# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 30 Issue 14

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, February 11, 2004

# Accident near bus stop rekindles safety concerns

By Dan Schneider

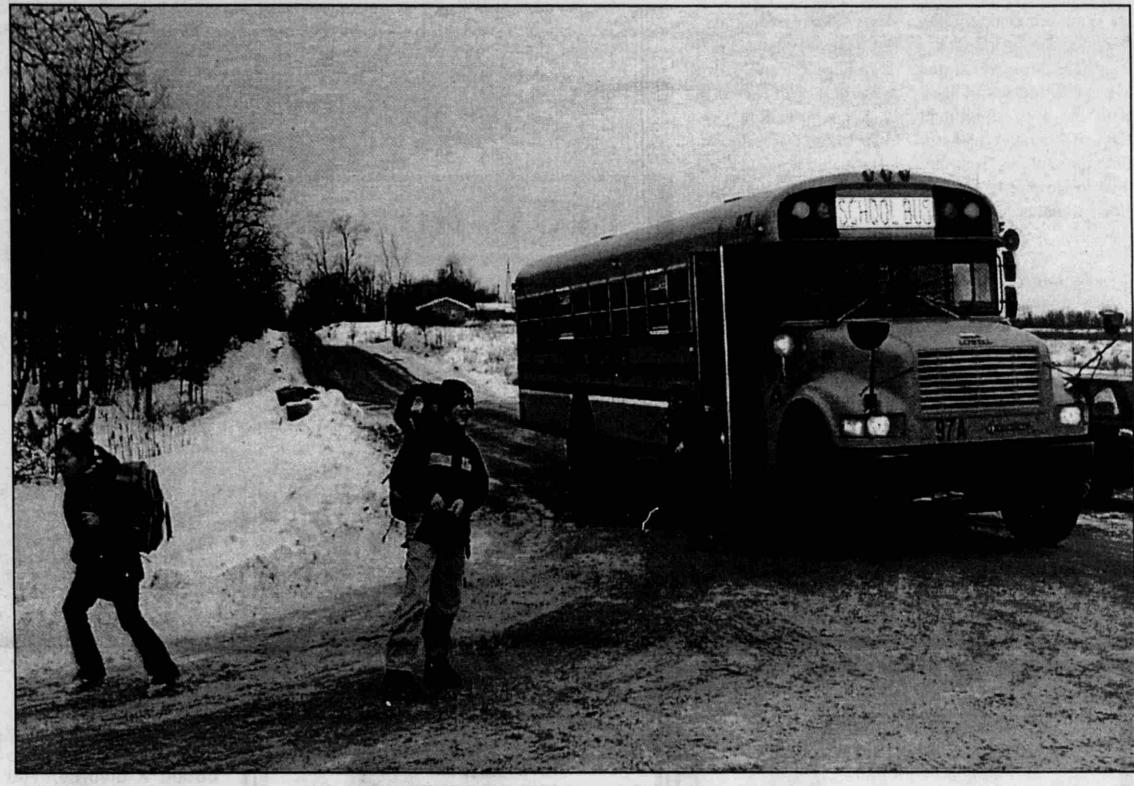
vehicle sliding off the road at the corner of Sayles and Marble in Keene Township two weeks ago renewed safety concerns among parents whose children wait for the bus there.

The driver of a sport utility vehicle, traveling east on Sayles Road, lost control going over an icy patch on the extension joining Sayles to the north-south Marble Road, and slid along the shoulder into a tree. The accident occurred on a weekend, but parents worry that a car could slide along the shoulder while children are wating for the bus there.

"The SUV hit the spot where all the kids stand," said Sharon Mason, mother of a first grader who waits to get on the bus at the stop.

The stop is a major one on the Lowell Area Schools bus route in Ionia County. Development in the area has put pressure on the road system, making the bus stop crowded. Most parents drive their children there.

Safety at that intersection has been a concern for several years. Larry Mikulski, director of trans-



Lowell Area Schools' students get off the bus at the intersection of Sayles and Marble roads in Keene Township in Ionia County. Two weekends ago, a sport utility vehicle slid off the road where children wait for the bus, renewing concerns over the safety of the bus stop.

portation for Lowell Area Schools, acknowledged that the safety of the stop is cause for concern. He said other stops in the district, especially

on busy roads like Alden Nash and Lincoln Lake, present greater safety challenges.

Parents of students who wait at that intersection would

John Mason said he would like to see the bus go down Marble Road, as buses from Saranac schools do. That way,

bus from their driveways rather than wait at the intersection. Marble Road, how-

like to see improvements. more kids could get on the ever, is an unimproved dirt road with a substantial hill.

> Bus stop, continued... pg. 6

# New Y program first community-wide wellness project

By Dan Schneider

ocal participation in a new YMCA program is intended to create fitness role models in the area.

Part of the YMCA's current membership drive, "Get Moving, Get Healthy" (GMGH) will introduce people to the benefits of fitness through walking.

"The average person takes about three to five thousand steps a day," Patty Siegel said.

Siegel works in membership relations for the Grand Rapids YMCAs. The "Get Moving, Get Healthy" program will encourage people to walk more by giving them pedometers, devices that count the number of steps a person takes.

"The goal will be about 10,000 steps (per day)," Siegel

said. Ten thousand steps is the equivalent of five miles.

Through the new Lowell community wellness director, Jessica Johnston, the program will particularly target Lowell Area Schools staff and administration, city employees and the Lowell Police Department. There was an official kick-off for GMGH at Monday's school board meeting. It will be Johnston's first visible community-wide and \$76. project as wellness director.

Walking was an important part of LAS superintendent. Shari Miller's recovery from breast cancer. This is why she is promoting GMGH in the schools.

"The exercise just played a very significant role in my recovery, so I am a strong and very enthusiastic supporter of ticipants into fitness leaders this program because of those experiences," Miller said.

Here is how the program works: An LAS, City Hall, or Lowell Police Department employee signs up and is given a free two-week family pass to the YMCA. Participation in GMGH will give the employee a \$25 discount on the YMCA joining fee. The standard fee for an individual YMCA membership is \$125 to join plus \$52 per month. The family rate is \$150 to join

Once a member of the YMCA, GMGH participants get a pedometer to wear and a session with a YMCA wellness coach. The wellness coach will help the person set realistic goals for increasing how much they walk on a week-to-week basis.

The goal is to make parin the community. A teacher,

for instance, would become a healthy-living role model for his or her students.

Fitness role models could be beneficial in today's schools. Siegel cited statistics stating that one third of Michigan school children are overweight, and the obesity rate among children has doubled since 1980.

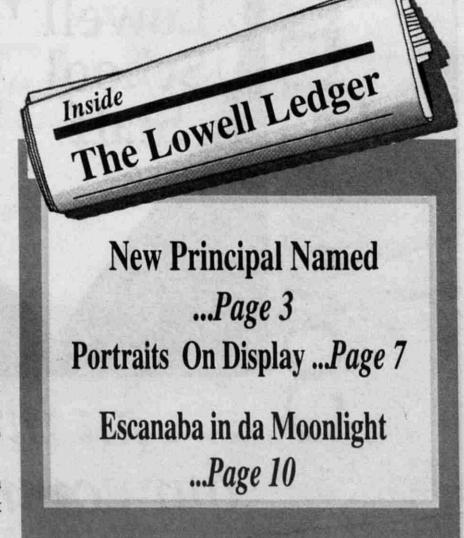
Lowell High School shop teacher, Curt Kaeb and a few other teachers at the high school already meet early three days a week to walk in the halls. Kaeb said one of the drawbacks of teaching is the fact that it's sedentary.

"In the wintertime here, you're just sitting in front of a computer or you're standing in front of a classroom," Kaeb said.

Lowell police chief, Jim Valentine said the department

might use the GMGH program, or at least its priorities, as a basis for fitness goals in the Lowell Police Depart-

ment. The department currently has no set fitness regimen.



#### **OBITUARIES**

DRYER - Dayton Dryer, aged KIDDER - Roselyn Kidder, 81, of Cascade Township, aged 62, of Lowell, passed passed away February 5, 2004. away Sunday, February 8, He was preceded in death by 2004. She is survived by her his wife Joan. Surviving are husband C. Kelly; children his children Sandy VanStee Robin (Joseph) Baker, of Lowell, Denny and Barb Michael (Phia) Kidder, Kim-Dryer of Grand Haven and berly (Matt) Krolewicz, Brian Ted and Vivian Dryer of Cas- (Susan) Kidder, Vickie (John) cade; grandchildren Judson Idema, Jeff (Patty) Kidder; VanStee, Kyle Nash, Nicole grandchildren Tabitha, Jacob, Dryer and Michelle Dryer; Lucas, Heather, Tabitha, great-grandchildren Sydney Sophia, Adam, Ashley, Katie, VanStee, Xavier Nash, Nicho- Ryan, Zachary, Kayla, Jeslas VanStee and Audrey sica, Joshua, Isaac; brothers VanStee. The funeral service Roger (Susan) Wellman, Robwas held Monday at the ert Wellman. Funeral services Metcalf & Jonkhoff Chapel will be held Wednesday, Feb. with the Rev. Raymond 11 at 1 p.m. at Roth-Gerst Gaylord officiating. In lieu of Chapel, Lowell, Rev. Richard flowers memorial contribu- Taggert officiating. Interment tions to Hospice of Holland Irving Cemetery, Hastings. Home would be appreciated.

Everything that irritates us about others can lead us to an understanding of ourselves.

-Carl Jung

## The Lowell Ledger (USPS 453-830)

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# AAA warns of insurance fraud

Insurance fraud is erty, it costs you, the con- alert for scams. sumer, says a new brochure erybody focusing on the problem produced by AAA Michi-

a-year problem. That translates into an estimated \$300 annually in increased costs Michigan's Claim Investiga- crash. tion Unit (CIU).

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Last year alone, indicates America's second-largest Michigan Living (the official economic crime, and each Auto Club publication), the time someone stages a crash, CIU was credited with saving files a false claim, reports an honest AAA Michigan auto theft that never happened insureds well over \$14 milor exaggerates the value of lion in bogus claims. Vogt lost, damaged or stolen prop- advises Michiganians to stay

Insurance Fraud Costs Ev- you see it, and take your own preventative action so you don't become a victim," he says. Resist the temptation to It details this \$30 billion- buy goods from strangers at prices well below market value; the items could be stolen. Also beware of "doand higher premiums for the gooders" who refer you to a average family," stated Bob particular body shop or doc-Vogt, manager of AAA tor for a "special deal" after a

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plaintiff in this court to this court. obtain a divorce. You JAN. 16, 2004 must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in this court at the court address above

DALE P. TEMPLE, JR. A copy of this order shall P.O. Box 124, 18301 E. 46 be sent to DALE P. Howard City, MI TEMPLE, JR. at the last (Last known address) known address by regisdate of the last publication, and the affidavit of You are being sued by mailing shall be filed with

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# **LOWELL AREA** SCHOOLS

**NOTICE OF TESTING OPTEC COMPUTER PROGRAM** FOR THE FEBRUARY 24, 2004 SPECIAL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the OPTEC Computer Program testing for the February 24, 2004 Annual Election will be conducted on February 18, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. at the Lowell Area Schools, 300 High Street, Lowell, Michigan.

# New principal named at Murray Lake Elementary

By Dan Schneider

mended and approved at the Elementary's new principal. for Murray Lake and he will

school board meeting Mon-

"I am fully convinced that serve us well," Lowell super-Brent Noskey was recom- day night to be Murray Lake he is the very best candidate intendent Shari Miller said. Noskey is currently the

Creek Elementary. He taught fifth grade at Cherry Creek from 1995 to 2003, following a year as a third grade teacher there. He also taught special education at Runciman Elementary from 1990 to 1994.

A 1986 Lowell High School graduate, Noskey earned his bachelor's degree in education from Grand Valley State University in 1990, finished his master's at that school in 1994 and completed administrative course work in Noskey and his wife, Lisa,

have three sons. Zach is a sixth grader at Lowell Middle School, Grant is in third grade at Cherry Creek and Carter is a kindergartner at Bushnell.

