

# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 32 Issue 45

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, September 14, 2005



## Hurricane relief

A group of high school students held a car wash at First Baptist Church of Lowell to raise money to aid victims of Hurricane Katrina. The car wash raised \$315, which will go to the Baptist Children's Home, a national organization whose Michigan base is in St. Louis. The money will be used to buy relief supplies. First Baptist Church is also collecting canned food and hygiene supplies, which will be delivered in pickup trucks to St. Louis by volunteers. Baptist Children's Home will take all the supplies by semitruck to a church in Louisiana for distribution to those affected by the hurricane. Hannah Dalton and Amanda Tarchala came up with the car wash idea after seeing images of the hurricane's devastation on television.

## New director named at the Wittenbach Center

By Dan Schneider

Getting used to a new classroom can be a challenge for any teacher. But when the classroom includes a livestock barn, acres of woods, miles of trails, multiple gardens—even a native American shelter—it can be a tough proposition.

Since Aug. 15, Steve Mueller—he goes by “Ranger Steve”—has been settling into the biggest classroom in the Lowell school district as director of the Wittenbach-Wege Agriscience and Environmental Center. He admits he has a steep learning curve ahead of him: as he learns about the center's role in the district, he's also

faced with new elementary science curriculum.

“We're kind of hustling real fast to make sure we've got everything ready to meet their needs,” Mueller said.

The lay of the land is also new to him. Last Thursday, Mueller had trouble locating part of the center's low ropes course. He was trying to show a pair of United Way volunteers the way to a project.

But Mueller has more than enough outdoor experience to help him adjust quickly to his new surroundings. After teaching science at both the high school and college level, he spent 20 years as director of Kent Intermediate School District's (KISD's) Howard Christensen Nature Center near Kent City. During that time, he spent his summers working as a ranger naturalist at Bryce Canyon National Park in Utah.

He's nationally known for his work with butterflies and moths. When he started work on his master's degree, there were 25 species of butterfly known to live in Utah. By the time he finished his degree, he had found examples of 63 different species. Just this summer, he found a species of moth new to Utah.

“I'm just getting started on the moths,” he said.

His experience as a ranger at the national park

in Utah is where Mueller picked up his “Ranger Steve” moniker. He said the name helps kids identify him with the outdoors and helps teach about professions.

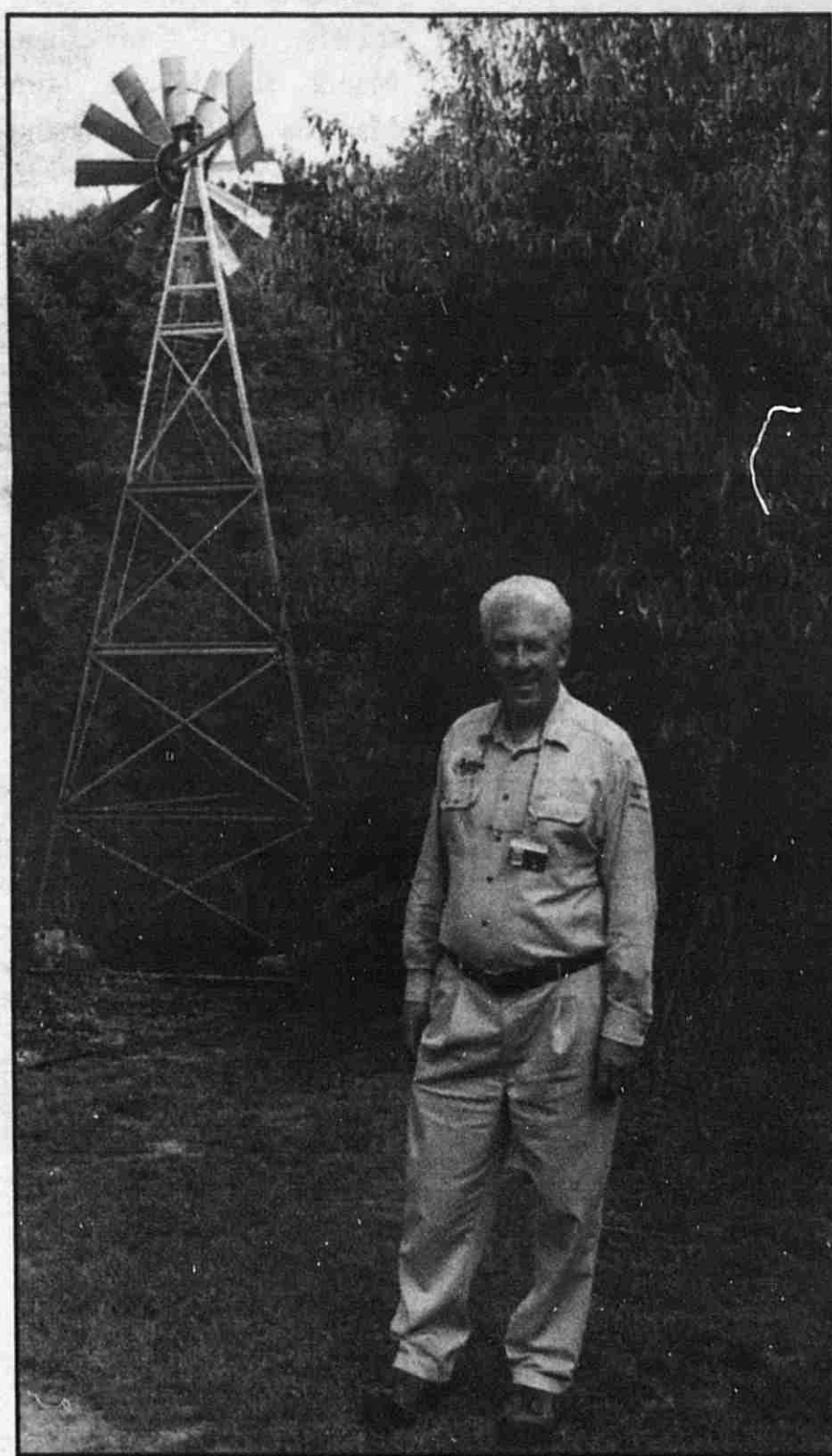
Mueller looks the part, too. He wears hiking boots, khaki pants, and a khaki shirt with epaulets and patches. His shirt last Thursday displayed the emblem of the Minnesota non-game species conservation volunteers (complete with loon) and Michigan DNR blue heron patch.

Former Wittenbach-Wege Center director Tammy Coleman now teaches at Lowell Middle School. The district hired Mueller after budget issues caused KISD to close their northern nature center. Mueller was also the environmental instruction consultant for districts in the county.

The KISD has contracted with Lowell Area Schools to allow him to continue in that role while he works in Lowell. It should help him promote the center to districts around the county.

“We're going to have to be more aggressive about that,” Mueller said. “We've got some days that aren't full and we'd like to get them full.”

In the meantime, he's familiarizing himself with the trail maps.



“Ranger Steve” Mueller is the new director at Lowell Area Schools' Wittenbach-Wege Agriscience and Environmental Center.

## Council designates fair money toward Rec Park maintenance

By J. Lobdell  
Contributing Writer

Rec Park will be getting a little extra boost when it comes to needed repairs.

At its Tuesday night meeting, the Lowell City Council unanimously voted to support a recommendation that the money collected from the Kent County Youth Fair be used toward Rec Park, where the annual event takes place.

Councilman Jim Pfaller said the Parks and Recreation Commission, of which he is a part, decided since the money was coming from activities at the park, the funds should be used to help maintain it. This way other park funds could be used

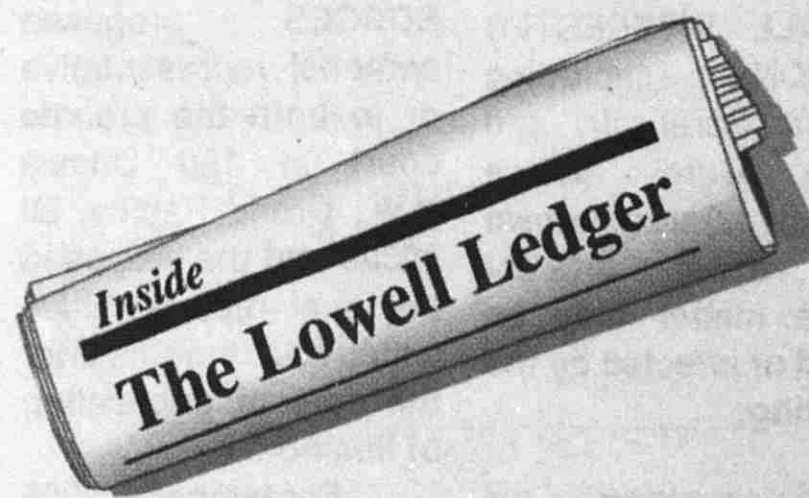
toward the city's remaining parks.

“I think it's a good idea since it's money we wouldn't have had if they weren't doing events there,” said mayor Jeanne Shores.

The city has an agreement with the Kent County Youth Fair Board that, in exchange for allowing the board to operate various programs and events, the city receives 10 percent of the fees collected for those programs. Those activities have included horse-related and other events outside of the actual fair event.

Earlier this summer, the city discovered it had not been receiving its portion

*Park maintenance, cont'd., pg. 4*



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Benefit For Victim ... Page 7

Alto Festival ... Page 12

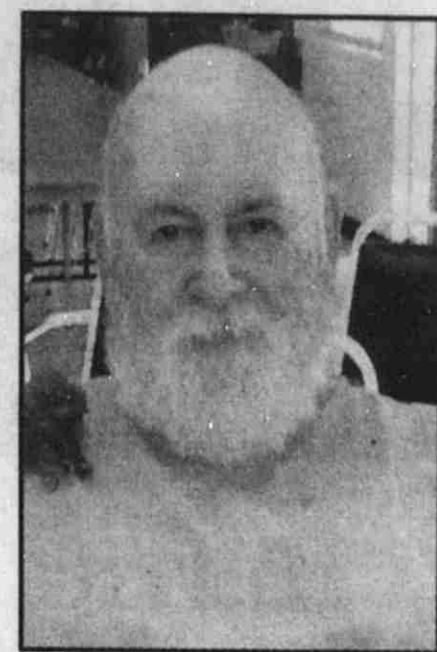
Attwood turns 100  
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# Obituaries

## BERK

Shirley M. Berk, aged 62, of Lowell, went to be with her Lord, September 11, 2005. She is survived by her husband of 32 years Jim; children Brian (Tina) Kehoe, Pat (Cindy) Kehoe, Kevin (Nancy) Berk, Calvin (Michelle) Berk; mother Irene Gath; brothers Ken (DeDe)Gath, Dennis (Cindy) Gath; seven grandchildren; one great-grandson. Funeral services will be Thursday, September 15 at 11 a.m. at the Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, 305 N. Hudson, Rev. Joe Fremmer of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church officiating. Entombment Midland Memorial Gardens. Visitation: Wednesday 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. at the chapel. Memorial contributions may be made to Good Shepherd Building Fund, 10305 Bluewater Hwy., Lowell.



Jacksonville, FL, John (Mary Lou) Tedder of Columbia, SC; sisters Carol (Paul) Brodbeck of Woodland, Sally (Elwin) Teadt of Chiefland, FL, Sandy (Bob) Caylor of Tempe, AZ, Linda (Greg) Mueller of Grand Rapids; grandchildren Raylynne, Sarah, Nathan, Darcie, Mandie, Michael, Jaime, Brittany; seven great-grandchildren. He will be greatly missed by his special companion Anne Washbourne and his many friends at Cumberland Manor. Ronald was born May 31, 1932 in Grand Rapids. He grew up in this area, farmed the land, graduated from Lowell High in 1951. (The present day, Lowell High School sits on the land that was owned by his father Herbert Clark back in the 1950's.) He joined the Navy in 1951, was a jet mechanic, touring the far

## CLARK

Ronald Herbert Clark, aged 73, of Lowell, passed away September 8, 2005. He was preceded in death by his parents Jennie and Herbert Clark, wife Margaret Clark. He is survived by his children James (Kathy) Clark of Lowell, David (Cindy) Clark of Lowell, Paulette (Dan) Shinabery of Alto; two step-children Emma Sue Brown of

East and Mediterranean on many cruises in his 20 years in the Navy. He was able to see most of the United States as well, spending time in Jacksonville, FL, Quanset Point, RI Patuxent River, MD, Santa Clara, CA 2nd tour at Whidbey Island, WA, then Oceana, VA, before retiring in 1970 and returning to Lowell. He served in the Korean conflict and the Vietnam war. Ron was a family man who loved to go camping when he was not at sea. We can remember many multiple camping trips lasting up to two weeks at a time. He worked for the Nut Bar Company for 15 years after retiring from the Navy. My dad and mom were avid bowlers and enjoyed the companionship of fellow bowlers. Dad started collecting and pulling John Deere tractors. He loved going to area antique tractor shows, especially in Buckley, where he participated in displaying his tractors and competing in the tractor pulls. He has a cabinet full of trophies and ribbons as well as friendships he developed through those old tractors. Services were held Monday at the Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, Lowell, Pastor Ken Ford officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to one's choice.

## DANNISON

Charles R. "Rusty" Dannison, Ph.D., J.D., aged 58, of Alto, died September 6, 2005. Surviving are his wife of 35 years, Linda Dannison; children Charles and Laurie of Boston, MA, Nathan and Shannon of Kalamazoo, Emily of Alto; granddaughter Eva Rose; brother Roger Scott

Dannison; sister Jeanne (Michael) Contreras; mother-in-law Eva Silverman; sister-in-law Jan Dannison; brother-in-law Ross (Anne) Silverman; nieces Nina Contreras, Jeanne Dannison, Meghan Silverman; nephews John Dannison, Evan Contreras, Andrew Silverman, Dean Contreras. He was preceded in death by his parents Charles and Lorraine; stepfather Clifford Klapp; son Ross; father-in-law Maurice Silverman; brother David. Rusty was born in South Haven on Nov. 10, 1946; was an Eagle Scout, longtime member of First Park Congregational Church. A memorial service was held Sept. 10 in First Park Congregational Church, Dr. Maurice Petty and Rev. Todd Petty officiating. Interment Trowbridge Methodist Cemetery at Allegan. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Western Michigan University or First Park Congregational Church.

## EVANS

Reade Scott Evans, aged 23, of Grand Rapids, formerly of Lowell, passed away unexpectedly, Sunday, September 4, 2005. He was preceded in death by his grandfathers William N. Adler and James J. Evans; aunt Denise Evans. He is survived by his parents Gregory S. and Laura L. Evans; sister Claire J. Evans; grandmothers Leona Adler and Phyllis J. Evans; great-grandmother Alameda Adler; uncles Rodney J. Evans, William L. and Kim Adler; special friend Tiffany Compton. Reade was a member of the Lowell High School Class of 2001. Funeral services were held Friday at the Vineyard

North Church, Pastor Jason Anderson and Pastor Michael Befus, officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Grand Rapids Community College Foundation Music Department or the Red Cross Katrina Disaster Fund.

## HINDS

Nancy A. Hinds, aged 65, of Lowell, passed away September 11, 2005. She is survived by her children, Jodie Vokes of Grand Rapids, Laurie Vokes of New York, William Hinds of Grand Rapids; very special friend Richard Heyn; sister Shirley (Don) Miller of Harrison. Nancy was an avid gardener and loved the outdoors. A private memorial service will be held by the family. Memorial contributions may be made to the Lowell Showboat Garden Club, 2480 Springside Dr., Lowell, MI 49331.

## LESCOHIER

Josephine C. Lescohier, aged 83, of Lowell, formerly of Lake Havasu City, AZ, and Holland, MI, passed away September 9, 2005. She was preceded in death by her husband Ralph, daughter Janice Rosado, grandson Jim Hale. She is survived by her daughters Kathleen Estes, Joann (Jerry) Hale, both of Lowell, LeeAnne Crosby of Greenville; son-in-law Robert Rosado; 10 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. Services were held Tuesday at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, interment Woodlawn Cemetery, Detroit. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Holland Home.

## PHENIX

Sharon L. Phenix, aged 59, of Cascade, formerly of Lowell, passed away September 7, 2005. She was preceded in death by her husband Ken Sr., daughter Jodi, son Ken Jr., brother Ken Merritt. She is survived by her children Jeffery Rash, Criss (Kenny) Kaminski, Janette (Jayson Friesner) Rash,



Jim Phenix, Carol (Scott Leech) Phenix; sisters Lois Johnson, Dorothy Spickler; brothers-in-law Paul (Rose) Phenix, Don (Deb) Phenix; nine grandchildren; one great-grandson Ashton. Sharon was a past Amway employee where she retired after working 30+ years and leaves behind many friends. Funeral services were held Saturday, Sept. 10 at Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, Lowell; Pastor Curt Madgett officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to: American Red Cross for the Katrina Hurricane Relief Fund.

## STUART

Pauline Elizabeth Stuart, aged 83, of Clarksville, died September 5, 2005 at Butterworth Hospital and was immediately united with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and reunited with her husband Mike who preceded her in death in 1988. Mike and Pauline were married on March 10, 1943. She was born March 12, 1922, in Lowell, daughter of Joseph and Ethel Yeiter. Pauline is survived by a son Dennis (Theresa) Stuart of Glen Allen, VA; daughter Diane Stuart of Eaton Rapids; grandchildren Michael, Alexa and Zachary; brother Edward Yeiter of Copemish; sister Letha Blough of Clarksville. She was preceded in death by her brothers Robert and Kenneth Yeiter. Pauline was a member of the Clarksville Bible Church. The funeral service was held Thursday at Clarksville Bible Church. Burial in Clarksville Cemetery.

