

The Lowell Ledger

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Wednesday, May 12, 2004

No end in sight for high gas prices



By Dan Schneider

Gas prices at Lowell filling stations had spiked higher than the record state average by Tuesday morning. Prices in Lowell went as high as \$2.08⁹ per gallon. The state average is currently about \$1.94 per gallon.

The all-time highest average gas price in Michigan occurred on June 19, 2000. That day, the average hit \$2.07 per gallon.

"They're too high," Gordon Wierenga said.

Wierenga was filling a five-gallon container of gas at the Lowell Amoco Tuesday morning. He said he has made no plans to adjust his lifestyle to use less gasoline.

"Not really, I guess just use it the same way I always have, just pay more for it," Wierenga said.

"They're outrageous," Vanessa Longanbach said.

Longanbach's job leaves her little room to change her habits to conserve gas.

"I do in-home care and I take care of them so I have to take them to appointments," she said. "I'll be glad when it's back down to a dollar-eighty-something."

That's not likely to happen soon, said Michigan AAA spokesperson Nancy Cain.

"They're not showing any sign of coming down real soon," Cain said.

The price of crude oil is at a 15-year high, Cain said. A barrel of the black stuff currently costs \$40. And, she said, "We have a low supply of gasoline at a time when demand is high."

Gas prices typically jump around Memorial Day, stay high for most of the summer, and start to lower again after Labor Day.

Local gas station signs reflect the ever-increasing fuel prices.

Lowell schools face heavy budget cuts for '04 -'05

By Dan Schneider

According to Lowell Area Schools administrators, it will take \$1.3 million in cuts to balance the budget for next school year.

"The costs are going up significantly and that's the salary and benefits piece that's going up significantly," Lowell Area Schools assistant superintendent for personnel and finance Connie Gillette said.

Gillette projects next year's total budget, before cuts, to be about \$31 million.

The latest program to be considered for cuts is the afternoon session of the district's Readiness program. The state funds the morning session, but the afternoon session costs the district about \$60,000. The district's screening process narrowed candidates for the program down to 15 students. The state provides funding for up to 16.

The school board has already approved a reduction in middle school planning time. The move restructures the school day around a computer-based reading instruc-

tion program. It will result in the elimination of six teaching positions in the district, saving about \$300,000.

Also approved for next year are walk zones within the city of Lowell. Combined with efficiency savings from parking buses at the new Murray Lake Elementary, the zones will save the district up to \$100,000.

The district expects to see a \$120,000 savings on utility costs next year. It will be the first full year of an energy-conservation program put in

place mid-way through the current school year.

The district will save on operations and maintenance by contracting with the private company Enviro-Clean for three third-shift custodial positions. One is a new position at Murray Lake Elementary, another is a split position between Cherry Creek Elementary and the middle school. Privatizing the custodial positions will save the district about \$32,000.

The accumulated savings the school board has ap-

proved so far could cut the deficit down to about \$750,000. To make those savings, the district is considering cutting back discretionary budgets at the school buildings, reducing staff and containing insurance costs.

"We're in the middle right now of trying to determine our staffing for next year," Gillette said. "We're hopeful that our layoffs are minimal but we won't really. The association and teachers and support staff are willing to make cuts to the insur-

ance to help the district pay for insurance," Lowell Education Association president Dorann Truax said. "We're not willing to take a cap."

A cap on insurance would set a limit on how much the district would pay for insurance. That would mean teachers would have to absorb any increase in insurance costs above that mark.

School budget cuts, cont'd., pg. 9

Library doors may close if countywide millage renewal is not approved in August

By J. Lobdell
 Contributing Writer

The Englehardt Library is a busy place to be. If you don't believe it, just ask Kent District Library branch manager Jane Aronson.

In her report to the Lowell City Council last week, Aronson told the council that the library had 80,631 visitors last year, which was down

by about 1,000 from the previous year. However, the library checked out 113,449 items, 5,000 more than the year before, and showed a 34 percent increase since 1999, when the new Englehardt facility opened, she said.

Other good news: about 1,700 new items were added to the collection this year; approximately 1,775 people used its internet and, despite

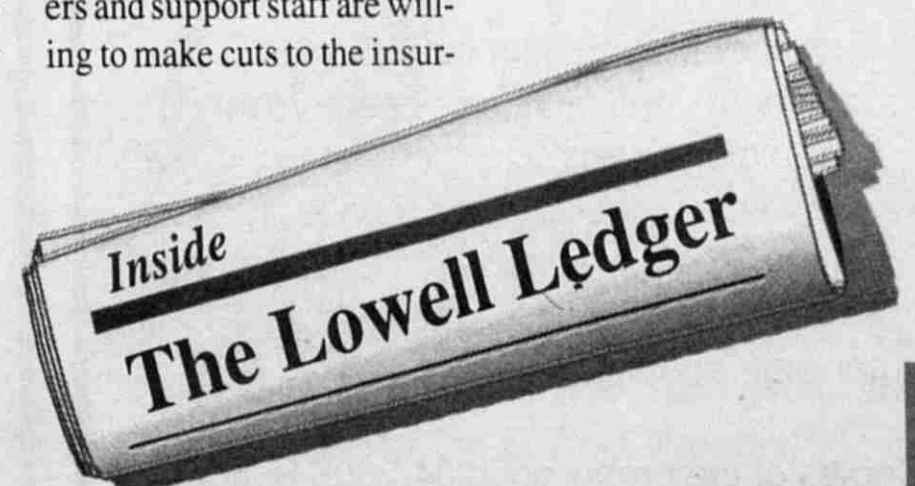
the city moving its meetings to City Hall, the community room's usage increased by 33 percent, Aronson added.

The biggest improvement has been the teen area. While still dealing with its leak, the library was able to increase its holdings by adding non-fiction, series, and novels to that collection. Also a new checkerboard rug with matching chairs and compact disc play-

ers have made the area more attractive to the teens.

But with the good news came a warning from councilman Charles Myers, who serves as chairman of the board for the Kent District Library. KDL is seeking a renewal of its .88 mill, which expires this year. KDL is seeking a 10-year renewal,

Library millage, cont'd., pg. 4



Bluegrass Festival ... Page 4

Garlic Mustard Invading the State ... Page 8

CROP Walk... Page 10

Celebrating Diversity... Page 11

OBITUARIES

BONN- L. June Crockford Bonn, aged 82, of Lowell, passed away Sunday, May 9, 2004. She is survived by two sons James (LaDonna) Bonn of Havana, Fla., Jeffrey (Rona) Bonn of Prosper, Texas; grandchildren Mike (Shannon) Bonn, Kristen (Bobby) Donoian, Ashley (Brad) Hendrick, Cpl. Jarod Stevens USMC, Monica Stevens, Martin (Nohemy) Reid, Dana (Sam) Caswell; great-grandchildren Kyle Hendrick, Brecken Hendrick, Justin Hendrick, Hannah Bonn, Parker Bonn, Jacob Donoian, Kaitlyn Donoian, Austin Reid, Matthew Reid, Kyle Reid, Lindsay Reid; two brothers Robert J. Crockford of Wood-

land, Jack A. Crockford of Chamblee, Ga., one sister Janice L. Clum of Lowell; many loving nieces and nephews. In 1999 she was preceded in death by her husband of 48 years, Dr. Douglas R. Bonn, with whom she served the Clarksville community attending to their medical needs for 36 years. She loved quilting, playing the organ for Lowell Chapter of the Order Eastern Star where she was a member and she made the world's best chocolate frosted brownies. A memorial service is scheduled at Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, 305 N. Hudson, Wednesday at 1 p.m., Rev. Jay Shrimp of Bethlehem

Lutheran officiating. Interment Clarksville Cemetery. Cremation has taken place and no visitation is scheduled.

BROWER - Vera Mae Brower, aged 90, of Alto, went to be with her Lord after a short illness on May 5, 2004. She was preceded in death by her husband of 55 years, Joseph Edward, her daughter Janet Mae and her brother Kenneth King. She is survived by her children Donald and Becky Brower, Paul and Janet Brower, Tom and Joyce Mungler; eight grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; sister Mildred Colvin; brothers-in-law Duke Petrovich and Thomas Brower; sisters-in-law Ellen White, Loretta Brower, Donna Brower, Virginia Brower; several nieces and nephews. The Mass of Christian Burial was offered Friday at Holy Family Catholic Church, with Fr. David E. LeBlanc, celebrant. Interment St. Mary's Cemetery (52nd & Kraft). The family suggests memorial contributions be made to Hospice of Michigan.

EXOO - Marie J. Exoo, aged 83, of Lowell, formerly of Berea, Ohio, passed away May 9, 2004 at the home of her niece Susan Averill Brown. She was preceded in death by her parents John and Ada Exoo. She is survived by her sister Janice Heiney of Mesa, Ariz.; brother Ralph (Jean) Exoo of Berea, Ohio; many nieces and nephews. Special thanks to nephew Bob Exoo and friend Bob Barnes. She was a member of the West Park C.R.C. Cleveland, Ohio. Following her wishes, there will be no services. Memorial

contributions may be made to Hospice of Michigan.

NOWAK - Elizabeth D. Nowak, aged 87, of Grand Rapids and formerly of White Cloud, passed away on Wednesday, May 5, at Home of Hope. She was born on June 20, 1916 in Grand Rapids and lived in Grand Rapids until her retirement in 1974. Elizabeth was a faithful member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in White Cloud. Elizabeth is survived by daughters Mary (Jerry) Embrey of Jenison, Teresa (Michael) Jacobs of Traverse City; sons Ronald (Judy) Nowak of Paw Paw, Gerald (Mary) Nowak of Kalamazoo; 10 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; brothers and sisters Delores (Edwin) Nawrocki, Henry (Phyllis) Kozminski, Richard (Mary) Kozminski, Bettie Kozminski all of Grand Rapids, Donald Kozminski of Lowell; sisters and brothers-in-law Anne Satkowski, Dorothy Nowak, Caecelia Brown, Angeline (Leon) VanDalsen, Emily (Robert) Huizinga all of Grand Rapids. She was preceded in death by her loving husband Frank in 1987, brother Lawrence Kozminski, sister Eleanore and brother-in-law Ernest Wilen, sisters Louise Kolenda and Lorraine Ambrose, brother Eugene Kozminski. Mass of Christian Burial was Monday at St. Joseph Catholic Church. Interment St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery.

Memorial contributions: St. Joseph Catholic Church Building Fund or Hospice of Michigan - Grand Rapids.

ROTH - Rudolph "Rudy" Godfrey Roth, aged 83, long-time dairy farmer of the Lowell area, passed away Monday, May 3, 2004. He was preceded in death by his parents Godfrey and Rose (Blaser) Roth and his brother Fritz "Fred" Roth. He is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, June (Pratt) Roth; son Dean Roth; daughters Peggy Roth (Kenneth Coon) and Mary Roth (Michael Elledge); grandchildren Thomas and Samantha Elledge; brothers Alfred (Joan) Roth, Edwin (Doris) Roth, Walter (Kapua) Roth; sister June (William) Houser; sister-in-law Virginia Roth; brothers-in-law Leo (Myrtle) Pratt, Kenneth (Ann) Pratt, Robert (Rita) Pratt; many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Funeral services were held Friday at the Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, Rev. Chuck Davenport officiating. Interment at Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 400 Ann St. N.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49504.

SINGH - Ruth Bernice Singh, aged 73, of Lowell, formerly of Cutlerville, passed away May 4, 2004. She is survived by her children Rev. Paul N. Singh (Shelly) of New Delhi, India, Joy Singh of New York, New York and also her sisters. Ruth was an active member of the Christian Life Center and was a nurse for 53 years. Funeral services will be held Wednesday, May 12, at 11 a.m. at the Christian Life Center, Pastor Robert Holmes and Pastor Paul Singh officiating. The family will meet friends Wednesday from 10-11 a.m. at the church. Memorial contributions may be made to the Ruth Singh memorial fund, c/o Christian Life Center, 3050 Alden Nash SE, Lowell, MI 49331.

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VERSLUIS-EPPERSON - Oklahoma City, OK. Julie VerSluis Epperson died suddenly and unexpectedly Friday, April 30. Born December 15, 1969 in Grand Rapids, she grew up in Ada, where she enjoyed her childhood riding ponies, building forts and baking cookies. She was loved by everyone at Lowell High School and attended Ferris State University for two years. She moved to Oklahoma City in 1990 and married Bruce Epperson in Hawaii. "Jewel" had overflowing passion for life and loved music, children and animals. She enjoyed meeting people from all walks of life when they toured on their Harley Davidson Road King. Julie touched people especially children, with her loving spirit, big smile and even bigger laugh. Surviving are her mother Merrydale Cole and stepfather Robert of Ada; father David VerSluis Sr. of Grand Rapids; husband Bruce Epperson of Oklahoma City; grandmother "nonnie" Phyllis McAfee of Estero, FL; sister Amy Young and husband Robert of Comstock Park; brother David G. VerSluis and wife Mary of Casnovia; five nieces and nephews Mason, Kayleigh, Owen, Claire and Ellie; beloved dog Sarah. The memorial services will be held at Mayflower Congregational Church on Tuesday, June 15 at 2 p.m. with Rev. Eric Britcher and Rev. Jack Richards, officiating. Friends will be received at the church from 1-2 p.m. Memorials may be made to Mary Free Bed Hospital and Rehabilitation Center, 235 Wealthy, Grand Rapids, MI 49503, attention Carol Sagar.

