

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 28, Issue 41

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, August 20, 2003



A New Start

The first of many Lowell City Council meetings was held in the upstairs of the newly renovated City Hall. Lowell city manager, Dave Pasquale said all city/government meetings will be held in the new meeting room with the exception of the Downtown Development Authority's monthly meeting which will be held in a smaller conference room. The city's council meeting had been held in the Englehardt Public Library for the past six years. Pictured, from left to right, are: council members Al Mathews; Chuck Myers; Mayor Jeanne Shores; Michael Blough; Jim Pfaller; city attorney, Richard Wendt; city manager, Dave Pasquale and city clerk, Betty Morlock.

Ledger editor steps down from post

By J. Boss,

Longtime reporter and editor, Thad Kraus will soon be leaving The Lowell Ledger staff.

Originally from Edwardsburg ("The Burg"), Kraus graduated from Western Michigan University in 1983 and started with the Ledger as a reporter in 1987.

From covering local high school sports and town events and news, it would be difficult to find a person in Lowell who wouldn't recognize his familiar face. "Well I guess we can say it now. As far as his sports coverage is concerned, he was such a huge Red Arrow fan I'm not sure how impartial his reporting was. He thoroughly enjoyed his involvement with the teams," said a co-worker.

Ledger publisher, Roger Brown recalled, "For years Thad did a weekly 'Person on the Street' piece. He'd get a photo and comment on a particular question from citizens as they shopped or ran errands. After a couple years of this, he pretty much exhausted his sources of people willing to have their picture in the paper. Thad is about six feet six inches tall, and watching as he tried to sneak up on an unsuspecting "victim" for the weekly article was a real treat. People would always see him coming and run away. It had to be real tough on his ego. No wonder he let the interview thing quietly die."

He has also been an active area volunteer as a past-president of the Showboat Board and Lions Club. He, along with partner Terry VanderWarf, also created the annual Cherry Creek 5K Run/Walk.

Toni Blough said, "It's hard to believe I have worked as Thad's proofreader/copy editor for 10 years. In spite of me asking Thad, 'What do you mean by this?' or him questioning me, 'Why did you change that?' it's been pretty smooth sailing. He has always been there for the local news/sports and has always taken the time to talk to people. The town depended on Thad to be there and get those stories out for the next Ledger, and he will be missed."

"Above all else, Thad has been loyal to Lowell and the

Ledger. His devotion to the community, especially the school district, will be sorely missed. I'm sorry The Ledger is too small to provide Thad the opportunity for advancement he deserves. We all wish him the best of luck with his new career. On the plus side, Thad will remain a resident of Lowell and has offered to cover Lowell High School sports for the Ledger on a stringer basis. His byline won't be totally absent from our pages," commented Brown.

Having accepted a sales position with the Advance Newspapers he'll start there in September.

He does plan to help out during the transition period by covering city meetings and sports. Officially, his last day at The Ledger will be Friday, Aug. 29.

Lowell police arrest driver of hit-and-run car

... Cycle driver suffers leg injury in Thursday night's Hudson Street accident.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
 Lowell Ledger Editor

A Lowell man was arraigned Monday in the 63rd District Court on one charge of failing to stop at an accident with serious injury.

Chad Wesley Foster, 22, of Lowell, is being held at the Kent County Jail on a \$10,000 bond.

The Lowell Police Department arrested Foster Saturday afternoon in Lowell.

Foster fled the scene of an accident Thursday night (10:10 p.m.) at North Hudson and Foreman.

He and a friend (21 years old) were apparently racing when an accident involving two motorcycles occurred.

According to police reports, Foster passed cars on the right side of the road before striking two cycles on the left while attempting to pass.

Cyclist, Kyle Geldersma, 18, of Lowell, was struck by Foster, who was driving a 1992 Ford Crown Victoria.

Geldersma was transported to Spectrum Health Butterworth Campus for a serious leg injury.

According to his family, Geldersma underwent four and a half hours of reconstructive surgery to his leg and will require more surgery in six-eight months.

The family said it is questionable whether Geldersma will regain full use of his leg.

Also injured on a second motorcycle were Jordan Steele, 21, and Douglas Anchors, 21, both of Lowell. They suffered minor injuries.

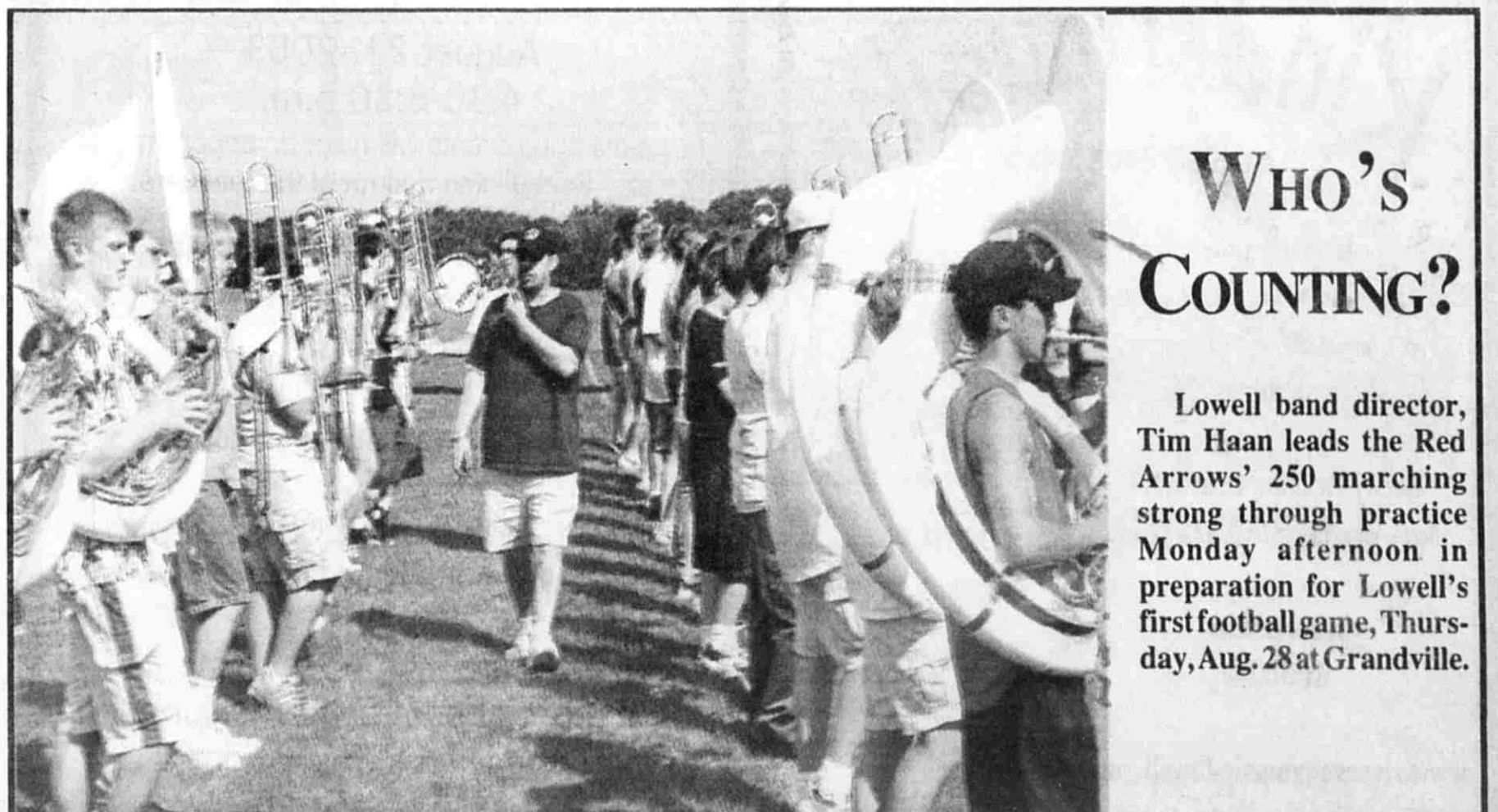
The driver of the second car stopped to help the victims.

He has not yet been arraigned on misdemeanor charges of drunken driving, reckless driving and use of marijuana.

Lowell police officers acted on several tips from witnesses as well as a call from an anonymous source giving Foster's name and assertion that he owned a car matching the hit and run vehicle.

"A records check with the secretary of state confirmed this. We were able to recover the suspect's vehicle in the city of Kentwood," said Lowell Police Department's public information officer, Steven Bukala.

No preliminary court date has been set as of yet for Foster, who carries a prior felony record.



WHO'S COUNTING?

Lowell band director, Tim Haan leads the Red Arrows' 250 marching strong through practice Monday afternoon in preparation for Lowell's first football game, Thursday, Aug. 28 at Grandville.

OBITUARIES

ANDERSON - Katherine C. Anderson, aged 92, of Lowell, formerly of Grand Rapids, went to be with the Lord Friday, August 15, 2003. She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law Robert (Mary) Ollis of Lowell; granddaughter Kathy (Michael) Savage of Traverse City; great-grandchildren Maggie and Sam; several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husbands John Ollis and Arthur Anderson; son John Ollis; daughter Salome (Sally)

Marsh. Mrs. Anderson worked at Western Union and Butterworth Hospital as a switchboard operator for many years. Funeral services were held Monday at the O'Brien-Eggebeen-Gerst Chapel with her pastor Rev. Foppe VanderZwaag of Heritage Netherlands Reformed Congregation, officiating. Interment Fairplains Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Plymouth Christian School, 1000 Ball Ave. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49505.

HOWES - Linda Marie Howes, aged 50, of Lowell, passed away August 17, 2003. She is survived by her husband Steven; children Eric and Amy; parents Edwin and Dolores Nawrocki; brothers Fred (Cindy) Nawrocki, Ed (Linda) Nawrocki, Steve (Lisa) Nawrocki; sisters Margaret (Steve) Heatherington, Noreen (Tom) Glynn, Janice (Tom) Lemon, MaryBeth (Mark) Sobel; father and mother-in-law Kenneth and Minnie Howes; sisters-in-law Sandy Purvis, Susan (Don) Damuuth; also many nieces and nephews. The funeral service was held Tuesday at Roth-Gerst Chapel, Rev. Thomas Donaldson, CS&R of St. Alphonsus Church, officiat-

ing. Memorials may be made to the charity of one's choice.

STAUFFER - Mildred R. Stauffer, aged 95, of Lowell, passed away August 14, 2003. She was born February 18, 1908, in Lowell. Mrs. Stauffer was preceded in death by her husbands, Elvyn Potter and Emerson Stauffer. She is survived by her children Lois (Ron) Heffron, Kelvin (Mindy) Potter, Jim Potter and Mary Mendez; grandchildren David (Shelly) Frazer, Jeff Frazer, Diane (Mike) Everhart, Kelly James (Karen) Potter; Kurt Zalokar and Melinda, Kristin (Kevin) Miller, Mark Potter, Stephanie (Rich) Robinson; 10 great-grandchildren. She was an active member of the

Rebekah Lodge, the Alto Garden Club and the Bowne Center UMC. Funeral services were held Monday at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, Rev. Dean Bailey, officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Alto Fire Department or Bowne Center United Methodist Church.

Power outage brings to light food safety tips

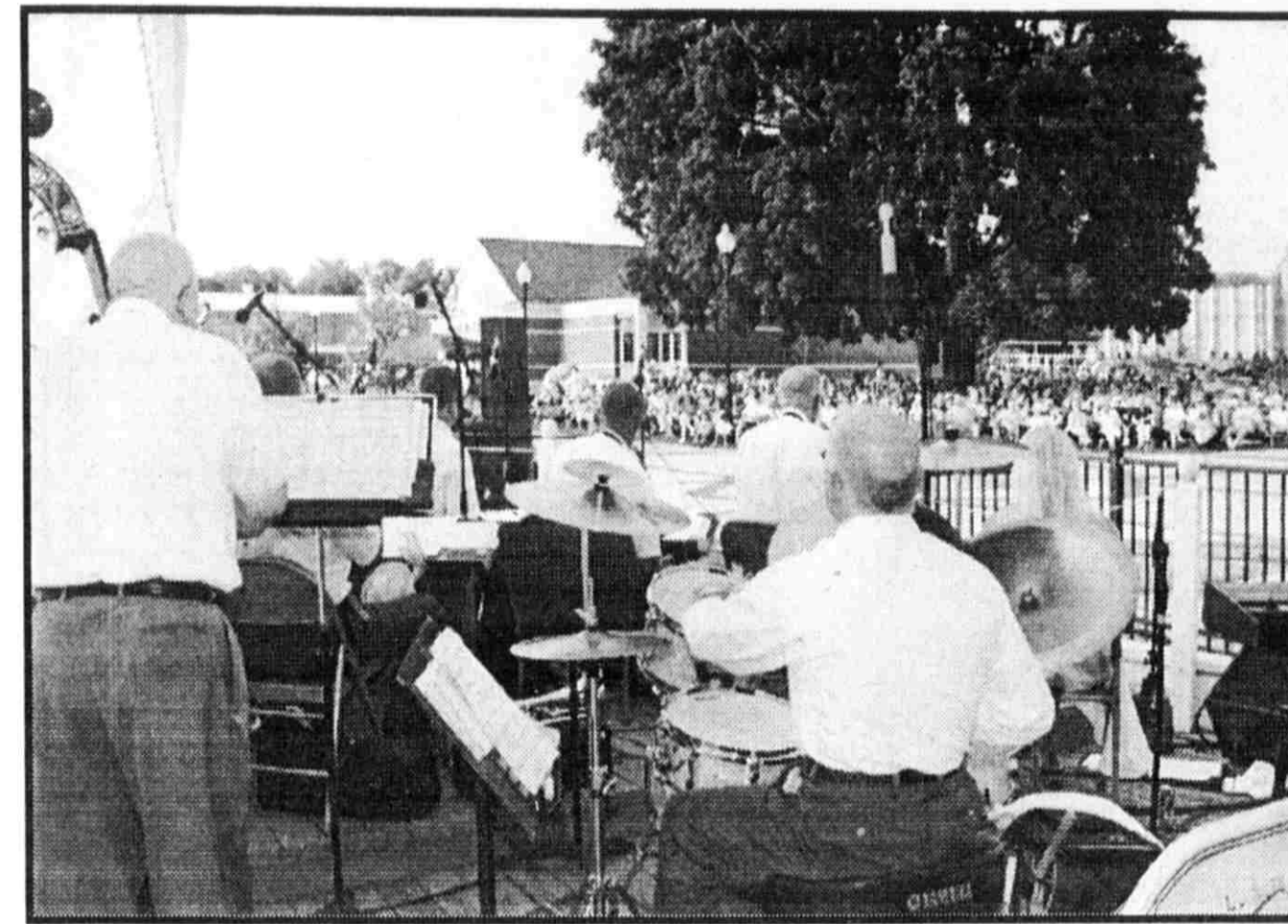
In light of the severe power outages now affecting Southeast Michigan, Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) director, Dan Wyant reminded area residents about some simple but important food safety precautions to keep in mind during or after these kind of events.

"Basic food safety precautions are important to keep in mind during or after power outages," Wyant said. "In this particular case, residents should pay special attention to the drinkability of tap water and foods in refrigerators or freezers."

