

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 34 Issue 40

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, August 9, 2006

Come & have more than a "fair" time at county youth fair

Kent County Youth Fair 2006 is off and running, and so were these pigs and their handlers in Tuesday morning's market class swine judging. Pigs enter the show ring in the Reath Barn going at full tilt in every direction as the 4-Hers sometimes successfully steer them with wooden canes. The judge picks out several pigs which are corralled as finalists. Pigs are judged by various standards including overall shape, bone structure and musculature.

The fair runs through Saturday, concluding with a rodeo in the horse arena. The Reath Barn is a good starting point for a trip to the fair. It is the venue for Thursday's livestock auction, and is centrally located among the animal barns. Mornings and afternoons, animal judgments take place within the Reath Barn and nearby.

Another center of activity at the fair is the horse arena and multiple accompanying horse barns. Both are located at the southeast corner of the fairgrounds.

Admission to the fair is free. On-site parking is available for \$5 a day.



Vosovic back in his hometown for a brief visit

By Dan Schneider

It is hard for a guy like Daniel Vosovic to take a vacation.

Vosovic, who was one of the stars of the Bravo Network's fashion-design

reality television show "Project Runway," was in Lowell last week. He visited, spent time with family, went clothes shopping, even got his teeth cleaned at Dr. Jim Reagan's office on Main Street. But his main reason

for being in town was not relaxation or dental hygiene; it was to meet with business advisors who will help him set up his own clothing label in a few years.

It was his first trip back to the town where

he graduated from high school since the show aired. Vosovic placed second on Project Runway, which pitted fledgling fashion designers against each other in a series of clothing design contests.

Fan-favorite Vosovic said the exposure he got just by making it to the podium has been enough to keep him busy since the series' Feb. 23 finale.

"There's been a lot of silver lining ... coming in second place," Vosovic said. "Just showing at Fashion Week was a huge deal. Showing a collection in the show can cost up to \$30,000 for a small tent."

As a top-three finisher on the reality show, Vosovic got to unveil his collection on the catwalk in the main tent at Fashion Week. Legions of fashion magazine editors and wholesale buyers flock to the New York event each year to see fall lines from fashion designers, both new and established.

Preparing for Fashion Week made it hard for Vosovic to relax the last time he came home, for Christmas, 2005.

"Even when I was here then, it was hard because I was already sewing the

collection for Fashion Week," he said.

Not only was Vosovic preoccupied by all of the work waiting for him back in New York, but he had the added pressure of not being allowed to talk about it. The reality series was still airing at the time, and telling people he was working on the collection would have spoiled the ending.

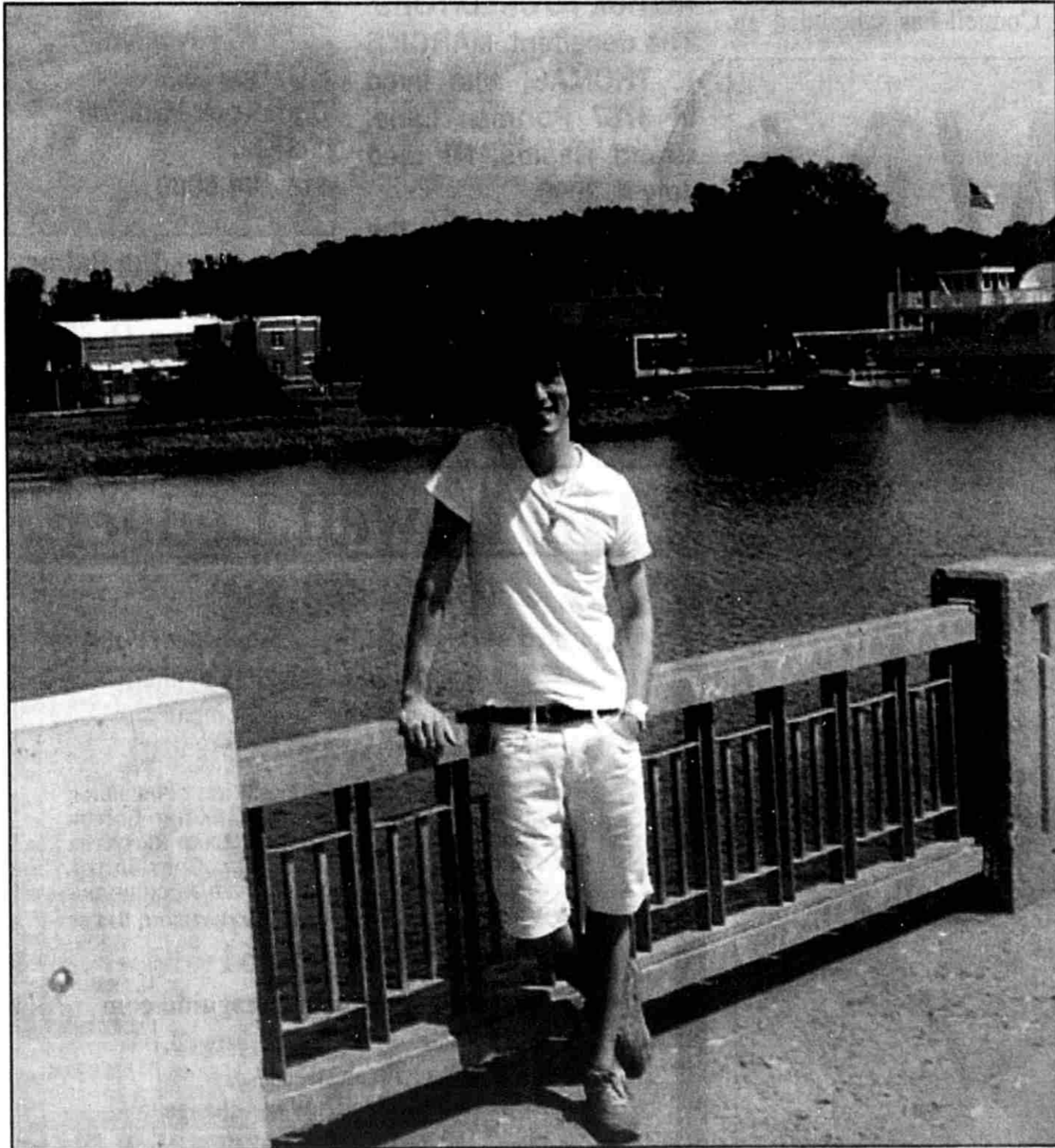
Now that the show is over, Vosovic is as busy as ever. Being on the show drew a lot of interest in Vosovic's design.

"There was a lot of hype around the show," Vosovic said. "It's so hard to get to different plateaus in this industry. It (the show) just brings your exposure to a whole new level."

