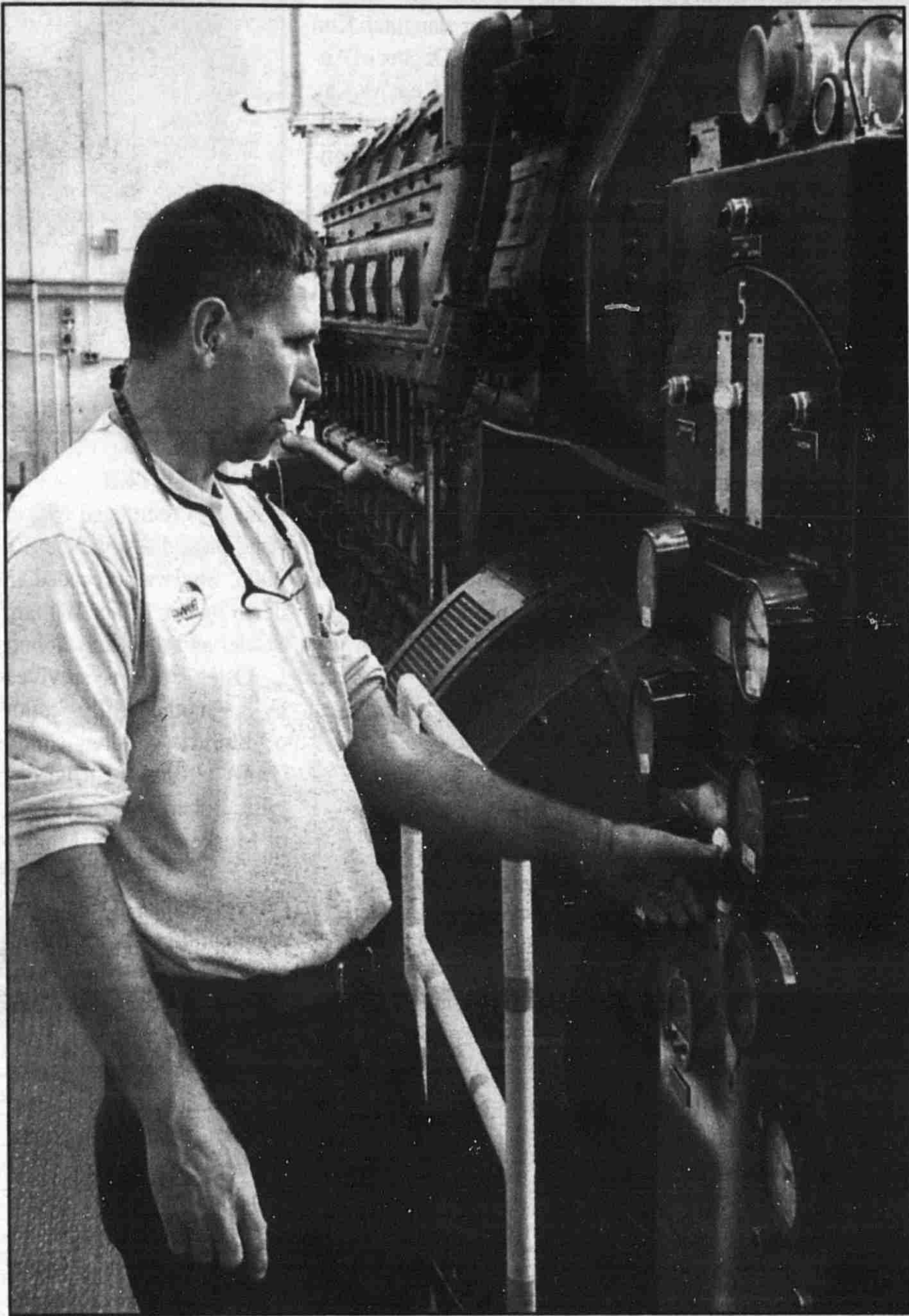


The Lowell Ledger

Volume 32 Issue 35

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, July 6, 2005



Lowell Light and Power safety director and power plant supervisor Tom Russo gets ready to put a generator online. The utility ran its generators for a total of six hours last Tuesday because of high electricity demand caused by high temperatures.

Heavy demand for power during these hot summer days

By Dan Schneider

Hot summer temperatures over the last few weeks have put heavy burdens on power systems in Lowell and elsewhere as people kick their air conditioners into high gear.

"Everybody's air conditioner is running and it's pretty much the highest-drawing electrical device in your house," said Lowell Light and Power general manager Tom Richards.

Last Tuesday, after three of the preceding four days saw high temperatures in the 90s, Lowell Light and Power (LL&P) ran its generators for six hours. They only run on demand during times of peak electrical consumption. Last year, the only time they ran was for five hours in July.

"If we have three or four hot days in a row ... that jumps the demand way up on everybody's system," LL&P operations manager Jeff Mullins said.

Lowell is part of a power pool with seven other cities across the state. Some of

them, such as Grand Haven and Traverse City, are larger than Lowell. Last Tuesday, at 3:30 in the afternoon, Lowell's power system was drawing 13.8 megawatts (million watts). That was the highest it had been since August of 2003, when draw on the system peaked at 14.5 megawatts. The entire power pool system last Tuesday was drawing 732 megawatts.

The power pool has a multitiered system of power plants that come online as demand for electricity increases. Coal-fired power plants in Bell River and Campbell run all the time, providing the "base load" power for the pool. These plants provide the cheapest and most efficient power available to the pool. When demand exceeds the capacity of these plants, the pool can turn on its combustion turbine plant in Kalkaska. That plant generates electricity using jet engines similar to those on passenger airplanes.

Sometimes, like last Tuesday, electrical consumption exceeds the capacity of the coal plants and combustion turbine plant together. When that happens, the power pool's dispatcher in Lansing will call on the cities that have their own generators.

"We're probably close to the end of the chain on that because ours are small and they're older and not as efficient," Richards said.

Lowell has three generators which, combined, are capable of producing three megawatts of electricity. The generators

are powered by diesel engines, similar to those used on oceanliners and locomotives, that have been converted to run on natural gas. Two of them are 10-cylinder engines and the third is a 12-cylinder; all have a pair of opposed pistons per cylinder.

Getting the generators started is a complicated process. First, they need to be pre-lubricated by pumping the oil to the top of the engines. The engines are started using compressed air, and they run on diesel until they warm up enough for natural gas combustion.

Ironically, during times of high temperatures, when the engines are most in demand, they are more difficult to run continuously.

"The hotter the temperature is, the harder it is to keep the engines cool enough to generate," Mullins said.

Once the generators are running, LL&P technicians have to synchronize the current and voltage from the generators with the current and voltage on the lines outside. It takes about 10 minutes to get each generator online and feeding power into the system.

The three megawatts the generators produce is enough electricity to power about 1,000 average houses. Until the 1960s, when Lowell connected to the outside power grid via the transmission lines along Riverside Drive, Lowell depended on its own generators to produce all of its power.

Local girl still searching for suitable donor

By Dan Schneider

Sue Bieri was surprised to get a phone call at 10:30 p.m. on Friday, June 24.



Fundraising and donor testing continue at Lowell High School July 12.

But it was a call she had waited to receive for four and a half years. That was how long she spent on a registry waiting for a kidney donation. When the call came telling her a kidney donor had been found,

she left immediately for a hospital in Ann Arbor with her mother and brother.

The transplant surgery went well, taking only three hours. After five years on three different types of

dialysis, the 47 year old no longer needs to have her blood filtered every day.

"I'm not tied to a machine, I won't have to stop what I'm doing every six hours," Bieri

said.

Bieri needed a transplant because of her polycystic kidneys, a condition her father died from 26 years ago. He had had a transplant, but his body rejected the new kidney.

"Transplantation has always been important to me, I've always supported it ever since then," she said.

Bieri will return to work in about five weeks. She'll have regular checkups at the hospital in Ann Arbor to make sure her body is functioning well with the new kidney. She'll have to take a drug regimen for the rest of her life, but she's looking forward to her new freedom.

"I haven't been on vacation in five years because I didn't want to have to carry all my equipment with me," she said. "I plan to have a lot of fun, make good use of this gift I've been given."

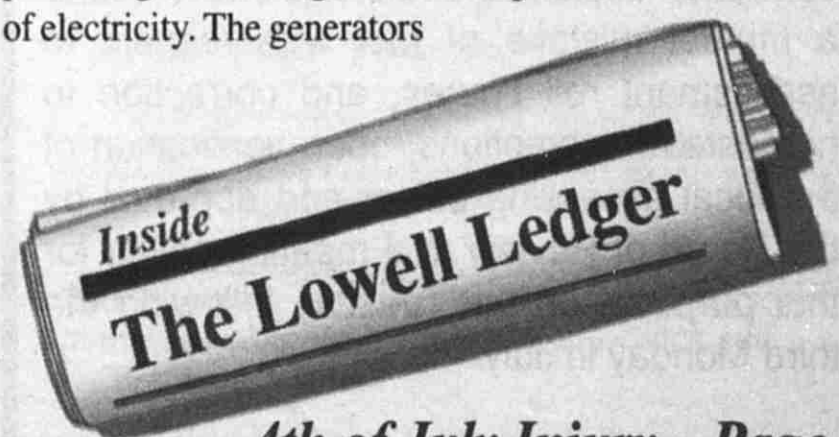
Bieri's gift came from a stranger. On Tuesday, July 12, people in Lowell will have the chance to give an even greater gift to an eight-year-old girl right here in this community. Anna Organek,

a student at Cherry Creek Elementary, was diagnosed last November with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Since then, she has been undergoing chemotherapy treatments at home and at an outpatient clinic. She has been hospitalized multiple times at DeVos Children's Hospital.

In May, doctors discovered the cancer was in her immune cells and Organek would need a bone marrow transplant to save her life. Doctors hope to perform the operation in late August or early September, but Organek's match could not be found on the national registry of bone marrow donors.

Soon after this news came to light, Organek's friends and family organized into a volunteer group to hold a marrow drive in Lowell.

Donor search, cont'd., pg. 13



4th of July Injury... Page 3

New Rotary President...
Page 13

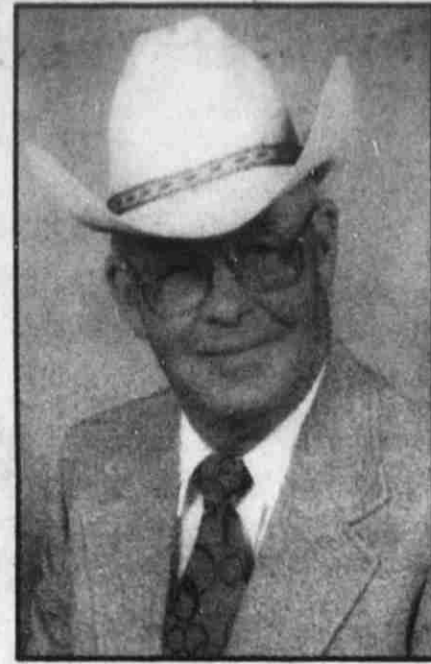
Riverwalk Festival
This Weekend!

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Obituaries

ABEL
Waneta Abel, aged 94, passed away June 27, 2005. She was preceded by her husband Carl Abel in 1985. She is survived by her daughter Madilyn Norton; son Larry and daughter-in-law Mary; nine grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren. At age 92, Waneta was still fully independent living in her own apartment, driving and caring for herself, until a sudden illness put her in decline. Due to the loving assistance of Hospice and the nursing staff at Laurels of Kent in Lowell, she died peacefully in her sleep. A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, July 16 at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 69 Lincoln Lake Rd., Lowell.



AHEARN
Mrs. Phyllis Jean Ahearn, aged 86, died Wednesday, June 29, 2005 in Lowell following a long illness with Alzheimer's. She was born November 3, 1918 in Muskegon. The former Phyllis Jean Pedler married Stacy Web Ahearn in Muskegon. She is survived by her husband Stacy; sons Dan (Sharon), Philip (Sandy), Jerry (Linda); grandchildren Lisa (Mark) Brown, Lori (John) Houghtaling, Jenny (Greg) Jacques, Sarah (Matt) Mackivitch, Matt (Laura) Ahearn, Danielle Ahearn; great-grandchildren Nicolas, Alex, Savannah, Philip, Noah, Megan, Mykel, Madison, Megan Ann Lee; brother Jim Pedler; sister Joyce Bass. A funeral service was held July 1 at Vergennes United Methodist Church, Lowell.

KEITH W. AVERY, aged 83, formerly of Lowell, and a Roswell, New Mexico, resident since 1981, died June 27, 2005 after a prolonged battle with poor health. Keith was born December 3, 1921 in Lansing to Norton and Ruby Avery. Surviving at home are his wife of 58 years, Carol; son Clay and wife Kathy Avery of Roswell, son David Avery of Amarillo, Texas, daughter Jane Ellen and Thom Gray of Roswell; four grandchildren Chayne and Chan Avery of Albuquerque, Matthew Reed of Roswell, Sarah Reed-Johnson of North Carolina; three sisters-in-law Dorothy Avery of Au Train, Mich., Alice Bauer of Lowell, Judy Clippard of

Swartz Creek, Mich.; seven nieces and one nephew. Preceding him in death were his parents and only brother Hoyt. Keith was a WWII veteran. He taught science and English for 13 years at Lowell High School. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Roswell and a lifelong member of the American Quarter Horse Association. A graduate of New Mexico State University, he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from NMSU in 1986. A recognized western artist and poet, Keith was the first poet to represent New Mexico at the Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Elko, Nevada. In 1994 he was given the Governor's Award for his achievements in art and poetry. A memorial service was held July 1 at First United Methodist Church in Roswell. Memorial services will also be held on July 9 at 11 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Lowell with interment following at Oakwood Cemetery. In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made to one of the following: Cowboy Bell Scholarship Fund, First United Method-

ist Church, Roswell, NM 88201; Chef Center Riding for the Handicapped, Augusta, MI 49012; The Keith W. Avery Endowed Scholarship Fund, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM 88001.



MCKAY
Jean A. McKay, aged 84, of Lowell, passed away July 1, 2005. She is preceded in death by her husband Dr. Orval McKay and daughter Cara Monroe. She is survived by her daughter Kim Ann (Donald) Degner of Augusta, GA; son Kent McKay of Lowell; two grandchildren Beth and David Degner. She graduated from Butterworth School of Nursing with her RN degree. She was a volunteer for the American Red Cross and enjoyed supplying and staffing the First Aid stations at the Lowell 4-H Fair and the Lowell Showboat for many years. She was very industrious and eager to provide assistance to anyone in need. Upon her wishes cremation has taken place. A private service was held by the family.

