

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 34 Issue 38

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Wednesday, July 26, 2006

Much debated tree cutting more about safety than aesthetics



Lucas Simon of Medco Tree Service cuts down a tree trunk on North Monroe. The trees must be cut carefully to keep branches from striking wires. Branches and trunks are braced with ropes to prevent them from damaging shrubs and pavement below.

By Dan Schneider

While the Lowell Light and Power's tree-trimming and cutting has not been popular among some residents, the utility says it is a necessary safety precaution.

"We're trying to reduce the risk to the community of injury, death and the interruption of power services," Lowell Light and Power general manager Tom Richards said.

He said tree limbs pose a fire hazard and other safety risks when they come in contact with power lines particularly during storms. The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) prescribes a distance of 10 feet between tree limbs and neighborhood distribution lines, which are uninsulated and carry a 13,000-volt current.

That 10 feet of clearance can be attained by trimming away parts of the tree or by cutting the tree down. Richards said owners of property adjacent to the trees, which are on city street right of way, are

given the option of having the tree trimmed rather than cut down. This year, he said, property owners are being told when trimming would majorly disfigure or cause the likely death of a tree. This has led to more trees getting cut down.

"We're doing the same thing we've always been doing but we're doing a better job of explaining to the homeowner what the impact is going to be on that tree," Richards said. "The goal here is to make sure the customer isn't left with a dead tree that they have to take care of a year and a half after we do the trimming."

People have complained about the tree cutting's visual impact on the northeast side neighborhood. Homeowners had a variety of reactions to the tree-cutting program in the city.

"It was hard for me to see them go because it probably took more than 100 years to grow and it only took two hours to take it down, and that was a healthy tree," said Dana

Chase of one of the walnut trees that was cut down next to her property on North Washington Street. "I have mixed feelings about it because I do lots of vegetable gardening."

She said the additional light will help her expand vegetable and flower gardens.

"We will be using the space creatively," Chase said.

Deb Griffin, a rental tenant at the house, said, "It seems like a shame to take down healthy trees." But she also took the tree cutting in stride.

"I told them I want ours to have eyebrows," Griffin said. "It might as well have personality as long as possible."

She was referring to the pink smiley faces the utility used to mark trees slated for cutting. The markings have drawn the ire of those who feel they are flippant toward people who value the trees. Richards said the smiley faces were probably not the best public relations

Trees, cont'd., pg. 20

Several candidates running unopposed in August primary election

By Dan Schneider

Kent County Drain Commissioner will be the most hotly-contested office Lowell area residents will vote on in the Aug. 8 primary elections.

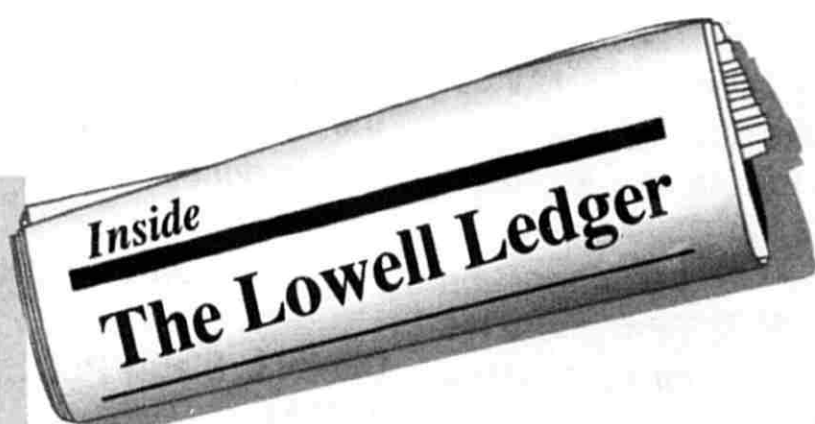
In fact, it is the most hotly-contested primary in the county besides the 74th District State Representative primary, which has 10 candidates vying for the chance to represent the Republican party in the Nov. 7 general

election. The slate of candidates for drain commissioner includes six individuals hoping for the Republican nomination and one seeking unopposed the Democratic nomination.

The only other contested primary on the ballot for citizens of the city of Lowell and Vergennes, Lowell and

Bowne townships is for third district U.S. representative. Incumbent Vern Ehlers of Grand Rapids is running uncontested for the Republican nomination, but Peter Hickey of Kentwood and James Rinck of Grand Rapids are vying for the Democratic nod.

Election, cont'd., pg. 9



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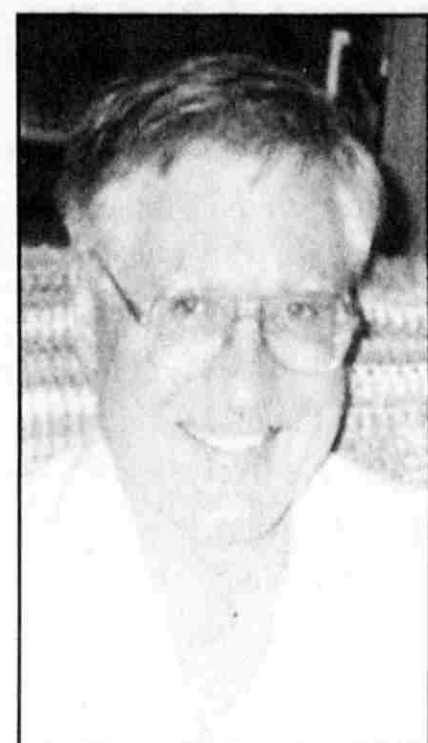
River "dancin"

Sonja Reed and Don Funky, in the foreground, were among many people dancing on the Riverwalk last Thursday to the music of the Sea Cruisers. The Cruisers, the sixth band in this year's Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concerts, played a mix of mostly 1950s rock and roll tunes.

Obituaries

CONNER
Roger Lee Conner, aged 69, of Lowell, passed away July 19, 2006 in Lowell. He was born August 11, 1936 in Saranac, the son of Ward and Doris (Bishop) Conner. Roger married Geri Rice October 24, 1958 in Saranac. He attended Saranac Schools. He was a Navy veteran serving as a seaman and fireman from 1955-1957. He was a member of the Lowell Moose Lodge. Roger is survived by his loving wife of 47 years Geri Conner of Lowell; children Randy and Patsy Conner of Orleans, Lynn and Don Green of Lowell, Cindy and Chris Dibble of Lowell, Kevin Conner of Orleans, Michele and Dave Longfield of Rockford; brothers Richard and Patricia Conner of Ionia, Michael and Wanda Conner of Ionia; sisters Patricia and Ben Frazer of Saranac, Glennis Lockhart of Saranac, Debbie and Rob Detar of Florida; 14 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and one niece

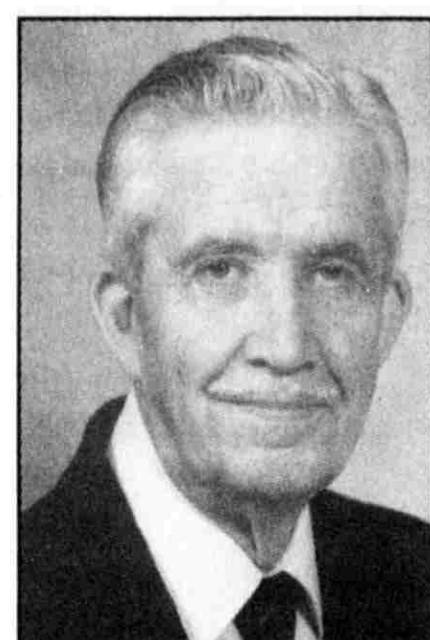
Hope. Funeral services were held Saturday at First Baptist Church in Lowell with Pastor Dave Sims officiating. Interment in Easton Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made in Roger's name to First Baptist Church in Lowell or Heartland Hospice.



FINNEY

Brian Finney, aged 67, formerly of Lowell, passed away July 15, 2006. He is survived by his two daughters Pam Buckley and Laura Koster; brother David Finney; son-in-law Chris Buckley; sister-in-law Lillian Finney; nephew

David Ian; grandchildren Jamie, Cassandra, Breanna, Michael, Heather; other extended family and friends. Brian worked for Rapistan for over 35 years and retired in 2004. Since his retirement he has been traveling and planning an ocean trip on his sailboat. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 29 at Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, 305 N. Hudson St., Rev. Nathaniel Johnson from Vergennes First United Methodist Church, officiating. Visitation will be after the service from 12 - 1 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.



KEREKES

Paul D. Kerekes, aged 89, of Lowell, passed away July 19, 2006. He was preceded in death by his wife Rose.

Mr. Kerekes is survived by his son John (Emily) of Rockford; grandchildren Kristen (Mike) Minor of Jackson, Paul Kerekes of Long Beach, CA, Ryan Kerekes of Chicago, IL; brother Carl (Irene) Kerekes of Grand Rapids. Mr. Kerekes served in the Army's 10th Ski Mountain Trooper Division at Camp Hale. Paul and his brother Carl owned and operated the Schusaway Ski Hill in the '50s. He performed on the Lowell Showboat with the Grand River Ramblers. He was a mail carrier in Lowell for 35 years. Funeral services were held July 22 at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, Dr. Michael Conklin of the First United Methodist Church of Lowell officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to The American Cancer Society.

MARKHAM

Minnie Markham, aged 93, of Saranac, passed away peacefully on July 23, 2006. She was preceded in death by her loving husband Fred Jr. (Judy) and Kris (Mike) Frain; grandchildren Ross, Cole, Hannah, Rachel, Mary and several brothers and sisters. Mrs. Markham is survived by her sister Edith Jorgenson; son-in-law

Don Bogerd; grandchildren Tom (Mickey) Bogerd, Ric (Karen) Bogerd, Barb (Steve) Metternick, Cheryl Touchstone; special friend Fred McLeary; nine great-grandchildren; seven great-great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. A memorial service will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 26 at the Ada Community Reformed Church, 7329 Thornapple River, Ada, Rev. Julie Vander Veen-Van Til officiating. Interment Findlay Cemetery. Relatives and friends may meet the family at the church from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. prior to the service. Those who wish may make memorial contributions to Fountain View of Lowell or Faith Hospice.

OSBORN

Sally A. (nee Cutler) Osborn, aged 67, passed away on Thursday, July 20, 2006. She is survived by her former husband Fred and their two children Fred Jr. (Judy) and Kris (Mike) Frain; grandchildren Ross, Cole, Hannah, Rachel,

Sarah. Sally graduated from Lowell High School in 1956 and attended MSU, although her passion in life was being a good mother and a friend to many. According to her wishes, cremation has taken place and a memorial service was held July 24 at the Cascade Christian Church Chapel. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Kent County Humane Society.

SHAVALIER

Nathalie M. Shavaliere, aged 84, of Grand Rapids, went to be with her Lord on Wednesday, July 19, 2006. She is survived by her children Karen and Glen Edwards of San Jose, CA, Frederick and Carol Schmidt of Fruitport, Diane and Jeffery Burke of Santa Clara, CA, Randolph Schmidt and Trang Ton of Walker, Joseph and Vickie Schmidt of Hesperia; 13 grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; sister Carol Bullock of Lowell. A Mass of Christian Burial was held Saturday at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church. Interment Holy Cross Cemetery.

Lowell Township to hold "Party in the Park"

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell Charter Township parks and recreation committee is putting on a "Party in the Park" at Grand River Riverfront Park.

"We never had a grand opening celebration at the park so this is to celebrate the existence of the park and hopefully get more people to come out and use it," said committee chair Paula Blumm.

From noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12, there will be free food (including hot dogs and lemonade), music (including music by Brian Adams and also bluegrass

music by Dave Simmonds), and kids' games.

The event will promote the various outdoor activities at the park. Members of the Grand Rapids Amateur Astronomical Association will be on hand with a telescope for solar viewing. A motorcycle club holding a fundraiser ride the same day will make an appearance and a member of the West Michigan Geocaching Society will also be there. Other outdoor organizations are encouraged to set up informational booths, as well.

The party is planned as a showcase for the park's amenities.

"It's a beautiful park," said Blumm. "We have a fishing pier, we have a non-motorized boat launch."

The park is probably best known among local soccer players because of its soccer fields. But it also has pavilions with picnic tables and grills, restrooms, and playground equipment. The park has nearly a mile of paved walking paths. A lacrosse field is planned.

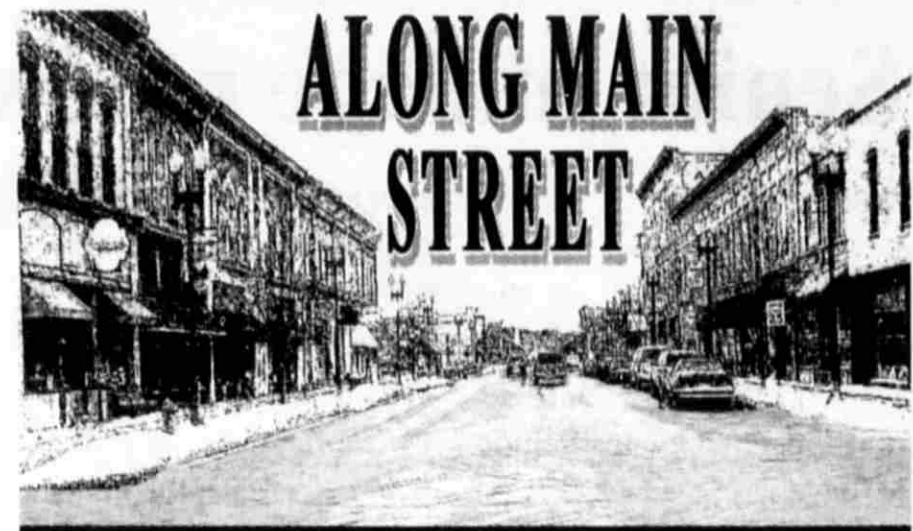
Parks committee members will have a display on hand detailing other planned improvements to the park. These include additional paths, enhancement of the park's

pond, and a series of exercise stations for seniors.

The party was intentionally planned for the last day of the Kent County Youth Fair.

"That last Saturday of fair, there's usually not a lot going on, but the kids still have to be there so we're hoping the families will come down for an hour or two and have lunch and stretch their legs," Blumm said.

The park is open from dawn to dusk in spring and fall and from about 8 a.m. to dusk during the summer. It is closed during the winter.



SIZZLIN' SUMMER CONCERTS

Flat River Big Band will perform this Thursday from 7-9 p.m. at Riverwalk Plaza.

LEARN AN INSTRUMENT

Private music lessons are being offered by instructors at the Franciscan Life Process Center. Call 897-7842. Scholarships available.

SIGN-UPS FOR LOWELL YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Held at Burch Field. Dates: July 27 & Aug. 3, 6-8 p.m. New players must provide a copy of birth certificate. Call 897-7896 or email lyf99@aol.com

FROM FOOD PANTRY

Needed for the Food Pantry are boxed potatoes, kidney beans, cereal, laundry soap, and macaroni and cheese.

CLASS OF 1991

Please call Shannon Eickhoff (Hayden) at 897-9045 if you know the whereabouts of the following: Bryan Chaterdon, Aaron Hedlund, Tom Mauric, Misty Parker, Chris Rash, Janette Rash, Veronica Rauch, Nate Roberts, April Rogers, Joe Scott, Melissa Sherwood, Tim Thuston, Chris Tower, Wendy Turner, Julie Wade, Chad Werdon, Nancy Wingeier.

NATIVE AMERICAN ACTIVITIES WORKSHOP

Lowell Area Historical Museum will present a Native American workshop this Saturday, 9-2 p.m., ages 8-13, at Wittenbach/Wege Center. \$15 per child. Call 897-7688 to register.

KENT COUNTY YOUTH FAIR

The 72nd annual Kent County Youth Fair begins Monday, Aug. 7 at 225 S. Hudson. Free admission, daily free horse drawn wagon rides, 4-H livestock and still exhibits. Call 897-6050 or visit www.kcfcg.org.

40TH REUNION

Looking for members of the Class of '66 (Linda Byrne, Noreen Fairbrother, Richard Harvey, Kirk Jefferies, Roberta Kelly, Elwood Wingier, Stan Wingier, Dick Bignall) for Saturday's reunion at VFW Hall, 3116 Alden Nash, 3p.m.-? \$10/person. Food provided, bring a beverage. Dave Rogers 772-781-7432/email emdar51@aol.com or Janet (Stevens) Boerema at 897-7361.

RELAY FOR LIFE

Lowell's Relay for Life will be at Lowell Memorial Stadium, noon Friday, Aug. 4 - noon, Saturday, Aug. 5. Proceeds benefit American Cancer Society research. Contact person: Elizabeth Males, 364-6121

BOWNE TOWNSHIP

SYNOPSIS REGULAR BOARD MEETING JULY 17, 2006

Motions approved: Minutes of June meeting. List of all invoices presented.

- Master Plan Resolution of Adoption.
- Morse Lake Sand & Gravel License Renewal.
- Alto Harvest Day Festival permit.

Copies of entire minutes available at the website bownetwp.cc.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk
Bowne Township Clerk



There's a Big Birthday Parade A-Comin'

Everybody loves a parade, right? Well, get ready to really have some fun on October 14 when the biggest parade ever to hit Lowell will explode on Main Street at 1 p.m. SHARP! You all know that we are celebrating Lowell's 175th Birthday this year, right? I'm sure you do, but did you also know that this is the year for two more very special birthdays? The Fire Department turns 150 and the Chamber hits 100!