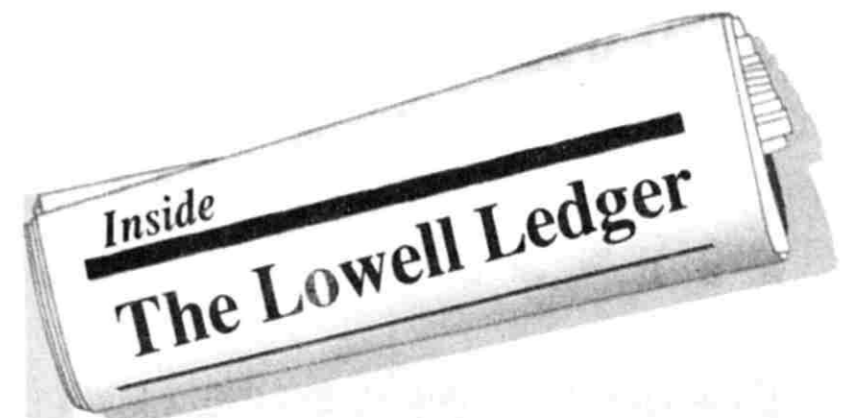
He is currently interviewing for a job that will allow him to work under an established designer. He plans to do that for three or four years.

"Just kind of paying my dues to the industry," Vosovic said.

Vosovic, cont'd., pg. 8



Daniel Vosovic was in Lowell last week, his first trip to the town where he graduated from high school since he starred in the Bravo Network's reality TV show Project Runway 2.



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Obituaries

ALBERT
Richard H. "Dick" Albert, aged 64, of Belding, passed away Tuesday, August 1, 2006, at his home surrounded by his loving family after a battle with cancer. Dick was born July 11, 1942 in Belding, the son of Harold and Irene Finn Albert. Dick had retired after 34 years at Wolverine World Wide in Rockford and had driven milk truck for Bill Cole for the past 12 years. He was a longtime member of St. Mary Catholic Church. Dick loved his family and enjoyed being the family prankster. He had a love of people and farming. He was married on October 26, 1963, in Parnell at St. Patrick Church to Jean Weeks and she survives along with their children Debbie and Duane Rasch of Lowell, Denise and Jim Hietje of Belding, Donna and Dennis Gross of Sparta, Rich and Kara Albert of Saranac, Diana and Bill

Craycraft of Belding; grandchildren Kevin, Brian and Becky, Laura, John, Kara, Mark, Aubrey, David, Tom, Jake, Curtis, Kollin, Derek, Dillon, Koty, Keegan, Ashley, Tyler, Alyssa, Baby Craycraft; great-grandchildren twins Kelsey and Taylor; brothers and sister Jim and Edna Albert, Less and Barb Albert, Carroll and Vickie Albert all of Belding, Connie and Ken Neil of Hastings; many cousins, nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law. Mass of Christian burial was at St. Mary Catholic Church, Belding, with Father Fred Brucker officiating. Interment in St. Mary Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be given to The Juvenile Diabetes Association, The American Cancer Society or for a special fund for St. Mary Cemetery.

MARY J. HAROLD
7-22-25 to 8-15-05



*Forever Missed, Forever Loved,
Your Family*

BARENDREHT
Mr. Rodney Vern Barendrecht, aged 61, of Grant, died Tuesday, August 1, 2006 in Grand Rapids. He was born Rodney Vern Barendrecht in Grant, the son of Elsie (Sage) and Vern Barendrecht of August 28, 1944. He married Patricia Jean Sivertsen on November 26, 1966 at Ensley Baptist Church. He was a self employed mason. He was a member of Ensley Baptist Church. He is survived by his wife Patricia Barendrecht of Grant; children Darla and Brent Diemer of Alto, Randy and Anette Barendrecht of Sparta, Debra and Scott Bull of Dacula, GA, Mark and Kim Barendrecht of Sparta, Deanna and Nathan Fisher of Lakeview, Dana

and Tyler Imhoff of Cedar Springs; 14 grandchildren plus one on the way; sisters Donna, Vera, Carolyn; brothers Jerry, Curtis, Roger; several nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held Saturday from the Ensley Baptist Church, Sand Lake, with Pastor Jim Ankerburg officiating. Interment in Hillside Cemetery. For memorials please consider Ensley Baptist Church.

SNUFFER
Philip C. Snuffer, aged 66, of Lowell, passed away suddenly Sunday, August 6, 2006. Surviving are his wife Terry; children Sarah (Keith) Swanson, Dennis Snuffer; grandchildren Carter and Avery Swanson; brothers Rev. Paul (Judy) Snuffer, Daniel (Ann) Snuffer, Robert (Alice) Snuffer; sister Janet (Robert) Bedgood; step-sisters Diane

(Jim) Parker, Charlotte (John) Bos; parents-in-law Leona and Rev. Louis Harvey; sister-in-law Kathy Hartigh (Ike Rood); brother-in-law Allen (Linda) Carter; many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his mother Harriet Snuffer-Visscher, father Ross Snuffer, step-father Dennis Visscher. Memorial service will be Thursday, Aug. 10 at 1 p.m. at Fallsburg Park Pavilion with Rev. Jerry Jones from First Congregational Church of Greenville officiating. Visitation Wednesday 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. at Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, 305 N. Hudson. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to The Philip Snuffer Memorial Garden.

Lend A Hand VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

PRESCHOOL PROGRAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS
The Franciscan Life Process Center needs volunteers one day a week for its preschool program. Hours are Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. - noon or 1 - 4 p.m. Daily schedules may include classroom activities, music and art programs, cooking, outdoor explorations at the farm and orchard. If interested call Charlie or Fredna at 897-7842.

STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM
The SHARE! High School Exchange Program is looking for caring families to host international teens for the upcoming school year or fall semester. The students speak English, are covered by medical insurance and have spending money for their personal expenses. Host families provide a bed, meals, as well as friendship, understanding, and a genuine desire to share the American way of life. Traditional two-parent families (with or without children), single parents or adults, and retired couples have enjoyed hosting these students. Families who are interested in hosting or obtaining more information should call the SHARE! Michigan Office toll-free at 1-800-930-3738, e-mail info@erdshare.org, or visit www.erdshare.org.

HELP PROMOTE LITERACY
The Kent County Literacy Council has scheduled an

information session on Thursday, Aug. 17 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 Cascade Library, 2870 Jacksmith Ave. SE, Grand Rapids. Call 459-5151 to register.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 06-181-849-DE

Estate of MARCILE L. THOMAS, deceased

SSN 570-42-3717

August 3, 2006

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, MARCILE L. THOMAS, who lived at 3767 Portman Lane, Grand Rapids, MI died July 4, 2006. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to TIM PALMER,

Craig Avery P10311 3875 W. River Dr., P.O. Box 327 Comstock Park, MI 49321 616-784-5080

Tim Palmer 58 Oneida SW Wyoming, MI 49548 616-245-9973

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Annual Art Attack on the way

By Dan Schneider

Get ready for art. It is attacking Lowell Saturday, Aug. 19 along with Caribbean music and food ... and mixed drinks.

