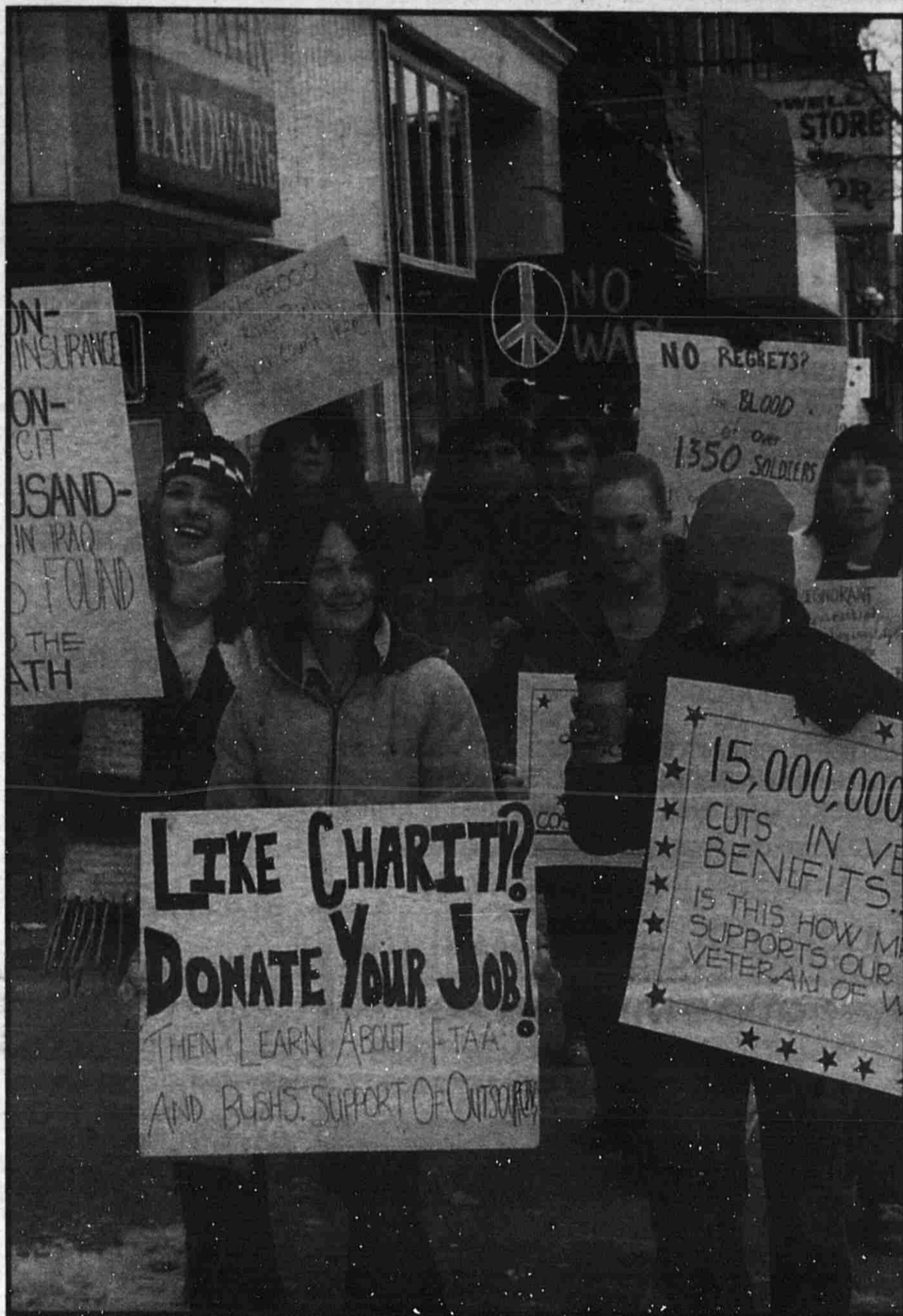


The Lowell Ledger

Volume 31 Issue 12

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, January 26, 2005



Last Thursday on Main Street, high school students protested the inauguration of President George W. Bush to a second term.

Takin' it to the streets

Area youth speak out against Bush on Inauguration Day

By Dan Schneider

While President George W. Bush took the oath of office last Thursday at the Capitol in Washington D.C., a contingent of more than 20 students in Lowell vocally lamented his reelection.

While the president watched as his inaugural parade proceeded along Pennsylvania Avenue within a security perimeter, chants were heard of "Hey-hey, hey-ho, George Bush has got to go." Slogans painted on signs included "WWJB: Who Would Jesus Bomb?," "America's biggest export under Bush: Jobs," "Why help the poor ... when you can help the rich ...," and "Nothing is more American

than questioning your leaders."

For a group of people, most of them too young to vote, this was one way to participate in democracy.

"Considering that there were a lot of people at the high school that couldn't vote, this is one way we could contribute to the protests going on across the country and make our voices heard that way," said Alyssa Coffey, the Lowell High School senior who organized the protest march.

"The next four years of our lives are going to be determined by the president and we didn't even get a chance to vote for him, so at least we can do this," Heather Harrigan, 16, said.

The protesters gathered

outside the Englehardt Library at noon. Coffey laid down some ground rules for a peaceful march along Main Street: there would be no loud yelling, no obstructing traffic, no altercations with pedestrians.

"No physical violence as an anti-war protest," Coffey said to those assembled.

The protesters objected to the war in Iraq. One sign read "No regrets? The blood of over 1,350 soldiers is on your hands, Mr. Bush. Bring home our troops." Another simply: "No War." By last Thursday, more than 1,365 members of the United States military had died in the Iraq war.

Inauguration protest, cont'd., page 10

Vergennes residents voice their opposition to annexation

By Dan Schneider

The Vergennes Township Hall was crowded for its Monday, Jan. 17 meeting. Several residents came to voice opposition to

the annexation of 177 acres to the city of Lowell.

Duray Development, LLC has filed a petition with the state boundary commission to annex an oddly-shaped parcel of property at the corner of Alden Nash and Vergennes streets to the city. The developer wants to build houses there and annexation would allow ready access to city sewer and other services.

Township residents looked at it as an opportunistic "land grab" for the city and an attempt by the developer to circumvent the township's master plan, which permits

less density. If annexed to the city, the highest density zoning allowable would be R-3 residential, allowing 10 houses per acre.

Some residents viewed the township's upcoming 425 Agreement talks as a sign that it was resigned to the annexation. A 425 Agreement would determine a division of tax revenue between the two municipalities.

"We don't want to cave into the city of Lowell on any of this," Roger Odell said, adding later in the

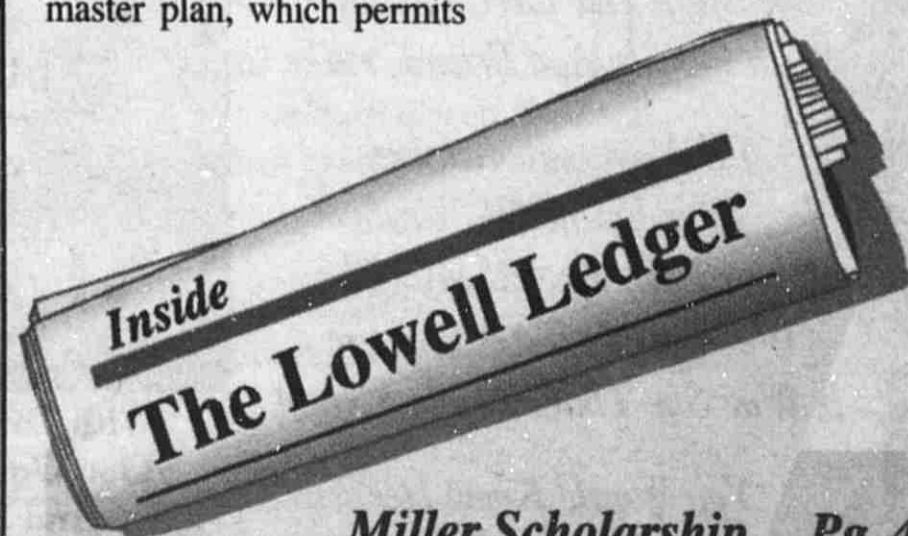
Annexation, cont'd., pg. 13

Weekend snowfall blankets city



Cold Beer!

This delivery truck made a stop Monday behind this snow bank on North Broadway. The Lowell Department of Public Works was busy making a number of similar snow piles throughout the city. More than a foot of snow fell on Lowell and the surrounding area, Saturday. The city road crew worked 11-hour shifts that day clearing the roads and more time Sunday cleaning up what was left. Tuesday night, workers were scheduled to remove the piles from the downtown district using front-end loaders and dump trucks. On Monday afternoon, the Lowell Police Department issued an advisory to homeowners to clear their sidewalks in compliance with the city ordinance. This is especially important for those who live in the school walk zones. "Some people are shoveling and some aren't, so kids are walking in the streets and it's becoming a safety issue for the kids," said Sgt. Steve Junewick.



Miller Scholarship ... Pg. 4

Embracing Diversity ... Pg. 10

Rollaway History, Pg. 11

New Business ... Pg. 18

Obituaries

CURTISS - Lucille Katherine Curtiss, aged 84, of Lowell, passed away Friday, January 21, 2005. She was preceded in death by her brother Lawrence Armstrong. She is survived by her daughters Sharon (Jack) Hartley of Ada, Jo (Mike) Olson of Battle Creek; grandchildren Tracy (Gerry) VanCamp, Scott (Kris) Hartley, Shelly (Tony) Grudzinkas, Kari (Don) Marx, Kristi (Brett) Waterfield, Jodi

(Mike) McIntyre; great-grandchildren Randy, Sara, Cory, Ryan, Connor, Collin, Taylor, Alexis, Austin, Ty; brothers Charles (Barbara) Armstrong of Spring Lake, Edward (Penny) Armstrong of Lowell; sister-in-law Anne Armstrong of Lowell. She was a life long resident of Lowell. Later in life she resided at Schneider Manor, Brown Manor and finally at Raybrook Manor. A Memorial Mass was held Monday at St. Mary's Church, Lowell, Father George Fekete, celebrant. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association.

In Memory Of
JODIE LYNN RASH
2/10/1968 - 2/3/1988


It's been 17 years.
How the time goes by.
And still when certain songs play,
It makes me want to cry.

This year here on earth,
You'd be turning 37
But you'll always be 19,
Now that you're in heaven.

I wonder how life would be different
If you hadn't gone away.
If I had you, big sister,
To help me through each day.

But life goes on
And I know you're watching from above,
I'll keep you in my heart and dreams
And, to heaven,
I'll send my love.

Love,
Your little sister, Janette



Jessie Byrne
August 13, 1984 - January 17, 2004

*Sometimes you get discouraged
Because I am so small
And always leave my fingerprints
On furniture and walls*

*But everyday I'm growing
I'll be grown up someday
And all these tiny fingerprints
Will surely fade away*

*So here's my final handprint
Just so you can recall
Exactly how my fingers looked
When I was very small*

Thank you for keeping Jessie in your thoughts and prayers.

- The Bruce Byrne Family



Celebrating The Memory Of
DOROTHY WOOD BRIGGS
On Her 100th Birthday

Born January 26, 1905 - With The Lord June 14, 1995

*I'll Never Meet Another Friend
Quite So True As She
She Spent Her Many Hours
In Prayer For You And Me*

*She Never Cursed The Darkness
For The Candles She Did Light
She Spent Her Earthly Hours
With Family And Friends Alike*

*I'll Always Remember
This Friend Of Mine
Whose Love Was Always There
Whenever I Had A Problem
It Was She That Always Shared*

*You Would Know Her
If You Met Her
You Would See The Brightest Sun
For She Was None Other
Than My Beautiful Loving Mom*



With Love & Thanks To Our Wonderful Mother And Stepmother,

The Woods: Winnie, Margie, Bill & Nancy, Jim & Ruth, Ron & Jane

The Briggs: Ann & Don, Pat & Bernie, Howard & Barb, Vicki, Rick & Carol

VUNGE - Harry H. Vunge, aged 94, of Grand Rapids, passed away peacefully on Monday, January 17, 2005. He was preceded in death by his sisters Annie and Alise. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Irene; daughters Vinetta (Robert) Hosford of Grand Haven, Sandra (Ronald) Chambers of Lowell; grandchildren Melissa (Roman) Wilson, Kristen (Joshua) Bruwer, Tara (Craig) Veldman; great-granddaughter Addison Bruwer; other relatives in Latvia. Mr. Vunge was a loving husband, father, grandfather and will be greatly missed. Memorial services were held January 21 at Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church, Rev. Ilze Goforth and Rev. Victor Wilson officiating. Interment Woodlawn Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Holland, 270 Hoover Blvd., Holland, MI 49423 or Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1750 Knapp NE, Grand Rapids, MI.

WINGEIER - Samuel D. "Babe" Wingeier, aged 98, of Lowell, passed away peacefully at his home January 19, 2005. He was preceded in death by his wife Evelyn and eight brothers and sisters. Born in 1907 to Alexander and Mary Wingeier, he was the youngest of nine children. He was a lifelong resident

of the Lowell/Alto area. He is survived by 11 nieces and nephews and numerous great-nieces and nephews. Babe, proud of his military service, served in the U.S. Army as a Master Sergeant during WWII, was active during D-Day and the liberation of Paris. He was a member of the VFW, American Legion, the Masonic Lodge and Lowell First United Methodist Church. He was a distributor for Standard Oil Company in Lowell for 20 years. Babe was a longtime resident of Schneider Manor, a member of the Board of Directors for 19 years and served as

both manager and grounds manager for many years. Babe was an outstanding uncle and husband, he was loved by many and will be remembered for his wonderful sense of humor. Funeral services were held Monday, Jan. 24 at the First United Methodist Church of Lowell, Dr. Michael Conklin officiating. Interment at Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Lowell Senior Neighbors, 314 S. Hudson St. or Visiting Nurse Foundation, 1401 Cedar NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 05-178,917 DE

ESTATE of Bernice Lipinski

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent **BERNICE LIPINSKI**, who lived at 1857 Oakgrove NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan, died December 31, 2004. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to **LYNDA TOPOLSKI, c/o John D. Mitus, Attorney at Law, named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave. NW, Suite 2500, Grand Rapids and the named/**

proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

January 21, 2005

John D. Mitus P-31244
410 Bridge St. NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
616-774-4001

Lynda Topolski, Personal Representative
1343 Parkhurst NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
ALDEN RICHARD HAMILTON
"OUR SHINING STAR"
WHOSE LIFE WAS TRAGICALLY TAKEN
4 YEARS AGO ON JANUARY 26, 2001.

Perhaps they are not stars, but openings in the Heaven where the love of our lost ones pours through and shines upon us

to let us know they are happy.

THEY ARE WITH US FOREVER.
2/5/1979 - 1/26/2001

Happy Birthday Alden - On Your 26th Birthday.
*Forever in our hearts, loved always,
Dar, Colleen, Lindsay, Molly, Leesha, Chad,
Maya and the Ball families*



TO ALL CREDITORS:

The Settlor, **SARAH M. VENEMA**, who lived at Covenant Village of the Great Lakes, 2520 Lake Michigan Dr. NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan, died on October 29, 2004. There is no personal representative of the Settlor's estate to whom Letters of Administration have been issued.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Sarah Venema Revocable Living Trust dated August 21, 1991 and Amended on September 4, 1996, will be forever barred unless presented to **RONDELL C. VENEMA**, of 427 Scherrer Rd., Liberty, KY 42539, Successor Trustee, within four months after the date of publication.

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

January 21, 2005

Craig A. Bruggink P.L.C. (P-29358)
Attorney for Trustee
429 Turner NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
616-456-4038

Rondell C. Venema, Successor Trustee

The Lowell Ledger
(USPS 453-830)

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City Council reviews private street for Grindle property

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

One resident's question over whether a parcel of land should have been divided into five lots and be given a private street has caused the Lowell City Council to review its previous action.

At its June 7, 2004 meeting, the Lowell City Council granted three waivers to allow a private street to be constructed, servicing 911, 925 and 951 Grindle. In December, former planning commissioner and Lowell resident John VanderWilp questioned

that move, going back to the original intention of the property when councilman Alan Mathews was going to develop it. VanderWilp said at that time only a private drive had been granted by the planning commission and he didn't understand how a private street could have been allowed.

City attorney, Richard Wendt, reviewed the process and at the Monday night council meeting, made it clear that the process was not done correctly.

While the city does have a "specific process to

establish a private street," it can be a complicated matter, Wendt explained. In this case, the city granted three waivers for the drive, which has since been constructed. Those waivers include allowing the length to be 850 feet versus 800; allowing 33 feet in width versus 66 on the first 425 feet of the street; and allowing 16 feet of width and valley gutter.