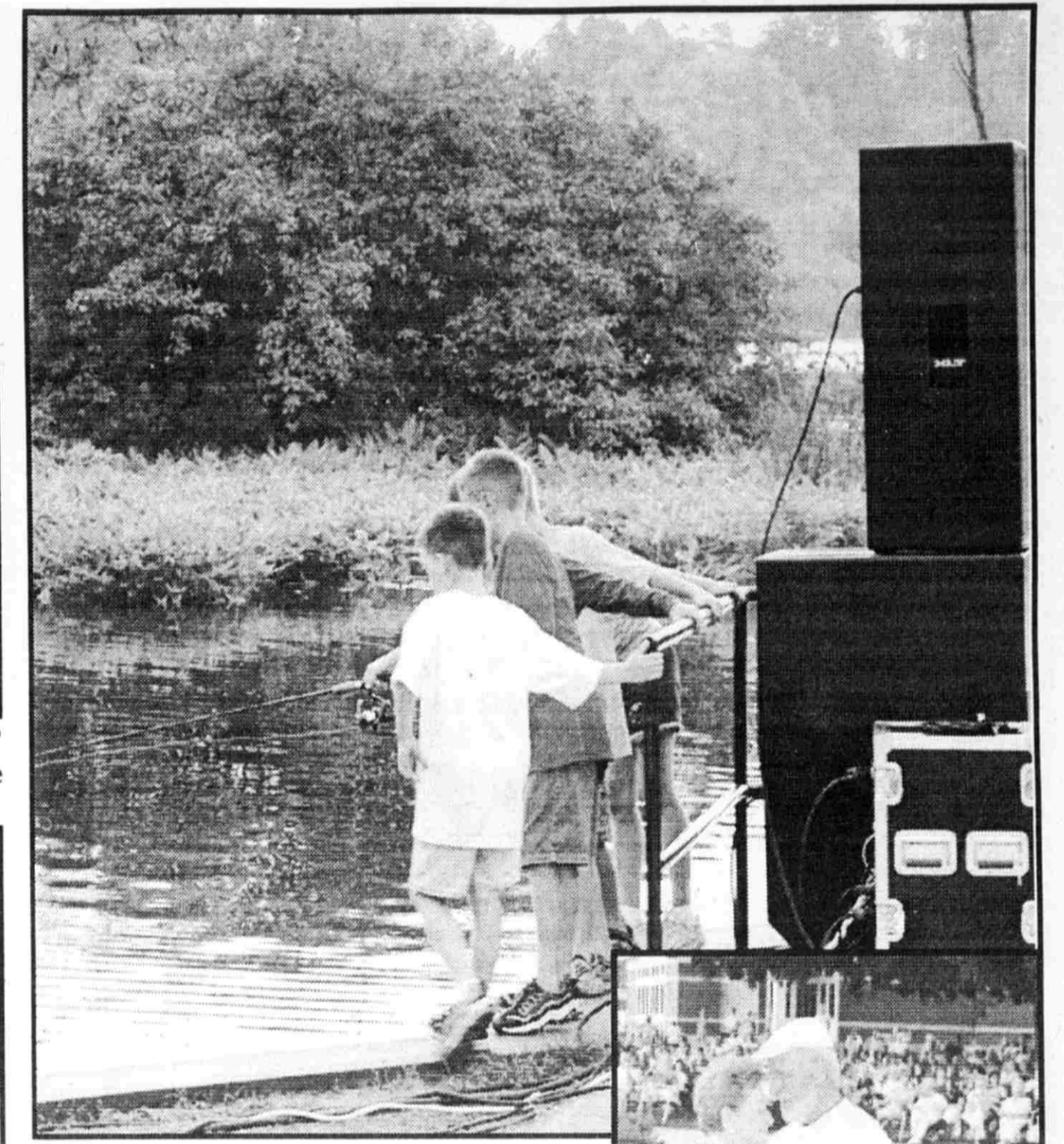
To obtain the most recent and location-specific water safety information and advisories, contact your water utility or listen/watch for media reports. Residents on private wells may contact their local health department.

If your refrigerator loses power, only open refrigerator doors when absolutely necessary to keep the cold inside. A full, freestanding freezer will stay at freezing temperatures about two days; a half-full freezer about one day. If your freezer is not full, group packages together so they form an "igloo" protecting each other. And if power may be out several days, try to use dry ice. Twenty-five pounds of dry ice should hold a 10-cubic foot full freezer three to four days.

General food safety standards indicate that potentially hazardous foods (meats, fish, poultry, all dairy products, all eggs and egg products, soft cheeses, custards, puddings, and cooked beans, rice, potatoes, pasta, and potato/pasta/ macaroni salads, etc.) should be stored at 40 degrees Fahrenheit or less. For every hour foods are kept above that temperature, the risk of foodborne illness increases. Always discard anything that turns moldy or has an unusual odor or look and remember: "When in doubt, throw it out."



The River City Jazz Ensemble played to a full house at the last 2003 Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concert. Their renditions of jazz classics and jazzed up newer music were enjoyed by all.



Hold on, I think it is the big one!!

LAST DANCE!

Karol and Roger Benedict, of Saranac, danced the night away at the last Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concert.

Pictures Courtesy Bruce T. Doll

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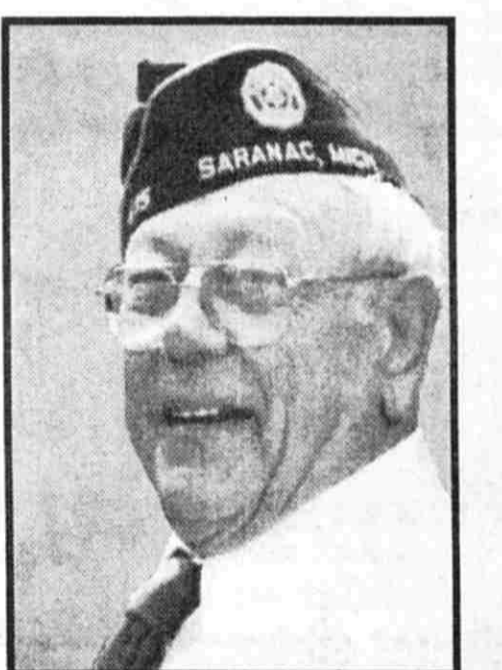
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Architecture is the alphabet of giants; it is the largest set of symbols ever made to meet the eyes of men. A tower stands up like a sort of simplified statue, of much more than heroic size.
 —G.K. Chesterton

In Memoriam - Dwight C. Brown "Brownie"

September 2, 1925 - August 21, 2002

The saying goes, "Once a Marine, always a Marine." You were a Marine, and a good one, but you were so much more. You were a husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. You were a trusted friend. You were a gifted writer. You were skilled in your chosen trade. The many creations from your woodworking shop will be treasured forever. Your enthusiasm and "can do" spirit lives on in all who knew you. You loved your family, your friends, your community and your dogs. We all loved you in return, and miss you dearly.



Semper Fi
 Sadly missed by The Brown Family

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Cherry Creek Elementary Meet the Teacher Day
 August 21, 2003
 4:30-6:30 p.m.
 Students and parents will have an opportunity to tour the building and meet the teachers.
Cherry Creek Elementary Parent Information Night
 August 26th from 6:00-6:45 p.m. (for parents of students in grades 2 & 3)
 August 27th from 6:00-6:45 p.m. (for parents of students in grades 4 & 5)
 Parents are invited to come and learn more about the curriculum and grade level expectations.

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Reflections Of Faith

Dr. Roger La Warre
First Congregational UCC

Cicero called it "the greatest of the virtues," "the parent of all the others." Seneca said the lack of it was "an abomination." It's GRATITUDE. Gratitude is a very close kin to "gracious" and "grateful." Some would say that we live in a society of "rights," full of self-made men and women, where most of us tend to think that we have what we have because we deserve it. We live in a culture where gratitude often seems an emotion that is in short supply.

Contrast this thought with the thoughts of Paul in the letter he writes to the Ephesians; in the 5th chapter Paul talks about the virtues by which one lives his/her life. He tells us "to be careful how we live" so that we can live with wisdom, following the word of God. "Don't get drunk with wine... but be filled with the Spirit."

Paul is encouraging us to sing songs, not the songs of a barroom drunk, but the songs of the spirit, hymns and praise to God. Then Paul lays down the ultimate virtue for living a worthwhile life: "... make melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God

the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." (vss 15-20.)

Do you have a GRATITUDE attitude in your faith or is your faith becoming something by which you try to get God to do what you want by just telling God thank you, much like you told the child who gave you the gift at your birthday party. Gratitude starts with the recognition that all that we have is from God. Gratitude requires a recognition that God truly is at work in your world and my world. Gratitude moves beyond ourselves, our wants and our situations and allows us to encounter the well-spring of love that comes only from God in Christ Jesus. Gratitude is a friend that we want to take with us for every occasion. "Always and for everything, give thanks" is truly a great way to live. It seems to me that we just need more people willing to live with gratitude.



Schaefer's 40th Anniversary

Bill and Helen Schaefer celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary with family at the Macaroni Grill on Aug. 17.

Their children are Bill (Jodi), Patrick (Toni) and the late Brenda Schaefer. Grandchildren are Brandi, Jami, Jordan, Ryan, Joey, Jasen and Amiya.

The Schaefers were married in Syracuse, New York, on Aug. 17, 1963.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

AUGUST 21: Madelyn Pfaller, Charlene DeShane-Dalga, Tim Aksamitowski, Joshua Hobra, Tom Barnes.
AUGUST 22: Mike Blough, Shane Teelander, Austin Goos.
AUGUST 23: Kacy Anderson, Rhea Bundy Anes, Stephen Rhodes, Brandon Taylor, Ron Kennedy, Jesse Carr.
AUGUST 24: Tim Raymor, Angela Rasch, Don Geelhoed, April Barnes, Kelly Johnson, David VanKeulen.
AUGUST 25: Patty Elzinga, Lindsey Trierweiler, Margaret Rozeboom, Misty McClure-Anderson.
AUGUST 26: Regan Doyle, Teresa Kimble, Dianne Gee, Elva Ayres, Bandie Barnes.
AUGUST 27: Virgil Roudabush.

COLLEGE NEWS

Calvin College has announced its summer 2003 graduates. From the Lowell area is **Karen J. Roudabush**, with a major in nursing. She is a graduate of Lowell High School and the daughter of Kurt and Wilma Roudabush.

Every individual has a place to fill in the world, and is important in some respect, whether he chooses to be so or not.

—Nathaniel Hawthorne

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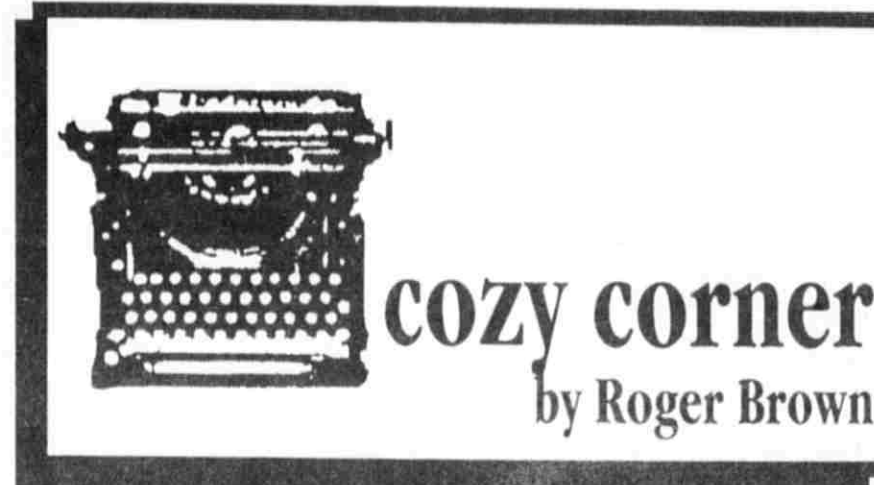
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Viewpoint . . .



I cheered a viewer's e-mail response to a recent TV news show poll. I find TV mind-numbing in general, so I'm not even sure what the question was. The Vermont viewer's response was something to the effect of, "These New Yorkers need to get over themselves. They lose power for 24 hours and it's the end of the world. Here in Vermont we often lose power from snow, wind and ice storms. We crank up our generators and get on with it. Get a life New York."

That response is rather blunt, but it's a point well taken. Having lived most of my fifty-some years in small west Michigan communities, I can remember several instances when we were without power for extended periods. The real point is, I've probably forgotten many times when the power was out longer than the recent outage in New York. (Yeah, yeah... I know, the power was out as far west as Lansing, but the news media only cares about New York. New York City, that is.)

I now spend most of my time living and working here in the Florida Keys. The power situation isn't any better here. In fact, locals refer to the electrical power company as "Florida Flicker and Flash." It seems like even a little storm can trigger a power outage. Following Hurricane Georges in 1998, we were without power for nearly two weeks. I'd like to see a bunch of New Yorkers deal with that.

I'm sure many of you readers share this trait. I think power failures are almost, dare I say it... "fun." We get out the candles and flashlights. We cook on the gas grill or camp stove. We build a fire in the fireplace. We get the generator going to keep the food in the refrigerator and freezer from spoiling. We might even get a day off work! We get in touch with family, friends and neighbors to see if they have power or need help. I may be a sicko, but I think that kind of stuff is fun.

This attitude is part of the pioneering spirit that drove our ancestors out of the cities in the first place. At least that's my theory. Take it for what it's worth.

I used to fly way back into a remote part of Ontario to fish for a week with a buddy. There wasn't a power line within fifty miles of the little shack we stayed in. We went to great effort and expense to live without power for a week. We loved it. My guess is, most of you love "roughing it" as well. On the other hand, I'd guess that finding a New Yorker willing to sever their electrical umbilical cord would be a different story.

I realize city living is a whole different ballgame. If you live in an apartment on the twenty-fifth floor, you can't very well fire up a generator and gas grill in the hallway. If you're

dependent on public transportation, and the system goes down, you are on foot. If Starbucks is closed, you aren't getting your caffeine fix.

You might think I'm really down on New Yorkers. To the contrary, I admire them. They are in many respects far more tough and savvy than most of us. I think their coarse, demanding and rude behavior comes from years of jostling for position in their crowded living/working conditions. A typical New Yorker might be helpless and miserable on a backwoods camping trip or during a power outage. However, I guarantee you, I'd be just as helpless and miserable if for some reason I were forced to live and work in New York City.

There is one image from the news coverage of the recent power outage that will stick with me forever. The aerial shots of the estimated 20,000 people massed at the Staten Island Ferry docks simply blew my mind. There were two ferry boats running, and their efforts didn't seem to diminish the crowd at all.

I'd be in big trouble. Being from a small town I'd lack aggressiveness. I'd be too well-mannered. I'd probably let an old lady or pregnant woman have cuts. Consequently, I would be about 19,990th in line. The nine people behind me would be nuns and Boy Scouts.

As the e-mailer from Vermont suggested, "Get over yourselves New Yorkers." I agree! The media has more important matters to cover... like the governor's race in California.

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AUGUST 20, 1903

Supt. Thomas says school will open Sept. 7, with grades 1-4 in each of the three outside buildings, grades 5-8 and high school in the central building.

The second matinee of the Lowell Driving Club last Thursday was well-attended, with good weather and a fast track.

Lowell Specialty Co. has purchased the old feed mill on the east side, put on a new foundation and covered it with steel for purposes of storage and chemical work.

Lowell Cutter factory is working overtime and needs more wood workers.

Early Michigan peaches are now in the market.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AUGUST 20, 1953

Much building going on: the new Catholic grade school on Amity, Speerstr's new Dodge-Plymouth garage on W. Main and a warehouse addition for Newell Manufacturing. Three other commercial and many residential permits have been issued.

The old South Ward schoolhouse in Segun is up for sale by the Board of Education.

The 19th annual 4-H Fair is running for three full days and nights this week.

The new E.C. Foreman home on the hill gets a full-page spread.

Lowell Lumber & Coal Co. reminds readers to fill their bins now on off-season prices.

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO AUGUST 23, 1928 (1923)

There are no microfilms of the Lowell Ledger between May 24, 1928 and November 15, 1928. We'll fill in with columns from 1998 and get you "80 years The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo."

The Board of Trade has set Dollar Day for this week Wednesday. Victrola and Boy Scout Band concerts, plus extra film showings at the Strand, are added attractions.

A short-change swindler visited Hazel Borgerson's store last week.

The county board of supervisors considers dropping the woodchuck and crow bounties. It dropped the hawk, weasel and owl bounties last year, but will continue those on rats and sparrows. Budget is the reason.

Pictures of the train carrying Pres. Harding's body, and the funeral procession in Marion, Ohio, are published (he died the first week of August).

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER AUGUST 23, 1978

Tornado or straight-line wind? It ripped through at 4 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 19, destroying the Showboat and tearing off the Methodist Church steeple and bell tower.

Damages from the wind extend from Richards Park to about a mile east of town on M-21, in a swath one to two blocks wide. Lots of downed trees, shingles and broken glass all over.

As if a storm were not enough, many arrests for drugs, breaking and entering, resisting arrest, etc., are reported for the past week, plus injuries in auto accidents.

Volunteers from all over pitch in to restore some sort of order, in spite of heavy traffic through a town of gawkers.

Attwood leads the way in donating funds to restore the Showboat, and other fundraisers are in the works.