The Lowell Area Arts Council's Art Attack art party is happening that Saturday in a tent behind their South Hudson Street gallery. This year's event is the fourth annual.

Art Attack has had a beach theme in the past. This year, the theme is still beach, but it is a Caribbean beach, not just any beach. And the party has the food and sounds to back it up. New this year will be a full dinner, catered by the Flat River Grill. Past Art Attacks had hors d'oeuvres tables, but this event will have a full array of Caribbean foods.

Caribbean sounds will be provided by the steel drum band Pangea. The name "Pangea" is kind of a pun, since steel drums are sometimes called "pans." For that matter, "steel drum music" is a pun, since the percussion instruments are made from steel oil drums. Pangea's music is influenced by a variety of styles including calypso, socca, Latin and jazz.

Central to Art Attack are the silent and live auctions of artworks and gift baskets. More than 40 pieces of art and jewelry will be auctioned off in addition to several specialty gift baskets. The artworks are currently on display at the arts council gallery.

Art Attack is growing in importance as a fundraiser for the arts council. "We really push the party part of it, but it is an important fundraiser," arts council executive director Lorain Smalligan said. "With all of the cuts in funding, especially at the state level and corporations tightening their belts, it's an important source of income."

Art Attack raises money for day-to-day operations of the arts council, which Smalligan said is the most difficult financial burden for a nonprofit organization to bear. Last year's Art Attack raised \$8,300 for the arts council; organizers have set this year's goal at \$10,000.

However, with 12-foot-tall palm trees, crushed ice whirring in blenders, and bottles of wine frequently thrown in along with the artworks for winning bidders, the Art Attack is hardly a stuffy fundraiser.

Art Attack 4 starts at 6 p.m. Aug. 19 and runs until 11 p.m. Tickets are \$35 each. They can be purchased during gallery hours at the Arts Council, by calling 897-8545, or online at www.lowellartscouncil.org. Also online are images of artwork donations and a list of gift basket items.



These items and artwork currently on display at the Lowell Area Arts Council's Hudson Street gallery will be auctioned off to raise money for the arts council at this year's Art Attack, an art party with a Caribbean theme.

Business Matters



Dr. Katherine Hand, O.D.

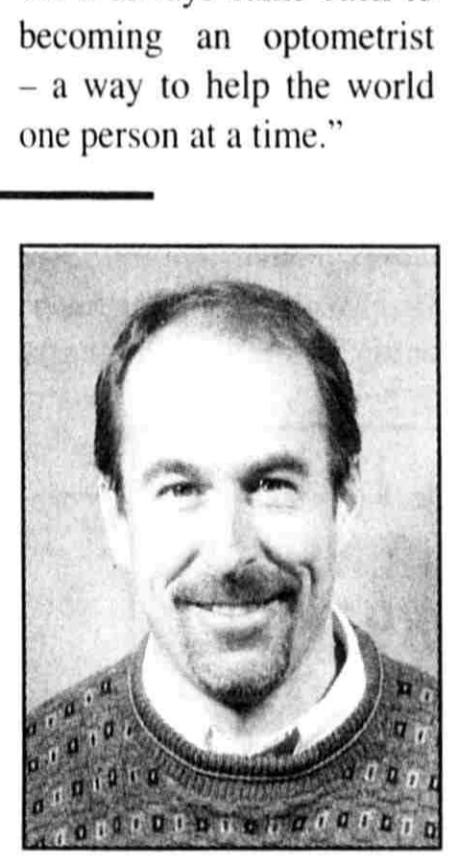
Dr. Katherine Hand, O.D., an optometrist, has joined the Advanced Eye Care Professionals practice and will be working in both the Lowell and Ionia offices.

She received her bachelor of science from Ferris State University, with Honors, in 2002, and her O.D. from Michigan College of Optometry in 2006.

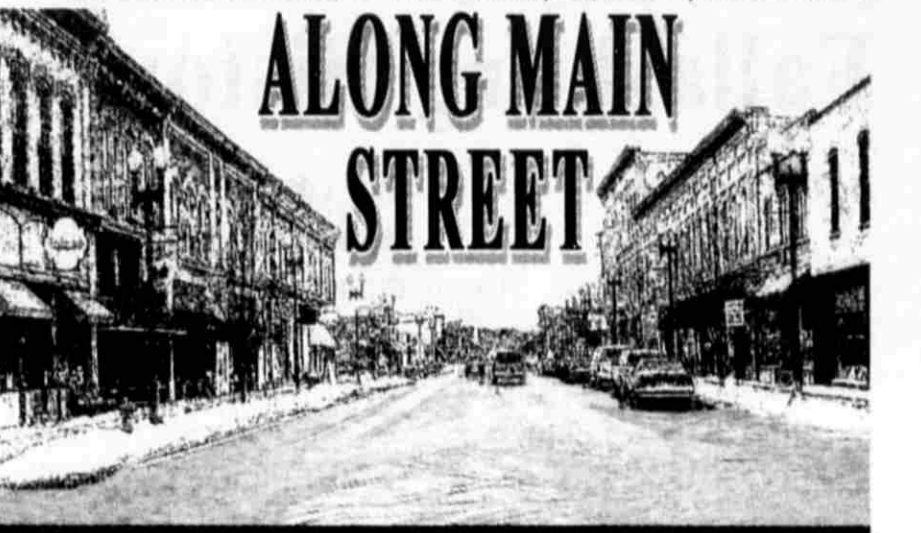
About her education, she said, "According to my parents, I have wanted to be an eye doctor since I was about three years old. Growing up, I considered many different careers, but it always came back to becoming an optometrist - a way to help the world one person at a time."

Greenridge Realty announced that Kim Schwacha received Realtor of the Month in July.

This award recognizes Schwacha for his outstanding success and achievements.



Kim Schwacha



PLANNING FOR TRAILWAY
A meeting is scheduled for this Wednesday, Aug. 9, at Lowell City Offices at 6 p.m. for anyone interested in learning about or helping with the trailways.

SIZZLIN' SUMMER CONCERTS
Bluegrass Music concert will be held this Thursday at the Kent County Youth Fair starting at 6 p.m. No Sizzlin' Summer Concert this week at the Riverwalk.

GRAND OPENING AT PARK
Grand River Riverfront Park will have its grand opening on Saturday, Aug. 12 from noon to 4 p.m. Everyone welcome to games, food and entertainment. Hosted by Lowell Charter Twp.

FLPC MUSIC LESSONS
Franciscan Life Process Center is offering private music lessons. Call 897-7842 to book.

