

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 32 Issue 46

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Sounds of bluegrass filled the air throughout the weekend



By Dan Schneider

For Friday evening, all of Saturday, and Sunday morning, a total of 11 bands were playing bluegrass music on a stage set up behind the Reath Barn at the Lowell Fairgrounds. It was the West Michigan Bluegrass Music Association's (WMBMA) annual Fall Fest bluegrass festival.

During that time, and for a few days before, there were informal jam sessions going on under the awnings of various camping trailers in the parking lot.

"These here deals, you can go to bed with music, and you can wake up with music," Roger Umstead said.

He and Nita Sobers came from Shelby for the bluegrass festival weekend.

Umstead and Sobers were with several bluegrass and old-time music fans, Lawrence and Lovedia Miller. They drove their camper to Lowell from Hart. All four said they go to these festivals twice a month or more, in season.

"We've been going probably 12, 15 years, 20 years," Lawrence Miller said.

They're part of a growing group of regulars at bluegrass festivals.

"There's one going on just about every weekend in Michigan," Miller said. "It becomes kind of a family, more or less. You get to know everyone in the campground. You see them and see them and see them."

The festivals take place in towns all over the state.

"You name it, if they've got it, one time or another we're gonna make it," Umstead said. "You gotta go where there is decent music."

That includes on stage and in the parking lot. Umstead, Sobers and the Millers weren't playing instruments. But the Millers' son does, and he was on the way.

"My son, I think the last time we brought him here he was out 'til three a.m.," Miller said. "He comes here just to play in the parking lot."

Under the awning of the camper parked next to them, a group of five musicians was playing constantly away at some old-time and bluegrass songs. Two of them were in a band called Friends of Bluegrass that will play next year at the WMBMA's Mayfest in Lowell. Dave Conley of Big Rapids was one of them, and he was playing guitar. Annette Tobin of Byron Center played a mountain-style dulcimer next to her husband, Jerry Tobin, who was playing the fiddle. Ben Crofoot of Fremont, the other player with the Friends of Bluegrass, was playing stand-up bass. And Terry Walsworth, of Gowen and a former member of the Lowell Music Ensemble, was picking a banjo. All were members of the WMBMA.

Bluegrass, cont'd., pg. 4

Dave Conley (from left), Vickie Conley, Annette Tobin, Jerry Tobin, Ben Crofoot and Terry Walsworth in an informal bluegrass jam session Friday in the campground at the Lowell Fairgrounds.

Afternoon crash sends three to the hospital

By Dan Schneider

Two cars collided at the intersection of Foreman Street and Cumberland Ave. in Vergennes Township last Wednesday.

A red Chevy four-door was driving westbound on Foreman when it struck a Saturn traveling north on Cumberland. The driver of the northbound car, 48-year-old Rosemary Sharphorn of Grand Rapids, either didn't

see the approaching Chevy as she pulled from the stop sign, or failed to obey the stop sign.

She was taken by Aero-Med helicopter to Spectrum Health Butterworth Campus. Sheriff's deputy Ken Nyenhuis said her injuries consisted mostly of a broken ankle, and Aero-Med was called in as a precaution because of a previously-existing health condition.

Both driver, Justin

Hewitt, and passenger, Jonathan Siember, in the Chevy were 16-year-old males and students at Lowell High School. They were taken by ambulance to Spectrum Health Butterworth Campus, where they were treated and released. Both were wearing seatbelts. An eyewitness at the scene said both appeared shaken and dazed, but were able to get out of the car on

their own before lying down in the grass.

There were no passengers in the Saturn.

The impact sent both cars westward. They stopped about 15 yards from the intersection, the Saturn in the middle of the road and the Chevy on the adjacent lawn. Nyenhuis said there was not evidence of excessive speed by either of the two cars.



A collision at the intersection of Foreman Street and Cumberland Ave. demolished these two cars and sent two drivers and a passenger to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.



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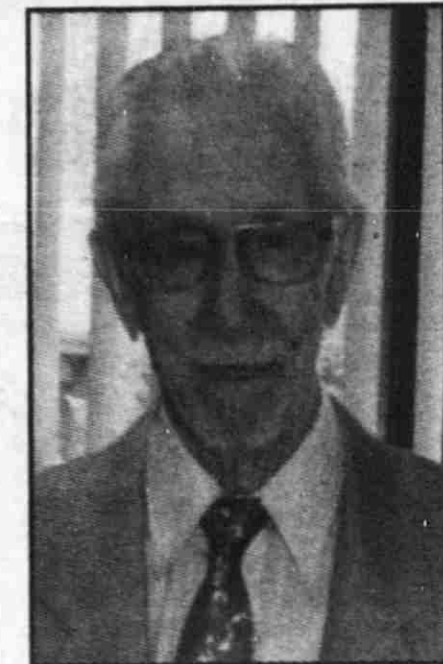
COMDURE Victoria Ann Comdure, aged 50, of Lowell, was placed in the arms of Jesus on Wednesday, September 14, 2005. She was preceded in death by her mother Juanita Baker-Czapak, and fathers Richard B. Roth and La Verne "Red" Baker. She will lovingly be remembered by her husband Orin; children Nicholas and Chelsea. She is survived by her sister Brenda (Eric) Traetz of Lowell; brothers Rick and Mike Roth of Lowell, Bryan Roth of Paradise; mother-in-law Eileen (John) Essenburg of Ada; sisters-in-law Carol Lee Johnston (Bill

HULL L. Scott Hull, aged 48, of Trufant, formerly of Lowell, passed away September 13, 2005 at home. He was preceded in death by father Steve Hull Sr. and brother Raymond. He is survived by his two sons Joshua and Josiah Hull of Lowell; mother Mary Hull of Trufant; brother and sister-in-law Steve and Jan Hull of Republic, MI; sister and brother-in-law Sheryl and Harv Sytsma of Alto; special friend Merlin Faulkerson of Six Lakes; many special nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles.

LOWDEN Janice Ilene Lowden, aged 59, of Lowell, died Thursday, September 15, 2005. She was preceded in death by her husband Gerald; parents Vernie and Helen Billington; brother Leo Billington. She is survived by her children Sam Lowden of Lowell, Dorothy (Tim) Bregg of Chase, MI, James (Dianne) Lowden of Rockford; grandchildren Amber and Megan Bregg; great-grandchildren Garry and Travis Jr. Brown; sisters Velma (Harry) Lowden, Ruth Ann Schoonfield, Melba (Tom) Tanner, Cathy (Ron) Burrows; also several nieces and nephews. Funeral services were Monday at Roth-Gerst Chapel, Rev. Burland Margesson of the First Baptist Church of Lowell, officiating. Interment Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens.

ROBERTS Roger Roberts, aged 91, passed away September 17, 2005. Roger attended Oak Grove School,

Howell High School. As he entered his college years he attended Chrysler Institute of Engineering, Wayne State University and Michigan State University. His professional career consisted of journeyman toolmaker, plant manager, quality control manager. Roger retired as plant manager at Root-Lowell. His professional affiliations were ASTM, American Society for Quality Control,



Lowell Masonic Lodge, Lowell Rotary Club, Elks Lodge and Lowell School Board. He was also a licensed pilot. He loved golf, hunting and fishing. Surviving are his wife of 68 years, Rose; his children Gary (Carol) Roberts of Chester, South Carolina, Elaine (Michael

Bowie) Roberts of Fort Collins, Colorado; brother Jerry (Carol) Roberts; sister Betty Wilson; sister-in-law Mary Roberts; grandchildren Nataly Roberts, Tristan and Rain Willow Roberts. His wife Rose would welcome visits or calls at Heartland Health Care Center, 2320 East Beltline SE. Funeral service was held Tuesday, September 20, at Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, Rev. Dean Bailey of Bowne Center United Methodist Church officiating. Interment Bailey Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Rotary Education Scholarship Fund.


RUPP John Rupp, Jr., aged 33, of Grattan, formerly of Lowell, passed away unexpectedly September 12, 2005. He is preceded in death by his parents John Sr. and Martha Rupp. John is survived by his sister Kathy (David) Bonn; one nephew Travis of Kentwood; many cousins. John enjoyed sports, fishing and hunting, and served his country in the U.S. Marines for four years. Graveside service with military honors was held Saturday, Sept. 17 in Roscommon, Mich.,

Father Richard Seifferly officiating. Interment Village of Roscommon Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 3816 Paysphere Circle, Chicago, IL 60674.

STRICK Karen Ann Strick (Molter) aged 54, of Lowell, was surrounded by family when she went home to be with her Lord and Savior September 17, 2005 after a lengthy and very courageous battle with cancer. She was born June 11, 1951, in Grand Rapids, the daughter of Joe and Virginia (Vanderwood) Molter. She married Craig Strick July 18, 1988, at Fallasburg Park. Karen will be remembered for her love of family, a caring and very generous heart, as well as her love for animals. She will be lovingly remembered by her husband Craig Strick of Lowell; daughter Brenda Strick of Grand Rapids; stepson Jesse Strick of Chicago; brothers and sisters Linda and John Schippers of Indiana, Judy and Jim Whorley of Saranac, Richard "Dick" Molter of Kentwood, Debra Chase and Cyle Mumby of Belding; grandchildren Brandon, Jarek and Steven. Funeral services will be held Wednesday at Lake Funeral Home in Saranac at 11 a.m. with Rev. Beth Ernest officiating. Interment Easton Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Mary's Cancer Center or Grand Rapids Hospice of Holland Home.

SWAN Leeanne Swan, aged 56, of Lowell, passed away on Monday, September 12, 2005. She was a 1967 graduate of Forest Hills High School. Since she was a person who loved people, her job as a greeter at Meijer in Lowell worked beautifully with her personality. Cooking was a favorite activity. Leeanne had a wonderful gift of writing and many will remember her special way of putting words to use. She is survived by her mother Jeanette Swan of Ada; brother Cliff Swan of Ada; sisters Marilyn Swan of Tucson, AZ, Denise and Steve Rector of Sand Lake; very special friend Dan Jarema; nieces and nephews Tammy, Kathy, Patsy, Kellie, Rick, Greg, Ben, Laura; aunts Dorothy Inwood of Belmont, Teresa Mezei of Ft. Pierce, FL, Roseanna "Nan" Swan of Ada; many cousins and friends. She was preceded in death by her father Donald, brother Patrick, sister Sue Zimmerman, nephew Patrick. The service was held Saturday at the Pederson Funeral Home, Rockford, with the Rev. Joseph Kenshol officiating. Interment in Findley Cemetery.

In loving memory of
VICKIE COMDURE



We will all miss you, both as a friend and as a coworker. You were an inspiration to all who knew you. We won't forget your smiling face and willingness to help others. You will be sadly missed, but remembered by all.

- Dr. Jim Reagan, Gail, Becky, Rachel, Susan, Jean, Carrie, Julie, Lori and Rebecca

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Thank You

We would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all friends, families, neighbors, co-workers, hospice, Roth-Gerst (Mary-Kay), V.F.W. members and the women's auxiliary.


Thank you for the beautiful flowers, many cards, gifts of food, your prayers, phone calls and your donations to the V.F.W. children's home.

The V.F.W. was a blessing with the wonderful luncheon. In our time of grief you were all there for us. My loss has also been your loss. Gordon will never be forgotten and will always be missed.

Everyone was so kind and supportive. Thank you all so much. Your acts of kindness will never be forgotten.

Blessings to all
Marlene Marshall & Family

In Loving Memory of
Jessie Lynn Hunt
Who Died on Sept. 19, 2001



*I'm Free
Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,
I'm following the path God laid for me;
I took His hand when I heard Him call,
I turned my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work or play;
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I found that place at the close of day.*

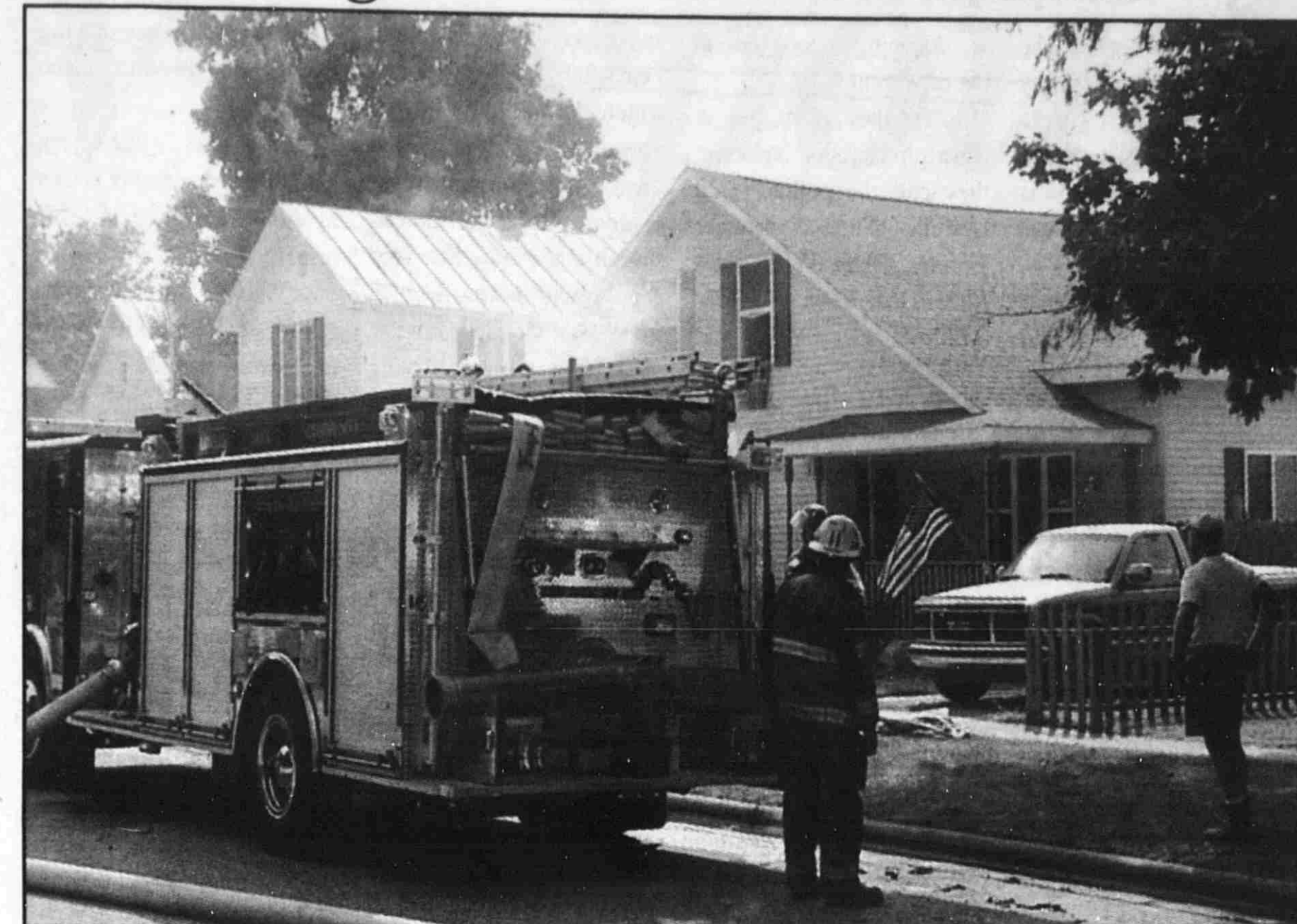
*If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy;
A friendship share, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things, I too, will miss.*

*Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow;
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it with undue grief;
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now. He set me free.*

*As angels keep their watch above
Please Lord do let her know
That we down here don't forget
We love and miss her so*

*Sadly missed by all your family,
Mom and Dad, Joey & Tiffany, Grandmas and Grandpas
Aunt & Uncles, Cousins and Friends*

Fire damages home on Lincoln Lake



Firefighters are shown responding to a fire last Tuesday afternoon. The fire caused between \$30,000 and \$40,000 damage to a house at 318 N. Lincoln Lake Ave., according to the Lowell Area Fire Department. The fire started in a bathroom and was confined to that room for the most part. No one was home at the time. "It pretty much stayed right in that bathroom," Lowell fire chief Frank Martin said. Two dogs escaped the blaze, unhurt. Martin said there have been fires at the house in the past. The first was in 2001. The second fire, in 2003, caused more damage than last Tuesday's fire.

Chamber encourages businesses to construct scarecrows



The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce is encouraging local business owners to make the annual "Parade of Scarecrows" a marketing opportunity for their businesses.

The "Scarecrow Building-Hoedown" is an annual part of the Lowell Harvest Celebration. It takes place Saturday, Oct. 8 at the Lowell Fairgrounds.

Supplies are provided for the construction of basic scarecrows. But business owners can bring in extra accessories to illustrate the nature of their business. Even The Ledger is planning a scarecrow. Something along the lines of a young reporter with a camera around his neck and a notebook in hand.

Upon construction of the scarecrows, business owners should put them on display in front of their establishments.

The scarecrows can also be constructed independently of the hoedown, so long as they are on display by Oct. 10. They will remain up until the end of October.

The general public is also encouraged to build scarecrows. These will be displayed on Main Street, also through the end of October.

Thebes Players present *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*

"The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" will be presented by Lowell Area Arts Council Thebes Players in the Lowell High School Performing Arts Center on Friday, Oct. 21 at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 22 at 3 and 7 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 23 at 2 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 29 at 7 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 30 at 2 p.m.

The director is Brent Alles and producer is Yvonne Alles. Tickets are available at the door or in advance by calling 897-8545.