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 Summer Worship Hours 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR Nursery & child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p>EVERGREEN MISSIONARY CHURCH 10501 Settlemore • Ph. 897-7185 Sunday School.....9:45 A.M. Morning Worship.....11 A.M. Evening Service.....6:00 P.M. Prayer and Praise - Wed., 7:00 P.M. GLENN H. MARKS - Senior Pastor, 897-9110 STAN GERIG - Associate Pastor, 897-5894 ALL ARE WELCOME! (Barrier-Free)</p>	<p>W. Henry Creek COMMUNITY CHURCH Contemporary Services Lowell High School Auditorium (Nursery & Children's Ministry Provided) Sunday Mornings.....10 AM Impact Youth (Sunday's at the Pastor's home).....5 PM Phone us @ 897-0333 or 437-5093 Call for a free CD Service Sample</p>	<p>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL Rev. William J. Renkema - 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....11:20 A.M. Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M. Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free</p>
<p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 www.goodshepherdlowell.org Sunday Worship.....10:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremmer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES 6:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 P.M. At 215 1/2 W. Main, Lowell (entrance in rear of building) CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES Pastor Robert L. Hubbard Phone: (616) 897-1267 website www.aplighthouse.com</p>	<p>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Fr. George J. Fekete 402 Amity St. • 897-9820 www.stmary-lowell.com Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL BRENDA BERG 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 49, EWTN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God) 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 *Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, Senior Pastor Dave Noonan, Asst. Pastor Stacy Holmes, College & Twenties Brian Baber, Youth Pastor SUNDAYS: Worship: 9:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. WEDNESDAYS: Family Night: (For All Ages) 7 p.m. Generation Jacob Youth: 7 p.m.</p>
<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org Rev. Burland Margesson & Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor Sun. Worship Service: 9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA/JV.....Wed. 6:15 & 7 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free</p>	<p>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 201 N. Washington • 897-8800 Sunday School.....9:30 A.M. Morning Worship.....10:50 A.M. Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M.</p>	<p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (United Church of Christ) 404 North Hudson • 897-5906 Worship and Church School.....10:00 A.M. Dr. Roger LaWarre.....Pastor Megan MacNaughton.....Music Director Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise & Worship</p>	<p>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648 Sunday School.....10:00 A.M. Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M. Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M. (Sept. - April) Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M. Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418 YOU ARE WELCOME!</p>

Health

With Drs. Paul Gauthier, Jim Lang
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DEET - THE BEST INSECT REPELLENT

As of this writing there have been no reported human west Nile infections yet this year in West Michigan. Last year, the earliest cases of the infection were reported in the month of August, so it is important to remain diligent in the use of insect repellents to prevent mosquito bites and subsequent complications.

DEET is by far the most effective insect repellent commercially available. It repels mosquitos, ticks, fleas and flies. No topical repellent is effective against bee stings. DEET products with 20 percent DEET will provide protection for 1-3 hours. DEET products with concentration of 50 percent or

more provide the longest protection, up to 12 hours. None of the alternative repellents offer the protection of DEET.

DEET can damage clothing made from synthetic fibers and plastic water crystals. Toxic effects or allergic reactions are uncommon. Concentrations up to 50 percent, if used as directed, even in children, appear to be safe. DEET also appears to be safe in the second and third trimester of preg-

nancy. Some people find DEET concentrations uncomfortably oily or sticky. Others may experience a mild rash.

Until newer formulations are available, insect repellents containing DEET are the most effective products to prevent mosquito bites and west Nile virus infections. This is truly a case where an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of care.

TO THE EDITOR

Letter to the Ledger,

With a little luck, and with the help of our customers, the black-out of 2003 was barely noticed by those who get their electricity from Lowell Light and Power.

On Thursday afternoon when the lights dimmed briefly, we in Lowell had no indication the electrical chaos that it represented. Lowell was spared from the prolonged outages that hammered Detroit, Lansing and much of the eastern part of the state. By Friday morning, we were learning that Lowell might not be completely spared from the hardships that hit other areas so hard.

significant damage when it was suddenly tripped off line by the very circuits designed to protect it during normal and foreseeable events. That damage was significant to us in Lowell because our community-owned electric company had long ago invested in (and became part owner of) the Belle River plant which supplies about 30 percent of our low cost energy.

When it became clear that the normal supply of energy would not be available, each of our city's biggest electric customers was contacted and asked to do whatever they could to reduce their electric consumption for the day. If the power usage couldn't be controlled, the utility could be forced to cut our customers' power when the demand grew higher than the available electric supply.

Our customers responded, some by closing down factories, some by just turning off non-essential lights and air the

Letter to Editor, cont'd pg. 9

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MOVIE GUIDE

FREDDY VS. JASON

SHOWTIMES 8/18 - 8/21

8:00, 1:05, 3:10, 5:15, 7:20, 9:25

GRIND (PG-13)
1:20, 1:25, 3:30, 5:35, 7:40, 9:45

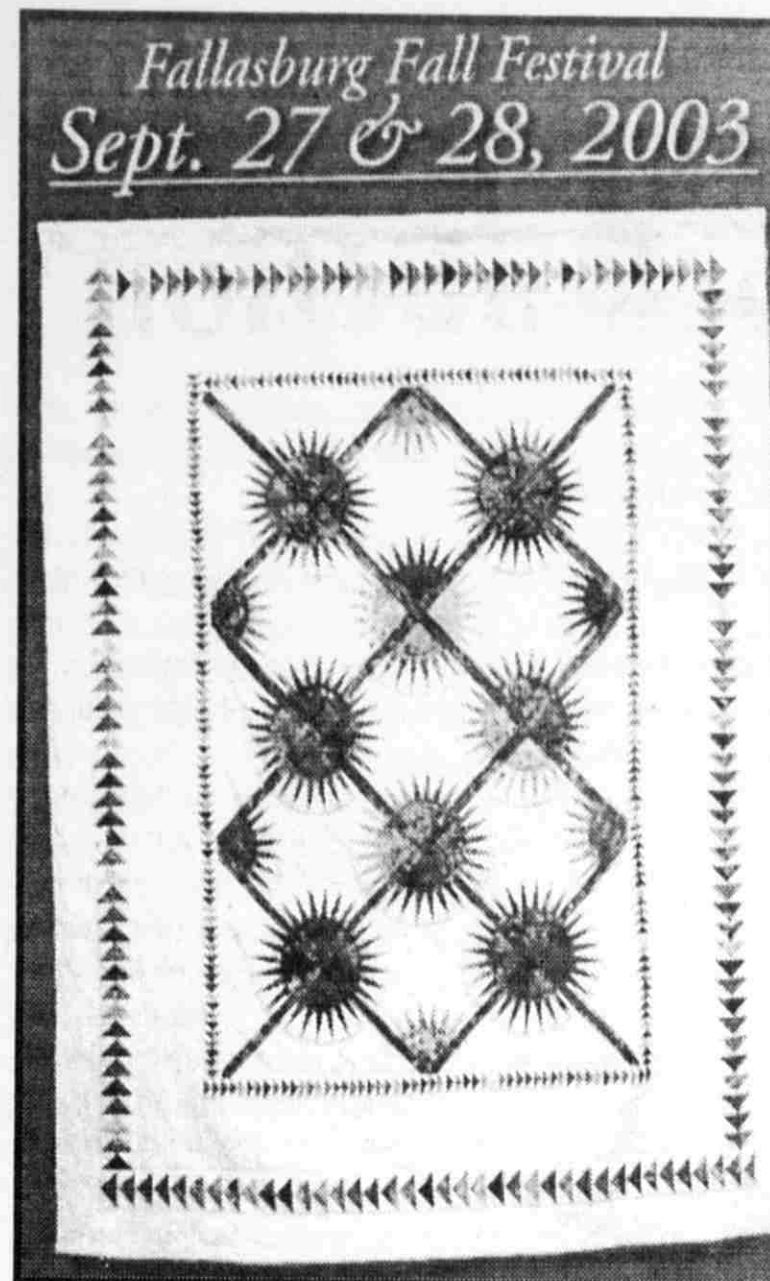
S.W.A.T. (PG-13)
1:40, 3:10, 4:35, 7:00, 9:20

FREAKY FRIDAY (PG)
11:30, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30

SEABISCUIT (PG-13)
1:10, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40

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The 2003 Fallasburg Fall Festival quilt, "Butterfly Batik" by Dawn Ysseldyke with the Fallasburg Bridge by artist Ginny Gustafson on the reverse is one of over 70 items to be raffled at this year's festival.

City agrees to give Larkin's Chili Cook-Off a taste

By J.N. Boersma
Contributing Writer

It could be a hot time in the town of Lowell on Oct. 11 ... not just because it's Harvest Fest, but Larkin's will be hosting its second annual Chili Cook-Off.

Mike Larkin, owner of the restaurant, came before the Lowell City Council seeking to block off Broadway Street, which is one way going south, to host the event.

"Last year we had teams come in and for a few, they could enter and make their chili recipe," Larkin said. "We then charged our customers to come in and taste."

The event was small, but

it did raise a couple hundred dollars for Flat River Outreach Ministries, he said.

"We are trying to go for a bigger theme this year," Larkin said, adding that the idea was to expand it into Broadway Street for the cook-off competition.

Larkin said the area would be blocked off with fencing, perhaps snow fencing, with patrons only being able to get into the area through the restaurant. This is to meet with Michigan Liquor Control Commission requirements since alcohol will be served at the event, he said.

To proceed with the event, the Liquor Control

Commission does require city approval. Larkin said he spoke to his neighbors, who had no objections and police chief, Jim Valentine indicated it would not affect traffic flow. The street would be blocked from the Lowell Buyers' Guide/Ledger offices to where Broadway meets Main Street.

Finding no objections to the request, the city unanimously approved to temporarily close Broadway Street for the event.

Larkin said he felt this would be a nice addition to the Harvest Festival celebration. "It's another way to get people downtown," he said.

Yield is high at livestock auction

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

The biggest fair in its 69-year history yielded the largest grossing livestock auction.

Kent County Youth Fair's livestock auction sold 580 units (cattle, pig, lamb, rabbits, chicken) raising a record-setting \$346,000; it eclipsed last year's mark (\$337,000) by nine thousand.

"The kids did a wonderful job again this year and the community supported the fair and the kids," said Kent County Youth Fair board president, Ron Wenger.

While other fairs rave about what their reserve and grand champions garner per pound, Wenger doesn't hesitate to exclaim that Kent County's livestock auction is one of the best in the state.

"Our reserve and grand champions don't get those super high prices, but our average dollar per pound for all the kids is better. All of our kids get decent prices per pound," Wenger said. "That's a tribute to our buyers."

The average price paid per hog was \$1.83 per pound; lambs yielded an average of \$1.98 per pound and cattle received on average \$1.35 per pound.



This year's Kent County Youth Fair Auction brought in a record-setting \$346,000. Pictured from left to right, are Dean Olin, Tim Zanbergen, Jim Cook Jr. and Dick Lee.

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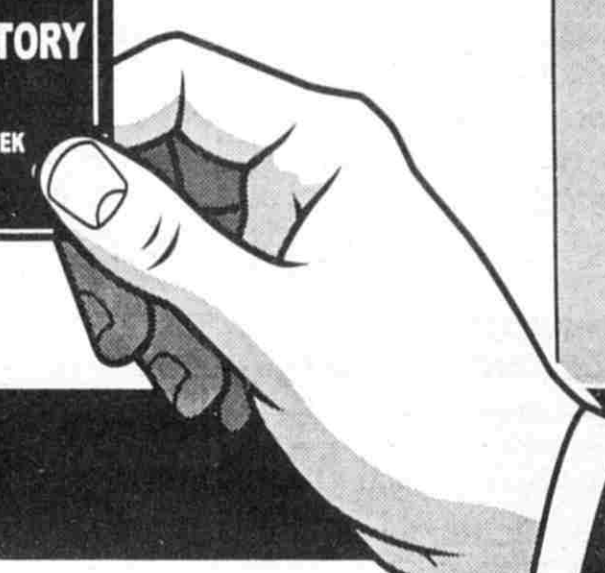
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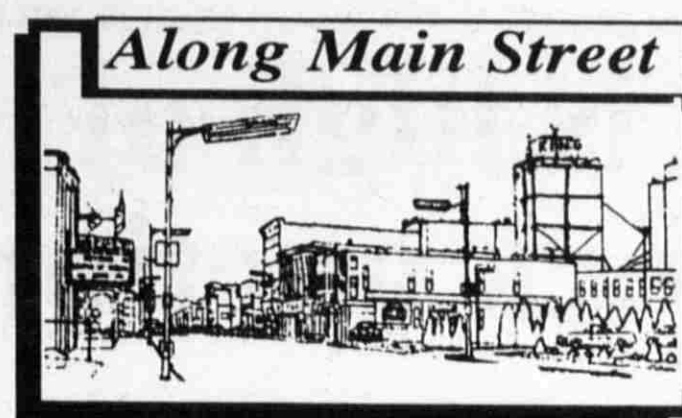
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SEEKING PHOTO FOR LIBRARY HISTORY
The Friends of Lowell Englehardt Library are preparing a display of librarian history to be shown at the Englehardt branch. If anyone has a photo of Mrs. O. A. Robinson, a librarian from 1886 - 1903, please call 897-8134.

"CELEBRATE LOWELL" EXHIBITION
The Lowell Area Arts Council will have a Visual Art

Exhibition Aug. 19 - Sept. 20. A public reception will be held on Sunday, Aug. 24 from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. at the center gallery, 149 S. Hudson, Lowell.

LMS SPORTS PHYSICALS
Lowell Middle School Athletic Dept. is offering physicals to boys and girls (7th & 8th grade) who are interested in participating in school sports. Physicals, required for all sports, will be on Tuesday, Aug. 26 from 6-8 p.m. in the middle school gym performed by Lowell Family Medical Center. Cost is \$10.

ATTENTION FORMER JR. MEMBERS OF LOWELL WOMEN'S CLUB

You are invited to Schneider Manor on Bowes Rd. to meet the new Junior members of Lowell Women's Club on Wednesday, Sept. 3 at 7 p.m. RSVP to Kathryn DenHouter 897-6291 or Marj Harding 897-8107.

COMMODITIES TO BE DISTRIBUTED

Low income households: Commodities will be distributed at Moose Recreational Bldg., 1320 E. Main on Thursday, Sept. 4 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Have all necessary papers with you if you have to register for the first time or need to re-register. Call 897-5150 or 897-8754 with questions.

CALL FOR AUDITIONS - THEBES PLAYERS

Lowell Area Arts Council Thebes Players are seeking actors for the hilarious hit, "Inspecting Carol." Auditions are Sept. 22-24 from 7-9 p.m. at the arts council, 149 S. Hudson. Performance dates: Nov. 7-15. Call 897-8545 for information or a script.

1ST ANNUAL FLAT RIVER ANTIQUE FAIR

The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce is seeking antique and collectible vendors for Saturday, Oct. 11. If interested call Liz at 897-9161 or www.lowellchamber.org.

HARVEST ARTS & CRAFT SALE

The Lowell Fairgrounds Foreman Building has booth space available for its Harvest Arts and Crafts show on Saturday, Oct. 11. Call Ron Wenger at 897-6050 for more information and an application.

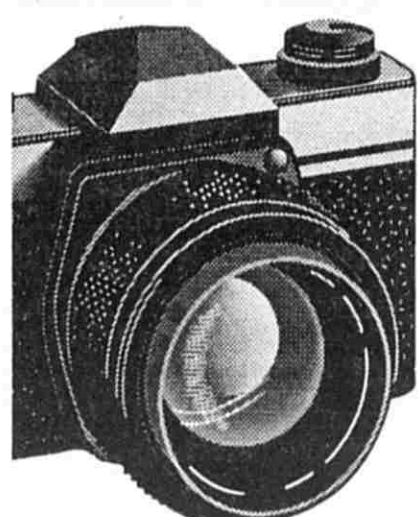
LARKIN'S 2ND ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF

Enter your team and be a part of Larkin's 2nd annual Chili Madness Cook-off Saturday, Oct. 11. \$25 entry fee. Call Larkin's at 897-5977 for info. or an application.



The Ledger's very own (at least some of the time) Bill Fluger was recently recognized by the United States Post Office for his accident-free record while delivering mail for the past five years. Others receiving safe driving awards were Nancy Roth, Gil Brown, Ron Adam, Gary Blough and Toby Jones.

Attention All Coaches, Proud Parents, Athletes & Others Who Wish To Submit Photos In The Ledger...



It is important that the subject's face not be shaded in order to print your photo clearly in the paper.

All group pictures should be taken WITHOUT caps, visors, etc.

Photos will no longer be accepted if faces are too dark.

Financial Focus

Edward Jones

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Make Sure You Know What Your 457 Plan Offers

If you work for a state or local government, you may be able to contribute to a retirement account known as a 457(b) plan. If you have such a plan, consider yourself fortunate, because it's a great way to help build assets for retirement. But 457(b) plan provisions can vary between plans, so you'll want to know exactly what your plan offers—and how you can take full advantage of it.

All 457(b) plans offer some key tax advantages to participants. Your earnings grow tax-deferred, which means your money will accumulate faster than it would if it were placed in an investment on which you pay taxes every year. Plus, you typically make "pre-tax" contributions to a 457(b) plan, so your adjusted gross income will be reduced. Also, you typically have a choice of several different types of investments with which to fund your 457(b) plan.

Beyond these basic similarities, there are some important variations between the plans—and you might need to know these differences, because some employers can offer a 457(b) plan—plus a 403(b).

