

The Lowell Ledger

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Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, July 28, 2004

School board confronts racial intimidation charges

By Dan Schneider

Earlier this month, Lowell Area Schools added to its student handbook a policy addressing racial intimidation.

According to Bonnie Siegers the district was far

behind in addressing the issue. She spoke before the school board at its Monday meeting.

Siegers's daughter has been in the district since the second grade and will be a junior this year at Lowell High School. Siegers says her daughter has regularly been a

victim of racial intimidation. "She's half Hispanic," Siegers said. "She's been called all the names that you can associate with that."

"It's been ongoing but it really got serious in the high school."

Siegers said she was disappointed that administrators

and teachers didn't seriously face the problem.

"It seems to be tolerated," she said.

Brook Liu, who will be a sophomore this fall at the high school, talked about her experiences with intolerance at the school. She has attended Lowell schools since the fourth grade and has been frequently made fun of for her ethnicity.

"I think it's probably just because people know that I can take it so they think they can say things to me and it won't hurt me," she said.

She has been a part of

activities intended to foster diversity both at the middle school and at the high school, but said students often miss the point.

"They think it's a good activity while they're doing it, but once they're done, they forget about it," Liu said.

Joy Sergeant is a foster mother for a refugee from Haiti and another from Sierra Leone. Her Haitian foster son attended Lowell High School last year but will go elsewhere this fall because of racially-derogatory remarks directed at him during this summer's football camp. She said mi-

norities who live in the area often seek out other districts despite Lowell's academic reputation.

Siegers said the anti-intimidation policy, which most school districts have had in place for a long time, was hastily put together. The district wrote the policy at Siegers's request, LAS superintendent Shari Miller said.

Sergeant and Siegers both criticized the new policy for its failure to stipulate specific,

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Working for playtime

Shayne Bunn and Deb Rogalke assemble equipment on the playground at the new Murray Lake Elementary last Friday. It was day two of a community building bee to install the new equipment, with installation completed by the end of Saturday. The playground now awaits woodchips to become fully functional.

Parents spent months touring playgrounds in Kent and Newaygo counties and ordering modern playground equipment like "tornadoes" and "multi-pondos." Once the woodchips are installed, the playground will be fully handicapped-accessible to the standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The budget for the new playground was \$100,000. By installing it with volunteer labor, parents were able to spend 80 percent of the budget on actual equipment.

Inside the school building, construction is coming to a close. The only major work remaining is the installation of the gym floor. Teachers have already begun moving their things into the new classrooms.

Businessman hopes city firearms ordinance will be modified for new sport

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

It's less messy than paintball, less painful than a BB gun, and safer than owning a real firearm, but it doesn't matter. You can't sell an Airsoft gun within the city limits of Lowell.

Lowell Township resident Simon Rosenbaum, former owner of The Dam Store, began looking into the city's ordinance regarding firearm businesses only to discover that the city's ordinance regulating such businesses is so restrictive that a store owner can't even sell a toy gun within city limits—which there are a few businesses who may be in violation, Rosenbaum said.

"It doesn't allow for toy pistols or bow and arrow," Rosenbaum said. "It is somewhat outdated and really needs to be taken a look at."

He came before the city council two weeks ago in hopes of having the council review the ordinance and modify the ordinance to what is being sold and hopefully to include his new business, Airsoft guns. The council agreed to begin the process of the looking over the ordinance at its next council meeting, which is August 2 at 7 p.m. at the city hall.

Rosenbaum said he is hoping to open a retail outlet for the Airsoft guns next to his old store, which was at 115 W. Main St. and is now the Crooked Tree Gallery and Gift, a photography studio. The Airsoft guns have become very popular among gun enthusiasts because they are lightweight, quieter than a .22 caliber, and can be pretty much used in about any area.

The guns use air pressure to shoot a BB-like pellet that can hit a target up to 50 feet a way. The Airsoft guns are

very realistic, however, according to several websites that sell the guns; federal law does require the barrel to have an orange marking affixed to it or have the barrel molded in orange plastic. Even then, these websites recommend people treat the guns like firearms, keeping locked in cases when traveling and not showing them to police in a forceful manner.

Firearms ordinance change, cont'd., pg.16

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OBITUARIES

BORGERSON - Dr. Norman Edward Borgerson, DDS, died Friday, July 23, 2004 after a courageous brief battle with lung cancer. Born March 16, 1932, Norman was raised in Lowell. Later he returned to his childhood home where he lived the remainder of his life. Norman was a star athlete at Lowell High School earning 12 varsity letters. He went on to play football for the University of Michigan, his alma mater. Norman practiced dentistry for 38 years. He opened his first practice in Big Rapids. After returning to Lowell, he practiced in St. Johns, MI. His achievements and interests include Lowell Lions Club past president; chairman of the board of Lowell Light and Power/Cable TV; founding president of the Lowell Area Historical Museum and member of the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity. Norman enjoyed pistol shooting, archery, hunting, fishing, stamp collecting; vintage cars, dancing, trivia, golf, tennis, skiing, bowling, traveling, family and friends. Norman is survived by his wife, Judy Straub; children, Cynthia Borgerson, Jana (Borgerson) McGuire, Matthew Borgerson; stepchildren, Jackie Mucinski and Robert Harisim; grandchildren, Jus-

tin Taylor, Sutton, Amanda, Madeline, Zachary, Joshua and Justine. Funeral services were held Tuesday at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, Lowell, Dr. Roger LaWarre of First Congregational Church of Lowell officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Donations in his memory may be made to Lowell Area Historical Museum, 325 W. Main St., Lowell, MI 49331.

DENNING - Frank N. Denning, of Lowell, died July 24, 2004 at the age of 88. He was born June 28, 1916 in Weakley Co., TN and preceded in death by his wife Lucille in 1998. Surviving him is a daughter Judith Good of Caledonia; son Jerry (Lorraine) Denning of Lowell; three grandchildren; four step-grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; seven step-great-grandchildren and special sister Shirley Riley of Mt. Clemens. Also surviving him are numerous nieces and nephews. Frank retired from Christman Construction Co. as a carpenter and was an avid outdoorsman who loved hunting and fishing. Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, July 28, 2004 at 12 p.m., at the Gorsline-Runciman Co., Lansing



HANSEN - Mary Ellen Hansen, aged 70, went home to see Jesus on July 24, 2004. Mary Ellen was preceded in death by her mother Lucy Walker Kring, father Gerald Kring, and her brother Franklin Kring. She is survived by her husband Lyle Hansen, brothers Jim and Tom Kring, sister Carrol Blackburn, daughters Sandra (John) Ruder, Brenda (Steve) Nauta, Nancy (Miguel) Ulloa, son Bill Hansen, and eleven grandchildren: Brittany, Brooke, Tasha, David, Lance, Rachel, Tyler, Trisha, Dallas, Skyler, and Jackson. Mary Ellen worked 30 years as a nurse, 22 years at Laurels of Kent Nursing Home. Mary Ellen was one of God's special angels. She awoke each morning with a smile on her face, praise on her lips, and a song in her heart. She loved serving God, sewing, and spoiling Grandpa and her Grandchildren. We will miss her on earth;

we will be reunited with her in heaven. The funeral service will be held on Wednesday, July 28 at 1 p.m. at the Christian Life Center, 3050 Alden Nash S.E. in Lowell, Michigan. Pastor Robert Holmes officiating. Interment at Bailey Cemetery. Visitation was held on Tuesday at Roth Gerst Funeral Home in Lowell. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society or Hospice of Michigan.

MILLER - Betty J. Miller, aged 70, of Lowell, peacefully passed away on July 23, 2004. She was preceded in death by her loving husband Earl. She is survived by her children Brenda (Jerry) Cole, Linda (Mike) Willard, Glenna (Mark) Blanding, Teddy (Yvonne) Miller, Joan (Charlie) Pfishner, Georgia (Shawn) Sorenson; 10 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; four brothers; three sisters; many nieces, nephews and dear friends. She was College of Regents ritual director Women of the Moose, Chapter 1388; past president of the VFW Auxiliary 8303. She loved bowling, golfing, euchre and bingo. Funeral services were held Monday at Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, Rev. Thurlan Meredith of the Snow United Methodist Church officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Moose Charities Endowment Fund.

SAWDY - Michael Allen Sawdy, aged 25, of Belding, passed away Monday, July 19, 2004 from injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident in Ionia. He was born March 25, 1979 in Grand Rapids, the son

of Clifford and Norma (Batey) Sawdy. Mike attended Belding High School and loved to ride motorcycles and work on cars. He worked at Meridian Automotive Systems in Ionia. He is survived by his mother Norma Sawdy and her friend Steve Hendrick of Belding; his fiancée Tami Osterman, her son Steven Osterman, her daughters Taryn and Logan McClure all of Belding; three sisters Linda and Tony Bennett of Georgia, Brandy Sheridan and Jim Bennett of Greenville, Traci and Donald Ledger of Belding; one brother Daniel Sawdy of Belding; grandfa-

ther Carl Sawdy of Sunfield, grandmother Doris Batey of Lowell; several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his father Clifford Sawdy in 1996, his grandmother Alfreda Sawdy, his grandfather Jack Batey, his step-grandfather Gordon Batey. Funeral services were held July 23 at Johnson-Feuerstein Funeral Home, Belding with Pastor Ken Harger of Shiloh Community Church officiating. Interment River Ridge Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be given to Michael's family.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

ALFRED TETZLAFF 226 BURTON SW GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49507 (616) 452-0949

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 04-177, 773-DE

Estate of WALTER GEORGE TETZLAFF D.O.B. 05/05/1929

TO ALL CREDITORS: NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, WALTER GEORGE TETZLAFF, who lived at 1000 Underhill SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan died 05/03/2004.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to ALFRED TETZLAFF, named personal representative, or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave., N.W., Suite 2500, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

July 20, 2004

CRAIG A BRUGGINK P.L.C. (P-29358) 429 Turner NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 616-456-5048

TO ALL CREDITORS

The Settlor, SIEGER HEYS, who lived at 6515 Leisure Creek Drive, Caledonia, Michigan, 49316, died June 25, 2004. There is no personal representative of the settlor's estate to whom Letters of Administration have been issued.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the SIEGER HEYS Revocable Living Trust dated October 27, 1998, will be forever barred unless presented to DICK HEYS, 2412 Glenvalley NW, Walker, Michigan, 49544, Successor Trustee, within four months after the date of publication.

Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

DICK HEYS, Successor Trustee July 28, 2004

CRAIG A BRUGGINK P.L.C. (P-29358) 429 Turner NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 616-456-5048

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City will get intersection crosswalks on Main Street

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

With the opening of another dining/bar establishment on Main Street, the question was again raised about the addition of crosswalks to increase pedestrian safety.

Wildlife park hinges on August 3 vote

By Dan Schneider

Kent County's Aug. 3 ballot will give voters a chance to pass or reject a millage to fund a new zoo.

The .55 mill property tax increase would raise \$150 million for the construction of a wildlife park in Grand Rapids Township on 168 acres donated by Fred Meijer. The millage would also raise \$1.5 million each year for the park's operating costs.

The wildlife park would cost \$200 million to build. The John Ball Zoo Society would seek private donations to make up funding the millage wouldn't cover. Meijer has offered to match up to \$25 million in donations.

The millage would cost the owner of a \$150,000 home \$41.25 annually for 25 years.

The first phase of the wildlife park, with completion planned by 2009 if the millage passes, would have 85 acres of exhibits. The park could later be expanded to 125 acres.

The current John Ball Zoo covers 17 acres. The larger

wildlife park would allow more space for animals and a wider variety of species. Plans for the park include the addition of animals such as giraffes, hippopotamus, elephants and red pandas. The added space would also allow the zoo to expand its species survival program. There are currently 14 species in John Ball Zoo's program, including chimpanzees, siberian tigers, maned wolves and snow leopards. In the last year, the zoo returned a male bongo—a species of large antelope—back to the wild in Kenya.

"We're hoping to triple the number of species survival plans that we're dealing with right now," Brenda Stringer, executive director of the John Ball Zoo Society, said.

The wildlife park would allow room for more examples of each species in the program, which is important for wildlife breeding.

"Space is always an issue because when you're trying to preserve a species, you need to keep them geneti-

ally diverse," Stringer said.

Stringer said in modern times, about 99 percent of zoo animals are bred in zoos. Any animals that come from the wild are injured animals that have been rescued. She said the wildlife park would provide the animals with more realistic habitat. The park would be divided into different habitat types, called biomes, rather than divided geographically into continents.

Space for the animals is a key concern for supporters of the wildlife park.

"The Eagle is in the same cage it was in when I was 12 years old, it's deplorable," Lowell resident Deb Apol said. "I think people should go to the zoo before they vote on that tax and see."

Opponents say the new zoo would be bigger, but still wouldn't approach a wild animal's natural environment.

"This isn't their natural habitat," county commissioner Dick Bulkowski said. "No matter how much space we give them in this proposed

Planning Commission meeting. In fact, according to City Manager David Pasquale, crosswalks in the vicinity of the King Milling parking lot and heading to the Riverwalk area, near the Flat River Grill,

were discussed. The Downtown Development Authority looked at the idea, but to meet the Michigan Department of Transportation's requirements, a number of parking spaces on the north side of Main Street would have to

eliminated, Pasquale said, adding this was a concern with a number of merchants in the area.

Hall questioned how many parking spaces would be eliminated. Department of Public Works Director Dan DesJarden stated that while he didn't know the number, the MDOT requirements for a crosswalk in mid-block are 100 feet each way. Hall said he could see where that would eliminate a number of spaces.

The alternative is to place the crosswalks at intersections. The new plan, which is

expected to be completed soon, is to have white striping for crosswalks at the intersections of Monroe and Main streets, Riverside and Main streets, and Water and Main streets.

This move, Pasquale said, would maintain the city's current parking, which several commissioners noted were in much demand during the city's recent Riverwalk Festival. DesJarden said he was still waiting to learn when the project of the new crosswalks would be started and completed.

Bike Rodeo planned for Aug. 7

Lowell Area Schools, in conjunction with the Lowell Police Department is sponsoring a bicycle rodeo. The event will be held at Bushnell Elementary School Saturday, August 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and is open to students in elementary and middle school.

The rodeo is an effort to educate children about the safety aspects of riding a bicycle on the streets.

Several "stations" will be set up where cyclists are shown where and how to apply the rules of the road on a miniature "chalk street" course in the parking lot. The course will have simulated streets, intersections, crosswalks and stop signs. Participants will have the opportunity to practice riding and decision-making skills. It should take about 45 minutes to complete the entire course.

Participants bring their own bicycles. They will also have the opportunity to register their bikes with the Lowell Police Department for future reference if it is ever stolen. Safety helmets should be worn but are not required. Certificates will be awarded to those that take part and snacks and drinks will be sold on site.

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LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that at the regularly scheduled meeting held on July 19, 2004, the Lowell Charter Township Board adopted Ordinance 05-2004, an amendment to the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Ordinance. In summary, the ordinance amends Section 5.4.1 to provide new regulations for an Adult Entertainment business. The Adult Entertainment Ordinance ordains that certain regulatory provisions governing adult entertainment businesses shall be added as Section 5.4.1. (P) of the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Ordinance. The ordinance provides definitions, places restrictions and regulations as well as provides for conditions and limitations for Adult Entertainment businesses. In addition, the Adult Entertainment Ordinance requires certain amendments to the Table of Use Regulations in Section 4.1.1 of the Zoning Ordinance.