OSTER
Dana D. Oster, aged 69, of Ada, passed away June 30, 2005. She was preceded in death by her father William Stotler and husband Robert L. Oster. She is survived by her mother Milly Stotler of Florida; children Cindy (Don) Nunn of Hudsonville, Robert (Sharon) Oster of Muskegon, Ken (Mindy) Oster of Lowell, Kathee (Steve) Meinke of Kent City; grandchildren Laura (Matt) Holman, Kevin Nunn, Ashley, Reese, Casey and Cody Oster, Kyle, Blake, Tyler Meinke; three great-grandchildren Tristan and Greely Holman, Maddelyn Nunn; brother Dr. William (Sylvia) Stotler; sister Sandra (Terry) Ressler; brother-in-law Norman (Lynda) Oster; sisters-in-law Diane (Mack) Craig, Dortha (Bob) Naugle all of Pennsylvania; many nieces and nephews. Mass of Christian Burial will be offered Wednesday, July 6 at 11 a.m. at St. Patrick Church, 4351 Parnell NE. Interment Findlay Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Michigan, American Diabetes Association or American Cancer Society.



NUGENT
Vincent G. "Jerry" Nugent, aged 64, of Parnell, passed away July 4, 2005. He is preceded in death by his parents Vincent and Estrid Nugent. He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Linda; brother-in-law Dennis (Fran) Kent; sisters-in-law Evelyn (George) Van Hauen, Denise (Keith) Rohloff; mother-in-law Norma Toth; father-in-law William (Carol) Kent; many Nugent and Malone cousins and his dog, Pepper. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, July

Covered Bridge bike tour Sunday, July 10

The 11th annual Covered Bridge Bike Tour takes place this Sunday. This wonderful ride is designed to please riders of all ages and abilities. Traveling through some of West Michigan's most picturesque rural areas east of Grand Rapids, the tour gives riders a choice of 12-, 28-, 50-, 62- and 100-mile routes. Rest stops along the way provide homemade cookies and other goodies.

When riders return to the Fallsburg Schoolhouse they are treated to a great meal of homemade spaghetti with all the fixings and desert. The Fallsburg Historical Society, which hosts the tour, uses the proceeds to help preserve the Historic Village of Fallsburg, which is listed on the National Register. This year, proceeds will go toward maintenance for the school and a handicap ramp on the Falls House Museum. After 10 years, tour director Kerry Schubach is eager to point out that they have not "lost" a single rider. "I think they are so pleased to find the homemade cookies at the rest stops and the meal at the end is such a treat, that they are driven in the right direction," Schubach said. "We work hard to make



SIZZLIN' SUMMER CONCERTS
This Thursday Root Doctor, a rhythm and blues band, is scheduled from 7-9 p.m. on Riverwalk Plaza.

JAZZ/BALLADS ENTERTAINMENT
River Rogues Jazz Band is featured from 7-9 p.m. on Friday, July 8 on the Riverwalk to start off the weekend festivities.

RIVERWALK FESTIVAL
Festivities begin Friday, July 8 for the annual festival in downtown Lowell. Lots of events both Friday and Saturday.

LOCAL BAND PERFORMS SATURDAY EVENING
Alive and Well will perform on July 9 from 7-9 p.m. at the Showboat. Bleachers available or bring a lawn chair and relax before the fireworks at Stoney Lakeside Park.

USED BOOK SALE
Friends of Englehardt Library used book sale Friday, July 8, 6-9 p.m. and Saturday, July 9, 10-4 p.m. Under the striped tent along the Riverwalk.

FOODMOBILE
Free food, mainly produce, will be available at the Foodmobile on Saturday, July 16 from 10-11 a.m. Bring your own box or bag. For those people living in the Greater Lowell area. Distributed by F.R.O.M.

17TH ANNUAL FARM FEST
The Franciscan Life Process Center presents "Opening Doors to Creativity" on Saturday, Sept. 10 from 6-10 p.m. Tickets: \$50. Proceeds benefit scholarship fund. Call 897-7842 for more information.

LOWELL ROTARY CLUB
Beginning on Wednesday, July 6 at 12 p.m., the Lowell Rotary Club will meet at Lowell City Hall on the second floor in the council chambers. The public is welcome.

- Will Rogers (1879 - 1935)

Explosive device causes severe injuries

Deputy Martin Albert of the Kent County Sheriff Department was dispatched to investigate an incident that took place in the 13000 block of Grand River Drive in Lowell Township on July 4. A 20 year old from Lowell was visiting a friend's

home when he ignited a homemade explosive device, described as a metal pipe about one foot long. Filled with gun powder and paper towel, the device exploded and flew through the air over 40 feet crashing through a passing vehicle. Frances Bernadette Thomas, 65, of Lowell, was riding in the front passenger seat of the passing vehicle driven by her daughter, Rose Fox, 42, of Lowell. Thomas sustained serious facial injuries and was transported by ambulance to Spectrum Health Butterworth Campus. Another passenger in the

rear seat, Guadalupe Fox, 10, was uninjured. The person who made the explosive device was cooperative with deputies investigating the incident. Deputy Albert will have this case reviewed by the Prosecutor's Office for appropriate charges.

Wittenbach changes plans for body shop, commission seeks more information

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

A local car dealership has decided to alter its plan for a proposed body shop, but a lack of detail to the plans forced the Lowell Planning Commission to table the matter. Owners of Grand Wittenbach, 749 W. Main, had originally sought and received approval for a 1,920 square foot addition to a building on its property that once housed Ronda Tire. At its regular meeting last week, the planning commission received a totally new plan

eliminating the proposed addition and just placing a door on the south side of the building, where the addition would have been. The commission was lukewarm to the proposal. "I don't really like the idea of a door on the south side," said commission member Jeri Teelander, who also discussed the issue of noise from the facility. What concerned the commission more was that the plan caused a significant change to the site, but did not offer much in the way of details, i.e., landscaping to the facility or what would be done where the proposed addition would have been. "I don't think we can take any kind of action until we have something more specific from them," said commission member Vance Dimmick. City manager David Pasquale said a representative from Grand Wittenbach was supposed to attend the

Body shop, cont'd. pg. 4

Live in such a way that you would not be ashamed to sell your parrot to the town gossip.

LEGAL NOTICE

THE THOMAS A. VANSICKLE TRUST IN RE: THOMAS A. VANSICKLE, DATE OF BIRTH: 12/07/1916

barred unless presented to RICHARD A. LAWIE, Trustee, 4223 Valley Side Dr., N.E., Grand Rapids, MI within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

TO ALL CREDITORS: NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, THOMAS A. VANSICKLE, who lived at 1160 Den Hertog, S.W., Wyoming, Michigan died June 12, 2005. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the trust will be forever

June 29, 2005
JOHN D. MITUS (P-31244)
410 Bridge Street, N.W. Grand Rapids, MI 49504 (616) 774-4001
RICHARD J. LAWIE, Trustee
4223 Valley Side Dr., N.E. Grand Rapids, MI 49545

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP NOTICE JULY BOARD OF REVIEW JULY 19, 2005 NOTICE TO CORRECT PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENTS

ACT 14 OF 1985, being Section 211.53(b) of General Property Tax Laws, provides for correction of clerical errors and errors due to a mutual mistake of fact with respect to assessment roll figures, and correction to homestead exemptions, upon verification of the local assessing officer and approval by the Board of Review at a meeting called for that purpose, on the Tuesday following the third Monday in July. On July 19, 2005, a meeting will be called for this purpose at 8:00 a.m. in the Vergennes Township Hall to conduct business as provided for in Section 211.53(b), Michigan Compiled Laws. Mari Stone
Vergennes Township Clerk

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

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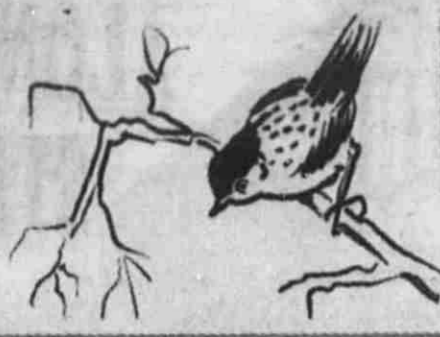
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TITLES & TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE
OWAR OF THE WORLDS (R)
11:30, 12:20, 1:55, 2:45, 4:20, 5:10, 6:45, 7:35, 9:10, 10:00
BEWITCHED (PG-13)
12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:30, 9:45
HEBBIE FULLY LOADED (G)
12:10, 2:25, 4:40, 7:15, 9:30
BATMAN BEGINS (PG-13)
1:10, 4:05, 7:00, 9:55
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Bimini Brother's Show Fundraiser To Benefit A Bone Marrow Drive For Anna Organek
July 10 at Lena Lou, Ada, MI
also July 12 at Lowell High School from 12-8 p.m.
\$10 donation at door
THIS EVENT IS NOT FOR CHILDREN, ADULTS ONLY PLEASE!
Raffle tickets, silent bidding tables start at 3:00 p.m.
Bim's show from 6:00 to 8:00.
Raffle drawings after the show.
For more information visit www.help-anna.org

3rd Annual Brian Mead Memorial Riverwalk Cruise-in
Saturday, July 9, 2005
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM/Awards at 12:30 PM
Rumble the Riverwalk at 1:00 PM
Lowell Fairgrounds, Lowell, Michigan
Street Rods, Muscle Cars, Customs, Antique Vehicles, Motorcycles
SPECTATORS FREE
Car Registration: 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
\$8.00 per Car & All Occupants before July 1st, 2005
\$10.00 per Car & All Occupants after July 1st, 2005
\$500.00 in cash prizes & donated door prizes! (In order to win a cash prize you must be the registered owner, paid entry of the cruise-in and be able to prove it.)
Major Door Prize:
Sponsored Awards - Participants Choice Awards - Dash Plaques to First 150 Cars
Car Information: Dale Dawson - 616-897-6546
Motorcycle: Five non-perishable food items/one new toy item
Motorcycle Information: Ron Van Overbeek - 616-897-6812
3rd Annual Rumble the Riverwalk: Show off your wheels, staging at the fairgrounds at 12:30 PM and driving through Lowell at 1:00 PM Sharp! All vehicles participating in the Rumble the Riverwalk will be eligible to win \$250 Cash Prize donated by L.A. Trim in celebration of their 25th Anniversary!
Cruise-in Sponsored by Bieri Auto, L. A. Trim, Canfield Plumbing, Diamond Plate/Harding Enterprises, Harold Ziegler Ford, Showboat Automotive, Thomet Chevy-Buick and Wittenbach Grand
Name _____
Address _____
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Make _____ Body _____
Make Checks Payable to: Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce
Mail to: Dale Dawson, L.A. Trim, 140 North Washington, Lowell, MI 49331

Outdoors

By Dave Stegehuis



WILD PLACES

Towering white pines, gray barked cedars, and an occasional rock wall formed the rugged shoreline of the small remote Upper Peninsula lake. A loon swam in the open water and then quickly disappeared when it dove below the surface. A large mature eagle patiently waited in the branches of one of the shoreline pines. Each beautifully marked bird was checking out the lake for their next meal.

As I watched this scene unfold from a small boat, I began to wonder about how many people go through life without experiencing the sights, smells, and sounds of natural settings like this.

The majority of the citizens in Michigan live in high population urban areas where they spend most of their time following a daily routine. It is easy to get the impression that what we see and experience each day is how life is everywhere. We need to be reminded that there is another world out there, a world that operates on a different schedule with different rules.

The creatures that roam these places don't live by the clock, or have a political agenda. Live is not easy for them, but they have developed amazing skills that ensure their survival. There is an endless array of plants and insects, each of which occupies its own niche in the circle of life.

Our world sometimes seems to be wrapped in concrete

and shopping malls, but fortunately, one can still visit quiet unspoiled areas. Everyone should seek out these places and spend time to reconnect with that part of our environment that is real. Doing so will help one to maintain a more valid perspective on life.

There are thousands of acres in the public domain that are relatively undeveloped. Most of this land is owned and managed by the state and national government. Additional acreage has been placed in trusts and is protected from serious development. Large corporations and utilities have vast land holdings across the state and allow public access to most of it. Look at state maps to locate natural forests and refuges. Check county maps for state lands and county parks.

Find a reason to visit these natural areas. Fish, take pictures, watch birds, hunt, hike, camp, or whatever; it doesn't matter, just get out there.



Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold

Edward Jones
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IS IT TIME TO CONSOLIDATE YOUR ASSETS?

If you're like many people, you keep investment vehicles in different places. You might have started traditional IRAs with two or three financial-services providers while buying some stocks from still another. And you may have purchased a fixed annuity from an insurance company. As long as you keep track of all these accounts, you might think it doesn't matter where they are "housed." However, if you scatter your investments here, there and everywhere, you could end up in uncharted territory when it's time to pull everything together.

What are some of the potential problems of keeping your investments at a variety of different institutions? For one thing, despite your best intentions, you could actually forget about one or more of your holdings. State treasurers'

offices regularly advertise "unclaimed" property, including investments. People move, change jobs, divorce and undergo all sorts of changes in their lives - and sometimes, they leave their investment dollars behind. But if you consolidate all your holdings with one financial-services provider, you can keep tabs on them without much trouble.

Of course, you could be a highly organized person - someone who would never "misplace" financial assets, no matter how dispersed. But even so, your far-flung investments could slow your progress toward your important financial goals. If you maintain several accounts without a central focus or unifying philosophy, you could end up with redundant or inappropriate investments - a costly mistake.

To avoid this problem, consider keeping your investments with one firm and work with one financial professional - someone who knows your family situation, risk tolerance and investment preferences. This approach may help you make steady progress toward your long-term objectives. A qualified professional can look objectively at how all your investments work together and make recommendations as needed to improve your portfolio's performance within your stated level of risk.

Required Minimum Distribution Issues

Consolidating your various investment accounts also can

help you in the area of required minimum distributions (RMDs). As you may know, you need to begin taking RMDs - from traditional IRAs and 401(k)s or other employer-sponsored retirement plans - in the year in which you turn 70 1/2. You can take out more than the RMD, but, as the word "required" suggests, you can't withdraw less - and you could face tax penalties for taking less than the minimum or failing to take the RMD on time. Consequently, if you have multiple IRAs and employer-backed plans, you'll have to "reel them in" at the right times to make sure you're making the proper RMD moves.

If you do have IRAs, from various providers, you'll need to determine the RMD for each IRA separately. You may, however, choose to aggregate your RMDs for any given year from a single account. Again, though, you will find it much easier to track your RMD options if all your IRAs are "under the same roof." Plus, your financial adviser can help you decide if the aggregate RMD route is the one to take. (Your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored plan cannot be aggregated with your IRAs to determine your RMD.)

