

# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 32 Issue 42

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, August 24, 2005



Volunteers Denise Dommer and Jackie Rinks at the end of an aisle of near-empty shelves in the Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc. food pantry.

## Empty cupboards

*Local food pantry struggles to keep food on the tables of area needy*

By Dan Schneider

The shelves at the Flat River Outreach Ministries' (F.R.O.M.) food pantry are becoming bare, and it's starting to have an impact on the families the charity helps.

"The food boxes that we usually do are for three or four days and we can't do that because we just give what we have and we just don't have (enough) in there," food pantry director Jody Haybarker said.

When F.R.O.M. put together emergency food boxes, they try to include enough items to put together meals. But it's hard to make a meal with macaroni noodles and hominy, which is about what the pantry's shelves have dwindled down to.

"The only thing we have left back there is green beans and pasta and juice," said volunteer Jackie Rinks.

"This is the worst we've seen since we've been here," volunteer Denise Dommer said.

The two have been volunteering at F.R.O.M. since February.

Peak time for donations to F.R.O.M. starts in November and continues through Thanksgiving and Christmas. Food donations tend to slow down in the summer, but the need for food in Lowell doesn't diminish.

"It's been higher demand, but summer's always the least amount of donations," Haybarker said. "People just don't think about it in the summer."

Donations at the "F.R.O.M. the Heart" parade during the Riverwalk Festival in July helped. But need in the community can cause food to leave the pantry as fast as it comes in. Since January, F.R.O.M. has distributed 426 boxes of food in Lowell.

In July, F.R.O.M. helped 64 families with food boxes. Last Thursday, the August total was 44.

F.R.O.M.'s food pantry focuses on providing basic necessities. Items currently needed are: canned corn, boxed and canned potatoes, baked beans, soup and crackers, canned fruit, stewed tomatoes and sauce, canned fruit, tuna and other canned meat, spaghetti and spaghetti sauce, cereal, Jell-O pudding, flour, sugar, and personal care products such as soap, toilet paper and toothpaste.

Items can be dropped off any time during operating hours for either the food pantry or the thrift store. The food pantry is open Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 2 to 4:30 p.m.; Wednesday from 5 to 7 p.m., and Friday from 10 a.m. to noon. The thrift store hours are noon to 6 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays. Monetary donations can also be dropped off at F.R.O.M.

## Initial goals met but fundraising continues

By Dan Schneider

Fundraisers working to help eight-year old Lowell cancer patient Anna Organek have reached their goal but not a conclusion.

As of Friday, Aug. 12, enough money had been raised to pay for all 1,117 tests performed at the July 12 bone marrow drive at Lowell High School. But fundraisers continue as the marrow drive organizers are working to set up an official nonprofit organization to help pay for Anna's medical expenses.

When the National Bone Marrow Registry was getting started in the late 1980s, it was not unusual for marrow drives to draw huge numbers of people. In the early 1990s, drives would sometimes top 3,000. Now, a drive that tests 500 is considered big and the July 12 drive is considered huge.

"This truly was, in terms of numbers, this was phenomenal," said Barbara Hile, director of marrow stem cell programs at Michigan Community Blood Centers. "She (Anna) created a lot of awareness

so now we just need to focus on finding her a match and getting her better."

Marrow drive organizers were impressed with how many people showed up to be tested and with the way volunteers multiplied while the effort was picking up steam.

"It's unreal, in the short amount of time ... the huge number of volunteers, the community, it gives you hope for humanity," bone marrow donor drive chairperson Brian Krajewski said. "You just don't know there's that many good people out there

and we got to see them all over the last few months."

The effort spread throughout the community. Cousin's Hallmark, for instance, set up a rack of T-shirts for sale with 70 percent of the profits going to benefit Anna. After the Kent County Youth Fair livestock auction, one of the 4-Hers donated the entire \$2,500 his steer raised to the cause.

When organizers got the marrow drive started back in

Fundraising,  
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# Obituaries

**HAROLD**  
Mary Jean Harold passed away August 15, 2005 in Billings, Mont. Mary, formerly of Lowell, was born July 22, 1925 in Grand Rapids to John and Johanna (VandeByl) Muste. She was preceded in death by her parents, infant daughter Jean Ann, brother William, daughter-in-law Eunice, great-grandchildren Courtney and Joshua. She is survived by her loving husband Dale; sisters Helen Alderton of Grand Rapids, Carolyn Binns of Navarre, FL, Margaret Little of Grand Rapids, brother John Muste of Howard City; children Robert Harold of Roundup, Mont., Robin (Ernest) Bowen of Lowell, Ellen Harold (Michael

(Cole) of Grand Rapids, Toni (Gordon) Valentine of Lowell; 18 grandchildren; 34 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren. Mary retired after 17 years of driving school bus for the Lowell school system. Cremation has taken place with a private memorial service at a later date. Because of her love of animals, in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Rimrock Humane Society, P.O. Box 834, Roundup, MT 59072.

**LaCHAPPELLE**  
Rachel V. LaChappelle, aged 90, formerly of Saranac, passed away August 18, 2005 in Saline, Mich. She is preceded in death by her parents William and Minnie

Huffman of Lowell, sister Mrs. Lee Ewing, baby sister Jean Dorthadean, husband Everett LaChappelle. She is survived by her son William (Mary) Bigler of Ann Arbor; granddaughter Beth Bigler of NY; nephew John Ewing of CA; niece Mrs. Robert Martin of NM; step-children and families. Funeral services were held Saturday, Aug. 20 at the Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, Dr. Michael Conklin of the First United Methodist Church of Lowell, officiating. Interment Alton Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the First United Methodist Church of Lowell, 621 E. Main St.

**LALLEY**  
Robert L. Lalley, born August 15, 1911 in Lowell, died peacefully surrounded by his family following a week's illness on August

13, 2005. Surviving are his wife of 62 years, Bernice; children Kathy and Chris Kane, Rob and Linda Lalley, Pat and Debra Lalley, Mel Reed, Tim and Bonnie Lalley, Jane and Chris Cox; grandchildren Kevin and Kelley Kane, Ryan and Kerry Kane, Matt and Emily Kane, Molly Kane, Jessica and Chris Barnes, Molly and Sean Lalley, James, Dan and Erin Lalley, Tim, Pat, Courtney and Joe Reed, Elizabeth Lalley, Matt and Sara Haarman; great-grandchildren Patrick and Katie Kane, Alex and Will Barnes; brother William (Jo) Lalley; sister-in-law Patricia Lalley; many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his loving daughter Elizabeth Haarman. Mr. Lalley was a teacher and coach, Special Agent for the F.B.I., trust officer for Michigan National Bank, investment counselor for the firm of Norris, Perne and French; also charter member of the Sierra Club of Grand Rapids, active member of the Grand Rapids Lions Club, Goodwill volunteer, Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree, Peninsular Club, Cascade Country Club, lifetime member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. Mass of Christian Burial was offered Thursday at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Rev. Donn Tufts, presiding. Interment Woodlawn Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Killgoar Foundation of Immaculate Heart of Mary or the Grand Rapids Lions Club Foundation.

**QUINN**  
James S. Quinn, age 71, formerly of Dixon, Illinois, died August 18, 2005 in West Penn Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA. He was preceded in death by two sisters. He is survived by his wife Eileen A. Quinn whom he married on June 27, 1958; four daughters: Mrs. Carl (Gaylene) Massart of Sarver, PA, Mrs. Lynn (Juli) Ort of Lowell, Mrs. Gary (Cheri) Rider of South Lyons and Mrs. Jeffrey (Heather) Hair of Douglassville, PA; 9 grandchildren; 2 nieces and 2 nephews. The funeral was held at Community Alliance Church on Monday. Rev. Dennis Krajacic presiding. Interment North Union Cemetery, Renfrew, PA. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the James Quinn, Athletic Scholarship Foundation c/o First National Bank, Sarver office, 596 S. Pike Road, Sarver, PA 16055.



