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Wednesday, March 3, 2004

Millage passes despite poor showing in rural areas

By Dan Schneider

The Kent Intermediate School District special education millage proposal passed county-wide last Tuesday.

The property tax increase will go into effect in the 2004-2005 school year.

Throughout the Kent Intermediate School District, 30,842 people voted in favor of the proposal while 21,014 voted against it. The millage had the most support in Grand Rapids, East Grand Rapids,

Rockford and Forest Hills. Rural areas, including Lowell, Sparta, Caledonia and Kent City, voted against the measure.

Ron Koehler, an assistant superintendent with KISD, said the proposal didn't go over as well as they would have liked in rural areas.

"It sort of broke even in those areas or just narrowly lost," Koehler said.

The measure failed by a wide margin throughout the Lowell Area Schools district.

Votes against the proposal outnumbered votes in support in all three precincts of the district. The "no" votes totaled 928 throughout the district compared to 636 votes in favor of the proposal.

Precinct three, at Vergennes Township Hall, had the highest voter turnout in the district with 723 voters. Votes against the proposal in the precinct outnumbered supporting votes by 151. Precinct three covers Ada, Cannon, Grattan and Vergennes townships in Kent County, and

Keene Township in Ionia County.

Lowell Area Schools will get about \$400,000 from the millage. The money will go into the LAS general fund to recoup expenses for special education above what state and federal sources provide. According to Connie Gillette, Lowell Area Schools assistant superintendent for finance and personnel, the district's annual expenditures on special education programming exceed state and federal funding by \$1.4 million.

LAS superintendent Shari Miller said the millage money will take the edge off budget cuts anticipated for next year.

"It will reduce the amount that we have to cut next year from our general fund budget and that will help us maintain appropriate class sizes," Miller said.

In weeks leading up to the election, administrators from other districts facing cuts also touted the millage's ability to relieve pressure on class sizes.

"We are trying very hard to keep the cuts away from

the classroom, and the extra \$400,000 will be very helpful in doing that," Miller said.

The millage will raise about \$18 million throughout the KISD. Koehler said this will be helpful in augmenting special education budgets, which are underfunded by about \$44 million throughout KISD.

For the owner of a \$100,000 home, the one mill tax increase will cost about \$50 per year. One mill is the equivalent of 1/1000 taxable property value.



Lauren Wisnieski and Tanya Baker put up a sign Monday at the Englehardt Library advertising Tanren Pet, a non-profit business they started for an eighth-grade honors English class project. Tanren Pet helps owners locate lost pets by distributing posters around town.

School project offers help for lost pets

By Dan Schneider

Two eighth grade students at Lowell Middle School have started a service to help owners of lost pets. Lauren Wisnieski and Tanya Baker have been placing posters in local businesses for the past two weeks advertising "Tanren Pet."

"We help people find their lost dogs and cats," Wisnieski said.

"If people have lost dogs and cats, they can call us and

we'll put posters up; it's just to help get the word out," Baker explained.

So far, Tanren Pet (the name is a hybrid of the girls' names) has not received a lot of response. But Wisnieski and Baker remain hopeful their posters will be noticed.

The girls are students in Mrs. Stacey's eighth-grade honors English class. Tanren Pet is their contribution to a class social action project.

The posters encourage owners of lost pets to contact

Baker or Wisnieski, giving them information such as when the animal disappeared and its physical description. Tanren Pet will then make posters and put them up around town.

They can be reached via e-mail, the address is Tanreninc@yahoo.com or by calling Baker at 897-8494 or Wisnieski at 676-2039. There is no charge for the pet-location assistance.

LAS eyes reducing bus routes within the city

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

To save money, Lowell Area Schools is looking at reducing the number of bus routes within the city. School officials and members of a school transportation committee met with parents last week to present a preliminary plan that would reduce the number of bus stops down to four: Cherry Creek Elementary, Lowell Middle School, near the police station, and near the corner of Jefferson and North streets.

The stops would be for all grades—kindergarten through twelfth. "The way we set it up is so that no student would have to cross a major street," said Larry Mikulski, the district's transportation supervisor. The proposed plan would not have children crossing either Main Street or Hudson Street.

The proposed route is for the north side of the city; routes on the south side currently are not under review. The proposed plan, which also includes housing the school buses at Murray Lake Elementary, would save the district four buses.

The overall plan includes the Kent Intermediate School District which takes care of special education transportation (implemented this year) and the reduction of office staff. This would cut about \$100,000 from the transportation budget. Mikulski said the transportation committee was under a mandate to work at cutting about \$110,000

from next year's transportation fund.

The idea behind reducing the number of stops would be to create walking zones in the city for the students. The city area is being considered because of the lighted streets, sidewalks and police patrol. Many of the outlying areas don't have these in place, making it difficult for students to walk, Mikulski explained.

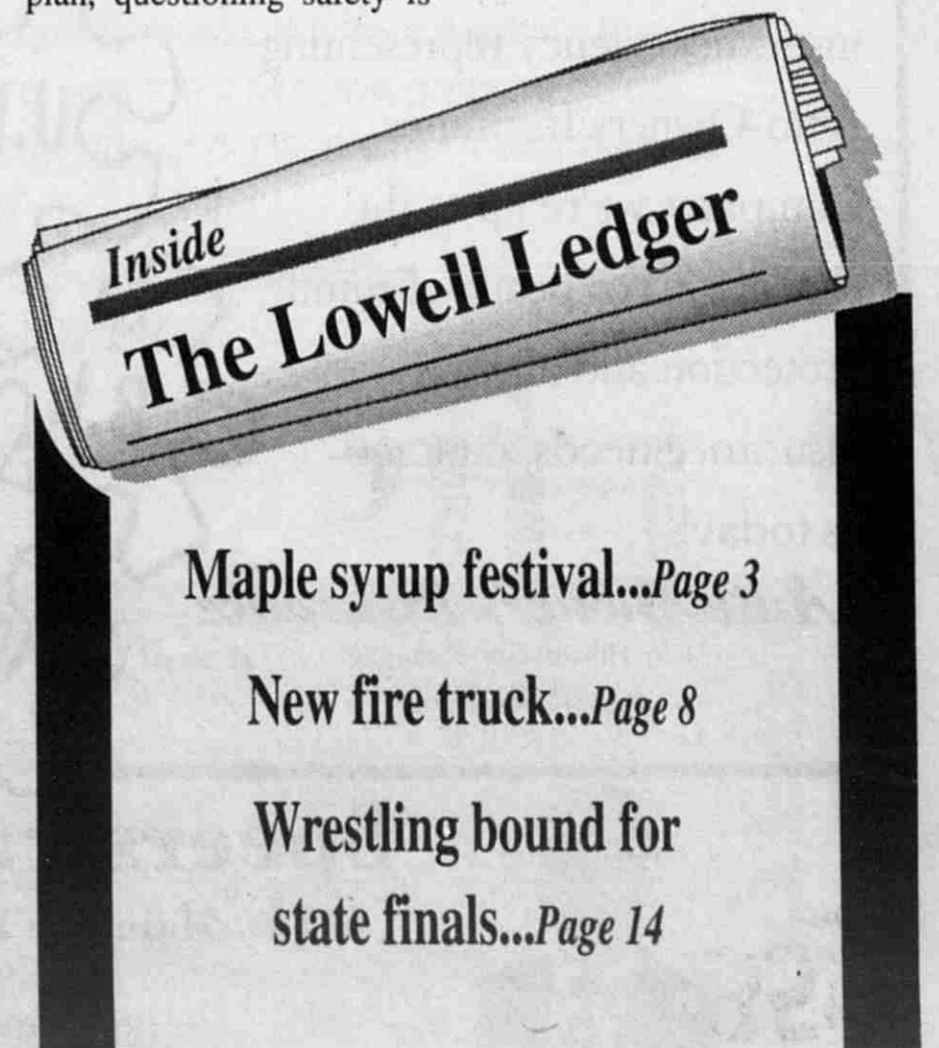
Lowell police chief Jim Valentine, who also attended the meeting, said many police departments from around the state are talking about "Safe Routes to School," an intuitive-sponsored program by the Michigan Governor's Council on Physical Fitness. Such programs, Valentine said, encourage a healthy habit for students in that they can bike or walk to school.

Parents at the meeting were less enthused about the plan, questioning safety is-

sues, snow concerns, school bullies, and simply the uncertainty of who the children might meet when walking to school. Many parents made it clear they would probably drive their children to school to assure safe arrival which, as a result, could create traffic and parking problems.

Lowell Area Schools superintendent Shari Miller said the plan was only in the preliminary stages and that nothing at this time was "set in stone." "We need to hear what our parents have to say," Miller said during the meeting, while writing down notes about ideas, including one suggestion from a bus driver about breaking up the stops and placing them along the route.

School bus routes,
cont'd., pg. 6



OBITUARIES

POST - Mrs. Marjory L. Post, aged 76, of Byron Center, formerly of Green Lake, went to be with her Lord on Sunday, February 22, 2004. Mom loved quilting, volunteered to the Wither Guild at Blodgett Hospital, Wedgewood and other organizations, and loved spending time with her grand-

children. She was preceded in death by a grandson Michael Ross Wiers. She is survived by her husband Gerrit; children Gary (Jeanne) Post, Ross (Mary) Post, Rose (Doug) Wiers, Dick (Shari) Post; 13 grandchildren; a great-grandson; brothers and sisters Richard (Barbara) Doezema,

SHUT - Mr. James A. Schut, aged 54, of Garrett, IN, formerly of Wyoming, passed away unexpectedly Friday, February 27, 2004. James was an avid auto racing fan. He is survived by his son A. J. and Kerri Schut of Middleville; step-daughter Margie Sadowski of Alto; grandchildren Brett, Kendall, Jesika and Alex; brother and sister Maynard and Susie Van Dyke, Eunice Slagter; aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews. James will be missed by his family and many friends in Indiana. Funeral services will be held Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Matthyse-Kuiper-DeGraaf Funeral Home, 4031 Clyde Park SW, Wyoming.

SEIF - Mr. Robert "Bob" J. Seif, aged 69, of Kentwood

and formerly of Rockford, passed into the presence of his Lord and Savior on Tuesday, February 24, 2004. He spent his early childhood in North Dorr and for 43 years was employed with Michigan Wheel until his retirement in 1996, working in receiving and also as a truck driver. Bob enjoyed restoring cars, playing the guitar and teaching his sons how to play. He is survived by his children Robert D. and Noel Seif of Lowell, Daniel and Sue Seif of Wyoming, Pamela and William Levy of Grand Rapids, Carol Lynn and Don Shaw of Rockford, Jennifer and Robert "Scott" Miller of Grand Rapids, Kathleen "Kathy" and Daniel VanEns of Lowell, and Teresa and Darin VanderWal of Allegan; 23 grandchildren;

City reviews Grindle reconstruction

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

One thing Lowell city councilman Al Mathews is certain of is that in a year and a half, when all the development of Highland Hills is completed, there won't be much left of

Grindle Drive. With that in mind, Mathews made a request that the council revisit construction work on the road, a move the council rejected because of concerns over bonding for

that and several other road projects. "I think we need to be really open-minded about it and take a serious look at it," Mathews said.

The councilman said most of the heavy equipment has been brought to the site at 751

Grindle with the developer's plans to start building from Grindle Court out. Department of Public Works director Dan DesJarden said the original construction route, which avoided Grindle, had to be changed when it was discovered the trucks could not make the turn. Now the trucks are taking Jackson to Grindle.

Part of the problem is that the road does not have curb and gutter which would help

from deteriorating so quickly.

Last fall, the council considered a Michigan Transportation Fund Bond of up to \$600,000 to upgrade Grindle from Jackson to Hillside Court and S. Center south of Bowes and Sibley from N. Center to Valley Vista. The council agreed to revisit the subject; city manager David Pasquale stated he would bring more information to the council's next

meeting on March 15. Mathews said it will be over a year before construction is completed, and he didn't expect the city to try to do any roadwork this summer on Grindle. He was hoping, however, that the city could eye the summer of 2005 when most of the heavy equipment should be off the site and the roadwork could be completed. "Something is going to have to be done with the road," he concluded.

Maple syrup festival

By Dan Schneider

This freeze-and-thaw weather we're having as we approach March is exactly the kind of weather that gets sugar maple trees running sap. And this is just the kind of thing they'll need this weekend at the Maple Syrup Festival at the Wittenbach Center located across the road from Lowell High School.

There will be a historical sugarbush taking place on Friday and Saturday. A sugarbush is a stand of trees including sugar maples. A sugarbush also includes the manufactory where the sap is boiled down to syrup, usually in a sugar shack. The term "sugarbush" comes from Canada where, as evidenced by their flag, maple trees are of high cultural importance.

"In this country we say we're going out into the woods but in Canada they still say they're going to the bush," Luanne Kaeb said.

Kaeb, who has been making maple syrup around Lowell for the last several years, will demonstrate syrup-making techniques during the maple sugar festival. She has a set-up similar to those used in Civil War times for boiling down sap. It involves shallow square pans above fire. Previously, the early settlers had used cauldron-style round pots in three different sizes. As the sap boiled down in one, it would be transferred to a smaller pot until the final boiling in the third pot. The method used during the Civil War era was found to be much more efficient.

The boiling will take place at the cabin in the Wege Natural Area. The cabin is surrounded by a few sugar maple trees.

"We'll tap the six or eight trees that there are," Kaeb said.

They'll extract the sap by the standard method, drilling holes in the trees for metal spouts from which buckets hang.

Kevin Finney, an expert on the area's Native American history, will demonstrate the sap-extraction methods used before settlers arrived in the area. The Indians cut V shapes into the tree bark to get the sap out. Since this could potentially damage the trees, Finney will not actually extract sap but will have on hand maple syrup made using the Native Americans' method.

The festival starts at 10 a.m. and lasts until 2 p.m. on Friday for student groups. The hours are the same for Saturday, when a pancake breakfast will be held in the Wittenbach Center. The pancake breakfast is \$3 per person or by donation. A family scavenger hunt is also planned for Saturday, the cost is \$3 per family for the scavenger hunt and a quiz book.

Lowell Rotary Club now accepting scholarship applications

The Rotary Club of Lowell has been awarding scholarships to graduating Lowell High School seniors since 1997.

For the 2004-05 school year, the scholarship program has been expanded to grant a total of four scholarships. One scholarship is specifically for a student attending Cornerstone University in the fall, while the other three are not university specific. All applicants must be either a graduating senior attending Lowell

High School or a graduating senior, living in the Lowell Area School District, attending any public, private, charter or home based school.

In line with the Rotary motto of "Service Above Self," community service is a primary factor in awarding the scholarship. Applications must be postmarked by April 1.

"We are pleased to increase the number of scholarships which will be awarded, and hope that area students,

upon graduation, will return to Lowell to be leaders in the community," said Greg Flick, chairman of Rotary Club of Lowell Community Foundation. "The scholarship has been set up as an endowment and we look forward to granting scholarships for years to come."

For more information on the scholarships or to obtain an application, write the Rotary Club of Lowell Community Foundation, P.O. Box 223, Lowell, MI 49331. Scholarship applications may also be obtained through the Student Services Center at Lowell High School.

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The secret of getting ahead is getting started.
—Sally Berger

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AD-3059-1 (6/03)

Are you living life on purpose or by chance? You are invited to join us at Calvary Church for a life changing event: The Purpose Driven Life discussion based on Rick Warren's book.

For five weeks, beginning March 7, at 10 a.m. Rev. Bill Renkema will preach on the topic, following the discussion after coffee time.

Prepare for a profound experience!

Calvary Church is located across from Burger King on M-21

Puzzled?

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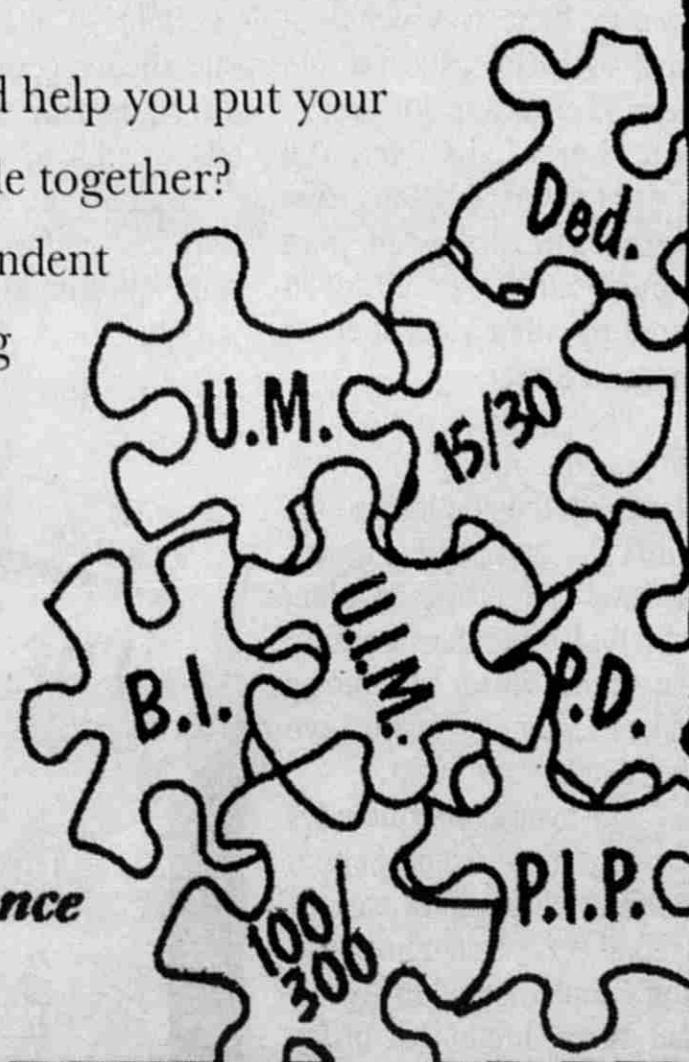
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Reflections Of Faith

Pastor Tim Deshaw
Lowell Church of the Nazarene

"Behold the Man ..."
We are now in the Lenten season; the period of 40 days between Ash Wednesday, (Feb. 25) and Easter Sunday (April 11). It is a time of reflection and preparation. Each faith will spend this time in different traditions. These traditions include personal times of reflection, denial and refoCUS.

