The Lowell Leager

Volume 34 Issue 8

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, December 28, 2005

Snowman no more

en Fleet (with snowball) and Todd Drenth place a large snowball on top of a giant snowman while Tony Robinson, left, and Yujiro Uchida steady the ladders. Breanna Kurzhals is observing the process. The snowman, completed last Thursday evening in front of Fleet's house on Spring Street, stood more than 12 feet tall and had yard rakes for arms. "Yuji (Uchida) is our foreign exchange student so we wanted him to have a chance to make a snowman," Fleet said. The snowman, unfortunately, was the worse for wear with above-freezing temperatures and rain prevalent over the holiday weekend.

Area ice skating subject to weather ups and downs

By Dan Schneider

temperatures allowed the ice rink at Richards Park to open earlier than usual this year.

That was good news for the Houston family, who came down from Belding to skate on the ice, Thursday.

"We've been eyeing it all week," Darla Houston said.

The Houstons live near Belding, but make frequent trips to Lowell. They go to church at St. Mary's Catholic Church, a block away.

Two of her five children were on skates Friday. "I can tell we're going to have to get more skates," she said. "We have two pairs of skates and I think this is going to be the favorite pastime this year."

Thursday was the first day the ice was open for skating.

"Cracky," is how Sam Houston, 8, described the ice. "It will crunch when

you go over certain spots."

When Paul Houston joined his sons on the ice, he gave the same words of caution: "There's soft spots out here, boys."

Most years, the ice is never open for skating at all until well into January. Though Lowell Department of Public Works' employees spend time nearly every day watering down the rink to build up the ice, conditions are still contingent on weather.

Ice Skating, cont'd., pg. 12



Annexation talks will continue

By Dan Schneider

The saga of the 177 acres in Vergennes Township petitioned for annexation to the city of Lowell continues.

In October, the state of Michigan boundary commission voted three to one to recommend denial of an annexation petition by DuRay Development, LLC owner Rob Munger. But the final say in the matter belongs to the director of the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (DLEG), David C. Hollister.

The property question is an L-shaped piece located at the corner of Vergennes Street and Alden Nash Avenue. Munger, who has an option to buy the property, said the goal of the annexation petition was to attain city services for a development on the property. This would include water, sewer and police protection.

would Annexation also make the property part of the city of Lowell, taking zoning authority and

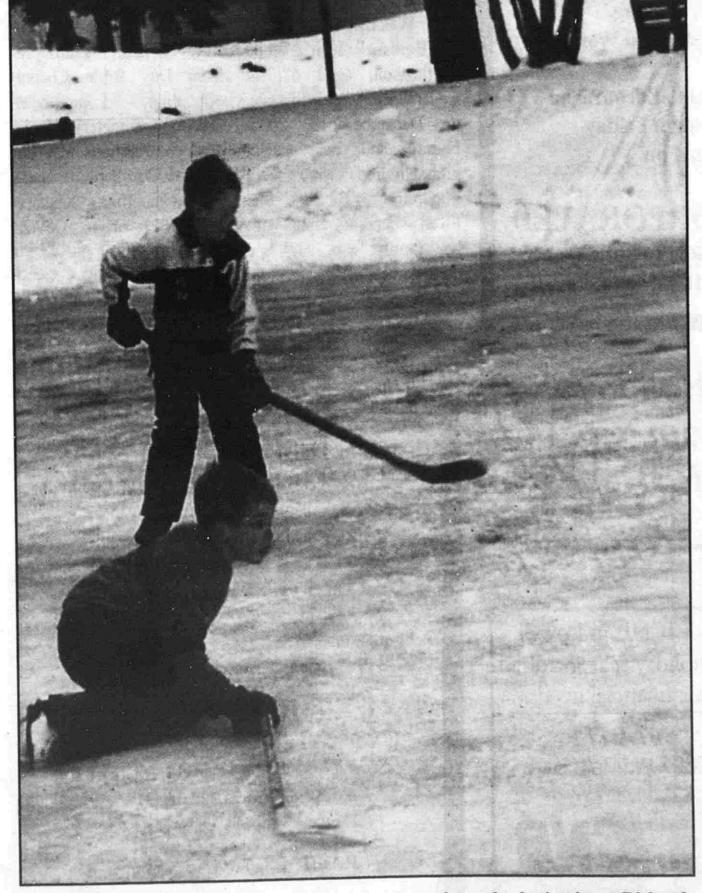
future tax revenue away from Vergennes Township. Further complicating the matter is the fact that the water and sewer lines that would serve the property, though they connect to city facilities, are owned by

Lowell Charter Township. After discussing the with Vergennes issues Township and Lowell city officials for more than an hour and a half at a Dec. 15 meeting, the boundary commission recommended more delay before a final decision is made.

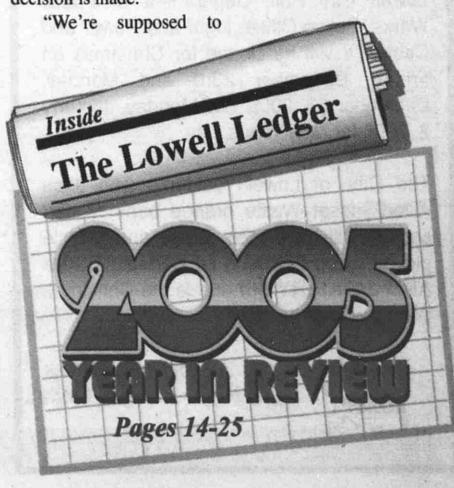
report back to the boundary commission in 60 days," Lowell city manager Dave Pasquale said.

During that time, representatives from Vergennes, Lowell city and Lowell Charter Township are expected to discuss other options for dealing with the situation. State law supplies a few methods by which municipalities provide, share, or transfer things like municipal services, zoning

Annexation, cont'd., pg. 9



Sam (in foreground) and Hank Houston tried out the early skating ice at Richards Park.



spite of everything, was a success. He leaves many to cherish his memory. Desi was the owner and founder a self-made man who, in companion Kay Bierman

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On His Birthday, December 28

We thought of him with

But that is nothing new

We thought about him

And days before that too

We think of him in silence

And often speak his name

And his picture in a frame

We have him in our hearts.

Now - all we have are

His memory is our

With which we'll never

God has him in His

love today

vesterday

memories

keepsake

keeping

(Angela) Bierman, Kourtney wife Louise Desotell, all of Grand Rapids; sisters Hanni (James) Simpson of Indiana, Theresa (Verle) Stahl of Gordon (Karen) Desotell and father Harry Desotell both of Six Lakes; many service will be held Dec. Home, 3980 Cascade Rd. SE, with Rev. Louis Lotz of Central Reformed Church officiating. Interment Graceland Cemetery. Visitation Wednesday 9 p.m. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Paws With A Cause, 4646 Division, Moline, MI

ELLIOTT

aged 78, of White Cloud passed away unexpectedly on Monday, December 19, 2005 following injuries Jennifer Townsend. received in an auto accident. LaVon was born on October 10, 1927, in Wyoming and later married James G. Elliott on January 18, 1947. in Coloma. James preceded

having fellowship with Gauw Jr.; parents George Pleasant. She is survived her neighbors and friends, and Marilyn Kinsley; sister by her children Robert and doing crossword puzzles, Terry Kinsley; brothers Bill Annette BeVier of Belding, and drawing and painting (Kristy) Kinsley, Rick (Sue) Deb and Bill Boden of in her earlier years. She Kinsley, George (Kathy) Howard City, Cindy and attended the Big Prairie Kinsley: grandchildren Shawn Wiggins of Howard Community Church and Bryce Morgan, Kayla Gauw, the Bible Believers Church. Cameron, Jacob and Morgan Survivors include her sons Van Enk; several nieces and Dutch and Renee Ellis of Kenneth Elliott of White nephews. Memorial services Grattan, Larry Ellis and Cloud, Raymond (Rebecca) will be held Wednesday at 2 Elliott of Brethren, Robert p.m. at Roth-Gerst Chapel, Elliott of Fremont; eight Lowell. Visitation Tuesday grandchildren Regina, Tim, 7-9 p.m. and one hour prior sisters Mrs. Mary Riley and Mark, Michael, Christopher, to service. In lieu of flowers, Damian, Tony, Krista; one memorial great-grandchild Kaitlin may be made to Alpha-1 Jane; sister Hope (Kerry) Foundation or the COPD Lynema of Wyoming; Foundation. brother Bud (Marilyn) Bush of Alto; sister-in-law Evelyn (Carl) Hult of White Cloud; brother-in-law George (Natalie) Elliott of Fremont; Funeral services were Cloud Chapel. Interment White Cloud Cemetery. Memorial contributions to Big Prairie Community Church or Bible Believers Church for missionary

GAUW

aged 56, of Lowell, died Friday, December 23,

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mother and grandmother, Morgan, James (Jennifer) occasional trips to Mt. City, Dennis and Bobbie Jo BeVier of Cedar Springs. special friend Janet of Cedar Springs; 21 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren: her husband David of Cedar contributions Springs, Ruthann Fenske and special friend John of Grandville; sister-in-law Mrs. Richard (Linda) Wood

of Alto; aunts Mrs. Alice

Hartzell and Mrs. Ruth

Winter; many nieces and

nephews. Preceding Barbara

in death were her parents

Harold and Ida (nee Winter)

Wood and brother Richard.

officiating. Interment in

WISNER

nephews. Funeral service

was held December 27 at

Roth-Gerst Funeral Home,

Lloyd O. Wisner, aged

WILCOX

Mr. Howard L. Wilcox,

aged 85, of Ada, decorated Army veteran of WWII, several nieces and nephews. serving in the Philippines, passed away Wednesday, held Thursday at Crandell December 21; 2005. He The service for Barbara was was preceded in death by held Thursday at Pederson his sister Mirna Depew and Funeral Home, Rockford, brother Kenneth Wilcox, with Pastor Ken Harger He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Rosa A. Wilcox White Swan Cemetery. (Brovont); children Diana (Orley) Kranenberg, Dale L. (Judy) Wilcox, Dolores (Charles) Ginter, Dennis H. 83, of Lowell, went to be (Jo) Wilcox, Dawn (George) with his Lord and Savior Sandra Elaine Gauw, Mauric, David A. (Tammy) on December 21, 2005. He Wilcox; brother Gale (Bert) is survived by his wife of Wilcox; sisters Duella 63 years, Joyce; children her in death on January 22, 2005. She is survived by (Harold) Dooling, Arlou Douglas Wisner of Saranac, 1997. She enjoyed being a her children Jaimie (Bob) Richter; sister-in-law Lucy Janet (Gary) Harden of Wilcox; many grandchildren: Lowell; brother Allen great-grandchildren; nieces (Marian) Wisner of Lowell; and nephews. Cremation has sisters Lucille (Loren) taken place per Howard's Brunsink of Farmington wishes. A memorial will Hills, Frances (Donald) be held at a later date. In Pelon of Pittsboro, NC:

WILLIAMSON

Hospital.

Barbara Jean Wood Rev. Frank Lattimore Williamson, aged 67, of from Day Bible Chapel Cedar Springs, passed away officiating. on December 19, 2005. Oakwood Cemetery. Mem-Family and her special orial contributions may be grandchildren were very made to Day Bible Chapel, important to Barbara. She 9305 Centerline, Saranac, loved spending time with MI 49331 or to DeVos her family, especially the Children's Hospital card games, Bingo and the

Service guaranteed funds of its Federal Community 2005, are the highest users Development Block grant in the immediate area. Lowell is the top provider of

North Kent Transit

activity for the North Kent Transit Service, the Lowell City Council approved \$6,000 to help fund it for 2005-2006. Since 2000, the transit service, provided by Hope

the city contributed \$2,000

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FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13)

Network West Michigan, has provided rides for senior and handicapped needing to get to doctor or other appointments. Originally

Transit Service report.

program through September program.

about \$8,272 on the program,

funds each year to the Through the same time period, the township of That amount has since Lowell had about 18 riders, increased to \$6,000 per year. Vergennes Township about In 2004-2005, the city spent two. Plainfield Township

according to a North Kent in Kent County, has the highest usage and cost with City residents, with 450 riders; it contributes about 89 riders using the about \$30,000 toward the

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Motorcycle club donates bikes to F.R.O.M.



Members of the Wolf Pack Motorcycle Club collected 39 new bicycles for Flat River Outreach Ministries (F.R.O.M.) Christmas toy collection this year. The club was established in 2001 and has collected toys for F.R.O.M. since 2003. This year, the club decided to make "Bikes for Tykes" the theme of their toy collection. In addition to the bikes, club members collected a number of bike helmets and several bags of other toys. The bikes were distributed by lottery to needy children in the Lowell area.

City may require license for snow plow operators

By J. Lobdell Contributing Writer

city of Lowell license snow licensed. plow operators, but he does understand the need.

when I see people plowing for snow plow operators to wants to make the licensing to contact if necessary. across the street leaving a help alleviate some of the mess," said the Lowell city headaches in sorting out who basically covering the decal couple of people within the following city guidelines. city limits.

For that reason and the brought up by Valentine fact that the proposed fee at last week's city council not follow the guidelines

Lowell police chief

The licensing program, operators.

requirements.

process simple with the fee with city guidelines for

would be a nominal one, meeting, would be chiefly probably would first be Initially, Al Mathews Mathews said he would be designed to get operators warned and eventually could wasn't in favor of having the more than willing to get up to speed on city be prohibited from operating within the city, he said "The sole purpose of The licensing would

Jim Valentine said it appears this would be to gain that give the city the name of the "I've been plowing for the city may have to move voluntary compliance," person plowing an area and 30 years and it still grinds me toward a licensing program Valentine said, adding that he if problems arose, someone

An operator who does

The issue became a real solution to helping the city councilman, who added he is plowing for whom and that would be placed on determine who is plowing currently only plows for a to make sure operators are the vehicle and a pamphlet where. Valentine said a few weeks ago, staff spent time trying to determine who was plowing a particular city lot in order to get guidelines to them. The next time the lot was plowed, they discovered it was a different operator, he

> Department of Public Dan Works director DesJarden said of concerns, covering sidewalks and pushing snow across the street are the biggest.

> > Plowing permits, cont'd., pg. 9



KDL BRANCHES **CLOSE FOR HOLIDAY**

All 18 branches of Kent District Library will be closed Jan. 1 and 2 in celebration of the New Year.

CHAMBER CLOSES FOR HOLIDAYS

The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce is closed through Jan. 2.

WITTENBACH CENTER EVENT

Discover winter birds this Saturday at the Wittenbach/Wege Center with the Grand Rapids Audubon Club. Bird count begins 7:30 a.m.; hot lunch, \$5, or brown bag it. Free event for 18/under. Call 987-1002 to register.

PASSPORT TO EUROPE

Lowell area artists will present artworks of the European Continent and British Isles, Jan. 4 - Feb. 4. at the Lowell Area Arts Council. A public reception to meet the artists will be held Jan. 8, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

LHS FINANCIAL AID NIGHT

Joann Litton, Financial Aid officer from GVSU, will provide information about filling out the Federal Application for Student Aid on Thursday, Jan. 5 in the Lowell Performing Arts Center. The program lasts from 7-8 p.m. Call 987-2908 with questions.

SHOTGUN/ARCHERY LEAGUES

Caledonia Sportsman's Club, Alto/Freeport area, is offering shotgun and archery shooting leagues beginning in January. Call Al Potas at 698-2051 for information or email to shooting@csc.us.com.



CITY OF LOWELL **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Remembered by his family,

dad and mom, Ed and Karolyn Barrus

brother and sister, DeWayne and Diane

Lowell City Hall, Department of Public Works, Police Office, Light and Power and Cable TV will be closed for Christmas on Friday, December 23rd and Monday, December 26, 2005 and Monday, January 2, 2006 for New Year's Day.

The City of Lowell residents who uses Allied/Sunset Waste orange bags or cart service will have their refuse and recycle picked up on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30th AND JANUARY 6th due to the Christmas and New Year holidays



Betty R. Morlock City Clerk



The Lowell Ledger (USPS 453-830)

lieu of flowers, memorial four grandchildren Daniel;

contributions may be made Timothy, Steven and Mark

to St. Jude's Children's Harden; many nieces and

Published weekly for \$1500 a year in Kent County,

\$2250 a year outside the county by the Lowell Ledger Publishing Company, 105 N. Broadway St., Lowell, MI 49331

..PUBLISHER JEANNE BOSS. MANAGING EDITOR DAN SCHNEIDER. ...LEAD REPORTER TAMMY JANOWIAK.......CLASSIFIED/ACCOUNTING JAY VEZINO. ... ADVERTISING SALES (616) 897-9261

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Council takes first step in revising charter; sets meeting dates

J. Lobdell Contributing Writer

years, the city of Lowell is looking to update its charter.

At its meeting last

"We are just looking Jeanne Shores. "This

talked about for awhile.'

charter and to recommend revolved around variance requests made by citizens.

City manager David For the first time in 35 to update it," said mayor Pasquale said this is the first time since the charter was council has considered an Shores said there have update. In 1999, the city, begin reviewing the city Sometimes those issues have city taxes' due date to Sept. two-thirds for approval.