Per councilman Jim Pfaller's suggestion, the council gave a consensus to consider raising the price for both to a dollar a bag, with the remainder being used to help offset the city's recycling costs. The city pays the entire amount for recycling bins, \$2.52 per month.

Another area the council is investigating is the elimination of conferences. Several of the councilmembers thought it would be fair to request individual councilmembers to help pay for a portion of those costs. Conferences total about \$12,000, including training; the council asked that it be broken down for further review.

The city could raise property taxes, which received a negative response from the city council. "I think it is something that should be addressed, thought about, and then denied," said councilman Jim Hodges.

Another elimination in-

City holds first public hearing on 2004-2005 budget

By J. Lobdell

Residents in the city of Lowell could pay a dollar a bag for garbage and yard waste pick-up. This was proposed for the 2004-2005 city budget by the Lowell City Council; a public hearing will be held at City Hall on Monday at its regular city council meeting.

Currently the city pays a portion of the cost, about 13 cents per bag for waste and 35 cents per bag for yard waste. It costs about 93 cents a bag for waste pick-up and 75 cents a bag for yard waste. The city could save more than \$11,000 per year if the entire cost were covered by the residents.

Per councilman Jim Pfaller's suggestion, the council

gave a consensus to consider raising the price for both to a dollar a bag, with the remainder being used to help offset the city's recycling costs. The city pays the entire amount for recycling bins, \$2.52 per month.

Pfaller would like to see the city or Waste Management, the company contracted with the city, do some sort of audit to determine whether all of the 798 recycling bins out there are still being used for that purpose. The estimated cost per year for the bins is about \$24,131.52. The increase in yard and waste bags is part of the city's effort to help streamline an already tight budget.

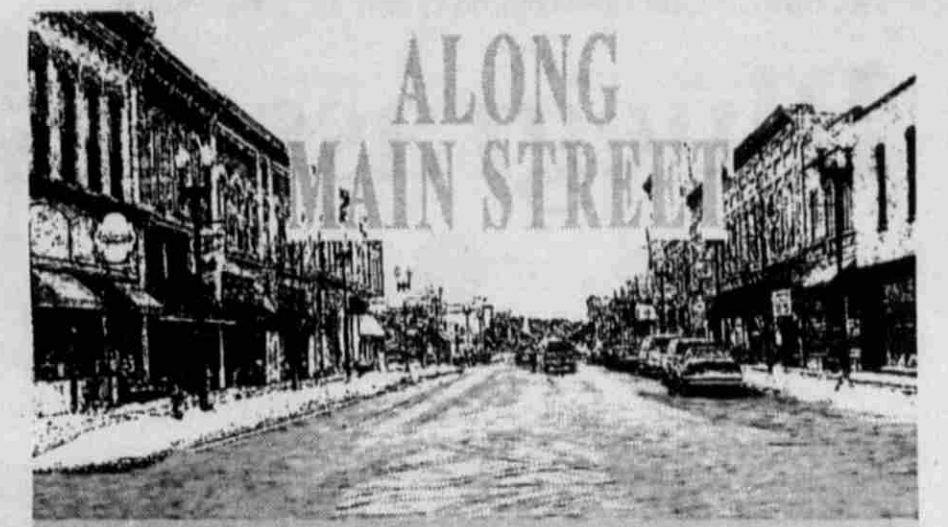
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Another elimination in-

cludes two leased police cruisers. Police chief Jim Valentine said his department rotates the cars to keep the mileage low. Four cars allow the department to do that, but by not leasing the new cars, rotation could be difficult to maintain, he noted. Mayor Jeanne Shores said she thought Valentine made a good case for keeping the cars; the council agreed to look over the proposed cuts from staff before making any decision.

According to the city's charter, the council must hold two public hearings on its budget before approving it. The budget must be in place by the end of June, when the city's fiscal year ends.



FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED

Flat River Outreach Ministries, 519 E. Main, needs pork & beans, peanut butter, jelly syrup, pancake mix and fruit juices. Drop off or call 897-4189 if you are able to donate.

ACADEMIC BOOSTERS

LAS Superintendent Shari Miller will be the guest speaker at the Academic Boosters meeting Thursday, May 13 at 8:30 a.m. in the volunteer room of the high school. Call Julie at 897-6353 with questions.

YOUTH FOOTBALL SIGN-UPS

The Lowell Middle School cafeteria will be open Saturday, May 15 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. for sign-ups for flag football, youth football, 78er's and cheerleaders. Call 897-7896 with questions.

GARDEN CLUB "DEALS WITH GARDEN PESTS"

The Lowell Showboat Garden Club will meet on Monday, May 17 at 7 p.m. at the Lowell Church of the Nazarene in the fellowship hall. Dave Thompson, master gardener, will talk on garden pests. No charge; light refreshments; public is welcome.

SENIOR AWARDS NIGHT

Lowell High School will have its 2004 senior awards night on Monday, May 17 at 7 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center. The public is invited to scholarship awards/senior honor awards.

FHS FEAST

A celebration of food and music of the 1800's will take place at the Fallas House Museum in Fallasburg on May 19 and 21 at 7 p.m. Cost: \$35 per person; reservations required. Call Kerry at 897-7161 or email fallasburg@at.net

YMCA HEALTH/FITNESS WEEK

The Lowell YMCA will celebrate 50+, Fit and Fabulous! the week of May 24. Call 897-8545 or 340-7781 for more information.

LHS ALUMNI GATHERING

The Lowell Area Schools Education Foundation will host its first annual Lowell High School alumni gathering, Saturday, May 29 at the high school. Brunch at 11 a.m., short program and door prizes; cost \$18 per person. Call 897-8415 for more information.

LOOKING FOR CRAFTERS

The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce is accepting applications for the Christmas Through Lowell event, held Nov. 19-21. Deadline is June 1. Call Liz for an application at 897-9161.

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CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council will conduct public hearings at their regularly scheduled meetings on Monday, May 17 and June 7, 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 will be to receive comments on the following:

City Operating Budget for 2004-2005. The document outlines proposed revenues and expenditures for the coming fiscal year. The General Fund has a total of \$2,429,333 in proposed expenditures. After the hearings, the Council will consider adoption.

Copies of the proposed 2004-2005 Budget will be available for public inspection starting May 17, 2004 during normal business hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday) at City Hall, 301 East Main Street.

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



Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk
616-897-8457

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council acting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, will conduct public hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, May 17, 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 hearing would be to receive comments on the following variance request:

885, 875, 855 and 845 N. Jefferson - G&C Land Co., LLC, wishes to develop four single family home lots on N. Jefferson just south of Fremont. The properties have 295 feet of width at the Jefferson Street right-of-way. Since the zoning is R-1, the required lot width would be 75 feet. Thus, the developer is five feet short on one of the lots and a variance has been requested.

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



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City Clerk
616-897-8457

...
The greatest good you can do for another is not just share your riches, but reveal to them their own.

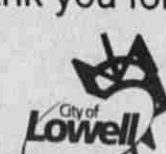
-Benjamin Disraeli

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

UPCOMING STREET CLOSING NOTICE
Foreman Road (Hudson to Gee Drive) will be closed to through traffic from mid-June until August 20th for street and water main improvements. Traffic will be limited to local access only. Through traffic will be detoured.

Prior to the beginning of construction, the City of Lowell will meet with local residents and businesses to discuss project staging and local access.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience.



Dan DesJarden, Director
Department of Public Works

Planting Scouts



Boy Scouts from Lowell's Troop 102 are shown planting shrubs and flowers around the new sign at the Lowell City Airport. The scouts planted 90 plants, mostly daylilies and tulips, helping Aaron Sterling complete his Eagle project. Sterling received help from about 15 scouts over the course of the project. Plants were donated by Roark Landscaping with design assistance from Rooks Landscaping. Bill Boynton did the masonry work around the sign posts.

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Bluegrass festival slated for May 14-16

By Dan Schneider

Reams was born in Kentucky, the heart of bluegrass country. He got into music by country ramblings since the age of 15. Previous to that, he was backing up gospel singing

James Reams, the head-



James Reams headlines this year at Mayfest. Pictured, left to right are Mark Farrell on fiddle, mandolin and baritone vocals; James Reams on guitar and lead vocals; Carl Hayano on stand-up bass & tenor vocals and Mickey Maguire on banjo.

line act for this weekend's West Michigan Bluegrass Music Association's Mayfest, has been playing guitar and singing in an unlikely place for bluegrass and old time music.

He's lived in Brooklyn, New York, for the past 15 years. For several of those he's played with The Barnstormers, and that band will be with him when he comes to the Lowell Fairgrounds this Saturday.

listening to his father who was raised in Kentucky, in the southeast part," Reams said. "Then my parents got uprooted and did some farming in the Midwest and some factory work."

Reams moved to New York to get a printmaking job and started playing clubs like Folk City and places around Greenwich Village. He's been playing in clubs along the route of his family's cross-

country ramblings since the age of 15. Previous to that, he was backing up gospel singing

record label has been around for more than 25 years and has put out music by bluegrass legend Bill Monroe and The Stanley Brothers.

Based on their 2001 album, the International Bluegrass Music Association nominated the Barnstormers last year for "emerging artist of the year."

The Mayfest will be Reams' second trip to Michigan and first to Lowell. He played another gig with the Western Michigan Bluegrass Music Association about two years ago.

"Michigan has been a big (bluegrass) supporter for many, many years," Reams said. "A lot of transplanted Kentuckians and Virginians had come up to work in Michigan in Detroit and Lansing and Flint in the automotive industry."

To Reams, bluegrass music is a pure, American form that has eluded the machinations of the modern music industry. "Clear Channel can't get into bluegrass because it's too

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"Clear Channel can't get into bluegrass because it's too

Mom and Pop and too grassroots," Reams said.

It can be a hard row to hoe for the musicians. It's not a lucrative music form. It takes dedication.

"Bluegrass musicians have a hard time because it's not a mainstream kind of music," Reams explained.

The Mayfest this weekend features 10 bands of musicians willing to keep the tradition alive. Most of them are from Michigan, but the Peach Mountain Boys are from southern Ohio and Pickin' Up Speed is from Wisconsin. The festival will bring bluegrass fans from all over Michigan.

Starting Friday at 6 p.m. will be Heart to Heart.

The rest of the schedule is as follows:

Friday -
6:50 ... Duck Soup
7:40 ... White River Bluegrass
8:30 ... Pickin' Up Speed
9:20 ... Peach Mountain Boys
10:10 ... Open stage

Saturday -
12 p.m. Thunder floor Cloggers
12:35 ... Under Construction
1:25 ... Apple Blossom
2:15 ... James Reams
3:05 ... Peach Mountain Boys
4:00 ... Northern Accent
4:45 ... Dinner break
6:00 ... Thunder floor Cloggers
6:35 ... Under Construction
7:25 ... Apple Blossom
8:15 ... James Reams
9:05 ... Northern Accent
9:55 ... Peach Mountain Boys

Sunday -
10:45 ... Benediction
11:00 ... Apple Blossom
11:50 ... Pickin' Up Speed
12:40 ... Patchwork
1:30 ... Heart to Heart
2:20 ... White River Bluegrass

Tickets for the whole weekend are \$18. Tickets for Saturday are \$10; Friday and Sunday, \$6.

Library millage, cont'd...From Page 1

and a second increase of .12 mill - which will make the entire proposal 1.0 - to help maintain services at the 18 KDL branches, including Englehardt. The issues are on the Aug. 3 ballot.

"With only the approval of the .88 mill, we would be able to keep the doors open, but the hours of support service may have to be reduced," Myers said, adding that like everyone else, KDL's expenses have increased over the past several years.

With the additional .12 mill, the library would be able to provide free of charge all library materials, including CDs, DVDs, and videos; purchase more bestsellers; in-

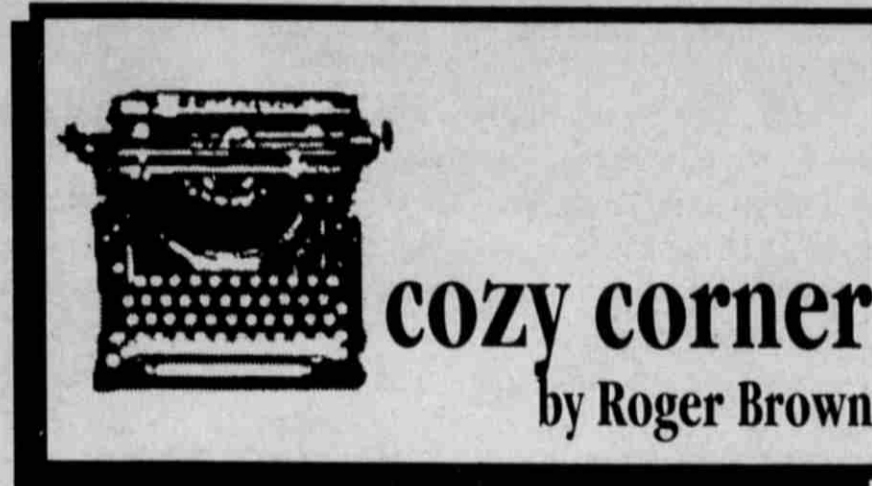
crease the books and material budget; increase self check-out terminals; continue to support local library building projects; offer literacy programs such as laptime and storytime; increase programs and services for older adults; continue to fund the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped; and provide new technology that effectively delivers library service.