Imagine that, three birthdays of this magnitude in one year. We all agreed that calls for something special, so, in addition to all of the traditional activities of the Harvest Celebration, this year we're adding the biggest, most colossal parade this town has ever seen. We'll have a serious portion at the beginning when we salute our valiant military personnel, past and present ... THEN the lid comes off as the rest of the parade takes Main Street by storm with the wacky theme of "Clown and Costumes!" It'll feature over 20 musical groups, horses and dancers, motorcycles and calliope(s), a ton of clowns, bands of all sizes, jugglers and boats, floats and goats! We'll even be bringing in The Keystone Cops and guess who's coming out of retirement just to be here with us? The Top Clown of all, Bozo!!!

And there'll be more, much more! Be sure to watch for See-more's Corner every other week between now and October 14 for clues and teases about everything that will be happening leading up to this spectacular Hometown Parade. You won't want to miss any of it!

I'll be seeing you at the concerts on the Riverwalk! See-more, the Hobo Clown! ... Be sure to wave!!!

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that The Public Accuracy Test for the August 8, 2006 primary election has been scheduled for Thursday August 3, 2006 at 10:00 AM in the Township Hall at 12050 Old Belding Rd., Belding, Michigan.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the computer program used to record and count the votes cast at the election meet the requirements of law.

Lana Green
Grattan Township Clerk

Vandalism continues to plague local car dealers

Lowell police are looking for suspects in the vandalism of new cars on the lots at Grand Chrysler Dodge Jeep and Grand Wittenbach Pontiac GMC in Lowell.

Incidents have occurred on various days and times, usually over weekends with dealership employees discovering the damage the following Monday. The damage has consisted mostly of scraped finishes on the cars. But Friday, July 14, a showroom plateglass window at Grand Wittenbach was shot out.

That incident occurred early in the morning. Evidence recovered from the scene indicates that a slingshot or wrist rocket was used to shoot out the window. Lowell police chief Steve Bukala said.

Grand Wittenbach's problems began during the Memorial Day holiday. Some time that weekend,

one or more vandals walked along the sidewalk, scraping a sharp object over the hoods of nearby cars. That incident alone cost an estimated \$3,300 in damage.

Other local crime news is also related to cars. Last Monday night, three cars were broken into near Lafayette and Monroe streets. An eyewitness gave foot chase to two individuals but lost them near the corner of Monroe and Marsac.

Anyone with information regarding these crimes should contact the Lowell Police Department at 897-7123 or Silent Observer at 774-2345.

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MONSTER HOUSE (PG)
11:25, 1:25, 3:25, 5:25, 7:25, 9:25
OLYMPIAN IN THE WATER (PG-13)
12:15, 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:35
OMY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND (PG-13) 11:45, 1:45, 3:45, 5:45, 7:45, 9:45
OYOU, ME AND DUPREE (PG-13)
12:20, 2:35, 4:50, 7:10, 9:25
PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST (PG-13)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

COUPON
FREE
20oz DRINK
with \$5 purchase
of 40oz bag of fluffy popcorn
at participating theaters. Good thru 7/27/06.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
FILE NO. 06-181-758-DE

Estate of ELDEN EDWARD KAHKONEN deceased

Date of Birth: 03/27/1930

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
The decedent, ELDEN EDWARD KAHKONEN, who lived at 4121 Piute, Grandville, MI died May 18, 2006. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims

against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to ERIC KAHKONEN, named personal representative, or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave. NW, Suite 2500, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503, and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

July 20, 2006

Justin Michael P34349
4550 Cascade Rd. SE Suite 102

Grand Rapids, MI 49503
616-940-9991

Eric Kahkonen
4121 Piute Grandville, MI 49418
616-532-8371

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF IONIA

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
FILE NO. 06-138-DE

Estate of HAROLD A. MCKEAGE deceased

Date of Birth: February 24, 1913

TO ALL CREDITORS:

Estate of BETTY JUNE MILLARD deceased
Date of Birth: June 24, 1922

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
The decedent, HAROLD A. MCKEAGE, who lived at 10300 Sayles Rd., Lowell, MI 49331 died October 13, 1979. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to ANN EBENSTEIN, named personal representative, or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 1133 Yeomans, #115, Ionia, Michigan, and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

July 20, 2006

Charles T. Zimmerman P22735
161 Ottawa Ave. NW, Suite 600
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
616-235-3500

Ann Ebenstein
1133 Yeomans, #115 Ionia, MI 48846

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
FILE NO. 06-181,683-DE

Estate of BETTY JUNE MILLARD deceased

Date of Birth: June 24, 1922

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
The decedent, BETTY JUNE MILLARD, who lived at 40 Sycamore St., Cedar Springs, MI 49319 died November 28, 2004. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to SHARON KOSTERS, named personal representative, or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

July 18, 2006

Daniel L. Blauw PLC P37283
1515 Michigan NE Grand Rapids, MI 49503
616-336-5098

Sharon Kosters
P.O. Box 150349 Grand Rapids, MI 49515
616-363-7712

MARK EDWARD VANSTEE
3/23/72 - 7/28/00

The memories we make in life, become lasting treasures inside the heart.

Lovingly remembered by,
Mom & Dad (Lyn & Pete)
Sisters, Shawn (Dave, Quentin, Hannah, Isaiah & Chloe)
& Stacey (Thomas & Reanna)

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Senior millage renewal will be on primary election ballot

By Dan Schneider

On the ballot in the Aug. 8 primary election is a renewal and increase of the Kent County Senior Millage.

Regulars at the Lowell Senior Center are hopeful that the voter turnout will be similar to their weekday lunches, where every seat is

packed with a supporter of the millage. Funds raised through the millage help provide seniors 60 years and older with a variety of services to help them live independently in their homes.

Services are provided through the Area Agency on Aging of West Michigan. They include home-

delivered meals, prescription assistance, homemakers to maintain seniors' living environments, and helping seniors access other available programs.

The most noticeable impact the millage has in Lowell is at the senior center. It is a major source of funding for Senior Neighbors, Inc., which

operates seven centers county-wide.

"If this didn't pass, they would have to close all but two of the seven centers," Lowell Senior Center coordinator Marcia Roth said. "We don't know which ones would get shut down, but we're hoping Lowell wouldn't be one."

The Lowell Senior Center opened in 1979 in a storefront on Main Street. After being temporarily located inside a school, it was moved to its present location on South Hudson Street.

"This place means a lot to a lot of older folks around here," Larry Visser said.

He and his wife, Jo, have lunch at the center every weekday. The meals served are simple and nutritious. Friday it was chicken salad wraps with beans, a small apple cinnamon muffin and a fresh peach on the side. But the seniors, many of whom live alone, get a lot more out of the meals than what is on the styrofoam serving trays.

"There's something about it, eating with other people ... you can come

feeling sorry for yourself, feeling ill, and leave feeling good because you have other people who might have the same problems and can talk about it," said Marge Potter, who has lived by herself for 14 years since the death of her husband. "If the Senior Neighbors wasn't here, I'd be completely shut in."

"I wouldn't eat and they put me in the hospital because I didn't eat," Schneider Manor resident Hazel Nummer said. "Now I'm coming here for meals and I'm walking over here and it has helped a lot."

Nummer, like a number of seniors at the center, lives at Schneider Manor which is in walking distance. She said the exercise is helpful.

Another way millage funds assist seniors is with the bus at the center. It provides transportation to and from lunch, for outings, and to doctors' appointments.

"It's a lot of help to me because I don't drive and I have to have the bus for transportation," Louise Ryder said. "They even take us to the grocery store

on the bus." Ryder also has a housekeeping service through the millage.

The services offer a measure of independence for seniors to whom independence is important. Potter and others around the lunch table Friday explained how they were able to care for their husbands with serious illnesses at home rather than place them in nursing homes.

Activities are an important part of the center's mission, as well. Thursday is crafts and euchre; Friday is bingo. Seniors also meet at the center to work on puzzles and to do volunteer work, such as counting box tops for Lowell Area Schools.

Voters first approved the millage at a rate of .25 mills in 1998. The Kent County Commission unanimously approved putting the millage up for a renewal and increase to .33 mills this year. The .33 mills would raise an estimated \$6,646,863 in the first year. On an individual level, it would cost the owner of a \$160,000 house \$26.40 per year.



Seniors from in and around Lowell enjoyed a game of bingo Friday afternoon at the Lowell Senior Center. If the Kent County Senior Millage does not pass Aug. 8, it will put the future of the center in jeopardy.

Hildenbrand honored for commitment to agriculture

As more and more generations are removed from the farm, it becomes increasingly important to have leaders who recognize the needs of agriculture and support measures that strengthen the industry.

As appreciation for continued support of Michigan's agricultural industry, the Michigan Agri-Business Association (MABA) recently honored State Representative Dave Hildenbrand with the title as "Agricultural Advocate"

and awarded him a John Deere Narrow Front Model "G" model tractor.

"We are very fortunate to have legislators, like Representative Hildenbrand, that understand and appreciate Michigan producers and

agribusinesses," said Jim Byrum, MABA president. "At a time when there is a great deal of focus on maintaining our state's manufacturing base, we also need to be mindful and supportive of the state's

second largest industry — agriculture. We're grateful to have legislators, some of them farmers themselves, that are very conscious of how their decisions impact agriculture."

BOWNE TOWNSHIP NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the OPTECH Computer Program Testing for the August 8, 2006 Primary Election is Wednesday, August 2, 2006 at 10:30 a.m. at the Township Office - 8240 Alden Nash S.E., Alto.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk
Bowne Township Clerk

Fatal weekend accident

A fatal car accident occurred late Sunday afternoon at the corner of Vergennes Street and Parnell Ave. in Vergennes Township.

Gregory Burmania, 39, of Cedar Springs, was killed in the accident. According to police reports, at about 6 p.m. Burmania drove his Pontiac Bonneville northbound

through the stop sign at the intersection, colliding with an eastbound Pontiac Sunfire convertible. The impact sent the convertible's backseat passengers, 18-year-old Malorie Starr and 22-year-old Ryan Pethers, both of Ada, airborne.

Burmania was pronounced dead at the scene. Starr and Pethers were taken

by ambulance to Spectrum Health Butterworth Campus. Neither was wearing a seatbelt.

Kimberly Platz, 40, of Alto, the passenger in the Bonneville, received minor injuries and was not taken to the hospital. She and Burmania were both wearing seatbelts.

William, 60, and Lynda Pethers, 56, the driver and frontseat passenger, respectively, in the convertible, complained of general soreness after the accident. Neither was taken to the hospital. Both were wearing seatbelts.



JULY 6 - OCTOBER 14

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(No Farm Market Fair Week)

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August 14th thru 18th • 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM

Camp Fee \$160

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All-ages and skill level welcome!

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Contact Rob Stehley At

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Viewpoint



by Roger Brown
cozy corner

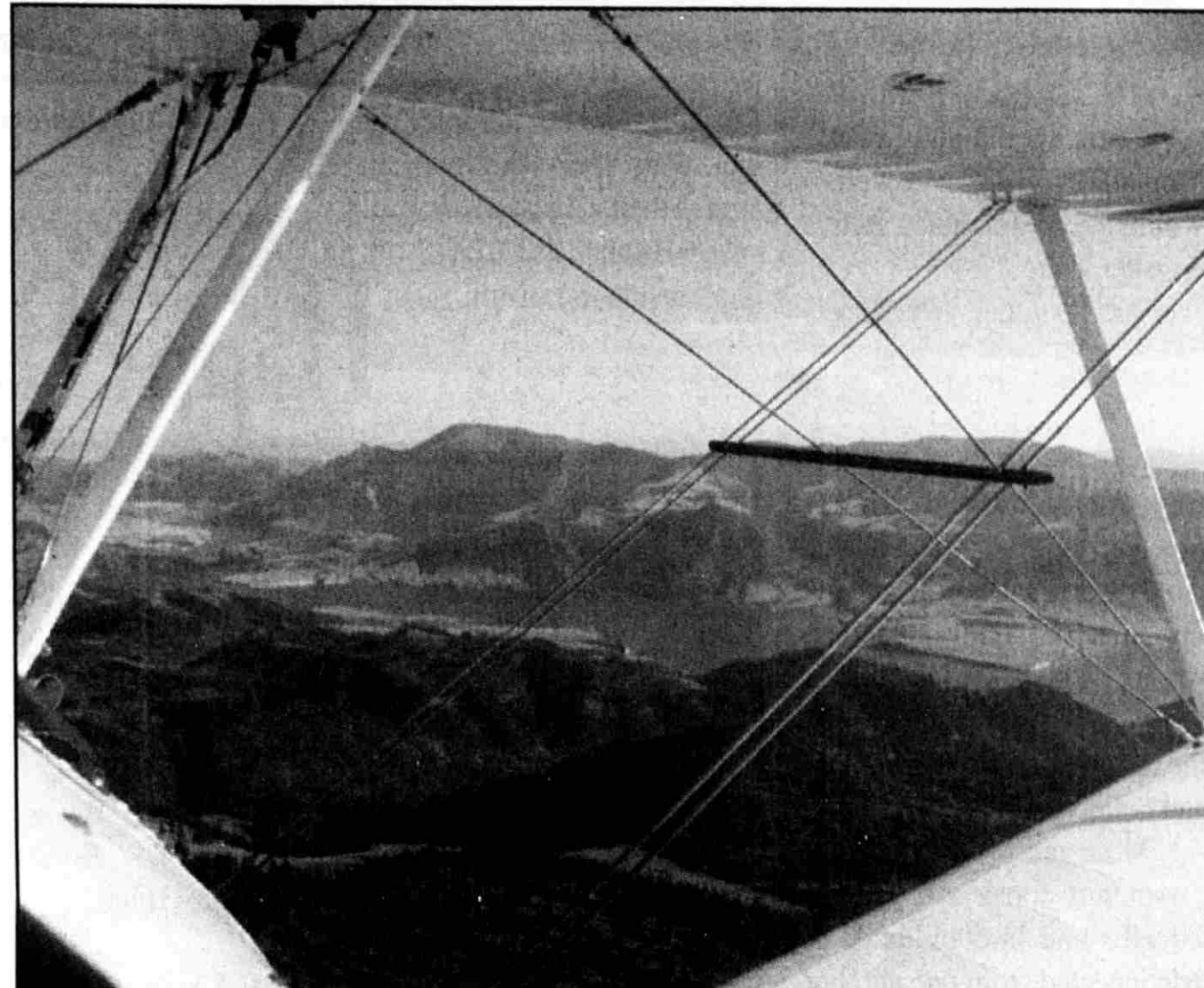
We parted company last week with my old Stearman chugging its way up the Missouri River. After briefly visiting Minnesota we were now winging our way west under warm blue skies and enjoying a slight tailwind. Nebraska was off my left wing and South Dakota the right.

These days the river is dammed in several places, creating reservoirs and changing it considerably from what Lewis and Clark experienced. Along this stretch I began to get a feel for the vastness of this country. As far as I could see from my open cockpit vantage point, there was basically ... not much. Oh sure, there were huge irrigated fields in all directions, but very few dwellings and far fewer towns. This sense of vastness would remain with me the entire trip. It's a big country we live in!

The river soon angles off to the northwest and leaves the Nebraska border behind. My next fuel stop was Pierre, South Dakota. Mark South Dakota off the list and put the sticker on my cheesy map. The stop was a quick turn around, but I did notice a slight "miss" when selecting the left magneto during run-up. It had rained the night before in Omaha, and I hoped the "miss" was just some moisture in a plug wire.

After leaving Pierre, the Missouri runs nearly straight north off toward Bismarck, North Dakota. I set my sights on Mandan, a town with a small airport across the river from Bismarck. It turned out to be a good choice. The F.B.O. (Fixed Base Operator) was closed, but a guy at the crop duster hangar next door showed me how to get in, where the keys to the courtesy car were stashed and assured that nobody would care if I slept on the couch. Sweet!!!

After fueling I did a run-up and still had a "miss" on the left magneto. I performed a simple test I've learned that will single out a bad sparkplug or plug wire. The test was negative. I then pulled each of the fourteen sparkplugs for a look. Nothing out of the ordinary. With everything back together, a run-up was still rough on the left mag. Hmmm. This was bad news. I had a problem magneto on a Sunday night in Mandan, North Dakota.



A view of The Missouri breaks through the flying wires of the left wings. I wish now that I'd purchased a better camera and experimented with using it from the cockpit. The photos from this trip could have been stunning.

I washed up and took the courtesy car to town. Airport courtesy cars are a story unto themselves. They are typically old junkers with ailments to stump even the "Car Talk" guys on N.P.R. The air conditioning is guaranteed not to work,

Cozy, cont'd., pg. 10

To The Editor

To The Editor,

An open letter to the citizens of the Greater Lowell area: All of us recognize that we hold tightly a gem in the rural atmosphere where we have chosen to live. The Lowell area is rich with history. Whether we are long-time residents or the newly relocated, we all have a stake in its future.

My wife and I moved to our new home as newlyweds in November 2004: she from the city of Grand Rapids and I from a recently rural suburb of Lansing.

Today, in our backyard, the Flat River drifts slowly along while across the dirt road, the vintage baseball team -- the Fallsburg Cubs -- plays in the grassy field as the occasional Model-T rolls up to the 1860s schoolhouse.

We're not wealthy by any sense of the imagination, yet somehow -- in some magical way -- we've been afforded the

ability to step back in time. For myself, this is almost in the literal sense, as I grew up in the country along the forested banks of the Looking Glass River northwest of Lansing. Despite the old saying "You can never go home again," in a way, I feel I have. I do not want to lose that.