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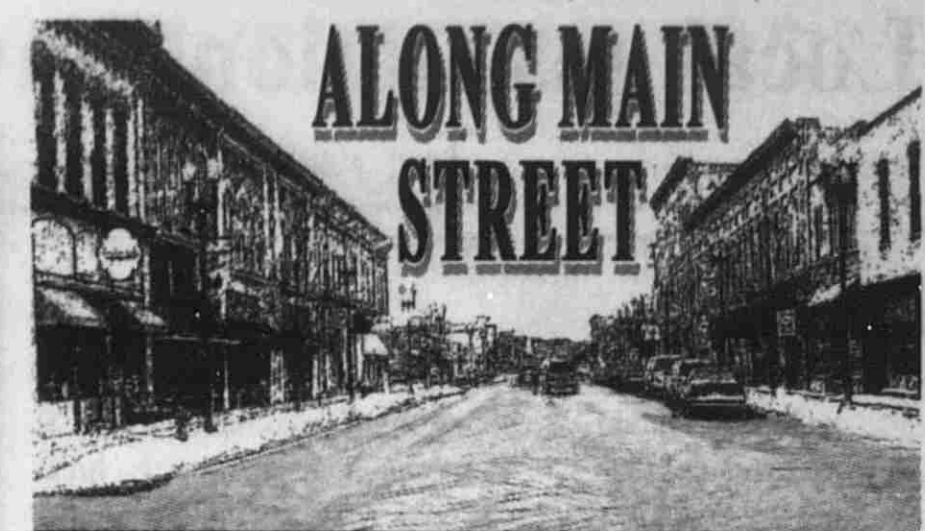
JUST LIKE HEAVEN (PG-13)
1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50
GLORY OF WAR (R)
2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
EXERCISES OF EMILY ROSE (PG-13)
2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40
TRANSPORTER 2 (PG-13)
7:20, 9:20
40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN (R)
2:10, 4:35, 7:00, 9:30
MARCH OF THE PENGUINS (G)
2:50, 4:45

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FALLASBURG FALL FESTIVAL
This weekend, Sept. 24 and 25, is the Fallasburg Fall Festival at Fallasburg Park from 10-5 p.m. each day. Artworks, children's area, baked goods, concessions, bands on the stage.

PRE-RACE WORKSHOPS
Workshops are being held at LHS on Tuesday, Sept. 27 and Oct. 4 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Speakers will talk about getting fit before the Harvest Hustle on Oct. 8. ???s, call 340-7781 or 897-8445. Free and open to the public.

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.

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 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.

HARVEST FESTIVAL
The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce presents the Harvest Festival Saturday, Oct. 8. Merchants will have harvest sales and open houses; Flat River antique fair on Riverwalk Plaza; historic home tour; all from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

COVERED BRIDGE RUN
King Milling Co. 7th annual Covered Bridge Run is on Saturday, Oct. 1 at 9 a.m. at Fallasburg Park pavilion. For more info. or to register call the Animal Hospital of Lowell 897-8484.

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.

CHILI MADNESS CHILI COOK-OFF
The Larkin's chili cook-off will be held on Broadway St. on Saturday, Oct. 8. Cooking begins at 11 a.m.; tasting 3-7 p.m.; live music 4-7 p.m. Team space is still available. Call 897-5977.

SCARECROW BUILDING HOE-DOWN
Come to the Lowell Fairgrounds on Oct. 8 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and build a scarecrow for Main St. Everything is supplied. Call 897-9161 with questions.

PSAT FOR COLLEGE BOUND STUDENTS
Any sophomore or junior who is college bound should consider taking the PSAT on Wednesday, Oct. 12. The cost is \$14. Make checks payable to Lowell Area Schools. Students should register as soon as possible in the Student Service Center.

ATTIC TREASURES ROADSHOW
Tri-Rivers Historical Museum Network presents Attic Treasures Roadshow on Saturday, Oct. 15 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Saranac High School. Cost: \$5. Lunch/baked goods for sale. For more information call the Lowell Area Historical Museum at 897-7688.

Local gas stations have plans in place to minimize drive-offs

By Dan Schneider

So far, high gas prices have not caused a major change in the number of drive-offs at local gas stations.

"We've always had periodic drive-offs," said Lowell police detective James Hinton. "I think the local gas stations in the area

have adjusted their policies and made them a little tighter."

Meijer gas station, for instance, has greeted customers at the pump for about a year and a half. "It's one of our company standards," station manager Doug Brooks said. "We greet every pump when they come in."

The voice over the intercom is a friendly greeting, but it lets people know the business is aware.

"I think everybody is paying more attention," Brooks said.

"If we're really busy, we can send someone out to sweep the lot and keep an eye on things."

Keeping a look out is the important thing.

"If they can get a description (of a vehicle), they call the police," said Lowell Shell manager Tammy Dean. The Shell station lost \$146 to drive-offs in August and has had "a couple" this month.

Linda Casey, a

spokesperson for Marathon Petroleum Company LLC, which owns the Lowell Speedway station, said there has been an increase in drive-offs at the Lowell station since July. She said people who drive off come from all economic levels.

"We have people driving expensive luxury cars that

drive off and people driving wrecks that drive off," she said.

Drive-offs have a similar effect on gas prices as shop-lifters have on retail prices.

"People are paying a little more at the pump because of those who drive off," Casey said.

This weekend's Fallasburg Fall Festival welcomes new artists

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell Area Arts Council's annual Fallasburg Fall Festival is this weekend at Fallasburg Park.

Again this year, the

festival features 81 artists with work for sale in white tents set up among the park's trees. It is a juried festival. Each year a new group of people selects 81 artists

from usually more than 100 applications. This year, the selection process resulted in a slate of artists that includes several new faces.

"It's exciting to see some

new blood," arts festival chairperson Michelle Ellison said. "It's good to keep the old, but it's also good to keep it fresh."

What hasn't changed this year is the variety of art for sale. This includes pottery, glasswork, woodcarving painting and sculpture in addition to photography and fiber works.

The festival's setting makes it ideal for absorbing the fall atmosphere. There are children's activities including pumpkin decorating and face painting.

Entertainment offered throughout the festival includes a variety of music,

from old-time to jazz. A first this year will be the onstage presentation by Lowell's Thebes Players of excerpts from their upcoming production of *The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe*.

The quilt auction will be going on this year.

Festival-goers get a chance to eat and support local nonprofit organizations at the same time. A total of 11 different groups will have food booths set up at the arts festival.

For those of a philatelic persuasion, the U.S. Postal Service will again reopen the defunct Fallasburg Village Post Office for the weekend.

The post office will offer full postal services and a cachet and cancellation created exclusively for this year's festival.

The art festival is open Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Every artist dips his brush in his own soul, and paints his own nature into his pictures.

- Henry Ward Beecher (1813 - 1887)

Council seeks bids for cost of service study on water & sewer

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

After reviewing a bid price for a cost analysis on the city's water and sewer program, the council unanimously decided to postpone any decision on the matter until more bids could be received.

At its Monday night meeting, the council reviewed a cost of service study by Utility Financial Solutions that came in at \$19,000. The study would take up to two and a half to three months.

City manager David

Pasquale said given the time frame he was provided with, he did not solicit any other bids for the project. In June, when the council reviewed its water and sewer rates, it decided to keep them effective until Dec. 15 in hopes that a cost of service study would be completed by the first of the year and new rates could be determined.

"There is no way I can meet that time frame," Pasquale said.

With that deadline, Pasquale said he did not have time to send out requests for proposals, collect them up, and present them to the board

with a recommendation. Instead, he sought a bid from Utility Financial Solutions, which recently completed a cost of service study for Lowell Light and Power and Cable TV regarding the two companies' rates.

"I certainly wouldn't mind extending our current rates and getting quotes to follow our regular procedure," said councilman Jim Pfaller.

Councilman Charles Myers said he agreed, recognizing this is a large

Service study, cont'd., pg. 8

Bluegrass, cont'd... From Page 1

"We've been with this association since it began," Annette Tobin said.

The WMBMA got started in 1995.

For this group, playing bluegrass music was one way to preserve an aspect of American culture. The old-time standards have a lot of history in their lyrics.

"It's kind of an oral history of the United States ... put to music, Walsworth said.

Walsworth has written his own musical history. It's a musical play called "Gettin' Picky" that will be performed Oct. 21 at a dinner theater in Howard

City. It's about a group of lumberjacks after the Civil War.

"The preservation of American culture is very important to me," Walsworth said.

And it turns out Lowell is a good place for that preservation to happen.

"We really like it here a lot," Jerry Tobin said. "We appreciate the town of Lowell for letting us do this here."

"We like the treatment we get here in Lowell," Annette Tobin added.

The WMBMA has been bringing bluegrass music and its fans to Lowell since

they first held a Mayfest here in 2003. Mayfest and Fallfest were previously held in Bailey. Each time an event is held in Lowell, people get here earlier and there are more of them. There was even an elephant ear stand set up all weekend this time around.

"I've got a good idea this one is going to grow," Umstead said. "Lowell is real nice here."

Umstead and Sobers arrived in Lowell last Wednesday, two days before the official start of the festival. The Millers rolled in on Thursday.

Health Seminars by Andre Jubert, MD

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.

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Viewpoint



COZY CORNER

Last week's column left off at a Stearman fly-in in Jennings, LA. The early October 2004 event had attracted forty-some of the antique biplanes, to include my wife and I in my old crate. After enjoying the Cajun music, food and hospitality for three days we reluctantly packed to leave.

We were invited to form up with another Stearman piloted by a young Southwest Airline captain and his flight attendant wife. They were headed for a private grass strip just north of Gulfport, MS. The airport owner was a good friend and the pilot's father lived in nearby Bay St. Louis. The young pilot and his father co-own the Stearman, so the plane splits its time between Mississippi and Texas.

Our route of flight took us along U.S. 10 past New Orleans, Lake Pontchartrain, Covington, and Slidell, LA. Then we flew on into Mississippi, over Bay St. Louis and finally landed near Gulfport. If these names sound familiar, it's because they were ground zero for the recent Hurricane Katrina.

After landing, fueling and getting a tour of the private airport we thought about getting another leg in for the day. Our hosts would have none of it, and insisted we stay. I'm tellin' ya'll, there really is something to this southern hospitality thing.

We insisted on getting our own room, they insisted on loaning us a car. It was an older Z-28 Camaro convertible and it was "Cruisin' the Coast" week. People flock to the gulf coast in early October with their antique cars, sports cars, hot rods ... whatever. They then cruise along Highway 90 from Biloxi to Bay St. Louis. Gulfport is about midway along the 40-mile stretch. The Camaro with the top down was perfect.

We got a room across from the beach, ate seafood, checked out the cars and "cruised the coast." My wife was more interested in the stately old homes than the old cars. So we had to do a little sightseeing as well. When morning

rolled around we really hated to leave. I especially hated to give up that Camaro. Best airport courtesy car ever!

My whole point in bringing up this brief visit to Gulfport is an effort to do my bit in helping those devastated by Katrina. I'm here to tell you that that area is inhabited by some of the nicest and most hospitable people on the planet ... and many of them have lost everything.

The parents of the Stearman pilot we flew with lost their home in Bay St. Louis. There is nothing left but the foundation. The whole coast we "cruised" is basically gone. Homes, businesses and livelihoods for thousands of really great people have been obliterated.

Our brief visit to the gulf coast personalized what I see on TV. I hope this little piece might encourage a few readers to finally go ahead and make that contribution to a Katrina relief fund. I'm pretty sure those people would do the same for us if the shoe were on the other foot.

That about does it for my Katrina relief fund pitch. Let's finish our flight and make the Sound Off caller happy. You remember, the guy who likes this stuff.

The next day took us east along the gulf coast and on into Florida. Yup, we flew over a lot of the devastation left by Hurricane Ivan. Diverting around military and commercial controlled airspace kept us away from some of the worst damage. That was okay. I'm not one of those to be gawking at traffic accidents either.

We landed for the night on historic Cedar Key where we tied down next to a Cessna 182 with "Spirit of Maryland" emblazoned on the cow. The old gal who runs the only taxi on the island told us on the way into town that the guy flying the Cessna was 98 years old and flew down from Maryland, solo! All I can say to that is WOW!!! I wish I'd had a chance to meet the old guy.

After more seafood, seaside ambiance and a good night's rest we were off on the rest of our trip. Our flight angled us off toward the center of the state to a small grass strip where Jim Kimball and his son Kevin restore old airplanes. Their work is well known. Again, I got a ballpark price on restoring my beater. After getting the figure, I came away in love all over again with 33NA's well-worn appearance.

We saddled up and flew down the center of the state where blue tarp roofs were in vogue following visits from Charley, Jeanne and Frances. All of them, including Ivan gave us a real scare, if not a glancing blow, at our home in the Keys.

Cozy Corner, cont'd., pg. 9

To The Editor

Dear Editor,

Many people think of the American Cancer Society (ACS) as a research organization. It is true that research funded by the ACS significantly impacts the fight against cancer every day. Since 1972, the American Cancer Society has awarded approximately \$271 million to breast cancer research grants. As of Jan. 1, 2005, the Society's Extramural Research Grants program is supporting 175 research projects related to breast cancer, totaling more than \$98.3 million in funding. It is no wonder that hope starts here.

But, for the ACS, it doesn't end with research. As an organization, the Society continues to invest more time, effort and money into education, prevention and early detection programs that benefit breast cancer survivors and their loved ones.

October is breast cancer awareness month and communities across the country are rallying together against this dreaded disease which will strike an estimated 7,210 Michigan residents this year alone. And Michiganders have an opportunity to take an active part in the fight against breast cancer through the American Cancer Society's eighth annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer event to be held Saturday, Oct. 15 at 8 a.m. at Calder Plaza.

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer is about survival and raising support to save more lives. It's about protecting those we love and remembering those for whom the answers did not come soon enough. Join Making Strides Against Breast Cancer and give hope to those fighting this disease.

For more information call 616-364-6121 or log on to www.acsevents.org/strides/mi/grandrapids.

Sincerely, Joan Kulesa
American Cancer Society
Great Lakes Division

Letters • Letters • Letters

The Lowell Ledger - welcomes all "Letters to the Editor" for publication on its "Viewpoint" page. Letters can be typed or written. However, we ask that they do not exceed 250 words. "Letters to the Editor" should be sent to the Lowell Ledger, 105

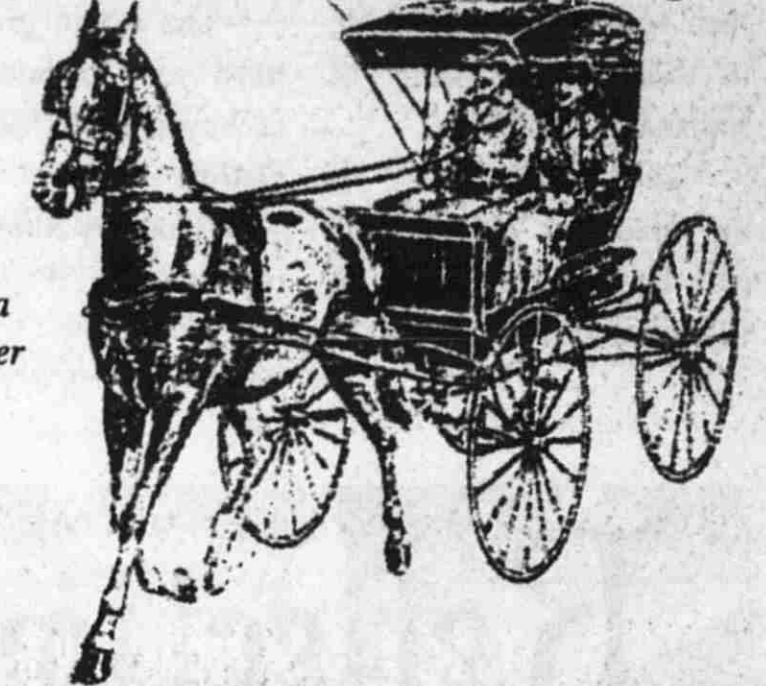
N. Broadway, P.O. Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or emailed to: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com.

Letters must be signed and please include a phone number. Editing may be necessary for space, clarity and to avoid obscenity, libel or invasion of privacy.

The Lowell Ledger thanks you in advance for your cooperation.

Ledger Entries

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



By Priscilla Lussmyer

125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL SEPTEMBER 22, 1880

"As a rule we are obliged to decline poetical contributions." No poems, please.

Grapes are beautiful, at two to four cents a pound. Supt. Hughson will examine teachers Saturday, starting at 9 a.m. at the Lake schoolhouse in Campbell.

A record number of foreign (outside Lowell) pupils are attending Union School this term.

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER SEPTEMBER 21, 1905

J.C. Train's and King Milling Company's warehouses near the Grand Trunk station burned Monday night. The old, dry wood burned fast; both were insured.

Pay your taxes by Sept. 30. Village treasurer, U.B. Williams.

Wooden eaves trough can be had for 2 cents a foot at Lowell Lumber Co.

Marks Ruben will open the new store Thursday night and Friday for a reception (no sales). First 500 visitors will receive a gift.

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO SEPTEMBER 18, 1930

The Department of Conservation, Pollution Division, begins a crusade to clean up Michigan lakes, citing 11 cottage-owners along Houghton Lake, who must pay fines and install sewage systems.

MSC has equipped two trucks to show farmers how to use electric power; one shows farm equipment (wiring, milking machines etc.) the other a farm electric kitchen.

Potato and bean crops are down this year due to extreme heat this summer.

Michigan opens the first state-owned radio transmitting station for police service, starting with 10 radio-equipped cars.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER SEPTEMBER 22, 1955

Hazel Hoag, with 48 years in business on Main Street, is moving her shop to the old Hartman drug store.

L.W. Rutherford receives a truckload of 17 tons of dried apples from California. Next week dried raisins and currants arrive and mincemeat production begins.

Clocks are stolen from the Vergennes Church, Grange Hall, Boynton School, Lincoln Lake and Mason schools.