"I think we have an op-

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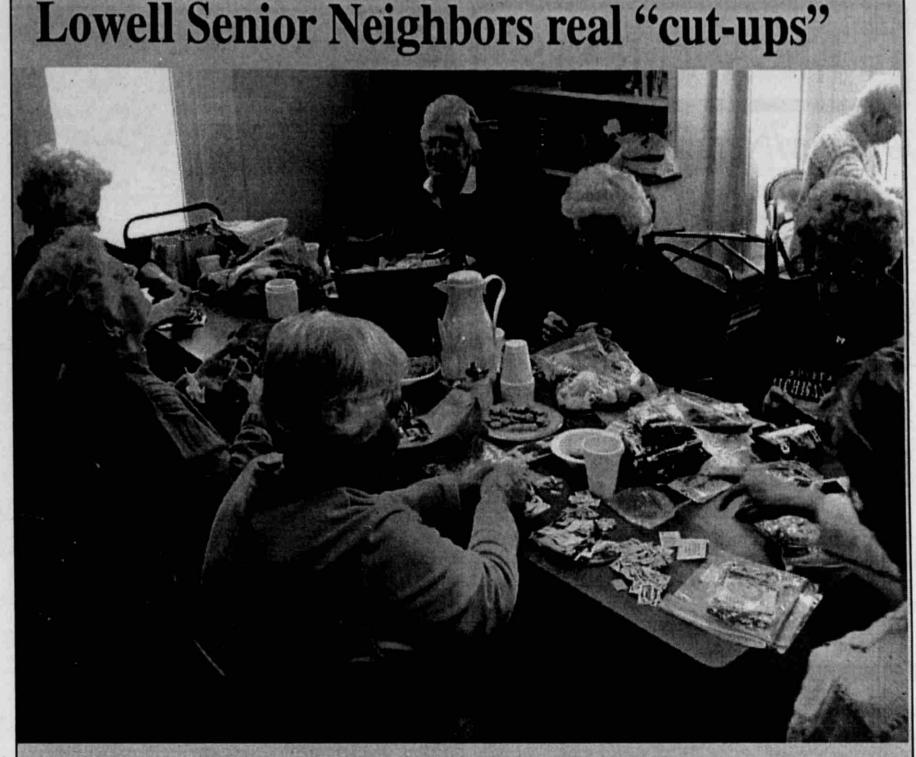
for Your Valentine

assistant principal at Cherry portunity to really create a model elementary out there," Noskey said of Murray Lake Elementary. He said he is looking forward to working with the teachers already established as the core team for Murray Lake. Through meetings with former assistant superintendent Jim White, Noskey will become familiar

> At the school board meeting, White reported that the first electrical inspection of the new elementary building went well. The painting is done in the academic wings, drywall is hung in the office and energy-efficient lights are installed in the gym.

with the new school.

The school will take delivery of furniture in June.



Ladies at the Lowell Senior Neighbors Center spend one Thursday morning each month cutting out the box tops for education and labels from Campbell's soup and Spartan canned foods collected at Cherry Creek Elementary. Pictured are near (from left): Ann McQueen, Fern Lamb and Arlene Franshe; far (from left): Eva Cain, Alice Baut and Pauline LaDue. So far this year, box tops have raised \$547.80 and Spartan labels, \$100 for Cherry Creek Family Links projects. The Campbell's soup labels totaled 1,460 points this year. The points are used to purchase school-related items from a catalog. On the other Thursdays, the ladies knit blankets for various charities in Grand Rapids and for residents at Cumberland Manor and the Laurels of Kent in Lowell.

# Lowell postmaster offers advice on avoiding mail theft

By Dan Schneider

A case of mail theft occurred two weeks ago on Grand River Drive in Lowell Township, prompting Lowell postmaster Gil Brown to issue advice for protecting mail.

Postal customers should be sure to pick up mail as soon after delivery as possible, especially if they are expecting checks, bank statements or credit cards. These are the

lated to identity theft, which is a growing crime in recent years. With a stolen credit card or bank account number, a thief can render financial damage that is difficult to repair.

Brown said outgoing collection mail, such as bill payments, is safer if dropped in postal boxes. Lowell has eight of these downtown. There is one in front of the post office on North Broadway. Another

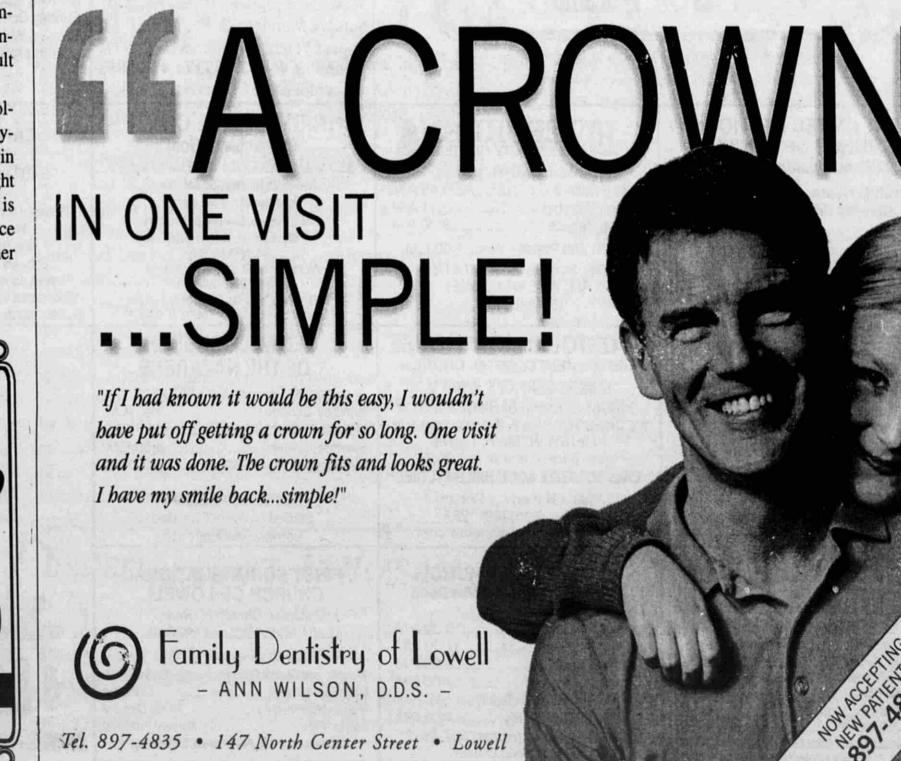
Brown said victims of and the Lowell Police Demail theft should contact him partment immediately.

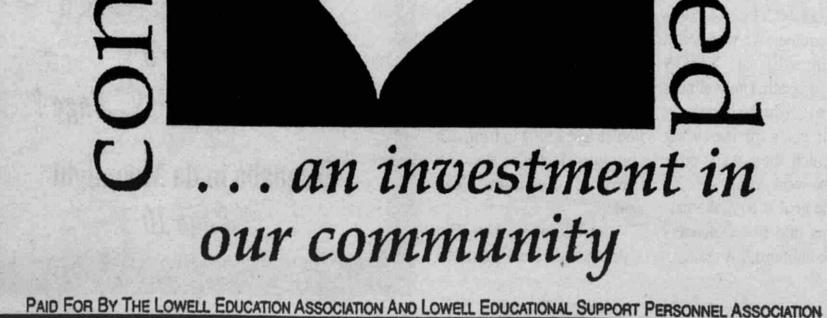




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After all, the Christian faith promises the ability to make us ready: ready to meet our Maker; ready for the future; ready to make changes for the better. Those are all things that require us to make choices and preparations. If we will not take steps to prepare, we have good reason to be afraid.

The human race is confronted with a much deadlier foe Gruber are from Alto. She is a than the ones that concern our homeland. This foe is ancient, vastly intelligent, supremely patient. His long-range plans cover centuries. His resources include all the kingdoms of the Cornerstone University, the youth ministry at Ada earth and their power (see Luke 4:6). Our supernatural enemy will not be thwarted by any merely human force and security measures. Only God can stop an angel-gone-bad like the ter 2004. Devil.

When we believe his lies and let them influence us, we choose to be God's enemy. Most folks don't even know that they've done it. But they do know that the future is full of scary things, and that all our security measures will fail when we die.

Jesus, the Son of God, who took for you the full brunt of God's hurt us. anger at your sin.

Jesus took on Death itself and broke its claim on you! He

The Gospel, the Good News that Jesus has conquered sin, is our only true defense, our only real security. When you trust death, and the power of the Devil for us, calls you to switch His perfect love, you have, as His Word says, confidence in the sides. To do so means to stop depending on your money, your day of judgment. "Perfect love drives out fear, because fear has family, your talents, even your religion-all your personal to do with punishment . . . We love because he first loved us" defenses against hardship and failure and misfortune. You (1 John 4:18-19). When we trust that His loving sacrifice has switch sides by forsaking all these and throwing yourself on turned aside the punishment we deserve, the ancient foe cannot

Why be afraid? Better to be ready. Trust Jesus.

# **ENGAGEMENTS**

#### Gruber/Nemmers

Announcing their plans for a June 12, 2004 wedding are Sarah Anne Gruber and Brady M. Nemmers.

graduate of Lowell High School and currently attends where she plans to graduate Bible Church. with bachelor's degree in win-

The groom-elect, of East Grand Rapids, is the son of Lonnie and Marek Stawiski, M.D., and the late Peter The bride-to-be and her Nemmers. He is a graduate of parents Jim and Kathryn Forest Hills High School and the University of Michigan, and currently attends Calvin Seminary. He is the pastor for

#### CORRECTION

ing the Vision" article last week, Feb. 4, by Nancy Hopkins, school board presi-

Correction: In the "Shar- dent, the second question related to the superintendent's evaluation was typed in with the wrong school year. It should have read, "What specific goals has the board given Superintendent Miller to focus on during the 2003-2004 school year?" We are sorry for any confusion this may have caused.



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Heydenburg, Emily Gerard.

FEBRUARY 14: Heather

Claypool, Carol Leyman, Gerri Ellison, Scott Treglia, Lori Rice.

FEBRUARY 15: Jim VanDyke, DeeAnn Merriman, Deanne Newell, Marcus Kline.

FEBRUARY 16: George Blocher, Matthew Schuitema, Tracey Main.

FEBRUARY 17: Chris Hodges, Justin Stanford, Stephanie Ellison, Reatha Johnson, Lynda Horsley, Deb Tulecki.

FEBRUARY 18: Richard Claypool, Courtney Phillips.

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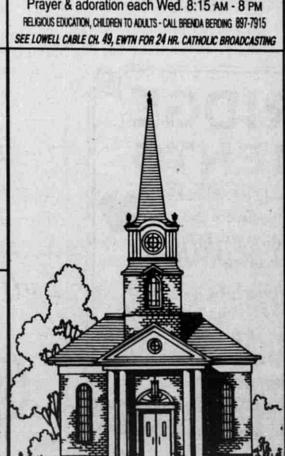
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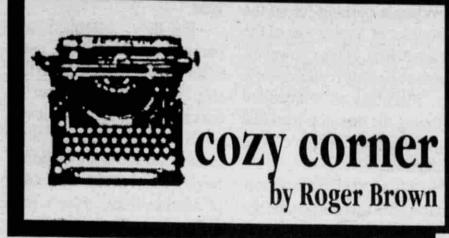
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# Viewpoint.



My neighbor bought a new car recently. It's one of those BMW MiniCoopers. She is no spring chicken, but with the right diet and exercise, along with a little help from her beautician, she's still a petite blond. When she whizzes by in her brand new electric blue Mini Cooper flashing a big smile and wave, she's cute as can be.

Her Mini Cooper is the perfect car for her. According to her, naming your new "Mini" is the hip thing to do among Mini Cooper owners. We'll get back to naming cars in a minute. First I want to tackle the issue of selecting, owning and driving the "right" car.

