

The Lowell Ledger

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Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, August 18, 2004

Goodwill opens in Lowell

Grand opening reveals new look for Goodwill stores

By Dan Schneider

The new Goodwill store in Lowell celebrated its grand opening Saturday.

Located at 11625 Fulton Street in Lowell Township, the store visually is a departure from the typical Goodwill. It is bright and colorful inside, with prominent signs marking different areas: men's, women's, children's clothing. The clothes racks radiate out from the entryway and the modern, computerized checkout aisles.

"Everything we did, we thought about how to make it easier for the customer to shop," said store manager Lorrie Thompson, who had input in the design process of the new store.

In the back corner, there's a coffee shop. It has a dual

purpose. Customers can get coffee while they shop or while they fill out the donation paperwork.

"That's why we're upgrading the stores, making them more competitive, more friendly for the shopping experience," Goodwill food service director and hospitality instructor Rock Dandeneau said.

The other function of the coffee shop is to provide a place of employment and on-the-job training for graduates of Goodwill's food service classes at Ferguson Apartments in Grand Rapids. It serves Goodwill's primary mission as a charity organization, which is helping people with barriers to employment find jobs.

"People can see their dollars at work when they see the

coffee shop functioning," Dandeneau said.

Customers can also buy coffee through a drive-up window. It is integrated with the drive-up donation center, which is also a feature unique to the new-style Goodwill.

Goodwill opened a store nearly identical to the one in Lowell two weeks ago on Alpine Avenue in Walker. These two stores are the first new Goodwills in West Michigan in two years, and the first built using the new design. Thompson said even during construction, the new store was generating interest here in Lowell. "We've already had a lot of the Lowell people stopping by wanting to shop," Thompson said. "They've had to drive a long way before we were here to make donations."

Goodwill's vice president of retail operations, Dave Brinza, said Lowell, being a growing community, was a good place for a new store. Annual surveys of Goodwill customers also showed a need for a retail store in Lowell.

"Through the surveys, we noticed that there were a lot of people from Lowell shopping in our stores, plus lots of people making donations," Brinza said. "So the people of Lowell have been very good for us."

Store hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. on Sundays. The drive-through donation center and coffee window open at 7 a.m., Monday through Saturday.



L.J. Meadows, assistant manager of the new Goodwill store in Lowell, places a sign on a rack of women's pants.

Public hearing to review changes on firearms ordinance

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

Air rifle, toy pistol, bow and arrow, slingshot, catapult ... the common thread? None of these items can be sold within the city limits.

That is what the city's current ordinance states, and agreeing with a Lowell Township resident and city of Lowell

business owner, the Lowell Police Department believes the ordinance should be changed. Because of the changes, the Lowell City Council decided to hold a public hearing for comments at its next meeting, Sept. 7 before approving the recommendation.

At the request of Simon Rosenbaum, the city, via the

police department, reviewed the city's ordinance on the selling and firing of firearms. Rosenbaum owns an Air Soft gun business, currently based in Lowell. He is prohibited from selling the guns within the city; however, several chains, including MC Sports, sell his products, and similar items can be found at the Meijer store located just outside the city limits in Lowell Township.

According to the city ordinance, any toy shooting apparatus, gun, or implement that might result in the damage or destruction of life or property is prohibited from being sold within the city limits. Lowell chief of police Jim Valentine said the state law does not prohibit the sale of these types of devices so, as Rosenbaum had pointed out, businesses outside the city limits can and do offer them for sale.

"If you walk the midway, slingshots are sold, which vendors probably don't realize there is prohibition in the city [on those items]," Valentine said. "There also might be some lawbreakers in local businesses that sell items that catapult or compel something through the air."

Public firearms hearing, cont'd., pg. 4

Fugitive emu ensnared

By Dan Schneider

Authorities captured an escaped emu in northeast Lowell last Thursday afternoon following three hours of dogged pursuit.

Witnesses spotted the large, brown, flightless bird in the back yard of Lowell police chief Jim Valentine on Grindle Drive around 11 a.m.

"We were coming home across the street and we happened to look off into Jim's yard and there was this huge bird walking across the yard," Ann Dimmick said. "It did not seem to be very fearful of

any of us, so I was able to get close and get pictures and then it meandered off into the woods to the east."

The emu reportedly ran into the Lowell State Game Area. Lowell police arrived and Kent County Animal Control was notified. The emu's trail was lost until just after 2 p.m., when the bird was again sighted. This time it was walking along a private drive off Fun Street.

It took six men, including Lowell police and two Kent County Animal Control officers, to subdue the bird.

Emu arrest, con't., pg. 10

The Ledger was able to obtain this exclusive photograph of an escaped emu. The flightless bird was captured last Thursday just inside the Lowell city limits.

Photo submitted by Ann Dimmick



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The Lowell Ledger

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OBITUARIES

NEBBELING - Mr. Victor Dirk Nebbeling, aged 87, passed away Monday, August 9, 2004, at his home. He was preceded in death by his son David in 1994. Surviving are his wife Elizabeth; his brothers Cornelius Nebbeling of Okemos, John and Virginia Nebbeling of Lowell, Dirk and Lillian Nebbeling of Caledonia; sister Pauline Leversay of Kentwood; sisters-in-law Helen Moser of Spring Lake, Sophie Otterbein of Yale; many nieces and nephews. Victor was a retired

supervisor of steel erection for Haven Busch and retired member of Iron Workers Local 340 in Battle Creek. Funeral services were held Friday at the Alt & Shawmut Hills Chapel, with entombment in Rosedale Memorial Park. Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice.

NEELS - Mr. Peter J. Neels, aged 91, of Wyoming, passed away Saturday, August 14, 2004. He was preceded in death by his wife Dorothy.

He was a WWII veteran serving his country in the Army. He is survived by his children Dolores Robinson of Doniphan, MO, Peter Neels III of Lowell, Daniel Neels of Myrtle Beach, SC and Sandra DeVault of Sand Lake; seven grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; sisters Evelyn Harkes, Florence Noorman, Martha VanRhee; brother-in-law Ed Natte; several nieces and nephews. The funeral service was held Tuesday at Matthisse-Kuiper-DeGraff Funeral Home, Rev. Leland Arntz officiating. Interment Restlawn Memorial Park Cemetery. The family suggests donations to American Legion Post #179. (Neal Fonger).

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Ready for a fall project? Metropolitan Hospital in Grand Rapids has a variety of volunteer openings for friendly, helpful men and women.

Especially needed are volunteers to greet and escort, circulate a magazine cart, give directions from a parking booth, assist in the cafeteria, staff the gift shop, and provide clerical help to busy offices.

Volunteers typically donate one morning, afternoon,

or evening a week to meet a 100-hour commitment. Requirements include a TB skin test, volunteer uniform, and orientation session.

Trees from Arbor Day Foundation

Ten free white flowering dogwood trees will be given to each person who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation during August.

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between Oct. 15 and Dec. 10 with enclosed planting instructions. The six to 12 inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

Members also receive a

Parking is free, and volunteers also receive a free meal any day they work a four-hour shift.

For more information or for an application, call Barb at 252-7009. Or visit the web at www.metrohealth.net and click on "jobs", then "volunteers."

subscription to the foundation's colorful bi-monthly publication, *Arbor Day*, and *The Tree Book* with information about tree planting and care.

To receive the free trees, send a \$10 membership contribution to TEN DOGWOODS, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410 by Aug. 31 or join online at arborday.org.

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BOWNE TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS HEARING THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 2004 7:30 P.M.

Notice is hereby given that on Thursday, August 19, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. in the Bowne Township Hall, 8240 Alden Nash SE., the Bowne Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing for the purpose of hearing comments regarding proposed appeals of the Bowne Township Zoning Ordinance.

Request #1 - T&M Partners variance of Article 5 - Ag District
To place a "private road" and erect 27 homes in Section 27.
Parcel # 41-24-27-300-002.

Request #2 - Kim Culbertson requesting variance of Article 14.05 K regarding setbacks for an antique shop in an Agricultural zone (Special Land Use).
Parcel # 41-24-27-200-002.

All written comments may be sent to Gloria King, Chairperson of The Bowne Township Zoning Board of Appeals, 8240 Alden Nash SE, PO Box 35, Alto, MI 49302-0035.

Gloria King-Chairperson
Bowne Twp Zoning Board of Appeals

Search-warranted drug busts up from last year

By Dan Schneider

Lowell police made an arrest last Monday on marijuana charges. It was the third time this year the Lowell Police Department have obtained a search warrant for a marijuana-related crime.

Police arrested George Van Dostendorp, 42, at his home in the Valley Vista trailer park on charges of possession of marijuana with intent to sell, and of maintaining a drug house. Police said he was found with an undis-

closed amount of marijuana as well as equipment used to measure and sell the illegal drug.

On May 12, police obtained a search warrant for the home of Scott Wolfe, 44. They arrested Wolfe on the same charges. Both cases await trial in Kent County Circuit Court.

Police said the two cases likely involved street-level dealing to minors.

"In the locations where we've been, we're assuming it's been geared more to

the youth of the community, so we're trying to dry that up," said police chief Jim Valentine.

On March 18, police made two arrests after obtaining a search warrant for a house on the west side of town. One juvenile was petitioned in juvenile court for possession of marijuana, a one-year misdemeanor. His parent was issued a citation for use of marijuana. The charge carries a \$100 fine plus court costs and the possibility of probation.

The police have made 17 drug arrests so far this year, including two in a March 20 meth lab bust. What is unusual about these three cases is the police built up enough evidence beforehand to obtain search warrants to make the arrests. Most of the other arrests this year came from police finding drugs while making stops for traffic violations or catching people in the act of using drugs.

"I would say it would be a high level of search warrants for homes in the city of Lowell," said police detective James Hinton. Last year, Lowell police made 39 drug arrests. None of these involved search warrants, which require a high level of evidence to be collected beforehand. "The level of information that you need for a judge to allow the police to enter a home is very, very great," Valentine said.

Investigations for search warrants typically take two to three months to complete, though police collected enough evidence to obtain last Monday's warrant all in one day. In all three warrant cases this year, evidence came from citizen tips such as complaints of frequent stops in front of the houses and intelligence gained through routine police patrols.

"The new fees will need to be published before they officially take effect."

Some city service fees will rise to help cover costs

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

Following a brief discussion at its Monday night meeting, the Lowell City Council decided to raise fees for three city services.

After reviewing fees for signs, site plan reviews, and zoning permits, the council agreed to raise the sign permits from \$1 to \$25; temporary sign permits from a \$200 returnable fee to \$225 with a \$200 returnable fee; and site plan reviews from zero to \$25. The council did not approve a \$25 fee for zoning permits largely because other cities polled did not have that type of fee. Councilman Jim Pfaller said, in light of the recent bond issues that went before voters a few weeks ago, he felt that people are feeling a little "over fed and over taxed and have had it up to their eyebrows."

He said he didn't want to see Lowell become the first city in the area to put in place a fee for zoning reviews. The fee increases were recommended by the city's building inspector, Doug Hopkins of Imperial Municipality Services who, after reviewing his time, determined the city was not covering its expenses when dealing with sign, site plan, and zoning issues.

Before approving the fees, the council, at its last council meeting, asked for a comparison from eight other municipalities with clerk Betty Morlock contacting Rockford, Ionia, Hudsonville, Cedar Springs, DeWitt, Fremont, Allegan, and Belding. For sign permits, fees ranged from \$20 in Fremont to upwards of \$120 in Cedar Springs depending on the size of the sign. Only a few had fees for temporary signs, which ranged between \$10 and \$50. Site plan reviews went from \$100 plus legal, engineering, and/or other professional costs in Rockford to \$600 plus legal, engineer-

ing, and/or other professional costs in Hudsonville. Several council members noted that the city's fee was considerably lower for site plan costs; city man-

ager David Pasquale noted that since the city was going from nothing to something, he felt it was a manageable fee.

"Although, I have often

Resident returns hoping to save tree from being destroyed on his property

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

Wishing to avoid a similar incident that occurred last year, a Lowell resident came before the city council to plead that the city not cut down a tree on his property.

Ivan Blough, who lives at 623 Jefferson, asked the city to investigate whether the tree should be removed. He contends that it still has life, indicating that the limbs are fully "leafed out" and the root system on the tree is solid.

This contradicted a report from a certified arborist, employed by Bartlett Tree

Service that stated from a visual review of the tree, it should be removed. The report stated the root system was not good and the tree could pose a hazard.

The tree came under question, according to Department of Public Works director Dan DesJarden, because a limb from it had fallen into the Lowell Light and Power lines, prompting a call to that department to have it removed. DesJarden said his department removed the debris from the site. Not a couple of hours later, a resident on the street called with concerns about

the tree and the fact that Jefferson Street is a designated school route.

"It doesn't look good," said councilman Al Mathews after reviewing photos of the tree. "It doesn't look good at all."

Mayor Jeanne Shores said the fact that the tree has already lost branches and could potentially cause property damage or hurt someone was a factor the city had to consider, especially since the tree is on city zoned right-of-way. While agreeing that the tree did have a hollow spot, Blough said the tree in ques-

tion is 37 inches in diameter and pretty solid all the way up. He also raised concerns over having a person from a tree removal company come in and access the tree, when the company is in the business of removing trees.

Councilman Charles Myers asked whether there was someone with no conflict of interest who could look at the tree. Councilman Jim Pfaller suggested someone from the Michigan State University's Extension Service office.

Saving a tree, cont'd, pg. 16

LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS BOARD BRIEFS

Regular Meeting of August 9, 2004

ACTION ITEMS -

A vote was cast for Laurie A. Gibson to serve on the Region 3 MASB Board of Directors for a three-year term.