A group is questioning the pre-1900 Lowell charter and suggesting that Lowell should become a city.

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER SEPTEMBER 17, 1980

A \$400 reward is offered to identify the vandals who did almost \$3000 damage to the Showboat last week.

Dedication of the new public works building and fire station will be held next Tuesday.

Lowell artist Joseph Kinnebrew has an outdoor sculpture in a new exhibit at the Michigan History Museum in Lansing.

Qua-Ke-Zik Sportsman Club hosts the First Annual Bow Hunters Shoot.

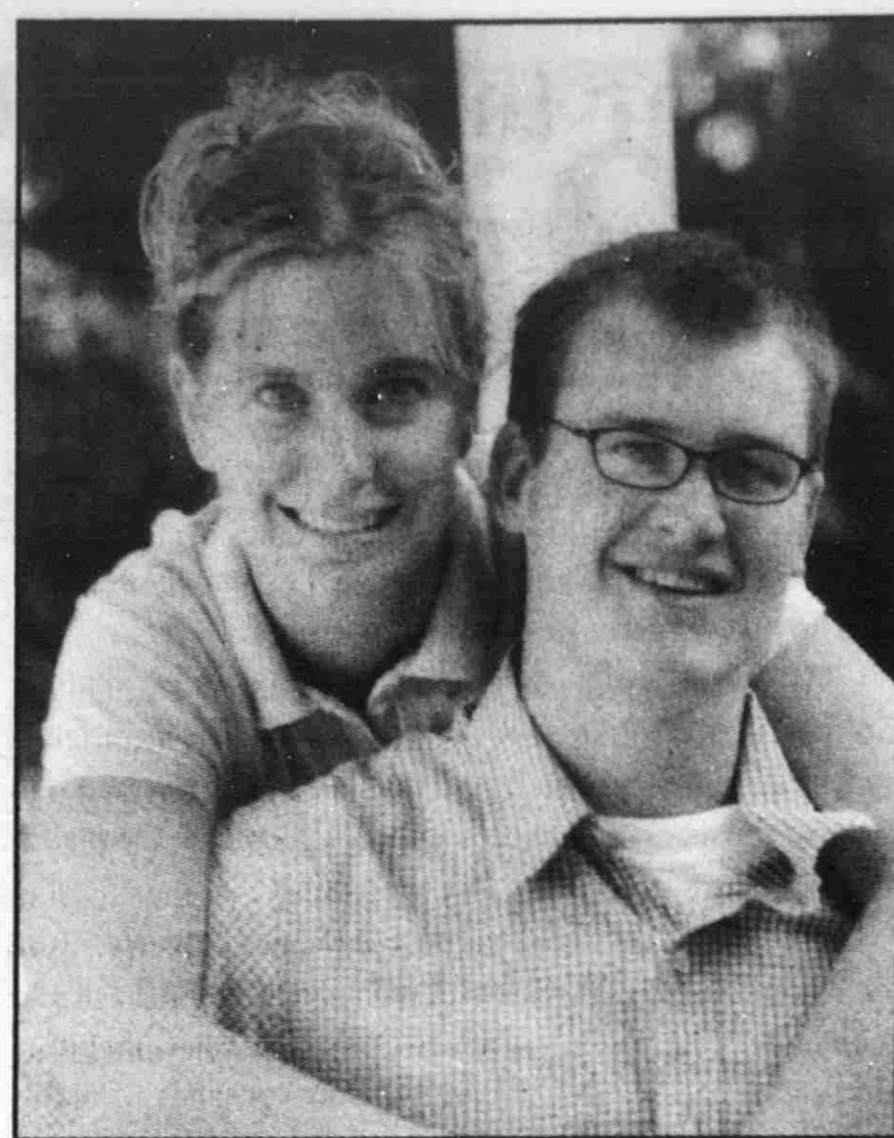
Engagements

Kaufmann/Plattner

Howard and Kristen Plattner of Alto wish to announce the engagement of their son, Aaron, of Detroit, to Bekah Kaufmann, of Indianapolis, Indiana. The bride-elect is the daughter of Bonnie and Dennis Kaufmann of Bloomington, Ill. She is an oncology nurse at St. Vincent medical center in Indianapolis.

The future groom is a third year medical student at Wayne State University in Detroit.

A January 2006 wedding is planned.



Bekah Kaufmann and Aaron Plattner

Reflections of faith

Dr. Roger La Warre, pastor
First Congregational UCC

Take this moment to pause, focus your thinking on God's power, and offer again prayers for the many families and individuals displaced, crushed and suffering due to the tragic consequences of Katrina. It has been only four years ago, Sept. 11, that we were on our knees in prayer for the many victims and their families of those terrible terrorist attacks of 9/11. Now the nation has united again to address the needs of those who suffer.

As we reflect on these tragic events, it is not uncommon for us to raise the question, "Where is God in all this?" Somewhere in our deepest inner understanding we seek a God that blesses with special protection each of us and our loved ones. With little difficulty, we can imagine that God thinks the way we think, protects what is important to us, and despises that which is a detriment to our way of life. So, amidst our cries of anguish and pain is also the cry, "Where are you, God?"

Scripture tells us that God is near to all who call from

the depths of their faith. (Ps 145) We are told that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus (Rms 8) and that God is so close to us that God knows our rising and our sitting—we cannot be outside the presence of God. (Ps 139) When we read these truths, we want to see God as our friend just like others we call friends. And, like those other friends, we want God to stand up for us and be against others in ways that preserve that which is of value to us. So, we face a tragedy in our life or in our nation's life and our thoughts become a search beacon looking for answers to address our empty feelings. We cry from the depths of our being, "God, where are you?"

Before going on with these thoughts for reflection, let me assure you with all my being and knowledge: God is with you even in your darkest moments. With God's presence comes to you the strength of courage, hope and love that is your greatest resource. I wish for you the confidence of this that I have. I believe the Bible as stated above. To the question why God seems so far from us at important and tragic times in our lives, I must turn your thinking to examine the type of God you are looking to find. If your view of God is more like a "vending machine God"—you put in the right prayers and actions and God comes to you—I must tell you a God like that does not exist in real Christianity. If you look for a God that loves you only if you do the right

Happy Birthday

- SEPT. 22: Rosie Fonger, Jennifer Haan, Tara Thornton, Linda Barnes.
SEPT. 23: Steve VanLaan.
SEPT. 24: Hillary Boss, Kenneth Gregersen II, David Powell, Clara King, Stephanie Vickers, Jake Baker.
SEPT. 25: Carolyn Thaler, Sara Swift Taylor, Carol Wingeier.
- SEPT. 26: Micah Soyka, Torin Hacker, Alexis Shaffer.
SEPT. 27: Brooke Tetzlaff.
SEPT. 28: Bruce Weeks, Erin Doyle, Chad Newhouse, Tony Johnson, Matthew Foster.

Somewhere on this globe, every ten seconds, there is a woman giving birth to a child. She must be found and stopped.

- Sam Levenson (1911 - 1980)

things and believe particular holiness rules, then I ask you to remember the parable of the Prodigal Son or the story of the Unforgiving Servant, and to reflect on the awesome power of God's forgiving grace. If you look to a God of unconditional grace and abundant love, then you know that God is still with you in the tragic as well as in the joyous. We fail to find comfort only when we make God to be something of a rescuer, a puppet to our needs, our doctrines or our church traditions. You see, scripture is right. God is near to us. I can only imagine the pain God continues to suffer in seeing our pain, our suffering, the passion we have for violence, and even our tendency to blame God for what has happened of tragic nature. We will know the closeness of God that we seek when we stop blaming God and start taking responsibility for the lack of true community, the self-serving ways of our materialistic lifestyles and the systems of injustice and greed upon which we rely. Then we will cry out even in our pain, "O Lord, bring to us the courage to face this suffering with Your redemptive love to guide us, for we have seen the power of You in Christ Jesus."

We will ask God to forgive us for the imbalances we support when we accept the division between rich and poor. And we will know the closeness of God that never leaves us as we extend ourselves to others in thought, in word, and in deed.

Wellness walkers appear to have exceeded their goal

By Dan Schneider

Lowell Community Wellness's "100 Miles in 100 Days" was successful in getting people in the community to cover a lot of ground on foot.

The final day of the 100 days was Tuesday, Sept. 6. Lowell Community Wellness is still waiting for a final tally of all miles walked. But by last Friday, 154 participants had reported more than 11,000 miles. That's about 71 miles per person, which is short of the overall goal.

It is possible that mileage reports still being turned in will push that average closer to 100. But there are several people who walked well above 100 miles.

The first-place team in the challenge was the "Walk-a-Lots." Team members Susan Scoles, Gary Scoles and Kim Malone covered 1,702 miles.

Bob and Gay Pfaller, walking under the team name "The Pfallers," covered 634 miles, cumulatively. Some of the leading individual walkers were Trudy Cahoon, who walked 459 miles, and Kate Democoeur, who walked 344 miles.

The winners all receive Meijer gift certificates to buy new shoes. "I think it was a smashing success and I think people are looking forward to what we do next," said community wellness director Patty Sellner. "We'll continue to do things like this to encourage people to take an interest in their personal wellness."

The next Lowell Community Wellness event

is the Harvest Hustle 5-K run on Saturday, Oct. 8 at 8 a.m. Four health programs were scheduled leading up to the race; two remain. The next of these is a Tuesday, Sept. 27 presentation by sports psychologist Dr. Edmund O'Connor titled "Running for Fun or Speed." The final program is Oct. 4 and is titled "Sports-specific Stretching and Injury Prevention." Both presentations take place at Lowell High School from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Walking is the best possible exercise. Habituate yourself to walk very far.

- Thomas Jefferson (1743 - 1826)

Business Matters



Brooke E. Bennett

Brooke E. Bennett, a 1999 graduate of Lowell High School and 2003 graduate of Grand Valley State University, has accepted the position of field reporter at WDEF, a CBS Network affiliate, in Chattanooga, TN. Bennett's previous broadcasting year was with WDNB, a cable news station in Dalton, GA., where she was a news reporter, news director and part-time news anchor. Bennett resides in Cleveland, TN, with her husband Royce Young.

persons 2 - 64 and 65 or older with other medical conditions

- residents of long-term care facilities
- persons 65 or older without any other medical conditions
- children 6-23 months
- pregnant women
- healthcare personnel who provide direct patient care
- household contacts and out-of-home caregivers of children less than 6 months.

Beginning Oct. 24, all persons will be eligible for the vaccination.

HEALTH

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



INFLUENZA VACCINATION SCHEDULE

Although it seems a bit early to start discussing flu season, influenza vaccinations will be started in October. Recall that last year the vaccine was in short supply and many of those who needed it could

not be vaccinated. This year there are now four major suppliers of the influenza vaccine. The exact number of doses and distribution is still unknown. Therefore, the CDC recommends the following groups receive the influenza vaccine first until Oct. 24.

College News

Cornerstone University who have been recognized has announced its students for their academic

achievement by their inclusion on the dean's list. From Lowell is Janelle M. Horton and from Alto is Andrew Lewis Rogers.

Everyone is talking about the Ledger! Don't miss out on all the news! Get your subscription today! 897-9261 Credit Card required with phone order



Raising The Roof GARAGE SALE

Impact will be hosting a garage sale on FRIDAY, SEPT. 23 and SATURDAY, SEPT. 24 from 9 AM to 4 PM.

All proceeds will go towards our Extreme Makeover Building Campaign.

Come check out the furniture, antiques, appliances, clothes, books and more.

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AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p>ATTENTION: BIBLE BELIEVERS 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>Across the street from the Vennan Dodge dealership. 897-6284 or 485-4195 10AM Sunday School; 11AM Morning Service; 6PM Evening Service; Wed., 7:30PM Prayer Meeting.</p>	<p>ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Kirby and Harrison Alto • 616-691-8011 Worship.....9:30 A.M. Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.</p> <p>OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS Pastor Dean Bailey</p>	<p>Cherry Creek Elementary (Nursery & Children's Ministry Provided) Sunday Mornings.....10 AM The Wake (Sunday at YMCA Teen Center).....5 PM Phone us @ 897-0333 hccmcc@bcglobal.net Call for a free CD Service Sample</p>	<p>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL Rev. Randy Meyers • 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....11:20 A.M. Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M. Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free</p>	
<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936</p> <p>Worship Services.....8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday School.....9:45 - 10:45 a.m. Kids Club Wednesdays After school to.....5:30 p.m. DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR Nursery & child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p>EVERGREEN MISSIONARY CHURCH 10501 Settlemood • Ph. 897-7185 Sunday School.....9:45 A.M. Morning Worship.....11 A.M. Evening Service.....6:00 P.M.</p> <p>Prayer and Praise - Wed., 7:00 P.M. Rev. Rick Ferguson - 987-6475 ALL ARE WELCOME! (Barrier-Free)</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God) 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, Senior Pastor Dave Noonon, Asst. Pastor Jonathan & Stacy Holmes, Youth Pastors SUNDAYS: Worship: 10:00 a.m. - LIFE Home Groups & "XL" Youth Sunday evenings WEDNESDAYS: Family Night (For All Ages): 7 p.m. "XL" Youth: 7 p.m.</p>	<p>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 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 & 7 PM Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL BRENDI BEHRENG 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 48, 50TH FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>	<p>DAY BIBLE CHAPEL 9305 Centerline, Saranac 897-6332 Worship.....9:45 A.M. Sunday School.....11:00 A.M.</p> <p>Nursery & Jr. Church Provided Rev. Frank Lattimore, Pastor "A Nondenominational Ministry With A Blended Word Centered Service!"</p>
<p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 www.goodshepherdlowell.org Sunday School & Adult Bible Study, 9 A.M. Worship Service.....10:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremmer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Rev. Thurian Meredith 897-5648 9:45 A.M.Worship/Fellowship 11:15 A.M.Sunday School 897-9863 or 897-9588 Worship & Children's Programs Provided A friend...a family...a mission!</p>	<p>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 201 N. Washington • 897-8800 Sunday School.....10:00 A.M. Morning Worship.....10:50 A.M. Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M.</p> <p>PASTOR MICHAEL RHODABARGER Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>	<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALTO 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 & Bible Study.....7:00 P.M. Nursery provided Steven Harduk - Pastor Preaching the whole counsel of God. ALL ARE WELCOME!</p>	<p>SOUTH BOSTON BIBLE CHURCH (Kysar 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. & Sr. High).....6:30 P.M. Evening Praise.....7:00 P.M. Wednesday Kids Klub (ages 2-5).....7:00 P.M. Olympians (1st - 6th grades) Prayer and Bible Study Library, Nursery, College & Children's Services provided. Wheelchair Accessible Church 897-7823 • Parsonage 897-5464 • sbchurch@juno.com</p>
<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbcloowell.org Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA CLUB J.C.Wed. 6:15 & 6:30 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free</p>	<p>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH 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 Apostolic Church of North America 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.eacna.org May the Lord fill you and bless you this day!</p>	<p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (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 & Worship</p>	<p>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH 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>

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A special thank you, as well, to the artists, musicians, volunteers, and our "Franciscan Friends", who donated their time, energy, and talent.

Franciscan Life Process Center
11650 Downes St., Lowell, MI 49331
616-897-7842 Fax 616-897-7054 www.lifeprocesscenter.org

Providing a more scenic and safer route for North Country Trail

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

The North Country Trail Association (NCTA) will have a change of scenery when the route through Lowell is moved to create a safer passageway.

At its Monday night meeting, the Lowell City Council decided to endorse a project that would reroute the trail from Grindle Drive down to Washington Street

to Oakwood Cemetery, then to the Boy Scout cabin and through the city-owned property Pine Plantation to the gaming area.

According to a letter by Clare Cain, NCTA director of Trail Management, the change in the route would be quieter, more scenic, and much safer than the current path down Grindle.

"By doing this we are hoping to get the boy scouts more involved with

the trail and increase local involvement since it will be right off the Riverwalk," Cain said during the meeting.

In fact, for his Eagle Scout project, Alex Fleet, from Troop 102, is planning to work on rerouting the trail. Fleet said there is quite a bit of physical labor involved, which will include clearing the trail by cutting branches and moving debris.

Before the project could

move forward, the NCTA and Fleet needed the blessing of the city council to cross the city-owned property.

"It does make it a safe route," said councilman Al Mathews. "I live on Grindle and people run their cars up and down Grindle pretty fast."

The old route followed the street, which has no sidewalks for walkers. Fleet came before the Parks and Recreation Commission

seeking permission to work on the project. Councilman Jim Pfaller, who sits on the commission, said the group saw no problem with the project but referred Fleet to the city since the property was not a park. He did receive support to go ahead with his project.

The new path would allow for more loops through town and for the trail to hook up to the NCTA trail in the Lowell State Game lands.

The new trail would also need to be marked, Cain said. The old blazes (markers) are easily removable or can be covered up to make sure people are following the new path, she explained.

The North Country Trail now runs from the Flat River to Fallsburg Park, providing more than seven miles of trails through Lowell, according to a map provided by the NCTA.

Annexation among the topics at Vergennes Township meeting

By Dan Schneider

The fate of 177 acres in Vergennes Township that was petitioned for annexation to the city of Lowell will remain in the air for at least another month.

At a meeting Thursday, in Okemos, the State of Michigan Boundary Commission did not rule on the annexation petition filed last October by DuRay Development, LLC. This gives the city and township more time to work on a 425 Agreement before the commission decides the

annexation issue. A 425 Agreement would set terms for getting city services and other considerations without resorting to annexation.

The most likely dates for the next meeting of the boundary commission are Oct. 20 and Nov. 3.

At the Lowell City Council meeting Monday night, the council indicated it wanted to meet with Vergennes Township to discuss the issues at hand which, from their perspective, included the length of the 425 Agreement and who

will have the property at the end, allocation of township millage, housing density and zoning authority, and who will provide water and sewer.

