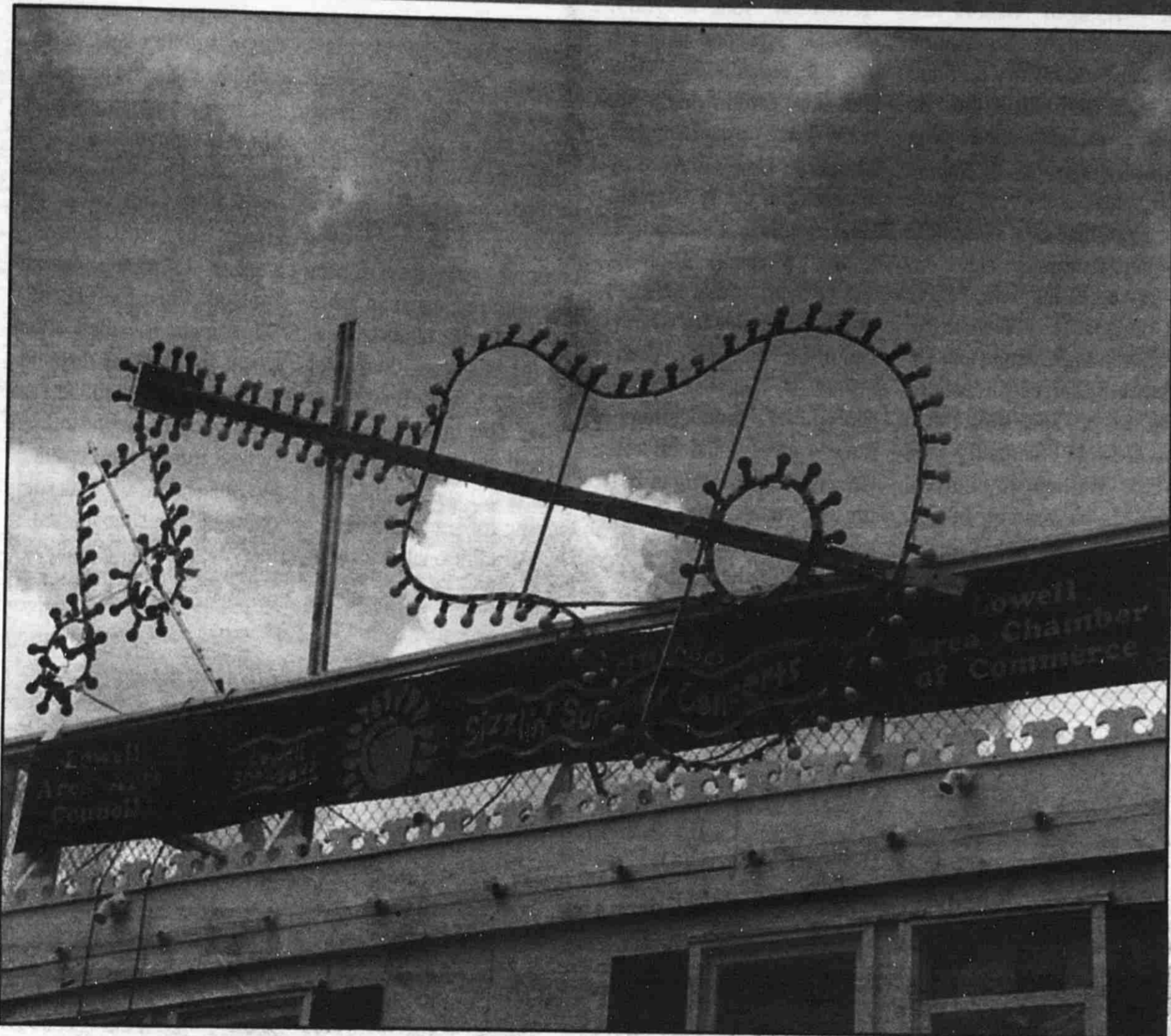


The Lowell Ledger

Volume 32 Issue 32

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, June 15, 2005



A guitar and banner atop the Lowell Showboat advertise the Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concerts, beginning Thursday.

Music on board for "sizzlin" summer concerts

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concerts starts Thursday.

A lot of changes are coming this summer: there's a new stage, new acts, new nights and new business sponsors. What remains the same is the location (Riverwalk Plaza) and the time (7 p.m.).

New as well will be "Fourth Friday Rock Series" starting June 24 with "Smooky and Broken Sunday". Next month, July 22, "Vanishing Point" will play; "Ragnarok and Jonesy" end the series on Aug. 26.

Another addition to the concert series is a Folk Festival on Saturday, Aug. 6. Hawks and Owls will start the event at 4 p.m. followed by Josh Rose, Blue Dahlia and Fonn Mor.

The new stage features a white roof that was manufactured in Indiana.

"I think it's going to be quite striking against the showboat," said Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce executive director Liz Baker.

Another transformation to the Riverwalk will be several triangular signs displaying the names of sponsors.

"Because of the business sponsorships, we've increased the concerts this summer," Baker said.

The Thursday night band schedule is:

June 16, Great Lakes Band (Blues/Rock)

June 23, Crossroads Blues Band

June 30, River City Jazz Ensemble (Big Band)

July 7, Root Doctor (Rythm and Blues)

July 14, Jim Cummings Band

(Funk, Rhythm and Blues)

July 21, Edey Evans Hyde with

Roger MacNaughton Ensemble (Jazz Vocals)

July 28, SeaCruisers ('50s Rock and Roll)

Aug. 4, Java Jive (Swing Tunes)

Aug. 11, Reggae Boyz--this show is at the Lowell Fairgrounds during the Kent County Youth Fair.

Aug. 18, Sweet Willie and the Dixieland Stompers

Watching that speed on Main Street

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell Police Department put its new speed board through its first paces last Thursday on Main Street.

"I think it worked very well," was police chief Jim Valentine's assessment of the new speed enforcement tool. "The studies that have been done on speed boards (say) you get a lot of voluntary compliance."

The speed board has a sign on top displaying the speed limit on whatever stretch of road it's placed, and a light-up display showing drivers' actual speeds. The unit is powered by batteries, with a solar panel on top as a secondary power source.

Last Thursday afternoon, the speed board was situated just east of the corner of Main Street and Riverside Drive, monitoring eastbound traffic. Most cars came through town in packs traveling at or below the speed limit. Solitary cars would occasionally come through above the speed limit.

A BMW going 35 mph prompted the display to

flash his speed in red. At the time, the board was set to flash red at anyone traveling more than five miles per hour above the speed limit. It normally displays numbers in yellow-orange.

The police department is augmenting the speed board with squad cars.

"For those who want to ignore the speed sign, there will be traffic enforcement in place along with it," Valentine said. "People won't always know if there is just one radar going or if there is a second one that will write them a ticket."

The unit will be placed around town, with heavy emphasis on Main Street.

"We will bring it in on a regular basis on Main Street but we'll be using it throughout the city," Valentine said. "You don't want to overkill so they become complacent because they see it all the time."

The unit also collects traffic data. It counts cars, breaking down traffic volume by time. It also breaks down traffic speed by time, which will help police pinpoint the best times to send patrol cars to certain streets for speed enforcement.

Funds from the

Downtown Development Authority and the Lowell Area Community Fund paid for the speed board. The department bought a demonstrator unit, and were able to save enough money to upgrade the

cause problems, but we were able to upgrade everything," Valentine said.

The squad cars now have front and back radar antennae.

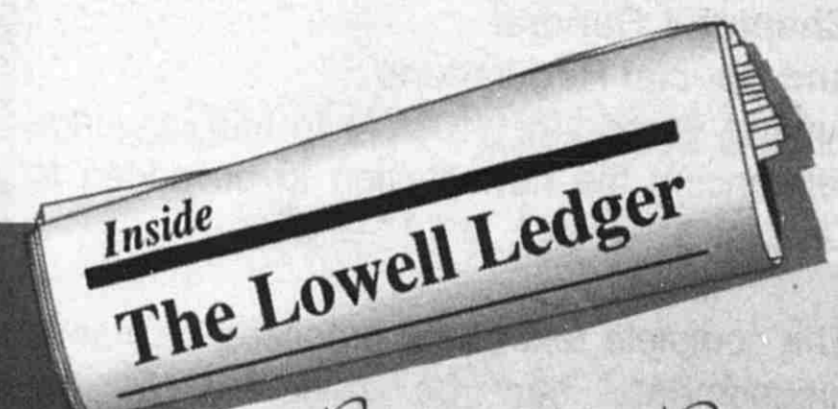
"Now we can monitor traffic in two different



radar systems in the patrol cars.

"Our radar units were very old and starting to

directions, and that's going to be an absolutely handy tool downtown," Valentine said.



Remember Dad!
FATHER'S DAY
Sunday, June 19

Higher Water Costs...
Page 3

More Schools Cuts...
Page 8

Bridge Hopes ... Page 13

Obituaries

DYKGRAAF
Lawrence Jacob Dykgraaf, born January 6, 1925, went to be with his Lord on Tuesday, June 7, 2005. He was preceded in death by his oldest daughter, Carol Jean Enting; brothers William and Martin. Lawrence's memory will be cherished by his wife of 59 years, Johanna; children Judy (Rocky) Getting of Davenport, IA, Larry (Myra) Dykgraaf of Alto, Paul (Diane) Dykgraaf of Kentwood, Lorna (Doug) Schripsema of Seattle, WA;

NEWCOMBE
Mr. Paul A. Newcombe passed away on his 75th birthday, June 4, 2005, after a lengthy illness at the University of Michigan Hospital. He was formerly of Rockford and presently lived in Destin, FL. He was devoted to his wife, children and grandchildren, and he lived his life by example with a strong moral and ethical lifestyle. He was a graduate of the University of Michigan School of Engineering. Mr. Newcombe was an avid history buff and a U of M football fan. He was a veteran of the Korean conflict serving in Japan. Mr. Newcombe was active in numerous charitable organizations. He is survived by his wife Marye (Comstock) Newcombe; children Dr. Cynthia and Dr. Edward Marcus of Fishers, IN, Cherri and Tom Davis of Lowell, Kimberly and Mark Hartley of Lowell, Paul J. Newcombe of FL; grandchildren Tamara, Benjamin, Michael, Patrick, Matthew; sister Jeness Fowler of Tucson, AZ. Honoring Mr. Newcombe's request, cremation has taken place and a memorial service

Bear sightings in Kent County

Bear sightings are becoming more common in our area, but they are not confirmed until there is substantial proof, i.e., a paw print or video of the animal, or if spotted by a trained observer reporting the sighting.