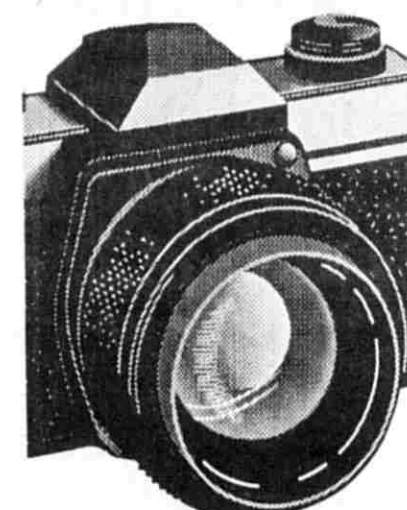
To The Editor

transmission system which carries large volumes of electricity from a few big efficient power generating plants to the customers in hundreds of communities like Lowell. The regulatory agencies and major utilities have been aware of the system's weaknesses, but have failed to act until faced with a crisis.

Through the direction by Lowell Light and Power's citizen board of directors, we are working hard to influence the decision makers at all levels to take action to avoid a repeat of Aug. 14. We are also making the local investments necessary to insure that your power company will continue the reliable delivery of low cost energy far into the future. As customers and owners of the utility, the benefits will flow to you.

Tom Richards, general manager, Lowell Light and Power

Attention All Coaches, Proud Parents, Athletes & Others Who Wish To Submit Photos In The Ledger...



It is important that the subject's face not be shaded in order to print your photo clearly in the paper.

All group pictures should be taken WITHOUT caps, visors, etc.

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If you are offered a 403(b) along with your 457(b) plan, you have some interesting options. You could split your contributions between the plans—or, if you can afford it, you could put in the maximum to both plans. If you choose to participate in both plans, you could gain some plan-specific advantages. For example, a 403(b) plan provides less restrictive hardship withdrawal provisions, while a 457(b) plan allows you to make penalty-free withdrawals from your account after you leave your job and before you turn 59 1/2. (These penalty-free withdrawals do not apply to amounts you may have rolled over to your 457(b) from other plans.)

It's nice to have a choice of retirement plans—but even if you just have a 457(b) plan, you can benefit from some attractive new features, thanks to new tax laws. Consider the following:

Catch-up contributions—If you have a governmental 457(b) plan, and you're 50 or over, you can now make "catch-up" contributions that allow you to exceed the normal pre-tax contribution limit. In 2003, that limit is \$12,000, along with a \$2,000 "catch-up" contribution for a total of \$14,000. Both the

Sharing The Vision

NANCY HOPKINS
Board of Education President



School will soon be back in session and a new semester underway. Our children will come back to their classrooms where they will learn and grow because of the shared efforts of our teachers, staff, parents and community.

It is no secret that we face challenging times. Lowell Area Schools has worked diligently to identify and work through these challenges. Just recently LAS received an "A" rating from Standard & Poor's (June 16, 2003) for its "solid financial position and strong management."

Especially in these times, LAS has much to be thankful for. Although there have been

normal contribution limit and the catch-up limit will increase every year until 2006.

Portability—Your governmental 457(b) plan is now more "portable"—so you can pretty much take it with you wherever you go. You can now "rollover" your plan's assets to an IRA or to your new employer's tax qualified plan, such as a 401(k) or a 403(b).

There are other types of 457 plans. State and local governments may offer a 457(b) to all employees, while tax-exempt organizations might offer a different 457(b) to upper management and highly compensated employees. To complicate matters, both types of employers can offer a 457(f) plan—sometimes called a "top-hat" plan—to top-level employees. The pre-tax contribution limit is the same for both types of 457(b) plans. However, if you work for a tax-exempt group, rather than the government, your 457(b) plan does not offer the "catch-up" provision, or the rollover provision.

If you have questions about your 457 plan, contact your plan administrator or your tax adviser. Learn as much as you can about your plan—and then put it to work on your behalf.

some cuts, compared to many other local districts, we basically escaped major hits. It is important to recognize and thank our teachers, staff and administrators for their leadership and cooperation throughout this difficult process.

Superintendent Shari Miller has steered our district through some of our most complex issues with remarkable integrity. Recently she was diagnosed with cancer. Yet, Shari's indomitable spirit remains intact; she has begun a course of treatment and plans to return to work soon. Her focus is on the remarkable things yet to be achieved for our students in Lowell Area Schools.

The board of education is confident in the district's leadership and readiness for the new school year. It will continue to assure that local needs are met and provide direction for the district.

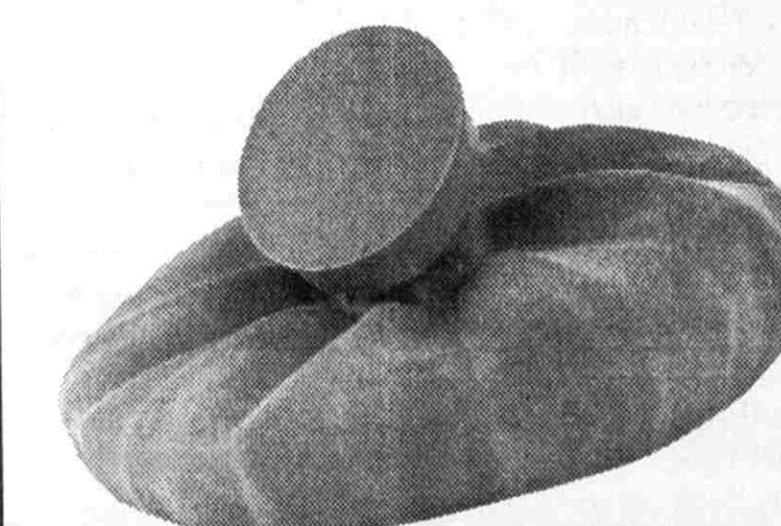
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ESTATE SALE

Kitchen supplies, dishes, costume jewelry, much more. 1080 Grindle Dr., Lowell, Aug. 21 & 22, 9-6 p.m.

ESTATE SALE

Aug. 22 & 23, 8-5 p.m. both days. Some antiques, hardwood, hobby items, elec. motors, many knick knacks. No pre-sales. 420 Riverside Dr., Lowell.

MOVING SALE

329 N. Washington. Sat. only, Aug. 23, 8-5 p.m. Antiques, lots of furniture, household items, toys, tools, mini car collection, microwave, car seat, boy/girl clothes size 3T-Junior. Don't miss it!

MOVING SALE

Fri., Aug. 22, 9-5 p.m. & Sat., Aug. 23, 9-12. Furniture, large oak cupboard, glass doors, 30" gas range & many other items. 11901 Foreman Rd. 1 mile north of Zeigler Ford on Alden Nash to Foreman, west to 2nd house on right.

NEIGHBORHOOD SALE

10515 & 10487 Bluewater Hwy. (M-21) 3 miles E. of Lowell. Trombone, pictures, books, old Popular Science & National Geographic magazines & lots more. Sat., Aug. 23, 9-5 p.m.

GARAGE SALE

Sat., Aug. 23, 9-5 p.m. 6988 Hastings Rd. 1st house N. of Jimmy's Grill. Lots of clothes (youth - adult). Books, toys, infant car seats, strollers, furniture & misc. items. Something for everyone!

YARD SALE

August 22 & 23, 9-5:56 Church St., Saranac. Just E. of Speedway. Lots of baby & tot items & furniture.

GARAGE SALE

Aug. 21 & 22, 9-7:13376 Vergennes, bet. Flat River & Lincoln Lake. Kids clothes (infant - 5 years), a lot of adult clothing, many other items.

3 NEIGHBOR GARAGE SALES

1297, 1281 & 1267 Valley Vista. Aug. 22 & 23, 9-5. Household items, tools, trailer, clothes, office & computer supplies, too much to list!

SARANAC COMMUNITY CHURCH SALE

- 125 Bridge St., Aug. 23, 8-4 p.m. Lots of treasures to be found!

NEIGHBORHOOD SALE

10487 & 10515 Bluewater Hwy. (M-21) 3 miles E. of Lowell. Couch, desk, end tables, car ramps, compound bows, walkie talkies, golf bag, fishing poles, quality name brand women's clothing, much more. Look for our signs. Sat. only, Aug. 23, 9-5 p.m.

GARAGE SALE

Fri., Aug. 22, 4-9 p.m. & Sat., Aug. 23, 8-8 p.m. 525 Forstrom. Antiques, good apartment furniture, lots of other stuff.

GARAGE SALE

11100 Foreman, Aug. 21 & 22, 9-5. Many household items, kids toys, rocking chairs, clothing & much more.

SOFA BED

\$80; matching end tables \$40 each; misc. household. M-W, 9-5 p.m. 9814 36th St., Lowell. 897-7113.

NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE

6200 block of Knapp, between Pettis & Egypt Valley. Exercise machine, kids tandem bike attachment, toys, estate items, furniture, antique bike, window shutters, marble top vanity, kids bikes, Honda 3 wheeler plus much more. Fri., Aug. 22 & Sat., Aug. 23, 9-4 p.m.

GARAGE SALE

Aug. 21 & 22, 9-5 p.m. Cherry dining set, appliances, car seats, toddler bed, bikes & more. Several appliances. 7995 Timpson.

GARAGE SALE

Sat., Aug. 23, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 10763 Grand River Dr.

GARAGE SALE

Fri., Aug. 22, 9-6 p.m. 11333 60th St. Toys, furniture, old school desk, glassware, clothes, other stuff.

1 DAY ESTATE SALE

Aug. 23, 2 antique rockers, antique kitchen chairs, antique kitchen cupboard, Craftsman 12 hp lawn mower, iron wheels, lots of odds & ends. Nearly everything 1/2 price - it all has to go to finish estate. 9548 Grand River Ave. 1 3/4 mi. E. of Jimmy's Grill, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

GARAGE SALE - Thursday and Friday

Aug. 21 & 22, 9 a.m. - 7 Kids thru adult clothes, toys, car seat, huggie chair, baby stuff, Winnie the Pooh ceiling fan and pictures, new kitchen items, Beanie Babies, weed trimmer. 1297 Jane Ellen.

YARD SALE

Aug. 22 & 23, Thurs. & Fri., 9-7 2 air conditioners, dehumidifier, large trailer hitch, baby furniture, guns, sporting/hunting goods, JD riding mower & push mower, left/right golf clubs, lots of misc. furniture 15 pc. M-66 to M-44 1 mile toward Belding or 6 miles E. of Belding on M-44.

GARAGE SALE

Name brand clothes, infant - plus size & maternity, baby equipment & household items. 11520 64th St. Alto, Aug. 22 & 23, 10-7 p.m.

2 FAMILY CLEAN OUT SALE

Men's, women's & lots of boys & girls clothing, antique spinning wheel & teddy bears, toys, knick knacks, oak kitchen chairs, storage cupboard & lots more. Aug. 22 & 23, 9-5. 1271 & 1301 Jane Ellen.

NEIGHBORHOOD/MULTI FAMILY GARAGE SALE

Fri., Aug. 22, 9-4 p.m. toddler & kids school clothes sizes 2T-16 boys & girls sizes. Barbie dolls galore & many accessories, plane, horse stable, cars, etc. Video games, toys & household treasures! Teen & adult clothing. McPherson St. NE, located 5 miles north of Main St. Turn W. on Bailey, turn N. on Alden Nash, turn W. on McPherson and follow the signs!

GARAGE SALE

Aug. 21, 22 & 23, 9-4 p.m. Pebble Beach Apts. 1112 Bowes Rd. Lots and lots of stuff!!! Dishes, kids & adult clothing, misc.

MULTI FAMILY GARAGE SALE

Aug. 22 & 23, 9 a.m. - 7:12149 36th St. SE, Lowell. Baby, kids & adult clothes, toddler bed, Pack 'n' Play toys, new Tupperware & misc. items.

State and federal revenues fund lot expansion

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

It's a year behind schedule, but the expansion to the share-a-ride parking lot south of Lowell near the expressway is complete.

"It was scheduled to be done last year, but some complications pushed it back a year," said Suzette Peplinski, transportation service director for Michigan Department

of Transportation's Grand Rapids office.

The lot's square footage has more than tripled; the number of parking spaces has nearly doubled.

The reason for expansion is simple - overflow use.

"We have people who live in the area, we perform surveys and we have planning

groups who do car counts," Peplinski explained.

What they all showed and told was the share-a-ride parking lot was overflowing (drivers parking along the road) during the week and on the weekend much of the time.

The old lot was 16,200 square feet (40 parking spaces) while the new addition is 48,800 square feet (76 new

spaces). In all, Peplinski says there are now 116 parking spaces.

MDOT completed the job on July 25. The total cost for

the improvement was \$111,000. All state and federal funds are being used to fund the project.

"The only thing that remains is to repair the washout seeded areas," Peplinski said. "That will be done this month."



The share-a-ride parking lot south of Lowell on Alden Nash/M-50 begins filling up on weekday mornings at 7 a.m.

SYNOPSIS

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOWELL CITY COUNCIL AUGUST 18, 2003, 7:30 P.M.

Minutes of the August 4, 2003 Regular Meeting were approved as corrected and bills and the accounts payable were approved as submitted.

City Manager Pasquale reviewed health benefit, sick leave and disability policies with Council.

The following motions were approved:

- Motion to establish a public hearing for August 18, 2003 to discuss and consider Zoning Ordinance Amendment regarding definition of dwelling floor area.
- Motion to seek engineering proposals for the Storm Water Ordinance and pursue the issue once City staff has made a recommendation.
- Motion to reconsider the Planned Unit Development Single Family Residential R-1 ordinance for the Highland Hills Development.

Yea: Councilmembers Blough, Mathews and Pfaller.
Nay: Mayor Shores.
Absent: Councilmember Myers.

- Motion to go into recess at 8:07 p.m., while Pasquale contacts City Attorney Richard Wendt regarding procedural issues.
- Motion to return to open session at 8:20 p.m. to continue discussion concerning the ordinance.

- Motion to approve the following amendments contingent upon passage of the PUD ordinance: 1) there shall be no heavy truck traffic above two axles on Grove Street; 2) the access road will be turned back into grass between Grindle Ct. and Highland Hills no later than September 1, 2004; and 3) noise regulation set between 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

- Motion to approve the passage of the PUD ordinance to amend the City of Lowell Zoning Ordinance Map referenced in Section 301 of Chapter 3 Zoning Districts - General, of Appendix A - Zoning Ordinance of the Code Of Ordinances of the City of Lowell with the additional agreement letter between the City and Sundry Development Corporation.

Yea: Councilmember Blough, Mathews and Pfaller.
Nay: Mayor Shores.
Absent: Councilmember Myers.

- Motion to provide Thomas and Cheryl Laird with their requested 90 percent of the cost of the retaining wall and grading which is needed, not to exceed \$3,500 at 220 North Division Street allocated from the Local Street Fund.

- Motion to adjourn at 9:04 p.m. The next Regularly Scheduled Meeting will be Monday, August 18, 2003.

Complete minutes are available at Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan.



Betty R. Morlock, City Clerk
City of Lowell

Early childhood literacy bags pack plenty to read about

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

At the end of the day, children in the TOTS play group sessions will have access to a good book with which to curl up at home.

New books will be part of a "Backpack" package that will also offer hands-on print and manipulatives promoting early childhood literacy.

The 60 new backpacks and four storage hanging trees will be funded through a \$2,500 donation by the Cherry Creek Classic 5K Run/Walk. Through a promotional offer, Cole will get an additional \$250 plus have all the shipping fees waived because she spent \$2,500.

Each theme bag will come with a different book, a puppet and two-sided activity cards for home and school.

Lowell School District's TOTS Early Childhood programs, in the sixth year, are funded by Harold Englehardt's Lowell Area Community Fund and Lowell Area Schools.

TOTS director, Kathy Cole notes that last year there were 125 children in the play groups and 18 children in the pre-school program.

Above and beyond that, TOTS also offers screening for children, new baby welcome bags, family nights, a carnival and, new this year, Curiosity Corner plus a number of other activities.

"Backpacks will be primarily used by the play group children," Cole said. "We are extremely grateful for Cherry Creek Classic's gift. It will benefit many, many children."

The play group program runs seven times a week... six times a week in Lowell and one in Alto.