Back in Lansing, the area around my old homestead is changing: Where once there were cornfields, new homes spring up like aluminum-sided mushrooms.

Today, as I drive to our home north of Lowell, tires thumping over the wooden planks of the covered bridge, I'm aware of how fragile this slice of history, this village of Fallsburg, really is. It could all change overnight.

Over the past several months I followed newspaper reports about the state of Fallsburg Village: its immediate budget woes, lack of volunteers and the deterioration of buildings unique to the state in that they are still standing on their original foundations. Until then, quite honestly, I had not been a terribly civic-minded person. But the fresh memories of what has happened to my boyhood home made

To The Editor, cont'd., pg. 8

Ledger Entries

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



By Priscilla Lussmyer

125 YEARS
THE WEEKLY JOURNAL
JULY 27, 1881
NEXT ONE: OCTOBER 5, 1881

100 YEARS
THE LOWELL LEDGER
JULY 26, 1906

Sunday was a scorcher, but a good spot was Island Park. Will Bovee of Alton visited his mother Sunday.

There will be an ice cream social at the Grange Hall at Seeley Corners Wednesday night.

Don Pettis of Ada was thrown while riding his horse, an unruly one, which also stepped on his arm.

75 YEARS
THE LOWELL LEDGER
AND THE ALTO SOLO
JULY 23, 1931

A radio broadcast about the coming Lowell Centennial from Chicago is not heard here because of static, but comes through elsewhere. The Kent County Road Commission will take over 20 percent of present township roads; they are working on which ones.

A full program for the Lowell Centennial, Aug. 6-8, is printed. Two great-granddaughters of Lowell's first permanent white settler, Daniel Marsac, will be at the Centennial.

50 YEARS
THE LOWELL LEDGER
JULY 26, 195

The Sligh water skiers perform in front of the stands as the red, blue and silver 1956 Showboat comes 'round the bend for six nights this week. Calvin Pinckney brings in the first load of wheat to King Milling Co.

Red measles breaks out, with over 30 cases in two days reported by local doctors.

A speeding and reckless driver smashes the Fallsburg Park entrance arch.

25 YEARS
THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER
JULY 22, 1981

Three showers on Opening Night leave room for outdoor performances of Showboat '81.

A four-page photo spread of the Sesquicentennial Parade is part of this week's issue.

Two books, Lowell 1831-1931 and Lowell 1931-1981, plus Showboat jewelry are for sale, the latter to help retire the amphitheater debt.

Somehow, the "Off the Blotter" section of Along Main Street is titled "Fond Memory."

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 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or emailed to: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com. Letters must be signed and please include a phone number. Editing may be necessary for space, clarity and to avoid obscenity, libel or invasion of privacy. The Lowell Ledger thanks you in advance for your cooperation.

Lend A Hand VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

HELP PROMOTE LITERACY

The Kent County Literacy Council has scheduled an information session on Thursday, Aug. 3 for prospective volunteer tutors. This session is held at 6:30 p.m. and lasts one hour. At the end of the session, there will be an opportunity to sign up for tutor training.

By training people to be tutors, the council can offer one-on-one reading help to adults asking for assistance in reading or English as a Second Language (ESL). You do not need to speak another language to tutor ESL.

The information session will be held at the Gaines Township Library, 421 68th St. SE, Grand Rapids. Call 459-5151 to register.

*The truth is rarely pure
and never simple.*

- Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)

Reflections of faith

Dr. Michael Conklin, pastor
First United Methodist Church

One of my favorite little stories is told by William Wilmon. In one of his pastorates he was visiting a man who steadfastly refused to church for a familiar-sounding reason. "I don't attend church," he said, "because it is full of hypocrite." Wilmon paused for a few moments, and then said, "No, that isn't true. I saw some empty seats there just this past Sunday."

This story appeals to me because of something that I have learned through my years of ministry. People show up on Sunday morning with everything that they are. They bring with them their gifts and graces, and their faults and failings. People walk through the door carrying with them both their great capacity to accept people as they are, coexisting with the narrow prejudices and resentments that limit

At Your Local Library



ICE CREAM, A TREAT AT THE ALTO BRANCH

With Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales summer reading club in full swing, school-age children won't want to miss the program on ice cream!

Bob Schultz from the Culinary Arts department at Grand Rapids Community College will present "Dessert from the Dairy Farm" at the Alto branch library this Wednesday, July 26 at 1:30 p.m. Registration is required. Call 647-3820.

Engagements

Treglia/VanderPols

Chris Treglia and Jamie VanderPols, of Lowell, would like to announce their engagement.

An October wedding

is planned. The couple along with their children Aaron, Adam, Chelsea Rae, Chelsey Brianna and Chase will all reside in Lowell.

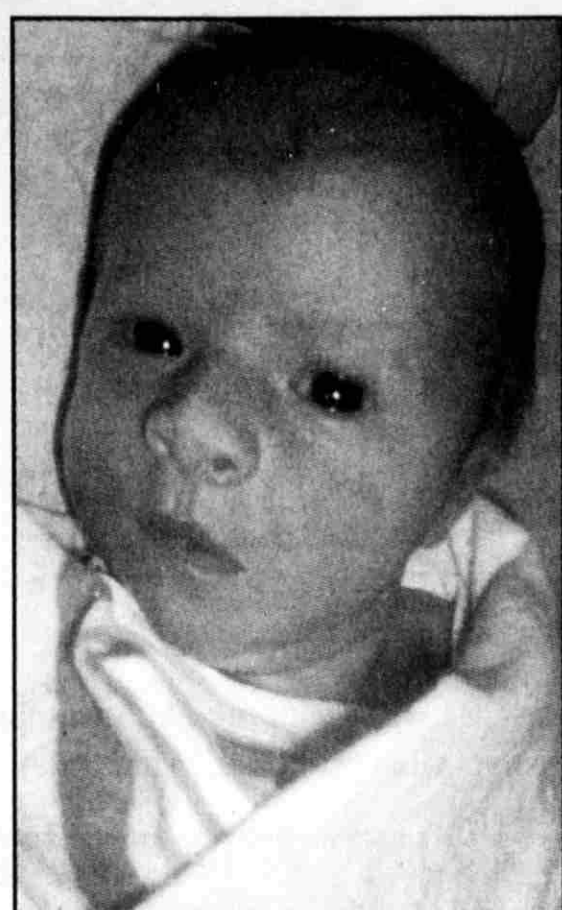
that capacity. In short, our worship hour brings a whole host of broken, limited, and imperfect people who have come together to pray, praise, and nourish their lives around the table of God's grace. We all come before God on equal footing, none of us advantaged more than the others. Whether we are seekers setting foot in church for the first time, or veteran worshipers, God will take us as we are, and work the miracle of grace with the available clay of our individual and collective lives.

More and more I take comfort in the idea that the faith community consists of people who bring together their varied gifts and limitations. It is a reminder that, apart and disconnected from one another, we are incomplete, needing the sense of belonging together for any real wholeness to emerge in our lives and in our life together. If this is true—and I believe that it is—then a life that is marked by mutual tolerance and forgiveness for our various failings and limitations is not just an ideal toward which we should strive, but an indispensable necessity for a people who are called into being by the grace and love of God.

We are not, in the long run, a gathering of hypocrites. We are people bound together, so that our gifts and graces may combine to mute our limitations, open our hearts, and create the wholeness of God's humanity that God intends.

New Arrivals

Johnson



Lucas Allan Johnson

Jeff and Regan Johnson are excited to announce the birth of their new son, Lucas Allan, born on June 29, 2006. He weighed 7 lbs. 4 oz. and measured 21 1/2 inches.

Welcoming him home are big brothers Hunter and Logan.

Proud grandparents are Barb Johnson of Kentwood, Warren and Beth Johnson of Lowell, and Anita Schlaf of Grand Rapids.

Happy Birthday

- JULY 27:**
Kyle Hendrick, Mike Shalander, Ed Roth Sr., Jason Spencer, Paige Wilson, Sharon Tichelaar.
- JULY 30:**
Patricia Smith, Scott Kooistra, Jodi Mohr, Kimberly DeBold, Bill Potter, Paige Rash.
- JULY 31:**
Nancy Raymor, Sandy Roth, Rochelle Bieri, Morris Robert Young.
- AUGUST 1:**
Barbara Callihan.
- JULY 29:**
Rachael Vegter, Mary Fox, Matt Lee, Terry M. Estes.
- AUGUST 2:**
Carolynn Kline, Hayley Woolfenden.



In The Ledger

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p>ATTENTION: BIBLE BELIEVERS If you would like to attend a church where the King James Bible is held up as the perfect, preserved word of God with all the words of God for all English speaking people, then give us a visit at: 901 W. Main, Lowell</p> <p>Across the street from the Vermont Dodge dealership 897-6284 or 485-4195 10AM Sunday School; 11AM Morning Service; 6PM Evening Service; Wed., 7:30PM Prayer Meeting.</p>	<p>ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Kirby and Harrison Alto • 616-691-8011 Worship.....9:30 A.M. Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.</p> <p>OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS Pastor Dean Bailey</p>	<p>DAY BIBLE CHAPEL 9305 Centerline, Saranac 897-6332</p> <p>Worship.....9:45 A.M. Sunday School.....11:00 A.M.</p> <p>Nursery & Jr. Church Provided Rev. Frank Lattimore, Pastor "A Nondenominational Ministry With A Blended Word Centered Service!"</p>	<p>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL Rev. Randy Meyers - 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....11:20 A.M. Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M. Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free</p>	<p>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES 6:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 P.M. 119 Lincoln Lake, Lowell CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES</p> <p>Pastor Robert L. Hubbard Phone: (616) 897-1267 website www.aplighthouse.com</p>
<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936</p> <p>Worship Services.....8:30 & 10:00 a.m. DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR Nursery & child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH 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>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God) 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery</p> <p>Rev. W. Holmes, Senior Pastor Dave Noonan, Asst. Pastor John King, Youth Pastor</p> <p>SUNDAYS: Worship: 10:00 a.m. - LIFE Home Groups & "XL" Youth Sunday evenings WEDNESDAYS: Family Night (For All Ages): 7:00 p.m. "XL" Youth: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 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 & 7 PM Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL BRENDA BERG 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 48, EWTN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>	<p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (United Church of Christ) 404 North Hudson • 897-5906</p> <p>Sunday Worship.....10:00 A.M. Church School.....10:15-11:15 A.M. Thursday Worship.....7:00 P.M. Dr. Roger LaVarre.....Pastor Shannon Hanley.....C.E. Director Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise & Worship</p>
<p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21</p> <p>www.goodshepherdlowell.org</p> <p>Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor</p> <p>Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA/CLUB JC.....Wed. 6:15 & 8:30 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided - Barrier Free</p>	<p>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 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 & Children Worship Programs Provided "A friend...a family...a mission!"</p>		<p>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 201 N. Washington • 897-8800</p> <p>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>

Lowell hosts Relay for Life in August

By Dan Schneider

The first weekend in August, the track at Red Arrow Memorial Stadium at Lowell High School will be the site of Relay for Life, a large-scale event to raise money and awareness for the fight against cancer.

This will be the first time a Relay for Life is held in Lowell. It is a 24-hour event, starting at noon, Aug. 4 and ending at noon, Aug. 5. During that time, teams made up of families, friends and co-workers camp out and take turns walking laps on the track. The goal is to have a team member walking on the track the entire time, symbolic of the idea that cancer never sleeps.

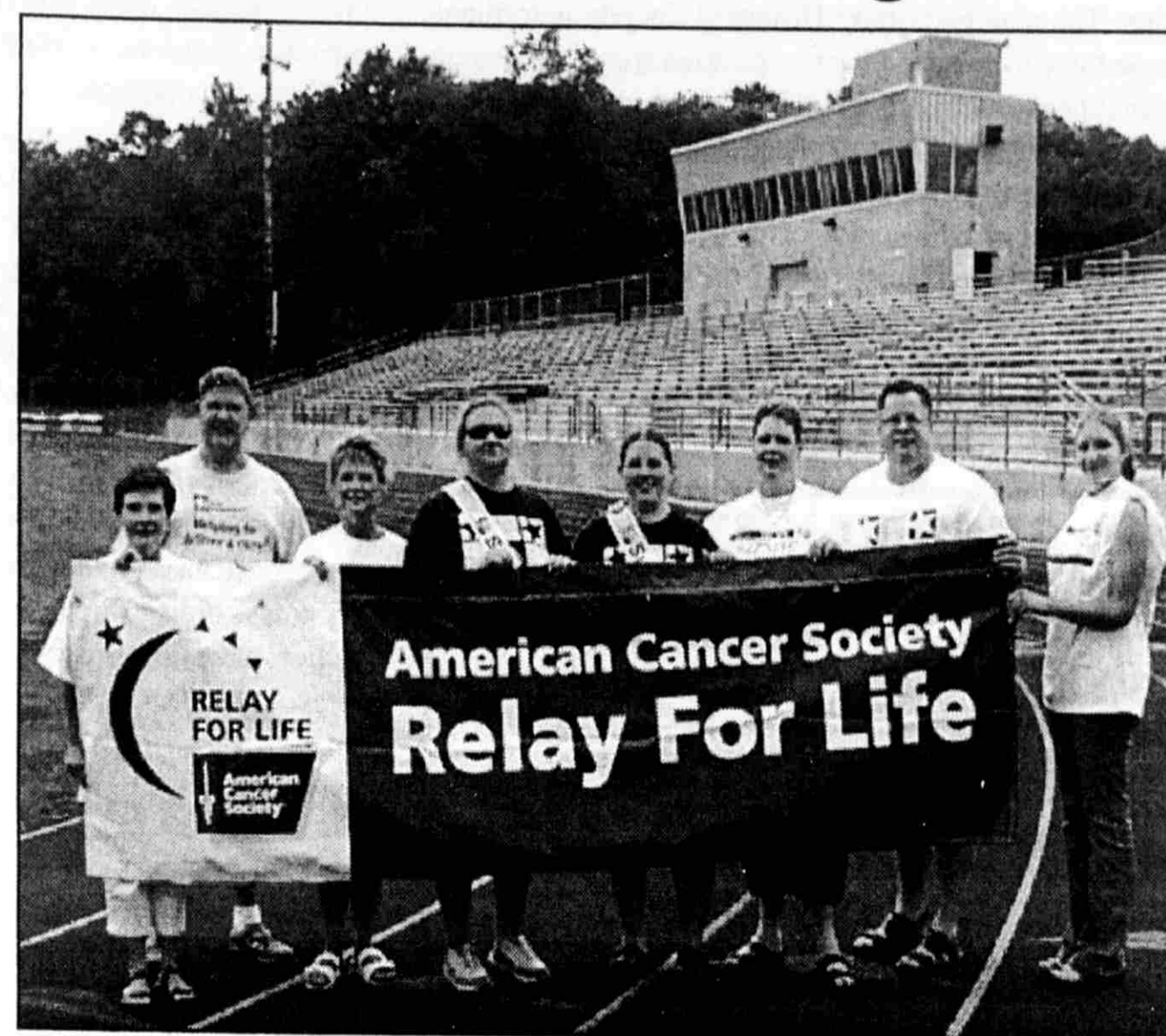
Currently, more than 4,000 communities nationwide host Relay for Life events. Lowell's will be one of eight in Kent County and one of 14 in West Michigan. The American Cancer Society Service Center of West Michigan (ACS) wanted to initiate another Relay for Life in the area and Lowell proved to be a good candidate for more than one reason.

"We were looking to start a new relay somewhere and it happens that our boss lives in Lowell," said ACS community development director Elizabeth Males.

ACS area executive director Mike Lindhout recruited some family members to form a committee to organize the event here.

"He thought Lowell would be a neat place to have the event, a real supportive community," said his sister, Lowell Relay for Life co-vice chair Michele Lindhout.

The kick-off was held in May. So far, 21 teams have formed, Michele Lindhout said, "which is really great for a first-year event."



Organizers of the Lowell Relay for Life are looking forward to the event. It will be held from noon, Aug. 4 to noon the following day.

She hopes to have at least 23 by Aug. 4. "We've had great community support, great interest," she said.

Lowell has a reputation for fostering events like the Relay for Life.

"They're such a close-knit community. They really come together and do things together," Males said. "So it makes a really good place to have a relay because they take up the fight together."

There are several opportunities to get involved in and support the relay. It is not too late, for instance, to form a new team.

"That just means that their fundraising efforts will have to be on a shorter time frame," Michele Lindhout said.

Many of the established teams welcome new members.

Another option is to purchase a luminary from a team member. The small, candle-lit bags honor cancer survivors, people currently fighting cancer, and those who died of cancer. An integral part of the relay

event, the luminaries line the track after dusk.

Some teams have placed donation canisters around town. Others are selling "relay feet" which are put on display.

All proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society.

A lot of activities will be going on at the stadium during the relay.

The West Michigan Whitecaps mascot will be there, as will a stock car from Berlin Raceway. A puppet show is planned.

Caricature artists and chair massages will be offered for donations. And the Great Lakes Band is playing from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. "It should just be a great community event with lots of attractions for kids and adults, both," Michele Lindhout said.

There will be items for sale at a number of tents. One team is selling Red Hot Chili Peppers' memorabilia, including autographed items.

For more information about the Lowell Relay for Life, contact Males at 616-364-6121.

