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# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 30 Issue 20

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

## Not leaving - just changing direction

— Lowell Auto Body will continue to do body work but will add new line of custom vehicles

By Dan Schneider

**L**owell Auto Body is not closing. The building is for sale to help the company make a transition into a new type of business.

The body shop is taking steps to increase its focus on the production of hearses and other coach-built service cars.

"What we really want to do is find an investor who can buy the building," said Rance Bennett, who owns the shop with his father, Bill. "It would give us the capital to buy the chassis to do the conversions."

The body shop hopes to find a buyer for the building, then lease the space after it is sold. On March 13, the shop auctioned off some unwanted body parts that had been lying around and some outdated equipment.

In the next month, the name will change from Lowell Auto Body to Bennett Coachworks. The shop intends to stay in the same place and continue to perform collision work for its customers.

"We're not going out of the body business, it's just a name change and kind of heading in a new direction for Rance," Bill Bennett said. "We're going to try to take care of our old customers."

"We still want the customers we've had," Rance Bennett said.

*New direction for body shop, pg. 14*



Not closing. The "for sale" signs are up because the shop wants to sell its real estate to get capital to build a new line of hearses.

## Planning commission to review private road ordinance

By J. Lobdell  
Contributing Writer

**S**eeing inconsistencies in its current private road ordi-

nance, the Lowell Planning Commission has begun the process of changing the ordinance.

During a work session some months ago, the com-

mission set down goals it wished to accomplish. One of those goals was to review the private road ordinance because of the number of varying sizes which currently ex-

ist with already approved and/or constructed private roads, said Department of Public Works director Dan DesJarden.

The variations range from

Godfrey Court, which is 26 feet in width with no curb, and a right of way of 66 feet, to Clark Street, which will be 27 feet with the curb, and a 50-foot right of way. "I think having something in place would certainly help developers coming in," said commission member Jim Hall. "They would have something that would say 'this is what it

is."

Through a survey, DesJarden discovered that of the 14 municipalities he talked to, 10 indicate that a private road must meet the city's current specifications for local streets, similar to the city's

*Road ordinance, cont'd.,  
pg. 14*

## ZBA sets public hearing on Sundry's slope variance request

By J. Lobdell  
Contributing Writer

**T**he Zoning Board of Appeals has decided to hear a variance request from an area developer despite questions of whether the actual ordinance needs to be revised.

At its meeting Monday night, the city council, acting as the Zoning Board of Appeals and headed by councilman Jim Pfaller, unanimously decided to hold a public hearing at its next meeting, March 29, for Sundry Corporation.

Sundry is seeking a variance on the amount of slope that is disqualified from the open space preservation act.

Currently, the ordinance states anything over 20 percent cannot be counted toward the property's open space requirements of 20 to 40 percent of the total piece of property. That requirement would disqualify the property at 753 Grindle from the ordinance, said city manager David Pasquale. After some review, the planning commission decided the slope should be raised to 50 percent, citing

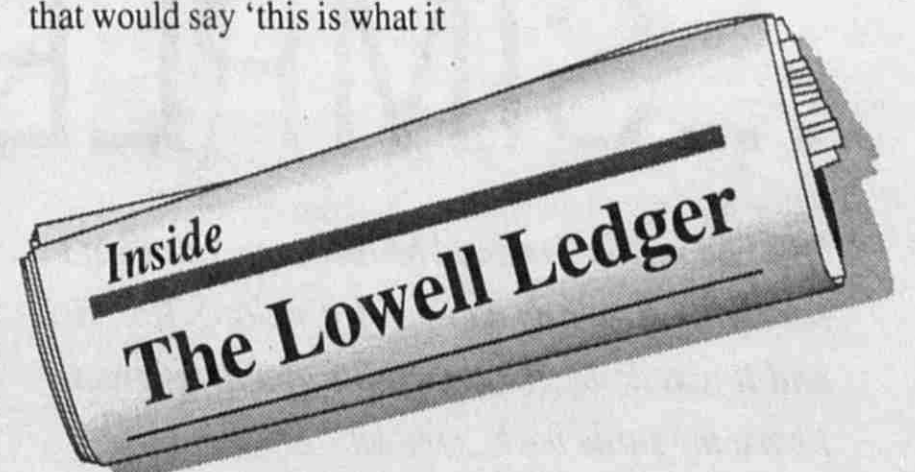
they felt 20 percent was too severe, Pasquale said. No one from the planning commission was at Monday night's city council meeting.

Pfaller wondered if the city would face other issues dealing with the slope and questioned whether the ordinance should be changed. "We don't think there is going to be another issue on this; in fact, when we first put this ordinance together, there was a question as to whether it was going to be used at all," Pasquale said.

Councilman Al Mathews

said he wanted to know where the 20 percent in the city ordinance came from. Pasquale said the original state requirement makes no mention of a slope grade. It is believed that former councilman Dan Brubaker, who put the ordinance together, got the 20 percent slope grade from a model ordinance, Pasquale said. If the grade is changed from 20 to 50 percent, would that not affect the total number of units on the property?" asked councilman Charles Myers.

*Variance request,  
cont'd. pg. 17*



Roadside Attraction at  
LAAC...Page 8

Land Preservation Forum...Page 9

Making Maple Syrup...Pages 10-11



## OBITUARIES

**DORAN** - The Mass of Christian burial for Lt. Col. (Ret.) Robert A. Doran was offered on Thursday, March 18, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, with The Rev. Rock J. Badgerow presiding. Burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Parnell. Military honors under the auspices of the U.S. Army Reserve. Those planning an expression of sympathy may contribute to St. Patrick's Catholic Church or Visiting Nurse Hospice.

Hansel; sister-in-law Linda (Pete) Sutherland; brother-in-law Ron (Kathy) Taylor; six grandchildren; one and a half great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. Services will be held Friday, March 26 at 1 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Lowell, 2275 W. Main St., Rev. Lee Taylor officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to American Cancer Society.

**GROVE** - Deborah K. (nee Rosloniec), aged 44, of Lowell, passed away unexpectedly Tuesday, March 16, 2004. Debbie was preceded in death by her mother Dolores, father-in-law William, step-daughter Amanda, brother-in-law Mike. Surviving are her husband Randy; two sons

**GRAHAM** - Scott Carr Graham, "The Greatest," aged 59, of Lowell, passed away March 21, 2004. He is survived by his wife of 34 years Dianne; daughters Dylene (Dan) Sikkenga, Michele (Scott) Purcell; sister Joyce (Tom)

Brandon and Eric; father Florian Rosloniec; mother-in-law Patricia Grove; siblings Greg and Julie Rosloniec, Bob and Sue Armstrong, Carol Gornowich, Greg Rosloniec, Dave and Terri Winstanley; brothers and sisters-in-law Neil and Shirley Grove, Jim Grove; many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Cremation has taken place. Visitation will be held Saturday March 27, from 1-2:30 p.m. with a memorial service scheduled for 2:30 at New Life Christian Fellowship at 2777 Knapp N.E.

**KAUFFMAN** - Marguerite R. Kauffman, aged 88, formerly of Alto, passed away Monday, March 22, 2004. She was born October 7, 1915, to Orvin and Ruby (Bell) Allerding. Marguerite and her husband Frank had been dairy farmers in the Alto area for over 60 years and had been active in the Farm Bureau. Marguerite and Frank were also charter members of the Calvary Grace Brethren Church where Marguerite served as the organist for many years. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Frank, son Tho-

mas Kauffman, daughter Virginia Smith and sister Phyllis Tyler. Marguerite is survived by her sons Murray Kauffman of Clarksville, Hillis (Jan) Kauffman of Battle Creek; daughter-in-law Inez Kauffman of Alto; son-in-law Bill Smith of Alto; three grandchildren; sister Patricia Kowalczyk of Alto. Visitation 5-8 p.m. on March 24 at the Koops Memorial Chapel in Clarksville. The funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday at the Calvary Grace Brethren Church. Burial will be in Bowne Mennonite Cemetery. The family has sug-

gested that memorial contributions may be made to the Gideons or Calvary Grace Brethren Church Mission Fund.

**KEMPKER** - Mrs. JoAnn M. Kempker (nee Nicholes), aged 45, of Lowell, passed away unexpectedly Tuesday, March 16, 2004. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Saturday at St. Mary's Church, Grand Rapids. Interment Mt. Calvary Cemetery. Memorial contributions to American Heart Association will be appreciated.

## Identify these kids - win a dinner for 2

This picture of the seventh-grade class in front of the old Lowell High School on Monroe Street was taken in 1940. The person who can name the most people and who has the earliest postmark will win a dinner for two at Larkin's. Deadline is March 31. Please list names and place in an envelope marked "Lowell Area Historical Museum." Mail entries to: P.O. Box 81, Lowell, MI 49331.



Mistakes are part of the dues one pays for a full life.

—Sophia Loren

### Thank You

To all who did so much for us during Paul's illness and death, a big thank you. For the comforting cards and encouraging notes, the beautiful floral arrangements, the delicious food, the visits he enjoyed.

For those who came to the graveside services and the luncheon afterward. The ladies from Alto Baptist Church, who prepared the food and those who served the luncheon. Pastor Steven Harduk for his meaningful message. Thank you to those who gave the generous donations for Juvenile Diabetes. For the nurses from Hospice for all their help. And especially for all the prayers for strength and comfort. "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." Matt 11:28

Words can't express how thankful we are for all your thoughtfulness and support.

—The Paul Dintaman Family

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## Alto branch offers program on covered bridges/schoolhouses

Dianna Stampler, of the West Michigan Tourist Association (WMTA), will share a

slide show focusing on covered bridges and one-room schoolhouses in April. Participants are asked to bring a picture of a one-room schoolhouse, if possible.

Originally, bridges were covered to protect their wooden surfaces from rain. At one time Michigan had 7,000 one-room schoolhouses; now fewer than 2,000

can be found. Many are open for public tours.

Stampler will bring history alive on Thursday, April 8 at 7 p.m. at the Alto branch library. Registration is required. Call 647-3820. All participants will receive a copy of the annual *West Michigan: Carefree Travel Fall/Winter Guide*, published by WMTA.

## Main St. historical building transformed into new design business

By Dan Schneider

A new business has moved into the space once occupied by the Lowell State Savings Bank. It's an interior design studio called Hearthstone.

It has been open since the beginning of March and has transformed the interior of the old building from a blackened disarray to an interesting space.

"We've put a lot of work into this building as far as showing what we can do with remodeling, especially with historic buildings," Shannon Parnofiello said. "We basically had to replace everything but we replaced it in a way that it looks like it's always been here."

"That's what we special-

ize in is historical restoration or theme restoration."

The first floor of their building, 218 E. Main, is the showroom. Examples of fabric, trim and fixtures occupy most of the space. The rest is divided into small rooms, each decorated in a different theme to demonstrate the studio's variety of capabilities. The upstairs is the design room and office. The studio currently employs three designers including the owner. Parnofiello has been in the design business for about five years. Until now, she worked out of her home near Belding.

"The location didn't really matter because I work in Detroit, Battle Creek, the

Lakeshore, all over," Parnofiello said.

She chose Lowell in part because of the availability of a historic building surrounded by a well-kept and historic downtown. The growth in the Grand Rapids area was another reason. She believes having a showroom downtown will help localize her business.

"I think it's a nice town worth investing in," Parnofiello said. "And I have invested in it."

The restoration of the state bank building took a year to complete. Parnofiello encourages anyone to stop in and see how it looks. Hearthstone Design will also have a booth at the Lowell Community Expo.



Mary Ann Haggerty, designer and Shannon Parnofiello, owner, in the showroom of Hearthstone Design Studio. The business has been open since the beginning of the month.

## City council wraps up a few details in Monday's meeting

By J. Lobdell  
Contributing Writer

The Lowell City Council did a bit of house cleaning at its Monday night meeting, putting through three ordinance changes and approving a police dispatch services agreement.

For well over a year, the city has worked to develop a fence ordinance that would help clarify to residents what would and would not be allowed within the city. Tied to that was a change in the hard surface driveways to primary buildings, a project that has been tossed around for a couple of years.

The council unanimously approved both changes Monday night. The changes in the fence ordinance are designed to spell out what is considered

a fence, wall, and privacy screen. Fences or walls that are greater than 50 percent solid cannot exceed a total height of 48 inches (4 feet) in a required front yard or 72 inches (6 feet) in any other area. Measurement shall be from the finished grade to the top of the fence. Posts are not considered part of the fence unless the height is believed to be an obstruction of view by the zoning enforcement officer. Driveways to primary accessory buildings must be hard surface and at least 10 feet in width.

Also approved was a change to the historic district ordinance that would eliminate the requirement of a planning commission member to serve on the his-

toric district commission. This was found to be in direct conflict with state requirements.

At the same meeting, the council by consensus approved the appointment of former councilman Mike Blough to the historic district commission, on which he served as a planning commissioner.

At the recommendation of chief of police Jim Valentine, the council approved a one-year extension on its dispatch services agreement with the city of Walker.

With the council's discussion on reviewing contracts, Valentine said he did seek a bid from the Kent

County Sheriff's Department, the only other agency which offers dispatch service. The sheriff's department came in at \$29,000 versus \$18,000 for the city of Walker.

Valentine said he is not certain how the sheriff's department arrived at its number, but from information he received, the department does

base the amount on adding another person to the dispatch service. Through the recent addition of computers in the cars, Valentine said his police force has been able to reduce the amount of radio traffic and reliance on dispatch because officers are able to run people and plates through the computers.

He recommended going with Walker not only because of the price, but because the city has used them for the past several years. Walker dispatches for Lowell during nights, weekends and holidays. The council unanimously approved the recommendation.

## Free dogwood trees

Ten free white flowering dogwood trees will be given to those who join the National Arbor Day Foundation during March. To become a member of the foundation and receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to Ten Free Dogwood Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410 by March 31. The six- to 12-inch trees will be shipped postpaid and are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge. Members will receive a subscription to *Arbor Day*, the monthly publication, as well as to *The Tree Book*.

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# Reflections Of Faith

Pastor Tim Deshaw  
Lowell Church of the Nazarene

As I look out over my yard it is just starting to turn from a brownish grayish mess to a beautiful green. When I let the dog out the other day, I noticed there were some small purple flowers pushing their way up through the leaf cover over the flower beds. Spring is almost here.

Spring, a time of anticipation, excitement and renewal, as we all collectively shake off the slower pace and look forward to the activities of spring and the plans of the summer. I can hardly wait. My dad always used to say that "winter was a time of rest for plants before the work begins." I did not understand that as a small boy, but I think I am beginning to now as I consider seeds . . .

Seeds have a couple of very interesting characteristics. First, they are very small and ugly when they first start out, but when they are given a chance, they can become huge trees, and delicious fruit bearing plants. These small hard seeds have tremendous potential for growth.

A second thing I noticed about seeds is that they "must die" in order for their full potential to be realized. A seed that remains in the packet, or in the jar on the shelf, will never become what it was made to be. The seed must first be put in the ground and covered over with dirt, "dying to what it is," so it may become so much more than just a seed.

This principle of nature also has a spiritual parallel. Jesus tells us how our lives are like seeds. The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. "I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life." (John 21:23-25)

The problem is we do not want to give up our present lives for the promised potential rewards awaiting us. So we struggle. We focus on "all that we will have to give up." We think, "there are no guarantees." We reason, "I must give up everything, and the reward will not even be mine."