This ordinance becomes effective August 4, 2004.

A copy of the complete text of the amending ordinance can be obtained at the Lowell Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Lowell, Michigan, 49331 during regular office hours on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday or by calling 897-7600.

Linda S. Regan, Clerk
Lowell Charter Township

-BOWNE TOWNSHIP- -CITY OF LOWELL- -LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP- -VERGENNES TOWNSHIP-

NOTICE ABSENTEE VOTER INFORMATION

The City and Township Clerks will be available at the following locations on Saturday, July 31, 2004 for any registered voter who would like to apply for or return an absentee voters ballot for the August 3, 2004 Primary Election.

<p>Sandra Kowalczyk Bowne Township 10 am-2 pm 8240 Alden Nash Alto, MI 49302 (616) 868-6846</p> <p>Linda S. Regan Lowell Charter Township 10 am - 2 pm 2910 Alden Nash SE Lowell, MI 49331 (616) 897-7600</p>	<p>Betty Morlock City of Lowell 8 am-2 pm 301 East Main Lowell, MI 49331 (616) 897-8457</p> <p>Mari Stone Vergennes Township 10 am-2 pm 10381 Bailey Dr. Lowell, MI 49331 (616) 897-5671</p>
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Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

DICK HEYS, Successor Trustee July 28, 2004

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State representative primary race enters final sprint

By Dan Schneider

The four republican candidates for state representative in Michigan's 86th district have less than a week of campaigning left before the Aug. 3 primary that will reduce their number to one.

The 86th district includes the City of Lowell, Lowell Charter Township, Vergennes Township, Bowne Township, Grattan Township, Ada Township, Grand Rapids of Grand Rapids Township, Bob Eleveld of East Grand Rapids and Dave Hildenbrand of Lowell.

The winner of the republican primary will face two candidates from Lowell in November: democratic candidate James Turner and liberterian candidate Bill Gelineau. The winner of the November election will succeed term-limited current state representative Jim Koetje. State representatives are elected to two-year terms.

The following are brief biographies of the candidates and some of their responses to policy issues.

Republican candidates:

Bush did not return phone calls from the Ledger, and has not been included in this article.

Creelman, 52, has lived in the district for six years. He is a psychiatrist and physician-executive at Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services in Grand Rapids. He has

four degrees. They range from an M.D. from the Georgetown School of Medicine in Washington D.C. to a masters in business administration from Medina College in Buffalo, N.Y. He has elected municipal government experience—two terms as a trustee on the Cape Elizabeth Township council in Maine. He worked on two presidential campaigns for the senior George Bush in Maine. He is a member of various professional societies related to health care, including president of the Kent County Medical Society.

"I'm very interested in eliminating the single business tax and health care tax," Creelman said.

He would also like to introduce mental health parity legislation. This would require health insurance carriers in Michigan to offer the same benefits for mental health care as they do for physical health.

"I'm also interested in reducing the costs of prescription drugs for the citizens of Michigan," Creelman said.

Eleveld, 67, is a lawyer. He is currently in private practice. He spent 35 years with the Varnum and Rittinger firm, which he managed in the 1990s.

Eleveld was a Grand Rapids city commissioner for two years. In 2002, he ran unsuccessfully against Koetje for a house seat. His political activity with the Republican Party includes past Kent County Republican chairperson. He worked on Gerald R. Ford's congressional and presidential campaigns and was in charge of John McCain's 2000

West Michigan campaign.

Eleveld is past president of the Grand Rapids Bar Association, past chair of the Michigan State Board of Ethics. He is on the board of the Mel Trotter Mission in Grand Rapids and co-founded East Grand Rapids' schools foundation. A veteran of the Michigan Air National Guard, Eleveld is the only senior in the republican race.

"Those two groups are very under-represented in Lansing," he said.

His legislative priorities are education, protecting the environment, representing seniors and veterans, and creating employment opportunities in Michigan.

"I think we're in a transition phase and we have to give incentives and reach out to high-tech companies... pharmaceutical companies and information technology companies to come into Michigan and replace some of the manufacturing jobs we've lost," Eleveld said.

On education: "As far as

I'm concerned, public education would be the last place I would cut in terms of our budget."

Eleveld said he was opposed to vouchers and to lifting the cap on charter schools in the state.

Hildenbrand, 30, is currently chief of staff for state senator Bill Hardiman.

He has lived in the Lowell area all his life. He graduated from Lowell High School in 1992 and went to Michigan State University, earning a bachelor's degree in public resource management. He has worked on a dairy farm and on former Lt. governor Dick Posthumus's staff in various capacities including deputy chief of staff. His Republican Party experience includes three times serving as precinct delegate for Vergennes and Lowell townships.

One of his goals if elected is to "work to create a better business environment by lowering taxes and regulations on our businesses."

He wants to make public schools more accountable with standardized test scores. He supports lifting the cap on charter schools, currently set at 150.

"If charter schools want to open, they should be able to do it, providing more options for parents," Hildenbrand said.

His third legislative priority is "to protect the sanctity of life, both for the unborn and the elderly."

He said he would try to prevent tax dollars from being spent on abortion services and simplifying parental consent waivers.

Democratic candidate:

Turner, 56, is the retired wastewater treatment plant operator for the City of Grand Rapids. He is a graduate of Rogers High School and has done coursework with the Michigan State School of Labor. Turner has not held elected office but has made previous runs at state representative.

"I think Michigan is in need of change," Turner said. "I think our state government has become too hung up on party lines and we need to be more bi-partisan."

He wants to encourage job growth for the middle class and working class, saying these are the two groups whose spending drives the economy.

"If we don't have enough good, paying jobs in Michigan I don't see how we can expect the economy to improve," Turner said. "My main issues are jobs and education and senior issues."

He said companies that leave Michigan in search of cheaper labor and lower regulations should be liable for the cost of retraining the workers they leave behind.

"I would introduce legislation if elected that would cause that to happen," Turner said.

State representative candidates, cont'd., pg. 12

Retention wall on High Street leaves some city officials unhappy with developer

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

Just in case any of the Planning Commissioners—or the general public—might want to know, the retention wall put up on High Street was not part of the approved plan for a new development on that street.

It came to the attention of the city that Sundry Development has installed a retention wall on High Street earlier this month, in part, according to Planning Commissioner Chair Clarke Janhke, to save a

tree the property owner did not want removed. The tree on the plan was scheduled to be removed.

The retention wall, which is about 24 feet wide and 12 feet high at its tallest point, also is designed to help keep the road from washing out. Janhke said the development company was, again according to the approved site plan, to grade the area to maintain the road, which was part of the reason the tree would need to be removed.

The hitch to all of this is

the city never approved the retention wall which now sits on the city-owned right-of-way. This leaves the city open for the maintenance and care of a wall it did not approve or regulate the construction of, according to a July 2 letter from Williams and Works, the engineering firm the city is using to oversee the project.

In the letter, Williams and Works states it "does not believe that there is an immediate concern with the structural stability of the soldier pile wall as constructed," however, the company did not believe the city should just accept the wall as is because of safety and durability concerns based on the overall structure and design.

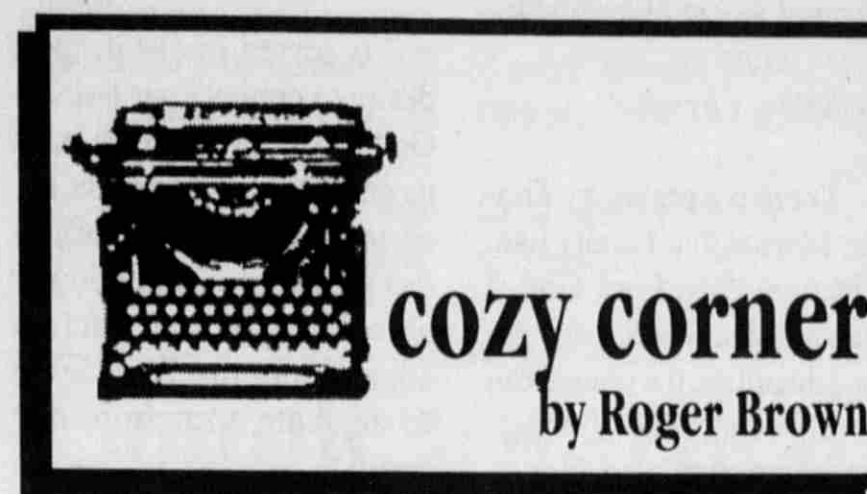
Instead, Williams and Works recommend the city either get a bond for the maintenance of the road with the bond lasting a minimum of ten years. By that time, according to the letter, the road would have settled and any repair work needed due to the wall or on the wall could be addressed. The other option would be to require Sundry to make modifications to the wall to meet city specifications at no cost to the city.

The city could require the wall to be removed, but Williams and Works recommended that only be done as a last resort.

City Manager David Pasquale said no drastic measures were being taken about the wall and that the city was working to resolve the issue with Sundry. He said the matter would have to be resolved before any of the bonding for road improvements would be returned to Sundry. In fact, Williams and Works recommended a portion of the bonding for road improvements be reserved for possible maintenance on the wall or the road.

Other than the wall, the city has received a few complaints on the project in regards to dust and sediment runoff from the project, city officials said.

Viewpoint . . .



Terese and I seized an opportunity to spend a few days cruising northern Michigan with friends. Their boat is a 42-foot Grand Banks trawler. They store it each winter in St. Ignace and spend their summers leisurely cruising the Great Lakes. Nice work, if you can get it.

Mike said this is their twelfth season with this boat. Over those years they have circumnavigated all the Great Lakes, traveled the St. Lawrence Seaway and spent some time on the East Coast. That may or may not seem ambitious to you. When you factor in this trawler's economy cruising speed of 8 knots, I think you would have to agree that's some pretty serious traveling.

I was a bit apprehensive about invading Mike and Linda's little world, but they were quite insistent. Terese was pretty geeked about the idea, so we put a plan into action. Step one was dealing with the dogs. I'm sure Max and Tito would have enjoyed a cruise, but we opted to find a sitter for them. An old friend came to the rescue and agreed to watch them for the long weekend. I love my dogs, but life certainly would be a lot easier without them.

We caught up with Mike and Linda at the city marina in Petoskey. We brought our stuff aboard and settled into the forward stateroom. If you don't know anything about Grand Banks Trawlers, a single word description would be, "classy". They are built, or I should say crafted, in Singapore. The decks, trim and interiors are beautifully finished in perfectly fitted teak. As soon as I was on board I felt like I was under dressed and needed a shave.

A Grand Banks' classic trawler lines turns heads wherever it goes. They are slow, but they look good, are sturdy and very comfortable. Mike and Linda's boat is fifteen years old, but looks like new. That's partly because a brand new one would look just like it.

Mike has a bum knee, so the three of us took a hike around town. We stopped by a bookstore owned by a cousin of mine. She wasn't around, so I left a message with the sales clerk. "Tell Amy her cousin Roger stopped by her good-looking

cousin". The joke in that is, we haven't seen each other in so long she probably can't remember what I look like.

It was cold up north, even if it was July. Dinner that night was white chili at the Mitchell St. Pub and the best grilled-cheese sandwich I've ever had. Three cheeses, tomato and onion on Jewish rye... mmmmm!

The next day we were off to Harbor Springs. Not much of a trip even at eight knots. Harbor Springs smells like old money. We tied up in the city marina for the night. A hike around town pretty much confirmed what my olfactory gland had been telling me.

We had a great dinner at a nice restaurant and retired early. The next morning I went for a walk and found a bakery. I came back with four cinnamon rolls, each about as big as my head. Seriously, it took two bags to carry them. Mike went ballistic. Partly because the rolls were so darned good, and partly because he was off the hook for making breakfast. He must have told me, "Great choice on breakfast Roger!" a half dozen times that morning. Mike does like to eat.

After breakfast we cast off our lines and headed down to Charlevoix. It was a perfect, albeit cool, day for a cruise. The sky was clear blue and the lake was calm. The city marina at Charlevoix was full, so we kept going on down to Boyne City. The city marina there was also full, but a private marina had dockage.

The three of us hiked around Boyne City. I could live in Boyne City. The big money doesn't seem to have permeated the place, yet. Dinner that evening was at a superb Mexican restaurant. You might think whitefish tacos sound like a totally contradictory combination. Trust me, they were outstanding!

The next day Mike found a ride for me to Petoskey. A friend of his with a condo in Boyne City was going to the Home Depot there. I rode along and retrieved my car. While I was gone Terese took the bedding and towels to the laundromat. When I returned with the car we loaded up and said our good-byes. Ben Franklin said a lot of wise things in his day. None is wiser than the quote about fish and visitors beginning to smell after three days.

I've always thought long-term visitors would be a great lifestyle. Nothing about our three days with Mike and Linda served to alter that desire. I did make one observation that might be a concern. You may have picked up on the same thing from my account of our weekend cruise. Cruising seems to be synonymous with some mighty good eating. I would have to figure a way to rein in my eating habits or look for a boat with extra wide cabin doors.



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

125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL JULY 30, 1879

The Eagle (Grand Rapids newspaper) says peach trees in northern Kent County are overloaded and will make an excellent crop.

The editor says Gunther's Chicago Mead is an excellent beverage.

A. Smith of Grattan has 600 bushels of wheat from 26 acres already, with more to be harvested.

It's time to pick huckleberries.

M.B. Peale is the agent to see in Lowell about buying land in Kansas.

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER JULY 28, 1904

The Pere Marquette express hits a box car, shaking up passengers and knocking breakfasts all over, but no one is hurt. Same day, later: another Pere Marquette express hits a pile of sand washed on to the track by heavy rain beforehand. Again, no one hurt.

Evening: a Grand Trunk freight car derails near the Pere Marquette crossing, is soon put back and on its way.

St. Mary's Church has been painted inside and out, and cement steps and walk added.

C.W. Parks invented a hand truck that is selling so well he is thinking of organizing a stock company to extend the business.

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO AUGUST 1, 1929

M.D. Hoyt is badly hurt by a load of lumber falling off a freight car at the siding as he starts to unload it.

Swiss scientist Prof. Haegler says a man can add seven years to his life if he takes one day a week to rest.

Transcontinental Air Transport has a new 48-hour plane-train schedule from New York to San Francisco.

Michigan Bell Telephone Co. starts to advertise Michigan as vacation land.

This week is the 17th, and last chapter of "Count Luckner, the Sea Devil" by Lowell Thomas.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER JULY 29, 1954

A record opening-night crowd greets the "Sunburst Version" of the Robert E. Lee on its 90th trip down the river.

Acrobats, a comedy dance, and the "World's Best Juggler" are among the acts.

Local Gamble store manager Al Hermans loans five of the eight outboard motors to power the boat.

The flying insect problem under the bright lights is understood by the chorus, but two actors each swallow a bug.

The Charles Sligh water show preceding Showboat is well-received, as always.

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER AUGUST 1, 1979

Singer Kenny Rogers is the Ionia Free Fair headliner this year.

The Eastgate Grand Slam yard sales were a big hit during Showboat Week, also the chain saw sculptor on Main Street. However, tornado sightings on Tuesday, rain Thursday and a thunder-and-lightning display Friday mar Showboat Week.

The Sidewalk Sale keeps the town busy this week and 4-H Fair next week.

William Seidman gives 150 acres to the Kent County Parks system.

TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Red, White, Blue and Green. That is the quality of Bob Eleveld. He is a man of his word, and means what he says. Red, White and Blue runs through his veins and he has added Green for taking care of our life support system which includes protection of our Great Lakes Basin, the environment, and ecological issues that must be mandated for all the hard working people of the State who make things percolate. He is for other hard working, middle class citizens who seem to be left out of the loop.

I have known Bob for many years and feel he has the integrity and knowledge to make him an outstanding legislator.

Exciting times have come to Vergennes Township. There is a three-way race for two trustee seats. One candidate who stands out is Vern Nauta, a long-time farmer and community supporter in the area. He is seeking his second term as township trustee. Vern is a sensible, think-it-through-logically, and let's-talk-about-it kind of guy. He is always willing to look at every side of an issue, and to seek common ground. That means he doesn't shut anyone out of the discussion, and values everyone's input. Vern is a fair man, and we mean that as highest praise after working just down the road from him for decades. Vern Nauta makes a fine representative for all Vergennes residents.

Gordon and Marsha Wilcox

Dear Editor,

I'm writing on behalf of David Hildenbrand, candidate for state legislature in the Aug. 3 Republican Primary.

Hildenbrand grew up in Vergennes Township. He graduated valedictorian from Lowell High School, and then graduated from MSU. He worked in the Senate and the Lt. Governor's office, as assistant Chief of Staff. Hildenbrand is very knowledgeable of the issues. Dave is well prepared for the job at hand. He is very bright and will represent the taxpayers of the Lowell School District very well, in particular because he grew up here and because he and his wife Sarah still live in the Lowell School District.

Thank you. Mac McPherson CLU Vergennes Township

To the Editor,

We are writing this letter to all the registered voters in Grattan Township.

We encourage you to re-elect Denny Heffron and Paul Knoert to the position of trustee in Grattan Township. Denny and Paul have been very active as trustees in Grattan Township ever since they were elected, by a large majority, in 2000.

They compliment each other on their goals to make Grattan Township a great place to live.

They are active on the committee for farmland and open space preservation and safety board of appeals dock ordinance, to name a few.

They both oppose the 690 mobile home park on Tiffany and M-44 as well as the proposed mobile home park on Lincoln Lake and M-44. They have led the opposition for the mobile home parks and have garnered support from both local and state governmental units.

To The Editor, cont'd., pg. 15

Are You Prepared for Long term Care Costs?

Long term care insurance is one of the best ways to help protect your financial security if you or a loved on requires care. A number of different plans and options are available to meet your needs. I can give you details on the costs, benefits, limitations and exclusions, and help determine the best plan for you.

Long term care insurance products are underwritten by General Electric Capital Assurance Company. Policy series 7030, 7035, 7042, 7042ID, 7042NC, 7042OK, 7042VT, 7044, 7044ID, 7044NC, 7044OK, 7044VT. Not all policies available in all states.

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JUNE SMILE OF THE MONTH:

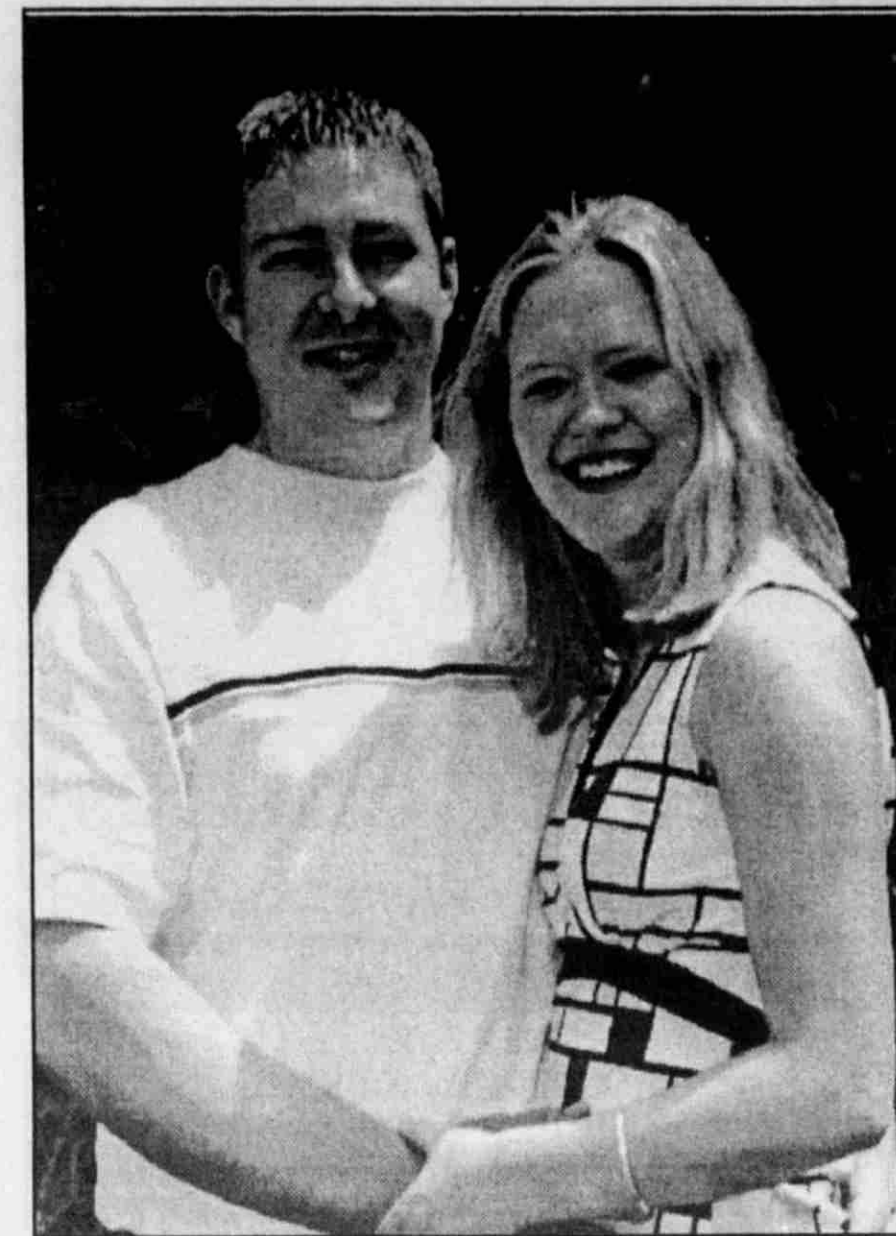
June "No Cavities" Club Members

Rebekah Martin	Rebecca Loser	Sebrina Senneger
Andrew Martin	Madison Schram	Jennifer McQueen
Evan Brunette	Connor Smith	Vanessa Reynhout
Jarred Kraus		

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897-4835

ENGAGEMENTS

Deters/Holst



Kyle Holst and Nicki Deters

Nicki Deters and Kyle Holst, both of Ionia, are planning a September 18, 2004 wedding. The bride-elect is a 2000 graduate of Lowell High School and received her associate's degree in business administration from Grand Rapids Community College. She is the daughter of Dave and Jackie Deters of Greenville. The future groom graduated from Lowell High School in 2000 and is currently attending Grand Rapids Community College. He is the son of Kim Triplett of Grand Rapids and Kelly Holst of Lowell.

Kimble/Taylor



Lucas Taylor and Jennifer Kimble

Bryan and Mary Kimble of Belding are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer to Lucas Taylor. The couple will be married on September 18, 2004 at Snow United Methodist Church in Lowell. The bride-to-be is a 1999 graduate of Lowell High School and received her associate's degree in Child Development from Grand Rapids Community College. She is employed by Westminster Child Development Center in Grand Rapids. The groom-elect is the son of Rick and Connie Taylor of Lowell. A 1997 graduate of Lowell High School, he received his bachelor's degree in business and management from Grand Valley State University. He is employed at Alicor, Inc. in Ada. The couple plans a honeymoon in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

Reflections Of Faith

Michael T. Conklin, Pastor
First United
Methodist Church

There is a prayer by Thomas Merton that I really like. It begins, "My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I know myself and the fact that I think I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so."

All of us desire certainty in our lives and in our faith, particularly as we peer into the dim and murky mists of the future. I know that often I would like to know what tomorrow brings. Yet as much as we seek to plan and shape our own futures, there is so much that is unknown and unknowable. The apostle Paul acknowledged as much when he said that "for now we see in a mirror, dimly."

So how shall we make our way through life's little surprises, twists and turns? It seems almost simplistic and cliché to say it, but it seems to me that the old adage of "letting go and letting God" might just work for us. This "letting

go" is rooted in our deepest desire to connect our lives to God's. Merton's prayer leads us on. "But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire."

To live our lives with the desire to please God, to shape our lives by such a prayer has the effect of moving us, despite our personal distractions and wanderings, toward the place God would have us go. "And I know that if I do this," says Merton, "you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it."

So set are we on making our own way in the world, so intent are we in doing things our own way that we too often lose our capacity to trust in anything but ourselves. And once we lose that capacity to trust that which is outside ourselves, then we find that our mistrust grows. Polls show that we 21st century folk mistrust our governments, our churches, our leaders of every stripe. We want certainty, but because of our inability to trust, we turn away from the very source of life that can offer us the firm foundation upon which we can build and shape our lives. Because we believe that we can trust only in ourselves, we are unable to put our trust in God, in God's love, in God's leading in our lives.

The final words of Merton's prayer offer us the opportunity to let go of ourselves and let God be the shaper of our lives and our hopes. "Therefore I will trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone."

LACF accepting grant proposals

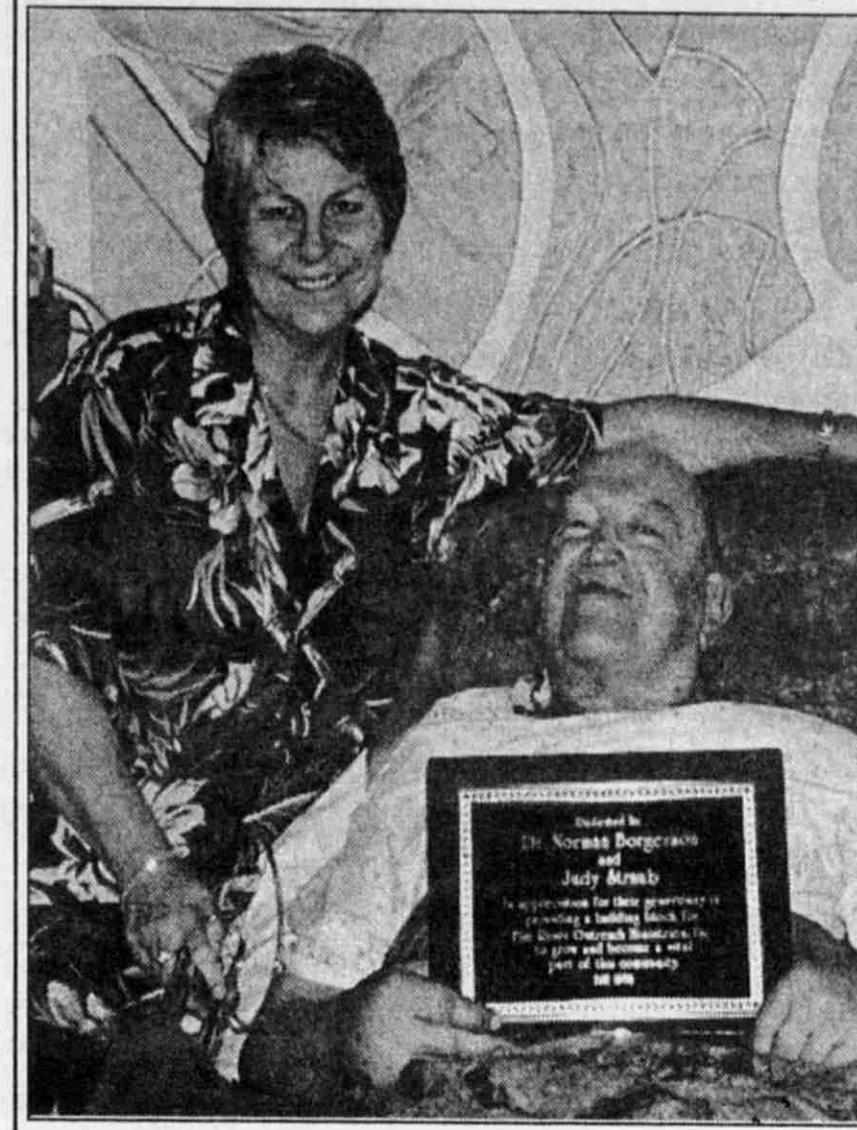
The Lowell Area Community Fund (LACF), a fund of Grand Rapids Community Foundation, is accepting grant proposals for its next grant round. All proposals must be submitted no later than Aug. 20 in order to be considered.

Interested organizations may contact Kate Luckert, program officer, at the Grand Rapids Community Founda-

tion at 454-1751 or download an application from the Grand Rapids Community Foundation web site at www.grfoundation.org/lowell. Applications are also available at Lowell and Vergennes townships, Lowell City Hall, Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, the Englehardt Library, or any Lowell area school.

The LACF awards grants to tax-exempt, nonprofit, charitable organizations that impact the Lowell area. It was established as a donor-advised fund at the Grand Rapids Community Foundation in 1996 with a \$12.7 million bequest from Lowell resident Harold Englehardt.

Couple awarded for their community service



Board members from Flat River Outreach Ministries presented a plaque to Norm Borgerson and Judy Straub on Friday, July 17. It reads "Dedicated to Dr. Norman Borgerson and Judy Straub in appreciation for their generosity in providing a building block for Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc. to grow and become a vital part of this community." A bronze plaque with the same wording will be mounted in the Ministry building. Sadly, Borgerson lost his battle with cancer last weekend.

Class of 1936 celebrates 68th high school reunion

Lowell's class of 1936 got together on July 8 at Schneider Manor for their annual potluck reunion. Classes of 1929 through 1939 and guests were also invited. Attendees pictured are, front row: Pauline (Kyser) Ladue, Catherine (Hoover) Powers, Marian (Monks) Rutherford; back row: Michael Hoover, Irene (Speerstra) Osborne, Alfred Roth. Also attending were: Errolyn (Osborne) Weeks, Joan Roth, Pearl (Parsons) Cunningham, Catherine (Palinkas) Weaver, Melvin Rogers, Marie (Eickhoff) Steward, Bob Steward, Josephine (Eickhoff) Onan, Jason Onan, Simon (Babe) Wingeier, Carol (Shores) Gage, Pauline (Christoff) Eskes, Greta Parsons, Clara (Ritzema) Blazo and Eileen (Onan) DeWolf.