So, there you have it - some reasons to consolidate your investment accounts. Consider taking this step soon to help simplify your life.

Body shop, continued.... From Page 3

meeting to discuss any changes.

Commission chair Clark Jahnke explained that the special use for a body shop on the site would remain with the site no matter what the car company did or if all the

buildings were razed and something else was put there.

Jahnke said if this was a minor change to the overall site plan, where a majority of the proposal was intact, he could see the commis-

sion giving its approval. But what Wittenbach proposed is a significant change from the original proposal and the lack of detail is a concern.

For that reason, the commission tabled any action until further information from Wittenbach could be provided. Pasquale said he would be in contact with the dealership.

FAXING

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\$1 for 1st sheet, 50¢ each
additional sheet

The Lowell Ledger
105 N. Broadway, Lowell

READ ALL ABOUT IT!

In The Ledger

TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN

PUBLIC NOTICE

MEETING OF BOARD OF REVIEW

The Grattan Township Board of Review will meet to correct the various Assessment Rolls for 2005 at the Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Road, Belding, MI on:

TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2005
7:00-8:00 PM

Frank Force, Supervisor
James Marfia, Assessor

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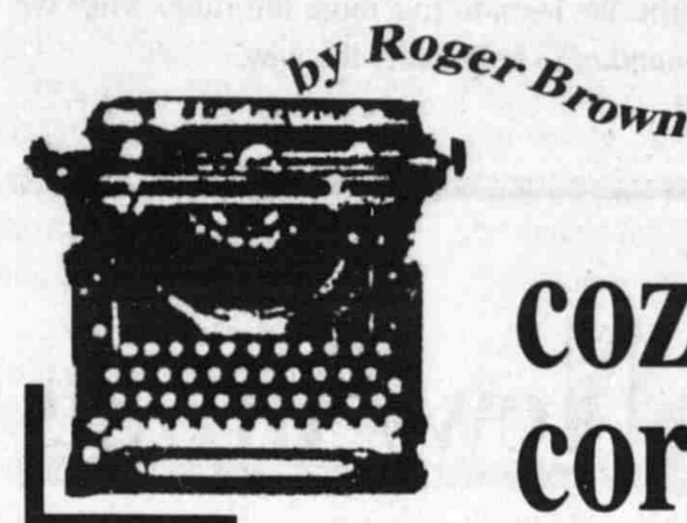
If you would like further information, or to discuss these matters free of charge, please contact:

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Viewpoint



by Roger Brown

cozy corner

Time to plagiarize something sent to me via the Internet. I was placed on a work detail this morning. My Rotary Club sponsors the local Fourth of July festivities. I was tagged for the 7:00 grounds clean-up. Early Tuesday is when I write this thing. The conflict left no time for creativity. YaDa-YaDa-YaDa...

The following is an e-mail from a customer: It was fun being a Baby Boomer... until now. Some of the artists of the '60s are revising their hits with new lyrics in an attempt to identify with their aging fan base. Such revised titles include:

- Herman's Hermits - "Mrs. Brown, You've got a Lovely Walker."
- The BeeGees - "How Can You Mend a Broken Hip?"

- Bobby Darin - "Splish, Splash, I was Having a Flash!"
 - Ringo Starr - "I Get By With a Little Help From Depends."
 - Roberta Flack - "The First Time Ever I Forgot Your Face."
 - Johnny Nash - "I Can't See Clearly Now." Paul Simon - "Fifty Ways to Lose Your Liver."
 - The Commodores - "Once, Twice Three Times to the Bathroom."
 - Marvin Gaye - "I Heard it Through the Grape Nuts."
 - Procol Harum - "A Whiter Shade of Hair."
 - Leo Sayer - "You Make Me Feel Like Napping."
 - The Temptations - "Papa's Got a Kidney Stone."
 - Abba - Denture Queen." Tony Orlando - "Knock Three Times on the Ceiling If You Hear Me Fall."
 - Helen Reddy - "I Am Woman, Hear Me Snore."
 - Willie Nelson - "On the Throne Again."
 - Leslie Gore - "It's My Procedure and I'll Cry if I Want To."
 - Arlo Guthrie - "Alice's Restaurant Early Bird Special."
 - The Beatles - "When I Was Sixty-Four."
- Creedence Clearwater Revival- "Down On the Corner (and Can't Get Up)."
- There, that fills the void for another week. I promise to get back to my usual drivel then.

To The Editor

Dear Editor,

Since I took the trouble to write and complain about the traffic situation on Main Street, I thought I should write in with some words of praise. The speed box recently purchased by the City seems to be doing a good job of reminding people to slow down. In my totally unscientific study, I watched vehicles as they approached the device when it was out on M-21 last week. Almost every car slowed down as they approached the sign - even if they were traveling at or below the speed limit.

Thanks to the City folks and the DDA for making that purchase possible. I also noted that the sidewalk cuts have been made so that MDOT can give us our much needed new cross-walks. Bravo to that as well.

Cliff Yankovich
Chimera Design

P.S. On a lighter note, I would like to challenge any and all baseball and softball players to show up at the Chamber Flush Tank on the Riverwalk this Saturday at 3 p.m. to see if they can throw straight enough to get me soaking wet. Come on, show me your stuff! I bet I stay high and dry, so come out and prove me wrong.

HEALTH

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

A HEALTHY PREGNANCY FOR YOURSELF AND YOUR BABY

You can ensure that you and your baby will be as healthy as possible by making several lifestyle changes during your pregnancy. Regular prenatal care with your physician is important. Discuss any prescription, over-the-counter, or herbal medications you may be taking. If you smoke, drink alcohol, or use street drugs, you need to quit now. There is no known "safe" amount of alcohol you may drink while being pregnant.

Most women are able to continue working during pregnancy. It is also usually okay to travel by air until the last month of your pregnancy. Do not use hot tubs or

saunas, especially in the first three months of pregnancy. If you have a cat, you could be at risk for an infection called toxoplasmosis. Someone else in the house should clean the litter box for you. All women should be tested at the beginning of the pregnancy for serious infections that may affect the baby, including gonorrhea, Chlamydia, syphilis, hepatitis and HIV.

Most women gain between 25 and 35 pounds while they are pregnant. One of the most important things you can do is eat a balanced diet. Meats, eggs and fish that are not fully cooked could increase your risk for infection. Do not eat more than two or three servings of fish a week. Don't eat any Great Lakes fish, shark, swordfish, king mackerel, tilefish or tuna. Wash all fruits and vegetables, eat three or four servings of dairy foods each day, and don't drink unpasteurized milk or eat unpasteurized milk products. Caffeinated beverages should be consumed in moderation (one cup a day) and artificial sweeteners such as aspartame and sucralose are generally thought to be safe to use.

Exercise is safe and actually encouraged during pregnancy. You should try getting 30 minutes of moderate exercise every day. Don't overdo it, though. If you weren't a runner before pregnancy, now is not the time to start running. Don't get overheated, and drink plenty of water, both before and during exercise, to prevent dehydration.

Ledger Entries

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

By Priscilla Lussmyer



125 YEARS
THE WEEKLY JOURNAL
JULY 7, 1880

Work on the west bridge over Flat River is progressing.

Many people would like to see a foot bridge over the river also.

Lowell Township has a population of 3601 according to the census.

A girls' reform school is in the process of building at Adrian.

Fox's Mill (on Beckwith Drive in Vergennes Township) is under repair and having a new dam built.

100 YEARS
THE LOWELL LEDGER
JULY 6, 1905

All issues including this one are missing until Aug. 10.

75 YEARS
THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO
JULY 3, 1930

It's time: Walter A. Roth is at the Brezina store on Main Street to let you know how much property tax you owe, and receive your money (no bills are sent out).

Broken or misplaced milk-bottles cause an annual loss in Michigan of about \$3 million.

Michigan Cherry Queen Signe Holmer carries several pies by monoplane to Washington D.C. to give to dignitaries.

A movement is afoot in Kent County and the rest of the state to nominate Melville B. McPherson for governor.

About 2000 clambers can start collecting clams after July 1, so many that the Department of Conservation is studying the industry.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER
JULY 7, 1955

A new state law, plus convoluted school election laws, invalidate the recent bond election for a new elementary school. It must be done over.

Seventy acts sign up for the two Showboat Talent nights.

Residents of North Vergennes within the city limits volunteer to operate the police department speed timer; speeding, 35 to 75 mph, is common there.

Completion of the St. Lawrence Seaway should be achieved by late 1958; several dams, locks and power plants are a large part of the project which will enable ocean-going ships to sail into the Great Lakes.

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER
JULY 2, 1980

Co-chairs Dolores Dey and Noreen Martin announce July 4 plans for a parade, all-day food and fun at Recreation Park, and evening entertainment at the Showboat stands.

"Miss Macker" competition will be the opener for next week's Gus Macker Basketball Tournament, say the McNeal brothers.

Forrest Buck says the Showboat Committee has chosen about 30 acts out of more than 100 auditions for Amateur Night July 12.

Gas shortages accompanied by rising prices result in motorists driving fewer miles.

Reflections of faith

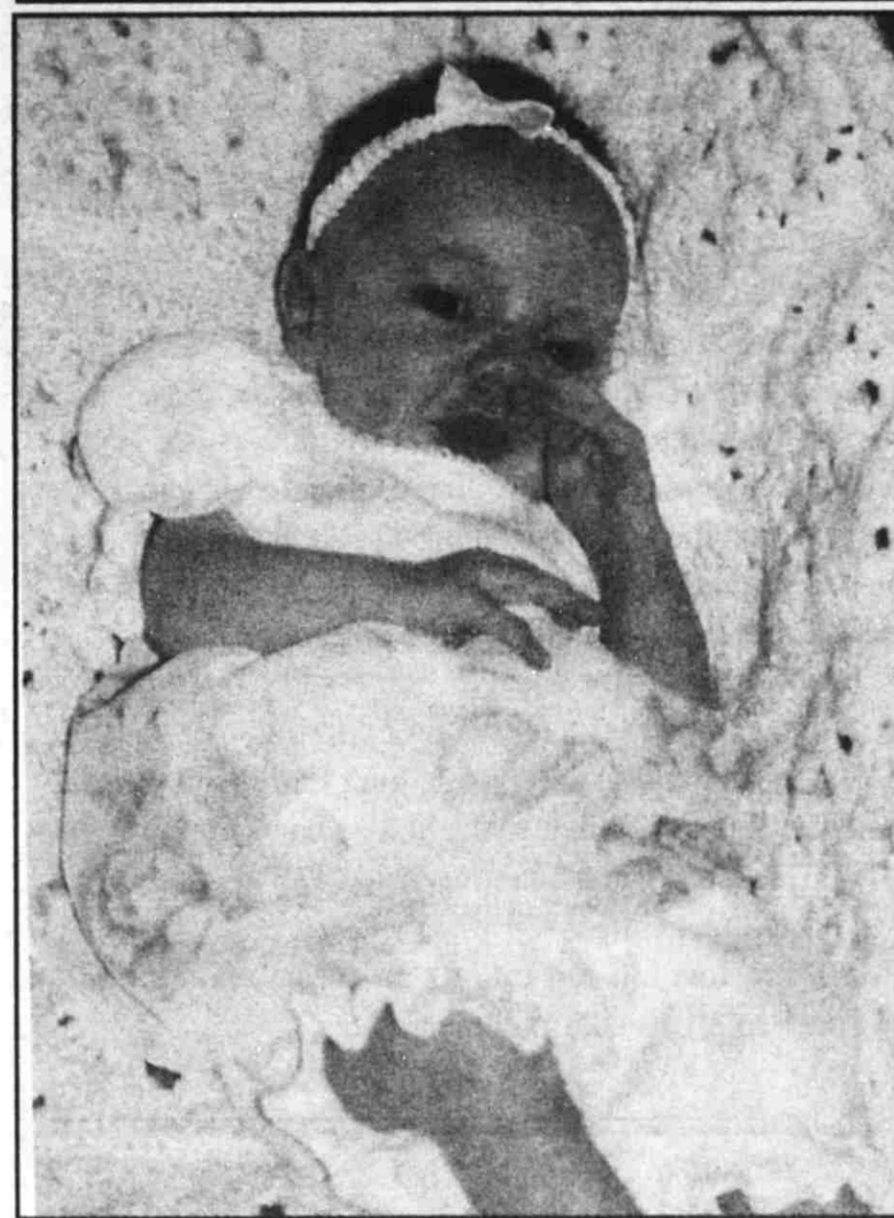
Dr. Michael Conklin, pastor
First United Methodist Church

One thing that I can say about my golf game is that it is consistent. Unfortunately, it is consistent in a negative kind of way. For many years I had this terrific slice, which caused the ball to go a pretty good distance, but way off to the right. I discovered that my error was a little thing - flying the elbow out - and when I corrected it I hit the ball well and straight. Then one day I started hooking, which is like slicing, only in the exact other direction. I have been doing this now for several years, and recently discovered that the crux of my current problem is also a little thing - the way I hold the club. I am currently making a little change, and I hope that this will get me back on track - or at least in the fairway. It always amazes me that the seemingly big problem I am having in golf boils down to some little thing that I am doing a little thing that magnifies itself immensely when the ball leaves the tee.

Of course, it works that way in the rest of life, too. There is an old hymn that begins, "I was sinking deep in sin, far from the peaceful shore, very deeply stained within, sinking to rise no more." Saved by the Master's hand, the familiar chorus rings out, "Love lifted me! Love lifted me! When nothing else could help, love lifted me." It is a song in

keeping with the belief that even though our sins be scarlet, we are washed now whiter than snow.

The hymn is a wonderful old hymn, and the sentiments are familiar to us, but the truth of the matter is that most of us do not feel as if we are "sinking deep in sin," or that our sins are as deep as scarlet. For most of us, our sins are pretty mundane things, nothing that would make reading our diary after our death very entertaining for anyone. No, our sins are for the most part the kind that make us feel more like a car out of alignment - being pulled a little off course, wearing out the treads too quickly that keep us safely connected to the road.



McKenzie Faith Steppke

New Arrivals

Elizabeth and Aaron Steppke of Wyoming are the proud parents of a baby girl, McKenzie Faith. She was born June 15, 2005, weighing 7 lbs. 5 oz. and measuring 20 1/2 inches.

Proud grandparents are Dianne and Josh Milley of Lowell and Ruth and Jerry Steppke of Menominee, Mich.

Happy Birthday

JULY 7: Phil VanLaan, Elizabeth Gerard, Tim Tulppo, Zach Meiste.