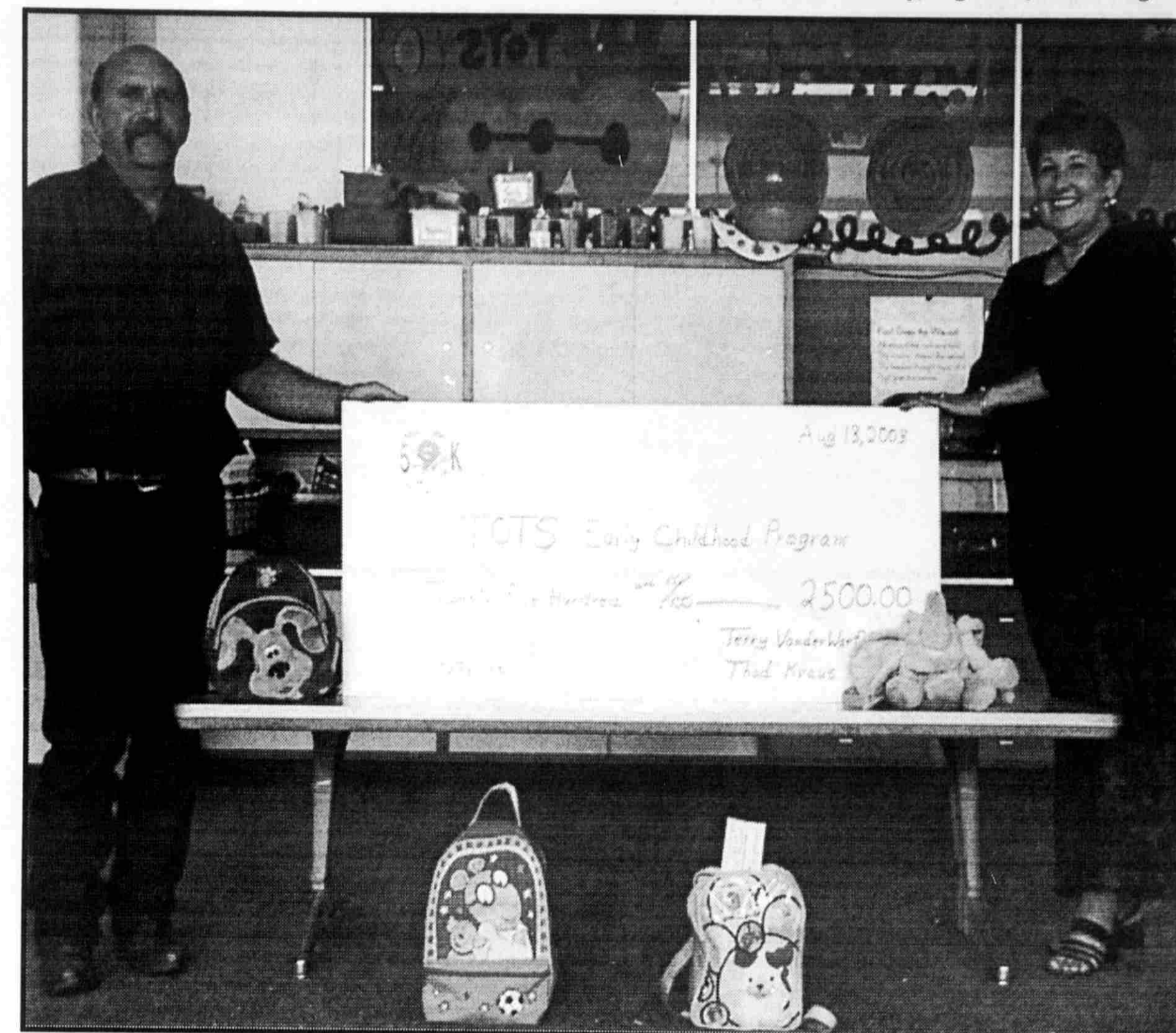
"Cherry Creek Classic is proud to be able to promote literacy and encourage reading to children," said Cherry Creek Classic co-coordinator, Terry VanderWarf.

VanderWarf and partner, Thad Kraus completed their ninth Cherry Creek Classic event in June.

This year \$4,000 is being donated back to the community. VanderWarf said an announcement is forthcoming on a \$1,000 gift to a local nonprofit organization.

Race officials awarded two, \$250 scholarships in May to Lisa Wojciakowski and Katie Clements.

Cherry Creek Classic has made community contributions totaling \$24,000 over its nine-year tenure.



Terry VanderWarf and Cherry Creek Classic partner, Thad Kraus (not pictured) present TOTS director, Kathy Cole with a check for \$2,500 with which to purchase 60 reading backpacks.

Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted.

Albert Einstein

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-Love, Elise & Abbey

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Ionia County Shopper's Guide

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Saturday, August 23
4on4 Co-ed

LOCATION: Harrington Field, Downtown Saranac
START TIME: 11:00am
COST: \$20 Per Team
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Thursday, August 21, 2003

WANT TO REGISTER? QUESTIONS? Call Rebecca at 1-616-240-4601 or e-mail at volleyball_monday@hotmail.com

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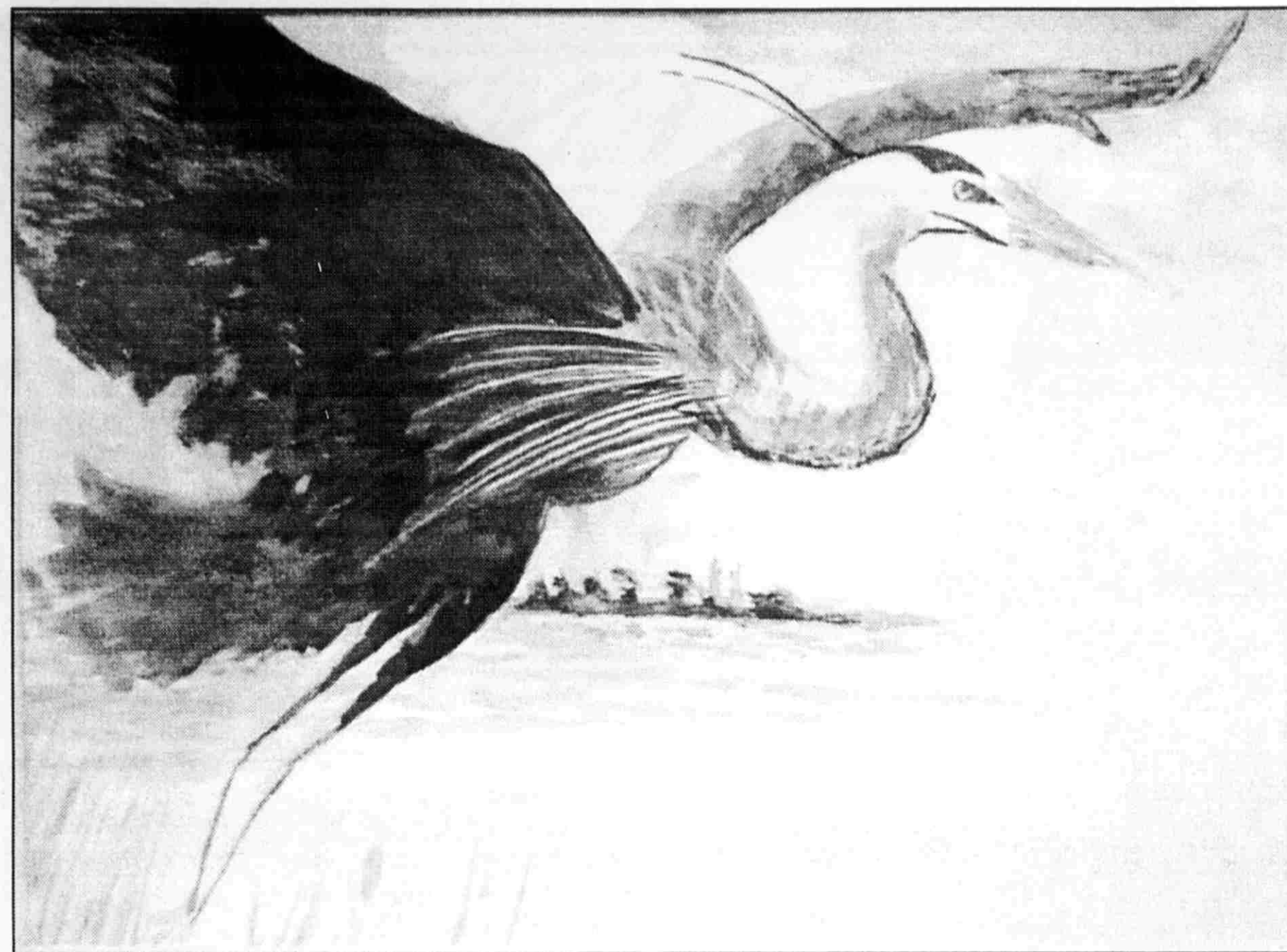
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NOT A SPECIALIST



This print titled, "Great Blue" is an ink/watercolor creation by Lowell's Daniel Scott. It is part of Lowell Area Arts Council's Celebrate Lowell - Visual Art Exhibition which opened Tuesday.

Exhibit celebrates talents of the unknown artists

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

For the third time in four years, the Lowell Area Arts Council will host Celebrate Lowell - Visual Art Exhibition. The exhibit, which runs Tuesday, Aug. 19 through Saturday, Sept. 20, is an opportunity to compare and showcase the talented artwork of people in Lowell and the quality of their work.

"The intent of the show is to give gallery time to Lowell amateur and professional artists who might not otherwise get an opportunity to display their talent," said LAAC executive director, Lorain Smalligan.

The non-juried exhibit includes sculptures, watercolors, photography, and oils.

"I think it is important for people to be able to just show off their work. It's not always important that there be a competition," Smalligan explained.

The gallery of 35 pieces of art mixes some familiar names with new undiscovered artists.

The show is open to anyone within the 10-mile Greater Lowell circle. Smalligan explains it allows the exhibit to draw from the west side of Saranac and the east side of Ada.

The Lowell Area Arts Council is located at 149 S. Hudson Gallery hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from noon to 5 p.m., Thursday and Saturday from 1 until 4 p.m.

Council seeks more information before moving forward on bonded road projects

By J.N. Boorsma
Contributing Writer

Two councilmembers wanted more information on which city roads may need to have construction work while two others sought more information about those who had bid to be engineers for the proposed construction work.

Lowell city staff presented four bids for engineering work that would be needed for four road projects: Sibley Street from Center to Valley Vista; Grindle Dr. from Jackson Street heading east and north to Grindle Court; Center Street; and Foreman Road.

City staff recommended that the engineering work be awarded to Williams & Works, which has done several such projects for the city. However, Williams & Works was not the lowest bid. Williams' bid was \$145,644, which was about \$11,500 above the lowest bid presented by Wilcox Professionals.

City manager, David Pasquale said staff recommended Williams & Works because "while slightly higher than Wilcox, Williams & Works provided more detail on the work scope." He added that the company has familiarity with the city and has a good track record.

Pasquale said he also discovered that the bids were not quite the same, explaining that Wilcox was supplying about 200 hours less on the project than proposed by Williams & Works. Still, councilman Charles Myers said he would like to get copies of all the proposals before making a final decision as to who should be awarded the bid.

Councilman Jim Pfaller said he was more concerned about the cost of the project in general and how the city was trying its hands for future projects.

"This is going to cost \$600,000 plus, which is putting us near our cap in the ability to bond for street projects," Pfaller said, adding that his concern is what the city will do for funding when "further down the road we have streets in a worse state than these are."

Pfaller said the city has a number of streets which were built in the early and mid seventies that are in need of repair - Bowes Road, Pleasant, West and Monroe streets. He just did not want to see the city piecemealing the work, but rather have a master plan on how the streets are going to be repaired.

"We do these small four projects and then the next four

Road Projects, cont'd pg. 14

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CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Lowell Planning Commission-Citizen Advisory Committee will conduct a public hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting of Monday, August 25, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. at the City Council Chambers, Lowell City Hall, Second Floor, 301 E. Main Street, Lowell, Michigan for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

- To rezone parcels #41-20-01-326-003 (1148 E. Main), #41-20-01-326-006 (1378 E. Main), #41-20-01-326-008 (1132 E. Main), #41-20-01-326-013 (1242 E. Main) and #41-20-01-326-015 (1320 E. Main) from SR (Suburban Residential) to C-3 (General Business). These are the last five parcels in the City on the south side of East Main Street.

Interested persons may submit written comments or appear in person at City Hall, 301 E. Main, Lowell, MI 49331.

Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk
616-897-8457

COMING EVENTS

Notices in The Ledger's "Coming Events" are free of charge to any nonprofit organization in the Lowell, Ada, Alto & Saranac areas. We prefer such notices to be kept brief and to be submitted by mail, but will accept notices by phone at 897-9261.

EVERY OTHER SUN: Single adults, ages 25-50 years, meet 4 - 5:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church of Lowell. Social time/ It. Bible study. Call Mark 897-8642 or Tammy 897-0872.

EVERY MON.: Lowell High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Friends - meets from 7-8:30 p.m. in members' homes. Call 676-1355.

SECOND MON. OF EACH MONTH: Fallasburg Historical Society holds monthly board meeting at chamber office at 7 p.m. Public invited. 897-7161.

SECOND MON. OF EACH MONTH: The Lowell Board of Education meets at 7:00 p.m. in Administration Building, 300 High Street.

SECOND MON. OF EACH MONTH: Bowne Township Historical Society holds its regular meeting at the Historical Museum at 84th and Alden Nash, 7:30 p.m.

THIRD MON. OF THE MONTH: Lowell Showboat Garden Club meets at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall of the Nazarene Church. For info. call Dave : 897-2533.

MON. OR TUES.: Cub Scouts for boys in 1st - 5th grades, Alto or Lowell. Call Terry Amidon at 897-8751.

FOURTH MON. OF EACH MONTH: Clark-Ellis American Legion Post 152 meets at 3100 Alden Nash S.E. at 7:30 p.m.

THIRD MON. OF EACH MONTH: Women of the Moose business meeting at 7:30 p.m.

EVERY 1ST MON.: V.F.W. Post #8303 meets at 3116 Alden Nash S.E. at 7 p.m.

EVERY MON.: Boy Scout Troop 102: boys 11 & up or completing 5th-grade, meets 7-8:30 p.m. at Scout Cabin on N. Washington St. Call Terry 868-6481.

1ST & 3RD TUES.: Diabetic Support group is discontinued for the summer. Will resume in Sept.

2ND & 4TH TUES.: MOPS

Mothers of Preschoolers ...because mothering matters. 9:15 - 11:30 a.m. at Impact, a Wesleyan Church, 1070 N. Hudson. Call 897-8304 for details.

SECOND TUES.: G.R. Chapter of the American Sewing Guild meets at Plainfield Senior Center, 5255 Grand River Dr. 6:30 social time; 7 p.m. program. Call Sandy at 285-0621.

TUES.: Take Off Pounds Sensibly Tops MI#372 meets Key Heights Mobile Home Park Community Bldg. Weigh-ins 5:45 p.m.

1ST TUES.: Adults with AD/HD at Calvin College, 7-9 p.m. Free. Call Gary Engle at 897-6325 or 248-2423.

EVERY SECOND & FOURTH TUES.: Knights of Columbus #7719 meets St. Mary School, 7:30 p.m.

EVERY SECOND TUES.: Lowell Masonic Lodge reg. meeting, 7:30 p.m. at Masonic Center, 119 Lincoln Lake.

EVERY 1ST & 3RD TUES.: Lowell Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Look Memorial Fire Station, 315 S. Hudson St.

EVERY 3RD TUES.: Parents of children w/AD/HD at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 32156 4 Mile NE /E. Bellline) 7 p.m. Call Linda 874-5662; teen group: Call Sarah 281-6588.

EVERY 1ST TUES.: Adults w/ AD/HD Issues Group meeting: Calvin College #206 of the Commons. Connie 942-6887.

EVERY OTHER WED.: 6:45-8:45 p.m. G.E.M.S. Girls Club - Calvary Christian Reformed Church. Girls ages 8-13. 897-8694.

EVERY WED.: Pioneer Clubs 6:30-8 p.m. Evergreen Missionary Church, 10501 Settlewood Dr. Children 4-7th grade. 897-5894 for details.

WED.: 8 p.m. ALANON meets at the Lowell Congregational Church upstairs.

EVERY WED.: Rotary meets at noon at Lowell Masonic Temple.

EVERY WED.: "Peppers" (Sr. adults) at Franciscan Life Process Center: 1-3:30 p.m. \$10/wk. Transportation? Call Pat 897-7842.

EVERY WED.: Lowell Church of the Nazarene Caravan children's program, 7 p.m., 5-12 years. Call 897-8800 with ???'s.

EVERY SECOND WED.: Kent County Youth Fair Board, 7:30 p.m. at King Memorial Youth Center at Fairgrounds. 897-6050.

EVERY SECOND WED.: Lowell Women's Club meets noon in community room at Schneider Manor, 725 Bowes Rd. Will resume in September.

EVERY FOURTH WED.: Elderly volunteers needed for Intergenerational program w/school children from Lowell in activities. 9:45-10:45 a.m. or 12:45 - 1:45 p.m. Call Sister Colleen F.S.E. at Franciscan Child Development Center, 897-7842.