And now you finally understand how seeds must trust the Creator of all things, and what Jesus was wrestling with when He said, "Now my heart is troubled, and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. Father glorify Your Name." (John 21:27-28)

We need to realize we can remain as seeds in a jar, never reaching our full potential, or we can trust the Creator. The Creator, if we allow Him to, will make us fruitful not only here and now, but on into eternity. The choice is yours. Do you want to be a seed on the shelf, missing out on what you were meant to be? Or are you willing to die to your plans for your life, and experience the full life that God created you for? Choose carefully, for this is a choice that will affect you here and now, and on into eternity.

## IN THE SERVICE

Coast Guard Lt. **Brenden Kettner**, formerly of Lowell, and a branch chief for the Marine Safety Office San Francisco Sea Marshals, was honored by the Department of Homeland Security March 1 as a local Bay Area hero for his solid leadership, flawless integrity, personal sacrifice, and dedication to the Coast Guard and his shipmates and community.

While performing his duties, Kettner worked extensively with the San Francisco Air Station to implement a Sea Marshal Vertical Delivery qualification process. This process enables Sea Marshals to be lowered by Coast Guard helicopters onto high interest vessels well offshore in a safe and timely fashion.

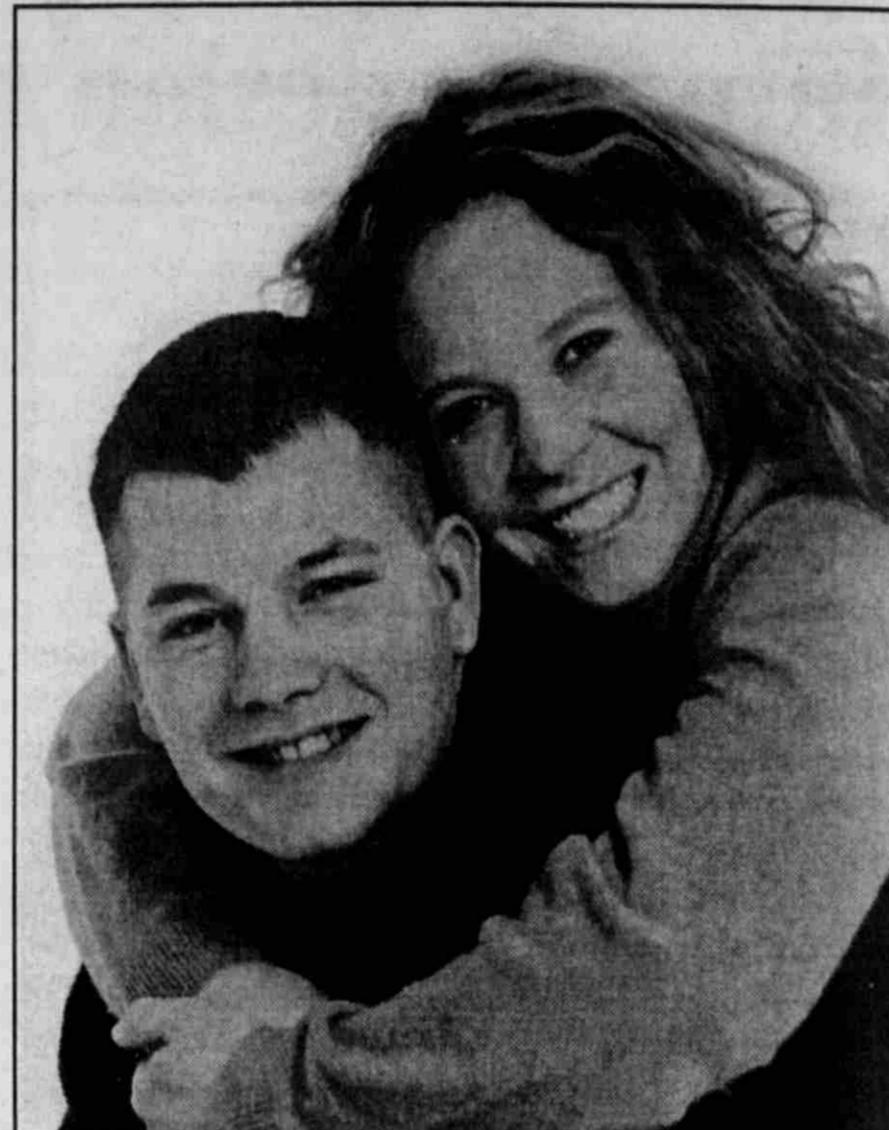
Kettner recently led a security team on a boarding of national significance onto a 620-foot freight vessel scheduled to enter the San Francisco Bay carrying 18,000 tons of unauthorized highly explosive cargo. Kettner's advanced preparation led to a successfully completed multi-agency neutralization of the posed threat to the San Francisco Bay.

Kettner, active in his local community of Alameda, supports the Cub Scouts and hosts den meetings; he is also a member of the Coast Guard Alameda Housing Area Home Schooler's Association.

Kettner is a 1985 graduate of Lowell High School.

## ENGAGEMENTS

Drummond/Jones



**Bobbie Walter Jones and Jennifer Lynn Drummond**

Announcing their plans for a June 19, 2004 wedding are Jennifer Lynn Drummond and Bobbie Walter Jones.

The bride-to-be and her parents Mr. and Mrs. David Drummond are from Holland. She is a graduate of Catholic Central High School and attended Hope College.

The groom-elect, of Lowell, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Greg Jensen, also of Lowell, and Bob Jones of Hastings. He is a graduate of Lowell High School and attended Northwood College.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

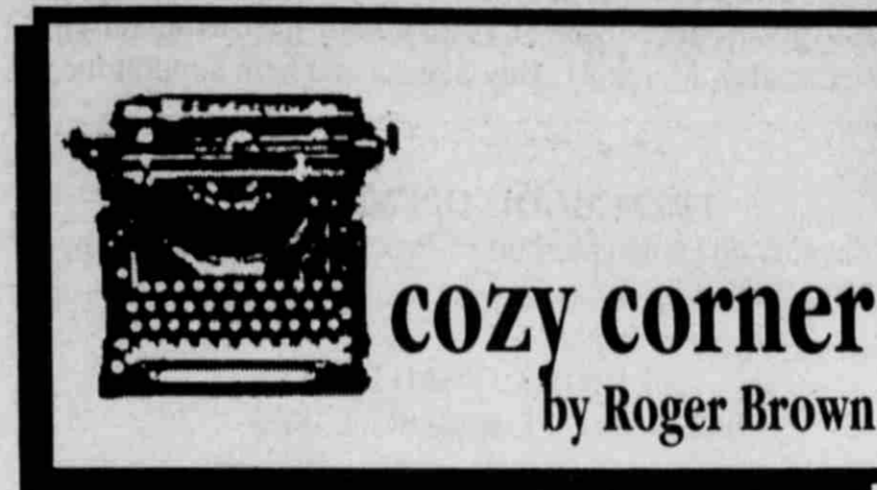
**MARCH 25:** Chris Yeiter, Shirley Carigan, Sari VanKeulen, Andy Quada.  
**MARCH 26:** Margaret Hoats, Bob Perry, Carol Maynard.  
**MARCH 27:** Joel Roudabush, Kelly Geldersma.

**MARCH 28:** Amie Thaler, Aaron Kastanek.

**MARCH 29:** John Ellison, Sandra VanWeelden, Judith Schafer Eiseeman, Laura Rasch, Carl Rasch, Robin Burns, Casey Yonker, Brianna Homrich, Judith Eiseeman.

**MARCH 30:** Erin Wade, Deb Maxim, Delores Ellison, Laurinda Horsley.  
**MARCH 31:** Katelynn Fonger, Jennifer McCaul, Tera Raab, Jeffrey Eiseeman, Rudy Smith, Michaela Blough.

# Viewpoint . . .



cozy corner  
by Roger Brown

The beginning of this story goes back thirty years or more. I was a young man working at selling print advertising in the Ionia area. One morning at coffee with a bunch of local businessmen, a guy who owned a roofing company told a tale about the mishap of a roofing crew in a nearby state.

The fellow telling this story used it as a platform to complain about how ridiculous the new O.S.H.A. regulations were. Whether it's true or an urban legend, I have no way of knowing. I just know it's funny.

A crew of three roofers and a tender showed up to shingle an old house with a roof steep enough to require safety harnesses. The anti-O.S.H.A. roofer telling the story elaborated on the intricate harness system and all the time wasted before work could actually commence.

Safely in their harnesses, the roofers spent the morning working away on the backside of the house. About mid-morning one of the grizzled, veteran roofers hollered over the peak of the house. He and his fellow workers wanted coffee and donuts. And secretaries . . . excuse me . . . administrative assistants think they are the only ones ordered to get coffee.

Dutifully, the eager young tender jumped in the truck, fired it up, hooked it in reverse and began backing down the driveway. It wasn't until he stopped at the end of the drive to check for traffic that he discovered a big problem. The safety lines attached to the roofers' harnesses were tied off to the front bumper of the truck.

The roofers had been pulled up over the peak of the house. They had dragged down the other side. They had been jerked off the roof and down to the ground. They had been towed across the front lawn. When the young tender finally saw them, they were shedding their harnesses and angrily headed his way. Some were still holding their hammers.

The story was further embellished with the frightened young tender roaring away in the company truck, safety lines

and harness trailing behind. He called in the location of the abandoned truck and was never heard from again.

According to the roofing contractor telling the story, the moral is, we are better off without O.S.H.A. looking over our shoulder.

I'm not sure this anti-O.S.H.A. theory is entirely true, and I'll tell you why. Just this Monday I had a little roofing project going here at the house. I had rented some scaffolding and had a couple local handymen lined up to help. We got through the morning without a hitch. No coffee and donut break to cause a problem.

My helpers broke for lunch and headed to town for a sandwich. I kept working. The roof was steep, and I rigged an aluminum extension ladder to the top of a section of scaffolding. The contraption had the ladder following the pitch of the roof up to the peak. No, we had not rigged safety harnesses . . . to a bumper or otherwise.

Confident in my Bob Vila's Evil Twin design, I headed up the ladder with a bundle of roofing. Somewhere near the peak, I felt the ladder give way a little. I froze. I sneaked a peak over my shoulder. The scaffolding was slowly tipping over.

When they play back cockpit voice recorders and/or air traffic control tapes, doomed pilots are pretty much unanimous in the choice of their last words. Those two words are a common expletive, "Oh, #%\*!@!" Had I been wired with a microphone, I would have been a member of that club as the scaffold tipped, taking the ladder, with me aboard, slowly toward the edge of the roof and a ten-foot drop.

When the inevitable fall occurred, it went rather well. I landed on the ladder and bent it like a pretzel. I think the ladder partially broke my fall. I barked my shin and suffered two small cuts on my leg from something sharp. That's it! Pretty good for an old guy.

When my helpers returned there was no hiding the mishap. The twisted and bent ladder made it obvious something had gone wrong. My bloodied leg and the tumbled scaffolding were further evidence that I had screwed up. I was forced to tell the embarrassing story.

In retrospect, I'm not certain which is worse, the banged up leg, the destroyed ladder and having to tell about my dumb ladder and scaffold contraption. The alternative would be having my helpers return and find me dangling from the roof in an O.S.H.A. -approved safety harness. I think I'm happier with the banged up leg. Thanks anyway O.S.H.A.!



By Priscilla Lussmeyer

## Ledger Entries

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

### 125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL MARCH 26, 1879

The Grattan Catholic Church was dedicated yesterday. There are too many cows on Hudson Street. The hole in the sidewalk patched with a board is still a hazard.

Many speakers will be at the Anniversary Celebration of Spiritualism at Train's Hall the 29th and 30th. Lapeer County produced 132 million shingles this year.

### 100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER MARCH 24, 1904

The Maccabees will put on the popular drama "Under Southern Skies" at Train's opera house next week Wednesday - Friday.

The Ledger has had 10 pages for two weeks in a row. Lowell schools will be closed next week for spring vacation as well as repair of the East and West Ward fire escapes.

There will be 300 copies of the new book of village ordinances available next week from the Ledger.

See the mechanical coiling serpents in "Ten Nights in A Bar Room" on Friday at the Strand; also King Sherman, the five-year-old boy wonder.

### 75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO MARCH 28, 1929

Ledger correspondents may claim two complementary Strand Theatre tickets at the office.

Theatre offerings this week: "Love and the Devil," "Beware of Bachelors," "Synthetic Sin" and "Red Lips." The American Legion paints a giant "Lowell" sign on the roof of the Recreation Park grandstand, for the benefit of aviators.

High school seniors prepare and serve the Board of Trade banquet in the high school gym.

A dinner and organizational meeting of Lowell High School alumni will be held Commencement week in an effort to restart the organization.

### 50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER MARCH 25, 1954

The first grass fire of the year in town was put out Tuesday afternoon.

Chief of Police Frank Stephens hosted about 100 members of the Western Michigan Law Enforcement Association at the Masonic Temple on Thursday.

The Swiss Ladies Aid meets in Vergennes and celebrates the 90th birthday of Elise Mueller.

Rural Kent County is urged to vote down the millage for a new county jail, on grounds that the city-sponsored "equalized valuation" places a higher tax rate on rural areas.

A Michigan poultry man rents his geese at \$2.50 per head per year as strawberry weeders, says King Milling.

### 25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER MARCH 28, 1979

The old Flat River power dam is leaking and eroding the riverbank. Local, county and state officials are working on solutions.

Trains are again running through Lowell, after last week's nine-car derailment tore up hundreds of feet of track.

Kent CAP receives federal funds for emergency heating relief for low-income families, because of the very cold weather.

Librarian Evelyn Briggs offers a Monday morning story hour for four-year-olds.

The Music Boosters' Gong Show is a great success, enriching the band uniform fund by almost a thousand dollars.

## TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

Last night, I saw the Lowell High School's production of *The Pirates of Penzance*. It was, yes, spectacular, but one should not rely upon cliché. It was a *tsunami*. The talent assembled, disciplined, and focused on stage was awe inspiring, a tribute to the directorate and authors of that classic whose names presently escape me (and obviously escaped the people who composed the program, naughty, naughty).

Everyone in the school district - and beyond - should see *Penzance*. If the company has to extend the run, so be it, the wages of virtuosity. Drop the remote. Suspend your computer lobotomy. As my old man would say, "Get off the floor in aught-four."

Sincerely,  
G.M. Ross

Dear Editor:

This is my first letter to the editor in any newspaper and I feel compelled to write for two reasons.

First, to publicly congratulate and thank all who partici-

pated in the amazing production of *The Pirates of Penzance* at LHS. I have attended several all-school musicals in the past several years and they continue to improve. Others may have been more familiar - *Cinderella*, *Grease*, *The Wizard of Oz* - but this show is extraordinary. All those involved: the stagehands, directors, choreographers, lighting crew, musicians in the orchestra pit, the props and scenery and costumes - all came together to create a truly stellar performance. I especially enjoyed the police. The magic and liveliness of Gilbert and Sullivan's shows demand top execution. "These kids rose to the occasion. All those involved deserve the standing ovation of a full house at the LPAC each night.

My second reason is to encourage everyone in the Lowell community to attend one of their remaining shows. The Lowell stadium is packed for football games each Friday night for weeks in the fall. The gym is equally packed for the wrestling season and other athletic events. Let's show the same support for these teens who have proven their hard work has paid off with this top-notch show.

Tickets can be purchased for the remaining shows at LHS or at the door before 7:30 p.m. show time. Wouldn't it be remarkable to have these shows sold out? Take a nice night out and see our local teen talent shining on stage.