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897-6284 or 485-4195
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Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.
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Contemporary Services
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Impact Youth (Sunday at the Pastor's home).....5 PM
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Rev. William J. Renkema - 897-7060
1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI
Morning Worship.....10:00 A. M.
Sunday School.....11:20 A.M.
Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.
Nursery available at both services
Barrier-Free

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL
621 E. Main Street • 897-5936
Summer Worship Services
8:30 & 10:00 a.m.
DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR
Nursery & child care available at both services
Barrier - Free Entrance

EVERGREEN MISSIONARY CHURCH
10501 Settlement Pk. 897-7185
Sunday School.....9:45 A.M.
Morning Worship.....11 A.M.
Evening Service.....6:00 P.M.
Prayer and Praise - Wed., 7:00 P.M.
Rev. Rick Ferguson - 987-6475
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(Barrier-Free)

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SUNDAYS:
Worship: 9:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAYS:
Family Night: (For All Ages) 7 p.m.
Generation Jacob Youth: 7 p.m.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
Fr. George J. Fekete
402 Amity St. • 897-9820
www.stmary-lowell.com
Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM, SUN. 9:30 AM
Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM
Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM
Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM
Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM
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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

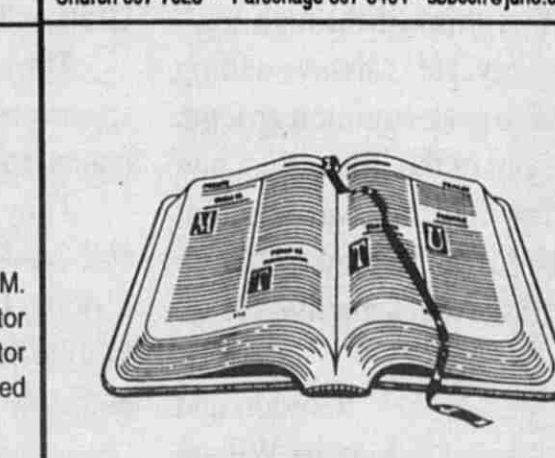
LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
201 N. Washington • 897-8800
Sunday School.....9:45 A.M.
Morning Worship.....10:50 A.M.
Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M.
Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M.
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WE ARE YOUR NEIGHBORS • WE CARE ABOUT YOU
Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M.
Sunday School.....11:00 A.M.
Word of Life (for K & S; High).....6:30 P.M.
Evening Praise.....7:00 P.M.
Wednesday Kids Klub (ages 2-5).....7:00 P.M.
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Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M.
AWANA/JV.....Wed. 6:15 & 7 P.M.
Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times
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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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Dr. Roger LaWarre.....Pastor
Megan MacNaughton.....Music Director
Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided
Come Join Us For Praise & Worship



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

JULY 29: Rachael Vegter, Mary Fox, Matt Lee, Terry M. Estes.
JULY 31: Nancy Raymor, Sandy Roth, Rochelle Bieri, Morris Robert Young.
JULY 30: Patricia Smith, Scott Kooistra, Jodi Mohr, Kimberly DeBold, Bill Potter, Paige Rash.
AUGUST 1: Bob Callihan.
AUGUST 2: Carolyn Kline, Hayley Woolfenden.
AUGUST 3: Rebecca Heinicke, Becky Shindorf, Kelsey Brenk, Hillary Smith.
AUGUST 4: Irene Willmarth, Scott VanDyke, Cody Bieri, Nick Tykocki, Joann Childs, Thomas H. Mahalic, Kayleigh VanKeulen.

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No passes
Unlimited Free Drink Refills & 25¢ Car Refills
COMFORTABLE DELUXE ROCKING CHAIR SEATS WITH CUP HOLDERS

MOVIE GUIDE
SHOWTIMES 7/28 - 7/29
THE BOURNE SUPREMACY (PG-13)
12:25, 2:45, 5:05, 7:25, 9:45
CATWOMAN (PG-13)
12:10, 2:25, 4:40, 6:55, 9:10
OI, ROBOT (PG-13)
11:25, 1:50, 4:15, 6:30, 9:15
A CINDERELLA STORY (PG)
12:40, 2:50, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20
SPIDER-MAN 2 (PG-13)
11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

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Camp Iwilligoway
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Camp Iwilligoway kicks off Aug. 1st with Arts and Crafts, Campfire, Worship and Team Time with cabin leaders!
9:15 am Don't miss it! 11:00 am

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LOWELL ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS 897-4835

City asked to define gravel & sand standards on private road ordinance

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

After reviewing the city of Lowell's proposed private road ordinance, councilman Al Mathews had one recommendation: the city define the specs for gravel and sand standards.

"As the gravel pits get more depleted in the area, it is going to be difficult at times in making class materials," said Mathews, who owns Tip Top Gravel and has worked on various road projects in and around the Lowell area.

Mathews has faced issues on gravel and sand mixtures, and having the specs written down gives the contractor an idea of what is expected of them and what they need to do to meet those requirements, he said.

Dave Austin, from the city's engineering firm of Williams and Works, agreed with Mathews, adding that having the specs written out could help alleviate problems in the future.

"I think it should be a stand alone document so we don't

have to readdress the ordinance to make changes," said councilman Jim Pfäller.

The council unanimously approved the private road ordinance with the addition that city specifications for gravel and sand standards would be left to the determination of city manager David Pasquale and public works director Dan DesJarden. At the council's direction, Pasquale and DesJarden are to prepare the document containing the spec requirements.

The new private road or-

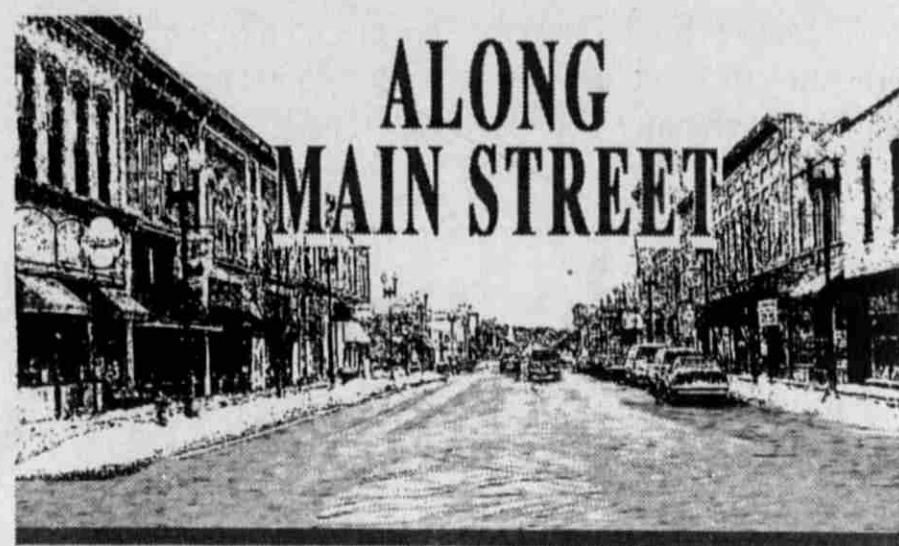
dinance was designed to help define road requirements for development. Currently, private roads are required to meet local public street standards which are 34 feet wide with curb and gutter.

Under the new guidelines, a development of three to five dwellings must be at least 16 feet wide. Private roads serving developments with six or more dwellings must be at least 24 feet wide.

The other difference is a private road for three to five dwellings is required to have

six inches of sand before gravel or concrete is put on. A private road serving six or more must have 12 inches of sand. Both are required to have

a two-foot-wide gravel shoulder on each side, and in the case of ending in a cul-de-sac, have a turnaround radius of 45 feet.



SIZZLIN' CONCERT

This Thursday's Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concert will feature The Flat River Big Band (swing) from 7-9 p.m. at Riverwalk Plaza.

GOLF FUNDRAISER INFORMATION BOOTH

A booth will set up at the Sizzlin' Summer Concert this Thursday if you would like information on the 2nd Annual Golf for Evan fundraiser. The event helps support Tomorrow's Child/Michigan SIDS Alliance and will be held August 21.

LOWELL YOUTH FOOTBALL SIGN-UPS

Come to Burch Field at the fairgrounds on Thursday, July 29 from 6-8 p.m. (last 78er sign-up) or Aug. 5, 6-8 p.m. to sign up for Lowell Youth Football League. All new sign-ups must bring a copy of birth certificate. Questions call 897-7896.

SUNDAY P.M. CONCERT

Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concerts will have a special Sunday afternoon concert on Aug. 1 at 3:15 p.m. featuring The 126 Army Band. Approximately 40 members are in the band, based in Grand Rapids.

CLASS OF '99 REUNION

If you are interested in attending the '99 LHS class reunion Aug. 6, RSVP to Kaily 485-3231. \$25/person at Applause Banquet Center, 6 p.m.

BOWL/HELP THE FOOD PANTRY

Open bowling at Lowell Lanes every Saturday during July and August from 4-7 p.m. Half of the fees for shoes and lanes go to Flat River Outreach Ministries food pantry.

LHS 10-YEAR REUNION

There will be a Lowell High School 10-year reunion at Larkin's The Other Place, 301 W. Main on Saturday, Aug. 7. Buffet begins at 4 p.m. with a DJ at 7 p.m. \$20 per adult in advance, \$10 kids 5-10. Call Shannon at 616-437-6329 to RSVP or request more information.

CLASS OF '79 REUNION

The Lowell High School class of 1979 will have their 25th reunion at Annalaine's Banquet Center on Sept. 25 from 6 p.m.- midnight. Write to P.O. Box 121, Lowell or call 897-0461 for more information.

GIVE BLOOD

Lowell First United Methodist Church will host a blood drive on Monday, Aug. 2 from 4-8 p.m. at the church parking lot where the Michigan Community Blood Center's Mobile Blood bus will be located.

BICYCLE SAFETY/RODEO

Lowell Area Schools, in conjunction w/Lowell Police Dept., will sponsor a bicycle safety/rodeo at Bushnell Elementary, Saturday, Aug. 7, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 3 bicycles to be given away.

QUAD RAFFLE

The Kent County Youth Fair will raffle a 2004 Honda quad runner and trailer on Aug. 14 at the fairgrounds. Tickets are \$5, available at Keiser's, LACC, Backwater Cafe, Ledger, Equine Medical, Blue Ribbon Feeds, TSC, ICNB; winner need not be present to win.

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Trustees only contested positions in Vergennes Township elections

By Dan Schneider

In the election for local offices in Vergennes Township, three candidates are running for two trustee positions. The other positions on the board are uncontested. As in the local elections reported on the previous two weeks, all candidates are running as republicans, making the Aug. 3 primary the deciding vote. Candidates are running for four-year terms, with those elected taking office at the board's November meeting.

In Vergennes, the township supervisor, clerk and treasurer each receive an annual salary of \$18,500.

The following are brief descriptions of the township offices and the candidates running for them.

Supervisor candidate:

The Vergennes Township supervisor presides over township meetings, votes on issues, is by statute the chief assessing officer for the township, presents planning commission appointees to the board for approval, and is the legal agent and executive officer for the township.

Treasurer candidate:

The Vergennes Township treasurer is charged with receiving township funds, making board-approved payments, and investing township accounts. The treasurer is the township's tax-collecting agent.

Completing her 10th year as Vergennes Township treasurer, Jean Hoffman, 55, is running unopposed in this election. Prior to her 10 years as treasurer, Hoffman served 10 years as the township's clerk.

A Lowell High School graduate, Hoffman has lived in Vergennes Township for 30 years.

"I enjoy working with the people of Vergennes Township," she said. "Vergennes Township is a great place to live."

Hoffman also believes the main challenge the township

Clerk candidate:

The Vergennes Township clerk manages all of the township's records, keeps accounts with the township treasurer and for each of the township's funds, and chairs the township's elections committee.

Running unopposed in this year's election, Mari Stone is completing her 10th year as Vergennes Township clerk. She was appointed to her first partial term in 1994. Stone, 49, has lived in the

township for 18 years and in the city of Lowell for the previous 10. She is a graduate of Kenowa Hills High School and studied journalism at Central Michigan University.

She was a stringer for *Michigan Catholic* newspaper, a floral designer for 15 years, and worked part-time in customer service for Steelcase before her appointment to clerk.

Stone recently completed coursework to become a certified municipal clerk with the International Institute of Municipal Clerks.

Vergennes has not yet had a major planned development, and Stone thinks this is a challenge the township will encounter in upcoming years.

"If and when we get a major development, that will be a learning experience for us," she said.

She also hopes to help the township continue with cooperative projects such as the Lowell Area Trailway.

"That's a really important goal of mine," she said. "To continue good communication with the city of Lowell and Lowell Township."

will face in the coming years will be from residential growth.

"I think the biggest challenge we're going to face is pressure from developers," Hoffman said. "People can say 'Keep them out,' but you have to work at protecting the property owners' rights also."

Trustee candidates:

Township trustees analyze and vote on all measures up for vote before the board. Trustees are paid \$80 per diem.

Allan Baird, 65, has been a Vergennes Township trustee since the mid 1970s, though he sat out from 1996 to 2000.

After graduating from Lowell High School in 1957, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. Then he went into farming. He has mostly retired from agriculture now.

Baird has lived in Vergennes Township all his life. In fact, he lives in the same house he was born in on Three Mile Road.

"Our family has been on this property since 1852, I believe," Baird said.

"My family has always been involved with different positions on the township board," he said. "I'm interested in the township and seeing how it's developed and taken care of and so forth, always had an interest in it."

Baird said the township hasn't had a lot of controversy in the past.

"I don't have any particular thing in mind, just to maintain what we've been doing," he said. "Try to keep the residents happy and keep it a safe and pleasant place to live."

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Vern Nauta, 62, a retired dairy, beef and cash crop farmer, has lived nearly all of his life in Vergennes Township. He is finishing his first term as township trustee.

A 1960 Lowell High School graduate, Nauta has taken short courses in business, agriculture, agronomy and nutrition from Michigan State University. His board experience previous to becoming township trustee includes six years with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Organization (four years as chairman), eight years on the Kent County Farm Bureau board, and six years on the Vergennes Township planning commission (two years as chair).

"The township has done a lot and they've been quite proactive" in responding to development, Nauta said. "I think that's our number one priority... the management of growth."

"There is a lot we can do in the township to encourage development in the areas that are better suited for it."

These include areas with existing sewer infrastructure. Nauta also said cluster-style development should be encouraged to preserve open space in the township.

"I'm really a very strong believer in personal property rights," Nauta said.

He said he would like to see the township continue in its efforts to create walking, hiking and biking trails and would like to see developers incorporate trails into their projects. He also believes it is important for the township to continue improving its roads.

Roger Odell, 59, is running for Vergennes Township trustee. His United Airlines pilot job had prevented him from running in the past.

"It's hard to be involved and stay involved when you're gone as much as I'm gone," Odell said.

Now approaching 60, the mandatory retirement age for commercial airline pilots, Odell said he has more time to be involved in the township.

Odell earned his pilot's wings at an airport in Lansing while he was working toward his bachelor's degree in soil science at Michigan State University. He's lived in Vergennes Township most of his life, and his family has been there since 1844.

Odell was township supervisor from 1978 to 1980, a

member of the planning commission in the 1980s. He is presently an alternate on the Zoning Board of Appeals and has been a full member in the past.

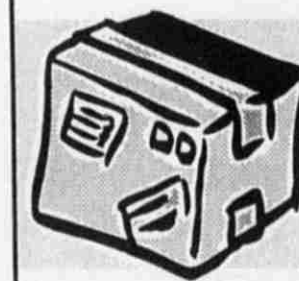
Development is a concern for Odell.

"We want to control urban sprawl so that the township, as it's developed, does so in a quality manner, not in a haphazard, hacked up way," Odell said.

Odell didn't propose changes for the township. He said he wants to be more active in a township government that's doing a good job.

"I think we have so far maintained a good township and I would just like to see us continue more of the same," Odell said.