CONSENT ITEMS - Approved/adopted were:

- July 26, 2004 Board Workshop and Closed Session minutes, July 26 2004 Regular Meeting and Closed Session minutes, and the July 31, 2004 Board Retreat minutes.
- The following payment of bills for July 2004:

GENERAL FUND

\$1,283,378.70

SCHOOL SERVICES FUND

A. Food Service Fund \$18,203.60
B. Athletic Fund \$5,438.98

2000 CONSTRUCTION FUND \$200,363.00
2004 CONSTRUCTION FUND \$540,054.83
TRUST AND AGENCY FUND \$6,828.41
Scholarship Fund \$2,850.00

New Hires:

Kevin Nugent, High School Agri-Science Teacher
Elizabeth Bradley, Middle School Special Ed Teacher

- The 4 Year Old Readiness Program resolution requesting additional funding for the 03-04 school year program

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT - Larry Mikulski shared highlights from a letter that was mailed to parents regarding the walk zones. He invited people to come to the "Meet the Teacher Night" at Cherry Creek and Bushnell on August 26. It is hoped that parents will walk to school with the student to get to know the route. Kathy Cole will be conducting "Safety Town" next week. A small village will be set up for Young 5's, kindergarten students, and 1st graders for students to learn the "rules of the road". Jim Valentine reported on the volunteer training taking place in the upcoming weeks.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE - Shari Miller reported on the details concerning the Murray Lake Elementary School completion. The dedication ceremony will be held on August 26 at 7:30 p.m., and the public is invited to attend.

BUDGET UPDATE - Connie Gillette reported that the audit will be conducted during the last part of August or early part of September.

CURRICULUM REPORT - Mark Kasmer reported on the district school improvement model and the curriculum committee structure. K-5 report cards are being revamped to better align with curriculum and to create more consistency in reporting to parents.

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE - Shari Miller reported on the status of district-wide technology. Keyboarding will be offered to all 6th graders. Student Management System (SMS) training has been held during the summer. Attendance and grades will be inputted, and

parents will have internet access to their children's school information at some point during second semester. Voice mail will be available soon.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - The following people addressed the Board: Laurie Kuna - MHSAA equity issue, Pam McMahon - what's best for kids, and Kim Lum - drama program.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Shari Miller reported that the Kent County superintendents will be discussing the MHSAA issue on Friday. Drama is not being cut. The program has been running in the red so there is a need to look at other funding sources - perhaps through grants - to help with the cost. Shari thanked those 52 week employees for all their hard work during the summer months.

CLOSED SESSION - The Board met in closed session to discuss negotiations.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Board Meeting
Monday, September 13, 2004
Runciman Administration Building - Board Room - 7:00 p.m.

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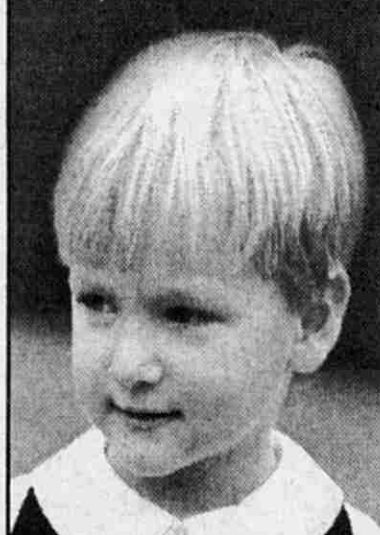
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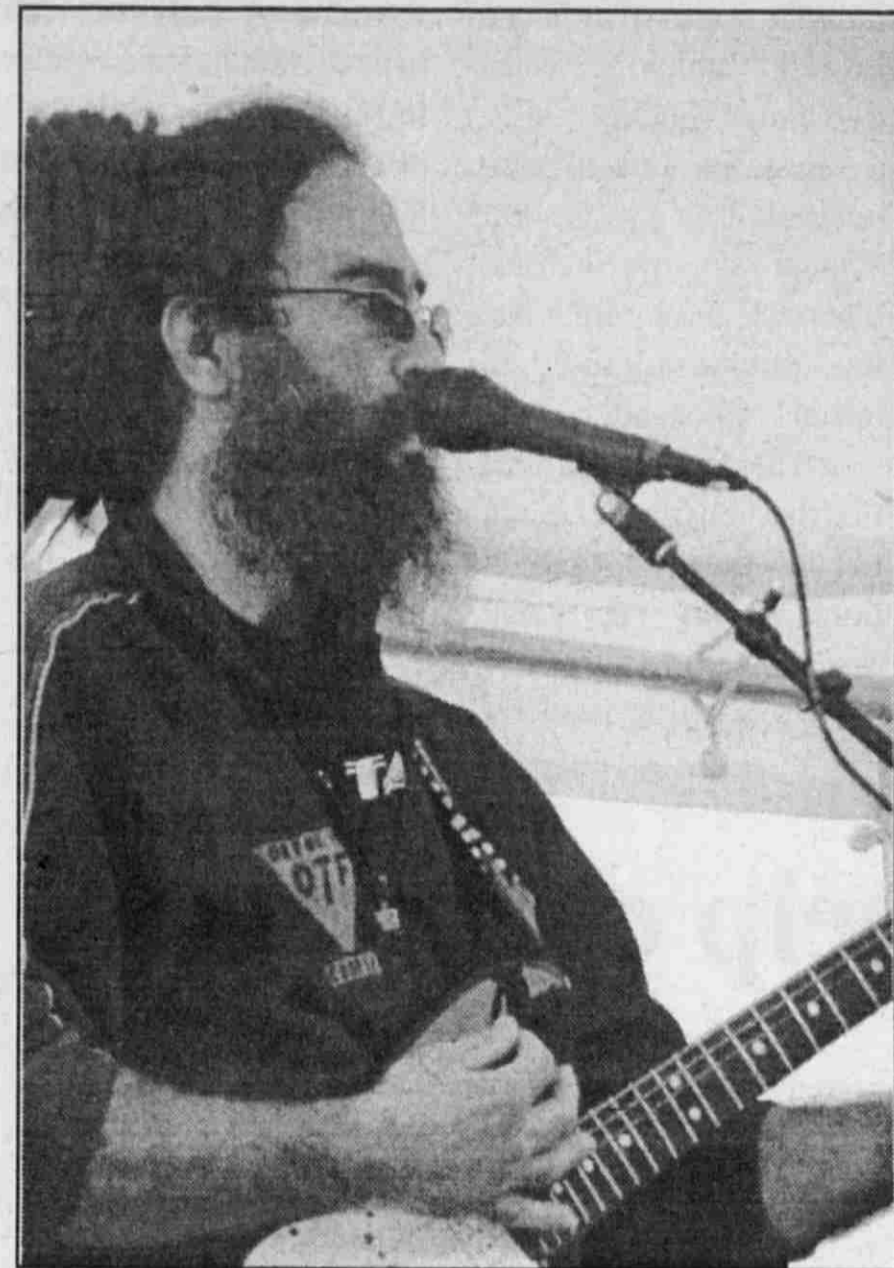
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Last of the "sizzlin' concerts" this week



Electric guitarist Ras Daniel of the Reggae Boyz sings the Bob Marley classic "One Love" in Spanish at the Showboat Sizzlin' Summer concert. The Kalamazoo-based band brought Jamaican "riddims" to downtown Lowell last Thursday. The crowd was appreciative and several felt "irie" enough to dance at the foot of the stage for most of the duration of the set.

At right, Makeda Sellasie, 3, and Nyah Sellasie, 4, dance last Thursday to the sounds of the Reggae Boyz playing on the Riverwalk Plaza.

The concert series ends this Thursday and Friday on the Riverwalk. The Doc's of Dixieland will appear on Thursday and on Friday the River Rogues Jazz Band will wind up the summer concerts.



Public firearms hearing, continued...From Page 1

While the department would like to regulate these items, the reality is that since the state doesn't, it would be difficult for the city of Low-

ell to do so. Instead, Valentine said his department would recommend the words "sell or offer for sale" be removed from the ordinance to allow

the selling of such items and that the words "except in duly approved shooting ranges approved by the police department" be added.

By adding such verbiage, the department would be able to review shooting ranges for BB guns to make sure the proper padding was being used

so a neighbor isn't getting their windows shot out or the ammo isn't being propelled where it shouldn't be, he said, adding this would allow the department to review businesses that plan to have shooting ranges for demonstrations.

Lastly, Valentine said he would also recommend that the city change the infraction from a misdemeanor to a civil infraction that would simplify the process of enforcement.

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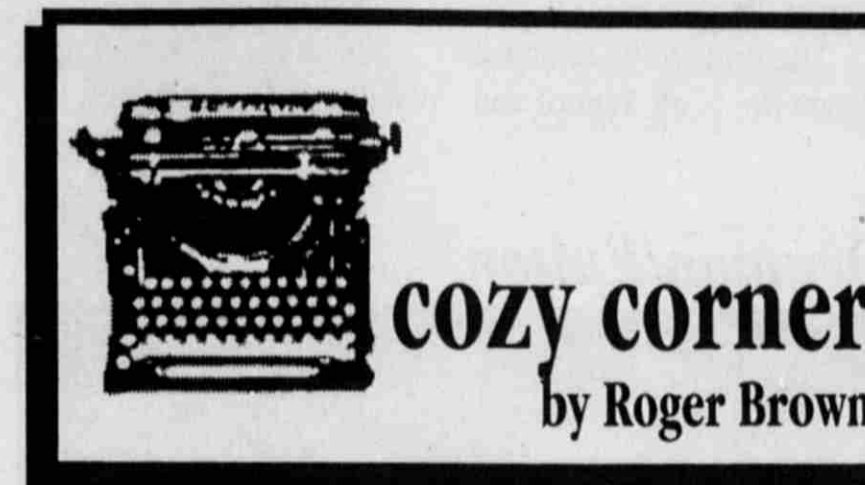
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ALTO ELEMENTARY
WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL
Please join us on Monday, August 30th
From 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
In the Multi-Purpose Room
Meet your PTO officers for the
2004-2005 school year. Find out about
great volunteer opportunities.
Meet and talk with representatives
from local community organizations,
businesses, and programs.
Refreshments will be available.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!
**ALTOgether let's make this
a great school year!**

If you represent a business or
group that would like to
participate please call
Laurie Blough at 897-8302 or
Kim DeWaard at 1-616-218-4850

Viewpoint . . .



Last Wednesday began a weird string of days. My daughter and her kids were visiting here at our home in the lower Florida Keys. I treasure time with my grandkids. They live halfway around the world and I was dreading their scheduled departure on Friday afternoon. Whenever I hear my daughter carp about their behavior, I say, "Leave 'em with me." She says I wouldn't last a month. She's probably right.

Early Wednesday morning my wife, our daughter and I were enjoying a cup of coffee and watching the morning news. The weather guy came on with an update of what had been a "no-big-deal" tropical depression just the day before. The T.D. was now a named tropical storm ... Charley. Charley was not only gaining strength, his projected path had him coming right at Key West and arriving Friday afternoon as a category 1 or 2 hurricane. Yikes!!!

My daughter nearly ran for the phone to call the airline she was traveling with. Her quick action landed her some of the last available seats leaving that afternoon. She and my wife began to make plans for packing up and getting to the airport. I began to brood about losing my grandkids two days early. I can be pretty selfish when it comes to those little guys.

Jim (Maddie), Boog (Zach) and I spent the day running errands in preparation for the looming storm. We went through one of these (Georges) in '98, so we knew what to expect. I filled all the gas cans with fuel for the generator. I topped off the cars. I filled the extra propane tank for the grill. Stuff like that. The kids scored a bunch of candy, sodas, ice cream, etc. They really liked hurricane preparations.

That afternoon we dropped the evacuees off at the airport. It was a sad farewell, but it would have been just as sad on Friday.

Off to Home Depot for batteries and a couple other things on our hurricane supply list. They were already cleaned out of "D" batteries. In the parking lot, a panicked woman in a pickup truck crashed into my vehicle trying to get my parking space before I was out of it. The damage wasn't worth reporting. Thank goodness for plastic body parts. I gave her a piece of my mind and headed home. Told you this was a weird string of days.

I haven't had a cold in years, but I was coming down with one now. That, coupled with the heat, stress and my attitude in general, dictated that hurricane prep was going on hold until morning.

TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Appreciation goes to Liz Baker, the chamber of commerce, and the city of Lowell for allowing our band "Ragnaroke" to have our CD release party at the Riverwalk on Aug. 13. We played our music to a great audience and everyone enjoyed free pizza, pop and cotton candy.

We even had a couple of friends sit in with their own music, Chad and Matt.

Thanks to Lowell for coming out and supporting "Ragnaroke."

Sincerely, Ryder Jones,
Coleton Webber,
Nick Huizinga

Dear Editor:

It's been awhile since you have heard from us. That is not because we have lost our passion for education. Enough time has now passed to go back and evaluate the information in light of recent developments. Over 10 years ago the education system of the United States ranked among the lowest in the world. It still ranks among the lowest. One only need look at the exodus of jobs out of the United States. This is one of our nation's greatest threats - the depletion of our intellectual property.

Citizens for Quality Education (CQE) brought a plan to the Lowell School Board in the fall of 1993 that would have

Thursday was a doozy. Somebody from Michigan called to ask how it was going. I told them hurricane prep is just like closing up your cottage for the winter. Screens come down and storm windows or shutters go up. The boat is pulled out and secured. All the lawn furniture comes inside. You empty the cupboards of food (reverse for hurricane prep). All the same routine ... except it's 90 degrees, humid and you have to get it done in one day!

That afternoon I got a call from the *Ledger*. In the conversation I was asked if an old customer had called. Seems he asked for my phone number. I hadn't talked to the guy in a couple years, and I don't know why he'd be calling. The weird part ... his name is Charlie. (Pipe in the Twilight Zone theme).

It's a good thing my daughter moved as quickly as she did. They closed the Key West Airport Thursday morning. The reason ... federal TSA employees evacuated, leaving nobody to staff security at the airport. Hundreds of tourists were stranded. Your tax dollars at work!