**VANDENBREE (WATTERS)**

Barbara Jean Watters passed away peacefully into the arms of Jesus on August 20, 2005, after a short but courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. She was born on May 20, 1932 to Harry and Ruth Watters of Lowell. She grew up in Lowell with brothers, Richard, Robert, Stan and Raymond and sister Marguerite. She graduated from Lowell High School, class of 1950. She was lovingly cared for at home by her family and the supportive staff of Hospice of Michigan. She was preceded in death by her husband of 17 years, Ron Vandebree who died in Dec. 1992. She is survived by her children, Greg Topp, Debbie (Steve) Burrows, Karen (Steve) Caro and Amy (Greg) Cook; grandchildren Heather Burrows (Chris Rittersdorf), Steven Burrows and Adam, Ryan and Natalie Caro; great-grandchildren, Aaron and Ashleigh Rittersdorf; as well as many nieces and nephews. She will be sadly missed by childhood friend and sister-at-heart, Joan Forslund; special sister-in-law Lucy Watters; and longtime friend Gary Leggett. She will be greatly missed by many other cherished friends, former coworkers and kitty friend, Ore. Funeral services were Tuesday at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, Lowell, Rev. Cathi Gowin of St. Paul's United Methodist Church, officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be given in memory of Barb to the Lowell Historical Society, 325 W. Main St., Lowell, MI 49331 or Hospice of MI, 1260 Ekhart NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

**THOMPSON**

Ruth (Burton) Thompson, age 89, of Lowell passed away August 19, 2005. She leaves behind her loving family; Sandra (Gilbert) Van Weelden, Roberta (Albert) Towne, Germaine (Janet) Thompson, William (Helen) Thompson; 11 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren. In respect to her wishes there will be no services. Ruth will be laid to rest next to her husband, "Butch" of sixty years in St. Mary cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made in Ruth's memory to Hospice of Michigan, 1260 Ekhart NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

## Local bands wrap up Friday concert season



Pictured above the members of "Jonesy" will perform with "Ragnarok" on Friday night.

The last Showboat Sizzlin' Summer concerts of the summer will feature "Ragnarok" and "Jonesy" in its Fourth Friday Rock Series, Aug. 26, on Riverwalk Plaza.

Ragnarok, together for almost three years, performs around the Grand Rapids area. Members Nick Huizinga (bass), Coleton Webber (drums, vocals)

and Ryder Jones (guitar, vocals) play their own brand of music - mostly original - influenced by artists such as Green Day, Nirvana, and Augioslave. They have released a studio CD and plan to record again soon. The members, all in high school, take the stage at 7 p.m.

Jonesy is a band consisting of husband and wife, Dave and Pam Jones with daughter Marina, son Ryder and guest Kyler Kreig. Dave and Pam first began performing as a duo (D. Avenue) in 1983. Their sound has evolved over the years playing a variety of venues. Ryder took up the guitar in 2002 and joined Pam and Dave on stage as

"Jonesy" in 2003. Marina (vocalist) has also recently begun to perform with the group. The band plays in the Lowell/Grand Rapids area and will be performing at Lowell Area Arts Council's Art Attack III, an annual fundraiser to support the arts in Lowell. Jonesy will take the stage at 8 p.m.

rough on the rubber skirts they'll do things that they really won't," he said. "They're mostly for use on water." While hovercrafts can move on sand and gravel, such surfaces surfaces are

## Hovercraft in Lowell this weekend

By Dan Schneider

A number of hovercraft enthusiasts will bring their machines to the Lowell Fairgrounds this weekend.

Members of the Hovercraft Club of America are having a rally on the Grand River. Organizer Don Bender expects at least a dozen crafts and possibly as many as 20. Hovercraft owners should be pulling into town late Friday afternoon and into the evening. The best times to see the crafts will Friday evening, Saturday morning and early afternoon. Bender said hovercraft culture draws engineers, inventors and general enthusiasts about mechanical things--people who would be glad to have

people take a look at their machines. "This is what it's for, just to introduce people to them (hovercrafts)," Bender said.

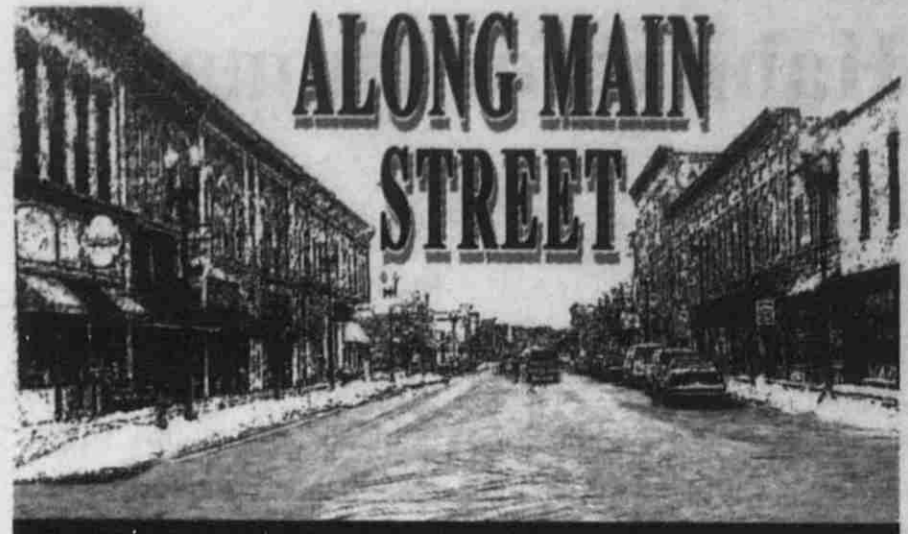
He said a lot of people have misconceptions about hovercrafts.

"A lot of them think they'll do things that they really won't," he said. "They're mostly for use on water."

While hovercrafts can move on sand and gravel, such surfaces surfaces are

rough on the rubber skirts they'll do things that they really won't," he said. "They're mostly for use on water."

Hovercraft, cont'd., pg. 9



## ALONG MAIN STREET

**BLUEGRASS BENEFIT CONCERT**  
The Ionia Theatre will hold a bluegrass benefit concert on Sunday, Aug. 28 from 2-6 p.m. Donation of \$10.

**LHS OPEN HOUSE**  
Come to the dinner on Monday, Aug. 29 at 6 p.m. in the Frosh Commons. The open house will follow at 7 p.m. in the LPAC. All parents are welcome to meet their son's/daughter's teachers and follow their class schedule.

**LHS PICTURE DAY**  
Forms will be sent home with students the 1st week of school or are available in the main office for pictures on Wednesday, Aug. 31, 8 - 11:15 a.m. All students must have picture taken for ID card purposes even if they aren't ordering from Lifetouch. Cost of ID: \$1.

**COMMODITIES**  
Free food will be given out at the Moose Recreational Building, 1320 E. Main St. on Sept. 1 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**DRESS SWAP 2005**  
The Lowell class of 2007 will join the Northview class of 2007 for a fundraising dress swap. Come to the seminar room at Northview High School on Saturday, Sept. 10 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. and choose from a variety of formal dresses - all priced at \$25. Students do not have to donate dresses to be able to buy; donated dresses will not be returned. See Mrs. Schutte for directions.

**L.I.V.E. CLASSES**  
Lowell Leadership is accepting names of people for the L.I.V.E. classes starting this October. Call Liz at 897-9161/ www.lowellchamber.org.

**CELL PHONE RECYCLING**  
The Lowell Police Dept. will be collecting old/retired cell phones through Sept. 30. The phones will be reconditioned and donated to domestic violence shelters in W. Michigan. A donation will be made to the LPD D.A.R.E. program from Shelter Alliance. Your donation will help two great programs. Drop off your old cell phones at the Lowell Police Dept. from 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday. Or bring to any Lowell police officer.

**1950'S REUNION PLANNED**  
Classes from 1952-1960, and other classes, are welcome to the LHS reunion at Fallsburg Park on Oct. 1 at 2 p.m. Call Judy Baird 897-9081.

**NEW COMMUNITY CALENDAR**  
Look for your fall edition of Kaleidoscope in the Buyers Guide this week. Check the all new community calendar on the website at www.kaleidoscope-lowell.org.

**PLEASE HELP THE FOOD PANTRY**  
The food supply is very low; especially needed are boxed and canned potatoes, canned fruit, canned tomatoes and tomato sauce, tuna, soup, crackers, spaghetti sauce, jellies, tuna and hamburger helper, pork & beans.

**LACROSSE COACHES NEEDED**  
If you are interested in coaching Lowell middle school or high school lacrosse in the spring, please call Kristi at 897-9227, ext. 247.

**LHS HOMECOMING PARADE**  
Any nonprofit or community benefiting organizations which would like to enter the parade should call 616-490-2003. Deadline is Sept. 15. Parents who would like to work on float constructions should meet at the fairgrounds 3-9 p.m. the week of Sept. 19.

**VENDORS NEEDED FOR ANTIQUE FAIR**  
The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce is seeking antiques and collectibles vendors for its 3rd annual Flat River Antique Fair Oct. 8. Call 897-9161/www.lowellchamber.org.