TAI CHI CHUAN
The Lowell YMCA will offer an 8-week session on Tai Chi Chuan beginning Saturday, Aug. 12. Call 897-8445 for more info.

PRESCHOOL OPENINGS
Franciscan Life Process Center Preschool has openings for 3-5 year olds Monday - Thursday, 9-noon or 1-4 p.m. Call 897-7842. Scholarships available.

5-YEAR LHS REUNION
Class of 2001 will have its 5-year reunion at Fallsburg Park on Aug. 12 from 3-6 p.m. BYOB and a dish to share. RSVP: email LHSSclass2001@hotmail.com

ART ATTACK 4
The Lowell Area Arts Council will have its 4th annual Art Attack on Saturday, Aug. 19. The Caribbean theme event will be held at 149 S. Hudson. Tickets are \$35. Call 897-8545 or visit www.lowellartscouncil.org

FOOD NEEDED
The FROM Food Pantry is in need of boxed potatoes, pork and beans, and kidney beans.

GRATTAN ACADEMY
New student enrollments for grades k-12 are being accepted for Grattan Academy now through Sept. 6. Call 691-8999 (k-5) and 754-9360 (6-12).

Estate/Garage Sale:

Women's lg. petite sizes 14-18, infant thru 5 g/b; all clothes 50¢ unless marked. (**Cheaper than Goodwill**); dresser/changing table; baby swing; butcher block kitchen table w/4 chairs; canning jars; pressure cooker; sewing material & patterns; 1 large roll quilt batting, dishes, glasses, towels, blankets; knick-knacks; wheelbarrow, push mower; lawn cart; wooden porch swing; lots & lots of toys (infant and up); Little Tikes tool bench. *Many more items not listed. *Everything is priced to go!*

Thursday, August 10 • Noon - 9 p.m.
Friday, August 11 • 9 to 5 pm
Saturday, August 12 • 9 to 2 pm

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*1967 John Deere 110 Lawnmower

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TALLADEGA NIGHTS: THE BALLAD OF RICKY BOBBY (PG-13)
12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30

BARNYARD: THE ORIGINAL PARTY ANIMALS (PG)
11:20, 1:20, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:20

THE DESCENT (R)
11:10, 1:15, 3:20, 5:25, 7:30, 9:35

MIAMI VICE (R)
11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00

MONSTER HOUSE (PG) 11:00 AM

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST (PG-13)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

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Engagements

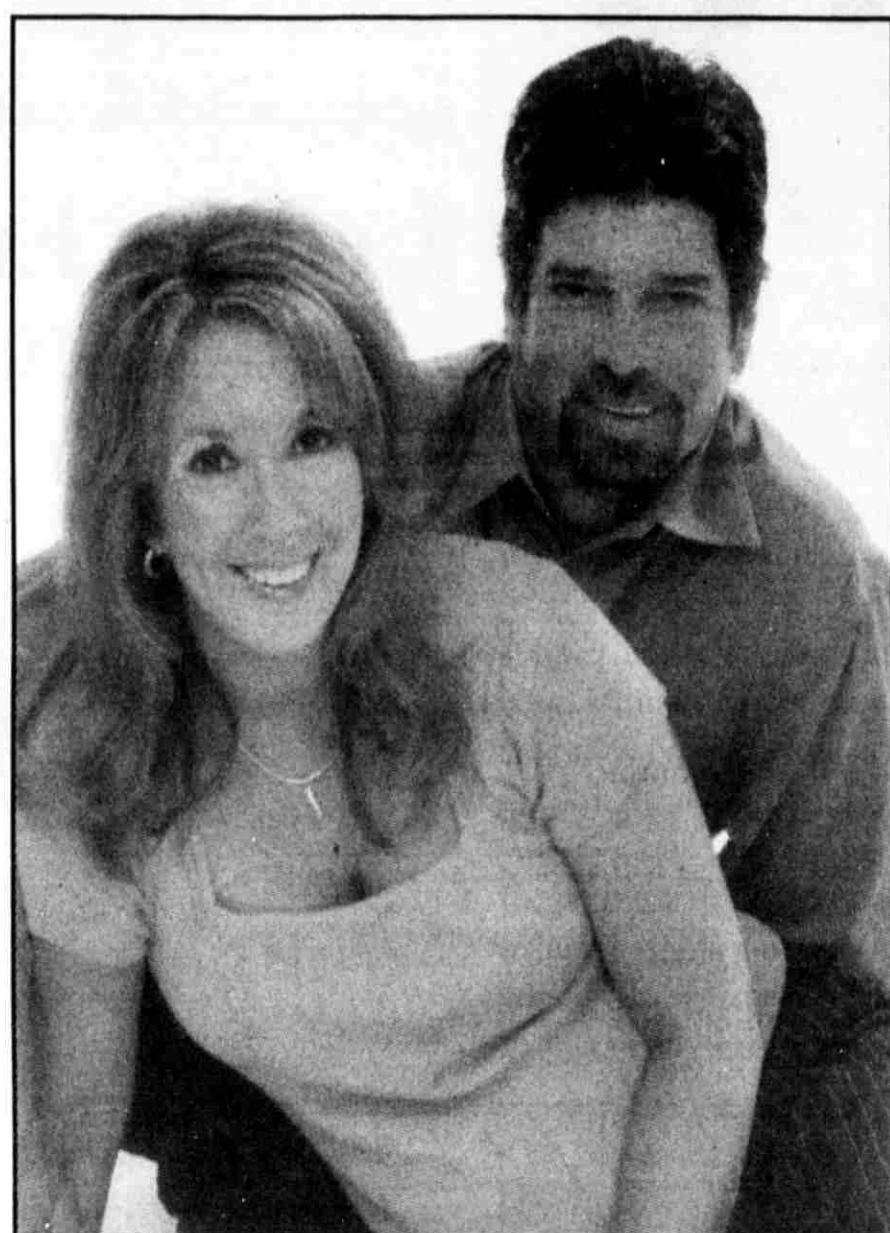
Zandstra/Harp

Emerson and Shirley Myers of Caledonia and Raymond and Barbara Zandstra of Lowell proudly announce the engagement of their daughter, Wendy A. Zandstra of Grand Rapids to David M. Harp of Mobile, Alabama.

The bride-elect is a graduate of East Kentwood High School and Davenport University. She is currently a licensed realtor and director of sales for Cascade Place Condominiums.

The future groom is a graduate of Dale County High School in Midland, Alabama, and Lake City Community College, Lake City, Florida.

The couple is planning a November 11, 2006 wedding in Grand Rapids.



Wendy Zandstra and David Harp

Golden anniversary celebrated

Allen and Wilma (Ward) Fallstrom of Lowell will observe their 50th wedding anniversary on August 18.

The couple, married in 1956, will be celebrating the event with their children Julie, Jeff, Joe and Jeni and their spouses, along with 11 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.