JULY 11: Dina DeCator, Jodi Hutchinson.

JULY 8: Jason White, Tony Stencil, Ryan Vashaw, Jessica Tulppo.

JULY 12: Cole Burdette, Samantha Bellah, Jill Taylor, Hayley Fritz, Georgan Watrous.

JULY 9: Elaine Haines, Leo Pfaller.

JULY 13: Travis Thomet, Cheryl Doyle, Justin Craig, Janet Burns, George Miles, Esther Newell, John Jones.

JULY 10: Barb Rivette, Pete VanLaan, Austin Bieri, Carter Peel.

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Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.

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Pastor Dean Bailey

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8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR
Nursery & child care available at both services
Barrier - Free Entrance

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10501 Settlemore • Ph. 897-7185

Sunday School.....9:45 A.M.
Morning Worship.....11 A.M.
Evening Service.....6:00 P.M.

Prayer and Praise - Wed., 7:00 P.M.
Rev. Rick Ferguson - 987-6475
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(Barrier-Free)

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Robert W. Holmes, Senior Pastor
Dave Noonon, Asst. Pastor
Jonathan & Stacy Holmes, Youth Pastors

SUNDAYS:
Worship: 10:00 a.m. - LIFE Home Groups & "XL" Youth Sunday evenings

WEDNESDAYS:
Family Night (For All Ages): 7 p.m.
"XL" Youth: 7 p.m.

CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL
Rev. Randy Meyers - 897-7060
1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI

Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M.
Sunday School.....11:20 A.M.
Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.

Nursery available at both services
Barrier-Free



ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
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402 Armit St. • 897-9820
www.stmary-lowell.com

Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM
Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM
Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM
Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM

Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM
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Pastor Bob Roush
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201 N. Washington • 897-8800

Sunday School.....10:00 A.M.
Morning Worship.....10:50 A.M.
Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M.
Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M.

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www.fbcalto.com

Sunday School.....10:00 A.M.
Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.
Evening Service.....6:00 P.M.
Wednesday AWANA (School year) 6:30 P.M.
Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study.....7:00 P.M.

Nursery provided
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Evening Praise.....7:00 P.M.
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Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Leo Taylor
Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor

Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M.
Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M.
AWANA CLUB J.C.Wed. 6:15 & 6:30 P.M.
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Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road
897-5848

Sunday School.....10:00 A.M.
Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.
Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M.
Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M.

(Sept. - April)
Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M.
Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418
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Corporate Web Page.....http://www.eacna.org
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404 North Hudson • 897-5906

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Church School.....10:15-11:15 A.M.
Dr. Roger LaWare.....Pastor
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SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES 6:00 P.M.
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website www.aplighthouse.com

College News

Chris Gerard, of Lowell, has been selected to receive an Air Force ROTC scholarship. Major Al Kurzawski of the United States Air Force presented Gerard with the scholarship on June 26 at the Lowell airport during his graduation open house.

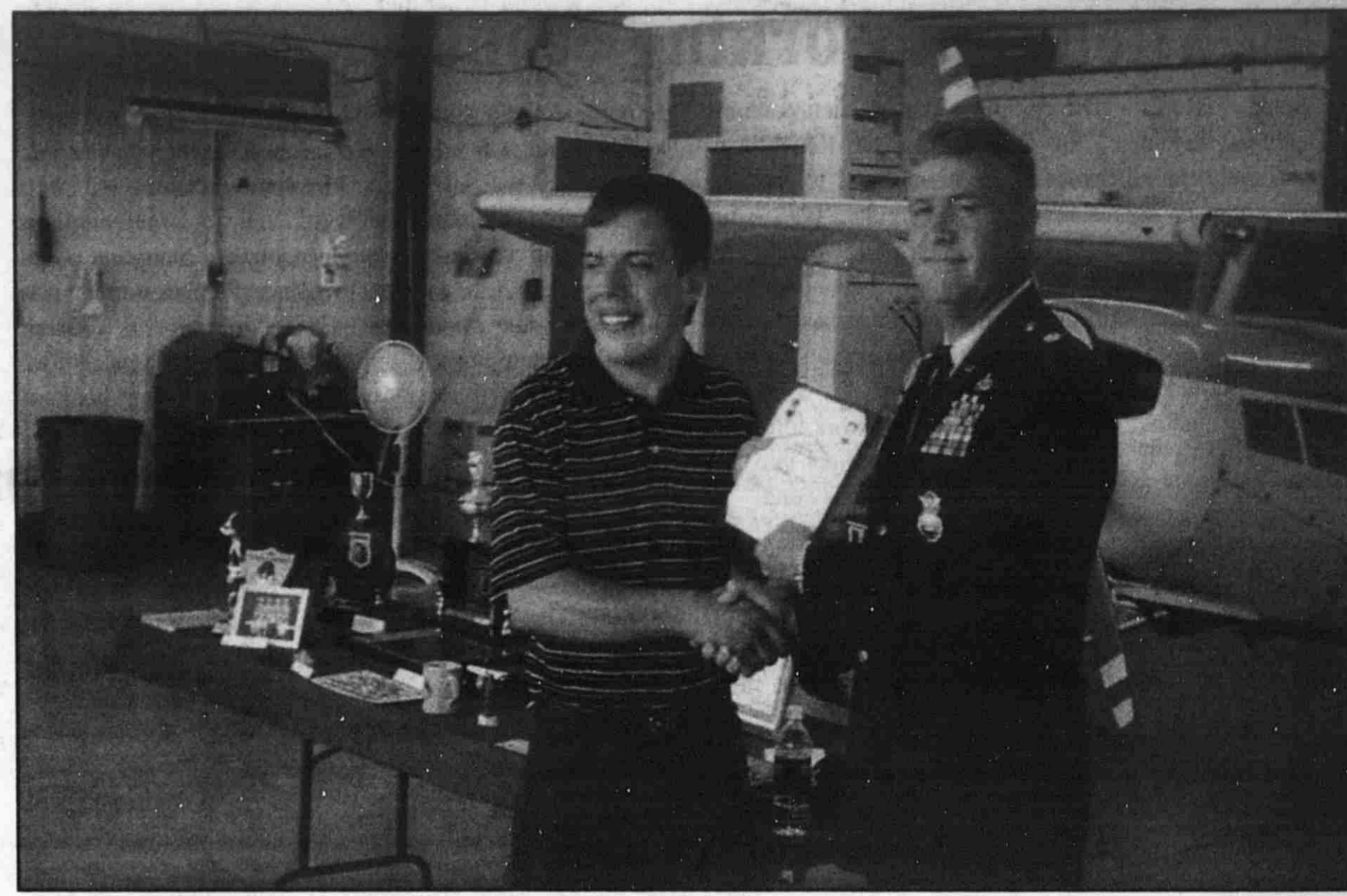
Gerard will participate in the ROTC program at the University of Notre Dame while attending Bethel College in Mishawaka, Indiana.

He is the son of Craig and Cindy Meyer of Lowell.

Grand Valley State University recently announced the names of students who were placed on the dean's list for the winter 2005 semester.

From the Lowell area are: Stacey Arnswald, Anne Beenen, Amanda Bouwkamp, Rebecca Brinkley, Kelsey Capps, Ryan Curtis, Jennifer Dee, Noelle Dewey, Brady Foster, Tiffany Gauger, Heidi Jones, Lindsay Koehn, Mike Meyers, Leah Offenbacher, Kayla Ritenburgh, Daniel Rottier, Brandi Schaefer, Jessica Simon and Mariana Vieira.

From the Alto area are: Abigail Blanding, Tara Cavanaugh, Alexandra Cordingly, Jeffrey Craven, Steven Denhof, Joshua Ekkens, Shawne Isaac,



Major Al Kurzawski presents Chris Gerard with scholarship.

Michael Kittlaus, Jessica Koning, Crystal Porritt, Amanda Sinning, Angela Taylor and Christopher West.

From the Ada area are: April Chernoby, Stephanie Cole, Jeanie Dunn,

Rebecca Edwards, Nathan Entingh, Megan Gillett, Bridget Harrigan, Sarah Manion, Kevin Mulder, Rachel Reister, Meredith

Vanover and Katherine Vos. To receive this recognition, students must have maintained a 3.5 grade point average and be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits.

At Your Local Library



The Alto Library is one of several branches offering the program "Joust Do It!" A medieval theme - it is for all ages who enjoy the comedy of Joel Tacy. Join him as he portrays a court jester, sharing his juggling, inventions and silly stories of what happened to him on the way to the castle. It is at Alto on Wednesday, July 13 at 3:30 p.m. 647-3820.

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JULY 13, 2005
AUGUST 8, 2005
SEPTEMBER 12, 2005
OCTOBER 10, 2005
NOVEMBER 14, 2005
DECEMBER 12, 2005
JANUARY 9, 2006
FEBRUARY 13, 2006
MARCH 13, 2006
APRIL 17, 2006
MAY 8, 2006
JUNE 12, 2006

"Any person with a disability who needs accommodation for participation in a Board meeting should contact Kay Jones at 616-987-2501 or kjones@lowellschools.com at least 5 days in advance of the meeting to request assistance."

Get Michigan working economic stimulus plan unveiled

State Rep. Dave Hildenbrand joined his House Republican colleagues to announce an aggressive economic plan to jump-start Michigan's ailing economy and get Michigan working again.

"My colleagues and I are ready and willing to take bold steps to ensure Michigan's economy will get back on track," said Hildenbrand, R-Lowell. "For a long time now I've stressed the need for us to make the tough decisions to change the business climate in our state. The Get Michigan Working Plan is a bold step to change our course and put us back on the map as a place to live and do business."

House Speaker Craig DeRoche said, "Michigan needs a dynamic plan to

climb out of the economic cellar. House Republicans are committed to passing an economic plan that cuts taxes on Michigan's struggling manufacturers, provides broad-based relief for small businesses, ensures scholarships for a skilled and educated work force and invests \$1 billion into the 21st Century Jobs Fund."

DeRoche praised the work of House Republican members of the tax policy and commerce committees who spent weeks holding hearings across the state to formulate a plan that reflected the needs and concerns of Michigan job providers.

The House Republican plan:

- Provides a personal property tax credit of 25 percent for manufacturers, 10 percent

- Eliminates the tax on health care;
- Cuts taxes for more than 33,000 small businesses by 50 percent;
- Reduces tax burden on payroll and equipment;
- Cuts the Small Business

Tax (SBT) rate for every business in Michigan as state revenues increase.

The Republican economic blueprint also includes a plan to set aside \$1.5 billion for Merit Award college scholarships. This furthers the goal of

maintaining a highly skilled and educated work force of the future.

In addition, creation of the 21st Century Jobs Fund will provide research grants for life science companies,

seed funding for venture capital firms and loan guarantees for emerging high-tech industries. The \$1 billion fund comes from a portion of the state's tobacco settlement.

Making premier green spaces even more "green"

With a healthy infusion of grants and a series of groundbreaking firsts, "green" initiatives continue to grow in the Department of Natural Resources Parks and Recreation Division. The division is branching into environmentally preferred products and management practices this summer at more than 60 state parks, recreation areas, boat launches and harbors.

According to Carl Lindell, Bay City district supervisor and chair of the Green Initiatives Committee, the first of five pilot projects will undergo a review this summer. These projects include use of environmentally sound cleaning products, use of metering devices on chemicals and cleaners, stepped-up staff recycling, use of biodiesel fuel and reduced grass mowing.

At the Parks and Recreation Division offices in Lansing's Stevens T. Mason Building, a recycling center has been set up in an unused office cubicle with collection bins for plastic beverage bottles, Styrofoam, household batteries and colored paper. White paper recycling bins are located throughout the state office building.

With these pilot projects underway, the Green Initiatives Committee has begun sending out new branches for more pilot programs. The DNR's 10 staffed state harbors will participate in the Department of Environmental Quality's Clean Marina Program. Harbor managers at these locations will receive training and their facilities will be evaluated on environmentally sound

practices. Harbor managers at these locations will receive training and their facilities will be evaluated on environmentally sound **Green spaces,** *cont'd., pg. 15*



Keeping the tax dodger's hand out of the taxpayer's wallet

With Senator Carl Levin

Every year in America, more than \$300 billion in taxes owed by businesses, organizations, and individuals goes unpaid. This "tax gap" between what is owed and what is paid must be made up by honest taxpayers and by borrowing money from foreign countries. Simply collecting what is owed, without raising a single tax, would wipe out nearly three-quarters of the federal budget deficit, projected at \$427 billion this year. As a matter of basic fairness to honest Americans, we need to close this gap.

For more than a year, the Senate's Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, on which I am the senior Democrat, has been focusing on efforts to collect unpaid taxes from businesses that receive federal contracts. In essence, these government contractors take taxpayer dollars and then fail to pay their own tax obligations. Dodging taxes is never acceptable, but doing it while at the same time taking advantage of government contracts paid for by hardworking taxpayers is particularly galling.

The Government Accountability Office (GAO), Congress' watchdog, has been investigating this issue. GAO

found tens of thousands of contractors owing billions of dollars in unpaid taxes, including 27,000 contractors at the Defense Department alone that owe a total of \$3 billion. To better understand the problem, GAO took a closer look at 97 DOD and civilian contractors and found egregious examples of companies dodging taxes for years. The abuses included executives withholding money from employee wages for Social Security and Medicare taxes and then spending the money on luxuries for themselves such as expensive homes, cars or vacations.

Despite those abuses, the contractors kept getting contracts and the taxpayer dollars that went along with those contracts. For example, last year one contractor owing \$1 million in unpaid taxes was paid \$1.5 million by the Department of Homeland Security and other federal agencies. Another contractor owing \$900,000 had a 20-year history of opening a business, failing to remit payroll taxes to the IRS, closing the business, and then repeating the cycle.

This tax dodging is not only unfair to the honest taxpayers left to make up the difference, but also to the honest companies that have to compete against the tax dodgers that aren't paying their fair share. It's simply mind-boggling that it is allowed to continue.

One solution is to stop allowing all those taxpayer dollars to be paid to deadbeat contractors. Instead, a portion of each contract payment should be withheld and used to pay down the contractor's tax debt. Congress set up a system to do just

that in 1997, when the Taxpayer Relief Act created a federal tax levy program authorizing federal agencies to withhold 15 percent of any federal payment going to a person with unpaid taxes. Last year, that percentage was hiked to 100. For a variety of reasons, however, the tax levy program has collected peanuts -- \$21 million from all federal contractors last year -- when it should be collecting billions.

We can do better. Earlier this year, I worked with Sen. Norm Coleman (R) to introduce legislation to fix one of the critical problems in the tax levy program. Our bill would require every contractor to provide its taxpayer identification number when bidding on a government contract so that the government can identify those businesses that owe taxes and withhold a portion of their contract payments.