City manager David Pasquale said he hoped to set up a meeting with city and township officials next week. Mayor Jeanne Shores felt the Boundary Commission left it in the hands of the city and township to work it out.

"I do believe we need to make another effort," Pasquale said. "It certainly would make it a lot easier in future dealings with the township and the city."

At the Vergennes Township meeting Monday, the board authorized township supervisor Tim

Wittenbach to sign a purchase agreement for 22 acres of property. The township will buy the property, located south of McPherson on Lincoln Lake Avenue, for \$161,424. Township clerk Mari Stone said the property could be a possible future site for a new township hall, nature preserve or public recreation land.

The board also granted a fireworks permit to the Michigan Pyrotechnic Arts Guild to shoot off fireworks the night of Oct. 15 on Ken Roth's property. The club's membership consists mostly of fireworks professionals. According to John Shupe, who came to the meeting representing the club, the members approach the

fireworks they'll be shooting that Saturday night as a kind of art form.

For the fiscal year 2005, which began April 1st and ends March 31st of next year, the Vergennes Township millage rate will be .8732 mills. That's a decrease from last year's rate, which was .8776 mills. The decrease is mandated by the Headley Amendment.

The board briefly discussed the possibility of raising the millage to a full one mill for fiscal year 2006. Such an action would require a

public hearing. The increase would offset future Headley reductions while helping to keep the township more financially stable.

"Most of our money we collect in millage is put right back into roads," said treasurer Jean Hoffman.

The board also voted to match the federal mileage reimbursement for its employees who receive reimbursement. The current federal maximum is 48 cents per mile. The township had previously paid 34 cents per mile.

Service study, cont'd.... From Page 4

sum of money the council is considering.

The council decided to postpone making a decision to extend the current rates. Pasquale added that he should be able to report back to the council on proposals by the first of December, and the council could make a decision on the rates. At that time, said councilman Jim Hodges, Pasquale would have a better idea of how long the study should take and the council could determine how long the extension should be.

Currently, city residents pay a \$1.68 consumption charge per thousand gallons for water and a \$1.80 consumption charge per thousand gallons for sewer.

A new policy was also approved by the council that outlined the city's procedure for tap-ins from Vergennes Township to existing city water and sewer lines. It set the rate for double the water consumption charge, \$3.36 per thousand, and the same for sewer, and made it clear that extensions to the lines would not be allowed.

Currently, city residents

Lowell Little League prepares to make adjustments after president arrested

By Dan Schneider

Lowell Little League is preparing to make its financial books more open for scrutiny after the arrest of league president Edward Parks on embezzlement charges.

Parks, 45 and from the Saranac area, turned himself in to the Kent County Sheriff's department Sept.

7. It was almost two months after a warrant was issued for his arrest on July 12. The Lowell Police Department began an investigation into allegations of embezzlement by Parks about a year ago. The Lowell Little League Board brought the case to the police after Parks repeatedly failed to produce proper records of the league's finances.

"They had some discrepancies in the financial records they were given," said Lowell police detective James Hinton. "They didn't know if it was criminal. There definitely was criminal activities taking place here."

At his arraignment Sept. 14, Parks was charged with misdemeanor embezzlement of more than \$200 but less

than \$1,000. The maximum penalty for the crime is a one-year incarceration and/or the greater of \$2,000 or three times the amount embezzled. Parks pleaded not guilty to the charges.

But Hinton, who reviewed the case with three different prosecuting attorneys before seeking a warrant, said evidence points to Parks.

"Any kind of case like that, they really want to be cautious, and they wanted to make sure there is enough evidence to convict and we think there is enough evidence against Mr. Parks to convict," Hinton said.

He said Parks was cooperative during the investigation.

Three members of Parks' family on the Little League Board—his wife is the secretary, his brother, a board member and his sister-in-law is the treasurer—were also cooperative, Hinton said.

Police had a difficult time locating Parks after the warrant was issued.

"Family members told us that he was employed out of state on a construction job," Hinton said. "But his family knew about the arrest warrant, and that probably contributed to his turning himself in to the sheriff's."

Parks has not resigned as president and the board has not asked for the resignation as they wait for the result of the charges.

Lowell Little League board member Daniel Boon said the board is not jumping to any conclusions regarding Parks' guilt or innocence.

"He's only been accused of a crime," Boon said. "We're mostly concerned about the kids and the community and moving forward."

A statement issued Monday by four members of the board said "the Lowell Little League Board is saddened by the allegations brought against Ed Parks. We will be making the necessary changes in the upcoming weeks to insure the integrity of the league for the community."

Regular, independent audits are one new policy the league will put in place, Boon said. The league also plans to put its financial records online and make them available by password to the parents of its players.

"After getting this kind of a black eye, we want to make sure something like this doesn't happen again," Boon said.



Michigan welcomes victims of Hurricane Katrina with open arms

With Senator Carl Levin

Hurricane Katrina, one of the worst natural disasters in our nation's history, left behind an almost unimaginable trail of death and destruction.

Along with the entire country, I mourn for the many whose lives were lost and pray for the millions who will be recovering from this tragedy for years to come.

In the wake of Katrina, over one million Americans have been displaced from their homes. While the residents of the Gulf Coast have suffered an overwhelming loss, millions of their fellow citizens have responded by opening their hearts and homes to help their fellow Americans.

Michigan has welcomed victims of Hurricane Katrina with open arms. I joined many Michiganders who gathered to greet the first group evacuated to our state when they arrived in Battle Creek earlier this month. Although many of those arriving from New Orleans were weary, their spirits

were high and hopeful. They thanked the people of Michigan who had gathered to welcome them and they expressed their relief at finally being in a place where they could rest comfortably and peacefully.

Their courage and resilience heartened me. One woman, who looked to be in her mid-seventies, reported that she was "doing real good for a young woman," as she proudly marched toward the station where emergency workers were distributing goods. Others brought their pets with them, and one young man came off the plane carrying his banjo, the only thing he has left after the hurricane.

In addition to those evacuated by FEMA, about 2,000 additional evacuees made their way to Michigan on their own or with the help of churches, private citizens and other organizations. The state has worked quickly to expedite the provision of food, housing, and other emergency relief assistance to all of the evacuees arriving in our state.

Every day we are learning that more people from the Gulf Coast have arrived in Michigan, and the state, in cooperation with federal agencies, is doing everything it can to assist the evacuees.

FEMA is maintaining a registration of evacuees to ensure that everyone is accounted for and receives the assistance they need.

Levin, cont'd., page 17

Cozy Corner, continued... From Page 5

Our route took us down to Everglades City. It's only about an hour on to our home from there, but it was late enough in the day that crossing the Everglades and Gulf of Mexico seemed a little too daunting. We spent another night eating seafood and enjoying a small seaside resort city.

The next morning was our last leg. I've made this little trip numerous times, but it never ceases to amaze me with its beauty. You have to keep in mind that this flying is in an open cockpit airplane and at about 500 feet.

The route of flight from Everglades City to Marathon takes you along the Everglades coast and its surprisingly beautiful sandy beaches. Then it's a short hop across the Gulf of Mexico from Sandy Key to Marathon. We got fuel in Marathon and borrowed the courtesy car (no it wasn't a Z-28 convertible) to get lunch at our favorite, what else, seafood restaurant.

Our last, and very short, leg took us to Summerland Key Cove Airport where I've kept the old Stearman under a guy's stilt house. That's where the plane was until a recent

attempt to get it back to Michigan. It is still stranded in Kentucky, but that whole story is for another column. I'm not ready to write about it until the plane is finally tucked away in the hangar.

Oh, and since there was so much discussion of hurricanes in this column, I should mention Rita. I need to wrap this up and finish battening down the hatches. Rita is supposed to give us a substantial wallop later today. Let's see, that's Dennis, Katrina and now Rita this year. Frances, Ivan, Charley and Jeanne last year. Someplace like Idaho is sounding better and better.

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

LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

While Superintendent Shari Miller focuses on her health, the Lowell Board of Education will contract with an interim superintendent to manage the district until her return.

The public is invited to attend the Interim Superintendent interviews:

Thursday, September 22, 2005
7:00 P.M. - Gunnard Johnson
8:30 P.M. - Patrick Murphy

Runciman Board of Education Office - Board Room
300 High St., Lowell

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Lowell Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing to consider the following requests from or pertaining to the Township Zoning Ordinance:

1. A request from Patricia Folkerstma to allow a non-paved private road to provide access to more than three houses. Section 4.5.6.C.3 requires that a private road which serves three or more parcels be paved. The requested variance would apply to property described as parcel number 41-20-08-126-002 which is located south of the end of Woodfern Drive.
2. A request from the Lowell Township Planning Commission for the Board of Appeals to clarify the definition of road frontage as contained in the Lowell Township Zoning Ordinance.

The hearing will be held as follows:

WHEN: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2005

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

WHERE: LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL
2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE
LOWELL, MI 49331

The above requests are available for review at the Lowell Charter Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Lowell, Michigan, 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday or by calling 897-7600.

Bill Thompson, Chairman
Lowell Charter Township
Zoning Board of Appeals

TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN COUNTY OF KENT, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE AND SUMMARY OF THE REGULATORY EFFECT THEREOF

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on September 12, 2005, the Township Board of the Township of Grattan adopted an ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance of the Township of Grattan. The following is a summary of the amending ordinance:

Public Hearing on Administrative PUB Applications. The amending ordinance revises Section 14A.05.G of the Zoning Ordinance to require that the Township Board hold a public hearing, and provide prior notice of that public hearing, prior to making a final decision on an application for administrative approval of a proposed planned unit development under Article 14A.

Effective Date. The amending ordinance will become effective September 28, 2005. A copy of the amending ordinances may be inspected or purchased at the Grattan Township offices, 12050 Old Belding Road, within the Township, during Township office hours.

Dated: September 13, 2005

TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN

NOTICE TO THE QUALIFIED RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF LOWELL

THE LAST DAY FOR RECEIVING
REGISTRATIONS
WILL BE
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2005

Registrations will be taken at City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for the City General Election on Tuesday, November 8, 2005 for the purpose of electing three (3) seats on the City Council.

Only registrations received on or before October 11, 2005 will qualify persons to vote in the City's General Election.



Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk
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Downtown Grand Rapids
29 Pearl St., N.W.
Ph: 459-5000

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.

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 of 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 meetings 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 are at 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 info.

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. 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 TUES.: G.R. Chapter of the American Sewing Guild, Plainfield Senior Center, 5255 Grand River Dr. NE. 6:30 p.m. meeting/program Olga 616-975-9977/June 231-780-1249 for more information.

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 at 874-5662; teen group: call Sarah at 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. Rd. Robin open play, all levels, walk-ins welcome. 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.: 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. Rd. Robin open play, all levels, walk-ins. 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: "Financial Planning for Special Needs Children." 7-8:30 p.m. Call 642-6466 for info. and to pre-register.

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 Averil Historical Museum, 7144 Headley, Ada.

2ND SAT.: Lowell Amateur Radio Club, held at 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.: Averil Historical Museum of Ada, located at 7144 Headley. Hours are 1-4 p.m. or by appointment. Call 676-9346.

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

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

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

SAT., SEPT. 24: Class of '95 10-year reunion. Contact Krista at kbeach@tk.k12.mi.us.

SAT., OCT. 1: King Milling Co. 7th annual Covered Bridge Run at 9 a.m. at Fallsburg Park Pavilion. 5K run/walk, 5k dog walk. Call 897-8484 for more information or to register.

THURS., OCT. 6: Vergennes Club meets at 1 p.m. at Schneider Manor. Bingo; \$3 or less wrapped gift - program. Hostesses: Julia Hurley and Aileen McCabe.

SAT., OCT. 15: Attic Treasures Roadshow at Saranac High School, 10-2 p.m. Call Lowell museum at 897-7688 for more info.

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LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR
WEEKLY ACTIVITIES
897-5949

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

TUES.: 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.

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

SPECIAL EVENTS

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

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

FRI., SEPT. 23: 12 p.m. Birthday/anniversary; 12:45 p.m. Bingo.

MON., SEPT. 26: 4:30 p.m. Dinner by Karen.

TUES., SEPT. 27: 12 p.m. Potato Bar.

WED., SEPT. 28: Bosnia Shoppers. 11 a.m. Meijer Shopping.

THURS., SEPT. 29: 12:45 p.m. Food Pantry A-Z.

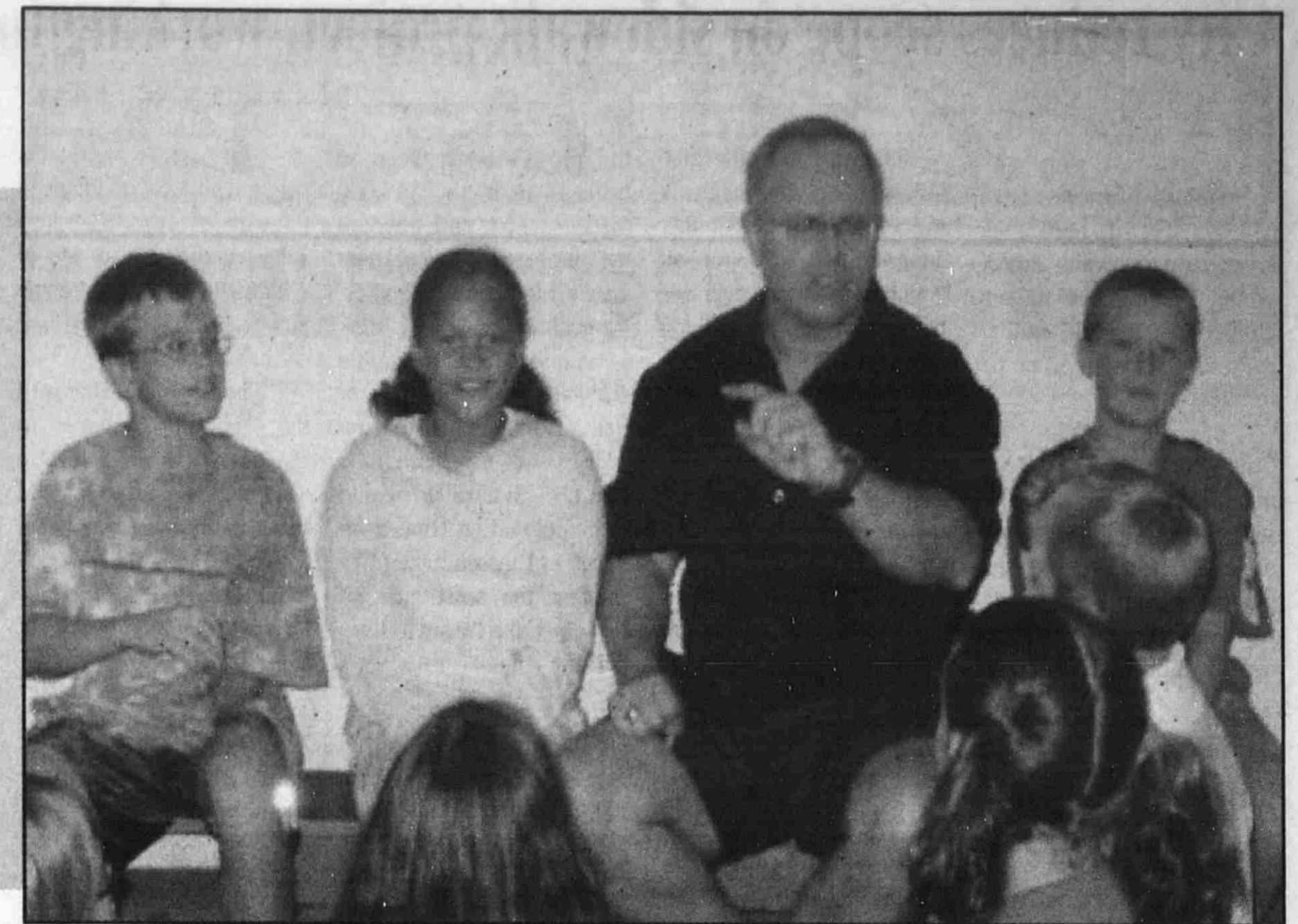
FRI., SEPT. 30: 12:45 p.m. Bingo; 1 p.m. Bowling.

Artist in residence at Cherry Creek

Randy McChesney, executive director of the Richards Institute of Education and Research and master teacher of Education Through Music, will be working with Barb Gumina and Cherry Creek Elementary students in the music room four times throughout the school year.

McChesney has worked with Gumina for the past eight years. Through song and play, children build up a repertoire of songs in which they practice, analyze and symbolize the song through pattern identification. They play, map, and begin formal reading, writing and composition of language and song.

Pictured, left to right, are: Toby Marks, Ashley Burks, Randy McChesney and Cody DeGood.



Tips for relieving your back while standing at work

By Dr. Paul Tuthill

Low back pain is caused by straining the muscles or ligaments, pressure on the intervertebral discs, or nerve compression or entrapment damage to the vertebra.

Risk factors for low back injuries include 1) heavy physical work, 2) lifting and forceful movements, 3) bending and twisting (awkward postures), 4) whole-body vibration (WBV), and 5) static work postures.

These work-related risks for injuries can occur separately or in some combination. The more these factors happen at any one time, the greater the risk of injury.

What does all this mean for standing work?

When we are standing, the pressure on the intervertebral discs of the lower back is fairly low, much lower than sitting unsupported on uncomfortable bleachers. But, standing uses about 20 percent more energy

than sitting, so we get tired more quickly and look to sit down.

When we are standing, we need to bend down to pick up objects or stretch up to get overhead objects. In all of these instances there is an increase in the forces on the lower back, and that's when an injury is most likely to occur.