Some will spend this time in personal reflection. Some will look back into their recent past and reflect upon it. Others will spend this time reading the Bible, rereading certain passages of Scripture and focusing upon those.

Some traditions focus on the Lenten season as a time of "denying oneself," or fasting. This is a process of giving up something for a period of time in order to focus more fully on something. There are many different ways to practice this

discipline. Some deny themselves solid foods (liquid only diet), while others give up only certain food items (like sweets). Others deny themselves certain activities they enjoy doing. The goal of this activity is to use this "special time" to examine and reflect upon our lives. This discipline helps us to get our eyes off ourselves, to look beyond our wants and desires, and focus on something more than just ourselves.

No matter which traditions or methods you use for reflection during this time, the object of our focus remains the same for all: "our personal relationship with God." We all use this time of reflection as a time of preparation. During these next few weeks, as part of your time of personal preparation I would encourage you during your Lenten season to: "Behold the Man ..." (John 19:5)

Pontius Pilate used this phrase to reintroduce Jesus, after he had been brutally beaten, to the crowd gathered around to see his final fate. These people were intensely interested in this man, Jesus. I would strongly encourage you during this special time of preparing your hearts and lives to include Jesus, spend some time between now and Easter dwelling on "Who He is" and "What He is" in your own life.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

MARCH 4: Pat Fonger, Scott Vashaw, Bryce Tulppo, Patrick N. Johnson, Art Warning.
MARCH 5: Don Silvis, Goldie Clark.
MARCH 6: Pat Covell, Darlene McClure.
MARCH 7: Carrie Metemrick, Marshal Mooney,
Michael Barnes, Shirley Canfield.
MARCH 8: Amber Rittersdorf, D.J. Main.
MARCH 9: Bob Vezino, Marsha Roudabush, Mark Richmond.
MARCH 10: Daniel Miller, Randy Kuiper.

F.R.O.M. feed the hungry campaign

Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc., for the third year, is participating in the "feed the hungry" campaign in order to share in the million dollar Feinstein Foundation Challenge. With unemployment as it is, the need is even greater this year.

Food collection barrels will be placed at the following locations: Fifth-Third Bank, Dollar Superstore, Curves in Lowell and on Leonard St. in Grand Rapids, Gary's Country Meats, Dollar General in Lowell, Parnell Grocery, and Saranac Market (Randy's).

All cash donations and food items collected during March and April will be counted and pro-rated for a portion of the million dollar foundation monies.

Monetary contributions should be made payable to F.R.O.M., Inc. and mailed to: Dr. Roger LaWarre, 404 N. Hudson St., Lowell, MI 49331.

McDonald's partnering with senior meals on wheels

Lowell McDonald's is one of 30 McDonald's restaurants in Kent County which will offer personalized "wheels" for a \$1 donation during March to raise money to feed county residents who are 60 years or older and homebound.

All donations to "Buy a Wheel for a Meal" will go directly to Senior Meals on Wheels.

The Senior Meals on Wheels program was established in 1984 to serve seniors. Currently, through three programs, the Homebound Meal program, Congregate Meal program and Senior Meals Food Pantry, more than 704,000 meals are served to 3,800 Kent County seniors each year.

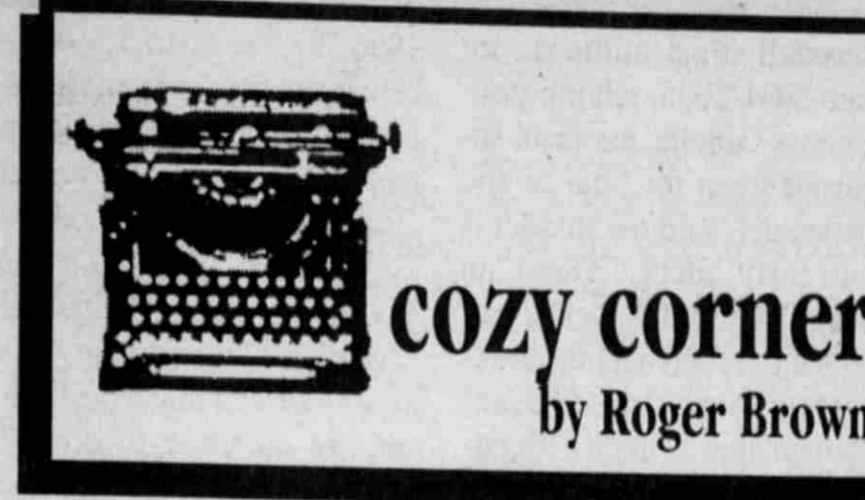
At the Englehardt Public Library:

A fairy magical program

Children of all ages are invited to go on a fairy treasure hunt this month at the Englehardt Library branch. They will also run a fairy relay, eat fairy snacks and make clothes pin fairies and bubble fairy wands.

Registration is required. Call 647-3920 to sign up for the program offered at the Englehardt Library on Saturday, March 20 at 1 p.m.

Viewpoint



We all know I have a rather long list of pet peeves. In fact, my list is so long that "pet" is probably a misnomer. A "menagerie" of peeves would be a better description.

I must be getting more intolerant as I get older. My list of peeves gets longer and longer. Jack Lemon and Walter Matthau are both dead now, but if anyone is interested in making "Even Grumpier Old Men," they should give me a call.

My peeves are pretty typical. Smokers who think it's their inalienable right to pollute my air top the list. They are followed closely by rude cellphone users, aggressive drivers and human sloths in the express line.

Kids who drive these mobile sound systems blasting hip-hop bass so loud it rattles your teeth loose at a spotlight ... are moving up my list fast!

These peeves, and others are fairly typical. The people in my list of top ten peeves would probably annoy even the Pope. I do have others. They are weird peeves, insignificant peeves ... little things that probably only bother me.

The latest of these "fringe" peeves I've identified is the use of "O.B.O." You know ... "or best offer". I want to know what the term is supposed to mean. I want to know why people insist on adding it to every for sale sign, classified ad or sheet stuck up on a grocery bulletin board. And, most of all, I want to know why it bugs me!

I tease my wife about shopping. She, like most women, loves to shop. I hate shopping. I've never been to a Tupperware party, but I'm guessing it's no worse than being dragged through a mall.

I say I hate shopping, but when it comes to certain things, I'm the consummate shopper. Boats, motorcycles, airplanes and certain cars never fail to capture my interest. Give me a "Boat Trader," "Cycle Trader" or "Trade-A-Plane" and I can be engrossed for hours. I haven't purchased a boat, motorcycle or airplane in the last ten years or so, but I still love reading the ads. I shop, but seldom buy. I'm guessing that's another "old poop" trait.

Reading all these ads has brought to my attention the proliferation of, "or best offer." The term has been used to the point most people only use the initials. I contend that O.B.O. is not only redundant, it's meaningless. Of course, the seller is going to take the best offer. What ... he's going to take the next best offer ... or the worst offer?

I see ads all the time that detail a long list of costly upgrades, repairs, options, etc. The ad specifies how many dollars are invested, then throws out a selling price which is a much lesser amount. After all that, the seller throws in, "O.B.O." Why subject us all to a math story problem if you're simply going to take the best offer that comes along?

And who keeps track of the "best offers"? The seller, of course. If I make an offer of "X" dollars, the seller simply says, "What, are you crazy? I already have an offer of "Y." I walk away or up my offer. It has been that way since the beginning of time. Every deal is O.B.O.

"Firm!" is a different story. If a seller wants to limit the inquiries about his whatever, he puts "Firm!" behind the price. In reality, the price is still O.B.O., especially since the seller hasn't gotten any calls and is probably ready to dicker.

As I mentioned, I haven't purchased a boat, motorcycle or airplane in many years. By the same token, I haven't sold any of the above in about the same amount of time. I do have a couple things I should get rid of. One is a 1977 MGB I bought for my wife back in 1978. It just sits in the garage and always seems to require some of my in-expert mechanical attention should we decide to drive it. I had an MG specialist tell me it should be worth about \$7,000. I suppose I'd take that for it. Or best offer. See what I mean?

I recommend that you meet with an estate planning professional to further review your concerns.

DEAR JONATHAN: I am a widower with two children. My daughter is very stable and responsible, but my son is just the opposite - irresponsible and very unstable. I have a sizeable estate and even though I want my children to share equally in my estate upon my death, I want my son's share held in trust for him for his benefit. I have no problem with my daughter getting her share outright. I am thinking of naming my daughter as trustee of the trust - she would do a good job managing the assets on my son's behalf. I am also thinking of directing her as trustee to make only discretionary distributions to my son for things like schooling, buying a house, getting married, etc. - what I don't want to see happen is have my son get large chunks of money distributed directly to him because he will most certainly blow it. Does this sound reasonable to you?

JONATHAN SAYS: What you are describing is not an uncommon situation. Many people have situations similar to yours where one or more children are responsible and one or more other children are irresponsible, and they don't want the irresponsible children to receive large distributions of trust assets. Consequently they set up trusts and build in controls similar to the ones you mentioned in your question. The one area you may want to reconsider, however, is having your daughter act as the trustee. The problem is that if the distributions to your son are discretionary and she chooses not to make a distribution for any reason, you are potentially creating an acrimonious relationship between your daughter and your son. In other words, having her act as trustee could seriously damage her relationship with her brother.

My recommendation is that you find a non-family member to act as trustee. Although your son may still resent the fact that his sister received her distribution outright, he cannot blame her if he fails to receive a distribution out of the trust because it would not be her making the decision.

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.

Letters, Letters, Letters, Letters ...

The Lowell Ledger welcomes all "Letters to the Editor" for publication on its "Viewpoint" page. They may be typed or written. However, we ask that they not exceed one written page or one typed, double-spaced page. Editing may be necessary for space, clarity and to avoid obscenity, libel or invasion of privacy. Send your letters to Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, P.O. Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331. Please sign and include a phone number when emailing: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com.



Ledger Entries of 125, 100, 75, 50 and 25 years ago

125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL MARCH 5, 1879
Two Lowell men, Stevens and McNamara, are working for big wages in Leadville (CO?).

The Congregational church has at last paid off its burdensome debt.

A live cigar butt in a sawdust-filled spittoon in Morris' news office creates much smoke and a hole in the floor overnight. The Secretary of the Treasury bans cattle imported from England, after an outbreak of pleuro-pneumonia. Wurzburg's, at Canal and Bronson in Grand Rapids, announces its spring opening will be in two weeks.

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER MARCH 4, 1904

Village Council grants the Cutter Company a 5-to-20 year lease of the old Woolen Mill and property for a dollar a year. This is the hardest winter in 40 years.

A carload of hard coal arrived Sunday, when people in Lowell were about out.

William Jennings Bryan will lecture at Grand Rapids Fountain Street Baptist Church 8.

The school inspector from Ann Arbor visited the Union School Monday and placed it on the University list for two more years.

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO MARCH 7, 1929

There were 465 voters who turned out for the largest Lowell Township caucus in years.

A picture of new President Herbert Hoover and a digest of his inaugural speech dominate page one.

Uncle Marcus warns about overloaded trucks damaging roads during spring thaw.

Deputy State Health Commissioner Griswold says that toxin-antitoxin shots given in Grand Rapids prevented deaths from diphtheria in 1928.

The Kent County sheriff department gets a \$90 camera to keep records of criminals.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER MARCH 4, 1954

Supt. W. W. Gumser discusses with the PTA, bringing in seventh and eighth graders from crowded country schools, in relation to the Lowell schools building program.

A statewide clothing collection in schools will send clothing through Save the Children to schools in foreign countries and handicapped rural areas in America.

The new state law, holding parents liable for children's property damage, was invoked last week in Lowell when two boys with slingshots broke a plate glass window on Main Street.

Gov. Kingsley Bingham signed the bill creating Michigan State College, 99 years ago, on Feb. 12, 1855.

A new class for volunteer nurses' aides in hospitals will start this week, sponsored by Red Cross.

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER MARCH 7, 1929

Four army surplus bridge pontoons arrive for the new Showboat.

Michigan Employment Security Commission now has an office at East Kent Community Center on Grand River Ave. Barry Eldridge and Dolly Gerard will tour Europe this summer as members of the Blue Lake music camp orchestra/chorus.

Two unidentified Saranac boys have brought hay to a starving deer herd near Blue Water Highway.

"Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" is playing at the Strand Theatre.

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<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 Worship Hours...8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday School...9:45 a.m.</p> <p>DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR Nursery & child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p>EVERGREEN MISSIONARY CHURCH 10501 Sattlemwood • Ph. 897-7185 Sunday School.....9:45 A.M. Morning Worship.....11 A.M. Evening Service.....6:00 P.M.</p> <p>Prayer and Praise - Wed., 7:00 P.M. Rev. Rick Ferguson - 987-6475 ALL ARE WELCOME! (Barrier-Free)</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God) 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, Senior Pastor Dave Noonan, Asst. Pastor Stacy Holmes, College & Twenties Brian Baber, Youth Pastor SUNDAYS: Worship: 9:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. WEDNESDAYS: Family Night: (For All Ages) 7 p.m. Generation Jacob Youth: 7 p.m.</p>
<p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 www.goodshepherdlowell.org Sunday School/Adult Bible Study.....9:00 A.M. Sunday Worship.....10:00 A.M.</p> <p>(Nursery available) Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES 6:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 P.M. At 215 1/2 W. Main, Lowell (entrance in rear of building) CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES Pastor Robert L. Hubbard Phone: (616) 897-1267 website www.aplighthouse.com</p>	<p>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 201 N. Washington • 897-8800 Sunday School.....9:45 A.M. Morning Worship.....10:50 A.M. Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M.</p> <p>PASTOR TIM DESHAW Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>
<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.lfbcloowell.org Rev. Burland Margesson & Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor Sun. Worship Service. 9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:30 A.M. AWANA JUV.....Wed. 6:15 & 7 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free</p>	<p>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648 Sunday School.....10:00 A.M. Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M. Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M. (Sept. - April) Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M. Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418 YOU ARE WELCOME!</p>	<p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (United Church of Christ) 404 North Hudson • 897-5906 Worship and Church School.....10:00 A.M. Dr. Roger LaWarre.....Pastor Megan MacNaughton.....Music Director Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise & Worship</p>

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THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST (R)
1:10, 3:50, 6:30, 9:10
TWISTED (R)
2:35, 4:45, 6:55, 9:05
WELCOME TO MOOSEPORT (PG-13)
12:40, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55
CONFESSIONS OF A TEENAGE DRAMA QUEEN (PG)
1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00
50 FIRST DATES (PG-13)
1:10, 3:15, 5:20, 7:25, 9:30

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Sharing The Vision

NANCY HOPKINS
Board of Education President



Improving student achievement is the desire of our parents and teachers, and it is the foundation of the No Child Left Behind Act. Lowell Area Schools is a district focused on high performance standards and characterized by strong community support. This is a well-organized district with a strong operating system in place.

It is the responsibility of the board of education and superintendent to provide stability, continuity, structure and resources to see curricular and other projects through to successful completion.

On June 14, 2004, the regular election will be held for the board of education. Traditionally Lowell Board of Education members enjoy working with one another and the superintendent. Communication is close, open and continuous, generating mutual trust and respect. Members are highly motivated to maintain and improve the district.

The Lowell board also is characterized by a clear under-

standing of its role in policy, budgeting and planning, and the superintendent's organizational and executive duties. The board guards against tendencies toward micromanagement.

Candidates for the board of education should be genuinely interested in and focused on improving the school district's overall quality and student performance. They should really care about children and be advocates for high-quality education for all kids. They should be a team player and have a good sense of humor.

After the election, newly elected board members receive a thorough orientation from the superintendent and the board president. They will find support to help them understand their new role and responsibilities, and the focus on the "big picture" - the district's current and future direction - and evaluating the district's performance.

Each week, board members spend one to three hours on board business. Board workshops are held once a month to discuss in detail specific issues, and a public board meeting is held the second Monday of every month (except for April which is held the third Monday). To sustain and further cultivate a healthy board-superintendent relationship, the board also meets in a "retreat" setting several times during the year. "Retreats" allow board members and the superintendent to discuss their respective roles and responsibilities and to freely and constructively critique one another's performance.

If you value high quality education and putting children first, please consider running for the board of education. Board candidate application materials are available now at the district's Central Office, 300 High Street, Lowell, Michigan.

School bus routes, continued...From Page 1

The cut in transportation comes from the projected shortfall (\$1.8 million) for the 2004-2005 school year. Connie Gillette, assistant superintendent for finance and personnel, said the district is currently facing about an \$800,000 shortfall for this year which the fund balance is expected to absorb. She explained that school officials and the board didn't feel it could cut programs in the middle of the year. "We have to be looking at the cuts we can make or how to increase the revenue," Gillette said, adding that the district is trying not to touch education programs that would directly affect the students.

It used to be that the district did not transport students who live in the city. Around 1996-'97, the district was receiving money for special education transportation and if the bus was in the area, it would also pick up regular students. The state no longer gives any money toward special education transportation. "As long as we can make the budget, we continue to do it," Mikulski said, adding that he has faith the community and school district will come up with a workable solution.

Meanwhile, this week, he will be talking to parents in Ada about students walking to school. Mikulski said he had just learned of a plan to install sidewalks throughout the village.



