

# The Lowell Ledger

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Wednesday, April 19, 2006

## Three candidates on the ballot in May for school board seats

By Dan Schneider

Voters in the Lowell Area Schools district will have the opportunity to elect two school board members to four-year terms on May 2.

There are three candidates vying for the positions in this year's election. Two are incumbents. As in last year's election, school board voting will take place at the same polling locations as general elections.

The candidates have widely varying experience and backgrounds. A desire to continue academic improvement in the district

seems to be the common thread among them.

Incumbent Peter Haefner is in his fourth year on the Lowell school board. He is running in this year's election for much the same reason he ran the first time in 2002.

"Part of my personal goals or commitment is to participate in the community and I thought my experience would help the district," Haefner said. "I think I can provide some meaningful input into the process and that's why I continue to run.

"I also do it because I have three kids in the district and I want them to have a good district to go to school

in so it's a little bit selfish, too."

The experience he is talking about is his experience as a CPA. He has



Todd Smithee

worked for the Raymond Group for eight years and is currently a senior manager

in the company's accounting division.

Haefner has also worked in a financial capacity for the state of Wyoming and the

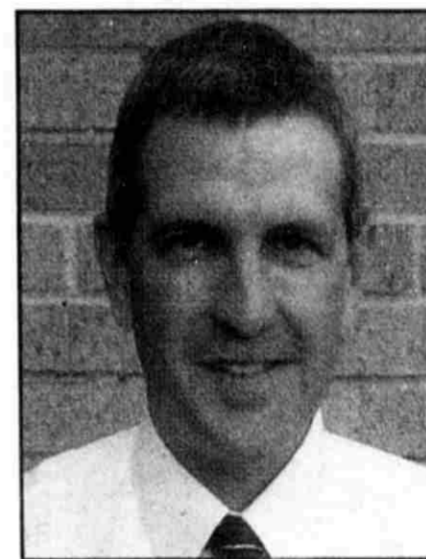


Pat Nugent

city of Muskegon. He works with schools on a regular basis in his current job.

"I audit a number of schools and intermediate school districts," Haefner said.

He said he learned a



Peter Haefner

lot, especially in his first two years on the board, and continues to become more

familiar with aspects of the district's management beyond its ledger sheets.

"I can do a lot when it's fiscally-oriented and I've learned a lot about curriculum and those areas that I was weak in when I initially ran," Haefner said.

His experiences with auditing school districts have exposed him to a lot of ideas, as well.

"Generally, when you audit them, you learn about more than just their numbers," he said.

The biggest challenges facing the district, he

*Candidates, cont'd., pg. 13*



A mosaic mural wall by Unity High School students is a recent addition to the aesthetic environment of the Riverwalk Plaza. Framed by the opening in the wall is the Lowell Showboat, which has been a fixture of the Lowell riverfront for more than 70 years.

## A decade later ... Various initiatives may give Lowell's Riverwalk Plaza new look

By Dan Schneider

Lowell's Riverwalk Plaza will be 10 years old this year.

Prior to 1996, the riverfront promenade was a one-way stretch of Lafayette Street. Now it is the site of numerous summer activities, including the July Riverwalk Festival; summer home for a growing population of ducks; and a general spot for citizens of Lowell to pass leisure time, with or without a fishing line.

A decade after its reconstruction from 1996 to 1997, Lowell's Riverwalk Plaza may be on the verge of another revival. A few projects in their early stages of development could result in a new look for the Riverwalk over the next few years.

First among these will likely be the removal of the electrical substation between the Englehardt Library and the boat launch. That will be one of the end results of Lowell Light and Power's ongoing rerouting of the city's power grid to its new substation on Bowes Road.

"As soon as all circuits are tied into the new substation, all the smaller

neighborhood substations will be dismantled," said Lowell Light and Power general manager Tom Richards.

The time frame is contingent on a number of factors related to the rerouting project. Richards said the earliest it would get started would be next summer.

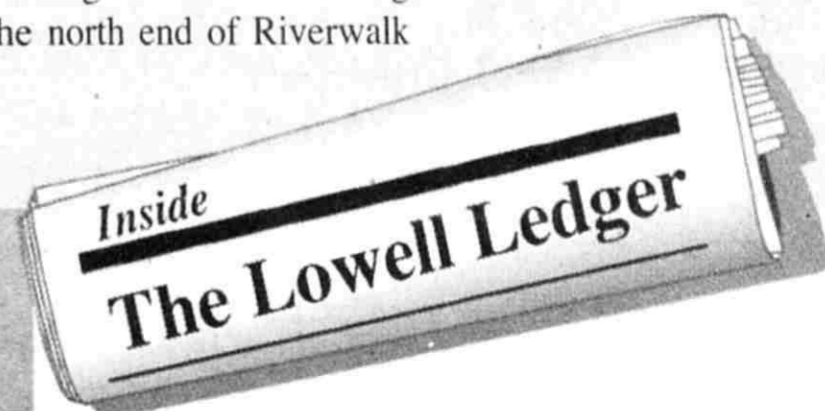
Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce executive director Liz Baker said removal of the substation would be a key aesthetic improvement to the Riverwalk. It would open the area up visually, providing a sight line from Main Street to the north end of Riverwalk Plaza. The problem is there is currently nothing to look at along the north end of Riverwalk

Plaza except the derelict Showboat amphitheater.

"One of the things that we need to consider, and it's something we've talked about till we're blue in the face, is that amphitheater," Baker said. "The Riverwalk really doesn't go anywhere, it just dead ends into nothing."

Lowell Area Schools currently owns the amphitheater property. The Downtown Development Authority has talked about pursuing the purchase of the amphitheater, but it will likely be some time before any changes are made to the property.

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



*Ballot Extras and*

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# Obituaries

## BOES

Barbara Boes, aged 61, of Coral, passed away April 8, 2006 at her residence. She was born April 3, 1945, the daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Daam) Baker. Barbara loved spending time with her family, enjoyed music and traveling with her husband. She was a member of the Emmanuel Baptist Church in Coral. In 1963 she married Egbert (Bert) Boes who survives. Also surviving are two sons Daniel (Carolynn) of Coral, David (Kathy) of Rockford; two daughters Valerie (Kevin) Gates of Trufant, Tracy (Michael) Morden of Howard City; 19 grandchildren; two brothers Peter Baker of Caledonia, Gerald Baker of Dutton; three sisters Marie Eldridge of Bitley, Betty Smith of Lowell, Elaine Smith of Saranac; several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and a granddaughter Angela Morden. Funeral services were held on Tuesday at First Baptist Church in Cedar Springs with pastors Bert Boes, Fred Carlson and Charles Reed officiating with burial in the Coral Cemetery. Memorials to Emmanuel Baptist Church of Coral.

## DE YOUNG

Mr. John DeYoung, aged 79, went home to be with his Lord and Saviour on Wednesday, April 12, 2006. He grew up on the family farm in the Knapp and Leonard Street area. After he returned from the service in the US Navy, he married Myrna, a friend of his sister. For 10 years he worked for Kelvinator and then began working as a precision grinder for Blackmer Pump, retiring after 35 years. Mr. DeYoung attended Knapp Reformed Church. After retiring, John and Myrna loved traveling out west and to the east coast. John loved being with his family. Gardening, hunting and fishing were leisure activities he really enjoyed. John is survived by his wife Myrna whom he married on June 4, 1948; children Sue and Jim Groters of Gaylord; daughter-in-law Mrs. Connie DeYoung of Anchorage, Alaska; grandchildren Christine (Michael) Thomsen, Joni DeYoung, Amy Groters and fiance Dan Jenkins, Rebecca (Nicholas) Nowak, Kathryn (Adam) Zimenski, Andrew Groters, Naomi (Phillip) Mann, Emily DeYoung, Pamela (David) Michaud; nine great-grandchildren;

brother and sisters Neil and Louise DeYoung of Lowell, Ted and Gladys DeYoung of Grand Rapids, Mrs. Marian Russ of Gowen, Darlene and Roger Willett of Rockford; many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by sons Jeffery and John. The Service of Praise and Thanksgiving for the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ was Saturday, April 15 at Knapp Reformed Church with Pastor Allen Pickett officiating. Interment in Plainfield Twp. Cemetery. Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider the American Red Cross for Katrina Relief, 1050 Fuller Ave., NE, Grand Rapids 49503 or the American Cancer Society.

## GRIEVES

Philip V. Grievies, aged 92, of Lowell, passed away April 15, 2006 in Belding. He was born April 27, 1913 in Easton Twp., the son of Ralph and Ivy (Hunter) Grievies. Philip married Bertha Weesner Dec. 13, 1940. He graduated from Saranac VFW and Farm Union. Philip is survived by his loving wife of 66 years, Bertha Grievies of Lowell; children Ann and Dennis Meyers of Florida, Greg and Vickie Grievies of Saranac, Clifford and Sonja Grievies of Zealand, Helen and John Sterzick of Lowell, Jeff and Liz Grievies of Pennsylvania, Cheryl and Jack Wustman of

Saranac; 18 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by one grandson Kenyon Hill, one granddaughter Kylie Grievies; two brothers Keith, Bryce; two sisters Helen, Marian. Funeral services will be held Thursday at 11 a.m. at Lake Funeral Home, Saranac, with Mr. Jack Wustman officiating. Visitation: 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. at the funeral home. Anyone wishing may make a memorial contribution to Hospice of Michigan.

## HOOVER

Gerald E. Hoover, lifelong Lowell farmer and member of St. Mary's Parish, passed away April 15, 2006. Gerald was preceded in death by his parents John and Elizabeth Hoover, brothers and sisters-in-law George, Ollie (Marion), Henry (Millie), Andy (Dorthea), Ernest and Leo (Maxine) and brother-in-law Donald Powers. He is survived by his sister Catherine Powers of Jackson; two brothers Mike (Pauline) of Jacksonville, FL, Jake (Peg) of Lowell; close nephews Jake (Sharon) Hoover of Grandville, Vincent (Lucy) Hoover of Ada, Matt (Kathy) Hoover; niece Judy Hoover (Doug) Brown; sister-in-law Beatrice Hoover of Lowell; many nieces and nephews. Mass of Christian Burial will be offered Wednesday at 11 a.m. at St. Mary Church, Rev. George J. Fekete, presiding. Visitation Tuesday 7-9 p.m. at the Roth-Gerst Funeral

Home, 305 N. Hudson, and Wednesday 10-11 a.m. at church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Mary Church, 402 Amity St., Lowell, MI 49331.

## RUESINK

Alice Mae Ruesink, aged 90, of Lowell, passed away April 13, 2006. She was preceded in death by her husband Evert and son Robert. Mrs. Ruesink is survived by her daughter Betty (Randy) DeWaard of Lowell; daughter-in-law Mary Ruesink of Middleville; brother Donald (Janet) VanHess of OR; sisters Nell (Orville) Nelson, Gladys Buren both of OR; five grandchildren Dave (Linda) Ruesink, Randy (Kathi) Ruesink, Kris (Randy) Bazan, Chad (Kim) DeWaard, Sara (Justin) Fazio; 10 great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law Nellie Ruesink of SD, Gertrude Smits of Wyoming, MI. Funeral service was held April 17 at Calvary Christian Reformed Church of Lowell, Rev. Randy Meyers officiating. Interment Merriman Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Holland Home, 2100 Raybrook SE, Grand Rapids, Mich.

## SOBIE

Mrs. Catherine M. Sobie, aged 78, passed away on Sunday, April 9, 2006. She was a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Parnell. Mr. and Mrs. Sobie owned Sobie's Plumbing, Heating

and Electric, and Mrs. Sobie was the "gofer" for parts for her husband. She was a good cook and a hard worker and liked to give tender care to her flowers. She is survived by her children Loraine Driy of Walker, Wayne and Barbara Sobie of Rockford, Angela and Pete Ledesma of Grand Rapids, Irene and John Flick of Greenville, Rose and Randy Boehnlein of Belmont, Mary Waskelis of Sand Lake and Monica and Jeff Benison of Florida; 12 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; brothers and sisters Mrs. Wilma Arendsen of Rockford, Morris "Barney" and Marge Geldersma of Grattan, Russell and Lillian Geldersma of Lowell, Corrine and William Weeks of Comstock Park, Don and Ruth VanDyke of Grandville; in-laws Mrs. Maryann Geldersma, Mrs. Doris Geldersma, Mary and Luke Crowley, Mrs. Marge Pike, Mrs. Kathleen Sobie, Roman Sobie, Paul and Carol Sobie; many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband Edmund Sobie, son Joseph Sobie, granddaughter Kelly Driy; brothers and sister Cornelius Geldersma, William Geldersma, Henry Geldersma, Jim Geldersma, Jake Geldersma, Louis Geldersma, Charlotte "Lottie" Johnson, Pete Geldersma. The Mass of Christian Burial was offered on Wednesday at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Parnell, with the Rev. Rock J. Badgerow, presiding. Interment in St. Patrick Cemetery.

## Annual Crop Walk slated for next month

The Lowell CROP Walk will be held Sunday, May 7, at First United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main.

There are two routes: The 6.2 mile walk will begin and end at the church; a shorter 3.1 mile walk is also

offered. Both begin at 1:30 p.m. The Lowell CROP Walk has set a goal of 150 to 200 walkers and hopes to raise at least \$32,000 to help stop hunger in our community and throughout the world. A

portion of the funds raised from the Sunday walk will go to Flat River Outreach Ministries Food Pantry and Lowell Senior Neighbors. The local walk is one of over 2,000 interfaith

community CROP Walks taking place in the United States this year. Its theme is "I Make a Difference." For more information, contact the Methodist church at 897-5936.

## Book signing coincides with organ donation month

By Dan Schneider

April is national organ donor month.

This Saturday, Parichehr Yomtoob, the author of a book about liver organ transplantation and donation, will be in Lowell signing copies of her book. Titled *The Gift of Life 2: Surviving the Waiting List and Liver Transplantation*, it is about her son, David Yomtoob.

It is her second book on the subject. In 1986, she co-authored a book with Ted Schwartz. That was after David Yomtoob became one of the first successful liver transplant recipients in 1981. He was the first person with the hereditary Wilson's Disease to become a successful

liver transplant patient. Parichehr Yomtoob published the second book in 2005 after her son underwent a second liver transplant operation in 1998. She wrote it because so much had changed about the organ waiting list and the transplantation process in the 17 years since her son's first operation. For instance, there are now many more clinics where transplants can take place than when Yomtoob received his first liver transplant.

"The first one, Pittsburgh was the only place in the world that they were operating on children," she said. "Now, there are 250 cities where it is done."

She wrote the book to

help guide people, both donors and recipients, through the process and the issues they face along the way. The book signing will be from 1 to 5 p.m. at Country Hills Realty, 2345 Bowes Road. Forty percent of book sales will be donated to Flat River Outreach Ministries. Both Parichehr and David Yomtoob will be on hand to sign books.

David Yomtoob, owner of a computer service company in Lowell, took the second book published about him in stride.

"Moms do what moms do. It's not a big deal. Ever since I had the transplant I've been written about in medical papers and medical journals."

Mother and son hope the book will inspire more people to donate organs. Parichehr Yomtoob has given presentations across the country since its writing and

said awareness of the need for donated organs is in an unfortunate decline these days. "I've been in my meetings where the younger generation does not know what a shortage of organs there is," she said.

According to the latest statistics from the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network, there are more than 91,000 candidates on the waiting list for organs. People needing kidney donations are the largest group, numbering more than 66,000. Over 17,000 people are currently waiting for liver donations.

More information about becoming an organ donor is available from Gift of Life Michigan. The phone number for the Ann Arbor-based organization is 1-800-482-4881. The web site is www.tsm-giftoflife.org.



## In The Service

Air Force Senior Airman Rachael E. Plumley has graduated from Airman Leadership School at Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal.

The five-week course is designed to train senior airmen to understand their positions in the Air Force organizational structure, leadership, communications skills, and profession of arms.

The school is the first of three levels of professional military education programs used to develop and cultivate leadership and supervisory skills, and is required prior to being promoted to the rank of staff sergeant.