EVERY FOURTH WED.: Support group for Peripheral neuropathy meets at 4 p.m. at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Grand Rapids. 897-9794.

THURS.: Weight Watchers at Lowell Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington, 5:30 & 7 p.m. Register 1/2 hr. before meetings. New members invited 1-800-651-6000.

THURS.: Join the Saranac Area Musicians and Singers at Saranac H. S. Band Room. Choir: 6-7 p.m./band: 7-8 p.m. Call Kathy Maatman 897-5981 w/ questions.

EVERY THURS.: Pottery classes at Franciscan Life Process Center from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. \$10/hour/ \$15 for two. 897-7842 for info.

EVERY THURS. - St. Mary's Pregnancy Crisis Center, 402 Amity St., non-denominational help for pregnant women / adolescents at the school: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.; Mondays: 5:30 - 8 p.m. 897-9393.

FIRST THURS.: 4-H drama club meetings at Lowell Middle School choir room. 897-1502 after 5.

FIRST AND THIRD THURS.: Alto Lions Club meets at Annalaine's on S. Alden Nash at 7 p.m.

EVERY 2ND THURS.: N.A.R.F.E. meets 1:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran

Church, 2700 E. Fulton.

EVERY 3RD THURS.: Rubber stamping group at Christian Life Center 6-9 p.m. Create cards, scrapbooks, etc. Share supplies. Call Dawn 862-8841.

EVERY 3RD THURS.: VFW #8303 Ladies Auxiliary, 3116 Alden Nash S.E. at 3 p.m.

EVERY THIRD THURS.: Parents Supporting Parents group at Franciscan Life Process Center: discussion for parents of children. Call 897-7842.

EVERY THIRD THURS.: Royal Arch Masons regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Lowell Masonic Center, 119 Lincoln Lake, Lowell. Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

EVERY THIRD THURS.: LaLeche League of Ada, Cascade, Lowell 6:30 p.m. socializing; meeting 7 p.m. Mother-mother support for pregnant & breastfeeding women. Nursing children welcome. Ada church. Call 752-8300.

SECOND THURS. OF EACH MONTH: Genealogy - Alto Family Tree Club at Alto Library 6:30 - 8 p.m.

SECOND SAT. OF EVERY MONTH: Ada Historical Society 1 p.m. at Averill Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley.

SECOND SAT.: Lowell Amateur Radio Club at Lowell High School 9 a.m. social time; 10 a.m. meeting. LARC sponsors the 145.27 MHz area radio repeater system.

EVERY FRI., SAT. & SUN.: Averill Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley open 1-4 p.m. or by appt.: 676-9346.

LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM HOURS: - Tues., Sat. & Sun.: 1-4 p.m.; Thurs., 1-8 p.m. Families: \$10; individuals \$3; ages 5-17 \$1.50; members free.

FLAT RIVER OUT-REACH MINISTRIES THRIFT SHOP HOURS: Wed. - Fri. 12-6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. 519 E. Main St. 897-2037. Weekly specials.

ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY HOURS: Mon. - Wed., 12 - 8 p.m.; Thurs. - Fri.: 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sat.: 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. 200 N. Monroe St. 647-3920.

LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL OPEN: Tues.,

Wed. & Fri.: noon - 5 p.m.; Thurs.: noon - 7 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m. 149 S. Hudson. Call 897-8545.

LOWELL SERENITY CLUB MEETINGS: (AA) Mon., Wed., Thurs.: 12-1 & 8-9 p.m.; Tues./Fri.: 12-1, 4:30 - 5:30 & 8-9 p.m.; Sat./Sun.: 10-11 a.m. & 8-9 p.m.; (NA) Mon./Thurs., 6-7:30 p.m. 101 W. Main. 897-8565.

SUN., AUG. 24: St. Anthony's 8th annual Parish Festival/Chicken BBQ. 11:30 - 4 p.m. Adults: \$6.50; over 61: \$5.50; under 12: \$3. Arts/crafts, raffles, baked goods, kids' games, Bingo, entertainment.

SUN., AUG. 24: Public reception for the Celebrate Lowell Visual Art

Exhibition at Lowell Area Arts Center gallery, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

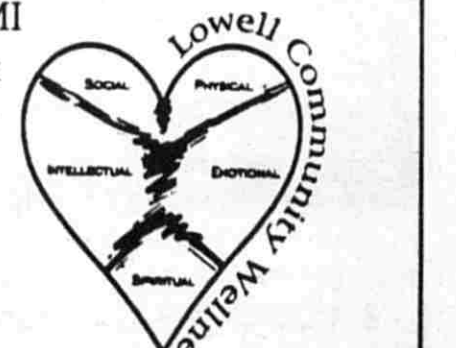
TUES., AUG. 26: LMS (7th/8th grade) sports physicals for boys & girls in middle school gym, 6-8 p.m. \$10. Performed by Lowell Family Medical Center.

WED., SEPT. 3: Former Junior members of Lowell Women's Club are invited to Schneider Manor at 7 p.m. to meet new Junior members. Call Kathryn DenHouter 897-6291 or Marj Harding 897-8107 if you are able to attend.

THURS., SEPT. 4: Low income households: commodities distributed 9-4 p.m. at Moose Recreational Bldg., 1320 E. Main. Call 897-5150 or 897-8754 for info. Bring necessary papers to register or re-register.

COMMUNITY WELLNESS DIRECTOR YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids

The Community Wellness Director manages and provides for the Lowell's community health improvement strategies by establishing collaborative partnerships within the community. Participates in community health assessment and advocacy efforts. Coordinates YMCA and community programs, strategies, and services. Coordinates school district health and wellness activities. This position requires face-to-face leadership in programs, and may involve evening and weekend responsibilities. Bachelor's degree (B. A.) from four-year college or university; two to four years community health-related experience; or equivalent combination of education, training, and experience. Excellent benefits include 12% retirement. Salary range: \$28,000-\$32,000. **Contact:** Fax resumes to: (616) 456-7232, 40 Monroe NW Suite 201, Grand Rapids MI 49503 or email at jobs@grymca.org or visit our web site at www.grymca.org. Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. If selected interview date is 9/11/03.



WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR 897-5949

- MON.:** 8:30 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall.
- TUES.:** 8:30 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall.
- FRI.:** 8:30 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall.
- THURS.:** 9 a.m. Walk/Shop at Malls; 9:30 Crafts; 1 p.m. Euchre.
- FRI.:** 8:30 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- WED., AUG. 20:** 10 a.m. Advisory Council; 12:45 p.m. Shop Meijer.
- THURS., AUG. 21:** Noon Dance Westside.
- FRI., AUG. 22:** NO MALL WALKING. 9 a.m. All Senior Neighbor Picnic.
- MON., AUG. 25:** 12:45 Cafe in the Woods & Shop/ Mall.
- TUES., AUG. 26:** 12:45 Farmer's Market & Walmart.
- WED., AUG. 27:** 8 a.m. Women's Breakfast.
- FRI., AUG. 29:** NO MALL WALKING; 9:15 Turkeyville, "Oklahoma."

DDA picks up significant portion of cost for electrical work

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Agreeing that a significant electrical problem in Lowell's downtown needed attention is what sparked the discussion.

How the project is going to be funded is what kept the discussion alive.

For a second straight Downtown Development Authority meeting, an extended amount of time was spent discussing where Lowell Light and Powers' responsibility begins and ends, and how the cost will be covered.

According to Lowell Light and Power general manager, Tom Richards, LL&P's responsibility is the point of distribu-

tion (high voltage lines), with the customer's responsibility starting at point of delivery (from transformer).

Richards asked that some of cost (\$33,950) be deferred to the DDA so the electrical wire crossing Main Street (at the 100 block) could be put in underground and the businesses could be brought up to code.

"It sounds like most of the cost is being deferred," said DDA board member, Bob Ford.

Lowell Light and Power will have to come up with \$7,000 for wire from the transformer and the meters.

What remains to be decided is who will pay the cost to run

SBC and Lowell Cable TV lines. The SBC cost was estimated at \$1,500 and Richards did not have an estimate for Lowell Cable.

The DDA board approved up to \$33,950 (bid of Rickert Electric).

When the parking lot behind Cousin's Hallmark was reconstructed, the wire which was run underground to the businesses was covered by the DDA, setting precedent.

"The intent of this project is aesthetic value and the safety of the whole," concluded DDA board member, Dean Lonick.



Tea Time!

Dot Lacie's Fifth Annual Tea Party was held on Wednesday, Aug. 6. There were 20 people in attendance from as far away as Pentwater (Adeline Brower). Pictured left to right in front of the 1931 Chevy are: Marie DenHouter, Harriet Ross and Esther VanWinkle.

Road projects, continued... From Page 12

small projects come and we don't have any money for them," he said.

Councilman Mike Blough said the city is in the situation that if it isn't done now, it will have to be done later. However, he did understand Pfaller's point about making sure the streets that are being done are the highest priority.

Pasquale said if the city were to do a comprehensive plan, it would have to go for a millage. Public Works director, Dan DesJarden said while it may seem the city is piecemealing, it actually is focusing on major routes such as school and industrial routes.

The city decided to table the matter until more information on which roads would be done over the next few years could be presented, and to give the councilmembers time to review

the four bids. Pasquale did add that regardless, the Foreman project would need to move ahead since the city is receiving federal funding to cover 80 percent of the construction costs.

Everyone makes mistakes. No one has to make excuses. Our greatest respect is reserved - not for those who mess up - but rather for those willing to own up.

Mort Crim

LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS BOARD BRIEFS

Regular Meeting of August 11, 2003

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT - Matt Hansen, the Student Council President and Student Representative to the Board reported that the membership count for the Student Council increased from 38 to 48 students this year. There are standing committees comprised of PR, Philanthropy (Community Affairs), and Student Affairs. Students are excited about the Freshman Center, the new roadway through campus and athletic competition with new schools due to the OK Conference reorganization.

ACTION ITEMS - Cast a ballot for MASB Board members.

CONSENT ITEMS -
• Approved/accepted were:
Minutes of July 7, 2003 Organizational Meeting, July 7, 2003 Special Meeting, July 7, 2003 Closed Session, July 14, 2003 Regular Meeting, and July 14, 2003 Closed Session.
• The following payment of bills for July 2003:
GENERAL FUND \$826,444.05
SCHOOL SERVICES FUND
A. Food Service Fund \$16,638.01
B. Athletic Fund \$9,897.65
2000 CONSTRUCTION FUND \$679,930.99
TRUST AND AGENCY FUND \$11,084.95
1990 Debt Fund \$103.41
2000 Debt Fund \$41.36
Scholarship Fund \$8,050.00

New Hires:
Brent Noskey, Cherry Creek, Interim Assistant Principal
Timothy Haan, High School, Band Director
Leaves: (Child Care):
Nancy Richter, Cherry Creek Resource Teacher: Sept. Remainder 03-04 year
Tammi Dent - High School Spanish Teacher: 03-04 year

• Unity School student handbook revisions for the 2003-2004 school year
• The renewal agreement with Chartwells for the 2003-2004 school year
• Paving of the bus parking lot at Murray Lake Elementary
• The resolution to participate in the West Michigan Employee Benefit Association

HIGH SCHOOL ADVANCED PLACEMENT CLASSES - Scott Vashaw and Mary Moore reported on the advanced placement classes being offered at the high school which have the potential for college credit. 8 classes are currently available with 4 more possibly being added at a later date.

OK CONFERENCE BY-LAW CHANGE - Barry Hobra explained the changes being recommended to the by-laws of the OK Conference. This item will come back to the September Board meeting for approval.

BUDGET UPDATE - Auditors are not quite finished due to the GASB34 requirements. The formal audit report will be presented to the Board later this year. Thanks was given to the business office staff for their great work.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE - Jim White reported that the Murray Lake Elementary School walls are starting to go up. Consumers Power are 2 months behind in bringing power. Floors are being poured and the school is about 4 weeks behind schedule because of all the rain this summer. Final touches are being made to the high school. Bushnell and Cherry Creek jobs are underway and a big thanks to Larry Mikulski for all his help with these projects this summer.

EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS - Connie Gillette announced the following awards: 10 Years - Karen Eldridge, Karen Graham, Carol Maynard, Kelley Moody, Mary Wittenbach; 20 Years - Rosemarie Bruinsma, Patricia

Condon, Bette Haybarker, Rick Kinsley, Sandy Sebastian; 25 Years - Karen Burd, Tom Burradell, Mary Dewey, Cindy Donahue, Jane Gillespie, Jan Hanson, Gary Heitz, Dale Latva, Rob McCormick, Sheri VanAmburgh, Bob VanBelois, Bonnie Weststrate, 30 years - Richard Douglass, Tim Hawkins, Sharron Manszewski, Bob Rodenhouse.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Jim White reported that Shari sends greetings. The dedication of the new Freshman Center just prior to the Board meeting went very well and a big thanks was given to those who helped with its planning. MEAP scores from the spring testing are still delayed and districts have been told the results will be released on August 25. Negotiations are still continuing with teachers and support staff. 200 students attended summer school and 300 students attended drivers training. The district is looking at providing a drivers training class this fall. Watch DIRECTIONS for back to school information and the Buyers Guide for the bus schedule.

BOARD PRESIDENT STATEMENT - Nancy Hopkins read a statement regarding Shari Miller and Shari's goal to return to work. Should changes in leadership roles in the short term become necessary, the Board will work with Shari and administrative staff to make the appropriate decisions. These decisions will be announced to the entire staff and community. Nancy asked community members to continue to keep Shari and her family in their thoughts and prayers.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Regular Board Meeting
Monday, September 8, 2003
Runciman Administration Bldg. • Board Room • 7:00 p.m.

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City looks at ways to handle Stoney-Lakeside's geese problem

By J.N. Boorsma
Contributing Writer

As a neighbor of Stoney Lakeside Park, councilman Jim Pfaller can attest to the

problems the geese have created in the park.

"It's a disaster," Pfaller said at Monday night's council meeting where he again brought up the subject of whether the city should per-

sue a limited goose hunt to help control the population.

Pfaller said he was interested in learning if the council would even support such an action. He did receive general support, with one resi-

dent stating at the end of the meeting he runs a business which works with non-lethal guns that could be the answer.

Public Works director, Dan DesJarden said the city did cut away a triangle to help Mother Nature move the geese droppings further from the area's swimming section. Even with doing that, the swimming section has been closed five times, DesJarden said. Closings depend on a number of factors including weather, but the water is tested daily to assure it is safe.

Currently, about 70 geese are making the park their home and the problem lies in that if a bird is born there, it will return year after year,

DesJarden said. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources used to have a trapping and relocation program; however, with budget cuts that program has gone to the wayside, he said.

DesJarden said he has been in contact with the DNR and is waiting for the biologist to take a look before determining what action needs to take place. The city will have to get permission from the DNR before having a goose hunt, which can only be done during hunting season under controlled guidelines. The council would have the final decision, DesJarden explained.

"My sister lives next to the park and with the num-

ber of children around there, it would have to be under very controlled conditions," said councilman Al Mathews, who said he would only support such a measure if it was the last resort.

Councilman Mike Blough said he felt the city needed to weigh the options before making any decision since this is a recurring problem and will continue to be because there is food and water that entices the geese to come to that area.

DesJarden said he had hoped to have been in contact with the DNR biologist by now so as to provide the council with some options. He said he will continue to try and get in contact with the biologist who covers a six-county area.

Ada company awarded sidewalk project

By J.N. Boorsma
Contributing Writer

After some discussion about the lowness of the bid, the Lowell City Council awarded a sidewalk construction project to Cascade Cement Contracting, Inc.

It was the lowest of three bids, coming in about \$17,350 below the bid of Youngstrom Contracting and more than \$20,000 below that of CL Trucking & Excavating. Cascade Cement Contracting's bid was \$41,490 for the project that involves construction and reconstruction of sidewalk.

The project includes the west side of North Hudson Street from the north city limits to Main Street, Foreman Road (south side) from North Hudson to Lincoln Lake and the north side from Lincoln Lake to near the railroad tracks, and Hunt Street (north side) just west of North Hudson. The city did receive Federal Community Block Grant funds for the project which totaled \$50,701.78.

Councilman Mike Blough asked about the difference in bids with Cascade coming in so low. He was wondering if that had to do with a difference in labor costs or quality of the project.

Dave Austin of Williams and Works, the engineering firm overseeing the project, said he did check with Cascade Cement Contracting and they did follow the city's specs for the project and did realize the job is federal work needing to meet certain wages.

Austin said company officials did acknowledge making a mistake in a different section of the bid, but stood by the bid they made, adding that "we do a lot of sidewalks and that is the business they are in."

Austin also checked references, which included the cities of East Grand Rapids and Grand Rapids, and all indicated the work was done well.