The following tips will help you to minimize your risks of low back injury when you are doing standing work:

1) Remember to move around - even the guards in Arlington Cemetery can't stand to attention all day long. Moving is important to keeping the spine healthy and improve circulation and reduce muscle fatigue.

2) Take breaks and stretch - Recent research has confirmed that frequent brief rest breaks help reduce fatigue and musculoskeletal discomfort. Gentle stretching during a break will help ease muscle tension and improve circulation.

3) Watch your posture -

Stand in a stable posture with your feet on a firm surface. Try to avoid twisting the lower back around to reach things and move your feet so your whole posture changes instead. Try to minimize bending movements. If you must bend for objects that are in front of you, try to bend at the knees rather than the back. If you must bend for objects to the side of you, try changing your stance so you are facing the object, and then bend down at the knees. Avoid over-reaching - if you must reach up to a high level, get something firm to stand on, such as a stool of steps. Avoid reaching over obstructions - if possible, move the obstructing object or change your position before you reach for what you need.

4) Lean where you can - Leaning on a solid support helps to reduce fatigue when you're standing. This might be a support you can lean back against, a support you can lean against sideways, or a support you can lean

forwards against or hold onto.

5) Keep your back strong and supple - try exercise to strengthen your back muscles, and do activities, like Yoga, to maintain flexibility.

6) If your back pain persists - seek the help of a trained back specialist like a chiropractor, orthopedic surgeon or a neurosurgeon. In some cases a physical therapist can help with a course of compulsory exercising. Chiropractic care and physical therapy are the most conservative approaches and provide relief in 98 percent of all back pain cases.

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13008 GRAND RIVER DR. - \$148,900 - Ranch - Lowell
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4755 MIRIAM RD. - \$238,000 - 3 Acres - 2 Story - Belding

LAND - 5159 HATCH HOLLOW RD. - \$24,900 - 1.2 Acres - Lowell
LAND - 12858 SKYHIGH DR. - \$74,900 - 6.9 Acres - Vergennes Twp. - Lowell
LAND - 9962 MARBLE PINES DR. - \$44,900 - 2.50 Acres, Keene Twp. - Ionia Co. - Lowell Schools

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City reduces scope on sidewalk project, working to get funds for Gee Drive

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

Tighter finances have caused the city to reduce the scope of a sidewalk project while keeping its fingers crossed that the full funding for a road project will come through.

At the Lowell City Council meeting Monday night, the council agreed to scale back its 2005 sidewalk project after bids exceeded the available Community Development Block Grant funds by almost \$25,000.

The city was allocated \$45,799 for the sidewalk project by the Kent County Community Development Department, which oversees the dollars for the federal program. The lowest bid, which came from Lyonais, Inc., was \$69,529.50.

City manager David Pasquale said the county is looking to see if there are any more funds available to put toward the project. Until that is determined, city staff recommended the scope of

the project be reduced to bring it in at the \$45,000 mark. Another option would be for the city to use next year's block grant monies, Pasquale said.

Changes include adding sidewalks to both sides of Beech from Foreman to Hunt instead of to Birchwood Court. Sidewalks would be completed on Hunt from Beech to Lincoln Lake and on the west side of Lincoln Lake from Godfrey to Hunt.

The scope of the original project was changed a few months ago to create a safer walking trail for school children. Pasquale said the new changes would not affect the school trail.

The council approved the revised changes to the sidewalk plan. It also accepted a \$70,634 bid for engineering services from Williams and Works, the lowest bidder, for Gee Drive.

The Gee Drive project involves reconstructing the street. The city was awarded a 2006 grant to cover from Creekside Park west 2,100 feet; another 1,900 feet remain to Alden Nash, not under the grant, which pays 80 percent of the total project.

According to Pasquale, federal funding limitations are preventing the full completion of the road, but

he is discussing with the Michigan Department of Transportation about getting the remainder of the money to complete the project.

"The entire road does need to be reconstructed," Pasquale added.

The Williams and Works proposal for engineering services on Gee Drive was unanimously accepted by the council.

Fall hunting season preview, part 2

According to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, prospects for the 2005-06 hunting seasons are expected to be as good as they were a year ago.

The DNR encourages young people to hunt. Small-game hunters can be licensed at age 12. The 2005 youth waterfowl hunting weekend is Sept. 17-18 statewide for licensed youths 12-15 years old. Hunters 12-16 also may participate in this year's youth firearm deer season, Sept. 24-25 on all lands in Michigan.

A hunter education certificate is required for all first-time hunters born after Jan. 1, 1960. For information on classes scheduled in your area, visit the DNR Web site at www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Bear Season: The 2005 bear season is Sept. 10-Oct. 21, Sept. 15-Oct. 26 and Sept. 25-Oct. 26 in all Upper Peninsula units except Drummond Island; Sept. 10-16 on Drummond Island; and Sept. 16-22 in the northern Lower Peninsula's Baldwin, Gladwin and Red Oak bear management units. An additional hunt period for bow and arrow only will be held in the Red Oak Unit Oct. 7-13. Each harvest tag is valid for one bear that is not a cub. Outlook: Bear hunting continues to be excellent in Michigan. All population trend information suggests a stable to increasing bear population in the U.P. and a stable to slightly decreasing bear population in the Lower Peninsula.

Elk Season: Aug. 27-31 and Sept. 9-12. This year 155 licenses were selected from about 40,000 applicants. Available licenses are approximately 40 percent any elk and 60 percent antlerless elk only. Outlook: The January 2005 winter elk herd was estimated between 800 and 900 animals.

Deer Season: The archery deer season will be Oct. 1-Nov. 14 and Dec. 1-Jan. 1. The regular firearm season is Nov. 15-30 and a

late firearm antlerless deer season will take place in select Lower Peninsula deer management units Dec. 19-Jan. 1. Muzzleloading season is Dec. 2-11 in the Upper Peninsula (Zone 1), Dec. 9-18 in the northern Lower Peninsula (Zone 2) and Dec. 2-18 in the southern Lower Peninsula (Zone 3). A special youth deer hunt will be held Sept. 24-25, statewide. The season bag limit for antlered deer is no more than two bucks. Outlook: The deer herd in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and northern Lower Peninsula is smaller than in recent past; however, excellent hunting opportunities still exist. The deer herd in southern Michigan is still above department population goals. Hunters with access to private land should have exceptional hunting opportunities.

Bobcat Season: The U.P. (Unit A) and on Drummond Island (Unit B) runs from Dec. 1-March 1. In the northern Lower Peninsula, the season dates for Unit C are Jan. 1-March 1 and Jan. 1-Feb. 1 in Unit D. The season bag limit for bobcat is two per person, only one bobcat may be taken in Units C or D combined, and only one bobcat from Unit B. Outlook: Bobcats are primarily in the northern half of the Lower Peninsula and throughout most of the Upper Peninsula. Harvest is expected to be similar to last year in the Lower Peninsula. Harvest in the U.P. fluctuates from year to year based on weather conditions and road access. Successful hunters also are required to register their bobcat at a DNR office within 10 days of the close of the season in which it was taken. All bobcats will be sealed by the DNR.

Coyote Season: July 15 - April 15, statewide, except in Zone 1 (Upper Peninsula) and Zone 2 (northern Lower Peninsula) when the taking of coyotes is illegal during

Hunting preview, cont'd., pg. 13

Cherry Creek students extend a helping hand to hurricane victims

Students at Cherry Creek Elementary collected items to aid the Red Cross's relief efforts for Hurricane Katrina victims. Pictured, from left to right, are Emily Bertuleit, Haley Milks, Jillian Meade, Brianna Massey and Derek Massey, some of the students who brought in items. For the last two weeks, the students collected things such as diapers, school supplies, toiletries and wash clothes for the American Red Cross. Donated items were brought to the Red Cross collection center in Grand Rapids in two trips. The second one took place last Friday evening.

In addition to donations brought in by students, the Lowell YMCA contributed several T-shirts, Voyages Coffee Shop owner Sterling Massey donated 20 percent of his shop's profits from Sept. 12 to the cause, and the Northern Michigan University Lacrosse Club donated \$100 through the drive.



ICNB's "Casual for a Cause" day

Ionia County National Bank employees dressed "casually" for one designated workday in an effort to raise funds for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. The bank's "Casual for a Cause" day invited employees to donate funds and in return dress in jeans or other casual clothes.

Audrey Wieber, Human

Resources director, and a few ICNB employees organized the effort. The single day brought in \$625.

ICNB president James D. Fast matched the funds with an additional \$625 from ICNB, bringing the total to \$1,250.

"It was an amazing effort by our employees to raise funds to assist those

affected by the disaster," said Fast. "We hope the donations by our employees and the company can provide some relief to the victims of this disaster."

The funds were donated to two organizations: The American Red Cross and International Aid in Spring Lake. Each received \$625.

Hunting preview, cont'd... From Page 12

the firearm deer season, Nov. 15-30. No season bag limit. Coyotes may be taken year-round on private land when they are doing or about to do damage. Dogs may not be used from April 16 through July 14. Outlook: Coyotes are most common in the Upper Peninsula and northern Lower Peninsula, and appear to be increasing, especially in southern Michigan, as a result of low pelt prices and reduced hunting and trapping interest. The animal's adaptability to a wide range of habitat types and

conditions also contributes to its ability to sustain high population levels.

Raccoon Season: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, statewide. There is no season bag limit. Raccoons may be taken year-round on private property when are doing or about to do damage. Outlook: Raccoon are abundant and found throughout the state. Early season hunters should not overlook edges of corn fields.

Fox Season: Oct. 15-March 1. No season bag limit. Outlook: Both red

and gray fox are common to Michigan. Gray fox typically are found in woodlands, whereas red fox are more common in agricultural areas or mixed habitat. Red and gray fox numbers appear to be down in some areas, possibly because of increasing coyote numbers. Hunting with dogs is common, though an increasing number of hunters are successful using predator calls. Fox also may be hunted at night from Oct. 15 to March 1; nighttime firearm and equipment restrictions apply.

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would like to thank everyone for the beautiful plants and floral arrangements that were sent in remembrance of his life.

We would like to thank the following people:

David Gerst and his caring staff at Roth-Gerst Funeral Home for their services.

Pastor Ken Ford for his compassion and words of scripture that helped us get through this difficult time.

We would also like to thank all of our friends and relatives who brought in food and consoled us with comforting words to help us get through this time of sorrow.

We would like to give special thanks to the 1463rd Transportation Company and the C/Company 156 Signal Battalion Honor Guard from the Grand Valley Armory who rendered military funeral honors to our father.

We would also like to give a very special thank you to Mr. Jack Misner for playing taps at the cemetery; this brought tears to many eyes.

Finally, our family would like to thank Cindy Meyers and her caring staff at Cumberland Manor for the loving care our father received during the year he lived there.

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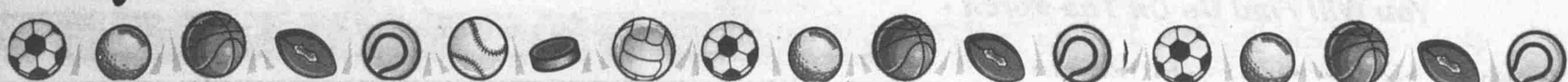
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**IN INVESTMENT WORLD,
GOLD DOESN'T ALWAYS GLITTER**

Gold has mesmerized human beings for thousands of years. In fact, we have an almost innate belief in the tremendous value of this shiny yellow metal. So, it's not surprising that when financial markets go through rough times, many people take on the attitudes of Olympic athletes - in other words, they "go for the gold." Unfortunately, their dreams of wealth frequently get tarnished - because gold is not the "sure thing" that some might expect.

Some drawbacks to consider

Generally speaking, two key factors stir up investors' interest in gold:

- Political or economic turmoil - Wars and financial crises make people very nervous about investing in the stock market. When that happens, stock prices can fall. As a result, many investors want to put their money in an alternative they view as more stable - such as gold.

• Rising inflation - Many people look to gold - along with other "hard assets," such as real estate and art - as a "hedge" against inflation. In other words, these investors expect the price of gold to rise along with that of other goods and services.

But is gold really an appropriate alternative to stocks? And is it the best inflation hedge available?

The answer to both these questions is "probably not." In the first place, gold is a commodity, just like grains, livestock, oil and currencies. And like all commodities, gold will rise in value, sometimes quite dramatically, when demand for it increases, relative to supply. But gold prices, like stock prices, can also drop quickly.

Furthermore, although history doesn't always repeat itself, gold has a far worse performance history than that of some other investments, such as common stocks. In fact, on an inflation-adjusted basis, gold trades at roughly the same price as it did in 1833. By contrast, from 1926 through 2004, large-company stocks have recorded an average annual return of more than 10 percent, compared to the average annual inflation rate of around three percent for that same period, according to Ibbotson Associates, an investment research firm.

And even as an inflation hedge, gold is almost certainly

not the best choice. As alternatives, you could invest in short-term Treasury securities or other short term alternatives money market accounts, both of which would benefit from higher short-term interest rates if inflation starts picking up.

Skip the "gold rush"

Clearly, gold should not be looked at as a "cure-all" for investors who are nervous about political instability, shaky financial markets and rising inflation. So, instead of socking away those gold ingots, what steps should you take to improve your investment outlook during difficult times?

For starters, don't panic. The more experience you gain as an investor, the more you will realize that there's very little new under the sun. Wars, elections, oil shocks and corporate scandals are all unsettling events - but they're also recurring ones. As a smart investor, you shouldn't rush to find a "quick fix," such as gold, every time a negative headline appears in the paper. Instead, follow tried-and-true principles: Diversify your holdings, buy quality, and hold your investments for the long term, or at least until your needs change.

These guidelines may not be as glitzy as gold - but, in their own way, they still sparkle.

Levin, continued ... From Page 9

tance they need. In addition to housing evacuees, contributions of food, automobiles, money and other supplies have been pouring in from all over Michigan.

Gov. Jennifer Granholm moved quickly to set up a Michigan Hurricane Helpline (1-888-535-6136) to catalogue and coordinate the many pledges of help from the citizens of our state.

Michigan's own preparedness efforts have proven effective with helping the people of the Gulf Coast. Over the past few years, the state of Michigan has invested in equipment and training to be ready to respond in case of an emergency in Michigan. That planning and preparedness enabled the state to provide assistance to local emergency officials in Louisiana.

Through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, Michigan deployed 115 law enforcement officers to the affected area. The Michigan unit arrived on the scene fully self-sustaining - completely immunized and with their own food, water, supplies and emergency communications system.

Members of the Michigan National Guard also helped with the disaster relief effort. Most of the 500 Guard members deployed to the disaster area were military police, sent to reinforce the security forces already on the ground. In addition, a Michigan National Guard Water Purification Detachment was sent to Mississippi to provide clean water for

the victims of the hurricane, and two C-130 transport planes were deployed to assist in the evacuation efforts.

Over the next several months, the federal, state and local governments will be helping to provide jobs, housing and health care for the hundreds of thousands of people displaced by this disaster; conducting environmental cleanup; reconstructing oil refineries; removing debris; and repairing roads and bridges.

As a member of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, I will be reviewing the federal response to Hurricane Katrina. By identifying the failures, we can strengthen our preparedness for any future emergencies our country may face.

Poetry contest to benefit hurricane relief

Poetry.com and The International Library of Poetry announced that they will donate one dollar to the American Red Cross for every poem they receive during the month of September. All poetry received will be entered into the International Open Amateur Poetry Contest, where over \$1,000,000 has been awarded to amateur poets.

"Our board of directors has decided to focus all of our charitable efforts on helping the people affected by Hurricane Katrina. The American Red Cross is our nation's premier emergency response organization, and we are confident that they will put our money to good use," said company spokesperson Eric Mueck.

To enter, send one original poem, any subject and any style to The International Library of Poetry, Suite 19923, 1 Poetry Plaza, Owings Mills, MD 21117. The poem must be 24 lines or less, and the poet's name and address should appear on the top of the page. Entries must be postmarked or sent via the Internet by Sept. 30. You may also enter online at www.poetry.com.

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East Grand Rapids four points too much for Lowell

By Dan Schneider

It came down to the wire, but the Red Arrows fell short in their bid to beat East Grand Rapids in three straight games.

After beating the Pioneers twice in Lowell during last year's state championship season, Lowell lost 25-21 on East's home turf.

In the final seconds East stopped Lowell quarterback Keith Nichol's last scramble about 15 yards away from the endzone. The run was the last gasp in a final drive that moved the ball 47 yards in 1:15 without any timeouts. It was a drive that needed a fourth down pass to Brock Graham with 22.5 seconds left to keep it alive.

What put Lowell in that situation was a 74-yard touchdown run by Kelvin

Grady earlier in the quarter. Grady caught a pitch on the left side, dodged a few tacklers, and all the Lowell faithful could see were taillights. It was the winning score and turned around a game that Lowell had controlled for the duration of the third quarter.

"This is a young group of kids and I think we were a little tight today," Lowell coach Noel Dean said after the game. "We had our opportunities."

One was on Lowell's second-to-last drive, when the Arrows fell inches short of a first down near the Pioneers' 26 and turned it over on downs. But Lowell took advantage of some opportunities ... like in the third quarter when East bobbled a kickoff. Nick Canfield jumped on it for



At left: Lowell's Torsten Boss (#4) takes down East Grand Rapids' Kelvin Grady

Lowell on the East 25. Three plays later, Nichol connected with Mike McElroy for a 20-yard touchdown pass that put Lowell up 21-10.

That bobbled kickoff came after a Lowell drive capped by a 15-yard Nichol touchdown run.

East was the first to score in the game, but not until their second possession. Lowell received the ball to start the game and was forced to punt on their first set of downs. The Lowell defense caused East to lose yardage before punting on the Pioneers' first drive. Lowell punted again from their own territory. This time

East took it back for a field goal and the early lead. After another Lowell punt, East went up 10-0 on a one-yard Luke Glendening run.