Plumley, a security forces apprentice with three years of military service, is assigned to the 65th Security

Forces Squadron. She is the daughter of Joel Plumley of Lowell and Anna Marie

## LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing to consider a rezoning request from LaVerne Smith and Randy Smith to rezone 21.7 acres of property located on Kissing Rock Avenue from AG-2, Rural Agricultural to R-1, Rural Low Density Residential. The property consists of two parcels located on the west side of Kissing Rock Avenue one quarter mile south of Grand River Avenue. The addresses are 2809 Kissing Rock (41-20-17-100-032) and 2899 Kissing Rock (41-20-18-200-017).

The hearing will be held as follows:

**WHEN:** MONDAY, MAY 8, 2006  
**TIME:** 7:00 P.M.  
**WHERE:** LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL  
2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE  
LOWELL, MI. 49331

The proposed rezoning request is available for review at the Lowell Charter Township Offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Lowell, MI. 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday or by calling 897-7600.

Tim Clements, Secretary  
Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission

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### LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 06-181,324-DE

Estate of BILLY ALLEN VANORDER, deceased Date of birth 02/20/1954

TO ALL CREDITORS: NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, BILLY ALLEN VANORDER, who lived at 1424 Sigsbee SE, Grand Rapids, MI, died 04/04/2006. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred

unless presented to Christina Martin, named personal representative, or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice. April 13, 2006

Deno P. Fotieo P-28355 146 Monroe Center St. NW Suite 1100 Grand Rapids, MI 49503 616-459-4279

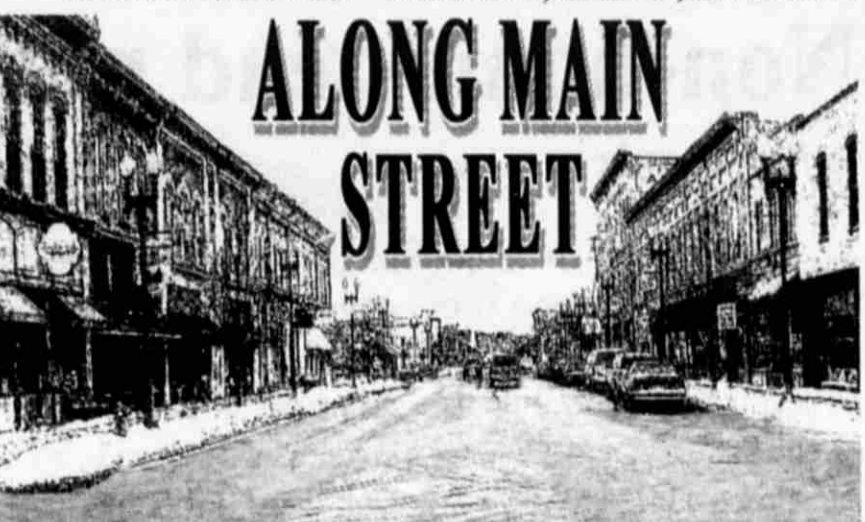
Christina Martin 569 Lovett Ave. Grand Rapids, MI

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BECAUSE OF WINN DIXIE (PG)  
**FIRST RUN MOVIES BARGAIN PRICES**  
O THE WILD (G) 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15  
O SCARY MOVIE 4 (PG-13) 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30  
O KALAMAZOO? (PG-13) 4:00, 9:50  
O THE BENCHWARMERS (PG-13) 1:20, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:20  
INSIDE MAN (R) 1:10, 7:10  
ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN (PG) 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00  
**COUPON**  
FREE 20oz DRINK  
with \$2.50 purchase of movie. See display program for details. Good at participating locations. Expires 5/31/06. \*18+

Join us in Historic Lowell for **Girls' Night Out**  
Thursday, April 27, 2006  
5 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
Lowell, Michigan  
Visit the following locations!  
Brenda's Hair Design - 1002 W Main St  
C.T.'S Scrapbook Central—1335 W Main St  
Chimera Design - 208 E Main St  
Collectors Corner - 218 W Main St  
Cousin's Hallmark/River Hollow - 223 W Main St  
Dream Pieces - 219 W. Main St  
Elle Boutique - 212 W Main St  
eja' Salon - 204 W Main Street  
Flat River Cottage - 117 W Main St  
Flat River Grill - 201 E Main St  
Hearthstone Design Studio - 218 E Main St  
Pep Talk - 207 E Main St  
Spins & Needles - 214 East Main St  
Springgrove Variety - 123 West Main St  
The Lily Pad Candle Shoppe - 220 W Main St  
Voyages Coffee Shop - 307B East Main St  
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**DONATIONS TO FROM**  
Non-perishable food items may be donated in barrels at local businesses. FROM Food Pantry will receive \$1 per item from the Feinstein Foundation during April.

**LARA OPEN HOUSE**  
The Lowell Area Recreation Authority will have an open house at the Wittenbach/Wege Center April 20 from 7-9 p.m. Mari, 897-5671. for info.

**TOTS WIGGLES/GIGGLES NIGHT**  
Bright Beginnings Gym, 300 High St., April 20, 6:30-7:30 p.m. \$1 per child Questions, call 987-2532.

**MICHIGAN CULINARY PROGRAM**  
Historians Larry and Priscilla Massie will present "Wood, Smoke and Elbow Grease". April 20, 7 p.m. at Lowell Twp. Hall. Public welcome to the free event.

**COMMUNITY GARDEN EXCHANGE**  
Share your plants Saturday, April 22 from 9-11 a.m. at First Baptist Church of Alto, 6015 Bancroft. Workshops, refreshments. 868-6403.

**HEAD START ENROLLING**  
Lowell Head Start is now enrolling children, birth - 4 years, at Bushnell Elementary, 700 Elizabeth St. Certain income guidelines must be met. Call 897-7920.

**MUSEUM WORKSHOP**  
"Plantation Life and the Underground Railroad" workshop, ages 8-13, Saturday, April 22, 9-2 p.m. at Wittenbach/Wege Center, 11715 Vergennes. Cost: \$15; registration is required. Call 897-7688, Lowell Area Historical Museum.

**COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
A community early childhood playground will be installed at 300 High St. on Saturday, April 22 from 8:30-5 p.m. Food and drinks available. Call Kathy at 987-2532 to volunteer.

**LHS BOARD CANDIDATE FORUM**  
Lowell Board of Education Candidate Forum will be Tuesday, April 25, 7-8:30 p.m. at Runciman Admin. Bldg., 300 High St.

**BATTLE OF THE BANDS**  
The Amateur Radio Group of Youth in Lowell (ARGYL) will sponsor a Battle of the Bands Tuesday, April 25 at 7 p.m. in LPAC at Lowell High School. Cost: \$5 at the door.

**OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE PROGRAM**  
Vergennes Twp. Open Space Committee presentation on "Groundwater: The Hidden Resource" by Dr. Alan Steinman, April 26, 7:30 p.m. at Vergennes United Methodist Church. Call Mari at 897-5671.

**BAG O' BOOKS SALE**  
Great used books will be for sale at bargain prices at Englehardt Library, Friday, April 28, from 9:30 a.m. - 7 p.m. \$3 a bag.

**TOTS ANNUAL SALE**  
Almost new sale at Bright Beginnings Gym, 300 High St., 9-noon on Saturday, April 29. Set-up 8-9 a.m. Free to participate. Call 987-2532 to reserve space.

**THE JOY OF ART**  
A reception for artist Irene Wordhouse will be held at the Franciscan Life Process Center on Saturday, April 29 from 1-3 p.m. The show runs through April. Call 897-7842 for more info.

**CROP WALK**  
The Lowell CROP Walk is Sunday, May 7 at First United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main at 1:30 p.m. For more information call 897-5936.

## Non-homestead millage up for renewal on May ballot

By Dan Schneider

When voters go to the polls May 2, selecting two school board candidates will be just one of several items on the ballot.

Proposal I and Proposal II both have to do with the non-homestead property

tax, which has to do with school financing. The first proposal renews the local millage on non-homestead property, which includes businesses, second homes and other property that is not a primary residence or qualified agricultural land. It

renews it at the current rate of 16.9751 mills, or about \$16.98 per \$1,000 of taxable property value.

"The second proposal is to reinstate the money we were rolled back due to the Headlee Amendment," Lowell Area Schools assistant superintendent for finance and personnel Connie Gillette said.

For the last three years, the Headlee Amendment, a 1978 amendment to the state constitution, has limited the amount of local tax

the school district could collect. Proposal II would add 1.0249 mills to the local non-homestead tax millage, which would make the district eligible to collect the full 18 mills allowed by state law.

"We've been out that extra money the last three years because we've been rolled back each of those three years," Gillette said.

During those years, the district has lost \$271,287 because of the amendment. While Proposal II would not

replace that lost revenue, it would maximize the revenue the district can collect from the local non-homestead millage.

The way education funding was restructured when Proposal A went into effect in 1995, local districts receive money as a per-pupil allocation. The bulk of this comes from the State School Aid Fund, which taxes all property at a rate of six mills. But part of it comes from the 18-mill local tax on non-

homestead property. When calculating its payments to local districts, the state assumes they are collecting the full 18 mills from non-homestead property, even if they are not collecting the full amount due to the Headlee rollback.

For the 2005-2006 school year, Lowell's student count made the district eligible for \$26,927,673 in total funds. The state assumed the district was getting

Millage, cont'd., pg. 8

## School board approves renaming football field

By Dan Schneider

Lowell's football and soccer teams will play on a field with a new name now that the Lowell Area Schools board of education has approved the recommendations of a facility naming committee.

At its Monday meeting, the board approved the recommendations to rename Red Arrow Stadium "Red Arrow Memorial Stadium." The field will be named Bob Perry Field. An honor wall will be constructed near the stadium entrance. The first name to be honored on it will be that of Kathy Talus.

Lowell High School student council president Brooke Liu announced that the student council will be sponsoring another "Alternative Spring Break" service trip next year to help people in the gulf coast region that was struck by Hurricane Katrina.

"And hopefully every year until it is cleaned up," Liu said.

A group of students talked to the school board about their experience on this year's alternative spring break trip to Pass Christian, Mississippi.

The board designated Tuesday, May 9 as "Teacher Appreciation Day" in the district.

"I hope this doesn't sound hollow and cliché, but every day is teacher appreciation day," said board vice president Mark

Lessens. "Even as old as I am, I still appreciate teachers I remember from when I was in school."

The board also approved a proposal for sixth- to ninth-grade science course outcomes.

The new middle school science curriculum will be spread over a longer period of time, allowing teachers more time for in-depth coverage of different topics. For example, students will get their introduction to sixth grade science in the second half of their fifth grade year. Environmental science and physical science will also move up a year, from ninth grade to eighth grade.

The curriculum utilizes a new textbook series. Rather than one enormous textbook, the texts from Holt Publishing break down the material into several smaller books. These can be changed from grade level to grade level as state and national grade level content expectations change.

The board had its first reading of a new district wellness policy. The policy, which according to federal law must be in place by July, codifies and expands upon several initiatives that are already going on in school. These are related to dining options in the school cafeteria, vending programs, physical education courses and opportunities for physical activity in the district's school buildings.

## HEALTH

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



### ADHD AND CHILDREN

Attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is the name of a group of behaviors found in many children and adults. People with ADHD have a pattern of inattention or hyperactivity, that is worse and more frequent than what is considered usual for their age. ADHD is not the result of brain damage, bad parenting or poor diet. It is caused by a lack of chemicals in the brain that are responsible for organized thought. It affects approximately 3 to 5 percent of school-age children, and is more common in boys than in girls.

Children with ADHD of the inattentive type have six or more of the following symptoms:

- Difficulty following instructions

- Difficulty keeping attention on work or play activities
- Loses things needed for activities at school or home.
- Appears not to listen
- Doesn't pay attention to details
- Seems disorganized
- Trouble with tasks that require planning ahead
- Forgets easily
- Easily distracted

Children with ADHD of the hyperactive type have six or more of the following symptoms:

- Fidgety
- Runs or climbs inappropriately
- Can't play quietly
- Blurts out answers
- Interrupts people
- Can't sit still
- Talks too much
- Always on the go
- Trouble waiting turn

ADHD is best managed with a team approach between parents, teachers and physicians. Medicine helps many children, and some may also benefit from counseling. See your health care provider if you have concerns about your child's behavior.

## Hildenbrand encouraging economic growth

State Rep. Dave Hildenbrand announced two House Republican proposals that will boost revenue sharing to keep communities safe and encourage economic growth throughout Michigan.

The first proposal would increase state revenue sharing payments to local governments by \$20 million, giving Michigan communities the opportunity to receive at least a two-percent increase of their current funding level. Revenue sharing funds assist

communities in funding essential services like police and fire protection.

"Revenue sharing is vital for communities when maintaining and providing public safety," said Hildenbrand, R-Lowell. "It is important that we provide our communities with the necessary resources so that these important public safety services can continue to operate effectively and efficiently. I look forward to working with the local officials who have the tremendous responsibility of

funding these vital services; together we can make this proposal a reality."

Hildenbrand is asking local government officials to join House Republicans in supporting this plan. He says if all interested parties come together with one concerted voice during the appropriations process, the proposal will have a stronger chance of being included in the upcoming budget.

The second proposal would provide incentives for businesses that wish to invest in redeveloping abandoned

properties here in Michigan. Currently, only a select group of communities, known as CORE communities, can take advantage of these resources. This proposed legislation would give every community in Michigan the opportunity to utilize these essential tools needed to create jobs.

Hildenbrand, who will be a key sponsor of this legislative package, says it is important to

Hildenbrand, cont'd., pg. 18

# Viewpoint



I touched on my iPod addiction last week. This dependency has developed over the past year or so when out for my morning walk. I actually adjust my schedule to avoid walking with any of the neighbor ladies. I'd rather listen to music than local gossip. I'm guessing a shrink would say that avoiding human contact is a problem. That's why my daughter calls me Ted Kaczynski. Not for his bomb making skills, but for my reclusive tendencies.

I bring up my iPod only for the purpose of discussing "Barenaked Ladies." Not the neighbor ladies, the pop/rock group mostly popular with any crowd younger than me. Their music is upbeat and whimsical. It makes me smile and helps me with my attitude. Consequently, some Barenaked Ladies tunes are on my morning walk playlist. I don't care what a shrink would tell me, Barenaked Ladies music is better than listening to neighborhood ladies' gossip.

The only reason I bring up Barenaked Ladies is to mention a song of theirs titled, "If I Had a Million Dollars." It's a farcical ditty about what a guy would do if he had a million dollars. Some of the things he'd buy himself, his buddies and his girlfriend include a Chrysler Reliant K-car, a fake fur coat, a green dress, a tree fort, macaroni and cheese and fancy catsup. Not exactly items that would top my list if I had a million dollars.

One thing I like about the song is that the writer and/or singer are at least being realistic. You actually could rush out and load up on those types of things with a million dollars. These days a million bucks isn't going to get you very far if you're thinking in terms of a mansion, yacht, Lear Jet, servants, etc.

In fact, a million bucks isn't all that much if you're thinking about something even more mundane ... like early retirement for example. That is, it's a little light for early retirement unless you're planning on driving a 1982 K-car, living in a tree fort and eating mac and cheese for the rest of your life.

Now, if we're talking in terms of a billion, that's a different story. And that's exactly what we're going to talk about. In fact, everything up to this point has been a lead in to a piece I ran across in a local fishing newspaper. I figure if it's good enough to be filler in a fishing paper, it's good enough for the Ledger.

A BILLION! Here is some thought provoking information regarding a billion:

The next time you hear a politician use the word "billion" in a casual manner, think about whether you want the "politicians" spending your tax money.

A billion is a difficult number to comprehend, but one advertising agency did a good job of putting that figure into some perspective.

- A. A billion seconds ago it was 1959.
- B. A billion minutes ago Jesus was alive.
- C. A billion hours ago our ancestors were living in the Stone Age.
- D. A billion days ago no one walked on the Earth on two feet.
- E. A billion dollars ago was only 8 hours and 20 minutes, at the rate our government is spending it.

While this thought is still fresh in our minds, let's take a look at New Orleans ...

It's amazing what you can learn with some simple division. Louisiana senators are asking Congress for \$250 BILLION to rebuild New Orleans.

- Interesting number, but what does it mean?
- A. If you are one of 484,674 residents of New Orleans (every man, woman and child), you each get \$516,528.00.
- B. Or, if you have one of the 188,251 homes in New Orleans, your home gets \$1,329,787.00.
- C. Or, if you are a family of four, your family gets \$2,066,012.00.