Without at least the .88 mill, KDL would cease to exist and communities like Lowell would need to determine how to fund and operate their own library, Myers said. As for the Englehardt Library, usage seems to be staying steady. About 54 percent of

the area has library cards, down from last year's 56 percent. Also down is the collection turnover rate by two percent, dropping to 3.72 from last year's 3.89. Youth programming also saw a decrease of 15 percent, over the past five years to 2,572 in 2003.

Attendance for adult programs, however, has increased by 19 percent since 1999, with the library having about 285 in 2003. Also up over the past five years is computer attendance, which was 1,775 in 2003, but about 600 less than 2002's number of 2,301. The number of information requests also jumped to 18,590 in 2003 from 16,744 in 2002.

Viewpoint



Raise your hand if you watched the final episode of "Friends" last week. If you would have watched it, but were busy doing something else ... up with your hand. Those who aren't a fan of "Friends" and don't give a hoot about a final episode, show me your hands. Okay then, everybody who is so sick and tired of NBC shamelessly promoting the end of "Friends" for the last six months you have switched to "Sportscenter" for your news, weather and sports ... you're with me.

I have to admit a prior addiction to NBC news. The Today Show was always on as the Brown family got around for work and school in the morning. The BC Nightly News was usually tuned in for a dose of news in the evening. I wouldn't say we ever felt like NBC news was any better than other networks had to offer. I guess we were simply comfortable with the people and the format.

Three packages of new underwear have been in my drawer for at least six months. I keep wearing my old, somewhat thin and more than a little tattered underwear because I'm comfortable with it. It was the same with NBC news.

The "Friends" promos weren't the only reason I've instigated a boycott of the news. I can be pretty slow on the uptake, but I finally realized watching the news is very depressing. A typical network news segment is all election year presidential politics, the celebrity crime du jour and since 9/11 every day seems to offer up some new terror threat we're supposed to cover from. Coverage of Iraq always begins with the latest troop deaths and goes negative from there. Heaven forbid there should ever be coverage of anything positive over there.

And, it's not just the news that's depressing. Check out those commercials. I'm 54 years old and finally realized all the

ads on the news are aimed straight at old, and getting older people like me. Don't believe me? Check it out sometime! Denture products, erectile dysfunction remedies, adult diapers, fiber additives, laxatives, Lincoln Towncars and A.A.R.P. ads offering to explain the new Medicare benefits fill the space between the depressing news segments.

At least "Sportscenter" is sponsored by products young people buy ... like beer. Beer companies tend to create funnier ads than do adult diaper manufacturers.

Speaking of funny ads, while channel-surfing recently, I came across something interesting. It was a collection of TV commercials supposedly too sexy for American Television. Of course I stopped my surfing.

All the ads were hilarious, but one is worth describing here. It was from Sweden, and the woman in the ad was a stereotypical Swedish beauty. She had long blond hair and had a little meat on her bones ... in all the right places. She is dressed in a suit with a very, very short skirt. The ad opens with her locking the door of a small boutique and pulling down the roll-up security grate that covers the entrance. Are you with me so far? I've got a hunch you guys are.

As the Swedish beauty gets the grate down to the closed position, the view gets better and better. When she is bent way, way down and all you see is a whole lot of leg, the phone rings in the boutique.

Of course it is common knowledge that no woman can resist a ringing phone. Up goes the grate and she puts the key in the door. The phone stops ringing. The process reverses. Just when the grate is all the way down and the view is at its best, the phone rings again. The grate goes up, the key goes in the door and the phone stops ringing. Don't get ahead of me.

As the grate is going down and the skirt is hiking up for the third time, the camera pans back. Two guys about my age are sitting across the narrow street at a sidewalk café. One of them has a cell phone. I nearly fell out of my chair from laughing so hard.

If advertisers could come up with ads like that for the news programs, I'd suffer through all the depressive reports. But for now, and at least until the presidential election is over, I'm getting my news through osmosis, my weather from going outside and my Sports from "Sportscenter."



Ledger Entries

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

125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL MAY 14, 1879

A piano factory is coming to Grand Rapids. N.B. Blain has a mocking bird worth \$25. Reminder: it is unlawful to spear fish. The Marshal is concerned about hogs running the streets. The lot on the west side for the Catholic church has been purchased from Mr. Train, next to Chas. Althen's house. Construction will start soon, the church to be about the size of the Congregational church building.

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER MAY 12, 1904

The Ionia-Grand Rapids Electric Railroad bonds are sold and work will begin in July. Plowing with a steam traction engine pulling four plows is being tried in Ionia County. Farmers who held potatoes over winter are getting a high \$1 per bushel. The foundation has been poured for the addition to the Cutter factory. The school board buys the King lots between school and river, for playgrounds.

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO MAY 16, 1929

The bond vote for the Light and Power dam at Whites Bridge passes, 222-1. With many capitals, the BETTER BUSINESS COMMITTEE advertises its TRADE EXTENSION CAMPAIGN for May 25, including a FREE AUTOMOBILE. John Borgerson leases his store and basement for 10 years to Frank's 5 & 10 of Ionia. Work begins on a 48x48 cement block lumber storage building for Superior Furniture. The Lowell Live Stock Association, with M.B. McPherson as toastmaster, comments by state Rep. Dexter Look, W.W. Gumsner and C.H. Runciman, hears Michigan Attorney General Wilbur Brucker.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER MAY 13, 1954

Village council authorizes a study of the power plant; power demand keeps growing and the last generator was installed in 1947. Great May weather: rain, snow, sleet and hail on Sunday last. "Along Main Street" answers the question: How does one clean all those smelt? Kiel's Flower and Gift shop is sold to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Ball of Middleville. Lowell has four grocery stores: Sanitary Market, Munroe's, Kroger, A&P.

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER MAY 16, 1929

Showboat '79 will star Leslie Uggams. William S. Doyle will suggest to the Kent County Parks Advisory Council, restoration of the dam north of town for power generation. A volunteer work day at the Lowell Showboat Amphitheatre will start at 9 a.m. Saturday. There were 230 Boy Scouts and 100 leaders who had a Camporee at the Lowell Airport Saturday. Lowell's George Blocker, 63, finishes in the top 20 of his age group in the Old Kent River Bank Run.

TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

We, the public in general, often don't say enough good things about our community because it's what people expect and take for granted. We'd like to highlight some of the positives.

My wife and I attended the "Spirit of Community" celebration on April 30 and came away with such a positive feeling for Lowell. They say if you ever want to know what's good about your community, ask someone who has recently moved here. Their perspectives are always sharper tuned.

There is something truly unique about a small town that can't be matched. I look at the Lowell Area Arts Council, Lowell Area Historical Museum, Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, YMCA and Flat River Outreach Ministries, and I'm amazed at all they do.

I loved attending football games last fall and feeling that charged community excitement in the stands and the tremendous support everyone has for our school kids. I'm amazed at the generosity that surfaces from our local merchants who step up supporting cause after cause and the level of cooperation from the city to be of help. We should never take them and what they do for granted. And volunteers of all kinds ... that "feeling of community" seems to be everywhere.

We have lived in major cities most of our lives, but nothing gives one more satisfaction than being a part of an activity here in Lowell: a 4-H Fair or a Rotary Club function, a Fallburg Fall Festival, an "Art Attack fun night" or Christmas Through Lowell. And everyone has to be impressed with this year's chamber of commerce's Leadership class for taking on that big responsibility to give new life to the Showboat.

It's when you put a little sweat equity into something like the Showboat that you become a part of its heritage. Become a role model and foster memories that will last forever and, in the process, will teach kids that volunteering can create a sense of pride. Call the chamber (897-9161) to put your mark on a Lowell tradition while there's still work to be done.

My wife and I both want to say, "Thank you, Lowell, for being a wonder place to live!"

Dorann Truax
LEA president

BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL
May 14 - 16
CRAFT SHOW
in Foreman Bldg.
May 15,
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
At Lowell Fairgrounds

MURRAY LAKE ELEMENTARY OPEN HOUSE
Lowell Area Schools would like to invite parents, students & community members to attend an open house at:
Murray Lake Elementary (3275 Alden Nash)
MAY 22 from 1-4 PM
Refreshments Provided
COME & SEE LOWELL SCHOOLS' NEWEST BUILDING!
Murray Lake will be about 95% complete by the date of the open house.
Please come out & join us!

Forest Hills Fine Arts Center presents
Jack LaLanne
America's Godfather of Fitness
also featuring Elaine LaLanne
National Senior Health and Fitness Day
Exercise Classes Information Booths Health Screenings
10 am - 4 pm FREE
Jack & Elaine's Presentation at 1:00 pm
Wednesday, May 26, 2004
Tickets: \$15
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MOVIE GUIDE
Van Helsing
HUGH JACKMAN, KATE BECKINSALE
SHOWTIMES 5/10 - 5/13
VAN HENSING (PG-13)
11:00, 1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 9:20
NEW YORK MINUTE (PG)
11:00, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30
LAWS OF ATTRACTION (PG-13)
1:40, 3:35, 5:30, 7:25, 9:20
MEAN GIRLS (PG-13)
12:55, 3:00, 5:05, 7:10, 9:15
MAN ON FIRE (R)
1:00, 3:55, 6:50, 9:45
13 GOING ON 30 (PG-13)
11:00AM
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FREE 20oz DRINK
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Reflections Of Faith

Dr. Roger La Warre, pastor
First Congregational Church

There is a very powerful story from the history of the early church found in Acts 9. The main character is a man named Saul, a Pharisee, well educated and passionate about the ancient laws of Judaism. Saul had problems with the followers of Jesus called "the way" and he desired to stop the spread of the message of Jesus. In his zeal he was determined to go to Damascus and return all the errant ones back to trial in Jerusalem. Something happened to Saul on that journey that would forever change Saul's life.

You and I have known life-changing journeys. So, this thought that Saul would have his life transformed, turned around, and refocused is not totally strange to us. We have made the journeys to a new town or a new job only to find that life for us can never be quite as it was before. We have traveled to meet with family in times of sickness and loss. We have been "sent" on journeys by great changes in our lives and these journeys have refocused our understanding and changed that which is of great value to us.

The key word for the Christian faith is the word "conversion." It means "to make an about face." It is like we are traveling in one direction and before the journey is over, we have made a complete turn around, an about face. Of course, conversion has more to do with a change in our loyalties, the direction of our life values or that to which we give our allegiance or focus. We change from one way of life to another.

For Saul, this change was evidenced in the purpose of his life. He was converted from one who breathed threats to all who followed Christ and he became one who knew and followed the ways of Christ. Quite a dramatic change.

This story can be an inspiration to you and me when we think of our life as a journey. Our life has hills and valleys, twists and turns. Sometimes the journey for us is smooth and at other times very bumpy. Perhaps your journey is a high speed journey, like driving on the interstate. Or it may be a journey on a bumpy, gravel road through the countryside. Whatever the journey of your life, however you characterize it, we can anticipate that God travels with you. Recognizing God's presence does not change the fact that you are traveling the road, nor does God's presence change the road (the things that happen in life). God's presence does change the choices that we make as we travel, even the choices of what road we will take as the journey continues. We must be honest, honest enough to examine the direction of our life and to know that God seeks to guide us in the ways of love, peace and renewed spiritual life. Faith in God is a fantastic journey!!!

Youth Fellowship takes mission trip

Youth from the First United Methodist Church of Lowell will travel to Espanola, New Mexico, on Saturday, June 12, to McCurdy School, a K-12 mission school of the United Methodist denomination.

The trip, a work camp, marks 10 straight years this group, the Youth Fellowship, has participated in work camps. The 22 seventh and eighth grade

students will be accompanied by 15 adults.

The first work camp, and for several years following, was with Habitat for Humanity in Lake County. Locally, and most recently, they have assisted with the Showboat renovation and the annual Health Fair.

This year's trip to McCurdy is the second for the group. Each person is responsible for raising his/her money; one sign of commitment is that some youth forego Christmas and birthday gifts and ask for money toward the trip.

Services which the Youth Fellowship has been a part include the Easter breakfast and the CROP Walk, to name a few. It is guided and supported by eight advisors. Although the make-up of the Youth Fellowship changes every year, it has established a tradition and legacy of service to God, church and community.

VOWS SPOKEN

Gordon/Parker



Casey and Jason Gordon

Jason Gordon and Casey Parker were married on December 20, 2003 at Frederik Meijer Gardens.

Parents of the couple are Joe and Gail Parker, formerly of Lowell, and Mike and Terri Gordon of Comstock Park. Maids of honor were

Katelyn Bush and Jessica Hamp. Junior bridesmaids were Emma Geers and Ashlee Knapp.

Best man was Nathan Gordon.

A reception for the couple was held at Frederik Meijer Gardens.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

MAY 13: Melanie Ligman, Jean Daverman.

MAY 14: Winnifred Snieder, Kathy Thomas.

MAY 15: Maxine Gasper.

MAY 16: Richie Ford, Kristi Ford, Ryan Phillips, Angela Dixon, Janet Boerema, Ruby Christiansen.

MAY 17: Maurice Hannah, Andy Dibble, Shawn Witherell.

MAY 18: Ashlee Patnode, Robin Hewitt, Karen Kennedy, Cody Sokolowski, Nola Beth Bristol, Karen Patnode, Kristin Hufstader, Phil Dibble, Melissa Borton.

MAY 19: Helen Tetzlaff, Kathy (Tetzlaff) Williams, James Young, Alice Hannah, David Main, Thomas Jahnke Jr., Andrew Kiczinski, Ken Stager.