I went to bed exhausted and reeling from the decongestant I'd been taking. I slept like a babe until 3 a.m. when the phone rang. A neighbor is out of town and her dog sitter couldn't get her 14-year-old geriatric Doberman upstairs. The dog was none too happy about being carried. Even in my drugged and sleep-deprived mind I figured an old Doberman could still deliver a nasty bite. Things went ok and old Heineken was soon upstairs and safe from the storm.

The Weather Channel showed Charley arriving off Key West at dawn. I was now up for the duration. The storm was still a category one ... maybe two, but intensifying. The good news for us was Charley had not begun a projected turn to the east. The eye was going to pass about 75 miles west of Key West. We would be out of the worst wind field, and storm surge would be minimal. Terese and I kept our fingers crossed.

We lucked out. Charley was little more than a nasty squall or cold front for us. Peak winds were about 50 miles per hour and the surge was only a little worse than an extra high tide. WHEW!!!

The bad news is, Charley continued to intensify ... all the way to a category four. Charley then made an unexpected sharp turn to the east and made landfall about a hundred miles south of where projected. Consequently, those people were not quite as well prepared as they might have been.

You've all seen the news. I don't need to elaborate on the aftermath. I will add one suggestion. If there is a "Hurricane Charley" relief fund at your church or service organization, please consider a contribution.

The last piece of this weird Charley experience is this. I can only think of a handful of guys I know named Charles that go by Charlie or Charley. There are a few Chucks and few that insist on Charles. Not too many Charlies. Ground zero for Charley's landfall was Punta Gorda. I know one person with a home and business in Punta Gorda. You guessed it ... his name is Charlie. (More Twilight Zone music please.)

resulted in at least \$400,000 savings per year without sacrificing any benefits. CQE was accused of being radical, involved in a conspiracy, and of being "anti-education" by the teachers union.

-Lowell had a golden opportunity 10 years ago to make necessary cuts to expenses and improve the school district even more.

-Unfortunately many of these plans were derailed because of a lack of courage shown by the board members back then.

-The problems are inherited from previous Lowell School Boards and are not a result of current decisions that must be made by your superintendent and board who must be financially responsible today.

-Let us reiterate our position then and now: we have always believed that teachers are professionals and deserve adequate pay and benefits. They play a major role in the education of our children.

-In order to retain good teachers, we have to pay for their continuing education requirements and licensing. We need to recruit the best candidates from the best schools and pay them a competitive salary, rather than hiring teachers contingent on coaching abilities.

-The health care expenses are currently out of hand. Almost no company absorbs 100 percent of employee health care expenses anymore. The teachers union has held the majority of Michigan school districts hostage while the rest of the world obtains competitive pricing or they go out of business.

-Citizens for Quality Education (CQE) brought a plan to the Lowell School Board in the fall of 1993 that would have



Ledger Entries

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

125 YEARS

THE WEEKLY JOURNAL

AUGUST 20, 1879

This week's edition is one small sheet printed on both sides.

Hillsdale and St. Johns had big fires Monday night. Joel Merriman is laying foundation for his new house just south of the German Church at Bowne.

Prizes will go to the best waltzer, Schottische dancer and handsome calico dress at the Calico Hop Friday night.

Buy an excursion ticket to the state Grange meeting at Grandville Aug. 22.

100 YEARS

THE LOWELL LEDGER

AUGUST 18, 1904

A very large crowd gathers for the Farmers and Maccabees picnic at Island Park. Thousands of visitors are reported in town for the festivities and parade.

The foot bridge to the island, overloaded by the crowd, breaks but no one is hurt.

Several "skin-game" operators show up too, but are run off in the afternoon. The merry-go-round is busy throughout. Tanks of drinking water are set out on the island.

The Ledger endorses the candidacy of Lowell's A.W. Weekes for state senator, 17th district.

The three men who stole two pairs of shoes from Houk's store last week, also stole butter, eggs and honey elsewhere; they are caught when they try to sell the shoes.

75 YEARS

THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO

AUGUST 22, 1929

Ernest Foreman starts construction of a large (26x115 feet) modern chick hatchery and poultry breeding plant on W. Main/M-21.

The postmaster general is urging all postmasters to work for getting their towns marked with signs visible from the air.

The new Chrysler Building in New York is 808 feet high, beating the 792-foot Woolworth Building.

Hattie Scott's fudge sells for 15 cents a pound at her Main Street stand.

"The Trail of '98" by Robert Service is the current serial.

50 YEARS

THE LOWELL LEDGER

AUGUST 19, 1954

An emergency national fund drive for polio is necessary because of the severity of this year's polio season.

The Kent 4-H Fair is on, with a record number of exhibits. It's family reunion time, and the Condons are meeting for the 44th annual get-together.

The latest incident of boys robbing several businesses at night leads to talk about a possible curfew.

The wheat acreage permitted for farmers is 15 acres this year, except for those who had smaller ones last year.

25 YEARS

THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER

AUGUST 22, 1979

Most Kent County schools still have not settled teacher contracts.

The old inactive hydroelectric plant at Burroughs and M-91 north of Lowell is designated a National Historic Landmark.

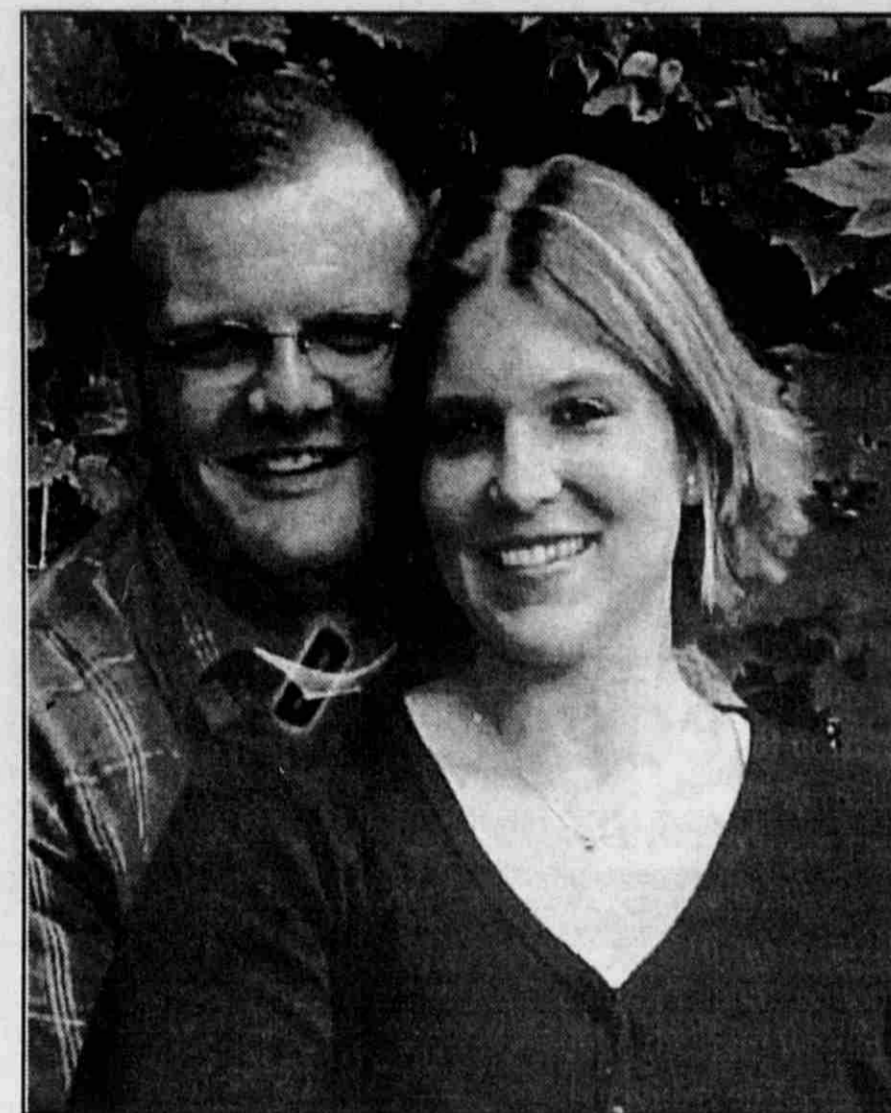
City Council and Grand Rapids School of Bible and Music will share expenses to lengthen the airport runway.

The number of candidates to vie for three vacancies on council on Sept. 11 is up to seven.

A Grattan Township sewer ordinance and the school bus routes/food service/sports schedules expand the Ledger by four pages.

ENGAGEMENTS

Dykstra/Nichols



Joseph Nichols and Kelly Dykstra

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Dykstra, of Ada, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Kelly Elizabeth, to Joseph R. Nichols of Carson City.

The bride-elect is a graduate of Lowell High School and Michigan State

University's Veterinary Technology program.

The future groom is the son of Linda V. Nichols and the late Douglas R. Nichols. He is a graduate of Carson City-Crystal High School.

The couple are planning an April 2005 wedding.

Conscience is the inner voice which warns us that someone may be looking.

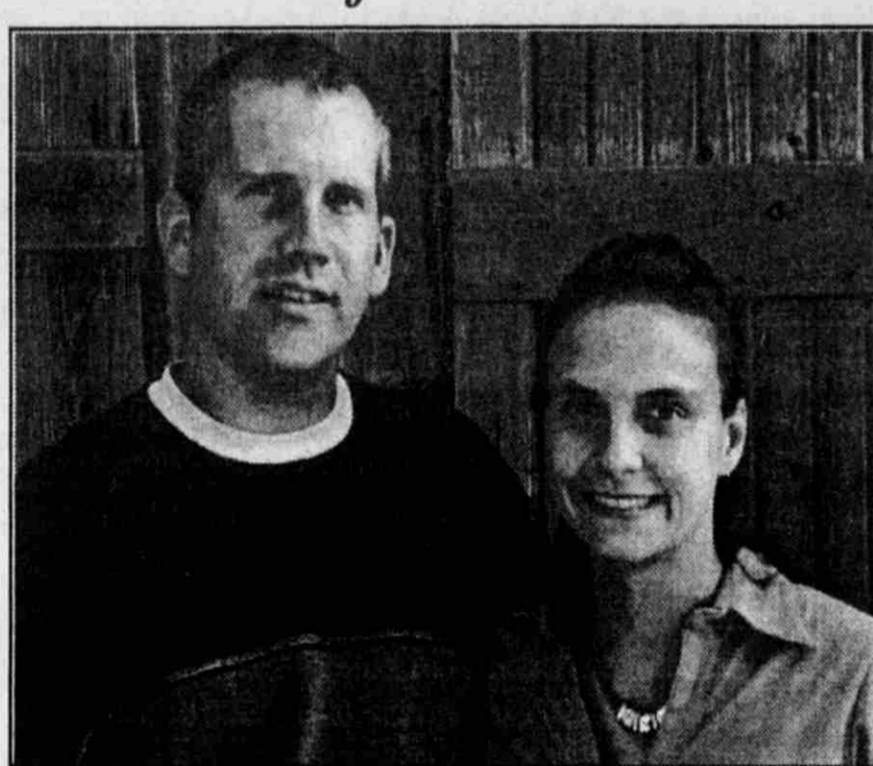
—H.L. Mencken

Hoppough-Wilterink



Anne Hoppough and Mike Wilterink

Donahue/Hofman



Chad Hofman and Joyce Donahue

Joyce D. Donahue of Lowell and Chad L. Hofman of Belding will marry September 4, 2004 in a ceremony at Fallasburg Park, Lowell.

The future bride is the daughter of John and Jeanne Donahue of Cadillac. The groom-elect is the son of Brandt and Carolyn Hofman of Lowell.

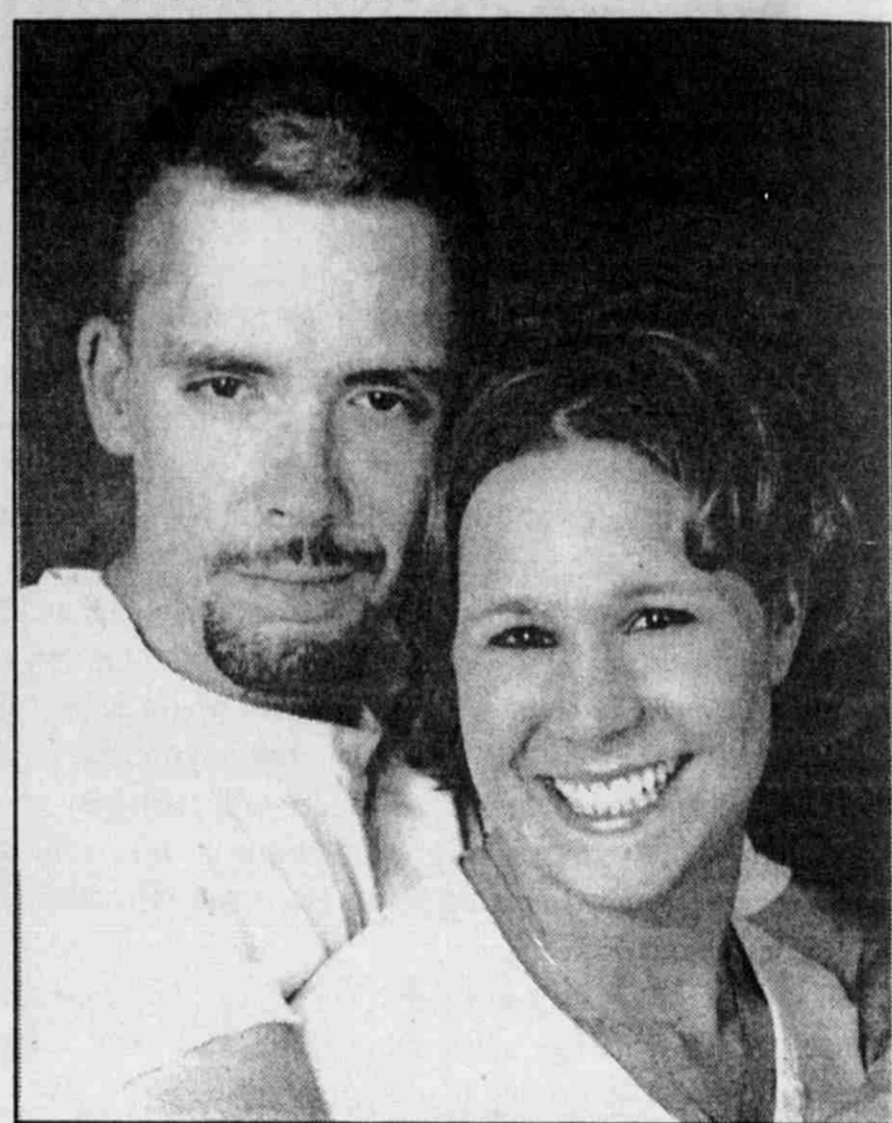
John and Susan Hoppough of Greenville announce the engagement of their daughter, Anne Hoppough, to Mike Wilterink, son of John Wilterink of Lowell and Cheryl Jones of Clarksville.