Personally, I love this "retro" trend the auto manufacturers have going. The PT Cruiser, VW Beetle, Ford Thunderbird and the new Chevy SSR are all great examples. There is also a host of cute little two-seater convertibles on the market right

I like them all but would never buy one. Why? Because, a big old gray-haired lummox like myself would just look silly in one of the above.

I am getting a picture of my father in the late '70s. He was a big guy, and had always driven big cars. Cars like Oldsmobiles, Chryslers, Buicks, etc. When the Araboil embargo created gas lines in the '70s, my father was just about my current age. He finalists. rushed out and bought a Dodge Colt. The Colt was a fuelefficient import Dodge was peddling. It was also tiny. One of my brothers said the old man looked like a carp in a fishbowl when he drove the thing. I don't want to look like a carp in a

It's not just because I'd be wedged in behind the wheel. as Alice, but Whitey it is.

Financial Focus

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all impact of these statistics may have little impact on you. But

if any of these numbers are telling your story, you've got

having enough money to live comfortably throughout their

ing in surveys, but you're curious about the results - particu-

The whole idea of some old guy, like me, trying to recapture his youth by plunking down thirty or forty grand on a car bothers me. As they say in the parlance ofour times, "that's just wrong."

So what do I drive? Right now I am very, very happy with my seven-year-old Ford F-150 that has just over 135,000 miles on the odometer. I know the mileage because I just changed the oil and washed it yesterday. It's a "plain Jane" half ton, two-wheel-drive with a V-8, automatic and a regular cab. It is just the right size to haul me, my stuff and the wife or the dogs. Not the wife and the dogs. I love my truck.

Back to my neighbor who named her new Mini Cooper. She named it Alice. I didn't get it at first, then I tumbled. Alice Cooper, the over-the-top rockstar from the seventies. I loved Alice Cooper back then, and had all his albums. I also love the idea that someone would name her car Alice Copper.

My neighbor says a lot of people name their Mini's Alice, along with Gary. I suggested "D.B." as something a little more obscure. She didn't recognize the name. I explained that I think D.B. Cooper was the guy who hijacked a plane, parachuted out with the ransom money and was never found. She likes Alice better. Can't blame her.

Being jealous of this car-naming thing, I decided to get on the bandwagon and name my truck. With a last name like Ford, I had lots of possibilities.

There is Henry or Edsel from the family responsible for the brand. From the movie industry I came up with Harrison, John, Glenn and the catchy Frances Ford Copola. Tennessee Ernie would be a good name from the music business, though he was famous for "Sixteen Tons" and my truck is only a halfton. From politics I could have gone with Gerald, but I don't think much of politicians, not even "Jerry." His wife is famous in her own right, and Betty was right there among my

I considered going with the totally obscure, like Bob. You know ... Bob Ford from Hahn's Hardware.

After much deliberation I finally settled on Whitey. I like sports. I like nicknames. It doesn't matter that my truck is green, my name is Brown and I'm not a lefty. It's not as cool

If you're one of the three in 10 workers who either haven't saved for retirement or haven't saved enough to feel confident about their savings, you need to take action-right way. But even if you're among those who have saved something and feel pretty good about what they've done, you can almost certainly benefit by boosting your retirement savings. Here are a few ideas for doing just that:

• Contribute as much as you can to your 401(k) - If you've got a 401(k) or other tax-advantaged retirement plan at work, put in as much as you can afford. If you're self-employed, open up a SEP-IRA or other suitable plan.

• "Max out" on your IRA-Each year, put in the maximum amount to your traditional or Roth IRA. For 2004, you can contribute up to \$3,000 to your IRA, or \$3,500 if you're 50 or

larly if they contain information that touches on your life. For · Consider an annuity-If you've "maxed out" on your example, if you're concerned about saving for retirement, you 401(k) and IRA, consider investing in a fixed annuity. Your may be quite interested in some of the findings from the earnings grow on a tax-deferred basis, and you can contribute Employee Benefit Research Institute's 2003 Retirement Convirtually as much as you want. (However, be aware that withdrawals before age 59 1/2 may be subject to a 10 percent • Fewer than four in 10 workers say they have calculated early withdrawal penalty, plus other charges.) how much money they will need to have saved by the time they

· Invest for growth-The further you are from retirement, the more you can afford to be aggressive. Still, your growth stocks will need to be part of a diversified portfolio that reflects your risk tolerance, time horizon and long-term goals.

By determining how much you'll need for retirement, and by increasing your savings and investments, you can greatly enhance your prospects for enjoying the type of retirement lifestyle you've envisioned. Then, the next time you see a retirement confidence survey, you can relax.

#### Letters, Letters, Letters...

The Lowell Ledger welcomes all "Letters to the Editor" for publication on its "Viewpoint" page. Letters can be typed or written. However, we ask that they do not exceed 250 words.

"Letters to the Editor" should be sent to the Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, P.O. Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or emailed to: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com. Letters must be signed and please include a phone number when emailing. Editing may be necessary for space, clarity and to avoid obscenity, libel or invasion of privacy.

The Lowell Ledger thanks you in advance for your cooperation. 50 years ago.



THE LOWELL LEDGER-WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2004 - PAGE 5

- A service of the se

#### 125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL **FEBRUARY 12, 1879**

The Old Residents' party will be Friday night. Ionia lost "several blacksmith shops" by fire last week. The Hook and Ladder Company will have a Washington's

birthday party at Train's Hall on the 21st. They always have a good one. Admission: 50 cents. The rest of the buildings on the bridge east of Strang's

Jewelry should be raised now while there is ice, and before the sidewalk is also raised.

The granary in Lucien Brooks' barn at Grattan burst. dumping 100 bushels of wheat on four cows. They survived both the accident and eating their fill.

#### 100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER **FEBRUARY 11, 1904**

Japanese torpedo boats strike at Port Arthur, the first blow in the Russian-Japanese war.

Postmaster Chas. Quick says the charges leveled against the post office by Lowell Journal editor Davidson were disproved by the postal inspector. Detectives of the Michigan Central Railroad have evi-

dence to arrest parents who encourage their children to steal coal from the railroad yards. The Grand Rapids and Ionia interurban railroad is getting

ready for construction bids. Marks Rubens advertises an "all off clothing" sale in

dozens of places throughout the Ledger.

#### 75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO **FEBRUARY 14, 1929**

Vergennes' Melville McPherson, member of the state tax commission and board of agriculture, is mentioned as a possible Republican candidate for governor

A history of Kent County shows that this is the centennial year of Daniel Marsac's settlement of Lowell. Again, Supt. Gumser announces to parents that week

night school activities close by 9 p.m. Prince Omwah, seer of India, will be at the Strand Theatre

three nights this week to answer audience questions, in addition to the regular feature. "Influential men" propose making M-21 part of an international highway from the East through Port Huron and on to

#### 50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER **FEBRUARY 11, 1954**

The Grand Rapids Figure Skating Club will present a show at the 4-H Exhibition building Saturday night.

Youngest member of the Lowell ground observation corps is Guy Watrous, 12, who knows his planes better than most adults

Village Primary next Monday has Wm. Christiansen, Lylia Johnson, Orval McKay, Douglas Oatley and Lawrence Rutherford competing for the three trustee slots.

The VFW-sponsored skating races at the Exhibition Building Monday afternoon were a big success.

C.H. Runciman Co. runs a cartoon-strip ad for its Patsy Stoker coal.

#### 25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER **FEBRUARY 14, 1979**

The school board adds Vergennes Township Hall to its recinct list of Runciman Elementary and Bowne Township

Attwood's Don Rocheleau announces plans for a 90,000 quare foot expansion of the plant this spring.

The area has had 84 inches of snow this winter. Last day to pay your taxes is Feb. 14.

One weekly column is Ledger news of 10, 20, 30, 40 and

# Bus stop, continued...From Page 1

"The problem is when the other direction may not see sor Phil Jones, the township \$20,000 in state funding cuts there is any snow on the road, the bus in time as they crest the operates on a budget of about this year, leaving little extra the bus has to go right down hill. Improvements to the road \$160,000 per year. Most of the middle of the road," are unlikely. Marble is a sec- that must be allocated toward Mikulski said. "It's an unsafe ondary road and the responsi- ambulance and fire protection, include making the intersecroad for buses to travel on." bility of Keene Township. Ac- insurance and election costs. tion into a four-way stop, Cars approaching from cording to township supervi- The budget also must absorb

KENT INTERMEDIATE

SCHOOL DISTRICT

SPECIAL SCHOOL

**ELECTION** 

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION** 

OF THE ELECTORS OF

**LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS** 

KENT AND IONIA COUNTIES, MICHIGAN

**TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 24, 2004** 

THE POLLS OF ELECTION WILL OPEN AT 7:00 O'CLOCK, A.M., AND CLOSE AT 8:00 O'CLOCK, P.M.

The following proposition will be submitted to the vote of the electors at the special

SPECIAL EDUCATION MILLAGE PROPOSAL

This proposal will increase the levy by the intermediate school district of special

education millage previously approved by the electors. All or a portion of the

revenues will be distributed to local school districts in the intermediate school

Shall the original millage limitation on the annual property tax previously approved by the

electors of Kent Intermediate School District, Michigan, which has been reduced by the

"Headlee" amendment, Michigan constitution of 1963, to 2.7099 mills (\$2.7099 on each

\$1,000.00 of taxable valuation) for the education of persons with disabilities be increased

by 1 mill (\$1.00 on each \$1,000.00 of taxable valuation), without limitation as to number

of years, commencing in 2004; the estimate of the revenue the intermediate school

district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2004 is approximately

PRECINCT NO. 1

Voting Place: Runciman Elementary School, 300 High Street, Lowell, Michigan. The first

PRECINCT NO. 2

Voting Place: Bowne Township Hall, 8240 Alden Nash Road, Alto, Michigan. The second

PRECINCT NO. 3

All school electors who are registered with the city or township clerk of the city or township in

This Notice is given by order of the Board of Education of Lowell Area Schools, Kent and Ionia

precinct consists of the city of Lowell and those portions lying north of the

centerline of Cascade Road in Cascade and Lowell townships in Kent County

precinct consists of Bowne Township in Kent County and Campbell Township in

Ionia County and those portions lying south of the centerline of Cascade Road in

Cascade and Lowell Townships in Kent County, and Boston Township in Ionia

Vergennes Township Hall, corner of Bailey Drive and Parnell Avenue in

Vergennes Township. The third precinct consists of the townships of Ada,

Cannon, Grattan and Vergennes in Kent County, and Keene Township in Ionia

Pat Nugent

Secretary, Board of Education

district to reimburse costs for special education programs and services.

\$17,650,000 from local property taxes authorized herein?

and Boston Township in Ionia County.

THE VOTING PLACES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

County.

County.

which they reside are eligible to vote at this election.

Voting Place:

counties, Michigan.

school district election to be held in the district on Tuesday, February 24, 2004.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT:

intermediate school district election:

money for roads.

Other possible remedies which may not be effective. It

leveling a parking lot on the year." shoulder of Sayles east of the intersection. This, however, would be costly for the county.

sion - a spur of road that con-

nects Sayles and Marble while

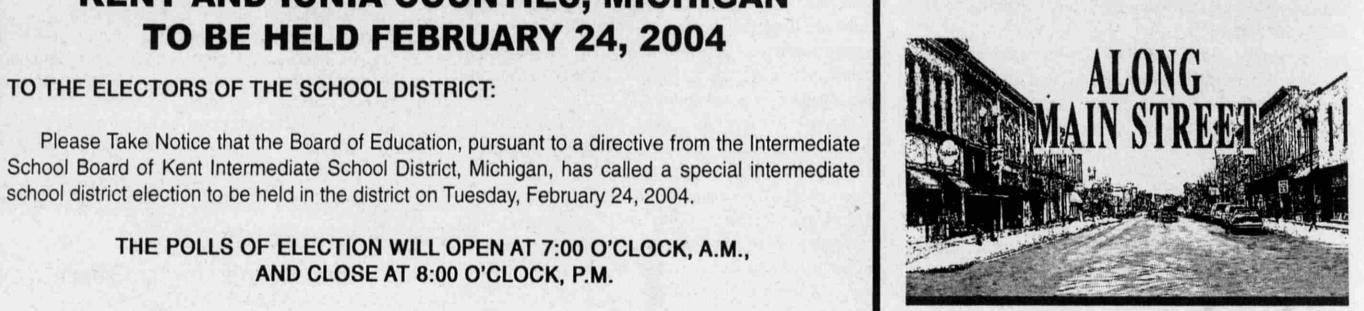
Mikulski said.

place late in March.