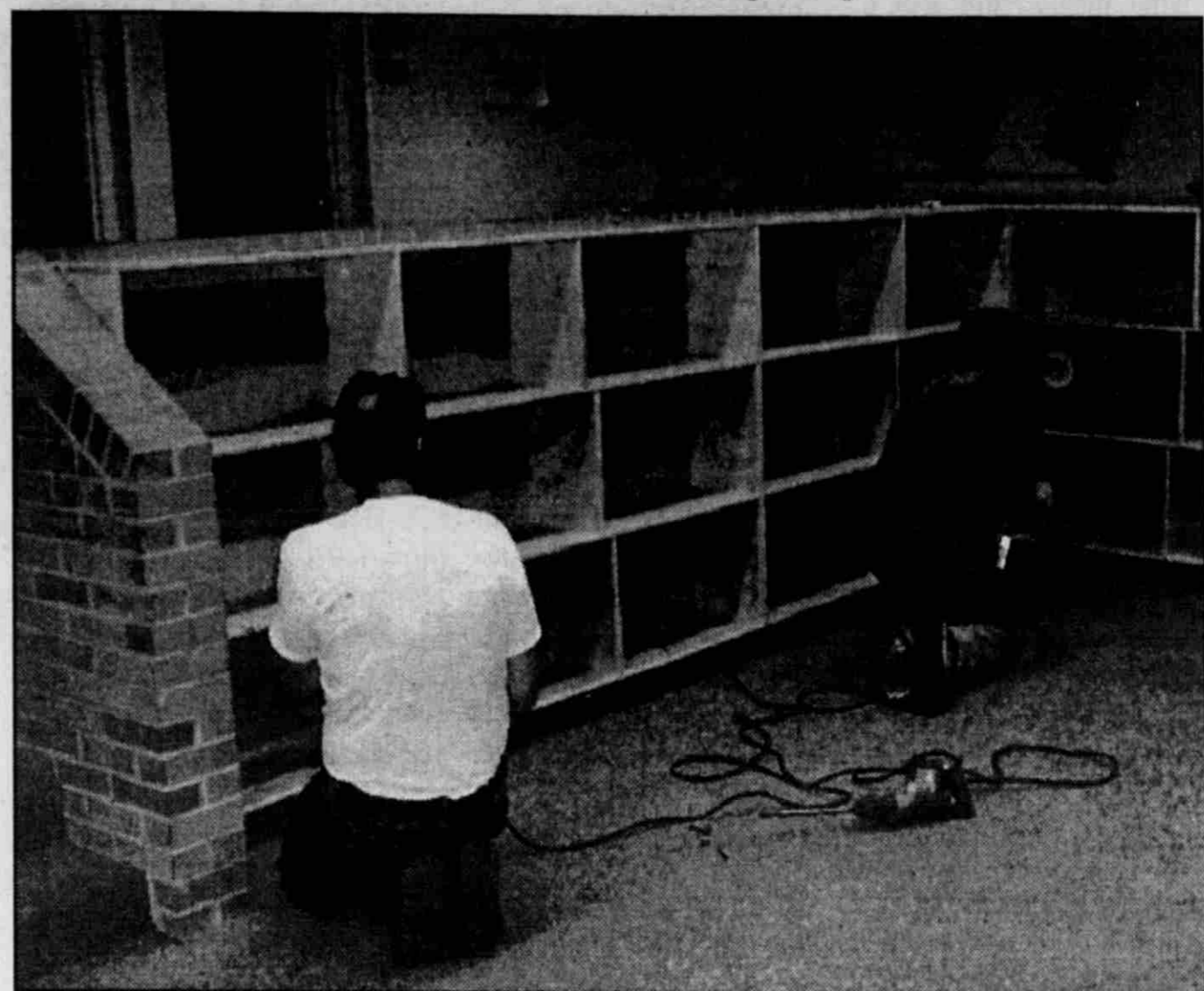
...
I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives. I like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him.
-Abraham Lincoln

...
Firmness of purpose is one of the most necessary sinews of character, and one of the best instruments of success. Without it genius wastes its efforts in a maze of inconsistencies.
-Philip Dormer Chesterfield

Bookshelves replaced at Alto Elementary

The Alto Elementary Library bookshelves have been replaced! With a portion of the bookshelves not large enough to hold taller-sized books or just not safe enough, the Alto Lions Club and the Alto Elementary PTO shared expenses for material to build some replacements. The Lions worked one Saturday in (Lion) Bill Wieland's barn to build the newly designed shelves. Bob Sterzick of Heritage Furniture Restorations did the sanding and sealing on the project.

Pictured, standing, from left to right, are Alto Lions' Sandra Graham, Tom Dereske (president), Dick Clous, Bob Hess and Chuck Deter on the evening of the installation, April 22. Below workers are shown putting on the final touches.



Spring's wonders



Children attending the Franciscan Life Process Center Preschool watch as baby chicks struggle to break free from their egg's shell.

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AskKDL service celebrates anniversary

AskKDL, Kent District Library's electronic reference service, celebrated its two-year anniversary in April. Since 2002, patrons have been able to type in a question on KDL's website, and have a KDL librarian send them an answer via e-mail.

This convenient service provides access to the library staff from home or office, anytime - day or night. AskKDL allows patrons to ask questions that

don't require an extensive interview, and can be answered without conducting in-depth research. Staff members will e-mail a reply within two working days whenever possible. AskKDL was designed to be user friendly. When a patron accesses the AskKDL page at www.kdl.org, they are asked to fill out a form and type in their question. The question is sent to a team of reference librarians, and the

first available answers the question. The AskKDL team is a group of experienced librarians from different KDL branches who have been extensively trained and confidential. For more information concerning the service, call 784-2007.

Fear less, hope more;
Whine less, breathe more;
Talk less, say more; Hate less, love more; And all good things are yours.
-Swedish Proverb

Franciscan Life Process Center Preschool 2004-2005



Fall Registration Now Underway
29 Years of Service to Families of West Michigan

The Franciscan Life Process Center Preschool is pleased to offer an expanded and improved Integrated Program of:

Educational Skills to ready your child for Kindergarten and beyond

Life Skills that enhances daily living (supervised cooking, music, art, creative play, show & tell)

Animal and Land Experiences that allow your child to expand his/her worldly knowledge.

Preschool Sessions are:
Monday through Thursday
9:00 am - 12:00 noon or 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Tuition:
Two days per week - \$85
Three days per week - \$100
Four days per week - \$125
(Please inquire about scholarship assistance)

For more information, call Charlie or Sister Colleen Ann (897-7842).



Franciscan Life Process Center, 11650 Downes Street, Lowell, MI 49331 (616) 897-7842

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

ATTENTION: BIBLE BELIEVERS

If you would like to attend a church where the King James Bible is held up as the perfect, preserved word of God with all the words of God for all English speaking people, then give us a visit at: 901 W. Main, Lowell

Across the street from the Vernon Dodge dealership.
897-6284 or 485-4195
10AM Sunday School; 11AM Morning Service; 6PM Evening Service; Wed., 7:30PM Prayer Meeting.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL

621 E. Main Street • 897-5936
Worship Hours...8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School...9:45 a.m.

DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR
Nursery & child care available at both services
Barrier - Free Entrance

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod)
Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21
www.goodshepherdlowell.org
Sunday School/Adult Bible Study...9:00 A.M.
Sunday Worship...10:00 A.M.

(Nursery available)
Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307
All facilities are wheelchair accessible

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2275 West Main Street • 897-7168
Internet: <http://www.fbcloowell.org>
Rev. W. Lee Taylor & Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor
Sun. Worship Service. 9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M.
Sunday School Hour...11:00 A.M.
AWANA/J.V...Wed. 6:15 & 7 P.M.
Contact Church Office for Prayer Meeting Times
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Kirby and Harrison
Alto • 616-691-8011
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Children's Church...9:30 A.M.

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- OPEN DOORS
Pastor Dean Bailey

EVERGREEN MISSIONARY CHURCH

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Sunday School...9:45 A.M.
Morning Worship...11 A.M.
Evening Service...6:00 P.M.

Prayer and Praise - Wed., 7:00 P.M.
Rev. Rick Ferguson - 987-6475
ALL ARE WELCOME!
(Barrier-Free)

APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

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SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES 6:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 P.M.
At 215 1/2 W. Main, Lowell
(entrance in rear of building)
CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES
Pastor Robert L. Hubbard
Phone: (616) 897-1267
website www.aplighthouse.com

ALTON BIBLE CHURCH

Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road
897-5648
Sunday School...10:00 A.M.
Morning Worship...11:00 A.M.
Evening Praise...6:00 P.M.
Wednesday AWANA...7:00 P.M.
(Sept. - April)
Prayer and Bible Study...7:00 P.M.
Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418
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WEDNESDAYS:
Family Night: (For All Ages) 7 p.m.
Generation Jacob Youth: 7 p.m.

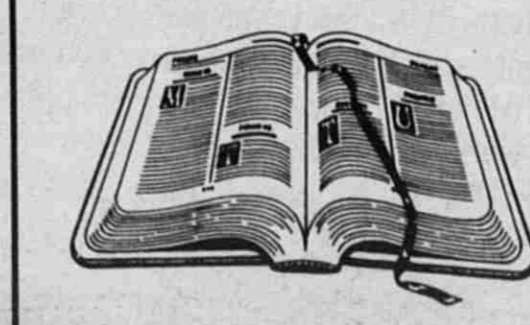
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Morning Worship...10:50 A.M.
Sunday Evening...6:00 P.M.
Wednesday Family Ministry...7:00 P.M.

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(United Church of Christ)
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Dr. Roger LaWarre...Pastor
Megan MacNaughton...Music Director
Barrier-Free • Nursery Provided
Come Join Us For Praise & Worship



Garlic mustard bad news for Michigan woodlands

By Dan Schneider

Garlic mustard, that invasive plant, is out-competing native flora at an alarming rate.

Midwest, is not native to the United States. It was brought over from Europe in the mid-19th century for its herbal and supposed medicinal properties.

hand-pulling it out," Doug Landis said. Landis is a professor of entomology at Michigan State University. He and a team of researchers have been study-

flowering stage, before it has a chance to produce seeds.

Garlic mustard has a complicated life cycle, which makes it more difficult to control. It is a biennial, which means it takes two years to reach its adult stage.

"The seeds have to be in the ground for at least a year in our climate," Landis said.

That means this year's adult plants were seeded two years ago. In the first year, the plants grow into low-lying rosettes with kidney-shaped leaves. These stay green over the winter. However, 95 percent of the young plants do not survive the winter. Landis said it is a better use of time to destroy the five percent of plants that have survived the winter when they are in their adult stage.

The plants must be pulled out with as much of their root systems as possible because new plants can grow from the upper root. Even plants that have been pulled out can still create problems.

"They will actually still have enough energy to produce some seed," Landis said.

So pulled plant material should be removed from the

site and left in a container until dead.

Though it may be tempting to head for the heaviest areas of infestation and pulling plants left and right, Landis recommends the opposite.

"Go to places where you're seeing just a few, the first few plants, and pull those out," Landis said. "If you can prevent the outlying plants from getting established, you can save yourself years and years of work."

Established areas of garlic mustard can take years to eradicate. The seeds can stay dormant and viable for as long as five years, so infested areas need to be attended year after year.

In areas where the plant is well established, it is best to cut it down with a string trimmer. The fragments should be removed, if possible. But even if removal is just too much work, string trimming will reduce seed production. Be careful to avoid cutting native species as they are important for competition against the garlic mustard.

Roundup is an effective herbicide against garlic mustard. It is non-selective, mean-

ing it kills every plant it touches. It should not be used at this point in its life cycle.

"You're going to have a lot of off-target effects and it's not been completely proven to kill the plants fast enough to be effective," Landis said. "You know there is seed in the soil so if you kill everything and leave a bare patch, that will just give the garlic mustard more of an advantage the next year."

There are two windows of opportunity for herbicide usage. The first is in early March, just after the snow melts. Herbicide can kill the garlic mustard plants before native species begin to emerge. The second time is in late fall, after native ephemerals have died off for the season.

The most effective control for garlic mustard will probably be biological. Landis and other researchers are currently looking for an organism that will kill the garlic mustard plants without harming other species.

More information on garlic mustard is available on the web. Try www.ipm.msu.edu/garlic_mustard.htm



An adult garlic mustard plant can grow to between five and 46 inches in height. It has triangular or heart-shaped, serrated leaves shooting off a single stem topped by white flowers.

It can be seen extensively along roadsides and at the periphery of yards. It first establishes itself at the forest edge, then invades the forest interior along streams and trails.

Garlic mustard, currently found in 28 states ranging from New England to the

harmful impact on biodiversity in Michigan forests. It chokes out native species including spring wildflowers. With no natural predators in our ecosystem, it is at a competitive advantage. It also grows earlier in the spring, shading native vegetation. And it robs native plants of soil nutrients.

In our area, the invasive menace is flowering.

"At this time of year your options are fairly limited to

ing ways to control invasive species like garlic mustard.

The flowering stage lasts through the end of June. It is important to try to destroy the plant while it is still in its



DETROIT RIVER

Northern Michigan is generally thought of as the place to go to hunt deer or catch walleyes. In fact, the southeastern part of the state produces monster bucks and offers world-class walleye fishing. The Detroit River is open to walleye fishing year around and is a good place to

get a jump on the open water fishing season.

Lake Erie has gained the reputation of being the walleye capital of the world. Early in the year, throngs of walleye journey from the lake to run the rivers flowing into it.