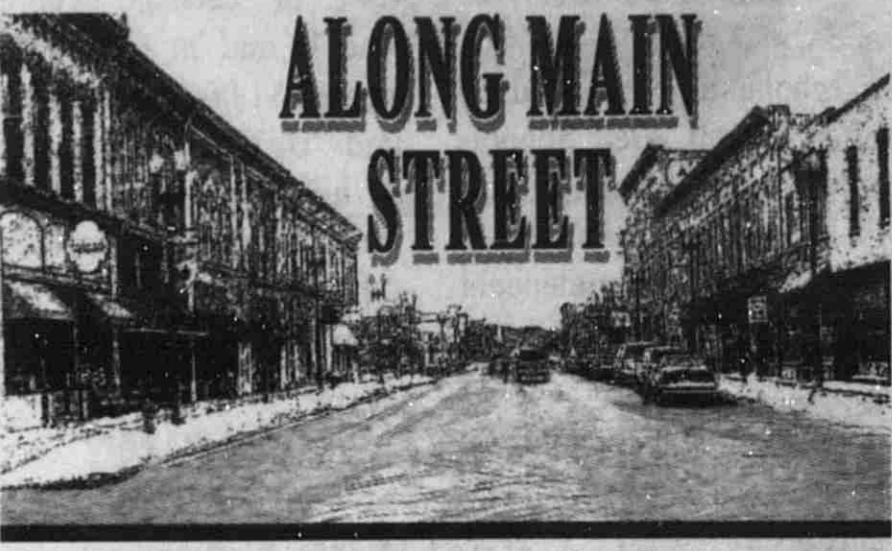
Wendt said there should have been a fourth waiver granted regarding a 45-foot radius cul-de-sac at the end of the private street.

After reviewing the

minutes of the June meeting, Wendt said he found no reference to the four conditions needed to grant a waiver. Those conditions are: topography, soils and/or other significant natural features physically preclude or prevent compliance with substantial alteration; modification is not due solely for financial considerations; no other reasonable private street design alternatives are available; and the request needs to be reviewed by the fire chief and/or city engineer or other person designated by the council and a recommendation submitted to the council.

Wendt proposed that the council table the matter until the developer provides information that wasn't presented at the first meeting. Needed are a copy of an easement for public and private utilities within the private street recorded by the Kent County Register of Deeds and a private street maintenance agreement of the owners' service by the private street, also recorded with the Kent County Register of Deeds.

Wendt said he has talked to the applicant who is in



ACT WORKSHOP

An ACT Preparation Workshop will be held on Jan. 27 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Lowell High School. \$38; registered info should be returned to the SSC. Students take practice tests and learn strategies.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS ITEMS

The F.R.O.M. food pantry is in need of cereal, spaghetti sauce, crackers, paper products and personal care product if you are able to help.

W. MICHIGAN BLUEGRASS MUSIC

Lena Lou in Ada will have a fundraiser for West Michigan Bluegrass Music Assoc. on Saturday, Feb. 5. Open jamming: 6 p.m.; bands begin at 7 p.m. Cover charge: \$5.

BLOOD DRIVE

The Lowell Area Fire Dept. blood drive for the Grand Valley Blood program is on Wednesday, Feb. 16 from 2-7 p.m. at Look Memorial Fire Station, 315 S. Hudson St.

City looks at about \$57,000 in projects for federal CDBG program

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

The city of Lowell has decided to seek about \$57,000 from the federal Community Development Block Grant program.

The money would be divided between three projects: sidewalk on both sides of Beech from Godfrey to Foreman and Ridgeview from Sibley to W. Main Street, \$45,799.83; the North Kent Transit assistance for senior citizens and handicapped riders, \$6,000; and a master plan

update, \$5,000. The total comes to just under \$57,000, at \$56,799.83.

The council noted that this figure is much more than the proposed amount of \$51,799.83. The item putting the city over is the master plan update.

City manager David Pasquale was informed by Kent County, which oversees the federal program, that the city could submit the master plan update as a project and the amount requested could exceed the expected monies available. The county, he

said, would review the items and determine what to fund.

Councilman Jim Pfaller asked if the money could be banked and used in another year. Pasquale said his understanding is that the money needs to be used during the year it is issued.

After holding a public hearing on the proposed Community Development Block Grant projects, the council unanimously approved the projects to be sent to the county for consideration of funding

Bridge logo contest deadline extended

The marketing committee of this year's class of the Lowell Leadership Institute for Volunteer Excellence (LIVE) has extended the deadline for its bridge logo design contest. Entries are due no later than Jan. 31 at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce.

There is no entry fee and a prize will be awarded to the winner. The logo will be used on nearly everything related to the bridge, including promotional materials before the bridge is built and a sign on the bridge itself once the project is completed.

The bridge will be built this spring in the northwest corner of the Cooper Woodland Preserve, located near Alden Nash and Foreman, and will become part of the planned Lowell Area Trailway. Lowell LIVE is an annual class presented by the chamber

which offers instruction in community involvement, volunteer coordinating and community project development. This is the fifth class in the program.

Full contest rules and entry forms are available on this year's LIVE class web site, www.live5bridge.com.

MATH PARENT MEETING

Monday, February 7th
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Cherry Creek Elementary

This informational meeting will provide support for **Bushnell & Cherry Creek** families in assisting their children's growth of various math concepts. You can register by calling Bushnell (987-2650) or Cherry Creek (987-2700).

Childcare will be provided.

Las Vegas Night at the Moose Benefit for Anna Organek LIVE AUCTION/50-50 DRAWING

This is a fundraiser for Anna Organek & Family. Anna was recently diagnosed with cancer & is undergoing chemotherapy. She is on the road to recovery, but needs our help!

WHAT: Casino Games, Music, Drinks, Food, Family & Friends all coming together!

WHEN: January 28, 2005
7 p.m. - 2 a.m. (DJ spinning tunes & cash bar)
7 pm - 11 pm (Roulette, Black Jack, Money Wheel Tables - Win Big for Anna!)

WHERE: The Lowell Moose Lodge
210 E. Main Street
Lowell, MI 49331

Come have some fun in honor of little Anna! Games will include a Texas Hold Em tournament & much more! Registration for Texas Hold Em is from 6:00 - 6:45 pm: 80 player limit (tournament will begin at 7 pm)!

Everyone is invited! \$2.00 entry fee (donation). Must be 21. All proceeds go to Anna Organek & Family to help cover medical expenses & uplift spirits.

For more information, contact Heather Kloosterman, 957-4800, or Misty McClure-Anderson, 897-5980.

Anna, Vegas loves you, Baby!

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MOVIE GUIDE

SHOWTIMES 1/24 - 1/27
TITLES & TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE

COACH CARTER (PG-13)
1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00

ELEKTRA (PG-13)
1:10, 3:15, 5:20, 7:25, 9:30

RACING STRIPES (PG)
1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00

THE AVIATOR (PG-13)
3:00, 6:20, 9:40

MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13)
2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55

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Donation establishes scholarship fund in LAS superintendent's name

By Dan Schneider

A donation from a friend and colleague will establish a scholarship fund named after Lowell Area Schools superintendent Shari Miller. Charles Mitchell Jr., a retired state superintendent

who also did superintendent work in Chicago Public Schools and in California, donated \$1,000 to set up the fund. "He's been an educator all his life," Miller said. "He's retired from education and he gives back."

Miller met Mitchell six years ago while she was an associate superintendent in Lansing Public Schools. She has stayed in contact with Mitchell since then, often turning to him for educating advice.

The scholarship will go to students pursuing college degrees in education. The amount of each year's scholarship is yet to be determined. "At this point, I'm thinking it will probably be

\$250 or \$300 for a student this year and we'll keep the rest for growth (of the fund)," Miller said. "It will probably be written to the college of their choice." That way, Miller said, the student will be able to use

the scholarship for books or tuition. She and her husband Ned plan to make donations to help sustain the fund. She also expects friends and family will pitch in to help perpetuate it, as is tradition for namesake scholarships.

Social Security: A Pact With America

With Senator Carl Levin senior U.S. senator from Michigan

Since its inception in 1935, Social Security has protected our seniors against poverty, assisted the disabled, and assured young people of a more secure future. It is a pact that we made with the American people to help ensure economic stability in the face of retirement or disability. We have kept that pact for 70 years.

Some 47 million Americans receive Social Security benefits. It is the primary source of income for two-thirds of its recipients, and it is the only source of income for one-fifth of its recipients. It has helped to dramatically reduce the poverty rate among seniors.

Many things have changed since Social Security was first created 70 years ago. A large number of baby boomers are now nearing retirement, and Americans are living longer lives. When Social Security was created in 1935, there were about 40 workers paying Social Security taxes for every retiree receiving benefits. Today, there are three workers for every retiree. By 2030, there will be two. As these trends continue, we need to look at long-term strategies to protect the solvency of the Social Security Trust Fund.

President Bush and others have said recently that there

is a "crisis" in the Social Security system and have called for partial privatization of Social Security, or permitting individuals to put a part of their Social Security taxes in personally-owned accounts and invest those funds in the stock market. However, if our interest is protecting Social Security, privatization is not the answer.

While it is clear that we need to make some adjustments to protect Social Security for the long term, it is disingenuous to say that the trust fund is facing a crisis. The Social Security Administration estimates that the Social Security Trust Fund can pay full benefits through 2042. The Congressional Budget Office, a nonpartisan organization that analyzes budget matters for Congress, estimates the Social Security Trust Fund will be solvent even longer, until 2052. And even if no adjustments were made, about 80 percent of the benefits could still be paid after 2052. In fact, many experts believe Social Security is on more sound footing today than it has been for most of its 70-year history.

The president has suggested that privatizing Social Security will prolong its life. The opposite is true. Privatization would not only fail to address the future shortfall, but it would compound the problem.

Under the current system, in 2018 the Social Security Administration will begin paying out more money in claims than it receives in revenues, i.e., it will begin utilizing the trust fund built up expressly for this purpose. If we instituted privatized accounts as the president proposes, the trillions of dollars going into those accounts would not go into the Social Security system, thus dipping into the Social Security Trust Fund even earlier. The administration has said that the

current system is "headed for an iceberg." In fact, their plan creates the iceberg and makes us hit it sooner.

Moreover, if we privatize Social Security, we would introduce gambling into the system: there will be winners, and there will be losers. Social Security would no longer be a guarantee for all Americans, but a jackpot for the lucky. For the first time in 70 years, we would fail to keep our pact with all of the American people.

We do need to take some action to ensure that Social Security is in sound condition for future generations of Americans. Fortunately, because the Social Security Trust Fund will not face a problem for at least three decades, we have time to plan for its long-term solvency, and we can do so on a bipartisan basis.

In the 1980s, we looked ahead and saw a need to adjust the Social Security system. At that time, Congress examined all of the options and made modest changes - on a bipartisan basis - to help protect Social Security without creating risk or uncertainty for all Americans. At that time, we acted with only a few months before the Social Security Administration would need to access the trust fund, whereas today we have three decades. We acted carefully and thoughtfully in the 80s, and we should do so again.

Social Security was intended to be a guarantee to American workers: it will be there, and it will be there for everyone. We have kept that promise for 70 years, and we can continue to do so if we take time once again to make thoughtful, bipartisan adjustments to the system. It is a pact worth keeping.

College News



Ashley Rickert

Ashley Rickert, a Northwood University senior from Lowell, was granted the Clarence P. & Grace A. Chamberlain Foundation Scholarship for

the 2004-'05 academic year. This scholarship advances the education of associate's degree candidates committed to a career in the automotive industry. A minimum 2.5 grade point average is required.

Calvin College has announced its fall 2004 dean's list.

From the Lowell area is Eric S. Moulton, currently a sophomore. To earn a spot on the dean's list at Calvin requires that a student maintain a 3.5 grade point average for the semester and have a 3.3 cumulative grade point aver-

age at one of the country's top Christian, liberal arts colleges.

Lauren Vashaw, a 2003 Lowell High School graduate, is a sophomore guard for the

Big Red women's basketball team at Denison University in Granville, Ohio. She started in all 14 games this season and is second on the team in assists with 26. She is averaging 2.9 points per game.

Heather Sue Green, a 2003 graduate of Lowell High School, was named to the 2004 fall semester at Central Baptist

College in Conway, Arkansas. To be named to the president's list, a student must be enrolled full time and earn a grade point average of 4.000.

HEALTH

With Drs. Paul Gauthier, Jim Lang, Wayne A. Christenson III, John G. Meier & Tracy Lixie



GENITAL WARTS

Warts that occur in the genital area are small, skin-colored lesions that may look like tiny cauliflower. These warts are not the same as warts you may find on other parts of your body. Genital warts are caused by a virus called human papilloma virus (HPV). There are many kinds of HPV, and not all of them cause genital warts. People usually

get genital warts by having sexual contact with someone who has them.

Infections from HPV are very common, and most people (especially women) do not know they have the virus. HPV can live inside the body for weeks, months or even years before warts appear.

Consult your doctor if you notice small, skin-colored bumps in your genital area. Your doctor can conclude if the lesions are genital warts. In women, many times an abnormal pap smear is the first sign the HPV is present.

There are many ways to treat HPV, but we suggest that you not use over-the-counter medicines to treat them yourself. Remember, these are not the same kind of warts you may get on your hands and feet. Your doctor can recommend appropriate treatment strategies (from freezing, to burning, to laser therapy) to hopefully eradicate the warts.

The only sure way to prevent genital warts is to not have sex. If you are sexually active, however, use a condom every time you have sex to lower the risk.

What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us. -Ralph Waldo Emerson

Free Workshop Reveals 7 Ways To Slash College Costs

GRAND RAPIDS, MI - A free workshop is being held for the parents of college bound high school students at several local cities: Lowell, Rockford, Grandville, Allendale and Byron Center. The workshop will focus on little known ways of getting money for college, no matter how much income you make, or how good a student you have. The class will include such topics as how to double or triple your eligibility

for free grant money, the secret to sending your child to a private or top national school for less than the cost of Junior college, and the single biggest mistake when planning for college.

The upcoming workshop date in your area is:

Tues., February 22, at Lowell High School in the Choir Room.

The class will begin promptly at 7:00 P.M.

The class is being taught by Daniel Wansten, one of the nation's leading experts on paying for college, and is the published author of "Cash For College - How To Send Your Kids To The College Of Their Dreams And Not Go Broke."

Seating is free, but reservations are needed, call: 1-800-766-7697.

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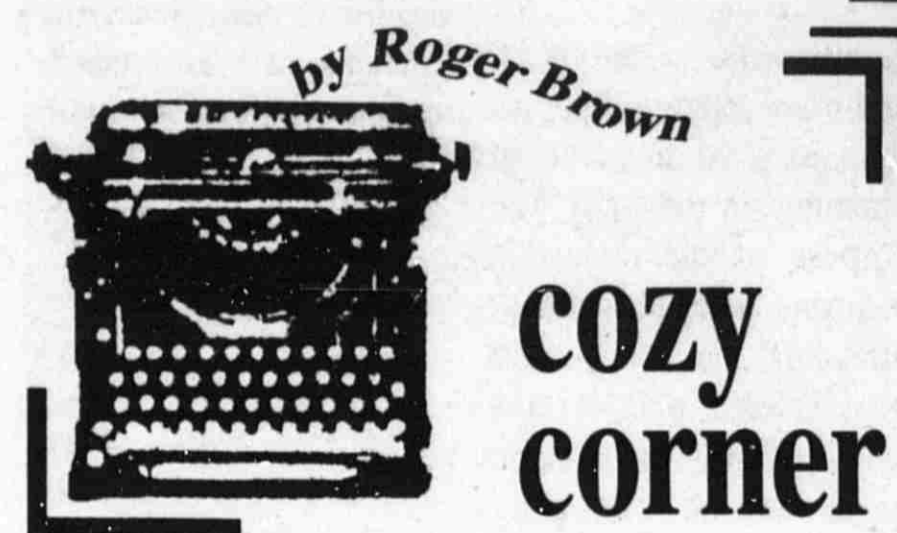
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Viewpoint



by Roger Brown
cozy corner

I lifted last week's column. The humorous airplane intercom announcements came to me via the Internet. The list was rather long, so I saved the remainder for a rainy day. Guess what? It's pouring. Between a painful stiff neck and a dinner that didn't set well, I was awake the better portion of last night. I finally did doze off, then drastically overslept. Where's that list????

The following was overheard on an American Airlines flight to Amarillo, Texas on a particularly windy and bumpy day. During the final approach, the captain really had to fight it. After an extremely hard landing the flight attendant said, "Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to Amarillo. Please remain seated with your seat belts fastened while the captain taxis what's left of our airplane to the gate!"

Another flight attendant's comment on a less than perfect landing, "We ask that you please remain seated as Captain Kangaroo bounces us to the terminal."

An airline pilot wrote that on this particular flight he had hammered his ship into the runway really hard. The airline had a policy, which required the first officer to stand at the door while the passengers exited, smile, and give them a "Thanks for flying our airline." He said that in light of his bad landing, he had a hard time looking the passengers in the eye, thinking that someone would have a smart comment. Finally, everyone had gotten off except a little old lady walking with a cane. She said, "Sir, do you mind if I ask you a question?" "Why, no, ma'am," said the pilot. The little old lady said, "Did we land, or were we shot down?"

After a real crusher of a landing in Phoenix, the flight attendant came on the horn, "Ladies and gentlemen, please remain in your seats until Captain Crash and the crew have brought the airplane to a screeching halt against the gate. And, once the tire smoke has cleared and the warning bells are silenced, we'll open the door and you can pick your way through the wreckage to the terminal."

Part of a flight attendant's arrival announcement went

To The Editor

Dear Editor,

Why would members of the Lowell Township Planning Commission want to continue to serve? Is it the money? (Push off.) Glory? (Hardly.) Is it the ability to do something nice for your friends? (Hmmm ...) On average, it is the desire to do the right thing.

There is also the opportunity to take a round-trip, no expenses paid, to the planet of Dada. Such was the situation at the meeting of the 10th.