We are also working to require contractors who get paid by credit card to be included in the tax levy program; right now \$10 billion in credit card payments never get screened for tax cheats.

Sen. Coleman and I will soon offer a more comprehensive bill to fix a host of other problems that allow tax cheating by federal contractors to persist, including a provision to bar tax cheats from getting government contracts to begin with. Most federal contractors provide our country with valuable goods or services, and do so while paying their taxes. The contractors who take payment in taxpayer dollars, while dodging payment of their fair share, hurt honest taxpayers, honest businesses, and our country as a whole.

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BUSINESSES SERVICES

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Coffee shop reopens under new ownership

By Dan Schneider

Voyages Coffee Shop closed a few weeks ago but reopened Friday under new

ownership. Not much has changed ... yet.

"The dining area we want to keep as close to the way (former owner) Natasha

(Verslus) had it," said new owner Sterling Massey. "I think she did a great job establishing a foundation and a direction."

He's reopening the coffee shop with his wife, Rose. The two have been wanting to start a small business in Lowell for several years.

"I've been investigating possibilities for three or four years now," Massey said. "An important piece was we wanted to be close to home, we love Lowell."

Their original thought was to open a coffee shop on the west end of town.

"In '03 when Voyages opened, we were considering the possibility of opening a coffee shop at the time and she beat us to it," Massey explained.

So the two decided to open a deli instead. When they heard rumors Verslus was planning to sell her coffee shop, they decided to do both. The Masseys bought the shop at 307 E. Main St.

which is currently serving the same coffees it had been. By mid-August, they plan to have a New York-style deli operational, as well. For now, they are adding a wider selection of baked goods than was previously available at the shop.

When the deli is open, it will serve somewhere between 10 and 12 different sandwiches. Some will be named after the school buildings in the Lowell Area School district—such as the "Cherry Creek Club" or the "Red Arrow Reuben," but the names are yet to be determined. Massey said the shop may hold a sandwich-naming contest among school students.

"We plan to donate a portion of the proceeds of each sandwich purchased to its namesake school,"

Massey said. "We intend to have the best sandwiches between Grand Rapids and Lansing."

"We'll also have soups," he added.

The coffee shop will be open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday, and Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

"Our goal is to make sure that it stays family-friendly and we encourage kids and adults to come in as families and hang out with us," Massey said.

An electronic media center will be installed in the coffee shop. Businesses, groups and clubs will be able to rent the space and food service for meetings after hours, using the media setup for presentations and the like. The coffee shop is also a wireless internet spot.

Rose and Sterling Massey are the new owners of Voyages Coffee Shop, soon to be Voyages Coffee Shop and Deli.



Auto insurance premiums rise slightly in Michigan

The average cost of an auto insurance policy in Michigan increased four percent in 2004, according to a study by the Insurance Institute of Michigan (IIM).

"It shows that insurance companies are keeping costs as low as possible even though Michigan policyholders have the Cadillac of auto insurance policies," said executive director of IIM, Pete Kuhnmuensch.

Michigan is the only state that requires insurance companies to provide unlimited, lifetime medical benefits to motorists injured

in auto accidents. Premium hikes in Michigan and across the country have leveled off after years of increasing. The number of auto accidents, safer cars and fraud-fighting efforts have contributed to this trend. However, Kuhnmuensch observed that rising costs for medical care, vehicle repairs and lawsuits remain a problem.

Sharply higher jury awards in auto liability cases also caused auto insurance rates to rise. The average liability claim in Michigan increased from \$26,922 in 1999 to \$33,193 in 2004.

Insurance fraud also contributes to higher insurance premiums, and all policyholders pay for it. Each family pays nearly \$200 to \$300 a year.

K u h n m u e n c h urged consumers to take advantage of the competitive marketplace and recommended that they:

- Drive carefully. Most traffic tickets and at-fault accidents will automatically increase your rates

- Select your car with insurance in mind. Cost, repairability and performance characteristics are determining factors in the premium.

- Ask about special discounts. Many companies offer premium discounts to policyholders for such things as insuring two or more vehicles with the same company, low mileage, seat belt use, air bags, anti-theft devices and maintaining good credit.

Y

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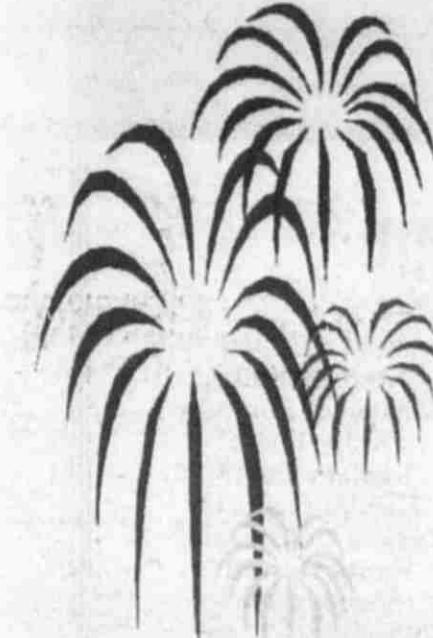
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Lots of new things at this year's Riverwalk Festival



The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce's annual Riverwalk Festival has grown once again this year with new attractions and new things to do in Lowell.

The festival takes place this Friday and Saturday. It gets started at 6 p.m. Friday.

The new thing going on Friday is an arts and crafts fair on Riverwalk Plaza. Friends of the Englehardt Library is hosting a used book sale outside the library. The River Rogues Jazz Band will supply musical backup for the evening while drinks will be served at a cash bar on the Lowell Showboat. Food will also be available from a variety of vendors along Riverwalk Plaza.

The F.R.O.M. the Heart Parade starts at 11 a.m. Saturday on Main Street. People are encouraged to bring nonperishable food items to the parade, where a group of clowns will collect and transport them to the food pantry at Flat River Outreach Ministries.

According to food pantry director Jody Haybarker, the pantry is especially in need of boxed potatoes, pork and beans, soup, crackers, tuna, stewed tomatoes and jelly.

Impact Church is sponsoring this year's expanded Youth Zone. It includes a dinosaur-shaped moonwalk, carnival games, face painting and an obstacle course. The zone will be located in the parking lot

west of Monroe Avenue and north of Avery Street. The Lowell Area Historical Museum is offering historic walking tours of Lowell on Saturday. They depart from Riverwalk Plaza hourly from noon to 3 p.m.

On Riverwalk Plaza, the arts and crafts show continues Saturday. Chainsaw art, caricature artists, food booths and kayak rides will be going on, in addition to live entertainment on the Fifth Third Stage.

The annual health fair takes on a new dimension this year, becoming the health and fitness fair and focusing on outdoor activities. Lowell Community Wellness director Patty Sellner said this year's event will be "much more interactive" than it's been in the past.

"We have people coming to talk about how to buy the proper shoes, people coming to talk about analyzing your running gait ... maximizing your golf swing ... orthotics and shoe size," Sellner said.

Representatives from the North Country Trail Association will be there to talk about hiking on the national scenic trail. Blood pressure screenings and advice will still be offered as in past years.

"There are also going to be a lot of things for people who are healthy and active, and want to stay healthy and active," Sellner said.

Sellers of outdoor sports equipment will be on hand, giving presentations and product demonstrations.

Meanwhile, chrome and bright paint will grace the Lowell Fairgrounds, the site of not only the Brian Mead Memorial Riverwalk Cruise-in classic car show and a motorcycle show, but an antique fire truck muster, as well.

Last year's classic car show drew 120 cars.

"I'd like to see 150 this year," organizer Dale Dawson said. "There's plenty of time to get in, plenty of room."

Entries can roll in the morning of the show. In fact, that's when most of the cars showed up last year.

"It's open to any hot rods, antiques, any custom, classic car," Dawson said.

The entry fee is \$10. The first 150 entries get dashboard plaques.

Organizers of the antique fire truck muster expect as many as 20 antique fire trucks to show up by the boat launch.

At 10 a.m. at the fairgrounds, the Lowell Area Fire Department will give a Jaws of Life demonstration. The Christian Life Center will operate a food booth.

At 1 p.m., cars and motorcycles will depart from the fairgrounds and cruise Main Street.

Back on Riverwalk Plaza, the Rocking the Riverwalk concert starts

at 7 p.m. featuring Alive and Well on the Fifth Third Stage.

Things wrap up with fireworks presented by Laurels of Kent at 10:15 at Stony Lakeside Park.



The familiar banner across Main Street advertising the Riverwalk Festival.

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At the same time, Laurels of Kent will host a pet parade. Pet owners are encouraged to bring their pets.

Most downtown businesses will be open during the festival, some featuring special offers and events.

Larkin's Restaurant is holding a horseshoe tournament beginning at noon on their patio. Bluegrass band Home Brewed performs from 8 p.m. to midnight at Larkin's.

The annual duck race takes place at 5 p.m. on the Grand River at the fairgrounds. Ducks will be launched from Division Street. Ticket prices this year are \$2 each, three for \$5 or 10 for \$10. Tickets are available at several locations downtown or from the information booth on Riverwalk Plaza during the festival. The first place winner will receive \$1,000. Second place wins \$300 and third place wins \$200.

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 Andrew Bewell
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 Justin Boss
 Eric Bouwhuis
 Frederic Brandt
 Logan Brenk*
 Alexander Brock
 Chandel Bronkella
 Joshua Brubaker
 William Bryan
 Briana Buck
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 Renee* Buist
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 Kelsey Callihan
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 Drake Chittenden
 Brittany Clark
 Kathryn Collins*
 Mackenzie Conley
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 Codyjames Dalton
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 Crystal Dietz
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 Jennifer Humphries
 Brandon Jahnke
 Leah Jelsma
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 Mallory Hines
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 Meghan Beachum
 Katrina Beatson*
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 Kristin Befus*
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 Sabra Kinsley*
 Bradley Koza
 Heather Kozlik
 Lindsey Kremer
 Justin Krouse
 Christina Kuhn
 Brandon Lawrence*
 Andrew Leitz
 Dominic Mastrovito*
 Sarah McCarriak
 Matthew Meppelink
 Andrew Mercer
 Andrea Meyers
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 David Sefton*
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 Stephani Thompson
 Travis Tichelaar
 Chantal Todocsiuk
 Maliree Trierweiler
 Kimberly Vandenberg
 Anna Vanderhart
 Heather Vanderheide
 Matthew Vanens
 Tiffany Venneman*
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 Jessica Viesser
 Casandra Vredeover
 Marie Wade
 Ashley Waldron
 Jonathan Walker*
 Sean Walsh
 Catherine Ward*
 Jennifer Watikunas
 Rachel Werner
 Nicolette Wheeler
 Jenna White
 Rachel White
 Tiffany Wilkins
 Jerry Williams
 Elise Wisniewski*
 Michelle Wolf*
 Rebekah Woods*
 Edward Zigmont</p> |
|---|--|--|---|--|---|---|

*Denotes A 3.667 Or Higher GPA For The Marking Period.

New president at Lowell Rotary

By Dan Schneider

Lowell Rotary Club took care of some business last Wednesday at its annual picnic at Fallsburg Park.

Outgoing president Pete Odland passed the torch to Lowell postmaster Gil Brown, who will serve this year's term as president of the Lowell club.

But before Odland relinquished his post, he took time to present awards to two Rotarians who have been long-time members of the club. King Doyle received a plaque for 60 years of membership. Dave Coons received a plaque for 55 years of membership.

"They're both outstanding Rotarians,"

Odland said. "They've done innumerable good things over the years."

Rotary Club in Lowell has gone through several changes and several meeting venues in the time Doyle and Coons have been members. When he first joined, Doyle said, the Rotary Club met at Theron

Richmond's restaurant, which is now Larkin's. The club later switched meeting sites to the old Lowell City Hall, which proved to be too small to contain the club.

"We got to the point where we had 75 members and we had to put a stop to new members because we couldn't hold any more," Doyle said. "That's changed, now we're looking for more members."

The club added eight new members over the course of the last year.

It later met in the East Ward schoolhouse, after it became the American Legion Hall. The building is now Rollaway Bowling, Skating and Laser Tag.

Through all of Rotary's venues, right up to the most recent one in the former Masonic Temple, Coons played the piano for the meetings' sing-alongs.

"He has always been a good piano player, even going back in school," Doyle said.

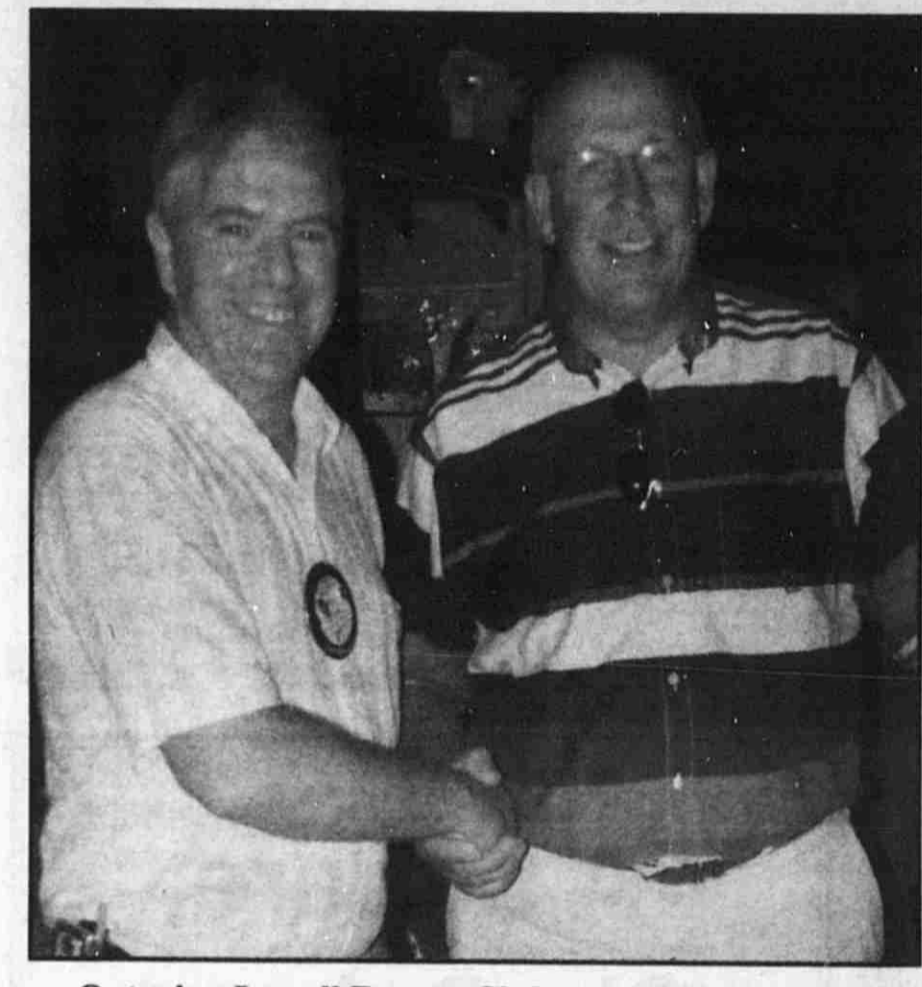
At the picnic, members also recounted some of its achievements over the past year. The Lowell Rotary Auction raised a total of \$26,060. Half of that went to Rotary's scholarship fund and was matched by anonymous Rotarians to bring the total to nearly \$40,000. The remainder went to Rotary International.