The bride-to-be attended Greenville High School and Grand Rapids Community College. She is employed as head chef at Thousand Oaks Golf Course.

Her fiancé attended Saranac High School. He is employed in the family business, Lowell Granite Co.

An Aug. 28 wedding is planned in Grand Rapids.

Denman/Fulton



Jason Fulton and Darcy Denman

Mr. and Mrs. Duane Denman and Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Fulton are proud to announce the engagement of their children, Darcy Lynn to Jason Allen.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Saranac High School and Grand Rapids Community College. She is employed at Metropolitan Hospital in Grand Rapids.

The future groom is also a Saranac graduate and is employed at Soroc Products in Byron Center.

The couple are planning a September 25, 2004 wedding.

AREA BIRTHS



Alex Joseph Sanches

Chris and Jeff Sanches of Grand Ledge are happy to announce the birth of their son, Alex Joseph, born July 23, 2004. He weighed 9 lbs. 1 oz. and measured 21 inches long.

Proud grandparents are Howard and Helen Hobbs of Alto, Ben Sanches of Greenville and the late Kathy Sanches, great-grandmother Alice Ritter of Grand Rapids and great-grandfather Joseph Sanches of Lansing.



Winton David Garrelts

Eva B. Wilcox is excited to announce the arrival of her nephew, Winton David Garrelts. He was born at St. Mary's Hospital in Grand Rapids on June 22, 2004, weighing 6 lbs. 10 oz. His proud parents are Beth and Nate Garrelts of Frankenmuth. Grandparents are Barb and Rex Wilcox of Lowell, and Dave and Judy Garrelts of

Dowagiac. Others welcoming Winton are his great-grandparents Darleen and Hazen Wilcox of Mattawan, great-grandfather Marvin Fink, and great uncle Bruce Fink, both of New Port Richey, Florida. Winton was named for his great-great-grandfather, Winton Wilcox who was a longstanding member of the Greater Lowell community.

Reflections Of Faith

Bob Roush, pastor
Friendship Country Chapel

THE MAN IN THE MIDDLE

Matthew 27:38. "Then were there two thieves crucified with him, one on the right hand, and another on the left."

Jesus died a most horrible death, the effect being suffocation which was the end result of crucifixion. It was the most heinous of all deaths. When I read a story in the

Bible, I try to get a picture in my mind of the scene I am reading. In this passage I stand at the foot of a cross where an innocent man is unjustly condemned to death, his name is Jesus. But I not only see His cross, I see two other crosses also. Two malefactors, criminals, being justly condemned for their crime.

The dying statements of people have always been interesting to me, not the least of all these two guys. Listening in on the conversation, you hear the guy on one side cursing Jesus and snarling, "If you are God, then save yourself and us with you." The guy on the other side says, "Lord, remember me when you go to heaven." And Jesus replies, "I say unto you this day, you will be with me in paradise."

These two guys represent the sum total of all humanity because every person identifies with one or the other. When the Roman soldier, standing at the foot of the cross, saw the events that occurred around Jesus' death, he knew that Jesus was someone different than he had ever crucified before and so he exclaimed, "Truly this was the son of God." In so stating that fact, he "changed sides, if you will. He joined the other side.

Is it not interesting that the first person to experience salvation was a worthless criminal on his way out? And the second was a Roman soldier attending Christ's crucifixion. Down through the ages men and women have been confronted with the crucified Christ and have made a decision to associate with one or the other criminals. But the real deal is the "man in the middle" because their eternal destiny would depend on whether He was who He claimed to be or just another crazy man with a Messiah complex.

His death on the cross made it possible for that criminal, as well as every person ever born, to "change sides." The promise Jesus gave that guy on the cross is the same promise I embrace in my heart today. And when that time comes, and it will someday, where I draw my last breath on this earth, then, like that guy on the right, I will be with him in paradise. As a believer, one who has "switched sides," that promise is for you too. Resting in His promise.

Clarksville Steam and Gas Engine Association 15th annual show next week

The 15th annual Clarksville Steam and Gas Engine show will be held for three days, Aug. 26 - 28. Displays of steam engines, antique gasoline tractors and gas engines in every size, color and description will cover the grounds. The sounds of John Deere, Case, Farmall or other breeds will transport those who attend back to yesteryear.

Featured country/bluegrass bands include "Roger Hyzer and Friends" from Lowell, the "Mud Creek Boys" from Nashville, "Cedar Ridge" from Ionia and "Gittin Picky" from Howard City. Vendors and crafters will be under the shade trees each day as well as a Pig Roast on Saturday afternoon. And bring the kids for a pony ride and homemade ice cream.

Admission is \$3 for adults and free for children under 12. Thursday is Senior Citizen Day with admission at \$2.

Don't miss the sights and sounds of "the good ol' days."

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AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p>ATTENTION: BIBLE BELIEVERS If you would like to attend a church where the King James Bible is held up as the perfect, preserved word of God with all the words of God for all English speaking people, then give us a visit at: 901 W. Main, Lowell</p> <p>Across the street from the Vannan Dodge dealership. 897-6284 or 485-4195 10AM Sunday School, 11AM Morning Service, 6PM Evening Service, Wed., 7:30PM Prayer Meeting.</p>	<p>ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Kirby and Harrison Alto • 616-691-8011 Worship.....9:30 A.M. Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.</p> <p>OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS Pastor Dean Bailey</p>	<p>St. Henry Catholic CONGREGATION CHURCH</p> <p>Contemporary Services Lowell High School Auditorium (Nursery & Children's Ministry Provided) Sunday Mornings.....10 AM Impact Youth (Sunday's at the Pastor's home).....5 PM Phone us @ 897-0333 or 437-5093 Call for a free CD Service Sample</p>	<p>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL 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</p>
<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936</p> <p>Summer Worship Services 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR Nursery & child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p>EVERGREEN MISSIONARY CHURCH 10501 Settlemore • Ph. 897-1165 Sunday School.....9:45 A.M. Morning Worship.....11 A.M. Evening Service.....6:00 P.M.</p> <p>Prayer and Praise - Wed., 7:00 P.M. Rev. Rick Ferguson - 987-6475 ALL ARE WELCOME! (Barrier-Free)</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God) 3050 Aiden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, Senior Pastor Dave Noonon, Asst. Pastor Stacy Holmes, College & Twenties Brian Baber, Youth Pastor SUNDAYS: Worship: 9:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. WEDNESDAYS: Family Night: (For All Ages) 7 p.m. Generation Jacob Youth: 7 p.m.</p>	<p>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Fr. George J. Fakete 402 Amity St. • 897-9820 www.stmarys-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 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL BRENDA BEHRENGE 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 49, ENTRY FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>
<p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 www.goodshepherdlowell.org</p> <p>Sunday Worship.....9:30 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES 6:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 P.M. At 215 1/2 W. Main, Lowell (entrance in rear of building) CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES Pastor Robert L. Hubbard Phone: (616) 897-1267 website www.aplighthouse.com</p>	<p>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 201 N. Washington • 897-8800 Sunday School.....9:45 A.M. Morning Worship.....10:50 A.M. Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M.</p> <p>PASTOR RICHARD FORSYTHE Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>	<p>SOUTH BOSTON BIBLE CHURCH (Kysar Road SE at Grand River Ave.) 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 Jr. & St. High).....6:30 P.M. Evening Praise.....7:00 P.M. Wednesday Kids Klub (ages 2-6).....7:00 P.M. Olympians (1st-8th grades) Prayer and Bible Study Library, Nursery, College & Children's Services provided. Wheelchair accessible Church 897-7823 • Parsonage 897-5464 • sbccb@juno.com</p>
<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbcilowell.org Rev. W. Lee Taylor & Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor Sun. Worship Services, 9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA/J.V.....Wed. 6:15 & 7 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free "You Matter To God"</p>	<p>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648 Sunday School.....10:00 A.M. Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M. Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M. (Sept. - April) Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M. Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418 YOU ARE WELCOME!</p>	<p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (United Church of Christ) 404 North Hudson • 897-5906</p> <p>Worship and Church School.....10:00 A.M. Dr. Roger LaWarr.....Pastor Megan MacNaughton.....Music Director Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise & Worship</p>	<p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</p> <p>AUGUST 19: Peggy Idema, Joseph Thaler, Lois Boonstra, Braydon Brown, Brian DeBald, Daryl Chamberlain, Charley VanKeulen.</p> <p>AUGUST 20: Emily Boss, Mattie Dalziel, B.J. Rittersdorf, Alexis Holloway, Andrea Bryant, Katelyn Kaczanowski.</p> <p>AUGUST 21: Madelyn Pfaller, Charlene DeShane-Dalga, Tim Aksamitowski, Joshua Hobra, Tom Barnes, Ethan Shindorf.</p> <p>AUGUST 22: Mike Blough, Shane Teelander, Austin Goos.</p> <p>AUGUST 23: Kacy Anderson, Rhea Bundy Anes, Stephen Rhodes, Brandon Taylor, Ron Kennedy, Jesse Carr.</p> <p>AUGUST 24: Tim Raymor, Angela Rasch, Don Geelhoed, April Barnes, Kelly Johnson, Dave VanKeulen.</p> <p>AUGUST 25: Patty Elzinga, Lindsey Trierweiler, Margaret Rozeboom, Misty McClure-Anderson.</p>

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Churches receives Eagle Scout honors

Ryan Churches, a scout with Lowell troop #102, received his court of honor on July 31, 2004, making him the 38th Eagle Scout for the troop. His eagle project was an asphalt driveway at Flat River Outreach Ministries.

Churches was also presented with a certificate of recognition from the VFW by Sam Yeiter, the first Eagle Scout in Lowell (1931), for

his outstanding achievements and leadership ability for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

Churches, a 2004 graduate of Lowell High School, is the son of Brent and Nancy Churches. Having signed up with the Army, he will leave for basic training on Aug. 25, specializing in helicopter maintenance.



Ryan Churches

Ducks Unlimited to hold annual banquet

The Tri-River Ducks Unlimited Chapter will hold its 17th annual dinner banquet at Deer Run Golf Course on Sept. 9 from 5-10:30 p.m. The dinner will raise funds for Ducks Unlimited's habitat preservation efforts. The organization raised \$175 million nationwide last year toward that goal. Since it began in 1937, Ducks Unlimited has constructed more than 36,000 wetland projects throughout Canada, the U.S. and Mexico, providing 10 million acres of habitat for more than 900 wildlife species including waterfowl and endangered species. Banquet organizers promise fine food, prizes and fun. For tickets, call Glenn Carwell, Tri-River Chapter chairman, at 897-8783.

Sharing The Vision

SHARI MILLER
Lowell Schools Superintendent

August 30, 2004 is the first day of school this year. Parents and grandparents, we need your help so students make a successful transition from summer days to school days.

There are several family activities that help prepare students. First, talk positively about your child's return to school and plan a fun trip to pick up school supplies and school clothes. Share your memories of your first days back to school - grandparents are great resources for this activity.

Organization is another key to a smooth transition. Children and adults can use help in being organized. Have children load their back packs and lay out their clothes the night before. Last minute rushing the morning of the first day creates unnecessary stress and tension. Talk with your older children about keeping their papers in order and using their agenda books to record assignments and important activities.

Finally, set a schedule that provides for an early bedtime and limits TV and computer game time. Sleep is an important asset for children and young adults. You may want to begin the earlier bedtime a few days in advance so their sleep cycles adjust. Also, schedule time for homework without TV, computer game or telephone interruptions. Healthy snacks and a family dinner are additional supports for children as well as family conversations about each family member's daily activities.

We care about each of our students and greatly appreciate the support that Lowell Area School families provide. We look forward to this new school year and the opportunities that it brings for us to work together for the good of all of our children.

Your comments about this matter or any issue would be greatly appreciated. Send to Superintendent Shari Miller, Lowell Area Schools, 300 High St., Lowell, MI 49331 or smiller@lowellschools.com (check out our Web page at www.lowellschools.com or make comments to the Board of Education at boardofed@lowellschools.com.

Financial Focus

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With Christopher C. Godbold

LEARN FROM "HABITS" OF SUCCESSFUL INVESTORS

Warren Buffet, possibly the most well-known individual investor around, says that successful investing boils down to two simple rules. Rule No. 1 is *Don't lose money.* And Rule No. 2 is *Don't forget rule No. 1.*

Of course, if it were really that simple for everyone, we'd all be rich. Still investing doesn't have to be that complicated. In fact, most successful investors observe just a few "habits." Here are some of the most common ones:

- *Stay in the market.* The financial markets will always move up and down—but the best investors never get "scared off." They stay invested, and, over the long term, they're often rewarded. They know that some of the biggest gains come at the beginning of market rallies—so they can't afford to be on the sidelines.

Financial Focus, cont'd., pg. 16

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School district works to revamp buildings for higher energy efficiency

By Dan Schneider

Pursuit of energy efficiency drives, and finances, several improvements to Lowell Area Schools buildings this year.