Boat launches along the Detroit River and Trenton

Channel do get busy when the fish are in. The launches are well organized and provide good access if boaters practice patience and courtesy. Remember to complete the majority of pre-launch tasks before approaching the ramp.

Jigging is the most popular method of taking river walleyes. Because of the wind and current, jigging can be a challenge for the person handling the boat. A bow-mounted electric motor can be used to offset the effect of current and wind on boat position. The trick is to keep the jig on a vertical line next to the boat and maintain contact with the bottom, but not

drag the lure to avoid snagging debris.

It is hard to beat live bait like leaches, crawlers and minnows for walleye, but plastics seem to work just as well. Lately the lure market has seen the introduction of plastics in new forms and a variety of flavors (scents).

I read somewhere that a four-inch plastic crawler in natural color on a lead head jig was the answer. All I could find on a recent trip to Detroit were six-inch crawlers, so I cut two inches off one end and strung the long end on the jig. My wife, Gwen, put the leftover two-inch piece on a jig and caught two dandy walleyes. I didn't get a bite. It pays to experiment.

Although the river bottom is strewn with rocks and other debris, it is possible to use other fishing methods. A few folks hand-line by pulling a heavy weight and a crank bait on a three-way swivel and lifting the weight up and down to maintain contact with the bottom. Crank baits can be trolled if boat traffic will allow it.

Fishing walleye in the north country can be fun and productive, but don't overlook the Motor City as a walleye hot spot.

LHS May Students of the Month

The faculty of Lowell High School is announcing the final group of students for Students of the Month this school year. These students have demonstrated expertise and a willingness to work hard in the area for which they were chosen.

Duncan Lammas was chosen by the Music Department. A junior, he is the son of Andrew Lammas and Maribeth Culver-Lammas of Ada. This year he helped found the Music Club at LHS and is serving as its first president. He also is the lead singer and guitar player for a local band and is employed at Lowell Waterworks. His teacher nominator says he is a highly self-motivated musician and has strong interests in all kinds of music.

Abby Debiak was selected by the Math Department. A junior, she is the daughter of John and Cindy Debiak of Lowell. Her extracurricular activities include National Honor Society, varsity club, varsity soccer and varsity cross country. Her teacher nominator says she is a conscientious student who is always willing to help others. She is also a great person

to be around because of her positive outlook on life.

C.J. Moore is being honored by the English Department. A senior, he is the son of Glenn and Jill Moore of Lowell. Extracurricular activities include National Honor Society and Model UN. In addition, he is a member of 4-H and is employed at Contract Assembly. He plans to attend Michigan Technological University. His teacher nominator says that one of the most impressive things about him is the way he incorporates technology into the English classroom. He has produced several videos, posters and other visual aids using computer, video equipment and music.

Thomas White was chosen by the Foreign Language Department. A senior, he is the son of Dan and Jane White. He has played basketball at LHS and is a member of his church youth group. In addition, he is employed at IHOP on the East Beltline. He plans to attend Ferris State University to study pharmacy. His teacher nominator says he did an outstanding job helping create a brilliant commercial in

Spanish. He also has great enthusiasm for learning the language.

Andrea Black is being honored by the Business Department. A senior, she is the daughter of Mark and Molly Cybowski of Lowell. She participates in girls golf, newspaper, SADD, International Club and Spirit Store. Next year her plans are to attend Grand Rapids Community College. Her teacher nominator said she has shown outstanding leadership in her business classes, always wears a smile and is willing to go the extra mile.

Patrick Doyle was selected by the Social Studies Department. A senior, he is the son of Brian and Cheryl Doyle of Alto. He was the captain of the football team and a member of the track team, FFA and Model UN. He was also chosen as Homecoming king and is a member of his church youth group and 4-H. He plans to attend Michigan State University. His teacher nominator says he has taken AP US History, AP European History and AP Government and Politics. He is also an award winner on the Model United Nations team.



Students of the Month for May, front row, left to right, are: Andrea Black, Abby Debiak, Patrick Doyle and Duncan Lammas; back row: Thomas White and C.J. Moore.



Character in Action Awards

Cherry Creek Elementary's Character in Action Award winners are students nominated by teachers who feel they exhibit character on a daily basis or have made changes to improve their character. Pictured, front row, left to right, are: Luke DeBoer, Peyton Murphy, Kelsey Sorenson and Madison Huntoon; second row: Matt DeShone, Marlana Moore, Elena McKendrick and Breana McKendrick; third row: Dan Dyer, Joe Potter, D.J. Mixon, Jayme Peterson and Dianna Foster; back row: Derek McFaden, Ethan Willison, Skylar Nauta, Marina Jones, Heather Ferris and Jennifer Betts. Missing from the picture are: Josh Skinner (Meijer Dignity and Respect award winner) and Rachael Walters.

School budget cuts, continued...From Page 1

Payroll, which includes benefits such as health insurance, accounts for the largest percentage of the district's budget. Rockford and Kentwood school districts have considered a new PPO-style plan, called Choices II, from the Michigan Education Special Services Association (MESSA). The plan is less expensive than the MESSA insurance currently covering teachers. At Monday's school board meeting, superintendent Shari Miller said the plan, which is new for MESSA, has not yet been approved by state insurance regulators.

It will be the third straight

year of budget cuts in the school system. Budget cuts for the current year totaled \$1 million. In the 2002-2003 school year, the district shaved \$500,000 from its budget.

The district is facing deficit-spending likely to exceed \$700,000 from this year's proration of state funding. The funding cut occurred last December. The board decided to let the district's fund balance absorb the deficit because it would be too difficult to make cuts in the middle of the school year. Gillette said this will shrink the fund balance below 10 percent. It is currently at about 13 percent.

The state's retirement rate,

the percentage of payroll school districts must pay into a state retirement fund, will increase next year. The increase is enough to offset the money LAS will receive from the recent special education millage. Gillette said the rate will take a further hike in the 2005-2006 school year.

The district is planning for enrollment to stay the same next year with no increase in the state per-pupil funding. According to Gillette, these are the only two ways the district can increase its revenue. The per-pupil allowance is projected to be \$6,700 again, next year.

Congratulations

Courtney Hedlund

You did it!

- Dad

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2004 NOTICE OF AERIAL SPRAYING FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF GYPSY MOTH LARVAE IN SELECTED AREAS OF LOWELL TOWNSHIP

Certain selected areas in Lowell Township are scheduled to receive aerial application of the insecticide *Bacillus thuringiensis* (*B.t.*) for the suppression of Gypsy Moth larvae. Maps of these areas are available for viewing at the Township Office. The applicator for the program is Mid-Michigan Helicopter Service, 7480 Backus Road, Greenville, Michigan, 616-754-5184. The *B.t.* brand will be Foray 76B supplied by Valent BioSciences Corporation. The spraying will be done by aircraft when weather conditions are suitable. The exact dates and times cannot be predetermined as application is weather dependent. Startup is tentatively planned for May 21, 2004.

The insecticide *B.t.* is derived from a naturally occurring bacteria and is known only to affect caterpillars by destroying their stomachs after they eat the material. It does not affect honey bees or other non-leaf eating insects, birds, fish or mammals. The *B.t.* formulation has no reentry restrictions. The *B.t.* is applied at about a quart per acre in a very fine mist that targets the tree foliage. Drying usually takes place within a few minutes.

Lowell Township
John Timpson, supervisor
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CITY OF LOWELL/
WASTE MANAGEMENT

YARD WASTE PROGRAM FOR 2004

Yard waste pickup will be the same day as your recycling pickup.

Tuesday Yard Waste Pickup Schedule

May 4 & 18; June 1, 15 & 29;
July 13 & 27; August 10 & 24; & September 7 & 21

Thursday Yard Waste Pickup Schedule

May 6 & 20; June 3 & 17;
July 1, 15 & 29; August 12 & 26; & September 9 & 23

Bags are available at Ace Hardware, City Hall, Meijer & Springrove Variety.

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?

Alto PTO and Family Links at Cherry Creek, Bushnell and Murray Lake have invited the following guests to answer your questions at an important parent meeting:

Lowell Area Schools Superintendent Shari Miller, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Personnel Connie Gillette, Supervisor of Transportation and Operations Larry Mikulski, principals Mary Ann Schramm, Maureen Dorough, Brent Noskey, Karen Burd and Linda Warren, as well as Jim White, Mark Kasmer, Pam Thomas and Kathy Cole.

May 18, 2004
7-9 pm in the cafeteria
of Cherry Creek Elementary
Child care can be provided with advance notice to Carmon Campbell at Bushnell 897-8471. Please RSVP for child care by May 14th.

So, if you have a student in grades K-5 in a Lowell Area School, then bring your questions because

WE'VE GOT ANSWERS!

Annual CROP Walk garners needed funds for hunger relief



It was a cool, but sunny day as walkers hit the streets of Lowell last Sunday for the 10th annual Lowell CROP walk. Photo submitted by Bruce Doll

By Dan Schneider

Nearly 200 people participated in the event. From pledges turned in so far, the event has raised about \$17,000, according to CROP Walk treasurer Inge Whittemore. Whittemore expects that number to increase significantly. Early pledges last year totaled about \$19,000; then grew to \$28,000. Locally, Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc. (FROM) and the Lowell Senior Center will receive 25 percent of the CROP walk proceeds. FROM typically uses money from the walk to purchase perishable goods not normally donated to the pantry, such as meat. The rest of the money raised will go toward international hunger relief. This includes war-torn areas such as Afghanistan, as well as drinking water and irrigation projects in sub-Saharan Africa.

LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION SCHOOL ELECTION

NOTICE OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION OF THE ELECTORS OF LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS KENT AND IONIA COUNTIES, MICHIGAN

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT:

Please Take Notice that the regular school election of the school district will be held on Monday, June 14, 2004.

THE LAST DAY ON WHICH PERSONS MAY REGISTER IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT THE REGULAR SCHOOL ELECTION CALLED TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2004, IS MONDAY, MAY 17, 2004. PERSONS REGISTERING AFTER 5 O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING ON MONDAY, MAY 17, 2004, ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT THE REGULAR SCHOOL ELECTION.

To register, visit any Secretary of State branch office or your county, city or township clerk's office. Persons planning to register with the respective county, city or township clerks must ascertain the days and hours on which the clerk's offices are open for registration.

This Notice is given by order of the board of education.

Patrick Nugent
Secretary, Board of Education

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- Promotes and cross-sells ICNB's products and services
- Actively supports and participates in community events, organizations, and membership in local business groups and activities sponsored by ICNB
- Effectively assists in the management and supervision of office staff in the absence of the office manager
- Generates new business to assist in meeting establishment's goals

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Cherry Creek students celebrate diversity at Wittenbach Center

By Dan Schneider

Carmen Reynolds' fourth grade class from Cherry Creek Elementary met with fourth and fifth graders from Dickinson Elementary in Grand Rapids on Monday.

The Lowell students and inner-city Grand Rapids' students spent the day doing team-building exercises and conducting interviews at the Wittenbach Center. The purpose of the interviews was to create biographies. Through these, the students learned about each other's backgrounds.

Reynolds' class had recently finished reading *Through My Eyes*. It is the autobiography of Ruby Bridges who, at the age of six, was the first black student to attend a school in New Orleans.

"We're not separated now by laws, but we are separated by location," Reynolds said. The students quickly found common ground through books in the Accelerated Reading program.

"My kids read the same books so they would immediately have something in common," Carrie Tellerico said.

Tellerico teaches the fourth and fifth grade class at Dickinson. "It fits well with the curriculum because we do a lot of diversity," she said. "It's just important for kids to meet different kinds of people."

The day was part of a service learning pilot program at Cherry Creek. The Lowell students had a book drive over the past two weeks, also part of the program.

"Our goal was 75 and we got 126, so we were real happy," Reynolds said. The Cherry Creek class donated the books to Dickinson Elementary.



Dickinson and Cherry Creek Elementary students practice team-building skills.

District takes first steps to address walk zone safety

By Dan Schneider

Now that the school district will definitely have walk zones in the city for next school year, a Safety Committee has formed to make the process of walking to school as hazardless as possible.



Pictured above, Lowell Area Schools transportation director Larry Mikulski, left, and school board representative Mark Lessens stand near the forms for one of the sidewalk spurs being poured at the middle school. The spurs are the most tangible of the newly-formed Safety Committee's early efforts to foster safety in the new walk zones.

The committee envisions a cooperative effort that would bring the community together as well as help students find their way to school safely.

"This is probably the first cut we've had to make that will actually be better for the community in the long run because so many people are involved," said Lowell Area Schools transportation director Larry Mikulski.

He was standing at Lowell Middle School next to wooden forms for a new length of sidewalk. This district is installing two spurs off the Foreman Road sidewalk, at either end of the bus load-

ing zone. The spurs allow students to get to the middle school without crossing the entry and exit drives for the school buses.

"We're starting ... this is the start," Mikulski said. "This is to show that we're sincere about what we're doing."

The sidewalk spurs are being installed at a cost of about \$5,000.

The city of Lowell has installed an asphalt path through Creekside Park. This also fits into the walk zone plan. The Safety Committee, which is largely composed of members of the transportation committee that recommended the walk zones, will also implement safety measures that don't involve pavement.

The Lowell Police Department will train volunteer residents in the walk zones through the statewide Child Watch program.

"It's a program where we train volunteers in the community in observation skills," Lowell police chief Jim Valente said.

The Lowell police will perform complete background checks on the Child Watch safe house volunteers.