It was also matched by a Lowell Rotarian and by Rotary International to bring the total above \$52,000. So in the end, the auction raised \$91,680.

Rotary also raised \$2,700 with its food booth at the Fallsburg Festival and \$6,000 with its gift pack project.



Longtime Lowell Rotarians King Doyle (left) and Dave Coons (right) with outgoing president Pete Odland.



Outgoing Lowell Rotary Club president Pete Odland (left) with new president Gil Brown.

Donor search, continued ...From Page 1

The drive will take place between noon and 8 p.m. next Tuesday at Lowell High School. Anyone can stop by to be tested for a match. It is a simple process, requiring donating a few vials of blood and filling out a health questionnaire. Donors must be between the ages of 18 and 60 and complete a consent form to have their names listed on the registry.

If a match is found, the donor goes through a more extensive series of tests. There are two procedures for donating marrow. After the more invasive procedure, which involves extracting marrow directly from the hip bone, most donors can return to work after only a day.

The blood drive organizers set their goal at testing 1,000 potential donors. The cost of each test

is \$125, and the group has been raising funds to cover the cost of the tests. Each person being tested will be asked to donate a minimum of \$20 to cover the cost of their test.

"We're asking for \$20 just to say you contributed, but we're hopefully not going to turn anybody away," drive chairperson Brian Krajewski said.

Fundraising efforts so far have generated almost \$25,000 for the cause, enough to test 200 individuals. More than 100 volunteers have contributed time to the cause so far, according to the group's media chairperson, Skye Fisher. These include students from all of the elementary in the Lowell Area Schools district, who participated in a June 25 "Angel Walk" walk-a-thon.

The drive organizers hope to raise enough funds, by donations this week and by donations from those being tested, to still make their goal of \$125,000.

Even if 1,000 people are tested next Tuesday, there are long odds that a match for Organek would be found.

"The chances are very slim, but what we're trying to do is get 1,000 people on the registry," Krajewski said.

Because that might help someone else down the road.

"This may not directly help Anna, but we may help other people," fundraising chairperson Angela Hoffman said. "You never know who will benefit down the line."

Potential donors stay on the registry until they are 60, which means people who are tested next Tuesday might even match with someone a generation from now. The

drive's organizers hope it will help Organek, but know the drive will be worthwhile if they can help save the life of someone who might be a total stranger. That's why the posters advertising the drive all over town say "Pay It Forward" in big letters at the top.

"People who aren't diagnosed today might benefit from it," Krajewski said. "You don't know who you are going to affect. By going and taking a couple vials of blood, you could be

a hero for a kid you don't even know."

The marrow drive organizers are hoping for a huge turnout next Tuesday. Monetary donations may be sent to the Michigan Community Blood Center, 1036 Fuller NE, P.O. Box 1704, Grand Rapids, MI, 49501. Checks should be made payable to the Michigan Community Blood Center, with "Anna" on the memo line.

The Bimini Brothers are giving a benefit concert Sunday at Lena Lou's in Ada. All \$10 door donations will directly benefit Tuesday's donor drive. The doors open at three p.m. and raffle tickets will be sold. The concert goes from 6 to 8 p.m.

Krajewski said the group is planning fundraisers, one being a golf outing scheduled for later in July. Any money raised that cannot be applied to the July 12 drive will be used to help fund other drives around West Michigan.

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Combination Rate \$56.70

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FULL PAGE...\$398.40 (Combination Rate \$302.40)

Green spaces, cont'd. ...From Page 8

operations. Once the harbor meets the program's requirements, it will be certified as a "Clean Marina." The effort is supported by Michigan

Sea Grant, which will help with site visits and public education efforts. Chris Cope, harbor manager, has secured a grant-

funded incentive for boaters to give biodiesel a try. The first 50 boaters at Cedar River Harbor who purchase \$100 worth of biodiesel will receive an immediate \$50

rebate. The rebate is funded by a Department of Labor and Economic Growth Bio-Mass Energy Grant.

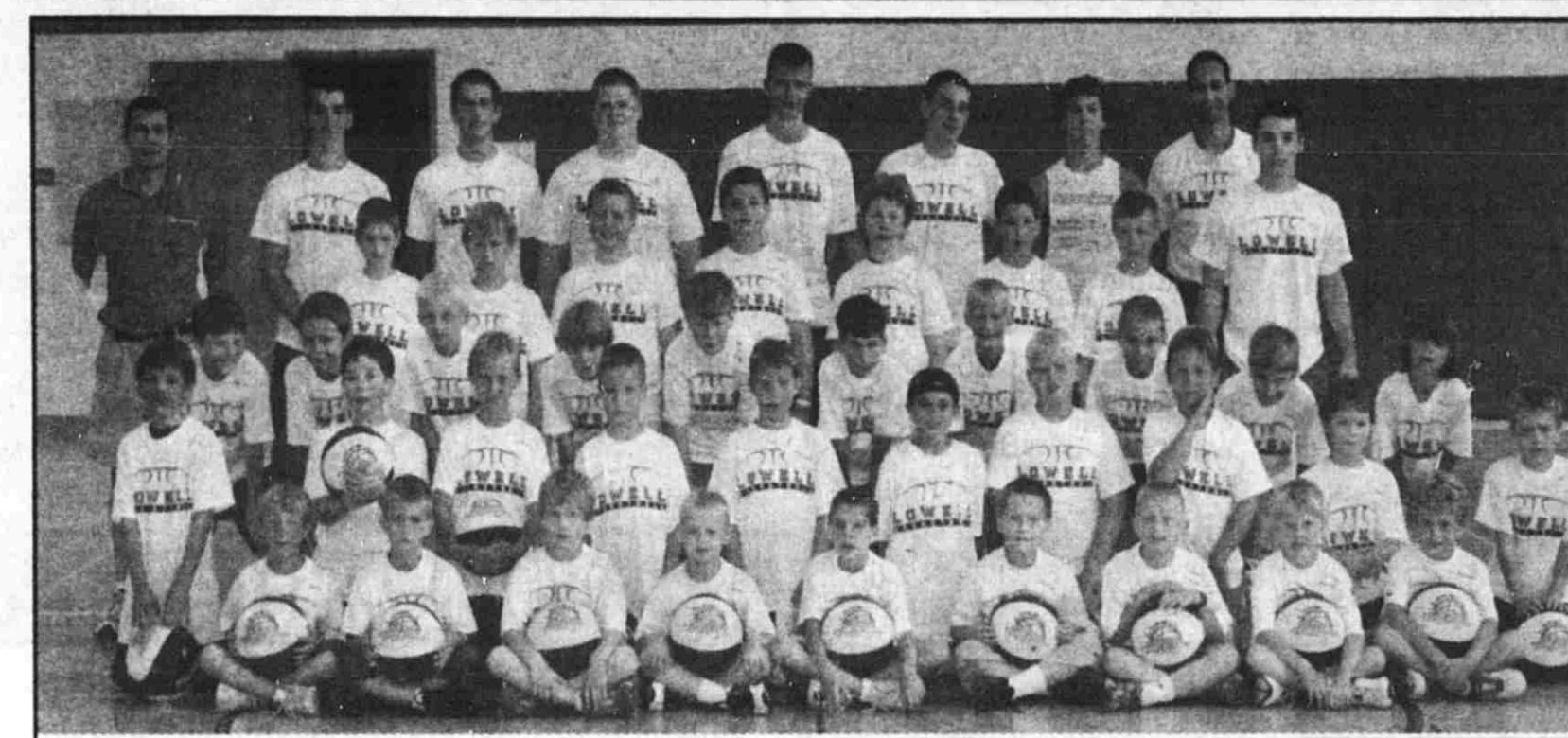
The Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee has

provided a \$10,000 grant to pay for any cost difference in using soy-based products such as bar and chain oil, hand cleaner and hydraulic fluid. They also have been instrumental in helping to educate recreation visitors about the new products, such as supplying the banners that appeared on a DNR-owned, biodiesel-powered tractor in Frankenmuth's Bavarian Festival Parade June 12.

The committee has secured nearly \$25,000 in grants and in-kind donations of educational materials and promotional products to fund pilots and educate visitors about these efforts. Efforts

from the Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee, Sea Grant, Urban Options and the state departments of Labor and Economic Growth and Environmental Quality all have been instrumental in promotion and paying for any start-up costs. Lindell said cost savings is one of the primary goals of these efforts. "Through the use of grants and documenting cost savings, we're doing our best to be good stewards of Michigan's natural resources and equally good stewards of the financial resources entrusted to us by our visitors."

Summer basketball campers



Over 46 boys participated in the 2005 K-2nd grade Basketball Camp at Murray Lake Elementary, pictured above. During the four-day camp, they competed in games, contests and drills.

And over 40 boys competed in games, contests and drills in the 2005 3rd and 4th grade boys' Basketball Camp, bottom picture. Individual winners were Marcus Malling, Free Throw champ; Hunter Karczewski, Lightning champ; Matthew Beachler, Hot Shot champ; and Ryan Stevens, 1-on-1 champ.

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**SYNOPSIS
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Regular Board Meeting
June 20, 2005 7:30 p.m.

Motions approved:

- Minutes of the May 16th board meeting. List of invoices approved.
- Motion to approve ordinance amendments of Section 4.08 and 5.05.
- Motion to prepay LP gas for the coming season.
- Motion to allow West Michigan Genealogy Society to microfiche old township records.
- Motion to reappoint members to the Planning Commission and DDA boards.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk
Clerk-Bowne Township

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COMING EVENTS

Notices in the "Coming Events" are free to any nonprofit organization in the Lowell, Ada, Alto & Saranac areas. Keep notices brief; may submit by mail, but will accept notices by phone at 897-9261.

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

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

MON.: Overeaters Anonymous, 7 p.m. at Key Heights Mobile Home Park Community Building, no dues, no joining fee, no weight ins.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

3RD MON.: Lowell Showboat Garden Club is finished for the summer - will resume in the fall.

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

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

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

TUES.: Flat River

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

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

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

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

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

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

2ND & 3RD TUES.: Quake-Zik Sportsman's Club, 11400 Foreman Rd. at 8 p.m. New members are welcome.

2ND & 4TH TUES.: MOPS - Mothers of Preschoolers... because mothering matters. 9:15-11:30 a.m. at Impact, a Wesleyan Church, 1070 N. Hudson. Call 897-8304.

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

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

3RD TUES.: Parents of children w/AD/HD at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 32156 4 Mile NE/ E. Beltline) at 7 p.m. Call Linda: 874-5662; teen group: Sarah 281-6588.

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

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

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

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

1ST WED.: GR area Scrabble Club at Schuler's Bookstore, 28th St. 5:30-9:30 p.m. Round Robin open play, all levels, walk-

ins welcome. Call Jan 897-5759.

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

2ND WED.: G.R. Chapter of the American Sewing Guild, Plainfield Senior Center, 5255 Grand River Dr. NE. 6:30 p.m. meeting/program: Carol Beard - how to handle and sew on Lycra fabric. Olga 616-975-9977/ June 231-780-1249 for more information.

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

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

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

2ND WED.: Round Robin open play, all levels, walk-ins welcome. Call Jan 897-5759.

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

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

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

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

1ST THURS.: Michigan Hepatitis C Foundation support meetings, 7-8:30 p.m. Spectrum Health Kent Community Campus, 750 Fuller NE.

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

1ST & 3RD THURS.: Alto Lions Club meets at Monterey Grill at 7 p.m.

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

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

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

3RD THURS.: 4 Health

Wellness Center in Saranac. "Healthy Athletes of all Ages. 7 - 8:30 p.m. Call 642-6466 for info. and to preregister.

3RD THURS.: Rubber stamping at Christian Life Center 6-9 p.m. Call Dawn at 862-8841.

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

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

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

2ND & 4TH FRI.: GR area Scrabble Club at Meijer Cafe, Knapp's Corners, 10-3 p.m. Round Robin open play, all levels, walk-ins welcome. Jan 897-5759.

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

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

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

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

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

ENGLERHARDT LIBRARY HOURS: Mon.-Wed., 12-8 p.m.; Thurs. and Fri.: 9:30-5 p.m.; Sat.: 9:30-1:30 p.m. 200 N. Monroe. Call 647-3920.

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

LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL: Tues.-Fri.: 12-5 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m. Monday / a.m. by appt. 149 S. Hudson. 897-8545 or www.lowellartscouncil.org.

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

FLAT RIVER OUT-REACH MINISTRIES THRIFT SHOP HOURS: Wed.-Fri. 12-6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 519 E. Main St. Call 897-2037.

WED., JULY 6: Lowell Area Fire Dept. is sponsoring a blood drive for the Michigan Community Blood Center from 2-7 p.m. at Look Memorial Fire Station, 315 S. Hudson St.

THURS., JULY 7: Vergennes Cooperative Club picnic at Creekside Park, 12:30 p.m. Bring table service, dish to pass, lawn chair. Beverage furnished. Annual fundraiser.

FRI. & SAT., JULY 8 & 9: Used book sale at Englehardt Library under the striped tent along the Riverwalk. Fri., 6-9 p.m.; Sat., 10-4 p.m.

SAT., JULY 16: Foodmobile, free food from 10-11 a.m. at Lowell Fairgrounds. Bring own box or bag. For those living in Greater Lowell area.

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CITY OF LOWELL NOTICE TO BIDDERS
The City of Lowell, 301 E. Main, Lowell, MI 49331 will be accepting sealed bids for sanitary sewer maintenance until 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 26, 2005 where they will be publicly opened and read aloud.
Specifications can be picked up at the Department of Public Works, 217 South Hudson, Lowell 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday or call 616-897-5929.
The City of Lowell reserves the right to reject any or all bids and also the right to waive any formal defects in bids when deemed in the best interest of the City. Further, the City reserves the right to accept a bid higher than the lowest bid, if the City's interest will be better served.