HEALTH

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



SCREENING NEWBORNS FOR HEARING LOSS

Hearing loss affects about 12,000 infants born in the United States annually, making it one of the most common birth defects.

Over the past several years it has become standard practice to screen babies for hearing loss after 24 hours of birth while in the newborn nursery at all hospitals.

Two different tests are commonly used to screen the newborn's hearing. An Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR) measures how the brain responds to sound. Tones are played into the ears via soft earphones while electrodes are placed on the infant's head to measure the brain's response. Otoacoustic Emissions (OAE) measures sound waves produced in the inner ear. A tiny probe is placed just inside the ear canal which measures the response when tones are played. Both tests are quick and painless, often done while the infant is sleeping. Neither test indicates whether a child has a definite hearing loss but they do determine whether further more accurate testing is needed.

If your child fails the newborn screening test they should be reevaluated by one month of age at a hospital that has appropriate testing facilities. Arrangements can be made through your family physician or pediatrician office at your first post hospital exam.

Thanks to recent advances in early detection, education and appropriate therapy, even infants with pronounced hearing loss have the opportunities to learn and speak on the same level as their hearing peers by age five.



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To The Editor, continued ... From Page 5

it clear that if we as a community, myself included, did not step forward -- and soon -- the magic of Fallsburg Village would be lost forever.

I was not the only one to answer the call. In June, a new, 14-member Fallsburg Historical Society board of directors was elected, comprised both of those new to the area and those who have stood fast through decades, in good times and bad. It is clear that we all share a passion in saving this precious, 42-acre resource just north of the covered

bridge. The new Fallsburg Historical Society is fortunate to have three members of the Lowell Area Historical Society working hand-in-hand to rebuild and restructure the village. We have, in my opinion, assembled the ideal "dream-team": people of diverse professions and backgrounds with the will to get Fallsburg Village moving forward again.

In the weeks and months ahead, the Fallsburg Historical Society will begin implementing a significant, far-reaching plan to save the village, but we cannot do it alone. It is going to take you, the people of Lowell and surrounding

communities, to make this happen. We need your support now more than ever, whether it is a monetary donation or a few hours of your time.

The Fallsburg Historical Society is announcing a call to action. Anything worth saving requires dedication, sweat and passion -- qualities already abundant in this community. It's time to roll up our sleeves.

Our immediate needs are donations, of course, but the village also would benefit greatly from the immediate adoption of specific properties for maintenance and landscaping. Could your church group spend a weekend helping to scrape paint on the schoolhouse? Would your gardening group be willing to spruce up the museum grounds? Office help -- including schoolhouse museum docents willing to give just two hours on Sundays -- also would be greatly appreciated.

For more information of how to donate your time, energy and dollars, please call 897-7161. Thank you.

John Forsberg
President
Fallsburg Historical Society

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The Lowell Ledger

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CAR ACCIDENT?

Michigan - A new free report has just been released. It discloses vital information every car accident victim must know before they speak to anyone or seek medical help. If medical care has already started, you need this report even more. Hidden injuries: Research shows that even a so-called "fender bender" can cause hidden injuries: pain, headaches and lifelong arthritis which show up long after your rights under the law have ended. Many car accident victims worry more about their car than securing their rights. If you have been involved in an auto accident no matter how small, call the free 24-hour recorded message at 1-888-897-4994. This call is free and the report is free.

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Election, continued ... From Page 1

In the state senate primary, incumbent Bill Hardiman of Kentwood is running unopposed for the Republican nomination, while David LaGrand of Grand Rapids is running unopposed for the Democratic nomination.

Incumbent Dave Hildenbrand of Lowell is the only Republican in the primary for 86th District State House representative. Melissa Casalina, also of Lowell, is running unopposed for the Democratic nomination.

In the primary for fifth district county commissioner (the fifth district encompasses the city of Lowell and Vergennes, Lowell, Bowne and Cascade townships), Sandra Frost of Cascade Township is unopposed for the Republican nomination while Dennis Brown of Vergennes Township is unopposed as a Democrat.

Current fifth district county commissioner Jack Horton of Vergennes Township is one of the six candidates seeking the

Republican nomination for county drain commissioner. Brian McKay of Grand Rapids is unopposed for the Democratic nomination. The other Republican hopefuls are Barry Bittrick of Ada, William Byl of Grand Rapids, Roger Lamer of Wyoming, Tom Postmus of Grand Rapids and Ron Sytsma of Byron Center.

Drain commissioner is a four-year term. Responsibilities of the office include managing the maintenance and improvement of current

county drains, and establishment of new ones, as prescribed by the State Drain Code. Kent County has more than 500 miles of drains. The drain commissioner also monitors compliance with stormwater statutes (federal, state, and local), monitors the levels of 17 lakes in the county, and reviews stormwater plans for new residential developments.

This year's general election may be the last opportunity to vote for

a drain commissioner. A bill that would allow the county commission to decide whether drain commissioner should be an elected or an appointed position in Kent County passed the state senate 29-7 (with one senator

excused) on March 16. Given to the state house of representatives that same day, it was referred to the house committee on local government and urban policy. There has been no activity on the bill since then.

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- Mahatma Gandhi (1869 - 1948)

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BUSINESSES SERVICES

BUSINESSES SERVICES

Cozy Corner, continued ... From Page 5

and you are lucky if the windows go up and down. This old Ford was no exception and I sweltered my way into town. Mandan was pretty well closed up

on a Sunday night, but I did find a Mexican joint with the lights on.

The mechanic at Mandan was on vacation, so I elected to head on up

the river ... mag troubles and all. Oh yeah ... chalk off North Dakota! Just eight states to go.

The principle reason an aircraft engine has two

magnetos and two plugs per cylinder is for redundancy. Should one magneto fail, the engine runs at near peak efficiency on the other. Forced landing options

Past due for an oil change, we worked on that and tinkered with my magneto. We took turns turning the engine over with the propeller. Using a mirror and flashlight we watched the movement of the timing points in the magnetos as the engine turned over.

It was obvious one set of points wasn't opening nearly as far as the other set. The only problem was the faulty timing gap was in the right mag. We adjusted it anyway, fired up and everything checked out perfectly. The knuckleheads that rebuilt my engine had the wires crossed that lead to the mag switch. You may recall the articles I wrote about their rebuilt engine quitting on me in Kentucky, the subsequent re-build, the crossed hoses to the oil filter, etc. If so, you know why I was not surprised to find the mag switch wires crossed. Here I was, flying cross-country behind that engine.

Getting the mag fixed was a huge relief. I treated myself to another courtesy "junkie" ride to a restaurant and a B.L.T.

Shortly after leaving Williston I crossed the border into Montana. I didn't need fuel, but stopped in Glasgow, Montana, to top off. Scratch Montana. I was beginning a very long stretch of "nothing" that had bothered me since I began planning this trip months ago. From Glasgow to the next fuel stop is about 200 nautical miles. With any kind of headwind it would tax my range to safe limits. Today, I had a slight tailwind. Yahoo!!!

Remember what I said about this being a big country. This stretch across Montana epitomized that feeling. Talk about nothing. It was beautiful, but barren. I flew west ... mile after mile, hour after hour of nothing but wide-open spaces. I can't imagine what those guys in the Corps of Discovery must

have been thinking. For them it was day after day of this.

At Big Sandy I was told they were low on fuel and for their crop dusting operation. Fort Benton was just up the river twenty miles or so. I was told they had fuel. Off I went. Fort Benton was deserted and locked up tight. Now I was really getting low on fuel and down to one option. Great Falls was within easy range, but is a controlled field with a tower. Eeeks! I'd have to talk on the radio.

The controller was sympathetic to my limited radio equipment and skills. He even let me land on a secondary runway more favorable to the wind, always a help when flying a tail dragger prone to ground loops.

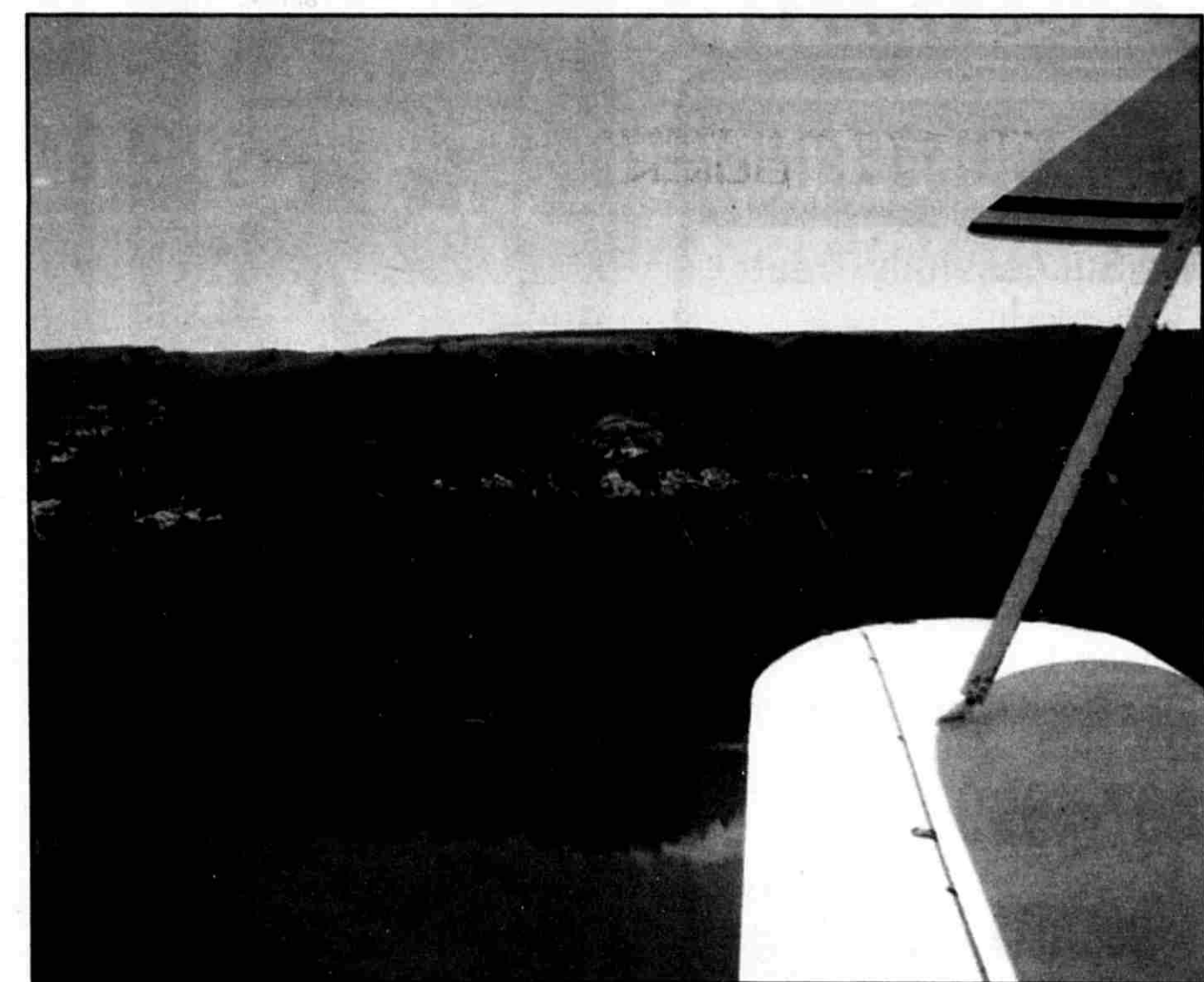
After fueling and working my way back out of the controlled airport, I settled on Three Forks, Montana, for the night. Three Forks is a beautiful place from the air. At least three rivers come together there to form the Missouri. It is a significant point along the Lewis and Clark trail.

At Three Forks I topped off the plane and taxied over to a wonderful little camping area they have on the field. I pitched my one-man tent in the grass at the tail of my plane. There were pine trees, a picnic table and a restored little shack that had historical significance as a radio navigation station back in the early days of airmail routes. There was even a nice clean bathroom in the shack. The sun was going down, it had been a very long day and I slept like a baby under a big Montana sky.

Next week it's on over the Continental Divide, the Bitterroot Range, down the Clearwater, the Snake, the Columbia and on out to the Pacific Ocean.



The Madison, Jefferson and Gallatin rivers come together at Three Forks, Montana, to create the Missouri River. Except for short diversions from the river where it ran through the St. Louis and Kansas City class C airspaces, I'd flown the entire length of the Missouri.



Some limestone formations on the south bank of the Missouri as we proceeded westward deeper into Montana. I was glad to have my ailing magneto working again, especially when low over the river and terrain higher than me on both sides.

weren't good most places I was flying over, and they were going to get a lot worse as the terrain became more mountainous. I needed to get this mag problem fixed.

It was another hot, but clear blue day. I enjoyed the magnificent scenery as I flew along, despite the nagging issue with the magneto.

Sixty miles out of Mandan the river turns to the west and heads in that direction for hundreds of miles. The river here is a huge reservoir, more than a hundred miles long, named Lake Sacagawea after the Indian wife of a French trapper. Sacagawea is famous for guiding Lewis and Clark west. My first fuel stop was Williston, North Dakota, where I was fortunate to find a savvy old-time mechanic.



"Home Sweet Home". Without the rain fly, my little one-man tent offered a full view of the Montana night sky at Three Forks. After three long days of flying, I have to admit I wasn't awake much to enjoy the stars.

Goodwill fashion

Showing up in photos all summer long

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Photography studio changes hands after 31 years

By Dan Schneider

Modern Photographics in Lowell is changing hands as owner Roger Van Vleck goes into semi-retirement.

Brandon Mulnix, 27, Van Vleck's employee for three years, took ownership of the business July 11. Van Vleck and business partner Jim Maatman started the business in 1975. Both had been school teachers prior to opening the business. Van Vleck has been the sole owner for the last 15 years.

For all 31 years of its existence, Modern Photographics has been the only Main Street photo studio in Lowell.

"He's been through the rough times and we're still here and we're going to stay here," Mulnix said.

He said the small-town atmosphere is a big part of why the business appealed to him.

"We're very personal, I think that's one of the best things we can offer, and we can continue to offer, because we aren't in the big city," Mulnix said.

Over the years, Van Vleck has been known also as a teacher of photography. He has taught classes through the Lowell Area Arts Council and always answers questions for people who walk into his shop.

"Being a school teacher, I enjoy teaching photography through the studio programs and on evenings and weekends," said Van Vleck.

He said Mulnix has been a good student, as well.

"He's continued to learn at every available time ... he wants to know it 100 percent," Van Vleck said.

Van Vleck intends to continue in a teaching role in retirement. He plans to teach

computer skills working through the studio.

Photography isn't something Van Vleck can easily give up for retirement. He likes the interpersonal quality of photographing families, senior pictures and weddings.

"I've had this business for 31 years and I've always enjoyed working with people because I am a people photographer," he said. "I've always enjoyed going to churches and helping people create memories which is what photography is all about."

For Mulnix, also a full-time paramedic firefighter in Lansing, being a people photographer balances out his other job.

"That's what rounds me out," he said. "I go to people's best days and I go to people's worst days."

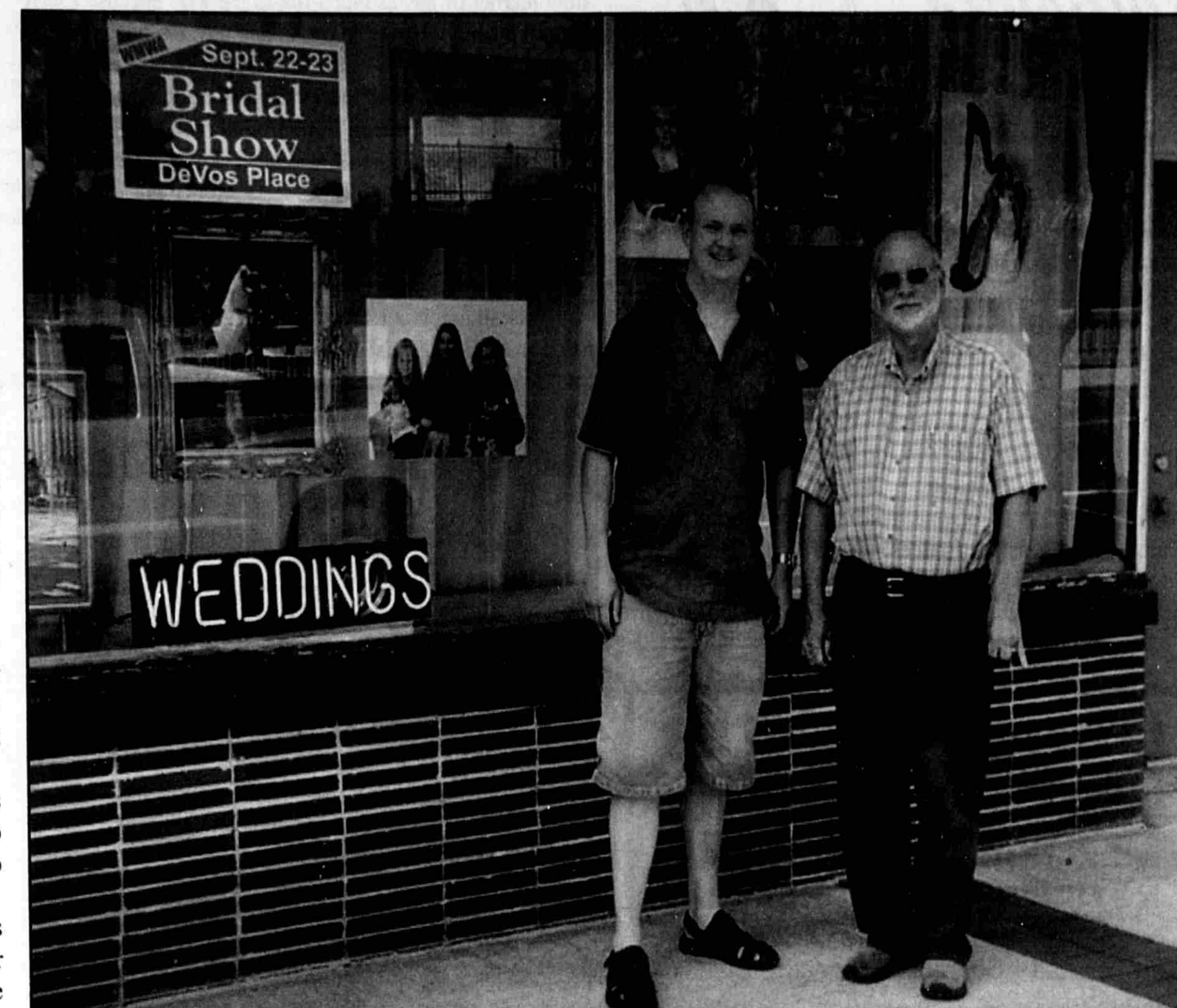
The two photographers have learned from each other in the three years they've worked together. While Van Vleck has taught Mulnix about traditional portraiture, he describes Mulnix's style as more modern.