## Fourth-grader donates her locks with love

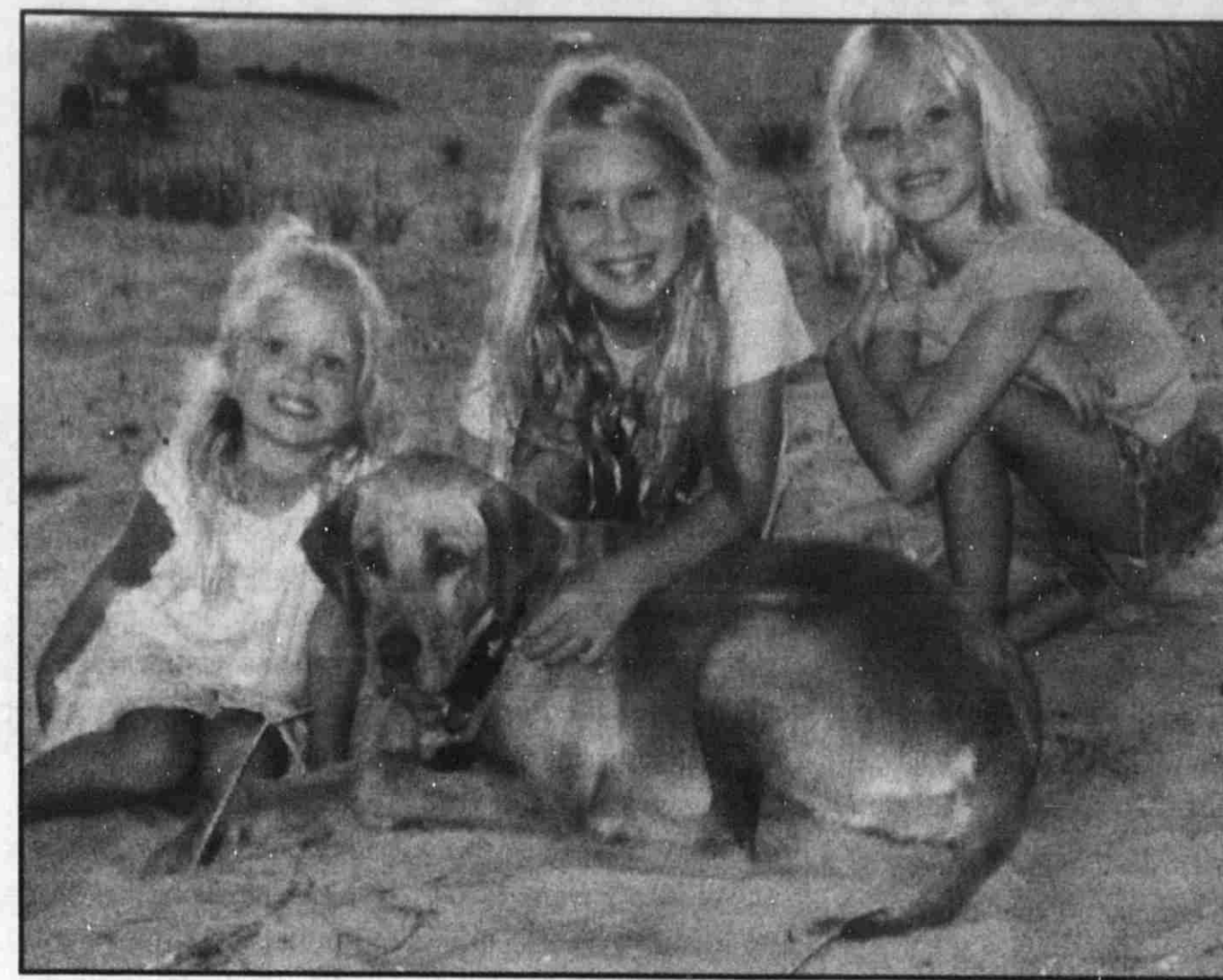
Morgan Fuller, nine years old and a fourth-grader at Murray Lake Elementary, liked her long blond hair.

But she's getting used to it short.

"It's cute... even though it's not long," she said.

She grew her hair out for three years and then, a week before school started, had it lopped off to about an inch above her shoulders. The reason she was growing her hair out was so she could donate it to make wigs for cancer patients whose treatments have caused them to lose their hair. "I thought it would be really nice because other people don't have any hair, and I thought it would be nice to cut my hair off," she said.

Fuller donated her hair through Locks of



Morgan Fuller, flanked by her sisters and family dog, when she still had her long hair.

Love. According to the organization's web site, most of their donations are from children donating hair for other children. More information about donating hair is available at the company's web site, www.locksoflove.org.

## Bluegrass Fallfest hits the fairgrounds

The sound of music (none other than American bluegrass music) will be heard throughout the Lowell Fairgrounds this weekend as the West Michigan Bluegrass Music Association brings another Fallfest here.

There will be three days of music. It starts with a bluegrass band contest Thursday at 7 p.m. The winner of the contest gets a contract to play at next year's Fallfest.

Though it is billed as a precursor to the main festival, the band contest features talent such as Hawks and Owls, Kinsfolk, Ellen Beam and Bluegrass Twist, and the Cottonpickin' Singers.

Topping the main event bill is Gary Brewer and the Kentucky Ramblers. These folks have appeared on the Nashville Network and on radio shows all over the country.

Other bands on the bill include Blue Roads, Chapel Hill, The Crew, Deadwood, Heart to Heart, Lare Williams and New Direction, Luke Lenhart Family and Friends, Patchwork, the Saline

Fiddlers and the Thornapple River Band.

There's almost four hours of music Friday night, starting at 6 p.m. Music begins at noon Saturday and goes on almost continuously until 10:40 p.m. Bands will play four more sets, Sunday.

Admission is free to the band contest, \$7 for Friday night, \$12 for Saturday, and \$7 for Sunday. All-weekend passes are \$22.

Camping is available for \$10 per night with electrical (limited availability) and \$5 per night, primitive.

Help Organek.

The dinner takes place from 5 to 7 p.m. at the church at 12051 84th Street. The cost is \$8. Children ages 5 to 12 eat for \$5 and the event is free for children under five. The church has guaranteed at least \$1,000 will be donated to help Organek.

Benefit dinner

## Health Seminars by Andre Jubert, MD

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**Dates & Times:**

**Thursday, September 22, 7 PM**

*Heart Disease - Prevention and Hope*

Question & Answer Session

**Monday, September 26, 7 PM**

*Diabetes - Very Interesting New Research*

Question & Answer Session

**Location:**

**Lowell Englehardt Library Community Room, 200 N. Monroe.**

Dr. Andre Jubert, MD is a retired Grand Rapids surgical oncologist who has a burden to help people prevent and overcome disease. Dr. Jubert's new book, "A Doctor's Advice to Keep You Out of His Office" will be available for sale.

**A Better Life and a Healthy You!**

Cost: FREE!! For more information, please call Marian Cruttenden, 897-0581 or Linda Douglass, 676-1667.

## LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT Circuit Court - Family Division

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING FILE NO. 05-180,175-DE

In the matter of VERNON MITCHELL GAREL, deceased

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including Vernon Garel, Jr. and Aaron Garel whose address(es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on September 29, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. at 180 Ottawa Ave. N.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49503 before Judge Janet A. Haynes for the following purpose:

For the appointment of Tiffany Marie Borges as Special Personal Representative and

a determination that Vernon Mitchell Garel died intestate.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, VERNON MITCHELL GAREL, who lived at 1336 Logan S.E., Grand Rapids, MI, died August 7, 2002.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to TIFFANY MARIE BORGES, proposed personal representative or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa N.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the proposed personal representative within four months after the date of publication of this notice.

September 6, 2005  
Craig A. Bruggink P-29358

429 Turner Ave. N.W. Grand Rapids, MI 49504 (616) 456-5048

Tiffany Marie Borges 1336 Logan S.E. Grand Rapids, MI 49506 (616) 881-4010

## CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council, acting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, will conduct a public hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, September 19, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lowell City Hall Council Chambers, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan.

The purpose of said hearing would be to receive comments on the following variance request:

- 807 Bowes Road, Habitat for Humanity petitioned for a variance to reduce the lot width from the required 66' minimum to 65'.

Interested persons may submit comments to Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main Street prior to the meeting or appear in person.



Betty R. Morlock City Clerk 616-897-8457

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(USPS 453-830)

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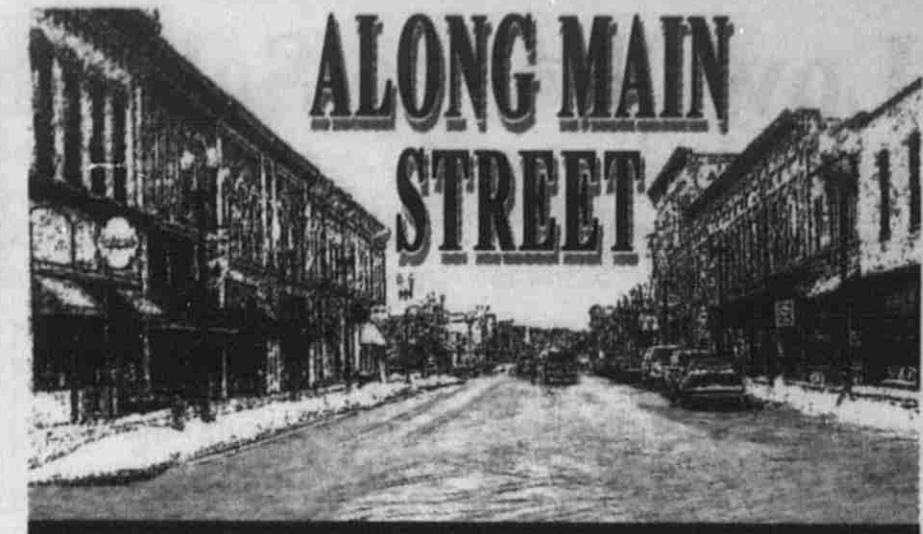
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40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN (R) 2:00, 4:25, 7:00, 9:25  
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## PRE-RACE WORKSHOPS

Workshops are being held at LHS on Tuesday, Sept. 20, 27 and Oct. 4 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Speakers will talk about getting fit before the Harvest Hustle 5K run/walk, held Oct. 8. For more info., call 340-7781 or 897-8445. Free and open to the public.

## SPEAKER AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Lillian Moir, missionary from Botswana, will speak on Saturday, Sept. 17 at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall at 1st Congregational Church, 404 N. Hudson. Free admission, open to public. Call 897-7768 Teresa.

## BLOOD DRIVE

The Lowell Rotary Club blood drive for the Michigan Community Blood Center, Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2-7 p.m. at Look Memorial Fire Station, 315 S. Hudson.

## FALLFEST 2005

The Bluegrass Music Festival will feature bluegrass star Gary Brewer with his band, the Kentucky Ramblers on Sat., Sept. 17 (4 and 9:55 p.m.) and Sun., Sept. 18 (2:35 p.m.) at the Lowell Fairgrounds. The Fallfest will start Thursday, 7-10 p.m. with a free concert of bluegrass bands. Friday's music: 6-10 p.m. (\$7). Call 269-795-9072 for information.

## HOMECOMING PARADE

Deadline for parade entries is Sept. 15. Call 616-490-2003.

## TICKETS FOR LOWELL/EGR GAME

Tickets will be sold at the LHS athletic office from 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. for the Sept. 16 game, Friday only, \$4 per person kindergarten on up. Gates open at East at 5:30; no re-entry.

## CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

If you are a new business or an established business not currently involved with the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, please join us for a networking opportunity: Breakfast Club, Wednesday, Sept. 21 at Huntington Bank, 414 E. Main St., 7:30 a.m. Call the chamber (897-9161) or check the website at www.lowellchamber.org.

## CLASS OF '95 REUNION

Email Krista for info. on the Class of '95 10-year reunion, held Sept. 24, if you have not received an invite: kbeach@tk.k12.mi.us.

## HURRICANE RELIEF DONATIONS

Flat River Outreach Ministries is collecting money for Hurricane Relief. Forward checks, made out to FROM Hurricane Relief, to Huntington Bank in Lowell or drop off at the FROM Thrift Shop.

## CELL PHONE RECYCLING

Lowell Police Dept. is collecting old cell phones through Sept. 30. to be reconditioned and donated to domestic violence shelters in W. Michigan. Drop-off: Lowell Police Dept., 6 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday or bring to any Lowell police officer.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Flat River Outreach Ministries is in need of volunteers. If you can donate even three (3) daytime hours a month of your time, call Barbara Schmalz at 897-9314.

## HARVEST HUSTLE 5K

Lowell Community Wellness is hosting a 5K run/walk on Oct. 8 at 8 a.m. in conjunction with the annual Harvest Festival. Pre-registration is available at the chamber of commerce and Lowell YMCA branch, \$15 per person.



# Lowell Area Schools searches for interim superintendent

By Dan Schneider

Lowell Area Schools will hire an interim superintendent while superintendent Shari Miller undergoes seven weeks of cancer treatment.

Miller began the treatments Aug. 29. "I've spoken with her several times ... and she has been displaying the same fight and will to win that she did last time," said school board president Nancy Hopkins.

Miller, who was hired as the district's superintendent in October of 2002, was diagnosed with cancer in the summer of 2003. She

underwent treatments during that summer and also during the summer of 2004.

This year, her need for treatment is occurring during the school year. So at a Sept. 2 special meeting, the board of education decided to hire an interim superintendent. They appointed Hopkins and trustees Jim Turner and Maureen Fleet to be a subcommittee to review candidates for the position. They hope to settle on an interim superintendent by Friday.

"We don't want to be hasty in our decision, but in the best interest of the district we would hope to find a suitable interim as quickly as possible," Hopkins said.

The pool of candidates comes from the Michigan Leadership Institute (MLI), a private corporation located in Old Mission, Mich. It's the same service the district used to find Miller in 2002. MLI maintains a stable

of retired superintendents willing to step in for districts in situations like Lowell.

"These are experienced superintendents and most of them have not been retired that long so they are up to date on curriculum and district management," Hopkins said.

The committee has reviewed resumes and is in the process of interviewing candidates. Their goal, Hopkins said, is "to find someone with similar background and style to continue the work that Shari has initiated."

The work includes establishing a district-wide curriculum.

The interim superintendent's salary is a non-budgeted expense. Assistant superintendent for finance and personnel Connie Gillette did not give an estimate on the cost of hiring an interim superintendent. She said the

going rate for such services is about \$400 per day, but that varies by the individual hired.

The board felt it was a necessary expense to prevent overloading Gillette and assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction Mark Kasmer.

"It allows our assistant superintendents to focus completely on their responsibilities," Hopkins said.

"For us to take on the superintendent's responsibilities in addition to ours, we feel the programs we're working on would suffer," Gillette said.

Miller is undergoing her treatment at Spectrum Health Blodgett Campus. She welcomes cards and notes, but cannot currently take calls. Flowers and scented objects are also discouraged due to Miller's allergies.

# New fee and permits for working within city roadways

By J. Lobdell  
Contributing Writer

For some time, the city of Lowell's ordinance has required a permit for anyone working in the city's roads; the city, however, has never had such a permit until recently.

At its Tuesday night meeting, the Lowell City Council gave approval for the permit by setting a \$50 fee for a person or developer to obtain a street opening permit.

Public works director Dan DesJarden said the permit will help the city

keep track of who is working in the city's right-of-way, connecting sewer and water lines or work. The permit is specific, asking what type of work will be completed in the area and requiring that the developer be responsible for carrying a \$2 million insurance policy.

"I think it's good to know who is digging up our roads," said mayor Jeanne Shores.

DesJarden said the fee amount was set by city attorney Richard Wendt, and that other communities have fees for allowing work

in their roadways.

Councilman Jim Pfaller asked how long the developer would be required to carry the bond. DesJarden explained the fee was designed to cover any costs the city would incur including future repairs of the site if problems arose from something done.

DesJarden added his staff would be there to make sure that compacted right.

If it is a tap in, the staff has to inspect the tap, which is another fee, before it can be

*Permits, cont'd.,  
pg. 11*

# Policy to be created for Vergennes Twp. to tap into utility lines

By J. Lobdell  
Contributing Writer

Vergennes Township residents interested in tapping into existing city water and sewer lines will be allowed to do so.

At its Tuesday night meeting, the Lowell City Council, by consensus, decided city staff should put together a policy to allow tap-ins on existing

lines, but not permit extensions to those lines. The question came from the city's water distribution supervisor Bob Robinson, who was approached by some Vergennes Township residents.

He requested guidance from the city because there was not a set policy in place about Vergennes Township residents tapping into the lines, nor was there an

agreement with Vergennes Township for water and sewer service.

Councilman Jim Pfaller was hesitant about letting anyone outside the city, not paying city taxes, tap into the lines. He said the issue should be postponed until completing a proposed use and cost study.

"The old retailer in me

says if we have the lines, then let's pick up a new customer," said councilman Jim Hodges, who was not in any rush to add new customers and could wait for the study to be completed.

City manager David Pasquale added there are currently 16 water and three water-sewer customers from Vergennes Township tapped

into existing lines. Those customers are located on North Washington, from where the original city water lines used to feed, and in the Lincoln Lake-Godfrey-Riverside area.

Water customers are charged double on consumption rate, \$3.36 per thousand gallons per month, while sewer customers have

the same consumption rates as city residents, \$1.80 per thousand gallons per month, Pasquale said.

Councilman Charles Myers felt a policy would be a good idea since it would lay out an understanding that these are the city's lines. Myers said such a policy

*Utility lines, cont'd.,  
pg. 11*

# Park maintenance, continued ...From Page 1

of the revenue generated, which the board sought to quickly take care of. City treasurer Sue Olin said the city has received two checks from the board, totaling more than \$3,000. The first was for \$2,515.85 for November 2002 to June 20, 2005. The second check, received on

July 1, was from June 20 to June 30 and was for \$542.

Maintaining the park has been a concern for the city and the fair board. Most recently, the city updated the football lights at Rec Park. Earlier this summer, through a cooperative effort

between the board, the city and EarthTech, the Foreman building, which is used for storage by the city and for events during the fair by the fair board, received a new coat of paint.

City officials and board representatives have made it

a goal to continue to work in unison to maintain and improve Rec Park for both the fair and residents.

The Kent County Youth Fair runs early in August. This past summer, the fair marked its 71st year.

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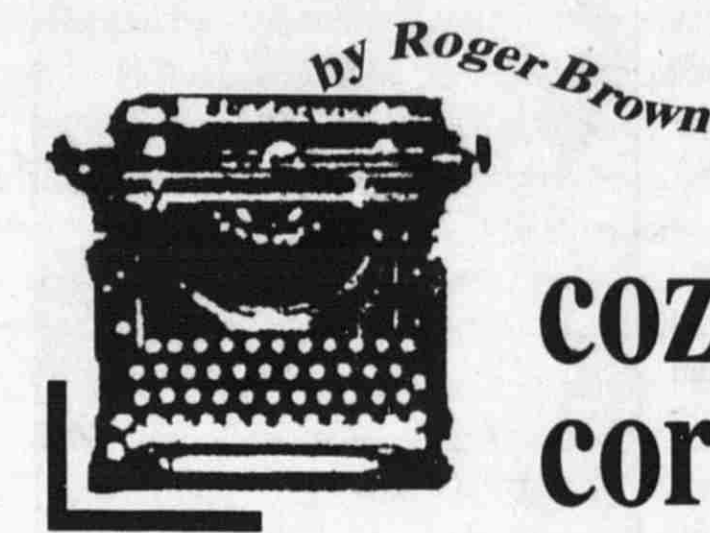
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# Viewpoint



**cozy corner**

Somebody called "Sound Off" some time ago with a comment about this column. The point made was that the "Cozy Corner" is only worth reading when I write about travels in my old biplane. I beg to differ. Writing about my biplane is not nearly enough to resuscitate this garbage.

That aside, I am going to write about travels in my old biplane. Maybe there will be at least one person out there to read it with interest.

The airplane is currently broken down. It quit on me. It won't run. It won't even try to start. But, that's not what I'm writing about this week. Until the sick engine issue is resolved, and the plane is safely back in its hangar, I'm not ready to talk about it. Foul mood? You might say so ... all I know is, it is a darned good thing the Lions won Sunday.

Let me take you back to about this time last year. My old biplane was due at my mechanic's strip in Ohio for its annual inspection. That part of the trip was covered here when I wrote about meeting several U.S. Marine pilots that fly the President around. My mechanic was treating them to antique airplane rides while the Prez campaigned in nearby Columbus. The rides were followed by a few beers and some hangar flying, or "swapping lies" as a fisherman would say.

The inspection takes a couple days. We wrapped things up on the second day in time for me to fly a couple legs on my way south to our home in the Florida Keys. The trip had a decided dogleg to it this year. My flight took me past Cincinnati, where I picked up the stately Ohio River as it flowed off to the south and west. Yes, I said "west." Don't worry, there was a method to my madness.

