

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 32 Issue 34

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Thousands rally for improved educational funding in Lansing

By Dan Schneider

More than 40 from Lowell were among the 11,000 people from districts across the state who rallied in front of the Capitol in Lansing last Tuesday.

The goal of the rally was to push state legislators to improve funding for education.

"There's a shortage in the funding of education," said Lowell Middle School math teacher Kris Kropf, who attended the rally. "We're doing more and more with less and less and less, and class sizes keep going up."

Earlier this month, the Lowell Area Schools board of education approved a budget including \$1.4 million in cuts for the 2005-2006 school year. It was the fourth consecutive year of

significant budget cuts for the district and the third in which cuts were made of \$1 million or more.

"Lowell is about as lean as you can get and they (state legislators) have to stop playing politics and start doing what's best for kids," Kropf said.

The K-16 Coalition for Michigan's Future organized the Lansing rally in favor of Senate Bill 246 and House Bill 4582. The legislation seeks to stabilize state funding for schools by guaranteeing increases at the rate of inflation or 5 percent, whichever is less.

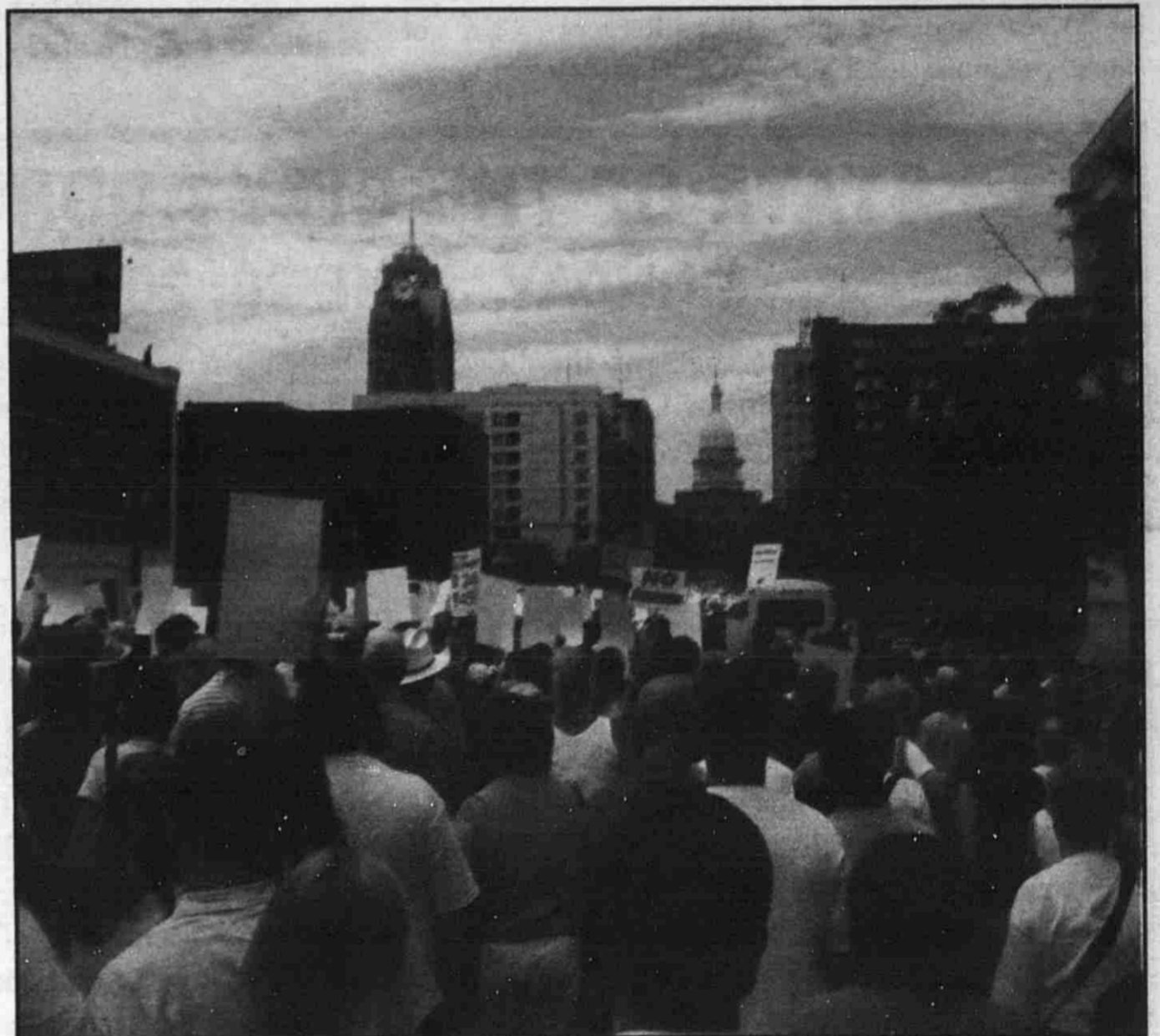
"If they were approved, they would very definitely help," Lowell Area Schools superintendent Shari Miller said of the legislation.

It would make it easier for school administrators to plan budgets, she said.

"Like this year, here we are in the middle of the summer not knowing what the funding will be like for schools, it's very difficult to plan," Miller said.

"It sounds like it would do what it is intended to do, which is fund schools at a minimum level when times are tough," said Melissa Cassalina, a parent with four children in the Lowell school district.

Representative Dave Hildenbrand, whose district includes Lowell, met with some of the people from Lowell during a break in a house session last Tuesday afternoon. Hildenbrand opposes House Bill 4582 on the grounds that guaranteed funding for any one state budget item would hinder the legislature in its budgetary role.



More than 40 people from Lowell were among the 11,000 to attend the rally. The Kent County contingent wore bright green shirts. — Photo submitted by Mark Lessens

"I'm all for getting funding for schools, but I'm hesitant to get guaranteed funding for any program," he said.

The two bills may

have an uphill battle in the legislature, as state legislators are struggling to balance a tight overall school budget. But even if the bills don't pass, those who

attended feel the rally must have focused legislators thoughts on education.

Rally, continued, pg. 10

Roadwork nearly complete

By Dan Schneider

Alden Nash Avenue south of Lowell could be open to traffic as soon as Fourth of July weekend.

The road has been closed to through traffic from Grand River Drive to Cascade Road since June 13, when the Kent County Road Commission began repaving it. Since then, south- and northbound traffic has been detoured to Snow Avenue. Road commission work crews started putting down the first of two layers of asphalt last Monday.

Without weather delays, the crews will be putting finishing touches on the work this week. That includes painting centerlines and installing guardrails.

Alden Nash will be reduced to one lane this week from Cascade to I-96. Road crews are milling and repaving that road surface one lane at a time. The work nearing completion was more extensive. The old road surface was ground down, left in place, and compacted in an operation known as "crush and shape."

"It turns into an

aggregate base and we inject brine so it stabilizes it," county road engineer for maintenance and local construction Jeff Kocsis said.

So the old road surface has been recycled into a base for the new road surface. The two layers of pavement add up to three and three quarters inches of asphalt.

Repaving that stretch of road has been on the county schedule since last year. State and federal grants allowed the county to go through with the repaving this year.

One lane of Main Street west of downtown was closed for most of last week. Eastbound traffic was detoured onto Bowes Road.

A work crew from Cleveland installed new railroad tracks at the crossing. The crossing was smooth for cars to begin with, but the rails were in rough shape. New rubber spacers were installed to make the road surface flush with the tracks. The crossing will also get new signals, but their installation should not interfere with traffic.

Roadwork, cont'd., pg. 3



A Kent County Road Commission crew installed asphalt last week at the rebuilt railroad crossing on Main Street west of downtown.

Inside
The Lowell Ledger
Celebrate Our Independence
Outdoor Business Displays...
Page 4
Weekend Festivities
... Page 9

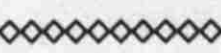
Obituaries

HALBEISEN Charlotte Schools. She was a member of Calvary Baptist Church and enjoyed crochet and embroidery. She is Mrs. Halbeisen was born June 3, 1955, in Lansing, the daughter of Moten and Ruth (Carpenter) Fielder. She was employed at Sparrow Hospital as a health unit coordinator for 20 years and as a substitute paraprofessional for Potteryville; mother-in-law

Catherine Halbeisen; in-laws Stephen (Valli) Halbeisen, Katy (Doug) Shumaker, Ian Halbeisen, Mary Ann Halbeisen all of Charlotte; Alan (Linda) Halbeisen of Ada; many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, daughter Bethany Renee, niece Heather Fielder. Funeral services were held June 22 at Calvary Baptist Church with Pastor Mark Booth officiating. Interment at West Carmel Cemetery in Charlotte. Memorial contributions may be made

WITTENBACH Mary Ellen Wittenbach, aged 71, of Cheyboygan, formerly of Lowell, died Friday, June 24, 2005 at her home in Cheyboygan due to health complications, in the care of Hospice. Mary resided in the Cheyboygan area for the past year and a half. She was an active member of the Cheyboygan Council on Aging. She enjoyed working on crafts and ceramics.

Mary was dedicated to her faith and looked forward to participating in church activities. Mary was a 1952 graduate of Saranac High School and a 1956 graduate of Albion College. She assisted her parents in a family-owned business. She was preceded in death by her parents Paul C. and Mildred (Reeder) Wittenbach, infant sister Nola. She is survived



At Your Local Library



USED BOOK SALE AT ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY

A used book sale will be held on Friday, July 8 from 6-9 p.m. and Saturday, July 9 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. under the tent along the Riverwalk.

The book sale includes fiction, non-fiction, children's self-help and inspirational books, texts, and more. Tapes and CDs will also be available. Proceeds will benefit the Englehardt branch of Kent District Library.

This is not a novel to be tossed aside lightly. It should be thrown with great force.

- Dorothy Parker

The Lowell Ledger

(USPS 453-830)

Published weekly for \$15⁰⁰ a year in Kent County, \$22⁰⁰ a year outside the county by the Lowell Ledger Publishing Company, 105 N. Broadway St., Lowell, MI 49331

ROGER K. BROWN.....PUBLISHER
JEANNE BOSS.....MANAGING EDITOR
DAN SCHNEIDER.....LEAD REPORTER
TONI BLOUGH.....COPY EDITOR
TAMMY JANOWIAK.....CLASSIFIED/ACCOUNTING
JAY VEZINO.....ADVERTISING SALES

(616) 897-9261

E-Mail: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com

Second Class Postage Paid at Lowell, MI

Published every Wednesday

POSTMASTER: Send address change to:

The Lowell Ledger

P.O. Box 128 • Lowell, MI 49331

www.lowellbuyersguide.com

LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 2005

at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash, SE.

Quality Express LLC has made application for a variance from Section 5.4 I C of the Zoning Ordinance to allow for vaccums to be located in the front yard of property located at 11729 Fulton Street, Lowell, Permanent Parcel No. 41-20-04-401-046.

Written comments should be received by Tuesday, July 5, 2005, and can be mailed to: Lowell Charter Township, Attn: Zoning Board of Appeals, 2910 Alden Nash SE, Lowell, MI 49331.

Linda S. Regan, Clerk

Respectfully submitted,
David M. Pasquale
City Manager



STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS MONDAY, JUNE 20, 2005

To: Mayor Shores, Members of the Lowell City Council and Citizens of Lowell

As provided over the last several years, the State of the City address gives this community the opportunity to review our conditions as a municipality. What has occurred over this last year which affects Lowell? What challenges and opportunities lie ahead? As a City, how do we respond?