Allen and Wilma (Ward) Fallstrom pictured on their wedding day and today.

Reflections of faith

A LESSON FROM DUCKS

Bob Roush, pastor
Friendship Country Chapel

Hebrews 10:25 says this: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

One of the duties my wife has in taking care of the old farm is to herd about 17 ducks down into the old milk house and bolt the door to protect them from the night creatures that would like to "invite them to dinner" if you know what I mean.

I was sitting in the car on this particular night when she was having a lot of trouble getting the usually obedient ducks in tow. The problem is that the older ducks had gone down earlier and bedded down for the evening, but ... well

you know how young ducks are, they wanted to stay up late, therein lies the problem. When she would get them right to the door, the old ducks would be mean to these younger ones and start pecking at them. Finally, after several tries, all but one little duck was securely in the safe haven, and to her dismay she could not find him because he had hidden in the tall grass. So, reluctantly, she closed the door and we went home. But all night long she fretted about that duck. But sometime during the dark of that night this little duck met his match and lost. His problem wasn't that he set out to be the most disobedient duck on the planet. The problem was that he was totally unaware of the dangers of the environment around him. And when he chose to hide from Kathy in the weeds, he, so to speak, signed his own death warrant. Because, don't you know that a duck pitted against a raccoon will always wind up on the short end of the stick?

God is so cool! He has provided for us a "milk house" in the midst of a hostile environment. It's the church. The true church is the body of believers from every tribe and denomination who chooses Christ as their way of life. In this great institution we gather as believers under the umbrella of God's protective care. I can't imagine my life without the knowledge of the protective care of the caregiver,

Jesus, and I can't imagine trying to deal with all the stuff that comes down the conduit of life daily without the ever present knowledge that in the end I will be safe from the night prowlers that are set to do me in.

But, like that duck, we all have that same free will to choose where we find our security and peace. The seriousness of the story of our duck is found in the few feathers and parts that lay scattered about the next morning. What a snap into reality that must have been for this duck. What a snap into reality it will be when life comes crashing at the end and the anesthetic fog we call reality is lifted to reveal the pure truth.

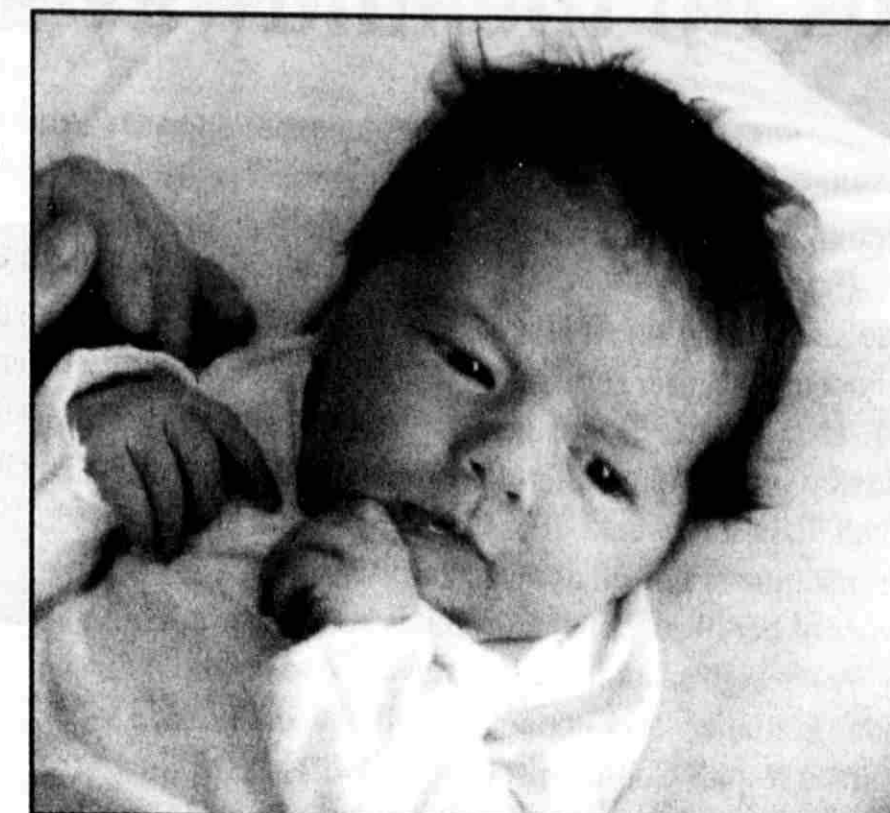
If you're not presently attending a "milk house," find a good one and get started. There's no better time than the present. For goodness sake, Lowell sure has enough good ones. And if you find one with a bunch of old ducks that start pecking at you, don't consider that we're all like that—we're not. Just go find a different one and when you leave, those old ducks will just start pecking on each other. Whatever you do, don't get left out in the dark because there are no Lone Rangers, even he needed Tonto. On the other hand, if you've been slacking in your attendance, then determine right now that you're going to start going back. Stay safe in Jesus.

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 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. OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS OPEN DOORS Pastor Dean Bailey</p>	<p>DAY BIBLE CHAPEL 9305 Centerline, Saranac 897-6332 Worship.....9:45 A.M. Sunday School.....11:00 A.M. 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 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 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 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 Robert W. Holmes, Senior Pastor Dave Noonon, Asst. Pastor John King, Youth Pastor 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. SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 48. ENTV FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>	<p>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Fr. George J. Fekete 402 Amity St. • 897-9820 www.stmary-lowell.com Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL BRENDA BERGEM 897-7615</p>	<p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (United Church of Christ) 404 North Hudson • 897-5906 Sunday Worship.....10:00 A.M. Church School.....10:15-11:15 A.M. Thursday Worship.....7:00 P.M. Dr. Roger LaWarre.....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 www.goodshepherdlowell.org Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremser, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbcloell.org Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Hanes, Youth Pastor Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA CLUB.....Wed. 6:15 & 6:30 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. Thurian Meredith 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 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. PASTOR MICHAEL RHODABARGER Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>