Washington, D.C. .... HELLO!!! ..... Are all your calculators broken???

That was from the fishing newspaper. Now we're back to my thoughts. I don't mean to pick on New Orleans, but this little eye-opener with the numbers was just that ... an eye-opener.

USA Today did a big spread recently comparing the rebuilding of San Francisco after the 1906 earthquake and fire and Chicago after its big fire, against progress so far in New Orleans following the flood there. In the case of both San Francisco and Chicago, the residents showed the rubble into the bay or Lake Michigan and went to work rebuilding. Within a few short years the cities were rebuilt, bigger and better than ever. There were virtually no federal dollars used in either case. San Francisco went even one step further and hosted an extravagant World's Fair in their gleaming new city eight short years after the disaster.

New Orleans appears to be still waiting around for the federal government to come to the rescue. Yup, a million dollars won't buy what it used to. Sadly, that isn't the only thing that has changed in this country in the last 100 years.

Pardon me while I tune all this out with my iPod.

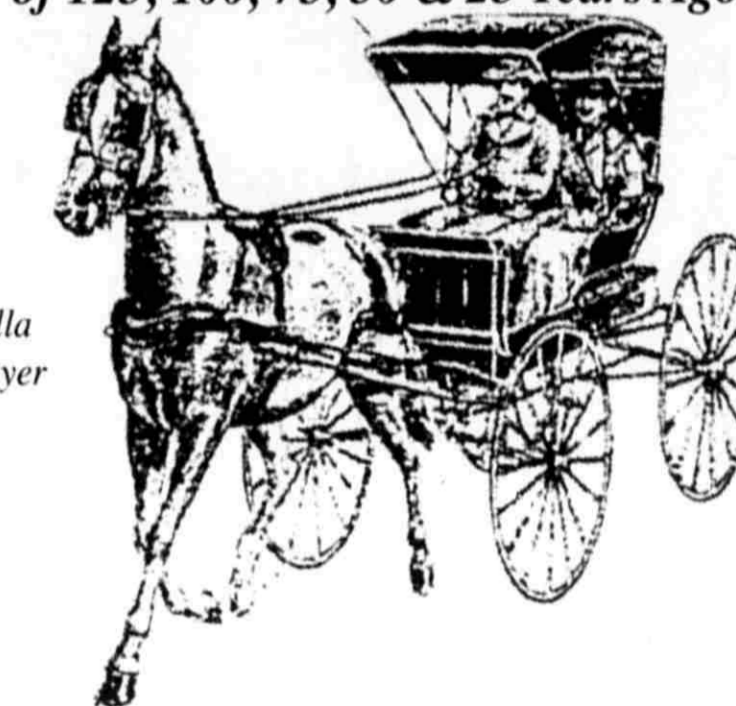
area. I heard many wonderful comments about the group of students from Michigan. Many of these people did not know about Luanne and my connection to Lowell High School.

We would like to thank these students, staff and parents who chose the Alternative Spring Break and shared their time and blessings in a desperate area around the Pass. Yes, the bug bites will go away, but the difference you made and the memories will not.

Respectfully,  
Curt and Luanne Kaeb

## Ledger Entries

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



By Priscilla Lussmyer

### 125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL APRIL 20, 1881

The log drive is on its way down the Flat River. The high water means no picnics on the island.

King, Quick & King have built a blacksmith shop for their own use.

Grattan's N. Smith sold Greenville's Robinson two hogs for 74 cents a pound, dressed.

The three Vergennes schools have opened again (Bailey, Fox's Corners, the "red school house").

### 100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER APRIL 19, 1906

A New York congressman proposes 4-year terms for the House of Representatives, so not as much time is wasted in campaigning.

The South Boston Annual Sheep Shearing Festival and livestock exhibit will be held at the Grange Hall Wednesday.

Norton Henry, druggist, offers a free package of Sunshine furniture finish to the first 60 customers.

J.B. Yeiter thinks he lost the village tax roll. If you find it, please return it.

### 75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO APRIL 16, 1931

Two new houses and several improvements to others are in the works.

Vern Ashley gets the editor (and family) out of bed to see the pavement near Saranac covered for several rods with migrating lizards.

District reps of the State Mutual Rodded Insurance Company are entertained at City Hall with lunch by Wm. Christenson, music by the high school orchestra and solos by W.W. Gumser.

Large signs saying "Lowell, the Friendly Town" are placed at the town boundaries on M-21.

### 50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER APRIL 19, 1956

A trial closing of Lafayette Street for three 40-minute periods a day to all except school buses is made on request of the school Safety Committee.

A car hits a tractor on Vergennes, overturning it and pinning the tractor driver; no one hurt.

Firemen answer six calls in four days, but no grass fires.

### 25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER APRIL 15, 1981

Six people file for the two openings in the school board.

With six empty storefronts, Lowell is relieved to receive a new dime store, book store, law office, and enlargements of two existing businesses.

The new 1831-1981 Sesquicentennial flag is raised over City Hall.

Editor Brown has mastered the art of feeding seven puppies with a syringe (it's much quicker) during three night feedings. Mama dog has mastitis.

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## To The Editor

To the Editor,  
During spring break, a group of students, staff and parents from Lowell went to Pass Christian, Mississippi (known locally as the "Pass") for the express purpose of helping the people turn despair into hope. Thursday and Friday after the bus left, I was involved in four home dedications in the Pass

## Letters... We love to hear from you!

The Lowell Ledger - welcomes all "Letters to the Editor" for publication on its "Viewpoint" page. Letters can be typed or written. However, we ask that they not exceed 250 words and not be strictly thank you letters. "Letters to the Editor" should be sent to the Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, P.O. Box 1216, Lowell, MI 49331 or emailed to: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com. Letters must be signed and please include a phone number. Editing may be necessary for space, clarity and to avoid obscenity, libel or invasion of privacy. The Lowell Ledger thanks you in advance for your cooperation.

# New Arrivals

Wilson



**Kathryn Marcella and Abigail Martha Wilson**

Patricia, Rich, Zachary and Nicholas Wilson welcomed Kathryn Marcella and Abigail Martha on March 1, 2006 at 8:14 a.m. and 8:16 a.m. Katie weighed 5 lbs. 5 oz. and Abbie weighed 4 lbs. 10 oz. Proud grandparents are Mary Ann and Dan Shea, Barbara and Earl Murphy and Richard and Helen Wilson, all of Memphis, Tennessee.

## Dommer



**Sophia Maria with big brother Alex**

Tony, Mary and Alex Dommer are proud to announce the arrival of Sophia Maria, welcomed into the family March 12, 2006. Also welcoming Sophia home are grandparents Bill and Denise Dommer, Rich and Jackie Kragt, aunts and uncles Matt and Betsy Davidson, Jim Kragt, Bob and Rhonda Kragt, Judy Baartman, and cousins Tom, Mike and Jeff.

# Reflections of faith

Rev. Randy Meyers  
Calvary Christian Reformed Church  
YO-YO

As Jesus was accustomed to telling wonderful stories, I thought I would try my hand at writing another story. "Once there was a beautiful wooden box full of yo-yos. One day a strong weathered hand reached down and carefully selected one. This yo-yo was the professional kind that was balanced and had ball bearings to help it spin fast and smooth. As the hand practiced various tricks, the yo-yo was ecstatic. Shoot the moon. Around the World and the Teepee moves were so much fun but the best move of all was called Walk the Dog because of the particular kind of yo-yo it was. The hand had a special way of zinging the yo-yo straight down to the floor where the yo-yo would stop inches above

and be delicately lowered to the floor. Once the yo-yo touched the floor it would race along dragging its string like a leash behind it.

Just as the yo-yo was about to lose its juice, the strong hand would give it a sharp snap and up it would go back to the hand, flipped upside down and thrown down again straight at the floor with lightning speed. The stop at the end was a wow of a thrill. Over and over again and again until not only was this the yo-yo's favorite move, it was obvious that it was also the hand's favorite too.

To its delight, several weeks later a new dimension was added to the game. Yo-yo would zip along the floor and bump into the wooden box whereby it would climb the box and come hovering down into the presence of the other yo-yos. Some stayed sleeping, some rolled to get a better view, and some woo-ed and ah-ed at the spectacular stunt.

The yo-yo could remember what it was like to spend its days on its side. It had no desire to return. The yo-yo could also converse with its friends and in a broken sort of way that they could carry on at least 30-45 seconds of quality conversation. "Don't you resent the hand?" the others wondered. "Why should you go up and down all day at the

hand's whim?" they asked. Day in and day out the yo-yos in the box fueled discontent saying things like, "Stay with us, you think you are better than us, cut yourself free, or sleep down here with us because it's so cozy."

Yo-yo liked its friends and at times the yo-yo would almost feel compelled to stay among them. But it also enjoyed its times alone in the hand. So surprised as it always was to feel the sudden pull, it always enjoyed the rush. It would feel the tug and up it went, back to the hand for a short pause. Its string would be re-wound. Its rough edges rubbed smooth by the even rougher hand. Then just as suddenly, without warning, a flip and in the blink of an eye the yo-yo was upside down and back in the box to converse again.

Discussion questions: What friends do you hang out with that remind you of yo-yos on their side? What shame might the yo-yo feel at being different than the others? What is the hand in your life? How do you balance the tension between community and individuality in your life? How do you become aware of the times you are stuck in either the hand or the box? What truth does this story represent? What moral could you learn from it? What questions do you have? Email us at calvaryrc@juno.com.

# Cancer Society awarded Kresge Foundation Challenge Grant to build healing home

The American Cancer Society Great Lakes Division recently announced that The Kresge Foundation has awarded a \$650,000 grant for its Grand Rapids Hope Lodge campaign.

At the time of the December 2005 grant announcement, The Kresge Foundation had awarded 217 grants for a total of \$131,770,207. Grants are made toward projects involving construction or renovation of facilities and purchase of major capital

equipment or real estate. Grant recipients raise initial funds toward their respective projects before requesting foundation assistance, then the Kresge Foundation makes grants on a challenge basis, thereby ensuring project completion by requiring that remaining funds be raised.

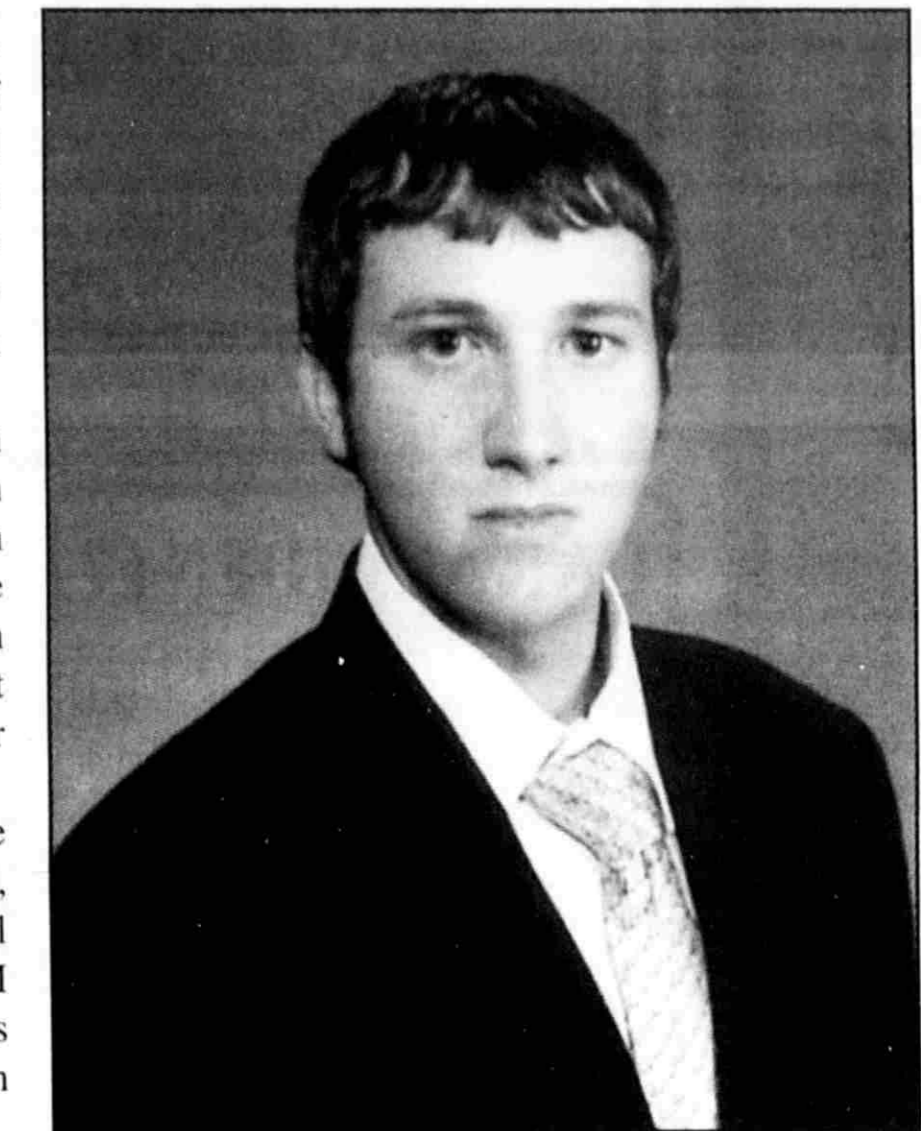
The American Cancer Society, Great Lakes Division has accepted the Kresge challenge to raise the remainder needed to build the Grand Rapids Hope Lodge, and will receive grant funds when that goal is reached. To date, campaign volunteers have raised over \$5.5 million, leaving \$1.3 million to reach the \$6.8 million campaign goal.

This campaign will provide funding for construction of a 20-suite facility to be built in downtown Grand Rapids. It will accommodate up to 600 patients annually and provide 7,200 nights of free lodging for patients and caregivers. The American Cancer Society has 21 Hope Lodges nationwide and plans for 50 in the future. The Kresge Foundation is an independent, private foundation created by the personal gifts of Sebastian S.

Kesge, and is not affiliated with any corporation or organization. For more information about the campaign, or to pledge a gift, call the American Cancer Society at (616) 364-2540.

## College News

The Centennial Banquet at the University of Michigan was held on April 8, 2006 where **Tim Vezino** was inducted into The Engineering Honor Society Tau Beta Pi, Michigan Gamma.



**Tim Vezino**  
\*\*\*

Membership is based on character, integrity, breadth of interest and unselfish activities as well as on the student's scholarship which places them in the highest one-eighth of the junior class.

Vezino, a 2004 graduate of Lowell High School, is studying Industrial Operations at the U of M Engineering School. He is the son of Jay and Saralyn Vezino of Lowell.

## Other churches had role in Alpha Women's Center

Last week's Ledger reported that the Alpha Women's Center, which opened April 17 in Lowell, was a project of the First Baptist Church in Lowell.

While the church is actively involved in the center, including providing space in a house located next door to the church, it is not the sole supporter. Alton Bible, South Boston, Ada Bible, West Cannon, First Baptist of Alto and other area churches have also participated in the project. Many have contributed volunteer hours to make improvements to the house. The center, located at 2251 W. Main Street, will offer a number of free and confidential services for women, particularly to new and expectant mothers. These services include pregnancy tests, abortion alternative counseling and post-abortion counseling.

# Happy Birthday

- APRIL 20:** Jim Hodges, Rick Briggs, Bobbie White, Donna Peterson, Kendra Merriman, Angela Miller.
- APRIL 21:** Roxann Roth, Connie Phillips, Ernest Smith, Ian Newhouse, Daniel Titcombe.
- APRIL 22:** Mallorie VanderWarf, Tim Hill, Mackenzie Hacker, Sharon Potter.
- APRIL 23:** Nathan Roudabush, Jonathan Dixon, Karen Merriman, Nicole Cummings, Brandon Short.
- APRIL 24:** Gary Goff, Trevor Foss, Don Shaffer, Logan Probst.
- APRIL 26:** Casey Brown, Marsha Ray, Bonnie Baird, Audrey Bailey, Jonathan Christiansen.

Two Hope College students from Lowell studied off-campus during the 2005 fall semester.

**Audrey Converse**, a junior, studied in the IES program in London/Courtauld. She is the daughter of Gregg and Marsha Converse of Lowell.