"His style is more photojournalistic," Van Vleck said. "He's capturing the smooth-moving essence of an event or a person."

Mulnix said he enjoys shooting in Lowell.

"I've got the looks of a big city in the middle of this historical town," Mulnix said. "It's the colors, it's the cleanliness, it's not this junky town."

In keeping with the business name "Modern Photographics," Mulnix plans to keep the studio's equipment and methods up to date. He is also gradually hiring help with various specialties.



New Modern Photographics owner Brandon Mulnix with semi-retired photographer Roger Van Vleck in front of Modern Photographics' Main Street display window.

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All Proposals Must Be Submitted No Later Than August 18, 2006 to be considered.

To receive a grant application form call Kate Luckert, program director at **616-454-1751** or download an application from the website at: www.grfoundation.org/lowell

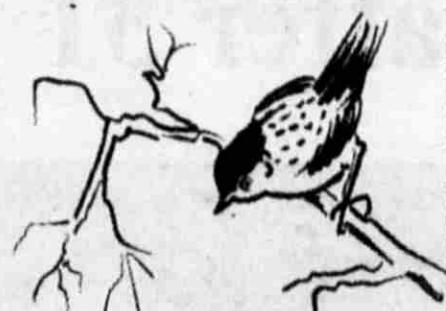
You may also pick up an application at any of the following locations:

Lowell Township Hall,
Vergennes Township Hall, City Offices of Lowell,
Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce,
the Englehardt Public Library
or any Lowell Area School.

The Lowell Area Community Fund, a fund of Grand Rapids Community Foundation, awards grants to tax-exempt, nonprofit charitable organizations that have an impact in the Lowell area. The LACF funds innovative projects or programs that encourage community cooperation.

Outdoors

By Dave Stegehuis



B.T. RETIRES

With more fishing pressure on less accessible water, a strong case can be made for the practice of catch and release fishing. We do eat a lot of fish at our house, but it has been some years since I have kept any stream trout. We release walleyes over twenty-two inches because the large fish are the spawners, and I don't think they taste as good anyway. We give big spawning bluegills a break in the spring, but most perch find their way into the live well. Bass and pike don't make it onto the menu.

As guests at a private lake in the central Upper Peninsula, we are asked to release all fish we catch regardless of species. One fish in particular has been caught off the dock by the youngest members of our fishing party at least

twenty times. At some point in his life, the fish's tail fin lost a few rays which created a unique shape to his tail. The kids named him Broken Tail or B.T. for short. B.T. is either a slow learner or has as much fun as the kids because I have seen him caught several times in one day. On one occasion, a minnow-chasing six year old bagged him in a butterfly net. The bass was about four pounds then and it was difficult to determine who was in more trouble, the kid or the fish. That action packed episode was entertaining for everyone.

This fish has provided a lot of excitement around the camp for several years. I am sure that the boys and girls who caught him will be fishermen for life. That big ol' bass has held school for a large class of budding young fishermen.

This summer our host asked that no one deliberately fish for B.T.—B.T. is officially retired. The old fish has

survived years of U.P. winters under three feet of ice and whatever other hazards he might face in his aquatic realm. More encounters with hook and net would increase the probability of an accident. The injury or death of B.T. would bring sadness to the camp and cast guilt upon the person responsible.

It's still okay to offer B.T. grasshoppers or spare minnows from the bait bucket. The water is clear and a patient observer is sure to catch a glimpse of the old boy from time to time. B.T. rocks on!

There is actually a point to this unusual fish story. If one lone bass can provide such a wealth of experience and fun for so many people, think of the results of releasing hundreds of B.T.s. The more fish, the more fun for everyone.



Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold

Edward Jones

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DON'T BANK ON HOUSE PROFITS TO FUND RETIREMENT

To enjoy a comfortable retirement lifestyle, you will need to build your net worth before you retire. So you may be interested in knowing that, between 2001 and 2004, the typical household's net worth, adjusted for inflation, grew 1.5 percent, according to a recent Federal Reserve study. The good news is that the 1.5 percent figure, while not appearing large, actually represents a sizable gain in family wealth. The not-so-good news, from a retirement savings

standpoint, is that much of this increase in wealth came from rising home prices.

Why shouldn't you count on appreciated home prices to form a key pillar of your retirement savings? Won't the value of your home just keep rising?

Not necessarily. While it's true that housing prices have gone up significantly over the last several years, there is no guarantee that this trend will continue. Housing prices have certainly fallen in the past - and they are likely to do so again.

But just as importantly, even an extended period of rising home prices may not help you as much as you'd think. After all, to profit from your home, you have to sell it - but then you have to live somewhere else. And even if you decide to "trade down," you're likely to find that smaller homes have also appreciated quite a bit, so your sale might not net you nearly as much as you'd hope.

To sum up: Your home may provide you with some of the money you will need during retirement - but not all of it. And that's why you need to look beyond your house and into the world of investments. To help pay for a retirement that may last two or three decades, you must invest regularly - at every stage of your life.

Two Investment "Platforms"

Essentially, you have two main investment "platforms": your employer-sponsored retirement plan and your private investment accounts. And you'll want to pay close attention to both of these platforms.

For example, if you have a 401(k) plan at work, learn as much as you can about the various investment options available - and choose the mix of investments that can potentially provide you with the growth you need, given your individual risk tolerance. Because it offers both tax-deferred earnings and a chance to contribute pre-tax earnings, a 401(k), by its very nature, offers some key advantages in saving for retirement. But you are ultimately responsible for your 401(k) plan's success - so study up on your choices, contribute as much as you can afford, monitor/review your progress and make adjustments as needed.

And while you are contributing to your 401(k) at work, you should also invest steadily in your traditional or Roth IRA. A traditional IRA offers tax-deferred earnings, while a Roth IRA has the potential to grow tax-free, provided you meet certain conditions.

Finally, you will want to build a portfolio containing a diversified mix of stocks, bonds and other securities. Your financial professional can help you make sure that these investments work in conjunction with your 401(k) and IRA to help you take advantage of maximizing your progress toward your retirement goals.

So, if you aren't already investing consistently, start now. The years fly by, and before you know it, retirement will be looming. When that day arrives, you'll want to be prepared.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider the following amendments to the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Ordinance:

1. An amendment to Section 4.2.7.A to prohibit the parking of commercial vehicles with a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating over 12,000 pounds in the R-2, R-3 and MH Zoning Districts. The proposed ordinance also provides a definition of commercial vehicle and limits the parking of permitted commercial vehicles to one per lot.

2. Amendments to change the notification requirements for public hearings held by the Planning Commission, Township Board and Zoning Board of Appeals to not less than 15 days before the public hearing. This notification amendment is mandated by the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act. The amendments would apply to Sections 6.2.9, 3.4.8.1, 3.9.7A.b, 4.5.3, B, 6.6.3.B, 6.3.2, and Section 7.0 of the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Ordinance.

The hearing will be held as follows:

WHEN: MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2006
TIME: 7:00 P.M.
WHERE: LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL
2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE
LOWELL, MI 49331

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

Tim Clements, Secretary
Lowell Charter Township
Planning Commission

NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that at the regularly scheduled meeting of July 17, 2006, the Lowell Charter Township Board followed the Planning Commission's recommendation and denied the rezoning of 21.7 acres of property located on Kissing Rock Avenue, Permanent Parcel Nos. 41-20-17-100-032 and 41-20-18-200-017, from Ag-2 to R-1.

Linda S. Regan, Clerk
Lowell Charter Township

Ask Kathryn

With Kathryn DenHouter Ph.D.



This newspaper column is designed to answer questions that are psychological in nature and that concern human behavior.

Last month's article pertained to the high school graduate that will be attending college. The question asked is "How would a teen adjust to college life?" Since the values taught in the home are challenged once the adolescent leaves home, this article will expand on that question and look at the moral development that happens with teen-agers, and how the parent can help their adolescent deal with these dilemmas through encouraging broadening experiences and enlightened family discussions.

Lawrence Kohlberg outlined three levels of moral development:

1. Preconventional level. At this level, the individual responds to the labels of right or wrong, but interprets these

labels only in relation to avoiding punishment rather than respecting the underlying moral order of things. Often, right action consists of satisfying one's own needs and occasionally the needs of others. Sometimes there is a sort of reciprocity, such as "you scratch my back and I'll scratch yours." There is very little thought of loyalty, gratitude or justice. As parents, we have seen our children go through this stage. Hopefully, our children will have learned empathy, care for others through experiences in life, in school, and in family. If they have, then they move to the second level of morality.

2. The Conventional Level. At this level, the individual maintains the expectations of one's family, group and nation. One's attitude is conforming, but also loyal to and justifying the order of society. The first stage is when one starts to earn approval by being "nice." The second stage of the conventional level is showing respect for authority and maintaining the given social order for its own sake. This is the "law and order" orientation without the recognition of individual differences or needs. This stage can be rigid without taking into account the relativism of different individuals and different perspectives.

3. Postconventional, or Principled Level. At this level, one defines moral values as having value in their own right

without the application to social groups or individuals. The first stage is called the social-contract legalistic orientation. Right action tends to be defined by individuals' rights. The second stage is where right is defined by the decision of conscience which appeals to logical understanding, universality and consistency. This would not be solely the legalistic interpretation of the law, but would follow the heart of the law which would include the universal principles of justice, the equality of human rights, and the respect for the dignity of human beings as individual persons.

Quite often, when your college age teenager leaves for college, he is on the second level of moral development. The laws/rules of school and society have been consistently reinforced through his/her previous years and it becomes ingrained. They know that to succeed one has to follow the rules. Quite often, this process changes when they leave home and they are confronted with many different perspectives. Through experiences and discussions with family and friends, college students can move into the "Principled Level" of moral development. This is what most parents want for their child - to become an adult that is principled and a seeker of justice for all.

I welcome your questions. My email address is kathryndenhouther@yahoo.com.

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 Flat River Outreach Ministries to rezone property from R-3, High Density Multi-Family to C, General Commercial. This property is currently occupied by Cumberland Manor and consists of 4.51 acres.

LOCATION & LEGAL DESCRIPTION: The property is located on the north side of Fulton Street just west of Birmingham Street at 11535 Fulton Street East. This parcel is legally described as follows:

412004378012 PART OF SW 1/4 COM AT W 1/4 COR TH S 90D 00M 00S E ALONG E&W 1/4 LINE 632.28 FT TH S 33D 30M 00S E 2028.84 FT TH S 6D 30M 00S E 60.63 FT TO BEG OF THIS DESC - TH NELY 400.0 FT ALONG A 3362.83 FT RAD CURVE TO RT / LONG CHORD BEARS N 80D 52M 54S E 399.76 FT/ TH S6D 30M 00S E 459.62 FT TH S 89D 30M 00S W 76.63 FT W TH S 6D 30M 00S E 40.0 FT TO N LINE OF STL M21 / FULTON ST 100 FT WIDE/ TH SWLY 323.37 FT ALONG A 3362.83 FT RAD CURVE TO LT /LONG CHORD BEARS S 80D 13M 44S W ALONG N LINE OF SD ST 323.24 FT TH N 6D 30M 00S W 500.0 FT TO BEG * SEC 4 T6N R9W 4.51 ACRES, MORE OR LESS AND SUBJECT TO THE RIGHTS OF THE PUBLIC OVER HIGHWAY M-21. ALSO SUBJECT TO ANY EASEMENTS OR RESTRICTIONS OF USE OR RECORD.

The hearing will be held as follows:

WHEN: MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 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

Durkee elected new Lions Club president

Lowell Lions Club director Bob Reagan, from left to right, with Hugh Linkfield, new Lions Club president Dave Durkee, and Phil Schneider. Durkee, shown holding the Lowell Lions Club charter from 1954, was elected president of the Lowell Lions at a meeting last Monday night. Reagan and former Lions Club members Linkfield and Schneider are the three remaining charter members of the Lowell Lions Club.



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NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that at the regularly scheduled meeting of July 26, 2006, the Lowell Charter Township Board adopted Ordinance 06-2006, an amendment to the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Ordinance. The amending ordinance adds section 5A and amends Section 4.2.7 and the Table of Use Regulations for off-street parking.

This ordinance shall become effective August 2, 2006. A copy of the complete text of the amending ordinance can be obtained at the Lowell Charter Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash SE, during regular Township hours or by calling 897-7600.

Linda S. Regan, Clerk
Lowell Charter Township

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Updated: Kitchen with Merillat cabinetry & pullout shelves, oak trim & doors • Custom arch LR window • Finished basement with 1 large bedroom & walk-in closet, family room & office • oversized attached 2-stall garage •
Newer: roof, windows, furnace, AC & drain field
• Located on a quiet cul-de-sac • Lowell Schools
Information believed accurate but not guaranteed and is for reference only.

COMING EVENTS

JULY/AUGUST

WED., JULY 26: Traveling Breakfast Fresh Start Cafe at 8:30 a.m.; Farmers' Market at 12:45 p.m. Lowell Senior Neighbors.

THURS., JULY 27: Shop Target & stop for ice cream, 12:45 p.m. Lowell Senior Neighbors.

THURS., JULY 27: Lowell Youth Football League sign up at Burch Field, 6-8 p.m. Also Aug. 3, 6-8 p.m. Birth cert. required for new members. Call 897-7896.

MON., JULY 31: Binder Park Zoo, 10:30 a.m. Lowell Senior Neighbors.

THURS., AUG. 3: Mane Street at Riverwalk Plaza, 7-9 p.m. Raffles, concessions, free admission.

THURS., AUG. 3: Vergennes Cooperative Club at Sch-

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 at 7 p.m. in Administration Building, 300 High Street.

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

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

3RD MON.: Peripheral Neuropathy support group, 7 p.m. at Schneider Manor Community Room. Canceled for July/August. Will resume Sept 18.

3RD MON.: Lowell Showboat Garden Club meets in the Fellowship Hall at Church of the Nazarene, N. Washington St. at 7 p.m. Does not meet during the summer. Will resume in September.

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. Ages 12 or older. No dues. Call 897-9879.

MON., TUES., THURS.: Alpha Women's Center, 2251 W. Main. Call 987-9533 for appt. or stop by M. 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tu. 6-9 p.m., Th. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Diapers, formula and clothing are available.

TUESDAYS

Take Off Pounds Sensibly Tops M#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 Whitum 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. Active September thru April only.

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.

neider Manor activity room at 1 p.m. Hostesses: Jan Bieri and Treva Johnson. Program: Clare Cain, director of Trail Management of North Country Trail Assoc.

FRI. & SAT., AUG. 4-5: Relay for Life at Lowell Memorial Stadium at Lowell High School, noon to noon. Proceeds benefit American Cancer Society. Call Elizabeth Males at 616-364-6121 for information.

SAT., AUG. 19: Lowell Class of 1986 reunion at the BOB. Questions, call 616-866-7276.

FRI., AUG. 25: Fundraiser for Jeni Rummelt, a paraplegic who is having a stem cell procedure in Russia, at Monterey Center, 6:30 doors open. Dinner at 7 p.m. Donation \$45 person/ \$75 couple by Aug. 18. Includes door prize ticket. Checks payable to Help Jeni Walk. Call 891-2994 or 891-2928 for more information.

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. 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 program Olga -975-9977/June 231-780-1249.

2ND & 3RD TUES.: New facility: Qua-Ke-Zik Sportsman's Club, 8731 West Riverside Dr., 8 p.m. www.qua-ke-zik.org. New members welcome.

2ND & 4TH TUES.: MOPS - Mothers of Preschoolers meets at Fallasburg Park, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. 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.

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.

TUES./THURS.: Back to Basics Closed AA meetings at 1st Congregational Church, 404 N. Hudson. 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking.

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.

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: 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: 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 Wed.-Fri. 12-6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 519 E. Main St. Call 897-2037.

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: 5:30-7:30 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, North Hudson St. Call Paul at 527-7796 for information. Family members may call Erin at 527-7796.