SMITH
John Robert (Bob) "Smitty" Smith, aged 68 of Lowell, went to be with his Lord, Wednesday, June 8, 2005. He was preceded in death by his parents Ray and Gertrude Smith, his wife Iva, and granddaughter Christina. He is survived by his children Cathy Ciganik, Julie (Greg) Janeschek, Lauri (Michael) Topping, Ted (Robin) Smith, Michael Smith, Kathleen (Daryl) Onan, Steven Smith; sister-in-law Lucille (Stub) Melville; 11 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren. He worked at Michigan Bell for 30 years. The funeral service was held Sunday, June 12, at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, Lowell. Interment Alton Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Michigan.

will be held at a later date in Destin. Mr. Newcombe was one of the earlier recipients of a kidney transplant nearly 20 years ago. Those planning expressions of sympathy are asked to consider The Gift of Life Organ Donation Program, 2203 Platt Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

ing came into the dispatch center early last Wednesday from a citizen driving in the 7500 block of Myers Lake Ave. (near 9 Mile Rd.), in Cannon Township. This man reported seeing a bear walking towards a trash can near a home. Because the sighting was about six miles from the Plainfield Township location, officials believe this could be the same animal.

In most situations when a bear is sighted by a citizen, the situation will resolve itself if the animal is left alone. They will naturally color to the face. A second sighting came in from a citizen who reported seeing the bear near the Hysler Museum at 6440 West River Drive. This information was passed along to the DNR who had been in the area looking for signs of a bear. An additional bear sighting

Budget review has city considering increase in water & wastewater services

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

The city of Lowell's wastewater and water service rates are going to increase. The question is whether it will be the readiness-to-serve charge or the consumption charge that will go up.

The Lowell City Council, after reviewing data collected by city staff, will make that decision at its regular meeting, June 20 at City Hall.

During budget reviews, city staff had recommended that the readiness-to-serve charges for both water and wastewater be increased by a dollar. The wastewater charge would increase to \$13.50 and the

water or wastewater, felt the proposed increase was fair. "I don't feel a dollar is unreasonable," Shores said, even after councilman Charles Myers pointed out that it was an eight percent increase for water. Myers, too, supported looking at an increase in the consumption charge, since the readiness-to-serve increase primarily hit city residents and not those in the townships.

Treasurer Sue Olin said she had always been told that an increase in the readiness-to-serve charge was an easier way to determine the revenue coming in. When cities increase the consumption charge, there is a good chance water usage will go down, Olin said.

Not so, said city resident



LIFE WALK
Alpha Women's Center annual Life Walk this Saturday, June 18. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church of Lowell. Contact 894-4488 or 897-5648 for more information.

COMMUNITY CPR
The Lowell branch YMCA will host a community CPR class on Wednesday, June 22, 6-9:30 p.m. Call 897-8445 for details.

60TH REUNION
The LHS class of '45 will host a reunion on June 30 at 1 p.m. at Schneider Manor. Bring your memories.

LHS CLASS OF 2000
Please contact lhs_class_of_2000@yahoo.com with your address for upcoming five-year reunion.

ADULT TENNIS
Adults interested in playing informal league tennis Monday and/or Wednesday 7-9 p.m. at the high school courts should call 676-2072. Also lessons are offered Tuesday 7-9 p.m.

LHS 69TH REUNION
Class of 1936 reunion at Schneider Manor, 725 Bowes Rd., on July 8 at 1 p.m. Bring own service/dish. RSVP to Pauline LaDue, 897-7136. Classes of 1929-1939 invited.

TOWN BAND FORMING
If you are interested in being part of a town band, please call 894-4667. For all ages; any musical ability welcome.

BLOOD DRIVE
The Lowell Area Fire Dept. will sponsor a blood drive for the Michigan Community Blood Center on Wednesday, July 6 from 2-7 p.m. at Look Memorial Fire Station, 315 S. Hudson.

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VERGENNES TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing before the Vergennes Township Planning Commission will be held on **Monday, July 11, 2005 at 7:00 PM, at the Vergennes Township Hall, located at 10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell, MI** to consider proposed amendments to the Vergennes Township Zoning Ordinance. A summary follows for the proposed text amendments:

Chapter 3 Zoning Districts
Amend R-A District, Section 201.304 (B) (1); to further describe permitted uses for farm related buildings and property.

Amend R-A District, Section 201.304 (C) (10), to add a new section requiring a special exception use permit for free-standing farm buildings located on parcels not contiguous with property with a farm dwelling. There are conditions for minimum acreage and use restrictions.

Chapter 4 General and Special Regulations
Amend Section 201.402 (A) to add language referencing the new section to be added to Chapter 3.

The complete text of the proposed ordinance amendments can be reviewed at the Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Drive, PO Box 208, Lowell, MI 49331 - Phone: (616) 897-5671 [fax 897-5674] or on the website at www.vergennestwp.org. 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

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 05-179,685-DE Estate of DORIS M. WING, deceased Date of birth: 05/19/1926

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, DORIS M. WING, who lived at 1488 Gridley N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan 49544 died 05/24/2005. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to JUDY R. DOODY, named personal representative or proposed personal representative or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503, and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

06/08/2005 Craig Avery (P10311) 3875 West River Dr. Comstock Park, MI 49321 (616) 784-5080

Judy R. Doody 627 - 79th Street Grand Rapids, MI 49508 616-698-0420

If you want to know what God thinks of money, just look at the people he gave it to.
Dorothy Parker

Thank You
To all the neighbors, friends and relatives of Ida Elnora (Hazel) Catt, we want to thank you for your visits, cards, and calls to her home, Pennock Hospital, Spectrum Health (Butterworth) Hospital and Tender Care Nursing Home.

To Dr. Lee Stuart and staff for all their good care over the years.

To the Lakewood Community Ambulance and Lake Odessa Fire Department First Responders for coming so quickly when called and Mercy Ambulance for transporting her from Tender Care to Butterworth.

To the doctors and nurses at Pennock and Butterworth hospitals and Tender Care Nursing Home for their good care.

To Gary Byma and staff at Koops Funeral Home for all their help, concern and care.

To Reverend George Speas for the comforting words at the memorial service and at the graveside service.

Also to all the people who brought food to our home and to the luncheon after the service. And for the plants and flowers sent and brought to the funeral home.

To the ladies of the First Congregational Church Women's Fellowship for serving the luncheon.

We thank you all.

Betty Erickson and Family, Richard and Delores Hazel and Family, Lee Jr. and Roxie Hazel and Family, Roger and Diane Catt and Family, John and Terri Catt and Family, and Larry and Jean Catt

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Golf outing raises over \$5,000 for charity



Organizers of the annual Rex Collins Memorial Golf Outing presented a check for \$5,500 to the Lowell High School Athletic Boosters at the club's June 6 meeting. Pictured, front row, left to right, are boosters' secretary Kim Hettinga, president Diane VanEck, and outing organizers Jody McMahon and Dode Collins; back row are LHS athletic director Barry Hobria, boosters' treasurer Greg Foster and outing organizer Dick Cooper. In two years, the golf outing has raised a total of \$10,500 for the athletic boosters. This year's event took place May 17 at Boulder Creek Golf Club in Belmont; 76 golfers participated. The outing was established in memory of Rex Collins, who was a talented multi-sport athlete during his years at Lowell High School. A number of businesses sponsored holes and people donated gifts for the golf outing. "Without their contributions, it wouldn't have been the success that it was," Cooper said. The third annual outing is planned for mid-May of next year at Boulder Creek Golf Course. Anyone interested in participating can contact Cooper at 897-2741.

SIDEWALK SALE
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MOVIE GUIDE
SHOWTIMES 6/13 - 6/14
TITLES & TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE

6:00 MR. AND MRS. SMITH (PG-13)
7:20 THE LONEST YARD (PG-13)
9:50 ADVENTURES OF SHARK BOY AND LAVA GIRL (PG)
11:00 1.05, 3.10, 5.15, 7.20, 9.35 MADAGASCAR (PG)
11:30 1.40, 3.35, 5.30, 7.30, 9.25 THE LONEST YARD (PG-13)
11:45 2.10, 4.35, 7.00, 9.25 STAR WARS EPISODE 3: REVENGE OF THE SITH (PG-13)
12:55 3.50, 6.45, 9.40

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LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS
"SUPERINTENDENT'S NIGHT IN"
Shari Miller will be in on Thursday, June 16 to answer any questions from staff members or members of the community and to hear comments and suggestions.

Runciman Administration Building - Board Room
300 High St., Lowell
Thursday, June 16, 2005
7:00 p.m.

Reflections of faith

Stacy Holmes, youth pastor Christian Life Center

"A place for people who've given up on Church, but not necessarily on God." I recently heard that slogan, and it grieved my heart.

There are plenty of reasons why people feel disconnected from their local church. Even being a young pastor, I've still heard just about every possible scenario for why the whole "church thing" just doesn't work.