By Dave Stegehuis

REAL WINTER

We finally experienced a good old-fashioned Michigan winter. The snow kept coming down and the temperatures followed. I can recall back in the sixties and seventies when we would get snowed-in once in a while—one time I had to snowshoe into Lowell to replenish our supply of baby food. In recent years, just finding enough snow for skiing has been a struggle.

Those who didn't sell their snowmobiles hit the jackpot. Fresh snowfall continually added to an already substantial base made for great snowmobiling. Cross country skiing and snowshoeing opened the back country for those who enjoy solitude and quiet off the beaten path.

Wild birds and animals were not as appreciative of the harsh winter conditions. Food is less accessible for these creatures and just moving around becomes difficult. Deer and turkeys in southern regions of the state usually manage to make it to spring in fair condition, but in the north country, low temperatures and snow depth can prove fatal if severe weather

persists. Fat reserves acquired in late summer and fall carry the animals during most of the winter, but sometimes run out before the animals can recover. Let's hope for an early spring.

Deep snow, wind, and low temperatures discouraged all but the most determined ice anglers during most of the season. Generally, the fishing was slow for those fishermen that did venture out—at least those I talked to were not having much luck. Ice fishing usually picks-up later in the season, so the best fishing may be on the way if the ice conditions remain safe for angling.

Our beagle has spent a lot of time by the woodstove. When the dog did go out to investigate the woods around the house, he pushed snow with his chest even though he is a very large hound. The deep snow made it tough going for the rabbits and dog, so rabbit hunting was limited. I could have used snowshoes and gone alone, but for me hunting rabbits means listening to the dog howl and watching him run. Fortunately, there is still time to get out as the conditions improve.

It has been a classic winter with a beautiful fresh blanket of snow regularly brightening up the landscape. It has been, however, a long cold spell and the wild ones and most people are looking forward to spring. You can start thumbing through the latest fishing and camping catalogs and making plans for a new season.

I have learned this strange thing about travel: one may return to a place and, quite unexpectedly, meet oneself still lingering there from the last time.

—Helen Bevington

Hospital needs teen volunteers

A 10-week summer teen volunteer program will be offered through Metropolitan Hospital in Grand Rapids this summer. The program is for teens, ages 14-18, interested in two 4-hour assignments in a variety of patient-contact and staff support areas.

An information meeting

for teens and their parents will be held on April 14 at 7 p.m. Registration is required; students should contact their school counselor for a pre-application or call 252-7009 for more information.

The program runs June 11 through Aug. 22.

A "BIG THANK YOU"
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Donna Smit

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Lowell fire department will get new pump truck

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

It's been a few years -16 to be exact - but after the long wait, the city of Lowell's fire department is finally up for a new pumper truck, depending on whether the Lowell Area Community Fund is willing to help chip in for the cost.

At its regular Monday night meeting, fire chief Frank Martin told the Lowell City Council he had received word from the Kent County Fire Commission that it was the department's turn to receive money for the purchase of a new pumper truck. Bids on the truck were accepted and

opened in January with the lowest bid coming from Spencer Manufacturing for \$285,000.

The KCFC has about \$166,000 to \$168,000 toward the purchase of the new truck. Due to the difficult economic times, Martin said he was seeking permission to get a \$100,000 grant from the Lowell Area Community Fund. The fund has helped with such purchases in the past.

This would leave about \$17,000 that the city of Lowell, and Lowell and Vergennes townships would need to pitch in to purchase the truck.

The department would also like to purchase its 1988

pumper truck from the commission, with the purchase price not to exceed \$10,000; this other amount would be split between the three municipalities.

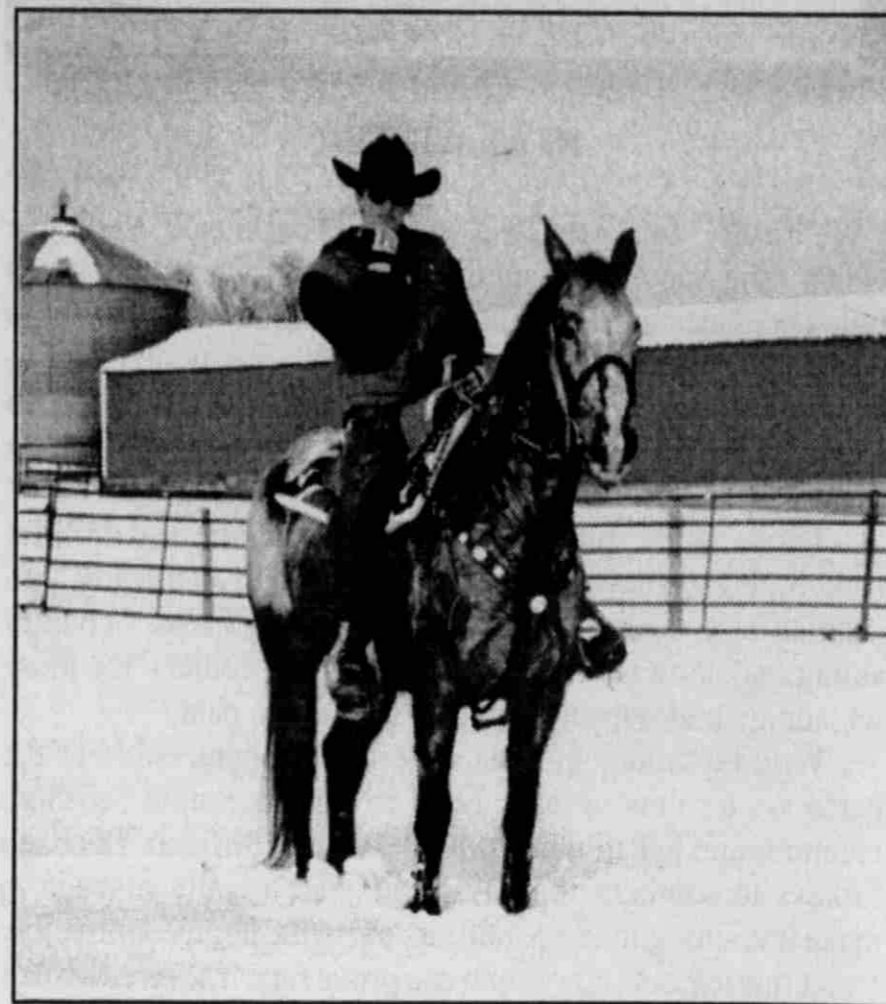
Martin also mentioned that the department received a grant of about \$76,700 from the Federal Emergency Management Association, commonly referred to as homeland security. The city, and Lowell and Vergennes townships would need to contribute about 10 percent or \$7,670 of the grant money; Martin said he has received assurances the money from all three governmental bodies was available.

This money, from the 2003 grant which was awarded in December, would go towards an exhaust emissions removal system for the truck bays, \$40,000; six self-contained breathing apparatuses with 12 spare bottles, \$34,200; and a laptop computer to be used on the scene, \$2,500.

Martin said he plans to request additional funds for the 2004 year from the Federal Emergency Management Association in hopes of getting eight more self-contained breathing apparatuses. This would cover the entire force at the department. Martin said the department has a total of 25 firefighters.

The Lowell City Council gave its blessing for Martin to seek the grant from the Lowell Area Community Fund. Abstaining was councilman Charles Myers who is a trustee on the fund and who stated he would also abstain from voting on the request when it came before the other group because of a conflict of interest.

Local rider receives honors



Steven Koning, a senior at Lowell High School, and his horse, Hanful O' Gypsy, were recently given Master Awards by the Appaloosa Horse Club (ApHC).

Koning and Gypsy won the awards in three events: barrel racing, western riding and 4-H. This adds to the Master Award the 23-year old Appaloosa mare won in the games event in 2002.

The awards are through the Appaloosa Competitive All-breed Activities program, which promotes and rewards Appaloosa horses which excel in events not sponsored by the ApHC. Koning was a member of Lowell's 2003 MIHA Division B state champion equestrian team and a past co-captain of the Lowell High School equestrian team.

Koning will begin this fall in the Horse Management program at Michigan State University.

Alto farm competes in contest

Schutte Dairy Farm, in Alto, recently won third place in the Class A no-till/strip-till non-irrigated division of the 2003 National Corn Growers' Association Corn Yield Contest in Michigan.

The NCGA Corn Yield Contest is an annual competition among corn producers with the goal of producing the highest yields.

Schutte Dairy Farm won with Pioneer brand hybrid

34M95, which yielded 205.64 bushels per acre. The hybrid contains the YieldGard corn borer gene for resistance to corn borer and certain other insect pests.

The farming operation earned one of the 382 state titles won with more than 93 different Pioneer hybrids. The NCGA awarded 538 state and national titles in this year's contest.

Financial Focus

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HOW YOU INVEST MAY DEPEND ON WHEN YOU WERE BORN

If you were born between 1946 and 1964, you're a "baby boomer." But if you came along between 1965 and 1978, you belong to "Generation X." Your age helps determine your tastes in music, food and culture, and your attitudes toward a variety of social and political issues. And when you're talking about your generation, you also need to be aware that it can influence the way you *save* and *invest*.

To understand the financial implications of belonging to a particular age group, consider the following generational characteristics:

- Many baby boomers:
- Have postponed retirement saving well into their 40s and 50s;
- Use their home as their "bank"; and
- Have given their children's college education precedence over saving for retirement.
- While Gen X-ers:
- Have student loans to repay, along with heavy credit card debt;
- Have little "cash cushion" to fall back on; and
- Haven't focused on saving for retirement.

Let's take a look at some ways that Gen X-ers and baby boomers can address these needs.

- If You're a Gen X-er:
- *Pay off those student loans* - If you still owe money on your student loans, you're not alone. Since 1997, the median in undergraduate student loan debt has risen 74 percent, to \$16,500, according to the 2002 National Student Loan Survey conducted by Nellie Mae, a national student loan provider. By paying off your student loans as quickly as possible, you'll free up money for your short- and long-term savings and investment goals.

- *Avoid the credit card trap* - Keep one credit card for emergencies, and pay off your balance each month. Responsible credit card management is a great habit to learn early.
- *Build a cash cushion* - Even if you aren't earning much, strive to put away \$50 or \$100 a month in a money market account, until you have built a cash cushion of about three to six months' worth of living expenses.
- *Contribute to your 401(k)* - Start investing in your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan as soon as you can. If you can't afford to put in the maximum, at least contribute enough to earn the employer match, if one is offered.
- If You're a Baby Boomer:
- *Accelerate retirement savings* - If you aren't "maxing out" on your 401(k) and IRA, now is definitely the time to start.

If you haven't saved much for retirement, you may need to weight your retirement plan more heavily toward growth-oriented investments, although you'll still need to feel comfortable with what you're doing, given your individual risk tolerance.

• *Use home equity wisely* - At this stage of your life, you may have built up considerable home equity. If so, you might be tempted to take out a home equity loan to consolidate other debts, make home improvements or accomplish some other goal. Your home equity loan may be tax-deductible, and you can probably find a competitive interest rate—but you'll still want to use this debt wisely. Remember, you're putting your house up as collateral, so you don't want to get in over your head.

• *Don't bankrupt yourself to pay for college* - If you want to help your kids pay for school, try to avoid dipping into your retirement savings. Instead, consider contributing to a tax-advantaged Section 529 plan or a Coverdell Education Savings Account. Also, encourage your child to apply for grants and scholarships. And shop around for good, reasonably priced schools - they're still out there, if you look for them.

• *Make the Right Moves ... at Every Stage*
As you can see, you'll need to make different types of financial decisions over time. To make your job easier, consult with a qualified financial professional who understands your individual needs and goals—and who can help you develop a strategy for each stage of your life.

High School splits academic dessert

By Dan Schneider

To accommodate the high number of students receiving honors, this year's "academic dessert" at Lowell High School will take place on two nights instead of one.

"Because there are so many kids and so many kids being successful, we've had to split the recognition to two evenings," Lowell High School principal Scott Washaw said.

The first night will recognize the academic achievement of upperclassmen. This will take place Monday, March 22 at 7 p.m. in the Lowell Performing Arts Center at the high school.

The second night, recognizing freshmen, will take

place Tuesday, April 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the Freshman Commons at the high school. The later time is due to the smaller number of freshmen and consideration for students participating in sports events earlier in the evening.

School staff and parents will upon grade point average. A successful Lowell alumnus will be guest speaker on each night.

Awards are given based solely upon grade point average. Forty-seven seniors will receive academic letters for GPAs of 3.65 and above, 58 will get pins (3.33-3.64); 37 juniors will get letters (3.75+) and 51 will receive pins (3.33-3.74). Among sophomores,

28 have earned academic letters (3.85+) and 46 pins (3.67-3.84). Freshmen are eligible for pins only, 74 have earned them with GPAs of 3.67 and up.

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GRATTAN TOWNSHIP

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from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the tax roll and hearing all claims.

You may appeal your assessed valuation in person or by letter addressed to The Board of Review 12050 Old Belding Rd. Belding, Michigan 48809

Written appeals must be received by March 5, 2004

Those wishing to appeal in person should call the Township office at 691-8450 before March 8, 2004 to pre-arrange an appointment.

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Assessor, Grattan Township

SYNOPSIS REGULAR MEETING OF THE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP BOARD

February 16, 2004 - 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of the January 19, 2004 Regular Meeting were approved. The February 16, 2004 meeting agenda and a list of invoices were also approved. A Public Hearing was held regarding a special use request by Bill and Debra Makuski for a temporary dwelling permit.

Motions approved:

- Motion to grant a Special Use Permit to Bill and Debra Makuski for construction of a temporary dwelling contingent upon mutual acceptance of a written and signed agreement outlining details of the use.

- Motion to approve applications for properties totaling 626 acres from seven land owners wishing to apply to the Kent County Purchase of Development Rights Program.

- Motion to approve Ordinance 2004-1, amending minimum square foot requirements for dwellings.

- Motion to grant final approval to William Schreuer's Vergennes Plat #5.

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 March 8, 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

In The Mood

Sunday, March 7 3-3:00 p.m.
Greenville Performing Arts Center - GHS
111 N. Hillcrest Road, Greenville

Have You Heard The Music That Moved A Nation's Spirit? Much more than a concert, "In The Mood" is a 1940's Big Band Theatrical Swing Revue of musical giants such as Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, Artie Shaw, Benny Goodman, The Andrew Sisters, and Frank Sinatra. The music and arrangements are as authentic as it gets featuring the "In The Mood Singers and Dancers" with the sensational "String of Pearls" big band orchestra. The combination of up-tempo big band instrumentals and intimate, romantic ballads set the mood for a future filled with promise, hope and prosperity. This was the time when the music moved the nation's spirit - *come and be moved again!* Tickets now on sale at the Greenville Community Center. (616) 754-9163 \$15 advance/\$17 at door.

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Walk-ins welcome Thursday, March 4th & Saturday, March 6th from 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. at:
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GRATTAN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC NOTICE BUDGET HEARING

Notice is hereby given that Grattan Township Board will hold a Public Hearing for the purpose of answering questions, reviewing and adopting the annual budget for the 2004/2005 fiscal year.

The Budget Hearing Meeting will be held on Monday, March 29, 2004 in the Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Road, Belding, MI at 7:00 p.m.

All interested parties are welcome. A copy of the proposed budgets can be viewed at the Township Hall prior to the Public hearing.

Lana F. Green, Clerks Office
Grattan Township
(616) 691-8450

The American Cancer Society's Great American Weigh In

March 3, 2004

Weight Watchers has teamed up with the American Cancer Society to show you how you can reduce your cancer risk.

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Great American Weigh In Joining Special

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Save \$12 off registration and first week's meeting fee!
Offer Good Only 2/29/04 - 3/6/04

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For a participating Weight Watchers location near you call 1-800-651-6000 or log on to www.weightwatcherswesternmichigan.com

For cancer information: 1-800-ACS-2345 or www.cancer.org

Coupon and Free BMI only good 2/29/04 - 3/6/04. Offer only valid in area 044. ©2004 Weight Watchers International, Inc. owner of the WEIGHT WATCHERS trademark. All rights reserved.

City looks at rules for committee seats after planning commissioner's departure

By J. Lobbell
Contributing Writer

The departure of Dan Pipe as a Lowell planning commission member caused the city to discover that one of its policies was in conflict with state law.

Since the inception of the Historic District Commission in 1997, the city has required

that a planning commission member serve on the commission as a voting member. The last person to serve in this position was Pipe. Planning commission member Jim Hall, however, discovered that the policy was in conflict with the state law that prohibited a planning commission member to hold another municipal

office except as a member of the zoning board of appeals.

City manager David Pasquale said the state law was an obscure one, but after review by the city attorney, it was decided the city should change the Historic District Ordinance, eliminating the requirement. "It does make it easier to fill the vacancy than

having to draw from just the nine members on the planning commission," said mayor Jeanne Shores.

The Lowell City Council set a public hearing on the change at its next meeting, March 15.

Pipe announced last week at the planning commission meeting that he was resign-

ing from both the commission and the Historic District Commission due to the fact that he has moved out of the area. He currently is living in Saranac, with plans to eventually build a home in Boston Township.

Pipe has been on the commission for about eight years and took over as the planning commission representative on

the Historic District Commission when Mike Blough joined the city council. Pipe also served as the planning commission's representative to the Downtown Development Authority. Pasquale said that position is not affected by the state ruling since it is a non-voting situation.

Planning commission approves fence and garage ordinance

By J. Lobbell
Contributing Writer

Lowell resident Candice Fleszar-Smith thought it was appropriate that she come before the Lowell Planning Commission at its meeting a week ago since it was almost a year to the day that she came seeking to amend the city's fence ordinance.