Sincerely,  
Karen Myers

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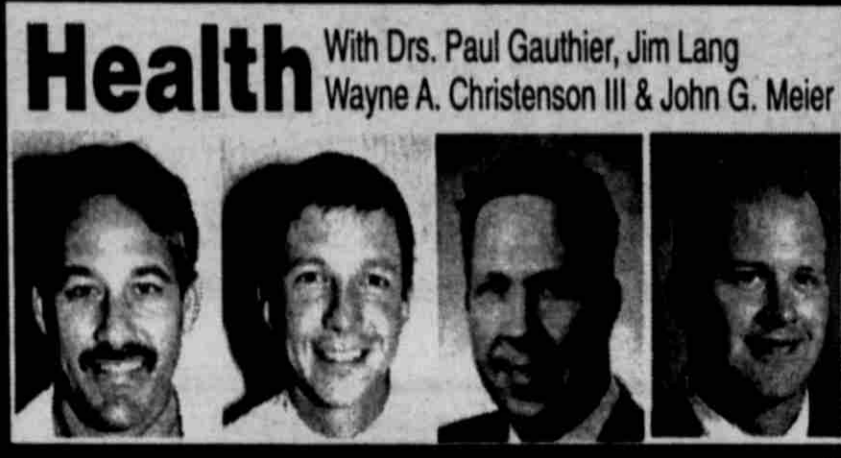
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SECRET WINDOW (PG-13)  
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**Health** With Drs. Paul Gauthier, Jim Lang, Wayne A. Christenson III & John G. Meier

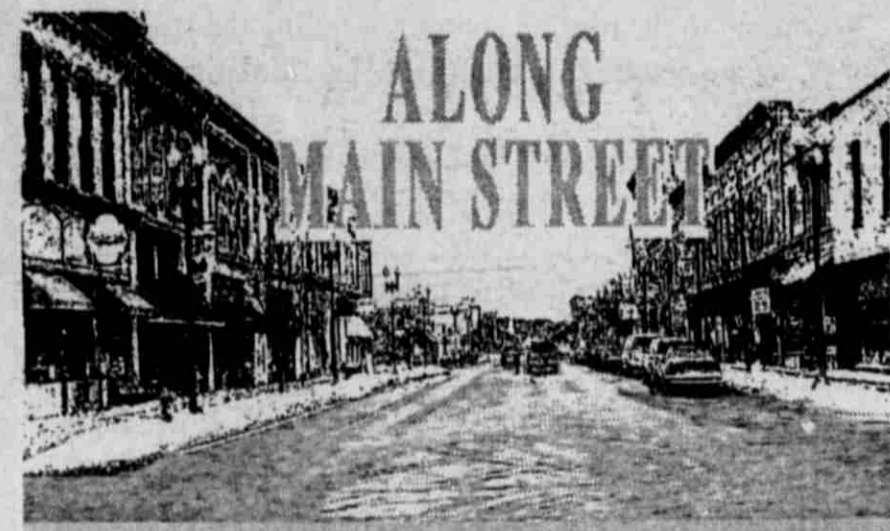
provide a temporary protective barrier over the sore. Alternative treatments of possible benefits include: sucking on zinc lozenges, taking vitamin C or vitamin B complex and taking a lysine supplement.

You should be evaluated by your health-care provider if your canker sores are accompanied by a fever or any other signs of illness; also if these canker sores are large, last longer than a week or prevent you from eating.

**CANKER SORES**

Canker sores are shallow, painful sores in your mouth. They can occur inside your lips, inside your cheeks or under your tongue. They differ from cold sores which usually occur on the outside of your lips or the corners of your mouth. Canker sores can affect people of all ages but most often occur in adolescents and young adults. The exact cause of canker sores is unknown but stress appears to be a factor.

Several over-the-counter medicines can be used to treat canker sores. Ibuprofen or acetaminophen can be used for pain. Oral pain relieving gels, like those used on teething babies gums, can also be used for temporary relief. Another treatment consists of mixing equal part of Milk of Magnesia and Benadryl allergy liquid. This mixture is then swished about inside the mouth for one minute and then spit out. This can be repeated every four to six hours. This is thought to



**RED ARROW DAY**

Arby's in Lowell will have Red Arrow Day on Friday, March 26. 15 percent of all purchases go to Lowell softball and Lowell Special Olympics. Coupon fliers, located at various businesses in town, must be presented at time of purchase.

**PARENTS' ADVISORY FOR SPECIAL ED.**

L.A.Ss Board of Education room, 300 High St., will have a meeting on Mon., March 29 from 6:30 - 8 p.m. for parents of special ed. students. Discussion on "Movement Has Meaning." Learn how particular movements are essential for some students to be successful in their educational setting. No RSVPs are necessary. Call 897-8415 with any questions.

**FUNDRAISER AT PIZZA HUT**

Cub Scout Pack 3106 of St. Patrick's will have a fundraiser on Wednesday, March 31. Buy a pizza and help support the pack.

**PRESCHOOL OPENINGS**

The Lowell United Methodist Preschool has openings for fall 2004-2005. Call today 897-8690.

**REUNION COMMITTEE LOOKING FOR ADDRESSES**

Class of 1974 graduates or family members - reunion committee needs current contact information for graduates. Call Dave Beach at 897-6456.

**HONORS READING PROJECT**

New/used toys, games, puzzles and books for children are being collected for an 8th grade reading project. Donations to Catholic Social Services in Greater G.R. area; a drop box is at Englehardt Library until April 21. Questions? Call Nicole 897-6421 or Melissa 691-7080.

**Flat River Snowmobile Club donates \$10,000**



The Flat River Snowmobile Club made a donation of \$10,000 to the Lowell Area Recreational Authority (LARA). LARA is the group creating the Lowell Community Trailway and is now accepting donations to further that purpose. Pictured, left to right, are: Lowell High School athletic director Barry Hobria; Vergennes Township clerk Mari Stone; Flat River Snowmobile Club members Bradley Potter and Patty Sellner; Lowell Parks and Recreation Commission chair Perry Beachum; and Lowell Township trustee Paula Blumm. Visit their booth at the Lowell Community Expo this Saturday for displays, fliers and a volunteer sign-up sheet.

**VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT**

As a public service, The Lowell Ledger will be periodically listing the need for volunteers throughout organizations in our community. Organizations who need volunteers should feel free to contact the Ledger office by phone, 897-9261 or fax 897-4809 to have their requests printed. Please try to keep your requests as short as possible. We reserve the right to edit submissions.

**LITERACY TUTORS NEEDED**

The Kent County Literacy Council has scheduled an information session on Monday, April 5, for prospective volunteer tutors.

This session is held at 6:30 p.m. and lasts one hour. It allows persons interested in becoming volunteer tutors to find out more about the Council and its literacy programs. At the end of the session, there will be an opportunity to sign up for tutor training.

The information session will be held in the Vander Veer Center at Grand Rapids Public Library, 111 Library NE in downtown Grand Rapids. Call 459-5151 to register.

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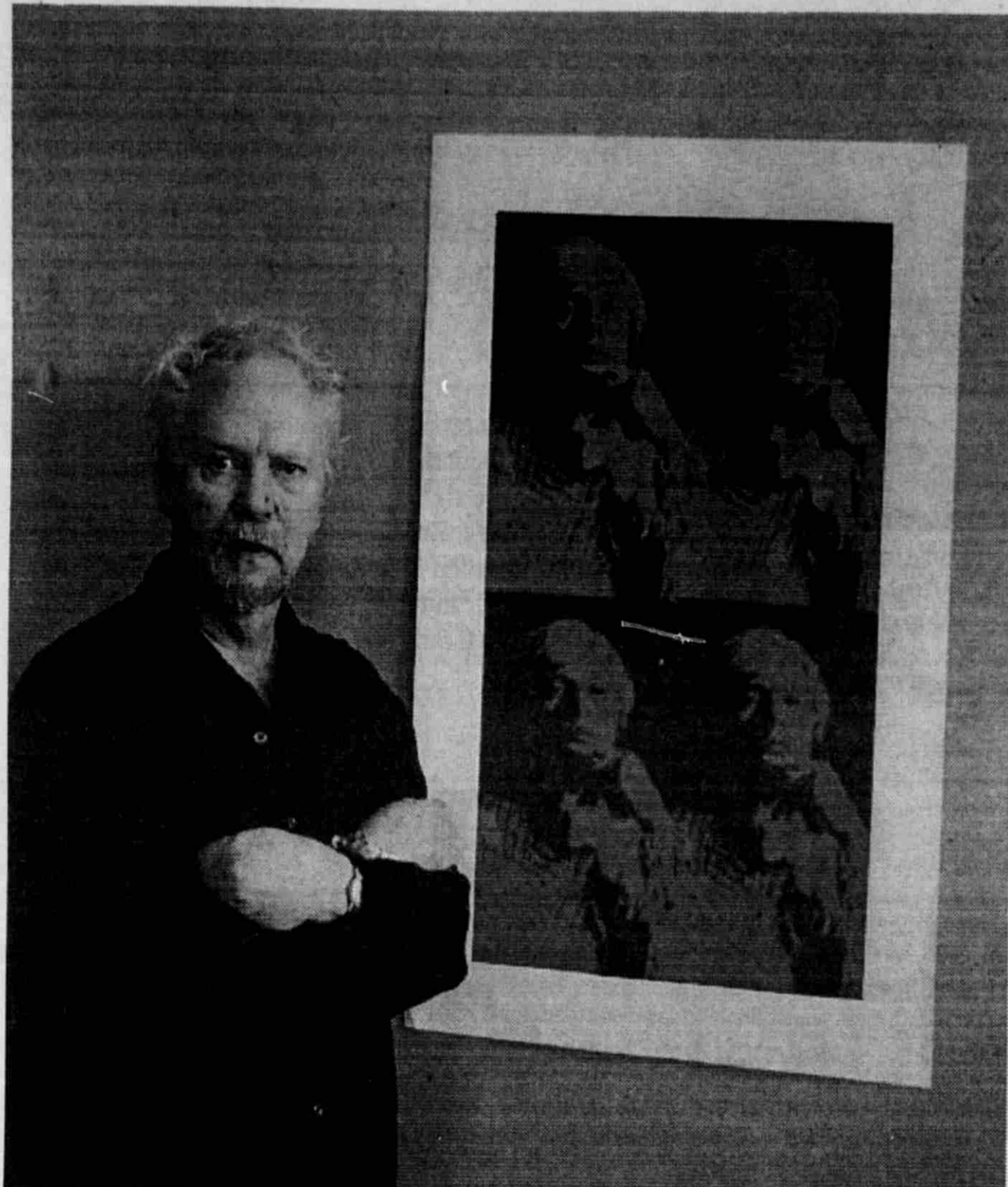
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# Featured Artist

D. Fletcher Davis



D. Fletcher Davis with his screen print titled "Andy Warhol Made Me Do It." It will be up at the Lowell Area Arts Council starting Sunday, part of an exhibit showing more than 25 years of the Lowell artist's work.

# "Yet Another Roadside Attraction"

By Dan Schneider

They're bright colors in perfect flower-petal brush strokes. Birds on sumac, bright red beyond belief, beyond-nature sumac. Giant iris in purple tones. Sunflower with wilted-color paint strokes, late in the afternoon with the sun shining rectangles on the pink-painted wall.

Some paintings by D. Fletcher Davis were already at the Lowell Area Arts Council, Monday, leaning on the walls. More will be up by Sunday.

"The first piece in the exhibit, I've got it all mapped out - that's how I know it's the first piece," Davis was saying about a week earlier in his studio. "I titled it 'Andy Warhol Made Me Do It' and there are four photographs of myself silk-screened in the hottest pink I could come up with at the time."

Davis made the print about 35 years ago from a photograph taken while he was in art school in Detroit. A teacher pushed him toward art early in Lowell schools. He went to Kendall College of Art and Design and later to the

School of Arts and Crafts in Detroit. He has moved around the country some but has spent most of his time living, teaching and creating art in Lowell.

"Andy Warhol Made Me Do It" is the first piece of about 40 that will be up on the walls at the Lowell Area Arts Council beginning this Sunday. More than half the work is recent but the show includes more than 25 years of work - watercolors and other paintings, plus sculpture and collage.

The collages were still in Davis's studio above Chimera Design on Monday. The walls up there are lavender and the tables are scattered with works in progress, student work, and scraps of unsuccessful paintings, and paint and supplies. There is a wall in the hallway scrawled with names from the 19th century where the wall-paper was torn down.

Davis teaches his classes up there. He's taught children and adults, in schools and in his studio. He's been teaching for quite a while and it's become as much a part of his life and expression as his paintings.

"Among my students and friends, 10 were accepted into this year's West Michigan Regional Competition, so for me that's a proud thing to be able to claim," Davis said. "I said to the juror, 'I'm a really happy guy' and she said, 'oh, which one is yours?' and I said, 'no, no, no-10 were accepted this year.'"

"I think he likes teaching and he likes interacting with us and he enjoys the results he receives," said Jerri Teelander, Davis's student for four years. "If I hadn't taken his classes I certainly wouldn't have been as far as I am now."

After 1989 and until six years ago, when he was managing the gallery at the Lowell Area Arts Council, Davis didn't pick up a paintbrush himself.

"He energizes people, he's such a positive person, probably the most caring person I've ever met," Loretta Saylor said. She was the one who got Davis painting again. They've been close friends since and paint together often.

"I'll call him when I get a new tube of paint," Saylor said. "You have to be a painter to get excited about a tube of paint. He loves his colors and so do I."

Color is a big thing with Davis. "I explain myself as being a colorist." Especially the color pink.

"I have come across a lot of thoughts putting this exhibit together and realized some things I never thought of about myself," Davis said. "Well, two things ... pink has run through my work all these years and I guess I'd always been interested in food ... it fascinates me, building food, because to me it's like making art. I think of it that highly."

Food was not such an obvious theme in the paintings that were at the Arts Council gallery Monday. There is a drawing of a peach with "peche" written underneath it. Pink is everywhere. It's in the flowers. It's even in a Halloween-style skeleton with a polka-dot bow tie.

Flowers are prominent in Davis's work. The show is called "Yet Another Roadside Attraction," named after his favorite book. The book is by Tom Robbins and it's about a traveling sideshow. Davis also named a 1989 exhibit at the Arts Council after the book.

"I interpreted it, the title, in a different way," Davis said. "Being an outdoor kid, I knew what grew along the roadside. Daylilies, chickory, Turk's cap lilies, all of that stuff was a roadside attraction for me."

With some fantastically wild paintings of flowers and other works, the exhibit runs from March 28 to April 24 at the Lowell Area Arts Council gallery. There will be a reception this Sunday from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. and Davis will speak April 14 from 7 to 8 p.m.

# Forum explains options for land preservation

By Dan Schneider

The Vergennes Township Open Space Citizen Committee held its annual educational forum last Wednesday at the Wittenbach Center. Four speakers offered insight on land use options to preserve rural and natural spaces in the township. The township has also published a pamphlet about open space tools available for the township's landowners.

Jay Kilpatrick, Vergennes Township's planning consultant from Williams and Works, talked about the township's Open Space Ordinance. He helped write the ordinance, which encourages developers to leave natural space in their site plans.

The traditional philosophy of development planning is to divide an entire property into as many large parcels as zoning ordinances allow. The goal is to put as many houses as possible on the site while keeping lot sizes large. This is sometimes called track-type housing.

"Most of the builders in this area build the traditional

track subdivisions with very little thought to the features," Kilpatrick said.

Developed using the Open Space Ordinance, houses would be on smaller lots clustered on only a portion of the property. The ordinance requires that 50 percent of the buildable property on the site remain open space. The open space portion can be used to preserve natural features such as animal habitat or scenic fields. It can also be used for hunting land or agriculture.

The left-open land belongs to all the homeowners in the development.