**Neil DeVoid**, a junior, studied with Austral.Earn at James Cook University in Australia. He is the son of Kathy DeVoid of Lowell.

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# AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

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<p><b>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936</p> <p>Worship Services.....8:30 &amp; 11:00 a.m. Sunday School.....9:45 - 10:45 a.m. Kids Club Wednesdays After school to.....5:30 p.m. DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR Nursery &amp; child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p><b>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH</b> Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648</p> <p>Sunday School.....10:00 A.M. Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M. Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M. (Sept. - April) Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M. Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418 YOU ARE WELCOME!</p>	<p><b>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God)</b> 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, Senior Pastor Dave Noonon, Asst. Pastor Jonathan &amp; Stacy Holmes, Youth Pastors</p> <p><b>SUNDAYS:</b> Worship: 10:00 a.m. - LIFE Home Groups &amp; "XL" Youth Sunday evenings <b>WEDNESDAYS:</b> Family Night (For All Ages): 7 p.m. "XL" Youth: 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> Fr. George J. Fekete 402 Amity St. • 897-9820 www.stmary-lowell.com</p> <p>Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM Holy Day Masses: 9 AM &amp; 7 PM Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM Prayer &amp; adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL BRENDA BERG 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 49, ENTH FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>	<p><b>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> (United Church of Christ) 404 North Hudson • 897-5906</p> <p>Worship.....10:00 A.M. Church School.....10:15-11:15 A.M. Dr. Roger LaWare.....Pastor Shannon Hanley.....C.E. Director Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise &amp; Worship</p>
<p><b>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell &amp; Saranac on M-21 www.goodshepherdlowell.org</p> <p>Sunday School &amp; Adult Bible Study. 9 A.M. Worship Service.....10:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p><b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbc-lowell.org Rev. David O. Sims &amp; Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor</p> <p>Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. &amp; 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA/CLUB J.C. ....Wed. 6:15 &amp; 6:30 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided - Barrier Free</p>	<p><b>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Rev. Thurlan Meredith</p> <p>9:45 A.M. ....Worship/Fellowship 11:15 A.M. ....Sunday School 897-9863 or 897-9588 Nursery &amp; Children Worship Programs Provided A friend...a family...a mission!</p>	<p><b>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b> 201 N. Washington • 897-8800 Sunday School.....9:30 A.M. Morning Worship.....10:40 A.M. Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M.</p> <p>PASTOR MICHAEL RHODABARGER Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>	

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# Millage, continued ... From Page 4

\$3,118,787 of that locally, though the district was getting \$177,580 less than that due to the rollback.

The district is asking for a three-year renewal of the non-homestead millage

and of the Headlee rollback compensation. This renewal, compared to the five-year renewals that passed in 1995 and 2001, would reduce the impact of the Headlee Amendment.

"We expect a lot of growth to occur here in the community, so we want to avoid the rollback as much as possible," Gillette said. She is confident the business community will support the proposals, though they are more impacted by them than homeowners.

"A strong school is important to the business community too. It's important to the whole community and the loss of three million dollars would be staggering," Gillette said. "We have a very supportive community and they recognize the value of a strong school system."

If both proposals fail, Gillette said, the impact would be the same as the loss of per-pupil funding for more than 450 students. That's about the total number of students attending Murray Lake Elementary.

Gillette said, the impact would be the same as the loss of per-pupil funding for more than 450 students. That's about the total number of students attending Murray Lake Elementary.



## New evidence that Canadian trash is a security threat

With Senator Carl Levin

Every day, about 350 trucks carrying trash from Canada come into Michigan to dump it in our landfills. The U.S. Bureau of Customs and Border Protection has no effective way to screen or inspect these trash trucks as they enter Michigan, and the potential consequences of this security gap are immense.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) recently completed a study, conducted in response to a request I made with Sen. Debbie Stabenow and Rep. John Dingell, that bluntly acknowledges the security risk these trucks pose. The findings of this report were so revealing, in fact, that the full version was designated 'For Official Use Only,' shielding the more startling details from the public eye. I immediately objected to this limitation and fought to have the full report released publicly, which I was recently able to do with the support of my colleague, Republican Sen. Norm Coleman of Minnesota.

The DHS report describes the three methods currently used by customs officials to inspect the trucks: a Radiation Portal Monitor to detect the presence of radiation, a Vehicle and Cargo Inspection System screening that creates an image similar to an X-ray, and physical inspections. The screening methods are nearly useless for screening trash, however, due to the density and lack of uniform content of trash shipments. The X-ray image produced is nothing more than a large amorphous black mass.

The report finds that a very small percentage of trash trucks - less than two-tenths of one percent - are selected for physical inspections. Even when a truck is selected, inspections are costly, time-consuming and unsafe. To be inspected, trash trucks must be escorted to a landfill site anywhere from 20 to 95 miles from the border crossing. The entire process can take customs officials up to six hours. In addition, the waste is tightly compacted, making it difficult to identify specific items as the trucks are unloaded, and officers are frequently exposed to unhealthy conditions and hazardous materials such as medical waste and household chemicals. This process simply can't protect our nation from illegal smuggling. It is absurd that Canada, with all its land, dumps trash here. For years, we've looked for ways to end this absurdity.

In 2004 and 2005, we added an amendment to the

Homeland Security spending bill that would ban the importation of trash unless DHS can prove that they can adequately inspect these shipments. Both times this provision was removed by House and Senate conferees. The new DHS report leaves no room for ambiguity and should add great fuel to our argument that trash shipments are a clear security vulnerability. It is imperative that trash trucks be held to the same security standard as other commercial trucks, and we have a responsibility to keep them out of the United States until that can be achieved.

The Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, on which I am the senior Democrat, recently completed a three-year bipartisan investigation into federal programs aimed at securing the global shipping network. Our investigation concluded that Canadian trash poses a security threat and recommended that the trash be banned from entering the United States.

I fear that for every trash truck caught carrying contraband into Michigan, many more get through undetected with drugs, medical waste or other illegal material. Ignoring the possibility that these trucks could be used by terrorists to transport biological or chemical weapons is irresponsible. It is now unequivocally clear that these trash shipments are a weak link in our security.

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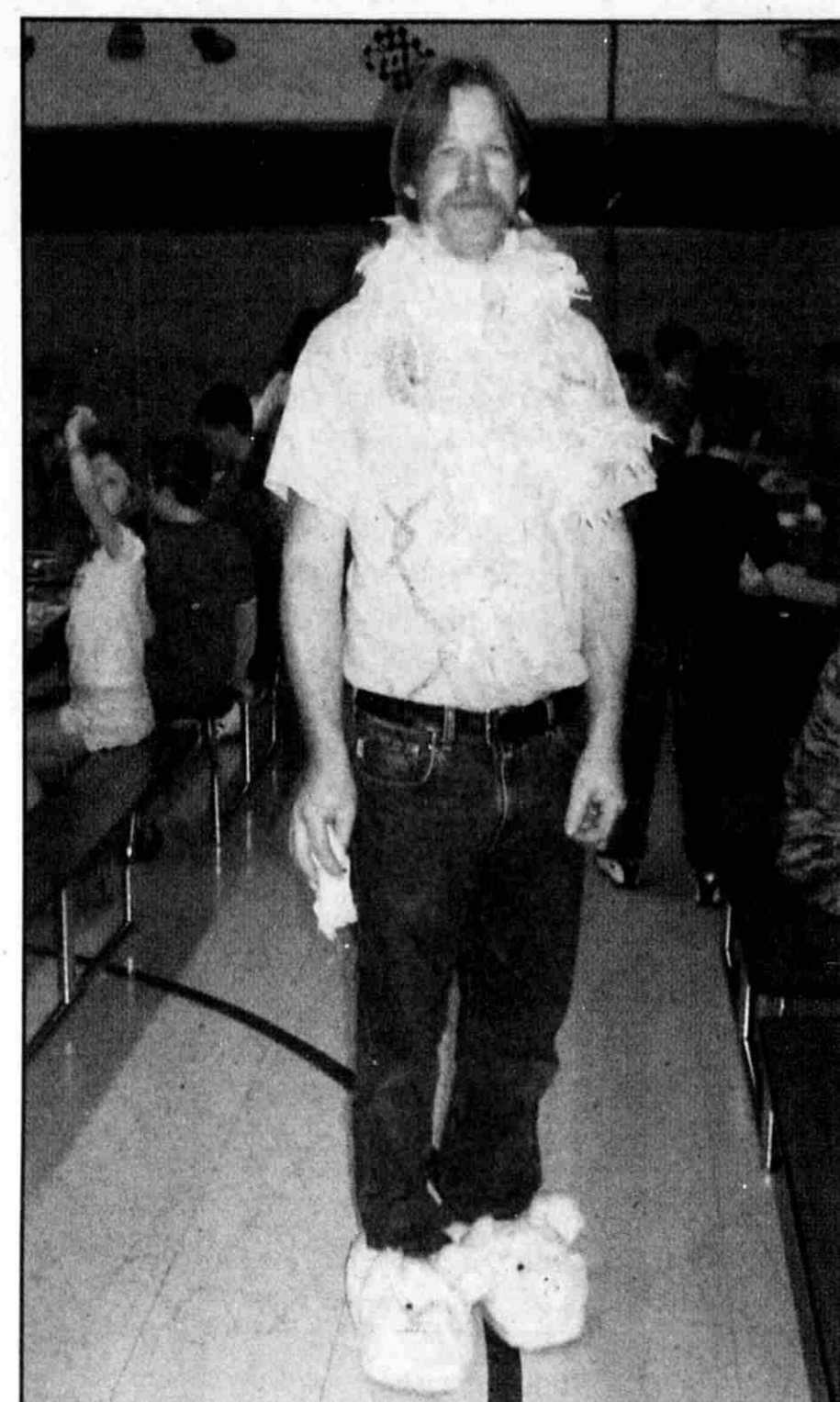
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## Extreme reading at Alto Elementary

Alto Elementary concluded its March Is Reading month of "Extreme Reading" on April 10 with an Extreme Sport BMX stunt show performed by High Action Bikes from Lowell, Indiana.

Tom Rokosz and Chris Gerber demonstrated a variety of professional bike stunts similar to those seen on The X-games, Gravity Games and the Mountain Dew Extreme Tour. Helmet safety, 5-point bicycle safety, nutrition, the importance of doing your best and saying no to drugs, alcohol and smoking were integrated into the event.



Rick Kinsley dons his pink slippers and pink boa after students surpassed their reading goal.

The K-5 students were also challenged during "Extreme Reading" month. Rick Kinsley, a custodian at the school, dared the students to pass their classroom goal and he would wear pink fuzzy slippers. Because so many exceeded this goal, Kinsley agreed to add a pink feather boa. Kinsley wore the slippers and boa on April 11 as the students celebrated their final recorded school total of 370,294 minutes read.



High Action Bikes performing one of their stunts for Alto students.

## Talent at Lowell Middle School



Lowell Middle School teachers and staff, from left, Beth Bradley, Gail Hutchinson, Sheila Dubbink, Deborah Greenhoe and Susan Sweet dressed up as different months of the year to sing the song "Calendar Girl" in the Middle School Variety Show.



Lowell Middle School student Brennan Prill sang "Amazed" in cowboy garb at the second annual Lowell Middle School Variety Show. The show was held March 27 in the middle school cafeteria/auditorium.



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## Riverwalk, continued ... From Page 1

"I think the city is just looking at its options," said Lowell Area Schools (LAS) director of transportation and operations Larry Mikulski. "My guess is whatever is going to happen isn't going to happen for a while."

LAS has had a role in the beautification of the Riverwalk. Last year, Unity High School students completed a mosaic wall mural that now stands on the Riverwalk just north of the Englehardt Library. It is part of the artist-in-residence program the Lowell Area Arts Council does with Unity High.

No plans for additional sculptures are currently in place, but people from the arts council and the high school are open to the idea.

"I know (arts council executive director) Lorain (Smalligan) and even myself think it would be a wonderful vision to see that space filled with public art," said Unity art instructor John Stempien.

An attraction at the north end might generate more interest along the Riverwalk Plaza. One local business owner suggested paddleboat

and kayak rentals on the boat launch, an idea Baker agreed with.

"Being able to rent a kayak or a paddleboat would be great," she said.

Baker said she has seen use of the Riverwalk increase over the last few years. But it could stand a lot more use.

"At this point in time, it's highly under-utilized and in the future it could be a very prominent fixture," Gilmore Group CEO Greg Gilmore said.

The company owns the Flat River Grill, which opened on the Riverwalk in 2003. Gilmore said the riverfront location, in addition to the historic building and the market opening for such a restaurant, was one of the reasons the company chose to build a restaurant in Lowell.

Gilmore is supportive of a project getting underway that might add an attraction just north of his restaurant. The Lowell Area Arts Council plans to move its offices and open gallery space on the Riverwalk with a building renovation

that would link it with the chamber of commerce.

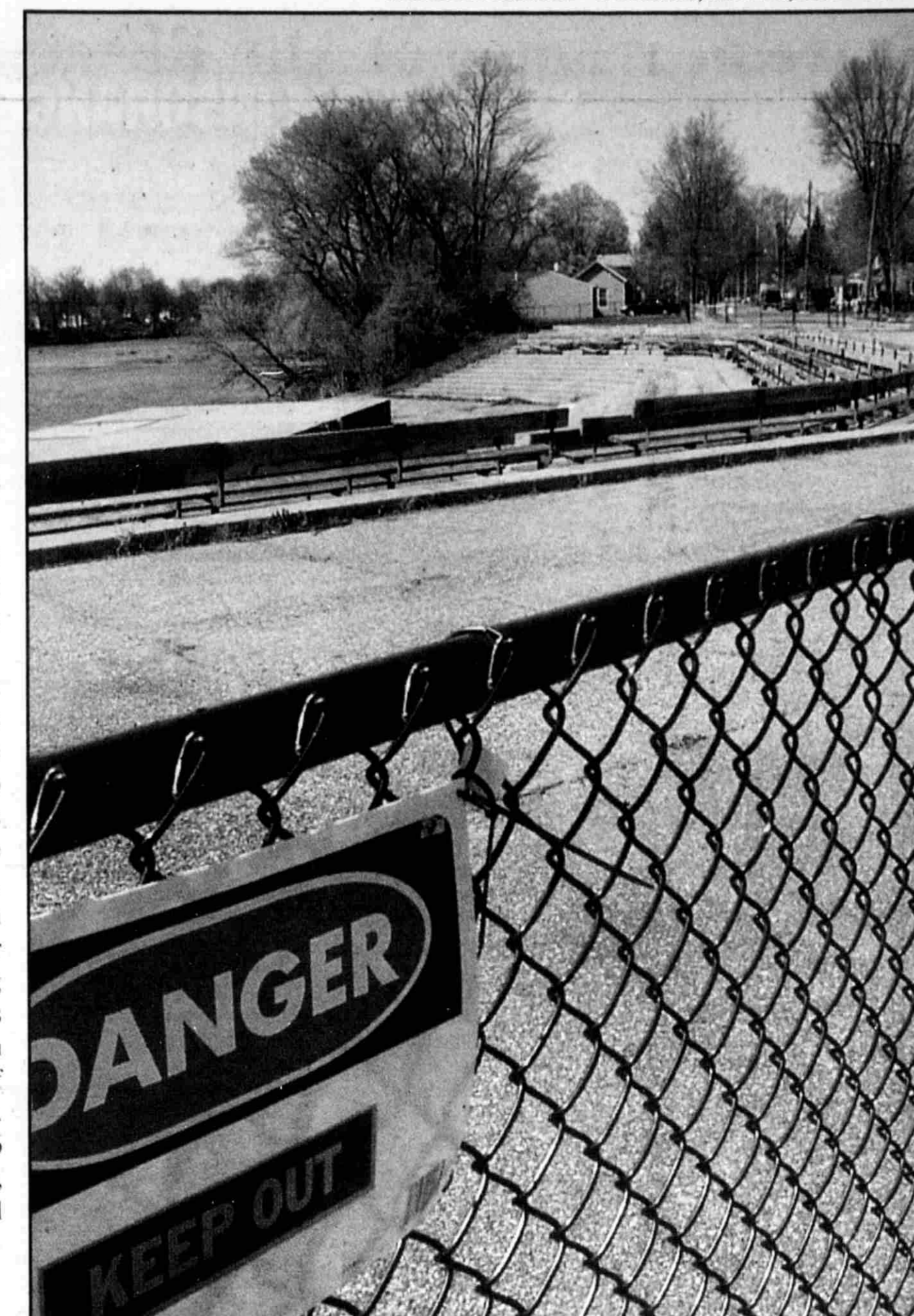
"Our plan is this summer to develop a campaign to launch it this fall," said Smalligan. "We plan on doing fundraising and moving the gallery over there."