My route left the river as it glistened in the late after-

noon sun. I angled off to a landing at the airstrip operated by the Barclay State Park in western Kentucky. The park is on Lake Barclay, a huge reservoir on the Cumberland River. A courtesy van transports pilots and passengers to the massive lodge overlooking the lake. After a wonderful meal I retired to my room, also facing the lake, and made a mental note to stop back there with my wife along. That fact will be pertinent, if and when I ever write about where my plane is now stranded.

The next morning my flight was in great weather at about 500 feet in an open cockpit angling over Lake Barclay, Kentucky Lake, the "Land Between the Lakes" and on off toward the Mississippi River. It doesn't get much better than that! I even enjoyed a bit of a tailwind.

I purposely made a fuel stop in Cleveland, Mississippi where Pete Jones operates Air Repair Services. Among other things, he is the world's largest restorer of old Stearman airplanes like mine. Pete is also the "go-to" guy for advice and for parts. When I queried him about rebuilding my old crate, he immediately went to work trying to swap me into a freshly restored plane he had "ready to go." I won't say what the dollar difference was, but it's safe to say I'll be flying my old bird for a long, long time.

Pete loaned me his truck and I had lunch at the Airport Grocery. It's an old-timey rib joint with great southern food and homegrown blues music on the weekends. Highway 61 runs right through Cleveland, so we're talkin' the cradle of the blues. I could have spent some time hanging around there, but I had lots of miles to make.

My old Stearman struggled off with a full tank of fuel and a stuffed pilot at the controls. We lazily followed the big river as it wove its way through the Delta region. It was apparently cotton harvest, as there were huge bales of the stuff everywhere. The bales were the size of semi-trailers. I only mention that because as a boy I spent a lot of time on my grandpa's farm in the summers. I guess I'm easily impressed by the efficiency of modern farming. Yeh, I'm a hick at heart.

I motored on into Louisiana, still heading south and west. Just as the sun was setting over the "flat as a pancake" Delta horizon, I touched down at the airport in Jennings,

*Cozy Corner, cont'd., pg. 22*

# Ledger Entries

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



By Priscilla Lussmyer

## 125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL SEPTEMBER 15, 1880

Battle Creek girls are accused of extinguishing street lamps which shine too brightly for courting on their porches.

Corn is ready to shock, but a poor crop. Mason & Ecker are enlarging and improving their plating mill.

A Select School is being formed at Bowne Center Grange Hall. Teacher and pupils are signing up.

## 100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER SEPTEMBER 14, 1905

Marks' new store is being stocked with new merchandise, making good his promise to rebuild after the big Main Street fire.

Highway commissioner McPherson is rebuilding the Hudson Street sidewalk leading to the depot.

Monroe Street north of the Central School is improving too, with a new house and sidewalk and more to come.

The Red Jacket mine shaft at Calumet goes deeper into earth's crust than any other and is being studied by scientists at the College of Mines.

Detroit has a population of 403,512.

## 75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO SEPTEMBER 11, 1930

Lowell Merchants will play South Bend next Sunday for the interstate championship and \$1,000.

MSC bacteriologists who work with Bangs disease in cattle (undulant fever in humans) say that pigeons and pheasants spread the disease.

Russia has ordered 3000 pairs of pen-raised muskrats from the Lindsay Fur Company in Lansing.

The one-year-old Wildlife Sanctuary law has resulted in 64 sanctuaries with a total of 16,355 acres, added to the 159 under the old law for a grand total of almost 45 thousand acres.

## 50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER SEPTEMBER 15, 1955

A chain link fence goes up around the Showboat stage, to keep vandalism of the boat in check, and children from the river edge.

Temperatures dipped below 40 on Monday and Tuesday nights.

Record enrollment of about 16,000 is expected at MSU, no longer MSC.

Showboat profits are only \$800, after entertainment costs, construction of bleachers and repairs.

The dairy bar at the Michigan State Fair will offer all the milk you can drink for 10 cents.

## 25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER SEPTEMBER 10, 1980

Lowell Senior High School Band will show off the new uniforms at the football game this Friday.

Vandals do extensive damage to the doors and walls of the Showboat dressing rooms.

The Lowell Area Arts Council announces a series of three programs, two concerts and a play, for the public between now and April.

Lowell native George Lessens appears daily on the nationally broadcast "A.M. Weather."

To The Editor,

I made a last minute trip down to Louisiana to do what I could for the displaced citizens of New Orleans. I received an email last Friday asking for volunteers, and my sister and I jumped on board. We set off pulling a borrowed trailer with donated supplies. Unfortunately, none of us anticipated the heavy load.

After two blowouts on M-66, I made a call to a friend of mine in Lowell and within minutes he was there with his U-Haul type truck. Not only did he help us load all the supplies onto his truck, but L&A Rent-All owners, John and Kris Clore, gave us the truck free to complete our mission; our 1,000-mile journey had just begun.

When we approached Shreveport, Angie made a call to the Red Cross. A new shelter in Bossier City at Centurytel Concert Hall had opened up. Margaret, Sally and I hauled the truck down and unloaded the supplies. At the Red Cross, we were assigned to help in Daycare and just walk around and lend a hand, shoulder or ear to the thousands of victims spread out on cots throughout the building.

Everyone had a story. The most amazing thing was that all of these residents were calm, gracious, polite and grateful that they had escaped. Many didn't even know what was going on in New Orleans or where they were, having been on buses for days and relocated from the Super Dome to Texas and back to LA. Fire chief, Sam Halphen, had taken 18 volunteers from the Fire and Police Department and rescued about 700 people from their flooded homes ... sometimes being shot at as they carried out their mission.

Bossier City had completed the National Incident Management System Training (NIMS) and now they would put it into practice. The city actually took its own buses down to pick up these people and each day we were there,

*To The Editor, cont'd., pg. 22*

# To The Editor

Dear Editor:

We have been involved with Lowell Youth Football for nine years now and have had Youth Night every year.

Players from four years of age to the Varsity players have looked forward to that night. As the younger players look at the Varsity players with awe, anticipating the day that they too will be a Red Arrow, the Varsity players, in turn, are remembering what it was like to play youth football and realize that their goal has been reached.

Youth Night is designed to acknowledge and celebrate these goals and dreams.

Many have questioned why we continue to run this program, as our kids have not been involved in youth football and cheerleading for a few years now. As we stand back and watch 540 players line up on the field, with a huge crowd watching, the pride on all the players' faces ... we remember that this is the reason why we continue being involved with this program.

However, we were so disappointed watching Youth Night this past Friday, with the way everyone was rushed onto the field, barely announcing all the teams before they were rushed off, dismissing the importance of these players and their goals. We have heard many comments from parents agreeing with how badly this was handled. We can only hope the "powers that be" who decided it was not as important as many others felt it was, realize that introducing 540 players will take a little more time, and plan accordingly for the 2006 Youth Night.

Mike and Lois Meppelink  
Lowell Youth Football League



# Engagements

## Gravelle/Krieg

The marriage of Kara L. Gravelle and Austin A. Krieg will be solemnized in the Detroit Temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints on September 24, 2005. The bride-to-be is the daughter of Jerry and Lynne Peffers and Eugene and Leanne Gravelle of Sault Ste. Marie. The groom elect is the son of Robert and Kimberly Krieg of Lowell.



Kara L. Gravelle and Austin A. Krieg

Dr. Roger La Warre, pastor  
First Congregational UCC

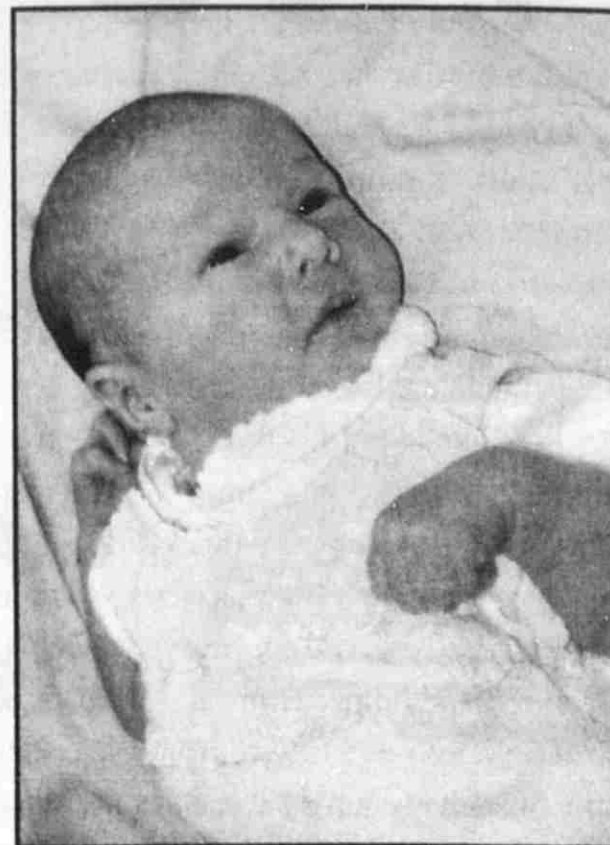
How we live our life in this modern world and the emphasis that we give to our faith have been growing further and further apart. So much so, that many people find no excitement in their faith life and look to their secular life to bring meaning and fulfillment, often without success. Oh, this does not mean that faith and church and reading the Bible are not practiced. They are. It means that much of our religious experience is centered around determining what we believe and sticking to what we believe over against the beliefs and practices that come from other sectors of our life.

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# New Arrivals

Phil and Jen Dougherty of Alto are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Maeve Louise. She was born August 18 at 8:40 p.m., weighing 8 lbs. 8 oz. and measuring 22 inches.



Maeve Louise Dougherty

Welcoming her home are big sister Ella and big brother Sam. Proud grandparents are Bill and Diane Wieland and the late Carol Wieland, and Gary and Dolores Dougherty of Alto.

We seek to be in control in our modern world life and in our religious life. God is real, empathetic to our existence and cares about us but God doesn't really do anything for most of us except to listen to us, bring us courage and comfort in God's Word and provide the basis for us to do what we think is important. We are not expecting God to throw us a curve that radically changes the flow of our life. We expect God's forgiveness and God's guidance, but on our terms.

This kind of closed system of knowing means that God thinks the way we think and anyone can see that, if they use the same empirical steps to understanding that you or I do. But notice something: if the only knowledge we have is the knowledge that is derived from within our experience, our world, then we can run the world fairly much as we please. But if there is a truth of God, revealed in opening ourselves to a wider circle of prayer and human discourse on the sacred texts of religion, we don't want it because it might radically change the way we see worship, mission, love, success, and countless other aspects of our life and it will push us out of our comfort-zone (the familiar).

If you read Luke 15: 1-10, for example, would you risk leaving all of your assets unattended just to find one lost

check equal in value to the price of one lamb on today's market? Or, if you lost a quarter in your home, would you move all the furniture and the appliances out in the yard, tear up the carpet and sweep the entire house to find it? When you found it, would you throw a huge party to let your neighbors know that the quarter or the check had been found? We know the answer to this.

The point is this. If you can let yourself break out of your control mode, become more open to dialogue and acceptance of other people, of other churches, and even of other expressions of faith in the oneness and power of God, then you will surely encounter the God who would abandon the resources, seek the lost and celebrate enthusiastically over the return of one person willing to be united with others in the Kingdom of God. This passage of Luke is not about modern ideology. We all know that modern ideology would not risk the whole for such a small amount. But, this passage is about true Christianity which recognizes that when God enters and remains in your life, God does not stay put and is not contained in our neat little theologies, traditions and "things familiar" Think about it, will you?

This message is a reprint from the Sept. 22, 2004 issue of the Ledger.

# Dinner to be held this weekend to benefit accident victim

By Dan Schneider

A spaghetti dinner being held Saturday at Larkin's Other Place will benefit accident victim Frances Thomas.

Thomas was severely injured July 4 when a homemade explosive device sent a metal pipe flying through the passenger window of the car in which she was riding. Thomas's daughter, Rose Fox, was driving her home from a family Fourth of July event. The incident occurred at the

intersection of Grand River Drive and Segwun Ave.

"I thought we were actually shot with a gun, because the window had shattered so bad," said Fox.

The spaghetti dinner will take place from 6 to 11 p.m. There will be a D.J. and karaoke, a bake sale, silent auction and a 50/50 raffle. Admission is \$5; five-year-olds and under eat free.

Thomas spent five weeks in the hospital and has been in and out of doctors' offices several times a week since then. She has metal

plates in her cheek and jaw and is in physical therapy for her broken collar bone.

Fox estimates the medical costs at \$30,000 so far, not including the hospital and intensive care stays. "There's no telling when she will or if she will be able to go back to work," Fox said.

Thomas, 65, was working full time as an in-home nurse for seniors. She's on Medicare and her auto insurance doesn't cover the bills because the incident was not auto-related.

Thomas said it is "kind of scary and overwhelming not knowing what is going to happen next... if I can get back to work and everybody accepts payments, I can do it, maybe, but if not, I don't know."

Nicholas Edward Stormzand was charged Sept. 9 with a misdemeanor fireworks violation for his role in the incident. The misdemeanor charge would not hold Stormzand liable for Thomas's medical expenses if convicted.

State law doesn't provide stiffer penalties for causing accidental injuries.

"I spent a lot of time, as did my staff, trying to find a more serious charge, but there wasn't one," said Kent County prosecutor Bill Forsyth. "This kid didn't intend to shoot this at a car."

The device doesn't fit the definition of a pipe bomb, according to the law, since it wasn't closed on both ends. "It's like a toy cannon under the fireworks

statute," Forsyth said. An assault charge would not be possible without intent.

"Regrettably, all you're left with is illegal use of fireworks," Forsyth said. "It strikes me that if it is going to be a misdemeanor to illegally use a firework, if you should injure someone using a firework illegally, it should be more serious."

An account has been set up at Fifth Third Bank to receive donations to help Thomas.

# Happy Birthday

- SEPT. 15: Brandi Phillips, Mark Trierweiler, Nick Baker.
- SEPT. 16: Doris Malone, Jason Fetterhoff.
- SEPT. 17: Nick Blough, Yvonne Swift, Dennis Denton, Noelle Dewey, Dewey Francisco.
- SEPT. 18: Jon Ossewaarde.
- SEPT. 19: Abbey Goff, Megan Claypool, Brian Ryder, Renae Heinicke, Griff Brenk, Julie Kline.
- SEPT. 20: Donald Rittersdorf Jr., Patrick Parish, Mitchell Walling.
- SEPT. 21: Deanna Anchors, Renee Fox, Rich Briseno, Joseph Scott.

# College News

Jess W. Vriesema, Howard Medical Institute a freshman at Calvin College, has been awarded two scholarships from the Christian, liberal arts college: the Calvin Dean's Scholarship and the Hughes, Vriesema, a graduate of Grand Rapids Christian High School, is the son of Bill and Judy Vriesema of Lowell.

# Business Matters

Greenridge Realty This award recognizes announced that Mike Curtis for his outstanding success and achievements. Curtis received Realtor of the Month in August.

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**HALLOOLUJAH PARTY! OCTOBER 31**  
At sunset, bring the whole family for "Trunk or Treating". Free candy and treats from costumed Bible Characters. Weather permitting there will be a roasting fire for hot dogs and marshmallows. Come meet your neighbor for singing and games. Bring the Grandparents!  
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Please contact us for more information. Church Phone 897-7060. E-mail: calvarycc@juno.com

# AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p><b>ATTENTION: BIBLE BELIEVERS</b> If you would like to attend a church where the King James Bible is held up as the perfect, preserved word of God with all the words of God for all English speaking people, then give us a visit at: 901 W. Main, Lowell</p> <p>897-6284 or 485-4195 10AM Sunday School, 11AM Morning Service, 6PM Evening Service, Wed., 7:30PM Prayer Meeting.</p>	<p><b>ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> Kirby and Harrison Alto • 616-691-8011 Worship.....9:30 A.M. Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.</p> <p><b>OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS</b> Pastor Dean Bailey</p>	<p><b>Contemporary Services</b> Cherry Creek Elementary (Nursery &amp; Children's Ministry Provided) Sunday Mornings.....10 AM The Wake (Sunday at YMCA Teen Center).....5 PM Phone us @ 897-0333 hccmc@sbcglobal.net Call for a free CD Service Sample</p>	<p><b>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> Rev. Randy Meyers - 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....11:20 A.M. Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M. Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free</p>	<p><b>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER</b> (Assembly of God) 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, Senior Pastor Dave Noonan, Asst. Pastor Jonathan &amp; Stacy Holmes, Youth Pastors <b>SUNDAYS:</b> Worship: 10:00 a.m. - LIFE Home Groups &amp; "XL" Youth Sunday evenings <b>WEDNESDAYS:</b> Family Night (For All Ages): 7 p.m. "XL" Youth: 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> Fr. George J. Fekete 402 Amity 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 &amp; 7 PM Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM Prayer &amp; adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL BRENDA BEHRENS 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 48, EWTN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>	<p><b>DAY BIBLE CHAPEL</b> 9305 Centerline, Saranac 897-6332 Worship.....9:45 A.M. Sunday School.....11:00 A.M. Nursery &amp; Jr. Church Provided Rev. Frank Lattimore, Pastor "A Nondenominational Ministry With A Blended Word Centered Service!"</p>		
<p><b>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 Worship Services 8:30 &amp; 11:00 a.m. DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR Nursery &amp; child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p><b>EVERGREEN MISSIONARY CHURCH</b> 10501 Settletwood • 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 ALL ARE WELCOME! (Barrier-Free)</p>	<p><b>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b> 201 N. Washington • 897-8800 Sunday School.....9:45 A.M. Morning Worship.....10:50 A.M. Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M. PASTOR MICHAEL RHODABARGER Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>	<p><b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALTO</b> 6015 Bancroft Ave. • 868-6403 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 &amp; Bible Study.....7:00 P.M. Nursery provided! Steven Harduk - Pastor Preaching the whole counsel of God. ALL ARE WELCOME!</p>	<p><b>SOUTH BOSTON BIBLE CHURCH</b> (Kyser Road SE at Grand River Ave.) WE ARE YOUR NEIGHBORS • WE CARE ABOUT YOU Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....11:00 A.M. Word of Life (for Jr. &amp; Sr. High).....6:30 P.M. Evening Praise.....7:00 P.M. Wednesday Kids Klub (ages 2-5).....7:00 P.M. Olympians (1st - 8th grades) Prayer and Bible Study Lilly, Nancy, Colgate &amp; Children's Services provided. Wheelchair Accessible Church 897-7823 • Parsonage 897-5464 • sbccb@juno.com</p>	<p><b>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH</b> Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648 Sunday School.....10:00 A.M. Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M. Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M. (Sept. - April) Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M. Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418 YOU ARE WELCOME!</p>	<p>"Lowell Mission" of the Evangelical <b>APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA</b> Located at 404 North Hudson (First Congregational Church Facility) Christ Centered Sunday Worship.....4:00 PM Bishop Alex McCullough.....Clergy In Charge Reverend Deacon Mark O. Fleet, Clergy In Assistance Parsonage.....(616) 897-2587 Corporate Web Page.....http://www.caana.org May the Lord fill you and bless you this day!</p>	<p><b>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> (United Church of Christ) 404 North Hudson • 897-5906 Worship.....10:00 A.M. Church School.....10:15-11:15 A.M. Dr. Roger LaWarre.....Pastor Shannon Hanley.....C.E. Director Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise &amp; Worship</p>	<p><b>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH</b> SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES 6:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 P.M. 119 Lincoln Lake, Lowell CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES Pastor Robert L. Hubbard Phone: (616) 897-1267 website www.aplighthouse.com</p>





## Sharing The Vision

With Nancy Hopkins  
Board of Education President

The following message was emailed to LAS staff last week and is shared here with our community.