First. Before the Commission in January and scheduled for 14 February is the breathtaking proposal for two -- count 'em -- two gas station/eat/snack places at Alden Nash and Cascade Rd. A Subway is on deck for one of them, God knows what for the other. Please note carefully that these are not truck stops, no siree. A big truck just might want to pop around, but these are, repeat, not truck stops. Chairman Cornish was obviously sobered. He raised a prudent question within his legal authority and professional judgment: What happens when one of them goes belly-up in five years? Does the Township then have an adult entertainment centre? His sarcasm was unusual, but the broader question remains -- even if

as follows... "We'd like to thank you folks for flying with us today. And, the next time you get the insane urge to go blasting through the skies in a pressurized metal tube, we hope you'll think of US Airways."

A plane was taking off from Kennedy Airport and an announcement came over the intercom, "Ladies and gentlemen, this is your captain speaking. Welcome to flight 293, nonstop from New York to Los Angeles. The weather ahead is good and, therefore, we should have a smooth and uneventful flight. Now sit back and relax... OH, MY GOD!"

Silence followed, and after a few minutes, the captain came back on the intercom and said, "Ladies and gentlemen, I am so sorry I scared you earlier. While I was talking to you, the flight attendant accidentally spilled a cup of hot coffee in my lap. You should see the front of my pants!" A passenger in coach yelled, "That's nothing. You should see the back of mine!"

That's it! Since my plagiarized list seems a bit short, I'll add a couple announcements I make when taking passengers up in my old biplane.

When flying down here in the Florida Keys, there is about a 99 percent chance that an emergency landing will be in the water. Before takeoff I equip my passenger and myself with self-inflating life-vests. I explain to my passenger that in the event of a water landing, the aircraft will likely flip onto its back before coming to a stop. I point out that the upper wing will act as a roll bar and protect them in the front seat. I then add, "Wait until we have stopped, unbuckle you seatbelts, get out and inflate your vest. Since the upper wing doesn't protect the rear seat, don't worry about me. If my neck isn't broken I'll be floating next to you." That's a reassuring safety briefing if there ever was one! I could add sharks to the scenario.

Another part of my standard briefing concerns aerobatics. After belting my passenger into the complex system of seatbelts I explain how they work. I then add, "We're going to do some loops and rolls in this old crate. Before we perform these maneuvers, I'll have you check the security of your seatbelts. This is very important. If they aren't tight and properly fastened, you will exit the airplane!"

It is probably a good thing I'm not the person in charge of composing standard safety briefings for the airlines. On the other hand, if they were frightening enough, maybe passengers would actually listen.

the chairman does not understand his society. In America twice as much of anything save overt criminal enterprise is called progress.

Second. There was the amiable fellow who wanted this teeny-weensy operation down at 60th and Alden Nash, not many employees, maybe a couple, not many, uh, customers, maybe one or two a day, and not too big, say ... 20,000 square feet ... or maybe 30. In Ag-1 zoning. This proposal is known as "industrial" amongst the unsophisticated. One member gently pointed out that in spite of his grand domicile in the immediate neighborhood, might he not be happier east on Cascade Rd. in the land of Free Men (I paraphrase) Ionia County, where pesky zoning has no friend? Answer: He wants the benefits in our Township. I am not far out of sympathy, having for years advocated the abolition of zoning just to see what would happen.

Third: Those long suffering commissioners. Testimonial with hands in pockets or leaning on the dais. The "Venus in blue jeans." Talking on the record with prat planted. The lime green baseball cap never removed when addressing the officials. Try that act in court sometime - and see what happens to you. All unknown in Troy or E.G.R. It is assuredly the Baby Boomer influence.

Sincerely,
G.M. Ross

Ledger Entries

of 125, 100, 75, 50 & 25 Years Ago

By Priscilla Lussmeyer



125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL JANUARY 28, 1880

Taking the census will cost \$3 million. Ionia saloons are open on Sunday. Dr. J. B. Goodsell opens a dental office, the third one in town. It's above the 90 cent store. Roads around Freeport are terrible. Fifty-foot cactus plants that look like a cigar and have delicious fruits have been discovered in Arizona territory.

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER JANUARY 26, 1905

Mrs. Frank Fitch again leads the Ledger subscription/popular woman contest with 1800 votes, three times the votes of her nearest rival. Mr. Ruben & Co. goes out of business. Mr. Ruben closes the dry goods store to devote more time to his clothing store.

L.A. Wood gets the contract to build Weldon Smith's two-story cement block bakery/restaurant with apartment upstairs.

John Kellogg is planning a large cement-brick dry kiln, two blocks south of Main Street.

The idle Fallsburg grist mill, repaired by Garfield & White, starts up smoothly and grinds the first grain in 10 years.

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO JANUARY 23, 1930

Lowell's W.V. Burras is elected president of State Mutual Fire Insurance Co., home office in Flint.

Supt. Gumsner announces that schools will not be closed on account of two cases of scarlet fever.

Passenger planes can fly the 326 miles from Cleveland to Chicago in 97 minutes.

L.E. Johnson has used Fords for sale from \$15 to \$379, none older than six years.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER JANUARY 27, 1955

Cities Service Oil Co. starts their second petroleum gas storage well in South Lowell; the deep salt deposit will be dissolved and pumped out to create storage space.

Twenty-plus volunteers show up to help Gerald Rollins clean 150 pounds of perch for the Methodist Youth Fellowship dinner.

Busy Rollins; he took a group of cub scouts and mothers to see the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad roundhouse in Grand Rapids.

Council passed an ordinance about financing expansion of the light and power plant and system.

Michigan State College will start its centennial celebration on Feb. 12.

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER JANUARY 23, 1980

William S. Doyle is elected chairman of the board of the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce.

The old cutter factory (horse-drawn sleighs), until two years ago used as King Milling's feed mill, is demolished.

Riverside Fireplace Shoppe is now also selling mopeds.

Weather is back to bare ground again. Taxpayers can order IRS forms by telephone, starting this year.

Engagements

Miley/Brubaker

The marriage of Jessica Miley of Erie, Pennsylvania and Alejandro (Alex) Brubaker of Lowell will be celebrated on December 16, 2005.

Alex is the son of Dan and Tamara Brubaker of Lowell. A 1995 Lowell High School graduate, he will be graduating from the Pittsburgh Art Institute in March, specializing in digital animation.

The wedding will be at the Heinz Chapel on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh. The couple will be married by the future groom's grandmother (Rev. Ellen Brubaker) and grandfather (Rev. John Ross Thompson).



Alejandro Brubaker and Jessica Miley

Lend A Hand

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

FOSTER CARE BOARDS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

The State Court Administrative Office of the Michigan Supreme Court is seeking volunteers to serve on the Kent County Foster Care Review Board.

The five- to seven-member board meets one day each month to review a representative sample of cases of children who have been removed from their homes and placed in foster care due to abuse or neglect. At these reviews, board members interview parents, foster parents,

caseworkers, attorneys, and other interested parties who may be involved in planning for the ward. The purpose of the review is to insure that all agencies, including the court, have established a plan for the ward and progress is being made toward achieving permanency.

The program is seeking volunteers who have demonstrated leadership in other settings. Minorities and men are especially encouraged to apply.

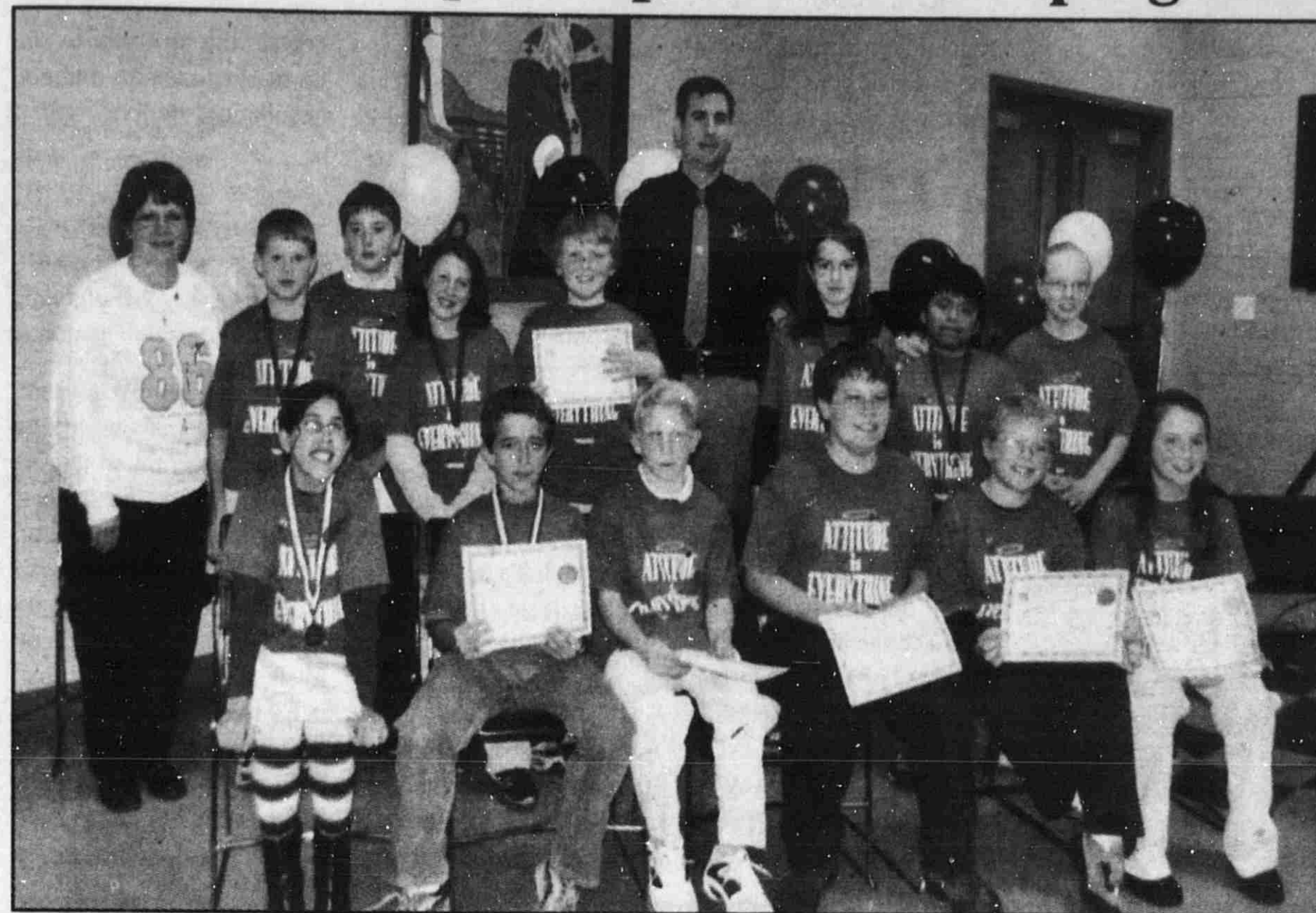
A two-day orientation training in Lansing is required to serve on a board. Board members attend

yearly training; expenses are reimbursed.

Citizens interested in becoming a board member should call 517-373-1956 for an application. The deadline for receiving applications is March 1 and interviews with prospective candidates will take place in February and March.

The Flat River Outreach Ministries Food Pantry appreciates all that the community has contributed during the month of December. Food boxes were provided to 54 families (not counting the 230 Christmas food boxes given out) and emergency assistance was given to 46 families.

Fifth-graders participate in DARE program



The fifth grade class of St. Patrick School in Parnell recently graduated from the DARE program. Pictured, front row, left to right, are: Alexandra Fotis and Benjamin Partridge (both DARE report winners), Titan Anderson, Patrick Bloom, Alec Bobko and Maddie Davis; back row: Barb Vezino (teacher), Jeremy Wodarek, Derrick Matthews, Tessa Lee, Alan Lally, Kent County deputy Scott Ross, Helen Jacobs, Ben Hart and Nora Donahue.



Students of the Month

St. Patrick Middle School in Parnell has announced its students of the month during the first semester. The students try to do their best and act as role models for others. Pictured, back row, left to right, are: Jessica Mankel and Kirk Geldersma; front row are: Alex Heffron, Leah Nawrocki and Rory Charron.

Mid-winter clog hog draws big gathering

The 5th annual Mid-Winter Hot Dog Clog Hog drew in dancers from all over Southern Michigan on Saturday, Jan. 8.

Seven clogging groups gathered at Historic Bownes Mills to represent this year's Clog Hog. It is a yearly fundraiser for the Thunder Floor Cloggers.

Bob Warner, head instructor of the Thunder Floor Cloggers, teaches clogging classes at the Runciman building in Lowell.

Lead your life so you wouldn't be ashamed to sell the family parrot to the town gossip.

-Will Rogers

Pets need extra care with these cold temps

As West Michigan is experiencing the coldest days of winter, the Humane Society of Kent County reminds you that extreme temperatures can be harmful to pets. By following these simple guidelines, you can help keep your pets happy and healthy during the colder months.

- Don't leave dogs outdoors when the temperature drops. Most dogs, and all cats, are safer indoors, except when taken out for exercise. Regardless of the season, short-haired, very young or old dogs and all cats should never be left outside without supervision. Short-coated dogs may feel more comfortable wearing a sweater during walks.

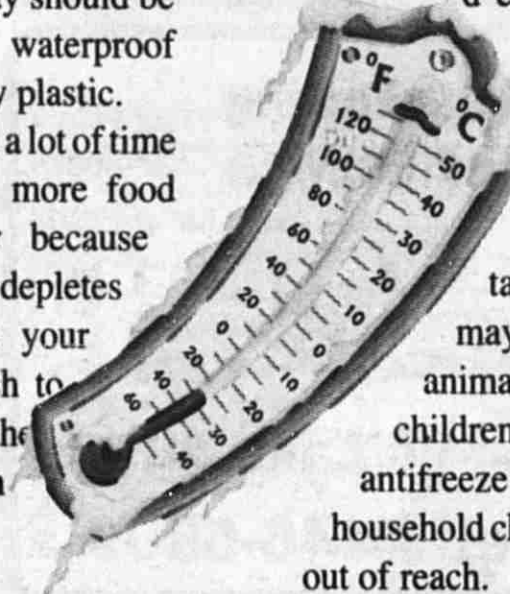
- No matter what the temperature, wind-chill can threaten a pet's life. If your dog is an outdoor dog, he/she must be protected by a dry, draft-free doghouse that is large enough to allow the dog to sit and lie down comfortably, but small enough to hold in his/her body heat. The floor should be raised a

- few inches off the ground and covered with cedar shavings or straw. The house should be turned to face away from the wind, and the doorway should be covered with waterproof burlap or heavy plastic.
- Pets who spend a lot of time outdoors need more food in the winter because keeping warm depletes energy. Check your pet's water dish to make sure the water is fresh and unfrozen.
- Use plastic food and water bowls rather than metal; when the temperature is low, your pet's tongue can stick and freeze to metal.
- Warm engines in parked cars attract cats and small wildlife, which may crawl up under the hood. To avoid injuring any hidden animals, bang on your car's hood to scare them away before starting your engine.
- Salt and other chemicals used to melt snow and ice can irritate the pads of your

pet's feet. Wipe the feet with a damp towel before your pet licks them and irritates his/her mouth.

Antifreeze is a deadly poison, but has a sweet taste that may attract animals and children. Store antifreeze and all household chemicals out of reach.

Probably the best prescription for winter's woes is to keep your dog or cat inside with you and your family. The happiest



Got an Announcement to make?

Wedding, Engagement and Anniversary Announcements* are Free in the Ledger. Birth Announcements without a photo are free; with a photo are \$5.

* Anniversary announcements cannot contain an invitation to a celebration



Dean Bailey, pastor
Alto/Bowne Center churches

It was a snow storm! It snowed all night. Schools were closed. Law enforcement agencies advised people to stay home. Willie Smith stayed home, shoveled his walks and driveway and became restless. His wife suggested he read, perhaps the four gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John). She knew it would take awhile and she could get some things done with Willie out of the way.

He had read them before, but decided to read them again and to look for something new, something he hadn't noticed in previous readings.

During supper his wife asked Willie whether he had discovered anything new. He had and that was: Jesus never met an unimportant person ... and neither do we! Think about it: young and old, rich and poor, wise and foolish, black and white (all color in between) Americans and citizens of other countries, and the list goes on.

What a difference it would make in our families, in our communities, in our world, if we saw each person we meet as important ... important to God, important to Christ, important to us. For, in fact, every person is a person for whom Christ lived, died and arose. What an investment of love!