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**LEGAL NOTICE**

**STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT**

within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice. 08/17/05

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate**

**FILE NO. 05-180,049-DE**

Estate of HOWARD PERSHING MUDGETT, deceased  
Date of birth: 01/29/1919

**TO ALL CREDITORS:**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS:** The decedent, HOWARD PERSHING MUDGETT, who lived at 1950 32nd Street S.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49508 died 06/23/05. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to LINDA S. IDSINGA, named personal representative or proposed personal representative or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative

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**SHOWTIMES 8:22 - 8:25**

TITLES & TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**RED EYE** (PG-13) 12:50, 2:50, 4:50, 6:50, 9:00  
**DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN BIGDOL** (R) 12:10, 2:00, 3:50, 5:40, 7:30, 9:20  
**FOUR BROTHERS** (R) 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40  
**SKELETON KEY** (PG-13) 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 7:00, 9:15  
**DUNKS OF HAZZARD** (PG-13) 4:45, 7:10, 9:35  
**MUST LOVE DOGS** (PG-13) 2:30  
**CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY** (PG) 11:10

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**Lowell showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concerts**

**Come to Lowell & enjoy music on the river!**  
The Sizzlin' Summer Concerts are located by the Lowell Showboat (east side of the river) in downtown Lowell. Call 897-9161 or visit www.lowellchamber.org for more information!  
**Admission and parking are free!**  
The concert venue is wheelchair accessible and handicap/senior parking is available.

**Fourth Friday Rock Concert featuring two bands from Lowell:**  
**AUGUST 26 • 7-9 PM**  
**Ragnarokc & Jonesy**

**Nick Huizinga**  
**Coleton Webber**  
**Ryder Jones**

**FREE!**  
Bring the family!

**Dave and Pam Jones**  
along with their kids  
**Ryder & Marina**  
& guest **Kyler Kreig**



# Reflections of faith

Bob Roush, pastor  
Friendship Country Chapel

## MY DOG, BUCKWHEAT

We have an 18-pound lump of brown fur the vet calls a Dachshund. He will be two years old this December. We got him in January so he'll have been in our home two years come this January. I didn't want this dog, my wife tricked me with the help of friends of ours who have one of these things too. But reluctantly I finally said yes and he moved in with us.

Since I had to pay for him, I named him. His name shall be Buckwheat, and so it was. I can't tell you what a trip

it's been with him but, and I hate to say this, he and I have become so attached that I can't imagine life without him. He brings so much happiness and joy to our lives. Who would have thought?

Sometimes when I'm reading in my chair, I'll see him curled up on the floor and I'll just want him to be on my lap so I'll say, "Hey, you come over here and sit on my lap." He instantly opens his eyes, gets right up and ambles over to my chair. I'll reach down under his belly and say one, two, three and lift him up. I'll put my face right up to his and laugh as I rub his belly. What joy he has brought to my life and I can't imagine life without him. He'll lay there for a while till he hears some strange noise and then he's off my lap barking and carrying on like crazy. Man, I hate it when he does that! What does he bark at? Oh nothing in particular, just letting people know he's around.

I can't help but think of our heavenly Father. As he looks at me from a distance, he'll say, "Hey, you come over here and sit on my lap." And, like Buckwheat, I'll get up and amble over by His chair and I'll feel his strong arms under

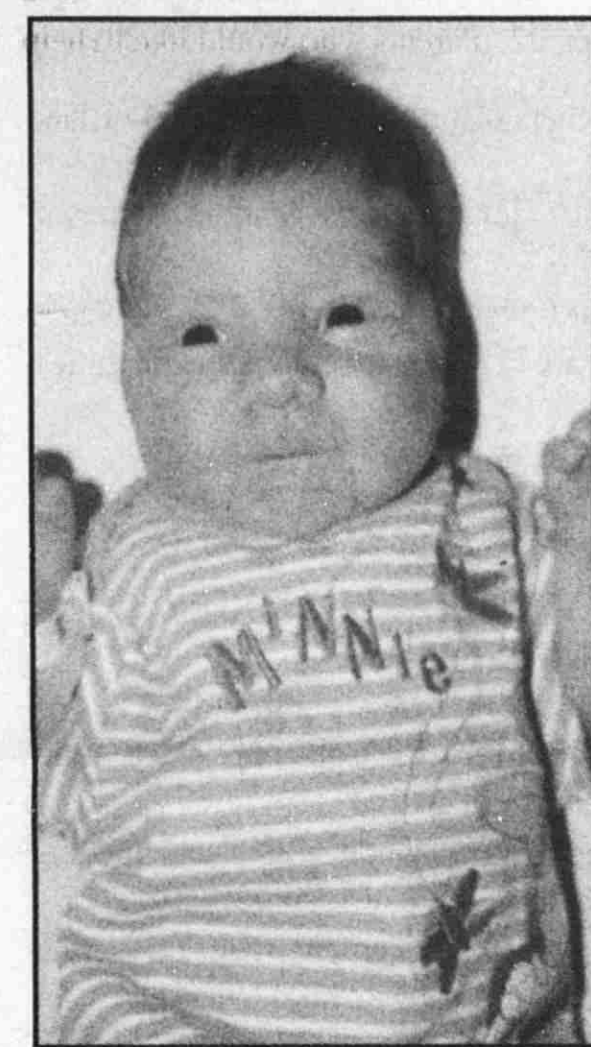
me, "One, Two, Three" and I feel myself being lifted onto his lap, his face next to mine and laughing as he holds me close to him.

But, like Buckwheat, something will attract my attention and before long I'll jump down barking like crazy about some dumb thing. I can almost hear the Father. Man, I hate it when he does that! Why do I do that? Even I hate it when I do that! And what am I barking at? Oh nothing in particular - just letting people know I'm around. It's the times when I'm barking at stuff that things look bad. On my Father's lap, nothing seems too big for me because I'm safe in his arms.

Jesus said, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matt. 11:28-30.

Have you been in the Father's lap lately? Are you resting in his love and care, or are you running around barking at nothing in particular?

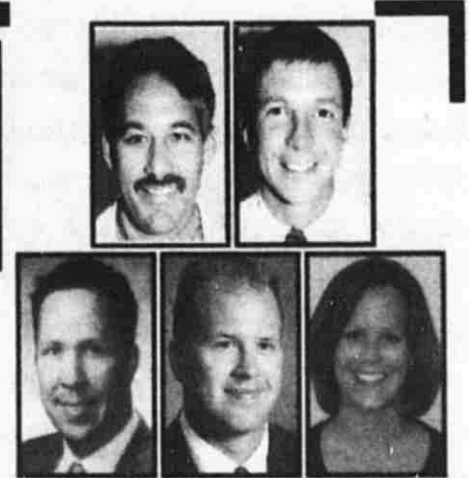
## New Arrivals



Big sister Madison and big brother Malcolm would like to welcome home their sister Kamie Rhae Venema. She was born August 1, 2005 weighing 6 lbs 14 oz. and measuring 18 1/2 inches long. Proud parents are Becky Minier and Aaron Venema. Grandparents are Jane and Jerry Comp of Saranac and Tom and Lori Tenbrink of Alto.

## HEALTH

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



### LEAD POISONING

Although relatively uncommon, elevated levels of lead in the blood affect about two percent of children under the age of six in the United States. Lead can cause damage to the central nervous system and red blood cells. Lead poisoning is due to ingesting contaminated substances or breathing contaminated air. Lead is particularly toxic to children because their nervous system is still developing.

The most common source of lead exposure in the Lowell area is from paint dust or paint chips in lead-based paint found in older homes. Other sources include contaminated soil, water that passes through lead pipes, fishing weights and other hobby materials.

Symptoms of lead poisoning are rather nonspecific and include fatigue, headaches, stomach ache, pain in the joints

or muscles, lack of concentration and worsening of school performance.

Lead poisoning can be easily determined by obtaining a blood sample. Most children are tested at one or two years old during their well child exams.

Treatment depends on the level of lead in the blood, and other measures to reduce lead exposure is all that is needed to restore normal blood lead levels. If blood lead levels are very high, IV medication is given to bind the lead and remove it from the blood stream.

For more information on lead poisoning contact the National Lead Information Center at 1-800-424-5323 or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at www.epa.gov/lead/index.html.

## College News

Emily Louise Myers was among the 220 graduates of Lowell High School, graduated magna cum laude with a major in philosophy. She is the daughter of William and Karen E. Myers of Ada.

## 150 year celebration at First Congregational Church begins in September

Members and friends of the First Congregational United Church of Christ of Lowell will kick off a six-month long celebration of their first 150 years of ministry in Lowell on Sept. 18. The congregation will celebrate with special music, guest speakers and performers, a display of church photographs, artifacts and other memorabilia, the printing of a church and membership history, celebratory meals, and more. The dedication of their new sanctuary will

be held on March 5, 2006 at 865 Lincoln Lake Rd. S.E.

The dedication date for the new sanctuary was not chosen at random. On March 6, 1856, nine people gathered to form the Congregational Church Society in Lowell. Four years later in 1861, a

new sanctuary at the corner of N. Hudson and Spring was dedicated. There have been at least 18 pastors over the 150 years.