At the last City Council meeting, the budget was adopted. As with the previous two budgets, the process continues to be difficult. Total property tax revenues have been projected to increase \$64,000 while total General Fund revenues are expected to decrease approximately \$2,000. Overall, the General Fund balance is just over \$40,000.

Again, the slow Michigan economy and the continued after effects of job losses within this community continue. State Revenue Sharing, though expected to remain at last year's level, is still well over \$100,000 less per year than just four years ago.

My pledge continues that fiscal constraints will be utilized in all funds the City has.

Positive economic trends continue for Lowell. Seventy-five residential building permits totaling over 2.8 million dollars were issued for new construction and renovations in 2004. Also, twenty-four commercial permits were undertaken last year amounting to \$855,000. In particular, Crab Apple Cove condominium apartments located at the northwest corner of Valley Vista and Bowes were completed as well as the construction of Clarke Street allowing for the eventual construction of duplex units.

The downtown continues to be strong. A primary concern has been traffic volume and speed along Main Street in the Central Business District. Through the efforts of the Downtown Development Authority, this issue is being closely examined. A speed board funded through the DDA and the Lowell Area Community Fund draws attention to motorists by displaying speeds. Intersection crossings will be provided to aid pedestrians. A mid block crossing by the Riverwalk is being reviewed.

While there is much encouragement about Lowell's future, the City must continue to be proactive.

The following are the goals to be pursued:

- Continue to support the efforts of the Downtown Development Authority and the Downtown Historic District Commission as key economic development tools. The DDA as a first priority will assist in projects which provide business growth or retention. The Downtown Historic District Commission has through grants received funding from the Lowell Area Community Fund, provided assistance on a matching basis for 61

building renovation projects totalling \$315,000. This has given new impetus for businesses in the downtown.

- Continue to recognize the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce as an important part of the City's economic development strategy. As a coordinator of events such as the Summer Concert Series (with the Lowell Area Arts Council), Riverwalk Festival and the Christmas Parade, the Chamber acts as the voice of local businesses and industries.

- Be in communication with organizations such as the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and Right Place Program, which can promote the growth of businesses. This past year, visits to Attwood, Root Lowell and Metric Manufacturing were made to keep these organizations and the City informed.

- Promote a concerted effort to continue to upgrade City streets. This summer, portions of Grindle Drive will be reconstructed. Federal funding has been sought for Gee Drive reconstruction in 2006. Sidewalks, particularly with school walks and in conjunction with street construction projects, need to be emphasized. Walks on Ridgeview and Beech will be completed this Summer.

- Continue to recognize the Lowell Area Historical Museum, the Lowell Area Arts Council, the YMCA and the Kent County Youth Fair as important resources to the City's quality of life.

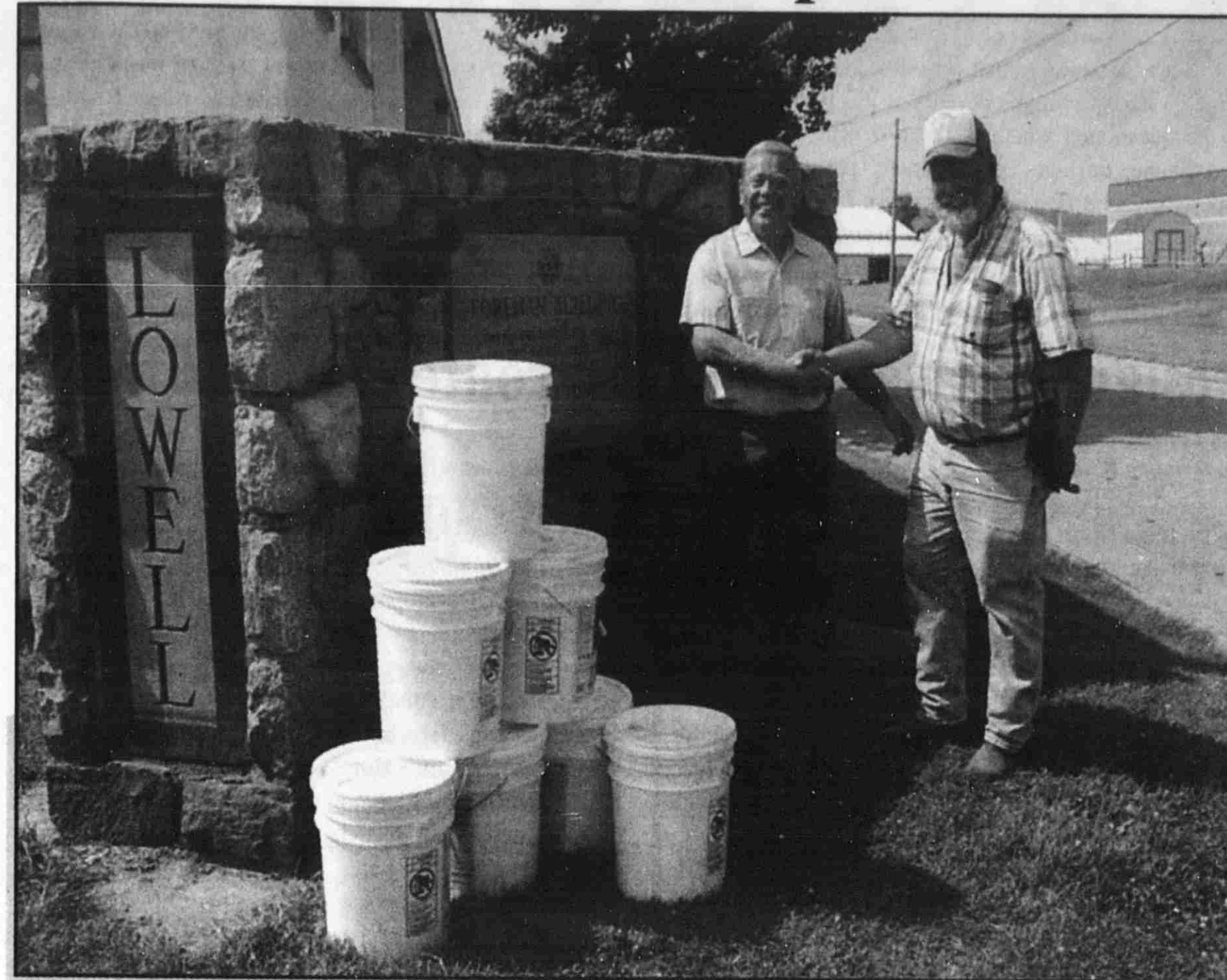
- Support the Airport Board's efforts to attain General Utility status for the Lowell City Airport, thereby qualifying for State assistance. The attaining of air easements and cutting of trees is scheduled by the Fall.

- Continue to cooperate with the Lowell Area Schools along with Lowell and Vergennes Townships on recreational matters. As part of this cooperative venture, a community walking trails study has been completed. The starting of a trail system is planned by this Fall through the Lowell Area Recreation Authority.

- Plan for improvements to the Wastewater Treatment and Water Treatment Plants. A Wellhead Protection Program and Water Reliability (Master Plan) Study have been started and are toward completion.

As mentioned in previous years, while projects have been provided in our goals, the City places prime responsibility for service to the citizens of Lowell.

Fair donation of paint



Lowell waste water treatment plant manager Mark Mundt, representing EarthTech, Inc., presented 35 gallons of paint to Lowell Fairgrounds' manager Ron Wenger last Friday. EarthTech is donating the paint so the Foreman Building on the fairgrounds can be repainted in time for this year's Kent County Youth Fair. The fair takes place Aug. 6-13 this year.

Annual Gas & Steam Engine Show scheduled

The 34th annual Antique Gas & Steam Engine Show, sponsored by the Charlton Park Gas & Steam Club, will be held at Historic Charlton Park on Friday, July 8, and Saturday, July 9.

The event opens at noon on Friday and at 10 a.m. on Saturday with a tractor

parade each day. There will be demonstrations of wheat threshing, stationary baling and shingle cutting. Many antique engines from the Irving Charlton collection will be on display, as well as a rare 1863 Westinghouse steam engine.

Activities include a kids' tractor pull and a penny scramble, along with a flea market, craft fair and food concessions. Owners can register their tractors, gas and steam engines, beginning July 7. Call 269-945-3775 for more information.

Admission is \$5 per adult; \$3 per child 5-12, and free for ages 4 and under.

Roadwork, cont'd.... From Page 1

In other road-construction-related news, work crews started demolishing streetcorner curbs in downtown Lowell last Wednesday to make way for new handicapped ramps in the sidewalks. The construction caused little disturbance to traffic. Soon, the Michigan Department of Transportation will paint

crosswalk lines across Main Street at the sites of the new sidewalk ramps.

REMEMBER OUR DEADLINE IS FRIDAY AT 4 P.M. Lowell Ledger 105 N. Broadway

ADA-LOWELL 5

www.adalowell5.com
10313 Smothers East of Ramsey Rd. 49331
ALL DIGITAL STEREO 897-FILM
No passes Visa & MasterCard accepted
Unlimited Free Drink Refills & 25¢ Corn Refills

MOVIE GUIDE

SHOWTIMES 6:27 - 6:28
TITLES & TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

OBEWITCHED (PG-13)
12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:30, 9:45

HERBIE FULLY LOADED (G)
12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30

BATMAN BEGINS (PG-13)
1:10, 4:05, 7:00, 9:55

MR. AND MRS. SMITH (PG-13)
11:20, 1:55, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50

CINDERELLA MAN (PG-13)
12:45, 3:40, 6:35, 9:30

SOULSON
FREE 20oz DRINK with \$2.00 purchase
of select bags of laundry products
only. Limit one per customer at participating store.
SPECIAL OFFER. Offer good while supplies last.

REAL ESTATE - FULL SERVICE

Discount Price - Why Pay More?

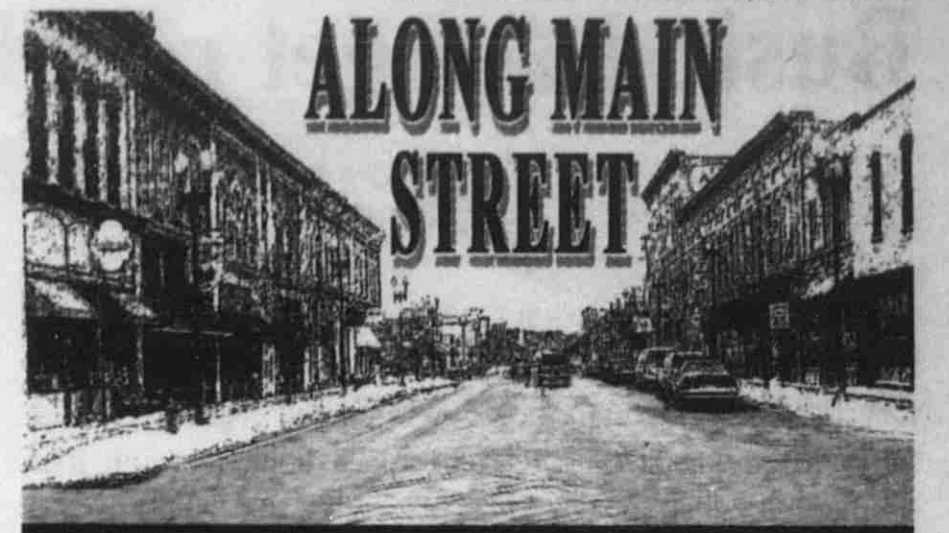
Serving - ADA, LOWELL & CASCADE

24hr. Recorded Info. (888) 457-4601 Code 810

For Sale
MARIE WEIGHMINK
JT Henderson REALTOR
(616) 364-4441

MARIE WEIGHMINK, Realtor
JT Henderson & Associates LLC
(616) 364-4441 Ext 83
www.JTandMe.com

YOU GET:
CMA Property Valuation (Comparative Market Analysis)
Advertising in the MLS (Multiple Listing Service)
Advertising in REALTOR.com (Real estate's #1 website!)
Direct email to all local Real estate agents Buyer's List
Free Photo Uploads
Professional Yard Sign
Open House Signs
Lockbox
Negotiating & Closing Coordinator



SIZZLIN' SUMMER CONCERTS
This Thursday River City Jazz Ensemble (Big Band) will perform from 7-9 p.m. on Riverwalk Plaza. Free admission, handicap/senior parking; bleacher seating is available or bring your lawn chairs!