"We're just getting started

would also be logistically dif- and the next step really is makficult because of the exten- ing a good showing at the meeting," John Mason said. "We want to have our representation of our neighborhood there saying we want to put John Mason suggested this on the agenda for next

For now, Mikulski said parents should talk to each other about car pooling to the Mikulski recommended stop to reduce the number of moving the bus stop west to a cars at the already-chaotic insubdivision drive called tersection. Cars should also remain on the south side of "Move the kids to a safer Sayles Road or the west side place and then organize the of Marble Road, which will families to get some improve- make it easier for the bus driver ments done on their roads," to maneuver and account for kids. Finally, parents should The Ionia County Road keep their children in cars un-Commission meets annually til the bus arrives to pick them with the townships in the up in the morning. In the county. The meeting with evening, parents should be Keene Township will take there when the students get off the bus.



#### PAPER TRUCK IS BACK!

The Lowell softball team is happy to announce that the newspaper/phone book recycling truck is at Lowell High School on the north side by the loading dock. The team appreciates the community's continued support.

#### FOOD PANTRY IN NEED

The shelves in the Flat River Outreach Ministries food pantry are in need of the following items: peanut butter, spaghetti sauce, boxed potatoes, hamburger helper pastas, etc. (not canned vegetables). Just a note: In January, they gave out 52 boxes of food and assisted 31 families with emergency services.

#### LHS VARIETY SHOW

The Lowell High School Variety Show will be held at the LPAC this evening, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. Presale tickets: \$4; at the door: \$5; family price: \$15. Call Robin at 897-9904.

#### FOODMOBILE

The Foodmobile will be at the 4-H Fairgrounds on Saturday, Feb. 14 from 10 - 11 a.m. Mostly produce. Bring own box or bag. Distributed by FROM.

#### KINDERGARTEN INFO NIGHT

St. Patrick School will offer a kindergarten info. night on Tuesday, Feb. 17 at 7 p.m. in the Parish Center. Kindergarten Round-up is March 12; call 691-8833 for more info.

#### WIGGLES & GIGGLES **FAMILY NIGHT**

TOTS Wiggles and Giggles Preschool family night will be held on Thursday, Feb. 19 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in Bright Beginnings Early Childhood Center, 300 High St. \$1 per family; older siblings welcome.

#### MULTIPLES SUPPORT GROUP

Families with Multiples Support Group meeting will be held Tuesday, Feb. 24 from 6:30-8 p.m. at Bright Beginnings Early Childhood Center, 300 High St. Free childcare and refreshments. Call 897-1232 to register.

#### MEL TROTTER BENEFIT

School supplies to fill backpacks are needed in the Greater Grand Rapids area for an eighth grade honors reading project. To donate, please leave them at First Congregational Church or Englehardt Library or call Ellen Mork, 8th grader, at 897-

#### FREE COMMODITIES

Low income families can receive free commodities: chicken, ham, peaches, pears, potatoes, salmon, tomatoes, tomato sauce on March 4 from 9-4 p.m. at the Moose Recreation Hall, W. Main St. Call Bernadette 897-5150 or Virginia 897-8754 with questions.

(我身子的方面来的面面有有有有有有有有的之处的方式的方式的方式的方式的方式的方式的大式或<sup>2</sup>)

# Featured Artist Dixie Olin

By Dan Schneider

lot of portraits and a few florals that are currently hanging on the walls of Huntington Bank. The portraits are oil and the flowers are water- she was young, having picked

a studio in Grand Rapids. It is said. called Studio 800 because it is located at 800 Monroe started taking art classes her-

traits - especially of kids and the human form and getting were worth the trip to learn. the personality and making

come to her and pay her to clarinet. have their portraits painted.

She's done the portraits for Dixie Olin has painted a about seven years; before that she had starving artist gigs like mowing grass and bartending.

it up from her mother. "I used Olin is a real-life profes- to go to classes with her and sional artist who lives in they'd give me paints to keep Freeport. She is co-owner of me out of their hair," Olin

self. The two traveled all She likes painting por- around to states like Ohio ing the arts." and New York and as far bikers. "I guess I do every- away as Florida to take art Rivertown Artists' Guild the thing from children to Harley classes with different teachthe challenge of trying to do with specialized skills that

you want to know that per- ters who enjoy art and are 414 E. Main St., through also musicians: Dylan plays March 9. The bikers generally drums and Devon, the bass

Olin has taught some classes herself, at the Lowell Area Arts Council and at a place called the Blue Crocodile which used to be in Low-She's been painting since ell 18 years ago.

She's into the art scene around here. "At one time I didn't think there were any other artists around Grand Rapids," Olin said. "I think there is a great support system As she grew older, she in the arts right now in this area. Huntington is a good example of business support-

Olin was president of the last two years and exhibited riders," Olin said. "Ithink it's ers. These were instructors all over West Michigan with

> Her paintings will be on Olin also has two daugh- display at Huntington Bank,



Dixie Olin with a portrait of Gov. Jennifer Granholm. The painting is one of several portraits and a few florals currently on exhibit at the Huntington Bank branch in Lowell.

LEGAL NOTICES

# Vergennes Township calculates its visual assets

populations of native Michi-

By Dan Schneider

Vergennes Township has begun a project to get a better idea of what its land looks like ... that is, in terms of biological diversity and scenic-view aesthetics.

It's called a natural features inventory. It will happen in two parts. The first, already underway, is a systematic cataloging of areas of visual appeal. The goal is to identify scenic vistas: openspace, natural beauty, rural character, etc., visible from the road.

The second part is an indepth analysis of the plants in the township - a biological look at the diversity of plant

species. The goal is to find visible from the road," areas that have remained rela- Bajema said. tively undisturbed by people, The group is working with and areas that harbor large a set of priorities established

gennes residents. The survey gan plants. Dr. Robb Bajema, an as- indicated that areas people in sistant professor of biology at the township value most Aquinas College, is heading highly are its natural areasup the aesthetic portion of the forests, trees, etc.-and areas project. He and two Aquinas that reflect its rural heritage. students, one who studies bi-"So our challenge is how ology and the other, art, are do we capture the essence of identifying areas of the town-Vergennes Township ship with significant visual

appeal. "Specifically, what we are looking for are views or, as we call them, viewscapes, that are

**Decedent's Estate** FILE NO. 04-176-976-DE by a recent survey of Ver-Estate of JOHN M. BIENER deceased

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, JOHN M. BIENER, who lived at 7354 Willow Wood. Belmont, Michigan died

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be **CRAIG AVERY** forever barred unless (P-10311) presented to CELIA 3875 West River Drive BIENER, named personal Comstock Park, MI representative, or pro-

posed personal repre-

sentative, or to both the

probate court at 180 Ot-

tawa Ave., N.W., Grand

Rapids, MI 49503 and the

PROBATE COURT

COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO

**CREDITORS** 

TO ALL CREDITORS:

SSN: 366-20-6319

#### named/proposed per-784-5638 sonal representative NOTICE VERGENNES

within 4 months after the date of publication of this

(616) 784-5080

2/2/04

**CELIA BIENER** 

7354 WillOw Wood

Belmont, MI 49306

**TOWNSHIP** A Public Hearing will be held and a Special Exception Use Permit will be considered at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Vergennes Township Board on February 16, 2004, at 7:00 pm at the township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr., Lowell.

William and Debra Makuski, 910 Parnell NE, located in Section 20 of Vergennes Township, are requesting a Special Exception Use Permit to add a temporary second residence to the property for use by parents. They intend to remove the unit after it is no longer needed by the parents The request is permitted as a Special Exception Use under Section 201.415 C, Accessory Dwelling, of the Vergennes Township Ordinance.

A copy of the application is available for public inspection at the township offices on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Comments will be received at the Public Hearing or in writing by forwarding to the Clerk at the township offices or by e-mail at clerk@vergennestwp.org. Written comments should be received by 7:00 p.m. February 16, 2004.

> Mari C. Stone Vergennes Township Clerk

## **LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP** NOTICE OF BID

Lowell Charter Township is seeking bid applications for mowing the Township Hall, Township Cemeteries, and the Grand River Riverfront Park for the 2004 season. Bid specifications can be obtained at the Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash SE, Lowell, MI 49331. Office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. All bids must be received by Monday, march 8, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. Please call 897-7600 for more information.

John R. Timpson, Supervisor

#### **Lowell Area Schools Transportation Informational Meeting** Runciman Administration Building -**Board Room**

cont'd., pg.14

300 High St, Lowell Tuesday, February 24, 2004 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Discussion will include information

on potential walk zones.

Areas under consideration include: In the City of Lowell north to south from Main St. north to Cherry Creek Elementary (Foreman Road including Hunt) and east to west from Hudson to Gee Drive.

On the east side of the City of Lowell areas include north to south from the cemetery to Main St. and east to west from Monroe to Grindle.

The Committee has developed plans for student safety that include student training. Additional transportation cost-cutting measures will also be reviewed.

Shari Miller, Superintendent Larry Mikulski, Supervisor of Transportation, and Jim Valentine, Chief of Police, will be in attendance to hear your questions and concerns. 

# Benjamin Morse Society to present Civil War history

By Dan Schneider

The Benjamin Morse Society of Lowell Middle School will present "Lowell, Its People, and the Civil War." The presentation will take place Tuesday, Feb. 17 at 7 p.m. in the lower level of Lowell Charter Township

introduction read by Ian Blodger, a history of Benjamin Morse read by Carly and Sean Greenhoe and a "Lincoln Portrait" by Jack Misner. Misner, the founding advisor of the Benjamin Morse Society, will also read from Michael Shaara's The Killer Angels.

ries and artifacts. The Lowell Area Historical Museum will record the evening on video.

where he left off.

"If somebody still wants

A community Civil War exchange will follow the presentations. People are encouraged to share Civil War sto-

This will be the last meeting of the Benjamin Morse Society. After nine years, Misner is ready to hang up The program includes an his hat as advisor to the society. He said he is nearing retirement, but welcomes the idea of someone continuing

> to do it, I'd be happy to help them organize it, but there's a beginning, a middle and end to everything," Misner

The first meeting of the Civil War hero who received Benjamin Morse Society was the Congressional Medal of in January of 1996. Fifty-six Honor at the Battle of the Wilstudents attended. The soci- derness. ety was named after a Lowell

In its nine years, the soci- historical service projects, ety has made annual trips to and contributed to historical historic locations, undertaken awareness in the Lowell area.



NUTRITION FOR CHILDREN: JUICE USE

Many parents feel that juice is an important part of their young one's diet. In fact, children are the largest group of juice consumers in the United States. We have found that too much of a good thing is bad. Studies have shown that infants who drink too much juice may become malnourished. It can

also cause diarrhea, abdominal pain, bloating and excessive flatulence (gas). Juice consumption may also cause tooth decay if children are allowed to hold a bottle or cup in their mouth during the day or at bedtime.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends the ollowing:

· Fruit juice should not be given prior to six months of Infants should not get fruit juice at bedtime.

· After six months, infants should not be given juice in bottles or cups that permit them easy access throughout the

· For children ages one to six months, juice should be limited to four-six ounces per day.

• Children seven to 18 months should only have eight-12 ounces per day.