Walk zone safety, cont'd., pg. 13

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 - Tuesday.....9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 - Wednesday.....9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 - Thursday.....8 a.m. to 2 p.m.



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

3RD MON.: Fallasburg Historical Society board meetings at chamber office or Fallasburg, 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 M1#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. Bellline) at 7 p.m. Call Linda: 874-5662; teen group: Sarah 281-6588.

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

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

1ST TUES.: Ada Historical Society at 7 p.m. Averill Historical Museum, 7144 Headley, Ada.

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.

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.

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 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.

1ST THURS.: Michigan Hepatitis C Foundation support meetings, 7-8:30 p.m. at Spectrum Health Kent Community Campus Multipurpose Rm. 750 Fuller Ave. NE

1ST THURS.: 4-H drama club meeting, Lowell Middle School choir room. Call 897-1502 after 5 p.m.

2ND THURS.: Ada Historical Society at 7 p.m. Averill Historical Museum, 7144 Headley, Ada.

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.: VFV #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.: 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.

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

LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL: Tues., Wed. & Fri.: 12-5 p.m.; Thurs.: 12-7 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m. 149 S. Hudson. Call 897-8545.

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

WED., MAY 12: Pork/dressing dinner, adults \$8; 5-12 \$2 at Snow United Methodist Church, 3189 Snow Ave. S.E.

THURS., MAY 13: Academic Boosters meet in volunteer room of high school at 8:30 a.m. Superintendent Shari Miller is the guest. Call Julie 897-6353 with questions.

SAT., MAY 15: Lowell youth football, flag football, 78er's & cheerleaders signups, 10-2 p.m.; middle school cafeteria. New signups bring copy of birth certificate. Call 897-7896.

MON., MAY 17: L.H.S. senior awards night at 7 p.m. in Performing Arts Center.

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LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR
WEEKLY ACTIVITIES 897-5949
MON.: 9:00 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall. THURS.: 9:00 a.m. Walk/Shop at Malls; 9:30 a.m. Crafts; 1:00 p.m. Euchre.
TUES.: 9:00 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall; 12:45 p.m. Bible Study. FRI.: 9:00 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall.
SPECIAL EVENTS
WED., MAY 12: 8:30 a.m. Miller "Desert Flowers"; 4:45 p.m. Dinner at Cracker Barrel. THURS., MAY 13: 9:45 a.m. G.R. Symphony & St. Cecilia's Music Building Tour; 11 a.m. Speaker from Hospice. TUES., MAY 18: 12:45 p.m. Mystery Shopping Trip.
WED., MAY 19: 10 a.m. Advisory Council; 12 p.m. Pizza Wednesday; 12:45 p.m. Shop Meijer. THURS., MAY 20: 12:30 p.m. St. Anne's Dessert & Music; 4:30 p.m. Dinner at Star East.
FRI., MAY 14: 10 a.m. Community Senior Neighbor Lunch; 11 a.m. Area Agency on Medicare. MON., MAY 17: 12:45 p.m. Travelogue w/Dave

Walk zone safety, continued...From Page 11

and all other adults living in the household. The houses will be marked with window placards so children can recognize them as safe houses. The program also has a training component for students, teaching them how to use the safe houses.

"We're going to train them in what to do if they see an unsafe situation, unsafe conditions, whether it's a snow-covered walk or a downed power line or any number of other hazards," Valentine said. "They know that if they see that placard, they can go to that house and have help summoned."

The training would not be exclusive to walk-zone students, either.

"There are kids who don't live right in the city but at some point in their life, they might be walking downtown

and we want them to know about Child Watch," Valentine explained.

The volunteer training will take place in mid-summer. Valentine, who is on the safety committee, is also recruiting more Retired Senior Volunteer patrolers for the walk zones. Lowell Light and Power, whose line workers and other employees make regular rounds of the streets of Lowell, will also participate in the Child Watch training.

One of the duties of the safety committee is to establish preferred routes within the walk zones. This takes into consideration factors such as the number of available Child Watch safe houses. The committee is working on forms for contracts between parents and students. The contracts, an AAA program, are

signed by the students and parents and will establish walking routes for the students.

Mark Lessens, the school board representative on the safety committee, hopes to familiarize parents with the walking zones by the time they come into use this fall.

Stouffer named staff member of the month

Sue Stouffer was named Cherry Creek Elementary's Staff Member of the Month for April. Staff members nominated her for her dedication to the elementary music program. They also mentioned the many hours she prepares for her music programs and the Cherry Creek Talent Show.

"We have a meet-the-teachers night in August," Lessens said. "My hope is that we will be getting people out to walk that night... have a Lowell night out."

TOTS program director Kathy Cole will teach a Safe Town program for three and four year olds in August. Also

that month, Lowell Area Schools security director Al Eckman will teach bicycle safety classes.

The safety committee will seek grants through Gov. Granholm's "Safe Routes to School in Michigan" program. Based on the health benefits of walking, the program gives

\$3,000 grants to help districts establish safe walking areas to their school buildings.

Lowell community wellness director Jessica Johnson is currently working on the grants. She will also teach classes to help students get the maximum health benefits of walking.



Sue Stouffer

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With Christopher C. Godbold



529 PLAN CAN HELP YOU COPE WITH COLLEGE COSTS

In a few weeks, the school year will be coming to an end. If you have young children, you're that much closer to the day when they head off to college. And if you want to help them pay for their schooling, the time to start saving is *now*, because college costs are moving in only one direction—up.

Just how high are the costs of higher education? Consider these figures from the College Board: In 2003-2004, the average annual charges (tuition, fees, room and board) at a four-year public institution total \$10,636 while the corresponding figure for a four-year private school is \$26,854. And if college expenses continue to rise faster than the general inflation rate, you can expect much higher costs in the future.

Fortunately, you've got some attractive college savings vehicles available—and one of the best of these is the Section 529 plan, named after that part of the Internal Revenue Code authorizing these accounts.

You can choose from two types of Section 529 plans: a *pre-paid tuition program* or a *savings plan*. In a pre-paid tuition plan, you buy future tuition credit - at today's prices - at an in-state, public school. If your child or grandchild decides not to attend your state college, you can transfer the value of your contract to private and out-of-state schools.

In a Section 529 savings plan, you put money in specific investments. All withdrawals will be free from federal income taxes, as long as the money is used for a qualified college or graduate school expense of the beneficiary you've named - typically, your child or grandchild. (However, the money will appear as income on the child's tax return.) Withdrawals for expenses other than qualified education expenditures may be subject to federal, state and penalty taxes. This tax benefit is effective through 2010, unless extended by the U.S. Congress.

Section 529 Benefits

Of the two types of 529 plans, the savings plan is far more popular. In many ways, it offers more freedom than the pre-paid tuition plan, and, of course, it has tax advantages. But the 529 savings plan also offers other key benefits, including the following:

- **High contribution limits** - Section 529 plan contribution

limits are typically quite high - more than \$200,000 per beneficiary in many state plans. Special gifting provisions apply. As with many investments, before investing in a 529, you should consult your tax professional.

- **No residency requirements** - You can generally contribute to the Section 529 plan of any state you choose, even if you don't live there. However, if you participate in your own state's plan, you may receive additional tax benefits.

- **Investment flexibility** - If you want to move your investment around, you can generally change to a different option in a 529 savings plan once a year. You also can transfer your account to a different state's program as often as once every 12 months.

- **Estate-planning advantages** - If you're a grandparent, you may be especially interested in the 529 savings plan. Because you can contribute large amounts of money to the plan, you'll be able to reduce the size of your taxable estate. Plus, even though the assets are out of your estate, you retain control of them. You decide *who* will get the money and *when* he or she will get it. You can even change the beneficiary to another family member.

So, there you have it - some reasons to consider investing in a Section 529 plan. If this plan is appropriate for your individual needs, it can be a great way to help boost your college savings. As for your children's *grades* - well, that's up to them.

Freshman Center May Students of the Month

Lowell Freshmen Students of the Month, front row, left to right, are: Heather Spratt, Brooke Liu, Shay Hacker, Brittany Bueche, Maggie Tichelaar and Lauren Vandermark; back row: Travis Hippey, Andy Mark, Patrick Walsh and Ray Seese.



Health



HYPOTHYROIDISM

Hypothyroidism is a condition where the thyroid gland does not produce enough thyroid hormone. The thyroid gland is located in the front of the neck. Thyroid hormone regulates our body metabolism. Hypothyroidism occurs in five percent of the population and is very common in women over the age of 65. In some cases the thyroid gland may become enlarged as it tries to produce more thyroid hormone, resulting in a goiter.

The most common cause of hypothyroidism is production of antibodies by our immune system against our thyroid glands resulting in decreased hormone production. Certain drugs and other gland problems can also cause hypothyroidism.

Symptoms include weight gain or the inability to lose weight, cold intolerance, fatigue, depression, weakness, dry

brittle hair, and a decreased libido. In mild cases, there may not be any symptoms.

Diagnosis is made by examination of the neck and checking hormone levels with a simple blood test. A thyroid scan or ultrasound may be ordered if the thyroid gland is enlarged or irregular in its consistency.

Treatment involves taking a daily thyroid pill. Your doctor will usually determine the correct dosage by checking blood levels of thyroid stimulating hormone. Once the level is stable, we can decrease the frequency of testing to once per year.

For more information, contact the American Thyroid Association at 1-800-thyroid or www.thyroid.org.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN
JUDICIAL DISTRICT
17TH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT

ORDER FOR SERVICE
BY PUBLICATION/
POSTING AND NOTICE
OF ACTION

take other action permitted by law in this court at the court address above on or before 6/01/04. If you fail to do so, a default judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint filed in this case.

CASE NO. 04-01705-DO
180 Ottawa, NW, Grand
Rapids, MI 49503

BRENDA M. SANDERS

THOMAS BOGARD, JR.

LESLIE C. CURRY
(P31222)
WESTERN MICHIGAN
LEGAL SERVICES
89 Ionia, NW, Suite 400
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 774-0672, ext. 116

TO THOMAS BOGARD,
JR.

IT IS ORDERED:

April 13, 2004
Daniel V. Zemaitis
(P32490)

A copy of this order shall be published once each week in The Lowell Ledger for three (3) consecutive weeks, and proof of publication shall be filed in this court.

A copy of this order shall be sent to Defendant, THOMAS BOGARD, JR. at the last known address by registered mail, return receipt requested, before the date of the last publication, and the affidavit of mailing shall be filed with this court.

Pursuant to the fee waiver obtained by Plaintiff, costs of publication shall be paid by the Court.

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LHS student rep receives book award

As Lowell High School's student council president, Matt Hansen was the student representative at the LAS board meetings. Monday was his last one, and superintendent Shari Miller, along with school board president Nancy Hopkins, presented him with a copy of Bob Woodward's book, *Plan of Attack*. Hansen will study political science in the fall at Michigan State University.

LHS student receives Burger King scholarship award

Holly Young, a senior at Lowell High School, will receive a \$1,000 Burger King Scholars Award for continuing education. To qualify, a senior must maintain at least a 2.5 grade point average, work part time, and be involved in co-curricular and/or community services activities.

Young's scholarship is one of 118 that will be presented by Quality Dining, Inc. Burger King restaurants in Michigan and Northern Indiana.

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Red Arrows win two, lose two in last week's softball action

By Dan Schneider

The Red Arrow softball team lost a tight game Monday against Unity Christian.

"It was a great game, we just gave it away," Lowell coach Bob Rodenhouse said. "A couple of bad mistakes hurt us."

The score was tied at three runs each, going into the sixth inning, when a fly ball dropped in the outfield allowing the Crusaders to score.

Brittany Bueche played a strong night of softball for Lowell. She drove in two runs with a base hit and had two successful sacrifice bunts.

"She made two great plays in the field," Rodenhouse said.

"She had her best game probably as a softball player."

For the most part, it was another good night at the mound for Becky Plummer, who struck out 12 batters and walked none.

"She was on fire tonight," Rodenhouse said. "But she gave up a few hits and we made a few mistakes in the field, and you can't do that against a good team."

A win against Unity would have moved Lowell into contention for the conference championship. They now face an uphill battle the rest of the season, starting with Northview on Wednesday.

Lowell trounced East

Grand Rapids in the first game of last Friday's doubleheader. The score was 11-0 when the mercy rule ended the game in the fifth inning.

Plummer pitched her third no-hitter of the season, striking out 16 batters. A single error was all that kept her from a second perfect game this season. She also had four base hits in the game. Lorinda Marker had two hits for three

RBI's as did Rachel Nawrocki.

The second game was closer, but the Red Arrows still came out on top. East scored a run in the first inning, then Lowell scored a run to tie it up. A run in the fifth inning sealed the contest for Lowell.

A lack of hitting grounded the Arrows last Wednesday as Kenowa Hills ended their winning streak at three.

"We didn't hit last night

... we had three hits," Rodenhouse said.

Plummer had two hits in the game and Jamie Cardani had one, which weren't enough to put any runs on the board for Lowell.

Kenowa managed to turn their four hits into two runs in the game. The first was in the second inning on a triple and a ground-out. The second was in the fourth off a walk, stolen

base, pass-ball and ground-out.

"They only had four hits but they found a way to get the runs in," Rodenhouse said.

Lowell had no errors in the game. Plummer struck out seven batters and walked two.

Lowell's record goes to 5-2 in the OK White as they take on Northview Wednesday at home.

