from Main St.) "The Flag Lady" Lynn Seese.

**RESIDENTIAL PLUMBER** - Service or new construction, reasonable rates. Call 897-2575.

**DRYCLEANER/SPOTTER OR PRESSER** - FT days, excellent benefits. Apply in person at Cooper's Drycleaners, 591 Ada Dr.

**MATTRESS SETS** - Parade of Homes displays. Never used still in plastic. Fulls @ \$150. Queens @ \$250, also twins & kings. Call for selection 682-4767 or 293-7430 Can deliver.

**WHIRLPOOL WASHER & DRYER** - \$125/pair. Guaranteed. Work great, heavy duty. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

### WANTED

**WANTED** - Guitar: Gibson, Martin, etc. 897-9624.

**LPN** - Upscale retirement community is seeking an LPN to join our health care team. Part-time work with emphasis on weekends. Hours to be discussed with applicant. Call Sentinel Pointe, 957-9767.

**PILLOWTOP DELUXE MATTRESS SET** - Luxury firm. Any size. Brand new. Includes frame \$800 value. Sell \$225. Can deliver. 517-626-7089.

**MATTRESS SETS \$88** - Includes frame, Sealy, Serta, Springaire. Delivery available. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

### CARD OF THANKS

**CARD OF THANKS** I would like to thank the couple who turned in my purse to Lowell Meijer a few weeks ago. You are truly good people. Thank you!

**PART-TIME DIETARY AIDE NEEDED** - at Cumberland Retirement Village for the afternoon shift. Apply in person at Cumberland, 11535 East Fulton St.

**LONELY HOME IN NEED OF LOVING FAMILY** - Immediate occupancy, 3-4 bedroom, 2 bath, country setting. \$50 - \$500 down. Easy terms. 1-800-615-1224.

**APARTMENT FURNISHINGS** - Dining room, living, bedroom, carpet. Brand new, \$39 each. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

### THANK YOU

I would like to express my appreciation to everyone who participated in one way or another in the benefit that was held in my honor. Whether it was thoughts, prayers, cards, hard work, or donations, I am eternally grateful to all of you who helped make the benefit a huge success. Thanks again to all!  
Cheryl Murphy

**DRIVER** - \$1,000 sign-on bonus! Attn Owner operators: Make over \$100K per year! Not an owner operator? No problem! Tractor purchase program available. 800-788-7357. Apply online at www.landair.com

**LEATHER** - Parade of Homes displays. All 100% Italian Grade "A", top grain never used. 3 pc. sofa sets \$1,650 & up. Many colors. Will separate. MUST SELL! 682-4767 or 293-7430.

**RETAIL & OFFICE FOR LEASE** - Marketplace Shoppes (next to new Meijers). Final phase now under construction. Retail & office suites from 1,500 to 10,000 S/F. Call for brochure. Clinton Realty Companies, Inc. 616-538-6592.

### THANK YOU

A heartfelt thank you to all those who prayed, sent cards, food and flowers and called on our mom and grandma, Eunice Keim, during her time at Lacey's Too and while in the hospital. We thank the doctors and nurses at Spectrum Health Blodgett, who gave her great care, and the Special Ladies at Lacey's Too who loved and helped care for her this past year. Thank you to Dr.'s Daniel VanGessell and Joan Miedema for their concerned care. And to Rev.'s Dick Beach and Steven Harduk for their comforting words. Thank you to the Alto Baptist Church for the nice luncheon provided after the funeral service.  
The Family of Eunice Keim

### FOR SALE

**MATTRESS SALE** - \$39 New. Queen, full, twin. We deliver. Dennis Dist. 989-224-4822.

**1987 FULL SIZE GMC CONVERSION VAN** - Runs good, many newer parts including transmission. \$2,000 obo. 676-1072.

**NEW LUXURY APARTMENTS** - GREENVILLE - 2 bedroom, 2 bath units w/private garages & entrances. AC, washer, dryer, microwave & all other appliances included. Patio or deck, pond views available. Call 616-754-6130 for more information.