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.

RIVERWALK FESTIVAL
Festivities begin Friday, July 8 for the annual festival in downtown Lowell. Lots of events both Friday and Saturday. Call the chamber at 897-9161 for more information.

USED BOOK SALE
Friends of Englehardt Library will sponsor a used book sale on Friday, July 8, 6-9 p.m. and Saturday, July 9, 10-4 p.m. All kinds of books plus tapes and CDs. Under the striped tent along the Riverwalk. Proceeds will benefit Englehardt Library.

ORGANEK FUNDRAISER
A bone marrow drive for Anna Organek will be held on July 10 at the Lena Lou, Ada. \$10 donation at the door. Another drive on July 12 at Lowell High School from 12-8 p.m. Info: visit www.help-anna.org.

TOWN BAND FORMING
If you are interested in being part of a town band, please call cell #616-894-4667. For all ages; any musical ability welcome.

Lowell Community Health and Fitness Fair

JULY 9, 2005
10 AM - 4 PM

Located at the Lowell Police Department and Avery Street

- Try Kids Aerobics
- Learn to improve your running gait
- Discover local recreational areas
- Venture into the smokehouse
- "Ask the Doctor"
- Learn to Optimize your golf swing
- Have a Massage • Vision screening
- Check the Progress of the 100 Miles in 100 Days Walking Challenge
- Door Prizes and Much Much More!

Contact:
Lowell Community Wellness
at (616) 340-7781
for more information.

Lowell Community Wellness is funded through the Lowell Area Community Fund.

Businesses get relief from outdoor display ordinance

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

Charlie Bernard, owner of Bernard Ace Hardware, just wants to be treated fairly when it comes to the ordinances ... in particular the one that requires him to move his outdoor display within 10 feet of his building when his business closes for the day.

And if the Lowell City Council goes by the Lowell Planning Commission's recommendation, Bernard and other business owners won't have to move their outdoor displays anymore.

The commission, at the request of the council, reviewed the requirement that allows outdoor displays within 10 feet of the city's right-of-way, but requires those displays to be moved in

after the business closes. The commission unanimously recommended that displays not be required to be moved during those circumstances.

"That's great," said Bernard upon learning that was what the commission was proposing to do.

Bernard was surprised to learn that others had complained about his outdoor display. This promoted the city to cite him for not following the ordinance. The city enforces the ordinance on a complaint basis. According to city staff, Bernard came before the council a couple of months ago requesting that the council grant relief from such a policy.

At the Monday night meeting, Bernard presented several examples - for

informational purposes only - of other businesses that currently stand in violation, and he questioned whether the ordinance infringes on a property owner's rights and freedoms.

"I want to be able to

operate my business and would like you to be fair about it," Bernard said. "We keep it neat. I want it to be a nice, presentable business because I want to entice you and everybody else to come to our store."

Mayor Jeanne Shores said she believed "Charlie's wood chips look nice" and that this process is a good example of government working. Shores said the council received a complaint;

the city looked at it, and went through its process to determine what could be done to help.

The proposed change now heads to the city council for review on Tuesday, July 5.

Designating safer walking routes for children

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

To Tonia North it really didn't make any sense to put sidewalk along Beech Street, and within a couple of weeks she had city staff and the council agreeing with her. North, 1040 Lincoln Lake, said she didn't understand why the city wanted to put sidewalk all along Beech Street since it dead ends after Birchwood Court and has little concern for vehicle traffic on the section of road.

Meeting with city officials, she suggested an alternative route, that of Lincoln Lake and Hunt streets, since it would provide a better pedestrian route, especially for children walking to school.

"When I heard of the proposal, I just saw a better use of the sidewalks," North said during the city council meeting last week. "I think

if we would prioritize and use the money where it was needed, it just made more sense."

The original proposal included sidewalks being placed on Ridgeview and Beech streets. Beech Street, as North pointed out, dead ends shortly after Birchwood Court, and only has about two school children on it.

The Lincoln Lake/Hunt Street section that North proposed would accommodate about 14 school children who currently have to use that route to travel to school. Also, that section of Lincoln Lake has a factory that lets out around the end of school and a church that is added on, along with Hunt's vehicular activity, she said.

City manager David Pasquale and Department of Public Works director Dan

DesJarden met with North and decided her suggestion was a good one. They asked that the \$45,799.83 in Community Development Block Grant money for this year be redirected so sidewalk could be placed along Beech to Birchwood Court, Hunt from Beech to Lincoln Lake and completed from Lincoln Lake north of Hunt. The proposal passed unanimously by the council. "I just really wanted to thank Dan for taking the time to listen to me," North said.

The council also unanimously approved an increase in grant funding for the North Kent Transit program which provides rides for senior citizens and handicap residents. The city had earmarked \$6,000,

but raised that to \$10,000.

Councilman Charles Myers noted the high increase in use over the past several years, which city clerk Betty Morlock said, "People know it's there to use."

From July 2004 to April 2005, the city had a total of 512 riders utilize the North Kent Transit program. The city is the third highest user of the Kent County program with Plainfield having 2,209 riders and the Rockford area, more than 700.

The council noted that as budgets get tighter, the program's funding may have to be reexamined. Pasquale said that the city can cap its contribution and once the money is gone, the program will stop running within the city.

House GOP approves school funding

School districts that have struggled with less state revenue will receive additional funding under a plan approved last Wednesday by the state House that brings a greater fairness to the school aid funding formula.

State Rep. Dave Hildenbrand (R-Lowell)

worked closely with his Republican colleagues to ensure that local schools receive their fair share.

All Michigan school districts will receive a \$175 increase in per-pupil funding. Schools receiving less than \$7,200 in per-pupil foundation grant

would receive an additional \$25 more per student under the plan.

In the 86th House District, Lowell Area Schools will receive an additional \$25, bringing their per-pupil funding increase to \$200.

"Making sure our schools are funded well has been one of my priorities since coming to Lansing," said Hildenbrand. "These additional resources are critical in helping young people receive a quality education so they can be successful in the future."

HB 4887 now goes to the Senate for consideration.


CENTER COURT APARTMENTS
A NICE PLACE TO LIVE

Now leasing one and two bedroom apartments on quiet cul-de-sac. Units include heat, water, carport, trash removal; start at \$515.00. Call Pamela at 617-6341 for an appointment.
Pettibone Property Management

A TRUSTED TRADITION OF AFFORDABLE, PERSONALIZED, AND COMFORTABLE CARE

LIFETIME DENTAL EXCELLENCE

- Professionally Trained, Caring, and Courteous Staff
- State-of-the-Art Procedures, Instruments, and Techniques
- Cosmetic Care: Porcelain Veneers, Bonding, and Whitening
- Mercury-Free Dentistry • Filtered Water Lines
- Orthodontic Care (Braces) • Wisdom Teeth Extraction
- Implants • TMJ (Jaw Pain Therapy)
- Treatment of Periodontal Disease (Latest Non-Surgical Techniques Available)
- Dentures • Partial • Root Canals • Crowns and Bridges
- Emergencies Accepted • Convenient Payment Plans
- Serving the Area Since 1981



TODD GILLAN, DDS, PC

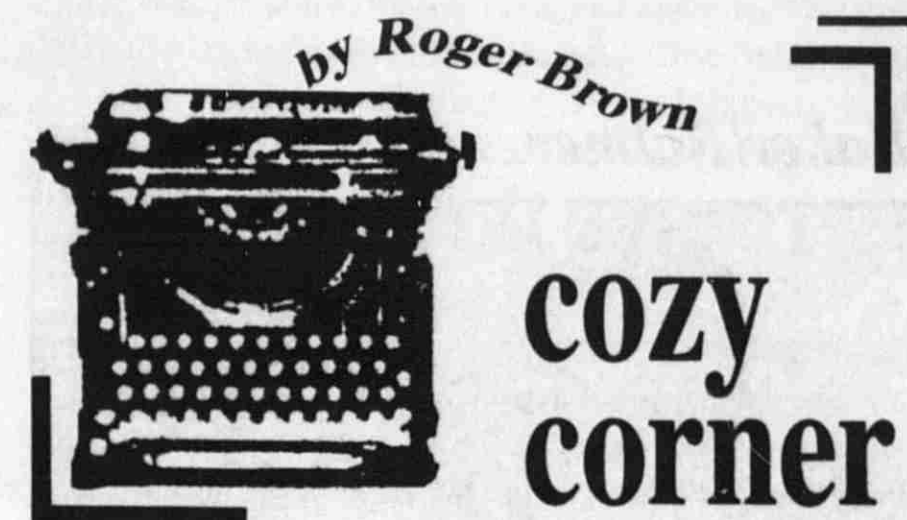
2186 MAIN STREET • LOWELL
LOCATED ACROSS FROM ARBYS

WE CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO CALL
(616) 897-8491

GILLAN DENTAL EXCELLENCE

CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN LOWELL

Viewpoint



cozy corner

Where I live, the nearest mall is at least three hours by car. I like it that way. Some women, and perhaps a few guys, have a problem with that particular issue. In fact, homes come on the market because wives become disillusioned with island life and contract a severe case of "mall withdrawal." Happens all the time.

One day last week my wife had to make the trek to the mainland for a doctor appointment. In what must have been an incredibly weak moment, I volunteered to ride along. I knew full well that once in the proximity of the malls we would be sucked in like some mysterious black hole in an outer space movie. Just call me Captain Kirk.

I had not been in a mall since last October. And then it was only to take in the latest Coen Brothers movie. Prior to that, I couldn't tell you when I had been in a mall. We are talkin' years ... not months, weeks or days. I repeat, I like it that way.

Sure enough, after the appointment we were immediately vacuumed up by a large mall. Terese took off to do her thing while I was left to explore the only store remotely tripping my trigger. It took all of ten minutes to take in the Banana Republic. I bought a pair of sunglasses at a kiosk, then found a really comfortable chair in a little rest area. I snoozed a bit before Terese showed up and we were outta there. All in all, it was a rather painless mall experience.

Then we were off to Costco. These big box stores are slightly less annoying than malls. They have enough "guy stuff" displays to hold my interest. I checked out big screen TVs, some handyman junk, books, DVDs and that's about it. I did grab an assortment of Dremmel tool bits and a little chainsaw on a pole for trimming trees. (I will have one of those big plasma TVs before football season. I've got this feeling about the Lions this year.)

I followed my wife around in the food section and curbed my appetite by partaking in all those samples they hand out. I did latch on to a huge container (all containers are huge in these warehouse stores) of really plump, juicy blueberries. It was a four-pound plastic box that probably held two or three quarts of berries. That's a lot of berries for two people, but into the cart it went.