Sisters' art show at the chamber of commerce

By Dan Schneider

A pair of sisters, Claudia Farrell and Gerri Treves, have work on display currently at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce.

Farrell, 52, and Treves, 50, paint together at least once a week. But they have very different takes on things. For instance, they both painted the same vase full of flowers. Farrell called hers "A Simple Bouquet" while Treves titled hers "A

NOT So Simple Bouquet." "She's kind of out there," Farrell said of Treves. "She puts it (paint) on and then decides what to do with it. I have to think it out before I put it on."

Treves, who went to art school, paints more people while Farrell's subjects tend to be landscapes and florals. Each has 14 paintings on display at the chamber.

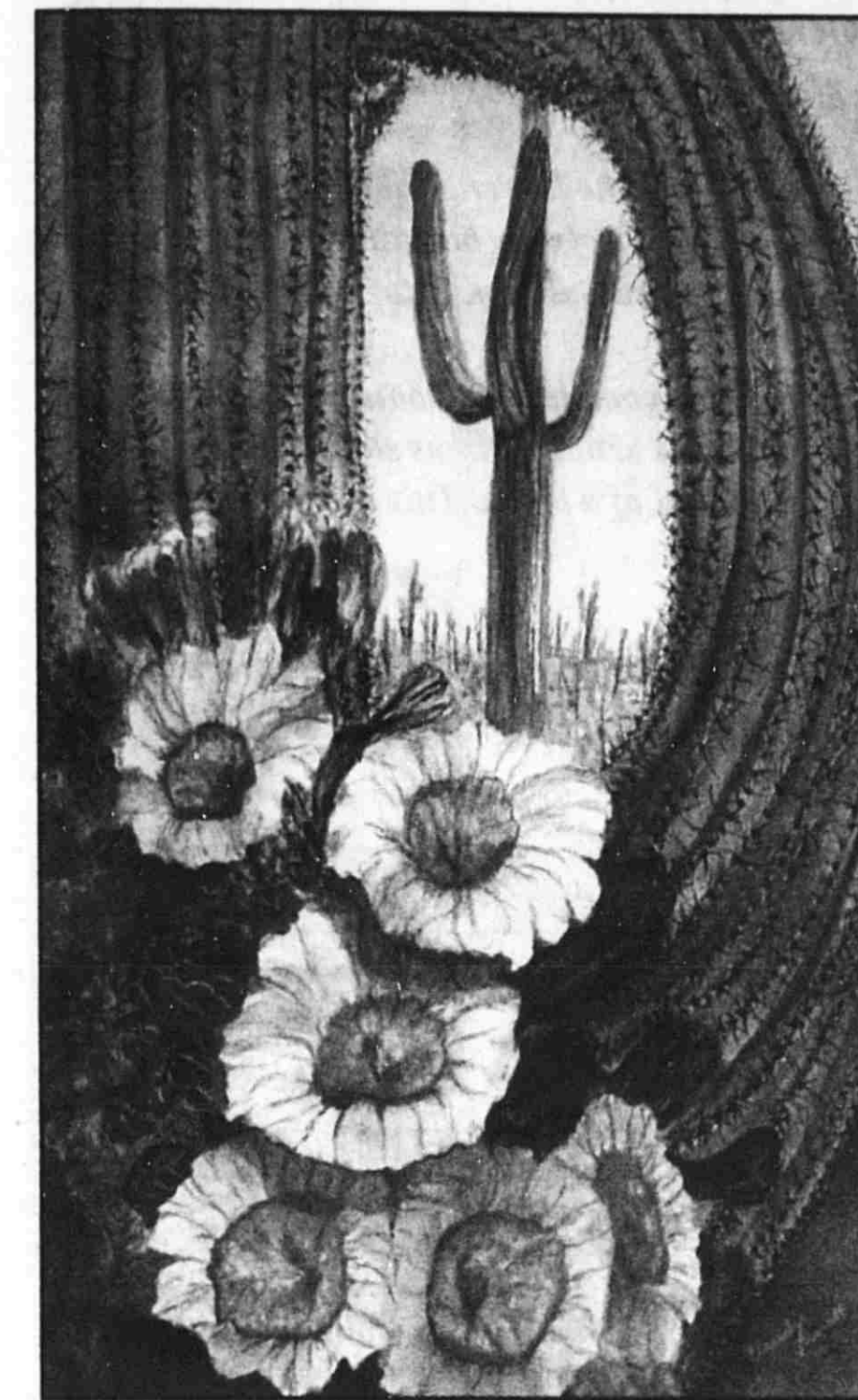
The two have been doing art together since they were young.

"We used to take color crayons and we'd close our eyes and pick three crayons and we'd have to do something with those crayons," Farrell said.

Farrell lives outside of Howard City and Treves lives in Wyoming. Farrell had lived out west for many years, but came back to Michigan four years ago, allowing the sisters to paint, take classes and attend art shows together.

"You never get it all, you always learn something from somebody," Farrell said. "We are constantly critiquing each other."

Most of the paintings in the show are recent, painted over the winter. The art will be on the walls of the chamber for the rest of this week.



"Morning Sun," a watercolor painting by Claudia Farrell, is among several now on display at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce.



"Another's Daughter," by Gerri Treves, the other sister in the show.

Success is counted sweetest by those who ne'er succeed.
To comprehend a nectar requires sorest need.
- Emily Dickinson

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Would you like to have a job where you are paid to have "fun" and make a positive difference in the lives of people who have a developmental disability? If so, we need you! Hope Network West Michigan will be conducting open interviews on Saturday, July 9, 2005 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for applicants looking for challenging and rewarding opportunities as:
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Hope Network West Michigan is a Christian organization dedicated to the mission to enhance the dignity and independence of persons who have a disability of disadvantage.
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The railroad tracks are bumpier than before.
What's up with that?

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING OF BOARD OF REVIEW

The Lowell City Board of Review will meet to correct the various Assessment Rolls for 2004 at City Hall, 301 E. Main St., Lowell, Michigan on:

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2005
10:00-11:00 A.M.



C. Jeanne Shores, Mayor
James Marfia, Assessor

Maplewood Square Apartments

All apartments on one level
Senior citizen friendly
Large 940 s.f. - 2 bedroom, 1 bath
Huge 1400 s.f. - 3 bedroom, 2 bath
Laundry room with washer/dryer,
attached garage, covered porches,
all kitchen appliances included.

Contact:
Michael Nosko at 616-682-1581
www.maplewoodsquareapts.com

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BOWNE TOWNSHIP

Notice is hereby given that the Bowne Township Board will hold a public hearing on Monday, July 18, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. in the Township Office located at 8240 Alden Nash SE., Alto, Michigan 49302 for the purpose of hearing public comments regarding the renewal of the natural resources removal permit for Morse Lake Sand & Gravel located in Section 20 of the Township.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk
Township Clerk

Dave Hildenbrand opposes raising school funding. Whose interests is he looking out for in Lansing NOT OURS.

The Pow Wow in Lowell was awesome! I hope they return next year. Enjoyed the singing, dancing, crafters and fry bread. Thank you Native Americans for sharing your culture.

Kudos to Bennett Funeral Coaches formerly Lowell Auto Body. You went above and beyond by removing most of the paint from the front seat of my Buick. You're the best.

My family attended the Pow Wow at the fairgrounds last week and loved it! The singing and dancing was wonderful.

MC's descriptive narrative excellent.
- Connie Stencil

Why would a business owner in Lowell complain about our community & refuse to support causes & people of this town? You can bet I won't support your business and I will spread the word!

Thanks to all those who have donated to Anna's cause. Don't forget the blood marrow drive on July 12th! It is not painful and we really need you!

Congratulations to the Lowell Little League Champions (Juniors)!!!! You guys had a spectacular season! You should be so proud of your accomplishment!

Thank you so much to coaches Jason Knapp and Dan Boon! You are the best! Congratulations on a great season and your team's championship win!

Check out the flower garden at Ball's Softee Creme! It is absolutely beautiful! Thank you to the entire Ball family for all you do!

To the lady complaining about the cable going up - I think senior citizens should have some kind of a break. This is ridiculous.

I don't care what is written about me so long as it isn't true.

- Dorothy Parker

GARAGE SALES

GARAGE SALE

July 7, 8 & 9, 9-5 p.m. 9740 Riverside, Saranac. Collectibles, Little Tikes, clothes, glassware, antiques, records, old books, fishing lures, dining table & buffet w/5 chairs, costume jewelry, patterns, cookbooks & much more.

GARAGE SALE

July 8 & 9, 8-5 p.m. Antiques & lots of good stuff! 303 Roberta Jayne, Lowell.

GARAGE SALE

Crafts & supplies, pictures, small tools, Christmas items, much more. Don't miss it! No clothing. Thurs. & Fri., July 7 & 8, 9-5 p.m. 8249 45th St. off Whitneyville Rd.

ESTATE SALE

of the late Joe Thompson of 7633 Bluewater Hwy., Saranac. July 7, 9-4 p.m. Woodworking, fishing galore, hunting, unique items priced to sell! No clothes. (next door to Us Guys Deer Processing).

GARAGE SALE

July 7 & 8, 9-5, 12500 Bailey Dr., Lowell. Canceled if rain.

GARAGE SALE

Hahn Hardware, 207 E. Main, Lowell. Everything. Thurs., Fri. and Sat., July 7, 8 & 9, 9-6 p.m.

GARAGE SALE

Friday, July 8, 8-5. 10391 Peck Lake Road. 1 mile NE of Jimmy's Grill. Percussion kit, rabbit with hutch, wooden love seat, bedding, clothes, especially girls size 10-12, plus lots more.

LOWELL

1st Annual Community Garage Sales. Friday-Saturday July 8-9, 9 am - 5pm. Stoneridge Apartments, Boulder Dr. next to Meijer

HUGE FAMILY GARAGE SALE

Fri., July 8 & Sat., July 9 from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Teen & adult clothes, 3 car stereos, men's left handed golf clubs, brand new Jeep Wrangler soft top, men's mountain bike, lots of misc. 215 N. West St., Lowell.

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE

July 8 & 9, 9-5 p.m. 10533 Drew Rd., Clarksville. 21 ft. travel trailer, boat, Coleman tailgate grill, pinball machine, truck tool box, go-cart, bikes, bow, printers, monitor, air conditioner, dresser, fans, aluminum storm windows, reclining love seat, Home Interior, Christmas items, books, toys, clothes & much more!

JULY 8-9 10 AM - 7 PM

Girls infant - 4T, boys infant - 2T; baby items; much more. Lincoln Lake btw. McPherson & 3 Mile Rd.

GARAGE SALE

Thurs. & Fri., July 7th & 8th, 9:00 - 4:00. Boys clothes, lots of toys, Little Tikes, Tonka, Legos, computer games & videos, household items, laundry room sink, computer desk & chair, leaf blower. 288 Tia Trail.

MULTI FAMILY GARAGE SALE

1124 McCabe, Ada. Thurs., July 7, 11-4:30 p.m.; Fri. & Sat., 9-5 p.m. 2 exercise bikes, sports equip., roller blades, rugs, toys, games, books, old records, household, vacuum cleaner, double dresser, china closet, single tube waterbed, designer clothes women's 0-3, baby clothes & equip., girls teen clothes, women's small - XL, boys small - husky, men's small to XL.

GARAGE SALE

July 8 & 9, 10577 Bell Rd., Clarksville. Kids/adult clothing & household items. Fri. 8-5 & Sat. 8-12.

JULY 9TH

9-5 p.m. 10369 Vergennes, Lowell. Woodchipper, chainsaw, clothes & household items.

HUGE SALE

2005 commercial Eliptical, paid \$1,700, will sell for \$1,250. Baby galore! Leaf blower, toys, grill, smoker, free picnic table & much more. Fri. 8 to 6 & Sat. 9 to 3. 1090 Cumberland. 897-5825.

Deadline is Friday at 4 p.m. for the Wednesday edition of Ledger. 897-9261

PRICES

20 words for \$2.00 each additional word is 10¢ \$1 extra for bold \$1 extra for a box

HOW TO REACH US

By Phone: 897-9261
By Fax: 897-4809
By E-Mail: edger@lowellbuyersguide.com
By Mail: PO Box 128 Lowell, MI 49331

DEADLINE

Friday at 4 p.m. For the Wednesday Publication

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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

OFFICE HOURS

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

IN MEMORIAM

IN LOVING MEMORY of Larry "Gene" Kelly

who passed away fifteen years ago on July 11, 1990.

So many memories, So many tears, So many changes, through the years. So many times we speak your name, But nothing will ever be the same. We love you and miss you, Carrol Kelly & family

FOR SALE

FOR SALE - 1991 Chevy pickup, ext. cab, 4x4, Z71, auto., loaded, everything works. Approx. 60,000 miles on Jasper 350 Cl, high miles, runs well, \$3,500. Call 868-9904.

FOR SALE

AIR BED - Selecta comfort firmness for each of you. Dual chambers. Remote control. Warranty. Never used. \$600. Can deliver. Call 682-4767 or 616-293-6160.

FOR SALE - 1992 Ford Explorer XLT, V6, only 25,000 miles on rebuilt engine, new radiator, new fuel pump, good tires, needs transmission. \$600 obo. Call 581-6550.

MATTRESS/BOX SPRINGS - Brand new, \$49/set. Twin, full, queen, delivery available. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

02 CONCENTRATER - Invacare IRC #5LX. Easy to transport, maintenance service, works great. \$500 obo; Pulse dose, \$50. Call 262-0248.

\$110 QUEEN PILLOWTOP MATTRESS SET - (Brand new). Call 517-719-8062.

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

BERBER CARPET - 80 yards, beige color, bought, never used. Cost \$800, sell \$295. 517-719-0451.

2003 HONDA SHADOW - A.C.E. 750 windshield, hard saddle bags. Extras. Low miles. \$5,000. Call 897-0991.

20 LIGHT OAK BUNK BEDS - New in 2001. Good for adults or kids. Stackable, very sturdy! \$75. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

2003 HARLEY DAVIDSON ROAD KING - 100th Anniversary edition. Low mileage, very clean. Lots of chrome & extras. 897-2083.

2001 GENERAL ELECTRIC WASHER/DRYER - White, good running shape. Full size, guaranteed, \$150/pair. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

1991 VERY CLEAN 250 NIGHT HAWK - with 2,000 miles. Great condition. Nothing wrong \$1,350. Call 318-0634, 897-5711.

CARPET - New & good used. Cover your floors for less. Push from 22¢/foot (or \$2 per yard); padding, \$1 per yard; Berber, commercial loop from 25¢/foot. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

UNIVERSITY BUY-OUT - 20 rooms. Chest of drawers, \$35; overstuffed chairs, \$25; night stands, \$20; desk, \$15. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

KIDS BEDS - dressers, white, 6 drawer, headboard stand, frame, complete, 4 piece group, \$149. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

BEDS - Name brand mattress sets. Twin, \$70, full \$80, queen \$95, king \$150 up. Call 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160.