New Arrivals

Pohl

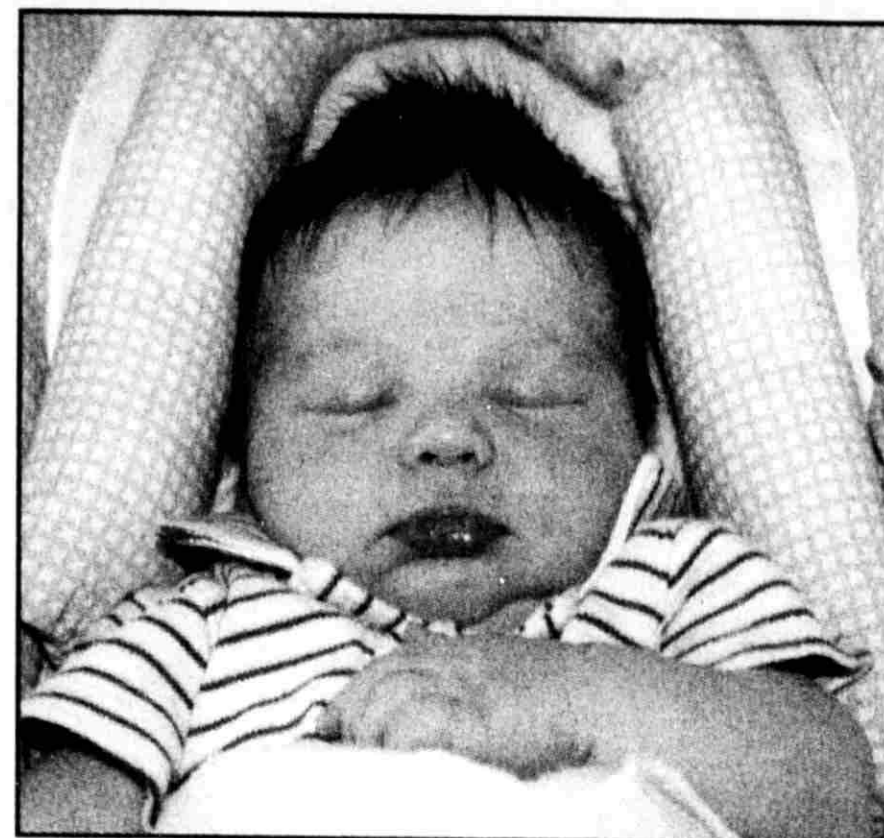


Claire Juliann Pohl

Jeff and Stephanie Pohl are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Claire Juliann. Claire was born on June 22, 2006 at 5:03 a.m. She weighed 7 lbs. 14 oz. and measured 22 inches.

Proud grandparents are Larry and Ann Pohl of Portland and Stan and Julie Weber of Fowler.

Morgan



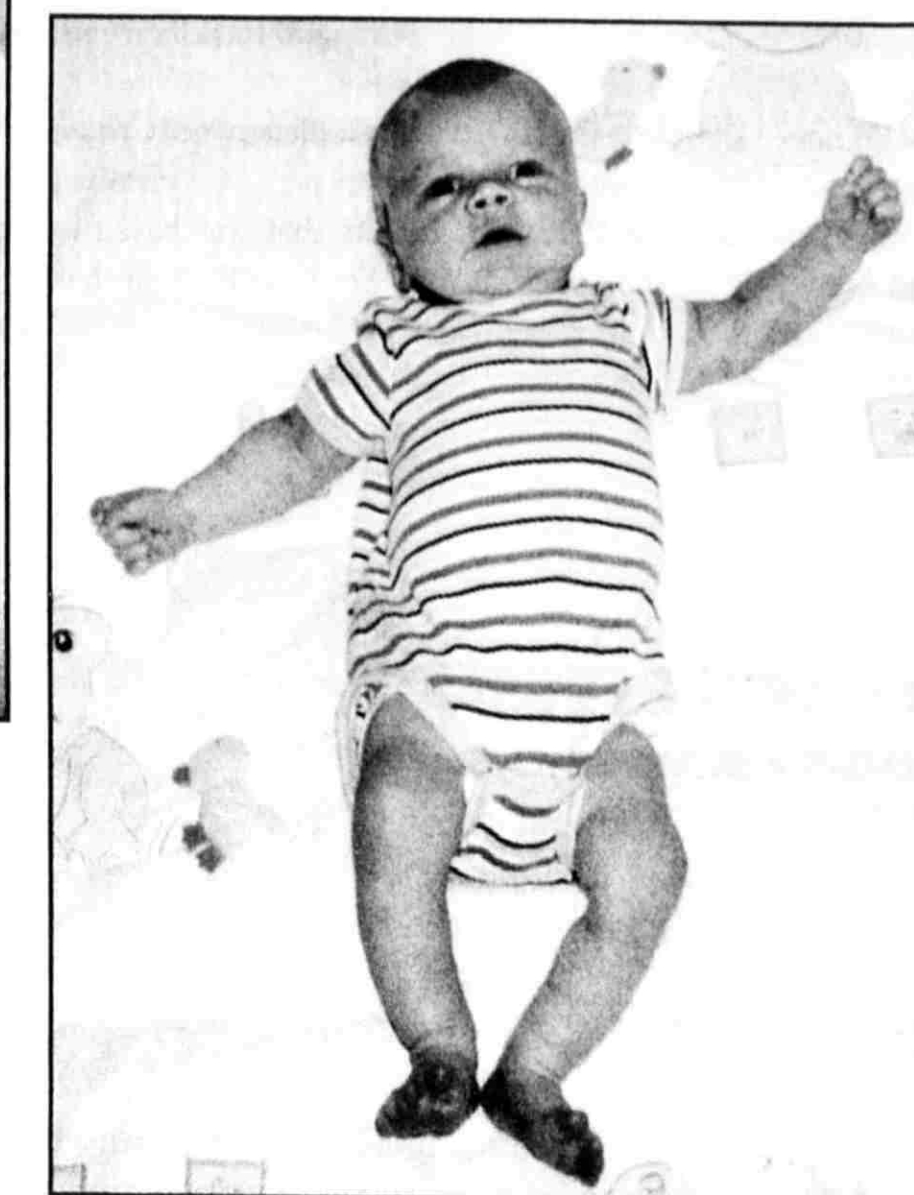
Ethan Michael Morgan

Joe and Sarah Morgan are proud to announce the birth of their son, Ethan Michael Morgan.

He was born on July 20, 2006 weighing 8 lbs. 12 oz. and measuring 19 inches.

He is welcomed home by Hayden and Alivia. Proud grandparents are Dave and Cindy Clark of Lowell, and Mike and Cathy Morgan of Lowell. Great-grandparents are David and Gloria Ponce of Ionia.