EVERY THURS.: Alpha Women's Center, 2251 W. Main. 987-9533, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Diapers, formula, clothing.

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 are welcome. Call Jan 897-5759 for location and more 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.: 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.

3RD THURS.: 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.

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.

Cougar reports generate conversation and concern

By Dan Schneider

Talk related to cougars has been circulating in recent weeks among Lowell-area residents and among wildlife enthusiasts elsewhere in the state.

A classified ad about an incident possibly involving a cougar ran recently in the Buyers Guide, prompting some of the concern. It read, in part, "Warning, cougar attack ... protect your livestock and small children." It listed the phone number for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) poaching hotline, but the ad was not placed by the DNR. The person who did place the ad could not be reached.

Nick Kalejs, DNR biologist for Kent County, did recently investigate an incident near Lowell. "Unfortunately, by the time we got that information it was about a week old," he said.

A pony had been attacked and received lacerations on its rear flanks. But Kalejs said a cougar would have attacked more efficiently, going for the animal's neck and head.

"That was not consistent with what we would expect from a large predator," he said.

Cougars weigh between 80 and 200 pounds and grow seven to nine feet long from nose to tail.

He said the department receives and investigates reports of cougar sightings in Kent County.

"We don't know, but right now, we don't have any conclusive proof to support the idea that there is a breeding population of cougars," Kalejs said. "The ones that have been positive have been legally or illegally held animals that were then released or got away."

He said the department is keeping an open mind about the possibility of cougars. "We're just trying to put together facts as we get them," Kalejs said.

Dennis Fijalkowski, executive director of the Michigan Wildlife Conservancy, said there are cougars among us.

"You've got them all around Lowell in Kent County," Fijalkowski said. "We absolutely know there's a breeding population."

The organization conducted a peer-reviewed study that found cougar DNA in animal scats in northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula counties of Delta, Dickinson, Menominee, Houghton, Alcona, Emmet, Preque Isle and Roscommon. Fijalkowski said the study focused on areas with long histories of cougar reports.

He said the organization, which is based in Lansing, does not have the funds to conduct a similar study in lower Michigan. But, he said, the organization has received several credible reports.

Kalejs said there has been cougar hair and scat found in the Upper Peninsula. But other typical evidence of cougars has not turned up. For instance, there have not been instances of farmers shooting the animals on their land or hunters poaching them. The DNR has not seen any roadkilled cougars.

"Even in states like Iowa that have a relatively small population of cougars," there are incidents of roadkilled cougars, Kalejs explained.

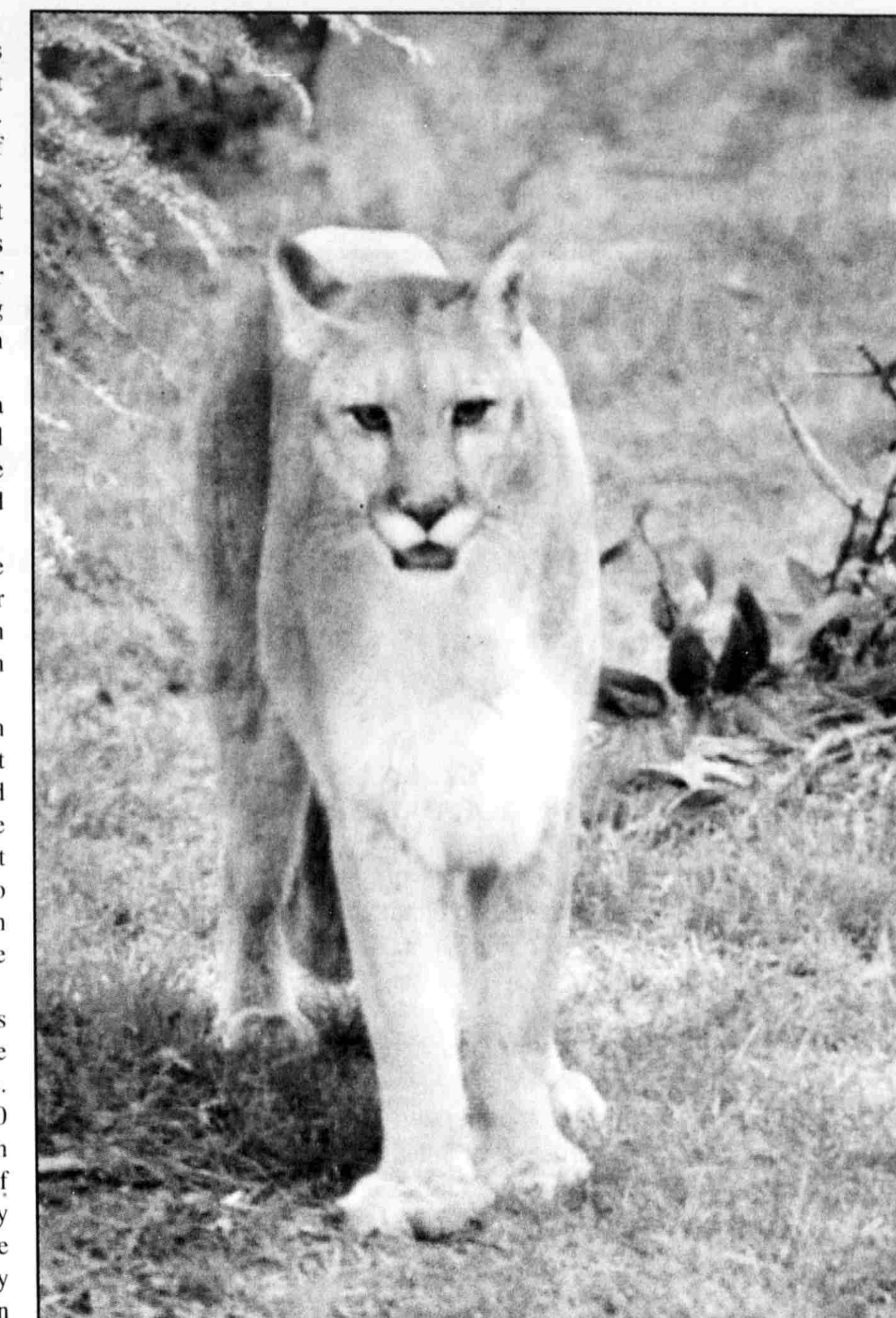
Fijalkowski said the DNR needs to make a greater effort to research cougars in Michigan and develop a plan to manage them.

"We are of the opinion that they have known about cougars for a long time and they don't want there to be cougars because they don't want another animal to manage, and that's a problem because a cougar is a large predator," he said.

He warns that cougars are present and people should take precautions. There have only been 20 confirmed cougar attacks on humans, he said, and all of them were west of the Rocky Mountains, but people should still take safety measures against cougars in Michigan, such as hiking in groups.

Rumor travels faster, but it don't stay put as long as truth.

- Will Rogers (1879 - 1935)



At present, there is no conclusive proof that cougars are in lower Michigan.



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VERGENNES TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC NOTICE

There will be a meeting of the Vergennes Township Zoning Board of Appeals on Tuesday, August 15, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the Vergennes Township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr. PO Box 208, Lowell to hear the following variance application:

Diane Gee is requesting variances on the property known as 853 Montcalm Ave, located just south of Covered Bridge Rd on the west side. The purpose of the request is to relocate a manufactured home of 24' by 44' to the property. The variances requested are for setbacks, square footage and roof pitch. The pre-ordinance existing lot is .55 acres, 132' by 180' and is within the R-A district.

The complete application can be reviewed at the Vergennes Township Hall from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Public comment will be heard at the meeting. Written comments received by mail, in person or in the mail slot located at the office entrance will also be considered if received at the Township office prior to 7:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Comments may also be emailed to zoning@vergennestwp.org.

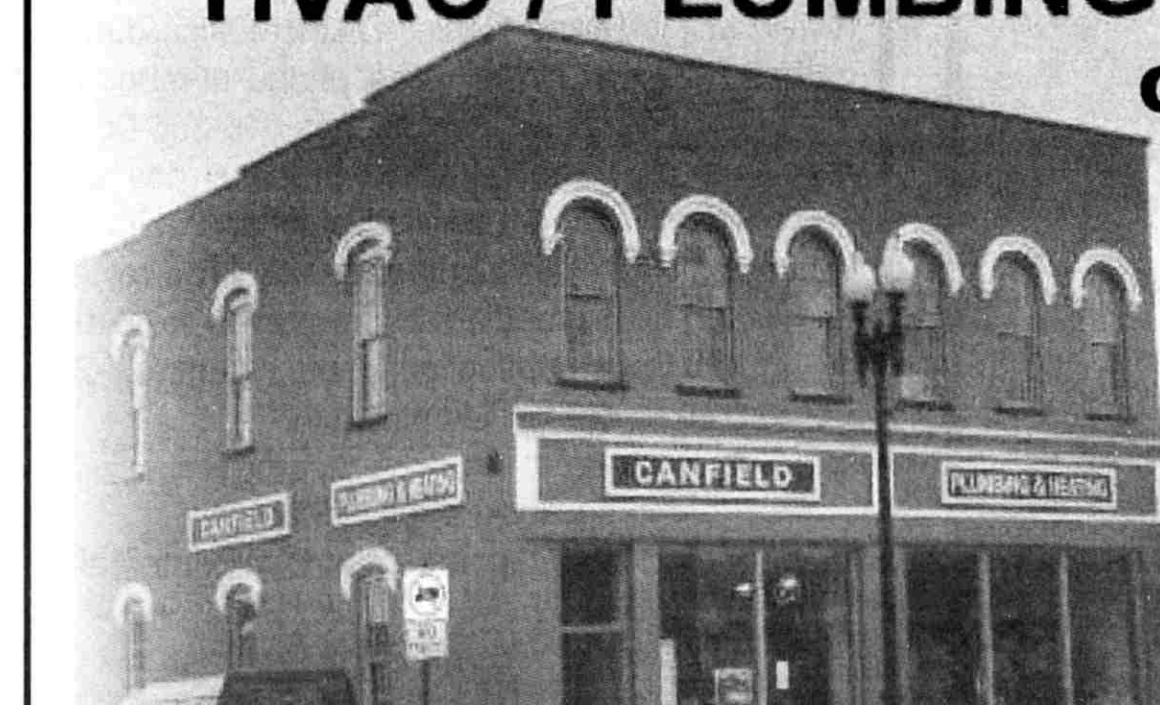
Vergennes Township ZBA

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- Drain Cleaning
- Sewer Jetting



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Great Lakes Longbow Invitational August 11-13

The Great Lakes Longbow Invitational (GLLI) will be held at Charlton Park in Hastings Aug. 11-13. Considered the world's largest longbow event, it is now

in its 22nd year. Previously held in Marshall, Brighton and Berrien Springs, this is a new location for the GLLI.

There will be shooting events for all ages and skill levels, with a range set up specially for young longbow shooters. Archery vendors will be on hand, along

with a variety of food vendors. This is a longbow and wooden arrow event so other bows should remain at home. Loaner equipment is available for kids, plus children 16 and under shoot for free. Camping is \$6 for the weekend; a gate fee of \$5 per adult is charged for the weekend.

For more information, call Charlton Park at 269-945-3775 or log onto Michiganlongbow.org/glli.htm

Seese wins tractor driving contest

Lowell FFA members participated in the State FFA Tractor Driving contest at the Michigan Ag Expo at Michigan State University.

The contest, held on July 18, tested the students' ability to safely and efficiently maneuver a tractor and trailer through an obstacle course and to back that trailer into a "shed."

Mike Clover and Jim Crosby competed in the

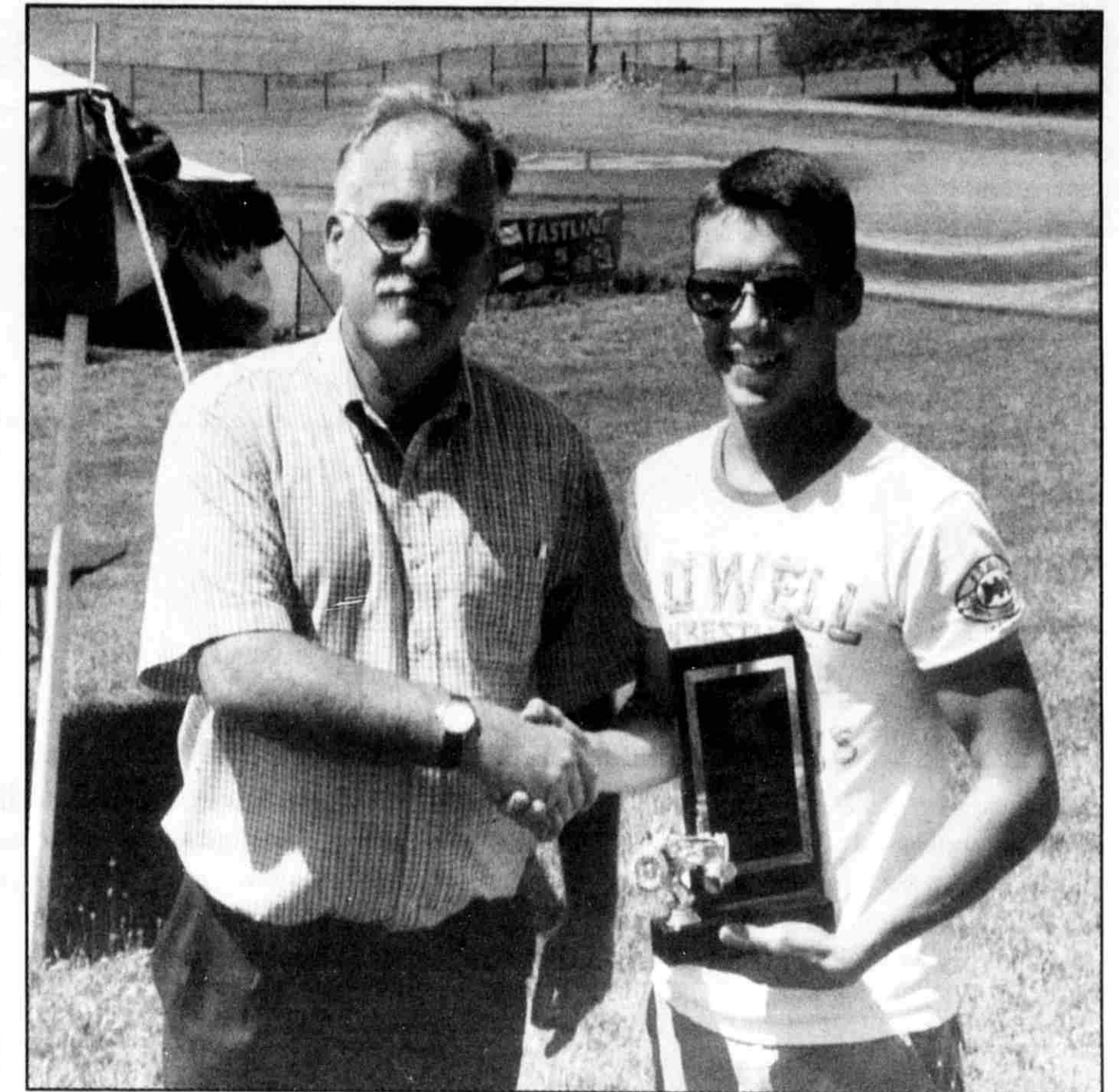
junior division and used a two-wheel trailer. Mike Roth and Ray Seese competed in the senior division and used a four-wheel wagon.

The course is set up with poles representing the obstacles and making up the shed. Golf balls are placed on top of the poles, and points are deducted for every golf ball knocked off and for centering the trailer in the shed. Measurements

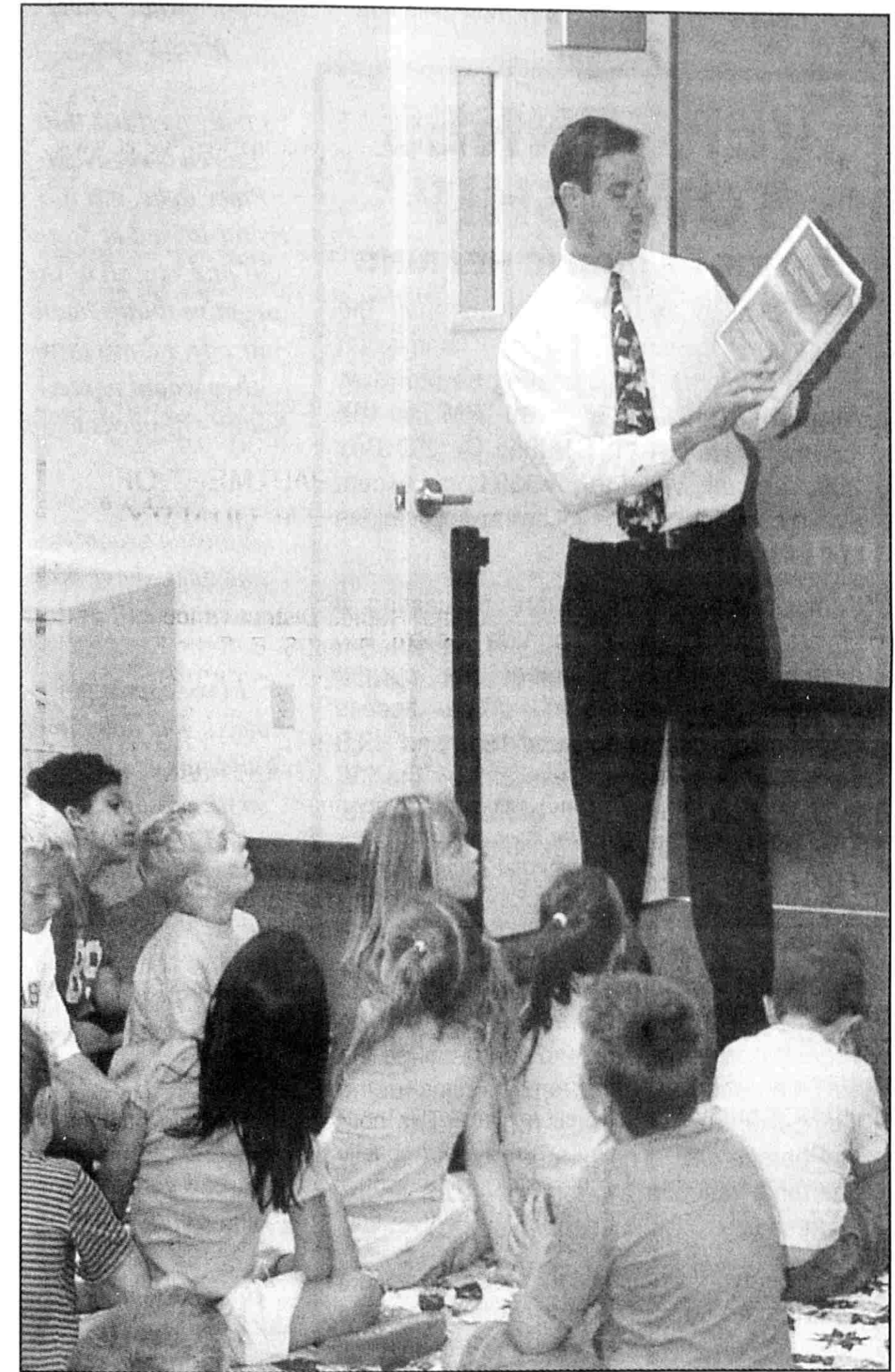
are taken at the front and rear of the trailer as well as how far from the back the trailer is parked.