"It has certainly been an educational process," Fleszar-

Smith said. "My goal was to help create a better fence ordinance and to clarify putting up a fence." She said she appreciated all the work put into the ordinance and believes it accomplishes those two goals.

The new fence ordinance, which was unanimously recommended to the city council by the planning commission, defines the density of the fence and where it can be placed. In the front setback, a fence that

is 50 percent solid or greater cannot exceed three feet and may not exceed six feet in any other area.

Fences are to be measured from the finished grade to the top of the fence. Posts will not be included unless the zoning enforcement officer feels they obstruct vision. Fences and walls must be kept in good repair and condition, and should not include any spikes, nails, barb or electrification unless for the protection of

public utility buildings, improvements or livestock containment.

As to whether or not Fleszar-Smith will be utilizing the new ordinance soon, she said her initial fence request was put on the back burner, as she is uncertain whether that is the fence which will be put up.

Another happy resident was Al Mathews, who serves on the Lowell City Council. Mathews gave the planning

commission kudos for its work on cleaning up the definition of hard surface to include poured cement, rolled asphalt, or surfaces approved by the planning commission. This change would allow Mathews to use a crushed asphalt material on his driveway, he explained.

The changes in the garage ordinance require that upon construction of a primary accessory building, or remodeling or improvements, a hard

surface driveway must be constructed from the public street or alley to the building. The width of the driveway must be 10 feet and the curb cut must be at least 12 feet. The changes now head to the city council, set for March 1.

City manager David Pasquale said the council probably will schedule a public hearing for March 15 on the changes and vote on them following the hearing.

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* Cheese Broccoli

Salad Bar • Rolls • Homemade Pies
Donation:
New Church Building Project

Saturday, March 13th, 2004
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Public Notice of Receipt of a Special Use Application

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on

Monday, March 8, 2004

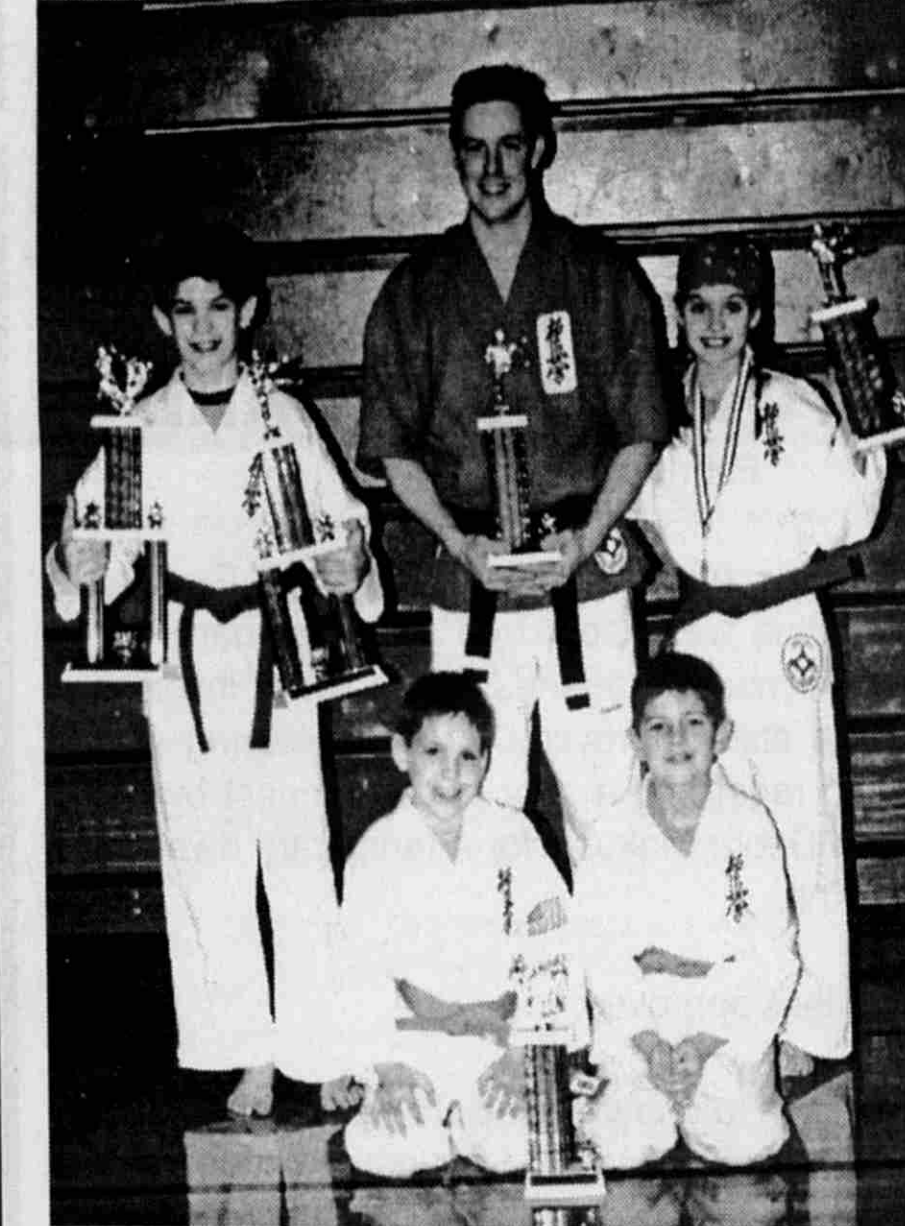
at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash, SE.

At this hearing, the property owned by William and Carol VanStee located at 12108 Grand River Drive SE, PP# 41-20-10-300-007, will be considered for a special use permit to allow for the mining of sand.

The special use permit application and the Lowell Township Zoning Ordinance are available for public inspection at the Township Hall during regular office hours. Please call 897-7600 for further information.

Linda S. Regan
Lowell Township Clerk

Ro-Ken karate gets some kicks at Great Lakes karate championships



Lowell Ro-Ken Karate students, coached by Sensei Aaron Bailey, participated in the Great Lakes All-Star Karate Championships at Creston High School on Feb. 21. The tournament boasts over 150 competitors who come from 35-40 different martial arts schools.

Among nearly 30 competing in the 10-11 year old division were orange belts Rob Coffey and Jeff Waltz, and green belt Mariah Moore. Coffey took home third place in sparring and

Moore placed third in forms and fourth in sparring.

Green belt Keith Williams, against approximately 12 others in the 12-13 year old division, took home second place in forms and a second in sparring. Sensei Bailey, second Dan, took home third place in forms among nearly 20 competitors.

The Ro-Ken Karate program, in its second year at the Lowell YMCA, offers classes for beginners, advanced beginners, and adults.

Standing at left, left to right, are: Keith Williams, Sensei Aaron Bailey and Mariah Moore; kneeling are: Rob Coffey and Jeff Waltz.

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Southside 616-527-9250
Sunfield 517-366-8023
Woodland 269-367-4911

LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS

TUESDAY, MARCH 9

High School Conferences:

5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Full day for students and staff

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

High School Conferences:

3:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Full day for students and staff

THURSDAY, MARCH 11

High School Conferences:

3:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Full day for students and staff

Conferences are held in the Main Gymnasium.
Student schedules are provided.

Host families needed for foreign high school students

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to have an exchange student live in your home? Maybe learn about their culture or even a little of their language?

Foreign high school students are scheduled to arrive soon for academic semester

program homestays, and the sponsoring organization needs a few more local host families.

According to John Doty, executive director of Pacific Intercultural Exchange (P.I.E.), the students are between the ages of 15 and 18,

are English-speaking, have their own spending money, and carry accident and health insurance. And P.I.E. representatives match students with families by finding common interests and lifestyles through an informal in-home meeting.

Families who host for P.I.E. are also eligible to claim a \$50 per month charitable contribution deduction on their itemized tax returns for each month they host a sponsored student. Programs range in length from a semester to a full academic year, where the stu-

dents attend local high schools.

Doty encourages families to contact the program immediately, to allow proper time for the students and hosts to get acquainted before they actually meet for the first time. If you are interested in

learning more about student exchange or arranging for a meeting with a community representative, call 1-800-631-1818. The agency also has travel/study program opportunities available for American high school students.

COLLEGE NEWS

Ashley Rickert, a junior at Northwood University, has been selected to serve as an executive board member and guest relations chairperson at Northwood University's 41st annual International Auto Show (NUIAS) in October.

Approximately 300 students will serve as members of the executive board or as team captains or teammates. The students are responsible for producing the entire show that is held on campus in Midland.

Rickert is pursuing a degree in automotive marketing and management. Her past NUIAS experience includes being a team member of team Dodge in 2001, team captain of Chrysler in 2002, and assistant to the Promotions chair in 2003.

She is a Lowell High School graduate and the daughter of Jeff and Julie Rickert of Lowell.

University officials at Ferris State University and Kendall College of Art and Design have announced that 2,658 students received academic honors for the fall 2003 semester, ending in December.

From the Lowell area are: Emily M. Cyrocki, Dixie M. Eckman, Robert P. Ford, Seth Thomas Hay, Sheriana Kasim, Michael C. Knudstrup, Tara S. Kuipers, Michael Mastrovito, Kimberly R. Seaman, Robert K. Thompson, Nicole E. VanderWal and Dawn VanderZiel.

From the Alto area are: Thomas Forsberg, Kevin Glieden and Andrew D. O'Connor.

To be eligible for academic honors, undergraduate students must have accumulated at least a 3.5 grade point average in no fewer than 12

credit hours of coursework during the given semester.

A total of 534 students completed the requirements for certificates, associate, bachelor's and master's degrees at Ferris State University, Kendall College of Art and Design and the College of Professional and Tech Studies during the fall semester that ended in December 2003.

From the Lowell area are: Dixie M. Eckman with a CT degree in direct marketing and Kenneth Junglas with a BS in construction management.

Northern Michigan University has announced its graduates for December 2003. From the Alto are: Brian J. Cowart graduating with a BS in construction management.

Alma College has named nearly 400 students to the dean's list for outstanding academic performance during the 2003 fall term which ended in December.

From the Lowell area are:

Katelyn Bush and Cori Drenth. Both are 2003 graduates of Lowell High School. Students who achieve a 3.5 or better grade point average during a term, while carrying a minimum of 13 credits, are named to the dean's list.

Grand Valley State University has recently announced its dean's list for fall 2003 semester. The list includes those students who have maintained a 3.5 grade point average and been enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits.

From the Lowell area are: Brian J. Abbring, Karrie R. Akers, Anne K. Beenen, Erin P. Burgess, Ryan T. Curtis, Erika L. Curtiss, Nicole L. Elliott, Lindsay R. Hamilton, David M. Johnson, Jacob P. Nijse, Kelly L. Odell, Crystal Porritt, Julie R. Schloop, Kelley L. Shannon, Jessica R. Simon, Jamie L. Tegg, Benjamin R. Tjapkes, Phillip P. VanLaan and Annie M. Zalokar.

BOWNE TOWNSHIP NOTICE

BOARD OF REVIEW
The Board of Review of Bowne Township will meet at the Township Hall, 8240 Alden Nash SE on

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2004 - ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 8 - 12 NOON TO 4 P.M.
6 P.M. TO 9 P.M.
(EVENING HRS BY APPT. ONLY)

TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2004 - 12 NOON TO 5 P.M.

For the purpose of reviewing the tax roll and hearing all claims. You may appeal your assessed valuation one of (2) ways:
By letter addressed to the Bowne Township Supervisor and received by him prior to March 5, or
by appearing in person on one of the dates the Board of Review meets.

The tentative real property assessment ratios and assessment Multipliers are:

Agricultural Ratio	49.64	Multiplier	1.0072
Commercial Ratio	49.07	Multiplier	1.0189
Industrial Ratio	49.40	Multiplier	1.0121
Residential Ratio	50.15	Multiplier	.9970

Dennis McKelvey-Assessor
Pete Siler-Supervisor
Bowne Township

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BOWNE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

PROPOSED REZONING OF CERTAIN PROPERTY IN SECTION 27 FROM AG AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO R-1 RURAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT

Public notice is hereby given that the Bowne Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, March 11, 2004 at 7:30 p.m., in the Historic Township Hall, located at 8240 Alden Nash Avenue, Alto, Michigan, to hear public comments regarding the rezoning requested by T&M Partners LLC from AG Agricultural District to R-1 Rural Residential District for the following property:

9986 Alden Nash Avenue SE

SOUTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 27, T5N, R9W, BOWNE TOWNSHIP, KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN

(Permanent parcel #41-24-27-300-002)

The proposed rezoning amendment may be examined at the Township Hall, 8240 Alden Nash, Alto, Michigan, on Wednesdays and Thursdays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and on Fridays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

February 16, 2004
Sandra Kowalczyk, Clerk
Bowne Township

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP NOTICE

BOARD OF REVIEW

THE BOARD OF REVIEW OF VERGENNES TOWNSHIP WILL MEET AT THE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP HALL 10381 BAILEY DRIVE LOWELL, MI 49331 ON MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2004

between the hours of 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., and also on

TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2004 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. and from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the tax roll and hearing all claims.

You may appeal your assessed valuation one of two ways:

1) To appear at the Board of Review, call 897-5671 on Monday, Wednesday or Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for an appointment to appear in person.

2) By letter addressed to: Vergennes Township Assessor P.O. Box 208 Lowell, MI 49331-0208

Letters must be received by March 5, 2004

Mari Stone
Vergennes Township Clerk

Digging the world with paint: local artist Dan Scott

Chamber art show displays change in artist's perception and expression

By Dan Schneider

Every kind of art is some kind of interpretation of the world. It's about taking the world in, synthesizing it and rendering it into some expressive form. Lowell artist Dan Scott is caught somewhere in the middle of that process right now. It's an artistic crossroads as his perception goes in several directions.

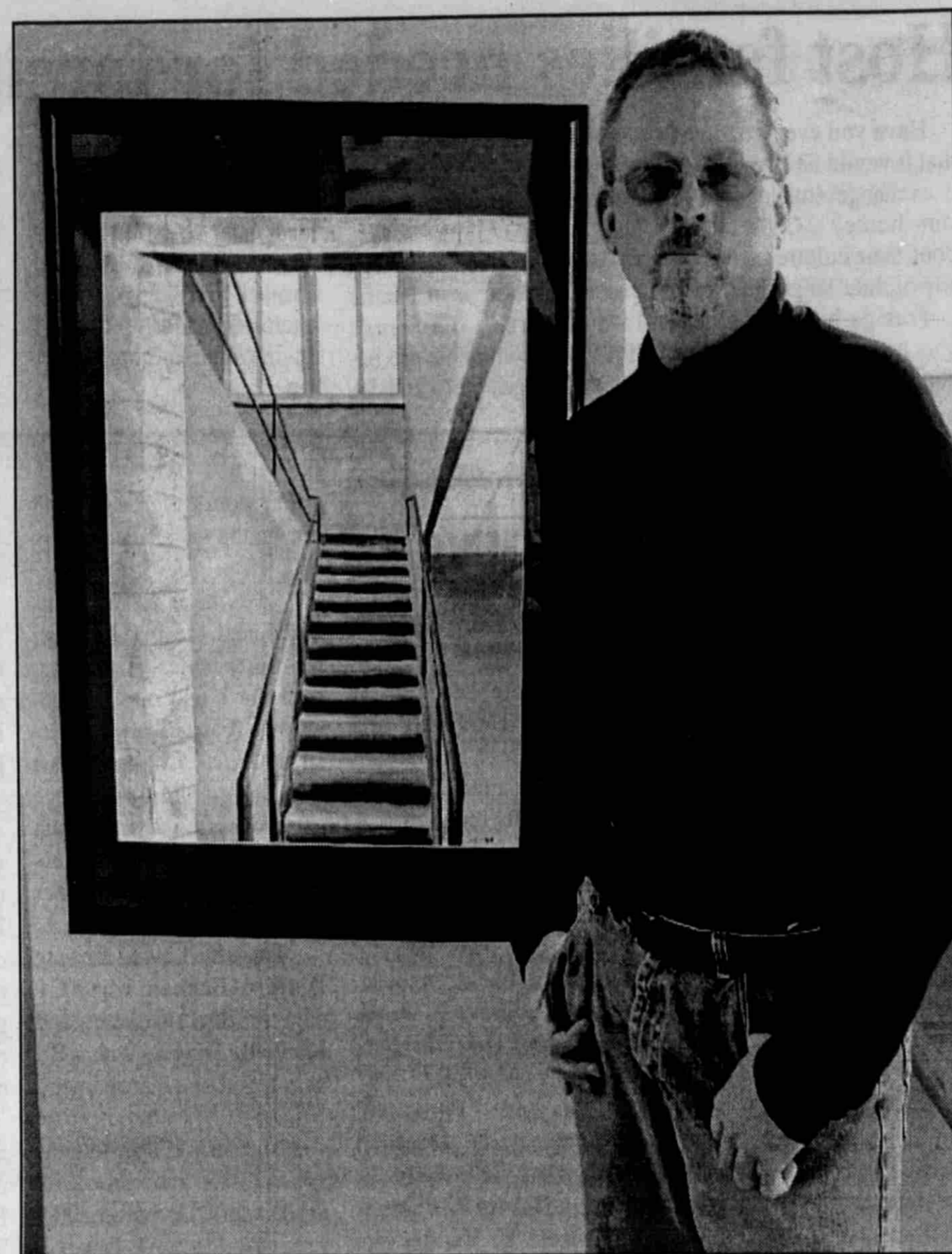
"I'm not really sure where my art's going to lead me right now," Scott said.

That's why the collection of his recent works at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce is collectively called "To Where." The show consists mostly of watercolor paintings and graphite illustrations. Some of the watercolors also incorporate ink.