Golfers wait out storm, claim first conference win this season

By Dan Schneider

Thunderstorms with lightning sent the Red Arrows running from the golf course Monday night but did not slow them down. The Lowell golfers shot their best team score of the year while winning their first conference match against Unity Christian at Pigeon Creek in West Olive.

The Arrows shot 196 and the Crusaders 200. Cara Mooney shot a 45, Mandy Gunberg a 47 and Stefanie Stuewe a 51; Sarah Eickhoff

rounded out the team's scoring with 53.

"The girls went back out, played well and we came out on top," Lowell coach Becky Lecuru said. "They all had a lot of fun today."

Topography put the Lowell golf squad out of its groove last Wednesday against Greenville.

"Deer Run is so flat and then they go play on a course with some hills on it and it sets them off," Lecuru said.

The Yellow Jackets shot 175 at the Greenville Country Club; the Red Arrows shot a 219.

"It was a tough match," Lecuru said. "Greenville is a tough team, they'll probably contend for the state championship."

Greenville's team score was the lowest the Arrows have encountered so far this season. The match also threw the Lowell golfers off their progress in lowering scores

below 50.

Cara Mooney was the top scorer for Lowell, scoring 53 on nine holes. Stefanie Stuewe and Mandy Gunberg shot 55. Sarah Eickhoff rounded out the Lowell scoring with 56.

The next match for the Red Arrows will be Wednesday afternoon at Deer Run Golf Course against Forest Hills Central. Monday is the conference tournament at L.E. Kaufman Golf Course in Grand Rapids.

Weather leaves tennis match hanging

By Dan Schneider

An ill-timed downpour left Lowell's varsity tennis match at Greenville in limbo on Monday.

Lowell had won four flights; the Yellow Jackets had won three. A victory for the

Red Arrows depended on the result of the second double flight. It was in the third set. Justin Quist and Brandon Lawrence had come back to make it five all against Tyler Athey and Zach Conroe when the clouds opened up.

It left probably about 10 minutes of tennis unplayed and the whole conference dual unresolved. The two doubles teams will finish the set in Lowell at the OK White conference meet.

Lowell didn't have to worry about weather against Cedar Springs last Thursday,

when they won at Cedar Springs, 7-1.

"We unfortunately got blasted against Northview," Lowell coach Bonnie Wall said.

Chris Gallagher won the only flight for Lowell in sec-

Tennis, cont'd., page 17

SYNOPSIS BOWNE TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR BOARD MEETING April 19, 2004 • 7:30 P.M. MOTIONS APPROVED:

- Minutes of March 15th board meeting were approved. List of invoices were approved.
 - Motion to authorize Fire Department to purchase a new grass rig.
 - Motion to appoint Rena Williams to vacancy on DDA Board.
 - Motion to use sewer study as a reference document.
 - Motion to repair Tarmac behind library.
 - Motion to pass resolution to use computerized tax roll.
 - Motion by purchase new laser printer for tax bill printing.
 - Motion to award sewer lagoon mowing to Hawk.
 - Motion to renew dog kennel licenses, Cope & Harig.
 - Motion to deny amendment to zoning ordinance.
 - Motion to purchase aerators w/greasing units.
 - Motion to contribute to the purchase of development rights program.
 - Motion to award lawn mowing contract to Harding Enterprises.
 - Motion to pay for extra work done on museum.
- Complete copies of the minutes are available at the Township Office at 8240 Alden Nash SE., PO Box 35, Alto, MI 49302-0035.
- Next meeting May 17, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. Township Hall, 8240 Alden Nash SE., Alto.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk
Bowne Township Clerk

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 May 20, 2004 at 7:00 p.m., at the Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Road, within the Township, concerning a proposed ordinance that would amend the Zoning Ordinance of the Township of Grattan. The proposed ordinance would create a new Article 3.57 that would clarify the manner in which minimum waterfront setbacks are to be measured on lots and parcels in all Zoning Districts.

A copy of the proposed Zoning Ordinance amendments are on file and may be examined at 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: April 23, 2004

PLANNING COMMISSION
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN

BOWNE TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that on May 20, 2004 at 7:30 p.m., in the Bowne Township Hall, 8240 Alden Nash S.E., the Bowne Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing for the purpose of hearing comments regarding a proposed appeal of the Bowne Township Zoning Ordinance.

The appeal is in regard to Section 3.2.4 Roads Private.

Request from Timothy Zych to allow a private drive in an Agricultural District. Parcel is located at 9727 Alden Nash S.E., Alto. Parcel #41-24-28-400-020.

Any written comments regarding this request may be addressed to:

Gloria King, Chairperson
Bowne Township ZBA
8240 Alden Nash S.E.
P.O. Box 35
Alto, MI 49302-0035

Gloria King, Chairperson
Bowne Township Zoning Board of Appeals

Girls track wins third straight meet

Boys track struggles against Crusaders, Yellow Jackets

By Dan Schneider

With wins last week against Unity Christian and Greenville, the girls track team improved its record to 3-4 in conference.

The Lowell girls picked up their third straight win Thursday against the Crusaders. The score in that meet was Lowell 78, Unity Christian 59.

Lowell won eight events in that meet, including all of the field events.

The Red Arrows beat the Yellow Jackets 88 to 49 last Tuesday at Red Arrow Stadium. Lowell swept the long jump, with Morgan Olin jumping 14'10 3/4" to win. They also swept the 3200 meter - Sarah Swab had the top finish in that event with a time of 12:50. Lowell went one-two in four events.

In total, the Red Arrows racked up 11 first-place finishes. They scored points (by finishing in the top three) in all 17 track and field events.

The boys track team had a more difficult time against the Yellow Jackets, losing 104 to 32.

Lowell did manage three first-place finishes, however. Jeff McPherson threw the discus, a personal-best 134'4" for first place. Corey Scudder threw the shot put 40'6" to win that event. Steve Ellison won the 800 meter run, clocking 2:07.

At Unity Christian, the boys team placed first in five events but lost 87-50 to the Crusaders.

The conference track meet starts Thursday at Greenville.

Middle School track coach leaves

After 10 years as an assistant coach with Lowell Middle School, this will be Jayne Mathews' last track season.

She started coaching when her daughter Abbey, now 21, was in the sixth grade and on the track team. She coached while her son, Jason, ran track throughout middle school. He's graduating from high school this year. This will be the last middle school track season for her youngest daughter, Meghan.

"We're definitely a track family," Mathews said. "I love it and I'm kind of sad about it."

She is used to coaching large and successful Red Arrow track teams at the middle school.

"We average about 125 girls every year," Mathews said.

The girls track team remains undefeated so far this season. They have finished several seasons in the past undefeated.

Tennis, continued...

From page 16

ond singles. He beat Dan Ranville 6-4, 6-4.

The Arrows lost every other match in two sets.

Pending the conclusion of the second doubles match against Greenville, Lowell's conference record stands at 3-2. Their last contest before the conference meet is Wednesday at Unity Christian. The conference meet starts at 9 a.m. on Saturday. The matches will be played at both Lowell High School and at East Grand Rapids High School.



Malley Cahoon, left, watches Lowell's Mary Calvi hand off to Morgan Olin for the anchor leg of the 800m relay. The event was one of six the Red Arrow girls did not win in their 88-49 victory last Tuesday against the Greenville Yellow Jackets.

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GRATTAN TOWNSHIP

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC GRATTAN TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

A Public Hearing before the Grattan Zoning Board of Appeals will be held at the Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Road, Belding, MI on:

Wednesday, May 19, 2004
At 7:00 p.m.

at which time and place the following request will be heard:

Mr. John Hehl of 4360 Causeway Dr., Lowell, MI (PP #41-12-33-427-010) is requesting a variance from Article 7, Section 7.03A front yard to add a deck which will be 24'0" from front property line in lieu of required 30'0" in R-L District.

Written comments concerning this issue should be received prior to the hearing and addressed to: Al Berry, Grattan Township Zoning Board of Appeals, 12050 Old Belding Road, Belding, MI 48809.

1175 Cumberland Ave
\$155,900

- Completion mid May
- Bi-level raised ranch
- City water
- 1 acre wooded lot
- Close to schools

1195 Cumberland Ave
\$155,900

- Completion mid May
- Tri-level raised ranch
- City water
- 1 acre wooded lot
- Close to schools

Location: Lowell/Vergennes Twp., Corner of Cumberland & Foreman Rd.

**For more information contact:
Dan or Jen 616/262-0424**

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Sound Off

The Ledger (Almost) Anything Goes Opinion Forum

897-0787 or www.lowellbuyersguide.com

The new LMS "pilot program" will put kids in front of computers instead of quality teachers. ??? Is this what you want for your child? Contact the school board now!

Has the community or school board looked into the actual capacity of the Middle School? It houses over 900 kids and was over capacity when the HS moved many years ago. It is unsafe for your kids!

Kids can talk. It's when they take any kind of action that makes a difference. For once I agree with the School Board. THANK YOU!!

Drivers on Main Street should keep their eyes open and watch out for the safety of bikers. I have almost been hit on numerous occasions due to their stupidity and poor driving skills.

If you read the G.R. Press insert (Answer Book) and saw the page on college tuitions - How in the world is the average family supposed to send their kids to college?

Not happy with the truck noise/speed? State law doesn't allow for "engine brake" signage & variance must come from senhardiman@senate.michigan.gov. Let's roll on this!

I have found five stray dogs in the past three weeks - none with tags. Please put tags on your dogs or no one can help you find them.

This is to the brown car that passed me on the left Monday morning. I'm sorry and thank you for teaching me the error of my ways

I would like to sound off about the cemetery. If someone who takes care of the cemetery would have lost their child in a horrible accident, they might think twice about being so careful about what they have to do.

Garage Sale Page

GRANDMA'S ATTIC SALE
Fri., May 14, 8-7 p.m., Sat., May 15, 9-4 p.m., 11969 60th St. SE (Alden Nash & 60th). Crafts, treasures, dishes, clothes. Proceeds to UMW.

GARAGE SALE
Thurs., Fri., Sat. (May 13, 14, 15), 8-5 p.m. Furniture, brand name clothing, new & used items. 13397 Forest River Dr. Follow signs.

GARAGE SALE
May 13, 14 & 15, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Glassware, some collectibles, jewelry, pots & pans, some linens, fireside chair, crochet & knitting items, books, child's drop leaf table, tools, audio books, fishing poles, reels & baits. 1442 Baywicke Dr., Eastgate.

GARAGE SALE
May 13 & 14, 9-? 614 Lafayette. Glasstop rattan top w/4 chairs, estate collectibles, antique wicker, spoon collection, metal bunkbed, clothes (baby-adult sizes), 12 ft. alum. boat w/trailer.

TRUNK SALE
Saturday, May 15, Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington. Set your own price. All proceeds to benefit children's ministries.

GARAGE SALE
May 13, 14 & 15, 8-4 p.m. 1111 Alden Nash, between Foreman & Vergennes.

SPRING SALE
Unity Church of Peace, 6025 Ada Dr. SE. Fri., May 14, 9-7; Sat., May 15, 9-12. Something for everyone!

OAK HILL MULTI FAMILY GARAGE SALE
Alden Nash South to Oak Highland Dr. Many items to choose from. Friday, May 14, 9-5 p.m. and Saturday, May 15, 9-4 p.m.

ESTATE SALE
Fri., May 14 & Sat., May 15, 9-6 p.m. Cub Cadet tractor, mower & trailer, tools, new microwave in box & table & chairs. Misc., dog kennel. 4550 Morrison Lake Rd, Saranac.

LOWELL
3784 Oak Meadow Lane, near 36th & Bewell. Appliances, kids' toys, log cabin playhouse, clothes, Ford yard tractor w/blower, blade & deck, Yamaha 3-wheeler, push mower, oak gun cabinet, cross country skis & more. Sat., May 15, 9-3 p.m.

CLEAN OUT AND ESTATE SALE
Tons of boys clothes, aquarium, books, antique spinning wheel, living room chairs, wringer washer, tools and shovels. Something for everyone, everything must go... May 15, 9-5; May 16, 9-1 p.m., 1301 Jane Ellen.

HUGE BARN SALE
1218 Lincoln Lake Ave. N. (1 mile N. of Fallsburg Park) May 14 & 15, 9 a.m. - ? Videos, Barbie, Little Tikes, Playstation, bicycles, desk, windows, television, chandelier, sewing machine, table, albums, comic books. Many books, knickknacks, crafts & more! This is a MUST visit sale - something for just about everyone!

GARAGE SALE
May 14 & 15, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. 1233 Cumberland, just S. of Foreman. Home decor, 9' alum. boat, wedding decs/items, M/W large size clothing, golf clubs, Playstation, Christmas items & some toys.

BIG GARAGE SALE
May 13, 14 & 15, 9-5 p.m. 11178 Bennett, corner of Cumberland. 2 in. well drill w/pipe & casing; (4) 17 in. Avenger wheels, new; large birdcage & ferret cage, household items; dishes, microwave, crafts, dresser, doors, clothing (small-large), farm items & much more.

MOVING SALE
Wide variety of items gathered over the years. 1760 Faith Dr. 5/13 & 5/14, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., 5/15 9 a.m. - noon.

GARAGE SALE
Friday, 5/14, 9-5; Saturday, 5/15, 8-? Kids and adult clothes, kids movies, 12" girls bike, toys & misc. 225 Elizabeth Dean Dr.

GARAGE SALE
Thurs. & Fri., May 13 & 14, 9-5. 93 Flat River Dr. Baby items, brand name infant, kids, teen girl & adult, toys, furniture & many great household items.