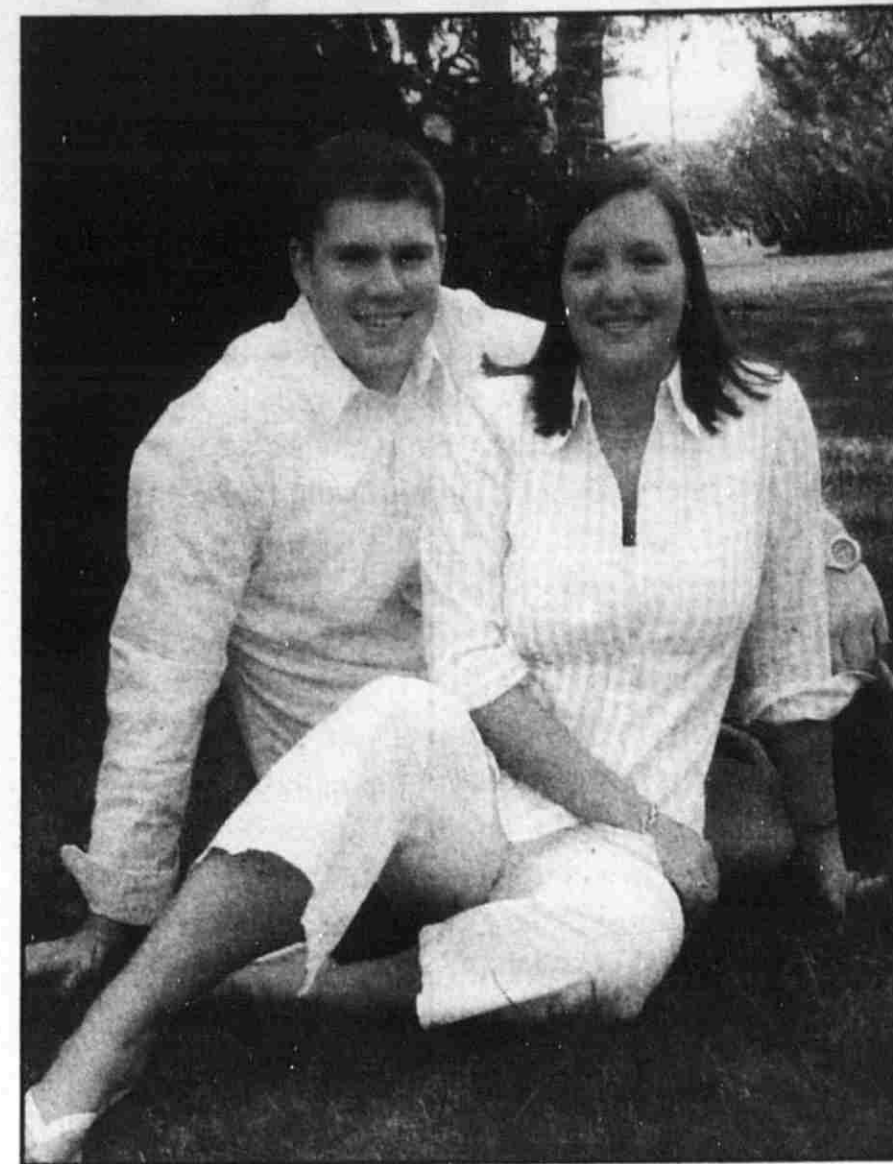
Studying through the book of Acts, we see pictures of the first New Testament churches. Luke, the author of Acts, hides nothing. We watch these new Christians expose the negative junk in their lives and continue to develop.

Why is that important? Paul's ministry spanned three missionary journeys; each one launched from Antioch. Or rather I should say, each journey launched from the church in Antioch, Paul's home base.

Anyone can find reasons to blame the Church, especially those most committed; they've seen the good, bad and ugly. We start to point fingers and grumble when we step away from home base.

Engagements

O'Dell/Wernet



Michael Wernet and Kelly O'Dell

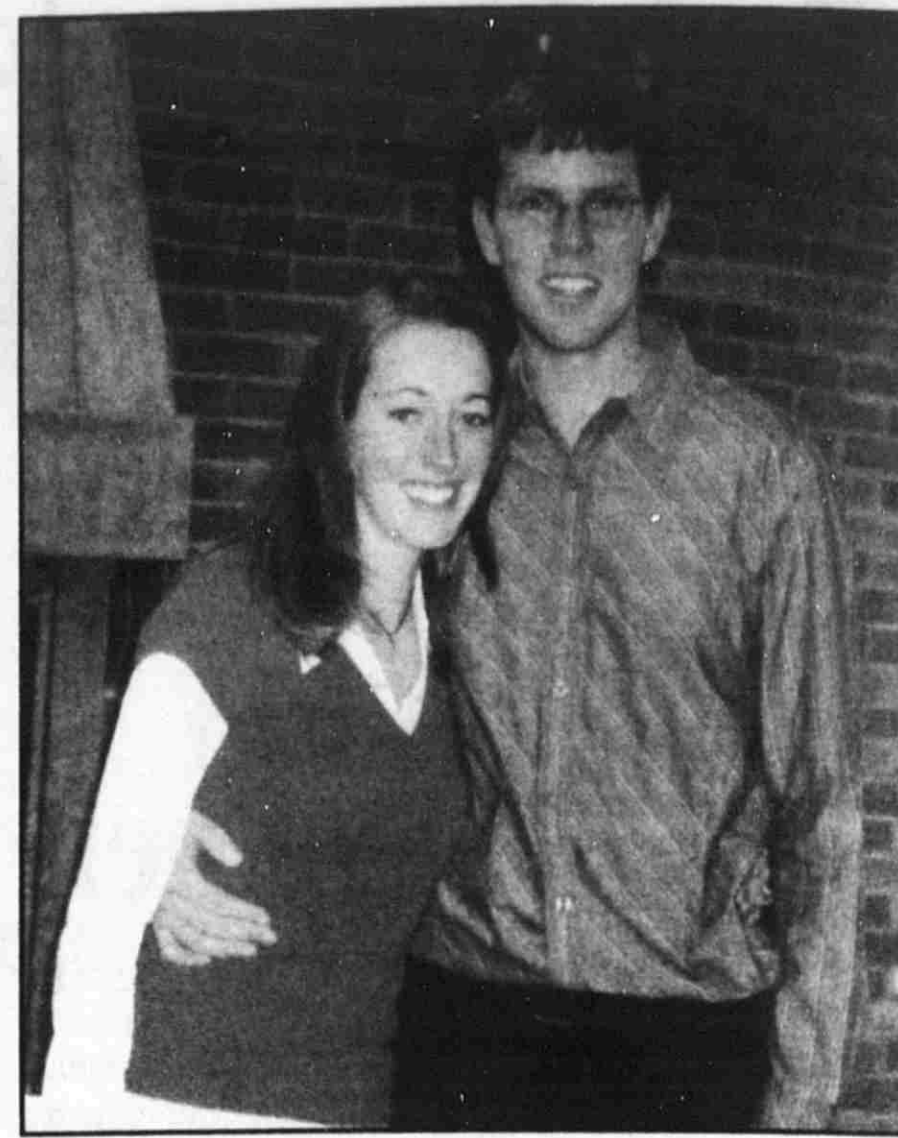
Don and Judy O'Dell and Tom and Laurie Wernet, all of Lowell, are pleased to announce the engagement of their children, Kelly Lynn and Michael John.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Lowell High School and Grand Valley State University.

The groom-elect is also a graduate of Lowell High School and Aquinas College.

The couple is planning a July 8, 2005 wedding.

Newman/Wojciakowski



Amorena Newman and Michael Wojciakowski

Announcing their plans for a July 23, 2005 wedding at St. Patrick Church in Parnell are Amorena Newman and Michael Wojciakowski, both of Grand Rapids.

The bride-elect graduated from Carson City High School and Kendall College of Art and Design. She is currently employed as an interior designer at Integrated Architecture.

Stevens of Mt. Pleasant and Jim Newman of Carson City.

The future groom graduated from Lowell High School and Aquinas College. He is currently a cross country and track coach at Aquinas College and concessions manager at VanAndel Arena.

At Your Local Library



WEST AFRICAN DRUM AND DANCE

Ryan Edwards will share the fine art of West African drum and dance at the Englehardt Library on Wednesday, June 22 at 6:30 p.m.

In the African tradition, drumming and dancing exemplify the spirit of community and cultural pride in Edwards' "Like Water Drumworks."

Call 647-3920 for more information about the program. All ages are welcome.

Country Sonata: a fresh bouquet of music, art and edibles

In celebration of the summer solstice, the Franciscan Life Process Center and St. Cecilia Music Society are partnering for an evening of music, art and culinary delights.

Hosted by Tony and Kathleen Asselta, and Roger and Susan Griffioen, the evening will include taste treats from fresh bread with strawberry jam and salads to pinwheel veggie wraps and sugared bundt cakes.

The 5-8 p.m. outdoor event will offer guests a chance to stroll the center and explore five stations at various locations.

The main food attraction will be a pig roast.

Artisans will be scattered throughout the center's grounds. Crafts include weaving, basket making, spinning and quilting as well as pottery and watercolor, to name a few.

Music will also be offered at each of the five stations: bluegrass and American colonial, bagpipes

and violin are just several of the differing music to be presented.

Individual tickets are available for a \$25 contribution. Couple and family tickets (up to four individuals) are \$50.

The ticket price includes all dinner items and entertainment. To purchase tickets, call St. Cecilia

Music Society at 459-2224 or Franciscan Life Process Center at 897-7842. Proceeds benefit various music and art programs of FLPC and SCMS.

Sterzick joins American Angus Association

Kirk Sterzick, of Lowell, is a new member of the American Angus Association, reports John Crouch, executive vice president of the national breed registry organization in St. Joseph, Mo.

The American Angus Association, with more than 34,000 active adult and junior members, is the largest beef

cattle registry association in the world. Its computerized records include detailed information on more than 14 million registered Angus. The association records ancestral information and keeps production records on individual animals for its members. These permanent records help members select

and mate the best animals in their herds to produce high quality, efficient breeding cattle which are then recorded with the American Angus Association. Most of these registered Angus are used by the U.S. farmers and ranchers who raise high quality beef for U.S. consumption.



Scout of the Year

Aaron Sterling was the recipient of this year's Lowell Boy Scout Troop 102 William J. Nowak Scout of the Year Award. The award was established in 1984 in honor of Nowak, who died that year after 19 years as the troop's scoutmaster. It recognizes scouts for regularly attending meetings and outdoor activities, displaying scout spirit in the community, and advancing a rank during the course of the year.

"It's recognizing him as being a good scout, a leader in the troop, performing above and beyond what normal boy scouts do," said troop committee chairman Dirk Ritzema. "He was very active in the leadership all year."

Sterling earned his Eagle Scout rank this year and served as assistant senior patrol leader. Pictured is Sterling with Troop 102 scoutmaster Tim VanderWulp (left) and Ritzema.

Happy Birthday

JUNE 16: Roger Raymor, Michael Pretzel, Orin Comdure, Jean Bishop, Mike Kenney.

Heather Brown, Jimmy Brown, Sean Briggs.

JUNE 22: Michael Korte, Byron Pat Brenk, Jim Francis I, Ken Stager III.

JUNE 17: Marjorie Potter, Cody Kastanek, Tricia McGovern, Cyndi Dalga, Louise Ryder, Doug Green, Logan Wilcox, David Ryder.

JUNE 18: Marcia Baird, Jessica Vezino, Lindsay Anderson, Whitney Patnode, Nancy Jane Kunard, Elizabeth Mol.