More than once through the years, the church family considered relocating. Each time, the congregation

electd to remain. Needing more land and room to grow, the current membership voted more than three years ago to build anew in Vergennes Township.

With their 2002 Building Together, Building

on Love capital campaign, they broke ground October 2004. The new church, with 19 acres, will be built in phases to allow for growth and ministry for the next 150 years and beyond.



## Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold  
Edward Jones  
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### ARE YOU ON TRACK TOWARD RETIREMENT SAVINGS GOALS?

Although he may never have said it, Mark Twain, the author of Huckleberry Finn, is often credited with this quote: "Everybody talks about the weather, but nobody does anything about it." Unfortunately, just about the same thing can be said about saving for retirement: We all think about it, but we don't take much action.

In fact, your fellow Americans are, at the moment, doing an inadequate job of saving for their retirement. Early in 2005, personal saving as a percentage of disposable personal income was just 0.4 percent, according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis, an agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce. And consider these numbers from the 2005 Retirement Confidence Survey, issued by the Employee Benefits Research Institute:

- Nearly four in 10 workers have not saved anything at all for retirement.
- Those who have put something away are not saving nearly enough. Half the workers surveyed have set aside, on average, just \$25,000.
- About 60 percent of those surveyed have not even tried to calculate how much they'll need during their retirement years.

How can you determine how much you'll need to live comfortably during retirement? You'll need to consider a variety of factors, including the age at which you retire, your retirement lifestyle, your health and your projected longevity. To arrive at a good estimate, you may want to work with a financial professional - someone with the tools to generate several alternative retirement-income scenarios.

After you determine about how much money you'll need during your retirement years, your next step, not surprisingly, is to figure out where that money will come from. Basically, you will need to rely on three sources: Social Security, employer-sponsored retirement plans, and personal savings and investments. Let's take a quick look at each of these:

- Social Security - No one can predict the ultimate result of the current national debate on funding Social Security. But no matter what happens, one thing is clear: Social Security will only cover a relatively small percentage of your retirement income - perhaps one-fifth to one-third of what you will need. To get an idea of what you can expect,

study your Social Security benefit statement when it arrives in the mail.

- Employer-sponsored retirement plans - If you have a traditional "defined benefit" retirement plan that is based on your years of service and level of income, your employer should be able to provide you with a statement projecting your future benefits. If you have a 401(k), 403(b) or 457 plan, your income will depend somewhat on the performance of the investments within your plan. Keep close track of how your plan is doing, and make adjustments, as needed, to diversify your holdings and manage your risk.

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- Personal savings and investments - Closely monitor the performance of your IRA, stocks and other investments. If they are not producing the type of return you need to help you meet your retirement income goals, you may have to make changes over time, keeping in mind your need for diversification and your tolerance for risk.

By taking the time to calculate your retirement funding needs, and by knowing where your income is coming from, and how much you can expect, you can avoid unpleasant surprises when you retire. So, start planning today for a rewarding tomorrow.

or community benefiting organizations to take part. Call 616-490-2003 for parade entry. Deadline is Sept. 15.

Float construction begins Monday, Sept. 19 and goes through Thursday, Sept. 22. Parents who would like to help may meet at the Lowell Fairgrounds barns from 3-9 p.m. that week.

If you have a convertible that could be used in the parade, call 616-485-1064.

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AUGUST 27: Virgil Roudabush.  
AUGUST 28: Lee Miller, Terri Hoag, Kim Stager.  
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## Authorities hopes to plug up unauthorized use of city water

By Dan Schneider

Yellow tags are now hanging from Lowell's red fire hydrants.

Each tag carries a warning against opening the hydrants. Department of public works crews have been hanging the tags on the city's 258 fire hydrants during the course of their regular work.

"Basically, what happened is the last couple of years we've been having people hook up to the hydrants to fill up their water tanks," Lowell water distribution superintendent Robert Robinson said. "We don't want them tapping into our hydrants because it's basically stealing water."

In large cities, people often open the fire hydrants on their blocks as a way to beat the heat in the summer. In Lowell, the problem has been with landscape, paving and directional boring contractors using the hydrants to fill their tanks. Robinson said there have been three instances so far this year of people illicitly tapping city fire hydrants, up from two last year.

The problem, he said, isn't so much with the volume of water being taken as with the potential harm connecting to the hydrants could cause. There's a threat of contamination when some of these trucks hook up to a hydrant.

"It's possible that

they're using fertilizer or another chemical," Robinson said. "When they hook onto that hydrant and they don't have a back flow preventer, they're creating a cross-connection."

That could create back pressure, siphoning chemicals into the city water lines. There's also the potential for damage to the water lines or hydrants. Turning off a hydrant too rapidly could create "water hammer," when water pressure surges against the valve. That could damage water lines or the hydrants themselves.

Printed on the tags is the text of the city code related to hydrant use: "No person, except an authorized

employee of the city in the performance of his duties, shall open or use any fire hydrant except in case of emergency without first securing permission from the city manager and paying such charges as may be prescribed in the rules and regulations of the system."

Violating the ordinance is a misdemeanor offense. It carries a penalty of up to \$500 and/or up to 90 days in prison. Robinson said residents can help with enforcement of the ordinance.

"We'd like them to call us (Lowell Department of Public Works) if they see anyone hooked up to a hydrant," he said.



A Lowell fire hydrant displaying a yellow tag warning unauthorized people that it is illegal to open the hydrants except in case of emergency.

## Dog owner soliciting support for dog park in Lowell

By Dan Schneider

A space for canines to run without leashes could be the next amenity on the Lowell city parks horizon.

That's what local dog owner Jeff Eckstrom hopes. On Friday, Eckstrom sent out a survey to more than 140 licensed dog owners in the city to determine if there is interest in a dog park here. The idea came

to him after visiting dog parks during a spring trip to New York City.

"I was just amazed by the feeling of community in those, as well as the room for dogs to romp and play," Eckstrom said. "It makes a nice atmosphere, socially, for both dogs and people."

In addition to the surveys he sent in the mail, Eckstrom left several in local veterinarians offices.

They are also available at the Lowell Ledger office. Eckstrom plans to tabulate the responses Sept. 19.

If there is a favorable response, he said, "Then we'll move ahead with fundraising projects."

Eckstrom envisions a park funded by private donations.

"It would be privately funded but open to the

public at no cost," he said. "I'm hoping that people in the community who would use the dog park or who have an interest in dogs would step forward and help out."

Lowell Parks and Recreation Commission chairman Perry Beachum said the commission would support a dog park. "We're just waiting to hear what the



consensus is of people in the area," Beachum said.

Dog parks are becoming increasingly popular as city residents look for space to stretch Fido's legs. In April, Grand Rapids Parks and Recreation opened an area for dogs in Hillcrest Park on the city's near-Northeast side. It's a basic setup: just a black chain link fence and a few picnic tables. But it has been a big hit with dog owners.

"Probably the biggest problem--and I put 'problem' in quotes--is it's so well used that we've worn the turf down," Grand Rapids parks superintendent Tom Zelinski said, adding the park may have to be shut down for a few weeks while workers reestablish grass at the park's entryway. Zelinski has frequently driven by the park to see if it's getting used.

"It's not uncommon to see six to 12 people, even more on a weekend," he said.

Private donations paid the approximately \$15,000 cost of the fencing materials. Grand Rapids Parks and Recreation work crews installed the fence. Donations also cover maintenance costs, including scoop bags for pet waste.

Which brings up one of the most common fears among neighborhood residents about potential dog parks: that they will become fields full of loud, barking dogs and their droppings. Zelinski said it hasn't been a problem in Grand Rapids.

"By and large, the folks have been good about picking up after themselves," Zelinski said. Six park users also volunteer to self-police the park, making sure people obey rules and keep unruly dogs under control.

\*\*\*

*Outside of a dog, a book is man's best friend. Inside of a dog it's too dark to read.*

Groucho Marx (1890 - 1977)

\*\*\*

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## Local teen travels to Texas for world championship show

Jessica Hamp, of Lowell, was a top-10 finalist in Hunter Hack with Very Intrusting, a 1999 gray American Quarter horse gelding at the American Quarter Horse Youth Association World Championship Show in Fort Worth, Texas, the week of Aug. 6-13.

"The AQHYA World Championship Show is the premier event for AQHYA members," said Bill Brewer, AQHA executive vice president. "Jessica Hamp is to be congratulated for achieving such a great honor with Very Intrusting."

Jessica Hamp jumps, with her gelding Very Intrusting, at one of their many competitions.