Open space planning has some benefits for developers. With the houses clustered, they require fewer roads and a smaller infrastructure investment. The ordinance itself includes a density bonus for developers. Sites developed using the ordinance are allowed 25 percent more houses than base density.

The clustered layouts and larger number of houses obviously mean smaller lot sizes. But this is not necessarily a major disadvantage.

"A half-acre lot is not half the value of a one-acre lot," Kilpatrick said. "If you've got the features, you can generally get the same value."

Creative site planning can take advantage of the visual benefits of the preserved space. The back windows of the houses can face woods or grassland rather than the back ends of other houses.

"A half-acre lot can get a five-acre view," Kilpatrick said.

The next speaker of the night was Kendra Wills of the Kent County Agricultural Preservation Board. She talked about Kent County's Purchase of Development Rights program. She was happy with farmers' response to the fledgling program. In the county, 44 farmers applied during this year's application cycle. There were seven applications from Vergennes Township, two from Lowell Charter Township and 10 from Grattan Township.

"And that's the first year with no money and no certainty whatsoever," Wills said. The voluntary program

uses locally-matched federal funds to buy easements on agricultural property. Farmers whose land is accepted can get money out of their property without having to sell it to developers. In exchange, the easement stipulates the land will remain in agriculture in perpetuity.

For this first year, the Agricultural Preservation Board is relying on grants from local foundations. Of the Kent County farms that applied, 17 did not meet federal requirements for matching funds because they did not have prime soil as defined by the United States Department of Agriculture. Some of these properties may be eligible during next year's application period. By then, the criteria should place higher value on orchard property and locally-unique soils.

Tom Cary spoke about the environmental benefits of the PDR program. Cary is program coordinator for the Greater Grand Rapids Food Systems Council, part of the West Michigan Environmental Action Council.

To start out, only the best land makes it into the program.

"To get matching funds,

these lands through the federal government must meet a higher standard," Cary said. "It actually forces the landowner to go through an analysis of environmental impact and develop a set of strategies."

Federal criteria requires not only that the land be fertile, but also that the farmers be in compliance with state and federal environmental regulations.

An environmental benefit of farmland over developed land is the absence of impervious surfaces. Streets in subdivisions and the houses themselves form barriers between rainwater and the ground.

"Rainwater infiltration is essential for the recharge of the groundwater system and to keep our streams cool," Cary said.

Additionally, the PDR program could potentially preserve prime agricultural land while agricultural practices become more environmentally sound.

Julie Stoneman, executive director of the Land Conservancy of West Michigan (LCWM), talked about conservation easements. This is an option for landowners who want to preserve the natural features of their land without

giving up ownership.

This is how a conservation easement through the LCWM works: A landowner donates an easement to the LCWM. The easement can limit or prohibit future development on the land, thus preserving its natural features. Like a PDR easement, a conservation easement exists in perpetuity—the restrictions stay in place even if the land is sold to another owner.

The advantages for the landowner are that the LCWM will monitor the land and ensure that the provisions of the easement are met. There are also possible tax benefits. Land with restrictions may be less valuable and so taxed at a lesser rate. This may also apply to estate taxes. The donation of an easement on land that offers significant environmental benefits may also entitle the donor to a personal income tax deduction.

The land under conservation easement is not open to the public unless the landowner specifically requests it be. The public benefit of this program comes chiefly through environmental conservation. The program may protect wildlife habitat, bird flyways, or scenic drives.

# New horse barn for 4-H fairgrounds

By Dan Schneider

The Horse Association of the Kent County Youth Fair will build a new horse barn at the Lowell fairgrounds.

It will be called the Guikema Memorial Barn, named for Marilyn Guikema. The leader of a 4-H horse club died in a car accident two years ago.

The barn will provide 47 box stalls, each eight feet square. It will go a long way toward accommodating the re-

cent growth in the horse portion of the fair.

"For the last four or five years we've had to use tents because the horse area of the fair has expanded so much," project manager David Pachulski said. "This fills a need that we've been fundraising for probably six or seven years. It will enable 47 additional kids to attend fair with horses as project animals this year."

Construction is scheduled

to start April 5, with an anticipated completion date in early July. Fair week starts Aug. 4. The barn will be located next to the Wittenbach Memorial Barn.

Local suppliers and contractors will be used as much as possible in the construction of the barn. Businesses in the area have also given financial support for the project. Donors of \$200 or more will be recognized with banners in the horse arena during the fair.

# LACF accepting grant proposals

The Lowell Area Community Fund is accepting grant proposals for its next grant round. All proposals must be submitted no later than April 16 to be considered.

# Horseback riding programs forming

Get in the spirit and visit the SPIRIT Farms Riding Center at YMCA Camp Manitou-Lin, located in Yankee Springs Township. Spring horseback riding programs are beginning to form.

Group Western riding lessons for ages five and up are offered as well as private lessons for all ages in both English and Western disciplines. Therapeutic riding lessons for individuals with special needs are available as well.

To register for a class or a trail ride, call 1-888-909-2267.

To receive an application, call Kate Luckert, program officer at the Grand Rapids Community Foundation, 454-1751, or download an application at [www.grfoundation.org/lowell](http://www.grfoundation.org/lowell). Applications are also available at Lowell Township Hall, Vergennes Township Hall, City Offices of Lowell, Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce,

the Englehardt Public Library or any Lowell area school.

Grants are awarded to tax-exempt, nonprofit, charitable organizations which have an impact in the Lowell area.

Community grants have totaled nearly \$4 million since the inception of the Lowell Area Community Fund, a fund of Grand Rapids Community Foundation.

# TOWNSHIP OF GRATAN COUNTY OF KENT, MICHIGAN

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the Township of Grattan will hold a public hearing on April 7, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. at the Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Road, within the Township, on the application of the Grattan Township Historical Society for a special land use under the terms of Sections 9.02D and 13.06 of the Township Zoning Ordinance, so as to authorize the construction and use of a building for storage and accessory purposes, for the Grattan Township Museum Building located on the Township Hall property at 12050 Old Belding Road, within the Township, and legally described as follows:

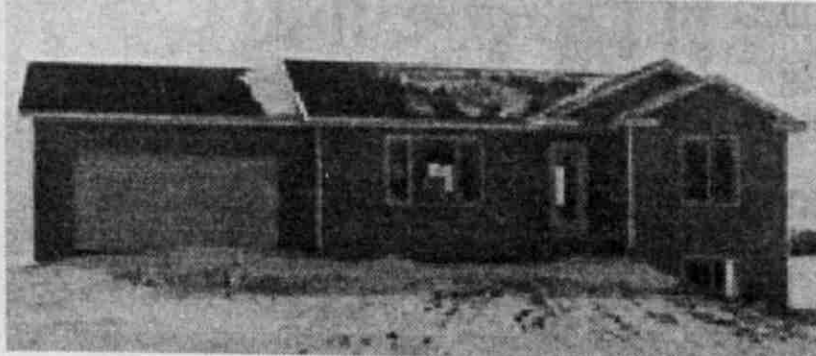
Part of the Northwest 1/4 commencing 814.24 feet North 0°23'42" West along West section line and 322.96 feet North 79°17'48" East and 200.0 feet North 12°19'06" West from West 1/4 corner of section, thence North 77°40'54" East 379.99 feet, thence South 12°19'06" East 140.0 feet to the Northerly line of Highway M-44 relocated, thence North 77°40'54" East along the Northerly line of said highway 413.94 feet, thence North 38°37'21" East 150.13 feet to the Southerly line of Old Belding Road, thence North 32°19'06" West along Southerly line of said road 83.46 feet, thence Northwesterly 317.75 feet along Southerly line of said road on a 448.22 foot radius curve to the left, the long chord of which bears North 52°37'38" West 311.14 feet, thence North 17°23'45" East 50.0 feet to centerline of Old Belding Road, thence North 72°56'10" West along said centerline 643.02 feet, thence South 0°38'06" West 645.88 feet to beginning, Section 15, Town 8 North, Range 9 West, Grattan Township, Kent County, Michigan.

All interested persons may attend the public hearing and comment on the requested special land use. Written comments concerning the application can be submitted to the Township office, at the above-stated address, up to the time of the public hearing.

Dated: March 9, 2004

PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GRATAN

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## BOWNE TOWNSHIP

Will be taking bids for TOWNSHIP AND CEMETERY MAINTENANCE

Bids will be accepted through April 16, 2004 for proposals for the purpose of care and maintenance of the Bowne Center Cemetery, the Township Fire Station, Historic Township hall and Colby park for the fiscal year of 2004-2005. Please contact the township office at 616-868-6846 between the hours of 9-12 and 1-5 on Wednesday and Thursday and 9-12 on Friday for a list of specifications.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk  
Bowne Township Clerk



# Making maple syrup in the early, early spring

*The old-time sugarbush process*



Sap collection buckets on the trees at the Wenger maple sugarbush.

By Dan Schneider

It's the last week of boiling maple syrup at the Wenger sugarbush. Last Saturday it was rain giving way to snow as the morning wore on and everything was very muddy. There are about 1,230



Two Belgian horses bring the gathering crew back from the woods with a load of sap.

buckets in the woods. They're hung from taps about four feet up the trunks of the hard maples. The sap is collected into a tank on a trailer that horses pull through the forest. "The horses don't tear the woods up," said Ron Wenger.

His brother Chris owns the woods full of maple trees the sap comes from.

He's owned the land for about 14 years and they used to use tractors to haul the sap. It's muddy during maple syrup season, however, and the tractors tore deep ruts in the woods and got stuck most of the time. So now two teams of horses, a pair of Belgians and a pair of Percherons, do the hauling.

The woods used to be split up between four different owners.

"They've been making

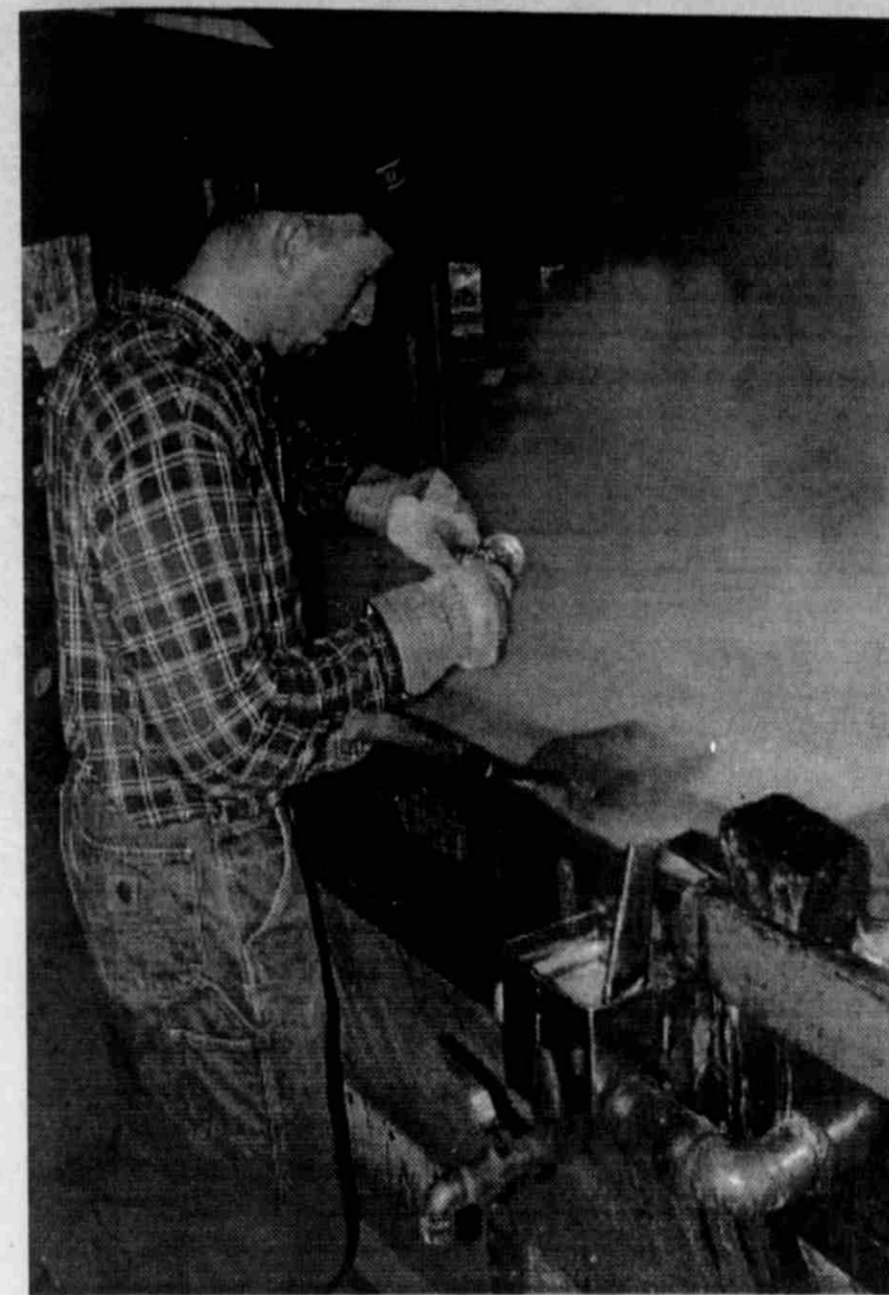
maple syrup for over 100 years in this woods," Wenger said. It's always muddy during maple sugar season because the kind of weather that gets sap flowing also makes the ground soft. It takes cold nights and warm days to get the sap flowing. The sap sits in the roots of the maples through the winter. Warm days bring the sap up into the trees, then it runs back down when the temperature drops

at night. That's when the buckets fill up. This year was a good year for sap. "Last year we only made about 80 gallons, 20 percent of normal," Wenger said. "I think we got two runs and that was it, it stayed up there."

The Wengers start bringing the sap in at about 9 a.m. In addition to the sap the horses haul, there are 400 taps attached to lines with sap that flows by gravity to the sugar shack at the base of the hill. It all goes into a big holding tank at the north end of the shack. It takes 40 gallons of sap to make a gallon of maple syrup, depending on the concentration of sugar. This year, the sap at the Wenger farm is about two percent sugar.