JUNE 19: Matt Stone, Randy Ossewarda.

JUNE 20: Fritz Ball, Gladys Metternick, Aleacia Kunard, Monte Knapp.

JUNE 21: Thad Kraus, Dennis McClure, Bill Britt.

Old Fashioned BBQ Beef Church Picnic

June 18 Serving 5-7 p.m.



at Alto United Methodist Church

Corner of Kirby & Harrison

Donations to New Building Fund

Born To Be Wild 2nd Annual

This Father's Day Impact invites you to come discover the God-Intended WILD side of being a man.

Check out and be a part of the B.Y.O. Car and Motorcycle show. Hot Rods, Classic and Sports Cars, Choppers, Superbikes and Harleys welcome.

Rootbeer floats for EVERYONE! Dad's get free BBQ ribs. Service times: 9:15 and 11:00am

Ribs, floats, cars and motorcycles between services and following the second! See you there!

For directions & details check out www.impact-church.org

CLARK & GRETA (NASH) PARSONS of Lowell celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on May 14, 2005



An OPEN HOUSE in honor of the occasion will be held from 2-4:30 PM on SUNDAY, June 26 at Lowell United Methodist Church for family and friends (no gifts, please). Clark & Greta's children are Dave & Angie Young, Brian & Cheryl Doyle, Mike & Merlene Baker, Jeff & Kristin Parsons and Mark & Carmen Reynolds. They have 17 grandchildren & two great-grandchildren.

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY grid listing various churches and their services.

School board approves \$1.4 million in budget cuts for 2005-2006

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell Area Schools Board of Education approved a slate of budget cuts totaling more than \$1.4 million at its Monday meeting.

The district identified several programs in which it will make cuts for the 2005-2006 school year. In most cases, it has not yet been determined what changes will be made to individual programs in order to achieve projected savings.

For instance, the budget includes cuts to the Wittenbach Center, but the district hasn't decided how those cuts will be made.

"That has not been

totally determined at this point," LAS assistant superintendent for finance and personnel Connie Gillette said. "But we are incorporating that as part of our budget cuts."

The budget is still subject to changes. Some factors are unknown at this point, such as the state funding picture and student count for the 2005-2006 school year.

"I know we're going to be amending it in the fall," board secretary Pat Nugent said. "This budget is going to be a document that we're going to see two or three more times this year."

Included in the cuts was the severance plan for teaching staff, in which 24

teachers took advantage of the early retirement.

The district plans to align staffing for student numbers. During public comments at the end of the board meeting, Kelly Taylor spoke in opposition of any staffing changes that would result in larger class sizes.

"My husband and I have talked about going to different districts and the thing that keeps bringing us back is the class sizes," Taylor said.

Lowell Area Schools superintendent Shari Miller later said the smaller class sizes at Cherry Creek and Bushnell are disproportionate to the class sizes at Alto and Murray Lake elementaries.

This resulted from shifting

students to Murray Lake Elementary.

The budget decision that drew the most criticism from parents at Monday's meeting was the restructuring of the WINGS program. LAS assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction Mark Kasmer said the district plans to give teachers additional training to establish differentiation and tiered lessons to allow outlets for gifted students within classes.

Parents worried that such a system wouldn't adequately challenge their children and that it would put too much strain on teachers. Jessica Marks, who brought in a picture of her two children who are in

the WINGS program, said she thought the district made a rash decision.

"I'm very disappointed today because you all made a very impersonal decision about something that is very personal to me," she said. "This is too drastic."

Miller said the district was not singling out WINGS students.

"We want to be fair to all of the kids in our district, all of them are important including the gifted and talented students," she said.

Other general fund cuts will occur, as well. The budget calls for managing media services with one districtwide director. One elementary literacy position will be eliminated. The

district will save money on its bus fleet maintenance by reducing its parts inventory through just-in-time delivery of parts. An employee at the district's central receiving department who took a job elsewhere will not be replaced.

Because of the success of many Lowell High School sports teams this year, the school's athletic budget fared well from ticket receipts.

In a consent grouping, the board approved price increases for hot lunches. The cost of a lunch at the high school will be \$2 and the middle school will charge \$1.85 for the 2005-2006 school year.

Cherry Creek and Murray Lake hold party for ten retiring teachers



Cherry Creek and Murray Lake staff hosted a retirement party for 10 fellow teachers on Wednesday, June 8. Held in the Cherry Creek Cafeterium, 85 staff members enjoyed a breakfast buffet and reminisced with their colleagues. The staff surprised the retirees with farewell gifts and fond wishes. Pictured, front row, left to right, are Mary Dewey, Karen Corbett, Claudia Raber and Jean Seman; back row are Gary Heitz, Jackie Schnackenberg, Sue Stouffer, Bill Stouffer and Marie VanBuren. Not available for the picture is Sandy MacDonald.

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BUSINESSES SERVICES

BUSINESSES SERVICES

Grindle will get some work, but costs limit scope of project

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

After reviewing its bonding situation, the city of Lowell has decided it will improve some, not all, sections of Grindle Dr. At its regular city council meeting earlier this month, the council voted four to one to accept Diversco's bid for improvements on Grindle. Out of five, Diversco was the lowest bidder with a cost of \$459,799.75. This included

Grindle from Jackson to James, James to Grindle Court, and Grindle Court to Fun Street. After city manager David Pasquale reviewed the city's bonding status with city attorney Richard Wendt, the city decided to only bond up to \$300,000. It was proposed that the council reduce the scope of the project to reflect that amount. "So basically, as you are

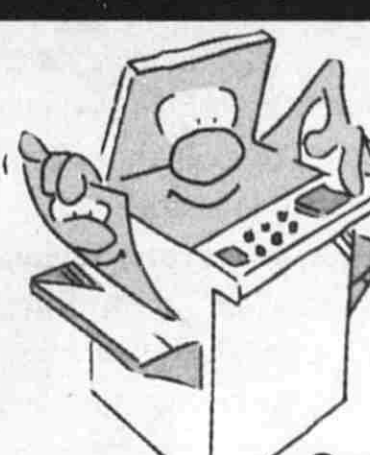
signing the contract you will be changing it at the same time," said Dave Austin, of Williams and Works, the city's engineering firm. City staff recommended, and the council agreed to, reducing the project to cover Grindle from Jackson to east of Division, where there are pavement and drainage concerns, Pasquale said. The other section to be completed with drainage issues is from James to Grindle Court. Those two projects would cost about \$293,753 and include about \$42,000

for the watermain looping project that would connect the Highland Hill project to the city's system. The total cost is approximately \$378,000; this includes contingencies, engineering and bonding. Pasquale said if the project goes well and there is money left over, the city will hopefully be able to do other parts of the street, but for now the city is at least addressing the areas of major concern. Not everyone was pleased with moving

forward on the project. Councilman Jim Pfaller, voting no, supported a special assessment. He noted that in the past, when the city did a special assessment on such projects as curb and gutter, this area voted not to be a part of that, and now the city has to deal with the problems it has created. Councilman Al Mathews said the city could try for a special assessment, but he already knows what will happen: "They will come in and fill up City Hall and say no."

Mathews said there is a big problem on Grindle that needs to be addressed and pointed out that it isn't just city residents using the street, but people from the Lowell Township developments, as well. It was also pointed out that the watermain looping has to take place by September per the Department of Environmental Quality. The council decided to move forward on the project and get bids for the bonding.

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Earth Tech awarded new 10-year contract

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

Deciding it has been a mutually benefiting agreement and seeing few others who could manage the city of Lowell wastewater treatment facility, the city council unanimously decided to award a new 10-year contract to Earth Tech.

The current contract expires July 1 and since the city is in the process of reviewing its contractual services, a subcommittee with councilmen Jim

Hodges and Charles Myers was formed to examine the contract with Earth Tech. City manager David Pasquale said the committee looked at several scenarios which included the city running the plant itself, competitive request for proposals, and retaining the services of Earth Tech. The cost would actually be higher for the city to run the plant (\$310,156) than Earth Tech (\$294,396). A big expense for the city would be insurance, Pasquale said.

"We did look at other competitors and there are not that many who especially are familiar with Michigan issues," said Hodges. The general consensus was that the city has had a good relationship with Earth Tech over the past 16 years. The company has taken increases less than the cost of living and the city doesn't have the problems it had before Earth Tech took over the plant, Pasquale said. "This is, for one, a service we felt we

have always had a good relationship with and have always received value for our money," said Myers. The council agreed, deciding not to go with the proposed five-year contract, but rather with a 10-year contract, locking in the \$294,396. The contract also allows for a \$200,000 loan from Earth Tech for various project improvements as needed, said plant supervisor Mark Mundt. The city can pay the loan off over the 10-year period of the contract. Earth Tech, a worldwide company started in 1970, has been running the Lowell Wastewater Treatment Plant since 1989. At that time, the state was concerned about a number of issues with the plant. Earth Tech is known for its environmental, earth sciences and wastewater management consulting.

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4 p.m. - Dinner Break
6:30 p.m. - Grand Entry
Close at Dark
Auction (around 9 p.m.)

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Financial Focus

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WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE GOOD INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES?

Back in first grade or so, you learned that U.S. territory ended where Mexico's or Canada's began. Geographically

Lowell chiropractors say chiropractic care can help that splitting headache

Headaches are one of the most common health complaints - after all, almost everybody has had headaches at times in their lives. More than 45 million Americans (about 1 in 6) suffer chronic headaches each year. Twenty-eight million Americans - 13 percent of the population - suffer from migraines, headaches characterized by throbbing head pain often accompanied by nausea and sensitivity to light and sound. What you might not know is that your chiropractic physician could help you make that pain go away.