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# Character in **Action Awards**

The Character in Action Awards for December/ January were given to Cherry Creek students who model the school's character traits. They were nominated by staff members. Also recognized is Sawyer Buck who won the December/January Meijer Dignity and Respect Award and a \$25 gift certificate to Meijer. Sawyer was nominated for the award by several students who said he lives the character traits on a daily basis. Pictured, front row (left to right) are: Jordan VandenHout, Kortney Beachler, Hannah Churches, Lexie Bocskey, Madelynn Willemstein, Meghan Plutschouw, Charlotte Hayden, Nick DeVito; second row: Ethan Sutton, Max Ligman, Sawyer Buck, Heather Dimmick, Ian Larson, Samantha Deiss; third row: Spencer Plattner, Reece Fox, Justin Castro, Laura Christiansen, Kate Olgren, Kendra Whittemore; back row: Connor Swift, Cody Clark, Tyler Organek, Kaitlyn Church, Megan Montgomery, Bryleigh Loughlin, Charlotte Hayden, Brianne Warren.

STEVE NOON

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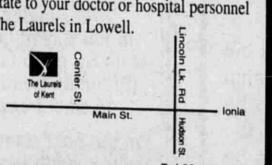
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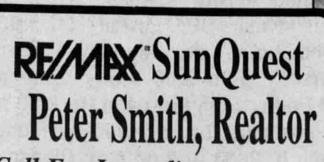
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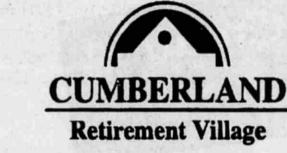
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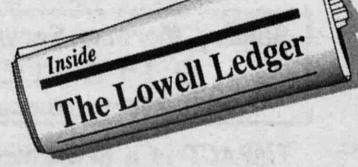
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# Thebes Players present beer, pasties and da Moonlight

By Dan Schneider

After the pasties and all the bottles of Leinie's (and the Budweisers being drunk by da fudge-sucking trolls), the allegory and deeper meanings in the subtext of the Thebes Players' production of "Escanaba in da Moonlight" . . . well, all that was pretty much lost on everybody.

Which didn't matter at all because the production was hilarious. And the allegorical subtext stuff, well, I don't think that really existed anyway.

At least not after the fourth bottle of Leinie's.

And it wasn't just the reviewer drinking Leinie's Red -that's short Leinenkugel's, by the wayin the audience. The cast frequently sloshed beer around on stage. But theirs came in cans, which illustrates the high-class, drinking-bottledbeer lifestyle afforded to the theater patrons of a Thebes

And the pasties were good. They're filled with

Players' production.

beef, potatoes and rutabagas. The beer-sloshing added to the whole male-camaraderie of the play, which might have been a theme. Communing with nature also might have been a theme. But re-

NEW SERIES

ally, it's just a play about deer camp, and that sort of thing really defies themes.

Steven Tokarski plays Ruben Soady, da buckless Yooper. A buckless avid hunter in real life, Tokarski brought some conviction to

Ken Parrish plays Albert Soady, the patriarch of the Soady clan and balladeer of the play. He successfully held the narrative together. The narrative involves UFOs and exploding Chevy Impalas, so holding it together was no mean task.

Richard Thomson played Ranger Tom E. Treado. Thomson is the only Lowell resident in the cast and plays a DNR officer from Detroit. The role is pretty much a straight, but a straight in this play is still kind of out there. Thomson does Lowell proud.

Tim Somes adds energy to the play as Remnar Soady.

Leonard Cradit plays the ageless Jimmer who was once abducted by aliens.

Marjorie Schultz makes only a brief appearance on stage as Wolf Moon Dance Soady, but should be given credit for being in a play so dominated by boorish male characters.

about a family deer camp in is encouraged in this play.

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IMPACT is a new church with a



Richard Thomson as Ranger Tom E. Treado, center, sings "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" to the bewilderment of, from left, Leonard Cradit as Jimmer Negamanee, Steven Tokarski as Ruben Soady, Tim Somes as Remnar Soady and Ken Parrish as Albert Soady.

the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. It is also about Reuben duction for people who don't trolls. Soady's quest for his first use words like "accessible" Incidentally, the play is buck. Audience participation

It's a very accessible pro- watch the play with the other

to describe plays. Those who duction of "Escanaba in da Lowell Area Arts Council for do should lighten up, have a Moonlight" is a dinner the- ticket availability.

ater. The play runs through Feb. 21 at Larkin's Other The Thebes Players' pro- Place on Main Street. Call the

# COLLEGE NEWS

nounced its fall 2003 semester dean's list.

Leinie's and a pasty, and

Christina C. Getz, William fer M. Wisner. C. Harrison, Blair E. Meyer, Kelsey L. Scheider and Jennifer L. Wagner.

above at the completion of ended in December. the semester.

has been announced

ell area include: Dara J. An- age chors, Jacquelyn R.

Albion College has an- Benedict, Lisa M. Bryan. Abigail E. Conklin, Mark A. Hyzer, Michael J. Scott, From the Lowell area are Rachel L. Swift and Jenni-

> From the Alto area is Sarah M. Claire.

Students must earn a 3.5 Students named to the (on a 4.0 scale) or higher grade dean's list must achieve a point average to be included grade point average of 3.5 or on the list. The fall session

Michigan State University The fall honors list for has announced its honor stu-Central Michigan University dents for fall 2003. To qualify a student must have earned a Students from the Low- 3.5 or better grade point aver-

From the Lowell area are: Jennifer J. Adams, Katherine M. Akers, Kristine A. Akers, Amanda M. Brown, Jennifer V. DenHouter, Richard J. Ford, Joseph L. Giuliano, Kyle J. Hines, Aaron C. Kaeb, Katherine M. McAlpine, Jeremy C. Moerdyke, Scott W.

Jocelyn Rae Yunker, of Lowell, graduated with a BA in accounting from Michigan State University. There were a total 2,585 degree candidates for fall 2003.

VanderEnde and Erin S.



# COMNGEVENTS

to any nonprofit organization in the Lowell, Ada, Alto & such notices to be kept brief and to be submitted by mail, but will accept notices by phone at 897-9261.

SUNDAYS: Tri-town Conservation Club trap & skeet league, 5616 Dunn Rd. 12-5 p.m. Call Larry at 754-7104. Public welcome

**EVERY MON.: LHS Fel**lowship of Christian Athletes & Friends, 7-8:30 p.m. in members' homes 676-1355.

THIRD MON.: Fallasburg 7-9 p.m. Call Gary Engle Historical Society board meetings at chamber or Fallasburg, 7 p.m. All invited.897-7161 for info.

SECOND MON.:Lowell Board of Education meets 7:00 p.m. in Administration Building, 300 High

Township Historical Soci-Nash, 7:30 p.m.

THIRD MON.: Lowell Showboat Garden Club, 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall of Nazarene Church. Call Dave, 897-2533.

MON. OR TUES .: Cub Scouts, boys in 1st - 5th grades, Alto or Lowell. Call school for more info.

FOURTH MON.: Clark- Hudson St. Ellis American Legion Post 152, 3100 Alden Nash S.E. at 7:30.

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

EVERY 1STMON.: V.F.W. Post #8303, 3116 Alden Nash S.E. at 7 p.m.

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

Belding Rd. Public invited. Ages 8-13. 897-8694.

betic Support group, 9:30 Schneider Manor Community Rm., 725 Bowes Rd.

- Mothers of Preschoolers meets at noon at Lowell ... because mothering mat- Masonic Temple, 119 Linters. 9:15-11:30 a.m. at coln Lake Ave. Impact, a Wesleyan Church, 1070 N. Hudson. EVERY WED.: Lowell etc. Share supplies. Call Call 897-8304 for details. Church of the Nazarene

Chapter of the American Sewing Guild, D.W. Richardson Center, 5255 Grand River Dr. 6:30 social time; 7 p.m. meeting & program. Olga, 975-9977.

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

**EVERY TUES.:** Flat River Woodcarvers, LAAC, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

1ST TUES.: Adults with AD/HD at Calvin College. at 897-6325 or 248-2423.

TUES.: Saranac Needlers. needleart/quilting bee meets 5-8:30 p.m. at 4 Health Wellness Center in time; all are invited. Contact Bev or Melissa, 642-6466 for info. A light SECOND MON .: Bowne dinner will be provided.

ety meeting at Historical EVERY SECOND & Museum, 84th and Alden FOURTH TUES.: Knights of Columbus #7719 meets EVERY

> Lowell Masonic Lodge meeting, 7:30 p.m., Ma- ing are invited to attend. sonic Center, 119 Lincoln

Fire Station, 315 S. 897-5981.

Saranac Scrappers, scrapbooking/journaling p.m. Call 897-7842. group meets at 4 Health Wellness Center, Saranac, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

Bev or Melissa, 642-6466.

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

1ST TUES .: Grattan His- EVERY OTHER WED .: 5 p.m. torical Society meets in 6:45-8:45 p.m. G.E.M.S. O'Brien Room of Grattan Girls Club - Calvary Chris-Township Hall, 12050 Old tian Reformed Church.

1ST & 3RD TUES .: Dia- EVERY WED .: 8 p.m. ALANON meets at Lowell Congregational Church upstairs.

2ND & 4TH TUES .: MOPS EVERY WED .: Rotary

SECOND TUES .: G.R. Caravan children's program at 7 p.m., ages 5-12 vears. Call 897-8800.

**EVERY WED.:** Tri-town Conservation Club trap & skeet league, 5616 Dunn Rd. 6-10 p.m. Call Larry EVERY TUES.: Take Off 754-7104. Public welcome.

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

EVERY SECOND WED .: Lowell Women's Club. noon, community room, Schneider Manor, 725 Bowes Rd.

EVERY SECOND WED.: Support group for Periph-SECOND & FOURTH eral Neuropathy, 4 p.m. at St. Paul's Anglican Catholic Church, Grand Rapids. Dorothy 897-9794.

> **EVERY THURS.:** Weight Watchers at Lowell Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington St. 5:30 p.m. Register 1/2 hr. before the meeting. For info., 800-651-6000.

the Moose, men's general EVERY SECOND TUES .: meeting at 7:30 p.m. -? All members in good stand-

**EVERYTHURS**.: Saranac Area Musicians and Sing-EVERY 1ST & 3RD ers at Saranac H. S. Band TUES .: Lowell Lions Club, Room. Choir: 6-7 p.m. 6:30 p.m.,Look Memorial band:7-8. Kathy Maatman

**EVERY THURS.:** Pottery EVERY THIRD TUES .: classes at Franciscan Life Process Center, 6:30 - 8:30

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

> drama club meeting, Lowell Middle School choir room. Call 897-1502 after

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

**EVERY 2ND THURS.:** N.A.R.F.E. at 1:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2700 E. Fulton.

**EVERY 3RD THURS.:** Rubber stamping group Christian Life Center 6-9 p.m. Create scrapbooks, 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, Franciscan Life Process Center. 897-7842.

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

**EVERY THIRD THURS.** LaLeche League of Ada, Cascade, Lowell 6:30 p.m. socializing; meeting 7 p.m. Support for pregnant & breastfeeding women/ nursing children welcome Ada church. 752-8300.

SECOND THURS .: Genealogy-Alto Fam. Tree Club, Alto Library 6:30 - 8 p.m.

SECOND SAT .: Ada Historical Society at 10:30 a.m., Averill Historical Museum, 7144 Headley, Ada.

SECOND SAT.: Lowell Amateur Radio Club, Lowell Airport, 730 Lincoln SECOND Lake NE. 9 a.m. social time; St. Mary School, 7:30 p.m. THURS .: Loyal Order of 10 a.m. meeting. LARC sponsors 145.27 MHz area radio repeater system.

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

LOWELL AREA HIS-TORICAL MUSEUM OPEN-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. Call 897-2037.

**ENGLEHARDTLIBRARY** HOURS: Mon.- Wed., 12 -FIRST THURS.: 4-H 8 p.m.; Thurs.-Fri.:9:30 -5 p.m.; Sat.: 9:30 - 2:30 p.m. 200 N. Monroe. 647-3920.

> LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL: Tues. Wed. & Fri.: 12 - 5 p.m. Thurs.: 12 - 7 p.m. Sat., 1-4 p.m. 149 S. Hudson. 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.

WED., FEB. 11: Lowell Area Fire Dept. blood drive for the Grand Valley Blood program, 2-7 p.m. at Look Memorial Fire Station.

> WED., FEB. 11: LHS Variety Show, 7 p.m., LPAC. Tickets: \$5; \$15 (family).

> FRI., FEB. 13: 4 Health Wellness Center Saranac, family valentine party/open house, 7-9 p.m. Call Bev or Melissa at 642-6466 to register

Foodmobile, free food, at 4-H Fairgrounds, 10-11 a.m. Distributed by FROM.

TUES., FEB. 17: Lowel Area Historical Museum/ LMS Benjamin Morse Society program at Lowell Twp. Hall, 7 p.m. on American Civil War: Lowell, Its Country Club. People and the Civil War.

TUES., FEB. 17: Kinder garten info. night, St. Patrick School Parish Center, 7 p.m. Call 691-8833 for more info. Round-up: March 12.

WED., FEB. 18: Metro Health Lowell Plaza, 2550 W. Main. 6:30-8 p.m. Dr. Michael Valitutto, D.O. Series: "How to Prevent Diabetes." Free to public, no registration is required.

MON., MARCH 1: Deadline for musicians to send in CD/cass., biography and picture of group for Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concerts, beginning June 17. Call LAAC (897-8545) or LACC (897-9161).

SUN., MARCH 7: Lowell Day in Lakeland, Fla. Buffet dinner, held at 1 p.m. at Huntington Hills Golf and



#### **LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES**

897-5949 THURS.: 9:00 a.m. Walk/ MON.: 9:00 a.m. Walk at

Voodland Mall. TUES .: 9:00 a.m. Walk

p.m. Bible Study

Shop at Malls; 9:30 Crafts 1:00 p.m. Euchre. at Woodland Mall; 12:45

FRI.: 9:00 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall.

Advisory Council; 12:45

THURS., FEB. 19: 11:30

a.m. Dinner at St. Anne's

FRI., FEB. 20: 12:45 p.m.

p.m. Shop Meijer.

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

Dollar Store; 4:30 p.m. VED., FEB. 11: 8:30 a.m. Deer Run Dinner Traveling Breakfast.

THURS., FEB. 12: 11 WED., FEB. 18: 10 a.m. a.m. Long-term Care; 4:30 p.m. Dinner at Chinese Restaurant in Ionia.

FRI., FEB. 13: 11 a.m. Cardiac Prevention: Noon Birthday/Anniversary; 12:45 p.m. Bingo.

MON., FEB. 16: 12 p.m. Potluck Valentine Party.

TUES., FEB. 17: 12:45 TUES., FEB. 24: 12:15 p.m. Shop Wal-Mart & p.m. Lunch at Alto School.

MON., FEB. 23: 12:45 p.m. Syl Mosier.

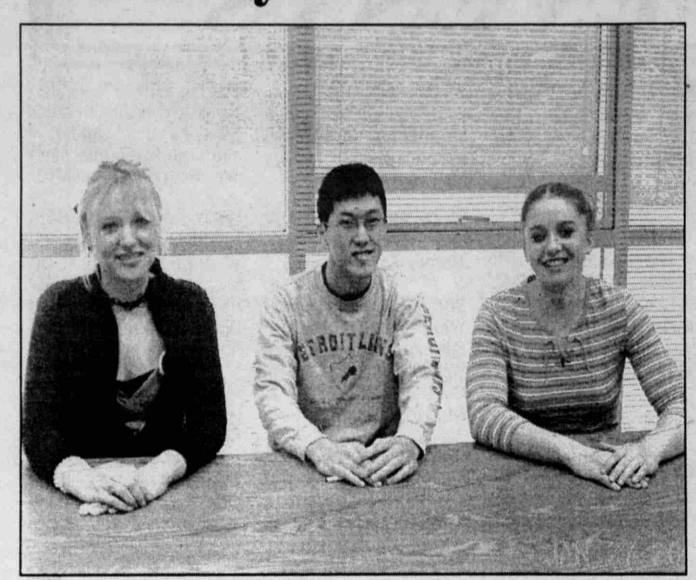
contemporary and relational style of ministry Come be a part of the IMPACT.

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Creating

Starting Feb. 15 Pon't Miss It!

# February Students of the Month



February Students of the Month, from left to right, are: Jessica Wisnieski, Adam

ulty members have chosen as Students of the Month.

varsity girls basketball team Ingraham of Lowell, he par- all-area and all-state honors. study pre-med. Her teacher ticipates in Art Club, Science Her teacher nominator says Olympiad, LAS Outreach, she has successfully main-FFA, jazz band and track. His tained a balance in her life teacher nominator says that in between academics and atha class comprised of our letics. In addition, she best brightest young math students, demonstrates the character Adam has proven to be the trait of compassion by being best of the best. He also best courteous and kind to all. exemplifies the character trait of responsibility because he nior, is being recognized by standard found in writing cretakes total responsibility for the English department. She ated by responsible, hardnot just completing his home- is the daughter of Alex and work, but for completing it to the best of his ability.

Keni Gallert, a junior, is Shirley Wisnieski of Lowell. the Science Student of the Jessica is a member of the Month and the daughter of annual staff, FFA and National Kurt and Gail Gallert of Low-Honor Society. She is also Adam Ingraham, a ell. Keni is active in Lady employed at Brann's Arrows Varsity Club and the Steakhouse and Grille. Jessica plans to attend Michigan having won all-conference, State University in the fall to nominator says Jessica's work in AP English is excellent She demonstrates an ability to analyze literature through well-organized, engaging writing. She also best demonstrates the character trait of responsibility because her Jessica Wisnieski, a sework exemplifies the high

#### Ingraham and Keni Gallert.

# Community gathers in support of music therapy program

from Israel where she shared fundraiser will benefit the traumatized people can be center which helps individuhelped through music als with special needs. therapy, Sister Mary Margaret Delaski, F.S.E. served as Delaski and her fellow emcee and harpist for "Harp Franciscan Sisters of the Eu-Throbs" last Saturday at the charist shared stories with Franciscan Life Process Cen- their guests about their work done by the Franciscan Sis-

She joined eight other

music therapy program at the

During intermission,

Chairperson Alma ter.' area harpists during the Valenti helped plan the "Harp evening in playing romantic Throbs" fundraiser. "I was

After recently returning music for 110 guests. The very pleased with communit support for this elegant affair," she said. "Many volunteers, too many to mention, made this special event possible. It is my hope that through events like this people will become familiar with the inspired, life-enhancing work ters at the Life Process Cen-



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# Vergennes Township, continued...From Page 7

Bajema said.

The group has divided the township into six sections, labeled A-F on the township zoning map. They've spent time, about 30 hours so far, identifying views that are aesthetically significant within each section of the township. They mark these locations on maps and will overlay the three maps to identify areas all of them found to be impor-

The art student, Pam Howe, is taking photographs

ished, there will be photographs for all four seasons.

The aesthetic part of the project will take place entirely on public roads in the township. The biological part will look at the area more mi-

professor of biology at Calvin College, is coordinating the biological analysis of Vergennes Township, also as-

#### SYNOPSIS **REGULAR MEETING OF THE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP BOARD**

January 19, 2004 - 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of the December 15, 2003 Regular Meeting were approved. A list of invoices was also approved. Lowell Fire Chief Frank Martin and Bryan Kimball addressed the Board regarding funding for a new truck and adoption of the National Fire Code. Matt McConnan of Rockford Ambulance also spoke to the Board and asked for consideration of support as Community Development funds were discussed.

A Public Hearing was held on proposed amendments to the Private Road Ordinance.

Motions approved:

- Motion to table consideration of amendments to Private Road Ordinance until further information can be obtained.
- Motion to allocate Community Development Block Grant funds for the following:
- Department/Emergency Preparedness - \$2,500
- Rockford Ambulance/Automatic Vehicle Locators - \$2,000
- North Kent Transit/Hope Network \$3,000
- Lowell Senior Neighbors/Senior Meals
- Motion to approve construction order with Kent County Road Commission for 3 Mile
- Motion to approve minor construction projects in 2004 on Heim east and west of Lincoln Lake, Cumberland south of Bailey Boynton between Vergennes and Bailey and Biggs south of Downes.
- Motion to set Annual Meeting date for Saturday, March 27, 2004 at 1:00 p.m. at the Township Office.
- Motion to direct Planning Commission to work on development of a keyhole ordinance pertaining to Murray Lake.

Complete minutes are available on the township web site at www.vergennestwp.org, or at the township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr., Lowell.

The next Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Vergennes Township Board is February 16, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. at the Vergennes Township Hall located at the corner of Parnell Road and Bailey Drive.

Mari Stone, Vergennes Township Clerk

to document the views. So sisted by students. Van Dragt Dragt said in explaining the far, she has taken 124 pic- has started the project, ana- ideal plant populations his tures, capturing views in the lyzing maps and aerial photo- team hopes to find. fall and winter seasons. By graphs intended to give him a the time the project is fin-rough idea of where intact na- the first-level field work in

that reflect some of the Warners, will undertake a he said. "Vergennes has a lot of plant species. of topographic relief. Every Dr. Randy Van Dragt, depression can harborits own species of plants native to ing permission from other

> them an idea of the levels of ment developed by the Michidevelopment pressure in various parts of the township.

from outside sources," Van in the seven-to-10 range "re-

STATE OF MICHIGAN

PROBATE COURT

KENT COUNTY

**CIRCUIT COURT -**

**FAMILY DIVISION** 

**PUBLICATION** 

OF NOTICE

OF HEARING

FILE NO. 04-176-963-

In the matter of

**GEORGE WILLIAM** 

DIXON.

alleged legally

incapacitated person

TO ALL INTERESTED

WILLIAM DIXON AND

THOMAS DIXON

whose address(es) are

unknown and whose in-

terest in the matter may

be barred or affected by

the following: state the

PERSONS including:\*

Calvin students will do tive plant populations are identifying areas likely to have likely to exist in the township. quality plant-life populations. "We're looking for the Then Van Dragt and another greenspace jewels out there Calvin biologist, Dave biodiversity of Vergennes," more in-depth identification

unique collection of species." Michigan. The biologists will landowners in the coming The photos also will give use a floristic quality assessgan Department of Natural Resources which ranks plants "Not only are they high- from zero to 10. A plant ranked gether with the Vergennes enough-they're maybe iso- enrod can survive under most decisions. It will help direct lated enough-that in the next conditions, from highly dis- the township in its land-pres-50 years they're not likely to turbed agricultural land to encounter heavy disturbance pristine forest edges. A plant

nature of the matter or

TAKE NOTICE: A hear-

ing will be held on

thursday, February 26,

2004, at 9:00 a.m. at 180

Ottawa Ave., N.W., Grand

Rapids, Michigan before

Judge Janet A. Haynes

(P33411) for the follow-

**Petition for Appointment** 

of Guardian of Legally

1/30/04

Apt. 330

Incapacitated Person.

410 Bridge Street, N.W.

Grand Rapids, MI 49504

MERELENE BARBER

2300 Newstead, S.W.,

Wyoming, MI 49509

Barb Pietrangelo

Grand Rapids, MI 49546

616-956-1115, ext. 7238

Financial Planner

CLU, ChFC, LUTCF, CLTC, RFC

3033 Orchard Vista Drive, Suite 102

(616) 241-1897

JOHN D. MITUS

(P-31244)

774-4001

proceeding.

ing purpose:

LEGAL NOTICES

tool," said Vergennes Township clerk, Mari Stone. She is also a member of the Vergennes Township Open Space Citizen's Committee.

ervation efforts.

Dragt explained.