The show featured 1,944 entries from around the world competing for 30 World Championship titles. To qualify for the invitational event, exhibitors along with their horses must have earned a certain number of points in AQHA-approved shows from May 1, 2004 - April 30, 2005.

The American Quarter Horse Journal will have the results of the AQHYA World Championship Show in the October 2005 issue.

Hamp, a 2004 Lowell High School graduate, is the daughter of Randy and Mary Hamp of Lowell.



## Hovercraft, continued ...From Page 3

ground, most hovercrafts stay close to the surface. They can't buzz over cornfields or anything like that.

Hovercrafts run on air pressure generated by a lift system, usually a horizontally mounted fan. A propeller provides forward thrust and steering is entirely by rudder.

"Because they're not attached to the surface, they tend to drift," Bender said.

That means they are an entirely different animal compared to driving a car.

"They're exactly like flying an airplane on the ground, I don't think there's much difference really," Bender said. "It's a fairly steep learning curve to learn to drive one well."

Operating a hovercraft requires acuity in analyzing the upcoming land or water surfaces.

"You have to read it ... you have to be very aware of the surface and what's coming toward you," Bender said. "It's kind of like driving a semi, you have to look far ahead because you have no immediate brakes."

Stopping a hovercraft is accomplished either by reversing the thrust propeller or turning 180 degrees and thrusting in the opposite direction. Since a hovercraft has no traction with the ground, its turning radius is wide. They are very efficient vehicles compared to boats, with gas mileage comparable to automobiles: 12 to 20 miles per gallon.

Bender said club

members met farther down the Grand River last year. He's had calls regarding this year's get together from as far away as Chicago and Pennsylvania. The Hovercraft Club of America has members in every state in the U.S. and in several countries around the world. The Hover In in Lowell is one of two going on in the country this weekend.

the other one being in Connecticut.

A run eastward to Lyons

is planned for Saturday afternoon, with a stop at the Ionia Free Fair grounds at

poker run is scheduled.

about 5 p.m. to have dinner in Ionia. Sunday morning a



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**Michigan remains last stronghold for eastern massasauga rattlesnake**

The eastern massasauga rattlesnake, Michigan's only venomous snake, is a rare sight for most state residents. In fact, according to Yu Man Lee, associate zoologist for the Michigan Natural Features Inventory, Michigan may well be the last U.S. stronghold for this species.

Historically, the eastern massasauga has been found in a variety of wetlands and adjacent uplands throughout the Lower Peninsula. According to a 1994-1996 status assessment conducted by MNFI, the eastern massasauga has been documented at 204 sites in 50 counties in Michigan. Most of the sightings have been reported in Oakland, Livingston, Jackson and Washtenaw counties in southeast Michigan and in Allegan, Barry and Kalamazoo counties in southwest Michigan. The massasauga also appears to be concentrated in Iosco, Crawford and Kalkaska counties in northern Michigan.

"Although massasaugas still can be found at a number of sites, their absence from sites where they had been previously documented or reported indicates this species is declining in many parts of its former range," Lee said.

The main reasons for the decline, she said, are the loss of wetland habitat and harassment by humans.

"Like most snakes, it will avoid confrontation with humans," Lee said. "The massasauga is not prone to strike -- preferring to leave the area when it is threatened. But like any animal, these snakes will protect themselves when they sense anything that is a potential predator or threat. It is best to treat them with respect and leave them alone."

The eastern massasauga currently is listed as a candidate species under the Federal Endangered Species Act.

As part of efforts to conserve this species, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has initiated a multi-state survey to establish the current range and status of the massasauga, and is working with those states to protect this species through Candidate Conservation Agreements.

Field surveys to identify massasauga populations and habitat throughout the Lower Peninsula were conducted from 2001-2004. To date, these surveys have documented massasaugas at more than 79 sites in 27 counties. Researchers also have conducted several radio-telemetry studies to examine massasauga ecology, behavior and habitat use in Michigan.

One study is taking place at Seven Lakes State Park in suburban Oakland County. In 2002, DNR wildlife staff began surveying the park for the massasauga. Reports from park employees indicated these snakes were

Rattlesnake, cont'd., pg. 12

**Plan update, cont'd.... From Page 4**

points it wants to emphasize. This will be done at the commission's Sept. 26 meeting.

City Manager David Pasquale said the proposal does not have to be detailed and indicated the bullet points could be sent out right away once a budget is determined. It is estimated it will take about two weeks for firms to replay.

Chair Clark Jahnke said he hopes to have the process done no later than March and maybe sooner, so the commission could begin work up dating the city master plan, which is now 10 years old.

Pasquale said the project will probably have to be stretched out over two years to accommodate the cost, which is estimated to be around \$20,000 to \$25,000. The city has already received \$5,000 in community development block grant monies to use toward the project.

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# "Go Red Arrows" a unique cheer in Michigan

By Dan Schneider

When Lowell sports fans take to the stands as the fall varsity season gets underway, they will have the singular distinction of being able to yell "Go Red Arrows!"

The Lowell sports teams are the only teams in Michigan to go by that name.

While there are a dozen "Rams," 28 "Panthers" and no fewer than 45 "Eagles" in the state, Lowell stands alone as the "Red Arrows."

There are even two teams, Lincoln Park and Ypsilanti Lincoln, that go by the name "Railsplitters." But there is only one town with "Red Arrows."

There are other teams with names unique in the state. The Fighting Bees of Bath High School, the Martians of Goodrich High School and the Litchfield High School Terriers are a few.

There are 78 other

schools in the state of Michigan, according to Michigan High School Athletic Association records, that use the same red and white colors as Lowell.

variously and at their own whims as everything from "Maroons" to "Redbirds."

In 1946, Lowell High School students voted to make "Red Devils" the official mascot.

It did not sit well with churches and other groups in the community, who complained about the anti-Christian implications

of the name. So the students were again tasked with coming up with a mascot for the school.

"Red Arrows" was chosen. Contrary to popular belief, it was not a reference to Native American tradition or folklore, though there is much of that to be found in the history of Lowell.

In the years before the mascot was selected, the 32nd "Red Arrow" Division

of the U.S. Army had won widespread fame for its bravery, courage and valor on the battlefields of World War II. The division had chosen the name "Red Arrow" for itself during the first World War. In the Third Battalion of the 126th Infantry if the 32nd Division, there were many men who went to Lowell schools.

Gordon Marshall, Commander of the Lowell

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8303, wrote in a piece submitted for a history book on Lowell football: "it is not war the name is meant to honor, but the men who fought those wars. These were men from our community with surnames of Acheson, Adriense, Free, Fuller, Nummer, Raymor and Sherman, to name a few."



## Rattlesnake, continued ...From Page 11

Blue and gold is the only color pairing more popular, with 98 schools having uniforms in those hues.

For many years, the color red was the only identifying characteristic of Lowell football teams. Without an official nickname, the "Red Devils" was the common term of reference until about 1940.

Throughout the first half of that decade, newspaper sports writers referred to the Lowell football team

as to secure funding from the Nongame Wildlife Fund for more effective radio telemetry work the following spring," Oakes said.

In spring 2003, Dr. Bruce Kingsbury, director of the Center for Reptile and Amphibian Conservation and Management at Indiana-Purdue University Fort Wayne, was contacted

to track it by bathing the snake in a fluorescent powder. A handheld battery-powered black light was used to follow the snake's trail at night. The snake was tracked for three nights, before the powder had become too faint to follow.

The study prompted

etc. Other snakes observed during tracking, which did not have a transmitter in them, were identified by a GPS location and marked as an element occurrence. The snakes were tracked until fall when they entered their hibernaculum (hibernating locations). A home range could be determined for only one snake that was tracked all summer. Its home range, about 2.2 acres in size, was located next to a boat launch area.

In 2004, eight more transmitters were implanted in snakes at Seven Lakes. These were tracked along with two snakes from 2003 that still had working transmitters. Oakes said biologists have been tracking 13 active snakes at Seven


Lakes this year.

"This radio-telemetry study is providing valuable information on the movements and habitat preferences of snakes," Oakes said. "The project also has received good media coverage, which has prompted calls from local citizens on how to safely 'move' a snake off their porch or out of their yard. This shows we can change public attitudes about snakes through education, and that people can learn to coexist with venomous snakes."

The DNR encourages the public to report any massasauga sightings and has a report form on its Web site at [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr).

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Jane Vierzen



**Lowell High School dress swap 2005**

Are you tired of all those prom and homecoming dresses just taking up space in your closet? Are you annoyed that once again you must buy yet another dress for Homecoming 2005? The Lowell class of 2007 in conjunction with Northview High School can solve your formal dress woes. Gently used, stylish, ready-to-wear formal dresses on hangers can be donated to the class of 2007 to be used for a fundraising dress swap with Northview.