All:  
I know you are all concerned about the health and welfare of Superintendent Shari Miller. Her spirits are good as she enters cancer treatment for the next seven weeks. All of us know Shari is an extraordinary individual who succeeded in her first round of treatment two years ago. We anticipate the same resolve and result this time.

To allow Shari to totally focus on her health, the Lowell Board of Education will contract with an interim superintendent to manage the district until her return. The board made this decision after consulting with assistant superintendents Mark Kasmer and Connie Gillette. While we have the utmost faith in their abilities, they have advised us the important work they are doing with our district's curriculum and personnel and finance areas would suffer if one or both were to assume the responsibility of superintendent.

Maureen Fleet, Jim Turner and I will serve as a subcommittee to guide the selection process. We will meet with a representative of the Michigan Leadership Institute on Wednesday, Sept. 7, to begin our work. Among the services provided by MLI, which assisted the board in the search to bring Shari Miller to Lowell, is maintaining a cadre of recently retired superintendents to fill the interim needs of districts like our own.

All of us on the board believe selecting an interim superintendent is the best decision for Shari Miller and for our district. Shari is comforted to know the important work she initiated to enhance the district's curriculum, student achievement and our financial stability will continue while she is in treatment. We are keeping Shari in our thoughts and prayers and we would ask that our staff and our school community do the same.

Sincerely,  
Nancy Hopkins president,  
Board of Education

Comments may be made to the Board of Education at boardofed@lowellschools.com

## Energy savings still high on the list of school board discussions

By Dan Schneider

There was good news and there was bad. Energy was a big topic at Monday night's school board meeting.

The bad news came from Larry Mikulski, who presented the findings of a preliminary report on projected fuel costs for the district's bus fleet this year. According to the report, it is likely fuel costs for the district will exceed the amount budgeted by about \$34,000. That figure is based on several factors that are subject to change.

The good news is Lowell Area Schools is using less energy in its buildings. In 19 months of implementing conservation habits through a company called Energy Education, Lowell has saved \$593,386 on its electricity, water and natural gas bills. That's a savings of about 36 percent. "We can't control natural gas costs or electricity costs, but we can control consumption," said Jim White, who is managing the energy conservation program.

Energy Education contracts with 652 districts nationwide to provide conservation education. Lowell athletic director Barry Hobbra gave a report on last year's participation rates and other information about Lowell High School athletics. With the addition of lacrosse as a varsity sport, LHS is up to 24 sports offered, with 12 boys sports and 12 girls sports. Last year, 44.1 percent of the student population participated in athletics. Participation was higher among male students (55.3 percent) than among female students (44.7 percent). A total of 546 students participated in athletics out of 1,237 students at the high school.

## Goodwill helps out evacuees from Katrina

West Michigan will not only receive clothing, but job-training and placement services, if needed. Katrina evacuees will be given Goodwill store vouchers, disseminated through the American Red Cross, which are good for five free items at any local Goodwill store, including the Lowell location. Individuals can use these vouchers to purchase gently used clothing, new personal care items, or household goods.

"We encourage individuals to donate gently used clothing items to Goodwill stores as they normally would. Items may or may not be chosen by evacuees who will shop in our stores with the community voucher," said Dave Brinza, COO of Goodwill Industries of Greater Grand Rapids. "Individuals may also make monetary donations at our stores, which will help fund job training and placement services to individuals affected by the hurricane."

\*\*\*

*Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet. Only through experience of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, ambition inspired, and success achieved.*

Helen Keller (1880 - 1968)

## BENEFIT FOR FRANCES THOMAS

This will be held at:  
**LARKIN'S**  
301 W. Main St., Lowell, MI  
**THE OLD THEATER**

**Sept. 17, 2005**  
6 p.m. until 11 p.m.



Fran was injured by a homemade pipe bomb in Lowell on July 4, 2005

She is 65, a mother, a grandmother; she needs our help, as the medical expenses are overwhelming. We are asking that the community come join us to show the love and support that is needed

### THERE WILL BE:

- ◆ Spaghetti Dinner \$5.00 per person
- ◆ 50/50 Raffle 5 & Under Free
- ◆ Auction
- ◆ Bake Sale
- ◆ For Entertainment - DJ and Karaoke

A Medical Fund has been set up, donations can be made at any Fifth-Third Bank, in the name of **FRANCES THOMAS MEDICAL FUND.** All Donations Are Greatly Appreciated  
**PLEASE CALL:**  
616-794-2572 After 5:00 P.M.

### ACCOUNTANT/CPA:

Looking for a change? Do you desire to be an owner in a Public Accounting Firm? Respected CPA firm with two locations has position available for accountant with 2 to 4 years experience in public accounting and future ownership goals. We would like to discuss your long-term plans.

Send resume to:  
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**(616) 897-8491**

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## Community comes through & fills F.R.O.M. pantry

Response from the community to the Flat River Outreach Ministries' need for more food was impressive.

"I haven't seen it this full in ages and I work here every week," said food pantry volunteer Morna Ford, pictured at left with food pantry director Jody Haybarker.

A photograph taken from a similar angle three weeks ago showed the shelves nearly empty. After an article in the Lowell Ledger, another in the Grand Rapids Press, and an item on Channel 13 News, donations of nonperishable food items poured into the pantry. Food donations also poured in during the food drive at the first Red Arrow home football game last Friday. That drive filled the extended cab and most of the bed of a full-size pickup truck.

"We don't even have it all put away yet," Haybarker said Monday afternoon, adding a "thank you" to everyone who donated food.

Organizers of the food drive at the football game hope to make it an annual event, as food shortages in late summer and early fall are an annual occurrence at the food pantry.



## Thunder Floor Cloggers earn a first

Lynda and Bob Warner, the children either sang, CCI took the Thunder Floor danced or played the fiddle, Cloggers to the clogging violin or guitar.

Very reminiscent of the talent show in Lebanon were the performances at the Clarksville Ox-Roast and the Sunfield Farmers Picnic this summer by three of the youngsters from the Thunder Floor Cloggers. The trio of Elena Fouche of Ada, Lynette Rohrbacher of Lake Odessa and Tricia Main of Belmont danced to and played Old Joe Clark and Boil the Cabbage Down. The Old Time American

Atalent show, involving children ages 4-12 years, was held during Friday evening. There were approximately 30 different acts in which

Clogging and Appalachian Square Dance School in Lake Odessa is starting classes Sept. 11 for beginner clogging. Classes begin Oct. 18 for beginner old-fashioned square dance in the barn. The school teaches traditional clogging, buck dancing, hoe down, the southern Appalachian square dance and old-time Michigan square dance.

\*\*\*

Every day brings a chance for you to draw in a breath, kick off your shoes, and dance.

Oprah Winfrey

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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 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. **TUES.:** Cub Scout Pack 3188 meets at 1st United Methodist Church (as long as there is school), 6:30 p.m. 1st-5th grade boys. Contact Gary Liu at (616) 292-6039 for more information.

**TUES.:** Weight Watchers at Alto United Methodist Church, corner of Kirby & Harrison meets at 5:30 p.m. Register 1 1/2 hrs. before meeting. Call 1-800-651-6000.

**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. 9:30-11:30 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 at City Hall, 301 E. Main, 2nd floor.

**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.:** 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. 250 Cherry, Lacks Cancer Center, Grand Rapids.

**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.

**1ST & 3RD FRI.:** Teen MOPS support group for pregnant teens and teen moms, 9:15 - 11:30 a.m. at Impact Church, 1070 N. Hudson. 897-8304.

**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, Franciscan Life Process Center, 9:30-12:30 p.m. 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 by appt. 676-9346.

**LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM:**

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

**ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY HOURS:** Mon.-Wed., 12 - 8 p.m.; Thurs. and Fri.: 9:30-5 p.m.; Sat.: 9:30-1:30 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 OUTREACH MINISTRIES THRIFT SHOP HOURS:** Wed.-Fri. 12-6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 519 E. Main St. Call 897-2037.

**WED., SEPT. 14:** Lowell Rotary Club is sponsoring a blood drive for the MI Community blood cen-

ter, 2-7 p.m. at Look Memorial Fire Station, 315 S. Hudson.

**WED., SEPT. 14:** Snow United Methodist Church, 3189 Snow, family style turkey & dressing dinner starting at 5:30 p.m. Adults: \$8; 5-12, \$2.

**SAT., SEPT. 17:** The Congregational Church, 404 N. Hudson, invites the public to meet Lillian Moir, missionary from Botswana at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Slide presentation from Africa. Free admission. Teresa, 897-7768.

**WED., SEPT. 21:** Chamber of Commerce networking opportunity for new or established businesses. Breakfast Club at Huntington Bank, 414 E. Main at 7:30 a.m. Call 897-9161 or www.lowellchamber.org.

**THURS., SEPT. 22 & MON., SEPT. 26:** Heart Disease & Diabetes Health Lecture, 7 p.m. at Englehardt Library. Lectures/???s/answers by Andre Jubert MD. Call Marian 897-0581.

**SAT., SEPT. 24:** Class of '95 10-year reunion. Contact Krista at kbeach@tk.k12.mi.us if you have not received an invitation.



## Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold  
Edward Jones  
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### REVIEW ASSET MIX IN 401(K) AND TAXABLE ACCOUNTS

If you're like many people, you have at least two separate "pools" of investment funds: 1) Your 401(k) or other tax-deferred, employer-sponsored retirement plan, and 2) your taxable brokerage account. Should you invest in both of them in exactly the same way?

Many people do just that. In fact, to fund both their 401(k) plans and their taxable accounts, investors put about 70 percent of their investment dollars in stocks and 30 percent in bonds, according to a recent study by Carnegie Mellon University. Is this a good idea? Not according to the study that claims this type of identical allocation can eat away between 15 percent and 20 percent of the cumulative value of your retirement accounts.

What's behind this kind of erosion? It's the different tax treatment of stocks and bonds. Bond interest is taxed at your ordinary tax rate (up to 35 percent), while the maximum rate for long-term capital gains and stock dividends is now just 15 percent.

In contrast, all the money in your 401(k) plan will be taxed at your ordinary tax rate when you withdraw it, so if you put only stocks in your 401(k), you give up the more advantageous capital gains treatment.

## Permits, continued. ... From Page 4

covered up. If a developer does cover it up before that inspection, he will be required to dig up the site so the city can inspect the work.

Overall, the \$50 will cover the cost of sending someone out to watch the

compacting of the solid, make sure the area is put back together, and that all trash has been removed.

This is the first time this part of the ordinance has had a fee amount associated with it. The change occurred after the city updated fees

One possible way of improving the overall total value of your retirement holdings is to concentrate on stocks in your taxable account, while increasing the percentage of bonds in your 401(k).

For example, let's suppose that you plan to contribute the maximum amount of \$14,000 to your 401(k) in 2005. (If you are 50 or over, you could put in \$18,000.) Also, let's assume that you could afford to put another \$2,000 into your taxable account, giving you a total of \$16,000 to be invested.

If you followed the 70 percent equities/30 percent bonds formula, you would put 30 percent of this \$16,000, or \$4,800, into bonds - and to possibly receive favorable tax treatment, you'd put the entire \$4,800 worth of bonds into your 401(k). You could then fill the remaining \$9,200 of your 401(k) with stocks, and you could also invest your \$2,000 in non-401(k) dollars in stocks.

70/30 split not for everyone  
We've used the 70 percent stocks/30 percent bonds figure as a "given." But is it right for you?

Not necessarily. During your working years, you may

## Utility lines, continued ... From Page 4

would outline expectations and responsibilities, and would make clear that extensions would not be allowed.

The council decided

to have staff put together a short policy on allowing tap-ins from Vergennes Township.

Pasquale proposed doubling the sewer rates as

well, but the council wanted to hold off until the use and cost study was completed to assure that what is being charged is accurate.

That policy is expected to be presented to the council at its next meeting, Sept. 19.

The city does have an agreement with Lowell Township, in which it sells sewer and water at wholesale to the township. The township then bills its customers and maintains its own lines within the township.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BOWNE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

### PROPOSED REZONING OF CERTAIN PROPERTY IN SECTION 22 FROM AG AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO R-1 RURAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT

Public notice is hereby given that the Bowne Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, October 13, 2005 at 7:30 p.m., in the Historic Township Hall, located at 8240 Alden Nash Avenue, Alto, Michigan, to hear public comments regarding the rezoning requested by David Mielke and Christine Sannes from AG Agricultural District to R-1 Rural Residential District for the following property:

12387 - 92nd Street, S.E.

The SE 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 22, T5N, R9W, Bowne Township, Kent County, Michigan.

(Permanent Parcel # 41-24-22-300-003)

The proposed rezoning amendment may be examined at the Township Hall, 8240 Alden Nash, Alto, Michigan, on Wednesdays and Thursdays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and on Fridays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

September 14, 2005  
Sandra Kowalczyk, Clerk  
Bowne Township

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105 N. Broadway, 897-9261

**LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR**  
**WEEKLY ACTIVITIES**  
897-5949

**MON.:** 9 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall; 10:30 a.m. Exercise Class.

**THURS.:** 9 a.m. Walk/Shop at Malls; 9:30 a.m. Crafts; 1:00 p.m. Euchre.

**TUES.:** 9 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall; 10:30 a.m. Exercise Class.

**FRI.:** 9 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall; 9:30 a.m. Exercise Class.

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**WED., SEPT. 14:** Bosnia Shoppers; 11 a.m. Meijer Shopping.

**MON., SEPT. 19:** 11 a.m. Montague Lighthouse.

**TUES., SEPT. 20:** 12 p.m. Pancake Lunch.

**WED., SEPT. 21:** 8:30 a.m. Traveling Breakfast Denny's; 12:45 p.m. Shop Ionia Wal-Mart.

**FRI., SEPT. 16:** 11 a.m. Grand Lady Boat Trip; 12:45 p.m. Bingo; 1 p.m. Bowling.

**THURS., SEPT. 22:** 12 p.m. Pizza Lunch.

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BOWNE TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2005 7:30 P.M.  
BOWNE TOWNSHIP HALL  
8240 ALDEN NASH SE  
ALTO MI 49302  
(616) 868-6846  
Request for Variance of Article 3.02B, Article 6, Paragraph 6.05 on parcel 41-21-33-400-011, Thomas Gasser, 11881 108th Street SE.  
Sandra L. Kowalczyk  
Clerk-Bowne Township

**LUNCH MENU**  
ELEMENTARY MENU  
Week of Sept. 19, 2005

**MON:** Hamburger on bun (Alto & Murray Lake - crispito w/cheese also offered), green beans, assorted fruit, milk.

**TUES:** Chicken nuggets w/bread (Alto & Murray Lake - stacked ham/cheese on bun also offered), oven baked beans, assorted fruit, milk.

**WED:** Pepperoni pizza (Alto & Murray Lake - tuna salad sandwich also offered), fresh tossed salad, assorted fruit, milk.

**THURS:** Soft shelled taco w/meat, cheese & lettuce (Alto & Murray Lake - chicken salad sandwich also offered), green peas, assorted fruit, milk.

**FRI:** Grilled cheese sandwich (Alto & Murray Lake - corn dog also offered), whole kernel corn, fruited gelatin salad, milk.



## From parades to pie eatin' A good old-fashioned time at Alto Festival

By Dan Schneider

It started with pancakes, ended with bluegrass music, and in between there was a man breathing fire.

The Alto Fall Festival took place Saturday in that small village at the northern border of Bowne Township. This was its 25th annual festival.

After the Fireman's Pancake Breakfast and flag raising ceremony, Melva

Oesch was judged the grand champion of the annual Blue Ribbon Baking Contest for her chocolate chip pecan bars. Alissa Ford won the youth division with her apple pie.

Within an hour of being crowned Miss Alto 2005, Mariah Moore was jumping and kicking across Depot Street. She was giving a Wushu karate demonstration and taking "A Kick at Anna's Cancer."

She was joined by several noted karate practitioners, among them internationally known Grand Master Bong Jornales. Dressed in black leather pants and vest, Jornales gave an exhibition of high-level karate skills with a variety of weapons and flaming implements.

It was an exciting event and raised more than \$1,100 to help eight-year-old cancer patient Anna Organek.

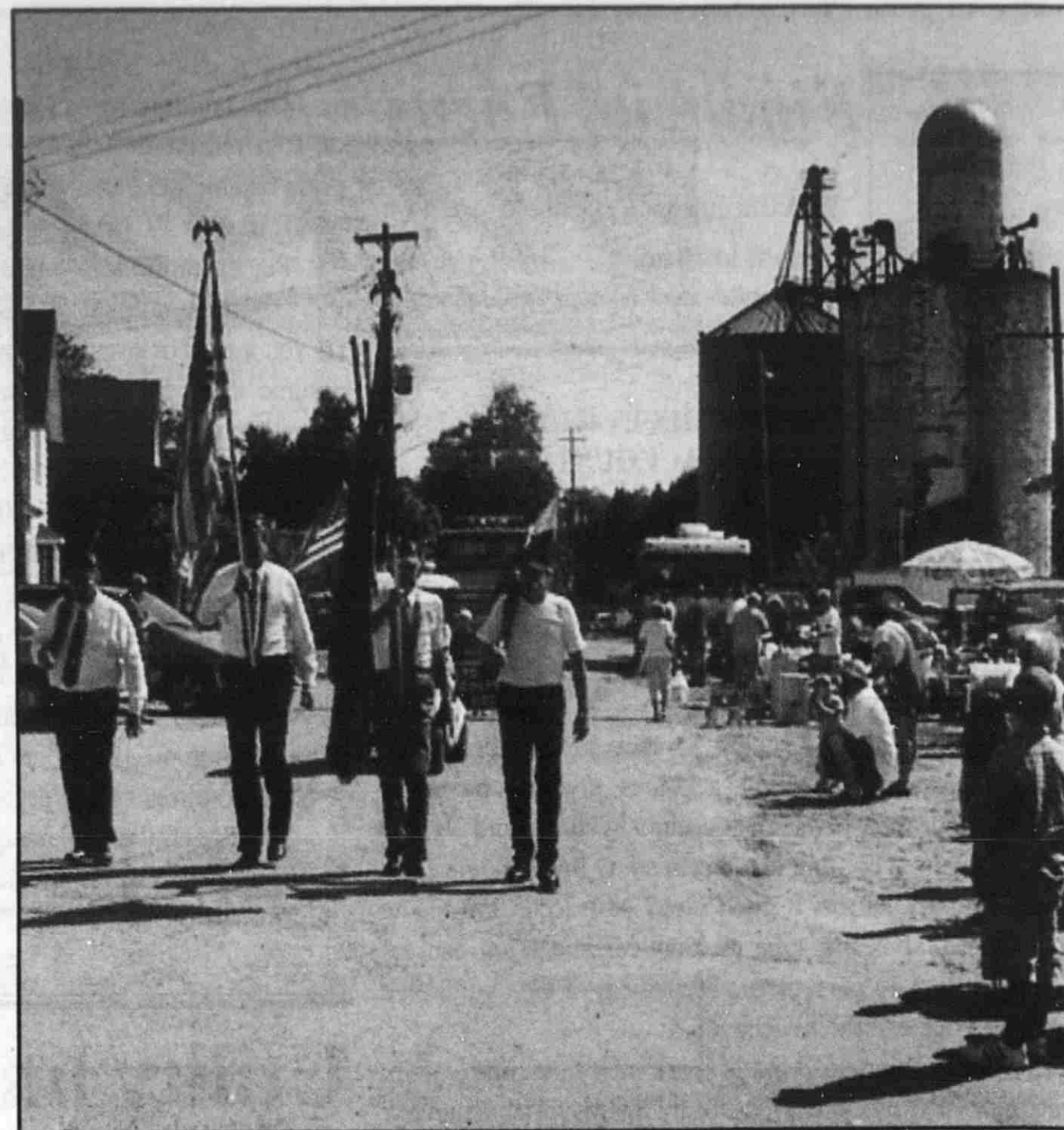
Alyssa Lilly-Koepf, 8, was crowned "Little Miss Alto."