The sap goes into a pre-

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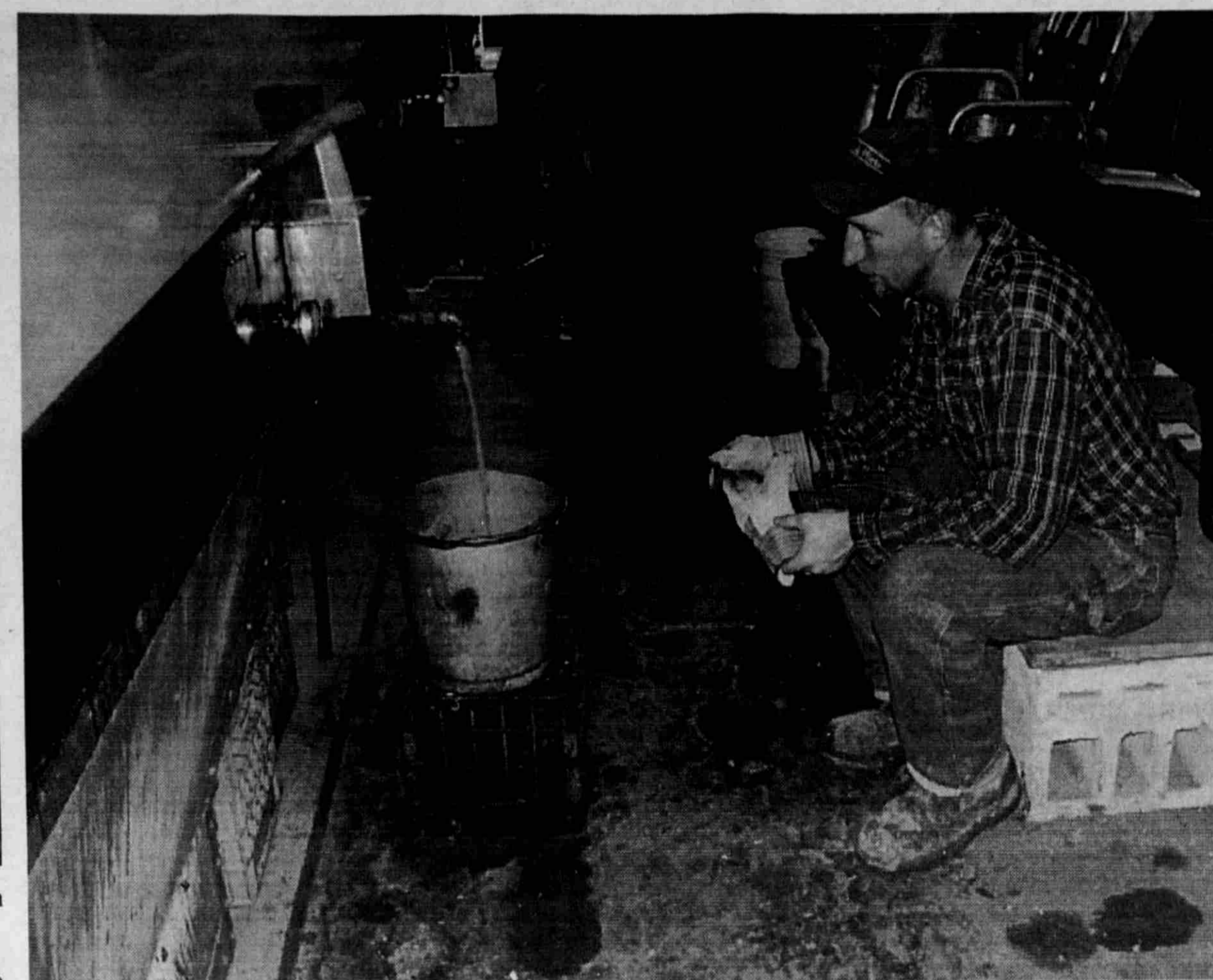
Shawn Wenger checks the sap to see if it's boiled down to be thick as syrup.

heating pan and then to the boiling pan. The boiling pan is big, shallow and made of stainless steel. The sap boils down while it snakes its way through a set of flues. By the time it gets to the end, it's syrup. A thermometer at the end reads zero for 212 degrees Fahrenheit.

"When you get up to seven, 219, then you've got syrup," Wenger explained. It takes a lot of heat to boil

down the syrup ... enough to melt the pan if there wasn't sap in it to keep it relatively cool. That takes a lot of wood, which is stacked under a roof on the southwest side of the sugar shack.

"We get about 30 cords of wood in there," Wenger said. The pile now just takes up one corner of the space. There's a rusty track running through the rafters with a modified litter carrier from an



Shawn Wenger empties maple syrup from the boiling pan into a bucket; the last step is to filter the syrup.

old barn. The Wengers pull it along the track and load it up with wood to save time carrying. They spend a lot of time in the sugar shack when the sap is running, boiling down about two gallons per minute. "Sometimes we boil till 10, 11 at night because they can bring it in here faster than we can get rid of it," Wenger said. The faster the sap is boiled down after it leaves the tree, the clearer and purer the finished syrup will be. The maple sugar season is over when the buds come out on the trees. After that, the sap is no longer any good for syrup.



Ron Wenger fills a canister with syrup from the filter tap.

## Time to start early gardening

M.S.U. Extension Service

Spring is finally here, at least according to the calendar ... which means the gardening season will be here sooner than you think.

Don't wait for Memorial Day to plant that garden. Start now! Some crops can be planted earlier and actually do better if they are. These so-called cool-weather crops can be sown or transplanted when the soil is still cool and frost is still possible. They include lettuce, spinach, beets, carrots, onions, radishes and peas. All of them grow best in cool weather and have some frost resistance. Somewhat later, you can plant the cabbage family plants—cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower and potatoes.

Those grown from seed will do better if you warm the soil a bit. Removing mulch and covering the soil with black plastic enhances the warming effect of sunlight. Warming the soil speeds seed germination. Another way to get an early start is to germinate seeds before you plant them. Pregerminated seeds will take off and grow in soil that would have been too cold for them to germinate in.

The easiest way to germinate seeds before planting is to fold them in a moist paper towel, place the paper towel in a plastic bag and place the bag somewhere warm—the top of the refrigerator, for in-

stance. Most seeds will germinate in a few days. Check the seeds daily so you can plant them when the majority have sprouted and before the roots get long enough to be easily broken.

Tactics such as hot caps, little greenhouses made from plastic milk jugs and other season extenders can be used to start frost-sensitive crops before the danger of frost is past. Success with them depends on warming the soil.

You may save your pepper plants from frost, but if they're sitting in cold soil, they won't grow and the roots might rot. The same is true of warm-weather crops from seed, such as beans and sweet corn. Warm the soil first, then plant and apply your season extenders, and you'll be rewarded with an early harvest.

Extending the season in the spring rather than the fall makes sense for several reasons. First, it's easier to warm the soil in a small area and protect a few plants from frost in the spring than to try to shield vast areas of tender crops in the fall. Also, gardening enthusiasm is likely to be running a little higher in the spring, and that may make the extra effort to get the garden going early seem more worthwhile. By fall, you might be almost eager for frost! And probably most important, the spring weather is so well suited for growing cool-weather crops that it's simply a shame not to take advantage of it.

Once the ground is thawed, planting can start as soon as the soil is dry enough to work. If you tilled it in the fall, you already have a head

start. Get the cool-weather crops in early so they can grow when they grow best, and you'll be enjoying an early harvest of salad vegetables, peas and green onions while the warm-weather crops are still being planted.

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Thomet Chevy & Buick	Dr. Martin Vredenburg
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G.R. Western Horse Club	LAS Education Foundation
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**2003 MIHA STATE CHAMPIONS**



# 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. Call Dave (YMCA) 897-8445. Fee \$3.

**3RD MON.:** Fallsburg Historical Society board meetings at chamber office or Fallsburg, 7 p.m. All invited. Call 897-7161 for info. or location.

**2ND MON.:** Lowell Board of Education meets 7 p.m. in Administration Building, 300 High Street.

**2ND MON.:** Bowne Township Historical Society meeting at Historical Museum, 84th and Alden Nash, 7:30 p.m.

**3RD 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.

**4TH MON.:** Clark-Ellis American Legion Post 152, 3100 Alden Nash S.E. at 7:30 p.m.

**3RD MON.:** Women of the Moose business meeting at 7:30 p.m.

**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.

**2ND 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 M#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.

**2ND & 4TH TUES.:** Saranac Needlers, needleart/quilting bee meets 5-8:30 p.m. at 4 Health Wellness Center in Saranac. For all or part time; Anyone is welcome. Contact Bev or Melissa, 642-6466 for info. A light dinner will be provided.

**2ND & 4TH TUES.:** Knights of Columbus #7719 meets St. Mary School, 7:30 p.m.

**2ND TUES.:** Lowell Masonic Lodge meeting, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Center, 119 Lincoln Lake.

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

**3RD TUES.:** Saranac Scrappers, scrapbooking/journaling group meets at 4 Health Wellness Center, Saranac, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Light refreshments served. Bev or Melissa, 642-6466.

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

**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.

**2ND WED.:** Kent County Youth Fair Board meeting at 7:30 p.m., King Memorial Youth Center at 4-H Fairgrounds. 897-6050.

**2ND WED.:** Lowell Women's Club meets at 12 p.m. in Schneider Manor Community Room, 725 Bowes Rd.

**2ND 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 2ND THURS.:** Loyol Order of the Moose, men's meeting 7:30 p.m. - ? All members in good standing are invited.

**EVERY THURS.:** Saranac Area Musicians and Singers practice at Saranac High School Band Room. Choir: 6-7 p.m./band: 7-8. Call Kathy Maatman at 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.

**3RD THURS.:** 4 Health Wellness Center in Saranac, Parent Support Group meets 7-8:30 p.m. Parenting issues, educational topics. Call 642-6466 for information.

**1ST & 3RD THURS.:** Alto Lions Club meets at Annalaine's on S. Alden Nash Ave. at 7 p.m.

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

**3RD THURS.:** Rubber stamping at Christian Life Center 6-9 p.m. Create scrapbooks, share supplies. Dawn 862-8841.

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

**3RD THURS.:** Parents Supporting Parents group, Franciscan Life Process Center. 897-7842.

**3RD THURS.:** Royal Arch Masons, 7:30 p.m., Lowell Masonic Center, 119 Lincoln Lake. Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

**3RD 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.

**3RD THURS.:** Parent Support Group meets 7-8:30 p.m. at The 4 Health Wellness Center in Saranac. Many educational topics related to parenting and parenting issues are discussed. Call Bev or Melissa at 642-6466 for more information.

**2ND 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.

**2ND SAT.:** Ada Historical Society at 10:30 a.m., Averill Historical Museum, 7144 Headley, Ada.

**2ND 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.

**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.

**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.

**SAT., MARCH 27:** Community Expo at Lowell High School. Call 897-9161.

**SAT., MARCH 27:** Lowell Area Fire Dept. pancake breakfast, 7-11 a.m. at Look Memorial Fire Station. Donation at the door.

**TUES., MARCH 30:** Lenten worship at Evergreen Missionary Church, 10501 Settlewood, 7 p.m. Open to all denominations.

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**LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR**

**WEEKLY ACTIVITIES**  
897-5949

**MON.:** 9:00 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall.

**TUES.:** 9:00 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall; 12:45 p.m. Bible Study

**WED., MARCH 24:** 12:45 p.m. Shop Meijer.

**FRI., MARCH 26:** 12:45 p.m. Shop Salvation Army Store; 12:45 p.m. Bingo.

**MON., MARCH 29:**

**THURS.:** 9:00 a.m. Walk/Shop at Malls; 9:30 a.m. Crafts; 1:00 p.m. Euchre.

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

**TUES., MARCH 30:** 7:30 a.m. Rockford McDonald's.

**WED., MARCH 31:** 8:30 a.m. Traveling Breakfast.

**12:45 p.m. Syl Mosier "Growth Through Loss."**

**12:45 p.m. Shop Meijer.**

**12:45 p.m. Shop Salvation Army Store; 12:45 p.m. Bingo.**

**7:30 a.m. Rockford McDonald's.**

**8:30 a.m. Traveling Breakfast.**

# GO GO GO TEAM!

## LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS VARSITY SPRING SPORTS SCHEDULE

**BOYS VARSITY TENNIS**

\* Indicates a home game @ High School Tennis Courts • All games begin at 4 p.m. unless indicated

4/13	Thornapple Kellogg*	5/3	Kenowa Hills*
4/15	Lakewood	5/5	Northview
4/17	Lowell Invitational* - 9:30 a.m.	5/6	Grand Rapids Baptist
4/19	Creston	5/10	Greenville
4/21	Cedar Springs	5/12	Unity Christian
4/24	Big Rapids Tournament - 9 a.m.	5/15	Conference Meet* - 9 a.m.
4/26	Sparta	5/18	Crossover*
4/28	East Grand Rapids*	5/21	Regional Tournament* - TBA
4/29	Hudsonville		
5/3	Greenville		

**LACROSSE**

\* Indicates a home game

3/26	Grand Haven* - 5 p.m.	4/26	Okemos* - 6:30 p.m.
4/13	E. Lansing - 4:30	4/30	Rockford - 8 p.m.
4/15	Catholic Central* - 5 p.m.	5/1	S. Lyon* - 12:00
4/17	Culver Military Academy @ EGR - TBA	5/8	S. Lyon - 12:00
4/19	Catholic Central - 5 p.m.	5/11	E. Kentwood* - 6 p.m.
4/21	Holt - 5 p.m.	5/12	Holland Christian* - 5 p.m.
4/24	Lowell vs. Davison* - 12:00	5/17	Okemos - 6:30 p.m.
	Lowell vs. Portage Cental* - 3 p.m.		

**GIRLS VARSITY SOFTBALL**

**BOYS VARSITY BASEBALL**

\* Indicates a home game at Cherry Creek Softball Field  
All games begin at 4:15 p.m. unless indicated

3/31	F.H. Central - 4 p.m.	4/13	Caledonia* - 4 p.m.
4/13	Middleville (2) - 4 p.m.	4/15	G.R. Christian* (2) - Girls Only
4/16	Lowell Invitational* - 10 a.m. - Boys Only	4/17	East Kentwood To. - 10 a.m. - Girls Only
4/17	Portland* (2) - 4 p.m.	4/19	Ionia (2)* - 4 p.m.
4/21	Allendale* - Boys Only	4/22	Hamilton To. - 9 a.m.
4/24	Unity Christian*	4/26	Kenowa Hills*
4/28	Northview	4/30	Sparta*
5/3	Kenowa Hills	5/5	East Grand Rapids (2)
5/5	Unity Christian	5/10	Northview*
5/6	Cedar Springs (2)	5/12	Otego Tournament - 10 a.m. - Boys Only
5/10	Greenville (2)*	5/17	Lakewood (2) - 4 p.m.
5/12	Lowell Invitational* - 4 p.m. - Girls Only	5/19	Lowell Invitational* - 4 p.m. - Girls Only
5/14	Crossover* (2) - 4 p.m.	5/21	District Tournament* - TBA
5/15	District Tournament* - TBA		

This Page Brought to You By

**The Lowell Ledger**

105 N. Broadway, Lowell

**GIRLS VARSITY GOLF**

\* Indicates a home game @ Deer Run Golf Course  
Games begin at 3:30 unless indicated

4/14	Cedar Springs	4/25	Northview
4/16	Lakewood	5/5	Greenville
4/17	Conference @ Kaufman - 8 a.m.	5/10	Unity Christian
4/21	Thornapple Kellogg	5/12	F.H. Central*
4/24	Jeonson Invitational - 8:30 a.m.	5/17	Conference - 8:30 a.m.
4/26	East Grand Rapids*	5/21	Regional Tournament* - TBA
4/28	Kenowa Hills*		
4/30	F.H. Northern Inv. - 9:30 a.m.		

**VARSIETY TRACK**

All Meets begin at 4:15 p.m. unless indicated  
\* Indicates a home meet at Red Arrow Stadium

4/15	Cedar Springs	4/27	Kenowa Hills
4/17	Hastings Relays - 9 a.m.	4/29	Northview
4/20	Sparta*	5/1	Lowell Invitational* - 9 a.m.
4/22	East Grand Rapids*	5/4	Greenville*
4/24	Kenowa Hills	5/6	Unity Christian
4/26	Northview	5/13	Conference @ Greenville - TBA
4/28	Lowell Invitational* - 9 a.m.	5/14	Conference @ Greenville - TBA
4/29	Greenville*	5/22	Regional Meet*
5/1	Unity Christian		

**CREW REGATTA**

3/27	Grand Rapids Winter Springs, 8 a.m. Forest Hills High School
4/17	Grand Rapids High School Invitational - Riverside Park
4/24	HEBDA Cup, Wyandotte, MI
5/8 & 9	Midwest Scholastic Championship, Stony Creek, Metropark, MI
5/15	East Grand Rapids Regatta, Reeds Lake, EGR



## Hospice of Michigan announces statewide photo contest

To launch its 2004 fundraiser, "The Big Picture Project," Hospice of Michigan is conducting a statewide photography contest to encourage community participation in The Big Picture Project and to build awareness for Hospice of Michigan's Pediatric Hospice Program. The contest is separated into two sections, children third grade through twelfth, and community participants.