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><small>Across the street from the Vennan Dodge dealership. 897-6284 or 485-4195 10AM Sunday School; 11AM Morning Service; 6PM Evening Service; Wed., 7:30PM Prayer Meeting.</small></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>Calvary Christian Reformed Church of Lowell Rev. Randy Meyers • 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>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God) 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, Senior Pastor Dave Noonan, Asst. Pastor Jonathan & Stacy Holmes, Youth Pastors</p> <p>SUNDAYS: Worship: 9:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. WEDNESDAYS: Family Night: (For All Ages) 7 p.m. "XL" Youth: 7 p.m.</p>
<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936</p> <p>Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:45 a.m.</p> <p>DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR Nursery & child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p>EVERGREEN MISSIONARY CHURCH 10501 Settlemore • Ph. 897-7185 Sunday School.....9:45 A.M. Morning Worship.....11 A.M. Evening Service.....6:00 P.M.</p> <p>Prayer and Praise - Wed., 7:00 P.M. Rev. Rick Ferguson - 987-6475 ALL ARE WELCOME! (Barrier-Free)</p>	<p>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Fr. George J. Felteke 402 Amity St. • 897-9820 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 BEZING 897-7915 <small>SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 48, EPTV FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</small></p>	<p>SOUTH BOSTON BIBLE CHURCH (Kyser 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. & Sr. High.....6:30 P.M. Evening Praise.....7:00 P.M. Wednesday Kids Klub (ages 2-5).....7:00 P.M. Olympians (1st-6th 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>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 www.goodshepherdlowell.org Sunday School & Adult Bible Class. 9:00 A.M. Worship Service.....10:00 A.M.</p> <p>(Nursery available) Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES 6:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 P.M. At 215 1/2 W. Main, Lowell (entrance in rear of building) CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES</p> <p>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 KEN ANDERSON Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>	<p>"Lowell Mission" of the Evangelical Apostolic Church of North America Located at 404 North Hudson (First Congregational Church Facility) Christ Centered Sunday Worship.....4:00 PM Bishop Alex McCullough.....Clergy In Charge Reverend Deacon Mark O. Fleet, Clergy In Assistance Stacy, Ben, and Alex Fleet.....Musicians Parsonage.....(616) 897-2587 Corporate Web Page.....http://www.eacna.org May the Lord fill you and bless you this day!</p>
<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbcloowell.org Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA CLUB, E.C., Wed. 6:15 & 8:30 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided - Barrier Free</p>	<p>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648 Sunday School.....10:00 A.M. Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M. Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M. (Sept. - April) Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M. Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418 YOU ARE WELCOME!</p>	<p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (United Church of Christ) 404 North Hudson • 897-5906</p> <p>Worship.....10:00 A.M. Church School.....10:15-11:15 A.M. Dr. Roger LaWare.....Pastor Shannon Hanley.....C.E. Director Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise & Worship</p>	<p>READ ALL ABOUT IT! In The Ledger</p>

JANUARY 27: Jacqueline Saylor, Brittani Anderson, Dianna Rhodes, Lori Smith, Andrea Dewey, Nancy Roth.

JANUARY 28: Ryan White, Cher Mastenbrook, Amy Newhouse, Renee DeBold, Bill Wierenga, Robert Kyser.

JANUARY 29: Brenda Traetz, Kim Call.

JANUARY 30: Susan Roudabush, Nicholas Kinsley, Tyler Call, Josh Dietz, Shirley Stevens.

JANUARY 31: Rick Fonger, Brian Rasch.

FEBRUARY 1: Ivan Blough, Lila Grummet, Chris Vezino, Ryan Teelander, Sommer Mercer, J. Johnson, Monica Burt.

FEBRUARY 2: Marie Wade.

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-Thornton Wilder

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Shores, Pfaller named to committee to work on 425 Agreement

J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

Per its discussion with Vergennes Township, the city appointed Lowell mayor Jeanne Shores and councilman Jim Pfaller to a joint committee working on a 425 Agreement for a parcel of land in Vergennes Township.

The land, approximately 177 acres near the corner of Alden Nash and Vergennes,

is currently being considered for annexation by the request of Duray Development. Vergennes Township officials approached the city about putting together a 425 Agreement, which would bring city services, specifically sewer, to the property, and the two municipalities would share tax revenues for a number of years.

A committee, with two

representatives each from the township and the city, was formed to iron out the details of the agreement. A deadline of March 3 has been set at which time the Boundary Commission will have a public hearing at City Hall at 7 p.m. for the annexation.

The township's representatives are supervisor Tim Wittenbach and clerk Mari Stone. City

council members also decided legal counsel should be there in hopes of speeding

up the process.

City manager David Pasquale said he planned to

contact the township to set up the first meeting and get negotiations started.

Grindle property, continued ... From Page 3

the process of getting the required paperwork. Once that is filed, the council can review the waivers. The developer has 60 days to get the required documents to the city

"I don't mind private street and the division of the property, just as long as I or someone else have the same privileges."

If this is the way a private street is going to be done, he said, then the

rules need to be changed so everyone is treated equally. He also felt the fifth parcel, which cannot be developed under state law, should be deeded back to the parcel from which it was split.

Wendt said on the issue of the division of property, the city refers to a state law, the Land Division Act, Act 288, in which the first 10 acres or fraction thereof may be split into four lots. Any more splits requires the

property to go through some type of plotting. Wendt said the developer has been told a building permit would be denied because the lot has the maximum number of buildable parcels.

Even though the street has been put in and it's not likely the city will ask that it be removed, Wendt said the council could still place conditions on the private street and it still has to deal with the cul-de-sac issue.

Planning Commission irons out details on residential sign ordinance

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

A question on whether signage on fences should be included in a proposed residential sign ordinance has caused the Lowell Planning Commission to delay further action on the ordinance.

Planning commission chair Clark Jahnke questioned whether signs on fences would be allowed under the proposed ordinance. The ordinance is designed to regulate residential signs. Under the new proposal, wall signs up to three feet would be exempt from the ordinance.

"I would say that would be the wall of a building such as a garage, house or part of the actual structure," Jahnke said as the Lowell Planning

Commission reviewed the proposed ordinance at its Monday night meeting.

Building inspector Doug Hopkins, of Imperial Municipal Services, said as the ordinance reads now, he would not include fences unless the ordinance specifically stated something in regards to signs attached to fences. City manager David Pasquale said the city ordinance does differentiate between walls and fences.

Jahnke said while he could not think of a place in the city of Lowell that had such signage on a fence, he was aware of residences in Grand Rapids where there are address signs adhered to a fence that is either wood or masonry.

"As it stands now, you are not allowed to have [a

sign] on a fence," Pasquale said, commenting on the current ordinance.

Presently, wall signs two feet or less are exempt from the city ordinance section governing signs. The commission is recommending that it be changed to three feet and then remove any reference to wall signs in the proposed ordinance, which will deal specifically with ground signs in residential areas.

The change was made to help clear up language in the proposed ordinance that the Lowell City Council felt was confusing. The council requested more definition of what is considered a sign and what would fall under the new guidelines.

"I think we have to be real careful of the wording,"

said commission member Sherri Grimm. "You could get a fence with paper signs that could look real tacky or you could get a fence with a hand-carved name that looks beautiful there."

Hopkins said under the proposed changes, he would consider a retention wall as a wall and allow a sign on it.

After some discussion, Jahnke referred the matter back to Hopkins for review and said he would meet with him before the next commission meeting to work on wording that would cover signage on fences.

The commission decided to table the matter until its February meeting.

The ordinance issue came about after it was discovered the city had banned such signs. A U.S.

Supreme Court ruling states the city cannot do this, but can regulate the number, placement and size of a sign.

The proposed ordinance would allow for one ground residential sign per lot or

parcel. The sign cannot be greater than three square feet or any higher than three feet, and can only be placed in the front yard, no closer than one half the required setback of the front yard.



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Diversity focuses on speech for teachers the roots of intolerance

By Dan Schneider

A presentation was given Friday at the Lowell Performing Arts Center to help Lowell Area Schools' teachers encourage tolerance and diversity in their classrooms.

Grand Valley State University professor Dr. Steve L. Robbins gave a speech titled "Unintended Intolerance." The program lasted two hours during the teachers' in-service. It focused on the roots of racial and gender intolerance in our society, the undercurrents of racism that still exist and their consequences for society. Robbins also gave teachers tools for encouraging diversity and rooting out intolerance at school.

This starts with an internal process, Robbins said.

"Once we understand ourselves, then we are better able to understand others," he said. "Our brain is really designed to categorize or, in other words, stereotype, and if we're not careful about the way we categorize, we can have some bad consequences."

This also applies to gender attitudes.

"Even addressing things that come up in the classroom like when a kid says, 'girls wear pink,'" said Murray Lake Elementary first grade teacher Denise Washburn.

The district received criticism in July that its disciplinary policies for racial intimidation were not strict enough. Teachers leaving the presentation felt it would help them improve students' consciousness of diversity before intolerant attitudes set in.

"I think a lot of the teachers will be able to bring this to their classrooms," said Unity High social studies teacher Russ Stevens.

"Depending on grade level, especially since we live in a school district that is not real multicultural, we need to bring in our own resources and our own books, experiences," Bushnell first grade teacher Becky DeVito said.

A good teacher is one who can understand those who are not very good at explaining, and explain to those who are not very good at understanding.
-Dwight D. Eisenhower

A goal is a dream that has an ending.
-Duke Ellington

It was the second time Robbins has given the presentation at Lowell this year.

"He did it with our bus drivers and some of our para-educators before school started, and we brought him back to give it for our professional staff," explained LAS superintendent Shari Miller.

Robbins has been giving presentations in the area and around the country for about 15 years.

"For me, it's a way of honoring my mom and making a better world," he said.

Robbins' mother brought him to the U.S. from Vietnam when he was five years old.

"She sacrificed her life so I could have a better life," he said. "There were lots of people along the way that made her feel like she was out of place."



Dr. Steve L. Robbins gave a presentation to LAS teachers on rooting out racial intolerance last Friday at the Lowell Performing Arts Center.

Inauguration protest, continued ... From Page 1

"I understand most people like to blame Bush for the war and I don't think that's necessarily true. I just don't like the way he handled the war," Harrigan said.

She took issue with the fact that Bush used weapons of mass destruction as a justification for the war and none were found. She also cited Bush's attempts to connect Saddam Hussein with Al Qaida terrorists, a connection that has since been discredited.

"Fifteen of the hijackers on Sept. 11 were Saudis, they weren't Iraqis, and he used that," Harrigan said.

Some objected to Bush's philosophy on world trade.

"Bush called Kerry a flip-flopper but he was saying things like, 'I'm going to keep jobs in America' and he supports the FTAA which is just an extension of NAFTA which is the reason jobs are leaving the country to begin with," Coffey said. She carried a sign that read "Like charity? Donate your job! Then learn about FTAA and Bush's support for outsourcing."

The Free Trade

Agreement of the Americas (FTAA) seeks to lower trade barriers among countries throughout the Western Hemisphere.

The protesters marched west on Main Street, pausing for several minutes at the corner of Main and Hudson streets. While stopped, the protesters got honks and a few thumbs-up from passing motorists. Otherwise, few motorists expressed antipathy with the protesters, though Bush won in all the precincts around Lowell.

"We are definitely aware that it is a very Republican area," Coffey said. Not all of the protesters were motivated by partisanship, anyway.

"I'd be very ready to vote some of our Democratic senators out of office if they go along with privatizing social security," Carl Bouwhuis said.

Bouwhuis brought along his grandmother, Pearl Fohlbrook; Harrigan's mother came with her.

"I think they are being socially responsible in expressing their political

views," said Kathleen Harrigan who made a few of the signs carried by the students. "I'm totally impressed with their dedication and I'm happy to see that they are not filled with apathy."

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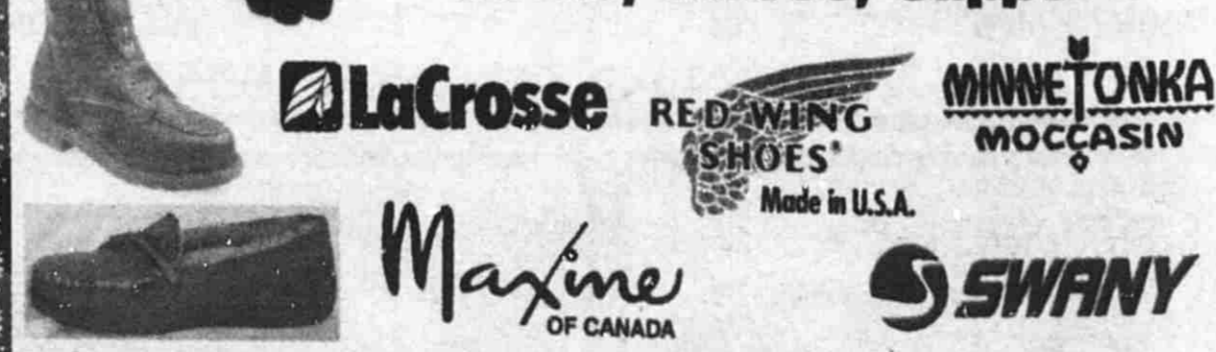
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School & rollerskating: an eastside building's history

By Dan Schneider

For years, 805 E. Main Street stood as a red brick building on the east side of town, with a school bell to call the neighborhood kids to class.

Then for years, it was painted grayish white, with a bus driving from Ionia to Ada and Belding to bring kids there for rollerskating.

Now it's painted wild colors and the owner wishes he had that bell back.

"I'd like to know where it is," said Bob VanNoller, who runs Rollaway Bowling, Skating and Laser Tag, the current business at 805 E. Main. "I'd like to be able to ring the bell when skating starts for the kids. I think that would be interesting."

The building on East Main was built in 1899. The East Ward Elementary was a two-room school building with classes on each of two floors. It was one of three ward schools in the Lowell district at that time. The others were the South Ward school, located south of the Grand River in a geographical region then called Segwun; and the West Ward school, located appropriately on the west side of town. The West Ward school was built into the Newell Manufacturing building after that company moved its operations there in the 1940s.

Donna (Thorne) Johnson attended first through third grade at the East Ward school in the 1930s. She and the other students from her neighborhood walked there every morning from Lowell's east-side neighborhood.

"Our dog went with us and he'd turn around and go home when we got to school," Johnson said. "It was a pretty funny old place."

Newspaper archives from the time the schoolhouse opened in 1899 are incomplete and sporadic.

It was reported in the Oct. 12, 1899 Ledger, however, that the school had 71 students when it opened.

The superintendent of schools at the time was Prof. J. B. Nicholson. He was new to Lowell that year as reported under the headline "Got a superintendent at last" in the Aug. 17, 1899 edition of the Ledger. His starting salary was \$900 and when the East Ward school opened he was "working on a yearly schedule of work for all departments so that the work in the same grades in the different departments may be uniform. It is believed that the new method will be highly beneficial."

Dave Clark also walked to the East Ward school in the 1930s.

"Oh, yeah, it was just three blocks," he said. "When you go up there now, there's the big stone arch. That was the door to the school, the front door, only door in, only door out."

Clark is also a World War II veteran and was a member of the Clark-Ellis American Legion Post 205 when they bought the building shortly after the war. Part owners in the Lowell Showboat, the Legion ran the concessions during the shows. They used the money they earned from this and other fundraisers to buy the building. Shortly after the purchase, the Legion began building a large addition to the former school. It would hold a bowling alley and, later, a skating rink.

Money was in short supply, so Legion members did much of the labor themselves.

"All the guys got together and we were up there after work mixing the cement and pouring the cement for the automatic pin setters," Clark said. "We all had been in World War II and just got home."

The Legion rented the

upper floor of the bowling alley to Superior Furniture, which used the space for storage for a time. It installed a hardwood floor on the second story and became a roller rink.

"We wanted to have a roller rink for the kids and we wanted to have a bowling alley for the people," Clark said.

Neil Johnston was the first roller rink manager and his wife was the pro. Jack Adams later took over the management of the bowling alley and the rink for the Legion. He is the one who drove the bus and picked up kids from Belding, Ionia, Ada and Saranac to bring them to the rink. The Legion built their meeting rooms into the original school building.

VanNoller bought the building 10 years ago and since then has been operating Rollaway Bowling, Skating and Laser Tag, a family fun center. The bowling lanes and skating rink are still there. He added miniature golf six years ago and also laser tag.

Gail Warren, now

still has a bar and pictures of Elvis and John Lennon on the walls. The alley now has computer scoring—a used, 1980s-vintage system VanNoller hauled in from Pennsylvania.

The laser tag course occupies the top floor of the schoolhouse. Warren found the course for sale on the internet and they brought it back from Colorado.