They vary from abstract to the representational. This reflects the changing nature of Scott's response to the world; he doesn't like seeing things in just one particular way. In fact, for him, the most important part of art is rendering varied interpretations upon the actual world.

"In art, you don't have to make something exactly the way it is, you can make it the way you want it to be," Scott said. "There are no rules; you don't have to follow any rules."

As an example, Scott



Dan Scott stands with a large ink drawing he did of a staircase. The piece is among several on display now at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce that are collectively an account of Scott's current direction of evolution as an artist.

pointed to the birch trees outside the chamber. He said they could provoke any number of reactions in an artist, not all of them recognizable as birch trees. One artist might get into the white and brown colors, another might emphasize the lines, another might create work based on the light-thin paper bark.

Scott has been back into art for about four years now after taking a break from it to raise a family. Previous to that, he had been into art since he was small. He started entering shows in high school. Even while he was on his 20-year—by his estimation—break from art, friends still called upon to express himself in a variety of ways. He painted motorcycle gas tanks, for instance, and carved reliefs in gun stocks.

"I've done many different things but nothing consistently," Scott said. So now he's trying to grab hold of a steady art groove. "To Where" is a chance to see the process of change in the Lowell artist.

An artist's reception will be held Sunday, March 7 from 1-4 p.m. at the chamber. The chamber is one of several places in Lowell where art is easy to find. A new artist exhibits every five weeks there.

ANNUAL REPORT OF PRIVATE FOUNDATION NOTICE

The annual report of the Lowell Area Housing, Inc. Foundation for the years ending December 31, 2002 and December 31, 2003 are available for inspection at its principal office, 725 Bowes Rd, Lowell, Michigan during regular business hours by any citizen who requests within 180 days after date of this notice.

Dated: March 3, 2004

Phillip H. Schneider, Jr.
President

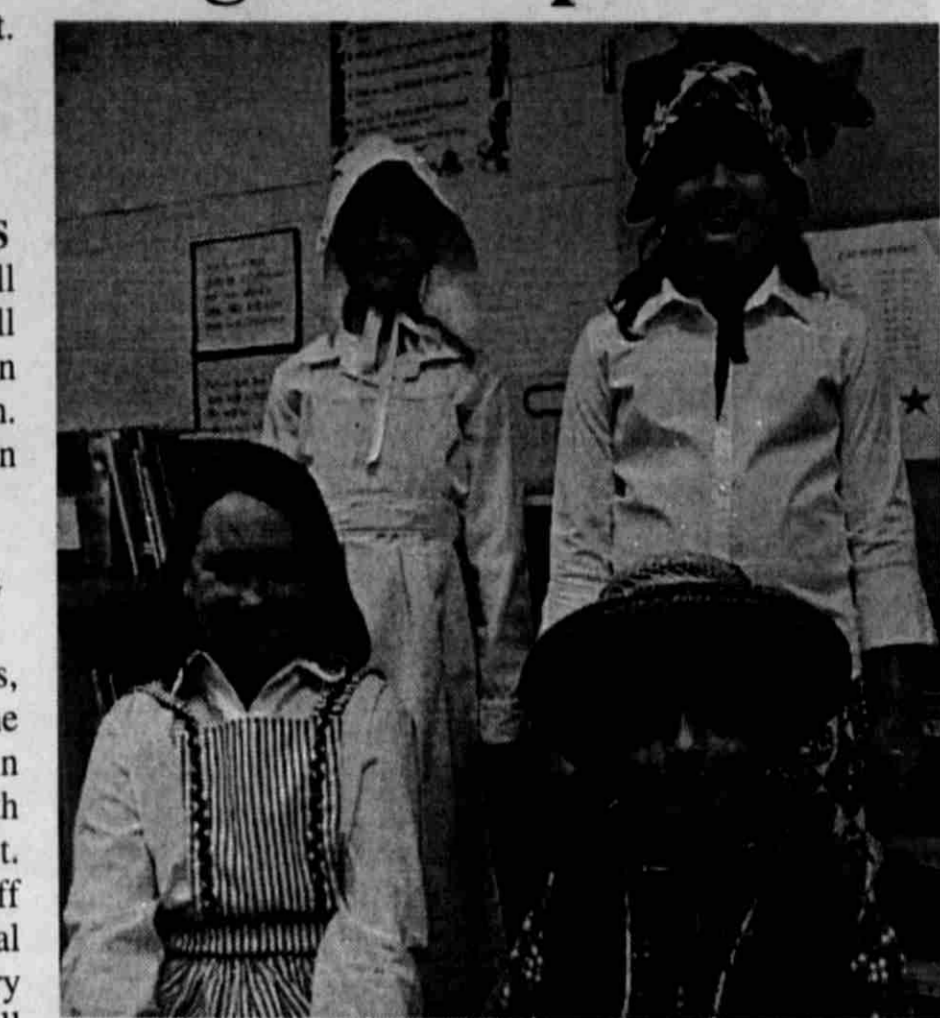
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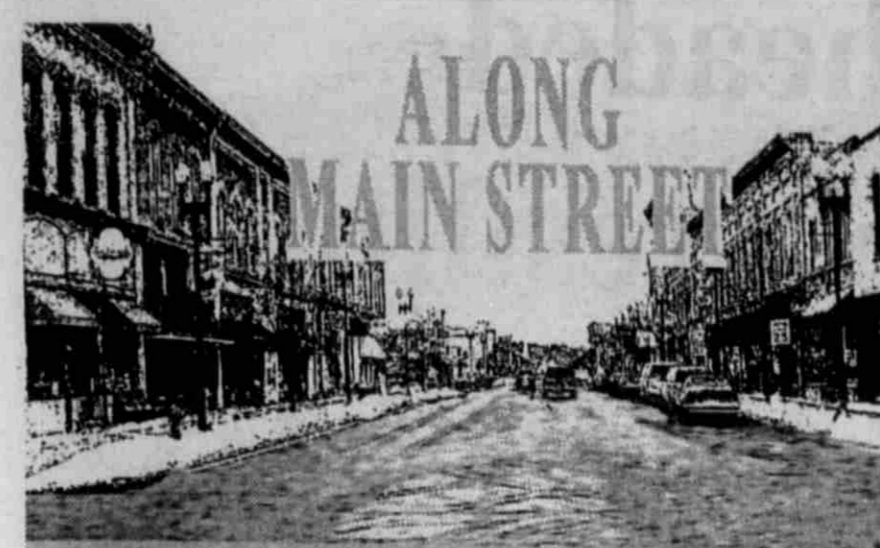
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11610 East Fulton Street • Lowell, Michigan

Songs of the pioneers



Third grade classes from Cherry Creek Elementary dressed up as pioneers to perform "Songs of the Pioneers" for friends and family on Thursday, Feb. 26. Pictured from Mrs. Cole's class are Mattie Newman, Taylor Harrison, Lauren Weaver and Connor Acker.



the 8th grade East Coast trip, a fundraiser will be held March 9 at McDonalds, 5:30-7:30 p.m. All proceeds go directly to help fund the trip.

FREE FOOD ... FOODMOBILE

The Foodmobile will be at the 4-H Fairgrounds, Foremen Building on S. Broadway on Saturday, March 13, from 10-11 a.m. or until food (mostly produce) is gone. Bring your own box or bag. Distributed by Flat River Outreach Ministries. Visit our website at www.flatriveroutreachministries.org.

RECYCLE THOSE NEWSPAPERS

The trailer for newspapers and phone books is at the Lowell High School by the loading dock for your convenience. Sponsored by the Lowell softball team.

FEED THE HUNGRY

Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc. is participating in the feed the hungry campaign during March and April. If you would like to donate, food barrels are at Fifth-Third Bank, Dollar Superstore,

year olds who meet the eligibility guidelines. Call 897-7920 to receive more information.

ACADEMIC BOOSTERS MEETING

Boosters meet in the volunteer room of Lowell High School, Thursday, March 11 8:30 a.m. Call Julie 897-6353 with questions.

HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCES

Parent teacher conferences for Lowell High School are as follows: March 9, 5:30-8:30 p.m.; March 10 & 11, 3:30 - 7 p.m. Call 897-4125 for more information.

LOWELL MUSEUM OFFERS WORKSHOP

The Lowell Area Historical Museum early settlers activities workshop March 20, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Wittenbach Center. Lunch/registration: \$10. Forms at your school office or call the museum 897-7688. Deadline March 8.

RECYCLE YOUR OLD PHONE BOOKS

Cherry Creek Elementary will be participating in the Earth Day 2004 Recycling Challenge by collecting unwanted phone books. Drop them off in the main hallway, used for insulation in homes built by Habitat for Humanity. Now thru April 1.

LOWELL COMMUNITY EXPO MARCH 27

Call the chamber of commerce for an application/information for this premiere marketing opportunity at 897-9161 or www.lowellexpo.org.

LOWELL HEAD START

Now enrolling for fall 2004 is Lowell Head Start, a free preschool for 3 and 4

6TH ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

Join This Week \$0 Service Fee

*Bring a bag of non-perishable food items this week (March 8-12) to your local Curves and join with no service fee. All groceries will be donated to local food banks.

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Lowell, MI 49331

*Offer based on low rate conditions, minimum 12 mos. c. program. Not valid with any other offer. Valid only at participating locations.

Revival Services

March 7-10

Sunday: 9:30 am & 6:00 pm
Mon-Wed at 7:00 pm

* Holy Spirit inspired worship
* Anointed special music
* Powerful teaching & preaching
* Lives changed by the power of the Holy Spirit!

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(located 2 1/2 miles south of Lowell)
Come see our brand new facilities!

Curves, Gary's Country Meats, Dollar General, Parnell Grocery and Saranac Market.

LECTURE SERIES ON DIABETES CONTINUES

Dr. Michael Valitutto will speak at Metro Health Lowell Plaza, 2550 W. Main on March 17 from 6:30 - 8 p.m. Free to public; no registration is necessary.

8TH GRADE READING PROJECT

Pencils, paper, erasers, etc., to fill backpacks in the Greater Grand Rapids area in August are needed for an 8th grade honors reading project. Donations may be dropped off at the First Congregational Church or Englehardt Library until March 29. ???'s, call Ellen Mork, 897-0835.

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Attn: Human Resources Director
Ionia County National Bank
302 W. Main St.
Ionia, MI 48846
Fax: 616-527-8734
Email: wiebera@icnb.com

Lowell High School Presents

The Pirates of Penzance

MARCH 18, 19, 20, 26 & 27

March 18, 19, 20, 26 7:30 pm
March 27 1:00 & 7:30 pm

\$5 Students/Seniors • \$7 General Public • \$8 At the Door

Tickets 897-4125 or 897-4449

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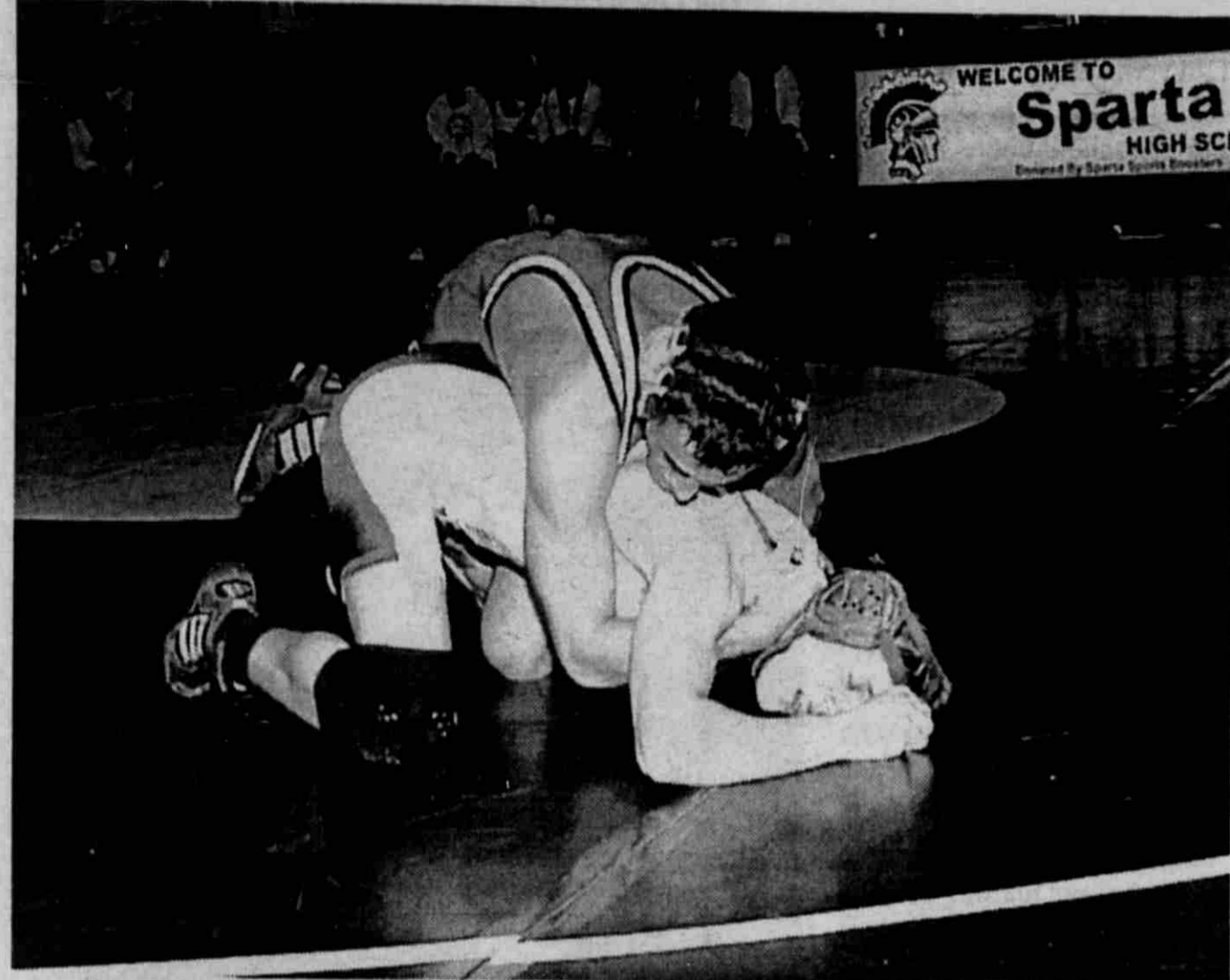
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Lowell headed for state wrestling finals in Battle Creek

Red Arrows conquer Spartans in final round of regionals, five wrestlers advance to individual state finals

By Dan Schneider

Lowell is returning to finals of the state wrestling tournament for the first time since they won it in 2002.

Lowell defeated Sparta last Wednesday, 46-27, on the Spartans' home turf to earn their trip to the Division II state wrestling finals in Battle Creek.

The gym was packed and loud at Sparta. The place resonated and roared as Sparta jumped out to a 12-0 lead after the first two matches.

The regional final started at the 189 weight, where Lowell's Josh Vaught suddenly found himself pinned :57 into the first round. The process was more gradual at 215, but still resulted in six points for Sparta as Mitch Keizer pinned Lowell's Brock Graham in 1:31.

Then Ryan Esbaugh hit the mat against Sparta's Ted Breen. The two sized each other up for a while and then

Esbaugh found an opening. "His style of wrestling ... he loves the grandiose moves," Lowell coach Dave Strejc said. "He goes for the big moves, he truly enjoys wrestling that way."

Esbaugh pinned Breen in 1:48.

"He sure came through big tonight and he couldn't have picked a better night to do it," Strejc said. "I didn't expect to get a pin at heavy-weight but I didn't expect to get pinned at 189."

At 103, Ray Seese held on into the third round. He was down 4-1 as the clock ran down. Then he threw some kind of move, and pinned Dustin Canterbury with :15 left in the match.

"That move, I don't know where that move came from, I don't know where he learned that move," Strejc said.

The move tied the match and put the momentum solidly on the Lowell side. Rob Karasiewicz carried the momentum in the 112 match, pinning Sparta's Chelsea Miller in 1:28.

Lowell's Mike Nearing lost a major decision, 12-0 against Matt Armock at 119. Then David Kropf pinned Mark Armock in 1:56 to win the 125 weight for Lowell.

"I told Dave Kropf before he went out there, I believed he'd win it," Strejc said.

Joe Mendez won for Lowell at 130, pinning Rob Yahrmarkt in 2:48.

Matt Kilmartin won the 135 match for Lowell in a 9-1 decision over Sam Sokolowski.

Ryan Karasiewicz lost by technical fall to Sparta's Ja-

son Brew at 140.

When Lowell won its last regional championship in 2002, it was Kevin Frazier's pin at 135 that clinched the final against Lakewood. This year, Frazier sealed the deal for Lowell again, this time at 145. He pinned Joseph Ferrell in 1:09, putting Lowell up 40-21.

Lowell lost the next two matches by decision. Jayme DeLiefde lost 6-1 against Chris Larrow at 152. At 160, it was Kyle VanderHyde, 4-0, over Jason Nearing.

Lowell was still up 40-27 going into the 171 match. This meant coach Strejc wouldn't have to put in Ryan Dykhouse. Having broken the third metacarpal of his hand at the OK White conference match, Dykhouse had his doctor's permission to wrestle within his pain threshold.