Davis



Owen Thomas Davis

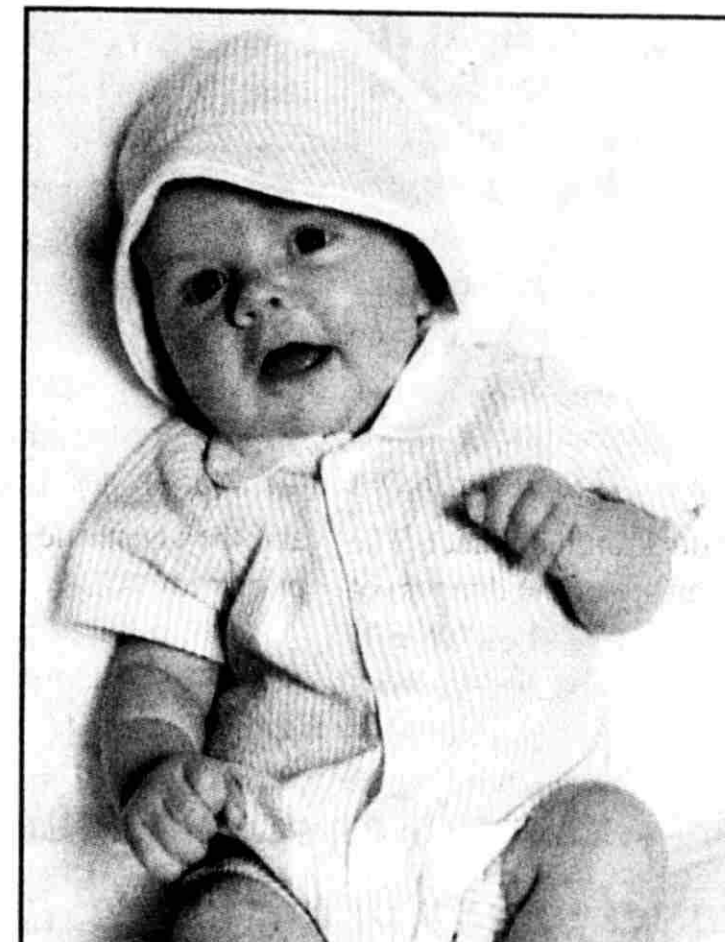
Erin and Kip Davis are happy to announce the birth of their son, Owen Thomas. He was born June 16, 2006. He weighed 9 lbs. 5 oz. and measured 23 inches.

Proud grandparents are Eric and Rita Lundstrom.

Hodges

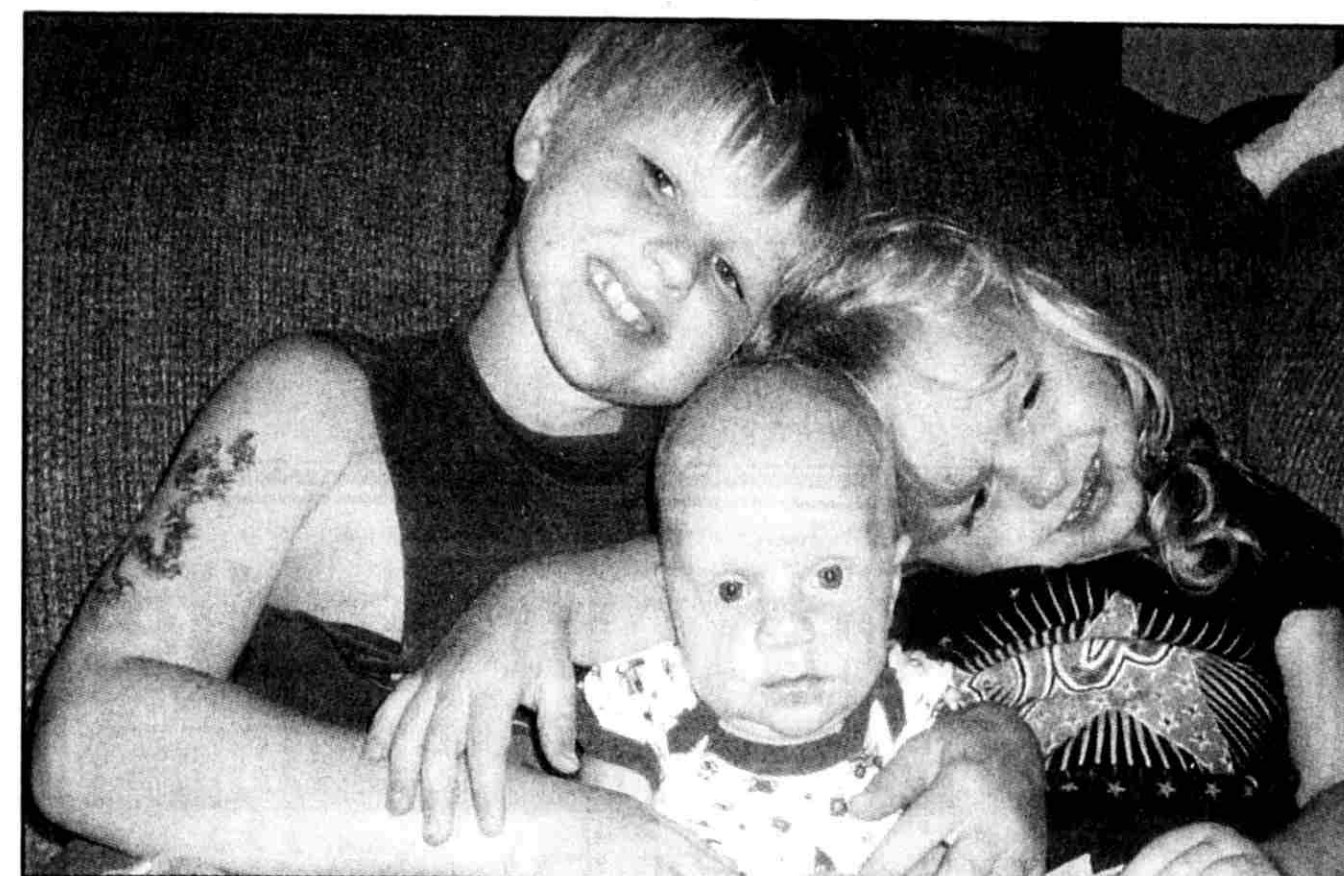
Trevor David Hodges was born May 19, 2006. He weighed 9 lbs. 4 oz. and measured 21 inches.

Proud parents are Allan Hodges and Jenny Sage, and brother Mason.



Trevor David Hodges

Fuss



Jerry and Jennifer Fuss of Alto are proud to introduce their son, Wyatt Douglas, born May 4, 2006 at St. Mary's Hospital in Grand Rapids. He weighed 8 lbs. 11 oz. and measured 22 inches.

Welcoming him home are big brother Dalton and big sister Sophia. Proud grandparents are Paul and Lois Fuss of Alto, Richard and Teresa Huizinga of Rockford, and Douglas Klahn of Clarksville.

Happy Birthday

AUGUST 10:
Madeline Scott, Arnice DeLoof.
AUGUST 11:
Mike Wilczewski, Jordan Warren.
AUGUST 12:
Robin Briggs, Linda Uzarski.

AUGUST 10:
Betty Powell, Steve Martin, Sr., Gaylord Heaston.
AUGUST 13:
Robert Hewitt, Ryan Christenson, Ryan Roe, Mike Roth.
AUGUST 14:
Adam Billingsley, Aaron

Christenson, Betsy Brenk, Bob Wilczewski.
AUGUST 15:
Ben Raymor, Bill Barber, Dena Baylis, Vivian Johnson, Donnie Shaffer, Barb Callihan, Kim Tubergen, Deb Wright, Pam Kline.
AUGUST 16:
Helen Vezino, Don Gasper, Trent Raab, Mike Mooney, Ryan Aksamitowski.