The biological survey

will require the biologists to

examine private land. Van

Dragt said some Vergennes

landowners have already

given permission to examine

their land for the survey. Van

Dragt said landowners will

get a copy of the survey find-

The results of both the

aesthetic and biological in-

ventories will be useful, to-

Most highly-valued are ings. The team will be seek-

The survey will help land owners understand the value of their land to the community. Ada Township com-

quires relatively pristine habi-Warners participated as well. tat and low disturbance," Van

"A natural features inventory is really the first step in setting the priorities for the types of land you'd like to preserve," said Jim Ferro, planning director for Ada Town-

Vergennes has raised \$11,500 in grants from several sources. These include the Lowell Area Community Fund (\$5,000), the Evenson Fund of the Grand Rapids Community Fund (\$2,500), the Wege Foundation (\$1,500) and a \$1,250 matching grant from the Frey Foundation matched

The Vergennes Township quality, but they are big zero such as the Canada gold- survey, to inform land-use Open Space Citizen's Committee is having an educational forum on March 17. The forum will discuss the natural "Our attitude is it's just a features inventory and the Kent County Purchase of Development Rights program and includes a demonstration of how Vergennes' new Open Space Ordinance works.

with township funds.

Township residents are encouraged to submit their interpretations of the essence of Vergennes' rural character to pleted a similar inventory a the townships for use in the few years ago in which forum. The interpretations can Bajema, Van Dragt and be in any creative form.

# LHS Bowling

The Lowell girls bowling team won their first match in a while Monday night against East Grand Rapids. The Lowell girls beat the Pioneers 20 to 10. Top scorers were Rachel Nawrocki, who rolled 201 and 146 games, and Cary Crout, who rolled 145 and 130. The win improves the girls' record to 3-5 overall.

"They might finish 500 if we win that match tonight... and that would be real good for the girls," Lowell coach Rocky Eickhoff said Tuesday morning. Lowell faced Comstock Park at home Tuesday night.

The boys beat the Pioneers 25 to five. Jim Denney rolled 200 and 173 for the Arrows. Jon Eickhoff rolled 176 and 174. Sean Adrianse rolled 176 and 160. Rounding out the night for the boys were Anthony Everitt (188), Andrew Benedict (185) and Eric Horsford (183).

The Lowell bowling team hosts an invitational Saturday at Lowell Lanes. Eickhoff expects six to eight teams to compete. The event starts at 11 a.m.

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# Big matches Wednesday night!

## Lowell wrestling faces two state-ranked opponents in OK Gold crossover

By Dan Schneider

The Red Arrow wrestling squad faces two state-ranked faced Hastings in the final Middleville at 5:30 p.m. fol- ary, the Saxons won 38-31. crossover matches.

Hastings is number two their OK Gold conference and heavyweight with the old and Middleville, number four dual, Hastings beat sion II. Lowell is currently

By Dan Schneider

The Red Arrows' volley-

ball team had a harder time

beating Unity Christian than

they should have last Thurs-

day, according to coach Gigi

"We had played them earlier

in the season and handled them

15-11, lost game two 15-10,

around and played better that

better," Peal said. "We came 3-2.

fairly easily."

"We were actually very

Aside from that, Peal said

"I think if it had been any

the team was slow on defense.

other opponent in the confer-

ence, we wouldn't have won

playing the way we did," she

team in kills with 14 on the

night. Kristin Johnson and

Katie Baker had five each for

the Arrows. Taylor Verdon

The win puts Lowell in a

place in the OK White.

In a triangular match

Monday at Belding, Lowell

in the state rankings for Divi- Middleville by one point. The mid-season additions

Chalks up two wins at Belding

Lowell won the first game had 19 assists and three aces.

"The third game looked Lowell's conference record is

and then won the last game tie with Greenville for second

Red Arrow volleyball

Esbaugh to the upper weights weights in the lower weights," in Lowell's line-up, which has Lowell coach, Dave Strejc opponents at home Wednes- round of the Gary Rivers Me- helped them in recent conday. Lowell will wrestle morial Tournament in Janu- tests, will likely have little impact versus Hastings. At lowed by Hastings in OK Gold Lowell hasn't faced the Gary Rivers Memorial, Middleville this season. In Lowell won by pin at 189, 215

"Against Hastings we're

beat Allendale in two games,

15-1 and 15-9. In the Belding-

Lowell match-up, Belding

fought back from a 14-11

Lowell lead to win the first

game 18-16. Lowell won the

second game against the Bull-

Becker had 17 kills and

five blocks on the night. Amy

Oberlin had 11 kills. Baker

and Verdon each had three

aces. Verdon had 29 assists

On Thursday, the Red Ar

rows face Cedar Springs a

on the night.

home at 7:30.

Heather Becker led the dogs 15-13, then overcame a

conference tournament." Last Saturday, the Arrows traveled to the Goodrich Invitational. They beat Richmond 62-18 in the final round to win three weights against Richsurvives against Crusaders

said. "It's going to be a blank

slate ... anything can happen.

really solidifying," Strejc said

"Right now this team is

were beat up at the end and we

of Brock Graham and Ryan going to have to make up the could afford to forfeit the matches," Strejc said. In last week's conference

> Unity Christian, 76-0. The individual match results were as follows:

At 103, Ray Seese won by of his Arrows. "We're getting ready to peak going into the forfeit. At 112, Rob Karasiewicz Joe Gruppen 12-6.

pinned David Busscher in:54 pinned Josh Van Dyke in:18. At 125, David Kropf won his opponent 11-2. it. Lowell forfeited the last by technical fall, 30-15, over

At 130, Joe Mendez "We had some kids that pinned Greg Bergman in :57. At 135, Matt Kilmartin 1:26.

Jon Horstman

pinned Dave VanAbboma in

At 140, Kevin Frazier won wrestling, Lowell shut out by forfeit.

> At 145, Ryan Karasiewicz pinned his opponent in :56. At 152, Jayme DeLiefde

pinned Nick Paulucci in 5:19. At 160, John Fleet beat

At 171, Ryan Dykhouse At 119, Mike Nearing beat Pete DeKievet 12-3. At 189, Josh Vaught beat

At 215, Brock Graham

pinned his opponent in 1:51. At 275, Ryan Esbaugh pinned Brandon Dragstra in

#### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

This is a notice of public hearing on the Township of Bowne's proposed use of Kent County 2004-2005 Community Development Block Grant funds.

A public hearing will be conducted by Bowne Township on Monday, February 16, 2004, at 7:30 p.m. at the Historic Township Hall, 8240 Alden Nash SE.

Public comments will be received during the hearing, orally or in writing, regarding Bowne Township's proposed use of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant funds for the following projects:

Historic Twp Hall Access Improvement Unprogrammed funds

\$63, 744.56 \$15,000.00

The County of Kent has allocated a portion of its 2003-2004 federal entitlement Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to the Township of Bowne. The primary objective of the federal CDBG Entitlement Program is "...the development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income."

Activities using CDBG funds must meet one of the following National Objectives: benefiting low and moderate income persons; addressing slums or blight; or, meeting a particularly urgent community development need.

> Sandra L. Kowalczyk-Clerk Bowne Township

# Lowell-Caledonia hockey wins two more

By Dan Schneider

hockey team beat two oppo- countered and the first period nents over the weekend. This followed a high-scoring tie the The Sailors' shots on goals previous week against a Grand Rapids Christian team that has dominated city league hockey period. this year.

The score in the Christian game was 7-7. "We've had some struggles lately," Lowell-Caledonia coach, Mike Ballard said. "Our tie last week against Grand Rapids Christian gave the kids a good idea of what they can do playing team hockey."

The Red Arrows traveled to Lansing last Friday where they defeated the Holt Rams Ted McCoy had a hat-

trick in that game. Corey Kelly put in two. In league play Saturday, the Arrows went up against the Sailors of South Christian.

Lowell-Caledonia shut out South Christian, 3-0. ferent. McCoy put the Arrows son.

\*

on the board 20 seconds into The Lowell-Caledonia the game. South Christian ended tied at one goal each. outnumbered Lowell-Caledonia's 19-6 in the first

"They were way more intense than we were; fortunately we tied the game at the very end of the second period so that gave us good momentum going into the third period," Ballard said. Both teams scored three

Lowell-Caledonia is 5-2 in its league. They play In their previous meeting, Wednesday in Holland against Grand Haven in their Saturday's game was dif- last league contest of the sea-

goals in the second, ending that period tied 4-4. Ballard said the team played better defense in the third. David Blair scored his first goal of the season at the 8:53 mark which turned out to be the winning goal in the game. An open-net goal by McCoy sealed the Red Arrow win, 6-



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> Spectrum Health spectrum-health.org

"Wetter the transfer that the transfer the transfer to

# Lowell swimming and diving going it alone

By Dan Schneider

Northview last Thursday was exhibition for Northview." indicative of the struggles the Lanser said. fledgling Lowell swimming and diving team has had this year. Northview was the have faced so far this season, free," Lanser said. "Jordan but a short roster and lack of Nawrocki dropped eight sec- against boys. This is permitexperience conspired to make onds in his 200 individual the rest of the team's season medley." rocky as well.

been kind of tough because Baker, captain, consistently moved to the Lowell area bewe don't have a lot of swim- wins events for Lowell. fore her junior year. mers," Lowell swimming Against Northview, he won coach Casey Lanser said. "On the 50 freestyle in :24.17. top of that, I have a lot of people swimming events that far this year in diving. That they're not necessarily the best includes a win last Thursday at because I don't have enough against Northview. Teft has

swimmers." This is the first year Low- vidual regionals competition, ell has had a swim team on its where she will face her toughown. In previous years, Low- est opponents of the season. If and younger swimmers. ell was on a co-op team with she finishes in the top 12 at Forest Hills Central. Swim- regionals, she will advance to we could get some younger ming is an unfunded varsity the state meet. She did last sport at Lowell, like hockey year, finishing sixth in the re- gram as freshmen or even earand bowling. The swimmers gion. fund the program through fees

and fundraising. larger numbers.

its focus on improving times.

"Being the first year it's rienced members. Luke ford High School. Her parents

already qualified for indi-

like she can, she'll make it to Going up against a team state," diving coach Jim Davis could get more awareness that like Northview requires ex- said. Davis is the coach for there is a swim team, that perienced swimmers and Forest Hills diving but volun- would definitely help bring in teers his time to coach Teft the numbers.

"I didn't have a lot of and the other Lowell divers, Lowell's 145-41 loss to events full; they swam a lot of all of whom are girls.

"She would be very competitive with the girls in this So the Lowell team puts area," Davis said.

Since low numbers keep "Brittany (Dietz) dropped Lowell from having a sepatoughest opponent the Arrows about five seconds in her 500 rate girls' team, Teft must compete in the boys season ted under MHSAA rules.

> Teft made the girls' state The team has a few expe- meet as a sophomore at Rock-

Davis doesn't think a girls' team is an impossibility Cara Teft is undefeated so at Lowell.

"If they had a girls' program, girls would think about swimming," Davis said.

For Lanser, keeping the swimming team going at Lowell depends on recruiting more

"What would be great is if people to come into the prolier in some of the age group "I think if Cara dives well programs so they can get some experience," he said. "If we



Diving last Thursday against Northview is Cara Teft. She is undefeated this year diving against boys and has qualified for regionals where she will face some high-caliber competition.

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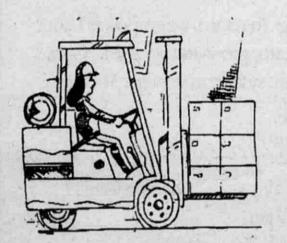
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# After loss against Cedar Springs, Arrows rebound at Sparta

By Dan Schneider

outshot the Red Arrows last Tuesday as Lowell suffered Cedar Springs' 35. There were its second straight big loss.

"We got out-shot and outdid, whether it was a dribble or a pass. I don't know how many deflections they had."

The Redhawks started the out 2:28 into the game. Sam Oberlin put Lowell on the board with a breakaway layup. Oberlin was responsible for Lowell's first eight points. For most of the night he was the only Arrow to keep pace with said. the Redhawks.