1 and paying the members of the planning commission.

the charter can be a long one, only a few exceptions due to

Lowell City Council will be meeting the first and The process to update third Mondays in 2006 with For the entire month of

period, then the council January, the council will be needs to take a look at the meeting on Tuesdays (Jan. 3 city council been a few things over the with a vote of the people, recommended changes, and and Jan. 17) as City Hall will years that have raised the did have a charter change finally, it has to go before be closed for New Year's issue of revising the charter. that included moving the city residents with a vote of Eve (Jan. 2) and Martin Luther King Day (Jan. 16).

In February, the council will meet on Tuesday, the 21st instead of Monday, the 20th, because of President's Day. In July, the council will meet July 5 because the Fourth of July is on a Monday.

Contact City Hall for a detailed schedule.



Looking ahead to the New Year

With Senator Carl Levin

As the year comes to a close, I want to share with you some thoughts about 2005 and to look ahead to the new

Beginning with the more encouraging news, Congress finally passed two major pieces of legislation that have been held up for years – the highway bill and the energy bill. The long-delayed highway bill will provide \$1.123 billion annually for transportation projects in Michigan make a major contribution to the defense of our nation. and will create 61,500 new jobs across the state. Sen. Debbie Stabenow and I also won approval of \$100 million in funding for Michigan's Highway Projects of Regional and National Significance. We also made some modest progress on Michigan's return on the gas taxes we send to Washington.

While far from perfect, the energy bill will encourage investment in infrastructure and alternative energy

from Feb. 19-March 25 for the past five years as

The 20th annual West

technologies, improve the reliability of our electricity supply, and improve energy efficiency and conservation. We need to do much more. Early next year, I will introduce legislation that would invest significantly greater federal resources in areas such as hybrid engines, advanced batteries, advanced clean diesel, and fuel cells that could lead to revolutionary breakthroughs in automotive technology.

Michigan won a significant victory this year when the Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommended expanding the functions of the Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM) at the Detroit Arsenal in Macomb County.

The Defense Department's new Joint Ground Vehicle Center of Excellence at the Arsenal will be a great economic asset to Michigan, our automotive community, and will

The other good news this year was a few things that did not happen. The Administration began the year proposing far-reaching and unwise changes to Social Security. But the American people said clearly that they do not want this critical and successful program weakened or privatized. We have also so far resisted the Administration's insistence on repealing the estate tax, which would largely benefit only a small minority of the wealthiest Americans at a huge cost

of \$20 for Lowell Area

Arts Council members and

students, and \$25 for non-

members. Drop-off dates

are Feb. 9-11 and each

artist may submit up to two

awarded in the following

categories: Best of Show

- \$500; 1st Place - \$400;

2nd Place - \$300; 3rd Place

- \$200; and Honorable

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Councilat 897-8545, e-mail:

info@lowellartscouncil.org

or download an application

at www.lowellartscouncil.

For more information,

suppliers.

Five prizes will be

to the Treasury. The budget picture overall was dismal. The deficit for this year was \$319 billion. The national debt has climbed above \$8 trillion. And the interest on that debt was 14 percent of the federal government's spending. The Administration and the majority in Congress continue to insist on more tax cuts mostly benefiting the richest among us and budget cuts that fall disproportionately on the most vulnerable Americans.

We also continued this year to lose manufacturing jobs. In the past five years, we have lost 2.9 million domestic manufacturing jobs, including 214,000 jobs in Michigan. I am very disappointed that the Administration has not acted to deal with this crisis. Within the Michigan congressional delegation, there is bipartisan agreement on several steps we should take - we need to end currency manipulation by our trading partners, open export markets blocked by trade barriers, make other countries play by the rules, and lower catastrophic health care costs to make businesses more competitive. We should offer significant tax credits to encourage the development of advanced technologies and support existing programs at the Department of Commerce, including the Manufacturing Extension Partnership and the Advanced Technology Program, instead of cutting or ending them as the Administration proposes.

I am hopeful that Congress will put the creation of manufacturing jobs in 2006 at the top of a broader agenda more in line with the priorities of the American people. That agenda should also include reducing the federal deficit; investing in education; improving access to health care and reducing its costs; protecting the environment, including the Great Lakes; improving our response to natural disasters; and strengthening our defenses against terrorist attacks.

As we make these investments here at home, we also need to change course in Iraq to improve the chance of success there. At this writing, the war has cost more than 2,150 American lives and nearly a half trillion dollars. Our troops are performing heroically, and we are all grateful for their service. Our military leaders tell us, however, that there is no purely military solution without a political solution in Iraq. The Dec. 15 election in Iraq was encouraging, but we do not yet know if the elections will ultimately be a step forward. Over the next four months, the period they have set for themselves, the Iraqis must amend their constitution to make it a unifying document that has the support of all major groups in Iraq. For our part, we need to send the clear message to the Iraqis that unless they get their political house in order we will consider an expedited timetable for the reduction of our forces.

The holiday season always engenders hope for a better, more peaceful world for all people of goodwill. Our special hope this year is that all of our men and women in uniform serving around the world will return safely home to their grateful nation when their service is finished.

on Sunday, Feb. 19 from the Visual Arts and Media, available with a non-1:30-3:30 p.m. refundable total entry fee **EXPERIENCE NATURE'S SPLENDOR** at Austin Pines

Michigan Regional (art) Michigan Regional Com- departments at Lansing

Competition will be held petition juror is Mary Community College, and

at the Lowell Area Arts Cusack, an art photographer has taught courses in 2-D

Council, 149 S. Hudson, for 22 years. She has worked Design and World Cinema.

with an opening reception a program coordinator for competition are

Annual competition looking for artists

year's West and the Performing Arts

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Viewpointpy Roger Brown

I've gone and opened my big mouth again.

Hurricane Wilma severely damaged or completely destroyed most of the two to three hundred foot pier docks in my neighborhood. My next-door neighbor and I built our docks about two years ago to new codes and specifications. We even over-built in some parts of the jobs. Our docks held up pretty well. Now we're "expert dock builders" and everyone is coming to us for advice. Most listen, then decide they don't want to spend the time, effort and money to do things right. The docks are being rebuilt pretty much the way they were before the storm. I withdrew from dispensing advice.

One neighbor was different. She is retired, single and on a fixed income. I sensed she was in danger of being ripped off by some questionable contractors she was dealing with. That's when I opened my big mouth and volunteered to put together a volunteer effort to build her a new dock.

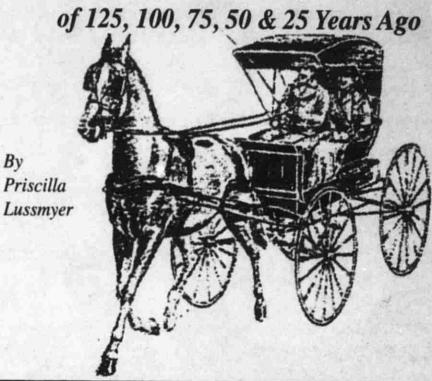
I share this with you because I'm due at the jobsite this morning and don't have time to spend on my usual ... whatever. So ... as is always the case during such emergencies, I plagiarize.

The following comes from a year-end wrap-up of humorous calls, e-mails and letters to the Miami Herald's "Action Line." Some of these had my wife and I laughing right out loud.

- The Miami Herald had an article about divorce by computer. I think I could benefit from this because my ex-spouse is deceased.
- I suppose I should have been suspicious when I was forced to sign on the dotty line.
- I'm getting electrocuted every time I go in the parking
- I want to alert you to a bogus scam!
- They want me to wait my turn. Can you make them understand that I don't have to!
- I have a 5-year-old, which I bought new from the builders. How do I inform the IRS of a potential person? - The only way to make it possible is to make it
- Will you refer me to a lawyer who can fix my roof?
- I was recently in Miami and experienced a huge fraud that I believe to be illegal, as well.
- I suppose you think I'm just an old foggy. - I don't want you to print my complaint. I just want you
- to call these people up and threaten them. - I'm ready to turn my bank into Action Line.
- I bought a used car at a garage sale.
- I've been reading you since antiquity.
- The accident was caused by a car in the right lane but wasn't moving. Consequently, we hit it. We were charged with the accident. This cannot be correct.
- I'm totally homeless and living in my parents' house.

- The city removed the pothole from the street but didn' replace it with anything.
- It all started when I put a stable through my finger. - Can you tell me where I can find a tailor who can weave
- a hole in my suit?
- This is clearly a case of overdue harassment.
- I have a septic tank that has ripped me off majorly! - What I am looking for is a cheap confrontation with an accountant.
- I was charged an exuberant fee!
- Can anybody put flat air in my tires while I wait?
- A distracted civil servant wiped out my homestead exemption.
- A bunch of barking dogs rented the apartment next to
- Is there a way to calculate what years Easter will fall on a Sunday?
- Will you please print the social correctness of the way to address correspondence to a married, divorced, single and widowed woman?
- We're required to belong to a dog club before we're issued a permit to breed.
- I have never had a ZIP Code of my own. - Can you take out my kid's lice?
- Where do I report extenuating noise?
- I really need your help! My warranty has expired!
- Can you tell me the shortest way to get where I want to
- My landlord refuses to fix my vertigo blinds. - I haven't had a decent night's sleep since January
- 2991. - What I would like is a refund for the unused portion.
- Is there any way I can have the newspapers from 1971 to 1997 delivered to my home? - As you can see by the attached correspondence,
- unbeknownst to me, I'm apparently dealing with a government agency.
- I'm an employee of a company whose name I can't understand
- I'm calling about a refund check I should have gotten from the county. It's been over 25 years.
- My child's father died even though we weren't married.
- Can you go back ten years to pick up \$1,100 a landlord took from me?
- Saturday's horoscope explains the problems that you
- How do I contact a traffic engineer? My neighborhood is in need of speech surveillance.
- I'm looking for the address of a company that moved and went out of business.
- I have an opossum in my shed that's holding me hostage.
- I was told the water in Florida is dehydrated and has been that way for years. Why don't you tell people
- In November I placed an order for fruit which consisted of four separate individuals.
- I'm calling again with nothing new.
- That's It! Thanks to the Herald I can get to my volunteer work on time. There's nothing much worse than a bunch of volunteers showing up and the guy who talked them into helping is a no-show!

Ledger Entries



125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL **DECEMBER 29, 1880**

"In North Carolina there are 267 tobacco factories." Wheat 90 cents (it was 60 cents a few weeks ago). Early morning temperatures were 13 to 16 below zero today; it warmed up to 8-12 below by 8 a.m.

"A large number of strangers in town last week." The next term of school begins Jan. 10.

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER **DECEMBER 28, 1905**

A through freight train from Saginaw rear-ended the "extra" near the Pere Marquette station, breaking up the

The Lecture Course next Thursday is a double feature: "Hiawatha" in the afternoon and "Passion Play" in the

A Greenville farmer writes the Ledger, enclosing 25 cents for an ad asking for a wife. It makes the front page.

The right-of-way has been bought, boss and foreman moved to Saranac and hiring is taking place for the Electric Railroad.

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO **DECEMBER 25, 1930**

The newly-formed Lowell Welfare Union has already given food to one family and coal to another.

The Ledger says now is the time to build; land, labor and material will never be cheaper.

King Milling shipped 192 parcels, total weight about 6000 pounds, to various sections of the country last week, the largest shipment ever from the Lowell post office.

The first "Community Christmas" at City Hall, a program given by various school groups, was appreciated by a capacity crowd.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER **DECEMBER 29, 1955**

Dr. Thomas Hill presents a pay-as-you-go sewer & water plan to village council, plus some ways to pay for it in the absence of a bond issue.

Lowell will go metropolitan on Jan. 9, when the fourdigit telephone numbers will change to Twinoaks 7-xxxx

The Swiss Ladies Aid is still visiting shut-ins, as it has since 1897.

The state authorizes a stoplight at M-91 and Main, but no other solutions for pedestrians on what Frank Newell calls the new speedway (it was recently widened all the way through town).

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER **DECEMBER 24, 1980**

No snow yet, but the ice skating and fishing are good. Remember to stick on your black-and-white license tabs over the red by Dec. 31.

Rosie Drive Inn has Takeout Chicken Special for

The Kent County Road Commission, Dan Vos Construction, Standard Supply and Lumber, Richard DeVos and Jay VanAndel all contributed to costs of the new Ada

To The Editor

To the Editor,

I've been very concerned about the possible annexation of the property near the corner of Alden Nash and Vergennes. The article in the Dec. 7 Ledger was confusing to me. It seemed to imply that the city of Lowell continues to be willing to discuss the issue but Vergennes Township is not.

I've contacted the township and they are very willing to continue discussions with the city. Their concern is with helping to maintain the rural atmosphere of our community.

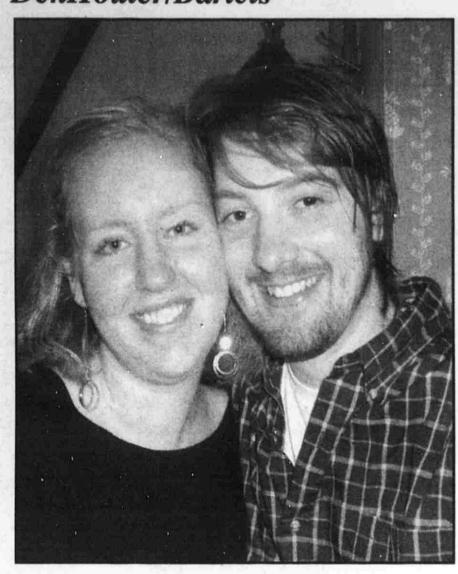
I see this as a priority, as more and more high density developments move in. The township is attempting to protect our area from this high density growth which could destroy the rural atmosphere that makes Lowell so appealing. The township is hoping to maintain more reasonable development of the area and protect against future development issues which would be created by this annexation.

The property could still be sold, and growth and development attained without annexing the property into the city. The township would simply help maintain a more controlled density of building and prevent further growth problems in the future.

Let's keep the city within its limits and allow the outlying areas to be protected by the township's principles of more controlled growth and protecting our natural resources.

Engagements

DenHouter/Bartels



Jenna DenHouter and James Bartels

daughter of Leonard and DenHouter of Lowell, will wed James Bartels, son of Janet Ringle-Bartels and Michael Bartels, of Midland, in August

in the fall of 2000. The MSU.

bride-elect is currently attending the College of Veterinary Medicine at MSU where she plans to complete her DVM/phD. The future groom is finishing his Master of Theology at the Lutheran School of Theology in The couple met at Chicago and will complete Michigan State University his Master of Social Work at part of the brain affected:

Consumers Energy presents award to Lowell area family's centennial farm

apply for certification and family for at least 100

Thomet, who own a farm StateHistoricPreservation Preservation Office in the in Lowell Township, have Office. A centennial farm Consumers Energy. The farm was first purchased by Michael H. Rittenger least 100 years. in 1850.

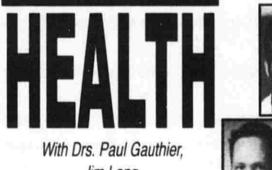
Farms in Michigan, was provide documentation years. The local electric 1272.

is a working farm of 10 or more acres that has been continuously owned by the same family for at size, a certificate and a The Centennial Farm marker are issued to the family recognizing that

began in 1948. Families

Patricia and Stewart certified by the Michigan to the State Historic utility awards the display marker to the family to Michigan Department of commemorate the event History, Artsand Libraries. and the dramatic changes Once the State verifies the electricity brought to property's history operation and green and white display

More information on the Centennial Farm program is available at www.michigan.gov/hal or by calling 517-373-



Jim Lang, Wayne A. Christenson III, John G. Meier & Tracy Lixie

STROKE **PREVENTION**

Stroke happens when there is a problem with blood supply to a part of the brain. The area of the brain that does not get enough blood becomes damaged. A stroke can happen when a blood clot blocks an artery in the brain. It can also happen when the wall of an artery bursts.

Signs of a stroke can vary and are usually related to the

- problems with moving
- problems with feeling

loss of vision

the farm has been in the

- · problems with thinking or speech
- · changes in emotion or behavior People at increased risk of stroke include:
- smokers
- · those in sedentary lifestyles
- diabetes · those with high cholesterol levels
- · those with high blood pressure
- heavy alcohol users

You can lower your risk of stroke by:

- getting your blood pressure checked frequently, and if you are being treated for high blood pressure, make sure it is in a controlled range.
- if you smoke Stop
- exercise regularly, at least 30 minutes, 5-7 times a
- keep your weight under control
- if you are diabetic, make sure your sugars are well

Remember, like many medical issues, stroke is not about treatment, it is about prevention.



Father George J. Fekete Saint Mary Church

Along with Sunday's celebration it could be very fruitful to make a New Year's resolution. During Advent we saw

that it was not only John the Baptist's calling to "testify to the light" (John 1:7) of God in the Person of Jesus Christ, philanthropist and asked how the church was to be lighted. but it is our calling as well.

a beautiful story: There is a legend about a wealthy man in Finally, when the church was completed, he sent word far and wide that the people could now come and worship. When come to worship, some part of God's house will be dark." they arrived and entered the building, they were moved by were no lights at all.