FOR SALE

SAUDER SECONDS - Rest buy-out. Wal-Mart bleached, nothing broken. Chests, captains beds, bookshelves. All new, all 50% off list. Dennis Distributing 989-224-4822.

OAK RAISED PANEL BED - King size. Includes pillow-top mattress, box springs (1 month old) Sell \$195. 517-719-8062.

1997 CHEVY 1/2 TON - Ext. cab, 4x4, Z-71, matching fiberglass top, very clean, sharp looking truck, \$8,250; fiberglass running boards, off 2004 Chevy Ext. cab, \$300. Call 897-9843 or 446-5310.

MEMORY FOAM BED - Queen size. Original plastic. Visco foam, still wrapped, never used. Will sell, \$325/best. 517-227-2986.

FUTON BED - All wood. Thick mattress too. (2 mos. old). Cost \$688, will sell \$250/best. 517-719-0451.

IRON DAY-BED - Thick mattress. Bought, never used. Cost \$400, sell \$175/best. 517-719-8062.

GOLF BALLS FOR SALE - All in perfect condition with no scuff marks. Assorted brands now only 25¢. Practice balls 50 for \$5. Call 897-8520.

A MEMORY FOAM BED - NASA developed memory foam. Brand name, never used. Queen \$475; King \$695. Can deliver. Call 682-4767 or 616-293-6160.

GOLF BALLS FOR SALE - Previously experienced all in perfect condition - Titleist & Nike. \$6 per doz.; Pinnacle, \$5 per doz.; Top-Flite, \$4 per doz. or 3 doz. for \$10. Call 897-8520.

1997 FORD RANGER XLT - Good mpg. Very clean. \$2,500. Call 897-2083.

HELP WANTED

CHILD CARE HELP WANTED - for '05/'06 Lowell school year for 2 older school of choice students. Hours from 5:30 a.m. until approx. 7 a.m. when bus arrives. Varied days. Call 642-6305.

WANTED - Experienced line cook, 2 years plus. Stop in person with resume: 800 W. Main St, Lowell, Tuesday or Wednesday between 8-10:30 am or 2:30 - 4 pm.

WANTED

WANTED - Hunting lease, 2 honest Christian bow hunters seeking hunting lease for 50+ acres. 616-560-8686.

EVENTS

ORGANIC 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 will be held on July 12 at Lowell High School from 12-8 p.m. Info: www.help-anna.org.

EVENTS

COME SKINNY DIP - at Forest Hills Club - Saranac. Open House for National Nude Week. July 9th. www.foresthillnudists.com. Phone 616-642-9526.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - July 18 - 22, 9-11:30 a.m. K-6th grade. Picnic for families Fri. at 11:30. First Baptist Church, Alto, 868-0342.

FOR RENT

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

WATERFRONT COTTAGES - weekly or daily rental. Completely furnished, 10 miles N. of Remus. Ron, 897-5062.

2 BEDROOM APARTMENT - Caledonia. \$500, near park & lake (no dogs). 616-891-1840.

LOWELL/BELDING - 4 bedroom, 2 full baths, kitchen w/ fireplace, family room, full basement, laundry room, 2 stall garage, decks & large yard. Quiet country setting. \$700 plus utilities, 1 yr. lease. Contact 616-794-3793.

LOWELL - 2 bedroom apartment looking for someone to make me their home for the affordable price of \$650/mo. I can offer you a garage w/ opener, washer/dryer connections, walk-in closets, central air, vaulted ceilings & a great move in special. Please call me at 866-443-3098, visit me at www.wmpmonline.com or see me at my open house Tuesdays 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. or Fri., July 8 & Sat., July 9, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Stoneridge Apartments on Boulder Dr.

NEED A HOME? - Oak Hill Apartments in Ionia now offering a beautiful 1 bedroom ground floor apartment. Come join our "family"! Pets welcome. 616-527-8900. EHO.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT - Unfurnished home, Morrison Lake. 1 bdrm, 1 ba, W/D, garage. Perfect for single professional. No smoking. \$750/month. year lease. 616-693-2551.

CARD OF THANKS

CARD OF THANKS Thank you to our children Don and Lynn, Jo and Scott, Bill and Sue and Doug and Wendy for making our 50th Anniversary a memorable one. Also, thank you to our friends and family for all the cards, gifts and good wishes extended to us. Bob & Lu Green

THE CHRISMAN AND STINE FAMILIES

wish to thank all our friends and neighbors for the cards, flowers and prayers they offered at the passing of our daughter, mother, sister and wife, Patricia (Chrisman) Stine. She will be remembered always.

SERVICES

NEED A DUMPSTER? - New company wants to earn your business. 10-30 yd. containers. Hietala Hauling 616-915-0506 or 868-6051.

SEPTIC CLEANING - Call Rudd's Septic Service for all your septic needs. 897-8560.

RETIRED ROOFING CONTRACTOR - doing repairs and small jobs. Shingle and flat. 949-1849.

JEBCO CONTRACTORS - pole barns, houses, garages and flatwork. Call 616-688-5152.

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

BIG R's PAINTING - Interior and exterior. No job too big. No job too small. Senior discount. Free estimates. Call 616-761-2243.

WE CAN PROVIDE - all your painting and cleaning needs. Commercial and residential. Insured. Free estimates. Call 616-813-7981.

LICENSED DAYCARE - Ada home, 20 years experience, excellent references, food program. Call 676-1889.

CONCRETE - We pour any flat work, new & replacement. Call Brian for a free estimate. 616-318-9501.

SHIP UPS AT THE LEDGER OFFICE - Daily pickup. Small box packaging available. 105 N. Broadway. Compare our prices! Call for a price quote! 897-9261.

BROTHER/SISTER CLEANING TEAM - What one won't do - the other one will! 2 for \$20 per. (we already love your pets!) Call us! 890-1561 Shane & Jessica.

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

NEED A DUMPSTER? - Spring Cleanup, roofing, trash, junk etc. 14 to 20 yards available or one time clean up. Call for free estimates. 616-835-2238.

SHIP UPS AT THE LEDGER OFFICE - Daily pickup. Small box packaging available. 105 N. Broadway. Compare our prices! Call for a price quote! 897-9261.

ALTO AREA DAYCARE - Has several openings for ages 1 & up. Fenced in backyard. Accepting FIA, food program, CPR trained. First Shift only. 868-0752.

SPRING CLEAN UP - Let us help you w/ your Spring Cleaning! Deck restoration; exterior houses/buildings; Graffiti removal; commercial fleets; awnings; construction equipment. Call Homrich Mobile Washing & Snowplowing 897-0269 for your free estimate.

BANKRUPTCY - Chapters 7 and 13. STOP harassing phone calls from bill collectors; STOP garnishments from your paycheck. Reorganize your life. GET A FRESH START. Chapter 7 starting at \$500 (plus filing fee). Attorney Patrick J. Puhalski (616) 235-0330.

BIG STEPS LITTLE FEET IN ADA - has preschool openings for this fall. 682-8300.

BOB FORD - of Hahn Hardware is still doing handyman/service work. Call Hahn Handyman/Service Co. Bob at 299-3198.

PETS/BABY SITTER - Need a sitter this summer? For more info, call 897-4986, ask for Shelby.

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

CALLIGRAPHY - Poems, cards, bookmarks by Jeanne Laird at "Our Talented Friends" 416-B Ada Drive, Ada or visit my studio. Call 868-6848.

DRYWALL REPAIRS, REMODELING - new homes. No job too small. Home owners, contractors. Free estimates. Insured. Member of the Greater Grand Rapids Home Builders Association. Drywall Specialist Inc. 897-0389 or 616-862-6487.

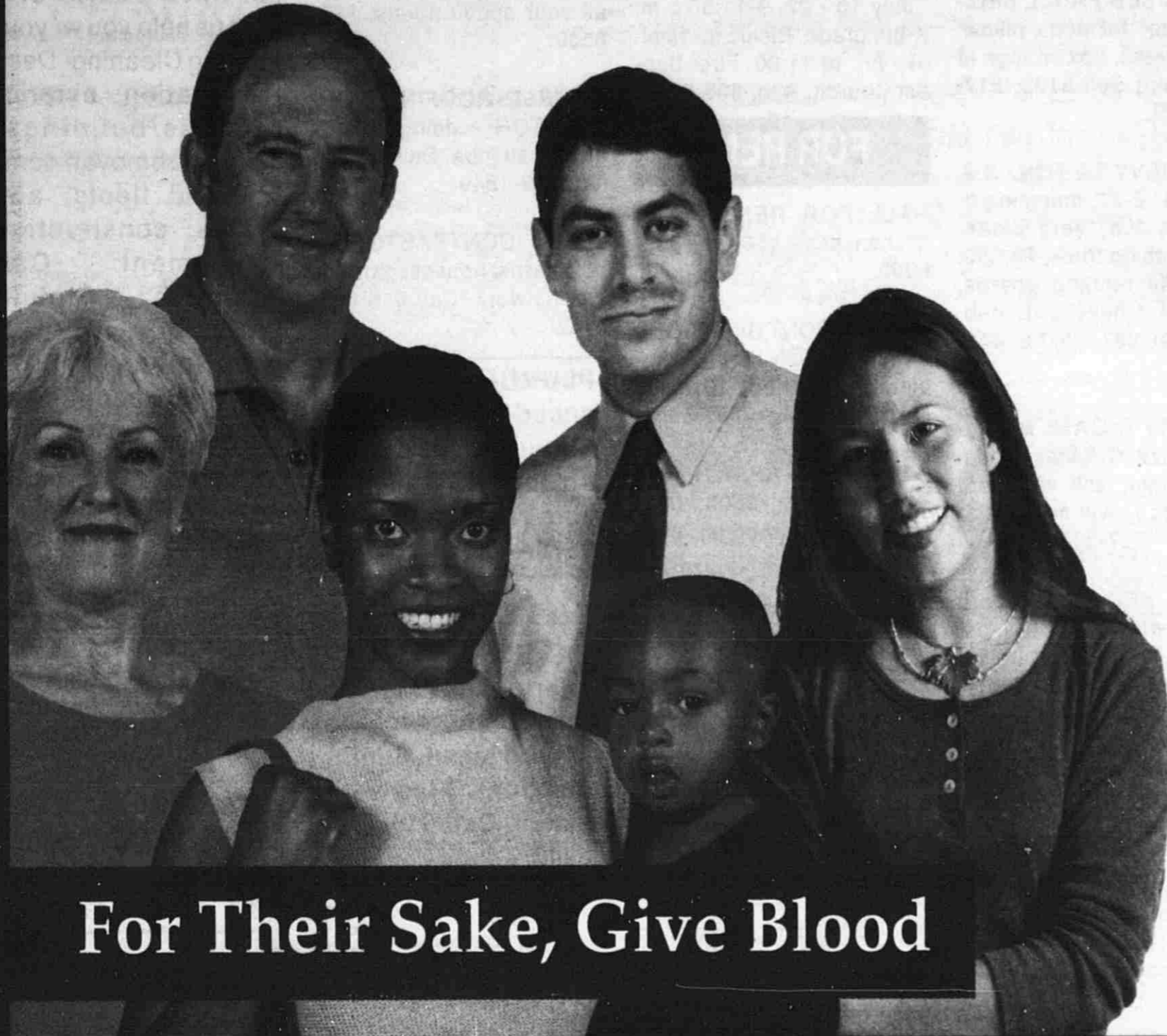
DOES YOUR CHRYSLER, PLYMOUTH, DODGE CAR, TRUCK OR VAN NEED REPAIR? - Don't make a mistake & take it anywhere else - give Geo-Tech a try! Contact George at Geo-Tech Transmission & Repair. 897-0743.

LISA'S DAYCARE - Has full-time positions available. Kids welcome for Murray Lake School. Great country setting with indoor & outdoor play areas. Planned daily activities & occasional field trips. Call Lisa at 897-3065 for an interview.

HOME IMPROVEMENT - and all types of handyman repairs. Call 723-1095.

CLASSIFIEDS

LOWELL COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE



For Their Sake, Give Blood

**Wednesday
July 6, 2005
2 p.m. - 7 p.m.**

**Look Memorial
Fire Station
315 S. Hudson, Lowell**

Sponsored by
**Lowell Area
Fire Department**

and



**MICHIGAN COMMUNITY
BLOOD CENTERS**

It's About Life

This Message Sponsored By These Lowell Businesses & Professionals

**FIFTH THIRD
BANK**

11915 Fulton St.,
Lowell, Michigan

897-1800

**KING
MILLING CO.**

115 S. Broadway,
Lowell, Michigan

897-9264

**TIMPSON
ORCHARDS**

3175 Segwun,
Lowell, Michigan

897-9032

**REGAL INS.
AGENCY**

835 W. Main,
Lowell, Michigan

897-9259

ICNB

Hometown Banking

2601 W. Main
Lowell, Michigan

897-6171

**LOWELL MEDICAL
SPECIALISTS**

Mark Evenhouse M.D.
John Mogor M.D.
Joan Miedema M.D.

897-8436

**JAMES
REAGAN, DDS**

207 W. Main
Lowell, Michigan

897-7179

**ROTH-GERST
FUNERAL HOME**

305 N. Hudson
Lowell, Michigan

897-7101

**LOWELL LIGHT &
POWER/CABLE**

127 N. Broadway
Lowell, Michigan

897-8405

**STATE FARM
INSURANCE**

Roger Chapman

217 W. Main
Lowell, Michigan

897-9237

**LOWELL FAMILY
MEDICAL CENTER**

Dr. Paul R. Gauthier, D.O.
Dr. James C. Lang, D.O.
Dr. John G. Meier D.O.
Dr. Wayne A. Christenson D.O.
Dr. Tracy Lixie D.O.

252-5600

**THE CITY
OF LOWELL**

301 E. Main,
Lowell, Michigan

897-8457

LOWELL GRANITE

306 E. Main
Lowell, Michigan

897-7191

**SHOWBOAT
AUTOMOTIVE
SUPPLY INC.**

1450 W. Main
Lowell, Michigan

897-9231

**ANIMAL HOSPITAL
& PET COMPLEX
OF LOWELL**

11610 E. Fulton
Lowell, Michigan

897-8484

BUYERS GUIDE

105 N. Broadway
Lowell, Michigan

897-9555