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- Control Sprawl & Excess Traffic
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- Protect AG Lands

- Continue Traditional Township Government
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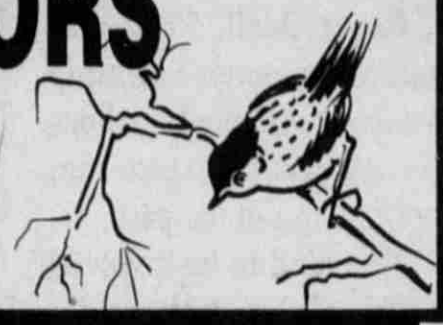
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VOTE AUGUST 3RD

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OUTDOORS

By Dave Stegehuis



MULTITASKING

Take time to observe traffic heading north on major Michigan highways during a Friday afternoon in the summertime; you will likely see cars, SUV's, trucks, and trailers transporting a variety of recreational equipment.

There will be all types of watercraft: runabouts, ski boats, fishing boats, jet-skis, canoes, kayaks, and float tubes. Trailers carry mountain bikes, motorcycles, dune buggies, all terrain vehicles, and four-wheel drive jeeps. What might not be visible, but stowed out of sight, are backpacks, fishing waders, fly vests, fishing rods, binoculars, field guides for birds of North America, and volleyballs.

Our state provides abundant opportunities for people to pursue their outdoor interests whatever those interests may be. In most places around the world, these opportunities are available to only the wealthy and connected.

Fortunately, Michigan has the resources to accommodate the varied interests of all those who seek outdoor adventure. Many of us combine two or more activities like camping and fishing. It would seem that riding an ATV and casting a fly on quite waters would be an unlikely combination. One could, however, spend

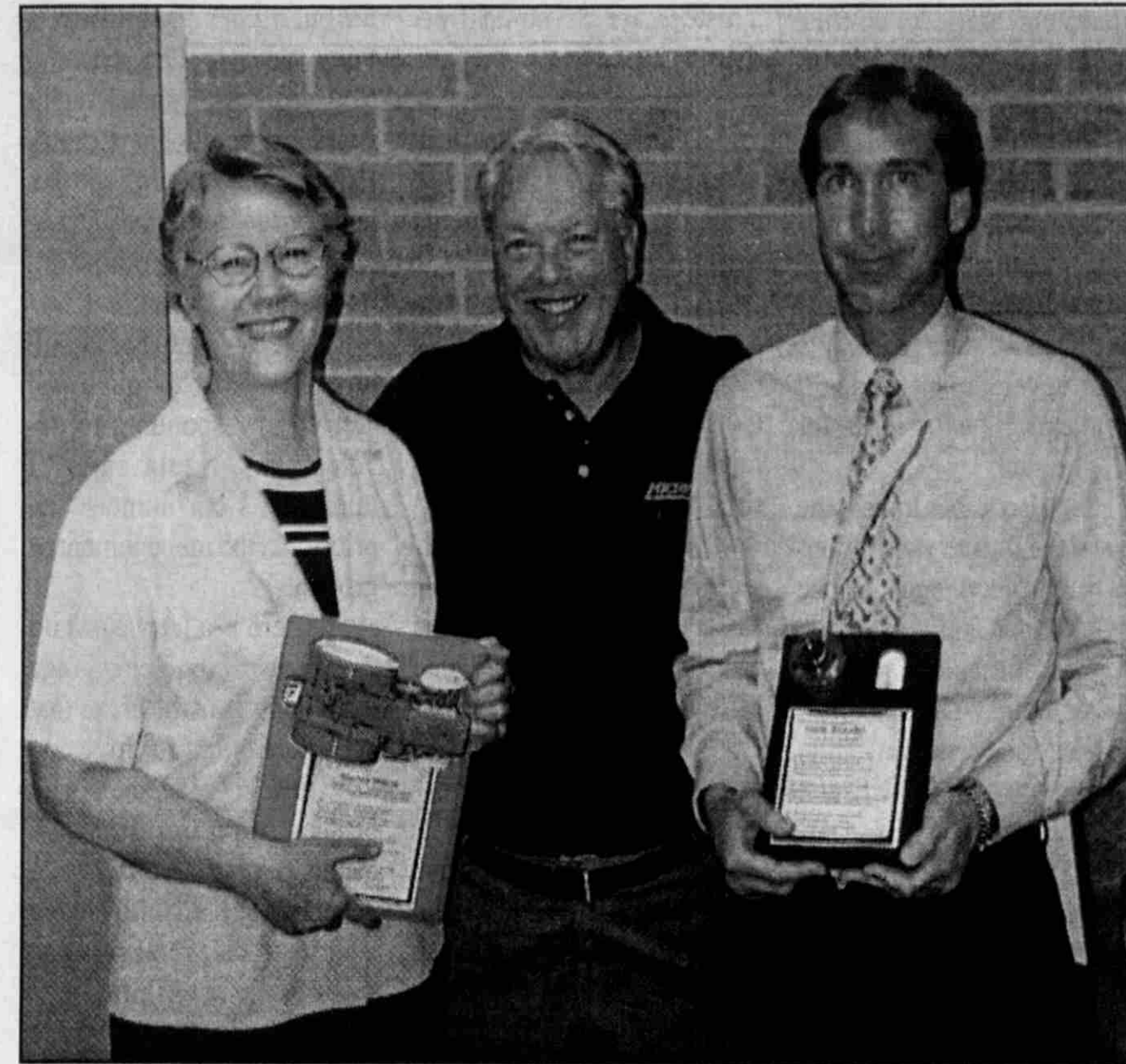
a lifetime and not fish the same water twice by packing a fly rod and float tube on a quad runner and exploring the back country. Using a fishing boat to pull a water skier or the kids on a tube is another example of multitasking.

Sometimes one person's activity may interfere with another's enjoyment of his or her sport. For example, snowmobiling and cross country skiing need to occur in separate locations. This kind of conflict can be resolved by designating specific areas for an activity or posting rules that allow sharing resources. Banning high speed

boating before a posted time of day allows anglers and water skiers to share some popular fishing lakes.

Most of all, respect and cooperation between participants is the key to enabling all to enjoy their time afield. If you are not already involved with several activities, choose one, two, or more pastimes and then figure out how to get all the gear to the lake, campground, or woods. And here we thought the term multitasking referred to a strategy for meeting pressing job and family obligations.

Education Foundation members honored

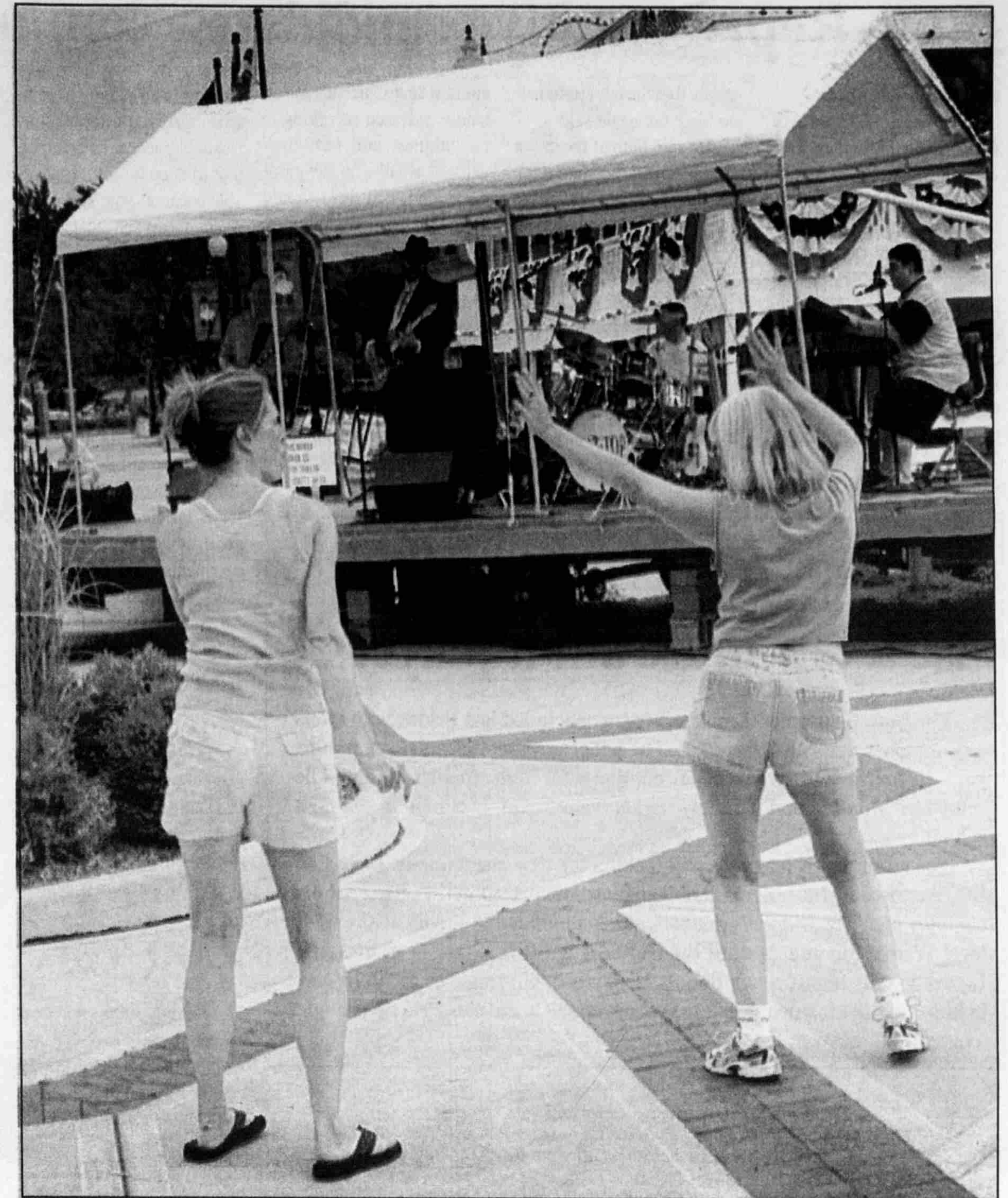


Dave Thompson (center) of the Lowell Area Schools Education Foundation with Marsha Wilcox and Dan Brubaker, now both former of the Education Foundation. Wilcox has retired from the board of the foundation after serving it for three years as its chair. Brubaker recently reached his six-year term limit as a member of the foundation board. Thompson presented both with honorary plaques at Monday's school board meeting to recognize their service. The Education Foundation raises funds to provide grants for innovative teaching projects in the Lowell Area Schools.

Sizzlin' Summer concerts continue

Katie Anderson and Katlin Meyerer danced to blues music last Thursday night on the Riverwalk Plaza. Weezil Malone and the King Size Blues Band was the band performing the blues. The Riverwalk will swing this Thursday with a band called the Flat River Big Band. This swing sound will add to the eclectic mix presented so far this summer in front of the Lowell Showboat. Concert-goers have also experienced Broadway showtunes, doo-wop, jazz and folk rock. This Sunday, the 126Army Band returns to the Sizzlin' Summer stage in a special appearance at 3:15 p.m.

Photo submitted by Bruce Doll



State reps announce scholarship contest for Kent/Ottawa high school seniors

State Representatives Jim Koetje, (R-Walker) and Bill Huizenga (R-Zeeland) announced an essay contest for two \$1,000 scholarships for high school seniors attending private, public, charter or home schools in Kent and Ottawa counties during the 2004-2005 school year.

Koetje and Huizenga will pay, on each student's behalf, \$1,000 to the college, university, technical or trade school of the student's choice. Each scholarship will be awarded to a student from Kent and Ottawa counties who submit the best essay of 300 words or less on why the student believes that George W. Bush deserves to be re-elected as president of the United States of America.

The winner will be announced on October 15, 2004.

Only one entry per student will be accepted. All submitted entries are subject to publication or other distribution and the decision of the panel judges shall be final.



Political Advertisement

Your neighbor puts up a 1000 watt mercury vapor light that illuminates your bedroom window at night. Thinking that this is wrong, you go to the Lowell Township Hall and complain about this obvious intrusion into your peaceful life in the township. They tell you that nothing can be done and go home and install better shades. This would have been the case just a few months ago but my active participation with a citizens committee helped draft a new outdoor lighting ordinance for Lowell Township. Now we have better protection against light trespass, and the beauty of the night sky is preserved.

I support good government that treats people fairly within the rule of law. I support the future development of Lowell Township with strict adherence to the Master Plan. I support any effort that promotes the rural open space lifestyle that we enjoy here. I will restrict commercial development to the M-21 corridor.

Jerry Persha for Lowell Township Trustee

Paid for by Gerald Persha, 12646 Grand River Dr., P.O.B. 214, Lowell, MI 49331

Injury prevention clinic set for August 3

A clinic highlighting the Lowell Performing Arts Center at Lowell High School. The free event will cover topics including examples of strength training exercises for female athletes, an explanation of why female athletes are more susceptible to ACL injury than males, and an explanation of what exactly the ACL is. This is the second year of the clinic, targeted especially at basketball players (girls basketball practice starts Aug. 9). It will be held at the high school. It is sponsored this year by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan, Spectrum Health and the YMCA. The first 500 to register will receive a free instructional notebook and CD, call Patty Siegel at 456-0809 to register.

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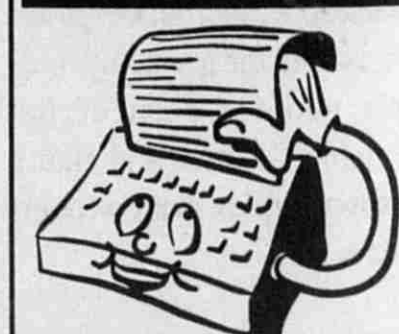
You move into your new dream home in Lowell Township and then find what appears to be an irrigation and lawn sprinkler company doing business a few doors down. The truck traffic, employees coming and going at all hours, and the parking lot full of trailers seem to be out of place in a residential area but the township zoning enforcement officer tells you that the business is in compliance with the ordinance. This would have been the case if the ill-conceived Home Based Business ordinance passed by the township board four years ago would not have been challenged by me. I initiated a referendum on this issue and the voters of Lowell Township rejected the ordinance.

I support good government that treats people fairly within the rule of law. I support the future development of Lowell Township with strict adherence to the Master Plan. I support any effort that promotes the rural open space lifestyle that we enjoy here. I will restrict commercial development to the M-21 corridor.

Jerry Persha for Lowell Township Trustee

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State Representative candidates, continued...From Page 4

Libertarian candidate:

Gelineau, 44, is order director for First American Title. He moved to Lowell two years ago. He has studied at the University of Michigan and Wayne State University, though he holds a degree from neither. He has held public office on a community development commission in Riverview, Mich. He is the field director for the Libertarian Party of Michigan.

"My number one issue is

simply that the government is too big," Gelineau said.

He said both of the major parties currently spend too much tax money. He wants to reduce the size of government by 10 percent

Issues:

House Bill 4071.

Stuck in the House Committee on Land Use and Environment since January of 2003, House Bill 4071 would reduce property taxes on agri-

cultural land. Currently, farmland is assessed according to its "highest and best use" value—usually as development land. Bill 4071 would assess the property based on its value as agricultural land. It is intended to make land ownership less burdensome on farmers, keeping land more profitable and in agricultural use.

Creelman, Hildenbrand and Turner would support the bill. Creelman said he would

like farmland support to come from private citizens and trusts. Turner said it is important to keep family farms viable because large-scale, corporate farms are incapable of producing the support necessary for future generations of farmers.