Soon, one of the parishioners approached the Without hesitation, the man pointed to some brackets on Some years ago the preaching resource, "Proclaim" had the wall. Then he handed out small lamps to each person saying,"When you come to worship, bring your lamp with a European village who decided to build a church where his you and hang it on the bracket nearest you. Each time you fellow villagers could worship. He kept the plans a secret. are here, the area around your seat will be lighted. Each time you are absent, that area will be dark. Whenever you fail to

Proposed resolution for the year 2006: I will bring the its beauty and completeness ... except for one thing. There light of my Christian presence and efforts to my church's worship every Sunday. God love you.

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Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor

Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times

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Sun. Worship Service......9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M

...11:00 A.M

......Wed. 6:15 & 6:30 P.M.

SNOW UNITED FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL Rev. Thurlan Meredith Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Lee Taylor

11:15 A.M. 897-9863 or 897-9588 Nursery & Children A friend...a family...a mission!

DAY BIBLE CHAPEL 9305 Centerline, Saranac 897-6332

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...9:45 A.M. Sunday School. .10:00 A.M ..10:50 A.M. Morning Worship. .11:00 A.M ..6:00 P.M. Evening Praise. ...6:00 P.M ...7:00 P.M (Sept. - April) Prayer and Bible Study...

Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418 YOU ARE WELCOME!

St. Patrick's new principal hoping to build student numbers

By Dan Schneider

Entering the second half of the school year, St. Patrick School's first-year principal Sean Donovan sees a lot of new challenges and opportunities ahead.

"Everyday is something new and challenging," Donovan said. In addition to the day

to day work of being an elementary school principal, Donovan was also given the task of steering the school. He said he was given two primary goals when hired as principal: the first, to strengthen the Catholic identity of the school; and the second, to strengthen the viability of the school Donovan explained. for the future.

student Donovan said.

students enrolled this school districts that have strong prayer time to the daily year. Donovan said the reputations like Lowell Area school can accommodate Schools. He feels that the up to 225 students while addition of Catholic identity maintaining small class to academia is what will set St. Patrick's School apart.

Although numbers were approaching the limit as recently as seven years ago, enrollment has since declined at a rate of about 10 students per year.

To Donovan, pursuing the first goal, that of increasing the Catholic the second.

who comes here is coming here because they want that core Catholic education,"

school districts can draw Church in Grand Rapids. families with their academic prowess, Donovan said it is Donovan has instituted

foremost a people Catholic faith who are be well educated," Donovan at the school next fall.

professional background identity, is key to achieving is based on his religion; he studied to be a Paulist priest. "The type of person He earned a master's degree in divinity from the Catholic University of America but values' development and that ultimately decided not to enter the priesthood. Before coming to St. Patrick's, he the parish, including but While parochial schools was the director of ministry not limited to parents with "And the key to that in struggling urban public at St. Thomas the Apostle

St. Patrick's has 146 tough to compete with school is a 15-minute all-school

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Kent County

scheduled an information

session on Monday, Jan. 9

for prospective volunteer

opportunity to sign up for

tutor training.

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OPPORTUNITIES

schedule. The students meet in the school's entryway first thing every morning to pray together, listen to the day's gospel reading and Donovan's reflection on it.

passionate about their faith Patrick's is also looking into and want their children to offering a preschool program

"They provide His educational and great feeder schools for kindergarten."

Cooperation is another means by which the school hopes to expand programming while keeping costs low. This includes seeking volunteers from students at the school, "We'd like to expand that concept One of the changes of partnering to the wider community," Donovan said.

mentioned

By training people to be

one-on-one reading help to

tutors, the Council can offer Library St. NE, 3rd floor.

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St. Patrick's new principal Sean Donovan in the third-grade classroom at the school.

nstitutions-the Franciscan Life Process Center in Township.

adults asking for assistance

in reading or English as a

Second Language (ESL).

You do not need to speak

another language to tutor

will be held at the Grand

Rapids Public Library, 111

Call 459-5151 to register.

The information session

nearby Catholic Vergennes Township and the Discalced Carmelites in Ada

College News

University Denison in Granville, Ohio, has announced that Lauren Vashaw, a junior guard, has started and played in all To achieve this recognition. nine games for the Big Red this season. She is currently first on the team in assists nine steals. She averages 3.9 points per game.

Vashaw, a 2003 graduate of Lowell High School, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Scott Vashaw.

Jacob D. Rickert, a junior, has been named to the dean's list for fall term at Northwood University. students must earn a 3.25 grade point on a 4.0 scale.

Rickert, a 2003 graduate with 27 on the year and has of Lowell High School, is the son of Jeffery and Julie Rickert of Lowell.

> tutors. This session is held at 6:30 p.m. and lasts one hour. It allows persons interested in becoming volunteer tutors to find out more about the Council and its literacy programs. At the end of the session, there will be an

DEC. 29: Amanda Martin, Donna Baker.

DEC. 30: Stacy Thomas, Ben Hodges, Kyle Triplett, Joe Hunt, Stacey Craig, Matthew Trierweiler, Trierweiler. DEC. 31: Marcie Page, Bill

DeHaan, Charles Boerema.

JAN. 1: Tory Abel, Alice

Hesche, Carolyn Yonker, John Wenger, Amanita JAN. 2: Rose Nead, Helen

JAN. 3: Jon Vezino, Agnes Kent, Audrie Olszewski, Lloyd Callihan.

JAN. 4: Donna Johnson, Nicholas Knonenwetter.

The nine most terrifying words in the English language are, 'I'm from the government and I'm here to help.' - Ronald Reagan (1911 - 2004)

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Alto Elementary Shoppers

Alto Elementary's Santa Shop was held Nov. 28, 29, 30 and Dec. 1. It is a nonprofit service for all of its students and gives them the opportunity to buy Christmas gifts for his/her family in a safe environment. Trisha Propst and Kim Taylor, Santa Shop coordinators, said prices range from 25 cents - \$6, with the majority of the items priced \$3.50 or less. Pictured are Jordan Blough, Abby Green and Roman Rozell at this year's Santa Shop.

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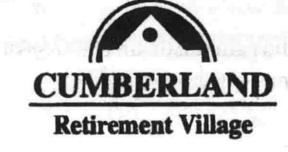
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Annexation, continued ... From Page 1

authority, property and been delayed. In August, everything from scratch." of tax revenues while the delayed action on the township's concern is with maintaining zoning control.

The first meeting will future meetings.

"What we're trying to do is really set up an

talks. Vergennes Township the property petitioned for will be represented by annexation. supervisor Tim Wittenbach.

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changes to the boundary petition. In September, the growth planning. commission decided to give the municipalities another trying to get municipalities likely only set the stage for month to work it out among to do is some joint planning

During the current grace period, Wittenbach city's representative for the extend conversation beyond issue in Hollister's hands.

decision on the issue has on proposal rather than start annexation.

platform for a more holistic approach to inter-municipal

themselves before making a on urban growth issues," Wittenbach said.

After the 60-day time period, the commission thinks the commission may recommend more time Pasquale will be the wants the municipalities to be given. Or it may put the

Hollister has several options. He can sign the order "I think they're trying denying the annexation, Lowell Charter Township to get us to work with more as recommended by the truck. Several years ago, for the parking lots-or to has not yet chosen a than just those 177 acres," commission in October. He DesJarden said the blade of the six drivers. representative, and did not Wittenbach said. That way can recommend more time be a city truck hit some frozen discuss the matter at its "if this issue comes up given for local negotiations. snow on the side of the not to be deposited on public most recent board meeting. again, then maybe we'll Or he can ask for and sign street causing the truck to right-of-way. Operators are It isn't the first time a have more of a semi-agreed- a new order to approve the spin around. Fortunately, also supposed to clean up

KIRK COLLINS

However, the only time 1999. That year, Michigan The talks could also be a an annexation or similar Department of Consumer the people. The commission question was decided in and Industry Services (now a manner opposite from known as DLEG) director the recommendation of Kathy Wilbur ordered that

"That's what they're the commission was in the incorporation of a home

rule city be put to a vote of denial of the petitioned incorporation.

Plowing permits, continued... From Page 3

street can create a dangerous truck. DesJarden said at clear. situation if the blades get this point, he has not had caught on the frozen snow anything serious happen and could cause potential to any of the fleet-which injury to the city operator as consists of three big trucks well as damage to the city and two small ones that are

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Leaving snow out in the operator or damage to the

Valentine said snow is there were no injuries to the any messes they create and

make sure sidewalks are

As for the licensing wouldn't become a reality next winter since Valentine is currently working on decriminalizing some of the city's current

Currently, the city of Grand Rapids does require its snow plow operators to be licensed.



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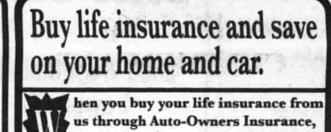
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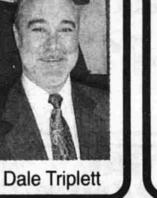
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Red Arrows fall to Creston Polar Bears

By Dan Schneider

Last Tuesday, the McElroy rocketed a pass Lowell boys basketball from outside right to Justin team lost against one of the Hardin for a layup. The 2-0 best teams they're likely to lead would be their only one Lane had to make post plays

Bears came to town and next possession. handed the Arrows a 65-38 loss. A tough team, Creston 19-10 after one quarter. But hit the three (Jerrell Sanders four-point game as the clock footwork." hit four triples in the game). ran down on the first half, The whole team was fast but Sanders hit one of his and physical.

Although the Arrows on the clock. struggled in the game, it was the kind of team Lowell the second half, outscoring coach Jeff McDonald Lowell 22-10 in the third wants his team to see in the quarter and 15-10 in the season's early going.

"I want to schedule these said. "These are the kinds of things because they are so teams that you have to beat athletic, so it means you have to win a league title some to make plays," McDonald day or a district title."

Lowell played a strong

first half. They were the Lowell's leading scorers first on the board after Mike were Ryan Lane with 11 points and Josh Hettinga

of the game, however, as against players who were The Creston Polar Creston aced a three on their bigger and stronger than he

The Polar Bears were up "Ryan is an under-sized post player in terms of size," had guys who could dunk; the Arrows went on a 7-0 run McDonald said. "He takes they had guys who could to start the second. It was a a lot of pride in his post Despite

disappointing loss, the triples with 2.5 seconds left Arrows showed signs of intensity that will help them Then Creston took off in greatly in future games.

"I credit my guys for competing like crazy even though the score was lopsided," McDonald said. A team like Creston

Lowell plays its next kinds of teams," McDonald will "take you out of a lot of two games on the road: a Jan. 6 game at Forest Hills Northern and a Jan. 10 game against a strong Godwin Heights team.

Lowell's Justin Hardin goes up for an inside shot against Creston in last Tuesday's game.

At left, Lowell's Josh Hettinga moves the ball against Creston.

Arrows volleyball at Byron Center

volleyball team competed in 25-19. its second tournament of the Byron Center Invitational.

Rogers and Grand Rapids the gold bracket. West Catholic.

games with Hudsonville, quarterfinals. dominating the first, 25- Arrows 25-22. The Arrows swept Unity Christian.

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The Lowell varsity Rogers, winning 25-12 and

Hudsonville ended pool season last Thursday at the play at the top of pool C with Lowell in second. Both Lowell started the day teams advanced to the top in pool C with Hudsonville, bracket of the tournament,

Lowell faced Ham-The Red Arrows split ilton in the gold bracket 16, before losing a close games (25-11, 25-13), the second match, 27-26. It was Hawkeyes advanced to the the same story against West championship round by Catholic. Lowell won game beating Kenowa Hills. They one, 25-14, before falling were shut out in the finals by

Master Gardener class offered

Top high school musicians around the country have

the opportunity to apply for an Emerson Scholarship

Award to the world-famous Interlochen Arts Camp in

northern Michigan. Fifty-two students from across the

United States will receive a full scholarship for the 2006

a generous grant from St. Louis-based Emerson. The

Emerson Scholars Award is a \$5,802 scholarship, which

provides full tuition, private lessons, and room and board

for the six-week summer program, June 24-August 7.

The merit-based scholarships are funded through

Gardening enthusiasts have a great opportunity Agricultural winter. Ionia County-MSU Extension will offer its popular Master Gardener beginning Jan. 12. There are

Interlochen Arts Camp.

coming their way this Station, 9302 Portland Rd.

Interlochen scholarship opportunity

Professional from Michigan State yard and garden pests. University as well as the horticultural industry begin \$250. Call 527-5357 for an with foundational topics of information packet. 12 sessions each Thursday soil and plant science. The from 6-10 p.m. through program then moves ahead

March 30 at Clarksville within-depthinformation on Research flowers, fruits, vegetables, lawns, woody ornamentals, speakers house plants, and home,

The program cost is



Applicants must be in grades nine through 12 and

Applications must be postmarked by Feb. 15

demonstrate exceptional proficiency on harp, string, wind

or percussion instruments. An audition submitted on tape

and winners will be announced by April 15. For

more information, or to obtain an application, e-mail

admissions@interlochen.org, call (231) 276-7472 or write

the Emerson Scholars Program, Interlochen Center for the

or CD is required with application.

Arts, P.O. Box 199, Interlochen, MI, 49643.

Mark Johnson

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Ice skating, continued ... From Page 1

"It just all depends on build up. Lately, the parks down, we could pour water said the commission will be water on tennis weather," Lowell parks and and recreation commission on it, it would freeze, and we looking into a price. recreation commission chair has been discussing a way could have ice a lot sooner Perry Beachum said. "If the to reduce the requisite and easier." weather cooperates, we can weather factors to one: cold have great ice skating."

It takes a base of snow and then consistent cold to pack a base," Beachum rink is just talk, but Beachum temperatures to allow it to said. "If we had cement

concrete slab could be used them all over this town," said "When you want to have for a roller-hockey rink. So Department of Public Works on which to build the ice, ice, you've gotta have snow far, talk of paving the ice director Dan DesJarden.

first place the city has had the 1980s, the pavilion at During the summer, the a skating rink. "We've had Creekside Park was turned

For the past few years, Richards Park, the city's The city used to pour most central park, has been

city made some changes to formerly located next to it last year to improve its Richards Park isn't the Burch Field at Rec Park. In ability to host skating. A berm was leveled to expand the flat area for the rink. and an overhead light was installed to expand skating hours and promote safety.

New exhibits now on display at Lowell area galleries

By Dan Schneider

currently available for be viewed during normal your viewing in the city of business hours. An artists'

of 11 different artists at the p.m. Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce. They have two Huntington things in common: the artists features work by Mary all take classes with David Bommarito. Davis at Studio 28 on Main Township resident. A lot Street; and they all have the of ideas for her abstract subject of flowers.

throughout classes, but this one is pretty much flowers," Cathy direct representations of the Dykstra said of the show.

appearance of the paintings. compositions.

"We all look at the same bouquets and it turns out I'm out in my woods that I different," Karen Hale said.

Most of the artworks feature bright colors and flashy brush strokes.

"He (Davis) encourages exhibit us to be-he calls it "loose"bolder," Dykstra said.

show have been taking E. Main Street, through classes anywhere from one Jan. 30. to six years.

Their art will be on the walls of the chamber Two art exhibits are through Jan. 25 and can reception will be held The first is an exhibit Friday, Jan. 13, from 6-8

Another Galleria landscapes come from the "We've done other woods surrounding her the house.

Her paintings aren't scenes in her backyard, but There is still a lot of she puts together elements variety, however, in the of the woods to make her

> "Things I see when make my own," Bommarito

Some floral paintings are also shown in her

Bommarito's will be on display at the The students in the Huntington Galleria, 414



Karen Hale (from left), Cathy Dykstra and Nancy Porter with their paintings currently on display at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce.

Second horse attack by cougar confirmed

the first local government on the alert for a cougar Sheriff's Department and Announcement.

On Dec. 2, county

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throughout the year and your

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###

Berrien County became residents were asked to be helped the Berrien County (mountain lion) and take Animal Control Office in precautions. A week later, investigating an attack on a the Michigan Wildlife horse by a cougar that had (MWC) occurred on the night of Nov.

Wildlife Programs of the nonprofit MWC. exhumed the horse on Dec. 9 and examined the animal at the Berrien County Maintenance Building with assistance from Dr. Mark Johnson, the veterinarian who euthanized the animal. found clear-cut evidence, including distinct claw marks, and tooth punctures, that indicated the horse was attacked by a cougar.

followed an attack in August

injured so severely horse in Jackson County's local safety concerns.' it was euthanized the Parma Township. In that following morning by a incident, Dr. Rusz and the Jackson County Animal County officials and Control Office determined Dr. Patrick Rusz, director the animal was killed by a

bite in the neck. supervisor and a local police sergeant both saw a cougar on separate occasions within two miles of the scene of the attack. "In both horse attack launched the investigations," are executive director of the Conservancy. "Their prompt and thorough the presence of a cougar,

investigation an endangered species in

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26. A 20-year-old horse in which a cougar killed a Michigan, as they addressed

In contrast, thorough investigations were not conducted to determine the predators that killed a steer and a colt in Allegan County in summer of 2005, and The Parma Township killed dogs and livestock elsewhere in Michigan this

"It is unfortunate there has been no effective state led response when horses incidents, county officials and other large animals said Dennis Fijalkowski, Fijalkowski, "Opportunities have been missed to gather information about cougars and other large predators efforts helped document that is critically needed by police and animal control officers, livestock owners, and the general public.'

of droppings (scats), and

photographs of the animals

and their tracks.