Students may drop off their dresses to C-102 (Mrs. Schutte's room) on Sept. 7 and 8 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Others can drop off dresses in front of the high school office on Sept. 7 from 7 to 8 a.m. or 4 to 5 p.m. A tax write off may be available. Check with your tax representative for donation information.

**Thank You!**

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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.:** Overtakers Anonymous, 7 p.m. at Key Heights Mobile Home Park Community Building, no dues, no joining fee, no weigh-ins. Brenda 897-9141.
- 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.:** Regular communication of the Belding-Ionia-Lowell Masonic Lodge #355 at 7:30 p.m. in lodge room, 211 E. Main, Belding. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. All Masons may attend. Date change for Sept.: the 12th.
- 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 does not meet in 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. Hudson St.
- TUES.:** Cub Scout Pack 3188 at 1st United Methodist Church, 6:30 p.m. Cubmaster Bruce Doll, 897-9782; email: [bruce@imagesofvision.com](mailto: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. 3D archery range open to public daily except Tues. evenings.
- 2ND & 4TH TUES.:** MOPS - Mothers of Preschoolers ... because mothering matters ends for summer; will start back up in September, 9:15-11:30 a.m. at Impact 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.
- 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.:** Royal Arch Masons, Hooker Chapter #73 meets at 7:30 p.m. in Belding Masonic Temple, 211 E. Main; dinner at 6:30 p.m. All Royal Arch Masons are welcome.
- 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.
- 3RD WED.:** GR area Scrabble Club at Schuler's Bookstore, Alpine NW, 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. 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 meets at Alto Library from 6:30 - 8 p.m.
- 3RD THURS.:** 4 Health Wellness Center in Saranac. Topic: "The Court Process for Juveniles." 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. Dawn 862-8841.
- 3RD THURS.:** VFW #8303 Ladies Auxiliary, 3116 Alden Nash S.E. at 3 p.m.
- 3RD THURS.:** Parents Supporting Parents group, Franciscan Life Process Center. 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.
- 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.
- ENGLEHARDT 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.
- FRI., AUG. 26:** Fourth Fridays Rock, Ragna Rock/Jonesy will perform on the Riverwalk Plaza at 7 p.m.
- SUN., AUG. 28:** St. Anthony's 10th annual Parish Festival, 11:30 - 4 p.m. corner of David Hwy./Jackson Rd., Saranac.
- MON., AUG. 29:** LHS open house. Dinner: 6 p.m. in Frish Commons; open house in LPAC: 7 p.m.
- WED., AUG. 31:** LHS picture day, 8-11:15 a.m. \$1 for picture ID.
- THURS., SEPT. 1:** Vergennes Co-op Club meets at 1 p.m. Program by Sister Sue Tracy O.R. "Humor Hee Hee-Healing Laughter Your After-Hostesses: Mary Ann Gwatkin & Greta Parsons.

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# Lowell is getting those golf scores "down" at season's start

By Dan Schneider

With each tournament in the early going of this year's season, the Lowell boys varsity golf team has knocked strokes off their cumulative score.

The Red Arrows started the season shooting a respectable 325 for a 10th place finish out of 24 teams at last Tuesday's Kent County Invitational at L.E. Kaufman Golf Course in Grand Rapids.

When the Arrows hosted the Lowell Invitational last Thursday at Deer Run Golf

Club, they improved their score to 321. Lowell finished sixth out of 14 teams at their own invitational. Grand Rapids Catholic Central took first place, shooting 311.

At the Big Rapids Tournament last Friday, the Lowell team score improved a further seven strokes to 314. That was good enough for second place. Cedar Springs was the champion of that tournament.

Lowell plays its first dual match Wednesday against North Point Christian at Deer Run. Friday is the

pre-conference tournament at Boulder Creek Golf Club in Belmont. That starts at 8:30 a.m.

Lowell is hitting the links with an experienced team this year.

"I've got everybody back from last year," coach Gary Fredline said.

Leading the team again this year is senior Kyle Wittenbach. Wittenbach medaled at all three tournaments so far this year.

He took seventh overall at the Kent County Invitational, shooting 74; third at the

Lowell Invitational with 77 and second place at Big Rapids with a score of 72.

East Grand Rapids looks to be the team to beat in this year's new OK White.

The Pioneers shot 298 at the Kent County Invitational.

"I think we'll be in there for the second spot," Fredline said. "We should have a shot at that."

If the teams scores continue to improve, the Arrows could give the Pioneers a real run for their money.

## Sound Off

The Ledger  
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I agree about the barking dogs! My kids do not need to get up at 5:30 in the morning when your dogs start going off... muzzle you hound in the morn!

Why isn't there a crosswalk from the parking lot to the riverwalk, which has heavy foot traffic???

Jerry, I heard you need to learn how to fish! Call Bud to sign up for lessons.

I guess I'm the bonehead taking the yard sale signs. City ordinance prohibits signs being posted on utility poles. If you get your own stake & the property owners permission, your signs will be fine. - Officer Steve Bukala

I just wanted to say the picnic of Anna Organek was a success and a big thank you to Wendy and Heidi for organizing it.

I really appreciated and enjoyed the letters about the 21-gun salute especially about the folds of the flag. It has given me a totally new perspective.

Parents, teachers, administrators, staff and students, together let's all make this a great school year.

To the handsome firefighter that waved at my daughter last week, do I know you from somewhere?

Has anyone read their lease lately? The one I have states no big dogs, no pools and no motorcycles. Yet some have motorcycles and huge dogs! What gives?

You want a skate park for your kids, you build it. Do not use taxpayers money.

Good luck to all fall sports teams.

The marching band worked hard at band camp last week. They looked great! Keep on practicing & listen to Mr. Haan.

The intersection of Birmingham & Barnsley has a stop sign. Please adhere to the laws of the road.

Isn't it time Lowell had a TV guide that matches our cable programming?

Thank you to the person who left the free white rabbit at the fair. Our kids love him.

The speed limit in Whispering Hills is 25 mph. There are small children, pedestrians & construction/utility vehicles in the area. Please slow down.

Kudos to Liz Baker and the Chamber of Commerce. This town is an awesome place to live because of dedicated people like you & the volunteers you inspire.

Can we get an update on the funding for the Skate Park project? Maybe post something near the Riverwalk?

Thank you Terry & Nancy Raymor and Louise Weeks for your continued direction of the LHS band flagline. They look great this year.

Let's have some sidewalk sales in Lowell.

Hey all you Red Bull drinkers, why don't you use your extra energy and put your empty cans in the trash or recycle bin. There were 35 cans on the road in a one mile stretch. Please keep Lowell clean.

# CLASSIFIEDS

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

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

'96 FORD WINDSTAR - 130k miles, 3.8L V6, auto., green, tinted windows, needs some work. \$1,200. Call 868-0603.

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

RABBITS - Pedigree baby & adults, \$5 and up. Over 50 to choose from. Also chickens, ducks, pigeons, new & used cages and supplies. Call 691-6619.

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

MEMORY FOAM BED - Queen size. Original plastic. Visco foam, still wrapped, never used. Will sell, \$325/best. 989-227-2986.

HOUSEFUL OF FURNITURE - 4 rooms. JC Penney living room, oak table set, bedroom set, recliner, mattress set, dining room (2 mos. old). Paid \$8,000 sell \$2,500. (will separate). 517-204-0600.

FOR SALE - 2001 PONTIAC GT, like new, 38,000 miles, \$12,500 obo, 691-7603.

WROUGHT IRON DAYBED - bought, never used. Includes mattress in plastic. Cost \$600, sell \$125. 517-719-8062.

MALTESE & YORKIE MIX - 1 yr. old. All shots, neutered, \$150 obo, 897-7730.

SOLID WOOD FUTON - with thick mattress. Gorgeous! New, never used. Cost \$800, sell \$175. 517-719-0451.

MISSION OAK DINING TABLE - 6 chairs, JC Penney brand (2 mos. old). Family size. Cost \$1,800, sell \$250/best. 517-719-8062.

'99 SUBURBAN - pewter color, leather interior, asking \$12,000. Call 868-6666.

MAHOGANY TABLE/CHAIR SET - 6 pc. set. Still in box, seats 6-8 people. Elegant! Cost \$1,000, sell \$150. 517-719-0451.

## FOR SALE

FOR SALE - Selmer clarinet, good for beginner, \$150. Call 987-9372.

1993 JEEP WRANGLER - 109,000 miles, black, soft top, CD player, AC, \$4,500 obo. Call 269-838-1671.

1999 JEEP CHEROKEE SPORT - 4x4, PW, PL, 60,000 miles, new tires, etc. White. \$7,200. Call 897-1597 or 450-7910.

1991 STEALTH FOR SALE - 105K, good tires & transmission, motor bad, body good shape. \$1,500 or make offer. Call 299-1863.