It was the usual pandemonium at the checkout counter. If you have never been in a Costco, the entry traffic is routed past the checkout lines. I guess this is an effort to make you see what everyone else is buying as you enter the store. The hope is that you'll succumb to the "keeping up with the Joneses" syndrome. That's one theory. The other is that Costco has lousy planners on staff.

If you get the sense I might be building up to something, you might be right. Here we are, next in line at the checkout and beginning to unload our cart onto the conveyor. We are at the center of the shopping vortex, or black hole that I alluded to earlier. It was chaos, hub-bub and pandemonium all rolled into one. We were smack in the middle of it.

Imagine the "Jaws" music here as I reach for the huge package of blueberries perched on the shelf at the rear of the cart. I palmed the container like it was a basketball and lifted. In mid-air the container and its lid sort of collapsed. The container separated from the lid and four pounds of juicy, plump blueberries spewed over a wide area.

The berries went everywhere. They are round and rolled really well on the concrete floor. A huge traffic jam immediately ensued as people tried to circumvent the mess I'd made. Others, the oblivious types like me, tromped right on through, squishing berries all over the place. Two out-of-control little boys, whose mother had already been yelling at them incessantly, began eating the berries off the floor. Of course this made the mother yell even more. A plea for a clean-up crew went out over the public address system. It was quite a show.

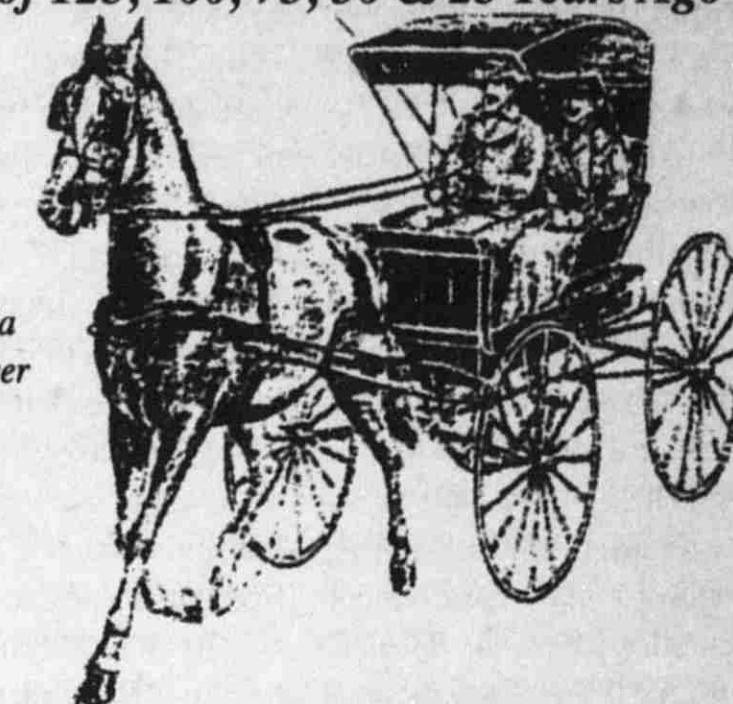
Terese busily proceeded with her check-out and pretended not to notice what was going on around her. She made every effort to distance herself from the culprit, saving me from a lecture there on the spot. I tried to hide behind the tall box containing my chainsaw-on-a-pole. The box was tall enough, but nowhere near wide enough to conceal my girth. I must have looked like Yogi Bear hiding behind a sapling.

It wasn't long before a clean-up crew was busily rounding up the berries and wiping up the squished ones. One of the crew even hustled off and got us a fresh box of berries. He made certain to load them on the conveyor for me.

The next time my wife has an excuse to do a little shopping, I'm guessing she won't invite me along. If she does, I'll simply remind her of the blueberry incident and the invitation will be immediately withdrawn. It may be years before she dares take me shopping again. And, as I mentioned way back at the beginning of this piece, "I like it that way."

Ledger Entries

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



By Priscilla Lussmyer

125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL JUNE 30, 1880

The Journal is 15 years old this week. Black raspberries and new potatoes are in the market, and buyers are paying 37 cents for wool.

From next week until election the Journal will be delivered to new subscribers for 10 cents a month.

The "boss trip" of the season is the Evening News-sponsored excursion to the White Mountains.

The Marquette & Mackinac railroad is being built. Objective: joining the two peninsulas.

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER JUNE 29, 1905

This issue and all issues until August 10 are missing.

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO JUNE 26, 1930

July 4 will feature horse races - pacers, trotters and runners - at Recreation Park.

Ledger Entries is now a front-page column of gleaned news items, some with comment. One item: many farm animals in Manhattan (New York).

Officer Delaney asks local drivers not to turn around in the middle of a block. Some minor accidents have resulted. Kent County Red Cross addresses the problem of too many ambulances showing up at an accident scene.

Several teachers are recognized by the Tuberculosis Society for conducting 12-week projects of observing several healthy practices (handwashing, healthy diet, etc.) for their classes.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER JUNE 30, 1955

Main Street widening is rechecked at residents' request to save as many trees as possible.

An eager pickpocket badly rips Dennis Bowler's pants; four observant boys run after the thief, chasing him past a patrol car. Arrest follows.

All state police, plus 216 National Guardsmen, are assigned to July 4 weekend traffic patrol.

The old blacksmith shop in back of Gee's Hardware will be torn down to create parking space.

The wallet from a purse stolen June 17 is recovered while the river is down for work on the Showboat. The young thieves missed finding the hidden \$105 before they tossed it.

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER JUNE 25, 1980

The Eastgate Grand Slam Sale is this weekend. People all over Michigan bring their stuff to sell and/or buy.

The archway at Fallsburg Park is badly damaged and three persons severely injured when a speeding car hits the archway.

New maps of Lowell, including Eastgate in the Woods, are available at the Ledger.

King Memorial Pool announces hours for swimming: general, family and children.

HEALTH

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

TENNIS ELBOW

Tennis elbow is a condition caused by inflammation of the tendons on the outside (or lateral side) of the elbow at a bony prominence of the upper arm. Although this condition is called "tennis elbow," it is not limited to tennis players. Any repetitive motion of the wrist can cause this condition. Some of these activities include tennis, hedge clipping, excessive use of a hammer or screwdriver, painting, or any activity that requires excessive constant gripping or squeezing.

Symptoms of tennis elbow include tenderness on the outer bony part of the elbow, morning stiffness of the elbow with persistent aching, soreness in the forearm, and pain worse when grasping or holding an object. Tennis elbow usually does not lead to serious problems, although if the condition continues and is left untreated, loss of motion or

function of the elbow and forearm can develop. You should see your physician if you have pain that limits your daily activities, pain that continues despite resting and icing the elbow, or if any weakness or numbness in the hand develops.

There are several treatments you can try at home for tennis elbow. Icing the area twice a day for 20 minutes helps decrease inflammation and relieves pain. Over-the-counter anti-inflammatory medications such as ibuprofen may help decrease the pain and help with healing. Rest the area to prevent further injury and decrease pain.

If treatment with OTC medications, ice and rest doesn't work, your physician may have you use an elbow strap to help take the pressure off the inflamed tendon. A course of physical therapy may be needed to help increase flexibility and strength. Steroid injections can also be made into the inflamed area. Although generally safe, these are usually limited to 2-3 per year. Surgery is a last resort, and is usually reserved for those who have had symptoms for more than 6-12 months despite aggressive treatment with nonsurgical therapies.

To help prevent tennis elbow from recurring, continue your treatment plan for the prescribed length of time. If pain starts to recur, be sure to revisit your physician. Ease into any repetitive motion activity around the house or at work, and rest your arm at the first sign of pain or soreness. Continue exercises for strength and flexibility even after your pain has gone away.

DeHaan retires as varsity gymnastics coach after 12 years

By Dan Schneider

In Michele DeHaan's second year as head coach of the Lowell varsity gymnastics team, only four girls came out for the team. DeHaan was 21 years old when she took over the coaching job from Annette Pearson. She was Pearson's assistant the season before, and the only person

interested in the job when Lowell High School athletic director Barry Hobria started looking for a new high school gymnastics coach.

"He kind of took a chance on hiring me and I'm glad he did," DeHaan said. "Obviously, it was really rough just because I was so young and I didn't know what I was doing."

The small team she

coached her second year did not discourage her. She saw it as a sign that something fresh was going to have to happen for gymnastics to continue in Lowell.

So she started offering gymnastics classes at the Lowell YMCA. That grew into a community education class with beginner gymnasts ages three and four. Most of them are from Lowell

schools, but some come from Ionia, Caledonia, Saranac and home-schooling.

"I would say I have close to 140, 150 kids I see in a week," DeHaan said.

She recently decided to step down as head coach in order to spend more time with her family and accomplish more things with the community ed gymnasts.



Michele DeHaan

"By not coaching at the high school, I'll have more time to spend with the young ones," DeHaan said.

She still plans to be involved with high school gymnastics from the perspective of promoting it around town. As an example, for years she has had the varsity team pass out posters at elementary schools to attract kids to the sport. The young gymnasts march in parades downtown. They also used to perform routines during halftimes at basketball games. DeHaan

sees stepping down as varsity coach as a means of getting more time to do that sort of thing.

"I would like to keep what I'm doing with the little kids and do some of the promotional things, and let someone else be in charge (of the varsity team)," she said.

But she'll miss the closeness she's developed from grade schoolers to varsity gymnasts.

"You've got a place in your heart for them, that's for sure," DeHaan said.

Restoring the Circle

A native dancer in full regalia moves around the dance circle Sunday during the "Restoring the Circle" Pow Wow at the Lowell Fairgrounds. Master of ceremonies Larry Plamondon explained that bustles of feathers, such as the one this dancer wears on his back, take hundreds of hours to make. Native Americans must petition the U.S. government for eagle feathers, Plamondon said, and to receive one is considered a great honor.