The MWC has been studying cougars Michigan for nearly eight years and has documented the presence of the large cats in more than a dozen 7 p.m. counties in both the Upper and Lower Peninsulas through DNA analyses

COMNGEVENIS

nonprofit organization in Club meets in the Commu-dinner is provided. the Lowell, Ada, Alto & nity room at Englehardt Saranac areas. Keep no- Library, 6:30 - 8 p.m. Any- 2ND & 4TH TUES .: tices brief; may submit by one 12 or older who can Knights of Columbus mail, but will accept no- juggle 3 balls is welcome. tices by phone at No dues. Call 897-9879. 897-9261.

SUN.: Tri-town Conservation Club trap & skeet league, 5616 Dunn Rd. 12-754-7104. Public welcome. 5:45 p.m.

MON.: LHS Fellowship of TUES .: Cub Scout Pack homes. Call 676-1355.

MON .: Overeaters Anonymous, 7 p.m. at Key 292-6039 for more info. Heights Mobile Home Park dues, no joining fee, no weigh- ins. Brenda 897-

MON.: Women's over 30 meeting. 800-651-6000. drop-in basketball, 7-9:30 p.m. at Cherry Creek Elementary. Call Dave (YMCA) 897-8445. Fee \$3.

MON.: Boy Scout Troop TUES.: Women's Commu- 10 p.m. Larry 754-7104. 102, 11 & up or completing 5th grade, meets 7-8:30 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

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

2ND MON.: Bowne Town- 1ST & 3RD TUES.: Lowell ship Historical Society meets 7:30 at historic museum,84th/Alden Nash.

3RD MON.: Fallasburg Historical Society board meetings at chamber office or Fallasburg, 7 p.m. All invited.Call 897-7161 Dr. NE. 6:30 p.m. refreshfor info. or location.

3RD MON.: Peripheral 7 p.m. at Schneider Manor

Community Rm., 725

Bowes. Dorothy 897-9794.

Moose meeting at 7:30

3RD MON.: Lowell Show-

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

EVERY OTHER MON .: come. Contact Bev or Me-The Lowell Area Juggling

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

Christian Athletes & 3188 meets at 1st United Friends, 7-8:30 p.m. in Methodist Church (as long as there is school), 6:30 p.m. 1st-5th grade boys. Contact Gary Liu at (616)

Community Building, no TUES .: Weight Watchers at Alto United Methodist Church, corner of Kirby & Harrison meets at 5:30 p.m. Register 1 1/2 hrs. before

> TUES.: Flat River Woodcarvers meet at

nity Bible Study. Free nursery and preschool 1ST WED .: GR area p.m. at Scout Cabin, end story hour/craft time 9:45 - Scrabble Club at Schuler's Alto Family Tree Club at of N. Washington St. Call 11:15 a.m./women only at Bookstore, 28th St. 5:30 - Alto Library 6:30 - 8 p.m. 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.

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 ments/ 7 p.m. program Olga 616-975-9977/June **3RD MON.**: Women of the 231-780-1249 info.

> 2ND & 3RD TUES.: Qua-Ke-Zik Sportsman's Club, 11400 Foreman Rd. at 8 p.m. Winter leagues start 1st week of January. Go to www.gua-ke-zik.org.

2ND & 4TH TUES .: MOPS - Mothers of Preschoolers ... because mothering meetings are held in the matters. 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Fellowship Hall at the Impact Church, 1070 N. Church of the Nazarene at Hudson. Call 897-8304.

2ND & 4TH TUES.: Needlers. needleart/quilting bee, 5-8:30 p.m., 4 Health Wellness Center, Bridge St., Saranac. All are wel-

lissa, 642-6466, Light

#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.

upstairs at 1st Congrega tional Church, 404 N. Hudson St.

WED.: Tri-town Conserva-LAAC from 6:30-8:30 p.m. tion Club trap & skeet league, 5616 Dunn Rd. 6-

> 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, walkins. 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

Lowell Airport, 730 Lincoln Lake NE. 9 a.m. social time; THURS.: Pottery classes at Franciscan Life Process 10 a.m. meeting. LARC sponsors 145.27 MHz area Center, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. radio repeater system.

THURS .: St. Mary's Pregnancy Crisis Center, 402 Amity St., non-denominational help for pregnant women/adolescents,11 a.m.-3 p.m.; Mondays: Call 676-9346.

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.

5:30-8 p.m. 897-9393.

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

1ST & 3RD THURS .: Bluegrass Jam inside Kountry Korner of Alto. 6077 WED.: 8 p.m. ALANON Linfield. 868-6371.

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

2ND THURS .: Loyal Or-

der of the Moose, men's meeting at 7:30 p.m. 2ND THURS .: Genealogy-

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

862-8841.

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

3RD THURS .: LaLeche

League of Ada, Cascade,

Lowell 6:30 p.m. socializ-

ing; meeting 7. Support for

pregnant/breastfeeding

1ST & 3RD FRI.: Teen

MOPS support group for

pregnant teens and teen

moms, 9:15 - 11:30 a.m. at

Impact Church, 1070 N.

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 volun-

teers, Franciscan Life

Process Center, 9:30-

12:30 p.m. Pat or Judy at

2ND SAT.: Ada Historical

Society, 10:30 a.m. at

Averill Historical Museum

2ND SAT.: Lowell Ama-

teur Radio Club, held at

7144 Headley, Ada.

897-7842.

Hudson, 897-8304.

women, Ada 752-8300.

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

Averill Historical Museum of Ada, located at 7144 Headley. Hours are 1-4 p.m. or by appointment.

LOWELL AREA HIS-TORICAL MUSEUM: Tues., Sat. and Sun.1-4 p.m.; Thurs., 1-8 p.m.. Families: \$10: individuals \$3; 5-17 \$1.50; members are free. Call

ENGLEHARDT BRARY 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 HOURS: Mon. & Sat. 9:30 - 1:30 p.m.; Tues. & Wed. 12-8 p.m.; Thurs. 1-

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

FRI., SAT. AND SUN.: 10a.m.-2 p.m. 519 E. Main St. Call 897-2037

> SAT., DEC. 31: Wittenbach/Wege Center and Grand Rapids Audubon Club bird count day begins at 7:30 a.m. at center. 11715 Vergennes. Brown bag it or purchase a \$5 lunch. Cal 987-1002 to register or for more information.

SAT., DEC. 31: New Year's Eve dance at St. LI- Patrick's in Parnell, Contact Art at 691-7548 for more information.

WED., JAN. 4: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 10305 Blue Water LIBRARY Hwy., will have a blood drive from 3-7 p.m. Call Virginia at 897-4569 to register or ask questions.

THURS., JAN. 5: Lowell High School Financial Aid Night, 7 - 8 p.m. in LPAC. Call 987-2908 for more in-

SAT., JAN. 7: The sixth annual Mid-Winter Hot Dog Clog Hog Gathering will be at Historic Bowens Mills in Middleville. For more information on the workshop/ dance, call Bob the clogger at 616-374-8205.

MON., JAN. 9: Mothers Against Drunk Driving annual candlelight vigil at 7 p.m., Park Congregational Church, 10 E. Park Place NE. Guest speaker is GR mayor George Heartwell RSVP to 456-6233.

FAXING



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 Voodland Mall.

WED.: 10:30 a.m. Exer-

cise Class.

SPECIAL EVENTS

WED., DEC. 28: Bosnia Shoppers. 12:45 p.m. Shop Meijer.

FRI., DEC. 30: 12:45 p.m. Bingo.

MON., JAN. 2: Center Is Closed.

WED., JAN. 4: Bosnia Shoppers, 10 a.m. Blood

MON., JAN. 9: 10 a.m. Advisory Council; 12:45

THURS .: 9 a.m. Walk

Shop at Malls: 9:30 a.m.

Crafts; 1:00 p.m. Euchre

FRI.: 9a.m. Walkat Wood-

land Mall; 10:30 a.m.

Pressure; 12 p.m. Shop

THURS., JAN. 5: 12:45

p.m. Cafe in the Woods.

FRI., JAN. 6: 12:45 p.m

Exercise Class.

p.m. Games at Center.

January '05

JANUARY 5

A local furniture store was forced into a smaller space after the building it occupied was condemned. Michelle Tava, owner of A Touch of Country oak furniture store, reopened Monday in the McQueen building at the corner of Main and Broadway.

00000

A Lowell man and woman await arraignment on charges stemming from a Dec. 16 drug house raid.

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Dave Abel and Bev Hall with items on sale for a tsunami relief effort at Root-Lowell. 1-19-05

After a tsunami in the Indian Ocean devastated Southeast Asia on Dec. 26, Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) in Lowell announced plans to help.

The charity will collect money throughout the month of January for the Southern Asia Disaster Relief Fund of the American Red Cross.

An ice fishing accident took the life of a Lowell man last Friday on Byrne Lake in Grattan Township.

Sidewalks along Beech Street and Ridgeview are being considered by the Lowell City Council as one of the proposals for its annual Community Development Block Grant program.

JANUARY 12

Sidewalk improvements, the clearing of the Barton house, road improvements and roof work at the Wastewater Treatment Plant—these are just some of the larger projects completed by the city of Lowell this past year.

This summer, starting in June or sooner, a bridge will be built on the Cooper Woodland Preserve.

The bridge is this year's project of the Lowell Leadership Institute for Volunteer Excellence.

Schools board of education members for their service to the program to fund three projects in the city. district at their first meeting of the year. Jim Reagan is the longest-serving member on the present board, having been there for 7 1/2 years.

JANUARY 19

For the past week the people of Lowell have been shopping to benefit tsunami victims in southeast Asia.

One of the conference rooms at Root-Lowell Manufacturing was filled with products and gift certificates from local manufacturers and businesses. They were donated and then sold with all money raised going to aid Red Cross relief efforts in the devastated region.

Acquiring sewer service is a big issue for some property going through the annexation process in Vergennes Township.

A Lowell soldier returned home last Thursday following a tour of duty in Iraq for almost a year.

Army Spc. Mindy Tarney, 22, of the 502nd Military Intelligence Battalion landed in Kuwait on Jan. 17, 2004 before being stationed at Camp Victory South in Iraq. She spent most of the remainder of the year there.

Two weeks into its fundraising efforts to help tsunami victims in southeast Asia, Lowell's Flat River Outreach Ministries has raised over \$1,229 in local contributions.

Host Lowell had a good day and fell just short of a great day Saturday at the Gary Rivers Tournament. The Red Arrows lost by only a point, 31-30, in a tightly-contested championship semi-finals match against Hastings.

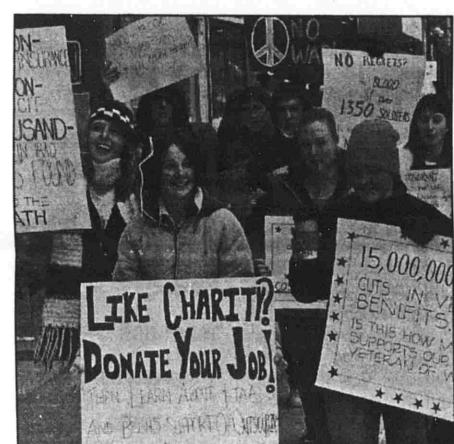
State Rep. Dave Hildenbrand of Lowell began his first term as the 86th District's voice in Lansing on Jan. 12.

JANUARY 26

The Vergennes Township Hall was crowded for its Monday, Jan. 17 meeting. Several residents came to voice opposition to the annexation of 177 acres to the city of Lowell. DuRay Development, LLC has filed a petition with the state boundary commission to annex an oddly-shaped parcel of property at the corner of Alden Nash and Vergennes streets to the city.

A donation from a friend and colleague will establish a scholarship fund named after Lowell Area Schools superintendent Shari Miller.

Charles Mitchell Jr., a retired state superintendent who also did superintendent work in Chicago Public Schools and in California, donated \$1,000 to set up the fund.



Lowell High School students protested on the day of George W. Bush's second inauguration. 1-26-05

A presentation was given Friday at the Lowell Performing Arts Center to help Lowell Area Schools' teachers encourage tolerance and diversity in their classrooms.

Grand Valley State University professor Dr. Steve L. Robbins gave the speech, titled "Unintended Intolerance."

The city of Lowell has decided to seek about \$57,000 School administration gave recognition to Lowell Area from the federal Community Development Block Grant

February '05

FEBRUARY 2

The success of the fundraising sale at Root-Lowell Manufacturing surpassed all expectations, raising more than \$4,300 from the public to help tsunami relief efforts in southeast Asia.

Sophomore Scott Beatson and freshman Will Bryan of Lowell High School were in Washington D.C. two weeks ago to see George W. Bush take the oath of office as president of the United States.

Last year's 10th annual Cherry Creek Classic Walk/ Run was the last hurrah for Lowell's five-kilometer foot race. Citing declining participation and competition from bigger-draw runs in Grand Rapids, event coordinator Terry them. VanderWarf decided not to organize a run for this year.

Rachael E. Plumley has been promoted to the rank of senior airman in the U.S. Air Force. Plumley is the daughter of Joel Plumley of Lowell and Anna Zielinski of Grand

A local musician and longtime member of the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra recently cut an album of 11

When the January snowstorm from two weeks ago blew through Lowell, it wasn't a surprise that come Monday there were calls about sidewalks not being shoveled.

FEBRUARY 9

The Lowell Community Wellness team weight-loss challenge is well on the way to achieving its goal for collective pounds shed by the Lowell community, Lowell's cumulative weight loss has totaled 1,143 pounds after three

The children's production by Lowell Area Arts Council's Thebes Players will include a large number of farm animals .. and one in particular. The play is "Babe the Sheep Pig," which was written after the success of a movie. Both are based on a book by Dick King-Smith.

At the end of a month of communitywide fundraising, Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc., handed the American Red Cross checks and cash totaling \$5,000. It will benefit disaster relief efforts in the southeast Asia region struck by the tsunami in December.

The basic theme of Pep Talk, a new store in town, is

Melissa Riehl and Janis Preston approached the Lowell city council about obtaining a second hand dealer license to establish a business called Daily Cash Outlet at 423 W. Main St. where First Class Auto was located.

FEBRUARY 16

Sterling Massey and James Turner are the two candidates who have filed petitions to run in the Lowell Area Schools board of education election in May.



The Lowell Showboat turned on its love light for Valentine's Day. 2-2-05

More than 6,200 people graced the doors of the Lowell Area Historical Museum or participated in programs hosted by the museum in 2004.

Jeff Altoft, who owns Blackwater Café with Bif Altoft, came before the Lowell City Council last week to see if the city would be interested in selling a vacant lot at 111 Riverside.

The budget report given Monday at the Lowell Area Schools board of education meeting indicated that, financially, times are still tight and likely will remain so.

City residents wishing to sell their cemetery lots back to the city will discover they'll be getting a better price for

Army Pvt. Bradley W. Wells has graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga.

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Matthew Hendges, assigned to the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU),

recently joined Iraqi Security Forces to provide security for on a tiebreaker criterion, most matches won. The final score elections in Najaf, Iraq.

A 42-year-old Lowell man was arrested last Thursday after turning himself in on drug possession charges. It was all of the costumes in a costume shop recently, about 1,500 the fifth arrest in a drug house bust by Lowell police last individual costume pieces for the low, low price of \$5,000.

Both halves of the Freshman Center at Lowell High School are undertaking service learning projects with the intent of learning curriculum while helping underpriviledged neighborhoods and youth in Grand Rapids.

FEBRUARY 23

This year, the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce's Business Appreciation Award went to Ball's Softee Creme.

The Lowell Area Community Fund approved \$190,334 in grants earlier this month to support various initiatives including traffic control, trail construction, and diversity education.

The Lowell Area Arts Council is currently hosting its most eclectic show of the year. The 19th annual West Michigan Regional Competition includes about 70 pieces of art, as many as juror Mark Chatterley could fit on the

Black and white photos by Ira Trowbridge are currently on display at the Lowell Chamber of Commerce.

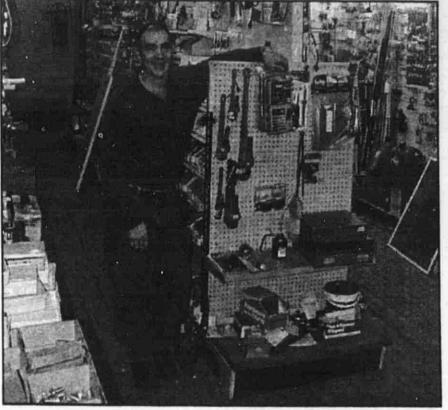
March '05

MARCH 2

The Lowell Red Arrow wrestlers defied all odds and surprised everyone in attendance with an upset victory over Sparta in the regional finals at home. Lowell won the match

was 32-32.