At the end of the competition, Seese was named the winner in the senior division.

Besides the driving test, students were required to take a 50 question test that covered tractor safety, operation and maintenance.

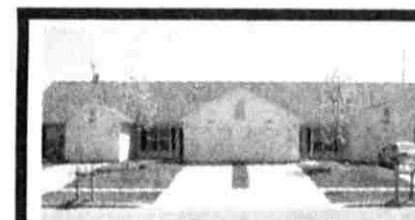


Ray Seese receives his first place trophy from State FFA advisor Dave Wyrick at the FFA Tractor Driving contest.



Telling tales

Channel 8 News meteorologist Matt Kirkwood reads *The Legend of Michigan* by Trinka Hakes Noble to children at Huntington Bank in Lowell. Through Native American folklore, the book tells the story of how Michigan's seasons and landforms came to be. The reading was part of Huntington Bank's open house last Thursday. Families in attendance received a free copy of the book.



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The Lowell Ledger
Lowell (Lowell Area) Business News, 1983

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TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN

COUNTY OF KENT, MICHIGAN

NOTICE TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN OF THE AUGUST 8, 2006 SPECIAL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that a SPECIAL ELECTION will be held in the Township of Grattan on August 8, 2006, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Local Time, to vote on the following Ballot Proposition:

MILLAGE PROPOSITION.3577 MILL FOR TOWNSHIP GENERAL OPERATING PURPOSES RESTORATION OF PAST HEADLEE REDUCTIONS

Shall the Township of Grattan property tax rate limitation be increased, and shall said increase be levied on taxable property in the Township, in the amount of .3577 mill (\$.3577 per \$1,000 of taxable value), subject to reduction as provided by law?

YES _____
NO _____

List of Polling Place Locations: Precinct 1: Grattan Township Hall
12050 Old Belding Road

Precinct 2: Fire Station
12134 Old Belding Road

The following is the statement of the Kent County Treasurer, given as provided by Act 62 of the Public Acts of Michigan 1933, as amended:

Statement of Kent County Treasurer as to Voted Increases

I, Kenneth Parrish, Treasurer of Kent County, Michigan, hereby certify that as of June 2, 2006, the records of this office indicate that the total of all voted increases over and above the tax limitation established by the Constitution of Michigan, in any local units of government affecting the taxable property located in Grattan Township, Kent County, Michigan, is as follows:

Unit	Voted Increases	Years Effective
By Kent County:	.84 Mill	1990 to 2009, inclusive
By Belding Area Public Schools:	18.00 Mills	1999 to 2018, inclusive
	7.00 Mills	1996 to 2026, inclusive
By Rockford Public Schools:	18.00 Mills	2000 to 2009, inclusive
	1.00 Mill	2004 to 2023, inclusive
	1.00 Mill	1990 Unlimited
	1.94 Mill	1992 Unlimited
	.20 Mill	1996 Unlimited
	.48 Mill	1997 Unlimited
By Lowell Public Schools:	1.88 Mills	1997 Unlimited
	18.00 Mills	2001 to 2006, inclusive

Dated: June 12, 2006

/s/Kenneth D. Parrish
Kenneth D. Parrish
Kent County Treasurer

This Notice is given by authority of the Township Board of the Township of Grattan, County of Kent, State of Michigan.

Lana Green, Clerk
Township of Grattan

Wheelchairs available

Wishes on Wheels makes electric power wheelchairs available to non-ambulatory senior citizens (65 years old and up) and the permanently disabled of any age, if they qualify.

There is usually no charge for the wheelchair, including shipping and delivery to the home by a technician, who makes the final adjustments to fit the individual and shows them how to use and maintain it. No deposit is required and there is no obligation for determining if they qualify.

Electric wheelchairs are provided to those who cannot walk and also cannot operate a manual wheelchair sufficiently or safely enough to care for themselves in their residence. They do have to be able to safely operate a joystick controller on the armrest and understand the basic instructions.

Additional qualifications include that their doctor approves and recommends their need.

Call 1-800-823-5220 or visit the web site at www.threewishes2.com for more information.

Public Notice Required By MCL 324.201120d(3) and Rule 299.5605,

Part 201 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, as amended
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Remediation and Redevelopment Division
Grand Rapids District Office
4460 44th Street S. E. Suite E
Kentwood, Michigan 49512

NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPROVE A REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) has received a proposed remedial action plan for the former Attwood Corporation Site, located at 1016 North Monroe in Lowell, Kent County, Michigan. The site is the location of environmental contamination which resulted from plating wastes that were disposed of in on-site lagoons from 1961 through 1977 and discharges to the Flat River.

The MDEQ has reviewed the proposed remedial action plan. This notice is provided to offer an opportunity for public review and comment according to the requirements of Part 201 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA), 1994 P.A. 451, as amended, MCL 324.20101 *et seq.* or the Part 201 Rules, 1990 AACRS R299.5101 *et seq.* and specifically Section 324.20120d(3)a. Written public comments will be accepted until 5:00 PM on August 25, 2006. The MDEQ will carefully consider and address significant public comments before a final decision is made regarding the proposed plan.

A copy of the complete remedial action proposal, including site investigation data, is available for review at the Grand Rapids District Office during normal business hours. The phone number for the Grand Rapids District Office is 616-356-0500. A copy of the remedial action proposal has also been placed at the Lowell (Englehardt) Library, located at 200 North Monroe, Lowell. The review period for this remedial action plan is from the date of this publication until August 25. Comments should be addressed to:

John Pawloski, Project Manager
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Remediation and Redevelopment Division
Grand Rapids District Office
4460 44th Street S. E. Suite E
Kentwood, Michigan 49512

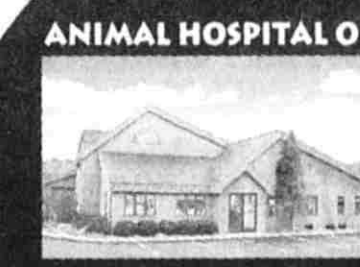
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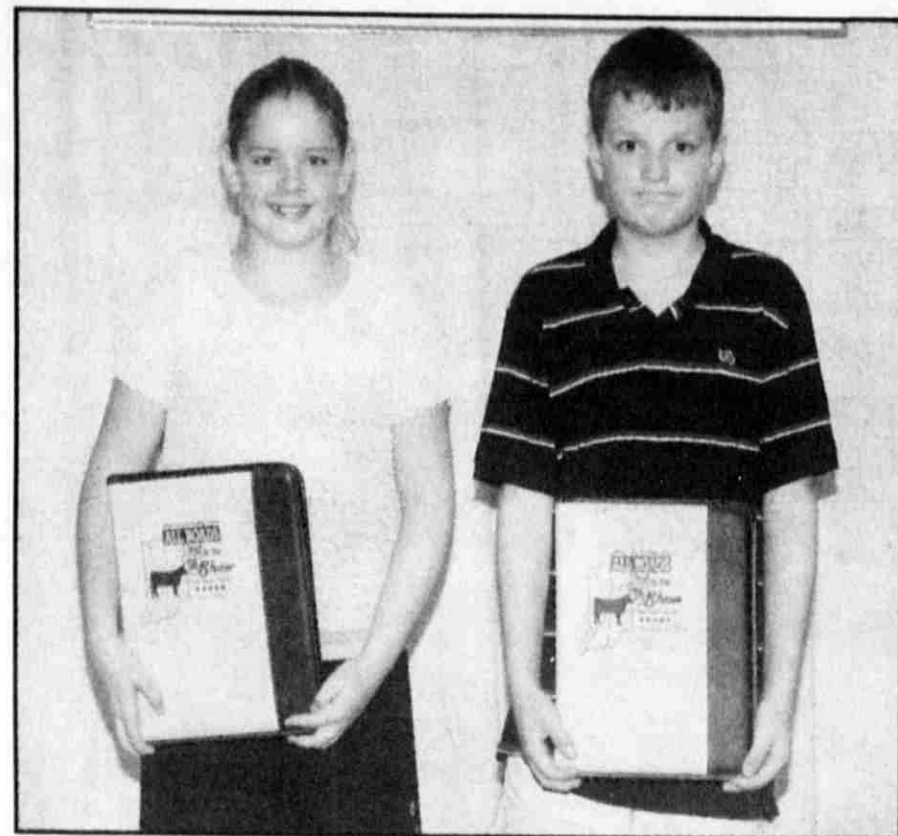


Call 897-8484
11610 East Fulton Street • Lowell, Michigan



ANIMAL HOSPITAL OF
LOWELL

2006 National Junior Angus Show winners



There were 1000 entries at the 2006 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) held in Indianapolis, Ind., July 9 - 15. Pictured at left, in the junior division of photography, "Around the farm or ranch," the following young shutterbugs were winners: from left are Kendra Merriman, Lowell, first; and Cameron Ward, Plattsburg, Mo., second. In the junior division of posters, "Herd Advertisement," the following Angus enthusiasts won top honors. From left are MacKenzie Flory, Baldwin City, Kan., first; Kendra Merriman, Lowell, second; and Katie Mangus, Durham, N.C., third. Photo by American Angus Association.

Sound Off

The Ledger
"Almost"
Anything
Goes Column



www.lowellbuyersguide.com
Or CALL...897-0787

Another huge thanks to our local light and power for getting our power up so quickly after the storm!

Leave us alone in Vergennes and let us keep our own property.

Kudos to the city employees for their duck rescue within the last week or so. Just hope that nobody from OSHA notices they were in a confined space without the appropriate safety precautions.

I truly do think that Lowell is the Next Place to be, but if a visitor looked at Sound Off and saw all of the negative things about our city, I don't think they would agree. Sound Off needs to go.

Nicki is a fantastic groomer. She goes above and beyond the call of duty.

I love coming to Lowell. The downtown buildings are kept up so nicely. And Rose and Harold do a great job with the flowers at Balls.

Hello. Life doesn't happen in a vacuum. Don't let criminals continue to destroy the amphitheater. Please witnesses come forward and tell the police.

Congratulations to Mariah Moore on her double world championship wins. Way to go! - Ethan Eversman

Here's a no-brainer. Trees or power. Go Amish.

How about lowering property value when that tree falls and there's no power for your house. What's it worth then?

I requested the smiley face. It saved me a lot of money out of my own pocket.

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Public notice is hereby given that the Vergennes Township Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing on **Monday, August 14, 2006 at 7:00 PM at the Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Dr, PO Box 208, Lowell Michigan 49331**, to accept public comment on the following applications and text amendment:

Patricia and Todd Fuhr are requesting a private road review to upgrade the existing easement/driveway to meet the current private road ordinance. The access easement is located between 1542 and 1580 Lincoln Lake Ave, on the east side, in the SW quarter of section 14, north of McPherson Rd. The road will serve 4 existing parcels at 1560, 1554, 1552 and 1550 Lincoln Lake Ave.

Forestland Holdings, LLC has requested a private road review to create a new road to serve 9 new parcels located southeast off the cul de sac of the newly constructed Cumberland Ave that runs south off McPherson Rd. The property is in the NW quarter of section 21, total of 40.18 acres, address of 910 Cumberland Ave.

The Planning Commission proposes a text amendment to the zoning ordinance. The new section will be called the Residential Lighting Ordinance and will regulate types, heights and visibility of new lighting erected within the Township. The purpose of the new section is to prevent unnecessary light from being directed skywards or onto neighboring properties and maintain the rural character of the area.

The proposed applications and text amendment are on file at the Vergennes Township Hall and may be inspected during regular office hours between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays. Public comment will be accepted at the public hearing and written comments received by mail, in person or in the mail slot located at the office entrance will also be considered if received prior to 7:00 PM on the day of the meeting. Comments may also be emailed to zoning@vergennewtp.org.

Vergennes Township Planning Commission

GARAGE SALES

STORE CLOSING - BOOKABOUT
100 W. Main.
Paperbacks, 25c & .50c, trade paperbacks, \$1 - \$2, hardcovers, \$1 - \$5. Tue. - Sat., 12:00 - 5:00 p.m. until July 29th.

LOTS OF GOOD STUFF
11365 Foreman Rd. Friday, July 28, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

YARD SALE
1596 Buttrick, July 27, 28 & 29, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Clothes, household items, furniture and much more.

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS ONE
Multi-family yard sale Thursday 7/27/06 through Saturday 7/29/06 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Many household and yard items, baby toys, clothes 0-12 months and adult, lots of misc. 432 Lafayette, Lowell.

176 TIA TRAIL
Big men's clothes up to 3X, sports, golf & household items. July 27 & 28, 9-5 p.m.

GARAGE SALE
July 28 & 29. 11928 84th St., Alto.

YARD SALE
Knives, coins & some antiques. 12150 McPherson. Fri. & Sat., July 28 & 29, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

HOUSEHOLD SALE
Antique and modern furniture, and appliances. Antique photo equipment. Also books, records, dishes, and assorted building tools and household items. Thurs., July 27 and Fri., July 28, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. 721 N. Jefferson.

GARAGE SALE
Sat., July 29, 8-4 p.m. 370 River Place, Lowell, off Vergennes, east of Lincoln Lake. Name brand clothing like new, household items, desk chair, lots of misc. items, video games.

MULTI FAMILY GARAGE SALE
Wed., Thurs., & Fri., July 26, 27 & 28, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Clothing women's/men's/boys/girls, toys, exercise equipment, pool bags, Tupperware, printer, and much more! 12149 36th St. SE, Lowell.

YARD SALE
July 27 & 28. 10443 36th Street, Lowell. 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

GARAGE SALE PAGE PRICES & DEADLINE
15 words for \$9, each additional word is 25c
For this price your ad goes in the *Lowell Ledger* and the *Buyers Guide* on this special page. Deadline for this page is Thursday at 5 p.m. for the weekend *Buyers Guide*.
Phone 897-9555 - Fax 897-4809

GARAGE SALE
Sat., July 29, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Furniture, games, software, toys, household items, books, etc. 527 N. Lafayette, Lowell.

YARD SALE
Kid & adult clothing, movies, books, CD's, DVD's, toys, games, various household items, sports cards & collectibles. 225 Elizabeth Dean Dr., July 28th & 29th, 9 a.m. - ?

YARD SALE
Lots of new items, MaryKay, household items, wall heater, Halloween & Christmas decorations, misc. 11325 Denise, Lot 192, Key Heights, July 27 & 28, 8 to 7 p.m.

HUGE MOVING SALE - Thurs. & Fri., July 27 & 28, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 717 Amity, Lowell. A lot of stuff is brand new. Kids clothes, toys, men's & women's clothes, household items, rocking chair, compound bow, drill press, new holiday decorations, weight benches, snowmobile helmet & jacket & so much more.

CLASSIFIEDS

small ads **BIG** deals

FOR SALE FOR SALE FOR SALE FOR RENT SERVICES SERVICES

'98 CHEVY SILVERADO STEPSIDE - Very nice! 4WD, hand locking cover over bed. \$6,500. Call 897-2899.

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

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

DIESEL - '95 Chevy Cheyenne, 4WD, dually, \$7,000. Call 897-2899.

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

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.

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

BUNNIES FOR SALE - Mini Lops, Mini-Rex, Dutch, Polish, \$10 each. Call Diane. (Ionia) 616-527-1054.

BEAUTIFUL BRICK - Large 2-story home gorgeously maintained, original wood work! Hundreds of Financing Options for all situations!! Monthly payment between \$831 & \$961. Call Chuck Lupton 616-617-1862 or 897-1300 Flat River Real Estate.