Festival Fun at St. Patrick

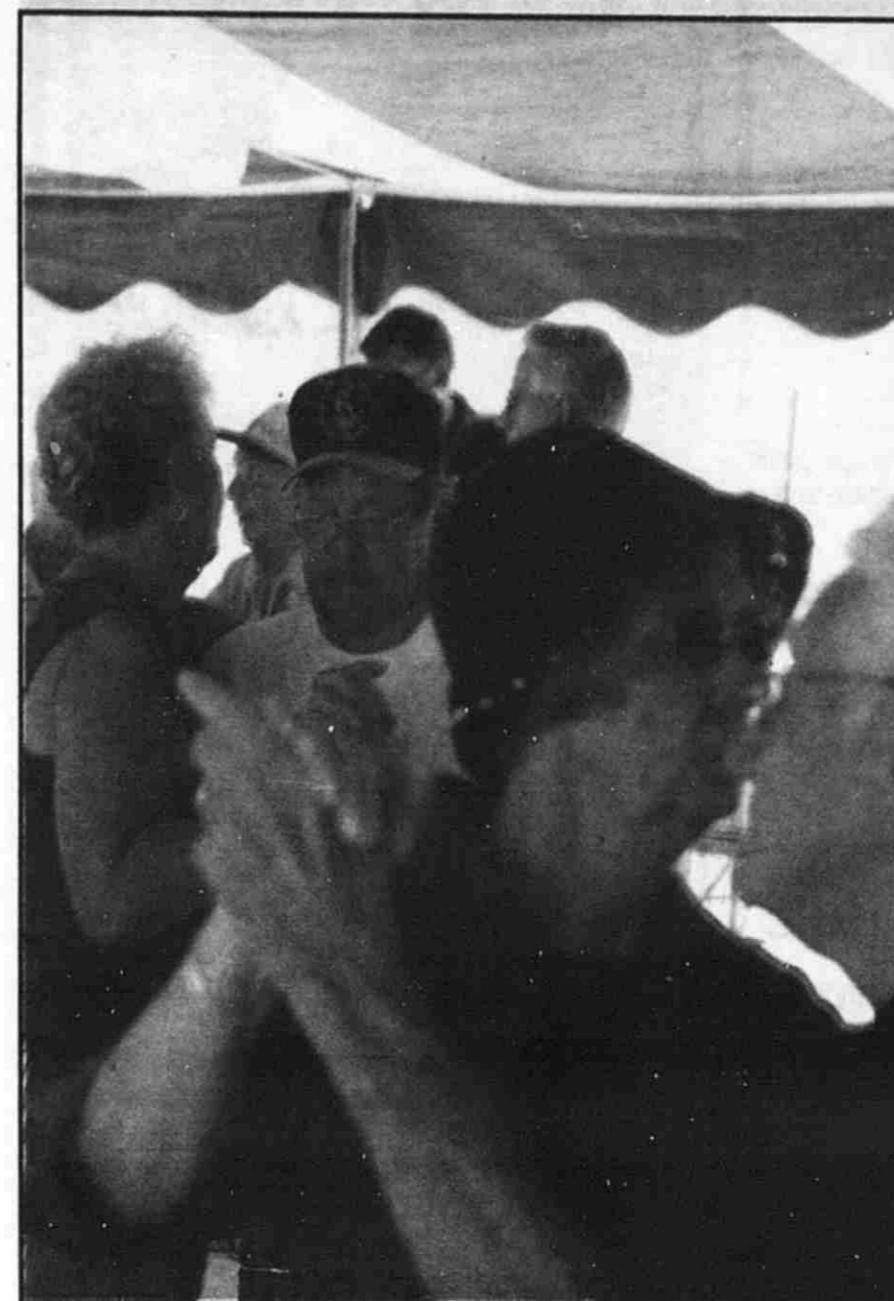
St. Patrick Parish in Parnell held its annual festival Saturday and Sunday. Organizers said the turnout was somewhat

smaller this year than in years past, due to the heat, but the festival was still a success. The big drawing for the cash raffle prize

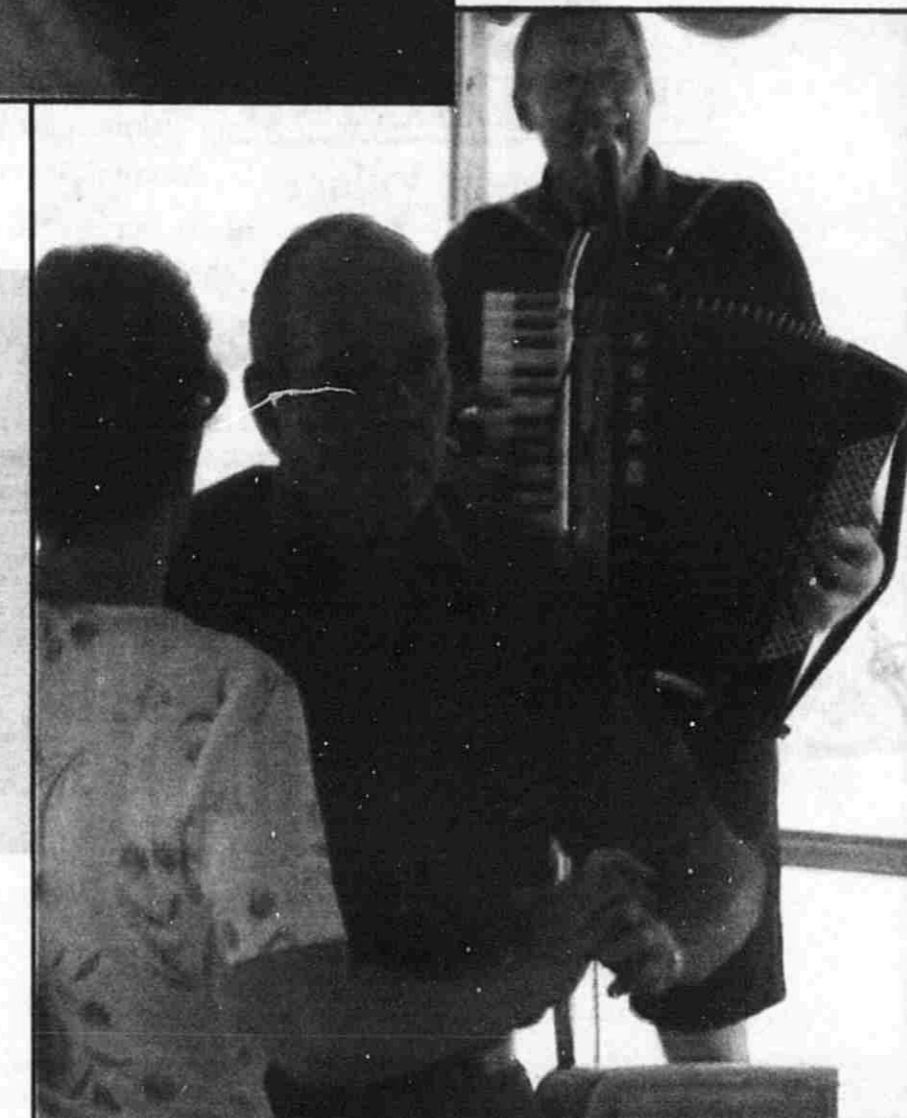
took place Sunday at 6 p.m. Claude Lambert of Rockford was the winner of the \$20,000 prize. Elaine Chalmers of Grand Rapids won \$2,500 in the raffle and Paul Petrlich of Belmont won \$1,000.

Carol Lillibridge (in hat) and Ray Conlon, 92, in foreground, and Fred and Margot Reid were among many who waltzed around the music tent Sunday afternoon at St. Patrick Parish festival. The festival featured a 5K run, a Las Vegas Night and Texas Hold'em tournament, Saturday.

Sunday featured Bingo, children's games, 50/50 raffles, horse rides, a petting zoo and a car show.



At right, Jack and Mary Rysdyk waltz past accordionist Virgil Baker in the music tent at St. Patrick Parish festival. Baker and the "Just For Fun" band provided music for the event Sunday afternoon.



Rodenhouse named district softball coach of the year

The coaches in Lowell's softball district named Lowell coach Bob Rodenhouse the district softball coach of the year this season. He coached his team past Grand Rapids Central and Northview for the Arrows' first softball district championship since 1988. Rodenhouse has coached the Red Arrow softball team for 22 seasons. This year, Lowell's 27-9 record broke the school record for most wins in a season.

LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP NOTICE

THE LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAYS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY. JULY HOURS WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY - 9:00 A.M. TO 5:00 PM
WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY - CLOSED

BOWNE TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE NO. 05-05

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 4.08, SCHEDULE OF DISTRICT REGULATIONS, AND SECTION 5.05 OF THE BOWNE TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE REGARDING MINIMUM LOT AREA, MAXIMUM LOT AREA FOR NON-AGRICULTURAL DWELLINGS, AND MINIMUM LOT WIDTH IN THE AG AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT.

At a regular meeting of the Bowne Township Board, Kent County, Michigan, held in the Township Hall on the 20th day of June, 2005, at 7:30 p.m., local time.

PRESENT: Christian Wenger, Sandra L. Kowalczyk, Tammi Wingeier, David Fuss, Kim Culbertson.

ABSENT: None.

The following ordinance was offered by Culbertson and seconded by Wenger.

THE TOWNSHIP OF BOWNE ORDAINS: SECTION 1 - AMENDMENT OF SECTION 4.08

The table of the Schedule of District Regulations in Section 4.08 of the Bowne Township Zoning Ordinance (Ordinance No. 2000-03, as amended) is hereby amended to change the Minimum Lot Area in the AG District from "3 acres" to "1 acre," change the Minimum Lot Width in the AG District from "330 feet" to "250 feet," and to add footnote (11) to read as follows:

"(11) The maximum lot area in the AG District for non-agricultural single-family residential dwellings shall not exceed five (5) acres, as provided in Section 5.05."

SECTION 2 - AMENDMENT OF SECTION 5.05

Section 5.05 of the Bowne Township Zoning Ordinance (Ordinance No. 2000-03, as amended) is hereby amended to read in its entirety as follows:

5.05 HEIGHT, AREA, AND DIMENSION REGULATIONS

The use of land and buildings in this zoning district, including parcel splits pursuant to Section 5.06, shall meet all regulations in this Ordinance, the Schedule of Regulations, and the following:

Minimum Lot Area:	1 acre
Minimum Lot Width:	250 feet
Front Setback:	40 feet
Side Setback:	25 feet
Rear Setback:	70 feet
Maximum Lot Area	5 acres*

*Maximum Lot Area applies only to non-agricultural single-family dwellings. For purposes of this Ordinance, an "agricultural single-family dwelling" is a single-family dwelling that is incidental to

or subordinate to a principal farming use on the same parcel of at least 40 acres, and a "non-agricultural single-family dwelling" is any single-family dwelling other than an agricultural single-family dwelling.

SECTION 3 - SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall be found to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions of this ordinance, which shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3 - FULL FORCE AND EFFECT

As amended by this ordinance, the Bowne Township Zoning Ordinance (Ordinance No. 2000-3, as amended) shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 4 - EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall become effective seven (7) days after publication hereof.

The Township of Bowne Township, Kent County, Michigan, hereby approves this Ordinance.

ADOPTED:

Ayes: Wenger, Kowalczyk, Wingeier, Fuss, Culbertson

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

COUNTY OF KENT) ss.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of an ordinance adopted by the township board of Bowne Township, Kent County, Michigan, at a regular meeting held on June 20, 2005, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to an in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, P.A. of Michigan 1967, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by law.

This ordinance can be inspected or purchased at the Bowne Township Office on Wednesdays and Thursdays, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., and on Fridays between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk, Clerk

AUTHENTICATED:
Chris Wenger, Supervisor

Date Adopted: June 20, 2005
Date Published: June 29, 2005

We want to be your Other Family Doctor.

- Sick or Injured Animals Seen Same Day
- Evenings & Saturday Hours Available
- Early Drop-offs & House Calls
- 24-Hour Emergency Service
- Science Diet Pet Foods
- Boarding & Grooming

ANIMAL HOSPITAL OF LOWELL

Call 897-8484
11610 East Fulton Street - Lowell, Michigan

How do you rank the importance of your vision?



When you want nothing but the best for your eyes...

come to **Advanced Eyecare Professionals** because everyone in our office knows that the gift of sight is truly precious. Advanced Eyecare Professionals has 21 years of experience in complete family eyecare and it shows in all our services for you. Tell any of our staff what you care about seeing in your life and receive \$25.00 off a complete eye exam.



Advanced Eyecare Professionals
1335 West Main St., Suite 101
Lowell, MI 49331
(616) 897-7000



Rally, continued ...From Page 1

"The amount of people there flabbergasted everybody," Cassalina said. "I think that, in itself, should make a big impact in what they should be thinking about at the Capitol."

"There were legislators around, either on the steps (of the Capitol) because they fully supported it or inside looking out the windows," said LAS board member

Mark Lessens, who attended the rally.

Last Thursday, the house did pass a bill that would increase the per-pupil foundation allowance by \$175 for all schools in Michigan. Hildenbrand voted in favor of the bill, and said it would benefit Lowell schools even more.