GARAGE SALE
Friday, May 14 only. 9am - 4pm. 11711 Foreman between Cumberland and Alden Nash. Furniture, bunk beds, toys, treadmill, household items, kids clothes, much more.

SALE
Friday 5/14, 9-5, Saturday 5/15, 8-? Sports cards, music CD's, DVD movies, and game cube games. 225 Elizabeth Dean Dr.

GARAGE SALE
Saturday, May 15, 9 AM - noon. follow signs from N Hudson @ Lincoln Lake. Car stuff, tools, VW magazines, furniture, clothes girls age 7, boys age 9.

GARAGE SALE
Thursday, May 13 & 14, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. 210 Marsac St., Lowell. Guns, beebee guns, Indian arrow heads, tools, boxes of tools, electric drills, antique tools, electric grinders, army uniforms, military stuff.

NEIGHBORHOOD SALE
Snow Point Pvt., Alto (off of 68th St., 1 mile west of Timpson) Fri. & Sat., May 14 & 15, 8AM - 5 PM. Baby items, kids clothes, furniture, artwork, Marcy weight machine.

ADA/CASCADE NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE
17 families. Furniture, toys, clothing, bikes, baby items, carpeting, appliances, Nordic track, car seats. Fri., May 14, 9-5 p.m.; Sat., May 15, 9-3 pm. Jonathan Woods/Wildwood Estates off Buttrick between Bolt & 28th St. Follow signs.

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE! CALL US TODAY! 897-9555

FOR SALE

2000 BLACK CHEROKEE SPORT - 47k miles, inline 6, 4x4, PW, PL, A/C, cruise, tilt, keyless entry, new tires within last 3,000 miles, brush guard w/Piaa 520 driving lights, rear tail light guards, Pioneer CD deck, optional Yakima ski/snowboard rack (carries 4), K&N filter. Oil changed every 3-4K miles. Good condition. \$11,000 obo. 616-308-5481.

2001 HONDA CR250 FOR SALE - Many new parts, well maintained. silencer. \$3,000. 897-6541.

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

POLE BARN - 30x50x10, only \$5,295. Includes painted metal, plans, how to build book, slider. Free delivery. 937-789-0309.

97 CHEVY CONVERSION VAN - White, 350 cu. in., loaded, CD, PW & PL, 120,000 hwy miles. \$5,800. Call 897-1597 or 450-7910.

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

"FOR SALE BY OWNER" Land/Home all wooded lots. 3 br/2ba, 2 car garage. \$775 a month. All appliances \$500 down. Sell by June 12th. Be in by summer. Call 616-291-2994.

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

99 JEEP CHEROKEE - 4x4, 50,000 miles, red, 4 dr., auto, loaded. \$7,800. Call 897-1597 or 450-7910.

BUNK BED - Oak, has mattresses (2 mos. old). Sell \$95. 517-719-0451.

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

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE - 3 bedroom, fireplace, deck, storage shed. MUST SELL. Call 897-5084.

\$25 QUEEN, FULL & TWIN MATTRESS SETS - Previously owned. Hurry for selection. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

'87 FORD F150 - 4x4, rusty, high miles, needs work, you tow. \$500 firm. Call 616-374-1407.

20c PER FOOT CARPET REMNANT SALE - Convention center, used briefly. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

BOAT LIFT FOR SALE - Aluminum for up to a 20 ft. boat (3,200 lbs.), \$900 or best offer. 616-642-0724.

KING SEALY MATTRESS SET - with deluxe frame, \$100. Call 517-204-0600.

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. \$700. Call 682-4767 or 293-6160. Can deliver.

CLASSIFIEDS

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
DEADLINE MONDAYS AT 5 PM

FOR SALE

'94 PLYMOUTH VOYAGER SE - Original owner, exceptional. \$1,850. Call 361-1603; no Sunday calls.

'85 SNAPPER 1650 - 48 inch mower deck, 42 inch SS snowblower. Must sell. Call 897-8970.

FOR SALE - Flowers & vegetable flats, hanging baskets. DeWeerd Greenhouse, 8625 Bell Rd., west of Clarksville between Portland and Clarksville Rd. Closed Sundays.

FOR RENT

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

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

APARTMENT FOR RENT - 2 bedroom, all utilities included + cable. \$600/mo. Call 897-5787.

3 BEDROOM RANCH FOR RENT ON MURRAY LAKE - 2 baths, on 2 acres of land. \$750/month plus \$250 deposit. No pets please. Call 897-8848. June 15 move in. One mile from new Murray Lake school.

LAKE FRONT HOME FOR RENT ON MURRAY LAKE - 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Fireplace w/washer & dryer. Dock w/nice beach. Call 897-8848. \$675 per month plus \$250 deposit. July 15 move in.

HOUSE FOR RENT - 3 bedroom, 2 bath, updated interior, fenced-in yard, garage & carport. \$925/mo. No pets. No smoking. Call 676-9431.

FOR RENT COTTAGE - on Morrison Lake, two bedroom loft, clean \$700/week. 616-642-0724.

FOR RENT - Lowell, no smoking, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, storage, carport, trash & utilities included. Laundry on site. No pets. Available June 1st. \$575 mo. Call 897-4829.

CARD OF THANKS
To the members at Schneider Manor and Lowell area: Thank you so much for your many dozens of cards and your presence at my Saturday birthday celebration. All were most appreciated.
R. Roberts

CARD OF THANKS
Nicklas Falsetta and his mom, Lisa Kae Falsetta, join with his grandparents Larry and Kae Boss to say a very big "Thank you" to everyone who donated to the cans, the telephone calls, the gifts and to all who stopped to see Nic. Thank you especially for keeping us in your prayers and thoughts.

LOST
LOST - Black Nike baseball bag with batting gloves and left handed fielding mitts. Last seen at Creekside Park. Call 868-6231.
LOST DOG - 52nd/Pratt Lake. Black lab, her name is Sable. Please call 616-437-1927.

HELP WANTED

DELIVERY DRIVER - CDL-A drivers needed. Looking for dependable customer service oriented person w/chauffeurs CDL-B, CDL-A license. Good working environment. Also hiring nights/weekends. 616-248-7729.

LIFE CHANGING OPPORTUNITIES - MANPOWER - We are currently seeking qualified candidates for Customer Svc/Sales. Able to work well w/the general public, answer questions about policies, prior insurance experience and license to sell insurance is a plus. 1st shift 8am-5pm. \$10.00-\$11.00/hr. Resume required FAX 897-4801. We are here for you-and will put you to work.

EXPANDING - Local company looking for men and women to fill 43 full time permanent positions. No experience necessary; we train. \$400 per week. Must start immediately. Phone 475-6603. College students welcome.

LIFE CHANGING OPPORTUNITIES... MANPOWER - Inventory Specialist-Must have warehouse experience, computer skills and data entry skills. \$11.00/2nd shift position. \$1.00/hr. Resume required - FAX 616-897-4801. We are here for you-and will put you to work.

LAND WANTED - Developer looking to purchase vacant land. Will look at all parcels. J.T. Scott Co., 616-540-8950.

PONTOON BOAT AND LIFT WANTED - 12-18 ft. Good condition. 616-642-0724.

FARM FAMILY WANTS - to buy/lease farmhouse, barn and 40 acres to graze 30 dairy cows. 616-648-2712.

CHILD CARE NEEDED - Through the summer for 3 children, 9 and under. Please call 897-2636.

RETAIL SALES MANAGER NEEDED - for lumber company. Temporary full time position. Send resume to: SALES MANAGER, PO Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331.

LIFE CHANGING OPPORTUNITIES... MANPOWER - GENERAL LABOR - We are seeking reliable employees with 1 or more years general factory work experience, buffing and polishing is a plus. 2nd shift - lt/pt \$7.50/hr. Call Manpower today - 616-897-0050 or Stop in: 505D W. Main St., Lowell We are here for you... and will put you to work.

EVENTS
ADA TOWNSHIP INDEPENDENCE DAY FESTIVAL CRAFT SHOW - Date of Festival is Saturday, July 3rd, 2004. Established 30+ yrs. Booths: \$25, 12'x12' grassy area. 10:30 AM til 3:00 PM, M21 (East Fulton) across from Amway flag display. For application call Pat Kain, (616) 682-9553.

OPEN HOUSE
80th birthday for Winnie Snieder, at Lowell United Methodist Church, May 23rd, 2-4 pm. No gifts please.

CARPET SALES & INSTALLATION - 30 years experience - Kraig Haybarker 897-8829.

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

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

CARPENTRY - Complete home improvement service. Basements, kitchens, and baths, drywall, decks, siding, windows and doors. Licensed and Insured. Call Bob 987-4423 or 292-1002.

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

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

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

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

CUSTOM WOODWORKING - Millwork & repair service. Wood Specialties, Lowell 897-8510.

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



HAROLD ZEIGLER

MICHIGAN'S GIANT



HOME OF THE \$299 Per Month

Super Duty!! XLT • 4x4

Supercab

W.A.C. Drive for 60 months, 12k per year. Tax, title, 1st payment and sec. deposit due @ signing.



EXPLORER 4 Door 4X4
Best Programs Ever!!

0% x 60 months
-PLUS-
\$2,500
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NOT A LEASE!

FLEXBUY

F150 PICKUP

Starting at

\$199 per month
OVER 30 IN STOCK

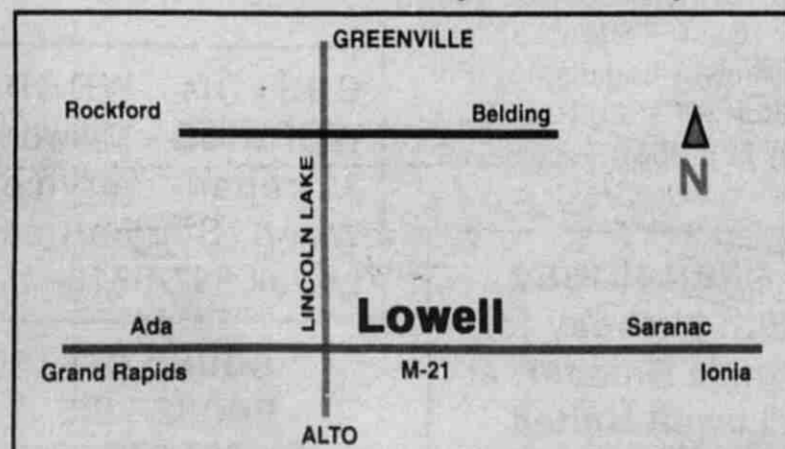


TAURUSStarting at \$226 mo.
FREESTARStarting at \$288 mo.
FOCUSStarting at \$171 mo.
RANGER.....Starting at \$189 mo.

Payment based on 66 month term. After 36 months, payments return to normal amount. See dealer for details

 '99 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS LS Leather, dual power seats, loaded. #L8588 ONLY \$9,990	 '02 DODGE INTREPID V6, full power, alum. wheels. #L8555 ONLY \$189 PER MO.	 '00 HONDA CIVIC Auto., moonroof, black #L8485 ONLY \$199 PER MO.	 '01 SUBARU FORESTER 4X4 Auto., alum. wheels, local trade. #24115A ONLY \$199 PER MO.	 '00 JEEP WRANGLER 4X4 6 cyl., auto, both tops #L8518 ONLY \$15,990
 '00 DODGE DURANGO 4X4 SLT, V8, third seat #L8586A ONLY \$259 PER MO.	 '01 JEEP CHEROKEE 4X4 6 cylinder, auto, full power. #L8528 ONLY \$219 PER MO.	 '01 CHRYSLER VOYAGER V-6, 7 pass., full power equip.. #L8534 ONLY \$219 PER MO.	 '97 FORD F150 Auto., air, local trade. #L8587 ONLY \$5,995	 '98 DODGE RAM CLUB CAB 4X4 SLT, sport, V8. #L8559A ONLY \$10,990
 '99 CHEVY SILVERADO EXT. 4X4 LS, 5300 V8, Z71. #L8590 ONLY \$319 PER MO.	 '02 FORD F150 SUPERCREW 4X4 V8, XLT, alum. wheels. #L8596 ONLY \$15,990	 '01 GMC CREW CAB 4X4 SLT, 6.0 V8, Absolutely Perfect. #24398A ONLY \$369 PER MO.	 '98 DODGE NEON Clean local trade. #24318C ONLY \$2,495	 '94 CHEVY CAVALIER Auto., air, local trade #L8566A ONLY \$1,995
 '01 OLDS ALERO GLS Auto., leather, chrome wheels #L8527B ONLY \$199 PER MO.	 '01 MUSTANG GT CONVERTIBLE Auto., leather, 23,000 miles. #24259A ONLY \$18,990	 '00 CHRYSLER SEBRING LXI Leather, moonroof, V6. #L8473 ONLY \$229 PER MO.	 '03 PONTIAC SUNFIRE GT Auto., moonroof and more. #L8436 ONLY \$199 PER MO.	 '02 LINCOLN LS V8, moonroof, 28,000 miles. #L8579 ONLY \$22,990

11979 E. Fulton, Lowell, MI



ALL ROADS LEAD TO LOWELL!



616-897-8431 or 1-888-854-6400

*Sale prices plates state fees and DOC, payments require state fees and DOC due at delivery. Terms vary according to model. See dealer for details. Not in conjunction with any other promotions.



HOURS: MON. 9-8;
TUES. 9-8;
WED. 9-8; THURS. 9-6;
FRI. 9-6 & SAT. 9-3

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www.haroldzeigler.com