According to the National Headache Foundation (NHF), time lost from work and resulting medical expenses due to headaches are estimated to cost American businesses approximately \$50 billion per year. In an effort to educate the public about the impact and severity of headache, the NHF has declared June 12-18, National Headache Awareness Week. This year's theme - Stop Migraines Before They Stop

speaking, that is still true. But when it comes to investing, you don't have to remain within U.S. borders - because you can find opportunities anywhere in the world. This fact shouldn't surprise you. After all, we all buy a great many products produced outside the U.S. - and the companies making those items are likely listed on a stock exchange somewhere. But there are a lot of foreign companies. How can you know which ones offer the best investment potential? And when you buy shares of international stocks, is there anything special you need to know? Before investing in global equities, you may want to

communicate the importance of educating the public that migraines are not just a "bad headache" and that they are often treatable. Noting that Americans spend more than \$4 billion every year on over-the-counter pain relief for headaches, Dr. Paul Tuthill and Dr. Anthony Trombly, two chiropractic physicians from Lowell, want to inform migraine headache sufferers that there is an alternative to just popping a pill and hoping the pain goes away. "There's a conception that chiropractic is just for a bad back. Nothing could be further from the truth," Dr. Tuthill said. "We have painlessly treated many patients suffering from headache pain with great success. There is also a large quantity of research showing that chiropractic care is very effective in the treatment of headaches, including migraines."

"substantial" (more than 60 percent of their symptoms reduced during the course of treatment) or "noticeable" improvement after a series of chiropractic treatments. Ninety-five percent of all headaches are "primary" headaches, such as tension, migraine or cluster headaches. The vast majority of these types of headaches are caused by muscle tension in the neck. Studies show that chiropractic physicians are extremely effective at treating this type of headache. One of these studies, the "Duke [University] Headache Evidence Report," found that chiropractic was shown to produce "markedly superior results" over amitriptyline (one of the most commonly prescribed medications for headaches) in the treatment of tension-type headaches. The study also noted that chiropractic treatment produced "sustained improvement by decreasing headache frequency and

severity" as noted in the treatment of cervicogenic headache (headaches where the primary contributing structural source of the headache is the cervical spine). "Americans are becoming less and less active; spending more and more time in one fixed position or posture, such as at a desk in front of a computer," noted Dr. Trombly. "This will inevitably lead to increased joint irritation and muscle tension in the neck and upper back, causing the head to ache. Spinal mobilization improves function of the neck and upper back, alleviating stress on the nerves and muscles and, in the process, greatly reducing and often eliminating headache pain."

Eye To Eye

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Dr. Michael Flohr M.D.
Decades of accidents teach us that fireworks are dangerous. Over 9300 fireworks-related injuries occurred in 2003, resulting in nearly 2000 eye injuries. Although illegal fireworks, bottle rockets and Roman candles account for the majority of injuries, seemingly harmless sparklers also cause numerous injuries each year. Sparklers accounted for the most injuries to children under the age of five. Fascinated by the bright sparks, children find these sticks of fire - burning as hot as 1,800 degrees (hot enough to melt gold), irresistible to touch. Dr. Booper states, "The risk of losing an eye is not worth the excitement of handling fireworks." The typical victim is a teenager, at home, unsupervised, with a group of friends. Playing with fireworks, the chances are one of them will end up in the emergency room with an injury to the head, eyes or hands. Losing your sight or losing a finger is a tragic price to pay for a few minutes of fun with fireworks. In an effort to reduce these preventable injuries, Eye M.D.s across America encourage families to attend local public fireworks displays instead of using fireworks at home this Fourth of July. This recommendation is made as part of Fireworks Eye Safety Month sponsored by the American Academy of Ophthalmology. Attending a professional public fireworks display on the Fourth is a safe way to honor our tradition of independence. "One of the reasons fireworks injuries continue to occur is because people don't understand how dangerous these devices can be. As many as 400 Americans lose vision in one or both eyes due to fireworks injuries," said Dr. Flohr, an Eye M.D. in Lowell. **Advanced Eyecare Professionals**

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Grattan Township breaks ground for new firehouse

By Dan Schneider

Grattan Township broke ground for a new firehouse Saturday.

The new, larger structure will replace the current one which was built in 1954. A better firehouse has been a goal of the township board for the last two and a half years. Population growth and the resultant increase in fire calls in Grattan have caused the fire department to outgrow its current space.

The department has two pump trucks, a tanker, a rescue unit and two wildfire units parked in the existing 4,000-foot space.

"We have one wildfire truck parked outside because there's no room," Grattan fire chief Lou Kirkbride said. "We're door to door in there,

you can barely find room to walk through."

"We will expect this new fire station will take care of the township's and the community's needs for the next 20 years," township board trustee Paul Knoerl said.

On April 11, the township board awarded a contract to Tailored Building Systems, one of four bidders. The new facility will be located on Belding Road, on the east side of township hall.

The Fire Administrative Safety Committee and township board decided not to renovate the existing firehouse. The cost of bringing that structure up to current codes, according

to the township, would be about \$500,000. Officials factored in the potential sale (\$100,000) of the current firehouse into their decision to build a new one.

The firehouse, Knoerl said, is estimated to cost about \$830,000. The township will finance the project with a 15-year installment loan. Annual payments will come from the existing township fire department millage.

The new facility will be 8,700 feet in size and have three bays. Amenities include a room for meetings and training, a fire chief's office, general office, kitchen, lounge, showers and storage rooms for equipment and flammable materials.



Pictured, from left to right: Rep. Dave Hildenbrand, Frank Force-Grattan Twp Supervisor, Lou Kirkbride-Grattan Twp Fire Chief and Ann Ward-Grattan Twp Deputy Fire Chief. On the easel is a drawing of the proposed new firehouse.

New hunting legislation designed to help feed the hungry

The state House recently approved Rep. Dave Hildenbrand's legislation giving hunters and fishers the opportunity to help fund a program to feed the hungry. House Bill 4701, and a companion bill HB 4145, allow hunters and fishers to voluntarily contribute \$1 when purchasing their hunting and fishing licenses

to assist those who are less fortunate.

"We saw a need out there to assist those who are less fortunate, and this program, Sportsmen Against Hunger, can help fill that gap," said Hildenbrand, R-Lowell. "Hunting is a sport - and some hunt for the thrill of the hunt, some to eat wild game and fish, and others

hunt as part of a family legacy. Some, who hunt or fish, don't care to eat the meat but want to help those who do. That's why this fund is so important.

Sportsmen Against Hunger will be a designated fund within the Department of Treasury that will be overseen by the Michigan

Department of Natural Resources. The department will contract with a nonprofit organization through a bid process to administer the fund.

Money raised through the purchase of licenses or donations will help cover the costs of processing the meat and distributing it to shelters to aid the less fortunate. Since 1991, the Michigan Sportsmen Against Hunger (MSAH) has been working to create a relationship between donors, wild game processors and charities

that feed needy individuals. MSAH is an all volunteer organization with no paid staff persons and is operated entirely by sportsmen and women concerned about making a positive difference in the community.

According to their web site (<http://www.sportsmenagainsthunger.org/index.html>) Michigan leads the nation in hunting license sales. It also led the nation in the increase of working poor families with children from 1975 to 1995. In 2000, MSAH

helped facilitate more than 50,000 pounds of wild game donations (mostly venison) to those less fortunate.

"This is a real group of individuals who care about the community and enjoy being in Michigan's outdoors," Hildenbrand said. "Establishing this fund is a great way to continue the legacy of assisting those in need."

HB 4701 now goes to the Senate for consideration.

Group fears enthusiasm waning for bridge project

By Dan Schneider

Members of the Lowell Leadership Institute for Volunteer Excellence class (LIVE 5) still hope to build a bridge in the Cooper Woodland Preserve.

The 100-foot wooden bridge was to become part of the first section of the Lowell Area Trailway, from Lowell High School to Cherry Creek Elementary. LIVE 5 secured full funding for the bridge from ICNB.

The group had planned to organize community work sessions throughout the month of May to build a bridge in the Cooper Woodland Preserve, but the project is on hold while the Lowell Area Recreation Authority (LARA), which is responsible for the trail's development, works to secure easements for the trail.

LARA needs trail easements from the Lowell Education Foundation and the Wege Foundation. The education foundation owns the Cooper Woodland Preserve, which includes the small creek the bridge will span. The Wege Foundation owns the property on the west side of the bridge, through which the preferred route for the Lowell Area Trailway will go.

"Until we have the easements, we can't build anything," said LARA secretary Al Halbeisen. "Some of the easements we thought would be easy turned out to not be so easy." It is a matter of time until the education foundation finalizes the easement with LARA.

"It's not like the education foundation doesn't want to work with us, it's just a real slow process," said Betsy Davidson, who is LARA's treasurer and the LIVE 5 class chairperson.

The procurement of an easement on the Wege Foundation property is less certain. A route through both properties is considered the best and safest one. It would allow users to be out in the open and visible for safety, while staying clear of the busy roadways. These factors are of particular importance for this stretch of trail. It would likely see a lot of use by high school students traveling to school from town, and younger children traveling to see athletic events and other activities at the high school.

Without the easements, LARA would have to consider a different route using county road right of ways. With such a route change, a bridge would no longer be required.

LARA still hopes to get the easements. But LIVE 5 is concerned the delay will dampen enthusiasm for the bridge project.

"We've had so much momentum going through the project," Davidson said. "We had the community fired up and the community involved and we're losing some of that, I think."

LIVE 5 is still ready to build the bridge if they get the chance.

"We keep in contact through e-mail right now and everybody is still real excited," Davidson said.



This year's Lowell Leadership Institute for Volunteer Excellence class still hopes to build a bridge over this stream in the Cooper Woodland Preserve.

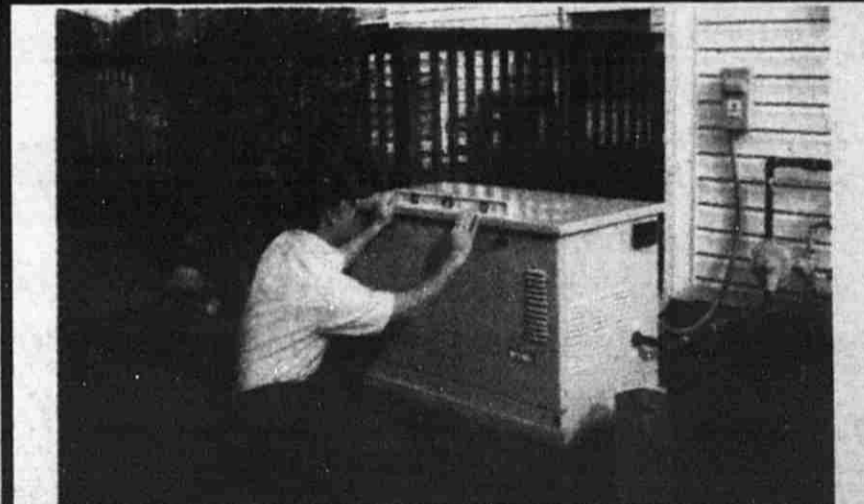
"I can still see everybody getting together to build the bridge." Plans are already

drawn up for the bridge. New Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) regulations will require some changes. But they will actually lessen the cost of the project. The original plans call for a 12-foot wide bridge. The new MDEQ regulations allow only a 10-foot bridge, which will cut down on the project's lumber costs.