"We want to be good stewards of our facilities," Lowell Area Schools superintendent Shari Miller said. "Our taxpayers have been very generous in funding facilities and we want to keep them up."

Upgrades include new lighting in all school buildings, temperature-control improvements to most buildings, water-conservation measures, and centralized energy management systems. The work is scheduled for completion in February.

The middle school will get a new boiler. The existing one is out of commission. The air conditioning system at Cherry Creek is malfunctioning. Both of them had to be replaced.

"They were looking like hundreds of thousands of dollars for replacement," director of transportation and operations Larry Mikulski said. "We didn't have the money to do it...so that's why we started looking at these other programs."

Financing for the \$2.2 million project will come from the cost savings the improved energy efficiency creates. It's called a performance contracting program. In such a program, the contractor guarantees enough savings from the

energy efficiency to fund the work.

Murray Lake Elementary, since it is new, has up-to-date systems and does not require efficiency upgrades.

The district contracted with Honeywell, Inc., a national company that makes temperature controls, fire alarms, energy management devices and security systems. Honeywell's bid was the better of two the district received, according to Mikulski. Midwest Mechanical made the other bid.

Honeywell makes money on the project by selling its electrical components, and by doing the engineering and project management. If their work fails to yield the promised savings, they have to pay the district the difference.

"It's not going to cost us at all in the end, it's up to them to find the savings," Mikulski said. "If they're wrong, they pay."

"If we do not have the savings, they will write the district a check," Miller said. The company has had to pay districts before.

"It doesn't happen frequently, otherwise I wouldn't have a job," Honeywell account executive Greg Mackey said. "But we have had to do it in the past."

Honeywell has done performance contracting work nationally since 1985. Their recent customers in the area include Grand Rapids Public

Schools, Saranac Community Schools and Portland Public Schools.

Money for the up-front cost of making the improvements comes from the sale of energy bonds. Unlike building construction bonds, the district can sell energy bonds without an election. The district will pay off the bonds in 10 years with the savings from energy efficiency.

Some upgrades generate more savings than others.

"I think on the boilers alone we were looking at a two-year savings to almost pay for the work," Mikulski said. Back when it was func-

tioning, the old boiler at the middle school kept large amounts of water heated all day. The new boiler will heat small amounts of water on demand. It will still have the same effectiveness for heating.

"They just save so much money because they don't heat all that water," Mikulski said. The existing lighting in the school buildings was also inadequate, Mikulski said.

"A lot of them were really old, the lights we had," Mikulski said. "The lighting is bad, you turn them on and some of them work, some of them don't."

The boiler and the lighting create enough efficiency gains to finance other projects.

New bleachers at the middle school, which create no efficiency savings themselves, will be financed through savings incurred by the installation of the new lights and boiler. The current bleachers at the school were condemned last year.

All buildings included in the project will receive external modifications for better heat retention. These measures won't have an impact on the look of the building. They include window replacement at Bushnell Elementary, and a

new roof system on the high school. The warranty is expired on the existing roof.

"A roof without a warranty is just like no roof," Mikulski said.

The plan includes caulking windows and the like on all of the buildings.

Beverage machines will get timers so the lights don't stay on all night, and so the refrigerator coils run only on an as-needed basis. Water conservation retrofits will be made to the plumbing in several buildings and more sophisticated temperature control systems will be installed.

Center provides seniors with health screenings

By Dan Schneider

Lifeline Screening came to the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce last Thursday to test people for various health conditions.

There were 67 people tested, most of them seniors. Tests included screenings for plaque buildup in the carotid artery, which leads to stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms, which are enlargements of the aorta that could result in ruptures; peripheral arterial disease; and bone mass density for osteoporosis. The screenings are intended to find early signs of these conditions before symptoms develop.

Lifeline Screening has come to Lowell several times in the past. The company usually sets up its mobile testing facility in churches around town. This year, the visits were coordinated through the Lowell Community Wellness program.

"Community Wellness has basically been just the venue for them to put it on," community wellness director Jessica Johnston said. "It sup-

ports the whole community, it promotes your health."

It was also an opportunity for the wellness program to distribute its Community Wellness directory to the people coming in for screenings. "We have 6,000 copies so we're working to get it out there," Johnston said of the directory.

Copies are currently available at the Lowell Chamber office, Ledger office, City Hall and, once school starts, at the resource rooms in all Lowell school buildings. One will also be sent home in Friday folders with each K-5 student once the school year begins.

To get a directory from Community Wellness, call 340-7781.

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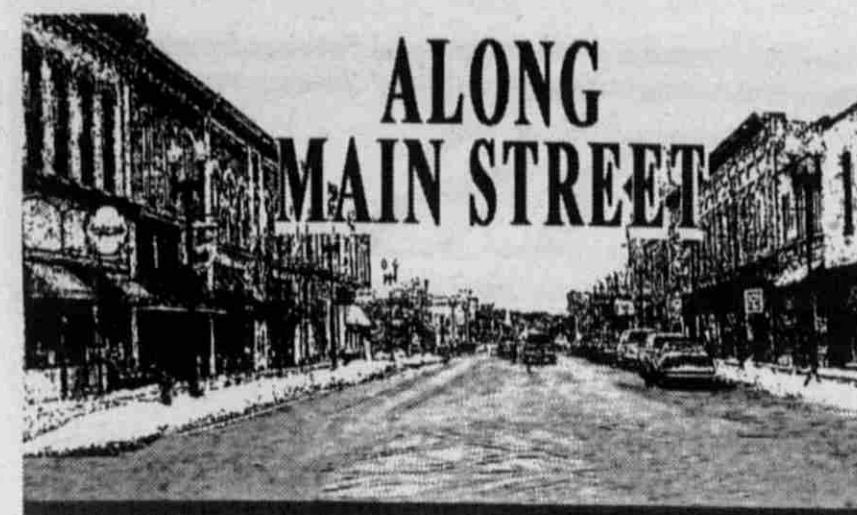
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To get a directory from Community Wellness, call 340-7781.



NEED L.I.V.E. NAMES

Lowell Leadership is looking for people who would like to participate in the eight-session program. Call Liz at 897-9161 or visit the chamber web site at www.lowellchamber.org to sign up for information/schedule for the October program.

ATHLETIC BOOSTERS FIRST MEETING

The regular business meeting of the Athletic Booster Club will begin the season at the stadium concession stand at 7 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 23. Following will be concession training for new parent reps.

Vergennes board discusses trails, industry, complications involving utility pole storage

By Dan Schneider

The first business before the Vergennes Township board Monday night dealt with industry policy in the global market.

Patrick Quinlan, owner of Precise Engineering on Lincoln Lake Avenue, and Ray De Winkle, vice president of The Right Place, Inc., presented information to the board regarding a new state law offering renaissance recovery zones for tool and die companies.

Approved by Gov. Jennifer Granholm July 13, the Tool and Die Recovery Zone Act is intended to help make Michigan's tool and die industry more competitive in a global market.

"Our industry is turning downhill," Quinlan said. "Asian companies and European companies are starting to take the work."

"We were up to 55 employees one and a half years

ago and now we're down to 44 and we've got six laid off. We're just not getting the orders we used to get."

The act would give companies tax abatements for up to 15 years to help them get back on their feet. The recovery zones would cover individual tool and die businesses, but they must be part of a coalition to qualify. Precise Engineering is part of the coalition state lawmakers used for a model in drafting the bill, according to De Winkle. The duration of the recovery zone is in effect is at the discretion of the municipalities involved.

The tax abatements would have an impact on taxes paid to the township, but the companies would see their greatest tax freedom from the abatement of the state's single business tax.

De Winkle said he and Quinlan plan to come before the board again when the state finalizes the application pro-

cess for the program, possibly as early as October.

An idiosyncrasy in municipal boundary lines may create headaches for Lowell Light and Power if the utility wants to expand its storage facility on North Washington. The storage area, called the "pole yard," sits partly within the Lowell city limits and partly within a spur of land that remains part of Vergennes Township.

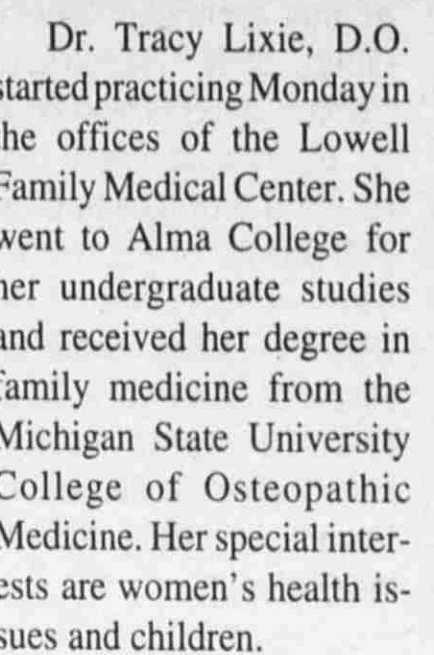
According to Lowell Light and Power general manager Tom Richards, any logical expansion project for the storage facility would take place on both municipalities at the same time. In the interest of saving the extra administrative and engineering costs this situation would create, Richards asked the board to consider allowing the city to annex the spur.

The spur goes northeast along Washington Street. It includes the pole yard, the boy scout cabin, and a rental home

owned by the city of Lowell. The spur is bounded on three sides by the Lowell corporate line.

Richards did not go into detail on any planned expansion, but said the utility would like to get some work done on a project during the current construction season.

Vergennes board discussions, cont'd., pg. 16



Dr. Tracy Lixie, D.O.

Dr. Tracy Lixie, D.O. started practicing Monday in the offices of the Lowell Family Medical Center. She went to Alma College for her undergraduate studies and received her degree in family medicine from the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine. Her special interests are women's health issues and children.

She recently completed three years of residency at Metropolitan Hospital in Grand Rapids. Born and raised in Grand Ledge, Lixie chose to practice in Lowell for its small town atmosphere.

"It was a good opportu-

nity," she said. "It seemed like a good town to practice in, a nice small town."

She intends to move here within the next year with her husband, Paul, and their 18-month-old son.

THANK YOU

Thank you to FAIRCHILD OIL/CRYSTAL FLASH for buying my Holstein market steer at the Kent County Youth Fair.

- Matt Francisco



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Thursday Yard Waste Pickup Schedule
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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.: Fallsburg Historical Society board meetings at chamber office or Fallsburg, 7 p.m. All invited. Call 897-7161 for info. or location.

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

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

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 M1#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. Beltline) at 7 p.m. Call Linda: 874-5662; teen group: Sarah 281-6588.

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

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

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

EVERY WED.: Lowell Church of the Nazarene 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.

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.

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

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

THURS., AUG. 19: Summer Sizzlin' concert on the Riverwalk "Doc's of Dixieland," 7-9 p.m.

FRI., AUG. 20: The "River Rogues Dixieland Band", 7-9 p.m., Riverwalk Plaza.

MON., AUG. 23: (Note date change.) Lowell Ath-

letic Boosters regular meeting 7 p.m. at stadium concession stand. Concession training follows for new parent reps.

TUES., AUG. 24: Fall gymnastics sign-up at Lowell Community Education office, 320 N. Monroe, 6-8 p.m.; also Aug. 25, 10 a.m. until classes are all full. Payment upon registration.

THURS., SEPT. 2: Free food commodities for low income families, 9-5 p.m. at Moose Recreation Hall, 1320 E. Main. 897-6792.

THURS., SEPT. 2: Vergennes Cooperative Club will meet at Schneider Manor activities room at 1 p.m. Program: Fallsburg Fall Festival. Hostesses: Marsha Wilcox, Mary Ann Gwatkin, Greta Parsons.

TUES., SEPT. 7: TOPS Mi 372 40th anniversary celebration held at Lowell First United Methodist Church, 6 p.m. All past members are invited.

SAT., OCT. 30: Crafters are needed for the 3rd annual Family, Friends and Neighbors craft show at the Grattan Academy High School in Greenville. Call Dianna 691-6504.

Inclement weather fails to dampen enthusiasm at youth fair

By Dan Schneider

Last week's Kent County Youth Fair at the Lowell fairgrounds was considered a success despite poor weather halfway through the week.

"Thank you to all the livestock sale supporters because we had a record sale," said youth fair president Ron Wenger. "The businesses around here were just fantastic."

The livestock auction set a record for the fair, grossing just over \$400,000. This bested last year's figure by about \$60,000.

"We just had great support from our buyers," said

fair treasurer Jessica Marks.

High prices paid per pound on cattle and swine more than made up for an overall drop in the number of animals exhibited this year. Although the fair had 100 fewer animal entries this year, there were 500 registered buyers.

And though there were fewer animal entries, the Foreman building was full to capacity with still exhibits.

"We couldn't get another thing into it," Wenger said. "The still exhibits were way up."

There was rain Tuesday and Wednesday, and unseasonably cool temperatures prevailed throughout fair week. Yet the fair's stake from the carnival was only about \$100 less than last year. Expanded Saturday hours and good attendance that day made up for a slow day

Wednesday, which is traditionally the busiest day at the fair.

Saturday night was the first time the fair hosted bluegrass bands. Apple Blossom and The Williams Family played for visitors and a large number of exhibitors who waited for Sunday morning to pack up the fair. Sunday's non-denominational church service filled the entire tent.



Lowell Area Fire Department firemen Steve Noall (left) and Shannon Witherell use the jaws of life to separate the A pillar of a Buick before rolling back the roof last Thursday during a demonstration at the Kent County Youth Fair. They had already used "parrot cutters," another hydraulic rescue tool, to cut the B and C pillars and put a crease in the back of the roof. Three firemen bent the roof back. In a rollover accident, cutting the roof off the vehicle is often the fastest way to rescue the occupants. The department uses money from its fundraising efforts to buy this kind of rescue equipment. The firefighters gave demonstrations last Thursday and Friday evenings at the fair to show how the equipment is used. Hansen Collision sponsored the demonstration and Weller Auto Parts provided the vehicles.