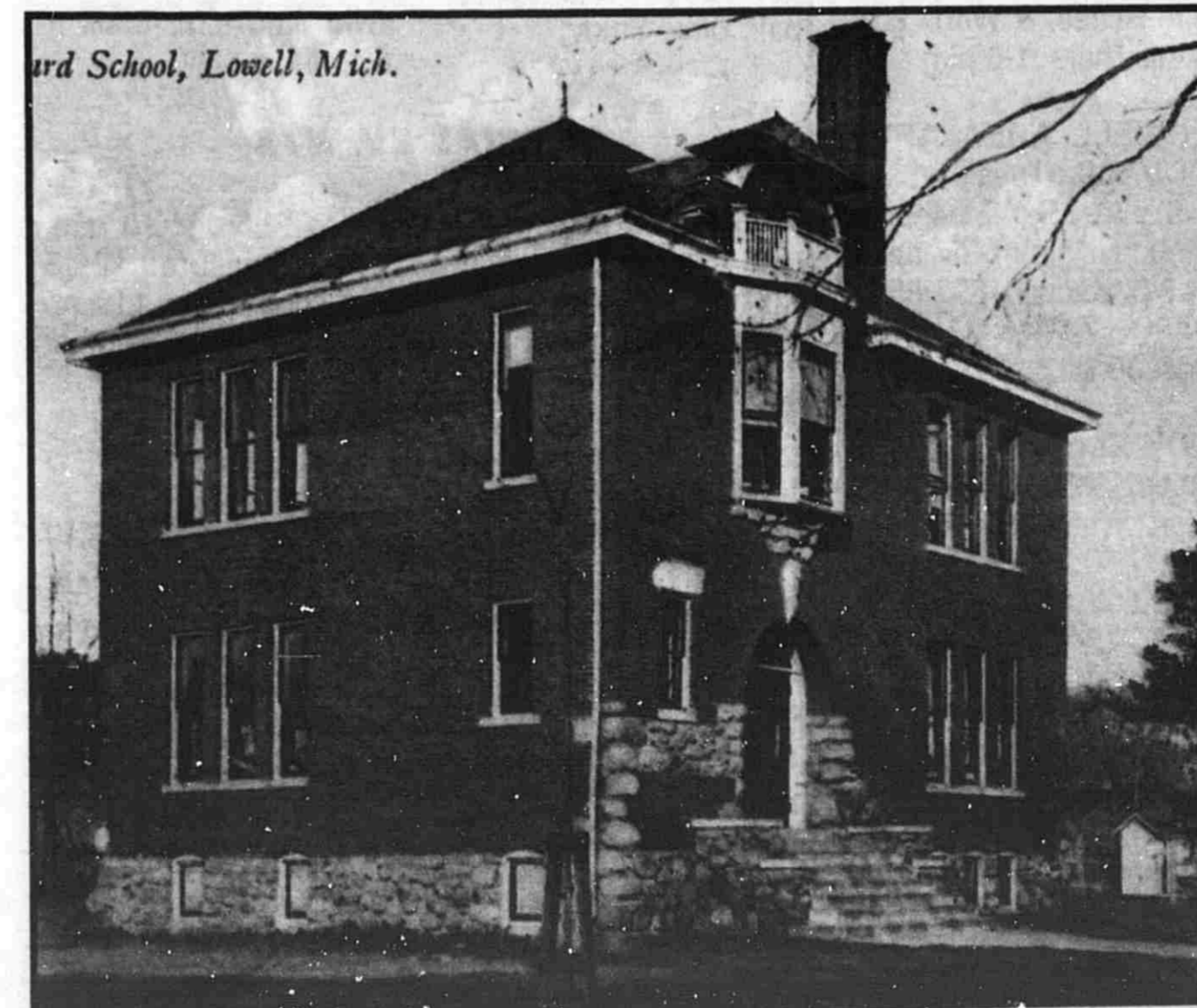
The most obvious change in the building is the turquoise, deep blue and pink exterior. The paint scheme was concocted in 2001.

"A lot of people have opinions about the outside of our building, but people see it now," VanNoller said. "We wanted every 10 year old in town to know they were in the right place before they even walked in the door and these are kid colors."

The exterior of Rollaway Bowling, Skating and Laser Tag, a family fun center, now occupies 805 E. Main St.



The exterior of Rollaway Bowling, Skating and Laser Tag, a family fun center, now occupies 805 E. Main St.



An old postcard showing the East Ward school, which was built in 1899.

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SUN.: Tri-town Conservation Club trap & skeet league, 5616 Dunn Rd. 12-5 p.m. Call Larry at 754-7104. Public welcome.

SUN.: V.F.W. Post 8303 Bingo. Doors open: 11 a.m.; 1st game: 1 p.m. at Lowell Veterans Center, 3116 Alden Nash S.E. Every Sunday except holidays.

MON.: LHS Fellowship of Christian Athletes & Friends, 7-8:30 p.m. in homes. Call 676-1355.

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

MON.: Boy Scout Troop 102, 11 & up or completing 5th grade, meets 7-8:30 p.m. at Scout Cabin, end of N. Washington St. Call Tim Vandervulp at 897-4302 for more info.

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

1ST MON.: V.F.W. Post #8303, 3116 Alden Nash S.E. at 7 p.m.

2ND MON.: Bowne Township Historical Society meets 7:30 at historic museum, 84th/Alden Nash.

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

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

3RD MON.: Peripheral Neuropathy support group, 7 p.m. Next meeting Feb. 21 at Schneider Manor Community Rm., 725 Bowes. Dorothy 897-9794.

3RD MON.: Lowell Showboat Garden Club meets at 7 p.m. at Lowell Church of the Nazarene in the Fellowship Hall.

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

TUES.: Take Off Pounds Sensibly Tops M1#372 meets at Key Heights Mobile Home Park Community Bldg. Weigh-ins 5:45 p.m.

TUES.: Cub Scout Pack 3188 at 1st United Methodist Church, 6:30 p.m. Cubmaster Bruce Doll, 897-9782 / email: bruce@imagesofvision.com.

TUES.: Flat River Woodcarvers meet at LAAC from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

TUES.: Women's Community Bible Study. Free nursery and preschool story hour/craft time 9:45-11:15 a.m./women only at 7:15 p.m. Calvary Christian Reformed Church. Call 897-7060 or 897-7555.

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

1ST TUES.: Diabetic Support group, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Schneider Manor Community Rm., 725 Bowes Rd. 897-2760 or 897-9160.

1ST TUES.: Adults with AD/HD at Calvin College, 7-9 p.m. Call Gary Engle at 897-6325 or 248-2423.

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

2ND TUES.: G.R. Chapter of the American Sewing Guild, Plainfield Senior Center, 5255 Grand River Dr. NE, 6:30 social; 7 p.m. meeting/program. Call Sandy 285-0621 or June 231-780-1249 for more information.

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.

2ND & 4TH TUES.: Saranac Needlers, needleart/quilting bee, 5-8:30 p.m., 4 Health Wellness Center, Bridge St., Saranac. All are welcome. Contact Bev or Melissa, 642-6466. Light dinner is provided.

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

3RD TUES.: Saranac Scrappers, scrapbooking/journaling group meets at 4 Health Wellness Center, Bridge St., Saranac, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Light refreshments are 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. Call 897-8694.

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

WED.: 8 p.m. ALANON upstairs at 1st Congregational Church, 404 N. Hudson St.

WED.: Tri-town Conservation Club trap & skeet league, 5616 Dunn Rd. 6-10 p.m. Larry 754-7104.

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

2ND WED.: Lowell Women's Club, noon in Schneider Manor Community Room, 725 Bowes Rd.

2ND WED.: Support group for Peripheral Neuropathy, 4 p.m., St. Paul's Anglican Catholic Church, Grand Rapids. Dorothy 897-9794.

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

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

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

THURS.: St. Mary's Pregnancy Crisis Center, 402 Amity St., non-denominational help for pregnant women/adolescents, 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. Spectrum Health Kent Community Campus, 750 Fuller NE.

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

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., 1:30 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 2700 E. Fulton.

2ND THURS.: Loyal Order of the Moose, men's meeting at 7:30 p.m.

2ND THURS.: Genealogy-Alto Family Tree Club the at Alto Library from 6:30-8 p.m.

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

3RD THURS.: Rubber stamping at Christian Life Center 6-9 p.m. Call Dawn at 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. Call 897-7842.

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

FRI.: Arts/Crafts volunteers at Franciscan Life Process Center, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Call Pat or Judy at 897-7842.

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

2ND SAT.: Lowell Amateur Radio Club, Lowell Airport, 730 Lincoln Lake NE. 9 a.m. social time; 10 a.m. meeting. LARC sponsors 145.27 MHz area radio repeater system.

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

LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM: Tues., Sat. & Sun. 1-4; Thurs., 1-8. Families: \$10; individuals \$3; 5-17 \$1.50; members free. 897-7688.

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

ALTO LIBRARY HOURS: Mon. & Sat. 9:30 - 1:30 p.m.; Tues. & Wed. 12-8 p.m.; Thurs. 1-5 p.m.

LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL: Tues.-Fri.: 12 - 5 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m. Monday / a.m. by appt. 149 S. Hudson. 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.

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.

WED. & THURS., JAN. 26 & 27: Auditions for Thebes Players "Wedding of the Year," 6:30 p.m. at LAAC. Call 897-8545 for info.

THURS., JAN. 27: ACT Preparation Workshop at Lowell High School, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Cost: \$38. Call 987-2908 with questions.

MON., FEB. 7: Athletic Boosters regular meeting at 7 p.m. in the high school staff lounge.

TUES., FEB. 8: Lowell Area Historical Museum program at Lowell Township Hall at 7 p.m. "Swiss Heritage and Yodeling" by Verle Stahl. Learn history of the area's Swiss settlement; bring Swiss artifacts for display.

SAT., FEB. 12: Ukrainian egg decorating workshop for adults at the Wittenbach Wege Center. \$15. Call Luanne or Judy at 897-7688 (Lowell Area Historical Museum) to register.

WED., FEB. 16: Lowell Area Fire Dept. blood drive from 2-7 p.m. at Look Memorial Fire Station, 315 S. Hudson.

SHIP HALL AT 7 P.M.: "Swiss Heritage and Yodeling" by Verle Stahl. Learn history of the area's Swiss settlement; bring Swiss artifacts for display.

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LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

897-5949

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

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

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., JAN. 26: 8:30 a.m. Traveling breakfast Perkins; 11 a.m. & 1 p.m. Math Games.

THURS., JAN. 27: 12:30 p.m. Cafe in the Woods & Shopping Woodland Mall.

FRI., JAN. 28: 12:45 p.m. Bingo.

MON., JAN. 31: Noon, Soup and Sandwich; 12:45 p.m. Games at Center.

TUES., FEB. 1: 10:15 a.m. Reading Grandparents.

WED., FEB. 2: 10 a.m. Blood Pressure; 12:45 p.m. Shop Meijer; 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Math Games.

THURS., FEB. 3: 12:45 p.m. Shop Horrock's

FRI., FEB. 4: 9 a.m. Bowling; 12 p.m. Potato Bar; 12:45 p.m. Bingo.

MON., FEB. 7: 10 a.m. Advisory Council; 12 p.m. Soup and Sandwich; 12:45 p.m. Games at the Center.

TUES., FEB. 8: 10:15 a.m. Reading Grandparents.

Vergennes annexation, continued ... From Page 1

meeting. "We might want a big battle. We've spent thousands and thousands of dollars on good zoning and you guys have worked hard on it."

Rob Munger, who owns Duray Development, LLC, the company that filed the petition for annexation of the property, called a 425 Agreement a "win-win situation" in an interview the day after the meeting. The developer hasn't yet released building plans for the site to the city or township, so it is not yet clear what kind of zoning it would require.

Township supervisor Tim Wittenbach said the 425 Agreement is something both sides are required to pursue before the state boundary commission's public hearing on the annexation.

"We've gotta show good faith," he said.

"We do need to work, as does the city of Lowell, to make an effort at the 425 Agreement," said Vergennes trustee Vern Nauta.

The hearing will take place March 3.

"And when the time comes, I'm sure we're all going to want you to come out and talk at this March meeting," Vergennes trustee Alan Baird said to the citizens attending the meeting.

Munger said he doesn't want to build under township zoning.

"As far as the 425 and having the township have the zoning rights, that wouldn't work," he said.

Munger had submitted site plans to the township for a development on only the northwest piece of the land submitted for annexation. It was after the township

didn't respond to the plan that the parcels were joined and Duray Development submitted the annexation petition.

Marianne Menger and Carolyn Mettendorp feared the annexation would leave Vergennes more vulnerable to future annexation. In order to be annexed, a property must be contiguous to the city. The property

in question consists of two parcels joined at one corner by a thin parcel of land. One of the parcels is contiguous to the Cherry Creek Elementary property. To the northeast of it, the second parcel is L-shaped and is bound by Vergennes and Alden Nash streets. The property's annexation would make several other

properties contiguous with the city.

"The boundaries of the city now will be snaking into the township," Mettendorp said.

Several residents worried development under the city of Lowell's zoning would compromise the unique environmental qualities of the property.

"This is a really beautiful location of which open space development would be important," said Steve Platt, a resident and member of the township's Open Space committee.

Munger said his company intends to build a "green" development.

"What we're really looking at is being a green developer," Munger said. "And that doesn't mean you just block off five acres of a site to be a park, that means setting up houses so they have views."

"Green space has to be very important for developments."

Munger cited a trip he and his project manager recently took to Orlando as evidence of Duray Development's commitment to green development design. They attended a class on green spaces at an international homebuilders convention there. A Virginia organization called

Community Greens put on the class.

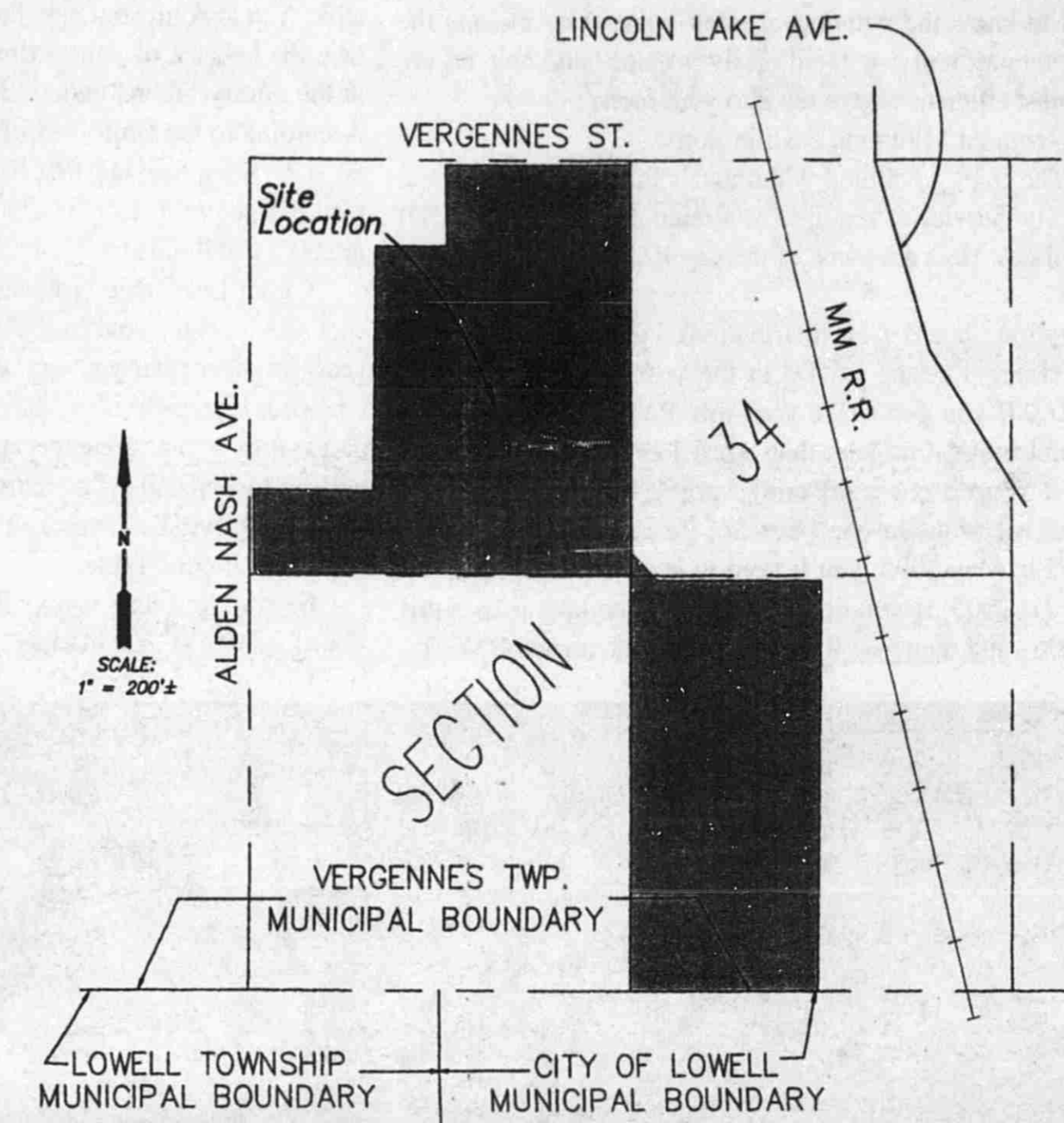
"We flew down there specifically for those classes," Munger said.

The plan for the development, he said, might include some retail, such as doctors' or veterinarians' offices. This would create environmental benefits since residents could use these services without taking long car trips.

Peter Gustafson outlined how he saw the difference between the city's and the township's perspective on the annexation question: "What they want is money and millage, and what the township wants is to protect something special. We know what we have in this township. It's unique. If we don't act, we're going to end up like all these other townships around Grand Rapids who have succumbed and became just another place with a strip mall in America."

At Monday's township board meeting, opponents of the annexation passed out information sheets detailing the property in question and its environmental and aesthetic assets. Resident Marsha Wilcox proposed that the township host an informational meeting about the annexation for township residents.

for Agencies" under the Resource Directory tab to find an agency near you. The CD-ROM is also available at AAA branch locations for members (\$3) and non-members (\$5).



A home-based tool will help seniors drive safely longer

Just as you would screen for high cholesterol or high blood pressure, AAA Michigan introduced a first of its kind scientifically validated tool designed to help seniors screen for their driving health. Roadwise Review: A Tool to Help Seniors Drive Safely Longer is a CD-ROM that measures the physical and mental abilities shown to be the strongest predictors of crash risk among older drivers and then provides feedback to guide the user's driving decisions.

The computer-based screening program in Roadwise Review contains the most effective predictors of crash risk in eight functional areas as validated in research sponsored by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the National Institute on Aging.