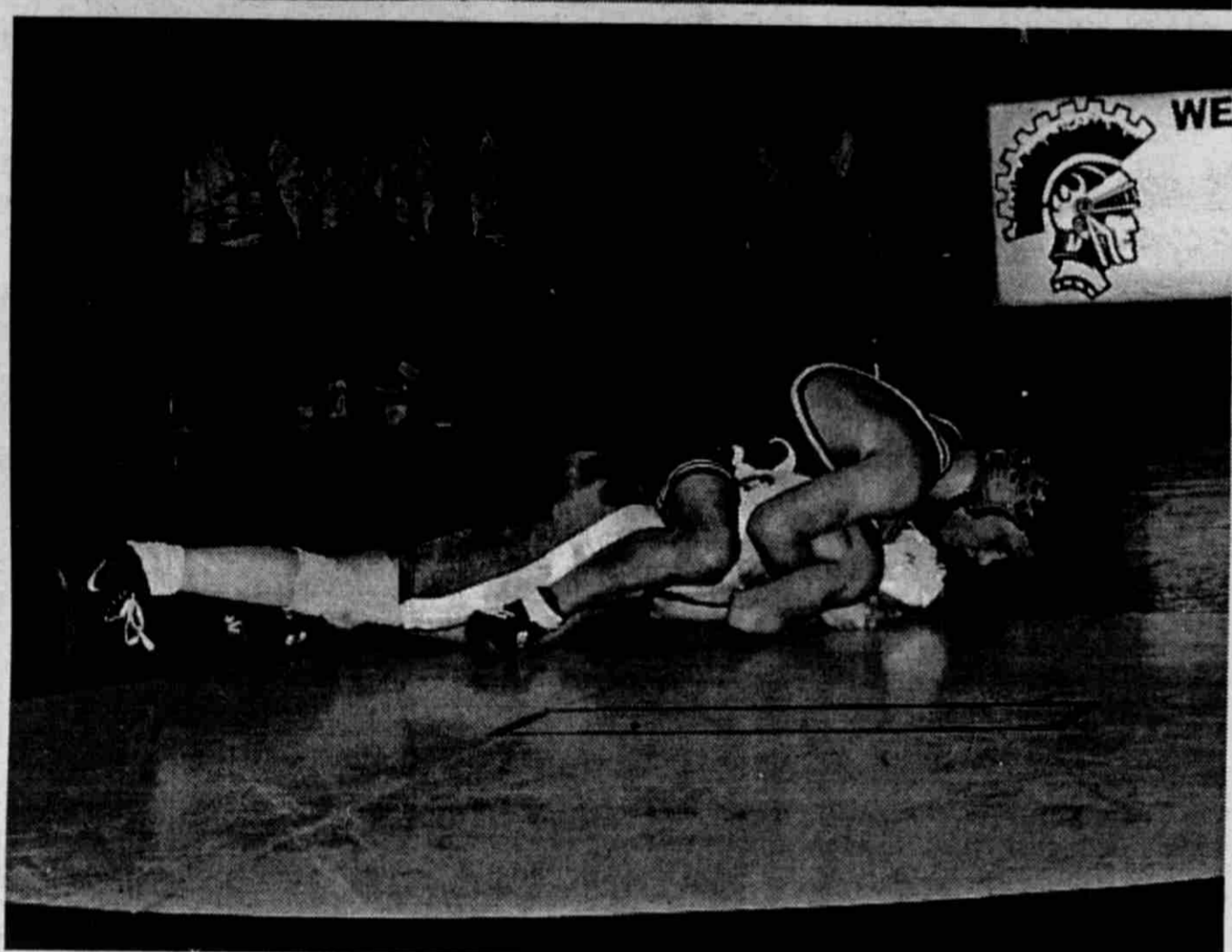
It didn't matter anyway, because freshman Alex Fleet came through for Lowell. Sparta's freshman Mike Vogel tried throwing Fleet around in the first round, but slipped up and Fleet took advantage. Fleet had a pin in :52 to finish the Red Arrow victory on a high note.

"We got completely out-wrestled," Sparta coach Ron Hemboldt said. "We started out great and then we lost a couple matches I thought we had a chance to win, and after that we didn't do anything we wouldn't do normally."

It was a tougher loss than Sparta suffered in the teams' conference dual meet at the beginning of the season.

"Then we were able to turn

State wrestling finals, cont'd., pg. 20



Above, top: Lowell's Matt Kilmartin tries to turn over Sam Sokolowski of Sparta. Kilmartin won the 135-weight match with a 9-1 decision last Wednesday in the regional finals. Last Saturday, Kilmartin won the 135-weight championship at the division II individual regionals.

Above, bottom: Lowell's Ray Seese wrestled against Dustin Canterbury of Sparta in the 103-weight match in last Wednesday's regional final. Seese was down 4-1 late in the third round of the match when he pulled a move and pinned Canterbury. The win tied the score for Lowell in the match's early going.

LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

The board of review of Lowell Township will meet at the Lowell Township Hall on:

MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2004
between the hours of
9 a.m. and 12 noon
and from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2004
Between the hours of
9 a.m. and 12 noon
and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. for the
purpose of reviewing the tax roll
and hearing all claims.

You may appeal your assessed valuation one of two ways:

1) To appear at the Board of Review, call on Tuesday or Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., (616) 897-7600, to schedule an appointment.
OR

2.) By letter addressed to:
Lowell Township/Assessor
2910 Alden Nash SE
Lowell, MI 49331

*MUST BE RECEIVED
PRIOR TO MARCH 4, 2004

Linda Regan
Lowell Township Clerk

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www.realtybypetersmith.com

PETER SMITH
REALTOR

Peter is the recipient of a
2003 - 100% Club Award
which averages over
\$5 million of real estate sales,
that is over 8 times the
industry average.

LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS

DRIVER TRAINING:

Students living in the Lowell Area School District, wishing to take driver training, can pick up an application form at Lowell High School, Lowell Middle School, or Unity High School. The application forms need to be returned before Thursday, April 1st. Two sessions of driver training (Segment 1) will be offered:

- #1. June 14th thru July 1st, and
- #2. July 12th thru July 29th.

The cost for driver training is \$240 and can be paid in two installments: \$120 when the application is turned in, and \$120 on or before the first day of class. A student must have been born before November 12th, 1989 in order to be eligible. A certified birth certificate must be shown when the application is turned in. A Michigan state identification card or moped license is also accepted. Information can be obtained by calling Al Eckman at 616-897-4125

LOWELL LITTLE LEAGUE

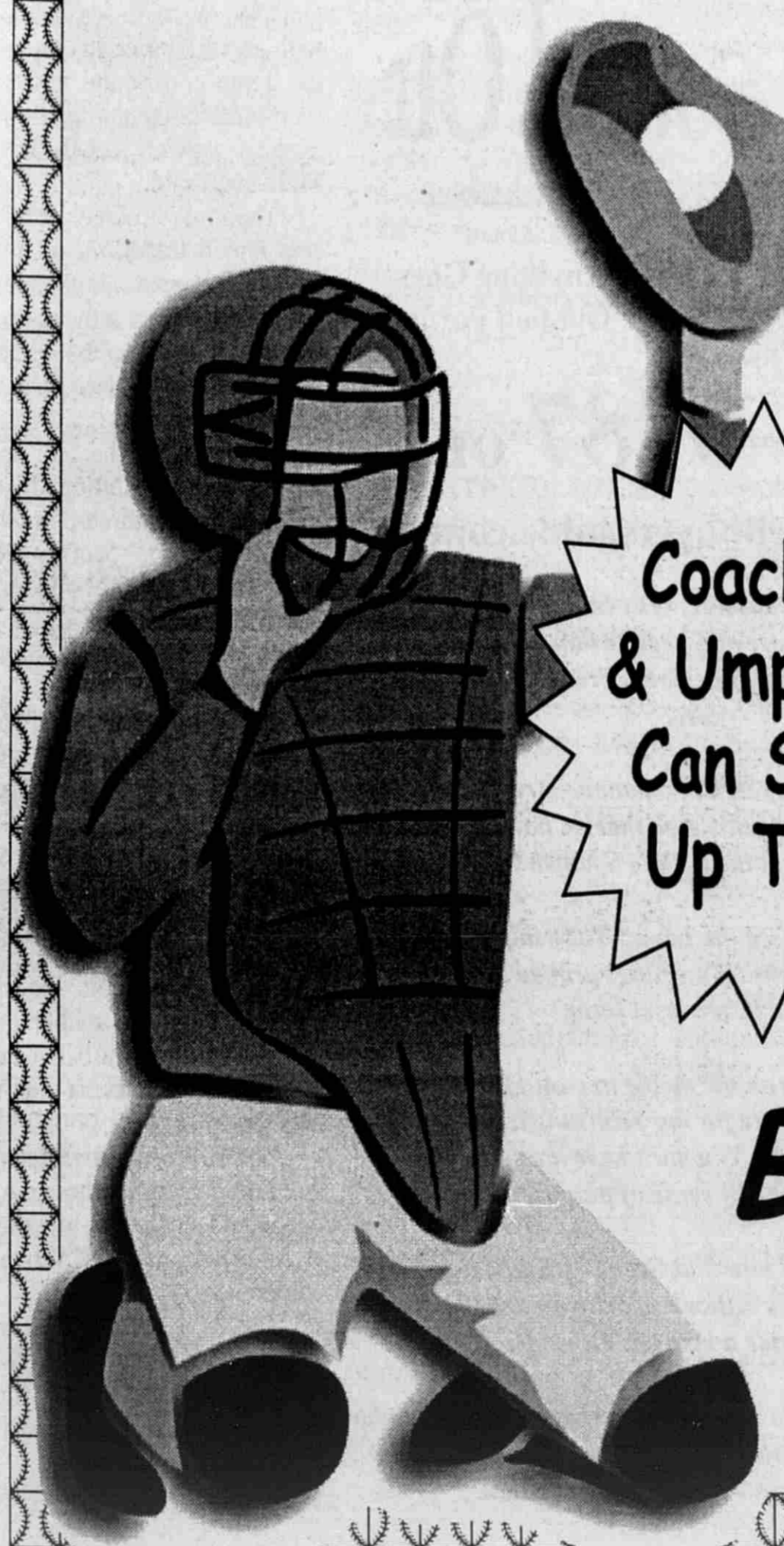
Come One, Come All
Boys And Girls
Baseball & Softball

LOWELL LITTLE LEAGUE SIGN-UP AGES 7-14

COST: \$45 (With 10 Fundraiser Items)
\$60 (Without Fundraiser)

Lowell Area Chamber Of Commerce

March 3, 2004 (Wednesday) • 6 - 8 PM
March 13, 2004 (Saturday) • 10 AM-2 PM



Coaches
& Umpires
Can Sign
Up Too!

NEW SIGN-UPS
NEED TO BRING
A COPY OF YOUR
BIRTH CERTIFICATE

Financial Aid Available

Building Friendships
Through Baseball

Regional loss ends Red Arrow hockey season

By Dan Schneider

Lowell-Caledonia had a disappointing end to a strong season Monday night. The Red Arrows lost 5-2 to Rockford in the first round of regionals at The Summit ice arena in Grand Ledge.

The Rams were the OK tier-two league champions this year and the toughest team at the regionals.

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The Lowell-Caledonia goal was Ted McCoy's 46th goal of the year, a new Lowell hockey record. Brandon John had the assist. The record will go on the books at Lowell

since it is the host school for the cooperative team.

Rockford went up 3-1 in the third before Lowell-Caledonia scored its second goal. That was by John with Corey Kelly assisting. Rockford had control of the third, stretching its lead to the final score of 5-2.

"They outshot us 52 to 17," Lowell coach Mike Ballard said. "David (Maylone) was outstanding in the nets. He really kept us in the game and gave us some opportunities."

David Maylone had a save percentage of .90 against Rockford. That's a school record for an individual game. The Lowell High School senior also now holds the school record



Lowell-Caledonia's Jay Ryan looks for a shot against Forest Hills Northern's goaltender in last Thursday's game. The Red Arrows lost that game 4-3.

Hockey, cont'd., pg. 20

COMING EVENTS

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

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 Fellowship of Christian Athletes & Friends, 7-8:30 p.m. in members' homes. 676-1355.

EVERY MON.: Women's over 30 drop-in basketball, 7-9:30 p.m. at Cherry Creek Elem. starting March 9. Call Dave (YMCA) 897-8445 Fee \$3.

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

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

SECOND MON.: Bowne Township Historical Society meeting at Historical Museum, 84th and Alden 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-Ellis American Legion Post 152, 3100 Alden Nash S.E. at 7:30 p.m.

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

EVERY 1ST MON.: 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.

1ST TUES.: Grattan Historical Society meets in O'Brien Room of Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Rd. Public invited.

1ST & 3RD TUES.: Diabetic Support group, 9:30 Schneider Manor Community Rm., 725 Bowes Rd.

2ND & 4TH TUES.: MOPS - Mothers of Preschoolers ... because mothering matters. 9:15-11:30 a.m. at Impact, a Wesleyan Church, 1070 N. Hudson. Call 897-8304 for details.

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

EVERY TUES.: Take Off Pounds Sensibly Tops MI#372 meets at 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, 7-9 p.m. Call Gary Engle at 897-6325 or 248-2423.

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

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

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

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

EVERY THIRD TUES.: Saranac Scappers, scrapbooking/journaling group meets at 4 Health Wellness Center, Saranac, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. Bev or Melissa, 642-6466.

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

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

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

EVERY WED.: Rotary meets at noon at Lowell Masonic Temple, 119 Lincoln Lake Ave.

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

EVERY WED.: Tri-town Conservation Club trap & skeet league, 5616 Dunn Rd. 6-10 p.m. Call Larry 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, 12 p.m. Schneider Manor Community Room, 725 Bowes Rd.

EVERY SECOND WED.: Support group for Peripheral 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.

EVERY SECOND THURS.: Loyal Order of the Moose, men's general meeting at 7:30 p.m. - ? All members in good standing are invited to attend.

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

EVERY THURS.: Pottery classes at Franciscan Life Process Center, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Call 897-7842.

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

FIRST THURS.: 4-H drama club meeting, Lowell Middle School choir room. Call 897-1502 after 5 p.m.

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 at Christian Life Center 6-9 p.m. Create scrapbooks, share supplies. 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; Ada church. 752-8300.

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

EVERY FRI.: Arts/Crafts volunteers meet at Franciscan Life Process Center, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Call Pat or Judy at 897-7842 to meet new friends, share your talent.

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 Lake NE. 9 a.m. social time; 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 appointment. 676-9346.

LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM OPEN: Tues., Sat./Sun.: 1-4; Thurs., 1-8. Families: \$10; individuals \$3; 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.

ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY HOURS: Mon.- Wed., 12-8 p.m.; Thurs.-Fri.: 9:30-5 p.m.; Sat.: 9:30-2:30 p.m. 200 N. Monroe. Call 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. Call 897-8545.

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

EACH WED. - APRIL 7: Franciscan Life Process Center lunch thru Lenten season. Soup, fresh bread, dessert, beverage for a donation; 11:30 - 1:30 p.m. Call 897-7842 to RSVP.

THURS., MARCH 4: Vergennes Cooperative Club at Schneider Manor at 1 p.m. Bring wrapped Bingo prize (not over \$3). Hostesses: Norma Noall and Jeanne Shores. Sponsor: Phyllis Bieri. Bring items for FROM.

THURS., MARCH 4: Free commodities for low income families at Moose Recreation Hall, 9-4 p.m.

FRI. & SAT., MARCH 5-6: Maple Syrup Festival at Wittenbach Center, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. \$3/ booklet; also pancake breakfast Sat. \$3 or donation.

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

SUN., MARCH 7: Greenville Performing Arts Center, 111 N. Hillcrest, will present "In The Mood" 1940's Big Band at 3 p.m. Tickets: \$15 in advance/\$17 at door. Call 754-9163.

MON., MARCH 8: Deadline for registering for activities workshop (March 20) at Wittenbach Center, sponsored by Lowell Area Historical Museum. Call 897-7688 or stop at your school office for entry form.

THURS., MARCH 11: Academic Boosters meet at 8:30 a.m. in volunteer room of Lowell High School.

SAT., MARCH 13: Foodmobile at 4-H Fairgrounds, 10-11 a.m. Bring own box or bag. Distributed by FROM.

WED., MARCH 17: Metro Health Lowell Plaza, 2550 W. Main. 6:30 - 8 p.m. Series on exercise/ diabetes. Free; no registration.

SAT., MARCH 27: Lowell Community Expo at Lowell High School. Call 897-9161 for application or information.