Eleveld opposed creating different tax structures for different types of land. But he did support Purchase of Development Rights programs. These have similar goals to 4071, but would seek to preserve farmland through the government's purchase of easements guaranteeing land stays in agriculture.

Gelineau said the market should determine how much agricultural land is necessary.

DEQ Funding

In 2002, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality received \$101 million in general operating funds from the state. For the fiscal year 2004, that sum was cut to

smaller than half, \$38 million. The department had to urge passage of fee bills in order to collect enough revenue to avoid compromising its enforcement role.

Creelman and Turner favored consolidating the Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Natural Resources to save administrative costs.

Eleveld said he would like to see other departments share cutbacks more equally to compensate for the disproportionate cuts to the DEQ. He and Gelineau said polluting industries should be held more responsible for the cost of environmental law enforcement.

Hildenbrand said he supports the work of the DEQ and would want to see funding restored once state revenues increase.

Water Legacy Act.

Michigan is the only Great Lakes state that has not yet adopted regulations for water

withdrawal. Gov. Jennifer Granholm is now pushing for laws that would regulate large-scale withdrawals of water from Michigan's aquifers and the Great Lakes. The laws would place restrictions upon withdrawals for the purposes of bottling and otherwise selling the water out of state.

Eleveld said he generally supports efforts to preserve water in Michigan.

Hildenbrand said the need to preserve water must be balanced with the needs of business.

Creelman said action should be taken to protect natural water resources only when "unequivocable" scientific proof of environmental harm exists. Gelineau also said restrictions on water withdrawals require scientific proof.

Turner said Michigan and Great Lakes water must remain in Michigan and in the Great Lakes states.

Zoo vote, continued...From Page 3

\$3,775,160. Admission fees covered \$751,250 of that cost with the rest coming from the county's general fund.

The adult admission price for John Ball Zoo is \$4. The admission price for the wildlife park is estimated to be between \$8 and \$9.

"It's an affordable zoo on the west side," Hank Fuhs said. Fuhs, who lives near the prospective site of the wildlife park, is coordinator of the Keep the Zoo in the City Committee.

The county plans one free day at the wildlife park per month for county residents.

At the proposed location on Leonard Street near Frederick Meijer Gardens, the wildlife park would be closer to Lowell than John Ball Park Zoo is. But opponents argue it would be less accessible to inner-city Grand Rapids residents.

Currently, the Interurban Transit Partnership, known as The Rapid, has no routes running past the site. Bulkowski said such a route extension would cost \$86,000 per year. Stringer said the wildlife park and the pre-existing Frederick Meijer Gardens would be a

strong argument for planning a route to the location.

For Bulkowski, the millage is also a question of the role of county government.

"The county government needs to be about public service, not public entertainment," he said.

Bulkowski said he feared a millage for a wildlife park would overshadow millages that more clearly serve the public, such as the Kent District Library millage and a probable upcoming millage for a county-wide 911 dispatch system.

Summer tennis teams could use a few more adult players

The Lowell Summer Tennis program concluded last Friday with intercity matches against Greenville. The program had 165 participants this year, its fourth season. Open play continues for high schoolers and middle schoolers Monday and Tuesday nights from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the high school.

The adult tennis league is still looking for new participants. Including this Wednesday, there are still four nights of tennis left in the series. Adults can play men's or women's doubles, mixed doubles and singles at any skill level Wednesday nights until the end of August. It is free to participate. Lowell varsity tennis coach Bonnie Wall is also offering free group lessons in hopes of drawing people out to the courts, call her at 676-2072 to schedule a lesson.

It is delightful to transport one's self into the spirit of the past, to see how a wise man has thought before us, and to what a glorious height we have at last reached.

—Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

ELECT CLIFFORD BONN FOR TRUSTEE LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

I would consider it a privilege and an honor to be a part of quality leadership in the Lowell Charter Township's government. I intend to use good judgment along with honest and fair government practices while keeping the people of the township's best interest in mind when making decisions. I do not have any personal agendas; all of my efforts and decisions will be to do what is best for the township.

As your trustee I will make the tough decisions now to guide the township into the 21st century to insure our quality of life by protecting and preserving the value of the land throughout the township. I will be a careful steward of the taxpayer's money. I have been involved with the Lowell Charter Township board in updating obsolete ordinances.

I have lived in the Lowell Charter Township for the past twenty years. I am a family man with a wife and five children. I have had over 30 years in corporate management and I was held accountable for multimillion dollar annual budgets.

I was in the U.S. Navy for six years and served active duty in a heavy bomber squadron. My forty-four year civilian career was in general aviation, starting out as an A&P technician for 13 years. After that I became director of aircraft maintenance for 21 years. I retired as Chief of Aircraft Maintenance (COM) for Altec Inc. in 2002.

My 30 years plus as an aircraft maintenance manager managing aircraft, personnel, facilities, budgets, and government regulations requires a lot of accuracy and attention to detail. Attention to detail and accuracy is a definite asset for the position of trustee.

I have served on:

- Dassault Falcon Jet Customer Advisory Board in the United States and overseas.
- National Business Aircraft Association (NBAA) Falcon Jet Technical Board.
- FAA Safety Board for the Great Lakes Region.

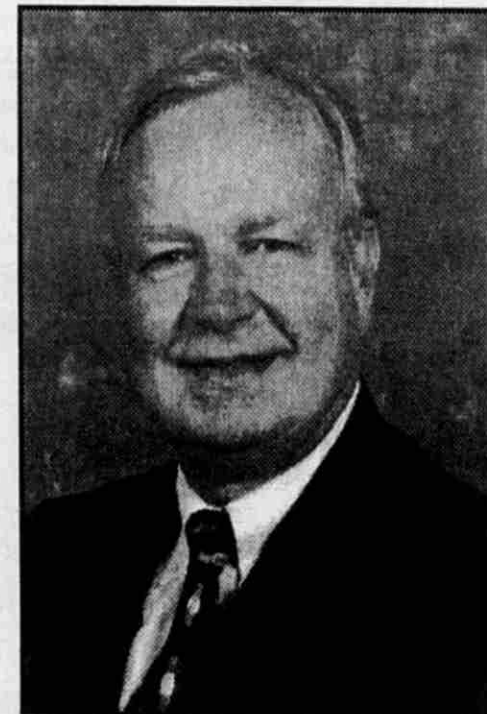
I have been awarded:

- FAA Citation for contributing significantly to the safety and increased reliability in aviation maintenance.
- In 2002 I received aviation maintenance safety award from the NBAA Board of directors for 44 years of service without an accident. Which were more years than any other NBAA member in the United States.
- Several times I have been nominated employee of the year.

It is very important that you cast your vote for township candidates August 3rd.

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT CLIFF BONN • 3385 BEWELL AVE., LOWELL, MI 49331

WHO IS THIS MAN?



LEONARD (Len) DEN HOUTER
Running for Lowell Charter Township Trustee

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- Fairness in treatment of all Township Residents

VOTE for LEONARD DEN HOUTER on AUGUST 3

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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.

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

EVERY TUES.: Flat River Woodcarvers meet at the LAAC from 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.

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

EVERY WED.: Lowell Church of the Nazarene Vacation Bible School, 5:30 - 7:30 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. Call Dorothy 897-9794.

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

3RD THURS.: LaLeche League of Ada, Cascade, Lowell 6:30 p.m. socializing; meeting 7 p.m. Support for pregnant/breastfeeding women; Ada church. 752-8300.

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

2ND THURS.: Genealogy-Alto Fam. Tree Club, Alto Library 6:30 - 8 p.m.

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

2ND SAT.: 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.

SAT. ALL SUMMER: Open bowling at Lowell Lanes, 4-7 p.m. 1/2 off fees for shoes & lanes go to Flat River Outreach Ministries food pantry.

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

FLAT RIVER OUTREACH 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.-Fri.: 12 - 5 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m. Monday and a.m. by appt. 149 S. Hudson. Call 897-8545 or www.lowellartsCouncil.org.

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

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

SPECIAL EVENTS
WED., JULY 28: 8:30 a.m. Traveling Breakfast "Sundance Grill."

FRI., JULY 30: 12:45 p.m. Bingo.

CITY OF LOWELL

NOTICE OF ADOPTION AND SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 4.2 OF CHAPTER 4, "GENERAL PROVISIONS," OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LOWELL RELATED TO PRIVATE STREETS

The Lowell City Council adopted Ordinance No. 04-3 replacing in their entirety subsections 1, 2 and 3 of subsection F, "Design Requirements," of Section 4.20, "Private Streets," of Chapter 4, "General Provisions," of the Zoning Ordinance of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell on July 19, 2004. Ordinance No. 04-3 also rennumbers existing sub-sections 2, 3, 4 and 5 to 4, 5, 6 and 7. Ordinance No. 04-3 prescribes certain construction specifications for private streets serving 3 to 5 dwelling units and serving 6 or more dwelling units. These specifications include minimum right-of-way width, storm water control, driving surface width and composition and cul-de-sac requirements.

Ordinance No. 04-3 is effective 10 days after this publication.

Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

Financial Focus

Edward Jones

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TAKING "TIMEOUT" FROM INVESTING CAN BE COSTLY

If you've been investing over the past decade, you probably have good reason to be confused. From January 1995 through December 1999, the S & P 500 Index gained an average of nearly 29 percent per year. But from January 2000 through December 2002, that same index dropped, on average, more than 14 percent per year. The market rallied in 2003, but results are mixed in 2004. As stocks move up and down, what's an investor to do?

First, you need to accept that, over the short term, the stock market is perpetually volatile. But over the long term, the stock market has always trended up. From the beginning of 1926 through the end of 2003, stocks (as measured by the S & P 500) showed a compound annual growth rate of 10.4 percent, according to the market research firm Ibbotson Associates. (Keep in mind, though, that past performance does not assure future results. Also, the S & P 500 is an unmanaged index that cannot be invested into directly).

Of course, your investment horizon may be shorter than 78

years—so you may wonder if you could "duck out" of the market during "down" times. But that's not really practical. No one can accurately predict when a down market will turn up or when a strong market will head south.

Consequently, if you take a break from investing, you could miss out on some growth opportunities.

Want proof? Let's look at some numbers. Suppose you began investing in the stock market (as represented by the S & P 500) at the end of 1953. If you had stayed invested until the end of 2003, you would have earned an average return of 7.9 percent annually. But suppose, along the way, you had pulled out of the market from time to time. If you missed just the market's top 10 days during that 50-year period, your return would have shrunk to 6.74 percent. And if you missed the top 40 days, your return would have eroded to 4.25 percent.

Want to see a shorter time frame? Look at the 11-year period from the beginning of 1993 through the end of 2003. If you had stayed invested the entire time, you would have received a 9.07 percent return. But if you missed the top 10 days, you would have gotten just a 4.05 percent return—and if you were out for the top 40 days, your return would have been a negative 5.81 percent. (All these returns exclude reinvested dividends and transaction or commission costs.)

Clearly, it can pay to stay invested. Still, it's difficult to look at bad news on monthly brokerage statements. How can you ease this type of discomfort?

You can't control market volatility. But you can blunt its impact by diversifying your investment dollars across a wide range of assets—stocks, bonds, government securities and

certificates of deposit. While diversification doesn't eliminate market risks, the more diversified you are, the less susceptible your portfolio will be to market downturns that hit one asset class particularly hard.

And there's one more thing you can do: *Keep your focus on the future and your long-term goals.* That's not always easy. It takes discipline and real commitment to keep investing during turbulent times—but the ultimate reward may be worth the effort.

COLLEGE NEWS

Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids recently announced its spring 2004 dean's list.

From the Lowell area are Lydia Baber, Elizabeth Roudabush and Olessea Zavadenco.

These students earned a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

Alma College has named over 400 students to the dean's list for outstanding academic performance during the 2004

winter term which ended April 16, 2004.

Students from this area include: freshman **Katelyn Bush**, a 2003 graduate of Lowell High School and daughter of David and Carmen Bush of Lowell; freshman **Cori Drenth**, a 2003 graduate of Lowell High School, and daughter of Tom and Carol Drenth of Lowell and sophomore **Zachary Snieder**, a 2002 graduate of Northview High School and son of Kate Datema of Lowell.

To The Editor, continued...From Page 5

They have supported proposed changes/updates to the Township Zoning Ordinance to help reduce legal costs as well as changes that led to a more efficient operation in the Township office.

We have been residents of Grattan Township for almost 37 years. In the past four years, we have seen many good changes in the township.

Bob and Joyce Oberlin
Grattan Township

This sounds awfully familiar. Why believe them this time based upon what happened in 2000?

Not only do they want to renew the existing millage for 10 years, they want additional money, to provide "free services."

Libraries are important, but the KDL is being too extravagant with your money. So, what to do? On Aug. 3, vote no on both KDL millage requests. Then, let the library put together a realistic millage plan/request and come back to the voters in November with a request that makes fiscal sense.

David Simmonds
Lowell

Dear Editor,

Approve more millage or we will close the libraries and lay off the staff. That is what the Kent District Library claimed in 2000. So, the taxpayers approved their millage request. Then, the very next day the Kent District Library trustees voted to spend approximately \$2 million for a new headquarters building and improvements to the building. Their campaign literature had never mentioned anything about a new headquarters building. To quote a recent GR Press editorial, "This may not have been a blindside but it was darn close."

Now the KDL system is back for more money. They state, "If a millage initiative does not pass in 2004, KDL could not continue services and would close all 18 branches."

Dear Editor,

We would like to reply to the letter from Mr. and Mrs. Bolema in last week's *Ledger*. They were taking issue with the platform of the team of Wenger, Kowalczyk, Johnson and Kowalczyk-Hendrick who are running for election in Bowne Township.

We would like to examine the "experience" these candidates have given the township over the years.

Issue One was the fact that Mr. Wenger, while supervisor, had taken options to sell a parcel of land. The "developer", not Mr. Wenger, tried to pursue a plan that would put a "manufac-

ture housing" development on this property. Because the board which consisted of the above mentioned people had the foresight to have a plan in place for a "manufactured housing" development, the prospective purchaser did not succeed in his pursuit. Mr. Wenger did not vote on any of the issues that concerned this matter.

The Bowne Township Planning Commission worked on this project and decided on the area that would be best suited for this development. The entire board voted on this after a public hearing.

Issue Two was moving the township offices to the old bank building in Alto. The majority the letter referred to was from a survey that was sent out. The entire township did not respond to this survey. Just because the opinion of those answering the survey marginally favored moving the offices, did not make it a fiscally responsible thing to do. The building was barely larger than where we were with no room for expansion. It would have cost the township considerably more than the DDA was proposing to allocate for the move and remodeling.

Issue Three was the sale of the old offices in Alto. An offer was presented to the board for the building. The board was advised by council that they needed to act on this offer before they proceeded further. After consideration, the party making the offer withdrew. The building was then put on the market. Thus the \$35,000 sale.

Letters, continued, pg. 16

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Letters, continued...From Page 15

This sounds like the experience is paying off and that we "the team with experience" is doing a good job for our township.

It is always a good idea to get all the facts first.

Sincerely,

Christian Wenger, Sandra Kowalczyk,
Sally Johnson, Karen Kowalczyk-Hendrick

Dear Taxpayer,

They all want your money. Based upon recent newspaper articles, many different school/governmental units are requesting additional millage from you in 2004.

In February, the KISD added 1 mill to the existing 3.79 mills that you already pay. This extra mill is perpetual. You get to pay it forever.