### THANK YOU

A heartfelt thank you to all those who prayed, sent cards, food and flowers and called on our mom and grandma, Eunice Keim, during her time at Lacey's Too and while in the hospital. We thank the doctors and nurses at Spectrum Health Blodgett, who gave her great care, and the Special Ladies at Lacey's Too who loved and helped care for her this past year. Thank you to Dr.'s Daniel VanGessell and Joan Miedema for their concerned care. And to Rev.'s Dick Beach and Steven Harduk for their comforting words. Thank you to the Alto Baptist Church for the nice luncheon provided after the funeral service.  
The Family of Eunice Keim

**2000 FORD FOCUS ZTS** - black, loaded, showroom condition, \$9,500 obo. Call 897-0108.

**FURNITURE \* MUST SELL \*** - Cherry sleigh beds, canopy beds, dining room sets. Bedroom sets, bunk beds, headboards + leather. From Parade of Homes displays. 682-4767 or 293-7430.

**FOR RENT** - 1 bedroom apartment, suitable for adults, no pets, must be gainfully employed, 1st & last month's rent. Alto, 868-6813 or 897-8644.

### DISCOUNT MANUFACTURED HOMES

- Repossessed, late model homes offered at discounted prices. Some like new. Some fixer uppers. Financing available. All offers considered. North Harbor Homes, 800-824-9811 or 616-822-2318.

**FOR SALE** - Tonneau cover, GM longbed, 8 ft. Asking \$150. Call Mike at 897-7190.

**3 BEDROOM HOME FOR RENT** - country living, Saranac Schools, 1 1/2 bath, \$750 per mo. + deposit. References required. 987-9056.

**MORRISON LAKE COTTAGE FOR RENT** - Furnished. Canoe. Sleeps 4 plus. Lot accommodates campers. \$450/wk. 485-0313.

**DIRECTV MINI-SATELLITE DISH** - 2 receivers \$19.99 or 1 receiver FREE w/free install. We beat all advertised prices. New subscribers only. Call for details. 1-800-459-7357 K-20.

**LOG CABIN BED** - Queen w/ mattress. (New) cedar, sturdy. Cost \$800. Sell \$175. 517-719-8062.

**COTTAGE ON LAKE MICHIGAN** - in South Haven. Can sleep 10. Available August 10-17. Call 616-434-9106

**BOAT TRAILER** - 16 ft., tilt, lights. Asking \$285. Phone 897-8464.

**GIRLS SCHWINN BIKE** - blue, 24", 18 speed, \$45, best offer. Call 897-9659.

### SERVICES

**DOG GROOMING SALON OPEN IN ALTO** - Call for appt. today, 868-0215, ask for Jeanne.

**THINKING ABOUT REMODELING?** - Adding an addition or fixing that old roof? We also do siding, windows, kitchens & baths, ceramic tile, pole barns, decks, concrete, water-scapes & much more. Call the experts - JLS Contracting, Inc. Licensed & Insured. One call does it all. Call Gary 299-6989.

**TOWING** - Servicing Lowell & surrounding areas. Flat bed & wrecker, Tire changes, Jump starts, Lock outs, 24 Hr. service. Call Lincoln Lake Autos 897-9040.

**MICKEY'S SALON** - 897-4592, Hair & Nail Care. Call for an appointment.

**AMERIDREAM, HART, NEHEMIAH GRANT PROGRAMS** - 3 nonprofits will gift up to 7% to purchase your next home. No income restrictions. Call Michelle for more info at CTX (616) 464-1348/(800) 282-0325 or Peter Smith Re/Max (616) 460-6634 for a list of homes. CTX is an Equal Housing Opportunity Lender.

**YMCA EXTREME FUN DAYCAMP** - has openings. Weekly field trips, park days & swimming. New rates for summer fun. Call Cynthia for information at 897-2688 or 897-8445.

**QUALITY COLLISION REPAIRS** - Let Bob's Body Shop repair your vehicle to factory specifications, using their new electronic measuring machine along with expert paint matching. Rental cars available while yours is being fixed. Call 897-9040 for details.

**SEPTIC SYSTEMS & REPAIR** - Top soil, sand, excavating. Dan Mosher at DMC, Inc. 540-1346 or 897-1410.

**CHRISTOPHER'S TREE/SHRUB SERVICE** - removals, proper pruning, yard cleanup. Experienced, courteous service. Free estimates. 868-1614.