"We just passed the school aid budget a week

ago and Lowell schools would receive \$200 (per pupil) extra under the plan the house approved," he said.

Most of the Lowell contingent traveled to Lansing on a charter bus. The Kent County Education Association helped pay for it, and riders paid \$5 each.

The rally met at the Lansing Center on Michigan

Avenue. At 1:45 p.m., they marched the short distance to the Capitol building. There, speakers included Gov. Jennifer Granholm, the sponsors of the bills, a PTA president and a school board member from Wayne County.

Marcy Merritt, a custodian at Cherry Creek Elementary, said attending the rally was something she

could do to help the school district. "We work second shift so we miss out on a lot of opportunities to help during the school year," she said.

Though the turnout for the rally was impressive, some who attended from Lowell acknowledge it was just a start toward getting legislators to prioritize education funding.

"We're certainly going to have to write e-mails and make phone calls, the process is really just beginning," Lessens said.

"You have to tell them that this is what you want changed because they are working for us, we elected them," Merritt said.

With Our Counsel



Donna Warber M.A. LLP



Rev. Bob Baird M.S.W.



Kathryn Denfouter Ph.D.

DYSLEXIA

Treatments of dyslexia will be discussed in this article. Previous articles talked about the definition and scientific research of the disorder, the testing that is used to diagnose it and the talented people who have either been diagnosed with or have symptoms of dyslexia.

For visual dyslexia the best treatment is the Orton-Gillingham method of teaching. This is a multi-sensory approach using the five senses as channels to learning. The primary senses used are visual, auditory and tactile.

Sometimes, the other two senses, the olfactory sense which is the sense of smell, and the gustatory sense which is the sense of taste, are used as well. For instance, in the Orton-Gillingham method, a common technique for learning letter sounds would be for the student to trace the letter of the alphabet in sand, and then say the letter sound at the same time. In this instance, the student is simultaneously using three channels of learning: the visual channel, auditory channel and tactile channel. This makes a greater impact on

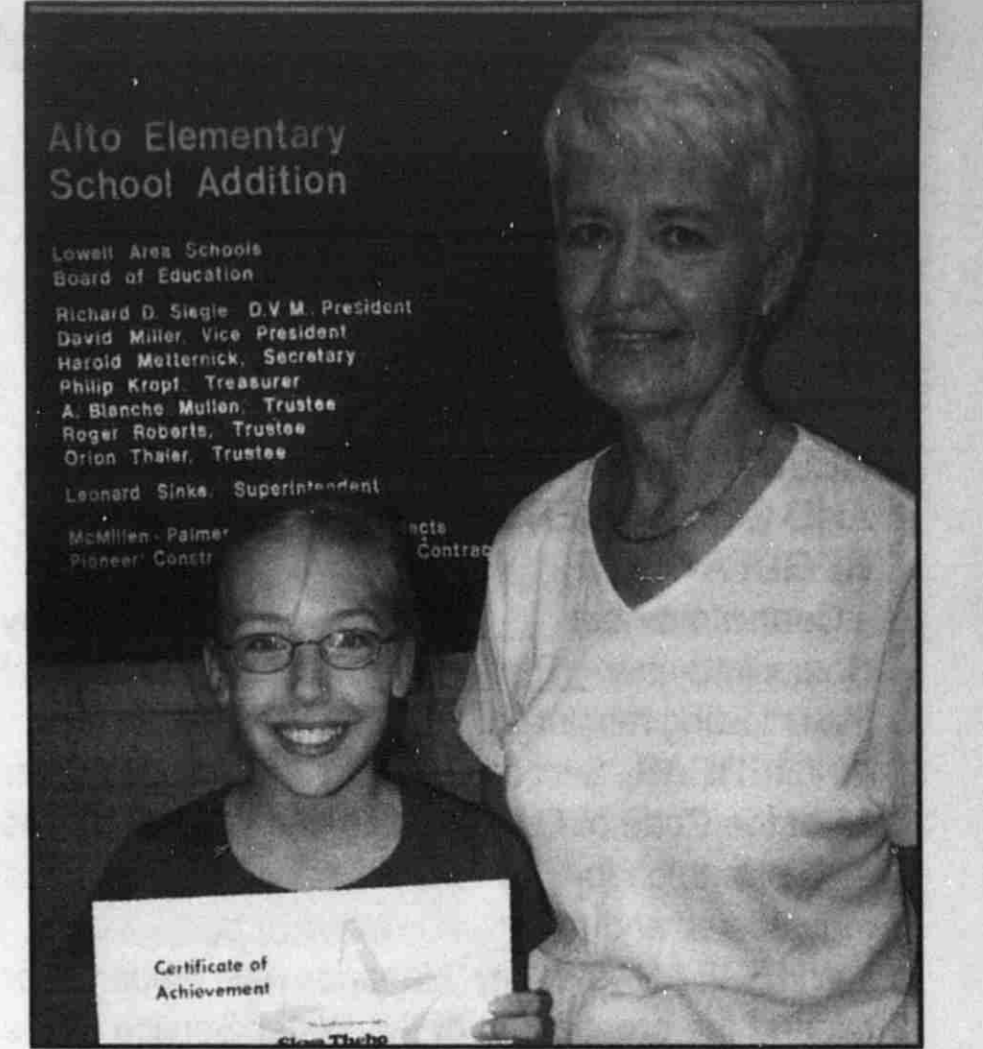
the memory areas of the brain and also supports the visual channel which is struggling because of visual dyslexia.

There are two excellent programs in the Grand Rapids area that use the Orton-Gillingham method: The Children's Learning Center, near downtown Grand Rapids (616-776-6840) and the SLD program, northeast Grand Rapids (616-361-1182).

Teachers using the Orton-Gillingham approach are well trained, usually beyond their undergraduate degree. Some schools are using this approach to help students who are struggling with reading.

For auditory dyslexia, which is also referred to as an auditory processing disorder, the best treatment is the Fast ForWord computer program. The program was developed after 25 years of research on the neural plasticity of the brain. It retrains the ear or the language listening response. When someone has difficulty processing speech, they can't do an instant replay to recheck what they have heard. This is unlike visual dyslexia since you can check what you saw by looking at the visual stimuli again. Reading becomes very difficult for someone who is not able to accurately hear the phonemic structure of language. For more information on the Fast ForWord program check their website at: www.scientificlearning.com.

Next month, autism and the autistic spectrum disorders will be discussed.



Perfect attendance

Skye Thebo, daughter of Walter and Elizabeth Thebo, received an award for having perfect attendance for six years - kindergarten through fifth grade. The fifth grade student at Alto Elementary is pictured with principal Mary Ann Schramm

TO ADVERTISE IN THE LEDGER BUSINESS DIRECTORY Call 897-9261

MIKA MEYERS BECKETT & JONES PLC

ATTORNEYS

John T. Sperla
Mark A. Kehoe
Ross A. Leisman

Benjamin A. Zainea
Heidi A. Lyon
Daniel J. Parmeter, Jr.
Matthew E. Fink

307-A E. Main Street
Lowell, Michigan 49331
(616) 897-3111 www.mmbjlaw.com

Noon Tire

STEVE NOON
11930 E. Fulton (M-21)
Lowell, MI 49331
Dealing In Most Brands
(616) 897-5925

Durkee Lumber, Inc.

Lumber and Building Materials
868-6026
6071 Depot St.
Alto, MI

24 Hour Towing & Road Service

Flat Bed Service
Jump Starts
Lock Outs
Tire Changes
Lincoln Lake Auto's
Cell #446-5909

bryant
Arctic, Inc.
HEATING • AIR CONDITIONING
1301 Bowes Rd., Lowell, MI 49331
897-4123
www.heatingcoolingonline.com
Licensed & Insured

NEED PAIN RELIEF?

DOCTORS CHIROPRACTIC & MASSAGE THERAPY CAN HELP:
• ARTHRITIS • HEADACHES • NECK & LOW BACK PAIN
• NUMBNESS & TINGLING • HIP & SHOULDER PAIN
• HERNIATED DISCS • SPORTS INJURIES
... WITHOUT THE USE OF DRUGS OR SURGERY
(Most Insurances Accepted)
Call us today for a FREE stress buster massage and consultation at "NO" Charge!!!
897-4999
NEW PATIENTS ONLY
Dr. Paul Tuthill
Certified Computer Spine Analyst
RIGHT IN FRONT OF MEIJER

CUMBERLAND Retirement Village
A Leisure Living Managed Community
www.leisure-living.com
11535 E. Fulton • Lowell, MI 49331
(616) 897-8413 • Fax 616-897-7839
e-mail: cmbld@leisure-living.com

BASIC COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
HERBERT PETT
Telecommunications Consultant
Phone 616-897-2045
NexTel 616-262-6102
Fax 616-647-4001
Email: hpett@basiccom.com

Curtis Accounting & Tax Services
209 E. Main St. - Suite A, Lowell, MI
Complete accounting, payroll and tax services
(616) 897-4120 • (616) 262-4873

EBAY LISTING SERVICE
E-SELLER4U
119 W. Main St. • Lowell, MI 49331
616-897-5660 or 616-890-2594
www.e-seller4u.com
DON & AMY REEDY - OWNERS
Over 7 years experience with various items small & large
We have completed over 15,000 transactions on eBay.

FIVE STAR REAL ESTATE
MARK CHRISTIANSEN
CELL 540-1859
897-9027
1004 W. MAIN
FIVE STAR REAL ESTATE • 616-977-7790

STORMZAND ASPHALT MAINTENANCE
Seal Coating with Sand
Hot Rubber Crack Repair
Cut & Replace Patching
Paving • Striping
Parking Lots & Driveways
Licensed & Insured
Serving West Michigan Since 1989
(616) 897-9872 Free Estimates

A BUSINESS DIRECTORY AD THIS SIZE ONLY

\$16⁰⁰ PER WEEK!

SALON 206 IS NOW OPEN ON MONDAYS
10 AM TO 8 PM
Please call for an appointment with Nancy, Kim or Tina
897-7206

TO ADVERTISE IN THE LEDGER BUSINESS DIRECTORY Call 897-9261

AT YOUR SERVICE
Thomet
Chevrolet BUICK
SERVICE HOURS: M, T, TH & FR • 8-5; WED • 8-8
Phone 897-9294

KIRK COLLINS
Showboat
AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLY, INC.
Auto Value
1450 W. Main St., Lowell, MI
(616) 897-9231
HOURS: MON - FRI 8-7; SAT 8-5:30; SUN 9-3

BILL WHEELER
Certified Public Accountant
W.J. WHEELER MICHIGAN
103 Riverside Dr.
Lowell, Michigan 49331
616-897-7711

CURTIS CLEANERS • LAUNDRY CAR WASH
Open 7 days • 897-9809 • 1410 W. Main
JUNE SPECIAL
BLAZERS / SPORT COATS 20% OFF
6TH SHIRT FREE
INCLUDES: POLOS & GOLF SHIRTS
FREE PICKUP & DELIVERY
SELF SERVE LAUNDRY
60 LB. WASHERS & 75 LB. DRYERS
TURN LAUNDRY DAY INTO LAUNDRY HOUR
CAR WASH \$1.00
1200 PSI, SPOT FREE RINSE

Buy life insurance and save on your home and car.
When you buy your life insurance from us through Auto-Owners Insurance, you'll receive special discounts on your home, mobile home or car insurance. We'll save you money. As an independent Auto-Owners agent, we take great interest in you - as well as your home and car. We are specialists in insuring people and the things they own.
Auto-Owners Insurance
835 W. Main St.
Lowell, MI 49331
897-9259
(800)804-3322
Dale Triplett

STOP SUFFERING!
We Successfully Treat:
 Whiplash
 Neck Pain
 All Headaches
 Auto Injuries
 Back Pain
 Numb Hands/Arms
 Sports Injuries
 Work Injuries
See a Specialist and See Results!
897-4999
DOCTORS CHIROPRACTIC
Dr. Anthony Trombly

JB HARRISON INSURANCE AGENCY
COMPETITIVE AUTO RATES
Hastings Mutual Insurance Company
1885
www.hastingsmutual.com
Daniel Ulrich
Judy Harrison
6661 Alden Nash, Alto 868-0050

PREVIEW PROPERTIES.COM
CALL JERRY HALE
897-0229
or 1-800-515-7763
JERRY IS A FULL-TIME PROFESSIONAL WHO WILL SERVE ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS.