FOR SALE - Tan leather recliner sofa & matching rocker recliner chair, approx. 18 mos. old. \$900 obo for both. Will consider selling separately. Call 897-5688.

HAYLAGE CORN SILAGE, HM ground corn, straw & hay. 989-723-1886.

BEDS - Name brand mattress sets. Twin, \$70, full \$75, queen \$95, king \$150 & up. Large selection. Can deliver. Call 682-4767 or 616-293-6160.

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE - \$5,200 at Valley Vista. Call 813-9877.

MATTRESS "BACK TO SCHOOL" - special purchase. Store price \$3-\$500; twin \$165; full \$195, queen \$260. Protect your student from "used." 682-4767 or 616-293-6160.

CHARMING KID-FRIENDLY PONY - 7 years old. Asking \$600. Call 868-6666.

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MEMORY FOAM BED "SALE" - Largest selection in West Michigan. 6 different models. All sizes, lowest prices. 50% off Temperpedic price. 682-4767 or 616-293-6160.

CHEVY SUBURBAN - 2500, 1994, 166,500 miles, tow package, clean, good condition. \$4,000. Call 616-696-4070 or 616-240-5361.

BOAT MOTORS 3, 4 hp Johnson \$200; 6 hp Evinrude \$375; 9.5 Johnson \$425; 8 hp Evinrude \$475; 8 hp Mercury \$550; 15 hp Evinrude \$275. 540-0540.

HOME FOR SALE BY OWNER - Just reduced \$25,000! 4+ bedrooms, 3600 sq. ft., all brick, on corner lot of 6.2 acres. Lowell Schools. \$325,500. Call 897-0686.

## FOR SALE

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.

BOATS - 14R Sea Nymph, gal. trailer, mint \$1350, Smoker Craft 13' Alaskan super deep V 25 hp Mercury, 1997 motor, \$1,800, 540-0540.

2000 JEEP CHEROKEE - 4x4, 4 dr., auto. trans., 81,000 miles. \$5,500. Call 897-1597 or 450-7910.

FOR SALE - (2) 12" subs in box, Rockford Fosgate, 400 watt, Phoenix gold amp. Over \$420 invested, will sell for \$200. Loud! Call 897-5151.

'96 CHEVY CORSICA - 141,000 miles, 6 cyl., \$1,900; '87 Ford F250 XLT pickup, 89,000 miles, \$4,100; '90 Ford Festiva parts car, \$100. Call 897-0639.

FOR SALE - Coronet, \$175; trumpet, \$175. Great for beginners, both in good condition. Call 897-6714 nights for more information.

1998 GMC VAN - 15 passenger or cargo, 1 ton, burgundy. \$7,800. Call 897-1597 or 450-7910.

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE - in Key Heights Village, 1999 singlewide, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, beautiful yard. \$16,500 obo. Call 987-4255, leave message.

PUPPIES FOR SALE - Weimeraner/Lab/Border Collie mix, \$75 each, ready Aug. 27, 682-0417.

LET LOWELL WORK ITS MAGIC ON YOU - Break the chains. Get out of the Big Boxes. Shop, eat & play in Lowell TODAY! www.LowellChamber.org.

3-5 FT. PINE TREES FOR ONLY \$25 EACH WHILE THEY LAST - Frazer Hill, Colorado Blue Spruce & White Pine, full & beautiful. Delivery & planting available. Call Kirsch Trees, 676-9257.

LOFT BED - black metal bed, w/desk & rolling chair underneath, like new, \$150, 691-7776.

## WANTED

WANTED - Cash paid for old or junk motorcycles. Running or not. Call Rich 616-446-8352.

LOWELL EQUESTRIAN TEAM - is now recruiting riders for the 2005 season. Interested? Call Mike or Linda at 676-0699.

## FOUND

FOUND DOG - on N. Hudson, Sat. a.m. Please call 897-2976.

## HELP WANTED

COUNTER HELP WANTED - part time, apply at Cooper's Drycleaners, 6555 28th St. SE.

LPN - Part-time, flexible hours in an elegant retirement community. Apply in person at Sentinel Pointe Retirement Community, 2900 Thornhills Ave. SE, Cascade.

FULL TIME RECEPTIONIST/OFFICE - Assistant needed for automobile dealership. Fun, fast-paced environment. Duties include answering phones, accounts receivable, & other office jobs. Health care, paid vacation, 401(K) available. Fax resume to 616-897-8281 or email to susanneray@haroldzeigler.com

GENERAL LABOR - Packaging and loading all shifts available in Ada. Must be able to lift 50 lbs. Please call Phoenix Personnel at 249-0044 for an interview time in our Lowell office.

HELP WANTED - For Spanish speaking home health aide. Please contact Kelly Home Care at 616-447-8070. Part-time position with immediate opening.

NOW HIRING HAIR- STYLISTS TO JOIN OUR TEAM - Flexible hours, ongoing education, commissions & much more. Apply within at Brenda's Hair Designs or send resume to: 1002 W. Main St., Lowell, MI 49331.

LEDGER OFFICE HOURS: MON. - THURS. 8-5 FRI. 8-4 Closed Sat. & Sun. 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

We Have a Drop Box in the Door Closest to the Post Office

FOR RENT

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

APARTMENT - Alto just South of Lowell in country: large 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath, \$675 + utilities, wooded, cats ok. 616-891-1840.

HALL FOR RENT - Lowell Veteran's Center, 3100 Alden Nash. Newly remodeled, smoke-free, private, great location & great rate! Call John at 299-0486 or 897-8303.

FOR RENT - 1 & 2 bedroom trailers \$800 - \$840 to move in; \$400 - \$420 per mo. plus 1 mo. rent deposit. No dogs please. Call 813-8041 or 616-754-0276.

FOR RENT - beautiful Forest Hills home renting rooms. Quiet cul-de-sac on private lake, \$500 mon. Leslie 897-0833.

HOUSE FOR RENT - 8761 Bailey Dr., Ada. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, enclosed porch, deck, large yard, 2 stall garage, no pets. \$900/mo. Call 868-2053.

HOUSE FOR RENT - Cascade/Forest Hills schools, 2 bedroom, large full bath, \$850 per mo., 616-868-6368.

HOUSE FOR RENT ON 3 ACRES - 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, new flooring, 1-stall garage. Just north of Lowell. \$900 per mo. Call 897-0686.

## CARD OF THANKS

HEARTFELT THANKS - The family of Mary Huver Smyth would like to thank all of the wonderful relatives and friends for the special tribute paid to our mother and sister. Mary heard her Savior call at 7:30 am on Sunday July 31, and she went with him to her family in heaven. Thank you for remembering Mary with flowers, cards, Masses, memorials to Hospice of Michigan, food, phone calls and most of all love and support. God Bless all of you.

Bob & Joe, Dick & Jean, Dan & Ann, Cam & Joan, Donna

## SERVICES

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.

LICENSED DAYCARE - Ada home, food program, 19 years experience, excellent references, fenced in yard, 616-676-1889.

ALL SEASONS COMFORT - 24-hour service, no overtime charge. 2 ton A/C starting at \$1,400. Furnaces, ductwork, gas-piping. New construction and remodels. 874-6191.

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

LICENSED DAYCARE - in my Eastgate home 15 years experience. Fenced in park-like backyard, days only. Call Diane at 897-8398.

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

POWERWASHING - Decks, patios, docks & siding. Also staining & sealing. Great prices, free estimates. Mike 616-821-7139.

TWO LADIES WILL CLEAN your home weekly or bi-weekly, experienced, excellent references. Call 691-8604 or 897-6371.

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

AR CONSTRUCTION INC. - We specialize in top quality concrete flatwork. Call us for a free estimate on your driveway, polebarn, basement floor or patio. Residential & Commercial. Att. Builders: allow us to give a free estimate on your projects. We take care of our builders. 616-522-0940.

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.

HOUSEKEEPER - Has openings. Experienced, references and reasonable rates. Call Kris 642-0395.

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

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FOUND DOG - on N. Hudson, Sat. a.m. Please call 897-2976.

## GARAGE SALES

**GARAGE SALE**  
9332 Enchantment, Alto (near 68th and McCords) Thurs., Aug. 25 & Fri., Aug. 26, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., Sat., Aug. 27, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Antique sofa, radial arm saw, dinette, three drawer dresser w/hutch, a box of free small toys and lots more!

**YARD SALE**  
Friday, Aug. 26, 9-5 & Saturday, Aug. 27, 9-1. Armstrong flute & Vito clarinet \$150 each, clothing & miscellaneous. 68 Main St., Saranac.