The project would make significant visual changes to the building, part of which the Department of Public Works currently uses for storage and a sign shop.

"It would change the whole front side of that building, the part that faces the river," Smalligan said.

That would include a new entrance, new windows and new landscaping. The renovation would also provide something that has long been sought after on the Riverwalk: public restrooms.

A draft pre-campaign study report put together by Kentwood consulting firm Monaghan Associates and published in March indicates a high level of support for the project. The firm interviewed 66 individuals in the community, including potential financial supporters.



Many say the timeworn showboat amphitheater is one of the key issues community leaders will have to deal with to make the Riverwalk Plaza live up to its full potential.



The Robert E. Lee has, for many years, been a fixture along the Riverwalk.

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- Involvement** The Board should be a driving force in the direction of the District AND visible in the schools.
- Responding to Change** The Board has to be flexible and able to rapidly address the changing needs of students, parents, teachers & staff.

### WHAT I WILL WORK FOR

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- Idea Funnel** Standardized process for converting public ideas into action.
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**Candidates, continued ... From Page 1**

believes, are "continuous improvement, and district finances and district leadership because we have a new leader coming on board. But, most important, are the kids, making sure they learn what they need to learn."

Curriculum improvement, he said, is an area in which the district is strong. He is also impressed with how the district is able to continue improvement despite the current financial climate.

According to Haefner, efficiency will be the key for continuing that improvement. That means both efficient use of the district's funds and efficient use of instruction time to meet ever-increasing educational expectations. Seeking out other funding sources is something the district can improve upon, he believes.

"We can do a better job with what we have and we can do a better job of raising alternative funds to support our programs," he said.

His goal for the district over the next five years is to continue raising educational standards in the district toward higher benchmarks.

For school board candidate Todd Smithee, 39, communication is the name of the game.

"Keeping everybody on the same page, especially when you have a district with

4,000 students plus teachers and staff, is absolutely critical," Smithee said.

That communication also needs to extend to the community, he said. One of his first goals, if elected to the school board, would be to establish set standards and expectations for how questions from parents and other district stakeholders are answered and concerns are addressed. These standards would be applicable at both the staff and administrative level.

He also wants to set up a means to bring ideas from the community into the district.

"I'd like to see us establish some kind of idea funnel," Smithee said. "I'd like to see us find some better way to capture those ideas and benefit from them. People in our community have all different kinds of experience and we need to benefit from those."

Communication is the focus of Smithee's daily work life. He owns a technology and business process consulting business, which specializes in helping businesses establish systems of communication.

Smithee wants to increase Lowell Area Schools' focus on academics.

"Our kids don't just have to compete with students in Forest Hills, they need to compete with students in

Singapore and we need to give them the education to do that," Smithee said.

His first goal is to start making the district an academic standout in the area.

"I'd like to see us have a publicly-stated goal that we will be the best district in the county," Smithee said. "I'd like to see us set that goal and work towards it."

He would like to involve the community in putting together a roadmap for that process.

"You can't have any plan without checkpoints and the stakeholders involved with establishing the process need to set those checkpoints," Smithee said.

To Smithee, "stakeholders" include parents, teachers, other staff, administration and students.

He believes the district did a good job of involving the community in the superintendent selection process.

"I think we did a very good job on the superintendent search," Smithee said. "I was very impressed with the proactive approach."

He said the district needs to come up with creative ways to resolve funding issues.

"We can wait forever for the state to fix things, and we need to keep the pressure on in Lansing, but we need to look for alternative

the expectations both from the state and the federal government are higher and higher every year, and we want Lowell to continue to do well," Nugent said.

He also said the district needs to respond to its financial challenges, to continue improving its fiscal responsibility. Building up the district's fund balance is something he would want to do in a third term on the school board.

He wants to continue building on the district's academic success.

"We're in the forefront, really, among area districts in aligning our curriculum and assessments to state and national standards," Nugent said.

Teamwork, he said, will be vital to the district as it proceeds into the future.

"I think we need to continue to work on working together as a team and this is across the board from the school board, the administration, the faculty and staff, and the parents and community," Nugent said. "We need to be constantly working toward a shared vision for Lowell Area Schools."

When Nugent first ran for the board of education, he did so because "I thought I had experiences and knowledge that I could offer

to the school board and I've always liked to be involved in the community and I've always been interested in politics and elections."

He said those reasons haven't altered, but the changing times for schools have renewed his interest in serving on the school board.

"I think we are continuing to grow and change so there's always something new and new challenges," Nugent said. "But I think I have the experience over the last eight years to meet (recurring) challenges we've faced in the past and also bringing a little bit of history to the board as far as where we've been."

He feels his experience on the board would be especially valuable while Lowell Area Schools is in its current state of administrative transition.

"I think it's important now in the new situation we're in with the new superintendent and with Mark Kasmer leaving also to have continuity in the district," he said.

He believes the district's number one challenge is continued growth in the area of academic achievement.

"Lowell does well, but


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# COMING EVENTS

## APRIL/MAY

**THURS., APRIL 20:** TOTS Wiggles and Giggles Night at Bright Beginnings Gym, 300 High St. Call 987-2532.

**THURS., APRIL 20:** LARA Open House at Wittenbach/Wege Center, 7-9 p.m. Call Mari Stone at 897-5671.

**SAT., APRIL 22:** Community Garden Exchange at First Baptist Church of Alto, 9-11 a.m. Call 868-6403.

**SAT., APRIL 22:** Plantation Life/Underground Railroad workshop at Wittenbach/Wege Center, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Ages 8-13. \$15. Call 897-7688 to register.

**TUES., APRIL 25:** LAS board candidate forum, 7 p.m. at Runciman Adm. Bldg., 300 High St. 3 candidates/2 seats.

**TUES., APRIL 25:** Battle of the Bands at 7 p.m. Sponsored by ARGYL in LPAC at Lowell High School. \$5.

**WED., APRIL 26:** Vergennes Open Space Committee program by Dr. Alan Steinman on "Groundwater." 7:30 p.m. at Vergennes Township Hall. Mari 897-5671.

**THURS., APRIL 27/FRI., 28:** LAS preschool screening at Bushnell Elem. Carol 987-2516. Deadline: April 19.

**FRI., APRIL 28:** Bag O' Books used book sale at Englehardt Library, 9:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.

**SAT., APRIL 29:** TOTS almost new sale, 9-noon. Free to participate. Kathy 987-2532 for more information.

**SAT., MAY 13:** Saranac Legion Ladies Auxiliary Garage Sale, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Downtown Saranac.

Notices in the "Coming Events" are free to any nonprofit organization in the Lowell, Ada, Alto & Saranac areas. Keep notices brief; may submit by mail, phone - 897-9261, fax - 897-4809 or email - ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com. All submissions are subject to available space.

**LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL 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 897-7688.

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

**ALTO LIBRARY HOURS:** Mon. & Sat. 9:30-1:30 p.m.; Tues. & Wed. 12-8 p.m.; Thurs. 1-5 p.m. 647-3820.

**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.lowellartscouncil.org.

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

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

### MONDAYS

Lowell High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes & Friends, 7-8:30 p.m. at Gallagher's. Call 676-1355.

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

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

**1ST MON.:** Regular communication of the Belding-Ionia-Lowell Masonic Lodge #355 at 7:30 p.m. in lodge room, 211 E. Main, Belding. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. All Masons may attend.

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

**2ND MON.:** Lowell Board of Education meets 7 p.m. in Administration Building, 300 High Street. (Note: except in April due to spring break which is the 3rd Monday).

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

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

**3RD MON.:** Women of the Moose meetings are held at 7:30 p.m.

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

**3RD MON.:** Lowell Showboat Garden Club meetings are held in the Fellowship Hall at the Church of the Nazarene, N. Washington St., at 7 p.m.

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

**EVERY OTHER MON.:** The Lowell Area Juggling Club meets in the Community room at Englehardt Library, 6:30 - 8 p.m. Anyone 12 or older who can juggle 3 balls is welcome. No dues. Call 897-9879.

### TUESDAYS

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

Cub Scout Pack 3188 meets at 1st United Methodist Church (as long as there is school), 6:30 p.m. 1st-5th grade boys. Contact Clarence Whittum at 897-8194 after 11 a.m.

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

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

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

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

**2ND TUES.:** Diabetic Support group, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Schneider Manor Community Rm., 725 Bowes Rd. 897-2760 or 897-9160.

### TUESDAYS

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

**1ST & 3RD TUES.:** Lowell Lions Club, 12 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce, 113 Riverwalk Plaza. Call 897-5449 for information.

**2ND TUES.:** G.R. Chapter of the American Sewing Guild, Plainfield Senior Center, 5255 Grand River Dr. NE. 6:30 p.m. refreshments/ 7 p.m. program Olga 616-975-9977/June 231-780-1249 info.

**2ND & 3RD TUES.:** Qua-Ke-Zik Sportsman's Club, 11400 Foreman Rd. at 8 p.m. Go to www.qua-ke-zik.org.

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

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

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

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

### WEDNESDAYS

Rotary meets at noon at City Hall, 301 E. Main, 2nd floor.

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

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

**1ST WED.:** GR/W. Michigan Scrabble Club at Schuler's Bookstore, 28th St. anytime between 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. Round Robin, bring your board, 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/W. Michigan Scrabble Club at Schuler's Bookstore, 28th SE anytime bet. 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. Round Robin, bring your board, all levels, walk-ins. Jan 897-5759.

### THURSDAYS

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.

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

### THURSDAYS

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

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

**EVERY THURS.:** Alcoholics for Christ - 12 step Recovery Group for alcoholics, drug addicts & family members. 7 p.m. at Impact Church House, H. Hudson. Call Paul at 527-7796 for info. Family members call Erin at 527-7796.

**1ST THURS.:** Michigan Hepatitis C Foundation support meetings, 7-8:30 p.m. 250 Cherry, Lacks Cancer Center, Grand Rapids.

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

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

**1ST & 3RD THURS.:** Bluegrass Jam inside Kountry Korner of Alto, 6077 Linfield. 868-6371.

**2ND & 4TH THURS.:** GR/W. Michigan Scrabble Club, 10 - 2 p.m. Round Robin, bring your board, all levels, walk-ins welcome. Call Jan 897-5759 for location and information.

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

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

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

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

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

### FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY

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

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

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

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

**FRI., SAT. & SUN.:** Averill Historical Museum of Ada, located at 7144 Headley. Hours are 1-4 p.m. or by appointment. Call 676-9346.

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

# RED ARROW SPORTS



## Red Arrow boys tennis season off to strong start

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell boys tennis team opened the season with a dominating victory over Middleville-Thornapple-Kellogg.

The Arrows barely beat the Trojans when these two teams met last year, escaping with a 5-3 victory. It was a completely different story this year as Lowell swept the matches to win 8-0.

Kyle Wittenbach defeated Corey Humphrey 6-

2, 6-1 in first singles. It's an interesting rivalry because Wittenbach and Humphrey are cousins.

"They've had to play against each other for several years now," Lowell coach Bonnie Wall said.

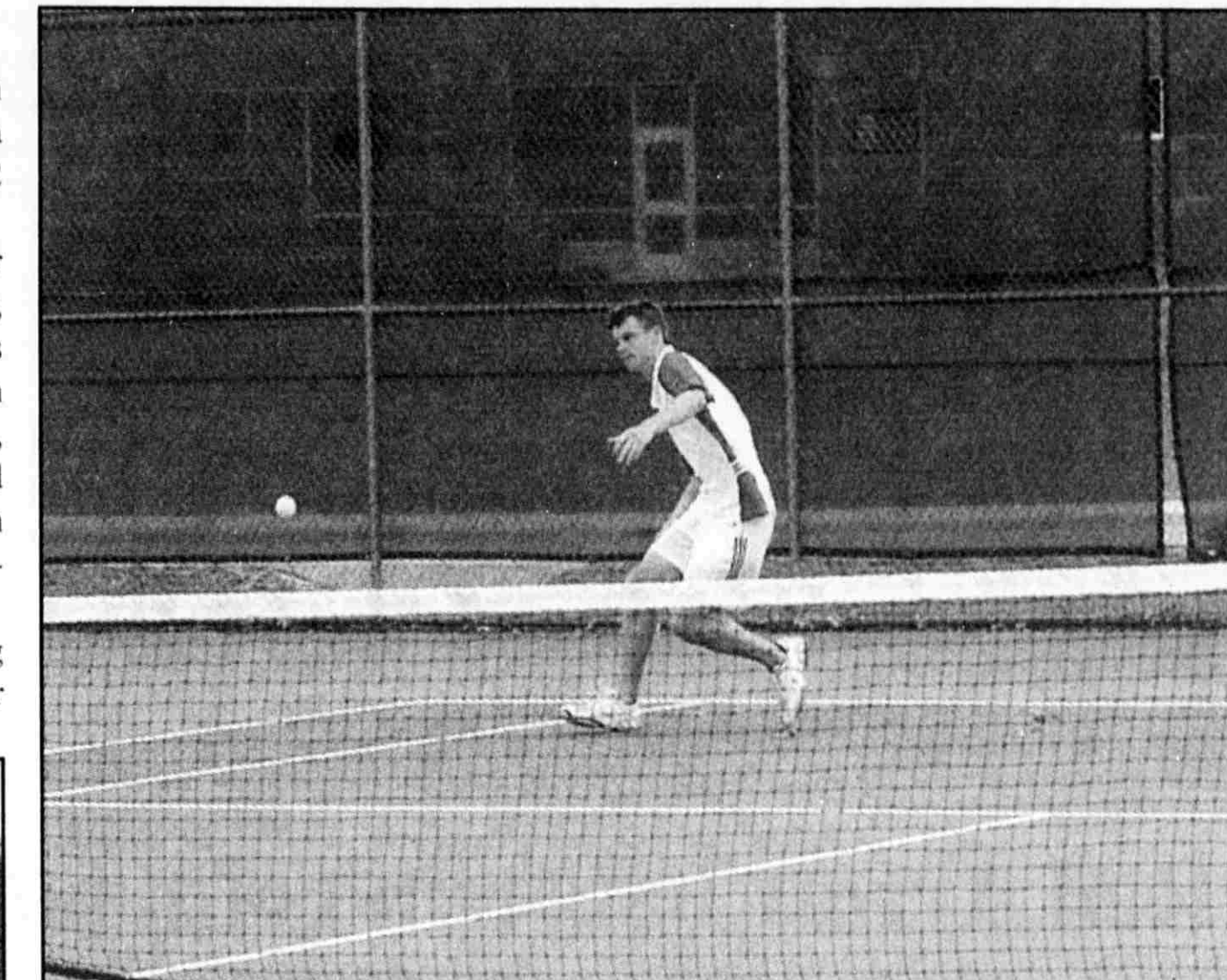
At second singles, Lowell's Travis Trapp defeated Andrew Meads 6-1, 6-0. Brett Hobria beat Blake Berkimer by the same score in third singles.

In fourth singles,

Lowell's Brett McMahon defeated Ross Barrett in a closer two-set match, 6-2 and 7-5.

It was a good start for Lowell in doubles play, which is where the Arrows struggled in the match last year. In first doubles, Lowell's Drew Kyllonen and Josh Hobria defeated Jordan Smith and Darrell Smith 6-3, 6-1.

Tony Dubbink and Greg Harreld were victorious over



Lowell's Brett Hobria returns a serve in last Tuesday's match against Middleville-Thornapple Kellogg.

Mike Texter and Zack Smith 6-2, 6-3.

Third doubles was the only flight to go to three sets. Arrows' Andrew Hopkins and Ben Ritzema defeated Kyle Selleck and Ryan McMahon 6-2, 5-7, 6-1 in that flight.