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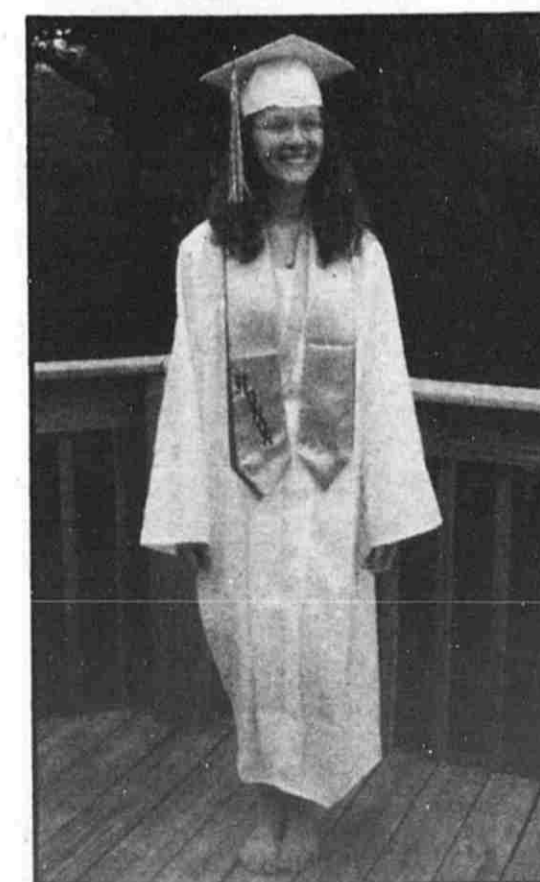
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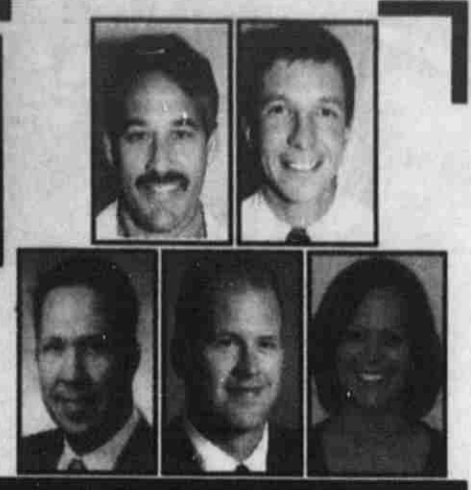
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Avoiding sun exposure is the best way to reduce your chances of skin cancer. While that's not always possible, it's important to use sunscreen with an SPF of at least 30 if you must be in the sun. The best way to find skin cancer early is to keep an eye on your skin, especially moles. It's a good idea to do a monthly self-exam of your skin. Look for any changes in an existing mole or the appearance of a new mole. Any moles that

appear after age 30 should be watched carefully and shown to your doctor.

The following ABCDE rules can help you remember what to look for when you're checking for moles.

A for asymmetry: A mole that when divided in half, doesn't look the same on both sides.

B for border: A mole with edges that are blurry or jagged.

C for color: Changes in the color of a mole, including darkening, spread

of color, loss of color, or the appearance of multiple colors such as blue, red, white, pink, purple or gray. **D** for diameter: A mole larger than 1/4 inch in diameter (about the size of a pencil eraser)

E for elevation: A mole that is raised above the skin and has an uneven surface.

You should also watch for these changes to your skin:

- A mole that bleeds
- A mole that grows fast
- A scaly or crusted growth on the skin
- A sore that won't heal
- A mole that itches
- A place on your skin that feels rough like sandpaper.

If you notice any of the above signs or changes in your skin, visit your doctor. Skin cancer can be treated successfully if it's identified early.

Giving the bus drivers a nod



Bus drivers at Alto Elementary were greeted by a fun banner in recognition of "Alto Bus Driver Appreciation Day." The annual event took place on June 8 and each driver received a colorful paper ice cream cone with a gift certificate to an area ice cream/food shop.

Red Arrows compete at state track meet held in Rockford

Two Lowell athletes competed in the pole vault event at the state track and field finals June 4 at Rockford High School.

Eric Dean finished outside the top eight at the meet, but cleared 12'0" for his third consecutive time.

"He's pretty excited," said Lowell track coach Russ Stevens.

The state meet was a new level of competition, with a higher starting bar height.

"He's never started at 11'6" before, so he's happy with himself," said the Lowell coach.

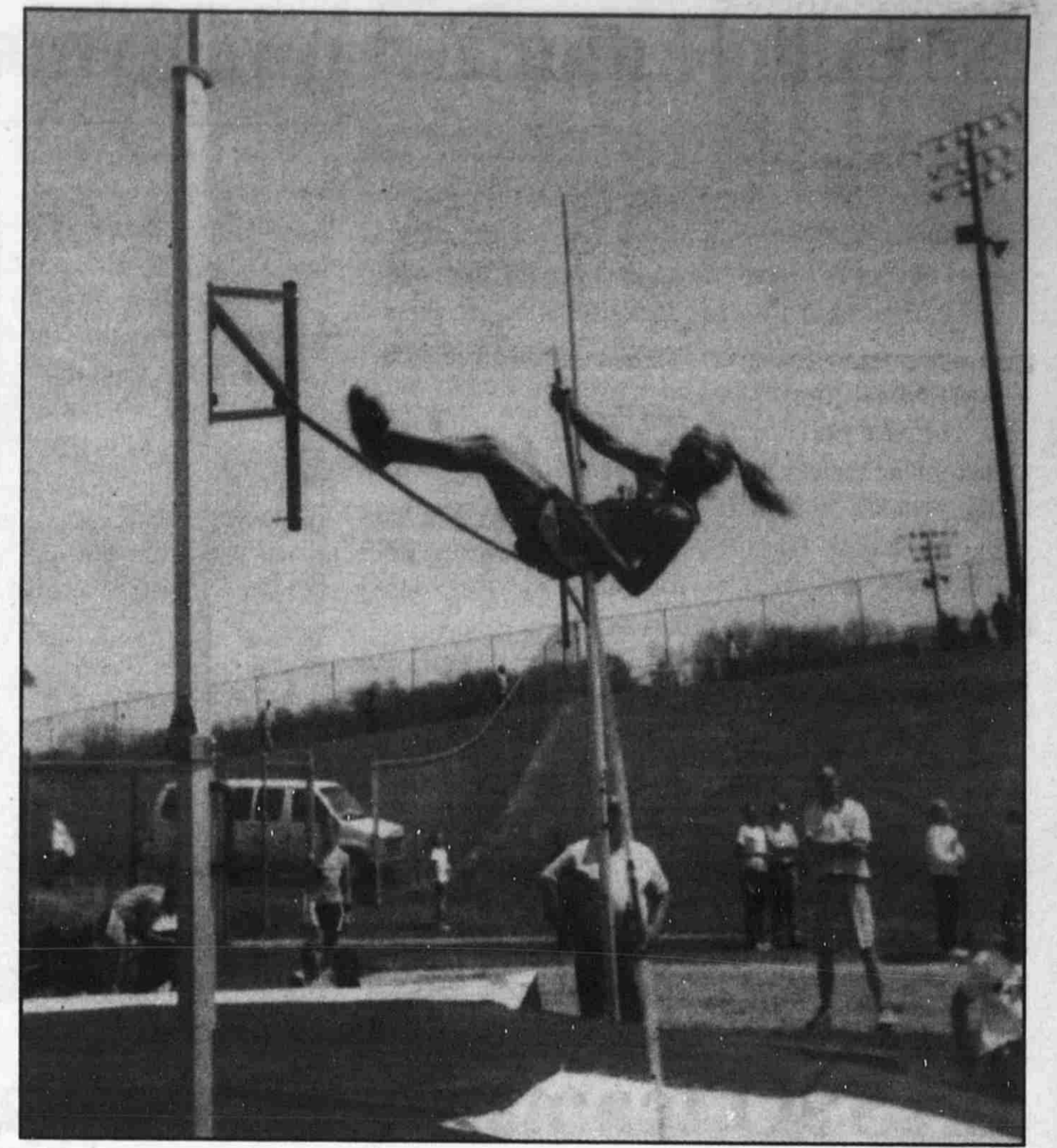
Finishing his sophomore year, Dean added two feet to his vaulting height since his freshman season.

"He did a lot of that on his own; there's only so much I know about pole vaulting," Stevens said. "If he can go another foot each year, he's right on his way to 14 feet."