One champion was dethroned and another was on the way up through the ranks in the pie and watermelon eating contests. Kenny Bailey hung on to his perennial crown in the adult pie eating contest, winning by only a bite or two. But he was unseated in the watermelon-eating contest by John Gregitis. All of the pies eaten this year were nine inches in diameter.

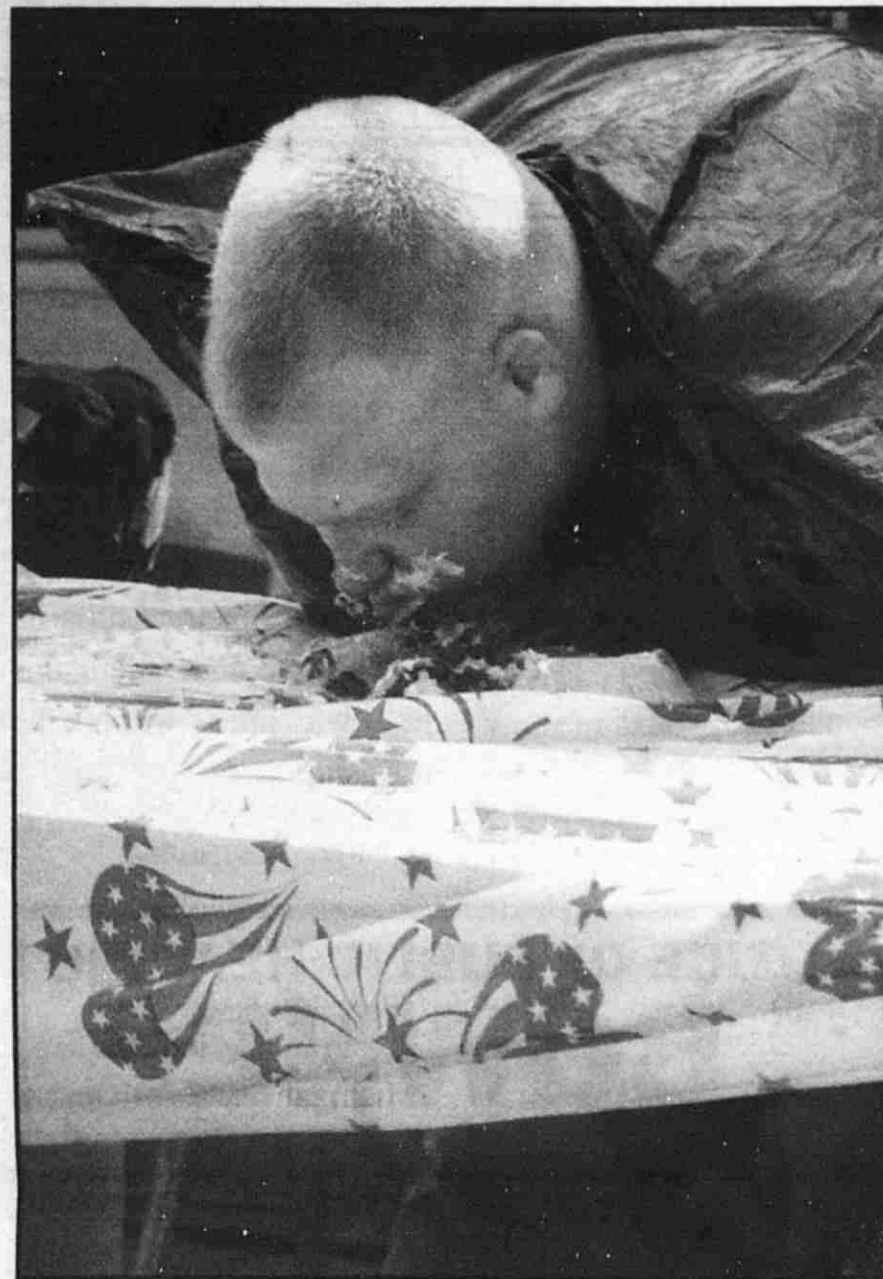
Brandon Yates, 12, won the youth division of both the pie and watermelon eating contests, firmly establishing himself as the up-and-comer on the Alto eating-contest circuit.

Gail Franklin won the adult division of the annual talent show. Kaylee Depew won the youth division and Kyleigh Rau took top honors in the children's division.

Luke Lenhart finished the day off with some old-time bluegrass pickin'.



Members of the Alto American Legion post led the parade along Depot Street during the 25th annual Alto Fall Festival.



Kenny Bailey defended his pie-eating crown, but fell just short of another win at watermelon eating.



Brandon Yates won the youth division in both the pie- and watermelon-eating contests at the festival.

**Uncle Bob's Poker Run**  
September 17th  
To benefit Anna Organek  
Anna is an 8 year old from Lowell battling Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma  
For more info go to [www.help-anna.org](http://www.help-anna.org)  
\$25 a couple or \$15 individually  
Registration at the Lowell Fairgrounds between 9 am and 11 am • Leaving @ 11:30 sharp  
All bikes and classic cars and trucks welcome!  
Hot dogs and chips at end at the fairgrounds  
Cost will be \$2  
Bring your own drinks!

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**The Lowell Ledger**  
Call **897-9261**  
For information!  
Deadline is Friday at 4 PM for the following Wednesday edition.  
Limited space - call to reserve your space!

## Local company celebrates a century in business

Attwood Corporation celebrated its 100th anniversary of making marine hardware products last Wednesday.

Started in 1893 as the Attwood Brass Works in Grand Rapids, the company began manufacturing products for the boating industry in 1905. Attwood arrived in Lowell in 1960. In that year, the Lowell Showboat Company and Lowell Board of Trade sold the land on North Monroe Street to Attwood for \$1 to encourage industrial development in town.

Attwood first built a 51,000 square foot facility in Lowell. At that location, they conducted their die casting, plating and polishing/buffing operations.

Steelcase purchased the company in 1964, and two years later, Attwood's corporate offices were moved here. By 1980, following two



major expansions during the 1970s, Attwood's facility had grown almost eight-fold in size to 400,000 square feet.

Now under the ownership of the Brunswick Corporation, Attwood manufactures pumps and

lights in Lowell and also operates a warehousing operation here. Attwood has another factory in

Forest Park, Georgia, where it manufactures canvas boat tops and seats.

Pictured are about 100 employees of the Lowell operation.

## Watery art on exhibit at Lowell Area Arts Council

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell Area Arts Council's current art exhibit has to do with water.

But it's not just art on display at the Hudson Street Gallery. There is a wide range of multi-media information regarding water as a natural resource. The title of the exhibit, in fact, is "Water Wonderland--Michigan's Fragile Resource."

Water is an important part of our identity here in Michigan. It shapes our state, for one thing. Lowell would likely not have been settled had it not been for the

confluence of the Grand and Flat rivers here.

The water-related heritage of our state is clearly important to husband-and-wife painters Timothy Norris and Patricia Opel of Muskegon. They painted a wall-sized piece full of bright blue colors and angles based on a Great Lakes steamer wreck that took place in 1880. The painting is called "Wreck of the Alpena."

Other artists used words to express their fondness for water. Several works combine graphic art with poetry. There is even a short story.



"North Beach, South Haven" by Douglas Neuman.

Various environmental and conservation organizations were invited to submit materials dealing with water and how to protect it.

The West Michigan Environmental Action Council submitted materials on constructing rain gardens. These are gardens comprised of mostly native Michigan vegetation. They are designed to collect rainwater as their exclusive water source. The Au Sable

Institute in Mancelona, Mich., sent along a cassette tape with a booklet called "Excuse Me, Sir, That's My Aquifer!"

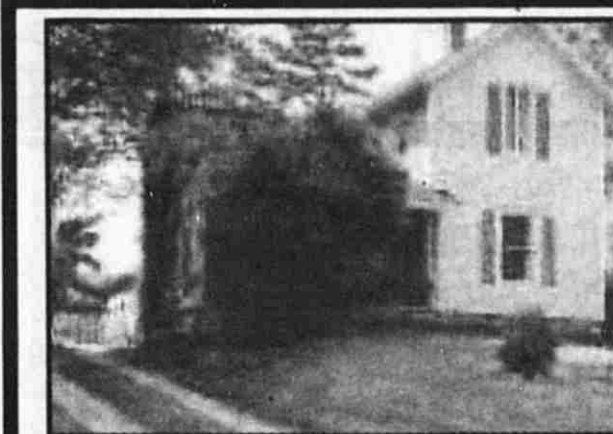
The city of Lowell even contributed two posters demonstrating the flow of groundwater and a packet

titled "The 2004 Water Quality Report for the City of Lowell and Lowell Charter Township."

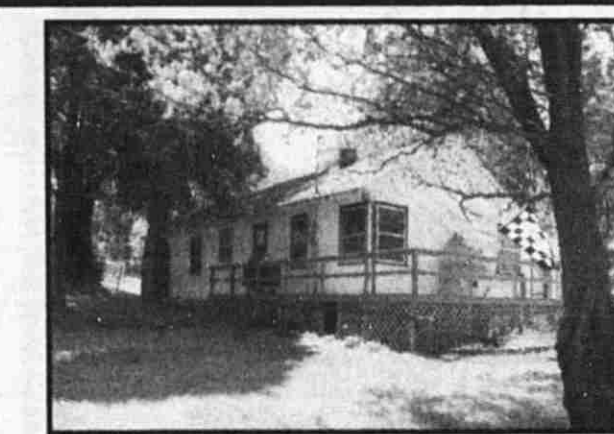
There is a political side to water, too. And it is not left out of this exhibition.

Framed letters from Michigan lawmakers--Gov. Granholm, state representative David Hildenbrand, state senator Bill Hardiman--offer their views on the often-contentious public policy topic of water.

There are 32 Michigan artists involved in the exhibition. A reception to meet the artists will take place Sunday, Sept. 18 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the gallery, which is located at 149 S. Hudson St.



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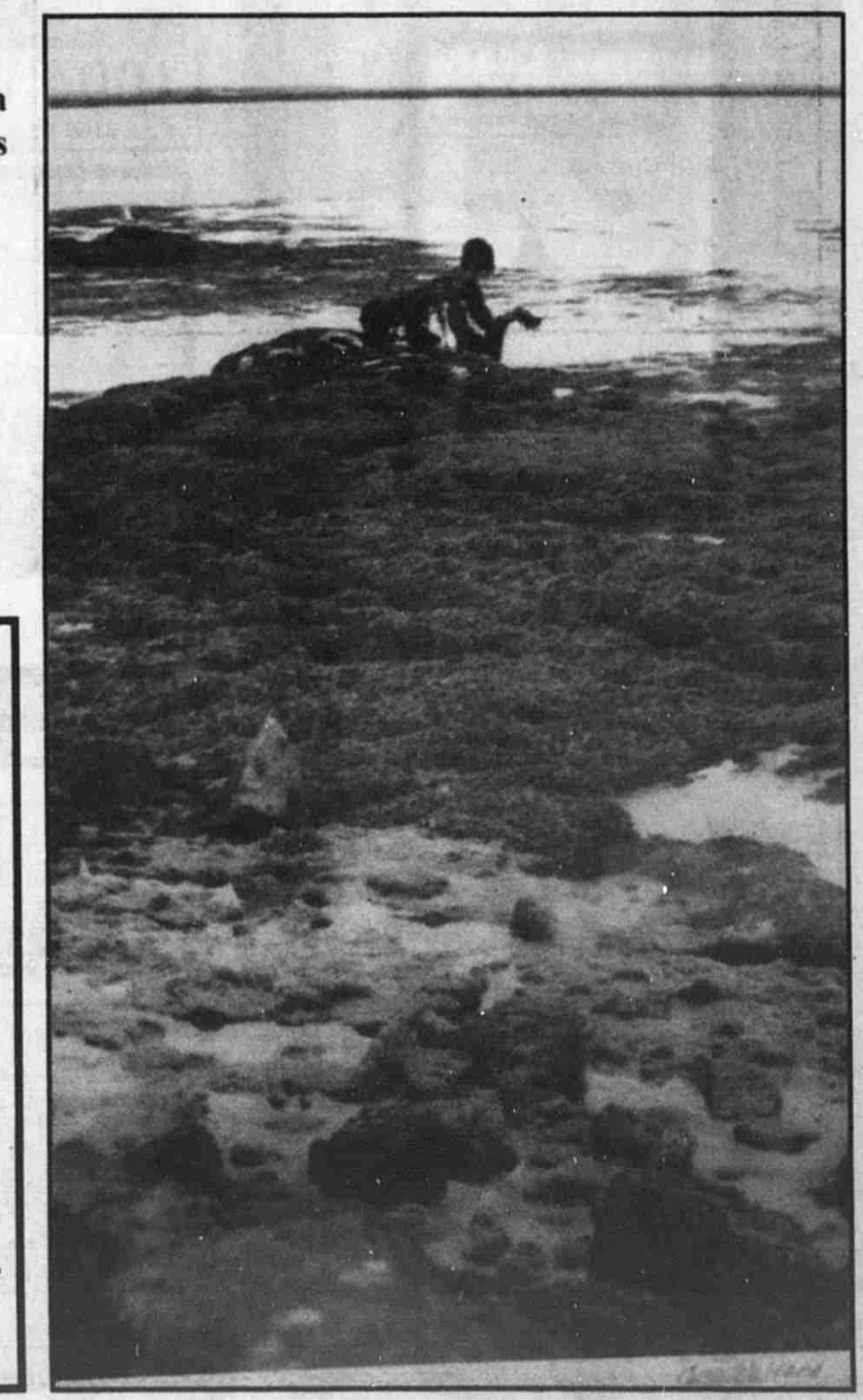
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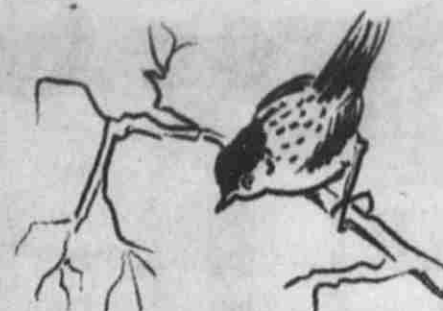
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# Outdoors

By Dave Stegehuis



## FALL SALMON FEVER

The signs that summer is slipping away are beginning to appear. Garden plants and weeds in the fields are drying up and turning brown. Although the woods are still green, the foliage is withering and it is possible to see much farther into the cover. Then there are schools of silver salmon showing up along the Lake Michigan shoreline as they stage for spawning runs up the Grand, Muskegon, Manistee and other rivers.

Lake Michigan salmon fishing had been good all summer where most of the action took place far from shore. The fishery has had ups and downs since the late '60s when the first runs occurred. Back then, fishermen were affected with "salmon fever" and attacked the schooling fish with

an armada of small boats and learned a fatal lesson when a storm swamped many of the boats. Offshore fishing is best done with larger craft which, for most of us, means booking a trip with one of the charter captains working the big lake ports. For someone who does not own a suitable boat or appropriate tackle, but has a desire to catch big fish, these charters provide a great angling experience.

When the fish are close to shore and in the drowned river mouths, like Manistee Lake, and in the rivers themselves, the small boat fishermen has a window of opportunity. Water temperature determines when the fish will be up, so it is necessary to monitor weather conditions and fishing reports.

Some fishermen use jigs to catch king salmon. I

haven't tried it myself, but I can imagine the consequences of hooking a big king with only 10 feet of line over the side. Trolling with flat lines or down riggers is a more common method of catching salmon. J-plugs and spoons are popular lures. Another successful set-up is using an attractor in front of a large fly. Each port seems to have preferred lures. Salmon can also be caught off the piers and break-walls. Timing is important here because fishermen are restricted to a defined area. Casting heavy spoons will take fish.

I usually make a trip to Manistee in September. The venture is kind of a pilgrimage to kick-off the fall season. Anyone who enjoys fishing of any kind should experience catching these large silver fish even at the risk of getting salmon fever.

## Start planning now for next year's garden

The growing season is winding down, and already your memory of which varieties you planted might be getting a little fuzzy. Quick! Make those notes you know you'll want when you're ready to plan next year's garden.

"Even if the high and low points of this year's vegetable garden are still fresh in your mind now, do you really think you'll remember variety names and such in five or six months when the garden catalogs are coming in?" says Mary McLellan, extension master gardener program coordinator at Michigan State University. "And are you sure you'll know where you planted those families

of crops that you'll want to rotate to another part of the garden next year?"

If you have notes on this year's garden, you won't have to rack your brain to remember. What should you keep notes on? The general organization of the garden, for one thing. A garden map, especially if it includes information on varieties and quantities of seed sown or transplants planted, can be the basis of next year's plan. With it you can make sure crops that are susceptible to the same insect pests and disease don't follow one another in the same part of the garden.

Sometimes circumstances beyond your control affect the outcome

of various plantings. Make a note of that, also. Drought, hail, a mistimed vacation, vandals, wildlife, Japanese beetles - any number of extenuating factors could have contributed to less than spectacular results. Could you have avoided some of that disappointment by fencing out the rabbits that ate your peas, for instance, or push that up north vacation back a week or two, or install cardboard cutworm collars around your pepper transplants? Make a note!

Outstanding varieties, both good and bad, also rate a mention in your garden records. "When gardeners find varieties they like, they tend to rely on them year after year," said McLellan.

"But they also like to try new varieties. When a new variety outyields an old favorite, holds up better under bad weather, begins to produce earlier, tastes better and has fewer pest problems, it's a keeper. Better write its name down so you don't have to count on recognizing it in next year's seed catalogs."

Gardeners also tend to be on the lookout for different ways to grow their crops. Maybe you tried drip irrigation or grew climbing beans instead of bush beans.

Were you happy with the results? Is there anything you'd change if you were starting over? If you didn't make notes as the season progressed, make a note to do that next year, McLellan suggests. Jot down when you planted which crops, what the weather was like, when annual problems such as Japanese beetle and tomato hornworm appeared.

"If you get in the habit of writing down pertinent information on how your garden grew, eventually you'll have a veritable textbook specific to your growing conditions that you can consult throughout the season," she says.

# Red Arrow girls basketball beats Byron Center

By Dan Schneider

The host Lowell girls basketball team got off to a good start and then built on it against Byron Center last Thursday.

The Red Arrows won 54-37.

It was a tie game at 2-2 for several possessions early in the first quarter. Lowell was up 15-10, however, after eight minutes of play. There was less scoring in the second quarter as Lowell took a 22-16 lead into halftime.

"The first three minutes

of the second half, we want to take care of things right there," said Lowell coach Dee Crowley.