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- Head/Neck Flexibility - essential in checking blind spots, lane changes or merging.
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- Low Contrast Visual Acuity - vital for low visibility conditions such as dusk, rain or fog.
- Working Memory - important in following traffic rules and regulations and using information on highway guide signs.
- Visualization of Missing Information - helps a driver recognize hazards even when seeing only part of the picture.
- Visual Search - safe driving requires the ability to quickly find and recognize traffic signs and landmarks.
- Useful Field of View - ensures drivers can pay attention to what is

- Head/Neck Flexibility - essential in checking blind spots, lane changes or merging.
- High Contrast Visual Acuity - needed to identify pavement markings, as well as detect many types of hazards in or near the road.
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happening right in front of them while also noticing safety threats at the edge of their field of view.

Through its partnership with Michigan Office of Services to the Aging (OSA), AAA is offering the program free at senior centers, area agencies on aging and councils and commissions on aging throughout the state. Visit www.miseniors.net and click on "Search

for Agencies" under the Resource Directory tab to find an agency near you. The CD-ROM is also

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U.S. Airborne Gymnastics take a first at invitational

The Class 4 and 5 teams of the U.S. Airborne boys gymnastics team took first place last weekend in Lansing at the Twisters Invitational. Top three scores on six apparatus count toward team points. From Lowell are Parker Groom who placed second in Class 4 (8-9 yr. olds) and Nathan Limmex, who also received a second place in Class 5 (7-9 yr. olds).

Pictured, from left to right, are Dallas VanBelkum, Parker Groom, Garrett Ruppel, Nick Hughes and Nick Haskins with Coach Franson. The team will host its own competition at Ford Fieldhouse March 5-6.

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC NOTICE

There will be a meeting of the Vergennes Township Zoning Board of Appeals on Monday, January 31, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Vergennes Township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr. PO Box 208, Lowell to hear the following variance application:

David Sefton is requesting a variance on property located at 13300 Beckwith, Lowell in the SE quarter of section 23, parcel # 41-16-023-400-016. The variance is requested because the road frontage of the existing parent parcel has less than the required minimum lot width. The applicant wants to split off one parcel in the front where the frontage is less than the required lot width. The variance is from the zoning ordinance section 201.304 (E).

The complete application can be reviewed at the Vergennes Township Hall from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Public comment will be heard at the meeting. Written comments received by mail, in person or in the mail slot located at the office entrance will also be considered if received at the Township office prior to 7:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Comments may also be emailed to zoning@vergennewtp.org.

Vergennes Township ZBA



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Required Minimum Distributions
The rules governing withdrawals fall under the Internal Revenue Service's "required minimum distribution" (RMD) guidelines. Here are some of the key RMD points to keep in mind:

- You should take distributions by age 70-1/2 - You should begin taking RMDs in the year in which you turn 70-1/2. If you don't take your first RMD during that year, you must take it no later than April 1 of the following year. And if you do put it off until April 1, you'll need to take two distributions in one year. So, for example, if you turn 70-1/2 in May 2005, you'll need to take your first RMD by Dec. 31, 2005. If you don't, you'll have to take it by April 1, 2006—and then you'll have to take your second RMD by

Dec. 31, 2006.

If you don't take your RMDs on time, you may have to pay the IRS a 50 percent penalty tax on the taxable portion of your uncollected distribution—so make sure you know your dates.

- You can take more than the minimum—You can withdraw more than the RMD, but, as the word "required" suggests, you can't withdraw less.

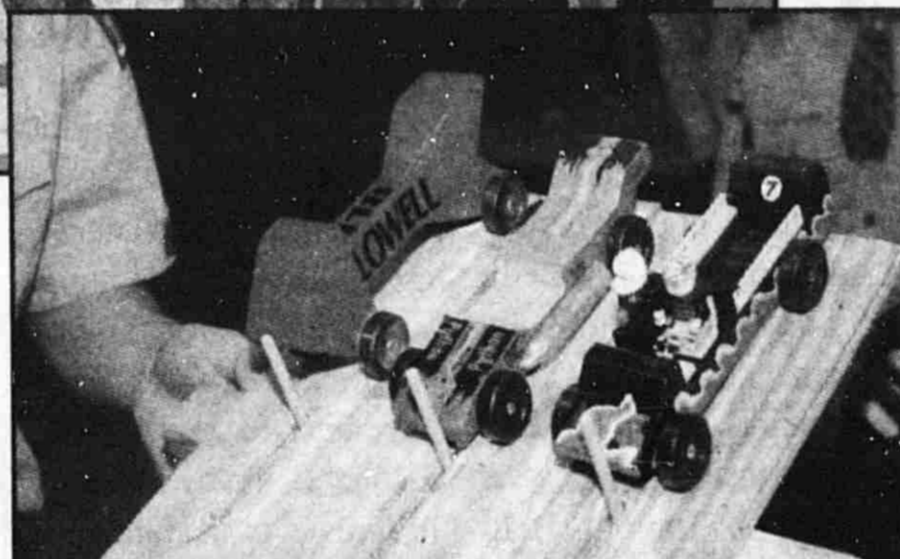
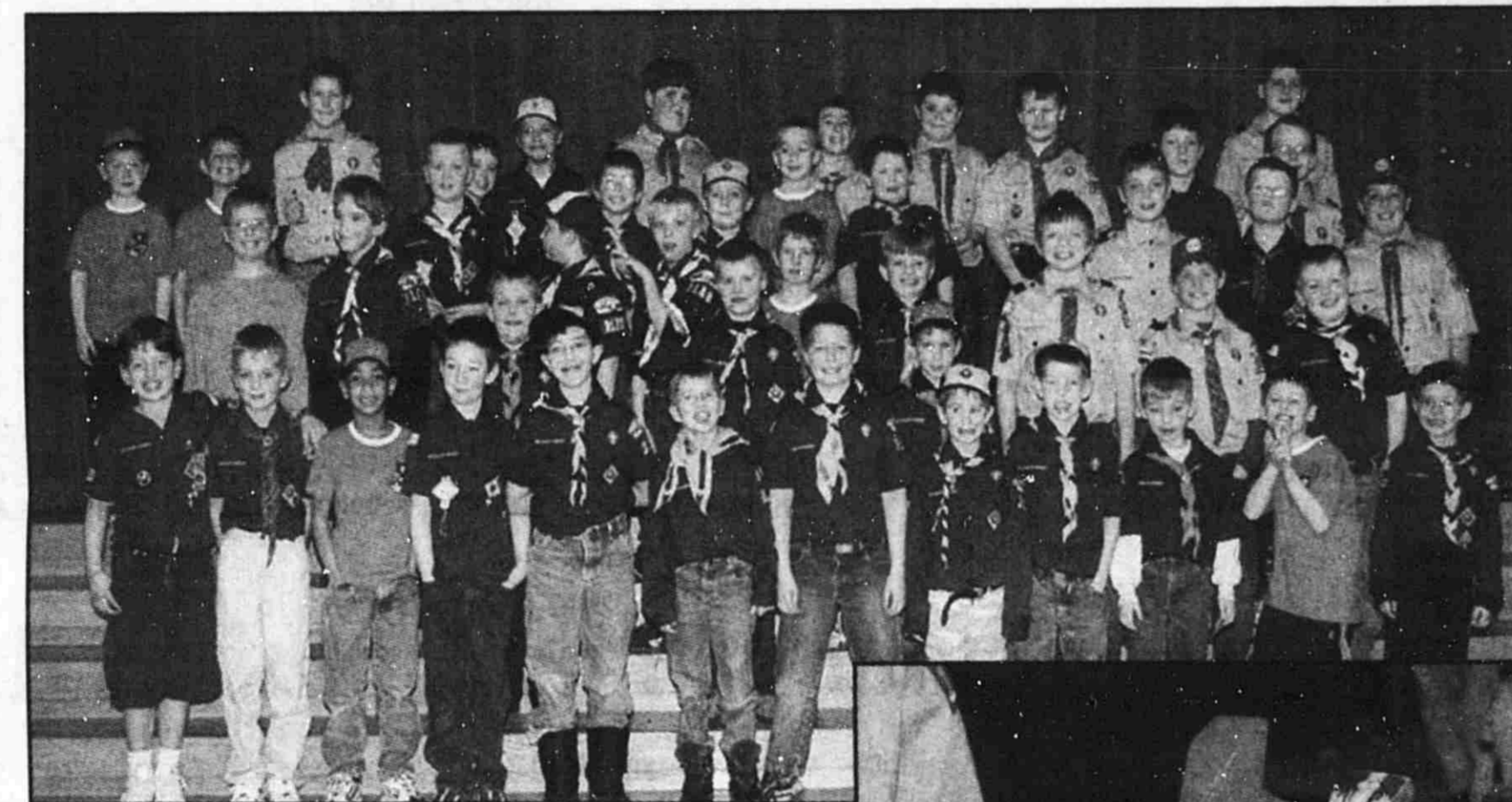
You may be able to delay RMDs if you're still working—If your employer's retirement plan permits it, you may not have to take RMDs if you are still working at age 70-1/2 or older. However, this exception won't apply if you own five percent or more of your company.

Calculating RMDs
To determine your RMD, you'll probably use one of these tables:

- Uniform Lifetime Table—Most people will use this table. You look up your age, find your life expectancy factor, take the balance of your retirement accounts as of Dec. 31 of the prior year, and then divide by the factor. To illustrate: According to the Uniform Lifetime Table, the factor for age 70 is 27.4 so, for your first RMD, you take your retirement plan balance as of Dec 31, 2004 (assuming you turn 70-1/2 in 2005) and divide by 27.4.

Joint Life Table—You can use this table if you have a spouse who is the sole beneficiary and who is more than 10 years younger than you are. When you use this table, you take your retirement plan balance from the previous year and divide it by a joint life expectancy factor. Since this number will be higher than your individual life expectancy factor, your RMDs will be lower than if they were calculated on the Uniform Lifetime Table.

Before you start taking RMDs, see your tax adviser. You'll want to get the numbers right - right from the start.



Racing Scouts

The annual Pinewood Derby was held at Cherry Creek Elementary last Tuesday. There were 44 boys from Cub Scout Pack 3188 who enjoyed pizza and several hours of racing their cars. Picture below the scouts is an example of some of the creative cars in the derby.

Photo submitted by Bruce T. Doll

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Lowell Charter Township

Lowell volleyball takes first conference loss at Kenowa

By Dan Schneider

The second straight week of lengthy volleyball contests continued for Lowell last Thursday. This time the Red Arrows were on the losing end of the endurance run, falling to the Knights in five games.

Lowell lost the first game 25-22, then turned around and won the second by the same

score. The Arrows came back from a 23-15 deficit to claim the third game, 26-24. But Kenowa Hills won the fourth game 25-15, forcing game five which they won 15-12.

"After having the comeback in the third game, we needed to win the fourth game," Lowell coach Gigi Peal said. "Kenowa Hills is a team of good athletes and

we let them hang around too long.

"We played well, the girls did. But we did have a few missed opportunities where we could have taken charge."

Lowell did have a tough time blocking Kenowa's big hitters. But it was a standout night for Lowell's defensive specialists.

"Katie McElroy and Lisa Johnson had a great defensive game," Peal said. "They had a really good match considering the blocking could have been better."

Kristin Johnson led Lowell offensively with 23 kills; Samantha Mol had 16. Taylor Verdon had 43 assists.

Lowell is now 3-1 in the OK White while Kenowa is 4-0, but the loss doesn't dampen hopes for a conference championship. Kenowa Hills still had to play East Grand Rapids, who gave the Arrows a run for their money Jan. 13, and Cedar Springs, who lost to Lowell in conference play but beat them in a tournament match.

"I don't anticipate anyone walking through the conference undefeated," Peal said. "So it will be a battle right on through the tournament."

Lowell's next conference match is Thursday at Northview. The Arrows travel to the West Ottawa Invitational on Saturday.

Red Arrow wrestlers best Kenowa Hills

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell wrestling team won its match last Thursday against visiting Kenowa Hills. The score was 41-31.

All seven matches the Red Arrows won were by pin or technical fall. A few Lowell wrestlers, like Corey Fitzpatrick at 112,

were ahead in their matches before getting caught and pinned.

"There were three matches where we were

ahead and ended up getting pinned," said Lowell assistant coach Wayne Fuller.

Travis Otten pinned

Fitzpatrick in 4:48. Jake Rasen of Kenowa Hills pinned Matt Francisco in 1:36 at 171.

Winning by pin for Lowell were Ray Seese at 103 over Sean Rodriguez in :47; Robbie Karasiewicz at 119 over Scott Cartwright in 1:55; Mike Thomas at 125 over Ryan McElheny in 1:59; Joe Mendez at 135 over Kevin Chambers in 1:24; Alex Fleet at 160 defeating Trevor Terpstra in 3:50; and Brock Graham at 189 pinning Kurt Kynnen in 1:02. Ryan Karasiewicz won by technical fall against Derevas Munro.

Seese was coming off a weekend that included

a close match in which he held a lead before losing to defending state champion R.J. Morgan of Hastings in the Gary Rivers Memorial Tournament. Fleet went undefeated at the tournament. Last Thursday's pin was his sixth straight victory.

"They're stepping it up," Fuller said of Seese and Fleet. "We're waiting for the rest of the younger guys to step up like they are."

Lowell is 4-1 in conference wrestling.

"We've got a tough night coming up Thursday against Northview," Fuller said.

Lowell hosts the Wildcats at 7 p.m.

Lowell-Caledonia hockey caught on heels against South Christian

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell-Caledonia hockey team that had been building up steam over the previous seven games slowed down some in last Friday's 3-2 loss at South Christian.

"We just didn't have the energy, didn't have the motivation," said Lowell-Caledonia coach Mike Ballard.

Lowell-Caledonia went down a goal early after a roughing penalty put South Christian on a power play in the first minute of the game. Lowell-Caledonia scored to tie it at one at the end of the first period.

South Christian went up 2-1, then Lowell-Caledonia tied the game again late

in the third period. The teams were preparing to go to overtime when South Christian scored a goal with 30 seconds left.

"A bad bounce and a mental error, and they scored the game winner with not a lot of time left," Ballard said.

The puck was flying through the neutral zone. A Lowell-Caledonia defender tried to stop it in the air. It ended in a fight for the puck in front of the Lowell-Caledonia goal. L-C's goalie came out after the puck, which was knocked free to his left where South Christian was able to hit it in.

Lowell-Caledonia was unable to come up with the win despite outshooting the

Sailors 30-15. Cory Kelly scored both of Lowell-Caledonia's goals.

"To give credit to South Christian, they played a very good defensive game in front of their goalie, not allowing us to get close," Ballard said.

The loss puts Lowell-Caledonia at 2-3-1 in league play and, likely, out of contention for the division title.

"We need to regroup and start to play the role of the spoiler this year," Ballard said.

They'll get a chance to start Friday against West

Ottawa, a rematch against the team that beat L-C in their league opener. Friday's game is at 9 p.m. at the Standard Federal Ice Arena. Lowell-Caledonia will play at Forest Hills Central on Saturday.

There are a few amendments to the hockey schedule: The Feb. 4 game at Standard Federal against South Christian will now be played Feb. 3 at 5 p.m. at the South Side Ice Arena, located on 100th St. just off U.S. 131. The Feb. 12 game against Catholic Central will now be held Feb. 7 at 7:30 p.m., also at the South Side Ice Arena.

In every person who comes near you, look for what is good and strong; honor that; try to imitate it, and your faults will drop off like dead leaves when their time comes.

—John Ruskin

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Injuries cause ECWC to forfeit to Lowell gymnasts

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell gymnastics team claimed an easy victory last Wednesday after the East Grand Rapids-Caledonia-West Catholic

(ECWC) team forfeited the meet. ECWC arrived at the meet with a small team. With one of their five gymnasts injured at the

outset, the team had only the minimum four gymnasts necessary to score. Then an ECWC gymnast missed the mat when landing a vault, injuring her leg. With the beam and floor exercise remaining, and with too few gymnasts for a team score, ECWC forfeited the meet to Lowell.

Lowell's gymnasts continued through the beam and floor exercise, earning a team score of 127.65.

Jenna Dickerman led the Arrows on vault with an 8.65; other top vault scores were by Amand Rau (8.55), Rebecca Underwood (8.05) and Kelli Kowalski (8.0).

Dickerman had the team's best score on bars with 7.85 followed by Rau (7.5), Leannah Seese (7.2)

and Kowalski (7.1). On beam, Underwood led the team with an 8.4 followed by Rau (7.95), Dickerman (7.75) and Alicia Weeber (7.4).

On the floor exercise, Rau scored an 8.8; Underwood, 8.4; Seese, 8.35; and Kowalski, 7.7.

"It was a pretty good night," said Lowell coach Michele DeHaan. "Once ECWC decided not to finish, it takes a lot of weight off your shoulders."

The team's freshmen,

Rochelle Bieri and Olivia Breuker performed the floor exercise for the first time last Wednesday.

"They just did such a nice job," DeHaan said. Lowell was scheduled to compete at the Mona Shores Invitational Saturday, but the event was canceled due to the heavy snowfall.