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Disney's PRINCESS DIARIES 2
SHOWTIMES 8/16 - 8/19
PRINCESS DIARIES 2 (G) 11:45, 2:05, 4:25, 6:45, 9:05
COLLATERAL (R) 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00
LITTLE BLACK BOOK (PG-13) 12:05, 2:20, 4:35, 6:50, 9:05
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LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR
WEEKLY ACTIVITIES 897-5949
MON.: 9:00 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall.
TUES.: 9:00 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall.
THURS.: 9:00 a.m. Walk/Shop at Malls; 9:30 a.m. Crafts; 1:00 p.m. Euchre.
FRI.: 9:00 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall.
SPECIAL EVENTS
WED., AUG. 18: 12:45 p.m. Shop Meijer.
THURS., AUG. 19: 12:30 p.m. St. Anne's Dessert and Music.
FRI., AUG. 20: 12 p.m. Birthday/Anniversary; 12:45 p.m. Bingo.
MON., AUG. 23: 12 p.m. Soup and Salad Lunch.
TUES., AUG. 24: 4 p.m. Pizza Party with Carol Clay.
WED., AUG. 25: 8:30 a.m. Traveling Breakfast Real Food; 12:45 p.m. Radio Bible Ministries.
THURS., AUG. 26: 12:45 p.m. Shop Horrocks Steak and Shake.
FRI., AUG. 27: 12:45 p.m. Bingo.
MON., AUG. 30: 4 p.m. Dinner at Brann's.
TUES., AUG. 31: 12 p.m. Potato Bar Lunch.

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LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS VARSITY FALL SPORTS SCHEDULE

This Page Brought to You By

The Lowell Ledger

Varsity Football

* Indicates a home game at Red Arrow Stadium
All games begin at 7 p.m. unless indicated

8/18	Rockford/Catholic Central/Charlotte* Time TBA
8/27	Grandville*
9/2	Cedar Springs
9/10	Sparta*
9/17	East Grand Rapids*
9/24	Kenowa Hills
10/1	Northview
10/8	Greenville* (Homecoming)
10/15	Unity Christian @ Allendale
10/22	Crossover (Gold)



Boys Varsity Golf

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

8/16 at 8:30 a.m.	Wayland Invitational
8/18 at 8 a.m.	Conference at Boulder Creek
8/19 at 8 a.m.	Rockford Invitational at N. Kent
8/25	Unity Christian*
9/1	Cedar Springs*
9/8	Sparta
9/10 at 9 a.m.	Lakeview Invitational
9/14	East Grand Rapids
9/15	Kenowa Hills
9/20	Forest Hills Eastern*
9/22	Northview*
9/27	Greenville*
10/4 at 8 a.m.	Conference at Boulder Creek



Boys & Girls Varsity Cross Country

* Indicates a home meet at LHS Campus

8/19 at 8:30 a.m.	East GR Invitational
8/21 at 10 a.m.	Wayland Invitational
8/31 at 4 p.m.	Grade Level Meet at Sparta
9/8 at 4:30 p.m.	Cedar Springs at EGR
Girls at 5:30 p.m.	
9/13 at 4 p.m.	Middleville Invitational
9/15 at 4 p.m.	Sparta at Cedar Springs
Boys at 5 p.m.	
9/18 at 8 a.m.	Sparta Invitational
9/22 at 4:30 p.m.	EGR at Sparta
Boys at 5:30 p.m.	

9/25 at 9 a.m.	Lowell Invitational*
9/29 at 4 p.m.	Kenowa Hills*



10/2 at 9 a.m.	Carson City Invitational
10/6 at 4 p.m.	Northview at Northview
Boys at 5 p.m.	
10/13 at 4 p.m.	Greenville at Johnson Park
Boys at 5 p.m.	
10/20 at 4:30 p.m.	Unity Christian at Grville
10/23 at 10:00 a.m.	Conference at Johnson Park
Boys at 10:30 a.m.	



Girls Varsity Basketball

* Indicates a home game at LHS Main Gym
All games begin at 7:30 p.m. unless indicated

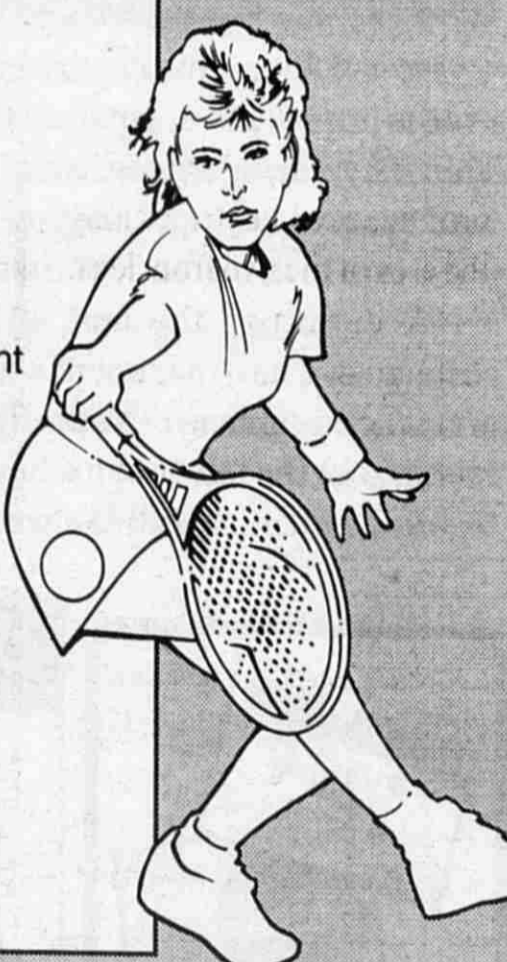
8/25	Jenison*
8/31	Belding*
9/8	Rockford*
9/11	Byron Center
9/14	Sparta
9/16	East Grand Rapids
9/21	Kenowa Hills*
9/23	Northview*
9/28	Greenville
9/30	Unity Christian*
10/5	Ionia
10/7	Cedar Springs
10/14	Sparta*
10/21	East Grand Rapids*
10/26	Kenowa Hills
10/28	Northview
11/2	Greenville*
11/4	Unity Christian
11/9	Cedar Springs*
11/11	Crossover (Gold)



Girls Varsity Tennis

* Indicates a home game @ LHS Tennis Courts
Games begin at 4 p.m. unless indicated

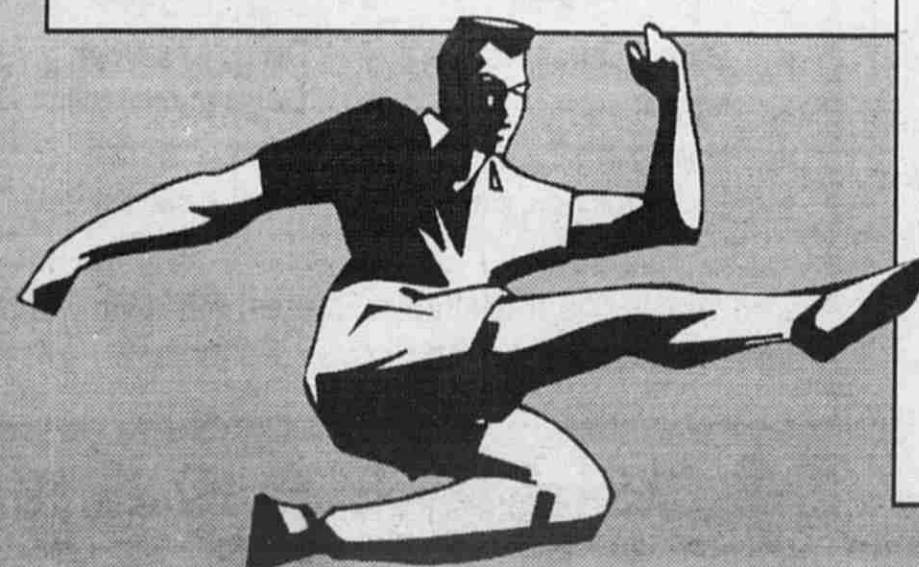
8/16 at 3 p.m.	Forest Hills Central
8/18	Union
8/19	Lakewood*
8/21 at 9 a.m.	Ionia Invitational
8/23	Forest Hills Eastern*
8/27 at 8:30 a.m.	GR Christian Tournament
9/8	Unity Christian*
9/11 at 8 a.m.	Northview Tournament
9/13	Sparta
9/15	East Grand Rapids
9/18 at 9:30 a.m.	Lowell Invitational*
9/20	Kenowa Hills
9/22	Northview*
9/27	Greenville*
9/29	Cedar Springs*
10/2 at 8:30 a.m.	Conference (Greenville)
10/5	Crossover - Gold



Boys Varsity Soccer

* Indicates a home game at Red Arrow Stadium • Games begin at 6:45 p.m. unless indicated

8/21 at 12:45 p.m.	Traverse City West	9/18 at 12:45	Fruitport*
8/26 at 7:00 p.m.	Grandville	9/21 at 7:15 p.m.	Greenville
8/31	Caledonia	9/23	Unity Christian*
9/2	Rockford*	9/28	Cedar Springs*
9/7	Sparta	10/2 at 11:30 a.m.	E. Lansing Tournament
9/9 at 7:15 p.m.	East Grand Rapids	10/5 - TBA	Crossover
9/11 at 1 p.m.	Petoskey*	10/7 - TBA	OK Tournament*
9/14	Kenowa Hills*	10/11 - TBA	OK Tournament*
9/16	Northview*	10/14 - TBA	OK Tournament*



Raising a fair pig, continued...From Page 13

Jones is a member of the Lowell-Alto Friends 4-H group. She has been grooming two hogs, one gilt (Ivory) and one barrow (Ebony), since they were born on March 15, 2004. A gilt is a female pig that has not given birth, and a barrow is a neutered male pig.

Jones spent a fair amount of time keeping them warm under heat lamps as newborns. Technically March is one month late in breeding pigs up to the 225-pound minimum weight at the Kent County Youth Fair. Tracy gave the small hogs milk in addition to the normal pellet feed to help them gain two pounds a day.

"Without milk, I couldn't have gotten them up to the right weight. I mix it in with their feed, and they like it a lot better. It just makes them want to eat more," Jones explained.

She fed and watered them at least four times a day, cleaned their pen once a week, and walked them each morning.

"Not everyone does, but it's a good thing to do so they get used to walking with a cane," Jones said.

This year will be her fourth year of showing pigs, but she has been around them her whole life. She shows goats, too, but prefers pigs.

She said, "I like pigs better because I've been around them more. Pigs are a lot easier. Goats are more work because you need to get them used to a collar."

Jones explained that Ebony is mostly of Hampshire breed, but Ivory is a cross between a Yorkshire and Hampshire. Yorkshires are white pigs, and a Hampshire is a black pig with a prominent white stripe along the area of the two front legs.

According to Jones, "Breed doesn't matter in showing a pig. Judges want to see that it is under control. A good pig is tame and easy to work with."

Judge Russ Helmreich agreed. Helmreich graduated from Michigan State University in 1996. There he learned how to judge pigs and give an oral evaluation.

He said, "I like to see how they're moving it around the ring. I look to see who has best control of the pig. Eye contact is good, I know it's hard when they're trying to guide the pig, but I like them to be aware of me."

She chose to show Ivory because she's worked with her more than Ebony and hoped she would perform better.

"Ivory is kind of feisty. She's one of the pigs that fight the most," said Jones. She added that pigs are aggressive biters, leaving scratches or teeth marks on their skin.

True to character, Ivory slept a lot in the fair pens and then got in a fight a few hours before her Monday night show.

In the ring, Jones used a cane to guide Ivory and Ebony. She would tap behind the right or left ear to make the pig turn in that direction. Judge Helmreich wanted the animals to stay about 10 feet in front of him and 15 feet on either side, but the pigs ran around the ring in a crazy mass, occasionally obeying a tap from their handler.

After an impressive first round on the show floor, Ivory acted up in the finals. She ran away from Jones and started two fights with other pigs. The angry hogs had to

be broken up with a white board, and eventually Ivory was corralled. Jones made good eye contact with the judge, but her hard work showed only in the first round.

The judge watched the pigs from all four sides of the ring. Then the handlers ushered them into cages where the judge could question the owners individually. Helmreich stressed basic knowledge of the pigs.

Jones answered that Ivory weighed 245 pounds, and she would want her to weigh a little more than that.

Jones received a pink ribbon for participation. Kelly Pent won the contest for the Junior Level swine showing.

At Tuesday's show for meat class at auction, Ivory finished ninth. Jones seemed content with that award and relieved to be done with the shows.

She said, "It feels good. I'm not too disappointed, at least I got something. Now, I just feed them all week and sell on Thursday."

Fair pigs must be sold at the auction as part of the Kent County Fair rules.

Jones said, "Some years I get attached more than others, but I always know that if I come home, there are more pigs and more babies for me to take care of."



Tracy Jones waits for her chance to show Ivory, her Yorkshire/Hampshire pig in the Junior division at the Kent County Youth Fair.

Join us for our Ladies Day Trip to Northville, MI, Wednesday, September 8, 2004. (We'll depart from Ionia Fairgrounds at 7:30 a.m. and return at 5:30 p.m.)

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East Grand Rapids, September 17 • Greenville, October 8

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CURTIS CLEANERS DRY CLEANING DESK.

Bidding will close 2 days prior to the home football game at 5 p.m. (8/25, 9/8, 9/15, 10/6)

The winner will be notified that same night

Proceeds from the event will be used for Football uniforms purchases (Minimum bid \$200)

Catered Luxury Box meal provided by Vitale's of Ada

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Golf team hits the links, begins fall season

By Dan Schneider

The Red Arrows took fourth place Monday in a golf invitational at Orchard Hills Golf Club in Wayland.

Kyle Wittenbach shot a 77 to take third in the overall individual. His score, along with scores by Vinnie Larkin (86), Mark Cerajewski (86), and Ryan Kalman (87) added

up to Lowell's team total, 336. That score was just behind Hastings' 334 who placed third.