Participants may select to photograph any subject matter that reflects one of Hospice's four components: peace, compassion, dignity or comfort. Entrants are required to submit (in 50 words or less) an explanation of their photo. Twenty winning photos will be selected, printed and framed, and displayed at a photo exhibit, along with Hospice of Michigan pediatric family photos.

Meijer, Inc. and Kodak have donated 500 disposable

cameras from their Photo Development Center that will be provided in free kits to the first 500 schools (grades 3-12) who respond to Hospice of Michigan at (616) 356-5231. Kits include:

- 1 disposable camera
- Information about the Pediatric Hospice Program
- Lesson plans on how to take photographs
- Information about how to hold a fundraising event for their school
- Information on having a professional photographer come to participating schools to teach students different techniques and tips about taking photographs along with a volunteer to talk about Hospice of Michigan's Pediatric Program

The deadline for photo entries is April 30. To receive a photo contest entry

form, visit [www.hom.org](http://www.hom.org) or call 356-5231. On May 15, 20 winners will be announced, selected from these four categories: 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade, 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grade, 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade and the community.

The inspiration for the con-

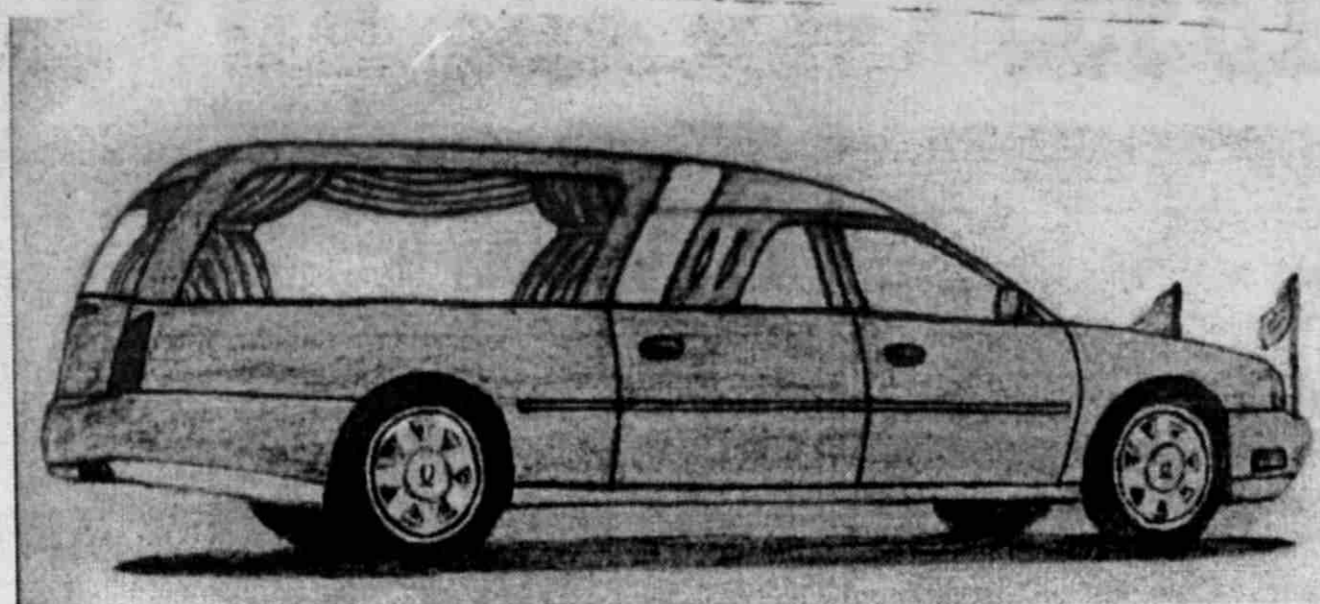
test came from Grand Rapids professional photographer, Jeff Dykehouse who, for the past two years, has been donating his time and talent by taking black and white photographs of Hospice of Michi-

gan Pediatric patients and families. He then presents the framed photos to the families as gifts.

The motivation for his acts of kindness came after Dykehouse lost his 14-month-

old daughter, Emily, to cancer. "I really regret not having a professional portrait done, a really nice one that we could hang in our living room, one that would remind us of our little angel," he said.

## New direction for body shop, continued...From Page 1



A pencil drawing by Rance Bennett of the style of hearse Bennett Coachworks will build. The shop is currently working on a prototype.

Lowell AutoBody opened in 1982 as a regular collision body shop. During the 1980s, its business evolved from standard collision work into classic car restoration. The shop developed a specialty in classic hearses and limousines.

"My interest is in coach-built cars," Bennett said. "In

the 20s and 30s, you'd go to a chassis dealer, say, Dusenberg, and then you'd go to a coach builder and they'd do it any way you like it."

The hand-worked custom building appealed to the Bennetts.

"I guess just from doing all the body work, knowing

what they went through to make a car like that," Bennett said.

In 1997, the shop started building new hearses. They've modified hearses into flower-carrying cars and made ceremonial vehicles on utility-van chassis. Currently

they are working on the shop's present venture, a prototype of the first hearses on passenger-car chassis.

"For our first step, the goal is to do two cars a month and we can do that with the guys we've got," Bennett said. "I'm very confident we can go up from there but I want to make sure we can keep the quality perfect."

Bennett said the shop has no desire to grow into a high-volume operation.

"I would rather do fewer cars, but really specialized, for people who appreciate the quality and something quite distinctive in the coachwork," Bennett said. "I would rather do the requests that they can't get done anywhere else."

Bennett said the shop has already received some orders for its new hearses.

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## TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN COUNTY OF KENT, MICHIGAN

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the Township of Grattan will hold a public hearing on April 7, 2004 at 7:00 p.m., at the Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Road, within the Township, concerning two proposed ordinances that would amend the Zoning Ordinance of the Township of Grattan.

The first proposed ordinance would amend Article 7.03.G of Zoning Ordinance to clarify the manner in which minimum waterfront setbacks are to be measured on lots and parcels in the R-L Zoning District, and to add definitions for new terms that are used in the revised Article 7.03.G.

The second proposed ordinance would amend the provisions of Article 18 of the Zoning Ordinance governing the procedures for public hearings conducted by the Board of Appeals; the methods for recording Board of Appeals' decisions; and the standards the Board of Appeals is to use to evaluate applications for use variances and dimensional variances.

A copy of the proposed Zoning Ordinance amendments is on file and may be examined the offices of the Grattan Township Clerk, during Township office hours. All interested persons may attend the public hearing and comment on the proposed amendments. Written comments concerning the same may be submitted to the Township office at the above-listed address, up to the time of the public hearing.

Dated: March 5, 2004

PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN

## Road ordinance, continued...From Page 1

current ordinance. The city of Fremont, however, has it differently, basing the width of the road on the number of houses that are going to be built. "Currently what we have is going to be costly for some-

one putting in two houses versus someone who is going to build 50," DesJarden explained.

"You want to cut the cost down on the development while the garbage trucks,

school buses and the likes still can use them," Hall said.

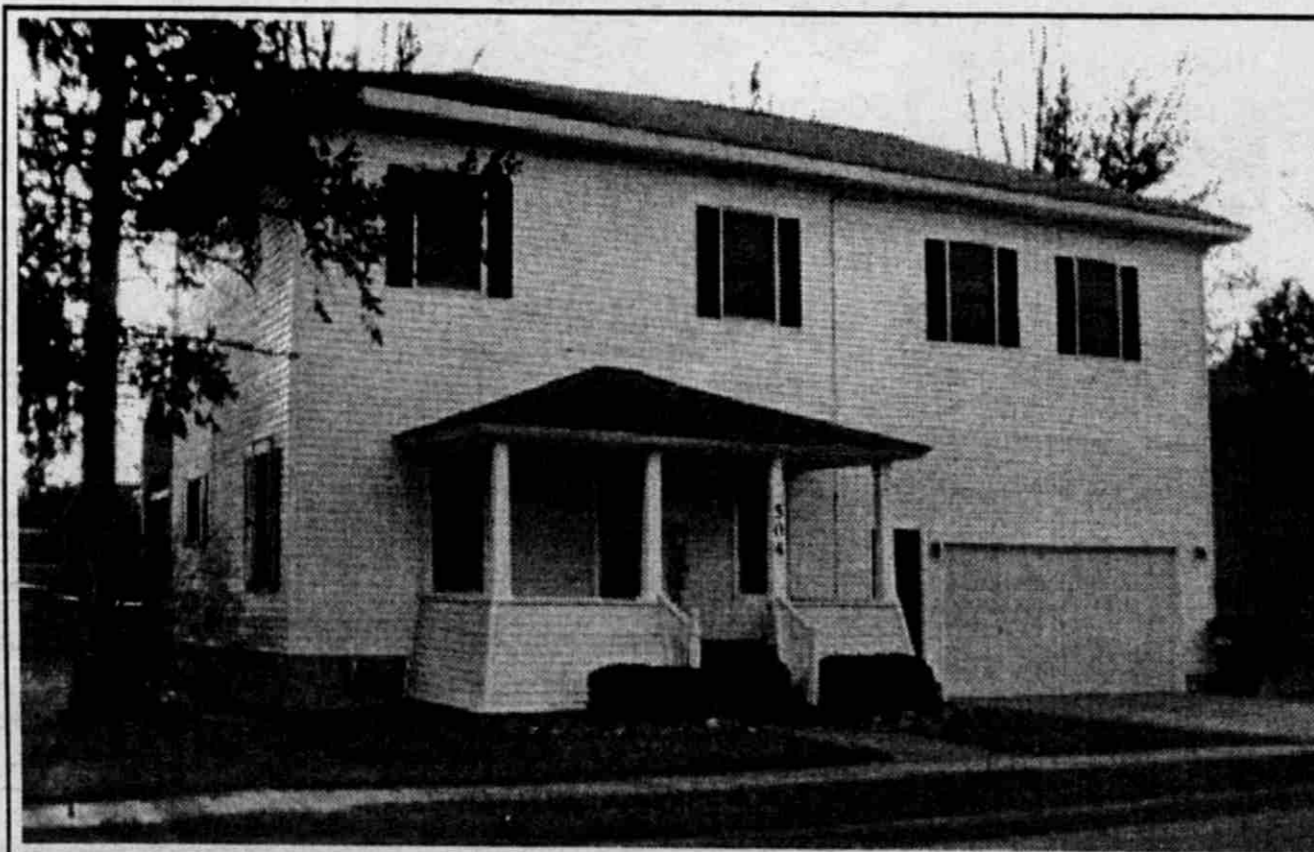
DesJarden said the width of a traffic lane is nine feet with a passing lane, making the roadway 18 feet. The Fremont option could work well for the city since it has both small and large builders, DesJarden said, adding that a developer would know exactly what would be expected since the guidelines would be specific.

Hall concurred with DesJarden, adding that such an ordinance would have helped in determining the Sundry project coming off of High Street. "You could ar-

gue that most of the development has taken place within the city," Hall said, adding that down the road he could see potential development by both small and large developers where such a private road ordinance could become helpful.

DesJarden also pointed out that pieces of other municipalities' ordinances could also help in defining the city's private road ordinance. The planning commission opted to start reviewing recommendations and other ordinances at an April 12 work session at City Hall.

**Saranac Soft Serve**  
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### HOUSE FOR SALE IN LOWELL:

3 bedrooms, 2 baths, attached 2 car garage, 1,977 square feet with newly remodeled kitchen, bathrooms and living room. Separate dining with hardwood floors, large family room, fenced back yard, two-story deck, built in swing, slide, and sandbox. House has 24 X 24 two-story addition that is 5 years old. Large outbuilding for lots of storage. Located 1 block from Bushnell Elementary on large lot. Appraised in August of 2003 for \$154,000. Asking \$154,000 or reasonable offer. Call 616-897-9350 for appointment. There will be an open house on Sunday, March 28th from 2-5 pm. No realtor calls at this time please.

## LMS bands headed to state festival

The Lowell Middle School seventh and eighth grade bands were awarded a division one rating at the MSBOA District 10 Band Festival, held in the Lowell Performing Arts Center on March 13.

Judges gave both bands a division one rating in performance. The seventh grade band, directed by Kate Bredwell, received a division two rating in sight reading and the eighth grade band, directed by Dale Latva, attained a division one rating. Both bands will be awarded medals and a plaque for their accomplishments.

The two bands qualify for the state band festival which is held on April 30 or May 1. Only bands which score a first division rating participate in the state festival.



# DEER RUN

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FRIDAY, APRIL 2  
"Great Lakes Band"  
Playing 8-11

LAST TWO FISH FRYS!



FRIDAY, APRIL 9  
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\* Must be a NEW ad. Must be same ad for both Buyers Guide & Lowell Ledger, no changes. Please bring your ad into our office.  
**Payment required at time of placement.**  
Ad must run between March 31, 2004 & April 26, 2004.

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## Lowell Karate students represent Michigan in National Tournament



Pictured, left to right, are: Robby Coffey, Mariah Moore and Andrea Coffey.

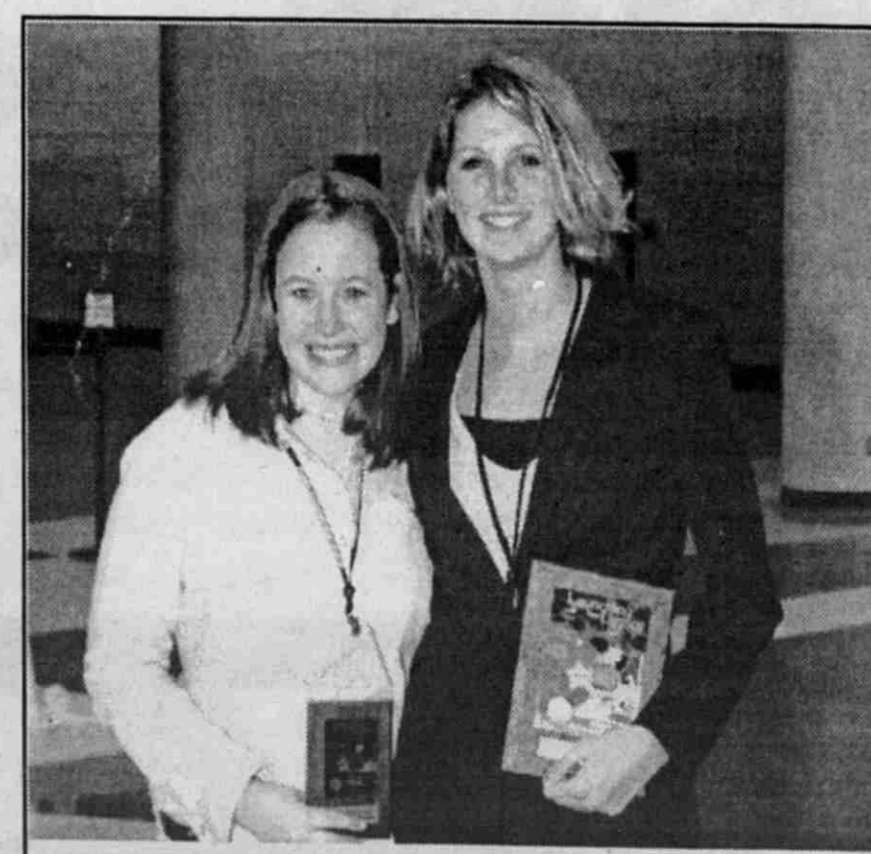
Lowell Ro-Ken Karate students, studying with Sensei Aaron Bailey, Sempai Susan Hoag and the Young Champions Self-Defense program, are making a very respectable name for themselves. During a regional tournament in January, Mariah Moore, Andrea Coffey and Robby Coffey were chosen to represent Michigan in the Young Champions Midwest National Tournament. The tournament was held in Chicago at the Holiday Inn Convention Center on March 13

with over 175 competitors from Wisconsin, Minnesota, Ohio, Illinois and Michigan. Moore, 10, placed first in forms, sparring, best kick, best strike and walking with confidence, and second in self-defense in her division. Andrea Coffey, 12, placed first in forms, third in sparring and best kick, second in best strike, first in walking with confidence, and second in self-defense. Robby Coffey, 10, received first in forms and sparring. Each division had a field

of nearly 20 competitors. The students, who put in countless hours every week, also volunteer their time to support the class and help teach other children self-defense techniques. "I would like to congratulate Andrea, Robby and Mariah. They have worked very hard for this. I would also tell them and every one of my students to never give up on your dreams and always believe in yourself. Most importantly, respect yourself," said Sensei Bailey.