"We are more concerned with disturbing and recon-

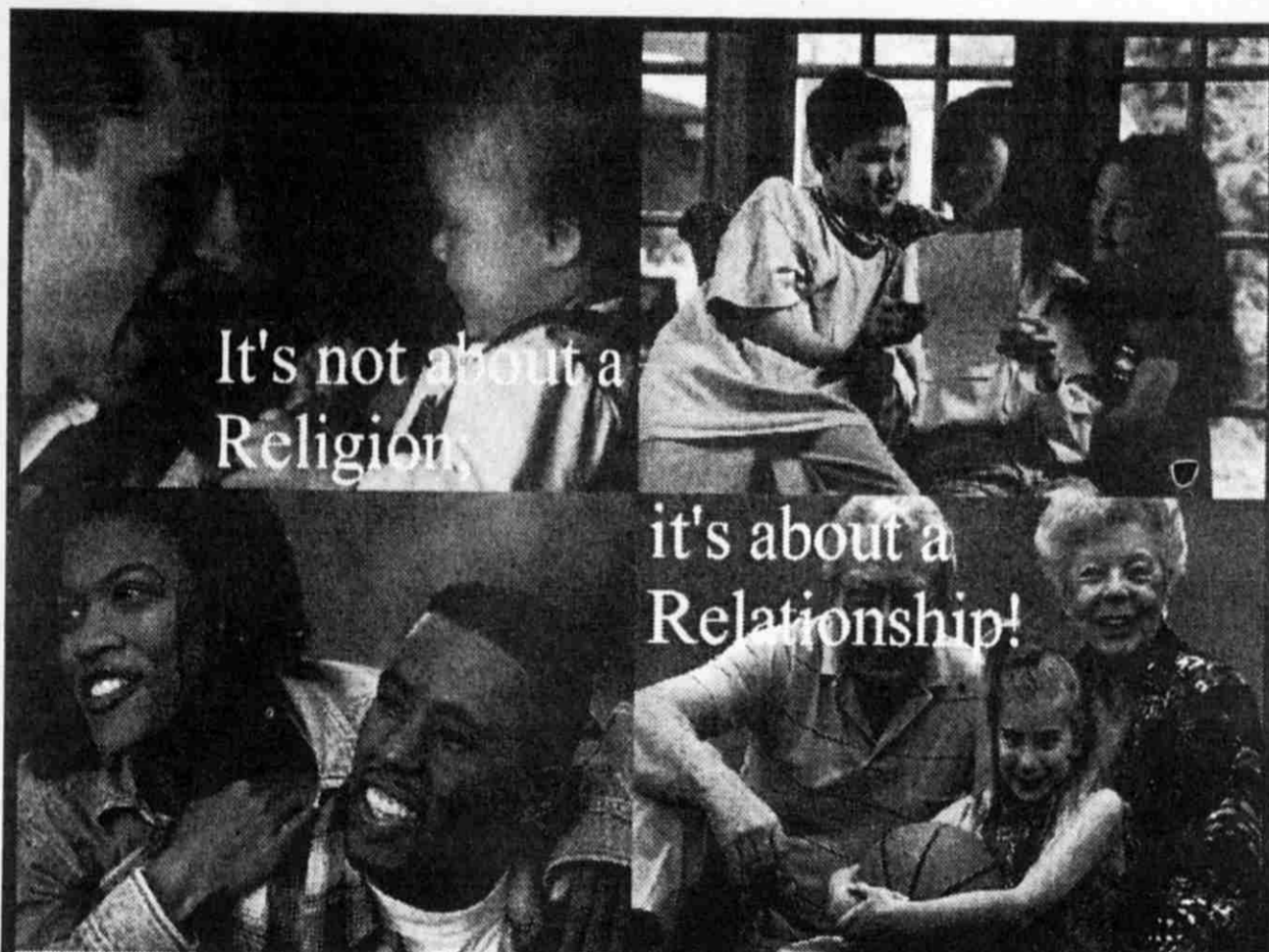
struction of the area which is usually a bigger issue than the concrete," he said.

"Having seen their work, I don't have any questions about them," said councilman Al Mathews, who added that his company Tip Top Gravel has worked with Cascade Cement Contracting.

Councilman Jim Pfaller asked if the Foreman piece of the project could wait since the city is planning to work on the road next year. Austin explained that the sidewalks would not be eligible under the Michigan Department of Transportation funding that help with the Foreman road project.

He added that the sidewalk would not be affected by next year's project but said the city is planning to wait on the pedestrian and railroad crossings until the road reconstruction is completed.

Austin said the contractor has indicated that the sidewalk work should be done by the end of October.



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LEGAL EASE

By **Jonathan David**



DEAR JONATHAN: I started a business a few years ago and I have been more successful than I imagined I could ever be in only three years. Based on my success I was able to get a loan from a bank which will help me take my business to the next level. I now want to set up either a corporation or a limited liability company to run my business so that I can reduce my exposure to personal liability. Once I set my business up in either an LLC or a corporation, will I then be personally exempt from all liability relating to my business? What about the personal loan I took out for the business?

JONATHAN SAYS: No. The limitation of liability pro-

vided to both LLC's and corporations means that you as a member of an LLC or a shareholder of a corporation will not be liable for the debts and obligations of that entity solely by virtue of you being a member or a shareholder of that entity. In other words, if the LLC or corporation defaults on a contract, you would not be held personally liable for any damages incurred as a result of that default. Be clear, however, that the limited liability afforded by these entities does not protect you in all cases. For example, you would still be personally liable in the following instances:

- Any contracts for which you entered into personally prior to your setting up the LLC or corporation and transferring your business to that entity.
 - Bank loans which you took out in your own name or for which you had to sign a personal guaranty.
 - Your own negligence or tortious conduct.
- Further, you can also be held personally liable for contractual obligations of the LLC or corporation if you executed those contracts in your own name and not as a representative of the business entity, i.e., as president of the corporation or as a member or manager of the LLC. Also, you can be held personally liable for the obligations of the LLC or the corporation if you fail to observe the formalities of the business

entity and you fail to separate your personal self from your business self. For instance, if you commingle your personal funds with the business entity's funds, or conduct business in a way where it is unclear as to whether you are acting in your own name or on behalf of the business.

DEAR JONATHAN: Can I transfer my shares of stock in a C corporation of which I am a minority shareholder to my living trust for probate avoidance?

JONATHAN SAYS: Yes, so long as there is nothing in the corporate documents that prohibits the transfer of your stock to your trust. For example, if the bylaws or a buy and sell agreement prohibits the transfer by a shareholder of his or her stock, then you would be unable to make such a transfer without having the pertinent document amended to permit such a transfer of stock.

You should check with the attorney who represents the corporation to determine whether there is anything that prohibits you from transferring your stock to your trust, and if there is, find out if the other principals of the corporation would be willing to amend any such document to permit shareholders to transfer their stock to their living trusts for probate avoidance.

LHS Dance team competes at CMU

Lowell High School dance team (Arrowbesque) recently returned from a National Dance Alliance summer camp.

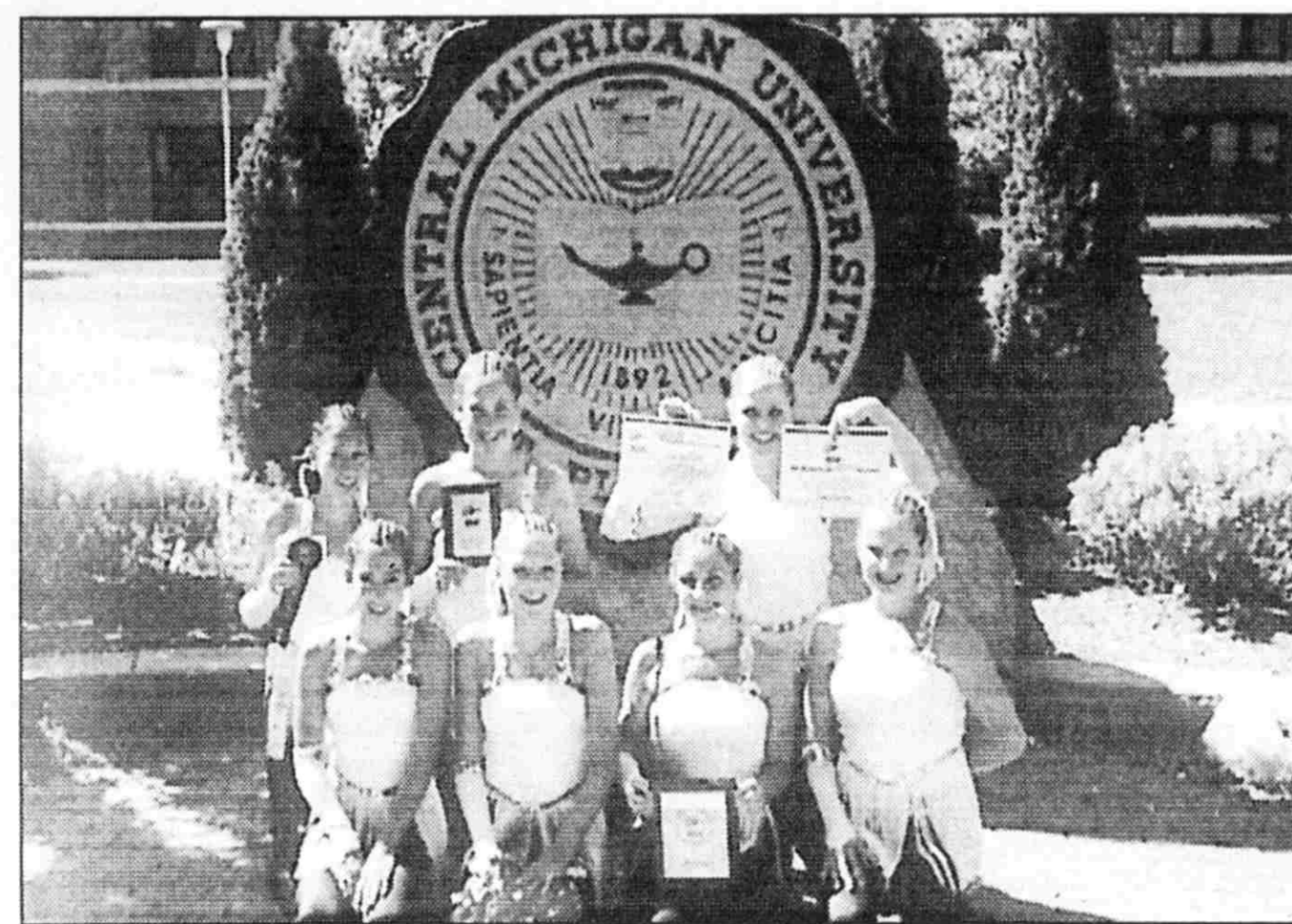
The camp was held at Central Michigan University, attracting over 200 dancers from surrounding states.

LHS's competitive dance team received seven awards at the camp. They were: Spirit Pom (sincere spirit and enthusiasm), Technical Growth, Superior Showmanship Certificate, Team Circle of Winners, Home Routine, All American Nominees (Angela Harvey and Jodi Lupton), and NDA National Championship Bid Winner.

In addition, the junior varsity dance team took home awards in Spirit Pom and Home Routine.

Members of the junior varsity squad are Lori Smith, Jessica Maughan (captain), Kim Carrier (captain), Mandy Ezinga and Molly LaLone.

Team members, pictured to the left, are: captains Meghan Silverman and Jodi Lupton, Kelsey Brenk, Holly Cook, Danielle Duprey, Angela Harvey, Kari Hernandez and coach Kendy Varble.

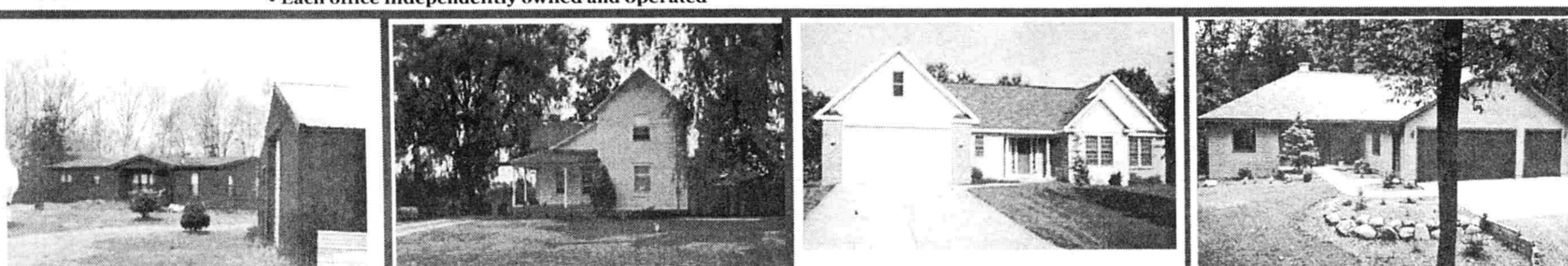


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Lowell Area: This Is It!

Nature surrounds you in this tranquil country setting. You will find a peaceful retreat in this newly manufactured 3 bedroom, 2+ bath home that needs someone to love it. Enticing amenities include: stone fireplace in living room; huge roughed in walkout basement; plus a stream meandering thru the rolling wooded 15 acres; fruit trees & garage area. \$199,900 Steve Reinbold

Lowell: New Listing!

Convenient country living in this 3 bedroom 1600+ sq. ft. home. 10x12 loft bedroom up not included in sq. ft. due to tapered ceilings. Newly painted inside & out. New well, furnace, water softener & electrical box. Impressive fenced backyard with 10x14 storage shed. Total privacy surrounded by farm fields. Close to expressway for easy commute. \$105,000 Mark Christiansen

Lowell: River Bluff

Location, location, location...3 bed., 2.5 bath home in River Bluff only 2 miles out of town. Gorgeous ranch vinyl and brick home shows like new! Open floor plan with tray ceilings in living room and fireplace. Master bedroom suite has whirlpool tub. Lower level includes two large finished rooms; one could be an office or den; the other a family room. Big back yard with established lawn and underground sprinkling. This home is perfect. \$237,900 Joyce Smith

Lowell: Reduced!

Come home to this secluded sprawling ranch on 4 wooded acres where you will enjoy watching the wildlife right outside your window. 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths. Fantastic living room w/ beautiful fieldstone fireplace. Lower level with walkout family room where the kids can play in the yard. Even a 3 stall garage. All this and only 2 miles out of town! \$279,900! w/14 acres \$350,000 Joyce Smith

VACANT LAND

Lowell: 4.58 scenic, wooded acres on a private hilltop setting. This is a great location for the outdoor lover. This piece of land has great potential for a walkout home and has good soils. Town and the expressway are only a short distance away for this area of quality homes!

Flat River Frontage

This is a wildlife lover and fisherman's dream! Scenic 8.5 acre parcel on the backwater of the Flat River above Whitesbridge Dam. This awesome piece of land has approximately 248 ft. of private frontage on the river, boasts hardwoods throughout, wonderful hills & valleys and several perfect walkout sites! Nature is abundant with deer, turkey, ducks, swans and rabbits! Fishing is second to none with small mouth bass, northern pike and pan fish! Only 10 miles to the center of Lowell! More land available!

Pat Schaefer



Lowell: Just Listed!

Looking for that quiet country retreat? Come and see this one owner home now on the market. They raised their family here in a 3 bed., 2 bath home in a beautiful country setting. Now you can do the same. Complete with oversized, in-ground solar-heated pool; pole barn w/ electric; and 4.97 wooded acres. Additional 5 acres available. \$134,000 Suzie Reinbold



Lowell: Reduced!

This executive ranch is tucked away on a private 10.2 acre! Landscaped with a variety of flowerbeds and herb gardens and Honey Creek trickling through, the grounds are truly spectacular! With 5 bedrooms, HUGE master suite, 2.5 baths, 3 fireplaces, large country kitchen, dining area, living room, family room, 2 huge offices, expansive windows & sliders to deck and wildlife, this home offers it all! A 30x40 pole barn and pool with deck also sit on the property! With over 4,000 sq. feet of finished living space, this is the perfect family home! \$349,900 Pat & Toni Schaefer

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Cascade: Custom Home

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A STEAL! '98 CHEVY CONVERSION VAN - 350 engine, rear air, new tires, etc. Loaded. 72,000 miles. \$9,800. Call 897-1597.

2000 CHEVY EXT. CARGO VAN - 3/4 ton, burgundy, 43,000 miles, AC, cassette, \$11,800. Call 897-1597.

2000 DODGE DURANGO SLT - 4.7 liter V8, 94,000 highway miles, 1 owner, well maintained, CD player, heated mirrors, new tires, clean. \$12,500. Average retail, \$16,800 NADA. Greg after 5 p.m. 897-0940.