**PATIO DECKS** - Start your summer off right by having a new deck built today. Call Nick at 647-0578 for bid info.

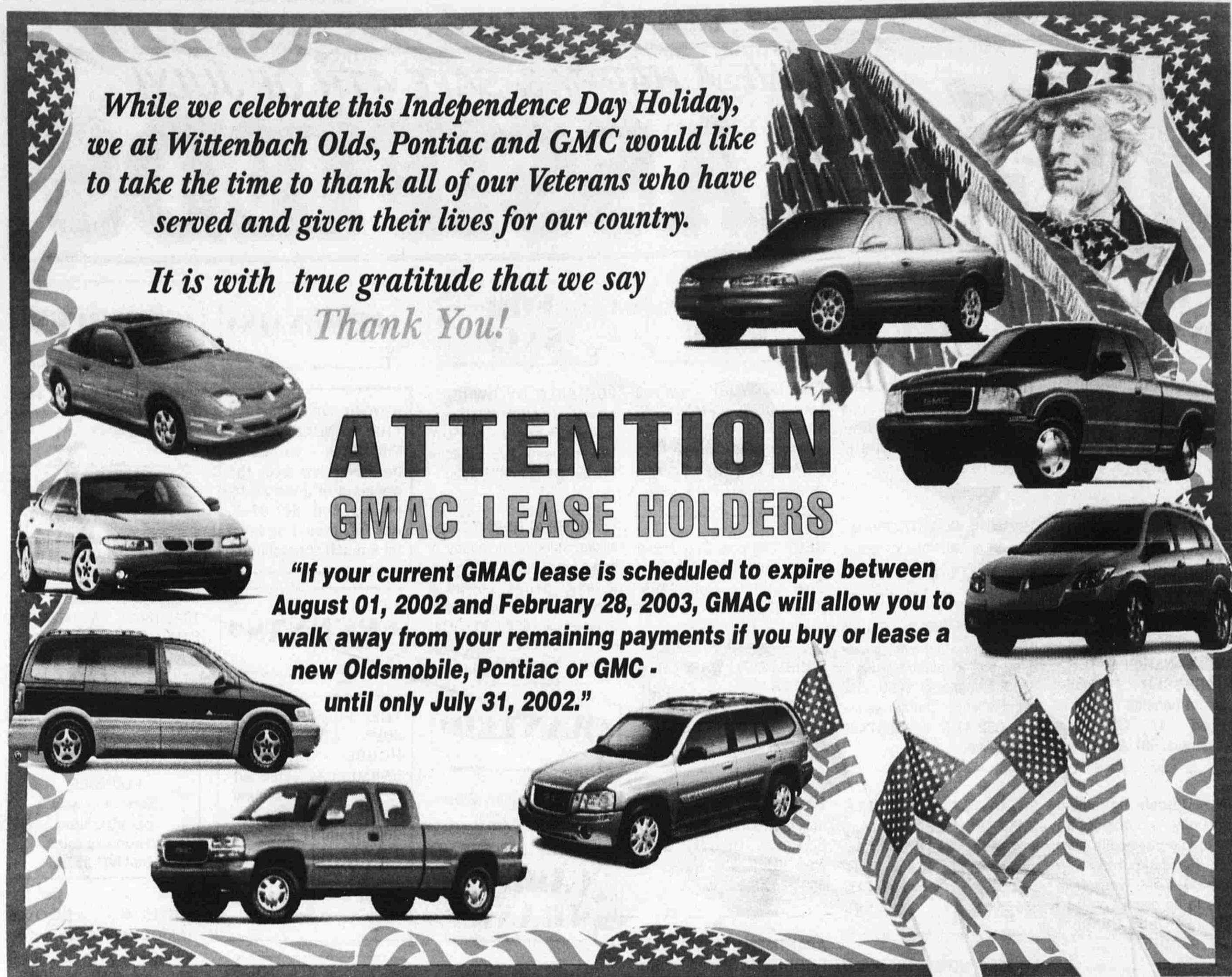
**WE SHIP UPS**  
The Buyers Guide

While we celebrate this Independence Day Holiday, we at Wittenbach Olds, Pontiac and GMC would like to take the time to thank all of our Veterans who have served and given their lives for our country.