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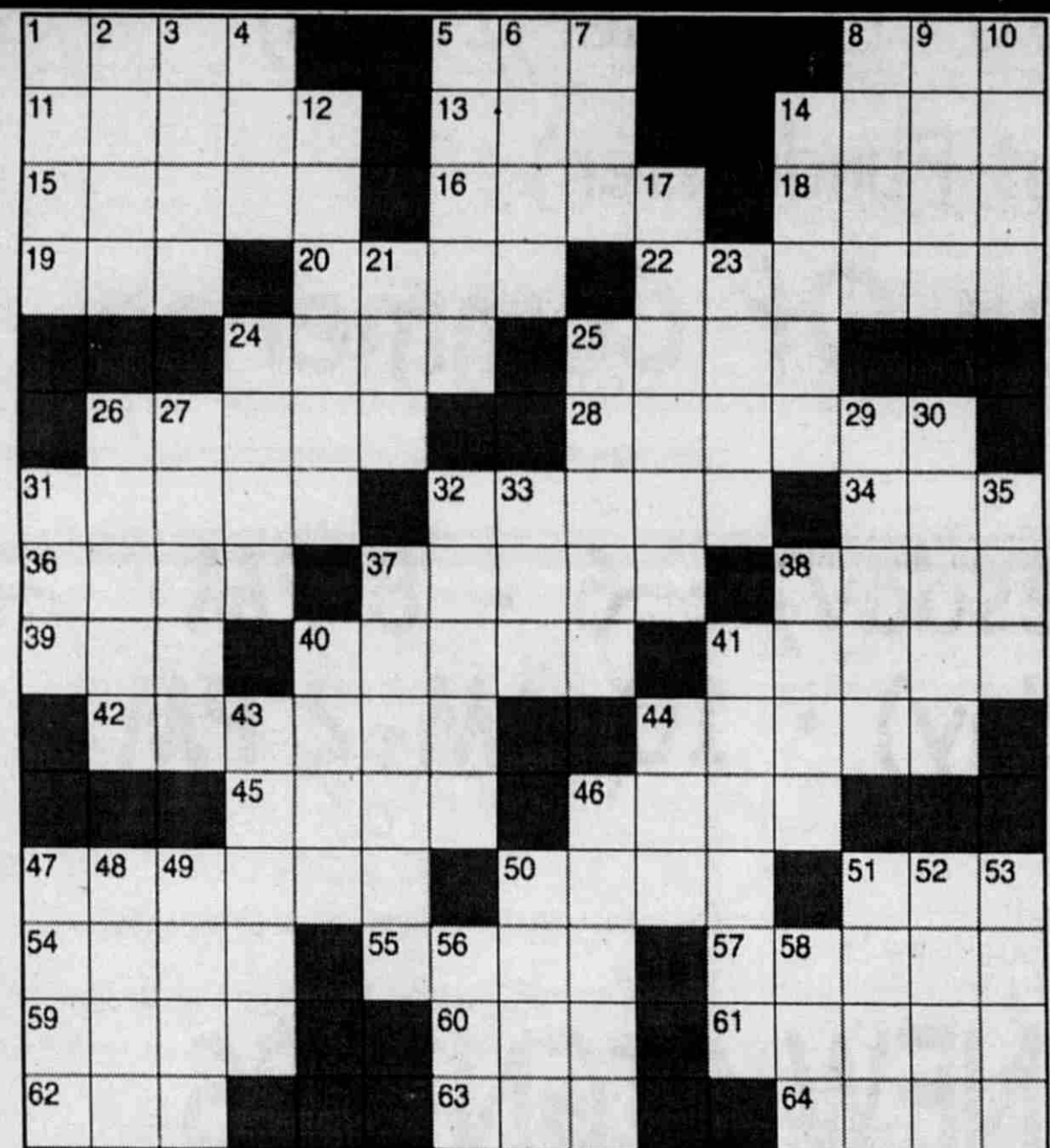
for career save percentage.

The Lowell-Caledonia hockey team had to wait a week to find out its standing in tier three of the OK hockey league. When the Buccaneers from Grand Haven defeated Unity Christian in a make-up game last Wednesday, it meant the Red Arrows were tied for the league championship.

Last Thursday, Lowell-Caledonia took a tough loss against Forest Hills Northern at Belknap Ice Arena, a.k.a. Griff's Icehouse in Grand Rapids. The Huskies got off to a slow start, tired after a

Hockey, cont'd., pg. 20

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- Frosts
- Cornic actor DeLuise
- Drummer's job
- Rush-hour train, often
- Sign of a happy pup
- Wealthy; Sp.
- Bonanza star Greene
- Full Moon and Empty
- Borodin's operatic prince
- RV interrupters
- Roman hawk
- Daimler's invention
- Never Cry (1983 film)
- Dog on The People's Choice
- Ancient plants
- Worshiped
- Spassky of chess
- Stylist's "office"
- Joe's Body (Reader's Digest offering) (2 wds.)
- Origin
- Sphere
- Entertainer Adams
- Freakish
- Golden-touch king
- Reside
- Lucius Annaeus
- Skeptical

DOWN

- Advertisers
- Scoter
- Light brown
- Joaquin
- Indoor fruit tree
- Bireme needs
- Hollywood studio
- 1958 Best Picture winner
- Little picture on a computer
- Bloodshed
- Duds
- Harshness
- Hardly ever
- Unser and Kaline

23. Deion Sanders' nickname

- Legal document
- Summons
- Victuals
- Crumble away
- Duck variety
- Superman's planet
- Sis's counterpart
- Where Napoleon III was captured
- Motorists' org.
- Blazing Saddles director Brooks
- Kitchen tools
- Decorative pitcher
- Communiqué
- Taj Mahal employee
- Cooper's Bumpo
- A little blue
- Expressed disapproval
- Hiker's gorp sweetener
- Nobelist Wiesel
- German city
- Romanticized vagabond
- Goldberg of gizmo fame
- Stately poems
- Grocery section
- Cartoonist Fisher ("Joe Palooka")
- Was in front

Basketball loses on the road in Greenville

By Dan Schneider

The Red Arrows basketball team traveled to Greenville last Friday and suffered a loss on the road. The Yellow Jackets won

the game 56-53 after a strong third quarter. Lowell had been leading the game up to that point.

The Red Arrows were in control 16-12 after the first quarter and 31-23 at the half. Greenville pulled to within two in the third quarter and were in the lead by the end of the game.

"We were down 54-50 with about 23 seconds left in the game and Shane Stokes hit a three-pointer to make it 54-53," Lowell coach Jeff McDonald said.

Then the Lowell coach sent David Cafmeyer to the line, where he made both shots for his only points of the night. Greenville was up by three with 16 seconds left in the game.

"We pushed the ball up the floor, Jason Hettinga had an attempt at a three-pointer but hit the rim," McDonald said. The Arrows rebounded and Mike Koster put up another three, but that shot missed its mark as well.

Sam Oberlin and Hettinga were the leading scorers for Lowell with 14 points each. Hettinga made four three-point shots on the night. Stokes put in three triples and contributed a total of 11 points to the Red Arrow effort.

"We got outrebounded on Friday and we also uncharacteristically turned the ball over against their half-court trap," McDonald said.

Lowell faced Unity Christian Tuesday night at home. A win would put them in a tie for second place in the OK White conference.

The Red Arrows host a team not yet determined Friday night in a crossover with the OK Gold conference.

Want to tell us how you feel? Got a Pet Peeve To Get Off Your Chest? Did someone do the RIGHT thing for a change!

Sound Off

The Ledger (Almost) Anything Goes Opinion Forum

897-0787 or

www.lowellbuyersguide.com

School Walk Zone Planners: Why have a meeting when it's a done deal? Prove you heard us and look closer at other ideas you have been given. Prove that you even care!

A question about Lowell's population - Are there really that many Hispanics in this area that we have to make the default at the ATM's Spanish?

It would be nice to see the Lowell Township Planning Commission and township meetings printed in the paper, even if in a brief form.

The yellow ribbons on the maple trees out front of the house on N. Monroe are for our returning troops, not for goofballs to rip down. You must have no sense of self-worth or any sense of purpose.

Has anyone noticed how bad Gree Drive is? The whole road is all torn up. It's difficult to drive on and impossible to walk or ride a bike on. Please fix it!

To the people who don't buy (city) garbage bags and dump their garbage and trash in dumpsters around town in different bags - this is against the law.

Lowell volleyball finishes second in OK White conference tourney

The Red Arrows lost twice to EGR in the double-elimination tournament

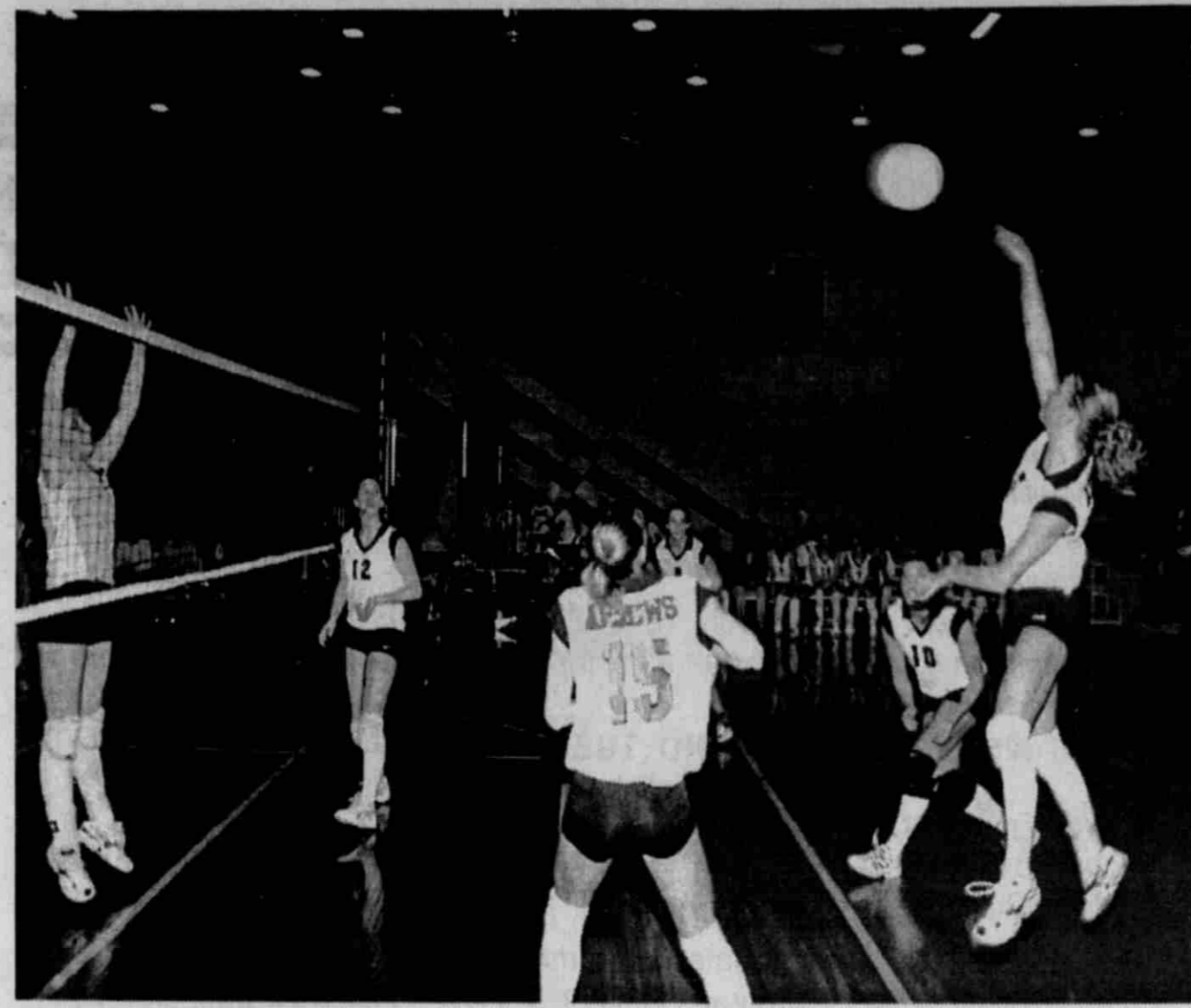
By Dan Schneider

The OK White volleyball conference, going undefeated through the season and the tournament. Lowell lost two

The Pioneers of East Grand Rapids dominated the conference, going undefeated through the season and the tournament. Lowell lost two matches against East Grand Rapids on Saturday, but the Red Arrows were the only team in the conference that got to face the Pioneers twice in the double-elimination tournament.

Lowell first faced East in the final round of the winners' bracket. To get there, they defeated Unity Christian in three games (won 15-6, lost 15-5, won 15-2) and Kenowa Hills in two (15-5 and 15-5).

After losing to East 15-6 and 15-6, Lowell again took on Kenowa Hills in the finals match of the losers' bracket. This second match against the Knights went to three games and lasted almost an hour and



Lowell's Samantha Mol puts the ball over the net Monday night against Zeeland. The Red Arrows lost to Zeeland after beating Coopersville and Grandville in the quad. Lowell took second last Saturday in the OK White conference tournament.

half. Lowell lost the first game 15-12, then won 15-7 and fought for the third victory, 15-12. In the championship finals against East, Lowell lost 15-7 and 15-1.

"We played really well, it

was a great day," said Gigi Peal, Lowell varsity volleyball coach. "Everybody contributed."

Lowell finished second in the OK White regular season. For Peal, the strong showing Saturday bolstered that status.

"When you take second in league play, there's always that question of what does that mean," Peal said. "Taking it in both showed them they can go up against really good schools and do well."

Lowell volleyball hosted a quad with Coopersville, Grandville and Zeeland on Monday. There was nothing at stake, really, but it was a chance for more experience before Saturday's district tournament.

"It's just another night of competition instead of five days of practice," Peal said. Lowell beat Coopersville in two games, 15-6 and 15-5. The Arrows beat Grandville,

15-12 and 15-0. Both games in Lowell's last match of the night went to Zeeland, 15-13 and 15-9. The second game seemed to require at least five sideouts per point.

Peal is excited about seeing all the work in practices and matches throughout the season now paying off. "Everyone's playing just great volleyball," Peal said, of Monday. "And it continued into tonight and if anything, got better tonight. They were playing some of the best volleyball they've played all year."

"And it's not just one person, two people... it's everyone on the team doing what they need to do."

The Red Arrows will try for a district championship at Owosso on Saturday. Lowell has a bye in the first round and will play the winner of a match between Owosso and Mount Pleasant in the semifinals.

HELP WANTED

Stock Building Supply is seeking qualified candidates for the position of office administrator. Accounts payable and receivable experience preferred. Stock Building Supply is a progressive company with an outstanding compensation package. Please forward your resume to:

STOCK Building Supply

925 W. Main, Lowell, MI 49331
ATTN: Sandra Struik
No Phone Calls Please

SYNOPSIS BOWNE TOWNSHIP BOARD

Regular Board Meeting
February 16, 2004, 7:30 p.m.

MOTIONS APPROVED:

Minutes of January 19th board meeting and January 30th special meeting were approved.

List of invoices were approved.

Motion to add photo eyes to parking light fixture and replace fixture above front door.

Motion to approve increase of \$10.00 per hour for computer services.

Complete copies of the minutes are available at the Township Office at 8240 Alden Nash SE, PO Box 35, Alto, MI 49302-0035 or at the Website: clerk@bownetwp.cc

Next meeting, March 15, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. Township Hall, 8240 Alden Nash SE, Alto.

Mari Stone
Vergennes Township Clerk

Sandra L. Kowalczyk
Bowne Township Clerk

SYNOPSIS REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOWELL CITY COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 17, 2004, 7:30 P.M.

Minutes of the February 2, 2004 Regular Meeting were approved as corrected and bills and the accounts payable were approved.

The following items were presented and discussed:

- New and existing business information packets.
- Streets improvements plan proposal.
- City contracted services.
- Motion to adjourn at 8:16 p.m. The next Regularly Scheduled Meeting will be Monday, March 1, 2004.

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

Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk
City of Lowell

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP Notice of Ordinance Adoption

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Ordinance 2004-1, consisting of several amendments pertaining to minimum square foot requirements of dwelling units of the Vergennes Township Zoning Ordinance, was adopted at a Regular Meeting of the Vergennes Township Board on February 16, 2004. The following is a summary of the text amendments:

Chapter 2 Definitions, Section 201.202
The amendments add a new definition as follows:
Ground Floor: That floor of a dwelling whose elevation is nearer to grade than other floors of the dwelling and is not a basement and no part of which is a basement. For a split-level dwelling, the ground floor shall be that floor whose elevation is nearer to grade than other floors of the dwelling and is not a basement and no part of which is a basement; plus any upper or lower extension of such floor accessed by an internal stairway and located at an elevation that is not more than three (3) feet above or below the grade of the site.

Chapter 3 Zoning Districts
Amend R-2, Section 201.306 (C) (E), to add 2 family dwellings as a special use with a minimum lot area and width. Section (G) amends the minimum floor area for dwellings in all districts from currently 900 square feet on the first floor to requiring a minimum total of 1150 square feet with a minimum of 750 square feet on the ground floor (for a 2 story house, etc).

Amend R-3, Section 201.306A (E) (d) and (G), to add a maximum of 6 dwelling units for each multiple family building and to add minimum square footages for 1, 2, 3, or more bedroom units.

Amend Section 201.311, the Bulk Table, to reflect the above changes.

The complete text of Ordinance 2004-1 can be reviewed at the Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Drive, PO Box 208, Lowell, MI 49331 - Phone: (616) 897-5671 [fax 897-5674] or on the website (ordinance amendments) at www.vergennestwp.org. This ordinance takes effect 8 days after publication.

FOR SALE

HOUSE FOR SALE - Sharp 3 bedroom home, 1 1/2 baths, oak kitchen cabinets with some kitchen appliances included, finished basement with pellet burner, private backyard with deck and patio, \$122,900. 281 Jane Ellen Dr. 897-8120.

LOWELL HOUSE FOR SALE - New 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath w/fireplace in great room, deck, daylighted, large 2 stall insulated garage. \$219,000. VanderKlok Builders, 897-7145.

\$175 BERBER CARPET - Beautiful oatmeal, 40 yards. (new, still in plastic). 517-719-0451.

VIDEO EQUIPMENT - camera, tripod, floodlights, converter; (photo, slides, 8 mm film). Sound mixer. Make offer. 987-9166.

\$150 KING AMISH LOG BED - W/mattress, 2 mos. old. 517-204-0600.

FOR SALE - 2 horse horse trailer, \$700 or best offer. Must sell. Call 813-8992.

2000 GMC EXT. CARGO VAN - 3/4 ton, burgundy, 43,000 miles, AC, cassette, \$11,300. Call 897-1597 or 450-7910.

MEMORY FOAM - Mattress set. NASA developed, visco memory cell. Relieves pressure points. Never used. Queen \$600, also full & king. Call 682-4767 or 293-6160, can deliver.

\$49/SET MATTRESS/BOX SPRING SALE - Queen, full or twin, factory new, delivery available. Dennis Distributing 989-224-4822.

"OWNER MUST SELL" \$1,200 down, \$499.00 a month. 3/4 bdrm "Master Suite" Immediate occ. All appliances Must go by March 21st. Call 616-647-2563.