The Red Arrows came out of the locker room and outscored the Bulldogs 22-13 in a fast-break-heavy third quarter. They took a 15-point lead on a buzzer-beater by Kelsey Crowley. Lowell finished by outscoring Byron Center 10-8 in the fourth quarter.

Throughout the first half, Lowell frustrated the Bulldogs with their full-court press. The Arrows

seemed to flock to the ball, creating turnovers and forcing jump balls. It was a different kind of press than Lowell used in their first two wins of the season.

"They got a few layups off it, but not as many as in our previous press," Crowley said.

Byron Center passed the ball out of the press more effectively in the second half, but Lowell was still too fast for them.

"They came out gangbusters in the second half, we tried to slow them

down and we didn't," Byron Center coach Glenn Davis said. "I think we have the athletes on the team to handle it, we just weren't ready."

From game to game, Lowell is seeing more players becoming comfortable with scoring roles.

"I think we're starting to adjust more to our responsibilities and what they need to do," Crowley said.

Lowell had six players scoring seven or more points in its 59-44 win at Rockford

last Tuesday. Brook VanEck scored 14; Brittany Lyman, 13; Brittany Bueche, 11; Kelsey Crowley, Nicole Shepard, and Amanda Geelhoed each scored seven.

Lowell was 15-19 from the line in that game and only turned the ball over eight times; they also shot the ball 57 times. Crowley pulled down 11 rebounds and had five assists. Lyman had six assists and 10 rebounds.

Against Byron Center, Lowell's leading scorers were Lyman with 12,

Crowley and Bueche with 11. Lindsey Trierweiler, Lyman and Geelhoed each had four rebounds. Crowley stole the ball three times and Chelsea Harrison stole it twice. Crowley had six assists. Lowell turned the ball over 13 times while Byron Center turned it over 20 times.

Lowell opened conference play Tuesday hosting Kenowa Hills. They play at East Grand Rapids this Thursday and host Greenville next Tuesday.

# Lowell football surprised early, but handles Kenowa

By Dan Schneider

It looked like there were actually three teams on the field during Friday night's football game at Red Arrow Stadium.

There was Kenowa Hills. The Knights ended up losing 56-22. Then there was the Lowell team that struggled early. And,

finally, the Lowell team that dominated the second half.

Kenowa Hills started the game with a scoring run capped by Aaron Read catching a short pass and running for a 39-yard touchdown.

Lowell responded on their first possession. Quarterback Keith Nichol

connected with Mike McElroy for a 29-yard touchdown reception. Gabe Delnick ran in the two-point conversion to give Lowell an 8-7 lead.

The next drive took Kenowa Hills into the second quarter. This time the Red Arrow defense held, forcing Kenowa to punt from fourth

and 12 on the Lowell 36.

The punt stopped at the Lowell one-yard line. Nichol temporarily averted danger by scampering for a first down. But Kenowa sacked Nichol. Then on second and 13 from the Lowell nine, they sacked him again, this time for a safety. It was 9-8, Kenowa leading.

Then Kenowa's Nate VanDam split through the middle of the Lowell line to run 65 yards for a touchdown.

After these events, Lowell senior Brad Shea was getting pretty fired up on the sidelines. With Lowell facing third and three on their own 34-yard line, Shea caught a Nichol pass and sprinted all the way down the left sideline. After a failed two-point conversion, it was still 16-

14, but Shea had shown the first signs of the third team to take the field: the second-half Red Arrows.

Kenowa punted on their next drive. Lowell got it down to first and goal at the

lowell scored on their next drive with another Nichol keeper, 34-16 Lowell. The teams exchanged punts. Then a Kenowa drive ended

Football, cont'd., pg. 21

# Soccer's offensive production slow

By Dan Schneider

Still nets have been a problem for the Lowell boys soccer team in the early part of the season.

The nets haven't moved much on the goals the Red Arrows are defending, but that isn't a problem.

"Defensively we're outstanding," said Lowell coach Paul Legge.

The problem is the nets on the opposing goals have also been still.

"We're hitting the post, we're hitting everything, we're just not hitting the back of the net," Legge said.

Lowell has scored only four goals in four games since the season began.

"The last four seasons, we've scored 20 goals or more in the first four

games," Legge said. "The schedule is tough, but last year's schedule was tough."

Still, the Arrows are only 0-2-2. And opponents have only scored six goals. The record could be worse with teams like Rockford and East Kentwood on the early schedule.

Lowell played Rockford away last Thursday and the game ended in a 0-0 tie. When Grandville visited Red Arrow Stadium last Tuesday, one goal in the final 10 minutes was enough to get the win.

"Defensively, we're always putting ourselves in a position to win games, but offensively we're just not scoring goals," Legge said.

For the most part, the heat hasn't been on Lowell goalie Ken Bieri. Grandville

had only four shots on goal in their win. Rockford had only seven in the 0-0 tie.

"He (Bieri) had two key saves in the second half to keep us in the game," Legge said. "Other than that, Kory Anderson and Ryan Converse have been workhorses in the back. Josh Tapia is a third guy. They're going to put us in a position to win a game, no matter who we're playing."

Controlling the ball hasn't been a problem so far, either, Legge said. It's just a matter of communicating and attacking on offense.

"We're not crashing the goal," Legge said. "We're dominating games and not scoring goals."

Lowell had a tough challenge in playing away at Unity Christian, Tuesday.

The Red Arrows open OK White conference play next Tuesday, hosting Kenowa Hills.

"I think we can beat any team on the schedule because we're not giving up goals," Legge said. "All we have to do is score one or two goals to get a winning result."

That will be important this year, with Forest Hills Northern and Forest Hills Central added to a schedule that already includes teams like Rockford, East Kentwood, and Unity Christian.

# CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

At its September 6, 2005 meeting, the City Council approved a Street Opening Permit required for work within the street right of way. This form was implemented to protect city property and pedestrian safety. Prior to any work in the street right of way, a permit must be picked up at Lowell City Hall, 301 E. Main Street, Lowell, Michigan.



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# Lowell High School equestrian team competes in first match

The Lowell High School Equestrian Team, with 26 riders, had its first match on Sept. 10.

The "E-Team" competed in Cedar Springs at the Michigan Interscholastic Horsemanship Association (MIHA) meet against nine other District V schools (Allendale, Belding, Grant, Home School, Kenowa Hills, Kent City, Rockford, Sparta, and Tri-County.)

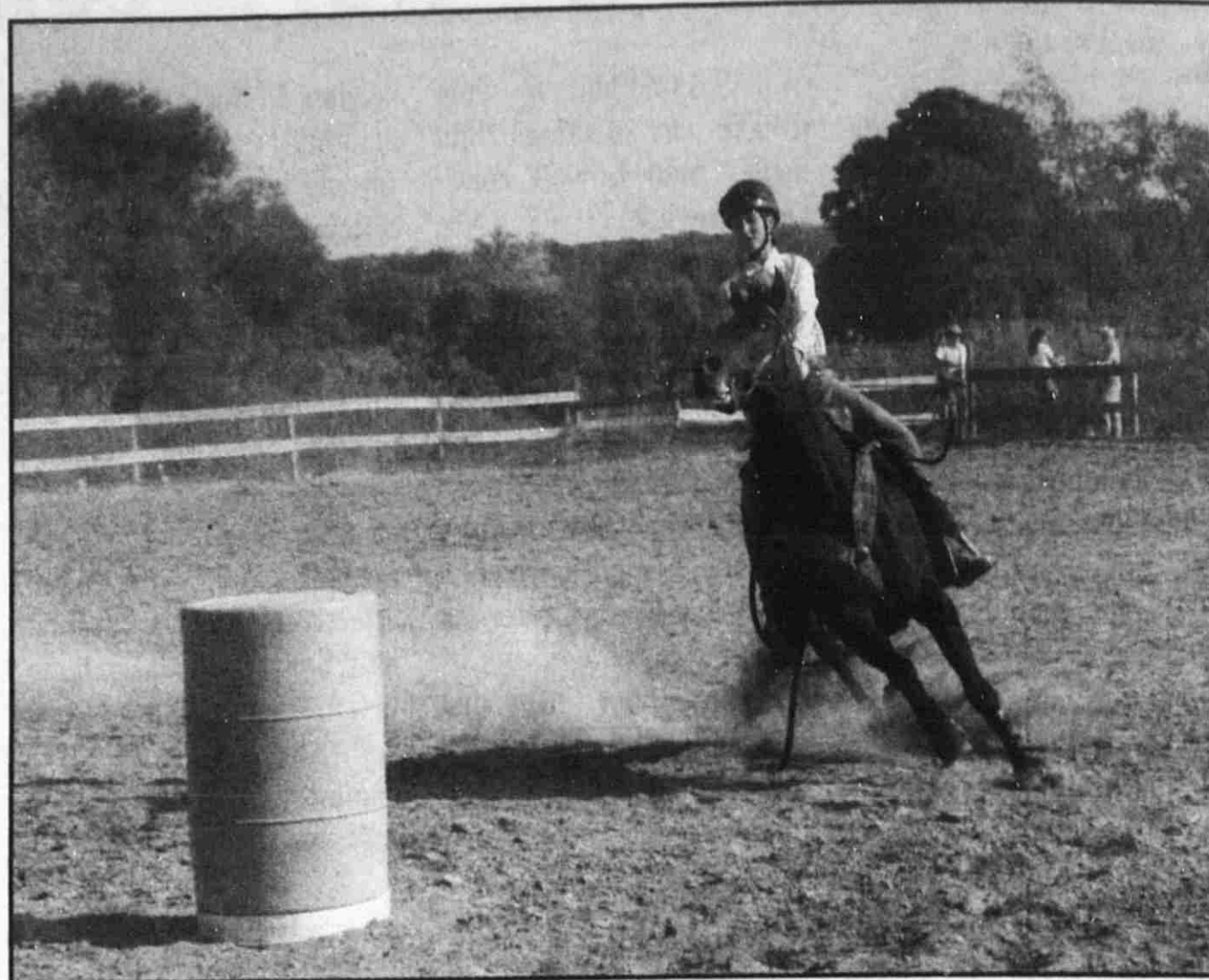
This year's new coaches are Mike and Linda Foote; leading co-captains for

the A, B and C teams are seniors Collette Benmark, Mary Mendez and Lauren VanEns.

In the A team, Amber Waldron placed first in the speed Clover Leaf division. Additional points were accrued by: Ian Blodger, Trail; Ashley Gaskin, Hunt Seat Fitting & Showing, Saddle Seat Equitation, and Saddle Seat Bareback; Mikhaila Hart, Hunt Seat Fitting & Showing and Hunt Seat Bareback; Christian Koning, Speed Clover Leaf

and Timed Events; Jessica Rehl, Western Fitting & Showing, Saddle Seat Fitting & Showing, and Hunt Seat Fitting & Showing; Miranda Ruegsegger, Western Fitting & Showing, Hunt Seat Bareback, and Western Riding; Katie Slatten, Western Equitation and Western Bareback.

In the B team, Lauren VanEns placed first in the speed Flag Race and placed in Clover Leaf and Timed Event; Amy VanEns earned (3) first place scores in Saddle



Ashton VanderWarf and her horse Shadow placed in the Clover Leaf.

Seat Fitting & Showing, Saddle Seat Equitation, and Saddle Seat Pattern, and placed in Western Bareback and supported the 2-Person Relay as the "ghost rider"; Jess Bouman placed first in Hunt Seat Bareback and Western Bareback, and placed in the speed 2-Person Relay; Cara Wilcox placed first in Western Equitation and Trail, and placed in Western and Hunt Showmanship events, and Hunt Seat Equitation; Mary Mendez placed first in the 2-

person Relay (with the help of her ghost rider) and placed in the other speed slots: Flag Race, Clover Leaf and Timed Event; April Wolf took first place in the speed Timed Event and placed in Clover Leaf.

Additional points were accrued by Collette Benmark, Saddle Seat Fitting & Showing, Saddle Seat Equitation, Saddle Seat Pattern, and Saddle Seat Bareback; Miranda Drier, Hunt Seat Equitation; Jenny Humphries, Western

Fitting & Showing, Hunt Seat Fitting & Showing, Western Equitation, Western Bareback, and Trail; Ashley Vanspronsen, Clover Leaf, Timed Event and 2-Person Relay (ghost).

In the C team, Ashton VanderWarf won first place in both speed events: Flag Race and 2-Person Relay, and placed in Western Riding, Clover Leaf and Timed Event; Kourtney Wittenbach took first

*Equestrian, cont'd., pg. 21*



The hard work of Andrea Kulhawik and Kourtney Wittenbach paid off in the two-person relay.

# Cross country starts conference season at home

By Dan Schneider

The OK White cross country season got started last Wednesday in Lowell.

The boys team won on the home course, defeating Kenowa Hills 22-36. In a close girls race, the Knights edged the Arrows 27-28.

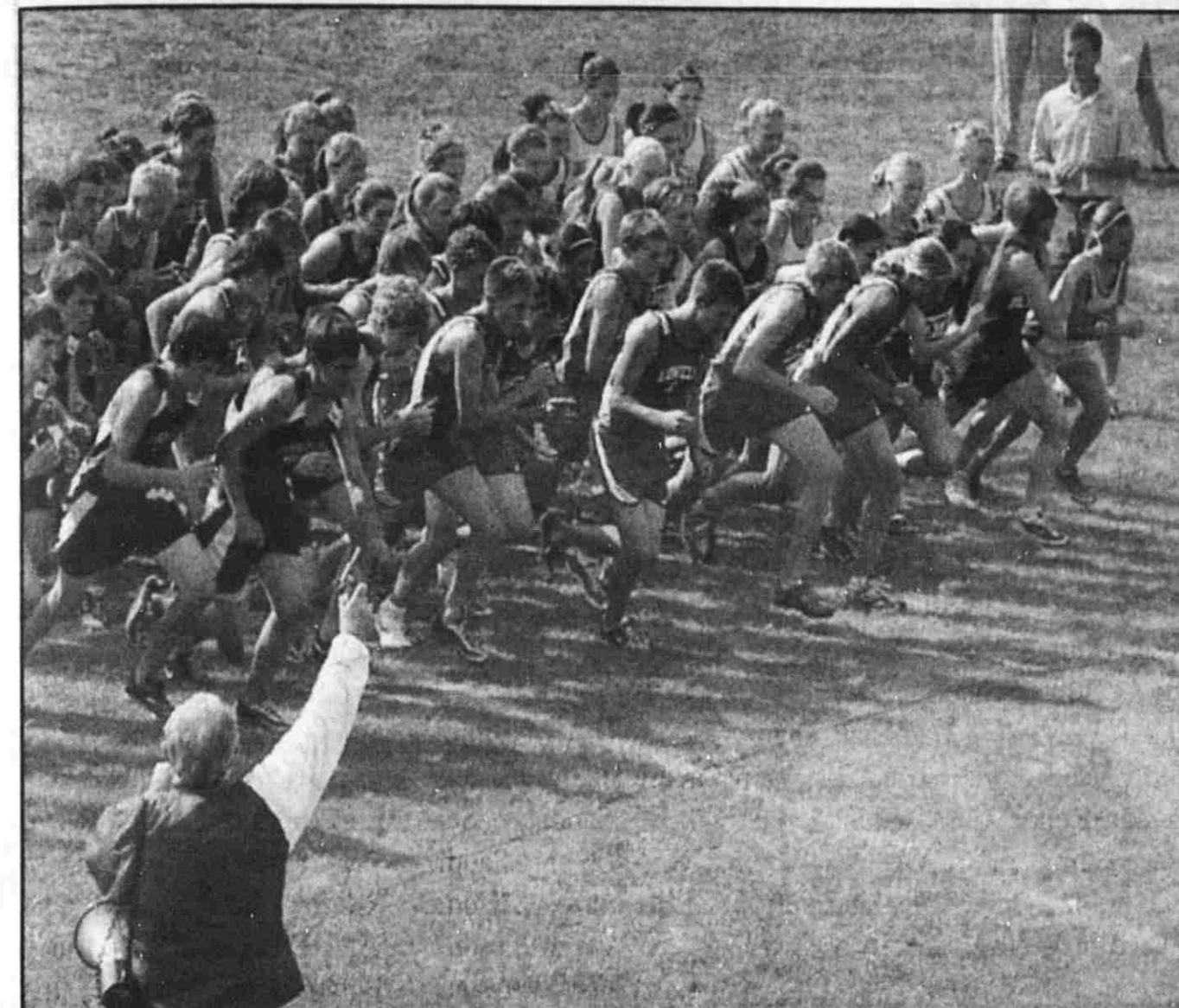
Taking first place in the boys race was Keaton Dilly in a time of 18:03. Kyle Ingebretson was next for Lowell, finishing third with

a time of 19:08. Cameron Dilly was fifth in the race and third for Lowell with a time of 19:13 followed by Mike Schumm (sixth in race, 19:19), Kirk Geldersma (seventh, 19:26), Jon Riddle (ninth, 19:35), and Andy Mark (11th, 20:21).

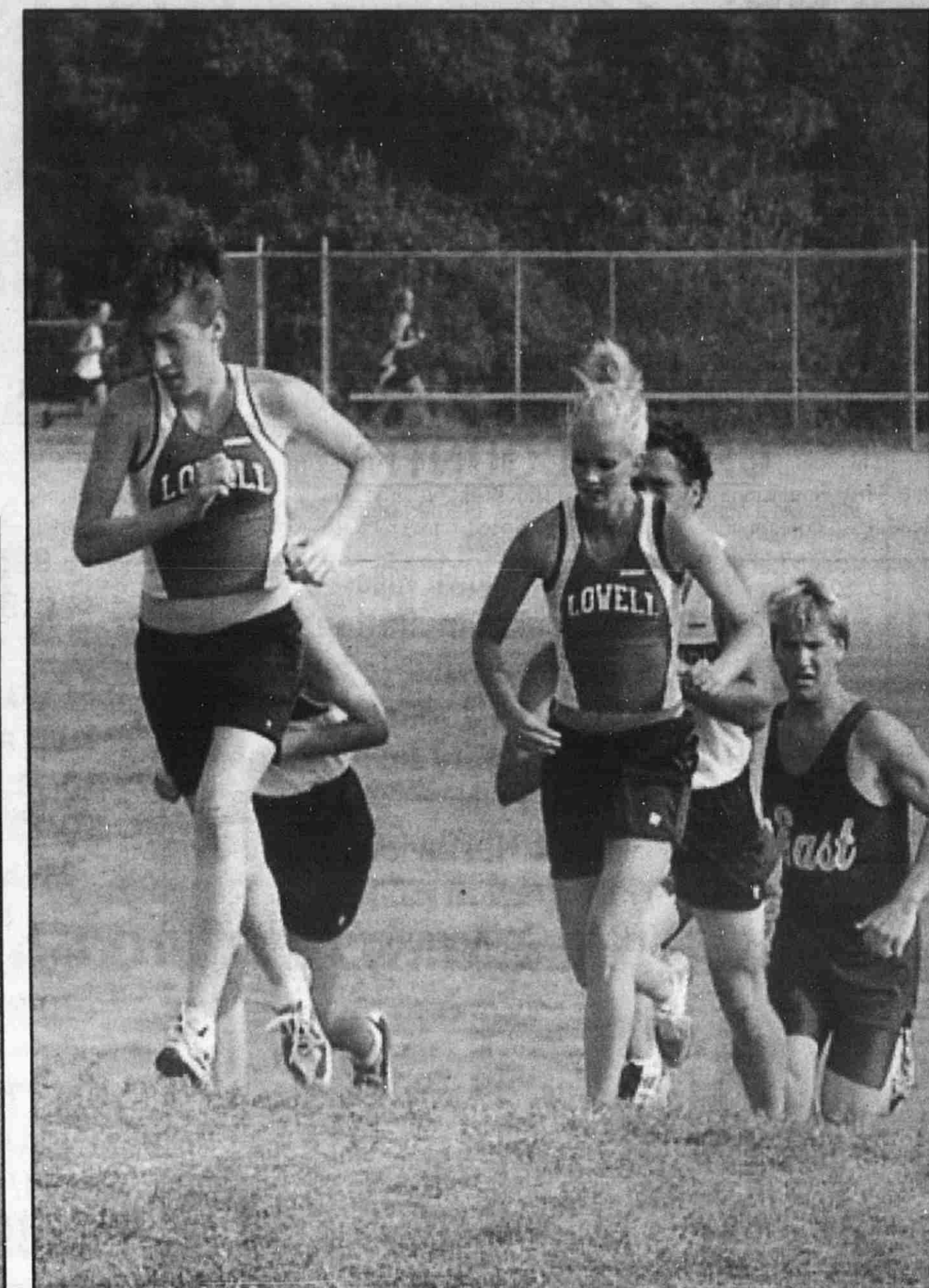
Karen Judd led the girls team, finishing second in the race in a time of 21:23. Following her were Monica

Fitzpatrick (fourth, 22:29), Katie Riddle (sixth, 22:35), Erin Beaddows (seventh, 23:20), Hayley Getzen (ninth, 24:13), Emily Hauschild (11th, 27:13) and Elizabeth Drain (14th, 30:43).