1993 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY - looks good, runs good. \$1,350 obo. Call 868-6481.

HORSE FOR SALE - 8 year old Arabian mare. \$750. Call 897-7512.

'78 750 HONDA - Super sport motorcycle. \$800 obo. Call 642-6439.

TORO SNOWBLOWER - Powerlite electric start, 3.25 HP, 16", like new, \$350; **PROFORM WEIGHT BENCH** - lat tower, preacher stand, includes 160 lb. weights. Like new, \$100; **2 HINGED SCREEN DOORS** - (1) 2-8x6-8 rt. inswing; (1) 2-6x6-8 lt. inswing. All hardware, never used, \$130 each. Call 897-0279.

14KT GOLD MAN'S BRACELET - Two tone. 34 grams. New \$700. Excellent condition! \$275. 616-822-3552.

1986 CHEVY S-10 - 4 cyl., 5 spd., runs excellent, very good condition, \$900 or best. Call 682-4573.

HOME FOR SALE IN LOWELL - 291 Donna Dr. (Valley Vista), 2 bedroom, central air, newer roof, furnace, windows; 75x75 fenced back yard, appliances included. Great starter home. Call 453-3386 or 291-6486.

NEW HOUSE FOR SALE - Approx. 1800 sq. ft., 2-car garage, 10x20 balcony, walkout basement, 4 bedrooms, family room, 2 baths - oak cabinets in both. Muir, M-21 E. of Ionia, 6 miles to Liberty St., N. on Liberty, 1 block to end of road. BarCo Enterprises, Inc. - Phil Bishop, Builder, 269/367-4900. Also Available 18 lots, 2-4 acres.

DRY FIREWOOD - Seasoned and green. Split up to 10 inches. \$100 full cord, \$40 1/3 cord. Delivery available, \$25 per cord. 616-868-0932.

FOR SALE

AUGUST MATTRESS SALE - \$68/set. New sets now! Twin, full, queen. Delivery available. Dennis Distributing, 315 N. Lansing, St. Johns, 989-224-4822.

HOTEL/MOTEL BEDS - All cotton covers, firm! Includes frame. 16 queen, full sizes, \$55 complete - hurry! Dennis Distributing, 315 N. Lansing, St. Johns, 989-224-4822.

EUREKA, HOOVER, ROYAL VAC SALE - 40 sweepers, upright & canisters. Good running shape. \$10 each. Dennis Distributing, 315 N. Lansing, St. Johns, 989-224-4822.

KIRBY VACUUM - Powerful, runs good, includes attachments & warranty, \$35. Dennis Distributing, 315 N. Lansing, St. Johns, 989-224-4822.

100 APPLIANCES - washers, dryers, stove, refrigerators, guaranteed! From \$59. We deliver. Dennis Distributing, 315 N. Lansing, St. Johns, 989-224-4822.

CARPET REMNANT SALE - Most sizes, textures. Living room to dorm room, brand new, \$55, any size. Dennis Distributing, 315 N. Lansing, St. Johns, 989-224-4822.

REAL WOOD FURNITURE! - Dressers, kitchen tables, headboards, casual chairs, chests, 35 pieces, \$50 til gone. Dennis Distributing, 315 N. Lansing, St. Johns, 989-224-4822.

SEALY POSTUREPEDIC - queen log bed. Amish built, cedar, hand-made, \$125. 517-626-7089.

PILLOWTOP MATTRESS SET - New in plastic, queen \$135; king \$185. 517-719-8062.

SLEIGH BED - Queen cherry w/pillowtop mattress set, \$175 includes frame. 989-227-2986.

SIMMONS BEAUTY-REST MATTRESS SET (Queen) - w/gorgeous iron head/footboard frame. Will sell, \$150. 517-204-0600.

AMISH LOG BEDROOM SET - Hand-built, white cedar, pine trim. Bought, never used, 5 piece. Cost \$2,200 new, sacrifice \$650. 989-227-2986.

AMISH QUEEN LOG BED - w/pillowtop mattress set. Bought, never used. Still in plastic. Sell \$125. 989-227-2986.

1987 CHRYSLER NEW YORKER - Excellent condition, 113,000 miles, 4 dr., loaded, \$1,600 obo. 897-9543.

PA SYSTEM - Peavy XR600C six channel powered mixer. TOA 15 inch two-way speakers. \$500.00. 616-822-3552.

ELECTRONIC DRUMS - Roland TD-5 kit with module. Hart Dynamics snare. VG condition. \$350. 616-822-3552.

CLASSIFIEDS



FOR SALE

NEW HOUSE FOR SALE - Approx. 1500 sq. ft., 2-car garage, 3 bedrooms, full walkout basement. Immediate occupancy. Muir, M-21, E. of Ionia, 6 miles to Liberty St., N. on Liberty. Phil Bishop, 269/367-4900. Also Available 18 lots, 2-4 acres.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT - 2 bedroom house in country, with garage. \$650/mo. Call 642-6105.

FOR RENT - 1 & 2 bedroom trailers \$1,000 - \$1,050 to move in. No dogs please. \$400 - \$420 per mo. plus 1 1/2 mo. rent deposit. Call 813-8041 or 616-754-0276.

ATTENTION ALL SPORTSMEN!!! - Tippy Dam area. The salmon are coming soon! Now taking reservations for that dream trip up north. Lots of everything! Deer, fish, turkey, close by. Cozy cottage, sleeps 4, remodeled this spring. Everything furnished! Just bring your gear - book now before price goes up. \$110 - 3 nights/\$250 per week. 897-5657 or 231-266-6114.

WANTED

I WOULD LIKE TO BUY - binoculars, microscope, child's cross country skis & beginning piano books. Call 897-9792.

WANTED - Cash paid for old junk motorcycles & Japanese sport cars. Call Rick, 616-446-8352.

MasterCard or Visa required with a phone order.

EVENTS

METAL CURES TIRED BLOOD! - Get a healthy dose at the Riverview in Lowell on Aug. 23. Five bands for \$5, all ages. Eighth Chakra, Genocya, One Away from Breathing, Know Lyfe & Blue Tongue Virus.

ALLEGAN ANTIQUE MARKET - Sun., Aug. 31. Rain or shine. 400 exhibitors, most inside or under cover. Show located at the fairgrounds right in Allegan, Mich. \$3 adm. 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. www.alleganantiques.com.

LOST

LOST - Orange tabby cat, 28th St. & Pratt Lake area. Call 897-5794 if found. Greatly missed!

LOST - Children's pet, Chihuahua, vicinity of Grand River Dr. & Segwun. If found, please call 897-5188. Reward.

WANTED

I WOULD LIKE TO BUY - binoculars, microscope, child's cross country skis & beginning piano books. Call 897-9792.

WANTED - Cash paid for old junk motorcycles & Japanese sport cars. Call Rick, 616-446-8352.

CARD OF THANKS - I would like to thank everyone for all their prayers, love and flowers during my surgery and hospital stay. I truly appreciate everything. God bless you all! Theresa Ogden.

HELP WANTED

CUSTODIAN - Lowell Area Schools is seeking applicants for a second shift full-time custodian. The hours will be 2:30 - 11:00 Tuesday - Saturday. Application deadline is August 27, 2003. Applications will be received at Lowell Area Schools, 300 High Street, Lowell, MI 49331.

HELP WANTED - Wait Staff. The Tree Top dining room at Sentinel Pointe Retirement Community is accepting applications for full time Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. and part time flexible hours. Apply in person Mon. - Fri. at 2900 Thornhills Ave. SE, Cascade.

PART TIME OFFICE WORK - 20 hours per week, 3 days/week. Interview candidates, match people's skills to work opportunities available. Greeting candidates, answer busy phones, data entry and other assigned clerical duties. Excellent attention to detail and willingness to work in a fast-paced environment. Position starts at \$10 hr. Fax resumes to 897-4801.

MANPOWER IS RECRUITING - for a 3rd shift INVENTORY CLERK on behalf of a Lowell area company. The qualified candidate will have inventory & data entry experience & possess the ability to maintain inventory accuracy. Will also generate reports & be able to perform root cause analysis & implement corrective action. Must have good math skills & be able to maintain compliance with all safety & house-keeping standards. Solid work history required. \$11/hr. Call Manpower today 897-0050.

HELP WANTED - golf course work Thornapple Pointe Golf Course. 554-1489.

NOW HIRING - McDonald's Express of Ada is looking to hire 2-3 people who can work the breakfast & lunch time hours. We provide all the necessary training for you. We are very flexible with your scheduling needs & just want to add a few more smiling faces to our team. You may apply at the store or call Jill at 676-9727.

CUSTOMER SERVICE - qualify for \$1000 "FALL BONUS" JOBS, JOBS, JOBS. Stop searching, we have 'em! \$500/week to start. Growing company must expand its operations. We are now hiring for permanent full-time work. You need a job? We have work available! For a one-on-one interview, please call 616-243-9131. No 3rd shift. Call between 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.

SERVICES

LOSE WEIGHT WHILE EATING FOODS - you love. Guaranteed! Dr. Approved. For information contact Terry 897-6285.

PAYROLL & BOOKKEEPING SERVICE - by certified Quickbooks advisor. Call Kathy 897-0686.

SERVICES

FRIENDS, FREEBIES & FUN! - At a Stampin'Up! home demonstration, you'll learn to rubber stamp, absolutely free of charge. Earn free stamps and enjoy a fun evening with your friends. Want to know more about Stampin'Up! products, workshops and opportunities? Contact Vicki Biski, Stampin'Up! demonstrator at 897-5068.

PUT YOUR CREATIVITY TO WORK FOR YOU! - Turn your passion into a profession with Stampin'Up! Find out how to increase your collection of craft supplies with free high-quality rubber stamping products. Plus you can increase your income from home with fun and profitable workshops. Call Vicki Biski, Stampin'Up! demonstrator at 897-5068 to learn more about this exciting opportunity.

REPAIR/HANDYMAN SERVICES - 30 years experience, no job too small. Free Estimates. (We also offer water softeners by TRUSCO.) Master, Visa, Discover. Call 897-2550 or 292-4257. KENTECH, INC.

E-BAY MANAGER - Let me sell your items on ebay. No item too big or small. Call for details 897-5957 or 723-3947.

TOWING - Servicing Lowell & surrounding areas. Flat bed & wrecker, Tire changes, Jump starts, Lock outs, 24 Hr. service. Call Lincoln Lake Autos 446-5909.

BED & BREAKFAST - McGee Homestead. Gracious accommodations for your out-of-town guests. Gift certificates available. Call 897-8142 or www.iserv.net/~mcgeebe.

PLUMBER - Experienced. Residential, Service or New Construction. Reasonable rates. Call 897-2575.

THINKING ABOUT RE-MODELING? - 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 299-6889.

FIREPLACE SALES, SERVICE & INSTALLATION - Licensed & Insured. Gas or Wood. Call M.E.O. Fireplaces Ltd. 897-7851.

JOHN DEBIAK HORSESHOEING & HOOF TRIMMING - Serving the Greater Kent/Ionia County area with 15 years of professional, full-time experience. Call 897-4290.

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FOR 72 MONTHS



2003 FORD RANGER XLT

Air, XLT, flareside, ABS.

Was \$17,325

Now \$14,370

Buy For \$199 mo. • 0 Down



2003 FORD TAURUS SE

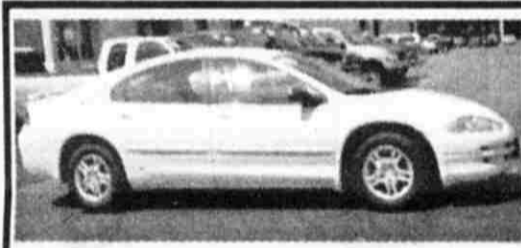
V-6, auto., air, spoiler!

Was \$21,200

Now \$18,710

Only \$259 mo. • 0 Down

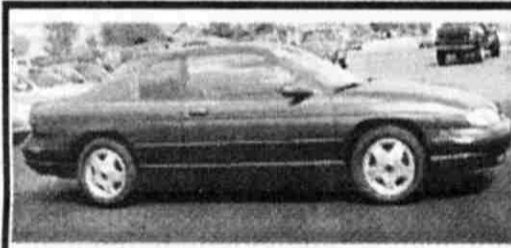
*Monthly payments require state fees and DOC, due at delivery with approved credit.



'99 CHRYSLER INTREPID

V-6, auto., air. #L7869A

ONLY \$119 mo.



'98 CHEVY MONTE CARLO Z-34

V-6, full pwr., CD & more. #23449B

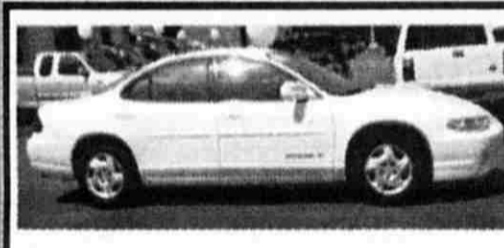
ONLY \$179 mo.



'97 MERCURY VILLAGER

7-passenger V-6, local trade. #23440B

ONLY \$2,995



'02 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX SE

V-6, auto., air. #L8014

ONLY \$189 mo.



'00 FORD EXPLORER 4X4

XLT, V-6, auto. #L8034

ONLY \$249 mo.



'01 FORD RANGER SUPERCAB

4x4, V-6, auto., XLT, factory warranty. #L8071

ONLY \$219 mo.



'01 DODGE RAM QUAD CAB 4X4

SLT, V-8, sport package. #23197A

ONLY \$289 mo.



'01 FORD F-150 SUPERCAB

XLT, captain's chairs, factory warranty #L8112

ONLY \$279 mo.



'00 CHEVY MALIBU

V-6, auto., air #L8095

ONLY \$139 mo.



'02 DODGE STRATUS

V-6, full pwr., CD & more. #L8092

ONLY \$159 mo.



'99 FORD CONVERSION VAN

TV/VCR, r.air, extra sharp. #L8177

ONLY \$269 mo.



'97 CHEVY SUBURBAN 4X4

3rd seat, 350 V-8, local trade #L8028A

ONLY \$11,990



'03 FORD CROWN VICTORIA LX

Leather, dual pwr. seats, climate control #L8115

ONLY \$15,990



'00 PONTIAC GRAND AM GT

V-6, chrome wheels, CD & More #L8172

ONLY \$219 mo.



'00 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 4X4

Laredo, CD, pwr. seat & more. #L8119

ONLY \$299 mo.



'00 CHRYSLER CONCORDE

Full size car, small car price. #L8099

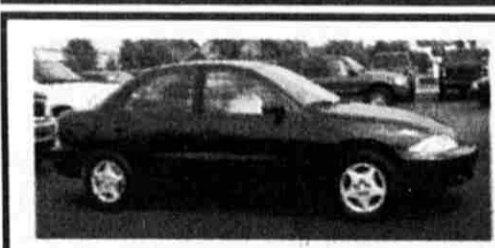
ONLY \$189 mo.



'00, '01, '02 & '03 FORD TAURUS

7 to choose from. #L8146

Starting At \$149 mo.



'01 CHEVY CAVALIER

Auto., air & more #L8162

ONLY \$139 mo.



'00, '01 & '02 FORD EXPLORER 4X4s

7 to choose from #L8090

Starting At \$249 mo.



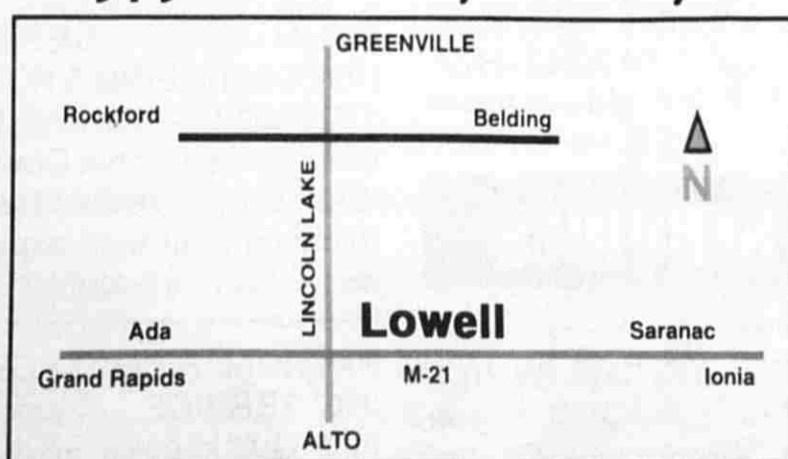
'98, '99, '00 FORD EXPEDITION 4X4's

5 to choose from, XLT & Eddie Bauers #L8142

Starting At \$10,990

*Sale prices plus state fees & DOC., payments based on state fees due at delivery. See dealer for details.

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