**'HARDT HAPPENINGS**  
Come to the library and be transformed into a superhero. All ages are welcome, but registration is required for the program in which kids will create a superhero name, logo, cape and comic strip.



Sarah Fitzpatrick, left, and Megan Shellenbarger.

To register for the March 30 program at the Englehardt branch at 6:30 p.m., call 647-3920. To attend the Alto program on Monday, April 5 at 11:30 a.m., call 647-3820. The Alto branch library will be presenting "A fairy magical" program on Wednesday, April 7 at 4 p.m. All ages are invited to go on a fairy treasure hunt and make clothes pin fairies but registration is required. Call 647-3820.

### CORRECTION

In the March 17 Lowell Ledger, an article titled "Lowell students shine at state conference" mentioned business students who had participated in the 32nd annual State Leadership Conference of the Michigan Association of Business Professionals of America. The article should have said Megan Shellenbarger will represent Michigan at the 2004 National Leadership Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio, in April.

## Varsity powerlifters 4th in state

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell varsity powerlifting team placed fourth in the state tournament last Saturday in Montrose. The junior varsity team finished third, making Lowell the only school in the state to place in the top five at both varsity and J.V. levels.

Muskegon High School won the event. There were 57 teams there this year.

Matt D'Agostino was varsity state champion at the 132 weight for the Red Arrows.

Lowell had two state champs at the junior varsity level. Sam Hopkins took first at 165 and Gabe Delnick took first at 181. Delnick lifted well enough to have finished second had he been wrestling varsity.

Other top finishers for

Lowell varsity included: Joe Mendez, finishing fourth at 123; Brian Janeschek took third at 145; Scott Perdaris took tenth at 197; Ryan Esbaugh, seventh at 220; Ed Zigmont placed sixth at 242; and John Rasch finished fourth in the super-heavyweight division.

Powerlifters make three attempts each at squat, bench press and dead lift. They are scored for weight lifted and judged on technique. The best score is taken from each discipline.

At Lowell, powerlifting is mostly off-season conditioning for the football team. "Some other schools have powerlifting teams, we have a football team that powerlifts," coach Noel Dean said. Dean coaches both varsity sports.

Both the varsity and JV teams won regional titles at Maple Valley. The second unit of varsity, consisting of lifters who didn't qualify for state, took second in a competition at Carson City.

The only other competition for the Lowell lifters was against each other in an event at Lowell earlier in the season.

"We don't get into them (competitions) like some of the teams," Dean said. "Our football season has been going later the last few years. You shouldn't be maxing out every two or three weeks. We try to go to a regional five weeks before the state meet."

The team lifts after school on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

## Wrestling club members at state meet

Several members of the Lowell Wrestling Club Folkstyle team participated at the MYWA State meet, March 14, at Michigan State University's Jenison Fieldhouse.

The following 7-8 year olds placed: Christopher Po-

land (43 pounds) third place; Zeth Dean (52) third place; Jacob Stephens (61) sixth place; and Jacob Sweet (67) fourth place.

Derek Krajewski (51) placed fifth and Jordan Drake (85) received a first place in the 9-10-year-old age bracket.

Other wrestlers who participated at the state and regional meets include Nathan Stephens, Kanon Dean, Jacob Murray, Sean Greenhoe, David Blaser, Joe Sweet and Josh Drake.

## Scouts learn woodcarving skills



Fran Mendez and John Sanchez of the Flat River Woodcarving Guild worked with Pack 3188's Bear den 1 on their wood chip card. Mendez and Sanchez taught safety rules and demonstrated wood carving skills before letting the scouts do some carving themselves. Pictured, from left to right, are: Reid Stormzand, Seth Monroe, Philip Janowski, Alex McIntire, Mendez and den chief Mark Johnson from Boy Scout Pack 102, and den leader Steve Sage.

Picture submitted by Bruce Doll

## Variance request, continued... From Page 1

Pasquale said no, since the number of units is already set by the current zoning of the property, which is suburban residential.

Several months ago the city changed its property requirements in the SR district from 35,000 to 23,000, which for Sundry meant the parcel would now have 16 homes versus the original nine that were proposed. The open space preservation ordinance does allow for more clustering of the homes, which

Pfaller explained helps reduce the cost on the infrastructure, i.e., the road. Pasquale noted the road would have to meet the city's private road ordinance for approval. When the original plans for the parcel were approved, the road did meet the requirements.

Mathews said clustering the homes would keep them away from the neighbors. Myers explained that clustering would also mean creating a common area which would have to be taken care of

through a condo association. He thought homeowners might want a choice of where they want their home on the property, versus being told.

The ZBA unanimously agreed to set a public hearing on the ordinance, asking for some answers to the 20 percent slope grade questions from city staff. "The other issue here is, is the 20 percent too restrictive for the entire city?" asked councilman James Hodges.



Pictured, left to right, are: Tyler Garcia (Lowell), Nathan Limmex, Nicholas Hughes, Garrett Ruppel, Parker Groom (Lowell) and Dallas VanBelkum. With them is "coach of the year" Brian Franson.

## U.S. Airborne boys gymnastics team places at state

Last week in Hartland, level 6 and 7 of the ANA boys gymnastics team from Forest Hills took first place; level 4 took seventh place. Level 7 championed Branch gymnastics from Battle Creek by .02 points. Tyler Garcia and Parker Groom, both of Lowell, took seventh and tenth place respectively. Nathan Limmex, first on pommel horse, parallel bars and high bars, missed all around by .05.

In class 6 in the nine-year-old division, Jake Wallin placed fifth and Kevin Hagan took sixth. Tyler Gorczyca received a first and Mitch Nousain, second, in the 10-11-year-old division. Class 4 took seventh as a team. Andy Capouch finished sixth and Travis Thran, eighth. The boys are coached by Brian Franson.

## CITY OF LOWELL

KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN

**NOTICE OF ADOPTION AND SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS TO SECTIONS 2.07, 2.17 AND 2.21 OF CHAPTER 2, "DEFINITIONS," AND SECTIONS 4.07 AND 4.08 OF CHAPTER 4, "GENERAL PROVISIONS," OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LOWELL**

The Lowell City Council adopted Ordinance No. 04-1 amending Sections 2.07, 2.17 and 2.21 of Chapter 2, "Definitions," and Sections 4.07 and 4.08 of Chapter 4, "General Provisions," of the Zoning Ordinance of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell on March 15, 2004. Ordinance No. 04-1 added definitions of the terms "fence," "primary accessory building," "privacy screen," and "wall" to Chapter 2 of the Zoning Ordinance. Ordinance No. 04-1 further amended Section 4.07 of Chapter 4 of the Zoning Ordinance by expanding regulations related to fences and walls including privacy screens. Added to Section 4.07 are the requirements that (i) fences and walls be located on the same property as the use to which they apply; (ii) walls and fences more than 50% solid may not exceed 36 inches and may not otherwise exceed 48 inches within a front yard or 72 inches anywhere else except as otherwise provided in a non-residential district; (iii) fences along a property line shall have exposed posts and bracings facing the interior of the property upon which it is constructed; (iv) fences and walls shall not be located or maintained so as to be located on or encroach on or above adjacent property; (v) all fences and walls shall be in good repair and condition; (vi) privacy screens shall not exceed 27 feet per section, there will be a minimum of 12 inches of open space between privacy screen sections, there will be no more than 3 privacy screen sections per property side and rear yard lots lines; (vii) privacy screens shall not exceed 8 feet in height; and (viii) a permit be obtained from the zoning enforcement officer prior to constructing a fence, wall or privacy screen. Ordinance No. 04-1, in addition, amended Section 4.08 of Chapter 4 of the Zoning Ordinance requiring that the construction of a primary accessory building or the addition of a bay(s) to an existing primary accessory building requires a hard surfaced driveway from the public street or alley to the primary accessory building. Also, Ordinance No. 04-1 amended Section 19.03 of Chapter 4 of the Zoning Ordinance requiring all parking facilities, access driveways and commercial storage areas shall be hard-surfaced with pavement of poured cement or rolled asphalt or such surfaces approved by the Planning Commission. A minimum width of 10 feet for a driveway and a minimum of 12 feet for a new curb cut shall be established.

Ordinance No. 04-1 is effective 10 days from this publication.



Betty R. Morlock  
City Clerk



## Local resident is successful with weight loss in area program



Sharon Johnson with new healthier figure.

Sharon Johnson, of Lowell, joined the Lowell Curves for Women after her sister Betty passed away. Betty had been overweight and suffered from diabetes. Johnson decided she needed to improve her own health.

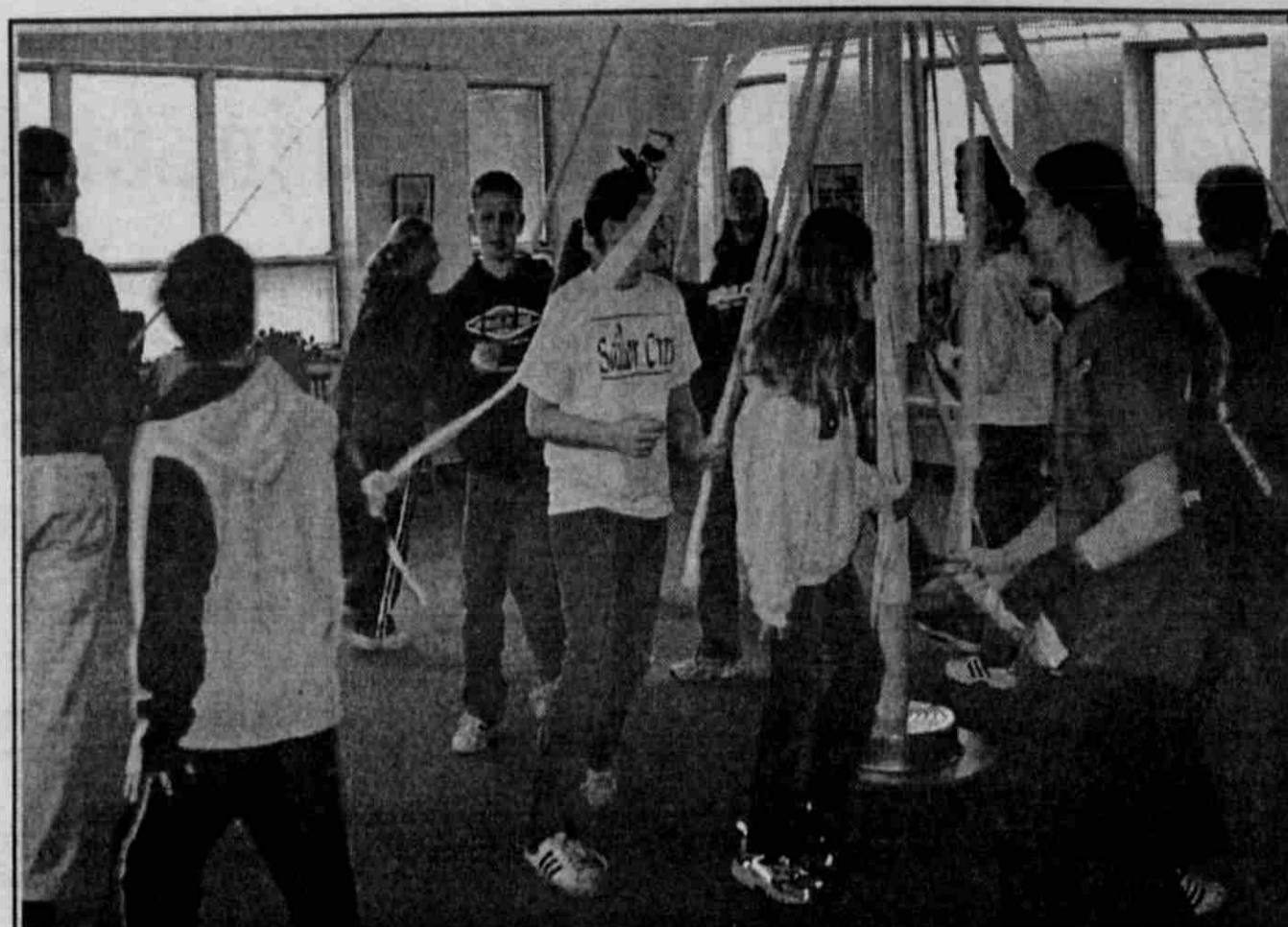
Joining Curves changed her life. She has worked out for 30 minutes four or five times a week for the past 21 months, losing 57 pounds, 41.75 inches in measurements, and 40.98 percent in body fat. She buys lower fat foods, eats more fruits and vegetables, and drinks lots of water. Her goal is to lose another 20 pounds.

Johnson said, "I did it for me and it worked; I feel so much better!" Now her knees

are better and she has more energy. The Curves staff and other members have been instrumental to her success.



Johnson before beginning weight loss program.



## Medieval Day at FLPC

Sixth grade students from Byron Center Middle School had a special treat when visiting the Franciscan Life Process Center (FLPC). Forty children participated in "Medieval Day," a learning event that took them back into time where they worked side by side to make bread, embroider tapestry, and participate in musical events and festivities that included Maypole dancing and Gregorian chants.

### NOTICE OF MEETING FEDERAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM SMALL URBAN PROGRAM LOWELL AREA

A meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 31, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowell City Hall, Council Chambers, 301 East Main Street, Second Floor to receive comments on eligible street improvement projects in the Lowell area for the Federal Surface Transportation Program allocated to the Small Urban Program.

Road and transit projects are eligible for funding under the Small Urban Program. All road projects must be located on the Federal-aid highway system, and within the federal urban area boundaries of cities within 5,000 to 50,000 populations. Projects must be consistent with regional land use and development plans.

The Michigan Department of Transportation is accepting Small Urban Program project applications for the year 2005. An application from the Lowell area will be submitted after the public meeting and in consultation with transportation agencies.

The City of Lowell has proposed the following project:

- Reconstruction of Bowes Road from Valley Vista Drive to 1,950 feet west. Federal fund \$341,800 Total cost: \$540,000

The Kent County Road Commission has proposed the following project:

- Resurfacing of Vergennes Street from Lincoln Lake Avenue to Flat River Drive. Federal funds \$120,000 Total cost: \$157,000

If there are any questions, please contact David M. Pasquale, City Manager at 897-8457 or write to 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan 49331 or Roger A. Belknap, Transportation Planner at 242-6948 or write to Kent County Road Commission, 1500 Scribner, N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504. Written comments prior to the meeting will be accepted.