Rebekah Woods also

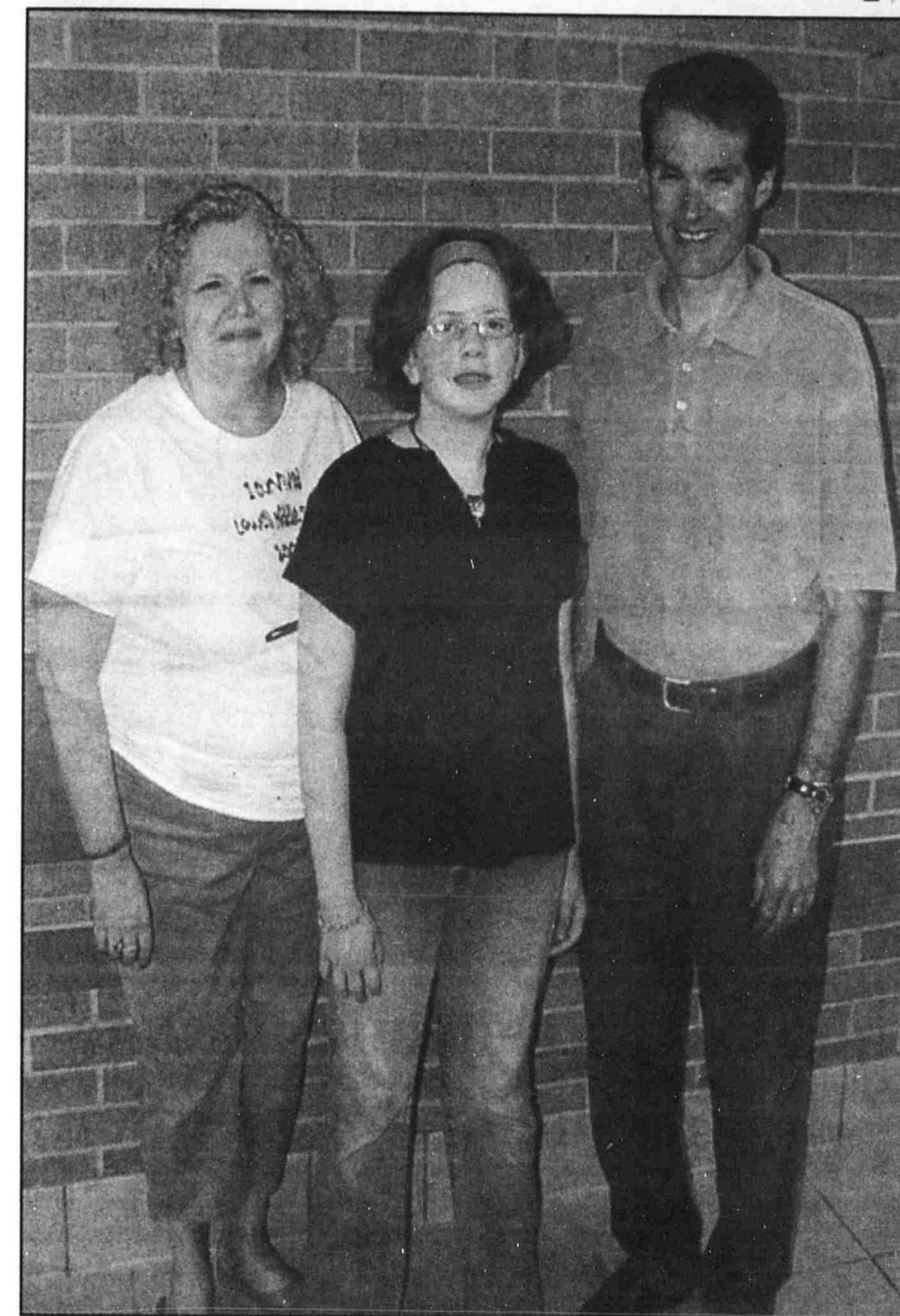
finished outside the top eight in the state, but added a half inch to the school record she set earlier this year. At the state meet, Woods cleared 10'1.5". On May 5, against Cedar Springs at Red Arrow Stadium, she broke the old school record by clearing 10'1".

"Rebekah's going to Hope for college and she's going to vault there," said Lowell girls track coach Robin Briggs.



Lowell's Rebekah Woods clears the bar in the pole vault event at the state track and field meet.

Alguire receives Morse scholarship



Emily Alguire, a student at Lowell Middle School, is pictured with principal Linda Warren and Lowell Area Historical Museum president Jim Doyle. The seventh grader received the Benjamin Morse Scholarship this year, which was established at the museum after the Benjamin Morse Society at the middle school disbanded. The society, with now-retired history teacher Jack Misner as its adviser, used to meet after school to study a variety of American history topics. The society raised funds for annual trips to sites related to the history they studied. Funds left over after the society disbanded were used to establish the scholarship at the museum. Alguire will use her \$75 scholarship to attend Knollcrest Music Camp at Calvin College this summer. She plans to take classes in music technology and dance, and will participate in a music theater ensemble. The Benjamin Morse Society was named after Morse, a Civil War hero from Lowell who was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Education is what survives when what has been learned has been forgotten.

B. F. Skinner (1904 - 1990)

Recycling is elementary



As part of a service learning project, fifth grade students at Murray Lake Elementary collected recyclable plastic. The plastic is used to make picnic tables for schools and parks. Murray Lake will be receiving two such tables. Over 400 recyclable containers were collected for the project, which is part of the science curriculum standard that deals with the effects humans have on the environment.

SYNOPSIS REGULAR MEETING OF THE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP BOARD May 16, 2005 - 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of the April 18, 2005 Regular Meeting were approved. The meeting agenda and a list of invoices were also approved.

Motions approved:

- Motion to approve and enter into an agreement with Lone Pine Development LLC to re-zone property at 875 Alden Nash SE from R-1 to R-2, subject to the completion of the terms and conditions of the development agreement for the proposed Alden Nash West development.
- Motion to approve split for Chris Miles of Downes Rd.
- Motion to send correspondence to owners of property located at 11427 Lally St. requesting clean up and boarding up of property
- Motion to table Transfer of Development Rights ordinance discussion and/or action
- Motion to approve blanket permit for Kent County Road Commission right-of-way repairs

Complete minutes are available on the township web site at www.vergennestwp.org, or at the township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr., Lowell.

The next Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Vergennes Township Board is June 20, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Vergennes Township Hall located at the corner of Parnell Road and Bailey Drive.

Mari Stone, Vergennes Township Clerk

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NOTICE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

Vergennes Township is seeking applications for the Zoning Board of Appeals, to complete a vacated term.

This position is compensated per diem. Interested applicants should respond to the township clerk by Monday, June 20 in order to be considered.

Application forms may be obtained by calling 897-5671, or stopping by the township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr., Lowell, MI 49331. The office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9am to 3pm. A summary of job descriptions is also available.

Mari Stone, Clerk

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Lowell Junior Arrows gymnast demonstrate thier skills

Performing May 31 in the auxiliary gym at Lowell High School were the Junior Arrows gymnasts. These young athletes are in the highest level of classes offered through Lowell Community Education. In it, they put the skills they've learned in previous classes with routines for vault, uneven bars, balance beam and floor exercise.

Twice a year, the young gymnasts, ranging from second to eighth grade, perform for a registered high school gymnastics judge, who scores them by Michigan High School Athletic Association standards. The May performance was the second of those opportunities this year.

Pictured, front row, left to right, are: Kaezi Bladey, Lauren DeHaan, Michelle Foote, Andrea Coffey and Ally Young; back row are: Jenna Sullivan, Emily Borup, Alexis Balczak, Becky Chamberlain, Sara Tarchala, Kelsey Teft and Allison Warren.

Top all-around finishers were Michelle Foote (first place), Emily Borup (second place) and Andrea Coffey (third place).



LASSO teams successful in big tournament

Four Lowell youth soccer teams took home first-place finishes from the Canton Cup Invitational Tournament over Memorial Day weekend.

The three-day tournament started Friday evening, May 27, and lasted through the evening of May 29. The Lowell Area Select Soccer Organization (LASSO) sent nine of its 10 active teams.

Each age group at the tournament was divided into divisions from platinum down to copper.

LASSO's under-11 boys red team, coached by Shane Stokes, placed first in the gold bracket. The under-12 girls, coached by Mark Hopkins, placed first in the gold bracket. Gold was the second-highest bracket in each age group.

The under-12 boys team, coached by Bob Schultz and Ramsey Charrouf, took first place in the silver bracket. Lowell's under-10 girls took first place in the copper bracket, coached by Mickie Montgomery and Steve McVey.

The Canton Cup Invitational Tournament was a huge event, drawing 443 teams from Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Canada.

Games were played on 37 fields in three locations in Canton, Mich.

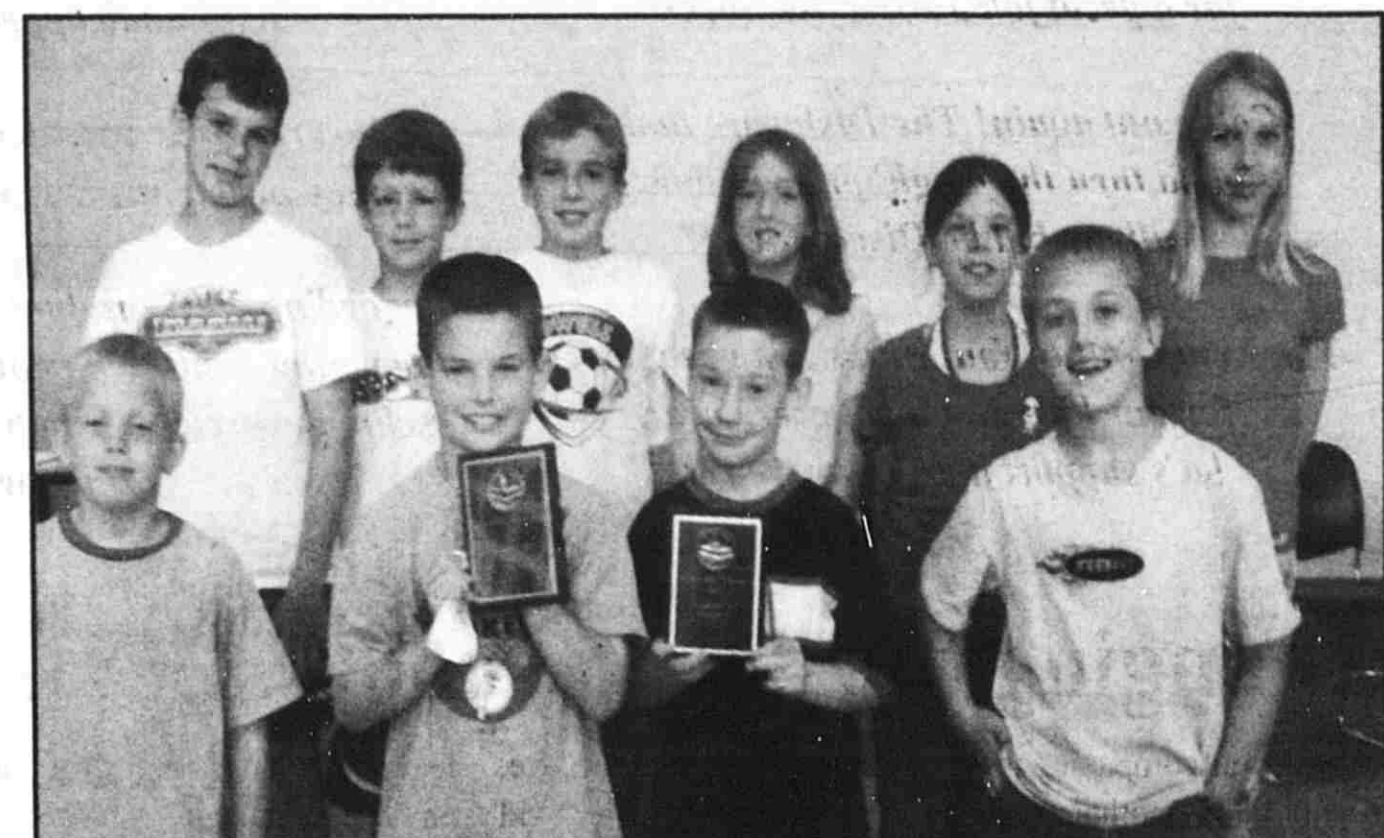
LASSO is holding tryouts Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at Grand River Riverfront Park on Grand

River Drive in Lowell Township. The program is open to boys and girls, ages seven years and up.