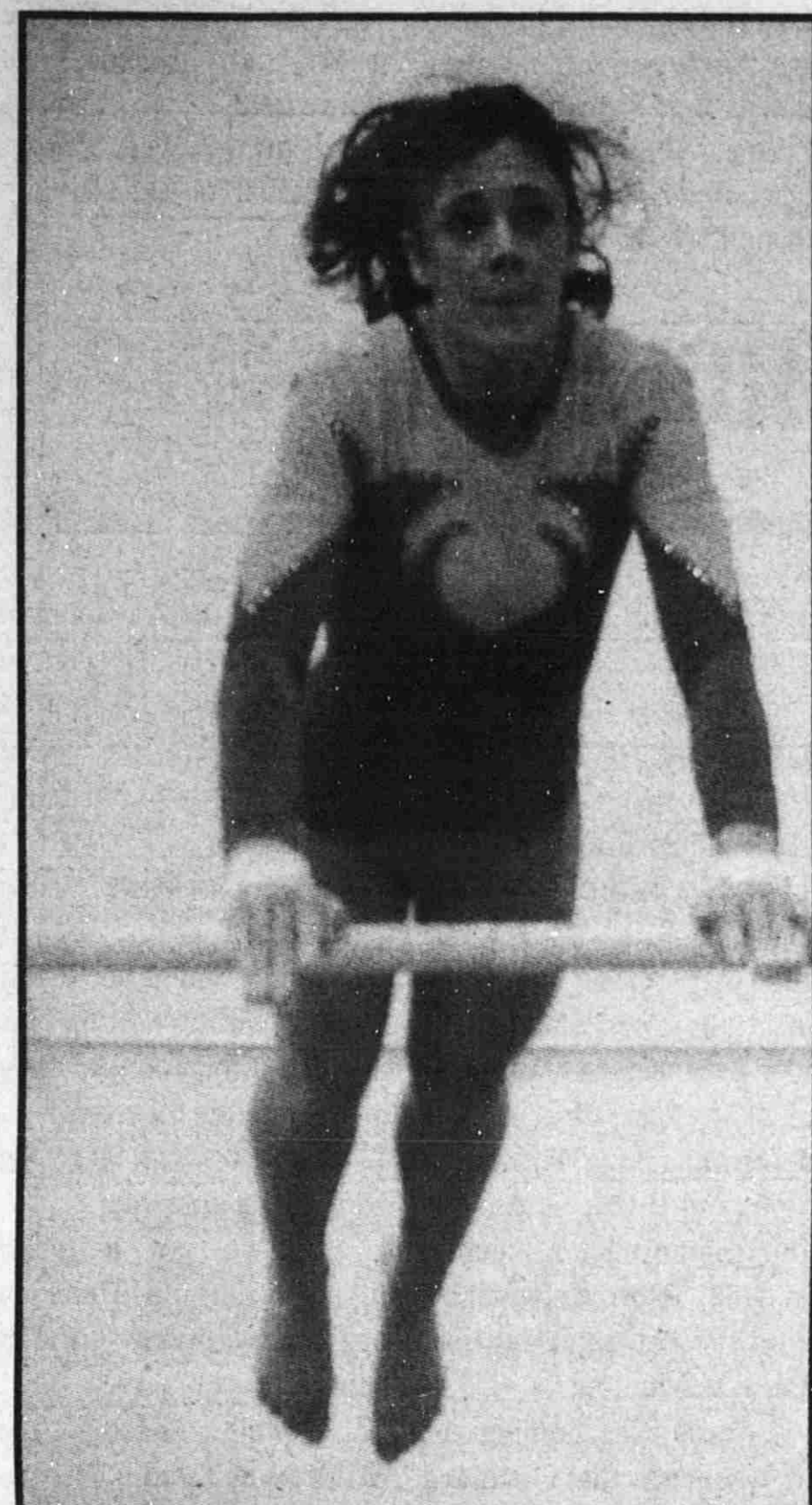
Lowell traveled to Rockford Monday. Scores for the night were as follows:

Vault: Jenna Dickerman, 8.85, 3rd place; Amanda Rau, 8.65, 4th place; Kelli Kowalski, 8.55, 6th place; Rebecca Underwood, 8.1.

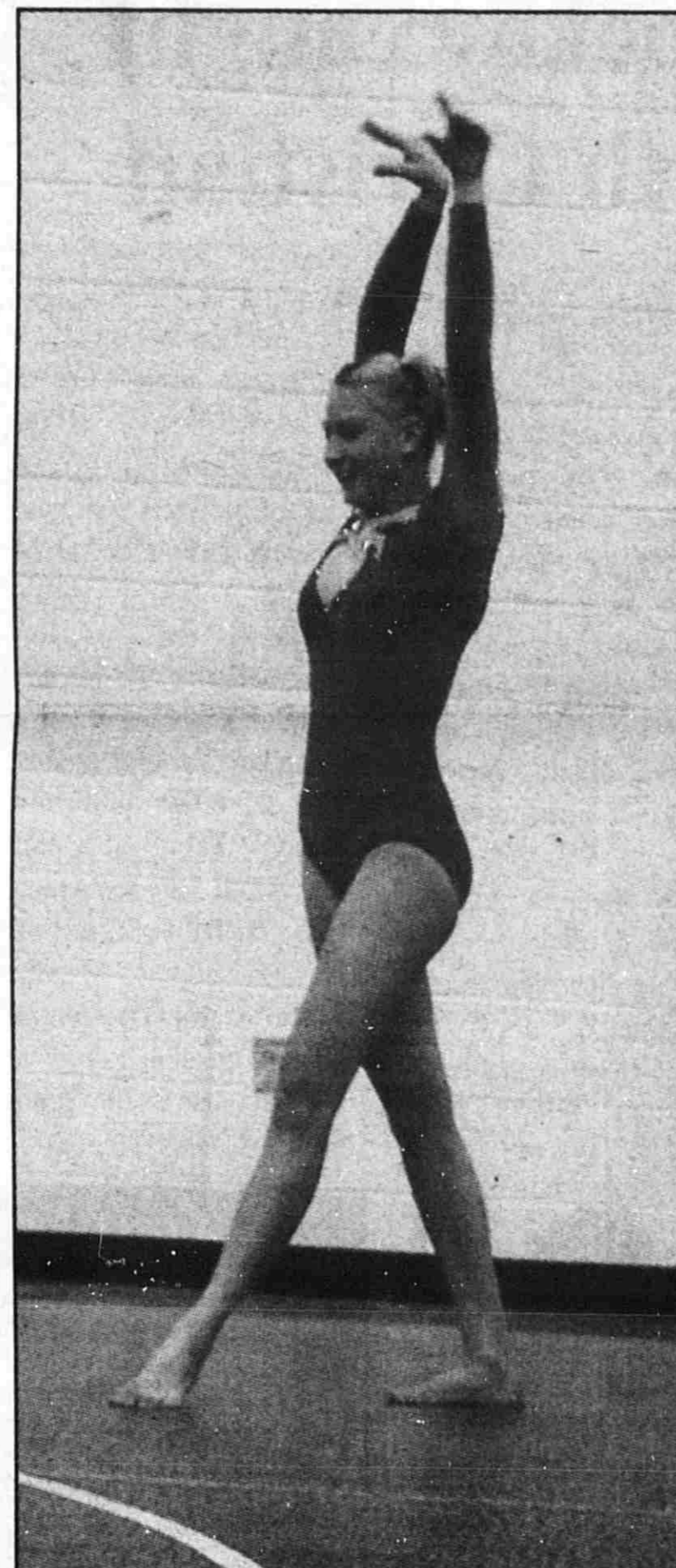
Bars: Dickerman, 8.45, 4th place; Leannah Seese, 7.55; Rau, 7.0; Underwood, 6.5.

Beam: Dickerman, 8.65, 1st place; Underwood, 8.15, 3rd place; Alicia Weeber, 7.9, 5th place; Rau, 7.45.

Floor: Dickerman, 8.7, 3rd place; Underwood, 8.8, 2nd place; Rau, 8.5, 5th place; Seese, 7.95.



Lowell's Jenna Dickerman on the uneven bars last Wednesday.



Lowell's Kelli Kowalski mid-floor exercise in last Wednesday's gymnastics meet against East Grand Rapids-Caledonia-West Catholic.



Lowell's Rebecca Underwood executes a jump on the balance beam.

Courage is the greatest of all the virtues. Because if you haven't courage, you may not have an opportunity to use any of the others.
—Samuel Johnson

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing before the Vergennes Township Planning Commission will be held on **Monday, February 7, 2005 at 7:00 PM, at the Vergennes Township Hall, located at 10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell, MI** to consider a special exception use permit as follows:

Faber & Company (Pete Faber) has requested an application review to create two lots as a Site Condominium type land division within the Industrial District. The property is located on the west side of Lincoln Lake Ave in section 34, parcel number 41-16-34-226-013, across the street from the cemeteries and airport and just north of the Lincoln Lake Business Park.

The complete application can be reviewed at the Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Drive, PO Box 208, Lowell, MI 49331 - Phone: (616) 897-5671 [fax 897-5674]. Written and oral comments will be received until the conclusion of the public hearing. Written comments may be addressed to the Planning Commission Chairman or the Planning Coordinator at the Township Offices. Comments may be emailed to the Planning Commission at: zoning@vergennestwp.org.

Vergennes Township Planning Commission

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Two wins put an end to Lowell's basketball skid

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell varsity basketball team grabbed the lead and kept it last Friday at Cedar Springs, winning 57-49.

"We got out to a quick lead and it was pretty even from there on out," Lowell coach Jeff McDonald said.

Lowell was up 10-3 after the first quarter and up 38-31 at the end of the third. They played to win against a hot-shooting Redhawks team that hit eight 3-pointers on the night.

"And they made three in the fourth quarter which helped them hang around a little bit," McDonald said.

Brad Shea led offense for Lowell with 17 points.

Josh Hettinga scored 13 and Mike McElroy, 9. Lowell improved its free throw

many jumpers while Lowell did a good job stopping their inside drives.

In the third quarter, Lowell was only defending their lead, not playing with the intensity necessary to build on it. St. Johns closed to within nine, 45-36, by the end of the quarter. The Redwings were more successful at getting inside; they also were picking up more loose balls and were on the benefiting end of some turnovers. Both teams committed a lot of these during the course of the game.

Lowell widened the margin in the fourth and got the win, but coach Jeff McDonald said they played better in their recent losses.

"We got a win and we didn't play with the kind of energy we have been,"

McDonald said. "We didn't bounce back very well from Friday night."

He was talking about Lowell's Jan. 14 home overtime loss to Unity Christian.

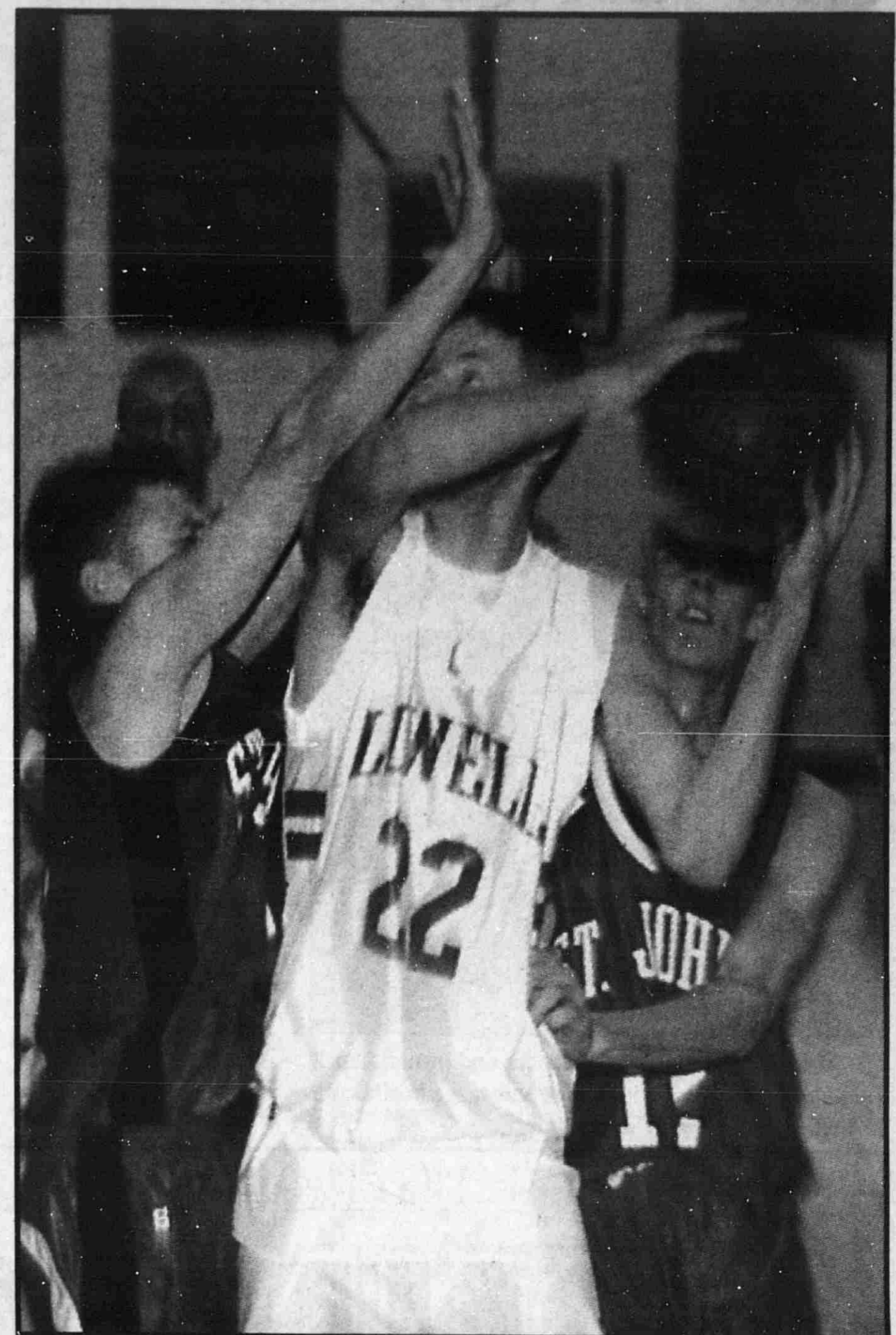
St. Johns coach Dirk Besko was disappointed with his team's performance.

"I thought we didn't play with any effort, we weren't focused and we didn't have any pride," Besko said. "I thought we were playing a lot better in the second half ... when you're climbing from behind and you're just matching baskets, you're never going to get up and they're just going to keep pushing you back down the hill."

Lowell's other leading scorers were Ryan Lane with 12, Josh Hettinga with 9 and Andrew Happie with 5.



Lowell's Josh Hettinga drives the ball up the court against St. Johns



Lowell's Kevin Gillman tries for a shot against St. Johns' defenders.

shooting, going 17-for-24 against Cedar.

The Red Arrows ended a four-game losing streak last Tuesday, besting the Redwings of St. Johns 59-43.

Lowell took the advantage early by taking it inside aggressively. Brad Shea scored most of his game-high 18 points from the paint in the game. Lowell's first score was a three-pointer by Josh Hettinga, followed by a Shea layup.

The Red Arrows were up 19-10 after one quarter of play. Lowell enjoyed a wide lead—as much as 20 points—through most of the second quarter. At the half, the score was 34-17, Lowell.

St. Johns had a hard time hitting jump shots. But the real problem for the Redwings was the fact they were forced to shoot so

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New mortgage business offers financing options

By Dan Schneider

A new business in town is hoping to help people

with a wide range of credit histories buy or refinance homes in the Lowell area. Chuck Lupton, manager

and owner of the new Apex Financial office in Lowell, claims four years of home mortgage experience and six years as a real estate agent.

"I've always liked the lending aspect of it," Lupton said. "When you're working with a client and you're able to save them so much money every month, even a family that's struggling ... that's very gratifying, just seeing that."

Lupton said he chose to open an office with Apex Financial because the company has a wide variety of lenders.

"They've got some real good lenders to work with and they're well put together as a team," Lupton said. "Pretty much any type of mortgage that is out there, we can offer."

The company can offer mortgages tailored for first-time home buyers, stated income mortgages for self-employed people who

don't get regular paychecks and people with checkered credit histories.

"Pretty much any kind of situation, we're able to do a mortgage and typically at a lower rate than they'll get at a bank," Lupton said.

He said Apex offers mortgage products through Lowell's local banks, but at a wholesale rate. It can also offer mortgages through 45 other lenders.

Apex Financial is the only mortgage company in town; two closed in Lowell within the last year and a half, but this doesn't discourage Lupton.

"It's a growing community," he said. "There's new construction all around. So we'll have plenty of new homes in Lowell and plenty of buyers and owners who may benefit from refinancing."

Lupton and five others—Vicki Stepek, Jason Friesner, James Bosch, Amy

Pullen and Lisa Inbody—are the staff at Apex Financial. ... honest people who are hardworking."

The office is located at 209 E. Main St., Suite C. "That's 90 percent of the



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A four-day inaugural party & \$140,000,000 spent on it. It makes me proud to have voted for John Kerry.

I think this country could have used \$140,000,000 on better things than a four-day inaugural party. Real Americans know what down sizing is. The president should try it.

Why does someone think the Ledger is haunted? And why hasn't the public heard of this in all these years? What are you people at the Ledger hiding?

Bush is the best president ever to anyone with an IQ under 60.

Let's thank all those who have been working out in this very cold weather to make life better for the rest of us. That includes mail carriers, road workers, utility workers, etc.

Let's all keep President Bush and his staff and advisors in our daily prayers. We are very blessed to be living here in America.

I'd just like to comment on the Mundi's tree that they have carved into a bear. My daughter and I have been getting a lot of enjoyment out of it and wonder if he's going to be Cupid for Valentine's Day or a leprechaun for St. Patrick's Day.