Lowell made the score 10-6 on their next drive after a two-yard Gabe Delnick touchdown run and a blocked point-after attempt.

Lowell took the lead 13-10 in the third quarter on the aforementioned 15-yard Nichol touchdown run, with a good extra point.

"East Grand Rapids did a great job," Dean said. "The reality of it is you've got two awfully decent teams out here."

"I just kept saying, 'don't panic,'" East coach Peter Stuursma said of the third quarter. "And I think that's one of the things that's a staple of our team, we never feel like we're out of a game."

Delnick led the Arrows rushing attack with 19 carries for 115 yards. Lowell rushed for 214 yards total as a team. East rushed for 262, Grady leading the way with 170 yards on 17 carries.

Nichol completed nine of 18 attempts passing for 144 yards. East's DeMarcus Grady's attempts, completions and yardage were all about half of Nichols. McElroy caught three of Nichol's passes for 61 yards.

Lowell's next game is homecoming, this Friday. The Arrows host the Greenville Yellowjackets at 7 p.m. at Red Arrow Stadium.

Red Arrow girls tennis team wins Lowell Invitational

By Dan Schneider

Winning championships in seven flights, the Lowell girls tennis team was victorious at their own invitational Saturday.

The Red Arrows took first place in the Lowell Invitational with a score of 30. Cadillac was next, scoring 22, followed by Caledonia (19) and Big Rapids (9).

"We won, so that was a good thing because (going into the tournament) we felt like we would have some strong competition," said Lowell coach Bonnie Wall.

She felt the Arrows had to earn the win, especially against Cadillac.

"To come through as strongly as we did was a big bonus," Wall said.

Lowell's Rachelle Livingston, Priscilla Freitas, Heather Spratt, and Kayla Irwin won championships at first, second, third and fourth singles, respectively. Becky Plummer and Kelly Koning won the championship in first doubles for Lowell. In second doubles, it was Arrows' Lindsay Aiken and Terrah Tawney. Tanya Baker and Melissa Zuiderveen won the third doubles championship. Megan Vaught and Katy Barnes took third place in fourth doubles after losing a pair of close matches, one of them on a super tie breaker.

The Red Arrows recovered from last week's trouncing at East Grand

Tennis, cont'd., pg. 19

Red Arrows dominant in two basketball victories

Lowell girls hammer first two OK White conference opponents

By Dan Schneider

The girls basketball team opened OK White competition last Tuesday with a 55-25 smashing of Kenowa Hills.

It took most of the first quarter for Lowell to overcome a two-point deficit as the teams matched basket for basket for several minutes. Lowell tied the score at 10 on a put-back layup by Brittany Lyman following a missed three by Kelsey Crowley.

Later, Crowley and Nicole Shepard hit back-to-back threes to put Lowell up 19-12.

Holding Kenowa Hills scoreless for the entire second quarter, the Red Arrows built a 30-12 lead by halftime.

After working the perimeter for most of the first half, Lowell forced it into the lane on their first possession after halftime. The shot missed, but Lowell was doing a better job of penetrating the lane. It took a while for Lowell to hit a shot, though. Brook VanEck was the first Arrow to score

in the third quarter. She hit a layup and drew a foul 4:15 into the quarter; then she missed the free throw, but ended up with the ball back to make a layup. Lowell continued to play stingy defense, allowing only four points in the third quarter.

"Our defense did a nice job of not letting them get off as many shots," Lowell coach Dee Crowley said.

Meanwhile, on offense, Lowell improved its inside-outside passing game against the Knights' zone.

"We had good ball movement and we were able to move the ball around," Crowley said. "That's what you have to do against a zone-move the ball and move the ball quickly."

The late fourth quarter featured some three-point shots. Lowell hit six out of 19 three-point attempts throughout the game. Lisa Johnson and Shepard each had a pair of triples. Crowley and Chelsea Harrison each hit a three.

Shepard was Lowell's third leading scorer in four games with 14 points as the Arrows continued

to distribute scoring responsibilities.

"We have a lot of people involved in the game," Crowley said.

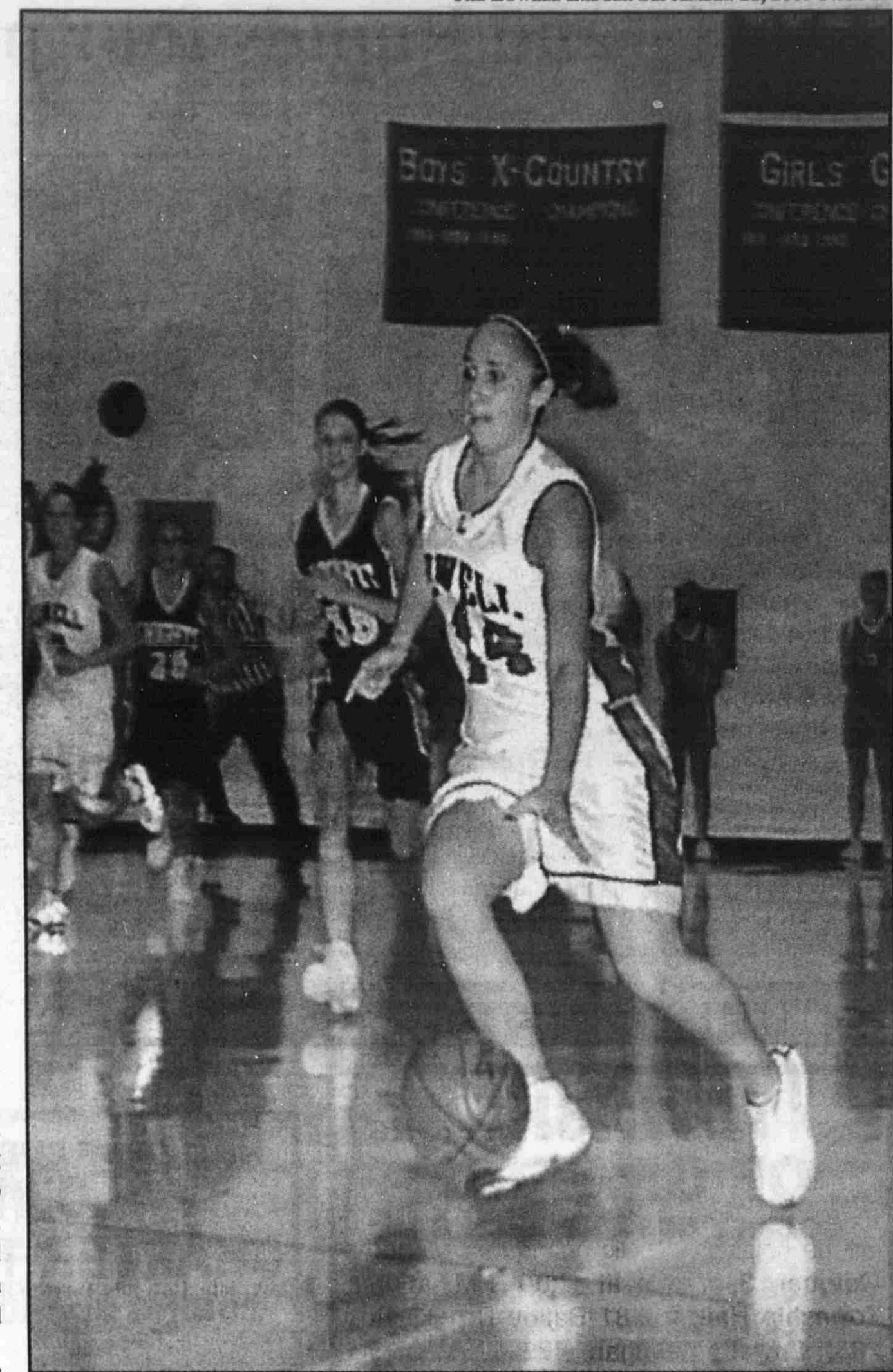
Brittany Lyman and Harrison each scored nine against the Knights and Johnson scored eight.

The Arrows didn't get to the line much, hitting three of only six free throws.

It was another wide score spread Thursday in Lowell's 54-24 win at East Grand Rapids. Just about every player on Lowell's roster scored, including Lyman with 14 points, Shepard with 11 and Amanda Geelhoed with seven.

The Arrows again played strong defense, limiting East to two points in the third quarter and holding their star point guard to only 10 points in the game. Lowell was very successful on the boards, pulling down 20 offensive rebounds and 38 total rebounds.

Lowell played Greenville Tuesday. The Arrows' next game is Tuesday against Forest Hills Northern.



Chelsea Harrison takes the ball up the court on a fast break in the first quarter against Kenowa Hills.

Soccer still looking for first win

After repeatedly holding its own against powerful teams, the Lowell boys soccer team has yet to win their first game.

Last Tuesday, the Arrows went up against one of the top teams in the state in Unity Christian and came away with a 2-2 tie. Adding

to earlier nondecisions against Caledonia and Rockford, last Tuesday's score gave the Arrows the unusual record of 0-2-3 after five games. It is not often that a team has more ties on its record than wins or losses.

Lowell will not likely

record many more ties this year as conference play began Tuesday with the Arrows hosting Kenowa Hills. In conference matches, there are tighter rules against tie scores.

The Red Arrows' next game is Thursday at East Grand Rapids.

Tennis, continued...From Page 18

Rapids in time to soundly defeat the Greenville squad at home.

The Pioneers shut out Lowell 8-0 last Monday. The closest match was at third doubles where Baker and Zuiderveen took it to three sets for Lowell. The score was 2-6, 7-6(1), 6-4 in East's favor.

"We just didn't quite make the shots when we needed them but it was a real good match and the girls gave it their best," Wall said of the third doubles match.

The fortunes were dramatically different for Wednesday's match in Lowell. Winning 7-1, the Red Arrows were victors in every flight except first singles. At that flight Emily Dudzik, widely considered the best tennis player in the area, shut out Lowell's Livingston.

At second singles, Freitas defeated Trisha Bailey 6-2, 6-0. Spratt won third singles for Lowell, beating Anna Pahl 6-2, 6-3. At fourth singles, Irwin defeated Brittnay LaFollette 6-3, 6-4.

In doubles action, Lowell's Koning and Plummer recorded a first-flight victory over Ashleigh Deane and Melissa Cole 6-1, 6-2. Aiken and Tawney won second doubles over Shelby

Deane and Katie Saladin 6-2, 6-2. Baker and Zuiderveen defeated Sara Souders and Maggie Kronlein 6-1, 4-6, 6-1 at third doubles. At fourth doubles, it was Barnes and Paula Lawrence over Ashley Kassuba and Ashley Wiborn 6-4, 6-0.

Lowell hosted Grand Rapids Central Monday. Their next match is Wednesday at Forest Hills Northern.

CENTER COURT APARTMENTS
A NICE PLACE TO LIVE

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

THE 2005 TOUCHDOWN CLUB would like to offer you the opportunity to view a home football game in the comforts of our **RED ARROW LUXURY BOX SUITE!**

THE AUCTION WINNER WILL RECEIVE:

- 10 Game Tickets
- 5 Reserve Parking Passes
- Catered Meal By Vitales Of Ada, Along With Pop & Water

GAMES TO BID ON:
Greenville, September 23rd (Homecoming)

Muskegon Reeths-Puffer, September 30th
Forest Hills Central, October 14th

PLACE YOUR BID AT HAROLD ZEIGLER FORD Bidding will close on the Thursday prior to the home football game at 4 PM. (9/22, 9/29, 10/13) The winner will be notified that same night.

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Public notice is hereby given that the Vergennes Township Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing on **Monday, October 3, 2005 at 7:00 PM at the Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Dr, PO Box 208, Lowell Michigan 49331**, to accept public comment on the following applications:

Turtle Lake Investments LLC (formerly Lone Pine Development Co. LLC) is requesting a site plan review for a site condominium single family home development with a private road. The properties are located abutting the southeast corner of the high school property and running south parallel to Alden Nash and adjacent to Pheasant Valley Dr. The properties are in the southeast quarter of section 33, parcel numbers 41-16-33-200-035, 41-16-33-400-073 and 41-16-033-400-017.

Bruce Langlois is requesting a private road review to develop his property into 8 residential home site lots served by a private road. An existing parcel adjacent in section 26 owned by the applicant will also be accessed by the private road. The property is located at 260 Lincoln Lake Rd, parcel 41-16-27-200-018 in the northeast quarter of section 27.

Grand River Veterinary Hospital, PC, currently located on Bowes Rd in Lowell, has requested an application review for a special exception use permit to construct a new animal hospital building within the industrial zoning district. The property is located on the west side of Lincoln Lake Ave across from the cemeteries in the NE quarter of section 34, parcel number 41-16-34-226-014.

The proposed applications are on file at the Vergennes Township Hall and may be inspected during regular office hours between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Public comment will be accepted at the public hearing and written comments received by mail, in person or in the mail slot located at the office entrance will also be considered if received prior to 3:00 PM on the day of the meeting. Comments may also be emailed to zoning@vergennewtp.org.

Vergennes Township Planning Commission

LINE STAFF NEEDED

Community-based, 24/7, residential program for male and female adults with severe, persistent mental illness, is seeking Line Staff to provide quality daily living support services. Successful applicants will be trained to facilitate clients with special needs and mental illness, while diffusing difficult situations. Part-time and full-time positions available on all shifts with opportunity for additional shifts on regular basis. Additional requirements include: HS Diploma/GED, acceptable driving record, demonstrated written and verbal communication skills, ability to pass physical/drug screen, lift 50 pounds, and pass criminal background check. Pay rate is \$8.65/hour with \$.50 raise upon probationary period completion. Apply in person at 11652 Grand River Avenue, Lowell, MI 49331 or forward your resume to:

Hope Network Behavioral Health Services
ATTENTION: Direct Care Positions-WLK
1256 Walker Avenue, NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
(616) 235-1436 (Fax)
lburoccki@hopenetwork.org
H/V/M/F, EOE, Affiliate of Hope Network



Golf splits pair of matches

By Dan Schneider

The 167-172 win over Greenville at Deer Run Golf Club last Wednesday gave the Lowell boys golf team its first OK White conference win.

Kyle Wittenbach led the Red Arrows, shooting a 38 on nine holes. Ryan Kalman scored 41 for Lowell while Vinny Larkin and Josh Gilliard each scored 44.

Lowell coach Gary Perkins tees off at Deer Run Golf Club.

Fredline said it was a good win for Lowell over a team that's had a good season so far, including a win over Forest Hills Northern.

The Huskies are Lowell's next opponent. That match is Wednesday afternoon at Egypt Valley Country Club.

Lowell shot about the same but had a different result last Monday against East Grand Rapids at Thousand Oaks Golf Club.

Lowell shot a team score of 168 but East Grand Rapids scored 151.

"They played very well down there," Fredline said of East. "Their number six guy shot 34 (for nine holes) and that's after he double-bogeyed the ninth."

Wittenbach was Lowell's leading scorer again with a 39. Gilliard scored 41, Kalman and Eric Mundt each scored 44.

"We played ... better than against Northview but East is just so tough this year," Fredline said.

Lowell shot 176 when they played the Wildcats on Aug. 31.

Lowell cross country runs strong at Middleville

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell cross country teams had a busy week last week, with

invitationals at Middleville and Sparta, and a dual meet against East Grand Rapids.

The Pioneers got the best of both the boys and girls teams at the Kenowa Hills course last Wednesday. The Red Arrow boys fell by a score of 19 to 37. Keaton Dilly finished second in the race in a time of 17:50. East took the next four places before Mike Schumm (18:43), Kyle Ingebreton (18:49), and Kirk Geldersma (18:52) finished in seventh, eighth and ninth place, respectively. Justin Boss (19:12) was next to finish for Lowell in 11th place.

Andy Mark (19:19) and Jon Riddle (19:23) rounded out the Lowell varsity lineup finishing 13th and 14th, respectively.

The Lowell girls team fell by a score of 17 to 47 to a fast East Grand Rapids squad. Karen Judd was the top Lowell finisher, taking fifth place in a time of 20:54. Monica Fitzpatrick was behind her in a time of 21:15. Erin Beddows (22:34) came in 11th, Haley Getzen (22:51) 12th, Katie Riddle (23:19) 13th, Emily Hauschild (23:47) 15th and Brittany Dietz (23:51) finished 17th.

Last Monday at the Yankee Springs-Gun Lake course, the Lowell boys finished second at the Middleville Thornapple-Kellogg Invitational. It was a closely-contested race for second place. Lowell's score was 107, Lakewood was third with 108, Byron Center scored 109, then South Christian with 110 and Hastings with 112. Caledonia took first place with a team score of 59.

Lowell's Keaton Dilly finished second overall in the race with a time of 17:35. Riddle (18:24) finished 24th, leading a Red Arrow pack that also included Schumm (25th, 18:26) and Mark (26th, 18:29). Ingebreton finished 30th in 18:43, Cameron Dilly (19:21) finished 44th and Geldersma (19:41) 51st.

The girls team finished fifth at the invitational with a score of 120, just ahead of Middleville Thornapple-Kellogg (122). The South Christian girls scored 60 to take first place.

Judd was the top finisher for Lowell in ninth place with a time of 20:19. Fitzpatrick (21:32) finished 19th, Riddle (22:06) 26th, Getzen (22:33) 34th, Hauschild (22:59) 43rd; Beddows (23:04) was close behind in 44th, and Dietz came in 57th with a time of 23:45.

Lowell's top finisher was Keaton Dilly in 18:25; Ingebreton (31st, 18:28), Mark (35th, 18:32), Geldersma (46th, 18:55) and Boss (49th, 19:04). Lowell competes against Greenville at this Wednesday.

The above requests are available for review at the Lowell Charter Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Lowell, Michigan, 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday or by calling 897-7600.