Murray Lake geography finalists

The Geography Bee at Murray Lake Elementary took place June 9. Kannon Dean was the champion; Justin Scott was the runner-up. Both are fourth grade students.

Pictured are the finalists ... back row: Kyle Rogers, Andrew Light, Matt Kyllonen, Kyra Marks, Alexis Noffke and Kelsey Mankel; front row: Spencer Plattner, Kannon Dean, Justin Scott and Joey Senneker.



Lowell softball falls to Jenison at regionals in Rockford

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell softball team advanced to the regional finals Saturday at Rockford, where they lost 9-1 to a tough Jenison team.

Lowell's run was scored in the fourth inning. Becky Plummer hit a base hit, then Katie McElroy batted her in with a single.

It was still a close game after five innings. The Wildcats scored one run in the third, two in the fourth and one in the fifth. So it

was a 4-1 game going into the sixth inning.

"I just wanted to keep it close, and then they just exploded in the sixth and scored five runs," said Lowell coach Bob Rodenhouse. "They were just hitting shots."

Jenison made it to the final by winning a 15-inning game against East Kentwood, 4-0.

Lowell beat Muskegon Reeths Puffer 4-1 in the semifinal. The Red Arrows

scored two in the first and two in the third.

The two scoring innings progressed in a similar manner. In the first inning, Ashleigh Inman led off with a walk. Andrea Dewey sacrifice-bunted her to second. A double by Plummer drove home the first run. Then Brittany Bueche drove in Plummer with a base hit.

The third inning started with Inman on base again. This time she got there with a base hit. Then Dewey

sacrifice-bunted her to second again. Plummer hit a triple this time to score Inman, then scored a run herself on a wild pitch.

Inman, Plummer and Bueche each had two hits in the game. Plummer struck out four batters and allowed only two hits.

The Rockets scored their run in the sixth inning on a base hit, stolen base and two wild pitches.

Lowell made honorable mention in the Michigan Softball Coaches Association

final rankings. Jenison was second in the state rankings.

"I was just so proud of our kids for performing the way they did this year," Rodenhouse said. "Jenison is just a very good team."

The Red Arrows finished the season with a 27-9 record. Plummer was 24-7 on the mound.

Plummer, adding new school records to the books, broke her own record for strikeouts in a season with 263 this year. The three

strikeouts she threw against Reeths Puffer put her over the mark. She also broke the records for lowest season earned run average, runs allowed and earned runs allowed. At the plate, she broke the record for triples in a season with 15. Inman broke Jacqueline Benedict's career double record. She hit 29 doubles over her career.

"It was a great year and we're ready to do it again," Rodenhouse said.

Sound Off logo with text: 'HAVE A PET PREY? SOUNDING BROS? ... MAKE YOU LAUGH!' and 'The Ledger "Almost Anything Goes Forum" Write Us Online Or Call • Feel Free To Sign Your Name! www.lowellbuyersguide.com OR 897-0787'

Kudos to the high school administration for graduation. Great job. The seniors had a great time and felt that their graduation would never be forgotten. Uptight parents, this wasn't about you!

Thumbs up to the fire department for a great job during the storms.

Cable out again! The Dish sure looks good thru the neighbor's window. Will my bill be Discounted??

The Kent County Youth Fair is a great event for our kids and town every year, let's support it any way we can.

Why does Meijer's have the metal detectors at the doors if the staff does nothing when a person sets them off as they walk out?

I bought a used car from a local dealer in Feb. '04. It looked like a new car it was so clean. I bought another used car from the same place, it was no where near as clean What happened?

I think it would be a great idea to put a picture of the person on the handicapped sticker they use. That way you could tell if it was someone else - not handicapped - using the tag.

I just read the article on the 2005 graduation commencements. One word ~ disappointment.

Regarding 2005 graduation: What a disservice to the young adults who couldn't express their high school experiences with their speeches because of the weather.

Learn from the 2005 graduation commencements. Administrators, have a plan B, even if it is to have a rain date.

The eighth grade dance was awesome this year! Thank you to all the students and staff who worked hard into putting it together!

Look at the labels on the things you buy because the next job you lose might be yours. No wonder our economy is going to pot, everybody is buying things made in China, Taiwan, Mexico. Offshore, that's where it's going.

What kind of idiots close a road they're not working on?

These children achieved DENTAL HYGIENE EXCELLENCE For The Month of May 2005 DR. J.E. REAGAN 207 W. Main - Lowell 897-7179

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Academic all-state honorable mention The 2004-2005 Lowell boys basketball team was named Honorable Mention Academic All-State by the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan. Their team grade point average was 3.227.

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Changing the debate, cont'd., From Page 4 imposed on companies that can easily pick up and move, it would add another incentive to do just that. That would hurt our economy, and it would not help the environment. Likewise, tinkering at the margins of the climate change problem with higher Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards won't produce significant results. In addition, there are inherent discriminatory features in the CAFE system that give an unfair competitive advantage to foreign vehicle manufacturers and which do not benefit the environment. We don't get more fuel-efficient vehicles on our roads, but we do get fewer jobs in our manufacturing plants. Put simply, there is no environmental gain, just plenty of economic pain. By constructing the two pillars of a new climate change policy - participation in a broad and binding international treaty including all countries and a moon-shot sized federal investment to develop leap-ahead technologies - we can leave a brighter future for our planet and a more secure environment for future generations. CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE The Lowell City Council, acting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, will conduct a public hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, June 20, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. at the City Council Chambers, Lowell City Hall, Second Floor, 301 E. Main Street, Lowell, Michigan for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following: Zann Travis wishes to locate a swimming pool in her front yard at 209 Lincoln Lake (northeast corner of Lincoln Lake and Chatham). Under Section 4.17C, pools may not be placed in the front yard. Also a six-foot-high fence has been proposed where three feet allowed. Interested persons may submit written comments or appear in person at City Hall, 301 E. Main, Lowell, MI 49331. Betty R. Morlock City Clerk 616-897-8457 PRICE REDUCED 2348 SEGWUN, LOWELL \$135,500.00 3 bedroom, 2 baths, oak kitchen with snack bar island, formal dining room & living room, family room, large deck in private backyard with screen in room, stick built 2-stall extended garage with workshop, manufactured home built in 1996, set on almost an acre, 1500 sq. ft. of total living area, central air, dishwasher range & refrigerator included. Don't miss your chance to own this home! COLDWELL BANKER Call: Connie Frazer 616-304-5883 or 616-897-0500 HOPPOUGH & ASSOCIATES FOR YOUR PERSONAL APPOINTMENT www.coldwellbanker.com

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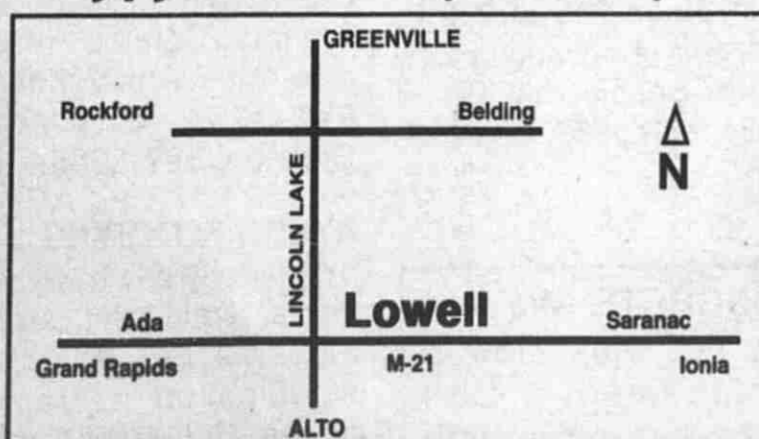
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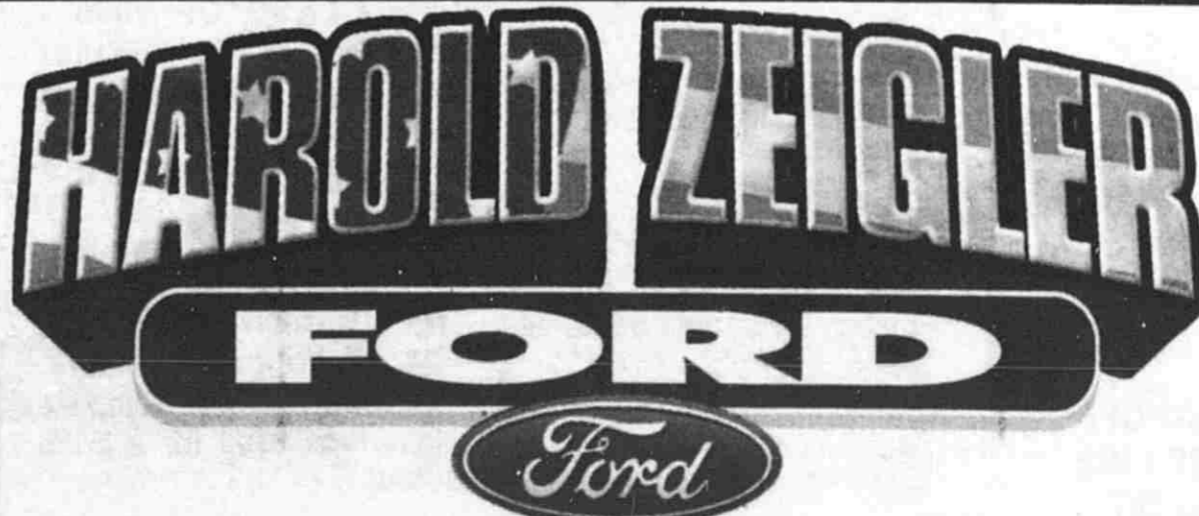


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