The drama department at Lowell High School purchased



Hahn Hardware owner Bob Ford in his hardware store which, years after establishing itself as the longest continuously open store in Lowell, will close within the next two weeks. 2-9-05

Selling things on the eBay auction web site has proven popular enough that even in Lowell there is a business devoted to the practice. E-Seller4U has occupied the storefront at 119 West Main Street since January.

MARCH 9

In packed city council chambers, the state boundary commission heard arguments from the community on the issue of annexing 177 acres in Vergennes Township.

THE LOWELL LEDGER DECEMBER 28, 2005 PAGE 15

The Lowell High School Environmental Club met with school administrators Monday to push for lunch tray recycling in its school cafeteria.

00000

Home from Iraq following a seven-and-a-half-month deployment, Marine Sgt. Jerry Jordan spent last Friday afternoon tubing at Pando Ski Center with students from Unity High School. Jordan returned from Iraq on Feb. 14 for a 20-day leave.

The students in Tonya Sandborn's class wrote letters to Jordan, a 29-year-old Lake Odessa native, while he was stationed in Iraq.

Lowell High School is rockin' this spring with the musical Footloose which opens Thursday.

After serving five months in Baghdad, Iraq, Corporal Heather L. Sterzick returned to her home duty station at Fort Huachuca, Arizona on Feb. 15.

The Lowell Planning Commission felt some sticker shock last week after receiving the cost for updating its master plan.

The Lowell Planning Commission has given its approval to change the zoning of the Masonic Lodge building, which

may pave the way for the facility to be sold soon.

Dwayne Scheidel from Grand Wittenbach came before the Lowell Planning Commission last week to discuss the possibility of a body shop at 749 W. Main.

MARCH 16

This year's Lowell Community Expo at Lowell High School promises to be the biggest one yet. All 151 booths at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce's ninth annual event were sold out as of last Tuesday.

0 Jenny Huffman Mrs. Young Cherry Creek Elementary Amber Burhans Mr. Stevens Cherry Creek Elementar 0) brother Dave! Mrs. Vezino St. Patrick School The Lowell Ledger **Audrey Rasch** 105 N. Broadway, Lowell Phone 897-9261 • Fax 897-4809

Pronuenteunennennennennennennennennennennen

At the request of a local business owner, the city of Lowell has decided to put up for sale a parcel of land on Riverside Drive. Jeff and Bif Altoft, owners of the Backwater Café, at 109 Riverside Dr., made the request in February.



Fifth grade students at Alto Elementary presented a a recycling program. selection of skits on the theme of "The Core Democratic Values" Friday, Jan. 28. Pictured, from left to right, are Kristin Reid, Blake Lyman as George Washington, Kayla Blough as Betsy Ross and Greg Blanton as Francis Scott in time for this year's crew season. Key. 2-9-05

The management of the city's Wastewater Treatment Plant is next up on the Lowell City Council's review of contracted services. EarthTech has managed the plant since

Lowell's Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep dealership has changed hands for the fifth time in its 85-year history.

Its name is now Grand-Vennen following the recent purchase by the Grand Auto family. It will be Grand's second dealership in Lowell.

The Alto Girl Scouts are selling cookies ... these cookies won't be eaten on the home front, but rather overseas by U.S. soldiers.

The Lowell Area Schools board of education approved an employee severance plan incentive, Monday.

The plan would offer employees of 10 years or more a year's salary to retire or resign from the district.

A historical program Wednesday, March 23 at Lowell High School will offer firsthand accounts of the Battle of Okinawa, given by three World War II veterans.

MARCH 23

A Grand Rapids Civil War organization is leading the charge to renovate and repair Oakwood Cemetery's civil Churches. war monument.

To help cover costs, the city of Lowell has introduced a new fee schedule for the large pavilion at Creekside Park.

Polystyrene lunch trays used at Lowell High School will soon be on their way to becoming park benches and picnic tables, instead of on their way to the landfill.

The high school environmental club worked for the better part of a year to convince school officials to implement

A floating dock planned for the Grand River Riverfront Park in Lowell Charter Township may not become a reality

The seven senior girls on this year's Lowell High School Future Farmers of America (FFA) Agricultural Issues team will go national on a local issue in October. Julie Dunn, Kelly Foote, Katie Serne, Marie Wade, Katie Ward, Shelley Wernet and Michelle Wolf took first in the state FFA competition, which was held March 9-11 at Michigan State University in East Lansing.

Just before the turn of the 20th century, Lowell was starting to take a new interest in its city image.

In May of 1999, the city council approved a flashy new logo for the town.

MARCH 30

On Monday, the sun shone on a dedication ceremony to celebrate the completion of the Kent County Habitat for Humanity house on Bowes Road in Lowell. Debbie and Scott Baldwin are ready to move into their new home.

The Lowell Church of the Nazarene held a prayer service Thursday morning for Terri Schiavo, the severely brain-damaged Florida woman whose feeding-tube status has made national news in recent weeks.

Pvt. Ryan Datema (Churches) has successfully completed the Army's 16 weeks of Advanced Individual Training in Ft. Eustis, Va. He graduated fourth in his class with honors. Datema is the son of Brent and Nancy

The ninth annual Lowell Community Expo took place Saturday at Lowell High School. Attendees were exposed to a wide variety of businesses and organizations that call this town and the surrounding area home.

April '05

APRIL 6

Sky-rocketing gas prices in Lowell were well above the state average, climbing above \$2.44 late Monday morning at most local gas stations.



Law enforcement officials restricted access to Lowel Middle School for five hours last Thursday following an anonymous phone call claiming a gun was in the building. 3-23-05

the Lowell Area Arts Council's Hudson Street Gallery, demonstrating the variety of media being worked on by artists in and around the city.

year's spring dinner theater production, Norman Robbin's "Wedding of the Year."

After some review, the Lowell city council decided

to raise its bonding request to \$600,000 from the original

\$400,000 for a proposed road project on Grindle Drive. Lowell police officers caught a man fleeing on foot from Kent County Sheriff's deputies last Thursday afternoon on the railroad tracks behind Metric Manufacturing Co., Inc. The deputies were pursuing the man after clocking him

APRIL 13

With the needs of the community pushing it past its present capacity, Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc. (F.R.O.M.) in Lowell will soon commence a feasibility study toward expansion.

speeding on Hudson Street.

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The official kick-off for the fundraiser of the Civil War monument at Oakwood Cemetery is this Saturday at the Wittenbach Agri-science Center.

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Army National Guard Pvt. Joshua R. Griffin has graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga. Griffin, a 2001 graduate of Lowell High School, is the son of Theresa Griffin of Lowell. 00000

Mike Benson has been a strongman evangelist for a little more than a year now. In that time, he's traveled all over the country with The Conquerors International Strength Team and now they are in Lowell.

The Lowell community weight-loss challenge came to a close at the end of last month and, according to organizers, was a success.

The speed on North Hudson continues to be a regular

The Zip Code Show is currently on the walls of consideration is a three-lane roadway-one lane in each direction with a continuous center turn lane.

APRIL 20

The Lowell Police Department recently added a third Lowell's Thebes Players will take a British turn for this patrol bike to its stable. The department has been patrolling on bicycles since 1997, when LPD first bought a Trek mountain bike and built it up for police use.

> Making the school year shorter and outsourcing transportation maintenance costs should be options on the table for Lowell Area Schools according to the recommendations of the cost containment committee.

The Flat River Grill once again has received the city's endorsement to serve alcoholic beverages on the Lowell Showboat during the Showboat Summer Concerts.

A developer is slowly clearing the hurdles to put a Big Boy restaurant and other retail on the southwest corner of Bowes Road and M-21.

Two parents of students at Lowell Middle School have seen their children's asthma problems worsen during the time they've been at the school.

APRIL 27

Freshmen at Lowell High School split into two groups to do service work in different places. The East House visited the woods near Hopkins, where they did a variety of work at Camp Mel Trotter. The West House went to Grand Rapids, where they undertook a large-scale neighborhood cleanup project on the southeast side.

Lowell will once again take time to recognize the people who have made this place what it is with the "Spirit of Community" celebration this Friday in the Lowell Performing Arts Center (LPAC).

Sterling Massey and James Turner are running for the school board seat currently held by Jim Reagan, who is not running for re-election.

With local car dealerships remaining silent, and after

complaint, said Lowell police chief Jim Valentine. One researching other cities, the Lowell Planning Commission has decided to leave its ordinance alone regarding banners



Students from the West House of the Freshman Center at Lowell High School teamed up with freshmen from Ottawa Hills High School to clean up a neighborhood on Grand Rapids' southeast side. 4-27-05

Two reports have emerged so far this year describing the increasingly brash antics of the coyotes around Lowell.

May '05

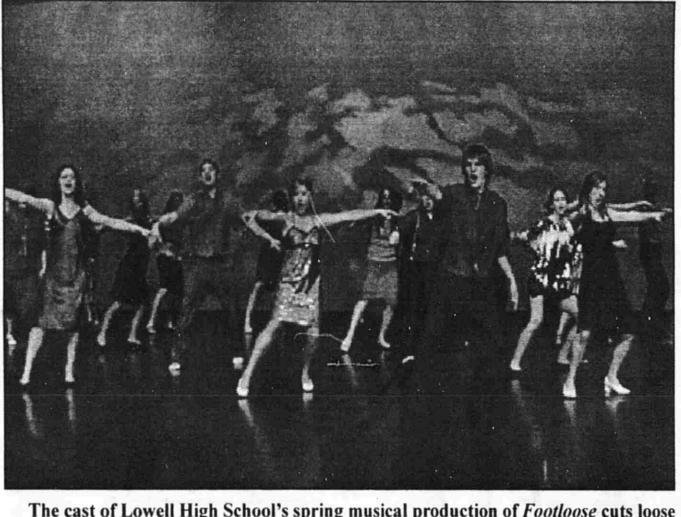
MAY 4

Kraig and Jody Haybarker were named this year's owell Area Chamber of Commerce Person of the Year.

Lowell Light and Power board members, employees and friends and family of the late Norman Borgerson met at the utility's substation on Bowes Road to dedicate a stone monument to the utility's longtime board member.

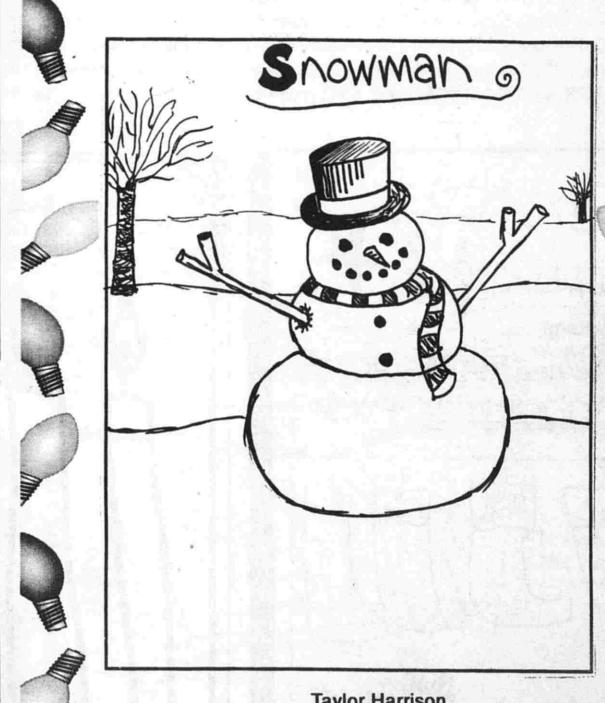
A documentary made by Lowell resident Robert Prince "Making Choices: The Dutch Resistance During World War II" will air this Thursday evening.





The cast of Lowell High School's spring musical production of Footloose cuts loose





Taylor Harrison Mr. Fillman Murray Lake Elementary

City of Lowell 301 E. Main Ph. 897-8457



Youth Fair have EarthTech to thank.

Securing air easements is the next step for the Lowell City Airport as it continues to upgrade its status to a general utility airport.



This van, with its driver, nearly landed in the Flat River last Tuesday afternoon after an accident on Main Street. 5-11-05

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Realizing that in the current economic climate the city needs to be more supportive to its businesses, the Lowell City Council has decided to review the city's ordinance on outdoor merchandise displays.

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A brief cloudburst Sunday was the first rain ever to fall on a CROP Walk in Lowell but didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the 147 walkers who hit the streets of Lowell for the event.

MAY 11

Lowell High School got milk last Tuesday and a visit from Greg Kelser of the 1979 national championship Michigan State basketball team after a Lowell student's essay about the school's health initiatives was selected as a winner in a milk promotion.

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Voters in the Lowell School District gave the nod to James Turner in a close school board election last Tuesday.

Lowell Performing Arts Center. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Amateur Radio Group of Youth in Lowell (A.R.G.Y.L.).

bond payment. The Downtown Development Authority include space for the arts council. authorized \$128,147 and Look Memorial Fund approved

178383083636363636363

Elle

Alto Elementary

Lowell Cable

127 N. Broadway

Phone 897-8405

\$15,000. Both amounts will be put in the city's general fund, from where bond payments are paid.

It appears four candidates will be vying for three spots on the Lowell City Council this fall: incumbents mayor Jeanne Shores, and councilmen Jim Pfaller and Jim Hodges, along with challenger Jim Hall.

Deadline for teachers to sign up for Lowell Area Schools' severance plan is Friday. The early retirement incentive topped the list of suggestions for cuts to the 2005-2006 school budget.

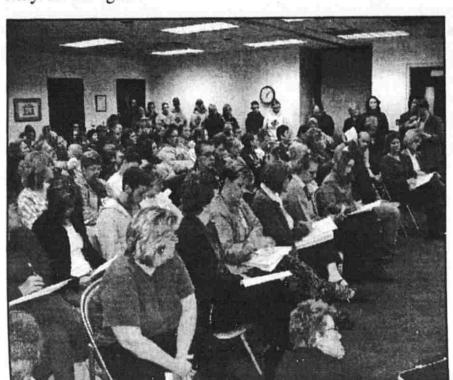
MAY 18

Lowell resident and avid tri-athlete Roger Bonga will be taking a trip across the country soon on a bike to raise on revamping its master plan. money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Home caregiving for elderly parents requires a lot of time, dedication and sacrifice. Now a charity called Christian Caregiver Relief, whose volunteers give breaks to home caregivers, is looking to establish a presence in Lowell.

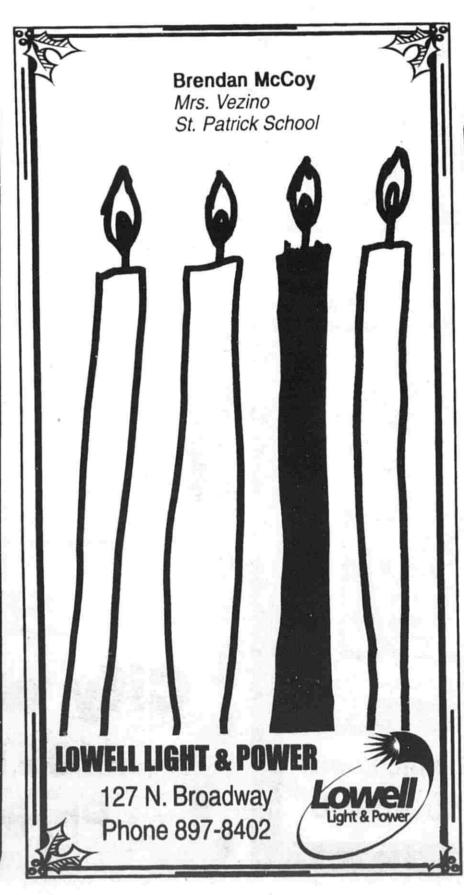
Lowell Senior Neighbors and Schneider Manor will host several events for National Senior Health Week, which are free and open to the entire Lowell senior community.

Several new additions will put a fresh face on this year's Mayfest Bluegrass Festival.



The Lowell Area Schools board room was packed The Country Roots Band will perform Saturday at the Monday night with people who came to express their opinions and ideas about suggested budget cuts. 5-18-05

Representatives from the Lowell Area Arts Council The city of Lowell received some good financial and the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce came before news last week as two local organizations approved more the council to review a new proposed floor layout of the than \$140,000 to help with the City Hall/police station building that houses the chamber. The new layout would



Lowell elementary and middle school students did better than the state average across all subjects of this winter's Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) tests.

MAY 25

A group of municipal government representatives from the city of Davison was in Lowell last Thursday for Mayor Exchange day.

Residents wishing to voice their opinions on how the city of Lowell should spend its money have one meeting left before the council is set to approve its 2005-2006 budget.

After receiving an amount palpable to its liking, the Lowell Planning Commission has decided to move forward

An unusually mild summer brought a drop in revenues for the Lowell Light and Power Company (LL&P) last year with higher fuel costs keeping expenses up.

Lowell resident Peggy Covert is on a mission. She wants to banish garlic mustard from the woods around the area. It was three years ago when she first noticed the plants with their heart-shaped, serrated leaves in the woods on her property at the north end of Washington Street.