15 MATTRESS SETS - All sizes. Hotel quality. Serta & Sealy \$75/set until gone. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

SPECIAL ON POTTED TREES - 5 ft. Norway Spruce, \$25. Call 616-761-7588.

FOR SALE - 2 black leather couches, very good condition, \$100 ea. or \$185 for the set. Measurements: 7 ft. long x 3 ft. wide. Call 248-515-6579 (cell phone). They are located right in town! Ask for Jaymee.

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE - 14x70, w/21x7 expando, very spacious, open floor plan. 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, on beautiful corner lot in Key Heights, \$9,000. Call eve. 897-6283.

MATTRESSES - Back to school mattress "Sale" All sizes. All new. Large selection. "Good sleep improves grades." Call 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160. Can deliver.

WOODED ACREAGE! - Private 3-6 acre build sites. Saranac schools. Located on Pinckney & Rickert. West Michigan Real Estate. 897-0530.

BED A VISCO TEMPUR-PEDIC - style mattress set. Total support, relieves back pain. 20-year warranty. Store price \$1899, will sell \$899. Never used. 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160. Can deliver.

OWN A HOME FOR 0% DOWN! - River Financial & Flat River Real Estate have hundreds of financing programs & lists of homes to accommodate any credit or employment situation! Combining services to make buying a home as easy as possible! To schedule a home showing or get a personalized mortgage estimate call Chuck Lupton, Real Estate & Mortgage Specialist at 897-1300 x 104 or 616-617-1862.

MOTORCYCLE - '86 Goldwing 1200, new seat, runs good. \$1,500. Call 897-2899.

AIR BED - Selecta comfort firmness for each of you. Harmony 5000 pillowtop set. Dual chambers. Digital number remote. Never used. Mall price \$1799, sell \$1099. 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160.

5TH WHEEL TRAVEL VILLA - 1987, \$3,000. Call 897-2899.

LOTS OF ROOM AND STORAGE! - Charming home on corner lot w/new windows and roof, 2-stall attached garage and 1500 sq. ft. unattached workshop/rec room! Hundreds of Financing Options for all situations!! Monthly payment between \$991 & \$1145. Call Chuck Lupton 616-617-1862 or 897-1300 Flat River Real Estate.

BEDS * BEDS * BEDS - Year end closetout "Sale". All 2006 styles must go at reduced prices. All sizes. Large selection. No bait & switch fake pillowtops or used hotel. 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160. Can deliver.

STRAW FOR SALE - \$1.75/ bale. Call 893-0635.

3 PIECE NAVY BLUE SECTIONAL - couch w/dual recliner, good condition, \$300 obo. Call 616-987-4402.

ALTO 4 BEDROOM - 3+ bath Cape Cod walkout, on 4 1/2 acres. Fireplaces, ceiling fans, crown moldings. Mike Tobin 957-0700 ext. 1141.

LARGE BACK YARD! - Newly landscaped bungalow style home with updated interior and new roof. Just outside of town, only \$119,000! Hundreds of Financing Options for all situations!! Call Chuck Lupton for more info. 616-617-1862 or 897-1300 ext. 104 Flat River Real Estate.

FOR SALE - 1989 Dodge pick up 318 cu. in., 81,000 miles, with cap, good condition, \$3,200. Call 897-9095.

FOR SALE - very old corner china cabinet. Dark wood, six adjustable shelves. Seven foot high, nine inches lower with top trim removed. Four bun feet. To view call 897-4929.

ABEAUTIFUL FULL SIZED PILLOWTOP MATTRESS SET - In plastic, w/deluxe frame. Cost \$800, sacrifice for \$250. Call 616-366-2709.

AFUTONS OF ABED - Never used, w/nice Simmons mattress. Must sell. \$195. Call 616-366-2709.

STOP * STOP * STOP - Don't send your student to school to sleep on someone else's "used" mattress. Brand new sets on "Sale" at RCD wholesale. Save over 50% off the retail store TV prices. 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160. Can deliver.

FOR SALE - 8 year old mare, well broke, 4 year old gelding, good trail horse. \$1,000 each. 560-4344.

SPACIOUS AND SECLUDED - Secluded 1768 sq. ft. 2 year old ranch w/attached garage! Hundreds of Financing Options for all situations!! Monthly payment between \$1063 & \$1230. Call Chuck Lupton 616-617-1862 or 897-1300 Flat River Real Estate.

CONVERTIBLE - Chrysler Sebring Convertible JX '99. Excellent running condition. Stored winters - no rust. 113,000 highway miles. \$5,200. Call 897-6291 or cell 616-446-3707.

NEW CONSTRUCTION IN THE COUNTRY - Large living room w/fireplace, master suite w/whirlpool tub and large walk-in closets in all bedrooms. Hundreds of Financing Options for all situations!! Monthly payment between \$1307 & \$1510. Call Chuck Lupton for more info. 616-617-1862 or 897-1300 Flat River Real Estate.

1997 JEEP CHEROKEE - 123,000 miles, great shape inside & out, runs excellent, 897-5169.

LOST

LOST DOG - Female golden retriever. Call 897-8369.

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.

EVENTS

ALLEGAN ANTIQUE MARKET - Sunday, July 30. 400 Exhibitors. Rain or shine. 7:30 am to 4:00 pm, located at the fairgrounds, in Allegan, Mich. \$4.00 adm. www.alleganantiques.com

FOR RENT DUPLEX - 2 bedroom, full basement, nice country setting, \$575/month. Call 897-5426 or cell 581-5265.

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

FOR RENT - Nice, older home in the country 1 bedroom, \$650. Bairds, 897-9081.

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.

LOWELL - \$500 moves you in. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Washer/dryer hookups, air, garage, cathedral ceilings, \$675/month. Stoneridge Apts, 1-866-443-3098. www.wmpmonline.com.

WE ARE HERE - to serve your housing needs. Rent to Own starting at \$498. Call today. Valley Vista 1-877-634-6700. New hours 10-7 Tues-Fri & Sat. 10-5. www.HometownAmerica.com.

SENIORS! - Rent could be as low as \$70 per month! 1 bedroom HUD subsidized apartments for rent! Rent based on income for those who qualify! BEAUTIFUL 6 acre country setting! Pets welcome! IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY! Conveniently located 20 minutes East of Grand Rapids. HURRY... before they are gone! Equal Housing Opportunity. 616-693-2271.

DUPLEX FOR RENT - Avail. Sept. 1. \$700 per mo. 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 baths, washer/dryer, garage, country setting. Call 450-5300.

RENT TO OWN - your home starting at \$498 at Valley Vista. New hours to serve you, 10 to 7 Tues-Fri & Sat. 10-5. 1-877-634-6700 call today. www.HometownAmerica.com.

HOUSE FOR RENT - on 3 acres in the country, near Murray Lake Elementary. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. \$900/mo. Available now. 897-0686.

LAKE HOUSE FOR RENT - Just remodeled, 3 bedroom, w/60 ft. frontage on all sports Big Crooked Lake. \$1,150 per mo. 616-138-7470.

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.

HELP WANTED

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS BEEN DENIED? - Employer fighting your benefits? Call now for information and possible free assistance and representation! 1-800-305-2899.

WANTED

WANTED WALNUT TREES - for timber. Call Sayers Tree Service, Ionia, MI, 616-527-4142.

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

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

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

CLEANING LADY - 20 years experience, reasonable rates, reliable. Call Pam at 794-2666.

LOOKING FOR DAYCARE PLAYMATES - full time openings starting late August. Call Shelley at 897-9760.

D.M. MOORE FINE HARDWOOD FLOOR FINISHING & INSTALLATIONS - Over 25 years experience. Highest quality guaranteed. See www.dmmoore.com or call 616-802-0120 for unsurpassed 2006 Summer Specials.

LICENSED DAYCARE - uses 4C food program, all ages welcome, all shifts, & a variety of activities provided. Call Amy at 868-0752.

TUNE-UP AND REPAIR - lawnmowers, rototillers and more! Pickup & delivery available. Ray's Small Engine Repair Inc., 616-485-5835. www.raysmallenginerepair.com.

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

DOES YOUR CHRYSLER, PLYMOUTH, DODGE CAR, TRUCK OR VAN NEED REPAIR? - Don't make a mistake & take it anywhere else - give Geo-Tech a try! Contact George at Geo-Tech Transmission & Repair. Call 897-0743.

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

HOUSECLEANING - Experienced, reliable, reasonable rates. Call Kris, 642-0395.

DO YOU HAVE A DIRTY GARAGE FLOOR? - Make it look like new with floor Apoxy, easy to clean. Call John 616-551-8364.

DAYCARE REOPENING - All ages, open 7a - 11p. Full time openings only, lg. outdoor play area and close to parks. 6 yrs. exp. CPR and first aid trained. Robin 897-4570 or 889-8384.

TRENT BUCK - former Ada barber, will continue to serve Ada and the surrounding area. Call 897-7222. He would like to thank his loyal patrons and the community for their continuing support during this time of transition.

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

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

LACEY'S TOO - Licensed adult assisted living located in Lowell. 24 hour care, medications monitored, Hospice & respite care. Private & semi-private rooms. Reasonable rates. 897-5874 or 915-2733.

JIM'S FLOOR COVERING SALES & INSTALLATION - 22 years experience. Best price & quality installation on vinyl, carpet, and laminate flooring. 897-0737 or 560-8515, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., leave message.

STEVE WELDING & REPAIR LLC - Custom fabrication & weld repair. Mild steel, stainless & aluminum. On or off site welding. Call Tim at 616-322-8967 or 616-868-6215.

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

PLYMOUTH, DODGE CAR, TRUCK OR VAN NEED REPAIR? - Don't make a mistake & take it anywhere else - give Geo-Tech a try! Contact George at Geo-Tech Transmission & Repair. Call 897-0743.

JOHN SCHLOOP BUILDER - New homes, additions & remodeling. Call 897-1335.

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HOMETOWN AMERICA OFFERS - financing with awesome down payment assistance. Call today to be in your home tomorrow. Valley Vista 1-877-634-6700. www.HometownAmerica.com.

Trees, continued ... From Page 1

move, but were intended only to mark the trees. The utility has since switched to a numerical marking system.

Bill Barber lost five walnut trees from in front of his house on Washington Street.

"That pretty well laid waste to my yard," he said. "They were a little dirty, but (cutting them down) sure did take away our shade."

"Other than that, I suppose they did what they had to do."

Barber understands the

tree cutting program, but wishes the stumps hadn't been left behind.

"They had to cut them down to keep them out of the lines," he said. "But they should come back and get rid of the stumps."

Richards said the Lowell Light and Power board will likely take up the topic of stump removal at its next meeting, which

is scheduled for Thursday at 5:30 p.m.

Jim and Beverly Hall will be glad to see the tree near their house on Monroe and Grant gone. They asked to have it removed, in fact.

"A lot of people were approached (by the power company), I did the approaching," Jim Hall said.

"We need that cut down, it's all in the wires," Beverly Hall said. "If the wind blows and it's cold, then all these old, dilapidated pieces fall down. We're more than happy they're taking it down."

Bobbi Towne decided to have the tree next to her house cut down rather than trimmed.

"They said they could leave a part of it but I didn't want just a part," she said. "It's kind of hard because it's my shade tree, but there's not a lot I can do about it."

She's making the best of the situation, allowing a neighbor to take most of the trunk to a sawmill to make walnut furniture.



Lowell Light and Power lineman Jon Francis measures the hollow of a tree trunk the utility had removed on North Monroe. Picture submitted by Beverly Hall.

Sawbearing artist gets creative with stump

By Dan Schneider

Nita and Dean Stevens are subscribers to the old adage "When life gives you tree stumps, make bears."

Well, that's not actually an old adage but it is what they are having done to the stump that remains in their front yard on North Lafayette Street. The tree was cut down as part of Lowell Light and Power's tree trimming and cutting program.

"It had to come down, so we thought we'll just have Pete (Selli) carve us a bear," Nita Stevens said.

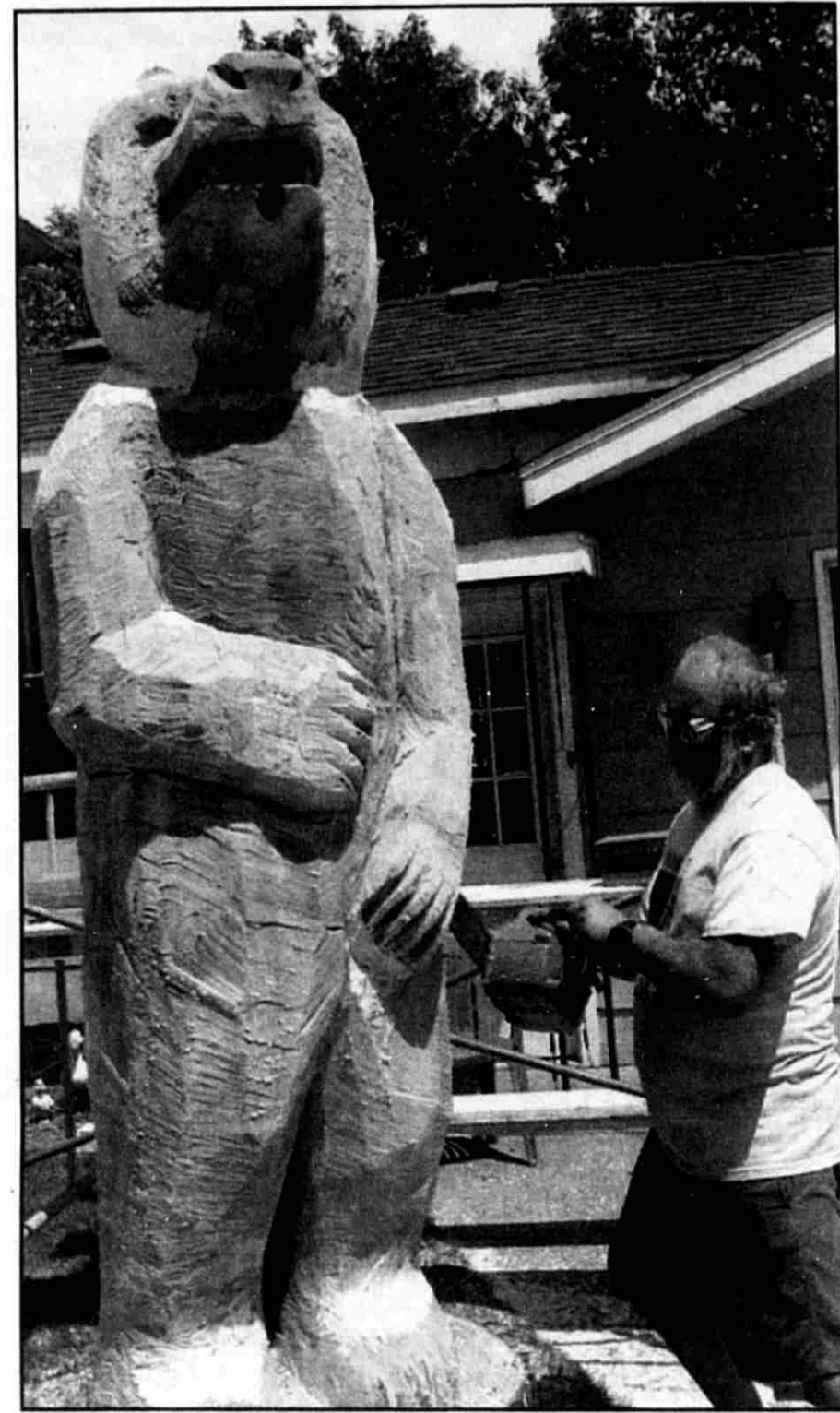
Pete Selli is glad to have the opportunity to put

his chain saws to work on the tree stump.

"Now we're bringing more life into it instead of just disposing of it," Selli said.

By mid-afternoon, Monday, Selli had logged, by his estimation, 23 hours on the bear. He has a similar bear sculpture in his front yard on Old 28th Street. He calls the new sculpture "a chip off the old block." An out-of-work tool and die mold maker, Selli has returned to one of his former hobbies: chainsaw wood carving.

He plans to carve the bear's fur texture to look like it recently came splashing up out of a river. When the sculpture is completed, the base will resemble a pile of river rocks. The Stevens' bear will be the largest of at least three stump-carved bears in the Lowell city limits. Two others are located along Bowes Road and North Jackson Street.



Pete Selli used a chain saw to carve fur texture into his bear sculpture, Monday. The bear is being carved out of a large tree stump.

GRAND OPENING SALE!!!!!!

Only 6 days left for you to
SAVE BIG during our Grand Opening Sale!!!

Purchase your new condo at Cumberland Ridge between NOW and July 31, 2006 and Holwerda Homes will give you \$3000 to put towards upgrades & options!

Buy a home in either of our two other Lowell Communities, and Holwerda Homes will give you \$2000 to put towards upgrades or closing costs!!!



Main Floor Laundry ☺ Breakfast Nook ☺ 2 Bedrooms ☺ 2 Bathrooms
1225-1287 Finished Square Feet

Please visit Tom Jansen at our Cumberland Ridge model during his regular open house hours:

☺ Monday 3pm-7pm ☺ Thursday 12pm-5:30pm
☺ Saturday 11am-4pm ☺ Sunday 12pm-2:30 pm

If you would like to set up an appointment for a private showing, please call Tom Jansen at 616.638.3804 or call our office at 616.363.7402

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* Some Restrictions apply. Limited time offer. Call for details.