Lowell ran in the Thornapple-Kellogg Invitational Monday in Middleville and faces East Grand Rapids, Wednesday.



The OK White boys cross country season got started last Wednesday on the Lowell home course.



Lowell's Monica Fitzpatrick and Hayley Getzen crest a hill in last Wednesday's cross-country meet against Kenowa Hills.

# Golf team struggles in duals, does well in match play

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell boys golf team struggled in its last two conference matches but did well against some of the best players in the area at Friday's Lakeview tournament.

Poor greens conditions at Thousand Oaks Golf Club contributed to high scores for both teams when Lowell took on Northview Aug. 31. The Wildcats outshot the Arrows 176-171. Kyle Wittenbach's 40 was Lowell's best score followed by Brian Scheider's 42, Ryan Kalman with 43, and Josh Gilliard, 51.

It was a similar story (without the greens problems) last Wednesday at

Deer Run Golf Club hosting Kenowa Hills. Lowell shot 174 to the Knights' 167.

Wittenbach led Lowell with 39 for nine holes while Kalman shot a 44, Lance Perkins, a 45 and Eric Mundt, a 46.

In match play at Friday's Lakeview tournament, Vinny Larkin took a first place for Lowell. Mundt took third in his group and Wittenbach finished fourth against competitors from Rockford and East Kentwood.

"He (Wittenbach) played mostly the best people in the area," said Lowell coach Gary Fredline. "He won his first match, lost his second match to an opponent from Rockford."

Gilliard and Kalman each finished fifth in their groups.

As a team, Lowell ended up fifth out of 16 at the invitational.

*Golf, cont'd., pg. 21*

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WEDNESDAY- COLLEGE DAY  
THURSDAY- FORMAL DAY  
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Wednesday, September 21

Powder Puff Game:

7:00 PM ADMISSION: \$3.00

Friday, September 23

Pep Assembly

1:00 TO 2:30 PM

Friday, September 23

Parade Starts:

5:30 PM (LINE UP AT 5:00 PM)  
METHODIST CHURCH-FAIRGROUNDS

FOOTBALL GAME

Lowell vs. Greenville

7:00 PM • ADMISSION: \$5.00

Saturday, September 24

Homecoming Dance

8:00 TO 11:30 PM

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Muskegon Reeths-Puffer, September 30<sup>th</sup>

Forest Hills Central, October 14<sup>th</sup>

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The winner will be notified that same night.





# LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS VARSITY FALL SPORTS SCHEDULE

This Page Brought to You By The Lowell Ledger

## CROSS COUNTRY

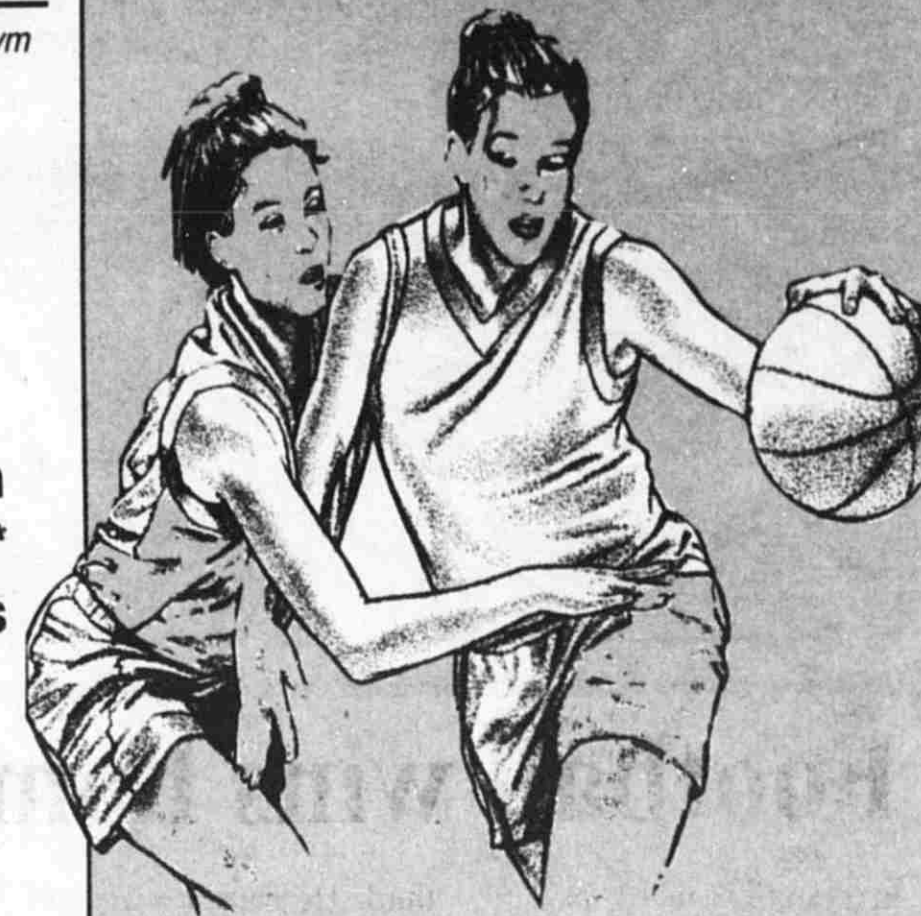
\* Indicates a home game LHS campus. Games begin at 4 p.m. unless indicated

- 9/14 EGR @ Kenowa Hills
- 9/17 at 8 a.m. Sparta Invitational
- 9/21 at Greenville
- 9/28 Cedar Springs at Johnson Park
- 10/1 at 9 a.m. Carson City Invitational
- 10/5 at FHN
- 10/12 FHC @ Northview
- 10/19 Northview at EGR
- 10/22 TBA - Conference

## GIRLS BASKETBALL

\* Indicates a home game LHS Main Gym Games begin at 7 p.m.

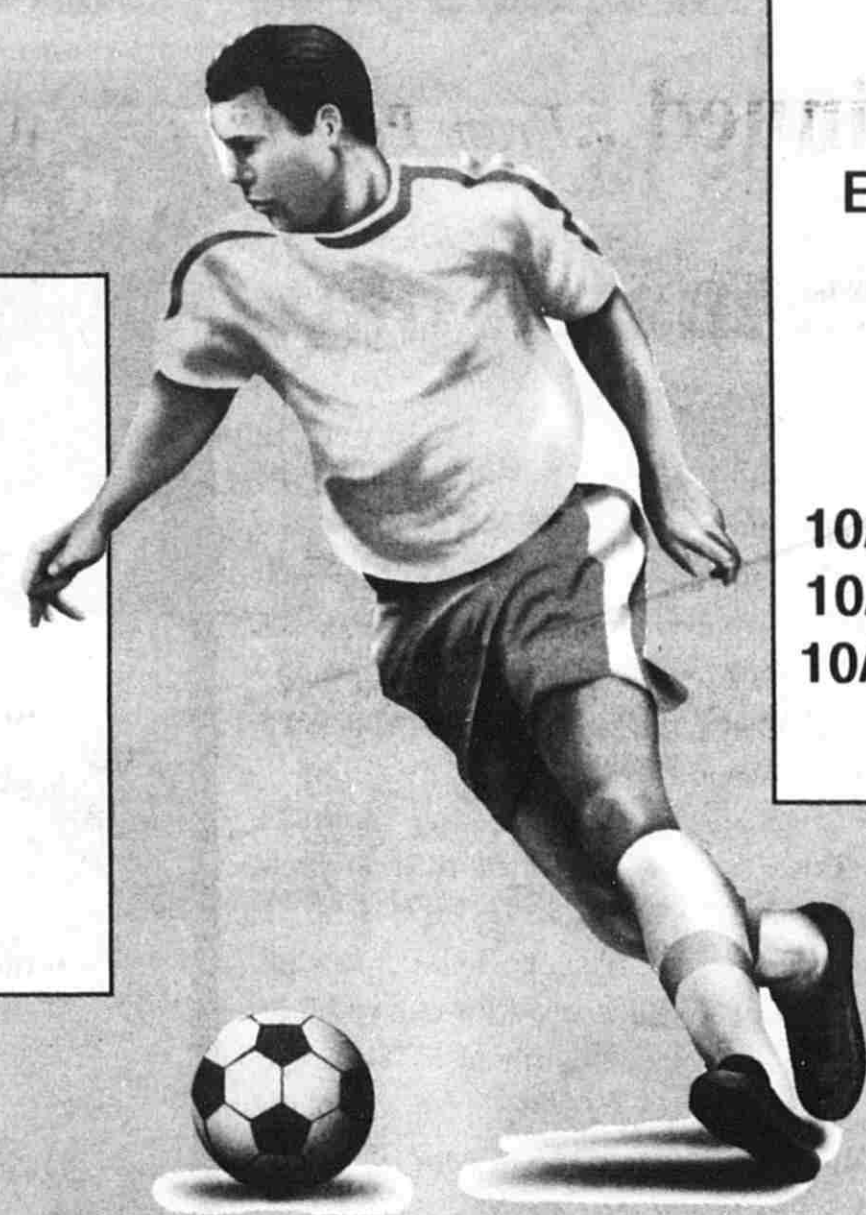
- 9/15 at EGR
- 9/20 Greenville\*
- 9/27 at FHN
- 9/29 FHC\*
- 10/4 at Ionia
- 10/8 at G.R. Christian
- 10/11 East Kentwood\*
- 10/13 at Kenowa Hills
- 10/18 at Northview
- 10/20 EGR\*
- 10/25 at Greenville
- 10/27 at Caledonia
- 11/1 FHN\*
- 11/3 at FHC
- 11/8 Northview\*
- 11/10 Crossover (OK Green)\*



## BOYS SOCCER

\* Indicates a home game Red Arrow Stadium. Games begin at 6:45 p.m. unless indicated

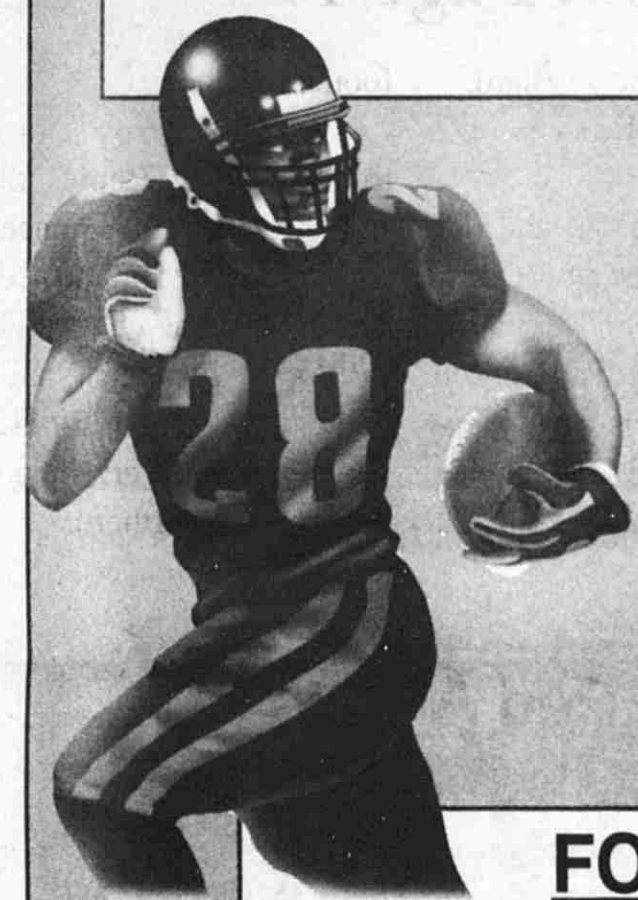
- 9/20 Kenowa Hills\*
- 9/22 at 7:15 p.m. EGR
- 9/24 at 11:30 a.m. E. Lansing Tournament
- 9/27 Greenville\*
- 9/29 Reeths Puffer\*
- 10/4 at FHN
- 10/6 FHC\*
- 10/8 at 2 p.m. at Petoskey
- 10/11 at 5:45 at Northview
- 10/13 TBA OK Conference Tournament



## FOOTBALL

\* Indicates a home game Red Arrow Stadium Games begin at 7 p.m. unless indicated

- 9/9 Kenowa Hills\*
- 9/16 at EGR
- 9/23 Greenville\* Homecoming
- 9/30 Reeths Puffer\*
- 10/7 at Forest Hills Northern
- 10/14 Forest Hills Central\*
- 10/21 at Northview



## GIRLS TENNIS

\* Indicates a home game LHS tennis courts. Games begin at 4 p.m. unless indicated

- 9/14 Greenville\*
- 9/17 at 9 a.m. Lowell Invitational\*
- 9/19 Grand Rapids Central\*
- 9/21 at Forest Hills Northern
- 9/26 Forest Hills Central\*
- 9/28 at Northview
- 10/1 time TBA Conference at FHN
- 10/4 West Catholic



## BOYS GOLF

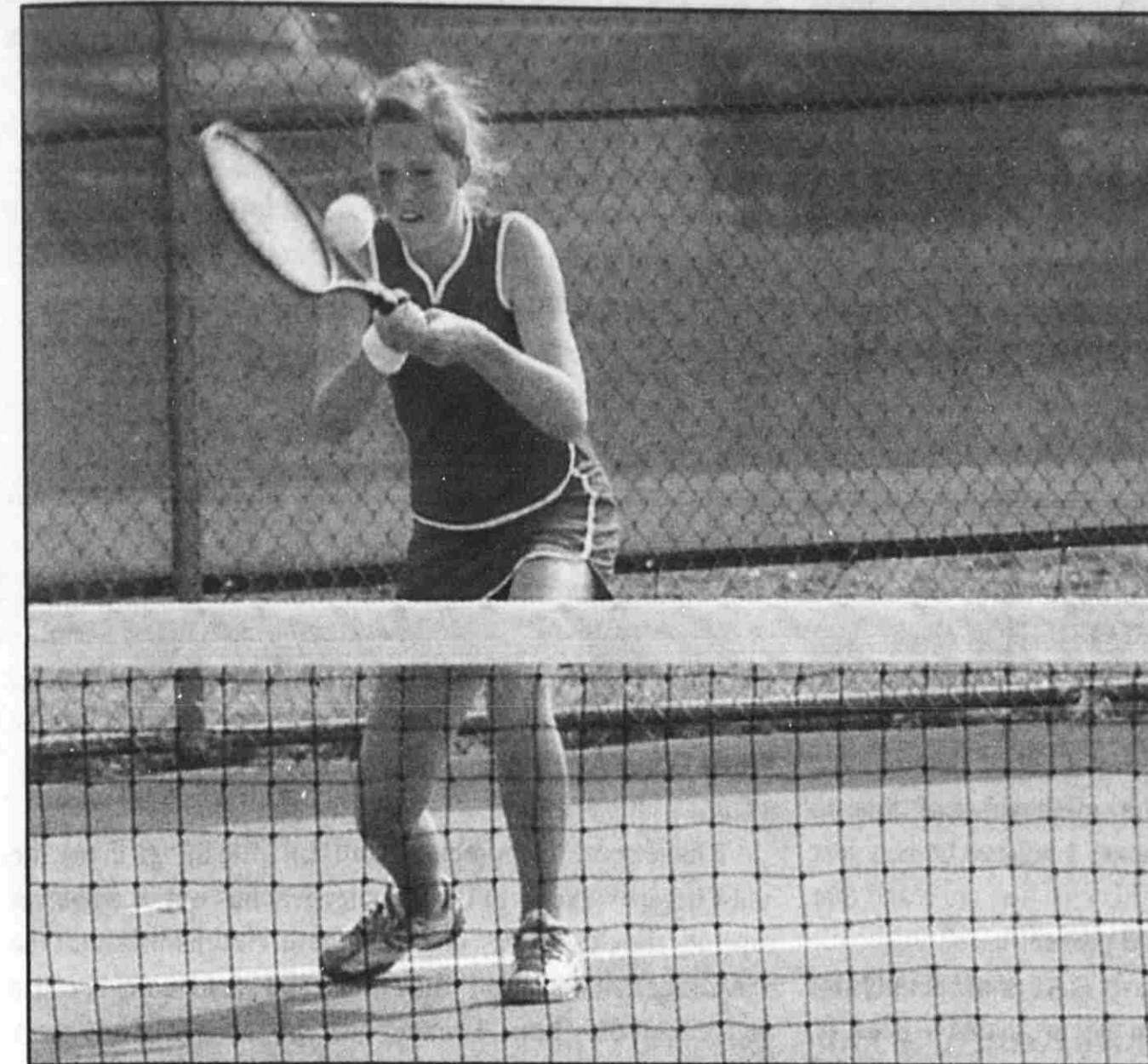
\* Indicates a home game held at Deer Run Golf Course. Games begin at 3:30 p.m. unless indicated

- 9/14 Greenville\*
- 9/19 at Forest Hills Eastern
- 9/21 at Forest Hills Northern
- 9/26 Forest Hills Central\*
- 10/3 time TBA Conference @ Boulder Creek



## Red Arrow tennis tops against Kenowa, Middleville

By Dan Schneider



The Lowell girls tennis team claimed two blowout wins and a second-place tournament finish last week. Lowell beat Middleville Thornapple-Kellogg 7-1 last Tuesday. The narrowest margin of victory for Lowell was at fourth doubles, where Megan Vaught and Katy Barnes won 5-7, 6-2, 6-2.

The host Arrows shut out Kenowa Hills last Wednesday in their conference opener, 8-0.

Lowell finished second in Saturday's Northview Tournament. The Wildcats

At left: Lowell's Rachelle Levinston returns a volley against her Kenowa Hills' opponent.

won their tournament with 22 matches; Lowell had 17. Grand Rapids West Catholic was third with seven. Fremont secured two to take fourth.