A retirement open house will be held for Lowell wrestling coach Dave Strejc. After 11 years of coaching wrestling at Lowell, Strejc is retiring to spend more time with his family.

June '05

JUNE 1

Hundreds of people lined the streets of Lowell and then gathered at Oakwood Cemetery Monday in observance of Memorial Day.

A total of 24 teachers chose to leave Lowell Area Schools with the incentive package from the district's employee severance plan. Three more teachers retired under the terms of their contracts.

In a joint meeting between Lowell City and Lowell Township planning commissions, both discovered the two municipalities have a similar ordinance on banners, pennants and flags that many of the city car dealerships have used to promote their locations.

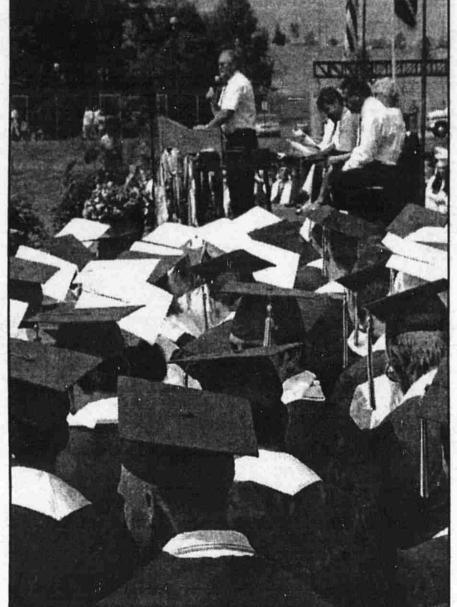
JUNE 8

As weather threatened to disrupt the 127th annual commencement exercises at Red Arrow Stadium on Sunday, diplomas were handed out in a faster than normal manner to the Lowell seniors.



The Howard farm at the corner of Parnell Avenue and Two Mile Road in Vergennes Township was dedicated Friday morning as the first farm to be permanently Monday. The wall is covered in mosaic tile. It's a project preserved in agriculture through the Kent County Purchase Unity students worked on this winter and into the spring. of Development Rights program.

The Lowell City Council approved its 2005-2006 budget Monday night, giving its employees a 2.5 percent pay increase, the first such increase in two years.



A graduate's-eye view of the 2005 Lowell High School commencement proceedings. Principal Scott Vashaw is at the podium. 6-8-05

Four train cars filled with Native American art arrived in Lowell Friday. The train is called "Artrain USA" and it tours the country bringing art exhibits to small towns.

The new wall that replaced the old swing set along Riverwalk Plaza next to Unity High School was dedicated

JUNE 15

The Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concerts starts Thursday. A lot of changes are coming this summer: there's a new stage, new acts, new nights and new business sponsors.

The city of Lowell's wastewater and water service rates are going to increase. The question is whether it will be the readiness-to-serve charge or the consumption charge that will go up.

The Lowell Area Schools Board of Education approved a slate of budget cuts totaling more than \$1.4 million at its Monday meeting.

Deciding it has been a mutually benefiting agreement and seeing few others who could manage the city of Lowell wastewater treatment facility, the city council unanimously decided to award a new 10-year contract to Earth Tech.

Grattan Township broke ground for a new firehouse Saturday.

Members of the Lowell Leadership Institute for Volunteer Excellence class (LIVE 5) still hope to build a bridge in the Cooper Woodland Preserve, but the project has experienced several delays.

JUNE 22

The Grand Valley American Indian Lodge brings its Restoring the Circle Pow Wow to the Lowell Fairgrounds this weekend.

The city of Lowell lost one of its most dedicated citizens over the weekend, as former postmaster Charlie Doyle died of a heart attack Sunday morning at the age of 77.

It appears the Foreman building will be getting a new coat of paint, and the city of Lowell and the Kent County



dance circle Sunday during the "Restoring the Circle" Pow Wow at the Lowell Fairgrounds. 6-29-05

There is a lot of history at the crossroads of 84th Street and S. Alden Nash. Among the few buildings that comprise Bowne Center, there are four structures more than a century

At the Lowell Charter Township meeting Monday night, the board voted to delay paving 1.75 miles of 36th Street east of Segwun until next construction season, pending a February review of the township budget.



JUNE 29

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



Lowell Light and Power safety director and power plant supervisor Tom Russo gets ready to put a generator online. The utility ran its generators for a total of six hours last Tuesday because of high electricity demand caused by high temperatures. 7-6-05

Cadet Aaron S. Ritzema, son of Dion and Catherine Ritzema of Alto, graduated from the United States Military Academy on May 28.

Michele DeHaan is retiring as varsity gymnastics coach after 12 years in that position at Lowell High School.

Members of the newest Lowell High School sports team, The Kent County Counservation League/Lowell High School trap shooting team, have been honing their skills at shooting orange clay discs for the past four weeks.

On July 12, a bone marrow drive will be held at Lowell High School to help eight-year old cancer patient Anna Organek.

A local car dealership has decided to alter its plan for a proposed body shop, but a lack of detail to the plans forced the Lowell Planning Commission to table the matter.

Cadet Benjamin J. Meyer, a 2001 graduate of East Kentwood High School, graduated from the U.S. Military Academy on May 28. He is the son of Craig and Cindy Meyer of Lowell.

Voyages Coffee Shop closed a few weeks ago but reopened Friday under new ownership. Not much has changed, yet, but the new owners plan to add a deli. 00000

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

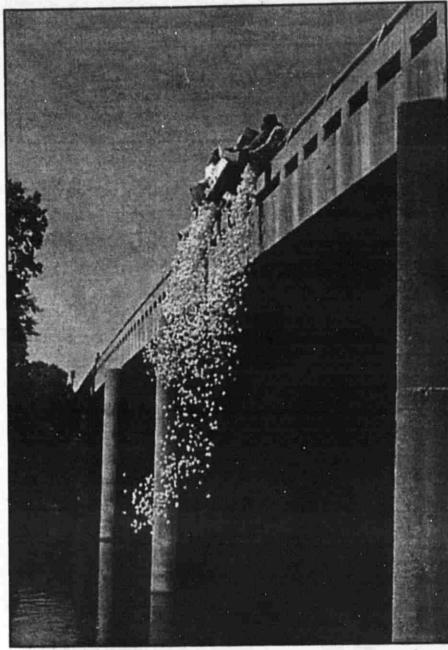
JULY 13

Lowell may be getting into the business of trafficking emergency response vehicles to Santiago in the Dominican Republic. Last Thursday, representatives from Santiago visited Lowell to have a look at the Lowell Area Fire Department's old Engine Number 3. The Lowell Rotary Club hopes to help ship the fire truck to the Caribbean nation.

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Businesses in Lowell must now keep any outdoor merchandise and displays a distance of 10 feet from front lot lines.

There are approximately 160 varieties of daylilies in Angelo's flower pots at her home on Springside Drive in Lowell Township. Her gardens are a tour stop on a countywide garden tour this weekend.



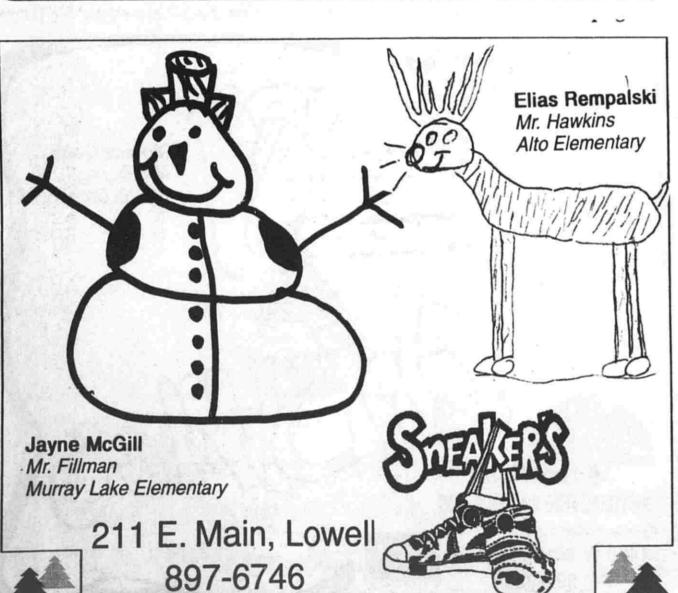
Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce volunteers dump ducks off the Division Street bridge at the start of the annual duck race. 7-13-05

JULY 20

People in downtown Lowell are hoping some visible additions on Main Street will make pedestrians more visible to motorists.









Last Tuesday's marrow drive for Anna Organek at Lowell High School drew more than 1,000 people, even one skateboarding enthusiasts can find funding. from Alaska.

Coinciding with the heat wave of the last few weeks has will see city crews and sewer workers in the area. been a not-much-crime wave.

structure for the Lowell Showboat.



Austin Fischer, of Alto and the Cherry Valley Livestock Club, keeps his pig under control during the livestock auction at the Kent County Youth Fair. 8-17-05

Lowell High School students did well on the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) test this year.

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A skate park in Lowell is a possibility if young

If the fourth phase of the city's sewer improvement plan is approved next month, the city's east side of the Flat River

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At its meeting Monday, the Vergennes Township Board The city is looking at creating a contract and fee approved four applications for the Kent County Purchase of Development Rights program.

Over the objections of the Lowell Light and Power Board, the Lowell City Council selected Biggs, Hausserman, Thompson & Dickinson to serve as the city auditors for the next three years.

JULY 27

The Grand Rapids Area Astronomical Association, whose members built the James C. Veen Observatory in Lowell Township and spend late nights looking at stars from there, recently celebrated its 50th anniversary.

Lowell lost a longtime teacher and lifetime fervent sports supporter Saturday with the passing of Bob Perry, 79, known to many as "Mr. Red Arrow."

August '05

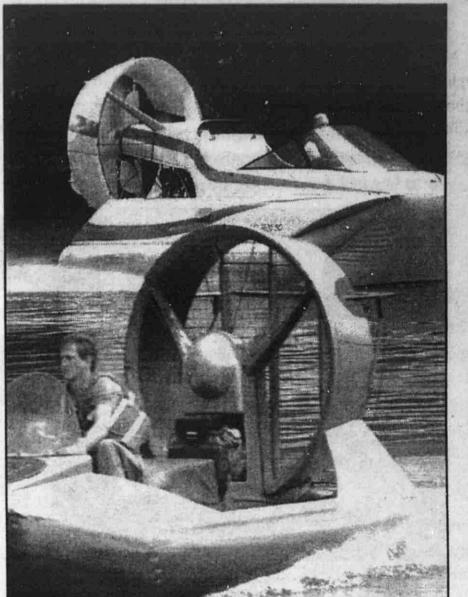
AUGUST 3

Changes to the Michigan boundary commission's roster may delay its decision on the petitioned annexation of 177 acres of Vergennes Township to the city of Lowell.

There are a number of interesting features the city of Lowell has to offer when looking down from 500 to 800

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Receiving approval for its newest plan, a local auto dealer intends to get construction underway quickly for the city's newest business: a body shop.



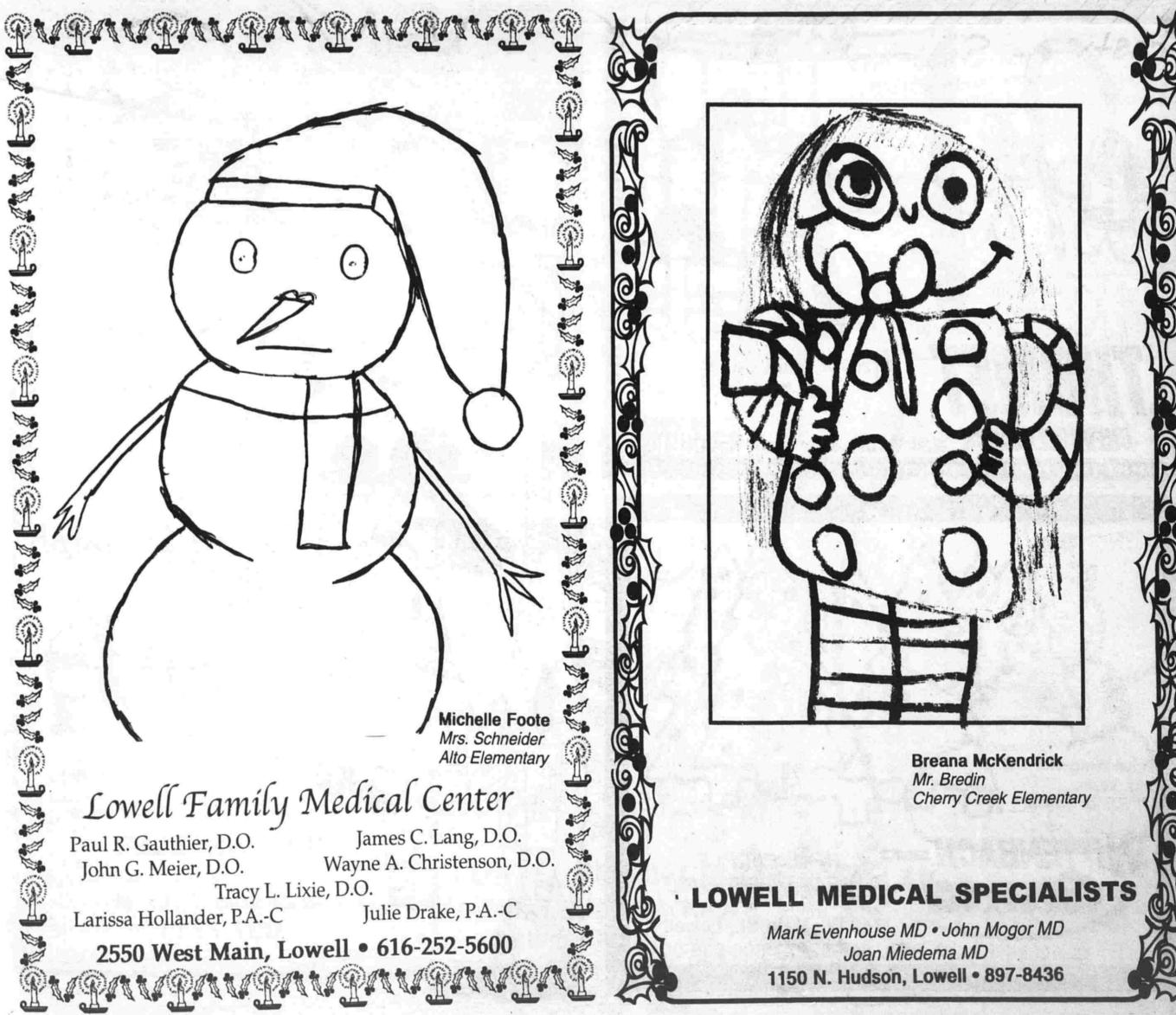
Stan Sykes (foreground) and Dean Pollee cruise their hovercrafts down the Grand River by the Lowell Fairgrounds. 8-31-05

If skateboarders in Lowell can put together a viable plan for a skate park at Stoney Lakeside Park, there are businesses in town willing to help make it happen.

AUGUST 10

Temperatures hovering around 90 degrees greeted animals and exhibitors at the 71st annual Kent County Youth Fair, which got started Sunday night at the Lowell Fairgrounds.

A 1994 Dodge Ram pickup took a prime parking spot at Showboat Automotive Supply Friday afternoon, next to a rack of automotive chemicals after crashing through the front door.



city council meeting.

scope of a sidewalk project.

The North Country Trail Association will have a

Lowell Little League is preparing to make its financial

Tighter finances have caused the city to reduce the

SEPTEMBER 28

North Hudson Street has gone from four lanes to three,

This is the third year the Lowell Area Historical Museum

The Lowell Area Schools board of education

Navy Seaman Recruit Justin D. Force, son of Julie

October '05

OCTOBER 5

At last Thursday's Downtown Development Authority

Meeting, representatives of the Michigan Department of

Transportation confirmed that the intersection of Main

Street and Monroe Avenue does not meet the criteria for a

The city of Lowell will be changing its waste hauler

Fones of Alto, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training

unanimously voted to hire Pat Murphy, 63, as interim

superintendent. Murphy will fill in for Shari Miller, who is

and the transition has caused some confusion in town . . . at

least while the appropriate line markings remain unpainted.

has held a tour of the city's historic homes.

undergoing a round of cancer treatment.

traffic light.

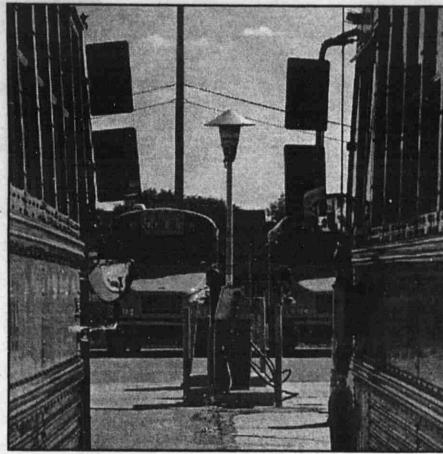
at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

books more open for scrutiny after the arrest of league

president Edward Parks on embezzlement charges.

to create a safer passageway, as approved at Monday night's

A Texas Hold'em tournament held Saturday night at the Monday. Lowell Moose Lodge capped a big fundraising push for the Anna Organek bone marrow drive.