Rich's Service Co.
In-Home Appliance Repair
INSURED • 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE
WASHERS • DRYERS • REFRIGERATORS
GARBAGE DISPOSALS • STOVES
209 E. Main St.
Lowell, MI 49331 (616) 897-5686

RE/MAX Cascade SunQuest
Peter Smith, Realtor, ABR
Call For Immediate Service
"Your Lowell Area Real Estate Specialist"
(616) 949-6980 Ext. 27 • (800) 800-3915 Ext. 27
(616) 460-6634 Cell
www.realtybypetersmith.com

BUSINESSES SERVICES

BUSINESSES SERVICES

CITY COUNCIL CITY OF LOWELL

KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN
RESOLUTION NO. 13 -05

RESOLUTION APPROVING WATER AND SEWER SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS

Councilmember Myers, supported by Councilmember Pfaller, moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Section 25-18 of Article II, Chapter 25 of the Code of Ordinances of the City authorizes the promulgation of water service rules and regulations; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager has prepared or caused the preparation of the Water Service Rules and Regulation attached hereto as Exhibit A (the "Rules and Regulations"); and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to approve such Rules and Regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Rules and Regulations are hereby approved.
2. A copy of the Rules and Regulations shall be kept on file in the office of the City Clerk and notice of their adoption shall be published in the Lowell Ledger, a newspaper of general circulation in the City.
3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions to the extent of any conflict herewith are hereby rescinded.

YEAS: Councilmembers Hodges, Mathews, Myers, Pfaller and Mayor Shores.

NAYS: Councilmembers none.

ABSTAIN: Councilmembers none.

ABSENT: Councilmembers none.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Dated: June 20, 2005

Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned duly qualified and acting Clerk of the City of Lowell, Kent County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council at a regular meeting held on June 20, 2005, the original of which is on file in my office and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with Act 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1976, as amended.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have affixed my official signature the 20th day of June, 2005.

Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

CITY OF LOWELL WATER SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS

Reg. 1. Services and Connections.

It shall be the responsibility of the City to maintain and repair the water transmission main and local distribution lines. It shall also be the responsibility of the City to maintain and repair the first 50' of the service line, or to the curb stop box, whichever comes first and to maintain and repair all curb cocks, curb boxes and stop cocks; provided, however, the City shall not be responsible for maintaining or repairing any portion of the service line which is not located under a public street or right-of-way. It shall be the responsibility of the property owner to maintain and repair all portions of the service line supplying his or her property which is not, as herein provided, to be maintained and repaired by the City. When two or more buildings are supplied through a single service line, the responsibility for maintaining the service line shall be as follows:

- a. the property owner first served along the service line shall be responsible for

maintaining and repairing all of the service line on his or her property and that portion, if any, of the service line between the point where the City is no longer responsible for maintenance and repair and the point where the service line enters his or her property; and

- b. the next and each succeeding property owner served from the service line shall be responsible for maintenance and repair of the service line on his or her property and that portion, if any, of the service line between the point where the preceding property owner's responsibility for maintenance and repair ceases and the point where the service line enters his or her property.

Reg. 2. Size of Taps and Services.

The size of water taps and services shall be determined at the time of making application for a permit for water service. Before making application for water service, a party contemplating the erection of a large building for a business, factory, etc. shall determine the size of the tap and service necessary to serve such business, factory, etc. The size of the service shall be the same as that of the tap, or of equal area.

Reg. 3. Service Connection Fees.

A connection fee for new service as established from time to time by the City Council will be charged. Upon payment of all fees. The City will provide and install one meter and one remote meter reader. In addition, the City will supply one meter yoke assembly. The installation of the meter yoke assembly shall be the user's responsibility.

Reg. 4. Additional Meters for Lawn Sprinkling, Etc.

The City will, for a fee established from time to time by the City Council, provide and install additional meter assemblies. The user must arrange for any required plumbing at his or her own expense.

Reg. 5. Meter Location.

All meters shall be located just within the foundation wall of the building served, unless otherwise permitted by the City Manager or his or her designee, and in a place which provides protection from theft, freezing, hot water breakage or other damage.

Reg. 6. Arrangement of Plumbing.

The user must arrange for the plumbing at his or her own expense in order that (a) there are no fixtures connected between the meter and the local distribution line and (b) the meter may be installed at the location selected by the City.

Reg. 7. Setting, Removal and Adjustment of Meter.

Meters will be furnished by the City and shall be set, removed or adjusted only by City employees or under supervision of the City. No meter may be removed by plumbers or others after it has been set, except upon written permission and supervision by the City Manager or his or her designee.

Reg. 8. Accessibility to Meter.

The user shall maintain a passageway to the meter and keep the meter and meter reader accessible for repair, maintenance, removal and reading at all times.

Reg. 9. Faulty Meters.

In the event breakage, stoppage, or other irregularity in the meter is observed by the user, he or she shall promptly notify the City Manager or his or her designee. All maintenance and repairs to the meters will be made by the City at its expense except as hereinafter provided. If a meter installed on a user's premises is stolen, or is damaged by

freezing, hot water, fire or otherwise, due to the act of negligence of the user, the cost of repairs or replacement will be added to user's water bill for the next billing period and considered a part of such bill for that period. The City shall have the sole right to determine who is responsible for damage to meters.

A user shall promptly notify the City Manager or his or her designee of any damage to, or the irregularity in, any meter used by him or her. In case of a disputed account, involving the accuracy of a meter, the meter shall be tested by the City. In the event the meter over-registers by 4% or more or under-registers 4% or more, the meter shall be adjusted to correct such over- or under-registration and the water bill adjusted accordingly as provided in Regulation 10.

Reg. 10. Testing Meters.

If a user desires to have a meter tested, he or she shall make application, in writing, to the City Manager or his or her designee accompanied by a deposit of \$20.00. The test will be made according to the usual methods and facilities at the disposal of the City. If the test indicates the meter is measuring within 4% either way from accuracy, the deposit will be forfeited to cover testing costs and any additional costs of removing and replacing the meter will be assumed by the City. If the test indicates the measurements of the meter are in the City's favor by more than 4%, the deposit will be returned, the meter adjusted and corrections made to the water bills for the disputed period. If the test indicates the measurements of the meter are in the user's favor by more than 4%, the deposit will be returned and the meter adjusted. No correction will be made to the water bills.

Reg. 11. Tampering with Meter.

If the City finds a meter seal broken or other evidence of tampering with the meter, the water bill for the billing period will be estimated. Upon repetition of the offense, the City may upon notice to the user discontinue the water service.

Reg. 12. Protection of Meters in Connection with Steam, Etc.

When a meter is used in connection with steam, hot water boilers or hot water heaters it shall be protected at the user's expense by a double check valve with an atmospheric vent.

Reg. 13. Service Turn On/Turn Off Fees.

A fee, as established from time to time by the City Council, shall be charged to a user when such user requests water service to be shut off or turned on. Such fee shall be due and payable at the time water service is turned back on.

There shall be a fee, as established from time to time by the City Council, to the user of water and/or sanitary sewer service whenever water service is discontinued for the nonpayment of either water service charges or sanitary sewer service charges. Such amount shall be due and payable to date before water service is reinstated.

Reg. 14. Filling of Swimming Pool.

Through the domestic water meter at a residence, a user may fill a swimming pool and shall not be charged for sanitary sewer service for the amount of water used to fill the pool. A user shall notify the City prior to filling a swimming pool and must provide the City the beginning and ending meter readings. A swimming pool may be filled from a City fire hydrant at the sole discretion of the City's water department and at a fee established from time to time by the City Council. Upon the request of a swimming pool owner, a pool may be filled from water at the City's bulk water fill station at the sole discretion of the City's Water Department. The pool owner shall be solely responsible for the transportation of such water and shall pay a fee as established from time to time by the City Council for such water.



Lowell athletes moving on to college sports and more

By Dan Schneider

Two recent Lowell graduates who will be playing sports in college are Joe Mendez and Taylor Verdon.

Four-time individual state champion wrestler Joe Mendez will major in medical imaging at Grand Valley State University starting this fall.

"I wanted to stay close to home and they had the programs that I wanted," Mendez said.

He plans to become an X-ray technician after graduating.

He's also looking forward to wrestling on GVSU's club team.

"It's going to be, I think, less stressful than any of the bigger schools I looked at, and it's going to be a lot of fun," Mendez said.

"We're extremely excited that a wrestler of Joe's caliber will be coming to Grand Valley," GVSU wrestling coach Dave Mills said.

Mendez will help the GVSU team with some clinics they are holding at Jenison High School this summer. The university

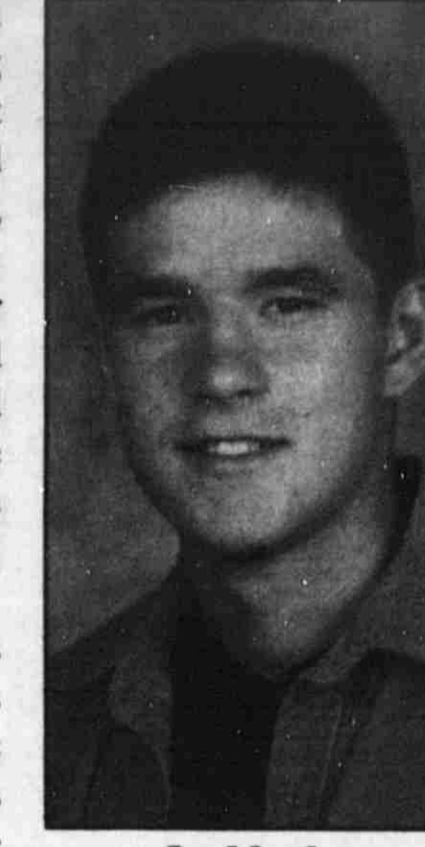


Taylor Verdon

is hosting the National Collegiate Wrestling Association tournament at the Delta Plex in Grand Rapids on March 3 and 4, 2006.

Verdon will major in sports promotion and management at Northwood University. She's also one of this year's new recruits for the school's volleyball team.

Northwood competes in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference against schools like GVSU and Ferris State University.



Joe Mendez

"For the past five years, I've been going up (to Northwood) for sports camps and I've met a lot of people on the team, and I like the size of the school," Verdon said.

An athletic scholarship also contributed to her decision.

Verdon will likely play defensive specialist or setter, the position she played in high school. Volleyball practice starts in August at Northwood.

Ford competes at M.A.C.

Kristi Ford, a 2001 graduate of Lowell High School, has competed each of her four years in track and field at Western Michigan University.