Lowell did some offensive rebounding in the first

points were off rebounds," a strong game, scoring 13 Sparta, Lowell's conference Cedar Springs coach Dave points on the night.

from the field for the game getting better and better every compared to Cedar Springs' score was 30-13, Redhawks. Redhawks' record to 12-0.

Cedar Springs outran and fense in the second half, keeping pace with 30 points to some brief sparks from the bench in the final minutes such as a steal and fast-break layup by James Veinberg. But it was too late for Lowell to start denting the Cedar Springs' lead, and the

Redhawks won 65-43. "I really thought it was a game on a 9-0 run, forcing real veteran effort by our guys really liked the defense we rest of the game. played, especially in the first

> outside threat and that's a hard line. Mike Koster was 7-8 thing to defend," McDonald from the line, scoring 17 points

for Cedar Springs. Oberlin matched that number for the Arrows. Cedar Springs' fresh-"We felt like half of their man Austin Thornton played

Lowell shot 35 percent know he's a freshman but he's game," Schlump said.

The win improved the

Lowell did better on of- Lowell's third straight loss puts their record at 6-5.

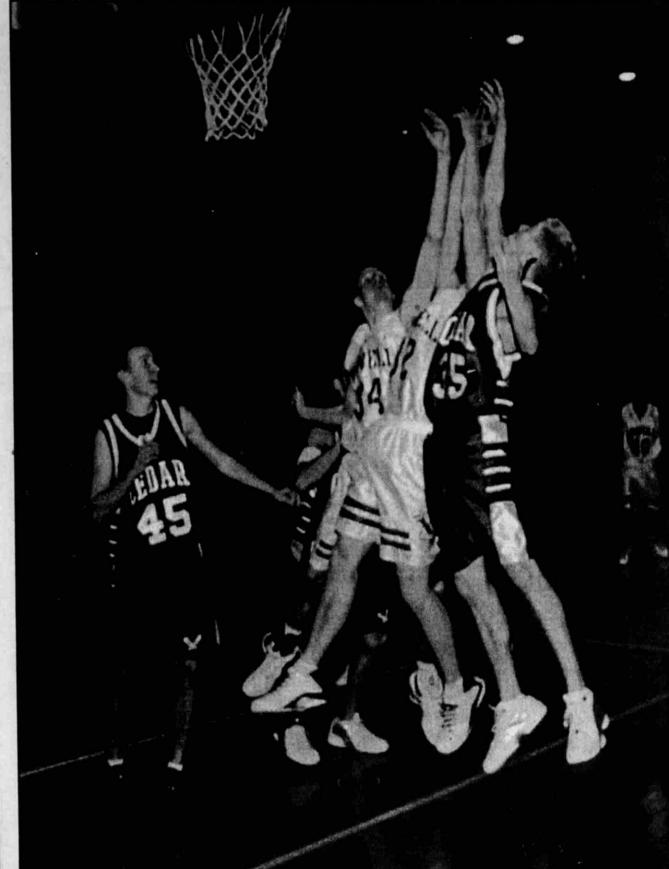
> "We just gotta find a way to put some points on the board," McDonald said.

The Arrows put some points on the board against Sparta. They shot 45 percent from the field, beating the

Sparta was up 12-5 early but Lowell tied the score by the end of the first quarter. Lowell finished the half ahead out there," Schlump said. "I 34-25 and kept control for the

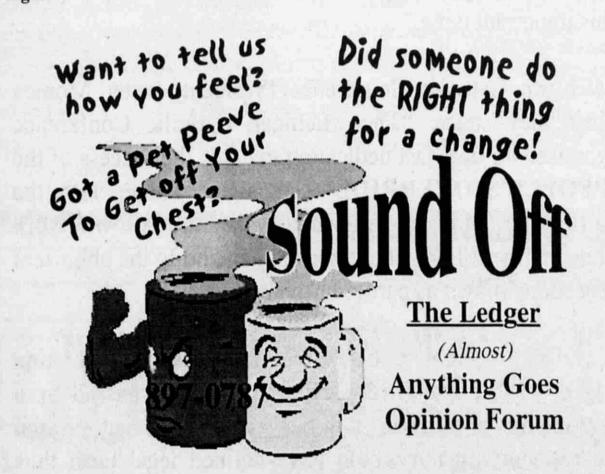
Oberlin led Lowell in scoring with 18 points. He "They have a good inside- was 7-9 from the free throw total and grabbing seven re-Tyler Wolfe had 20 points bounds. Josh Hettinga scored eight points in his first varsity game, shooting two threepointers and 2-2 from the line.

After Cedar Springs and record is 5-4. They played at "You probably don't East Grand Rapids, Tuesday and play Friday at home against Kenowa Hills. They'll make up a snowed-out game next Monday night at Ionia.



Above: Lowell's Frank Mulder and Chris Raimer go up for a rebound against Cedar Springs' Jon Glerum in last Tuesday's loss.

At left: Lowell's Sam Oberlin shoots over Jake White of Cedar Springs. Oberlin scored Lowell's first eight points in the game against the Redhawks. He had 18 points on the night.



The staff and the administration at the Freshman Center Office have been phenomenal. Thanks a lot.

Why are there so many ads in the Buyers Guide?

The LAS handbook was written by people who are not standing outside in the morning. I bundle my child up, and it's still cold out there. These are little kids we're talking about here.

IDEA: High school sponsors a U.S. Naval Ship out of Norfolk, VA. This would bring great exposure to the students of what the Navy does and how it supports the freedom we all take for granted.

Mel Rogers is another very important person in our senior center -. our bus driver. He has the patience of Jobe when it comes to hauling all the old ladies.

#### Michigan Knights of Columbus

January 2004: NEWS RELEASE from Michigan Knights of Columbus 810-736-8208, Michigan Catholic Conference 517-372-9310 and Right to Life of Michigan 616-532-2300

> THREE ORGANIZATIONS HAVE FORMED A PARTNERSHIP TO **OBTAIN SIGNATURES FROM** 254,206 REGISTERED VOTERS

The Michigan Knights of Columbus, the Michigan Catholic Conference and the Right to Life of Michigan have joined hands to make available to the Michigan Citizens the opportunity to sign "PETITIONS SO THE MICHIGAN HOUSE AND SENATE CAN MAKE SURE THAT PARTIAL BIRTH ABORTIONS ARE BANNED IN MICHIGAN". When sufficient signatures have been received, and verified by the State Board of Canvassers, they will be presented to our legislators to again define and pass the "Legal Birth Definition Act" which would then become law without the signature of the Governor. Only a simple majority vote is required by the Legislature to enact this law.

Michigan Knights of Columbus State Deputy, George Dann from Flint has stated, "This is an excellent opportunity for the voters in Michigan to express themselves by signing a Petition and letting the Governor and the Legislators know that this issue is very important to them." He continued, "71,800 petition forms have been provided by the Knights to all of the KofC members in the State and they have been requested to get them signed and forwarded to the Right to Life of Michigan Office in Grand Rapids to help support this important issue."

Michigan Catholic Conference President, Sister Monica Kostielney states: "The Michigan Catholic Conference promised its steadfast dedication towards the success of the 'PEOPLE'S OVERRIDE' campaign. Along with the participation of every parish across the State, we will work to insure that Michigan citizens put an end to the abhorrent procedure known as partial birth abortion."

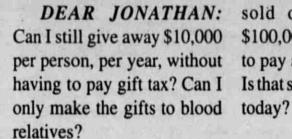
President of Right to Life of Michigan, Barbara Listing added: "The Legal Birth Definition Act was passed by a resounding bi-partisan number of State Senators and Representatives and would have defined legal birth thus ending partial birth abortions in Michigan. Sadly, the Governor vetoed this bill on October 10th. Now the Right to Life of Michigan, along with its partners, has started a Statewide petition drive to provide the Michigan voters an opportunity to express themselves by signing the petitions and helping this Act become law without the Governor's signature.'

This combined effort by the three organizations, plus numerous other citizens that have volunteered to help in this petition drive will help insure that soon "PARTIAL BIRTH ABORTIONS WILL COME TO AN END IN Michigan."

Paid for by: Lowell KofC, Council 7719 402 Amity, Lowell

# LEGAL EASE

Jonathan David



make gifts of \$11,000 per person, per calendar year.

DEAR JONATHAN: for the state tax. When is the unified credit due to be increased from \$1,000,000?

amount, was raised to \$1,500,000 effective Jan. 1, making that transfer? 2004. What this means is that anyone who has an estate at the time of death with a value of \$1,500,000 or less, will not incur any federal estate tax.

sale goes through. When we and state transfer taxes.

DEAR JONATHAN: sold our last house for Can I still give away \$10,000 \$100,000, I remember having per person, per year, without to pay a transfer tax of \$110. having to pay gift tax? Can I Is that still the rate that applies

JONATHAN SAYS: The JONATHAN SAYS: The county tax rate is still \$0.55 annual gift tax exclusion for per \$500 of property value. 2003 was \$11,000 per person, However, there is also a state per calendar year. The gifts tax now, and that tax is \$3.75 can be to anyone, not just relaper \$500 of property value. tives. Further, if you are mar- Consequently, on a sale of a ried, then each of you can home worth \$100,000, you would be responsible for transfer taxes in the amount of \$110 for the county tax and \$750

DEAR JONATHAN: If I transfer my house to my living trust, will that be consid-JONATHAN SAYS: The ered a transfer of ownership unified credit, now known as for real property tax purposes? the applicable exclusion Also, do I have to pay state and county transfer taxes when

JONATHAN SAYS: The answer to both questions i no. Transferring your residence to your trust is not deemed to be a transfer of DEAR JONATHAN: We ownership. Further, when are probably going to be sell- transferring your home to your ing our home this year. I know trust, there is no consideration that we will be responsible for involved and as a result, you paying transfer taxes once the are exempt from both county

DEAR JONATHAN: I always thought that if I made out a last will and testament I would avoid probate Now I am told that is not true. Please explain.

JONATHAN SAYS:

Whether your estate would need to be probated has nothing to do with whether you make out a last will and testament or not. A last will and testament allows you to name those beneficiaries you want to receive your assets upon the completion of probate, but it does not prevent those assets from being probated. Any assets that are titled in your name alone at the time of death will need to go through probate prior to passing to the beneficiaries named in your will, or if you fail to leave a will, to your heirs under state

Not all assets are subject to probate. Assets that are held in joint names where there are survivorship rights, assets that pass to a beneficiary by contractual right, such as life insurance proceeds, and assets already held in trust at the time of an individual's death avoid probate. These types of assets also avoid your will. In other words, those assets are not controlled by the terms of your last will and testament. As such, jointly titled assets pass to the surviving joint tenants, assets that pass pursuant to contractual right pass to the named beneficiary, and assets held in trust pass to the beneficiaries named in the trust.

The information contained in this column is not to be construed as legal advice or legal representation and should not be relied upon as such. If legal advice or legal representation is desired, please consult with an attorney.

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THUNDERBIRD AUTOMOTIVE, LLC

AT THE IONIA FREE FAIRGROUNDS HIGHWAY M-66 DOWNTOWN IONIA) • IONIA. MI 48846

Limit 2 vehicles per household. \*With approved credit. Example: 1999 Pontiac Grand Am, (Stock# T3972A); Sale price \$3,500. \$0 down payment. \$69 per month for 60 months at 4.90% APR. Plus tax, title and license. All sales subject to lenders final approval. Additional down payment may be required for approval. Interest accrues from date of signing. \*\*24 months max, term on used vehicles only, with approved credit, with beacon score of 750 or greater. Dealer pays for interest rate reduction. Buy-down may affect final negotiating price of vehicle. Example: 2001 Chevy Cavalier L5, (Stock# T3237A); Sale price: \$4,800. \$199.99 per month for 24 months at 0% APR. Plus tax, title and license. \*\*\*With credit score of 650 and monthly care note must not exceed 15% of gross monthly income. Up to 20% down payment may be required.