**TWO FAMILY GARAGE SALE**  
Clothes, all ages and seasons, baby toys and items, Rescue heroes & access., washer and dryer, and furniture. Aug. 25, 26, & 27, 9-5 p.m. 221 James.

**GARAGE SALE**  
Aug. 25, 26 & 27. Household items, girls clothes to 6X, boys clothes, 16" bikes, toys, books. 9269 Morse Lake Ave.

**ADA MOVING SALE**  
3145 Honey Creek, Aug. 25 & 26., 9-6. Household, X-mas & garage items, misc. furniture & tools.

**MULTI-FAMILY BARN SALE**  
Thurs., Aug. 25 & Fri., Aug. 26 at 7740 Jacoby, Belding, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. A large variety of items.

**HUGE BARN SALE**  
1920 Hawley Hwy. Aug. 24, 25, 26, 9 - 5 p.m. rain or shine. Clothes: baby boy thru adult, some girl clothes, lots of boys, adult men & women, books, odds & ends.

**HUGE SALE**  
something for everyone, Aug. 27 & Sept. 1, 2, & 3, 9-5 pm, 11200 7 Mile Rd, Belding, between Gavin & Lincoln Lake.

**AUG. 26**  
2-6 pm, Aug. 27, 9-? 12950 Heim St. NE, Next street north of Fallsburg Pk Rd, east off Lincoln Lake. Baby items, furniture, games, misc. household items.

**BIG FAMILY SALE**  
818 Lincoln Lake (south of Foreman), Aug. 25 & 26, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. No prior sales. Lots of household goods, bedding, craft items, fabric & sewing supplies, some collectibles, dressers, oak table, kids' clothes, Little Tikes, strollers, (2) Pack & Play, teen boys' clothes, x-country skis, football gear, large ladies sizes, purses, bags, belts, etc. Lots of misc.; all very clean.

**MULTI FAMILY SALE**  
New Pampered Chef items, kid's talking kitchen, car seats, kids' clothes & toys. Adult clothes, household and kitchen items and lots more! August 25 & 26, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., 13452 Forest River Ct.

**YARD SALE & CRAFTS**  
Sat., Aug. 27, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. 172 Church St., Saranac.

**GARAGE SALE**  
Sat., Aug. 27th, 9-5, 823 Avery St. Futon bunk bed, twin bunk bed, entertainment center, exercise bench, etc.

**SUPER BARGAIN GARAGE SALE!**  
Everything free! Face Painting! Refreshments! August 27, 9 a.m. - Noon or until gone. Christian Life Center, 3050 Alden Nash SE. No resales, please.

**ROCKFORD GARAGE SALE**  
Deep freeze, Barbie house & accessories, microwave, girls clothes 0-5, everything for baby, household items. Wed. & Thurs., Aug. 24 & 25, 9 - 5 pm, 9050 Old Belding Road, Belding Rd, east of Ramsdell.

**GARAGE SALE**  
New attache case, precision levels, chain fall, home decor, full size comforter with matching shams & drapes, copy machine. Fri. & Sat., Aug. 26 & 27, 8 to 5:30, 10895 Peck Lake Rd.

Last Garage Sale Page of the Season will appear in the 9/7 edition



# Lowell's Kaleidoscope goes digital

By Dan Schneider

For about five years, Kaleidoscope has kept the citizens of Lowell abreast on the activities put on by local nonprofit organizations.

Now, people can keep track of what's going on between editions of the quarterly print publications, as Kaleidoscope has gone online.

"Anytime they want, they can go and check the

community calendar online," said Betsy Davidson. Her company, Addorio Global Innovations, maintains the web site.

With 16 organizations participating, the calendar at [www.kaleidoscope-lowell.org](http://www.kaleidoscope-lowell.org) lists activities for every day this month and for almost every day in September. The online calendar has several features: it can show events by organizations individually or all together, each event has a link with a description

and contact information, the calendars can be searched with a variety of criteria, the calendar can send e-mail reminders of events.

Kaleidoscope, which is funded by the Lowell Area Community Fund, has been valued among Lowell's nonprofit organizations.

"This has been an important tool for all of the small nonprofit organizations in the community," Lowell Area Historical Museum director Judy Straub said.

She said it helps organizations with small promotions budgets get the word out about their activities.

"We get a tremendous amount of bang for the buck," Straub said. "It's a great tool not just for the nonprofit groups, but for the people in the community to find out what's going on."



Member organizations can make their own updates to the online calendar, which is currently listing activities through December. Expansion is a possibility for the calendar and quarterly publication.

"We're open to adding more nonprofit organizations to Kaleidoscope," Davidson said.

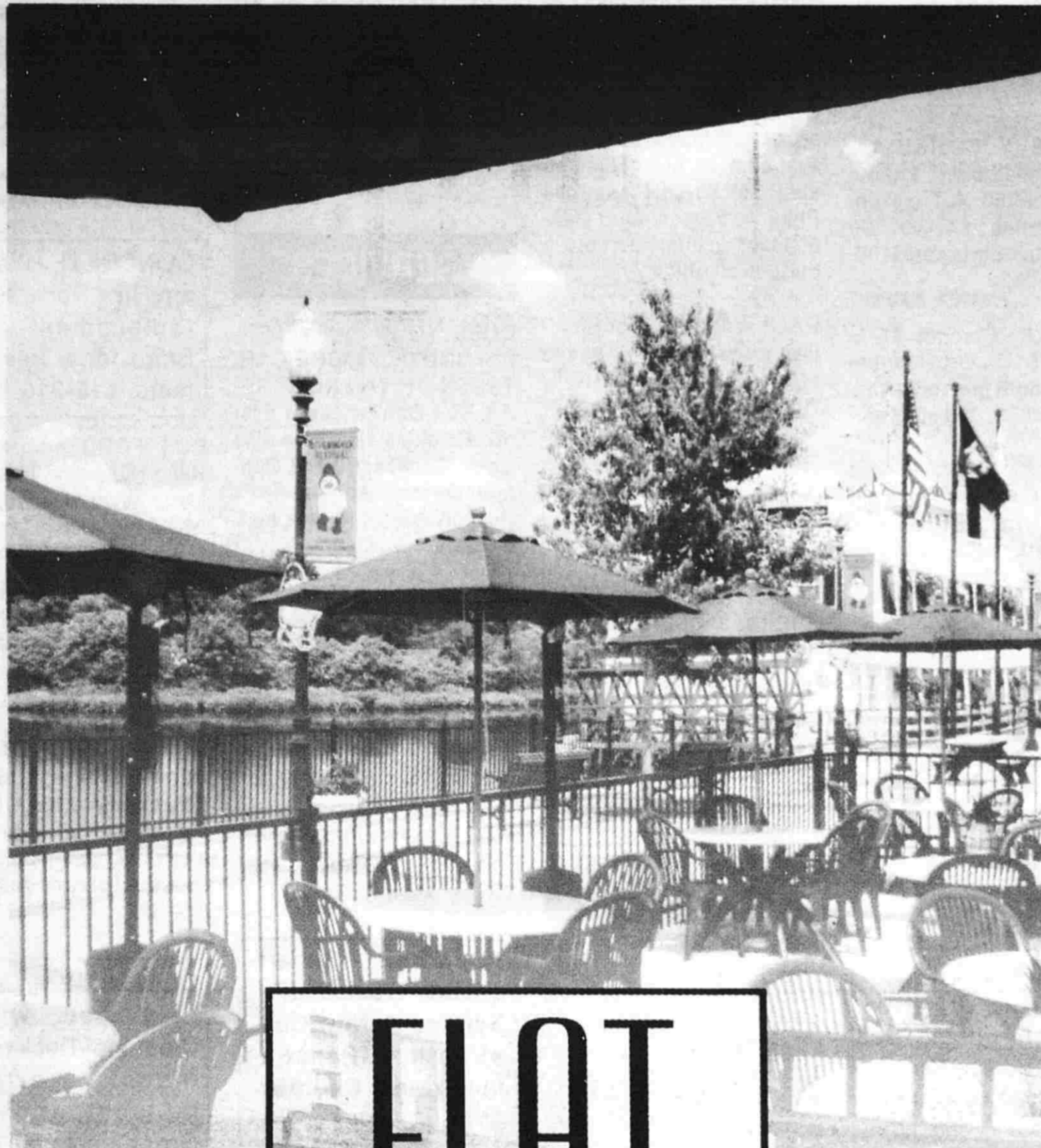
Kaleidoscope will continue as a print publication, though now it will be delivered inside the Lowell Buyers Guide along with the Lowell Area Schools' Directions. The next print edition will be in this weekend's Buyer's Guide. It includes a listing of open hours and contact information for each Kaleidoscope member.

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*The world is full of willing people, some willing to work, the rest willing to let them.*

Robert Frost (1874 - 1963)

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