"It was a good, solid effort," said Lowell varsity golf coach Gary Fredline.

The course and weather conditions were good for the invitational, said Fredline. Of the 12 teams competing, Wayland took top honors,

shooting 320 on their home course.

Lowell had its own invitational last Thursday at Deer Run Golf Club. The Arrows placed third out of 16 teams. The tournament consisted of three types of golf games.

Wittenbach had the best score for an 18-hole round with 79. Kalman shot 90. Cerajewski and Josh

Gilliard scored 81 in a two-player best-ball round. Larkin and Brian Scheider shot 71 in a two-player scramble.

Grand Rapids Christian took first place in the Lowell Invitational.

At last Wednesday's Kent County Invitational at L.E. Kaufman Golf Course, Lowell took 11th place out of 22 teams. Red Arrow scores were

Wittenbach (78), Scheider (83), Gilliard (89) and Kalman (91). Grand Rapids Catholic Central won the invitational.

Fredline considers the season off to a good start for the young team. The Red Arrows lost seven seniors after finishing third last year in the OK White.

The make-up of this year's

team after the Aug. 5 tryouts is five juniors, including Wittenbach, three sophomores and one senior.

"They're only going to get better. I think we're going to be very competitive and we'll be in the upper tier of the OK White," Fredline said.

Financial Focus, continued...From Page 9

Invest with your head—not your heart. The truly great investors do not "fall in love" with investments, nor do they refuse to admit mistakes. They're willing to cut losses, if need be, but they also have the discipline to stay the course when the going gets tough. Ultimately, they make decisions based on solid information—and always with an eye toward the future.

Forget about the "hot" stock tips. Human beings have always been fascinated by myths. And in the investment world, one of the most popular myths is that of the "hot stock tip." After all, we reason, at some point, someone got in on the "ground floor" of Microsoft. So, isn't it possible that the stock tip you got from your neighbor (or from the Internet, the investment newsletter or any other source) will lead to the Next Big Thing? It is possible—but it's extremely unlikely. The best investors didn't "strike it rich" on one stock—they accumulated wealth slowly, over time, by finding high-quality stocks sold at reasonable prices.

Don't "grade" investments too often. It's important to choose the right time frame in which to evaluate your holdings. Professional investors and analysts may check up on their investments every single day. But most of us don't have to do that—and we shouldn't. If you're constantly evaluating the performance of your investments, you will drive yourself crazy worrying about market fluctuations. Furthermore, your zealous investment reviews may well lead you into making bad, reactive decisions. If you've constructed a solid, diversified portfolio, you don't need to get overly concerned over what may be short-term setbacks. Evaluate your holdings no more than once a quarter—and once a year may even be better.

Don't deceive yourself. When you do review your holdings, look at them all together. Although most may be doing well, you can't be complacent—it only takes one or two "losers" to drag down your whole portfolio. If these laggards are down temporarily, it might not be a problem, but if they persistently struggle, consider selling because you may be able to find better ways to use your investment dollars.

Even if you follow these guidelines, you may never become the next Warren Buffet. But you will be cultivating some solid investment habits that should serve you well for many years into the future.

To The Editor, continued...From Page 5

—The purpose of this letter is not to support one side over another because both sides have valid points.

—The people who are responsible to make the courageous decisions now are being demonized, just as CQE members were over 10 years ago.

—The issues must be discussed as transparently as possible and both sides must consider the welfare of the students, teachers, and system on a long-term basis.

The purpose of the school is to provide an education to

every child. At the risk of asking the most unpopular question yet, "What is more important, having good teachers or having good sports?" will the "new" CQE be asking these same questions in 10 more years?

Citizens For Quality Education
Shawn and Winnie Eshragh
Ellen McClain

Saving a tree, continued...From Page 3

DesJarden said the Bartlett arborist did state, in his recommendation, that further tests could be done on the tree to determine the amount of solid versus decaying wood, but that those tests would cost. Having someone else look at the tree would also have a price tag on it, he added.

By consensus, the city

council agreed to go forward with the additional tests from Bartlett, and that DesJarden was to inform Blough when those tests were to take place.

"I'm going away and I don't want to come back to where the tree is gone, like I did before," Blough said. In 2003, it was decided a tree on Blough's property had to be removed. Blough agreed

and upon his return discovered a second tree that did not need to be removed, had been, based on the recommendation of the tree removal company. Blough sought restitution for damages on his property; he and the city reached a settlement.

"If this tree has 10 years of life, it should have 10 years of life," Blough said, adding that he felt it was an asset to the city, and as a citizen of the city, he would fight for this tree or any other tree in the city.

Vergennes board discussions, cont'd...From Page 11

detail on any planned expansion, but said the utility would like to get some work done on a project during the current construction season.

The board decided to re-search the situation and take the matter up again at next month's meeting.

The township board reviewed a draft of the Lowell Area Trailway Agreement. The document is an agreement between Lowell and Vergennes townships and the city of Lowell to establish the Lowell Area Recreation Authority (LARA). The entity would be responsible for the creation of the Lowell Area Trailway and could collect donations and apply for grants for that purpose.

The most recent draft would have the LARA established with a seven-member board including residents

and municipal officials. The draft would also limit LARA's ownership to the trail itself, along with benches, trash cans, and other things directly related to the trail.

The Vergennes board also approved a letter of support for a joint grant application between the LARA and the North Country Trail Association (NCTA). The grant from the Lowell Area Community Fund would give the NCTA the funds necessary to hire a full-time grant writer for two years. During this time, the grant writer would devote 20 percent of his or her time to grant projects for the Lowell Area Trailway.

A resolution was also approved by the township board to make Sept. 24 POW-MIA Recognition Day.

Softball champs

"Sportsmanship, Fellowship and Fun" was the team motto for the 1st United Methodist Church of Lowell, winners of the Division 1 YMCA Monday night co-ed softball league.

Pictured front row, left to right, are: Nate Huisman, Chris Kleinpaste, Amy VanDyne, coach Ivan Blough, Elaine Haines, Jacqui Dimmick and Katie Blough; 2nd row: Nancy Roth, Brittany Huisman, Rev. Mike Conklin and Meagan Malone; 3rd row: Nick Blough, Al Halbeisen, Ryan Churches, Len Hanline, Susan Wagner, Dave Kleinpaste, Justin Peterson and Devon Huisman. The team ended the season 10-1-1.



Health



PROSTATE CANCER

The prostate gland is part of the male reproductive system. A normal prostate is about the size of a walnut. Prostate cancer is the most common kind of cancer in American men, other than skin cancer. The American Cancer Society estimates that there will be 230,000 new cases of prostate cancer in the U.S. every year, and that about 29,000 men will die of this disease. Each year for an American man, the lifetime risk of getting prostate cancer is 1 in 6.

Although men of any age can get prostate cancer, it is found most often in men older than 50 years. More than eight out of 10 men with prostate cancer are older than 65 years.

Black men are at greater risk than white men. Men with a family history of prostate cancer are at higher risk too. Family history means that your father or brother had cancer of the prostate.

If you are 40 or older, it is recommended that you have an annual prostate exam by your physician. If you are over 50, a prostate blood test (PSA) should be performed also. If your prostate exam or PSA is abnormal, an ultrasound of the prostate is in order. If that is also abnormal, a biopsy of the prostate will be done by a urologist. If cancer is actually diagnosed, there are many therapies and options available. As with many diseases, screening and early detection are exceedingly important.

Charity golfer hits hole in one

Jeff Zbojniczewicz, of Lansing, scored a hole-in-one last Wednesday at the golf outing for cystic fibrosis at Quail Ridge Golf Club sponsored by Regal Insurance. He hit a seven iron 158 yards on hole number four to accomplish the feat. His team name was Regal One. Zbojniczewicz reportedly claimed the shot to be his fourth hole-in-one.

**SYNOPSIS
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE LOWELL
CITY COUNCIL
AUGUST 2, 2004**

Minutes of the July 19, 2004 meeting were approved as corrected and the accounts payable were approved.

The following motions were approved:

- Motion to approve the Community Development Block Grant vendor contract for North Kent Transit Service involving the 2004-2005 fiscal year.
- Motion to approve the lease agreement with Berger Chevrolet for two Impala police cruisers at a cost of \$11,935.70 for three years with a \$1.00 purchase at the end of the contract.
- Motion to accept the bid from Richard Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$4,480 for the repair of the Burch Field lighting control cabinets.

It was noted the following commission positions need appointment and if any registered City residents are interested they should contact either Mayor Jeanne Shores or City Clerk Betty Morlock by sending a letter of interest to 301 E. Main St., Lowell, MI 49331 or calling 897-8457:

	<u>Term Expires</u>
Downtown Historic District Commission	01/01/2007
Planning Commission	06/30/2005
Local Officers Compensation Commission	06/30/2006

Motion to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, August 16, 2004.

Complete minutes are available at Lowell City Hall, 301 E. Main St., Lowell, MI 49331.

Betty R. Morlock, City Clerk
City of Lowell

**Thank You
Lowell Township
Residents
For Your Support
On August 3rd!**

- Leonard Den Houwer

MANDIE STURGEON

I'm so proud of you! You're dancing your way to your dreams! - Love Mom

COLLEGE NEWS

Cornerstone University has announced its spring 2004 graduate list.

From the Lowell area are **Linda Cooper, Adam Mix, Jeanne Palcowski, Elizabeth Roudabush, Sarah Sanchez, David Settle and Maggie Wisner.**

Calvin College has announced its 2004-'05 scholarships for new and transfer students.

From the Alto area is **Sara Krips.** She received the Calvin Honors Scholarship.

Albion College has recently announced its scholarships for the 2004-'05 academic year.

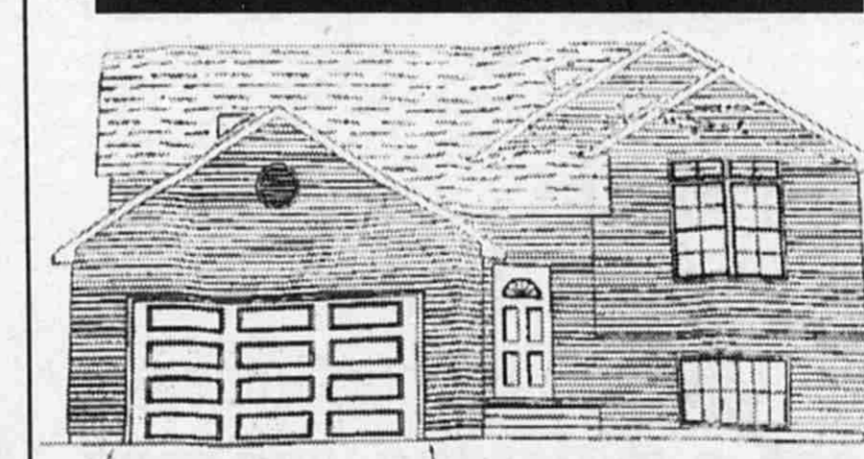
Justin Peterson and Stephanie Wagner, 2004 graduates of Lowell High School, each received an

Albion College Presidential Scholarship. To qualify for this award, a student must graduate with a grade point average above 3.7 and an ACT score above 27 or an SAT above 1220.

Matthew Scheider, also a 2004 Lowell High School graduate, has received an Albion College Webster Scholarship. To obtain this award, Scheider had to graduate from high school with a grade point average above 3.7 and an ACT score above 27 or an SAT score above 1140.

The three Lowell graduates will be first year students at Albion.

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Dr. Paul Gauthier, Dr. James Lang, Dr. John Meier and Dr. Wayne Christenson are pleased to announce the addition of Dr. Tracy Lixie to the staff of Lowell Family Medical Center.

Dr. Lixie is a board-certified family practitioner and is a recent graduate of the Family Practice Residency program at Metropolitan Hospital. She will provide comprehensive care to patients of all ages and has a special interest in women and children.

You may schedule an appointment by calling (616) 252-5600

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GARAGE SALES

GARAGE SALE
Fri., Aug. 20 & Sat., Aug. 21, 9-5 p.m. 303 Roberta Jayne. Some antique & collectible glass & figurines, rubber stamps, misc. household items.

GARAGE SALE
Vacuums, bike, kids picnic table, also lots of boys clothes, sz. 8 to XL, women's clothes too. Aug. 19, 20 & 21? at 417 Hunt St. 9-6 p.m.

GARAGE SALE
Fri., Aug. 20, 9 - 5 p.m. & Sat., Aug. 21, 9 - 1 p.m. 1406 Sibley. Clothes, toys, books, misc.

YARD SALE
Aug. 20, 10-5 p.m. & Aug. 21, 10-3 p.m. Teen girl/women adult clothes, show clothes, lots of misc. 1333 Pinckney Rd.

GARAGE SALE
3 family. 9771 Sayles Rd., Lowell. Aug. 19, 20 & 21, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

THE BEST OF THE BEST SALE

Huge amount of electrical supplies (new), tackle boxes, coolers, lat. file cabinet, 4x camo hunting suit (new), bed, dresser, dining table, 2 leaves, 4 chairs, small B/W/ metal top table, 2 chairs, misc. furniture, Step 2 swimming pool w/slides, Step 2 motorized car, toys, Princess House Crystal, Fantasia dinnerware, clothes: men, women, boys, girls. Household items too many to mention. Aug. 21, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. 9280 Wingeier Ave., Alto. 616-765-3061.

MOVING SALE
House & Yard items, garage items. Shelves w/or without doors, 1992 Cavalier, Honda 3 wheeler, go cart & misc. Aug. 19 & 20, 9-5 p.m. 3700 Heron Hollow, Lincoln Lake to 4 Mile East.

YARD SALE
Aug. 19 & 20, 9-5 p.m. Rain date, Aug. 26 & 27. 58 years of accumulation. Elec. appliances, dehumidifier, furniture, baskets, dishes, stuffed animals, Matchbox cars, fans, lamps & more. No clothes, no checks. 519 N. Monroe.