High gas prices are having an impact on Lowell Area Schools, which buys one thousand gallons of diesel fuel per month to fill its thirsty bus fleet. 9-7-05

Art Attack III takes place Saturday, Aug. 20 from 6 to 11 p.m. at the Lowell Area Arts Council's Gallery at 149 S. Hudson.

Lowell Community Wellness's "100 Miles in 100 Days" walking challenge reached the two-thirds point last week with 140 participants, each trying to walk 100 miles by Sept. 6.

Earth Tech Inc. has quit as the maintenance contractor town for the festival of

A financial analysis of the early retirement incentive township's environmental engineering firm discovered problems with the system.

AUGUST 17

Two houses on Riverside Drive were torn down

Hot weather at the beginning of the week didn't stop people from coming out to the fair. Returns from parking and from the carnival were both up from last year.

At its meeting Monday, the Lowell Charter Township Board gave preliminary approval to a site plan for phase four of the Whispering Hills housing development, located west of Meijer.

When it comes to the issue of vicious dogs, the Lowell City Council has decided that its current ordinance on the matter is sufficient.

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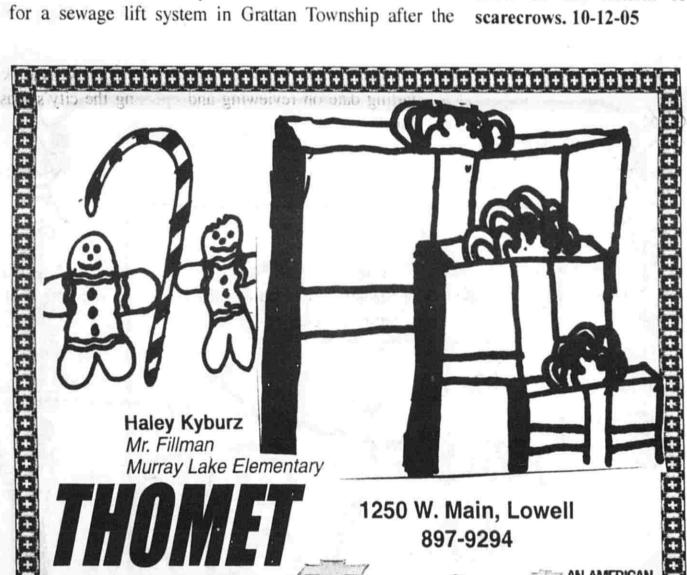
Herb Elzinga, a man known to probably every Lowellian of his generation and to many in the generations after, died early Monday after suffering a stroke the previous week. He made some headway in the process. was 92.

Parents dropping off and picking up students at Runciman Elementary and residents in that area should take organizations and now it is going online. note: High Street is going to be one way this fall.

The Lowell YMCA branch has hired a new associate

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At right: A collection of scarecrows leans on the poultry barn at the Lowell Fairgrounds before being distributed throughout





Jason Seeley Jr. of Lowell recently rode his way to second place in the world rankings of the National Little Britches Rodeo Association (NLBRA).

AUGUST 24

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

Fundraisers working to help eight-year old Lowell cancer patient Anna Organek have reached their goal.

Army National Guard Pfc. Susan A. Hoag has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. She is the daughter of Pat Hoag of Lowell and Dorothy Hoag of Grand Rapids.

Yellow tags are now hanging from Lowell's red fire hydrants, reminding people it is unlawful to tamper with or take water from them.

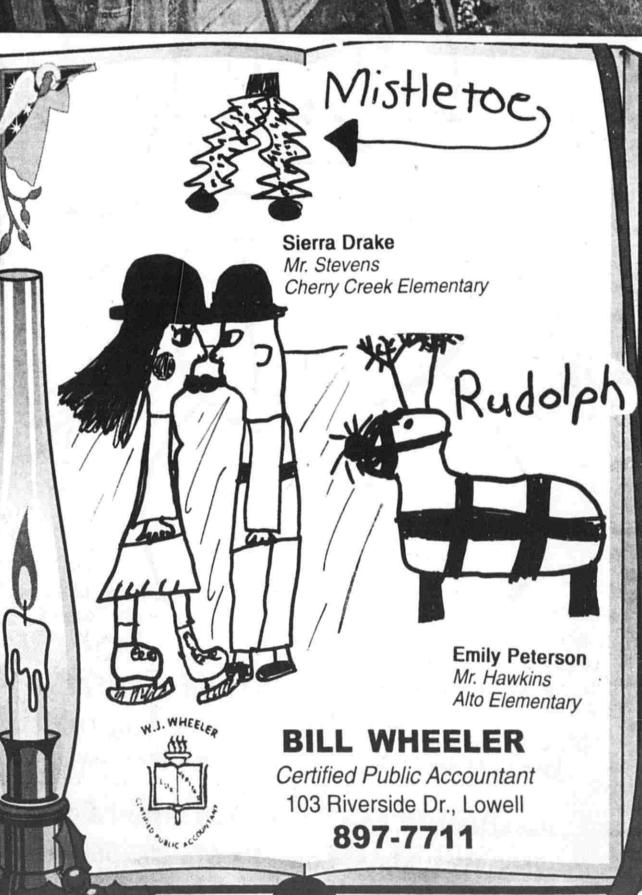
After some discussion on how to go about getting its master plan updated, the Lowell Planning Commission has

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

AUGUST 31

The Lowell Fairgrounds was the place to be over the weekend if you are a hovercraft hobbyist. Members of the Hovercraft Club of America brought their machines there, finding it to be a pretty idea! location.





Another year of school started last Wednesday in Lowell.

A hog roast Sunday, Sept. 11, at the Lowell Moose set up behind the Reath Barn at the Lowell Fairgrounds. Lodge recreational hall will benefit a West Michigan spina bifida support group.

A "Chuck Wagon Roundup" is planned to raise money

to preserve farmland in Grattan Township. Liz Baker, executive director of the Lowell Area

Chamber of Commerce, was surprised to see a sizeable crowd of people standing next to the showboat Monday evening, waiting to give her a thank-you party for her work promoting Lowell.

Art Attack, which took place Saturday, Aug. 20 at the Lowell Area Arts Council, was an even bigger hit than usual this year.

September '05

SEPTEMBER 7

As consumers in Lowell watched unleaded gas prices go as high as \$3.49 per gallon at local stations last week, Lowell Area Schools and local businesses also struggled with higher fuel costs.

Last week, people in Lowell were looking for ways to help the millions left homeless after Hurricane Katrina pounded the gulf-coast states. A group of youngsters set up a lemonade stand on Elm Street, and a Lowell truck driver is headed south with a semi trailer of supplies.

Gordon Marshall, who died Aug. 29 of lung cancer at the age of 63, left his mark on Lowell and especially on this town's veterans.

More than 93,000 people visited the Englehardt Library in 2004, checking out more than 130,000 items; and the staff answered almost 30,000 information requests.

A young Alto martial artist, Mariah Moore, organized benefit karate exhibition at the Alto Fall Festival to help

eight-year old cancer patient Anna Organek. The reigning pie and watermelon eating champion of

Alto is looking for some challengers at this year's Alto Fall

Festival.

SEPTEMBER 14

Since Aug. 15, Steve Mueller--he goes by "Ranger Steve"--has been settling into the biggest classroom in the Lowell school district as director of the Wittenbach-Wege Agriscience and Environmental Center.

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

while superintendent Shari Miller undergoes seven weeks of cancer treatment. At its Tuesday night meeting, the Lowell City Council

Lowell Area Schools will hire an interim superintendent

by setting a \$50 fee for a person or developer to obtain a

gave approval for a permit for working under its roadways

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

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

Energy was a big topic at Monday night's school board meeting, with the board hearing news of electricity savings in the school buildings and high gas prices impacting the district's bus fleet

It started with pancakes, ended with bluegrass music, and in between there was a man breathing fire. The 25th annual Alto Fall Festival took place Saturday in that small village at the northern border of Bowne Township.

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

SEPTEMBER 21

For Friday evening, all of Saturday, and Sunday morning, change of scenery when the route through Lowell is moved a total of 11 bands were playing bluegrass music on a stage

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

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.



This message adorned the marquee on Larkin's Other Place last Thursday and Friday in honor of Veterans Day and the 230th birthday of the U.S. Marine Corps.

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, but participants fell short

Mrs. Latva

Cherry Creek Elementary

David Durkee, O.D. F.A.A.O.

Heidi Gordon, O.D.

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.

from Waste Management to Allied Waste Industries.

The Lowell Planning Commission has pushed back its starting date on reviewing and updating the city's master

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The fire that damaged an abandoned one-room school house in Grattan Township Friday was intentionally set, local fire officials said.

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Lowell's Main Street will be brighter at night after the installation of new bulbs in all 163 old-time looking downtown streetlights.



of an at some or assemble as and to an a very

OCTOBER 12

Lowell was in full autumn mode this weekend for the annual Harvest Celebration put on by the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce.

Lowell Area Schools bus drivers will get a 1.1 percent wage increase this year.

Vergennes Township Hall and three residences in the township were broken into last Thursday night.

A 1984 Lowell fire truck, no longer useable, will be

shipped off to the Dominican Republic.

The Lowell Chamber of Commerce presented its first draft of proposed fees for renting the Lowell Showboat at the city council's meeting last week.

68 runners and walkers Saturday morning for the inaugural Harvest Hustle 5-K race.

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Mold at Lowell Middle School was once again a topic at the Lowell Area Schools board of education meeting as three parents informed the board that their children had to be removed from the school on doctor's orders.

OCTOBER 19

Long-distance swimmer Jim Dreyer, who made history this August by becoming the first person to swim across Lake Superior, spoke to the Lowell Rotary Club last Wednesday.

An outstanding bill of almost \$9,000 has put a stop on the city discussing the rental space of its tower with a Alden Nash Ave. wireless internet provider.

Army National Guard Pvt. Zachary Sherman has graduated from basic combat military training at Fort Sill, Lawton, Okla. Sherman is the son of Marilyn Benjamin of Lowell.

There is not a lot going on in Elmdale these days. It's one of several "ghost towns" that are the topic of an upcoming Brian Childs of Lowell. Lowell Area Historical Museum presentation.

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Tyler Prill Mr. Fillman

1001 Foreman

METRIC MANUFACTURING CO.

Murray Lake Elementary

Lowell

OCTOBER 26

A man drew a firearm during what police believe was drug-related altercation two weeks ago outside a local restaurant.

The Michigan Boundary Commission voted last Thursday to deny a petition by a developer to annex 177 acres of Vergennes Township to the city of Lowell.

The "Dinner With Friends" fundraiser for the Lowell Area Schools Education Foundation is coming up.

00000

A condominium project and a proposed ordinance on canopies and awnings capped a light agenda for the Lowell Planning Commission at its regular meeting Monday night.

Army Pvt. Michael D. Plummer has graduated from One Station Unit Training at Fort Knox, Ky. Plummer, a Some of the season's first cool temperatures greeted 2003 Lowell High School graduate, is the son of Timothy Plummer of Brownstown and Shirley Van Haren of Clarksville.

November '05

NOVEMBER 2

The Lowell Area Historical Museum hosted a reception last Thursday to open its "Childhood Dreams: Toys of the Past" exhibit, which is now on display in the changing exhibits area of the museum.

East Fulton St. near its intersection with Bowes Road and Thursday.

Lowell's sidewalks and shops were filled with women last Thursday for the "Ladies' Night Out" shopping event. 00000

Marine Corps Pvt. Steven M. Childs has completed 12 weeks of basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, Calif., designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally. Childs is the son of Maria and



superintendent breast cancer. 11-9-05

Shari Miller lost her battle with

The right kinds of exercise have been making a big difference for a growing group of seniors in Lowell, who exercise several times a week in Lowell Senior Center program that is growing in popularity.

NOVEMBER 9

A host of houses throughout the Lowell area along with some businesses will be filled with crafts for sale for the ever-popular "Christmas Through Lowell" event.

The bleachers at the former Showboat Amphitheater were vandalized.

Lowell Area Schools lost its committed leader over the weekend as superintendent Shari Miller lost her battle with breast cancer at about 1 p.m. Sunday. She was 55 years old.

Lowell City Council will give a local wireless company 30 days to settle its debt with the city and establish a new lease agreement ... otherwise the city will have its equipment removed for its tower.

Hunters in Lowell are gearing up for another gun deer season. The season opens Tuesday in Michigan.

NOVEMBER 16

There is no change in the ranks of the Lowell city council after last Tuesday's election.

A complicated case with a lot of ins and outs led Four vehicles were involved in an accident Friday on to a small-scale manhunt on the west end of town last

A chimney fire at a house on Maple Run off Cascade Road in Lowell Township Sunday evening caused damage but no injuries.

A fatal accident occurred Tuesday morning at the intersection of Lincoln Lake Avenue and Bailey Drive.

With Lowell's new waste hauler, trash, yard waste and recycling will now be picked up on the same day. That day is Thursday.

Cement mixers and excavators are presently a frequent sight in Lowell Township as commercial development occurs there.

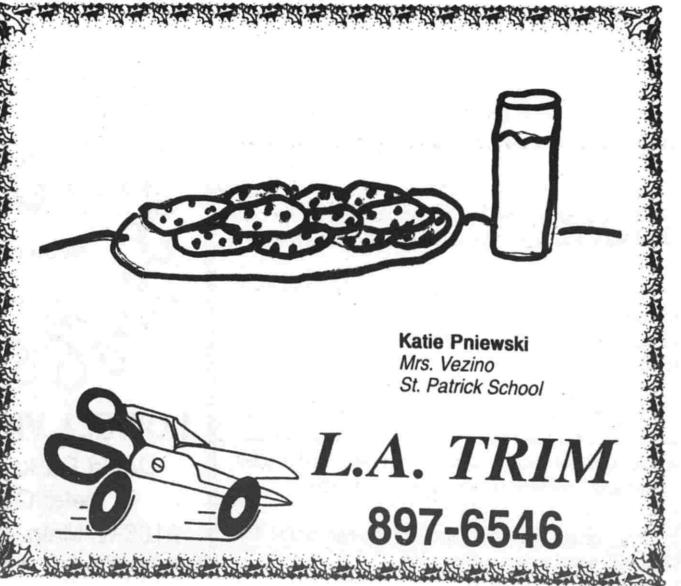
The Lowell Area Schools Board of Education agreed to seek bids for a firm to assess whether Lowell Middle School's heating, ventilation and air conditioning system may be creating a mold problem at the school.

A special celebration in honor of the life of the late Lowell Area Schools' superintendent Shari Miller was held last Wednesday in the Lowell Performing Arts Center.

NOVEMBER 23

New software at Lowell Area Schools has unified the library collections and created a big electronic catalog.

Arrest warrants were being sought Monday for two suspects after a drug bust last week found small amounts of marijuana, cocaine and drug paraphernalia at a house in



There is an exhibit at City Hall about the history of the

Christmas and country music were wafting through

the air last weekend during Christmas Through Lowell.

Candles were sniffed, ornaments were examined, recipes

Board approved a resolution pledging growth-planning

cooperation with the city of Lowell and Lowell Charter

A local builder will have to put sidewalk along the

The Lowell High School crew team received the

NOVEMBER 30

A fundraiser with music to benefit the Lowell Schools

Lowell police are looking for a man who killed a deer

within city limits on the land between Stoney Lakeside Park

00000

all have something in common. All feature a performance

of "The Man Who Came to Supper" by the Lowell High

School drama department in the Lowell Performing Arts

December '05

DECEMBER 7

It was another good start to the Christmas season

The time on both faces of the City Hall clock tower has

Schneider Manor is a popular living option for seniors

in Lowell with the annual Santa parade and associated

been wrong for the last few weeks.

The first three days of December, which start Thursday,

Orchestra Program will be held Friday night, Dec. 9, in the

Lowell Performing Arts Center.

and the Grand River.

Center.

activities.

in Lowell.

blessing of Lowell City Council to move its operation to

Rec Park, but was told it still needed to follow procedure.

properties he owns on North Jefferson street. That was the

milling industry in Lowell.

were handed out.

Township.

meeting.

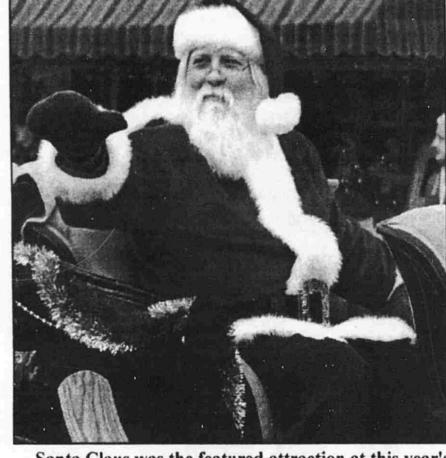
The closest a city bus comes to Lowell right now is at the corner of 36th Street and Kraft Ave., which is at the western end of Cascade Township. But some people would like to change that.