Bill Thompson, Chairman
Lowell Charter Township
Zoning Board of Appeals

Lowell's top finisher was Keaton Dilly in 18:25; Ingebreton (31st, 18:28), Mark (35th, 18:32), Geldersma (46th, 18:55) and Boss (49th, 19:04). Lowell competes against Greenville at this Wednesday.

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Cross country, cont'd., pg. 21

Equestrian competition intensifies for Red Arrows B team, C team claim first place

The spirit of the equestrian team at Lowell High School soared on Saturday as they competed again at the MIHA meet in Cedar Springs.

The B-Team took first place with a 65-point lead. Strong from the start, they totaled 207 points over Rockford (2nd) with 142 points, Grant (3rd) with 128, Sparta (4th) with 93, and Allendale (5th).

Mike and Linda Foote, equestrian coaches, said, "We're proud of all our team members for their efforts this week!"

The C-Team placed first with a total of 136 points after a series of speed races. Kenowa Hills followed with second place (127 points), Home School, third (101), and Kent City, fourth (90).

The A-Team came in fifth with a total of 67 points. Lead points were accrued by Ashley Gaskin (Hunt Seat Equitation, Hunt Seat Bareback, Saddle Seat Pattern, and Flag Race); Miranda Ruegsegger (Hunt Seat Showmanship); Amber Waldron (speed Timed Event); and Mikhaela Hart (Trail, Hunt Seat Showmanship, and Hunt Seat Equitation).

B-Team equestrians with first-place points were Jenny Humphries (Trail and Western Showmanship); Collette Benmark (Saddle Seat Equitation); Amy VanEns (Saddle Seat Showmanship and Saddle Seat Pattern); Mary Mendez (2-Person Speed Race with Home School); April Wolf (Clover Leaf); Ashley

Vanspronsen (speed Timed Event); and Lauren VanEns (Flag Race). Lead points were also earned by Jess Bouman (Hunt Seat Equitation and Hunt Seat Bareback); Cara Wilcox (Western Showmanship and Saddle Seat Bareback); and Miranda "Randy" Drier (Saddle Seat Showmanship, Saddle Seat Equitation, Hunt Seat Equitation); C-Team members taking first place were: Lisa Nugent (Western Showmanship and 2-Person Relay with Ashton V.), Ashton VanderWarf (Saddle Seat Showmanship, 2-Person Relay with Lisa N., and speed Timed Event); Jessi Meyers (Saddle Seat Pattern); and Kourtney Wittenbach (Saddle Seat Showmanship and Hunt Seat Showmanship).

Additional lead points were gained by Andrea Kulhawik (Saddle Seat Showmanship, Saddle Seat Pattern, Saddle Seat Bareback, and Western Person Relay).

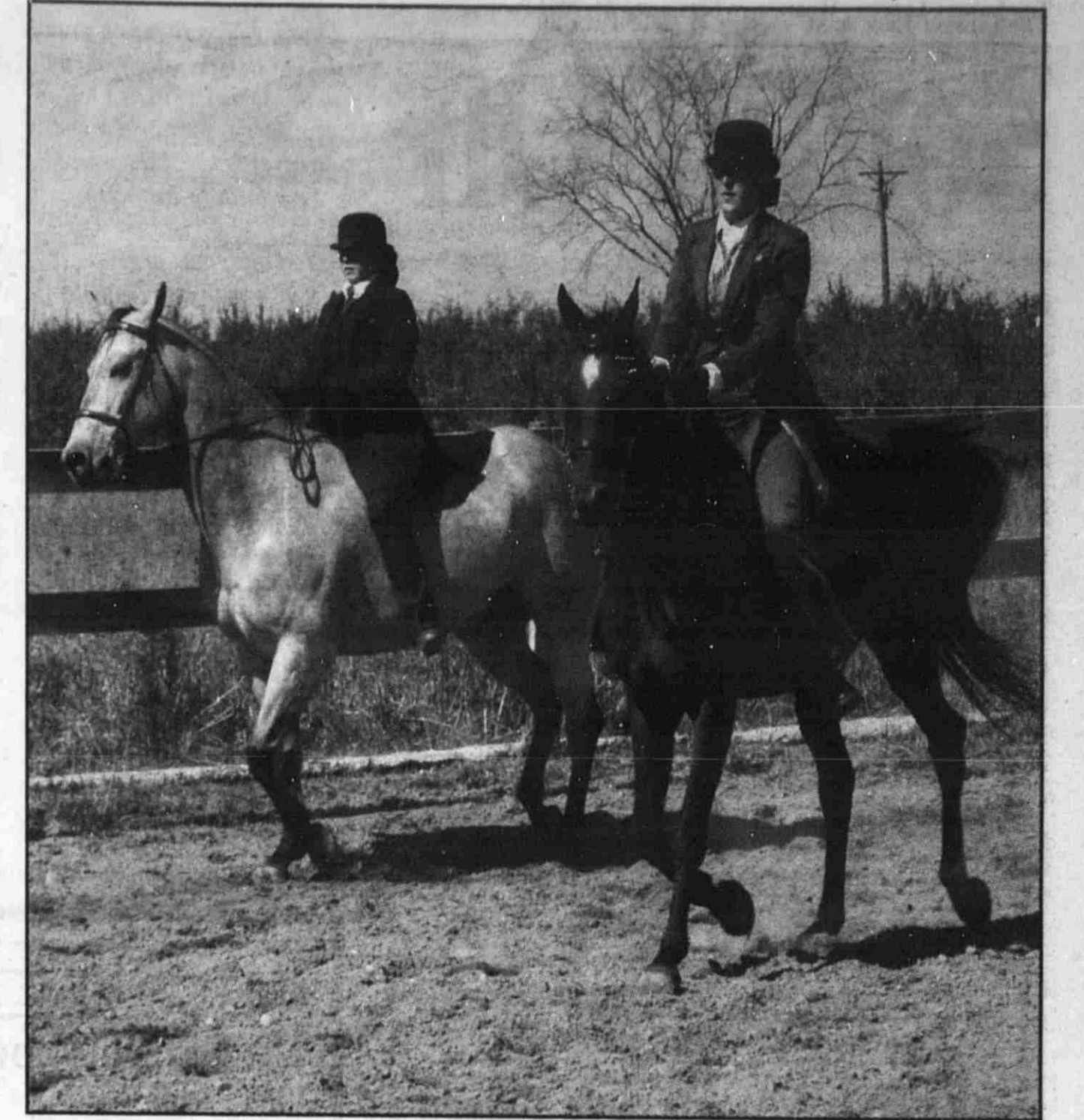
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Jessi Meyers and Andrea Kulhawik ride in the saddle seat bareback event Saturday in Cedar Springs.

Additional lead points were gained by Andrea Kulhawik (Saddle Seat Showmanship, Saddle Seat Pattern, Saddle Seat Bareback, and Western Person Relay).

Cross Country, continued...From page 20

Lowell competed in the Thornapple division. At the Sparta Invitational Saturday, the Lowell girls finished fourth with a score of 109. They were just behind Kenowa

Hills, who scored 108. Grandville scored 54 to win the invitational. Fitzpatrick was Lowell's top finisher (8th, 20:13) followed by Judd (10th, 20:15), Beddows

(24th, 21:41), Getzen (32nd, 22:03), Riddle (35th, 22:22), Hauschild (47th, 23:20), and Paige Senters (54th, 24:51).

With a team score of 125, the boys finished fifth at Sparta. That put them

behind Greenville (122). West Ottawa had two runners come in under 17 minutes to take first place with a score of 37.

Lowell's top finisher was Keaton Dilly in

seventh place with a time of 17:14. Schumm ran the five kilometers in 18:17 to take 23rd place.

Then came Riddle (29th, 18:25), Ingebreton (31st,

18:28), Mark (35th, 18:32), Geldersma (46th, 18:55) and Boss (49th, 19:04).

Lowell competes against Greenville at this Wednesday.

LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS BOARD BRIEFS

Regular Meeting of September 12, 2005

ADDITION TO THE AGENDA -

The Board added an item to the agenda to appoint Dan Brubaker and Jim Turner as delegates to the MASH Delegate Assembly to be held in October, and they called for a closed session to discuss a personnel matter following the Board Communications portion on the agenda.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Cory Kowalski, the Student Council Vice-President filled in for Brooke Liu and reported that next week is Homecoming Week with many activities planned. The Homecoming football game is Friday, September 23.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF -

Connie Gillette introduced the following new staff members: **Murray Lake** - Diane Titcher - 5th grade; **Middle School** - Ron Acheson - Math & Science, Lisa Camfferman - Social Studies, Dustin Cichocki - Social Studies, Stacy Kneibel - Special Ed, Julie Madron - Special Ed, Stephanie Robinson - Drama/English, Jennifer Vrooman-Mailand - Social Studies, Erin Walters - Science; **High School** - Katrina Alexander - part-time French, Jordan Beel - History, Amanda Blyth - Science, Nicole Deckrow - Special Ed, Chris Phillips - CAD, Libby Sholl - part-time Spanish, Unity - Jon Bieneman - Math, District - Lisa Keller - part-time Speech & Language Therapist, Christina Mitcham - Social Worker, Kay Hahn - Food Service Director, David Dean - Security/Varsity Wrestling Coach, Wittenbach/Wege - Steve Mueller - Director, Curiosity Corner - Karen Bordewyk - Pre-School, Central Office - Jonathan Schelke - Special Ed Director, Lynn Nauta - Accounts Payable Clerk

Energy Education

Jim White, Energy Manager for the district, gave a report on the savings from energy conservation efforts after 19 months of the Energy Education program. Net savings is at \$427,286 with a projected net savings of \$5,960,000 by December 2013.

ACTION ITEMS -

The Board accepted the following gifts:
• Jeff & Miki Guinn donation of books and toys valued at \$50 to be used by the TOTS Program.
• Patricia Bohn donation of books and toys valued at \$100 to be used by the Murray Lake Elementary School.
CONSENT ITEMS - Approved/adopted were:
• Minutes for August 8, 2005 Regular Meeting, the August 22, 2005 Workshop and Closed Session, the September 2, 2005 Special Meeting and Closed Session
• The following payment of bills for August 2005:
GENERAL FUND.....\$1,263,850.23
SCHOOL SERVICES FUND
A. Food Service Fund.....6,416.03
B. Athletic Fund.....8,925.07
2004 Construction Fund.....\$12,459.58
Scholarship Fund.....\$1,300.00
1990 Debt Fund.....\$2,541.63
2000 Debt Fund.....\$1,966.65
2004 Debt Fund.....<4.16>
TRUST AND AGENCY FUND.....\$14,985.28
• Personnel Report - New Hires:
Jon Bieneman Math Teacher Unity High School
Katrina Alexander French Teacher Lowell High School
Chris Phillips Tech. Ed/CAD Teacher Lowell High School
Libby Sholl Spanish Teacher Lowell High School
• Richard Jean and Joanna Barr as members of the

REPORTS -

Summer School, Passkey, and Community Education
Marlene Heemstra reported that summer school was very successful this year. Community Education continues to add enrichment classes and enrollment continues to grow. Passkey is a computer software remedial program that has been used very successfully by night school, special ed and regular ed at the secondary level. It has greatly aided in increasing learning.

Transportation & Maintenance Update

Larry Mikulski introduced Andrea Struckmeyer, a parent volunteer who helped to coordinate Safety Town for

toddlers held at the Cherry Creek parking lot this summer. She shared pictures of the youngsters who participated in learning road and bike safety. Larry reported that with the increase in gasoline prices, dollars will need to be added to the budget. Bus routes were consolidated as much as possible and many students not needing bus services were identified prior to the start of school. Team cleaning the buildings proved to be a money savings this summer with energy saved during building shut-downs and increased efficiency in cleaning.

Athletic Report for 2004-05

Barry Hobria shared some of the statistics and highlights regarding student athletes and sports teams for the 2004-05 school year.

Parents' Advisory for Special Education Committee.

The overnight trip request for Cherry Creek's 5th Grade to attend Camp Ebersole in Wayland, MI from September 15-16, 2005.

BUDGET UPDATE -

Connie Gillette reported that the district is watching fuel costs and that there is a report that natural gas may be increasing as much as 70%. The final audit figure shows a fund balance of 6.7% rather than the 6.5% that was reported earlier. There is still no word yet on the state aid foundation allowance, and student enrollment is up by 3 students.

CURRICULUM REPORT -

Mark Kasmer reported on changes in MEAP testing and the district's work on aligning curriculum to meet grade level expectations. Grades 2-9 will be taking the MAP (Measurement of Academic Progress) test which measures the areas of reading, language usage and math. A committee is working on a strategic plan for the Wittenbach/Wege Center to include community usage, grant writing to support the center, and a marketing plan to promote the center. It is hoped that the strategic plan will be in place by December.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT -

Nancy Hopkins shared information that Shari Miller is in the hospital undergoing cancer treatment and that she appreciates prayers and cards (no flowers due to allergies). The Board has an ad hoc committee who is interviewing interim superintendent candidates. The Board will post a special board meeting to conduct the final round of interviews.

CLOSED SESSION -

The Board went into closed session to discuss a personnel matter.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Board Workshop
Monday, September 26, 2005 - 5:30 p.m.
Runciman Administration Building - Board Room

Regular Board Meeting
Monday, October 10, 2005 - 7:00 p.m.
Runciman Administration Building - Board Room

Please visit our web page at www.lowellschools.com

We Value:
Responsibility • Respect • Caring
Trustworthiness • Fairness • Citizenship

TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN COUNTY OF KENT, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT AND SUMMARY OF THE REGULATORY EFFECT THEREOF

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on June 13, 2005, the Township Board of the Township of Grattan adopted an ordinance to amend existing sections of the Zoning Ordinance which pertain to communications antennas and towers. The principal provisions of the amending ordinance are summarized below.

The ordinance amends Section 3.51 to prescribe certain restrictions for non-commercial antennas and towers regarding the height of antennas and towers, advertising on antennas and towers and other matters. Private towers and antennas used for amateur radio purposes are exempt from certain of these restrictions. In addition, Section 3.51 would require special land use approval for antennas and towers used for commercial communications services.

The ordinance also amends Section 13.23 to prescribe additional requirements for special land use approval of commercial antennas and towers, including landscaping requirements, requirements pertaining to co-location of antennas on existing towers, removal of antennas and towers, and other requirements.

The ordinance will become effective September 28, 2005. A copy of the amending ordinance can be examined or purchased at the Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Road, within the Township, during Township office hours.

Dated: September 15, 2005

TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Lowell Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing to consider the following requests from the Township Zoning Ordinance:

1. A request from James and Eva Carey of 11495 60th Street, Alto, Michigan to construct a garage addition one foot eight inches from the side lot line. Section 4.2.4.F of the Zoning Ordinance requires such buildings to be set back 10 feet from the side lot line.
2. A request from KAJE Enterprises to increase the size of a wall sign from 100 sq. ft. as permitted by Section 4.4.4.C.d to 150 sq. ft. for property located at 11645 Fulton Street also known as StoneRidge Center.

This will also be the second of two required meetings to be held to conduct any and all business as required by the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Ordinance.

The hearing will be held as follows:

WHEN: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2005

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

**WHERE: LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL
2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE
LOWELL, MI 49331**

The above requests are available for review at the Lowell Charter Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Lowell, Michigan, 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday or by calling 897-7600.

Bill Thompson, Chairman
Lowell Charter Township
Zoning Board of Appeals

Sound Off

The Ledger

"Almost" Anything Goes Column
Or CALL...

897-0787

www.lowellbuyersguide.com



Bush finally admitted guilt!!! Amazing! Now that's a statement I can get on board with!

Glad to hear our food pantry is now in good shape. Thanks for caring Lowell.

Thank you very much to the decent person who returned to the store the item I left in my cart at Meijer the evening of 9/15. You restored my faith in humanity.

God bless our president? For what? Sending our money & troops overseas? Yeah God bless our president! We should be thanking God for term limits on the presidency.

I think the "refugees/evacuees" now want to be called "Evacuee Americans." That will change again soon though.

Thanks for getting together the golf outing for our wonderful school. Go Lowell Football Team.

Corrupt Democrats HA! When I think Republican, I think Enron, I think Worldcom, I think Tyco. When it comes down to it, corrupt and Republican have the same meaning!

Thank you Lois and Mike - for making Lowell Youth Football what it is. Wouldn't be without you both! - Sincerely, Many Fans of LYFL.

To the people who leave their garage sale signs up for weeks - how rude! Gas isn't exactly cheap these days to drive to your address and find the sign was weeks old. Take them down!

Hat's off to all the youth football coaches!

A recent fundraiser for the hurricane Katrina animal rescue showed how generous and caring the people of Lowell can be! Thank you to all who bought candy and made donations!

K.N. I am proud of you! You are a super athlete and one of the nicest young men I have ever met! Keep up the hard work you cutie potatoe! - T.

East Grand Rapids is ridiculous! Overrated you say? Hah! Wait till next time! Good job guys!

Hey Lowell sports fans - come to the Lowell High School Cross Country

Invitational this Saturday morning at the high school. Come cheer on ANOTHER hard-working group of Lowell athletes.

Dave Hildenbrand needs to know he actually CAN have MDOT install a light at Main and Monroe.

I think it is wonderful that our local businesses are supporting our athletic department.

I think that it is great that a local business took the initiative to start a fundraiser that will benefit many of Lowell's athletic teams.

High School Sports: The Purest Form of Sport. Go Red Arrows !!!

Win or Lose, the way you walk off the field is the same, two by two, hand in hand, with such dignity. The example you set will speak louder than any score, any time. Be Proud!

Have you seen the traffic in the morning on Hudson Street? It is backed up to Hunt Street

To the city officials, making Hudson St. into three lanes is a mistake. Have you waited in the line of traffic yet? The speed limit is fine. It's Main St. that's too fast, 35 mph and 45 mph.