8 MONTH OLD LAB/ GOLDEN RETRIEVER MIX - female, \$25. Moving. Call Jennifer 897-9157, leave message.

RAMADA INN BUY-OUT - Clean, sanitized mattress sets, w/frames. Most sizes, 10 sets. \$49 up. Dennis Distributing 989-224-4822.

FURNITURE - A piece, a houseful. 10,000 items. Bedroom, dining & leather living room sets, & more! All new! Wholesale. Call for selection 682-4767 or 293-6160.

LAND/HOME - BELDING SCHOOLS - ALL WOODED LOTS - 3 bdrm 2 ba, 2 car garage, \$775 a month. All appliances \$500 down. Be in by Summer. Call 1-800-615-1224.

2000 JEEP CHEROKEE - 4X4, 4 dr., white, loaded, 50,000 miles. \$8,800. Call 897-1597 or 450-7910.

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

OWNER MUST SELL - by April 1st, 3br/1ba \$399 a month. Ready to move in \$1,000 down. All appliances. Call 616-291-2994.

FOR SALE

PROPERTY FOR SALE - 2.2 acre lots for sale. M-21 to Hayes Rd., Muir, North 1/4 mile. Lots are on West Side of road. Look for signs. For more information call eyes 269-367-4900. Phil Bishop.

APPLIANCES - Maytag, Whirlpool, GE, washers, dryers, refrigerators, over 100 in stock from \$59. Dennis Distributing 989-224-4822.

VIOLIN - full size, Knilling, w/case & bow, like new, \$225. Call 897-7681.

MATTRESS SETS - Brand names. All sizes; low wholesale prices. Don't be fooled by fake pillowtop, used hotel (yuk), or bait & switch ads. Buy with confidence. Prices starting at \$95. Call 682-4767 or 293-6160, can deliver.

'96 FORD F-150 - 2 WD, green, \$4,500. Call 897-1597 or 450-7910.

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

FOR SALE BY OWNER - 3+ BR ranch, 2 1/2 bath, fireplace, AC, attached garage, 5 acres on private road. 158 Bahala Dr. NE. First listing - \$244,900. If qualified call 897-0752.

DAVID'S BRIDAL GOWN - Never worn, tags still attached. Original price \$1000. Short-sleeved, V-neck, grand cathedral train. Beautiful dress, will sell for \$525 obo. Call 642-0395.

1989 CHEVY BLAZER 4x4 - Great engine, 4.3, 4 WD, good tires, may need work on trans. \$500 obo. Also 1985 Tempo, \$200. Call 581-2337.

BUNK BED - Oak, has mattresses (2 mos. old). Sell \$125. 517-719-0451.

1998 CHEVY VAN CONVERSION - Burgundy, loaded, 70,000 miles, \$8,500. Call 897-1597 or 450-7910.

AIR BED - Selecta Comfort firmness for each of you. As seen at mall or on TV. Dual chambers, fully adjustable, remote control, w/warranty. Must sell. NEVER used. \$600. Call 682-4767 or 293-6160.

GETTING MARRIED? - Decorating yourself to save \$? Check out my mauve decorations-used only once! 4 medium rose buds, 8 large single stem roses, 2 beaded pears/ 2 apples, 5 greenery/ grape sprays, 1 roll silver tulle, bridal bouquet and groom's boutonniere, swan cake topper, 2 mini swans & loose greenery- all for \$90! Plus 2 white purses, size 8.5 white crepe shoes, pearl/rhinestone drop necklace/ earring set & headpiece/veil-negotiable. 897-8989.

TAKING BIDS FOR EVELYN RHOADES ESTATE - Lake front walkout ranch on Morrison Lake; lakefront stone house; 5 lots with lake access; 15.65 acre parcel on Goodemout Rd.; and 26.43 acre parcel corner of Brooks and Elm Rd. Call 693-3026 for appointment.

CLASSIFIEDS DEADLINE MONDAYS AT 5 PM TO PLACE AN AD

In Person: 105 N. Broadway, Lowell
By Mail: PO BOX 128, Lowell, MI 49331
By Phone: 616-897-9261
By Fax: 616-897-4809
By Email: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com

IS ALMOST HERE!
Clean out your closets, garages & basements before summer!
Place an ad in the Ledger to sell your unwanted or unused items! Someone could be looking for those items!

Classified ad rates:
15 words...\$1
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FOR RENT

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

FOR RENT - Unique 2 bedroom loft style apartment in historic downtown Lowell. First & last month's rent required, w/\$500 deposit. No pets. Call 897-0222.

APARTMENT/DUPLEX FOR RENT - 1 bedroom. Cascade Rd. & Snow Ave. Country setting close to Allitor and Cascade Village shopping. \$475 per month. Trash, snow removal and lawn service included. Separate utilities. 868-7167.

2 BEDROOM APARTMENT IN ALTO - upstairs, no pets, utilities paid, \$450. 868-6091.

CABIN FOR RENT - in Irons. Sleeps 6+, \$50/night or \$300/wk. Call 682-4586 and leave a message.

HELP WANTED

MANPOWER - is currently seeking Experienced Inspector Workers. Must have good attention to detail and able to spot defects in parts. Committed to working everyday and giving their best. Call Manpower today at 616-897-0050 or stop into our office at 505 D W. Main St., Lowell.

HELP WANTED - Weekends. Experienced horse groom. Apply in person at Meadowview Farm, 9914 Vergennes.

HELP WANTED - Local area concrete sawing and drilling co., now accepting applications for full and seasonal employment. Construction and mechanical experience a plus. Must have good driving record. Physical and drug test required. Excellent earning potential with benefits. Send resume Attn: Concut, 443 Jefferson SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 or call 616-451-2886.

POLEBARNS - Serving all of West Michigan. Residential/ Commercial/ Agricultural. Horse arenas; post frame garages; steel, wood or vinyl siding; mini storages; warehouses; free estimates. Call DeZeeuw Builders 616-866-7430. www.dzbuilders.com

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

AT HOME AMERICA - Earn free & reduced homewares. Check catalog online or call me to schedule a party. www.athome.com / carolhamilton 897-5004.

SOUND OFF PHONE LINE 897-0787

THE LOWELL LEDGER-WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 2004 - PAGE 19

HELP WANTED

MANPOWER - is currently seeking Experienced Industrial Workers with good math skills, high school diploma/GED, able to lift 50 lbs consistently. Forklift experience a must. Call Manpower today at 616-897-0050 or stop into our office at 505 D W. Main St., Lowell.

INSIDE SALES - Manufacturing and distribution facility in motorsports industry seeks motivated energetic person for part time/full time inside sales position. Room for advancement to full time hours & benefits after 12 days. Responsibilities include contacting current dealers-customers to check stock & sell new products. Minimum 1 year telephone sales experience, excellent communication skills & general computer experience required. Starting wage \$8.00 plus commission. Call 616-897-9803 Thursday, March 4 & Friday, March 5.

HELP WANTED - Performance Plus Quick Lube is searching for qualified, motivated lube technicians in the Lowell area for both full- and part-time positions. We offer competitive wages and a benefits package including insurance, 401(k), paid vacations, and holidays. Apply at 2000 W. Main Street.

WANTED

CAN YOU HELP US? - We are looking to buy a small parcel of land (2-3 acres) to build our home. Close to the Lowell, Saranac, Cascade area, preferably close to I-96. Please call w/any info. Ask for Darrell 987-6481, cell 989-277-5902.

MEET ME AT VOYAGES COFFEE SHOP - Thurs, March 4 at 5:15 p.m. Find out more about At Home America www.athome.com / carolhamilton 897-5004.

IRA COMING DUE? - Up to 24% return. Call 676-1618.

LOOKING TO CLEAN HOMES & SMALL BUSINESSES - in the Cascade, Ada & Lowell area. Call the Cleaning Crew 745-4163 or 915-5727. Reasonable rates!

HOUSE AND PET SITTING - Need someone to help out while you're away? Experienced house & pet sitter available. References upon request. Anna 691-7978.

HOUSECLEANING - One time cleaning and organizing or on a regular basis. Experienced with references. Lila 691-7978.

A REMINDER TO ALL MY CUSTOMERS - I am now working at DESIGN I in Cascade on 28th St. and I will honor all competitor coupons. See you soon! Angi Ladd.

SERVICES

NEW LICENSED DAYCARE OPENINGS - North of Lowell. Several openings. Crafts & activities planned. Lowell busing available. Call 897-3065.

ELDERLY FOSTER CARE HOME HAS OPENINGS - for male or female. Experienced, loving home. Contact Sheila, 949-0468.

BUCKS AUCTIONS AND ESTATE SALES - (helping people help themselves) Now booking for Spring 2004. For consultation call 897-5200 or 897-7222.

C.D. MATURING? - How about 7.1%. Call 676-1618.

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

PIANO INSTRUCTION - Popular local teacher has openings for new students. Children have fun learning with a patient teacher everything from classical to jazz, and using the latest technology in music teaching software for theory. Ages 6 and up. Please call Deborah at 897-9485 or email: MissMeowic@msn.com.

SMALL BUSINESSES - If your business is too small to hire office help but you need someone to do your payroll, accounts receivable/payable, monthly & quarterly tax reports, call me. I will use my computer & software in my home office. Excellent rates. Call 616-723-6860, cell.

State wrestling finals, continued...From Page 14

a couple toss-ups and tonight we couldn't turn any," Hemboldt said.

Lowell beat a young Byron Center wrestling squad 44-16 in the first round of the regional.

"Lowell's a great program," Byron Center coach Art Ward said. "They've been in the finals the last three years and that's where we want to be, they didn't get there overnight."

Byron Center may factor into Lowell's shot at the state finals next year. The Bulldogs

have a good foundation to start on.

"In my line-up I had three seniors and three juniors," Ward said. "We're really happy about what we have coming back."

Sparta defeated Grand Rapids Catholic Central in their first match, 46-24.

When Lowell went to Battle Creek in 2002, they were the ranked favorites. The state finals tournament should be a crazy, wide-open contest this year. Matches between the strong teams can go

either way depending on who comes out to wrestle.

"There is so much parity this year in Division II . . . teams that can go one way one week and another way the next week" Strejc said.

The team Lowell faces in Friday's state quarterfinal, Flint Kearsley, showed how tough they can wrestle last Wednesday. They narrowly upset Lapeer West, 30-29, in the first round of the Flint Kearsley regional. They beat Owosso to make the state finals.

The state quarterfinals begin Friday at 7:45 at the Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek. Semifinals are at noon Saturday, March 6 and the state championship finals match starts at 5 p.m. Tickets for the whole finals tournament are \$15. Tickets for each session cost \$6.

At last Saturday's individual wrestling regionals at

Owosso, Lowell advanced five wrestlers to state finals competition.

Joe Mendez finally won a regional championship. At the 130 weight, he pinned Nate Basel in 1:19.

Mat Kilmartin won the regional championship at 135, beating Petosky's James Archambault by a 7-5 decision.

David Kropf lost 7-6 in his final round against Matt Beechler of West Branch Ogemaw Heights to take second place at 125.

Kevin Frazier lost by injury-default against Jason Brew of Sparta at 140.

Jayne DeLiefde won third place at 145, pinning Lenny Stewart of Mona Shores in 1:58.

Hockey, continued...From page 16

big win out at Muskegon Reeths Puffer.

They didn't have a great season, finishing it 10-13 overall, but they put together a

good game at Muskegon and another against Lowell-Caledonia. The Arrows had the better end of the action for the first two periods. They

were up 2-1 after the first period when the Huskies scored a quick goal that took some of the wind out of their sails. Lowell-Caledonia was back up 3-2 going into the third period, however. Forest Hills Northern won by a score of 4-3.

"I thought we played a really good game," coach Ballard said. "We just weren't able to capitalize on a few opportunities."

Lowell-Caledonia was playing without McCoy in that game. "The team played really well but Ted has the capabilities of changing the direction of the game," Ballard explained. "Northern knew our situation and they just kept at us. They're a good team and they don't stop skating."

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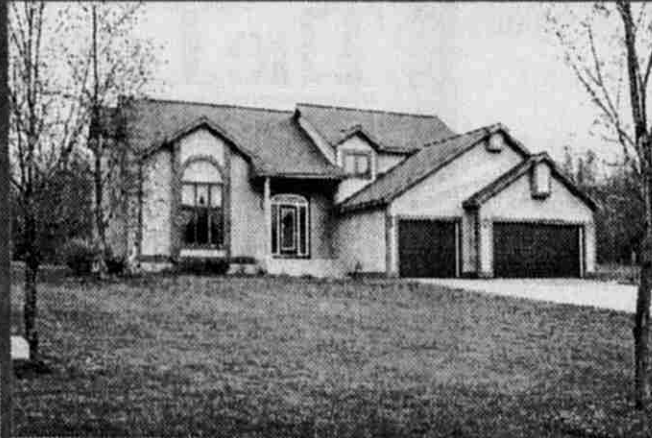
Lowell: New, Gorgeous Views!

A Sundry showpiece! Amenities include a master suite with tray ceilings, sitting area with gorgeous view, deluxe bath and 10x10WIC, 9' ceilings, living room with stunning fireplace and window seat. Gorgeous maple cabinetry in a meticulously designed kitchen with large center island and walk-in pantry. Hardwood floors, bonus room, recessed lighting; upgrades abound. Walkout level is plumbed for a 3rd full bathroom, 2 more possible bedrooms, and large family room. All in Bloomington Hills with 23-acre conservancy and community park. \$294,900 Pat Schaefer More info at www.patschaefer.com



Lowell: Builder's Home!

Inviting, custom-built 3 bedroom home is builder's personal residence. Enhanced with many upgrades: hardwood floors; handcrafted cabinets, cupboards and closets. This exceptional home is located on 2+ acres in Lowell School District. The superior workmanship and the location of this home will make your friends and family drool. Built by ROBERT RAYMOND BUILDER, Inc. A quality home giving you affordable luxury! \$229,000 Suzie Reinbold



Lowell: Simple Elegance!

This elegant home at 3101 Kissing Rock Lane is on 4 beautifully landscaped acres with 3 bedrooms, 3 full baths and main floor laundry. Fieldstone fireplace reaches to the vaulted ceiling in the large family room. Corian countertops grace the kitchen with light oak cabinets. Formal dining room. Four seasons room, 32x52-additional garage. Call for a private tour to see ALL the extras. Between Cascade & Lowell. \$310,000 Joice Smith

OPEN SUNDAY, FEB. 29 • 1-3

1893 Berrywood

(M-21 to Settlewood, N to Berrywood)



Lowell: Almost New!

Quality 3 bedroom, 2 bath walkout ranch with a stone fireplace in living room. Dining area has slider to a large deck overlooking wooded rear yard. Convenient main floor utility. Great walkout level. Great location surrounded by newer homes. Only 3 years old! \$188,500 Pat & Toni Schaefer Hosted by: Mark Christiansen More info at www.patschaefer.com



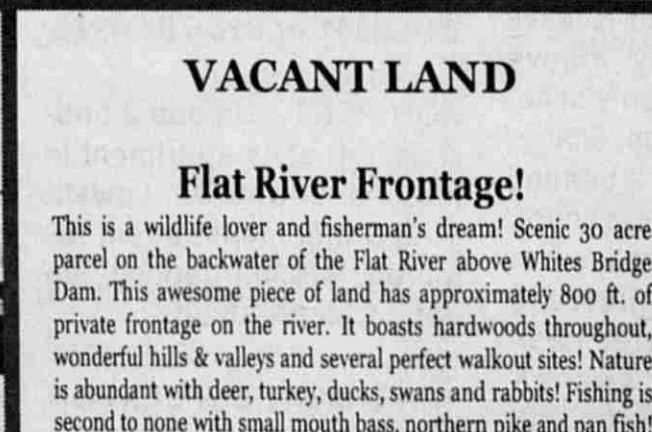
Lowell: New Listing!

Charming 3 bedroom in the heart of Lowell! Come and check out all the enticing updates including newer plumbing, electrical, paint, Pergo flooring, oak trim, tile, windows and a new roof. Just move on in! You will be able to enjoy entertaining your friends and family on one of the many outdoor areas. Choose from a 15x20 screen porch with an 8x30 wrap-around deck or the delightful 7x20 covered front porch. What more could you want all in fantastic Lowell Schools! \$Affordable! Mark Christiansen



Charm & Character!

This charming, meticulously maintained, all stone home will catch the eye of any passer by! The character shows through in the original, untouched woodwork, hardwood floors, ceiling beams, and the beautiful built-ins. The living room is bright and cheerful with tons of windows and has French doors leading to the formal dining room. Home has a full basement, 2-stall garage, fenced backyard, all stone porch, new roof, built-in dining nook and much, much more. \$119,900 Toni Schaefer More info at www.patschaefer.com



VACANT LAND

Flat River Frontage!

This is a wildlife lover and fisherman's dream! Scenic 30 acre parcel on the backwater of the Flat River above Whites Bridge Dam. This awesome piece of land has approximately 800 ft. of private frontage on the river. It boasts hardwoods throughout, wonderful hills & valleys and several perfect walkout sites! Nature is abundant with deer, turkey, ducks, swans and rabbits! Fishing is second to none with small mouth bass, northern pike and pan fish! Only 10 miles to the center of Lowell! More land available! Pat Schaefer

Lowell!

4.5 acre hilltop setting. Great walkout site cleared for building. Secluded, wildlife abounds, perked & surveyed. \$68,000 Pat Schaefer



Lowell: Private Lake Frontage!

Delightful year round cottage on all sports Big Crooked Lake. Home includes 50 ft. of private frontage with excellent fishing and great swimming in the summer. Newer windows, central air-conditioning, furnace & hot water heater. All appliances included! Very deep lot is perfect for future additions. \$139,900! Toni Schaefer More info at www.patschaefer.com



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