Chase Canning and Nathan Willemstein crushed Nate Otto and Cory Jewitt 6-2, 6-1 in fourth doubles.

The early games of most

matches were close, but Lowell players found their feet quickly and went on for the win.

"They got stronger as they went on, and got into their games," Wall said. "That was a good, decisive win for us but we've got a lot of work to do."

Lowell traveled to Lakewood last Thursday and won 6-2. They tied Forest Hills Eastern last

Friday, each team winning four flights.

The Red Arrows were the champions of the Lowell Invitational last Saturday.

Lowell traveled to Whitehall Tuesday. Their next match is Wednesday, when they host Kenowa Hills for their OK White conference opener. The Arrows travel to the Big Rapids tournament, Saturday.



Lowell was the champion of Saturday's Lowell Invitational. Pictured, front row, left to right, are: Kory Kowalski, Brett Hobria, Greg Harreld, Kyle Wittenbach, Brett McMahon, Josh Hobria and Drew Kyllonen; back row are: coach Bonnie Wall, Elvis Lane, Andrew Hopkins, Nate Willemstein, Ben Ritzema, Chase Canning, Tony Dubbink, Travis Trapp, and coach Roger Wall.

## Lowell girls soccer wins close game at Rockford

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell girls soccer team's work ethic made for an impressive 4-3 win at Rockford last Wednesday.

"Overall, I think we did an excellent job last night of physically working Rockford," said Lowell coach Paul Legge. "We challenged every 50/50 ball, every ball in the air ... we just had more of a blue collar work ethic than we've had in the previous two games this season."

The first game was a 5-1 win over Caledonia. The second was a 10-0 loss to Unity Christian. Last Wednesday's game proved that the Unity Christian loss was not characteristic of this year's Red Arrow team.

"It was a good game to give a better reflection of the type of team we have after a poor showing against Unity," Legge said. "I think last night proved that (loss to Unity Christian) was a fluke."

Rockford is a team

Lowell has struggled against in past seasons.

"It's the first time we've beaten Rockford since I've been coaching the girls," Legge said. "Every year, it's a close game and we either tie or they get us in the end."

Last Wednesday's game was tied three times, but not

at the end when it counted. Rockford took the early lead with a goal in the first period. The Arrows answered quickly, with Megan Majestic scoring a goal on an assist from Rebecca Underwood.

Underwood scored on an assist from Erin Beddows to put Lowell ahead 2-1. Rockford answered just

before the break and it was a tie game to start the second period.

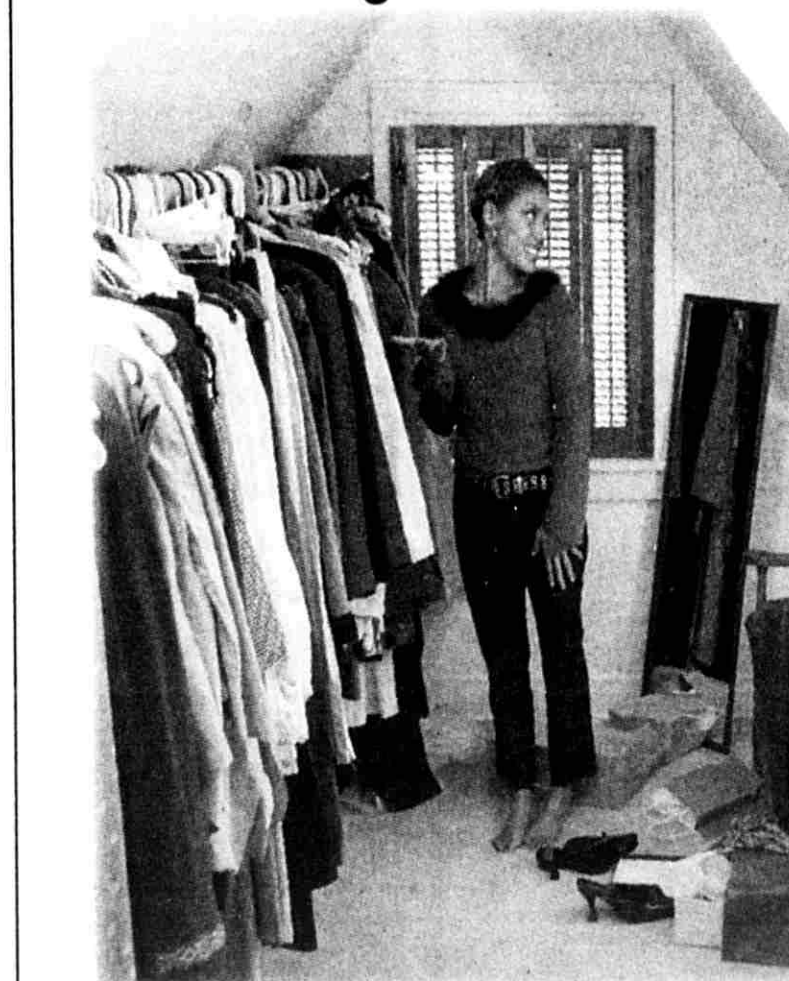
That's when the Arrows changed their defensive alignment and took control of the game, Legge said.

Lowell was the first to score in the second half. The goal was by Tara Ormistan with Underwood getting

another assist. Rockford tied the score on a penalty kick. Then Logan DeClercq scored the winning goal for the Arrows.

Lowell's next game is Wednesday, when the Arrows host Zealand East. Lowell hosts Middleville-Thornapple-Kellogg on Friday.

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# Ups and downs in Lowell baseball season's early going

By Dan Schneider

The Red Arrow baseball placed third Saturday at the Lowell Invitational.

Lowell started the day with a 15-2 loss to Byron Center. The Arrows scored their two runs in the bottom of the seventh and final inning of the game. The Bulldogs did most of their damage in the top half of that inning, scoring six runs. Byron Center pulled out to a 2-0 lead in the third inning and kept the Arrows off the scoreboard until their chance at the plate.

Zach Stephens picked up the loss for Lowell. Jordan Ickes went 2-3 at the plate, hitting doubles both times. Josh Gilliard went 1-

2 and scored one of Lowell's runs.

Lowell regrouped in the third-place game against Plainwell. After the Trojans built a 3-1 lead in the first two innings, the Arrows hammered in six runs in the third. Lowell scored again in the fourth and held on for an 8-6 win.

Zach Burger picked up the win for Lowell. Torsten Boss got the save, and went 2-4 from the plate. He hit a triple, stole a base, scored a run and had two RBIs. Kenny Hayes hit 2-2 with two RBIs, a stolen base and a run scored.

With the win and the loss, Lowell's record stood

at 4-3 before Monday's doubleheader with Portland.

The Red Arrows played half of a doubleheader at Middleville-Thornapple-Kellogg last Thursday. They won the first game 13-4 and were leading 6-0 in the second when it was called due to darkness.

Caledonia defeated Lowell 6-0 last Tuesday. The Arrows had two errors and managed only two hits throughout the game.

Lowell hosted Portland Monday. Their next game is Wednesday, when they host Ionia for a doubleheader. Lowell travels to the Hamilton Tournament Saturday.



Lowell's Ryan Kalman delivers a pitch during last Tuesday's game against Caledonia.

# Red Arrow bats run cold, hot in softball's opening week

By Dan Schneider

Lowell's softball team ended up at the short end of a small score in their first outing last Tuesday at Cherry Creek field.

The Arrows lost 1-0 in

extra innings to Caledonia. It was a superb defensive effort for Lowell. Pitcher Becky Plummer struck out 18 batters and only walked two.

The Fighting Scots scored the only run of the game in the top of the ninth inning. With runners on first and second from an error and a walk, they attempted a double steal. Lowell got the out at third, but Caledonia's next batter hit a double to drive home what turned out to be the winning run.

Lowell struggled offensively in the game, only managing three hits. Brittany Bueche had two hits and Katie McElroy had one.

The Arrows found their bats a few days later at Middleville-Thornapple-Kellogg. Lowell beat the Trojans 11-0 in the first game of last Thursday's doubleheader, and won 10-3 in game two.

The Red Arrows were

champions of the East Kentwood Tournament last Saturday, winning all three games of the round robin. Lowell shut out Traverse City West 2-0 in game one. Against Grand Rapids Christian in the second game, Lowell won 10-4. In game three, Lowell beat host East Kentwood by a 7-3 score.

Lowell returns the majority of last year's starting lineup, though some players are in new positions.

"I think we have a nice mix," coach Bob Rodenhouse said. "We've got some kids who have some experience and some who are new."

Becky Plummer is in her fourth year as starting pitcher. Junior shortstop Brittany Bueche is in her third year as a varsity starter. Sophomore Katie McElroy is in her second year starting at second base.

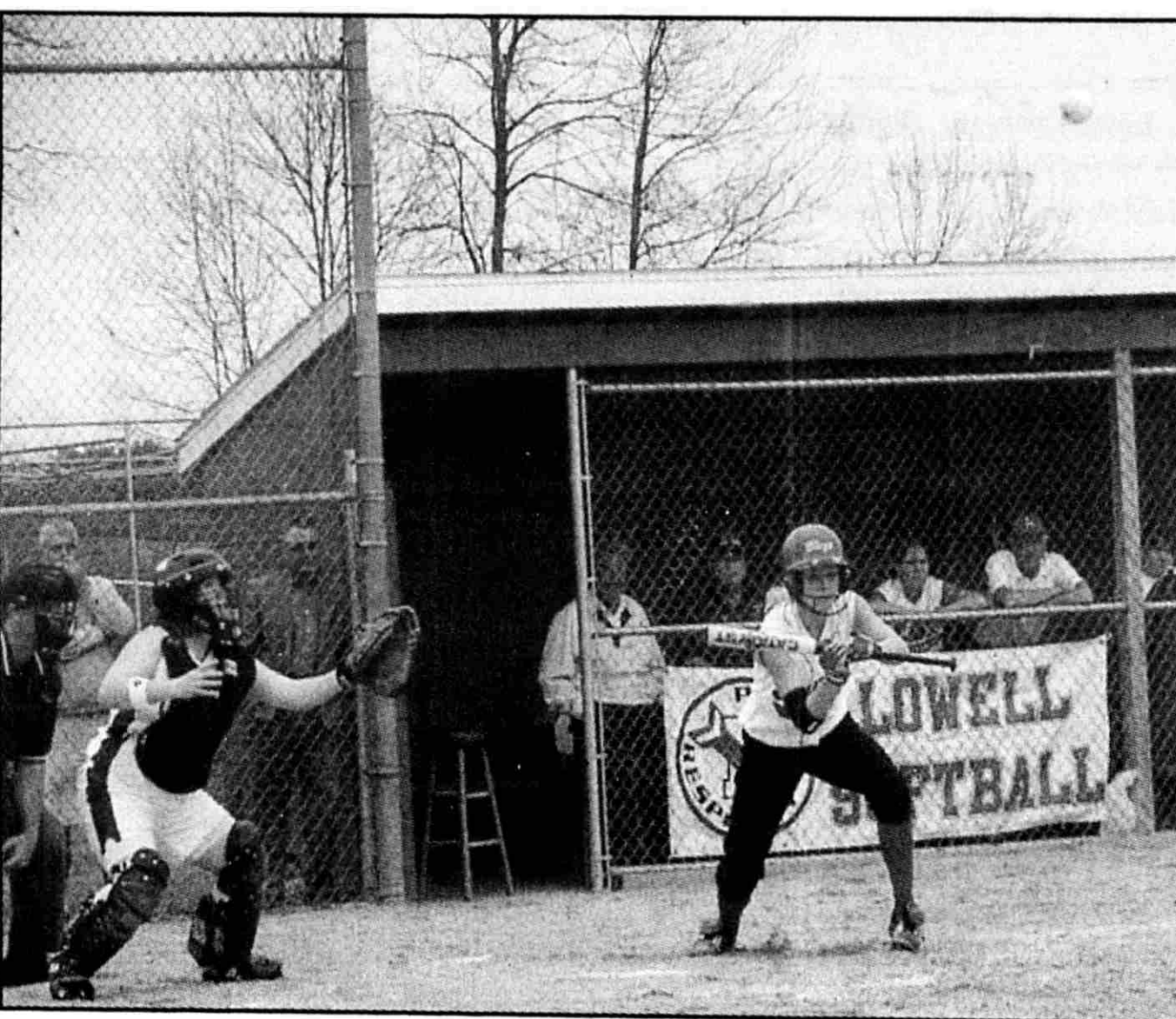
Senior Chelsea Wolbers

is a returning varsity starter in left field. Sophomore Ashley Nawrocki moves from right field to catcher in her second year as a varsity starter.

Juniors Terrah Tawney and Ashleigh Smit are in

their first varsity year at first and third, respectively. Junior Jen Ettinger is playing right field, her first year as a varsity starter. Kelly Malling, who had some varsity experience last year, will start at center field.

Lowell hosted Portland Monday. Their next game is Wednesday, when they host a doubleheader against Ionia. The Red Arrows travel to the Hamilton Tournament this Saturday.



Lowell's Katie McElroy bunts the ball during last Tuesday's softball game against Caledonia.

## Need some extra cash?

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### LUNCH MENU

#### ELEMENTARY MENU

Week of April 24, 2006

**MON:** Pizza dippers w/ sauce (sloppy jo on wheat bun also offered at Alto & Murray Lake) Mexican corn, orange wedges, low fat milk.

**TUES:** Chicken nuggets (chili also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), mashed potatoes/gravy, assorted fruit, dinner roll, milk.

**WED:** Pizza (stacked ham/cheese on bun also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), peas & carrots, fruited gelatin salad, milk.

**THURS:** Chicken party on bun (3 meat sub also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), mini carrots & dip, assorted fruit, peanut butter bar, milk.

**FRI:** Spaghetti & meat sauce w/garlic breadstick (stacked turkey/cheese on bun also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), tossed salad, assorted fruit, milk.

# Sharing

## The Vision

With Pat Murphy  
Interim Superintendent

May 2nd is an important date to circle on your calendar. The second Tuesday of May is now the annual School Election date for Lowell Area Schools. The LAS community will be selecting two fellow citizens to serve on the LAS Board of Education. These positions are very important to the school district and the community as a whole. The Lowell community is fortunate to have three quality candidates who are running to fill the two vacant board seats.

## "Buddy Week" raises organ donation awareness

Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land concluded the first-ever Buddy Week and announced that the number of names submitted for Michigan's organ donor registry has surpassed one million. That represents an increase of nearly 200,000 names from the approximately 840,000 names in the system one year ago.

Buddy Week is an extension of what in previous years had been a single "Buddy Day" focus

on raising awareness of the need for organ donation.

There are nearly 3,000 patients in the state awaiting an organ transplant, according to Gift of Life Michigan, a nonprofit full service organ recovery organization.

President George W. Bush, in his proclamation of April as "National Donate Life Month," has called on Americans to decide to donate the gift of life. "By saying yes to organ and tissue donation

We would like to invite all of you to attend a School Board Candidate Forum which will be held on Tuesday, April 25 at 7 p.m. in the Runciman Administration Building - Board Room located at 300 High Street, Lowell. Please take time to get to know the candidates so you will be able to make an informed vote.

In addition, the LAS district is asking your approval for renewing the non-homestead property tax back to 18 mills. As you know from previous articles, there are two ballot questions that we are asking you to support. For further explanation of this important vote, please see the article posted on the Lowell Area Schools website at www.lowellschools.org titled "Non-Homestead Millage Renewal."

We are extremely fortunate to live in the United States and have the freedom to exercise our right to vote. We

encourage all of our citizens to exercise this right and keep Lowell Area Schools a great district that benefits the entire community.

Your comments about this matter or any issue would be greatly appreciated. Send to Interim Superintendent Pat Murphy, Lowell Area Schools, 300 High St., Lowell, MI 49331 or pmurphy@lowellschools.com (check out our Web page at www.lowellschools.com or make comments to the Board of Education at boardofed@lowellschools.com)

## Lowell junior gymnast goes to state championships



Parker Groom, second from left, of Lowell, was on the team that placed fifth in level five at the U.S. Airborne boys state gymnastics championships March 18 and 19 in Hartland. The boys competed in six events: floor exercise, pommel horse, rings, vault, parallel bars and the high bar. Groom is a fourth grade student at Alto Elementary.

### LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 06-181,306-DE

Estate of ROBERT J. CLIFFORD, deceased

Date of birth 05/26/1927

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, ROBERT J. CLIFFORD, who lived at 2150 Negaunee SE,

Grand Rapids, MI, died 03/16/2006.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Marilyn J. Clifford, named personal representative, or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503 and the named/ proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

April 10, 2006

Susan M. Potyraj  
P46249  
410 Bridge St. NW

## NOTICE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP ACCURACY TEST OF VOTING EQUIPMENT

A public test of the voting equipment to be used in the May 2, 2006 Election to elect members to the Lowell Area School Board and to decide a renewal millage for the school district will be held on Friday, April 21, 2006, at 2:00 p.m. at the Vergennes Township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr., Lowell, MI 49331.

Mari C. Stone  
Vergennes Township Clerk

Grand Rapids, MI 49504  
616-454-4119

Marilyn J. Clifford  
2150 Negaunee SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

## CITY OF LOWELL PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

The Lowell City Planning Commission-Citizen Advisory Committee will conduct a public hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting of Monday, April 24, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the City Council Chambers, Lowell City Hall, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

An Ordinance amendment to Section 20.08, C-2 Central Business District, to allow wall signs facing vacant space of Chapter 20 of the Zoning Ordinance of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell.

Copies of proposed Ordinances are available for public inspection during normal hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday) at City Hall and at the Englehardt Public Library during scheduled hours Monday through Saturday.

Interested persons may submit written comments to City Hall, 301 E. Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331 prior to the meeting or appear in person.

Betty R. Morlock  
City Clerk  
616-897-8457



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AND OF COURSE, LATER IN THE SEASON WE WILL HAVE OVER 2000 HANGING BASKETS - ANNUALS - PERENNIALS - NURSERY STOCK - POND PLANTS & MULCH, MORE.....

Visit us at the Corner of 4 Mile & Lincoln Lake Ave. just minutes north of Lowell.  
KIM FOSTER & FAMILY - OWNER  
CALL 897-9510 FOR DAILY HOURS



## Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold

Edward Jones

Serving Individuals Investors Since 1871

### EXPAND YOUR STOCK OWNERSHIP ... DRIP BY DRIP

At one time or another, you probably wished you could increase your investments - if only you had the money. And it's certainly true that investing can be expensive. However, you might be able to get "more bang for your buck" - and, over time, significantly increase your holdings - by buying shares of dividend paying stocks and reinvesting the dividends into the same stocks.

To follow this strategy, of course, you have to find stocks that regularly pay dividends. Fortunately, by doing a little research, you can indeed locate companies that have long histories of not only paying, but also increasing, their dividends. (Keep in mind, though, that stocks are not fixed-income vehicles, and dividends can be increased, decreased or totally eliminated at any point without notice, no matter how good their track record has been.)

If you are interested in reinvesting dividends, you might want to look for companies that offer automatic dividend

reinvestment plans, also known as DRIPs. And you don't have to receive enormous dividends to participate, either; many DRIPs allow you to send in as little as \$10 to \$50 at a time to buy additional shares of stock.

The biggest benefit of DRIPs, of course, is the ability they give you to increase the shares of stock you own. But you'll find other advantages, too. Here are a couple to consider:

- Investment discipline - To be a successful investor, you need the discipline to continuously invest, month after month, year after year, in good markets and bad. Many people lack this discipline and take a "time out" from investing until they feel they can really afford it. But, as you know, we can all find other ways to spend money, and investing often ranks tossed aside for what appear to be more pressing needs. However, by taking part in DRIPs, you will invest steadily, and with virtually no effort on your part. And since you never received the dividend checks in the first place, a systematic investment plan does not guarantee a profit and does not protect against loss in declining markets. It involves continuous investment in the security regardless of

the price of the security. You should continue your ability to invest through periods of low price levels.

- Tax benefits - Until the laws changed a few years ago, dividends were taxed at your current income tax rate. Now however, dividends are taxed at a maximum rate of 15 percent. (This rate is set to expire at the end of 2008, barring congressional action.) But even this new, relatively low rate can lead to a hefty tax bill for you if you receive a great deal of dividends. Consequently, if you participate in several DRIPs, you might want to keep some of your stocks in a tax-deferred vehicle, such as an IRA.

DRIPs for the Long Run  
Ideally, to use a DRIP, you want to find stocks that offer attractive current yields and growth potential, and you want to keep adding shares of these stocks for a long time. Fortunately, you should not find the task too hard, because the companies that regularly increase dividends are generally high-quality businesses that actively try to reward their investors.

So, work with a financial professional to identify these stocks and then turn on the faucet and let the DRIPs begin.



Send us your comments, criticisms and compliments. Some will be edited and or rejected due to space limitations, and content. Longer submissions should be signed and sent To the Editor.

**Dick DeVos creates jobs?** Sure he does if you're a temp worker and don't need insurance. Like Bush he has no idea what it takes to live in the real world.

**America was founded and exists under the Rule of Law.** If U.S. citizens violate the law they are punished. Should illegal immigrants be above the law? Send them home.

**Many thanks to the kind lady who stopped her car and laid on her horn to try to stop a dog attack on Murray Lake Rd. on 4-10.**

**Have you noticed that prices on everything are going up especially gas but when you get a cost of living raise from work you only get about 50 cents. How is that suppose to help?**

**Lowell's tax rates are outrageous. I had my house appraised for \$115,000 but the city is taxing my house for \$153,000. What a rip off!**

**The men who work for Lowell Light & Power are very nice and respectful. There are others that need to take some lessons from them.**

**What about a fruit/vegetable stand in this town during the summer and fall? Isn't this a farming community? Sure would beat driving around out of town to get fresh fruits and veggies!**

**Keep America American? - Sounds to me like everyone would have to leave this country because the only Americans are the Indians.**

**I love the crew team. You are looking great!**

**Thank you to all the rescue workers who helped me and my girls in the 1/24 accident at Bailey and McCabe. I owe my life to all of you.**

**I love my eighth grade middle school teachers..... I don't want to go to HS... I will miss them!**

**Fifth grade camp was great. Thanks teachers at Murray Lake for this event.**

**Pete, the social worker, in Lowell Elementary is a great guy. He makes a difference for our kids**

**Good luck to the Lowell crew team at the Grand Rapids HS Invitational.**

**If you don't like the smell of urine - move into the city.**

## EXPERIENCED SALES HELP WANTED

Wittenbach Pontiac, GMC in beautiful downtown Lowell, is looking for experienced sales help in both our new and used car departments. These full-time positions require someone with impeccable integrity, self-starting ability, and a proven track record. In return, we offer a great work environment, health care benefits, car allowance, paid vacations, 401K program, and much more. For a confidential, personal interview, contact Mike Poll, General Manager (mpoll@grandautofamily.com) (616)897-9227



## VOTE MAY 2ND

And join these Lowell citizens voting **YES, YES** on the school millage issues **Support our local schools!**

**YES** Proposition I - Renew the 18 mill non-homestead property tax. (Currently provides over 3 million dollars of school funding)

**YES** Proposition II - Restore the millage back to 18 mills and override the Headlee amendment (Would provide over \$270,000 of lost school funding)

Kelly Taylor	Colleen Damm	Melissa VanderSloot	Brad Mooney	Phil Wilson
Patty Smith	Brent Noskey	Jeremy Barber	Jake Munson	Jennifer Haywood
Tracy Loughlin	Jeff Cleverger	Heather Kuzdzal	Melissa Casalina	Mike Lezan
Rich Bouwhuis	Pearl Fohlbrook	Tammy Beatson	Howard Burton	Eva Carey
Rick Walendzik	Pat McMahon	Lannie Rice	Kate Democoeur	Greg Frey
Kathy Curtis	Dave Warsen	Heather McCormack	Renay Bouwhuis	Karl Fohlbrook
Mark Beatson	Carol Burton	James Carey	Mike McMahon	Bob Rice
Bonnie Frey	Bucky Curtis	Stephanie Warsen	Jeff McCormack	Marilyn Wilson
Lynn Nauta	Kyle Gilda	Judy Straub	David Pasquale	Phil Nauta
Angela Gildea	Kendal Khodl	Jodi Sheveland	Kelly Fuller	Angela Baerwalde
Kathy Nofke	Jack Weeber	Toby Alderink	Karen Woodhead	Lisa Hindley
Paula Briggs	Cindy Wissman	Lisa Noskey	Mary Mooney	Mike Khodl
Jeff Fuller	Joan Weeber	Wendy Alderink	Denise Washburn	Sue Wernet
Don Hindley	Chris Briggs	Heidi Heffron	Andrea Cleverger	Mike Taylor
Tammy Barber	Mike Kuzdzal	Eric Damm	Heidi Munson	Breyoud Haywood
Joseph Casalina	Karen Lezan	Dan Stadt	Diane Stinson	Kammie VanOosten
Ken White	Katie Peters	Rachel Stadt	Ron Stinson	Bill VanOosten
Sandi White	Gregg Peters	Marcia Roth		

**This vote does not affect the taxes of your primary residence or qualified agricultural property! Support your local schools on May 2nd and vote YES, YES**

For additional information visit the school website at <http://www.lowell.k12.mi.us/> or call 987-2500

Paid for by the Lowell Parents Yes, Yes Committee

## Hildenbrand, cont'd. ... From Page 4

allow all communities the opportunity to grow and thrive. Recently he worked with local and state officials on a bill that helped provide redevelopment assistance for the abandoned Lear facility in Walker. Now

## LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold the first of two required meetings for the year on

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2006

at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash, SE

On the agenda will be the continuation of the Mobile Mart variance request, the election of officers, and any and all business which may be brought before this Board according to the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Ordinance.

Linda S. Regan, Clerk  
Lowell Charter Township

his focus is on extending this key resource to all of Michigan's communities.

"I am committed to providing access to these redevelopment resources for every community in the state, not just a select few," Hildenbrand said. "Through these bills we will show the entire nation that Michigan is ready and able to support new businesses and is excited to see continued business expansion in our great state."

Michigan was the only state in the country to lose jobs in both 2004 and 2005. With these staggering statistics in hand, Hildenbrand said it is vital to give every community in Michigan the tools necessary to compete with other states for new job growth and business expansion. These legislative proposals will be taken up in the coming weeks.

# CLASSIFIEDS

small ads **BIG** deals

### FOR SALE

RABBIT CAGES FOR SALE - rabbits for sale & baby bunnies; Lionheads, Lops, Dutch & Mini Rex Dwarfs, & other breeds. 616-691-6619.

MEMORY FOAM MATTRESS - Relieves back pain. Total 100% support. Warranty 20 years. All new. Twins, \$595, Queen \$795, King \$995. Call 682-4767 or 293-6160.

GOLF BALLS FOR SALE - All in perfect condition with no scuff marks. Assorted brands new only 25¢. Practice balls 50 for \$5. Call 897-1355.

KING FOUR POST BED - Solid wood w/pillowtop mattress (bought new, never used). Cost \$1,000, sell \$195. 616-318-1974.

FOR SALE BY OWNER - Ionia, 2 bedroom, large kitchen & living, 2 car garage. 800 Forest St. \$97,500. Call 616-940-3648.

GOLF BALLS FOR SALE - Previously experienced all in perfect condition - Titleist & Precept, 46 per doz.; Pinnacle & Nike, \$5 per doz.; Top-Flite, \$4 per doz. or 3 doz. for \$10. Many other brands also. Call 897-1355.

AIR BED - Each person get their own firmness. Fully adjustable. Brand new. Queen, \$695, King \$895. Call 682-4767 or 293-6160.

1998 GMC VAN - 15 passenger or cargo, 1 ton, burgundy, \$6,200. Call 897-1597 or 745-2161.

MATTRESS/BOX SPRINGS - Brand new, \$69/SET. Twin, full, queen, delivery available. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

BOB'S ANNUAL BIRDHOUSE SALE - Think spring! Welcome your favorite birds back with a fresh new birdhouse. Nice selection of bluebird, wren, & bat houses. Various styles. Top quality materials & workmanship at the best prices anywhere. Bob's Bird Houses, 12279 60th St., Alto, 868-6633.

ADA GARAGE SALE - April 20-22, Thurs. & Fri. 8-6 p.m. & Sat. 8-7:00 Boynton SE, Ada. Between Bennett & Vergennes. Craftsman saw, computer stuff, toys, clothes, flute, fiberglass topper, brand new bow (youth), tools, guns, helmet, camping stuff & much more!

BERBER CARPET - 80 yards, beige color, bought, never used. Cost \$800, sell \$295. 989-534-1082.

'96 COACHMEN LITE CAMPER - 25 ft. Bunkhouse, includes hitch w/sway bars, Easy pull. Excellent condition. \$5,995. Call 987-9596.

ALTO MOBILE HOME FOR SALE - 2 bedroom, includes washer & dryer, refrigerator & stove, water softener & window AC. \$4,500. Campau Lake access. Corner of 66th St. & McCords. Alto. 616-698-3983 or 616-638-8127.

KING FOUR POST BED - Solid wood w/pillowtop mattress (bought new, never used). Cost \$1,000, sell \$195. 616-318-1974.

'98 CHEVY PICKUP - 2 WD, long box, white. \$2,800. Call 897-1597 or 745-2161.

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

### FOR SALE

1990 GRAND AM - 5 spd. white, runs good, \$650. Call 897-1292.

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

1996 CHEVROLET CONVERSION VAN - hi-top, white, leather interior, 350 engine, loaded, 42,000 miles, tires & brakes new, \$9,500. Call 897-1597 or 745-2161.

HOUSE FOR SALE - in Lowell on 4 acres, 1,629 sq. ft. ranch, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 6 years old, lots of extras. \$255,000. Call for appointment. 897-9910.

MATTRESS - Buy direct from the warehouse. All new. All sizes, always less than store "sales." Twin, \$60; full, \$70; queen \$95 & up E.P. Call 682-4767 or 293-6160 can deliver.

1930'S ART DECO/WATERFALL - bedroom furniture. Vanity & chest of drawers available. Made by the Thomasville Chair Company. Good condition. Please call Erin at 633-9460.

1996 SUZUKI INTRUDER - 1400 cc, black with red, 3,000 miles, extra parts, \$3,800. 897-1597 or 745-2161.

### SALES

MOVING "OUT-OF-STATE" SALE - at 1551 Sargent Ave. on April 20, 21 & 22 from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. N. off Fulton. (M-21) between Bennett & Parnell.

ADA COMMUNITY REFORMED ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE - Sat., April 22, 9-2 p.m. 7239 Thornapple River Dr.

ADA GARAGE SALE - April 20-22, Thurs. & Fri. 8-6 p.m. & Sat. 8-7:00 Boynton SE, Ada. Between Bennett & Vergennes. Craftsman saw, computer stuff, toys, clothes, flute, fiberglass topper, brand new bow (youth), tools, guns, helmet, camping stuff & much more!

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MOVING SALE - Miscellaneous household goods, air hockey table, large dining room table with 8 chairs, grandfather clock liquor cabinet, many more items. Call 897-6108.

YARD SALE - A little bit of everything. 1/4 mile east of Lincoln Lake on 4 Mile Rd. April 21, 22, & 23.

A SPRING ART SHOW - You are invited to attend an afternoon of cheerful friends & delightfully curious art. The enchanting event will take place on Sat., Apr. 22, 2006 at the VFW Hall at 3124 Alden Nash Rd, Lowell, Michigan from 1 till 5 p.m. Please come, enjoy & remember a portion of proceeds will go to breast cancer research. Idea sprouted by the artist Bonny Dalton.

### HELP WANTED

PACKAGING LIGHT INDUSTRIAL ALL SHIFTS - in Southeast Grand Rapids. Apply at Phoenix Personnel, 615 Chatham or online at [gr.phoenixpersonnel.net](http://gr.phoenixpersonnel.net). EEOC.

HELP WANTED - Babysitter to care for my 2 yr. old twins in my Grattan area home. Mon. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. No smoking. \$7 an hour. Leave a message, 616-691-7564.

GENERAL LABOR - Hilo, packing, shipping, quality control, machine operator, all shifts in SE Grand Rapids. Apply at Phoenix Personnel 729 36th St. SW or online at [gr.phoenixpersonnel.net](http://gr.phoenixpersonnel.net). EEOC.