Just last month, May 12 and 14, she competed in the 2005 Mid-American Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championships, held at the University of Ohio in Athens. She placed second in the hammer throw (182'10") and fourth in the high jump (5'7"). The second place finish earns her a spot on the All-MAC second team. Ford was second highest point scorer for the WMU team, in which the Bronco's earned a fourth place finish out of 13 teams.

She is the only woman in MAC history to score in high jump and hammer throw at a MAC championship. Voted by faculty athletic reps at MAC institutions, she earned honors from the MAC conference and was named to the 2005 Outdoor Track and Field Academic All-MAC team. Ford also competed in the hammer throw at the NCAA Division I Regional where she recorded a 10th place showing.

At Your Local Library



DELVE INTO THE NATURE OF THE DRAGONFLY

The Alto branch of Kent District Library will offer "The Two Worlds of the Dragonfly" on Thursday, July 7 at 2 p.m.

Pete Stobie, Outreach coordinator for the Kalamazoo Nature Center, will explore the aquatic lifestyle of the dragonfly nymph through storytelling, costumes, props and humor. All ages are invited. Call 647-3820 for more information.

Vander Klok Builders

Quality Homes, from Starter to Luxury
Remodeling and Additions

Serving your building needs
since 1975

"We Nail Your Ideas Together"
897-7145 Lowell

GRATTAN TOWNSHIP

NOTICE OF SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOW

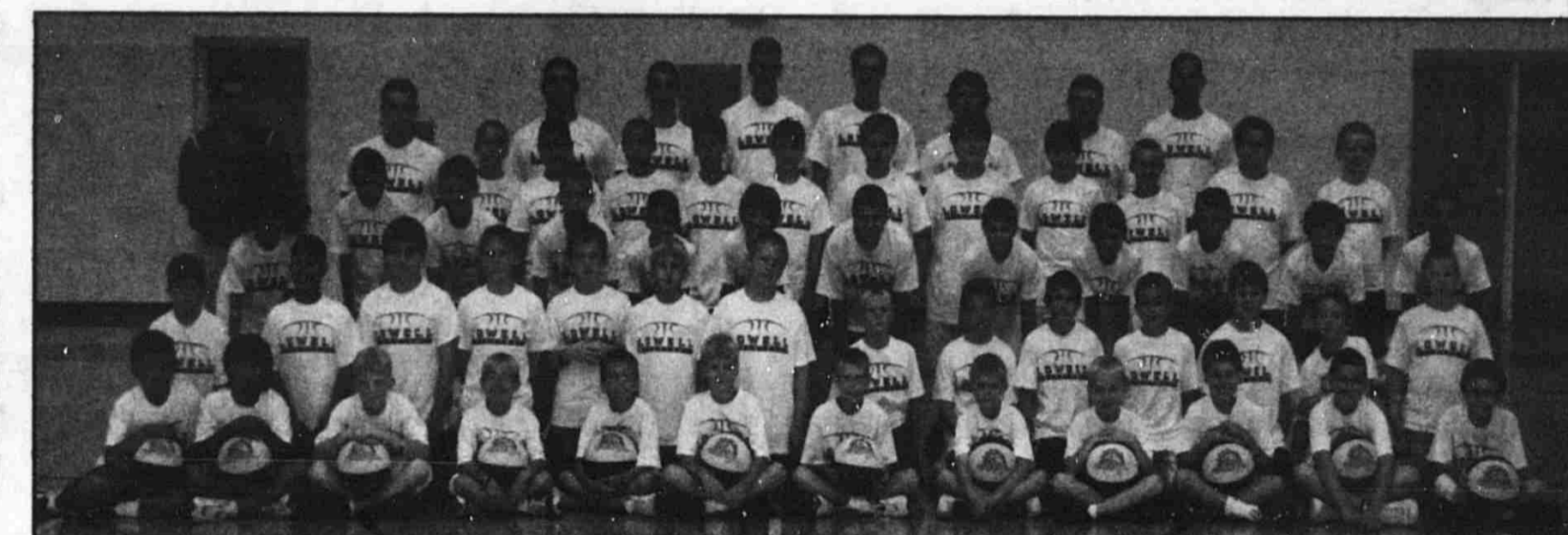
June 13, 2005
5 Mile, North end of Murray Lake

Ron Ekins
EarthTech Operations

Summer basketball campers



Pictured above are participants of the 2005 seventh and eighth grade boys Basketball Camp. Individual winners were Al Calvi, Free Throw champ; Noah Burt, Lightning champ; Josh Spratt, 1-on-1 champ; Jake Karasiewicz, Hot Shot champ; and Kason Cook, Outstanding camper.



Over 50 fifth and sixth grade boys competed in games, contests and drills in the 2005 Basketball Camp. Individual winners were Brandon Butler, Free Throw champ; Blake Lyman, Lightning & Hot Shot champ; Jordan Drake, 1-on-1 champ; and Jason Malling, Outstanding camper.

“A CROWN IN ONE VISIT ...SIMPLE!

"If I had known it would be this easy, I wouldn't have put off getting a crown for so long. One visit and it was done. The crown fits and looks great. I have my smile back...simple!"

Family Dentistry of Lowell
- ANN WILSON, D.D.S. -

Tel. 897-4835 • 147 North Center Street • Lowell



NOW ACCEPTING
NEW PATIENTS
897-4835

Trap shooting team forms at Lowell High School

By Dan Schneider

Members of the newest Lowell High School sports team have been honing their skills at shooting orange clay discs for the past four weeks.

The Kent County Conservation League/Lowell High School trap shooting team formed this year. They will compete in their first meet, the Scholastic Clay Target Program State Shoot in Mason, July 9.

It was junior Josh Kleczynski's idea.

"He's the one who got this all rolling," said head coach Carter Huyser. "We're green at it, but we're learning as we go."

He saw a segment on the American Shooter program on the Outdoor Life Network. He got together 11 other shooters from school to make up the team. It was approved by the board of education after he talked to high school principal Scott Vashaw.

"I knew it was possible. I found a couple of guys who shoot out here, because I work at the Kent Conservation League, to be



Pat Schoenborn (front row, left to right), Jesse Droog, Tony Mulder, Jenny Humphries, Josh Kleczynski, Cody Chambers; back row: Matt Smith, Sean Adrianse, Ian Fowler, Grady Drown, Andrew Silverman and Matt Burton make up the new Lowell High School trap shooting team.

the coaches," Kleczynski said.

The team meets for weekly practices Wednesdays at the Conservation League grounds on Conservation Ave. in Ada Township.

Normally, practices would have started the first week of the year. But getting all the paperwork together to establish the team delayed things this first year. So some weeks, the team is practicing twice in order to

shoot the minimum number of targets required for entry in the state shoot.

At practice, the shooters line up in groups of five along a pair of concrete arcs at the shooting range.

In rotation, each shooter

puts his--or her, Jenny Humphries is the lone girl on the team--gun on their shoulder. They yell "Pull!" and an orange clay target zings out over the field at about 55 miles per hour, out of a green-roofed bunker.

The targets fly straight out over the field and at angles. A partial hit will knock a few chips off the target without much affecting its trajectory. A square shot blasts the target into tiny fragments. Both count for a point in competition.

Five-person teams compete; each shooter on a team shoots at 100 targets. A perfect team score would be 500.

The top five teams from the state shoot advance to the Grand American, a national competition in Ohio later in the summer.

Even though the team is new, Kleczynski thinks they'll make a good showing. The Scholastic Clay Target program itself is only three years old. It's the first time everyone on the team has shot at registered clay targets, but not the first time they've handled shotguns.

"It's mainly people who hunt, who shoot off their backyard throwers, who wanted to come out and try it," Kleczynski said.

The team is divided into a number one and a number two squad, but those designations don't have a lot of meaning this early in the team's existence.

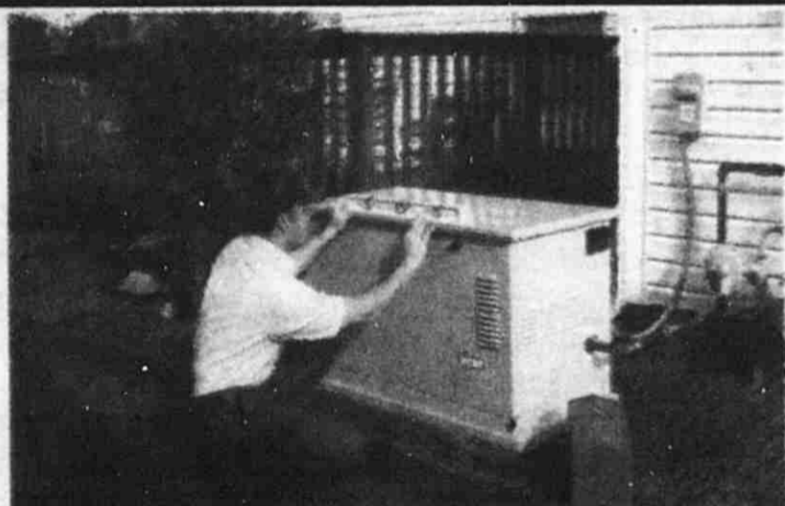
"We haven't had that much time to assess the shooters before we had to get our registration in for the state shoot," conservation league manager and assistant coach Wade Seely said. "It can still be argued who would be in the top squad."

The other two assistant coaches are Bob Humphries and Barry Ott. Such a major competition as the state shoot wasn't necessarily everyone's preferred choice for a first competition. But Huyser hopes to schedule a competitive shoot, perhaps with the team from Sparta, between now and July 9. The state shoot will also be a good opportunity for the Lowell team to meet other teams from this area.



Ian Fowler draws a bead on a clay target during last Wednesday's practice with the Lowell High School trap shooting team.

Don't Be Left In The Dark



ENJOY THE COMFORT OF PEACE OF MIND with the automatic standby generator. Quiet, convenient and totally automatic. It also offers an advantage that other generators can't - it's backed by the most trusted name in comfort: **Bryant**



Visit Us At...



Licensed/Insured

1301 Boves Rd., Lowell • 616-897-4123

Visit our website at www.heatingcoolingonline.com

Arctic Inc.

Serving The Area Since 1984



HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING



FOSTER'S COUNTRYSIDE GREENHOUSE

OPEN DAILY: M-F 8-6 • SAT: 8-3 • SUN 10-2

"Where ALL your garden & landscape ideas BLOOM into reality!"



WOW! We're really OVERSTOCKED! We still have a good selection and IT MUST GO!

Take advantage of "Krazy Kim's"

BLOW OUT SALE

JUNE 25-JULY 3

DRAMATIC MARKDOWNS!

ALL ANNUAL FLAT... NOW \$4.99! • ALL PERENNIALS... NOW \$5.99!

ALL POTTED MORNING GLORIES & LILIES... NOW \$4.99!

ALL HANGING BASKETS... NOW \$8.99! AND OF COURSE...

TREES, SHRUBS & MULCH, MULCH MORE! (DELIVERY AVAILABLE)

Corner of 4 Mile & Lincoln Lake Rd. - minutes north of Downtown Lowell

397-9510

Owner - "Krazy Kim" Foster & family



Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc.



See fashions from the F.R.O.M. THRIFT SHOP
in the Riverwalk

F.R.O.M. THE PARADE!

♥ JULY 9, 2005 • 11 AM ♥

Bring an item of nonperishable food to the parade for the F.R.O.M. Food Pantry.
Clowns will pick up food items along the parade route.

After the parade, visit the THRIFT SHOP,
CORNER OF MAIN & JACKSON STREETS
WED., THURS., FRI.: NOON - 6:00 P.M.
SATURDAY: 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