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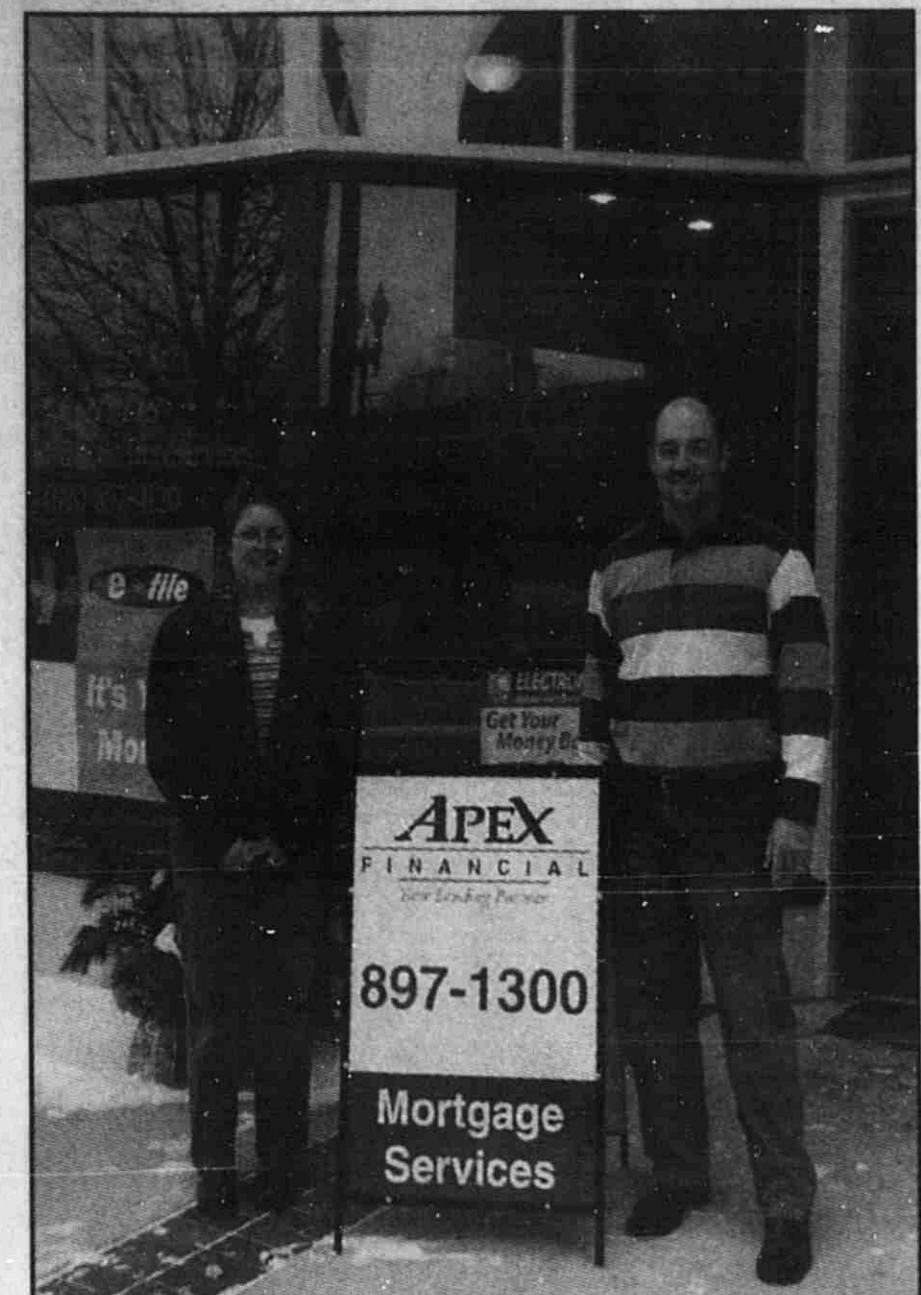
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Vicki Stepek and office manager and owner Chuck Lupton of Apex Financial, a new mortgage business in Lowell.

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Classifieds

<p>PRICES 15 words for \$1.00 each additional word is 10¢ \$1 extra for bold \$1 extra for a box</p>	<p>FOR SALE MATTRESS / BOX SPRINGS - Brand new, \$49/set. Twin, full, queen, delivery available. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.</p>	<p>FOR SALE FOR SALE - Antique organ, works well, \$950 obo.; also 1953 upright piano, asking \$300 obo. Call 897-4174.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>HELP WANTED CNC OPERATORS - We are seeking CNC mill operators. Experience with "VISI" Software preferred, but not necessary. Knowledge of Progressive Dies a plus. Apply at Precise Engineering, 683 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE, Lowell, MI 49331.</p>	<p>SERVICES IF YOU HAVE TRASH - Call ALL TRASH. All Trash LLC. 15 yd. rolloff dumpsters. 616-887-8870 or local 299-1249.</p>
<p>HOW TO REACH US By Phone: 897-9261 By Fax: 897-4809 By E-Mail: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com By Mail: PO Box 128 Lowell, MI 49331</p>	<p>FOR SALE RAMADA INN FURNITURE - 25 rooms, excellent condition, night stands, \$5; desk, \$10; chest of drawers, \$25. Dennis Distributing, 315 N. Lansing, St. Johns, 989-224-4822.</p>	<p>FOR SALE '95 DODGE DAKOTA - Excellent condition. Low miles, \$3,700 obo. Call 616-822-3109 after 11 a.m.</p>	<p>FOR RENT HALL FOR RENT - with kitchen, seats 150. Call 897-6050.</p>	<p>IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN WORKING PART TIME - for Lowell Area Schools Food Service Department as a substitute, please contact Chris Nelson at 616-987-2964. Hours vary from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. depending on the position. Lowell Schools are also looking for substitute paraeducator positions to cover playground and classroom positions. If you are interested in these positions, please contact Sean Smart at 616-987-2512.</p>	<p>SNOWPLOWING - Tired of shoveling that driveway? We have great hourly or seasonal rates available. Long, short, straight or curvy driveways. We do them all. Call Homrich Mobile Washing & Snowplowing at 897-0269 for your free quote.</p>
<p>DEADLINE Friday at 4 p.m. For the Wednesday Publication</p>	<p>FOR SALE 1999 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX GT - 4 dr., red, 3800, loaded, CD, heads up display, new tires, heated leather, 72,000 miles, \$7,800. Call 897-1597 or 450-7910.</p>	<p>FOR SALE FOR SALE - AQHA 2003 Palomino filly, foundation red, very quiet, cute, in good health. \$800. Call Lyons 989-855-2367 after 2 p.m.</p>	<p>FOR RENT FOR RENT - \$400 moves you in! 2 bedroom 2 bath apartments in Lowell. One stall garage, w/d hook-ups & convenient location. \$670 month. Call today 363-5430 or visit us on the web at www.wmponline.com.</p>	<p>WANTED IMMEDIATELY - Caring, loving person to care for 3 children in our home. 2-6 p.m. Tues. - Fri. 897-5257.</p>	<p>JOHN DEBIAK HORSESHOEING & HOOF TRIMMING - Serving the Greater Kent/Lonia County area with 15 years of professional, full-time experience. Call 897-4290.</p>
<p>SUBSCRIPTION RATES In Kent County \$15 - 1 year \$29 - 2 years Outside Kent County \$22.50 - 1 yr. \$38.00 - 2 yrs.</p>	<p>FOR SALE AIR BED - Selecta comfort firmness for each of you. Dual chambers. Remote control. Warranty. Never used. \$600. Call 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160.</p>	<p>FOR SALE '99 CHRYSLER 300 M - loaded, Platinum, 42,000 miles, \$11,500. Call 897-1597 or 450-7910.</p>	<p>DUPLEX FOR RENT - 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, laundry, garage, country setting, 1 mile from downtown Lowell, \$700 a month. Call 682-0138.</p>	<p>CUSTOMER SERVICE - Local company is seeking an energetic, self-motivated team member to add to the success of our operations. Ideal candidates will enjoy interviewing, taking customer orders over the telephone & offering qualified candidates employment opportunities. Prior office experience & proficiency using MS Office Suite preferred. Interested candidates are encouraged to fax their resume & salary history to Mark 616-897-4801.</p>	<p>LISA'S DAYCARE - Has full-time positions available. Kids welcome for Murray Lake School. Great country setting with indoor & outdoor play areas. Planned daily activities & occasional field trips. Call Lisa at 897-3065 for an interview.</p>
<p>OFFICE HOURS Mon. - Thurs. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Fri. 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Sat. & Sun.</p>	<p>A MEMORY FOAM BED - NASA developed memory foam. Brand name, never used. Queen \$650; king \$850. Call 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160.</p>	<p>FOR SALE HAY FOR SALE - \$3 a bale. No rain. Call 987-9124.</p>	<p>FOR RENT - 1 bedroom older farmhouse north of Lowell, \$600/month plus utilities. Baird's. Call 897-9081.</p>	<p>FOR RENT - One bedroom apartment, 221 Amity. #375. Phone 260-1338.</p>	<p>DO YOU HAVE A DAMAGED FLOOR THAT NEEDS REPAIRING? Call Ayres Flooring LLC today 616-498-0476.</p>
<p>GET THE LEDGER DELIVERED RIGHT TO YOUR DOOR! Subscriptions make great Birthday gifts for that person who has everything! Subscriptions in county are only \$15! Call Our Office at 897-9261 Or Stop by 105 N. Broadway</p>	<p>AKK YORKSHIRE TERRIER PUPPIES - 2 males. (1) to be 3-4 lbs. \$650; (1) to be 6 lbs. \$550. Call 989-291-3050.</p>	<p>FOR SALE HAY FOR SALE - 14x65 mobile home, 2 bedroom, on very nice lot with central air and newer furnace. \$2,500 obo. Needs some work. Call 897-7310.</p>	<p>FOR RENT - 1 bedroom upper apartment, 1078 Lincoln Lake, Lowell. Available immediately; heat, water included. Will rent by week. \$475/month. 987-9124.</p>	<p>FOR RENT - Two bedroom apartment. 451 Grand. \$450. Phone 260-1338.</p>	<p>PAYROLL & BOOKKEEPING SERVICE - By certified Quickbooks advisor. Call Kathy 897-0886.</p>
<p>LOWELL OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 1-30-05 • FROM 1-3 PM Start Your New Year In A New Home At HIGHLAND HILL "A New, Traditional Neighborhood" Starting in the \$160's (Take Main St. E. thru Lowell, N. 1 block on James St., E. on High St. to development) CINDY FOSTER • 616-292-7522 holwerdabuilders.com</p>	<p>10 GAS STOVE/REFRIGERATOR SETS - Excellent working condition. Guaranteed. White, \$125/set til gone. Dennis Distributing, 315 N. Lansing, St. Johns, 989-224-4822.</p>	<p>FOR SALE 2003 YAMAHA KODIAK - 2x2, great condition, utility box plus extras, \$4,600 or best offer. Call 616-893-9871 between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.</p>	<p>FOR RENT - one bedroom upper apartment, 1078 Lincoln Lake, Lowell. Available immediately; heat, water included. Will rent by week. \$475/month. 987-9124.</p>	<p>SALES ESTATE SALE - Jan. 27, 28 & 29, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Key Heights Mobile Park, Lowell. 11361 Dorothy St., lot 86. Small estate with a few antiques. Maple dresser, maple table (4 chairs), bunk beds, sofa, antique bedroom set, wheelchair, sm. freezer, micro w/cart, maple stools & misc. items.</p>	<p>PLUMBER - Experienced. Residential, Service or New Construction. Reasonable rates. Call 897-2575.</p>
	<p>SOFA, LOVESEAT - Beige, cushioned arms, floor ruffle (1 month old). Bought, did not use. Cost \$1,100, sell \$495/best. 517-719-8062.</p>	<p>FOR SALE 1999 JEEP CHEROKEE - 4 dr., 4x4, light blue, hwy miles. \$4,800. Call 897-1597 or 450-7910.</p>	<p>WANTED WANTED - Trying to locate the person that owns the door from the Law office of Roger O. McMahon that came out of the old Christensen Drug Store. Please contact Frank McMahon at 616-560-4251.</p>	<p>EVENT HARP THROBS AND CELTIC LORE - at Franciscan Life Process Center, 11650 Downes, Lowell, on Sat., March 12 at 7 p.m. and Sun., March 13 at 3 p.m. Harpists perform Irish music; storyteller features Celtic lore. Coffee/tea/dessert included. Event sells out! Purchase tickets early. \$15 individual; \$25 couple; \$50 family. Call 897-7842.</p>	<p>EXPERIENCE FRANCISCAN LUNCH - each Wednesday, Feb. 9 - March 23 from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Franciscan Life Process Center, 11650 Downes, Lowell. Soup, bread, dessert, beverage. Cost: donation. Call 897-7842.</p>



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YEAR	STOCK#	MAKE	MODEL	OPTIONS	COLOR	SALE PRICE
2003	47397A	Chevy	Silverado Ext. Cab, 4 dr., 4x4, LS, bed cover, nice, pewter...			\$18,995
2003	U48256	Jeep	Liberty	CD, V6, full power, 4x4	white.....	\$15,995
2002	U48227	Buick	Rendezvous, AWD, leather, roof, GM certified		pewter.....	\$16,995
2002	U48269	Chevy	Trailblazer 4x4 LS keyless, full power, more, GM cert.		red.....	\$16,995
2002	47331A	Ford	Explorer, 4x4 loaded, X-tra sharp, roof		beige.....	\$15,997
2002	U48208	GMC	Yukon XL 4x4, 9 pass., NC trade, GM certified		pewter.....	\$22,995
1996	54122A	Chevy	Blazer 4x4, leather, extra nice, 1 owner, 45,000 mi		bronze.....	\$9,995
1995	U48240X	Chevy	Tahoe, 2 dr., 4x4, full pwr., extra, extra sharp		blue.....	\$7,995

CARS & VANS - CALL FOR ADDITIONAL AVAILABILITY ☎

2004	U48273	Buick	LeSabre, leather, alum. wheels, full pwr., like new		bronze.....	\$18,995
2004	U59009	Buick	Regal LS, leather, CD, power WLM, 3800 V6		silver.....	\$14,995
2004	U48265	Chevy	Cavalier, pwr. windows, CD, aluminum wheels		silver.....	\$9,995
2004	U59006	Chevy	Impala, V6, CD, power WLMS, GM cert.		beige.....	\$12,995
2004	U48263	Pont.	Bonneville, pwr. seat, spoiler, XM with CD, GM cert.		bronze.....	\$14,995
2004	U59005	Pont.	Bonneville SE, leather, CD, power WLM, 3800 V6, GM cert.		white.....	\$15,995
2004	U59002	Pontiac	Grand Prix GT1, Only 2,300 miles, sharp, GM cert.		red.....	\$16,495
2004	U59013	Pontiac	Vibe FWD, moonroof, full power, CD		drk. gray.....	\$13,995
2003	U59014	Aztek	FWD, full power, low miles, xtra nice		drk. gray.....	\$12,995
2002	U48212	Cadillac	Deville, low miles, looks new in & out		diamond.....	\$21,995

YEAR	STOCK#	MAKE	MODEL	OPTIONS	COLOR	SALE PRICE
2002	U48248	Chevy	Impala, 3800, leather, moonroof, perfect, GM cert.		bronze.....	\$12,995
2002	54175A	Olds	Aurora, V8, loaded, one owner trade		diamond.....	\$16,495
2002	U48216	Olds	Aurora, 3.5 V6, extra clean car		bronze.....	\$14,995
2002	U48234	Pontiac	Grand Am coupe SE, very sharp, GM cert.		drk. red.....	\$9,795
2002	52095A	Pontiac	Montana Ext., leather, quad seating, more		bronze.....	\$12,995
2002	U48159	Pontiac	Montana Ext., CD, full power, nice van		white.....	\$11,995
2002	U48175	Pontiac	Montana Ext., cloth, xtra nice		blue.....	\$11,995
2002	U48260	Pontiac	Montana Ext CD, power WLM, NC trade		bronze.....	\$12,795
2001	U48253	Chrysler	Concorde LX, leather, loaded, xtra sharp		black.....	\$5,995
2001	U48259	Ford	Escort, 4 door, pwr. windows, locks, nice		silver.....	\$5,795
2001	54090A	Olds	Alero Coupe, sport graphics & roof, local trade		silver.....	\$6,995
2001	U48242	Pontiac	Bonneville SE, sharp, PWLM, more		bronze.....	\$9,795
2001	U48170	Pontiac	Grand Prix GT, extra sharp, 33,300 miles		bright red.....	\$11,895
2001	45338A	Pontiac	Montana Ext., cloth, quad seats, sharp		blue.....	\$7,495
2000	47445Y	Pontiac	Grand Prix, 3800 V6, well maintained		black.....	\$6,995
1998	52126A	Dodge	Avenger, V6, power windows & locks, sharp		taupe.....	\$7,995
1998	U48240A	Firebird	Coupe T-tops, CD, 3800 chr. wheels, like new		red.....	\$9,995
1997	U48237	Olds	88 LS, 3800 V6, very well maintained		drk. green.....	\$6,995
1995	52116A	GMC	Safari Van, 7 pass., sharp, well main., 72,000 miles		blue.....	\$6,995
1993	U48161A	Cadillac	Seville STS, Northstar V8, loaded, sharp		diamond.....	\$6,995

*some models not exactly as shown



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