BABYSITTER NEEDED - Must be 18, for 2 school aged kids for the summer. In my home. Own transportation. Call 616-706-7154.

UNIT MANAGER - Are you an RN with management experience? Would you like to be a part of a team known as one of "West Michigan's 101 Best & Brightest Companies to work for"? Porter Hills is hiring a full-time RN to manage the day to day operations of resident care & staff for a 34 bed skilled nursing unit. Current RN license is required and prior supervisory experience is preferred. Send resume to HR, 3600 East Fulton, GR, MI 49546 or email [hr-phv@porterhills.org](mailto:hr-phv@porterhills.org). EOE.

1996 SUZUKI INTRUDER - 1400 cc, black with red, 3,000 miles, extra parts, \$3,800. 897-1597 or 745-2161.

INTERNATIONAL COMPANY NEEDS LOCAL SUPERVISORS & CUSTOMER SERVICE HELP - Free local training & support. Free info at [www.LeadersNeeded.com](http://www.LeadersNeeded.com) or call 868-7551 & ask for Cheryl.

LOVING, CARING, FUN INDIVIDUAL - to care for our 1, sometimes 3 children in our Lowell home 2-4 days per week. Must have references and reliable transportation. Please call 897-7423 for an interview.

COMMERCIAL CLEANING POSITION - part time position available immediately in the Ada area. Tuesday evening and over the weekend, 4.5 hours per trip. Transportation and valid driver's license required. Stop in soon and fill out an application: Metropolitan Building Maintenance, 868 Barnum SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49509.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS BEEN DENIED? - Is your employer or the state fighting your unemployment benefits? Do they want you to repay benefits? For possible free assistance call 1-800-305-2899.

GENERAL OFFICE HELP! - M-F, days. Computer skills, math skills & good handwriting, entry level. Call M, W, Th, F. Ask for Bill or Kim 897-8044.

PART TIME HELPER - Great for students, help on weekends with painting, planting, pool, lawn, animals, etc. Hard worker and dependable...\$8-10/hr. Call 616-516-6703. Smyrna city.

### FOR RENT

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

HOUSE FOR RENT - 3 bedroom in Lowell, \$800 per mo. + all utilities. Call 897-9357.

WATERFRONT COTTAGES - completely furnished. Fish or boat on chain of 12 lakes. Free use of boats. Call Ron 616-897-5062.

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

HOUSE FOR RENT - on 3 acres in the country. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. \$900/mo. Available May 1st. 897-0686.

LOWELL - 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath newer home. Cathedral ceilings. Deck. Daylight basement. Rent to own option. \$1,175/month. \$800 deposit. 866-443-3098. [www.wmp-online.com](http://www.wmp-online.com).

18x40 TENT/RENTAL - Perfect for open houses & outdoor events. \$175 set up included! Call today, calendar fills quickly! 987-9160.

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

LOWELL - \$400 moves you in. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Garage. Washer/dryer connections. Walk-in closets. \$660/mo. 866-443-3098. [www.wmp-online.com](http://www.wmp-online.com). Stoneridge Apartments.

FOR RENT - Nice 1 bedroom apartment, furnished w/2 stall garage. \$450/mo. Lake Odessa. Call 616-693-2363 or 616-755-1878.

LEDGER OFFICE HOURS: MON. - THURS. 8-5 FRI. 8-4 Closed Sat. & Sun. 105 N. Broadway, Lowell. We Have a Drop Box in the Door Closest to the Post Office

WANTED PAYING CASH - for your old United States coins, call 616-291-7096.

WORK WANTED - General carpentry, remodeling, windows, doors, kitchens, baths, decks, roofing, siding & pole barns. Insurance repair. Hull's Construction & Design. Licensed & insured. Call 897-7792, 616-293-9920 or 800-731-7148.

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

LOST LOST - young cat, solid black, bobbed tail. Recently neutered. Missing from east end of Main St. Any information please call 897-6738.

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

POWER WASHING - Decks, docks, fencing, patios, commercial work, free estimates & insured. Mike 616-821-7139.

### CARD OF THANKS

THE RESCUER - How many other 76 year old 6 ft. men would climb a 44 ft. ladder to get his large Tom cat who was up a large pine tree for 2 1/2 days without his knowledge until yesterday? Hang on with his right hand and the other hand to hold onto his cat. Thank you Brad for holding the ladder. Thank you John. Tommy

### SERVICES

COPY SERVICE, FAX SERVICE, LAMINATING, UPS SHIPPING & MORE AVAILABLE AT THE LOWELL LEDGER M-Th 8-5 p.m. Fri. 8-4 p.m. 105 N. Broadway Ph. 897-9261 Fax 897-4809

BUCKS AUCTION & ESTATE SERVICE IS BOOKING NOW - View upcoming sales at [www.bucksauktionandsales.com](http://www.bucksauktionandsales.com) Antique Farm Auction, Alto, MI coming in May!

CUSTOM DECKS - & Composite Cedar Walmated. View many pictures of completed deck projects at [cuttingedgebuilders.net](http://cuttingedgebuilders.net). MC/Visa Accepted. Call (616) 825-6112 for estimate.

BUILT RIGHT COMPUTER SERVICES - Custom computer builds for any budget PC repairs, maintenance tune-ups, upgrades, Virus, spyware & adware removal. Call Jason at 616-723-8911 or 616-734-1958.

ALTO AREA DAY CARE - has summer openings for full & part time, 1st shift only, scheduled activities, CPR licensed. 868-0752.

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

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

"INTRODUCTION TO AGILITY" CLASSES - We will introduce you and your canine companion to the wonderful world of agility using positive reinforcement training methods. This series of classes is designed for the dog and owner that have had no prior agility training. Dogs must be 4 months or older; children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Six week session starting 5/31/06 from 7:15 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. Located approximately 1.5 miles north of Keiser's in Lowell. \$50. Class size is limited, so call today to reserve your spot. 897-6245 after 5:30 p.m.; 970-4359 anytime. No answer? Leave message, all calls WILL be returned.

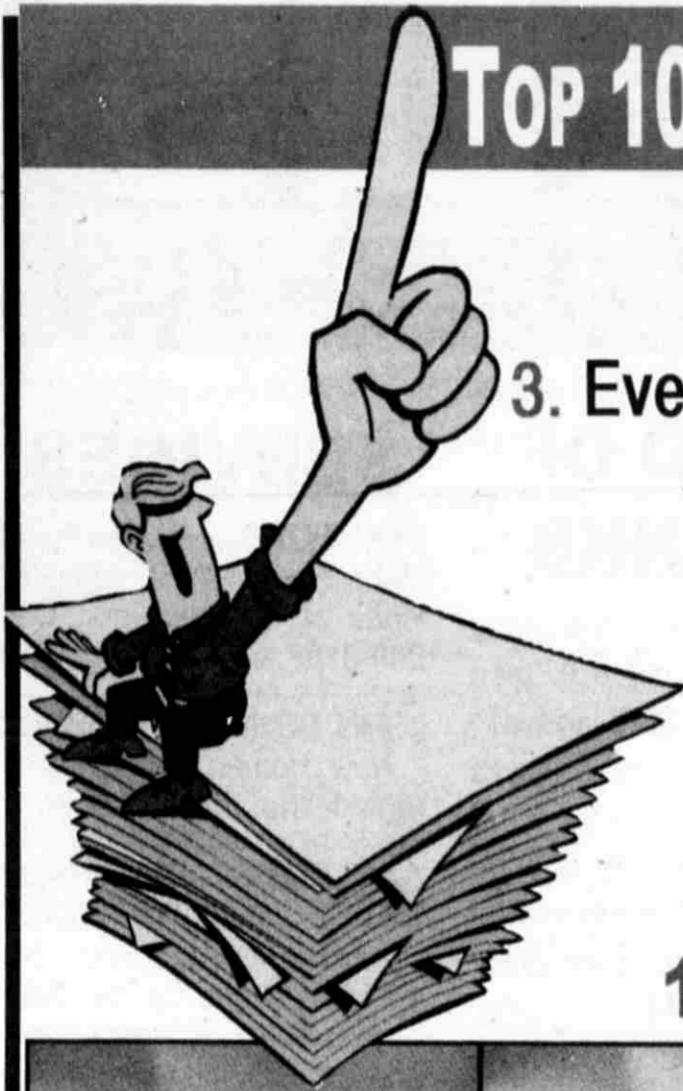
ALTERATIONS - Experienced professional men's, women's, leather coats, all fabrics, zippers replaced, wedding & prom dresses altered. Call Helen 897-6071.

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

SHIP UPS AT THE LEDGER OFFICE - Daily pickup 3:30 p.m. 105 N. Broadway. Compare our prices - call for a price quote! (weight, dimensions & zip code required for a quote). 897-9261.

POWER WASHING - Decks, docks, fencing, patios, commercial work, free estimates & insured. Mike 616-821-7139.

WATSON'S HANDY-MAN SERVICES - Basement remodels, doors, drywall, garages, decks & much more. Small jobs welcome. Honest & dependable. Call 897-6906.



# TOP 10 REASONS HAROLD ZEIGLER IS LOWELL'S #1 VOLUME DEALER

1. Always over 100 preowned vehicles on the lot
2. Over 700 more preowned available in 24 hours or less
3. Every preowned vehicle is 133-point inspected by factory trained technicians
4. Every customer is treated with respect and integrity
5. Large selection of imports as well as domestics
6. Huge selection of late-model trucks and SUVs
7. Generous trade-in allowances because we sell volume
8. Ford has the #1 selling trucks in the country
9. Financing options for everyone
10. OVER 30 YEARS UNDER THE SAME OWNERSHIP!

 <b>'05 EXPEDITION</b> 3rd seat, V-8, tow Drive for only <b>\$327 MO.</b>	 <b>'05 LINCOLN LS</b> V-8, moonroof, 15,000 mi. Drive for only <b>\$379 MO.</b>	 <b>'05 PONTIAC G6</b> Moonroof, auto., like new Drive for only <b>\$245 MO.</b>	 <b>'05 FORD F150 4X4</b> Lariat trim, tow Drive for only <b>\$359 MO.</b>	 <b>'04 SATURN ION</b> Equipped, not stripped Only <b>\$245 MO.</b>	 <b>'04 FORD F350</b> Dually, 4x4, Lariat trim, diesel Only <b>\$547 MO.</b>
 <b>'04 FORD F250 4X4</b> Diesel, loaded Only <b>\$479 MO.</b>	 <b>'04 FORD F150 4X4</b> FX4 trim, V-8, tow Only <b>\$386 MO.</b>	 <b>'03 MITSUBISHI ECLIPSE</b> Leather, automatic Only <b>\$279 MO.</b>	 <b>'03 GMC YUKON XL</b> 4x4, leather, TV/DVD Only <b>\$419 MO.</b>	 <b>'03 NISSAN XTERA</b> 4x4, equipped, not stripped Only <b>\$369 MO.</b>	 <b>'03 FORD T-BIRD</b> Both tops, V-8, 18,000 mi. Only <b>\$469 MO.</b>
 <b>'03 KIA SORENTO</b> 4x4, tow, V-6, CD Only <b>\$249 MO.</b>	 <b>'03 KIA SEDONA</b> Low miles, like new Only <b>\$199 MO.</b>	 <b>'02 JEEP LIBERTY 4X4</b> Limited, roof, leather Only <b>\$329 MO.</b>	 <b>'02 DODGE DAKOTA</b> 4x4, tow, CD, loaded Only <b>\$299 MO.</b>	 <b>'02 FORD CONVERSION</b> Leather, TV/DVD Only <b>\$299 MO.</b>	 <b>'01 VW JETTA</b> 61,000 miles, loaded Only <b>\$249 MO.</b>
 <b>'01 KIA SPORTAGE</b> Low miles, must see Only <b>\$169 MO.</b>	 <b>'00 DODGE RAM 4X4</b> Power goodies, tow Only <b>\$259 MO.</b>	 <b>'00 CHRYSLER 300M</b> Leather, loaded Only <b>\$189 MO.</b>	 <b>'00 MERCEDES BENZ S500</b> The right one Only <b>\$459 MO.</b>	 <b>'00 GMC SONOMA</b> 54,000 miles, really clean Only <b>\$189 MO.</b>	 <b>'99 FORD F250</b> 4x4, long box, V-8 Only <b>\$259 MO.</b>
 <b>'99 DODGE CARAVAN</b> Equipped, not stripped Only <b>\$179 MO.</b>	 <b>'99 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER</b> 4x4, V-6, tow Only <b>\$179 MO.</b>	 <b>'98 FORD ESCORT</b> Nicely equipped Only <b>\$149 MO.</b>	 <b>'98 SUZUKI X-90</b> Only 48,000 miles Only <b>\$149 MO.</b>	 <b>'97 FORD RANGER</b> 62,000 miles, real nice Only <b>\$162 MO.</b>	 <b>'97 FORD T-BIRD</b> V-8, low miles Only <b>\$152 MO.</b>

\*Payments with taxes & state fees down

**\$21.95**  
**Oil & Filter Change**  
No appointment necessary

Up to five quarts of Motorcraft® oil. Taxes and diesel vehicles extra. Disposal fees not included in some locations. No appointment necessary. See Service Adviser for details. Offer valid with coupon. Expires: 05/15/06.



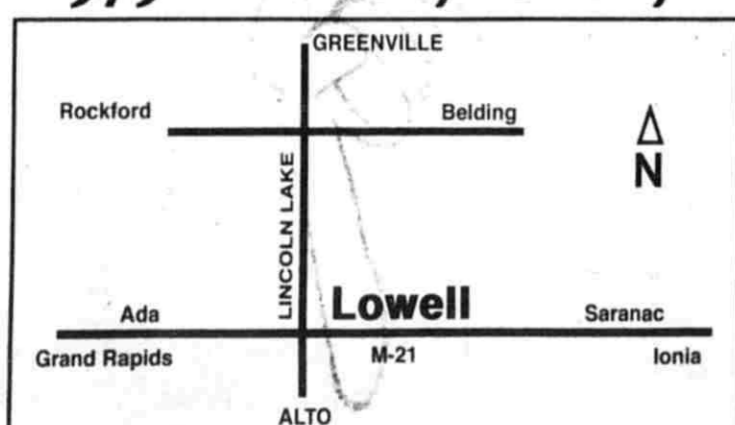
**BLUE OVAL CERTIFIED**

**\$99.95**  
**Complete Detail**

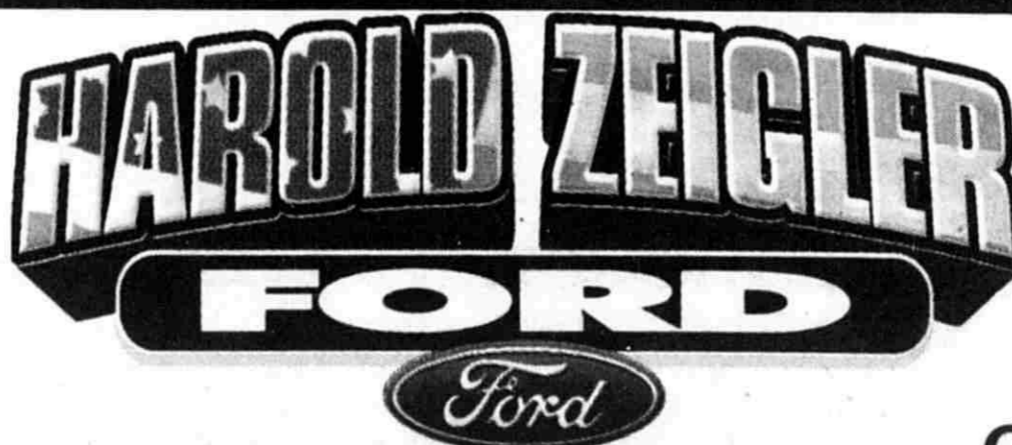
Complete interior clean vacuum, shampoo. Exterior wash and wax. All glass & jams.

Trucks, S.U.V.s & Mini-vans \$10.00 extra. Expires 05/15/06

**11979 E. Fulton, Lowell, MI**



ALL ROADS LEAD TO LOWELL!



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



HOURS: MON. 9-8;  
TUES. 9-8;  
WED. 9-8; THURS. 9-8;  
FRI. 9-6 & SAT. 9-4

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