Army Reserve Sgt. Jason A. Stoutjesdyk was honored at a special Welcome Home Warrior-Citizen Award ceremony in recognition of the soldier's personal sacrifice, At its regular meeting Monday, the Vergennes Township exceptional duty performance, and honorable service in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. Stoutjesdyk is the son in Grand Rapids. of Jim Stoutjesdyk and Susan L. Lewis, both of Lowell.

DECEMBER 14

Trees are being removed along Bowes Road this week find a new superintendent. decision by the Lowell City Council at its Monday night to make way for new power lines.

Marines injured in Iraq last week.



Santa Claus was the featured attraction at this year's annual Lowell Santa Parade. 12-7-05

A car was driven into the Flat River just north of the Showboat in the early hours of Tuesday morning.

Businesses were given a 30-day reprieve to find other internet providers after the city forced a local provider to shut down for unpaid back rent for use of a city-owned

Lowell Area Schools received a good report from its auditing firm, Monday.

Lowell resident Jean Carlson has made a dozen quilts which she plans to donate to the Ronald McDonald House

DECEMBER 21

Lowell Area Schools has begun a candidate search to

A request by a for-profit business to use the city council Lance Cpl. David Stephens of Lowell was among the chambers has the Lowell City Council looking at drawing up a policy on renting city facilities.

The Lowell Charter Township board made appointments to planning commission and zoning board of appeals seats at its Monday meeting. The board also discussed a proposal to expand the Look Memorial Fire Station to make more room for ambulances.

Lowell will celebrate its 175th anniversary next year. The Lowell Area Historical Museum is marking the occasion with a pictorial history book.

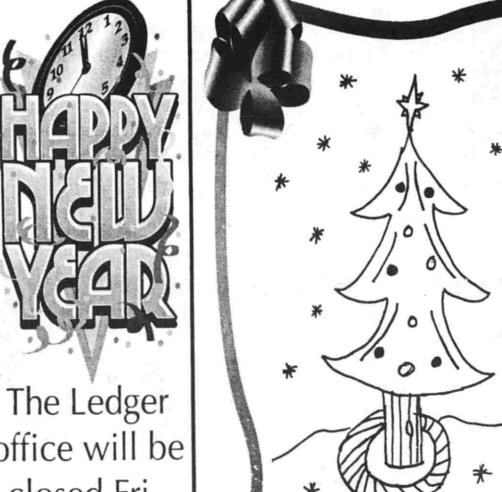
Students at Lowell Area Schools kept busy before winter break with a number of community service projects.



From all of us at The Lowell Ledger

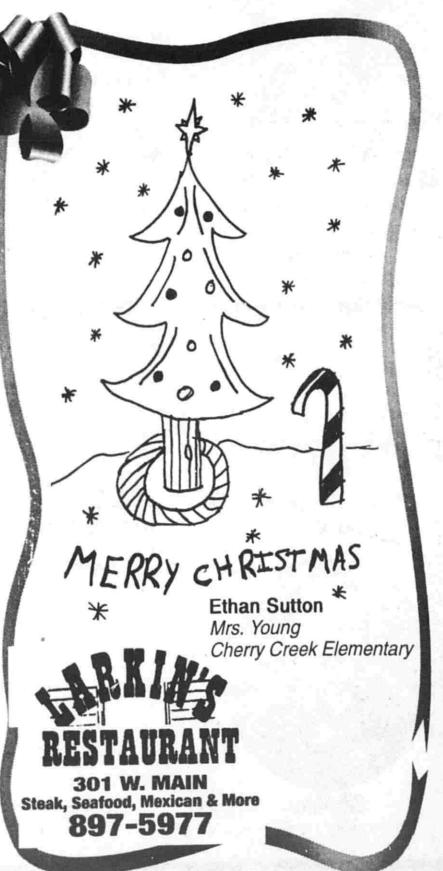


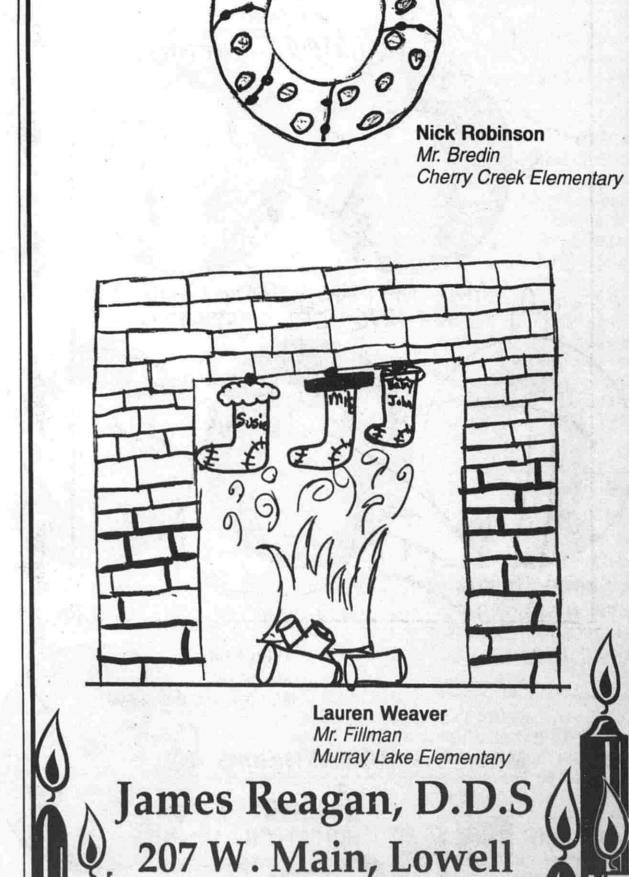
*** Now there are more overweight people in America than average-weight people. So overweight people are now average. Which means you've met your New Year's resolution.



office will be closed Fri., Dec. 30 The office will reopen Mon., Jan. 2 at 8 a.m.

Have A Safe Holiday!





Ph. 897-7179

"Almost" Anything

Goes Column

I say happy holidays all the time. Happy Holidays is a way of saying Merry Christmas & Happy New Year. Besides not everyone celebrates Christmas - ever think of that?

The people of Schneider Manor greatly appreciated the carolers! Thank you Lowell Ledger for putting "Merry Christmas"

All the people who came to sing at Laurels of Kent were wonderful.

I really enjoyed the parade. Everyone have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. How lucky we are to have our own homegrown Santa! Visiting Santa on the Showboat

Mr. Showboat has done it again spending endless hours to provide seasonal cheer atop the boat. Many thanks to you, Ivan.

was the best experience I've had with my children.

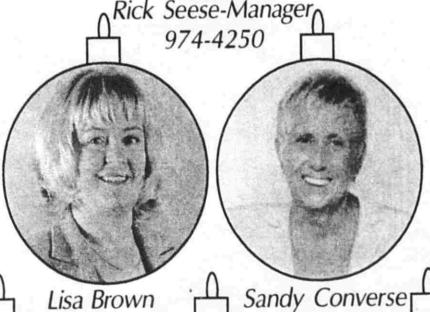
on the front of the paper.

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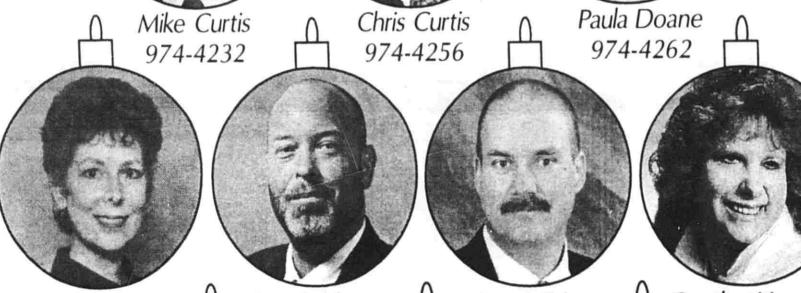
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WE Wish You A Wonderful Holiday A Very Happy New Year!









974-4292



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974-4230

Joyce Thuston 974-4280



James White

974-4260



974-4278



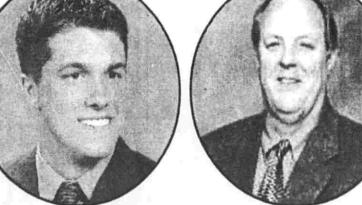
974-4210

974-4228

Siggi Winsor Ann Wittenbach 974-4222

974-4204





Ryan Wittenbach 974-4216

Bill Yates 974-4274

FOR SALE

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

FOR SALE - 1997 Chevy Tahoe LT, 4x4, leather interior, excellent condition, runs good, \$5,200, call 897-9444.

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

FORD BRONCO - 1989 XLT. full size, 302, auto., runs great, drives good, needs 4x4 switch. \$850 or trade for boat. 284-7840.

TRACTOR - with snow thrower, weights, chains, 48" mower deck & wagon. \$1,400 obo. Call 897-1554.

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

TRAILER - New 10 foot driveon/drive-off with gullwing cover; salesman's demo. \$2,975. Call 1-616-299-

BED & MATTRESS SET Queen pillowtop (new, in plastic), never used, comes with warranty, \$125. Call 517-719-8062.

FOR SALE - Lowell 3 uni apartment building, (1) studio & (2) two-bedroom apartments. Newer roof, boiler & zoned corner lot, close to expressway. Serious inquiries only call 897-8067.

\$175 CHERRY SLEIGH BED Queen w/pillowtop mattress set (never used), \$175. Call 517-719-8062.

SET OF FOUR USED TIRES Discover H/T LT265/75R16, \$80; Beseler 23CII enlarger \$100: Unicolor Dichroic enlarger \$80; all obo. Call 897-

MEMORY FOAM MAT-TRESS - Developed by NASA. Relieves back pain. Never used. 1 queen, \$700; 1 king, \$900. 682-4767 or 293-6160. Can deliver.

FOR SALE - Home gym, 464 lbs. of cast iron; 5 bars & 4 benches, \$150. Call 443-8446 or 897-7221.

FOR SALE - Motor and parts for Ford F150. 1992 to 1996 4x4, runs great. Call 616-642-6548.

Barbies, boxes never opened, including Holiday Barbies. Original purchase price \$20-\$400, \$2,200 for full collection, will sell individually. Call 616-897-9444 for more details.

firmness for each of you. Great for couples of different sizes. Fully adjustable/ Queen, \$695, King, \$895. 682-4767 or 293-6160.

and one jack. We don't need mobilehomes.com. any more! A bargain at \$400 he's big enough to breed horses. Call 868-0375 and

FOR SALE

Possible Land Contract. Ph. Travis at 616-292-6826 or Ron at 616-527-4418.

CLUB PREFERRED PLAY ERS PASS - Pass includes: BUYERS GUIDE OFFICE OR contact Jay at 897-1355.

HOLIDAY DEADLINE FOR THE LOWELL LEDGER . Early Holiday deadline for at 5 p.m. All early copy would be appreciated. The office and will reopen Mon., Jan. 2 at 8 a.m. Have a Safe Holiday Weekend.

299-7903.

6 year old for sale. Proven 1 - 8 0 0 - 8 8 9 - 5 7 7 6.

SOUND OFF PHONE LINE

brand all new, special purchase, while supply lasts. Twins, \$70, Full, \$80, Queen \$95 & up. 682-4767 or 293-6160, Can deliver.

NEW EXECUTIVE STYLE HOME FOR SALE - Beautiful 3-4 bedroom w/master suite & 2.5 bath, 3 decks to very nice private backyard. This is a 2-story home w/an open floor plan & a bonus room above your garage. Interior of this house is a must see & sits on 1 acre of very nice land between Grand Rapids & Lansing, very close to expressway, blacktop road & choice of Lowell or Saranac schools.

2006 DEER RUN GOLF 4 free greens fees; 4 free weekday greens fees (BOGO), 4 free weekend greens fees (BOGO), 5 free buckets of range balls (BOGO) & \$10 off Pro Shop merchandise. A \$625 value - all for only \$50. Great Gift Idea! AVAILABLE AT THE

the Jan. 4 edition of the Lowell Ledger is Thurs., Dec. 29 will be closed Fri., Dec. 30

TRAILER - New 10 foot tilt with cover; salesman's demo. \$1,975. Call 1-616-

1999 MERHOW - Very light all aluminum, 3 horse slant, extra tall, Gooseneck horse trailer with ramp. Has deluxe weekender living/dressing by Sierra Conversions, factory updated in 2003. In beautiful/new condition, \$16,499. Only 4 minutes from fairgrounds. Call 616-

CHEVY 2000 LS, 2500 HD crew cab, short box, 7.4 L V8, 4x4, black/grey leather tow pkg., spray liner, every option & many extras. Sharp truck! 101,000 miles, wel maintained. \$13,499 obo Call 616-885-2025.

NEW HOME FOR SALE BY OWNER - This newly built home is nearly 2,000 sq. ft. and features 3 large bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, walkin closets, 9' ceilings on main floor, jacuzzi tub, fireplace and 2 stall garage. Black top road between Grand Rapids and Lansing. This home is not quite finished. You can finish and save thousands of dollars or I will finish. Lowell or Saranac schools. Land contract possible. 616-527-4418 or 616-291-1413.

nancing available, 3,4, 5 bedrooms, Preferred Mobile Greenville & US131. Mon. stud, he's fathered 5 jennets www.preferred

The Lowell Ledger

TO PLACE AN AD

In Person: 105 N. Broadway, Lowell By Mail: PO BOX 128, Lowell, MI 49331

By Phone: 616-897-9261 By Fax: 616-897-4809

By Email: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com **DEADLINE MONDAY AT 5 PM**

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturday & Sunday

Classified ad rates: 15 words...\$2 each additional word 10¢ Bold or Box \$1 each



Thank You for a Great 2005 - we look forward to 2006!

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FOR RENT

in (includes 1st month's rent trailers \$800 - \$840 to move & deposit). 2 bedrooms, 2 in; \$400 - \$420 per mo. plus baths. Garage, vaulted ceil- 1 mo. rent deposit. No dogs ings, washer/dryer connec- please. Call 813-8041 or

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LOWELL FOR RENT - 2 br LOWELL FOR RENT - 1 br / 1 bath apt. Storage, trash, water & sewer incl. W/D hookup, \$550/mo. Sec. de-Sec. deposit \$300. No smok- posit \$300, no smoking, no

HELP WANTED

The Lowell Ledger - Wednesday, December 28, 2005 - Page 27

paced mfg data entry but kinds of service work. Call has a keen ability to understand production systems Work is very challenging & accuracy is vital. Other duties include general accounting, typing & filing. Wages based on experience. Comprehensive benefit package. Send resume to: Michigan Wire Processing, Human Resources, PO

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CARD OF THANKS

THANK YOU to all my friends & neighbors for all the cards, phone calls & concerns since my surgery & returning home. Also a big thank you to our dear family for all the food, help & support.

> Blessings to all Virginia Anderson

WANTED

WANTED MOTORCYCLES - cash paid for road bikes, running or not, 446-8352.

WRECKED & NON RUNany scrap. Cash paid. 616-292-2870.

ROOMMATE WANTED newer home, private bath, living area. Share kitchen & laundry room. \$375 per month, includes heat & utilities. Call 897-6766 after 6

BABYSITTING WANTED - 15 yr. old girl looking to babysit your children, good with multiple children, first aid trained. I have references. Call Sami at 897-

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LONELY, HOMETOWN GUY TEMPORARILY DIS-PLACED - Pen-pals wanted! Will send pictures! Steven James Osborne 10852040, PO Box 8000, Bradford, PA 16701-0980.

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> EFITS BEEN DENIED? - For tance or free representation in your area, call anytime Member B.B.B., call 1-800-305-2899.

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EXPERIENCED TEEN AGED BABYSITTER - available for your little ones. Please call 897-0794 and ask for Jessica.

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- Dual Color Displays
- Voice Dialing

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Samsung 570 Free

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With a **NEW** 2 year agreement. While supplies last. Terms apply. TXT messages 10¢/ send & 10¢/ receive; in National Enhanced Services Coverage Area only; coverage limitations & maps at werizonwireless.com. Rebate takes 8-10 weeks. Offer expires 1/16/06.



Lowell – 11635 E. Fulton Street, located next to Curves 616-897-6849



*Our surcharges (incl. 2.29% Federal Universal Service (varies quarterly), 5¢ Regulatory & 40¢ Administrative/line/mo., & others by area) are not taxes (details 1-888-684-1888); gov't taxes and our surcharges could add 6% to 35% to your bill. Activation fee: \$35 (25\$ for secondary Family SharePlan lines with 2-yr Agreements.

IMPORTANT CONSUMER INFORMATION: Subject to Customer Agreement, Calling Plan, Get It Now Agreements, rebate form & credit approval. \$175 termination fee, 45¢/min after allowance, other charges & restrictions. Usage rounded to next

full minute. Offers not available everywhere. America's Choice Coverage Area covers 291 million people. Network details, coverage limitations & maps at verizonwireless.com. Nights 9:01 pm - 5:59am M-F. Rebate takes 8-10weeks. Limited time offer. ©2005 Verizon Wireless