On August 3, the Kent District Library System wants to renew an existing .88 mills. They are also asking for an extra millage amount of .12 mills to provide free services. Both millages are for 10 years. Also Kent County wants to add a new .55 mill tax to pay for a new zoo. This new millage is planned for 25 years.

In November, Kent County is planning to ask for a new .55 mill tax to pay for a new 911 dispatch system. This new millage is planned for 15 years.

All of the above will say that they are a worthy cause. Maybe they are, but when will it end? How many more requests for your money are coming? What is the impact on you?

If you are a property owner and taxpayer, you might want to make sure that you are involved and that you vote on these issues.

Wilma R. Fallstrom
Lowell

Dear Editor,

On August 3 please vote for Dave Hildenbrand for State Representative in the 86th District. I believe he is the best choice to represent us fairly in all matters before the Legislature. He was born and raised right here in Lowell. So his roots are here. Who would be better to understand the community, its

people and its tremendous growth potential under the right guidance? Dave will be that voice for us in the Legislature. I have personally known Dave for eight years as he helped former Lt. Governor Dick Posthumus listen and respond to the needs of his district. Dave has "been there - done that" in Lansing. He already knows which doors to knock on to get results.

To represent us in all matters with compassion, knowledge and effectiveness, cast your vote for Dave Hildenbrand.

Dr. David G. Durkee, Doctor of Optometry

Dear Editor,

In Bowne Township we have choices to make on August 3. There are two candidates running for each township office and four persons running for the two trustee positions. Having choices is good.

In the *Ledger* two weeks ago these candidates were introduced and given a "voice" so voters could learn about each one.

What seems unfortunate to me is that five candidates are

running as a group. Apparently these people want to serve together. Smacks of a same thinking, rubber stamp and political machine-type management for our township.

This might not be so surprising if this slate consisted of the incumbents. But that is not the case. The incumbent clerk, treasurer and one trustee decided to draft a supervisor and trustee candidate to serve with them. It seems controlling and rigid to decide exactly which group of people should make up this board. Pete Siler, supervisor and David Fuss, trustee, the "left out" incumbents have done their jobs just as well as others on the board.

New voices and ideas, even divergent opinions, certainly can be useful when dealing with the challenges and changes we face in rural communities. We need a board of individuals who are open to all voices and willing to work with people who may see issues in other ways. Maybe new ideas that have never been considered before could lead us to a better place.

It is the voters who choose who serves on their township board. In Bowne Township let's not elect a self-chosen board. Let's vote to mix it up a bit.

Sincerely, Lila Grummet

Firearms ordinance change, continued...From Page 1

When hit with the BB, it feels much like a sting or someone pitching you, Rosenbaum said. He added that because of the potential for the guns to take out an eye, his company has a big accent on safety recommending full face production as do many of the Airsoft gun retail websites.

The Airsoft guns are made

of plastic; hence they are not able to shoot real ammunition nor are they designed for regular BB ammunition. The guns do come in several different styles from rifles to pistols with prices starting at around \$30 and going on up. One website, Nippon Hobbies, stated that for a starter getting into the sport, it would cost around \$300 for the guns, am-

munition, and other supplies.

Rosenbaum has spent the past several months demonstrating the guns to various local law enforcement agencies and the Kent County Prosecutor's office. The prosecutor's office has found no reason the guns couldn't be sold in the county.

Rosenbaum said, with Lowell Police Chief Jim Valentine adding that the prosecutor's office would have been looking at the guns according to state statute.

"They do not meet the definition of firearms [according to state statute]," Valentine said. "They do not meet it by caliber."

About 15 sheriff departments use the Airsoft guns in tactical training, Rosenbaum said. And while tactical training is one purpose, the main use for the guns is war games, he said.

Rosenbaum also has a distribution contact with all the MC sports stores in seven states and is selling the guns in the Sports Authority stores. The kicker for him is that Meijers, which is located in Lowell Township can sell the guns, but his business, currently not open to the public, that is located in the city can not.

"I can show them to somebody, but if they want to buy it, I have to tell them no, I can't, but if they want to meet down the street in the Meijer parking lot, I can," he said.

You must look into people, as well as at them.
—Lord Chesterfield

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Lowell Ledger
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Lowell little league girls have new softball travel team

By Dan Schneider

A girls traveling, fast-pitch softball team has gotten started this summer in Lowell. A lot of girls from the Lowell's little league softball teams wanted to continue playing after the regular little league season. The newly formed team, called Lowell Xtreme, has a more competitive focus than the little league softball teams.

"It's a step up from where the normal little league is," head coach Leann Paiz said. The team consists of nine- and ten-year olds, filling one of three divisions in the travel league. As the program grows, it will include teams at higher age levels and eventually feed into the high school softball program. The intention is to develop competitive softball players at an early age.

"We wanted to stay at the level of the other schools because eventually we're going to be playing them," Paiz said.

Xtreme played their first tournament at Byron Center. They won the first game but lost the second two.

They won enough games to place second in a tournament at Wyoming. They won their first game there 20-14 against Byron Center, scoring 19 runs in overtime. They beat Northview 11-9 before losing a game against Dor; and claiming the second-place trophy.



Getzen promoted to State Police captain

Lowell resident **Barry Getzen** has been promoted to captain and commander of the Michigan State Police Sixth District in Grand Rapids. Prior to his promotion, Getzen was the assistant Sixth District commander, a position he held since 2000.

As district commander, Getzen is responsible for the delivery of uniformed State

Police services to 13 counties in central-west Michigan. The State Police uniformed services provide traffic patrols, criminal investigations, emergency services and staffing for task forces and special investigative units.

Getzen currently resides in Lowell with his wife Jean and their two children Hayley and Phillip.

Rotary Club program aimed at improving student grades

Lowell Rotary Club will present a special program on Wednesday, Aug. 4. Called STRIVE, the mentoring program is targeted to the lower one-third of high school seniors who want to improve their present grades. Participants are motivated to improve school attendance, work habits, self-esteem and to achieve greater success in the classroom. Students are encouraged to continue their

education beyond high school so they may become better prepared to be productive citizens in their community. The Lowell Rotary Club is actively exploring the possibility of developing a STRIVE program in Lowell.

Rotary Club meets every Wednesday at noon at the Masonic Temple, 112 Lincoln Lake Ave. N. The public is invited.



Big kids will entertain little kids in the unique and fun "Teen Theatre" program at the Englehardt Library on Thursday, Aug. 5 at 11 a.m.

Children ages six and younger are invited to come and enjoy the talents of KDL's gifted teen actors, as they perform a puppet show, skit or reader's theater. Call 647-3920 for more information.

BOWNE TOWNSHIP NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE OPTTECH COMPUTER PROGRAM TESTING FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION IS WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 2004, 10:30 A.M. AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE, 8240 ALDEN NASH SE., ALTO MI 49302.

SANDRA L. KOWALCZYK
BOWNE TOWNSHIP CLERK

VOTE FOR THE HOMETOWN GUY



DAVE HILDENBRAND

Republican for 86th State Representative

★ **Local Roots. Lansing Results.** ★

• Born, Raised, And Lives In Our Community
• Eight Years Of Legislative Experience In Lansing

"We need somebody who shares our values and can hit the ground running. Dave Hildenbrand has that unique blend. Join us in supporting Dave Hildenbrand."

Lowell Mayor Jeanne Shores
Bowne Township Supervisor Pete Siler
Grattan Township Supervisor Rich Herweyer
Ada Township Supervisor George Haga
Lowell Township Supervisor John Timpson
Vergennes Township Supervisor Tim Wittenbach
The Honorable Dick Posthumus
State Senator Bill Hardiman
State Representative Jerry Kooiman
State Representative Jim Koetje
State Representative Glenn Steil, Jr.
State Representative Joanne Voorhees
Kent County Sheriff Larry Stelma
Kent County Commissioner Dean Agee
Kent County Commissioner Gary Rolls
Kent County Commissioner Dan Koorndyk
Kent County Commissioner Jack Horton

Right to Life of Michigan
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce PAC
Michigan and Kent County Farm Bureau
National Rifle Association "A" Rating
Michigan Chamber of Commerce
Michigan Fraternal Order of Police
Citizens for Traditional Values
Grand Rapids Association of Realtors
Home & Building Association of Greater Grand Rapids
Michigan Association of Insurance Agents
Michigan Restaurant Association
Great Lakes Education Project
Deputy Sheriff's Association of Michigan
Michigan Credit Union League
National Federation of Independent Business
Kent County Commission Chair David Morren
Kent County Commission Vice Chair Roger Morgan

ELECT DAVE HILDENBRAND ON AUGUST 3RD
LOCAL ROOTS. LANSING RESULTS.

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT DAVE HILDENBRAND, 2700 TIMPSON AVE. SE, LOWELL, MI 49331

VOTE AUGUST 3
TO RE-ELECT
ALLAN BAIRD
VERGENNES TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE

Experienced Leadership

22 years on Vergennes Township Board, Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals And Comprehensive Master Plan
As your elected official, I attend ALL meetings

Dedicated

To Protect Individual Property Rights
To Maintain Rural Atmosphere
To Conserve Environment & Natural Resources
To Use Taxpayer Money Wisely

Respectful
Of Resident Concerns

Available

Call me at 897-9081 if you would like to talk with me!

I appreciate your vote August 3

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO RE-ELECT
ALLAN BAIRD VERGENNES TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE • 13738 3 MILE RD., LOWELL

GARAGE SALES

MOVING SALE
Thurs., July 29, 9 a.m. - ?
Washer/gas dryer, mirrored bedroom set, queen 12 drawer deluxe waterbed, microwave cart, corner TV stand, metal shelves, newer queen mattress & box springs & much more! 1250 Valley Vista. 897-5032.

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE
Cleaned out closets & EVERYTHING must go! Priced to sell. Thurs., July 29, 9-4 p.m.; Fri., July 30, 9-4 p.m.; Sat., July 31, 9-3 p.m. 6079 Wingeier, Alto. Clothes: young child to adult, trampoline, antique wicker rocker, 2 dining tables w/chairs, tablesaw w/planer, Step 2 three cart child's wagon, beautiful canopy crib, car seats, salon equipment, 2 steel front doors w/frames (1 with side lights), household items & much more.

HUGE YARD SALE
July 30 & 31, 9-5 p.m. 300 western books, tools, household items & much more! 2487 Lowellview.

PORCH SALE
Wed., Thurs. & Fri., 12-6 p.m. Key Heights Trailer Park, Lot 167.

BARN SALE
July 29 - 31, 9-5 p.m. 11476 Grand River. TV's, wood products, household items, kids stuff & more.

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE
Lots of everything! Baby - adult. Furniture, etc. 9295 Peck Lake Rd (between Kyser & Ivan), Thurs., July 29 & Fri., July 30. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

GARAGE SALE
418 Elm St., Thurs., July 29 & Fri., July 30, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. & Sat., July 31, 9-2 p.m. Old oak press back chairs, 10 gal. crocks, dressing tables, old desk, household items, clothing, games, books & much more.

ONE DAY ONLY GARAGE SALE
Saturday, July 31, 8 am - 5 pm. 1201 Sibley (behind Calvary Church). New & used items. Trampoline safety enclosure (new), swingset -\$75 (you remove) knickknacks, toys, awesome dollhouses w/dolls & furniture; clothes, VHS movies, books, games, beanie babies, jewelry. TONS OF STUFF! Great prices - want to make this sale short & sweet!

BARN SALE
13280 92nd St., Alto. Across the street from Tyler Creek Golf. Sailboat, dune buggy w/trailer, fishing boat w/trailer, clothing: sizes infant through adult. Hamster cage w/ accessories, exercise bike, Harley Davidson parts, tools, misc. hardware items. Everything must go. Friday, July 30 & Saturday, July 31 from 9 a.m. til 4 p.m.

GARAGE SALE
July 30 & 31, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. at 3671 Cherry Lane off 36th St. between Buttrick & Quiggle. Almost new bicycles, acetylene torch w/tanks & cart, electric welder, gas powered line trimmer & gas powered hedge trimmer, above ground pool pump like new, pool equipment, outside round tables, umbrellas, poly lounge chairs & straight chairs, clothing, books & a lot more.

GARAGE SALE
Furniture, children's clothes, lots of misc. 319 Roberta Jayne, 9-3 p.m. Thurs., July 29 & Fri., July 30.

MOVING SALE
Sewing machine w/cabinet, loveseat, 5 piece queen bedroom outfit, carpet shampooer, antique desk, old computer, solid wood butcher block on wheels, cream sofa sleeper; women's clothes size 10, girl's clothes size 10-12, much more! Everything must go! 832 N. Jefferson, July 29 & 30, 9-7

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE
July 29 & 30, (Thurs.-Fri.) 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. 1687 Gee (across from Creekside Park), newborn to 2T girls, baby items, various sized men's & women's, furniture & decor from 2 remodels, & many misc. items.

GARAGE SALE
Little Tikes, clothing, car seat, stroller, many household items, toys. July 29 & 30, 9 to 5, 9050 Old Belding Rd., M-44 E. of Ramsdale.

2 FAMILY GARAGE SALE
quality toys, clothes, desk, tables, books, oak cord firewood, Marlboro collectibles. 269 Sudan Dr. off Vergennes between Parnell & Cumberland. Fri. 7/30 from 9-7 p.m. & Sat., 7/31 from 9-5 p.m. Rain or shine.

ONE DAY ONLY
1218 Lincoln Lake Ave. N (1 Mile N. of Fallasburg Park) July 31, 8-? Play Station, bicycles, windows, television, sewing machine, table & instruments. Many albums, books & crafts! Something for just about everyone!

ALTO-MOVING/LIVING ESTATE SALE
7410 McCords Ave. Everything in 2 garages, barn & house goes! Antiques, collectibles, tools, hardware, yard/gardening, riding lawn mower, barn/stable equip., stalls, feeders, water tanks, fencing, tack, horse trailer, manure spreader, furniture, housewares, appliances, fixtures, home office, printers, scanner, copier, school supplies, arts/crafts, scrapbooking, rubber stamping, card making, antique picture frames & much more. July 29-31, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

YARD SALE
Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 29, 30 & 31, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. 1033 Lincoln Lake, 1 block W. of Hudson. Lamps, linens, tools, collectibles, glasswear, guns, jewelry, antique toys, NASCAR collectibles.

YARD SALE
July 29, 30 & 31, 1376 Sibley, Lowell, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Adult, kids clothes, Mary Moo-Moo, collection, videos, CD's, antique phonograph, household things, vacuum, black leather chaps & jackets (2), also new hand-made jewelry, very reasonable.

LARGE MOVING SALE
Furniture, housewares, dishes, auto parts, chrome wheels, electronics, bow hunting and fishing equipment, Play Station with games, books, collectibles, crafts, garden equipment, brand name clothing (men's & women's), many tools, antiques. 14153 Natures Place Court off 28th St. between Montcalm & Pratt Lake. July 30 & 31, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. 897-9303.

BARN SALE
Fri., July 30 & Sat., July 31, 9-6 p.m. 3285 Timpson, between 36th & Grand River.

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



897-0787 or www.lowellbuyersguide.com

Be careful about donating money to someone who claims to have a dog rescue and has canisters in our local businesses.

To all that say "Anything for our school district" spending more money? \$10,000? \$15,000? How much more per student? Is money always the answer? Let's wake up and get in the "real world."

When making a decision on Aug. 3- Vote wisely!

The music isn't the problem in our neighborhood, it's the barking dogs.