GARAGE SALE
Thurs., Aug. 19 & Fri., Aug. 20, 8-5 p.m. New diabetic monitors & supplies, Wearerver pots & pans, humidifier, pressure cookers, dishes, clothes, weed eaters, lawn mower, misc. household & more. 5132 Sand Hill Dr. S. of Lowell off Ware Rd., follow signs.

GARAGE SALE
Thurs., Aug. 19, 9 to 5 p.m. 10763 Grand River Dr. (near Kissing Rock Rd.)

PORCH SALE
Cheap prices! Tues., Wed., & Thurs., Aug. 17 - 19, 10-6 p.m. 11355 Shiela, Lot 167.

THURSDAY/FRIDAY, AUGUST 19 & 20
Garage Sale. 9-5 p.m. Something for everyone! Dresser, toaster oven, books, clothes, stereo components, computer, bikes, toys, misc. Cleaned the house, don't want to bring back in. 13491 Forest River (off Flat River).

MOVING SALE!
Safe Haven Humane Society. Furniture, clothing, collectibles, electronics & much more! Thurs. & Fri., Sept 9 & 10 from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Everything has been priced to sell! Proceeds will benefit the homeless animals of SHHS. 330 Fourth St., Ionia (behind Cathy's Hilltop Salon off M-21).

BARN SALE
Aug. 19, 20 & 21, 9-dusk. A barn full of surprises, clothes: adult-kids, baby items, toys, dishes, furniture, twin bed, ice fishing shelter, mics, tools, antique furniture, other antiques plus many more items. 12434 Cascade Rd.

GARAGE SALE
One day only, Aug. 21. 2 miles E. of Lowell off M-21 between Whites Bridge & Montcalm on Tower Rd. Lots of dishes, clothes & misc.

BIG SALE
Portable welder, furniture, lawn care equipment, kids to adult clothes, boys, girls 8 mos. to 10/12, lots of misc. Aug. 21 & 22, 9-? 12961 7 Mile Rd., off Lincoln Lake.

CANCELLED YARD SALE
last week due to illness. Back on for Aug. 18, 19 & 20, 9-? 11326 Denise, lot 120.

GARAGE SALE
Aug. 19, 9-3 p.m., Aug. 20, 9-5 p.m. & Aug. 21, 9-5 p.m. 691 Birchwood Ct. Our junk - your treasure.

FIRST ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD SALE
Pratt Lake Rd. SE, Alto. 2 1/2 miles of garage sales. M-50 to 64th (East) to Pratt Lake Rd. or M-50 to 84th (East) to Pratt Lake Rd. Children & adult clothing all sizes, furniture, misc. household items, grills, bikes, toys, dishwasher, add-on wood furnace, small pickup cap, lots more. Aug. 19, 20, 9-5 p.m.; Aug. 21, 9-1 p.m.

GARAGE SALE
11365 Foreman Rd., Friday, Aug. 20, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. 1992 Isuzu truck, \$800. 897-8978.

YARD SALE EXTRAVAGANZA
Items for young and old. Furniture, toys, sports items, much more. 241 Vosper, Saranac. Friday, Aug. 20.

GARAGE SALE
Sat., Aug. 21, 9-5 p.m. Girl's clothes size 5-12, Little Tikes, Barbie, Fisher Price, dollhouses, and more. 125 S. Grove, Lowell.

HUGE MULTI-FAMILY SALE
12942 Vergennes, Fri., Aug. 20, 8-4 p.m. & Sat., Aug. 21, 8-?

BARN SALE
Two days, Thurs. & Fri., Aug. 19 & 20, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Furniture, antiques, books, household goods and more. 7791 MacArthur Rd., 2 miles south of Saranac.

YARD SALE
Saturday, Aug. 21. Women's clothes size 0-5, books, collectibles, odds & ends. 423 Suffolk.

DEADLINE FOR THIS PAGE IS MONDAYS AT 5 P.M.

PRICES FOR THIS PAGE!

15 words - \$7 +25¢ each additional word.

Runs as a package deal in the Lowell Ledger & Buyers Guide.

Deadline for this page is Mon. at 5 p.m. for the weekend

Lowell Ledger!

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The Lowell Ledger

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

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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.

WANTED
LAND WANTED - Developer looking to purchase vacant land. J.T. Scott Co., Broker, 616-540-8950.
WANTED - Land to lease for hunting purpose. Small or large tracts. 616-293-2293.

FREE
FREE TO GOOD HOME - Black Lab mix, 6 mo. old male, housebroken, good dog. 642-0388.
LEDGER OFFICE HOURS: MON. - THURS. 8-5 FRI. 8-4
We Have a Drop Box/Mail Slot in the Door Closest to the Post Office

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.

LOWELL - 2 NEW Homes off M-21 near parks, schools and shopping. All appliances and yard will be included with full price offers: 917 Boves Rd. - 2 bedroom, 1 bath ranch, main floor laundry, 2 stall-attached garage - \$124,900. 717 Amity - 2 bedrooms, 1 bath daylight ranch with finished lower level family room, 2 additional bedrooms roughed in and 2nd bath plumbed in - \$139,900. Call Sue Boogaard, (616)633-3507, AJS REALTY.

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.

HOME FOR SALE - Alto/Caledonia area. New 2 bedroom ranch, 1 1/2 baths, 2 bedrooms & 1 bath unfinished, main level laundry, large finished garage, rec room, cathedral ceilings, look out windows, large lot, Lowell Schools. \$194,000. Call 676-9239.

\$100 AMISH QUEEN LOG BED - w/pillowtop mattress set. Bought, never used. Still in plastic. 989-227-2986.

ARAB - Broodmare, 14 years old, \$450. Call 989-291-3452.

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

2 POSSIBLY 3 BEDROOM TRAILER - in Key Heights. \$3,000 obo. Call 616-262-5924.

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

FOR SALE - Maytag washer; Whirlpool gas dryer; weight bench with assorted weights, \$50 each. Call 897-7273.

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.

LAND FOR SALE - 3.8 acres, great wooded walkout possibility, perked, paved road, 3 miles NE downtown Lowell. \$44,900. Call/LM at 616-485-5702.

25 BUNK BEDS - bought from university, 4 years old, very sturdy, solid oak, \$99/ set. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

1991 BUICK LESABRE - \$800 obo. Owner anxious. Call 897-2568.

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.

KENMORE WASHER - Heavy duty, full size w/warranty. Delivery available. \$75. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

MEMORY CELL MATTRESS - NASA developed, 20 year warranty. Brand new. Queen Cost \$1,800, sell \$650, king \$950. 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160.

\$150 KING PILLOWTOP SEALY MATTRESS - 1 month old, comfort return, still like new. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

GOLF BALLS FOR SALE - All in perfect condition with no scuff marks. Assorted brands now only 25¢ each. Call 897-8520.

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

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

OAK TWIN BED - Solid. Includes mattress, very clean, \$69. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

OAK DESK - Walnut entertainment center, oak dinette set, PSE compound bow, Cannon FTB camera, 40" wood lathe, 10" tablesaw, 14" band saw, many household items. Phone 897-6772.

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

1989 CHRYSLER LEBARON - Convertible. Two years on new top. Stored winters. Good tires and body. Runs good, \$995 obo. Call 897-7489.

80 YARDS OF CARPET - left over from convention center. \$99 till gone. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

427 ACRES - Greenville area, woods, creek & 316 tillable acres. 3 homes, several large farm buildings. Bill Stouten, 1031 INC., 616-915-1900 or 616-774-1031.

MEMORY FOAM BED - Mattress, box. Space age visco NASA foam. Tempurpedic style, queen, never used. New \$2,600, sell \$595. 517-204-0600.

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

DUPLEX FOR RENT - 1 bedroom w/washer & dryer & garage. Country setting, 1 mile from downtown Lowell, \$550/ mo. 682-0138.

FOR SALE

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

GOLF BALLS FOR SALE - Previously experienced Titleist ProV1, \$15 per doz.; Titleist NXT & SO/LO, \$6 per doz.; Pinnacle \$5 per doz.; Top-Flite, \$4 per doz. Call 897-8520.

QUEEN BRASS BED - w/pillowtop mattress set. Floor model, new cost \$600, sell \$195. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

KITTEN - Really cute! Needs a good home. Is used to children & a litter box. Call 897-5894.

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

FOR SALE - 1994 Dodge Grand Caravan, 163,000 miles, \$1,000. Call 897-2775.

MEMORY FOAM MATTRESS SET - Floor model. NASA engineered, queen size. New \$1,300, sacrifice \$695. Dennis Distributing 989-224-4822.

DAYCARE CLOSING - For sale: washer & dryer, \$175; Little Tikes large climber, \$150 (if you bought at a store you would pay \$837); smaller jungle climber, \$40. Great for daycare. If interested please call 642-0655.

MOVED TO HAWAII - Must sell! Like new sectional couch, \$900 obo. 874-3268.

FOR RENT

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

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

APARTMENT FOR RENT - in Saranac, 1 bedroom, \$425 a month. 890-2598.

HOUSE FOR RENT - 8761 Bailey Dr., Ada. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, deck, 24x28 garage on 1 1/4 acre. \$900/mo. + deposit & utilities. Call 616-437-6614.

APARTMENT FOR RENT - Nice upper 2 bedroom in downtown Saranac. Available Sept. 1. Call 642-3645.

3 BEDROOM HOUSE FOR RENT - in Lowell close to schools, park, downtown. No pets, non smoking. \$675 per month plus utilities & one month deposit. 897-9331.

DUPLEX FOR RENT - 1 bedroom w/washer & dryer & garage. Country setting, 1 mile from downtown Lowell, \$550/ mo. 682-0138.

HELP WANTED

MURRAY LAKE ELEMENTARY OFFICE ASSISTANT - 3.5 hours per student day. Must possess excellent interpersonal, organizational & phone skills & have the ability to handle multiple tasks & make decisions. Must be creative & self-directed. Proficiency in Microsoft Word, proofreading & the ability to type a minimum of 35 wpm are required. A love of children is a must. Letter of interest should be sent to the attention of Connie Gillette, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel & Finance, 300 High St., Lowell, MI 49331 by 12:00 noon, August 20, 2004.

PART-TIME POSITION - Require individual over 21 to work evenings & weekends (Saturdays 8-5 & Sundays 10-3). Must have Michigan driver's license & clean driving record. Some mechanical ability required. Apply at Bernard's Ace Hardware.

COMPUTER REPAIR - If you have computer problems, I can help! Call Brian's Computer Repair, 616-581-2664.

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

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

LICENSED DAYCARE - Has three openings for ages 2-5. Monday - Friday between the hours of 4 a.m. & 5:30 p.m. Many activities, both educational and fun. Bus stops at house. Food program/CPR; lots of space inside & big fenced yard. Special rates for more than one! Call 897-4389.

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

PERSONALS

REWARD FOR RETURN OF STOLEN RING - A ladies ring was stolen from a client at an Ionia tanning salon last November. The ring is gold, size 7 or 7 1/2 and has 5 diamonds in a row. It was last known to be in the possession of "Blanch S." from Lowell. Blanche has long, dark hair and a tattoo on her lower back. If you have information, please contact officer Skorka of the Ionia Public Safety Dept. at 616-527-4431.

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

ALTO AREA DAYCARE HAS OPENINGS - for children all ages. Bus pickup for all Lowell Schools. CPR/1staid trained. Fenced in back yard. Call 868-0752.

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.

MICKEY'S SALON - Hair & nail care. Call for an appointment. 897-4592.

PLACE YOUR AD ONLINE! www.lowellbuyersguide.com

SERVICES

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

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

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

WINDOW WASHING & HOUSE/DECK WASHING - Reasonable rates, insured. Call Randy at 616-693-2932.

COMPUTER REPAIR - If you have computer problems, I can help! Call Brian's Computer Repair, 616-581-2664.

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

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Where Great Deals Happen Every Day!


AUGUST REBATES ^{UP TO} \$6,000!



2004 CHEVY MALIBU
 GM Rebate.....\$3,000
 GMAC Finance Rebate.....\$750
Total Rebate.....\$3,750




2004 MALIBU MAXX
 GM Rebate.....\$3,500
 GMAC Finance Rebate.....\$1,500
Total Rebate.....\$5,000




2004 CHEVY IMPALA
 GM Rebate.....\$3,500
 GMAC Finance Rebate.....\$1,000
Total Rebate.....\$4,500




2004 CHEVY SILVERADO
 Gas Engine
 GM Rebate.....\$3,500
 GMAC Finance Rebate.....\$1,500
Total Rebate.....\$5,000




2004 CHEVY AVALANCHE
 GM Rebate.....\$3,500
 GMAC Finance Rebate.....\$1,500
Total Rebate.....\$5,000



2004 CHEVY BLAZER
 GM Rebate.....\$4,500
 GMAC Finance Rebate.....\$1,500
Total Rebate.....\$6,000




2004 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER
 GM Rebate.....\$4,500
 GMAC Finance Rebate.....\$1,500
Total Rebate.....\$6,000



2005 CHEVY EQUINOX
 GMAC Finance Rebate...\$1,000



2004 BUICK RAINIER
 GM Rebate.....\$5,000
 GMAC Finance Rebate.....\$1,000
Total Rebate.....\$6,000



2005 BUICK CENTURY
 GM Rebate.....\$2,000
 GMAC Finance Rebate.....\$1,000
Total Rebate.....\$3,000



2005 BUICK PARK AVE.
 GM Rebate.....\$2,500
 GMAC Finance Rebate.....\$1,500
Total Rebate.....\$4,000

**GMAC LEASE
 PULL AHEAD**

If your GMAC Lease expires between August 1, 2004 & March 31, 2005, you can turn your leased unit in early and waive the balance of payments and take delivery of a new 2004 Chevrolet or Buick. Expires September 7, 2004

THOMET

CHEVROLET BUICK

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