I would like to say good luck to the boys soccer team this week. I know you can do it boys!

Are we really considering artificial turf? What is wrong with what we have?

I have great respect and admiration for Lowell's finest. But the last four out of five times I've seen them on patrol they've had a cell phone stuck in their ear. - MB

To those working on the foodmobile, you did a great job of organizing this past month. Thanks for all your hard work.

CLASSIFIEDS CONTINUED

FOR SALE FOR SALE FOR SALE HELP WANTED SERVICES SERVICES

LAND FOR SALE - Thinking of Building Lowell, 1.2 acres, Boston Twp, Lowell Schools, land contract option, \$24,900. Call Peter Smith, Re/Max SunQuest, 460-6634

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

2000 JEEP CHEROKEE - 4x4, black, 4 dr., auto. trans., 81,000 miles. \$6,200. Call 897-1597 or 450-7910.

HORSES - Mini Weanling from \$300, Halfing Weanling from \$500, Gypsy Crosses from \$1500, Shires from \$2500, Peacocks \$25, 9 8 9 - 2 9 1 - 3 0 5 0 . www.aldershirefarm.com

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

BOAT FOR SALE - 14' flat bottom Alumacraft with Mariner 9.9 motor, comes with Shorelander trailer, \$1000 obo, 581-4952 or 897-0724.

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

PIZZERIA BAKERY & RESTAURANT EQUIPMENT LIQUIDATION - Ionia, MI. Call 616-318-2348.

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

LAND FOR SALE - Thinking of Building Lowell, 6.9 acres Vergennes Twp, wooded beautiful building lot, \$74,900. Call Peter Smith Re/Max SunQuest, 460-6634.

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

PUPPIES FOR SALE Weimeraner/Lab/Border Collie mix, 1 female, 1 male, black & white, 8 wks, 1st shots, \$75 ea., call 682-0417.

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

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

AIR BED - Custom build your own bed. Dual chambers. Fully adjustable with remote. Warranty. 50% off Select Comfort price. 682-4767 or 616-293-6160.

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

LAND FOR SALE - Thinking of Building Lowell, 2.5 acres, Keene Twp, Lowell Schools, great building lot, \$44,900. Call Peter Smith Re/Max SunQuest, 460-6634.

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

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

1999 RED HONDA ACCORD - miles 87,000, air, p/w, remote starter, one owner. Call evenings 897-8663.

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

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

FOR SALE - CLASSIC 1966 Plymouth Fury III, excellent condition, \$6,000. 897-7662 after 6 pm.

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

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

FOR SALE CHERRY ENTERTAINMENT CENTER - movable shelves, adjust for different size big screen TV, \$475, 897-0371.

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

AKC REGISTERED SIBERIAN HUSKY PUPPY - male, \$250. Call 987-6475 or 437-5198.

1996 CHEVROLET CAPRICE - 9c1 police pkg, \$3,500. 265 hp LT1 5.7L V8, rebuilt tranny & front-end, Flowmaster exhaust, K&N FIPK, Eclipse MP3 CD & speakers, over \$9000 in upgrades & maintenance, 151,000 mi, 616-897-0504.

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

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

FOR SALE - CLASS A MOTORHOME, 1998 30 ft. Fleetwood Flair, excellent condition, low mileage, must see, \$34,900, 616-460-9025.

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

FREE
FREE STAND UP FREEZER, 897-0504.

FOR RENT

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.

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

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

HOUSE FOR RENT - 3 bedrooms, quiet part of town, opens Oct. 2nd, \$750 per month plus all utilities & \$750 security deposit. Call after 5:30 pm, 897-9357.

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.

HORSE FARM FOR RENT - 3br., 1 1/2 ba. Victorian farm house w/ lg. pasture, barn for horses or cattle. Property available mid-October. Credit check, references, & security deposit required. 616-987-9056

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.

FOR RENT - 2 BEDROOM HOME Murray Lake, fully furnished, no smokers or pets, \$450 per mo. 897-7441 or 974-4280

DO YOU OR A LOVED ONE - want to stay in a home in the Lowell area? This is a unique opportunity to rent a home and have nursing supervision. Rent based on level of care needed. Please call 862-6714.

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

PRESSURE WASHING - part-time in Ada. Indoors, 20-30 hours per week. Flexible days, lifting 50 lbs. & ladder use required. 18+ years only, must have own transportation. Call Pete M-F, 10-4 p.m. at 676-1680.

PART TIME MIRACLE WORKER - needed 48 units in Lowell MI. Must have: own tools, great sense of humor, experience with "antique" supplies and equipment. Good attendance history. Must be able to: Work alone, smile all the time, perform miracles, answer pager calls, accept that you're not being paid what you are worth, and deal with difficult people (while still smiling). Experience needed: plumbing, painting, gardening, HVAC, general repair, lawn care, snow removal. Please call Heather at 616-897-7135 for applications and interviews

HELP WANTED - General labor, full time, factory, good pay & benefits. Apply in person to HR Department, Michigan Wire Processing, 2487 W. Main, Lowell, MI 49331.

PET SITTER WANTED - Someone experienced with wide variety of pets. We have ducks, geese, chickens, indoor birds, cats & rabbits. Must love animals & be extremely responsible & willing to stay in our home for 2-3 days. Further info. call Linda 897-9202.

STALL CLEANER NEEDED - Tues., Thurs. & Sat. 6 stalls, about 2 hours. Call 897-5435.

LOWELL TRUCK REPAIR - facility seeks certified mechanic for engine and driveline work. Qualified candidates will be able to demonstrate proficiency in problem diagnosis and repair of diesel engines. Experience with Electronics is a plus! Excellent benefit package. Wages commensurate with experience. Apply in person to: D&D Trucking, 2485 West Main St., Lowell, MI 49331, or call Earl at 616-897-5995.

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

CARD OF THANKS

The family of Blanche Smith would like to thank all the special friends, family and neighbors for remembering us with flowers, cards, food, phone calls and prayers. Thank you for your love and support. A special thank you to Diane and Roger La Warre.

WANTED ROOMMATES - 25 year old would like roommates to share house expenses. New carpet, paint, fully furnished. \$425 per month. Call 897-5562.

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

WINDOW WASHING - Residential & Commercial. Reasonable rates. Call Randy at R&R Enterprises, 693-2932.

SIDING INSTALLATION - repairs, re-sides, new construction. 30 years experience in all phases of siding. Licensed & insured. Cornett Siding, 616-581-3471.

ATTENTION!! RENTER! - Now is the time to buy a home! Call today and see how easy it is to buy a home. First-time borrower/Self-employed/Less-than-perfect credit OK. Lisa Inbody 897-1300 ext. 101.

CHIMNEY REPAIR - New dampers, relining, cleaning, inspection, fireplace repair. 26 years experience. Licensed & insured. Bassett's 616-642-9532.

HORSE BOARDING - Training Western & English, gentle breaking, lessons. Horses for lease & sale. Great care, reasonable rates. 897-2954.

UNLIMITED LOCAL AND LONG DISTANCE - Phone service (US/Canada) \$24.99 a month or 500 long distance minutes and unlimited local for \$14.99 a month. For more information on this high speed VoIP service, go to www.lowelldigitalvoice.com or call Mike at 616-318-7317.

MOSAIC ART CLASSES - 3 nts, \$50, supplies included, starting Oct. 3rd & Oct. 4th, 635-0669 or www.youcrackmeup.com

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

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

NEW BANKRUPTCY LAW TAKING EFFECT ON OCTOBER 17, 2005 - will make it extremely difficult & 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. HURRY & CALL US TODAY before it's too late! Tummino & Tummino, P.C., 311 E. Main St., Lowell, 897-5931.

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

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

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

GUITAR LESSONS - \$15 or 4 for \$55, group lessons also available. Call 635-0668.

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.

ROOFING & LIGHT CARPENTRY - 15 yrs. exp. Many references available. Call 642-0455 for free estimate or leave message.

KELLY'S CLEANING - Experienced, attention to details, reliable & hardworking. References. 691-7141.

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

DAYCARE - 2 immediate full-time openings, located between Alto & Lowell close to expressway. Licensed, food program, 10 years experience. Call Angela 450-1929.

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

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

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

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.

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

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Lowell Rider TAXI
LOCALLY OWNED TAXI & CARRIER SERVICE
24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK
897-0616

ARROWHEAD GOLF COURSE
2170 ALDEN NASH N.E.
897-7264
MEMBERSHIPS 2006 SEASON
Singles \$330.00
Couple \$535.00
Family \$715.00
Jr. Single (16 & under) \$165.00
Including rest of the '05 season (Must be paid in full)

WHY RENT? For \$694 per month YOU CAN OWN! for those who qualify
Austin Pines NEW HOMES from the \$130's NEW CONDOS from the \$150's
west off M-66, just north of Tuttle Rd
THE LOCATION & QUALITY YOU HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR, AT PRICES YOU CAN AFFORD
West Michigan REAL ESTATE 616.897.0530
in partnership with: **FUSION HOMES** **HEKSTRA HOMES** **BELTLINE TITLE AGENCY, INC.**
Payment is based on a flex saver arm mortgage with 5% down payment. Interest payments only of \$694.17 with 7.34 APR and 6.5% interest rate. Rates subject to change.

CLASSIFIEDS

SALES SALES SALES SALES SALES SALES

GARAGE SALE - I'm cleaning out after 30 years! Oak entertainment center, ball & clawfoot, camelback couch, antiques, snowboard equip. & clothing, a lot of men's & women's quality clothing, wide variety of items. Sept. 23 & 24, 9-5 p.m. 5334 Segwun, Lowell.

GARAGE SALE FINAL DAY - Great bargains incl: Full set of GM Honeycomb mag wheels, like new, \$100. Sat., Sept. 24, 8 a.m. - ? 11344 36th St., Lowell, 1 mile west of Alden Nash.

BARN SALE - some antiques, tractor, lots of stuff, multi-family. Sat., Sept. 24, 9-6 & Sun., Sept. 25, 9-5, 9401 Conservation NE, Ada.

POLE BARN SALE - Sat., Sept. 24, 9-? 11310 Bluewater Hwy., Lowell. (corner of Tower Rd & Bluewater). Child's recliner, Ab Lounge, Gazelle-Glider, living room lamps, coffee table, lg. wheel barrel planter, patio table & chairs, lg. pet cage, firepit, women's clothing, knick knacks & odds & ends.

MULTI FAMILY YARD & ES-TATE SALE - Sept 23 - 25, 9:30 am to 5 pm, 13885 Covered Bridge Rd., Fallsburg Park area. Many household items, tools, antiques & clothes.

EXTREME GARAGE SALE - Saturday, Sept. 24, 9-4 p.m.; Sunday, Sept. 25, 10-3 p.m. 10018 Bailey Dr.

BARN & MOVING SALE - Huge 7 family, Sept. 22 to 25, 8 to 7. Antiques to like new: furniture, tools, collectibles, furnishings, Massey 50 tractor, '78 25th edition Corvette, '87 Mastercraft, cargo trailer, plus much more! 12745 4 Mile Rd. NE, red barn above Foster's Countryside Greenhouse on NW corner of Lincoln Lake & 4 Mile. Take I96 to Lowell exit, north on Alden Nash thru Lowell (6 miles north of Main St.) or take Lincoln Lake Rd. 3 miles south off M44 / Belding Rd.

2 FAMILY GARAGE SALE - Sat., 9/24, 9-5 p.m. Household items, clothing, furniture & more! 8320 Timpson, Alto.

FALL FESTIVAL GARAGE SALE - Sept. 23 & 24, 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. 538 Flat River S. of Vergennes. Pumpkins, household, fall decorating items, fall & winter clothes (girls and boys sz. 12 & under, ladies - Chris and Banks) and much more. BBQ's and tasty treats for lunch.

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS ONE - huge garage sale, too much to mention, you gotta see it to believe it! 701 Grindle, Sept. 22 & 23, 9-5.

YARD SALE - Sept. 24 only, 8-5 pm. Brand name kids clothes, computer games, video games, collectible cards, toys, fertilizer spreader & appliances. 10593 Bailey Drive.

UNIQUE SALE - Collections must go! Antiques, old crocks, art, pottery, plants, coffee tables, folkart, baskets, lamps, old doll furniture, purses, jewelry, tires & much more. Garage over flowing! 865 Lincoln Lake Ave NE (1/4 mile N. of Fallsburg Park Rd) Thur - Sun, 9/22-9/25, 9-6 daily.

WEDDING INVITATIONS Available at Lowell Litho 105 N. Broadway. Stop by & check out a Carlson Craft book! Wide variety of invitations & prices. Usually back within 7-10 business days after ordering. Phone 897-9261

GARAGE SALE - Sat. only, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. 9650 Vergennes. Movies, DVDs, namebrand clothes, toys, books, swing set, knickknacks, and more.

GARAGE SALE - Multi Family, Sept. 24-25, 9-5, 3 miles north of Lowell on Lincoln Lake Ave. Baby clothes 0 to 4T, winter coats, boots, snowsuits, baby swing, car seats, anything you need for babies. Maternity clothes too. Some household and other.

HAROLD ZEIGLER

MICHIGAN'S GIANT

BEST TIME TO BUY NEW!

Take Advantage Of Family Plan Pricing Plus Rebates!

SAVE THOUSANDS ON ALL 2005* MODELS

SAVE
\$9,363

HURRY!
Inventory
Is Getting Low!!!



**FX4 Supercab, 4x4,
5.4 V-8, 6 disc CD, tow pkg.**

MSRP.....\$37,375
Ford Family Plan...\$31,512
Rebates.....\$3,500

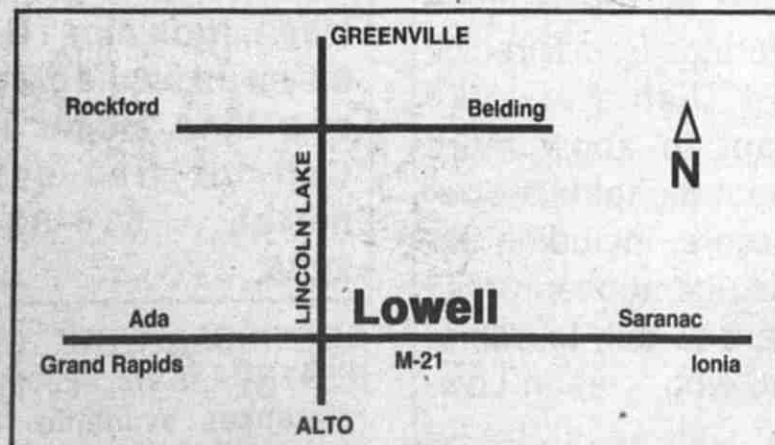
Your Price
\$28,012

2005 FORD F-150 SUPERCAB

*Excludes Escape Hybrid & Mustang

'03 JEEP LIBERTY 4X4 CD, low miles, cheap SUV, auto., remote entry #L9261 ONLY \$279 PER MO.	'01 KIA SPORTAGE Auto., air, rear wiper, low miles #L9258 ONLY \$143 PER MO.	'01 KIA SPORTAGE 4X4 Air, auto., awesome miles, pwr. equipment #L9257 ONLY \$159 PER MO.	'01 OLDS INTRIGUE Alum. wheels, CD, air, power everything #L9260 ONLY \$179 PER MO.	'04 DODGE STRATUS STX Remote start, air, CD, auto. #L9262 ONLY \$199 PER MO.
'05 FORD EXPLORER 4X4 XLT trim, 3rd seat, excellent buy on this one #L9255 ONLY \$359 PER MO.	'04 OLDS ALERO Low miles, great gas mileage #L9256 ONLY \$199 PER MO.	'04 CHRYSLER SEBRING LXI Pwr. equipment, leather, like new, don't wait! #L9253 ONLY \$199 PER MO.	'03 KIA SEDONA Low miles, pwr. everything, great on gas #L9263 ONLY \$247 PER MO.	'04 PONTIAC GRAND AM Low miles, auto., power goodies #L9196 ONLY \$175 PER MO.
'02 FORD TAURUS Loaded with all the power stuff #L9056 ONLY \$105 PER MO.	'02 PONTIAC AZTEK V-6, aluminum wheels, CD, pwr. goodies #L9129 ONLY \$188 PER MO.	'97 FORD ASPIRE Equipped not stripped! Cheap! Cheap! Cheap! #25842A ONLY \$95 PER MO.	'01 VW BEETLE Black beauty, tan interior, air, missing the flowers #L9231 ONLY \$189 PER MO.	'02 MERCURY SABLE GS 30,000 mi., loaded, not many of these around #25667A ONLY \$183 PER MO.
'02 CADILLAC SEVILLE STS Leather, roof, On-Star, CD, heated seats #L9201 ONLY \$229 PER MO.	'99 FORD WINDSTAR SEL Leather, pwr. equipment, CD, pwr. seat #25887B ONLY \$184 PER MO.	'99 MERCURY VILLAGER Pwr. windows, locks, air, low miles #L9162 ONLY \$146 PER MO.	'05 FORD MUSTANG GT CONVERTIBLE Leather, 5-speed, 2500 miles, racing stripe #L9246 ONLY \$499 PER MO.	'02 HONDA ACCORD Leather, roof, auto., wow!!! #L9190 ONLY \$249 PER MO.

11979 E. Fulton, Lowell, MI



ALL ROADS LEAD TO LOWELL!



616-897-8431 or 1-888-327-4164

*All payments include taxes and state fees, down payment 10% of sale price. All payments subject to financing.



**HOURS: MON. 9-8;
TUES. 9-8;
WED. 9-8; THURS. 9-8;
FRI. 9-6 & SAT. 9-3**

Check Out Our Web site!
www.haroldzeigler.com