It is with true gratitude that we say  
*Thank You!*

## ATTENTION GMAC LEASE HOLDERS

**"If your current GMAC lease is scheduled to expire between August 01, 2002 and February 28, 2003, GMAC will allow you to walk away from your remaining payments if you buy or lease a new Oldsmobile, Pontiac or GMC - until only July 31, 2002."**



# SALUTE TO SAVINGS

 <p><b>2002 DODGE CARAVAN EXT. SPORT</b> 4 dr., auto., 6 cyl., frt. &amp; rear air, cruise, tilt, AM/FM/CD, power seats, windows &amp; locks, silver, warranty! Compare &amp; Save! <b>\$17,450 • \$0 Down • \$296 per mo.</b></p>	 <p><b>2001 SONOMA EXT. CAB</b> 3rd dr., auto., 6 cyl., 4.3 engine, 4x4, air, cruise, tilt, AM/FM/CD, power windows, locks, 25,600 miles, alloy wheels, bal. of warranties, plus GM certified. <b>\$16,500 • \$0 Down • \$280 per mo.</b></p>	 <p><b>2000 GMC SIERRA SLT EXT. CAB</b> 3rd door, auto., 8 cyl., 5300 engine, 4x4, air, cruise, tilt, AM/FM/Cass/CD, leather, power seats, windows, locks, one owner, 35,600 miles, black, alloy wheels, fully loaded, GM certified, Price Reduced! <b>\$21,950 • \$0 Down • \$373 per mo.</b></p>	 <p><b>2000 GMC JIMMY SLE</b> 4 dr., auto., 6 cyl., 4.3 engine, air, cruise, tilt, AM/FM/Cass/CD, power seats, windows &amp; locks, 28,100 miles, pewter, alloy wheels, bal. of warranty, plus GM certified. Reduced! <b>\$17,250 • \$0 Down • \$293 per mo.</b></p>
 <p><b>1999 GMC YUKON SLT</b> 4 dr., auto., 8 cyl., 5.7 engine, 4x4, air, cruise, tilt, AM/FM Cass/CD, leather, power seats, windows, locks, 43,000 miles, white, alloy wheels, heated seats, tow pkg., more! <b>\$19,950 • SAVE!!!</b></p>	 <p><b>1999 PONTIAC GRAND AM GT</b> 4 dr., auto., 6 cyl., 3.4 engine, air, cruise, tilt, AM/FM/Cass/CD, power sunroof, seats, windows &amp; locks, red, alloy wheels, GM certified. Was \$13,995. <b>Now \$12,250 • \$0 Down • \$241 per mo.</b></p>	 <p><b>1999 BUICK PARK AVE.</b> Auto., 6 cyl., 3800 engine, air, cruise, tilt, AM/FM/Cass/CD, leather, power seats, windows, locks, alloy wheels, fully loaded, GM certified. Reduced \$1,245 <b>Now \$14,750 • \$0 Down • \$289 per mo.</b></p>	 <p><b>1998 HYUNDAI SONATA GL</b> 4 dr., auto., air, cruise, tilt, AM/FM/Cass., power windows &amp; locks, 66,000 miles, great MPG. <b>REDUCED!!!</b> <b>\$4,995 • \$0 Down • \$110 per mo.</b></p>
 <p><b>1999 CHEVY SUBURBAN LS</b> Auto., 8 cyl., 5.7 engine, 4x4, air, cruise, tilt, AM/FM/Cass/CD, power seats, windows &amp; locks, 43,500 miles, blue, alloy wheels, GM certified, tow pkg., two-tone paint. SAVE! <b>\$22,450 • REDUCED!</b></p>	 <p><b>1997 OLDS AURORA</b> Auto., 8 cyl., air, cruise, tilt, AM/FM/Cass/CD, leather, power sunroof, seats, windows &amp; locks, alloy wheels, fully loaded, local trade, well maintained! <b>\$9,850 • \$0 Down • \$215 per mo.</b></p>	 <p><b>1999 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX SE</b> 4 dr., auto., 6 cyl., 3.1 engine, air, cruise, tilt, AM/FM/CD, power windows &amp; locks, GM certified. "SPECIAL OF THE WEEK!" <b>\$9,750 • \$0 Down • \$192 per mo.</b></p>	 <p><b>1999 CHEVROLET LUMINA LS</b> 4 dr., auto., 6 cyl., 3.1 engine, air, cruise, tilt, AM/FM/CD, power seats, windows &amp; locks, 31,900 miles, tan, alloy wheels, GM certified, keyless entry - SAVE! <b>\$9,900 • \$0 Down • \$195 per mo.</b></p>

\*2000-01-02 - 72 mos. @ 6.9%; 1999-60 mos. @ 6.9%; 98-97 - 54 mos. @ 7.5% W.A.C. Plus tax, title & plates

 Oldsmobile.

**PONTIAC.**

**GMC.**

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