This is the jerk in the green Explorer. I don't appreciate you putting #@# in your paper so I guarantee it's going to be louder. Thank you.*

The "Hometown" guy ad shows many outside endorsements. Including the G.R. Chamber PAC and three from Lowell. Has Lowell benefitted and will it?

Sunday noon - I really wish my Buyers Guide would come earlier. I would really like to read it on my day off. But it comes too late.

Our government and big businesses are making the working man work for cheap wages. So let's get a Kia dealership in Lowell so we can have an inexpensive, high warranty car.

To the westbound lady in the white GM car going 60 mph in front of Rite Aid passing the two semi trucks... That lane is a right turn lane! Your bad driving put a lot of people in danger!

Remember to take down your political signs when the election is over.



Charming, historic, brick home nestled on the Flat River in Lowell. Seven blocks from downtown historic district, shops and restaurants. Large, beautifully landscaped, double corner lot. Two story, three bedroom, 1 1/2 baths, formal dining room, main floor laundry, central air, underground sprinkling. Original woodwork and beautiful views of the Flat River. \$197,000. Shown by appointment 897-6994

CLASSIFIEDS

The Lowell Ledger

PRICES FOR SALE FOR SALE FOR SALE EVENTS SERVICES

PRICES
15 words for \$1.00 each additional word is 10¢ \$1 extra for bold \$1 extra for a box

HOW TO REACH US
By Phone: 897-9261
By Fax: 897-4809
By E-Mail: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com
By Mail: PO Box 128 Lowell, MI 49331

DEADLINE
Monday at 5 p.m. For the Wednesday Publication

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
In Kent County \$15 - 1 year \$29 - 2 years
Outside Kent County \$22.50 - 1 yr. \$38.00 - 2 yrs.

OFFICE HOURS
Mon. - Thurs. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Fri. 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Closed Sat. & Sun.

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 2 mo. rent deposit. Call 813-8041 or 616-754-0276.
HALL FOR RENT - with kitchen, seats 150. Call 897-6050.
LAKE FRONT NEW COTTAGE FOR RENT - Brooks Lake, Newaygo, sleeps 8, many weeks still available. \$500/week or \$300/week-end. 616-754-0578.
APARTMENT FOR RENT - 2 bedroom 1 bath, N. Center St., Lowell \$550/mo. Call Sheryl 252-5611.
OFFICE OR RETAIL SPACE Available Immediately for Short-term Sub-lease in downtown Lowell next to North Country Trail Association Headquarters. Call 616-897-5987 for information.

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

FOR SALE
BICHON FRISE PUPPY - 8 weeks old, 6 & 8 week shots, AKC registered. 616-642-6706.

FOR SALE
MATTRESS SETS - Brand names, large selection. Brand new, still in plastic. Twin & full, \$80, queen \$115, King \$150 & up. 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160.

FOR SALE
AURORA - Oldsmobile, '99, V8, powerful, leather, loaded; white exterior, 100K, very nice condition, asking \$6,800. 868-6666.

FOR SALE
25 BUNK BEDS - bought from university, 4 years old, very sturdy, solid oak, 999/ set, Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

FOR SALE
FURNITURE - From Parade of Home displays. Bedroom, dining, leather, living room, canopy beds & more. Call for items. 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160.

FOR SALE
ABANDONED REPOS! - Only 5 left, all 3-4 bedroom, 2 bath, new appliances. Must sell, country setting. 800-615-1224.

FOR SALE
DINING ROOM SET - Solid oak, butterfly leaf table, 6 chairs (2A 4S) new in boxes. Must sell, \$800. 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160.

FOR SALE
HOUSE FOR SALE - Caledonia Schools, 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath home with heated garage. 5 years old, near lake. \$147,900. Call 868-7012.

FOR SALE
MATTRESS/BOX SPRINGS - Brand new, \$59/set. Twin, full, queen, delivery available. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

FOR SALE
LUIDATION - HUD approve homes with land! \$500 moves you in, 6 homes left, all new appliances. Call 616-647-2563.

FOR SALE
AIRBED - Why pay mall price?? Dual chambers, remote control & warranty. Brand new, name brand. Queen at mall \$1,500, sell \$700; King \$950. 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160.

FOR SALE
'98 CHEVY PICKUP - Long box, 2 wd., new tires, brakes, etc. \$4,200. Call 897-1597 or 450-7910.

FOR SALE
LAKE FRONT NEW COTTAGE FOR RENT - Brooks Lake, Newaygo, sleeps 8, many weeks still available. \$500/week or \$300/week-end. 616-754-0578.

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FOR SALE
SEALY, SERTA, STEARNS & FOSTER MATTRESS SETS - New, shipping damaged. Full, queen, king sizes. From \$99 each piece. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

FOR SALE
FOR SALE - Air conditioner window unit, feeders 5000 BTU, like new. Call 897-0369.

FOR SALE
GENERAL ELECTRIC WASHER/DRYER SET - 5 years old, runs great, large capacity, guaranteed. \$75 each. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

FOR SALE
TROYBILT - 33" wide cut, 8.5 HP, good shape, \$900 obo. 897-0984.

FOR SALE
BED - Complete w/frame & headboard. Includes mattress, box. Hotel quality, firm & pillowtop available. \$75. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

FOR SALE
DOUBLE FRENCH HORN - Good condition, \$600. Call 897-0193.

FOR SALE
\$110 AMISH QUEEN LOG BED - w/pillowtop mattress set. Bought, never used. Still in plastic. 989-227-2986.

FOR SALE
2001 JEEP CHEROKEE - 4x4, 60th anniversary edition, 55,000 miles, 4 door, black, loaded, \$9,700. Call 897-1597 or 450-7910.

FOR SALE
\$150 BERBER CARPET - Beautiful oatmeal, 40 yards (new, still in plastic). 517-719-0451.

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

FOR SALE
1996 SUZUKI INTRUDER - 1400 cc, 3500 miles, black 7 red, new parts, \$4,200. Call 897-1597 or 450-7910.

FOR SALE
PILLOWTOP MATTRESS SET - New, in plastic, queen \$110; king \$165. 517-719-8062.

FOR SALE
FOR SALE - Western saddle, nice shape, \$200 obo. Call 897-7785.

FOR SALE
6 PIECE AMISH BEDROOM - Complete bed w/head, foot, log rails, cedar post, hand built, \$475. 517-719-8062.

FOR SALE
HOUSEFUL OF FURNITURE - 3 rooms, appliances, kitchen table, bedroom set, 2 months old. \$2,500 new, sell \$1,300/best. 517-204-0600.

FOR SALE
'99 JEEP CHEROKEE - 4x4, 50,000 miles, red, 4 dr., auto, loaded. \$7,200. Call 897-1597 or 450-7910.

FOR SALE
APPLIANCES - Refrigerators, washers, dryers, stoves. Reconditioned, guaranteed, over 100 to choose from, \$59 and up. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

FOR SALE
1982 STARCRAFT POP-UP CAMPER - \$600. Call 868-0605 after 4 p.m.

FOR SALE
1999 AQHA PALAMINO GELDING - Very sweet temperament, 15 hands. Would make trail horse. 616-754-0578.

FOR SALE
CHILD'S BEDROOM SET - Dresser, bed, mattresses, stands, very clean, used very little. \$150. 517-719-0451.

FOR SALE
1988 CHEVY CELEBRITY - 6 cyl., 2.8L. \$400 Firm. Call Jason at 868-0605.

FOR SALE
CONSERVATORY WOODS - Condo Open House, Sunday 1-4 p.m. Model for sale, reduced price, \$139,900. Last unit available with 3 bedrooms up, 2 1/2 baths, central air, gas fireplace, private patio w/wooded view, 2 stall garage & security system. Located in the city of Lowell, 2045 Conservation Trail, behind Tractor Supply. For more information call 616-897-5520.

FOR SALE
WEDDING INVITATIONS Available at Lowell Litho 105 N. Broadway. Stop by & Check out a book! 4 books to choose from. Wide variety of invitations and prices. Ph. 897-9261

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

FOR SALE
RISNER ROOFING - serving you since 1961. Ice and snow removal. Licensed & insured. Free estimates. Call Steve, 868-6015 or Terry, 642-0313.

FOR SALE
UPHOLSTERY - Furniture, RV cushions, dinette chairs, 50 years exp. Low prices, 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. Richard Kuyt Sr. 531-3309.

FOR SALE
PAINTING & WALL PAPERING - 25 yrs. experience, free estimates, insured. 897-2036 or 754-9914.

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

FOR SALE
DICK REURINK BARN SERVICE - Painting, roof coatings, new metal siding & roofing. Middleville, 269-795-7730.

FOR SALE
CANNATA HOME IMPROVEMENT - Siding, windows, roofing, sheet rock & finishing. Interior & exterior remodeling, ditch digging to faucet leaks, we do it all! Cement work too! Call 616-292-0436 or 989-855-2560.

FOR SALE
BOBCAT RENTAL - \$150 Daily, Free Delivery within a 15 mile radius. Hydraulic Hammer attachment extra. Call 874-9424.

EVENTS
10-YEAR REUNION - Lowell High School Class of 1994, Sat., Aug. 7 at The Other Place, Main St. in Lowell. Buffet dinner beginning at 4 p.m. DJ at 7 p.m. \$20 per adult in advance, \$10 kids ages 5-10. Call Shannon at 616-437-6329 to RSVP or request more information. It's not too late!

EVENTS
KENT COUNTY YOUTH FAIR RAFFLE - You could win a 2004 Honda ATV w/trailer. Drawing Sat., Aug. 14 at the Fairgrounds. Tickets: \$5 each (only 4,000 to be sold). Need not be present to win. Winner is responsible for all taxes & license fees. Buy your tickets at the Buyers Guide office, 105 N. Broadway.

EVENTS
LICENSED DAYCARE OPENINGS - North of Lowell. Several openings. Craft activities planned. Lowell busing available. Call 897-3065.

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

EVENTS
NOW SCHEDULING APPOINTMENTS - for senior photos. Portraits by Valentina Fleet. Great photos at great prices. Call 897-2587.

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

EVENTS
IF YOU NEED - your home or office cleaned, call 642-0468.

EVENTS
CUSTOM FRAMING - Poortenga Builders, Inc. Licensed & Insured. 616-299-7160.

EVENTS
CEMENT WORK OF ALL KINDS - Cement work is my line, not a sideline. 874-7017, 318-2267.

EVENTS
DAYCARE - Clarksville area family looking for daycare provider to care for our two young children 4 days a week in our Christian home. M, Tu, W & F 7:30 am - 5:30 pm. If interested, please call 693-2817.

EVENTS
ALTERATIONS - Experienced professional; mens, womens, leather coats, all fabrics, zippers replaced, wedding & prom dresses altered. Call Helen 897-6071.

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

EVENTS
LEDGER OFFICE HOURS: Mon - Thurs. 8-5 Fri. 8-4 Closed Sat. & Sun. 105 N. Broadway, Lowell

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

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

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SUMMER SAVINGS

ARE HEATING UP AT

WITTENBACH GMC Grand

GMAC LEASE PULL AHEAD IS BACK!!!

Does your current GMAC lease expire between August 1, 2004 and March 31, 2005? If so General Motors will waive your remaining payment if you purchase or lease a new Pontiac or GMC

Program Ends August 2, 2004!!

HURRY DON'T MISS OUT!!!

JUST ANNOUNCED!!!

\$1,000 Bonus Cash

on Envoy, Envoy XL, Envoy XUV and Aztek.

If you finance with GMAC.

Offer Good Until 8-2-04.

Rebates Have
Changed! Check Out
These Great Prices!

2004 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE2

Power windows, locks, leather, V6, keyless entry, sunroof and more!

This one is loaded!

STK.#
45056



or take
\$1,000
Rebate and
0% for 60
months

MSRP.....\$23,650
Wittenbach Discount...\$2,200
GM Loyalty Rebate.....\$4,000
Sale Price...**\$17,450.00***

2004 GMC SONOMA CREW CAB

4x4, 4.3 lt., V6, ZR5 with brush steps, rack & bed rails, fog lights, slider window, AM/FM/CD/Cass.

or take
\$1,000
Rebate and
0% for 60
months



STK.#
47051

MSRP.....\$27,880
Wittenbach Discount...\$3,000
Rebate.....\$4,000
Sale Price...**\$20,880.00***

2004 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX GT

3.8 lt., power windows, locks, driver's seat, keyless entry, 16" alum. wheels, ABS, and more. Farmer Classic Car

STK.#
45305



MSRP.....\$24,190
Wittenbach Discount...\$2,700
Rebates.....\$4,255
Sale Price...**\$17,235.00***

2004 GMC SIERRA SPORT SIDE

5.3 lt., Z71, 16" alum. wheels, AM/FM/CD, power windows locks, keyless entry & more

STK.#
47005



MSRP.....\$31,768
Wittenbach Discount...\$4,500
Rebate.....\$4,000
Sale Price...**\$23,268.00***

2004 PONTIAC MONTANA

Rear air, ABS, captain seats, tow package, deep tint glass, white letter tires and more

STK.#
45093



or take
\$1,000
Rebate and
0% for 60
months

MSRP.....\$29,585
Wittenbach Discount...\$3,000
Rebate.....\$4,000
Sale Price...**\$22,585.00***

2004 GMC ENVOY XUV THE SPORT UTILITY TRUCK THAT THINKS IT'S A PICKUP

STK.#
47227



MSRP.....\$32,140
Wittenbach Discount...\$2,600
Rebate.....\$5,000
Sale Price...**\$24,540.00***

DRIVER'S ED CARS ARE COMING BACK AT THE END OF THE MONTH.

5 - 2004 Grand Ams 4 - 2004 Grand Prixs
5 - 2005 Vibes 2 - 2004 Montanas

Save An Extra \$750!

Reserve Yours Today!!!

2004 PONTIAC GTO



Just Announced

Low Rate
Financing
as low as... **.9%**

2004 GMC YUKON SLE

5.3 lt., bucket seats, trailer package, Homelink and more

STK.#
47373



MSRP.....\$41,530
Wittenbach Discount...\$4,550
Rebate.....\$5,000
Sale Price...**\$31,980.00***

2004 PONTIAC VIBE

Monotone, automatic, power pkg., aluminum wheels, moon & tunes, cargo mat and more

STK.#
45146



MSRP.....\$20,495
Wittenbach Discount...\$1,600
Rebate.....\$2,000
Conquest Rebate.....\$1,000
Sale Price...**\$15,895.00***

2004 PONTIAC AZTEK

Cruise, ABS, deep tint windows, power windows, locks, keyless entry

STK.#
45154



MSRP.....\$23,225
Wittenbach Discount...\$2,250
Rebate.....\$5,000
Sale Price...**\$15,975.00***

2004 GMC CANYON CREW CAB

3.5 lt., auto., power windows, locks, tilt, cruise, AM/FM/CD.
HARD TO FIND CREW CAB



STK.#
47307

MSRP.....\$26,855.00
Wittenbach Discount...\$2,200
Rebate.....\$2,000
Sale Price...**\$22,655.00***

GM EMPLOYEES AND FAMILY SAVE EVEN MORE!

WITTENBACH GMC Grand



GMC

*Price plus tax, title, plate and DOC fee. Rebates to dealer, 0% for 60 months, \$16.67 per \$1,000 financed. Programs scheduled to end August 2, 2004 but subject to change at any time. Must qualify for rebates.

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