Betty R. Morlock  
City Clerk



The teacher is often the first to discover the talented and unusual scholar. How he handles and encourages, or discourages, such a child may make all the difference in the world to that child's future—and to the world.

—Loren Easley

## CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council, acting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, will conduct public hearings at their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, March 29, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lowell City Hall Council Chambers, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan.

The purpose of said hearings would be to receive comments on the following variances requested:

- 1270 Laurie Gail - Samuel and Bobbi Milton wish to install an egress window on the east side of their hours at 1270 Laurie Gail to meet fire code requirements for a basement bedroom. The window well extends four feet out leaving only four feet from the lot line. Since six feet is required, a variance has been requested.
- 753 Grindle - Sundry Corporation wishes to construct a 16 unit single family residential development utilizing the open space preservation ordinance. The ordinance requires at least 20% but not more than 40% of the property in a perpetually undeveloped state. Areas which have a slope of 20% or more do not contribute as open space. Since much of the property is greater than 20%, there is a practical difficulty in meeting the open space provisions, thus a variance has been petitioned to allow up to a 50% slope to be counted for open space.

Interested persons may submit comments to Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main Street prior to the meeting or appear in person.

Betty R. Morlock  
City Clerk  
616-897-8457



## Four generations

Brandi Cunliffe, right, is pleased to announce the birth of her daughter Destini Cunliffe. Pictured at left is grandmother Denise Pennington and great-grandmother Lila Pfisner, top right.

## CITY OF LOWELL

### KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN

#### NOTICE OF ADOPTION AND SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT TO SECTION 26-4 OF CHAPTER 26, "HISTORIC DISTRICT," OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LOWELL

The Lowell City Council adopted Ordinance No. 04-2 amending Section 26-4 of Chapter 26, "Historic District," of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell on March 15, 2004. Ordinance No. 04-2 in accordance with applicable State of Michigan law deletes the requirement that one member of this Historic District Commission be a member of the City Planning Commission.

Ordinance No. 04-2 is effective ten days after this publication.

Betty R. Morlock  
City Clerk



### FOR SALE

1998 JEEP CHEROKEE 4X4 - 4 dr., black, 80,000 miles. \$6,800. Call 897-1597 or 450-7910.

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

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

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.

OWNER MUST SELL - Must sell 4 homes & 2 building lots by May 1st. 3 & 4 bed, 2 bath as low as \$500 down. Call 1-800-615-1224.

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

FOR SALE - 1987 F150 pickup, 4X4, 4spd., 6 cyl., 33" BFG \$1,200 obo. Call 897-9088.

JUST LISTED - DOUBLEWIDE - KEY HEIGHTS. 3bedrooms, 2 full baths, central air, kitchen appliances, deck, large 2 story barn. Great buy at \$24,900. Connie Reedy 897-0444 REEDY MOBILE HOME BROKERS www.reedyplace.com

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

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

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.

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

LONELY HOME - 1st. \$1,000 gets it! 3 bedr, 1 bath ready to move in. No payments until June 1st. Guarantee finance. Call 616-647-2563.

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

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.

'92 JEEP CHEROKEE - 4x4, white, 4 door, auto., 110,000 miles. \$3,500. Call 897-1597 or 450-7910.

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

### 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 eves 269-367-4900. Phil Bishop.

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.

PEKINGESE - 9 mo. old male, shots, neutered. Serious inquiries only. \$300. 554-7084 or 723-2236.

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.

FOR SALE - Commercial lawn preparator for landscaping. 676-9257.

GRATTAN - Big Pine Island Lake, private access. Awesome view. Looking for a year round cottage? Here it is. Seller is very motivated, will consider trade or land contract. Call Laura Hayden for more info. Home Quest Realty. 616-293-0507.

SCRATCH PADS OF PAPER! - We have lots of small pads of paper in stock! \$1.25 a lb. Lowell Ledger/Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

"4 SALE" - 2001 Ford Windstar minivan LX, low miles, TV-VCR combo plus lots of extras. Call Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. ask for Scott at 616-987-4421.

CLARKSVILLE - SELLER FINANCING! New home, 2-4 bedrooms, full basement, 2 car attached garage, 15 minutes east of Grand Rapids. 3-6k down, \$1100-\$1500 per month. Call 616-540-9684.

FOR SALE BY OWNER - Handyman Project! Price reduced! 2 possibly 3 bedrooms, large fenced back yard, basement, insulated dbl. garage wired w/220 V. outbuilding. \$75,000. 821 Bowes Rd., Lowell. Call 897-9132.

FOR SALE - 1981 Honda 450R dirt bike, \$400 obo. Call Jason 893-9940.

### IN MEMORIAM

#### IN MEMORIAM LADUE

In loving remembrance of my husband, our father, grandfather and great-grandfather, **Douglas E. LaDue**, who passed away eight years ago,

March 26, 1996.  
Forever loved & cherished by wife Pauline; children

Karen LaDue & family, Douglas E. II & Patricia LaDue & family

## 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  
each additional word 10¢  
Bold or Box \$1 each

## The Lowell Ledger

Phone: 616-897-9261  
Fax: 616-897-4809

### FOR RENT

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

HALL FOR RENT - with kitchen, seats 150. Call 897-6050.

HOUSE FOR RENT - 3 bedroom, 2 bath, updated interior, fenced-in yard, garage & carport. \$950/mo. No pets. No smoking. Call 676-9431.

HOUSE FOR RENT - Nice clean 3 bedroom, 2 bath, full basement, nice yard. 249 Jane Ellen, \$750/mo. + deposit. No smoking, no pets. Call 897-8504.

HOUSE FOR RENT - 2 bedroom in country, near the expressway. Please call after 5 p.m., 897-8198.

HOUSE FOR RENT - 7035 68th St. 2 bedroom, 2 stall garage, \$850/mo + utilities. 868-9917.

### WANTED

WRECKED OR NON-RUNNING VEHICLES WANTED - Free hauling, possible \$642-6807 or 897-0004.

WANTED - 2-5 acres of land between Lowell & the Cascade/Ada area. Best if not completely wooded. 897-6284 or 485-4195.

WANTED - Cash paid for old junk motorcycles & mopeds. Running or not. Call 616-446-8352, Rich.

### SALES

BOB'S 3RD ANNUAL BIRD-HOUSE SALE - Bluebird houses, wren houses, bat houses, feeders, many styles. Priced right. 12279 60th St. Alto., 868-6633.

SOUND OFF PHONE LINE 897-0787  
Voice your opinion (good or bad) in our new column!

### 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, Lowell.

NOW HIRING - McDonald's in Lowell and the McDonald's Express in Ada are looking to hire a few people for the morning and evening shifts. Pay will be determined by your availability and experience. We provide a fun work environment, flexible schedules, meal discounts, and opportunity for advancement. Please apply at the stores or call Jill at 676-9272.

MANPOWER IS CURRENTLY SEEKING - experienced Inspector workers. Must have good attention to detail and be able to spot defects in parts. Committed to working every day and giving their best. Call Manpower Today at 616-897-0050 or stop into our office at 505 D W. Main, Lowell.

CLEANERS/ALTO - 1st shift full-time and 1st or 2nd shift part-time, \$8.75/hr. ENVIRO-CLEAN, a leading West Michigan commercial cleaning service provider, has immediate openings at an Alto manufacturing site. Interviews will be conducted on Thursday, March 25, from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at: Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, 113 Riverwalk Plaza (behind Flat River Grill Restaurant) Lowell. To schedule an interview call ENVIRO-CLEAN at 1-866-561-4017. EOE

### SERVICES

NEED A DUMPSTER? - New company wants to earn your business. 10-30 yd. containers. Hietala Hauling 616-915-0506 or 868-6051.

LICENSED DAYCARE - is accepting children 1 and older. Call 897-7656 located on Grand River Dr. SE.

WEDDING INVITATIONS - We offer Carlson Craft wedding invitations! Stop by & check out a book today! Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell. 897-9261.

PAINTING - Careful, detailed work. Insured & bonded. Stoney Hill Service, 897-4010.

CARPET INSTALLATION - Residential & commercial, patches, restretch. Free estimates. Call Kevin at 616-813-4299.

HARDWOOD FLOORS - Professionally installed or refinished by Miller's Custom Woodworking. For an estimate call 897-2775.

CHEAP REMOVAL - All types of vehicles, appliances & furniture. Call 616-485-0836.

SARANAC LAUNDROMAT - Reasonable, reliable. 8 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. everyday! Downtown Saranac.

### SERVICES

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

TOWING - Servicing Lowell & surrounding areas. Flat bed & wrecker, Tire changes, Jump starts, Lock outs, 24 Hr. service. Call Lincoln Lake Autos 646-5909.

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.

CERAMIC TILE - Floors, kitchen, backsplash, fireplaces, jacuzzi tubs & more. Quality workmanship, reasonable rates, 11 years experience. Call Rick @ 868-7546, cell 616-366-5426.

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

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

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

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

POLE BARNs - 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

DOES YOUR CHRYSLER, PLYMOUTH, DODGE CAR, TRUCK OR VAN NEED REPAIR? - Don't make a mistake & take it anywhere else - give Geo-Tech a try! Contact George at Geo-Tech Transmission & Repair, 897-0743.

ATTN: GRADUATING SENIORS & SENIOR PARENTS - We have open house cards, thank you cards & envelopes! 5¢ for each piece! Lowell Ledger/ Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.



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**FREE  
ADMISSION!**

**FREE  
PARKING!**

**FREE  
GIVEAWAYS!**

**ENTERTAINMENT!**

# Over 125 Vendors On Display

4 Health Wellness Center  
 AirWave Computer Services LLC  
 All Design Irrigation LLC  
 Animal Hospital & Pet Complex of Lowell  
 Arctic Inc Heating & AC  
 Aspen Ridge Excavator  
 At Home America  
 B & G Services Inc  
 B.C. Pizza  
 Balloonattics  
 Basket Palace - Longaberger Products  
 Bear Plumbing  
 Calvary Christian Reformed Church  
 Chimera Design  
 City of Lowell  
 Coldwell Banker Hoppough & Associates  
 Country Window and Door  
 Covered Bridge Studios  
 CoverUp Enclosures  
 Creative Memories - Barb Roth  
 Culligan  
 Cumberland Retirement Village  
 Curtis Accounting & Tax Services  
 D & D Fabricating  
 Daisy's Floral  
 Darl's Deck Maintenance  
 Dawn Borup Photography  
 Deer Run Golf Club  
 Dery Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation  
 Digital Image  
 Discovery Toys  
 Doctors Chiropractic  
 Double R Ranch  
 Edward Jones Investments  
 Energy Conservation Systems  
 Fallsburg Historical Society  
 Fidere, LLC  
 Fifth Third Bank  
 Fireplaces Plus  
 First Baptist Church of Lowell  
 First United Methodist Church of Lowell  
 Flat River Outreach Ministries  
 Franciscan Life Process Center  
 Freedom Financial Group, Inc.  
 Freedom Village  
 Galaxy Signs & Awards  
 Glass House Designs  
 Goldworks by Michelle  
 Good Shepherd Lutheran  
 Gordon Food Service  
 Grand River Veterinary  
 Great Lakes Paving  
 Green Acres Retirement Living  
 Greenridge Realty  
 Harding Enterprises  
 Harold Zeigler Ford  
 Hearthstone Design Studios  
 Heffron Farms Market  
 Home Experts  
 Honey Creek Community Church  
 Hooper Printing  
 ICNB  
 Images of Vision  
 Impact a Wesleyan Church  
 Independent Bank  
 J & E Home Improvements  
 James C Veen Observatory  
 Kent County Sheriff  
 Kent County Youth Fair  
 Kent District Library  
 Kindermusik  
 Laurels of Kent  
 Litehouse, Inc.  
 Lowell Area Arts Council

Lowell Area Boy Scouts  
 Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce  
 Lowell Area Community Fund  
 Lowell Area Crop Walk  
 Lowell Area Fire Department  
 Lowell Area Historical Museum  
 Lowell Area Recreation Authority  
 Lowell Area Schools  
 Lowell Area Schools Athletic Boosters  
 Lowell Area Schools Education Foundation  
 Lowell Area Select Soccer Organization  
 Lowell Buyers Guide  
 Lowell Church of the Nazarene  
 Lowell City Directory  
 Lowell Girls Soccer - Goal Club  
 Lowell Leadership LIVE  
 Lowell Light & Power/Cable TV  
 Lowell Police Department  
 Lowell Rotary  
 Lowell Township  
 Lowell YMCA  
 Lowell Youth Football  
 Manszewski Quickbooks Service  
 Mary Kay  
 Master Creations  
 Meijer  
 Michigan Army National Guard  
 Michigan Dutch Barns  
 Michigan Tax & Accounting  
 Mika Meyers Beckett & Jones  
 Modern Photographics  
 Natural Stone Carpets@Floors By Design  
 Nerds on Site  
 New England Financial  
 New York Life - Ray Normington  
 Oak Leaf Embroidery  
 Overbeck Construction  
 Pampered Chef  
 Partylite  
 Pizza Hut  
 Postal Connections  
 Production Manufacturing Sources  
 Pro-Health Ultra  
 Quail Ridge Golf Club  
 RE/MAX Country Hills  
 Regal Financial Group  
 Regal Insurance Agency, formerly Speerstra Insurance  
 Renewal by Anderson  
 Rich's Service Company  
 River Valley Credit Union  
 Rockford/Lowell Ambulance  
 Root Lowell Manufacturing Company  
 SafeHaven Humane Society  
 School of Missionary Aviation Technology  
 Schwans Ice Cream  
 Silpada Designs  
 The Investment Center @ ICNB  
 Thomet Chevy  
 Tractor Supply Company  
 True Vine Tree Care  
 Tupperware  
 Under the Pines-Herbs & Gifts  
 United States Marine Corps  
 US Air Force  
 US Army  
 US Navy  
 Vennen  
 Voyages Coffee Shop  
 West MI Chapter - North Country Trail Association  
 West Michigan Property Management - Stoneridge  
 Apartments  
 Wolbers Landscaping, Inc  
 Woody's Vacs  
 Young Living Essential Oils

**MARCH 27**  
 Saturday - 9 AM - 3:30 PM  
 Lowell High School  
 11700 Vergennes Road

### ENTERTAINMENT ON STAGE

10 AM..... Lowell Area Boy Scouts - Opening Flag Ceremony  
 10 AM..... Brennan Prill - National Anthem  
 10:30 AM..... 6th Grade String Orchestra  
 11:15 AM..... Mark Kasmer - Assistant Superintendent of LAS  
 dazzling us with his talents  
 12 PM..... Ryan Black - Magician  
 12:45 PM .... Peyton Murphy - 2nd grade student at  
 Cherry Creek will be singing  
 2 PM..... Alto 4th Grade Junior Girl Scouts - skit

### MASCOTS AT THE EXPO

10-11 AM..... Good Neighbor State Farm Bear  
 11 AM - 12 PM.... Bucky the Builder  
 11 AM - 3 PM..... Officer Pizzarelli  
 12 - 1 PM..... Crash from the Whitecaps  
 1-3 PM..... ICNIB THE BEAR from ICNB  
 Throughout the Day  
 Chamber's Riverwalk Duckie and  
 Kent District Library's Katie L the Elephant and  
 PC the car of the Lowell Police Department

*Chillin' And  
 Grilling On The  
 Patio By Fireplaces Plus*

*Internet Cafe  
 By Airwave  
 Computer Service*

*Tree Climbing  
 Demonstrations  
 True Vine Tree Care*

**Lowell...  
 the secret is out!**

For more information please contact  
**LOWELL AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**616-897-9161**

or [www.lowellexpo.org](http://www.lowellexpo.org)

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