Rachelle Levinston finished third at first singles. Priscilla Freitas took second in second singles. Heather Spratt and Kayla Irwin were also runners-up at third and fourth singles, respectively.

There was a close match at first doubles, where Becky Plummer and Kelly Koning lost the championship in a super tie breaker against Northview. The score was 7-5, 5-7 (10-4).

Lowell had first-place finishes at second and third doubles. Lindsay Aiken and Terrah Tawney defeated

Northview 7-5, 6-3 in second doubles. Tanya Baker and Melissa Zuiderveen won their super tie breaker, 4-6, 6-4 (10-1).

Brandi Rix and Paula Lawrence were runners-up at fourth doubles.

"We saw some good glimmers of hope there," Lowell coach Bonnie Wall said. "We hope to come back and give them a lot more competition in our dual."

Lowell faces Northview in OK White competition Sept. 28.

The Red Arrows played at East Grand Rapids on Monday. They host Greenville this Wednesday; the Lowell Invitational starts at 9 a.m. on Saturday.

## Football wins home opener, continued...From Page 17

in a punt but was kept alive when Lowell was called for roughing the kicker. Kenowa capitalized as VanDam took it in for a touchdown. The Knights fumbled the snap on an attempted two-point conversion: 34-22, Lowell.

McElroy caught a long pass as time expired in the

third. He caught a 20-yard touchdown pass and Lowell converted to go up 42-22.

Kameron Blake recovered a fumble on the next Kenowa drive. Bill Watikunas ran in a one-yard touchdown. Lowell's final touchdown was a 42-yard Watikunas run.

Nichol completed seven for 11 passing for 203 yards. He also led Lowell rushing with 72 yards on 17 carries. Shea caught four passes for 102 yards.

"I thought there were a lot of teachable moments for a lot of young kids," Lowell coach Noel Dean said of the

first-half struggles. "It was frustrating for our defense, I'm sure. Really, we're talking about two long plays... that's a critical piece."

He summed it up: "We were down a couple scores and we worked back. Credit to Kenowa, they had a really good game plan and they

came out and played hard." Kenowa Hills is 1-2 after the loss.

"We came out and did what we wanted to do, now we just need to learn how to finish it," Knights coach Scott VanEssen said. "Our kids came out and played hard, they played a good

football team." The Red Arrows travel to East Grand Rapids this Friday to face the Pioneers in a clash of undefeateds. Lowell's challenge will be to stop a Pioneer running game that rushed for 421 yards in a 64-12 crushing of Forest Hills Northern.

## Equestrian, continued...From Page 18

place for Hunt Seat Fitting & Showing, as well as placements in Western Showmanship, Saddle Seat Showmanship, Hunt Seat Equitation, Western Equitation, and 2-Person Speed Relay.

Lisa Nugent took first place in the Saddle Seat Showmanship and placed in Western Showmanship and

Hunt Seat Showmanship; Andrea Kulhawik placed in Saddle Seat Bareback, and finished in the top five for Saddle Seat Showmanship, Saddle Seat Pattern, Hunt Seat Equitation, Trail, and the 2-Person Relay; freshman Jessi Meyers placed in Saddle Seat Equitation, Saddle Seat Pattern, Saddle

Seat Bareback, and Western Equitation, then acted as ghost rider for the 2-person Relay. "We're very proud of our team's spirit to compete, and confident that this spirit will carry us through the season," said coaches Mike and Linda Foote.

## Golf, continued...From Page 19

So after a pair of disappointing finishes in conference duals, Fredline said, "They came back in

that match play and played very well because we were playing against some of the best teams in the area."

Lowell played at East Grand Rapids Monday. The Red Arrows host Greenville, Wednesday.



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## Cozy Corner, continued ...From Page 5

Louisiana. Located on U.S. 10, Jennings is west of New Orleans, west of Baton Rouge and about thirty miles west of Lafayette. It is host to an annual Stearman fly-in the first weekend in October. I had arrived for the 25th such event. I later would find out at the banquet I'd won the "Iron Butt" award for traveling the farthest. Lowell's airport is nearly 900 nautical miles away. My butt already knew that.

I immediately fell in love with the place, the event, the people, the music and especially the food. The very first night they loaded us up in cars and a school bus. We ended up at a joint way out in the country where you eat at picnic tables,

listen to a Cajun band and enjoy some of the best food I've ever had. I was smitten.

The event attracted forty-some Stearmans along with some other antiques. My wife flew in to Lafayette the next day and was able to enjoy the remainder of the event. The weather was really nice. Every day was filled with fun events like flour bombing, poker runs and giving rides to locals. We met lots of great people, and I'm here to tell you there really is something to that "Southern Hospitality" thing. We hated to leave.

## To The Editor, continued ...From Page 5

the mayor, police chief and fire chief roamed the building, talking to as many people as they could.

The two days we spent there we helped people find clothing, coats and blankets, and get medical help, or just sat and talked.

I spoke to a friend from Ionia who lives in New Orleans. She had relocated to Baton Rouge and was staying with her daughter on the college campus. Although the house she and her family lived in was not flooded, they decided to leave the city several days after the flooding began. She was distraught that she had no idea where many of their friends were or even if they were alive. She is a teacher and worried about all of the children from her school.

One statement made by a shelter resident sticks in my head. When Kermit said, "I am so disappointed in my country," I nearly cried. He didn't say it out of spite or even anger - he appreciated all that the volunteers had done to make him comfortable and welcome. I believe he was just plain sad and broken-hearted that his city was gone and that no one had done anything to try and prevent it.

I've watched the news and I have heard some people say that those who didn't evacuate when they were told to deserve exactly what they got. I am here to tell you that most, if not all, had no means to get out, and the water rose so quickly that many of them nearly drowned. Trying to get to rooftops

and attics before they were either plucked off by helicopter or thrown into boats, and then having been "holed up" at the Super Dome for days on end without water or food is quite a feat.

I have come to appreciate a million little things in my life and I hope everyone in this country reaches out in whatever capacity they can to try and help these victims make all the transitions that are ahead. Stay tuned and stand ready because we are their only hope. I cannot bear the thought of any more disappointment than there already is in this situation.

Karen Gregory  
Ionia

# Sound Off

The Ledger

"Almost" Anything Goes Column

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Kudos to the company that finally fixed the RR tracks on Foreman Street.

They are not refugees, they are evacuees.

God bless our President and the USA!

Hundreds of thousands of people are displaced due to Katrina, and Jesse Jackson is upset over what they're being called??? Last I knew a refugee was someone seeking refuge.

I have talked to my neighbors about their barking dogs. Now I'm on their bad side.

To Dave Hildenbrand. Tax cuts are your party's answer for everything. Try investing in our future. Fund our schools.

-Signed a parent and taxpayer.

It is unlawful to pass a bus at a railroad track on a two lane road. Especially when the road is at an intersection, with a hill and curve ahead.

Empty shelves at the Flat River Ministries, thousands in the south without, considering privatizing bus drivers and closing Wittenbach Center. Artificial turf? I don't think we need this. Do you?

Whatever happened to the Big Boy we were supposed to get in Lowell. I'm getting hungry for a burger.

The music starts tomorrow night and lasts all weekend long at the Bluegrass Festival at the fairgrounds. Come on out and have a great time.

Mr. Brown did a nice article about grandparents. There's nothing else about Grandparents Day - Sept. 11 - in the Ledger.

When we were kids we rode our bikes to school and they were registered with the school in case they were stolen. Buy bikes for the kids instead of gas for the buses.

How long would it take to water the use-to-be beautiful baskets on the Showboat? And they're sitting right on the river.

For the poor guy who has the 80 yards of berber carpet - could somebody please buy that from him?

Instead of raising money for an athletic turf field (our natural grass looks nice) maybe they should put their fundraising efforts towards more seating, bathrooms and concessions in Red Arrow Stadium.

Pay to participate in the homecoming parade? What's this country coming to?

Hmmmmmm? What's a hoodlum? That is actually an appropriate word for these folks running the streets at night. If you need a definition - go to your dictionary.

To My Hawaiian Friends & Sister, I loved my party! You're all such great friends.

-Drew

Bush still has given more money (2 billion) to Louisiana for flood control than any other administration, but the corrupt democratic government spent the majority on their pet projects instead.

I think a dog park would be a great addition to the city.

Does anyone else think the guy in the Sonic ad looks like a young Roger Brown?

To whoever noticed the hot moms in the Expeditions - thanks for noticing!

- A F.R.O.M. volunteer

Thank you Dan for telling the community about the food shortage!

- A F.R.O.M. volunteer

Men! Stop spitting! I'm always dodging your lugies when I walk into a bank or restaurant. How gross! They get on my shoes, my car mats and on the carpet the babies crawl on.

- A concerned citizen

-Mike Lessens

# CLASSIFIEDS

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

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

**HOUSE FOR RENT** - Corner of 84th St. & M-50. Large 3 bedroom ranch w/washer, dryer, dishwasher, 2 stall garage, large yard, \$900/mo. 868-2053.

**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** - 2 bedroom mobile home, 5 miles from Lowell. Call after 2pm, 987-9374.

**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.

**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. 1277 Alden Nash NE. \$900 per mo. Call 897-0686.

**LOWELL** - 1-2 bedroom apartments seeking residents for the affordable price of \$625-\$650/mo. Offering 2 bathrooms, garage w/ opener, washer/dryer connections, walk-in closets, central air and a great move in special. Please call us at 866-443-3098, visit us at www.wmpmonline.com or see us at our open house Tuesdays 3:30-5:30 pm at Stoneridge Apartments on Boulder Drive.

**MOBILE HOME FOR RENT** - 846 Montcalm Ave. 1 bedroom unfurnished by Fallsburg Park on the Flat River. \$400/mo., \$400 security deposit. Call 616-636-8967.

**INSIDE BOAT STORAGE** - \$150 any size boat, east of Murray Lake. Leave message with name & number, 794-2946.

### WANTED

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

**BOWLERS WANTED** - Saturday Night C'BERS. We are looking for teams! Come join the fun! Call Ron at 304-2726.

**COUNTRY LIVING** - Roommate wanted, male or female, 897-5138.

**WANTED - LAND FOR LEASE** for hunting. Call Jeremy at 616-293-5389.

### EVENTS

**UNCLE BOB'S POKER RUN TO BENEFIT ANNA ORGANEK** - Sept. 17. Registration at Lowell Fairgrounds between 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. Leaving at 11:30 sharp! All bikes & classic cars & trucks welcome! \$25 a couple or \$15 individually.

**OPEN MIC/JAM SESSION WITH JOHN & TIM** - Every Wed. evening in the Century Post Pub, next to the Lowell Showboat.

**SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** at 3189 Snow Ave S.E. will serve a family style Turkey & Dressing dinner on Wednesday, September 14 starting at 5:30 pm. Adults \$8, ages 5-12 \$2.

### HELP WANTED

**ADULT EDUCATION MATH TEACHER** - Part time. Must possess a valid Michigan Secondary Teaching Certificate in Mathematics. Classes are held on Wednesdays from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. For more information, contact Marlene Heemstra at 616-987-2550. Apply in writing to Connie Gillette/Sean Smart, 300 High St., Lowell, MI 49331. Deadline for application is Thursday, September 22, 2005.

**AUTOMOTIVE MANUFACTURING** - Manpower is looking for hard working people who enjoy working at a quick pace. Candidates must be willing to travel 20 minutes southeast of Grand Rapids. Positions include assembly and plastic injection mold operation on 2nd and 3rd shifts. Successful candidates will have worked at least 6 months within the last year and are open to working overtime, including weekends. Apply in person to Manpower 505 D West Main St., Lowell, MI.

**FORKLIFT/WAREHOUSE** - Manpower is looking for forklift operators for assignments on all shifts at a growing company in the Lowell area. Candidates need to have experience driving forklifts in a manufacturing environment, possess good attention to detail, and be able to apply basic math skills. These opportunities are temporary positions and have a pay rate of \$10 per hour. To be considered for these exciting opportunities apply in person to Manpower, 505D West Main St., Lowell, MI.

**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.

**THIS OLD PAINTER** - Interior/exterior, insured, free estimates. Call 897-5314.

**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.

**TREE WORK & LOT CLEARING** - Brush removal, chipper service & storm work. Call Chris 291-0666 for a free estimate.

**\$164 MOVES YOU IN!** - The realtors we work with have a list of over 85 homes for sale where the seller may accept \$164 total down payment & pay ALL buyers closing costs. Homes available from \$59,900 to \$199,000. Call Michelle at (800) 282-0325 or 616-464-1348 to pre-qualify. Charter Funding.

**RISNER ROOFING** - serving you since 1961. Ice and snow removal. Licensed & insured. Free estimates. Call Steve, 868-6015.

**GARAGE SALE** - 12280 36th St., Sat., 9 - 5 and Sun., 10 - 3, Sept 17th & 18th.

**COTTAGE DEMOLITION SALE** - Morrison Lake. Saturday, September 17, 9 am to 4 pm. Cottage 80 Morrison Lake Gardens. North side of the lake alongside of golf course, just past the club house. Original Hamil log cottage, nice pine logs, newer windows, furnace, updated plumbing, siding, doors, miscellaneous. Everything goes.

**NEW BANKRUPTCY LAW TAKING EFFECT ON OCTOBER 15, 2005** will make it extremely difficult and costly for you to file bankruptcy. If your debts are piling up this may be your last chance to do something about it. Call TODAY to schedule a FREE CONSULTATION. We are only accepting these appointments thru September 15, 2005 so HURRY and CALL US TODAY before it's too late! TUMMINO & TUMMINO, P.C., 311 E. Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331, 616-897-5931.

**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.

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

**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

**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.

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

**BOB FORD** - formerly of Hahn Hardware, is doing all kinds of service work. Call 299-3198.

**DOES YOUR HOUSE NEED CLEANING?** If so call Elaine at 897-9880, have references if needed.

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

**HIGH QUALITY CONCRETE & STONE WORK** - driveways, porches, steps, floors, retaining walls. Satisfaction guaranteed. 322-2106.

**SOUND OFF LINE** 897-0787 or go to: www.lowellbuyersguide.com

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

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

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

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

**BILL'S CUSTOM MADE FURNITURE & CABINETS** - All types of wood, oak, maple, hickory, cherry plus others. Reasonable rates and free estimates. 989-855-3644.

**AFFORDABLE FURNACE REPLACEMENTS** - 24 hr. service, \$49. Clean & check, humidifier, ACs, sheet metal & gas piping. Many models available to fit your budget. Many older furnaces are only 50% efficient. New models 80-90%+ efficient. Call 616-874-6191, free estimates. All Seasons Comfort.

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

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

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## Now Hiring Production Workers

Manpower is currently recruiting on behalf of a prestigious Ada-based company, Access Business Group, to work in their manufacturing departments. Immediate opportunities are available for:

- Skid Loaders
- Filler/Packers

Responsibilities include:

- Packaging Product
- Loading/Unloading product on production lines
- Lifting up to 50 lbs.

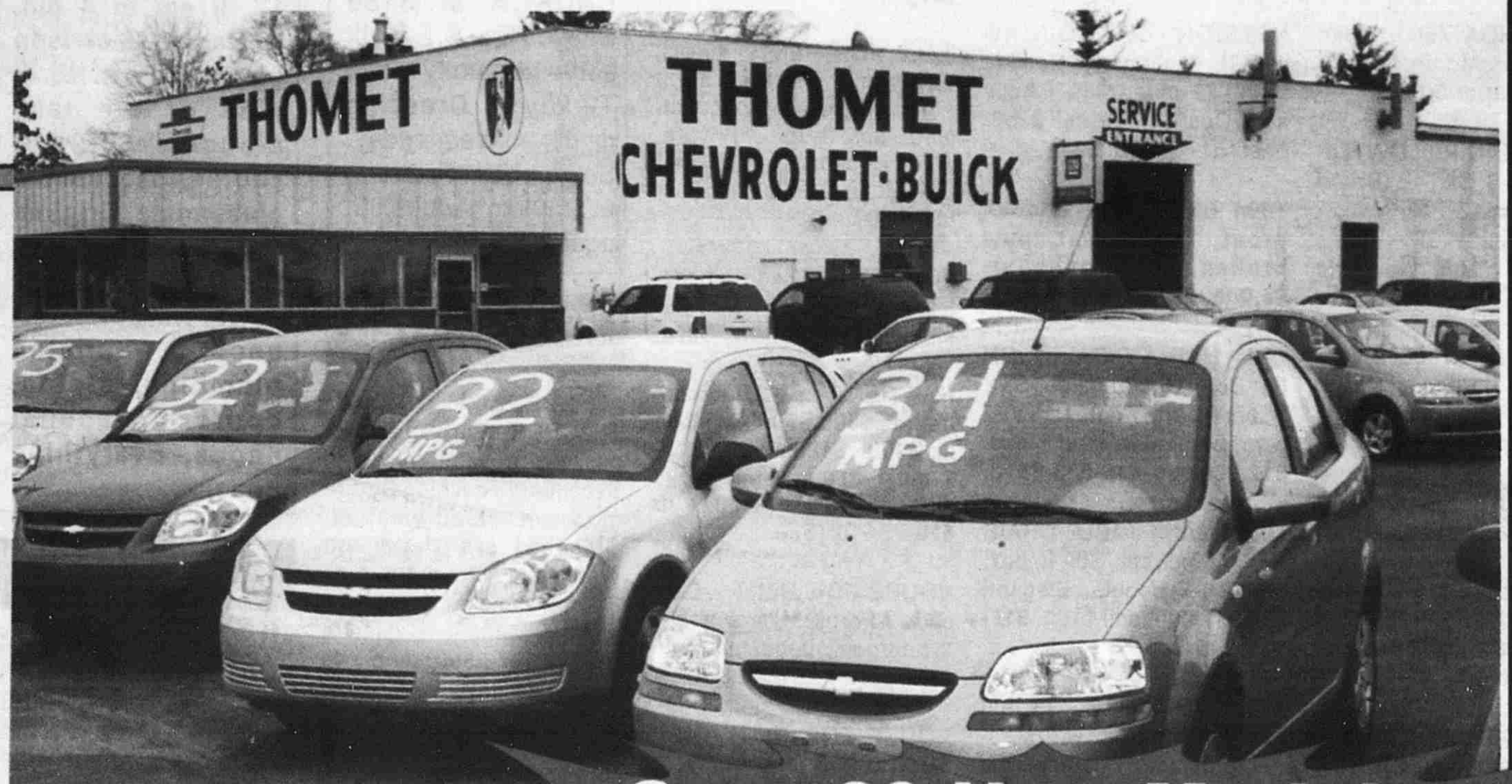
These positions pay between \$9.25 and \$9.50 per hour. Apply in person to Manpower 505 D West Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331.

\*No Applications or phone calls will be accepted at Access Business Group

**Manpower 505-D West Main St., Lowell**



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**2001 KIA SPORTAGE**  
5 speed, 4x4, air, AM/FM/Cass., power windows & locks, 42,000 miles, SUV with fuel mileage Stock #UP245A  
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Air, power sunroof, windows & locks, leather. Great on Fuel! Stock #UP345  
**\$10,995**



**2005 BUICK CENTURY**  
Auto., 6 cyl., air, cruise, tilt, CD, power seats, windows & locks. 23,660 miles. Bal. of warranty. Great on Gas & many models to choose from. Stock #UP271  
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\* Plus tax, title, lic. fee, Doc., 10% down. W.A.C.

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**HOURS: MON & WED - 8-8;  
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