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Cozy Corner, continued ... From Page 5



Approaching Astoria, Oregon. The Pacific Ocean looms in the background. The airport and Fort Clatsop are on the finger of land beyond the city.

small, primitive campsites carved out of the pines nearby. There was water, picnic tables, grills and a toilet. What else do you need? Maybe some elk meat for the grill. I pitched my tent and made some coffee.

I could hear the ocean from my campsite. A short walk took me across the road, through the regular campgrounds and to a beautiful sand beach. I hung out for a gorgeous sunset. Back at my camp I took a picture of some deer



Slightly out-of-focus, this photo was taken by a fellow tourist I pressed into service at Ft. Clatsop. The replica fort burned down a year ago and the Park Service is building a new one. Living on elk meat and water, I'm guessing the original Corps of Discovery privates didn't look like this re-enactor. He makes me look skinny.

grazing by the airplane. I think a guy could get used to this kind of travel.

The next morning had me up and around reasonably early. This trip down the coast was a part of the trip that I had been looking forward to as much as anything. The weather was near perfect as I got in the air around nine o'clock.

The coastline was everything I had imagined. There were beautiful beaches. There were huge rock formations along the shore and out in the water. Mostly I flew just offshore and at a few hundred feet. Inland there were green forests and sizeable hills serving as a backdrop. Again, words don't do it justice.

For nearly 200 miles I flew and took in the beauty of this largely undeveloped Oregon coastline. I landed at Bandon, Oregon, for fuel and a check on the weather up ahead. From the air it looked like some low scud was hanging over the shore further down the coast.

Frank, at Frank's Flying Service was a big help. Judging from his age and the weathered and faded signage over his door, I figured he'd know about flying the coast. He called a buddy at Flight Service and the news was not good. The ceilings were down to 100 feet at some reporting stations up ahead. Worse,



On the ground at the Nehalem Bay State Park in Oregon. The Piper Cherokee Six on take-off held a family of four, their camping gear and bicycles. They left me with the airstrip campsites all to myself.

the conditions weren't expected to change anytime soon. Not even in the next day or two.

I made the executive decision to divert away from the coast and then head south down into California. I had planned to visit the redwood forest and enjoy more of the coast. This was a major disappointment. On the plus side, I would fly VFR (Visual Flight Rules) fifteen straight days by the time this trip was over. This would be the only major weather issue I'd encounter. Ask any pilot ... that is amazingly good luck!

I'm running way long again, and didn't get nearly as far as I'd hoped. Next week we'll get into California and on to Sacramento. There we'll pick up the Transcontinental Railroad and start the trip home.



Sunset over the Pacific Ocean at the Nehalem Bay State Park in Oregon. The sandy beach reminded me of the West Michigan shoreline. Seeing people bundled in jackets at the end of June was also like Michigan can sometimes be.

Making dressing at Litehouse Foods in Lowell

By Dan Schneider

For the purpose of informing the public about one of the major industries in Lowell, The Ledger presents the following tale of Ranch dressing manufacturing at Litehouse Foods on Foreman Road ...

Ranch salad dressing starts out in life, at least at Litehouse Foods in Lowell, as buttermilk and canola oil.

Litehouse gets its canola oil with its own tanker truck directly from the refinery in Windsor, Ontario.

"It's a very healthy oil," Litehouse co-owner Wendell Christoff said.

The buttermilk is made on site, mixed from powder. Litehouse uses 11,250 gallons of buttermilk per week at the 1400 Foreman Road manufacturing facility. It's the main ingredient in the company's two most popular dressings: Ranch and Blue Cheese.

Litehouse makes 20 different kinds of Ranch

dressing. Most of them are made in about the same way, just with different spices. Tuesday, July 18, the company was running a dozen batches of its Original Ranch recipe.

"We used to call it 'Red Cap Ranch,' manufacturing manager Fred Alexander said. "It was one of the original Litehouse dressings."

Each batch is 447 gallons. Each jar of Original Ranch dressing contains 15 different ingredients. Seven of them are spices.

Spices get shipped in from around the country. They originate around the world. Litehouse's garlic comes from China, for instance.

Spices are mixed at the northeast corner of the manufacturing plant in a room with white walls. The air around that room carries a wide variety of smells, averaging out to smelling about like barbecue sauce.

Most of the employees at

Litehouse have acclimated to air that smells about like barbecue sauce, and don't notice it anymore.

Alexander has worked there for 15 years.

"When I started here, it was all horseradish," Alexander said.

That had a more noticeable smell. It made it hard to smell things after work.

"A lot of times all you could smell was horseradish," he said.

But the air is much less harsh there now, he said. On some days, the air smells like strawberries. That's when strawberry glaze is being made.

Spice mixing is done ahead of salad dressing production, usually by about 24 hours. On July 18, the spice crew was mixing up recipes for the next day's Bleu Cheese run. The spice crew measures out spices according to a computerized


Dressing, cont'd., pg. 16



Litehouse Foods manufacturing manager Fred Alexander next to the spice racks in the Litehouse staging area.



Joyce Sharp inspects full bottles of Ranch dressing.



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For more information on SMA, please visit www.maloriefox.com.

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Dressing, continued ... From Page 11

printout recipe. They mix them in large, stainless steel tubs with rotating blades resembling an egg beater. Then they measure the spices by weight into clear plastic bags.

The plastic bags of spices are piled into blue plastic barrels, loaded on pallets and racked on shelving units about two stories tall in the staging area. When the production line is ready to add spices to a batch of dressing, a forklift zips back to the racks, selects the right pallet, and brings it to the mixing station closer to the front of the plant.

Canola oil, stored in giant fiberglass silos, and buttermilk, mixed in a

3,000-gallon, stainless steel vat, is already on the way to the mixing station. It's carried in a complex network of pipes that snakes its way through the rafters. The buttermilk moves through insulated pipes at a constant 38-degree temperature because Litehouse does not add preservatives to its dressings.

"It's a no-preservative product, so it can't take any kind of abuse at all," Alexander said.

Oil and buttermilk are carefully metered into the vats to produce an emulsion. Three spinning paddle wheels mix oil, buttermilk and other ingredients.

Once the dressing is

mixed, it heads through another set of pipes to the bottling line. Litehouse puts its dressings and other products in a staggering variety of different packages, from the small plastic dishes in the middle of Sam's Club vegetable trays to 50-gallon drums. "That's for the people who really like ranch," Alexander said. The different package sizes, multiplied by the number of different products, equal about 500 total store keeping units (SKUs). July 18, hundreds of 25-ounce jars were corralled at the beginning of the bottling line.

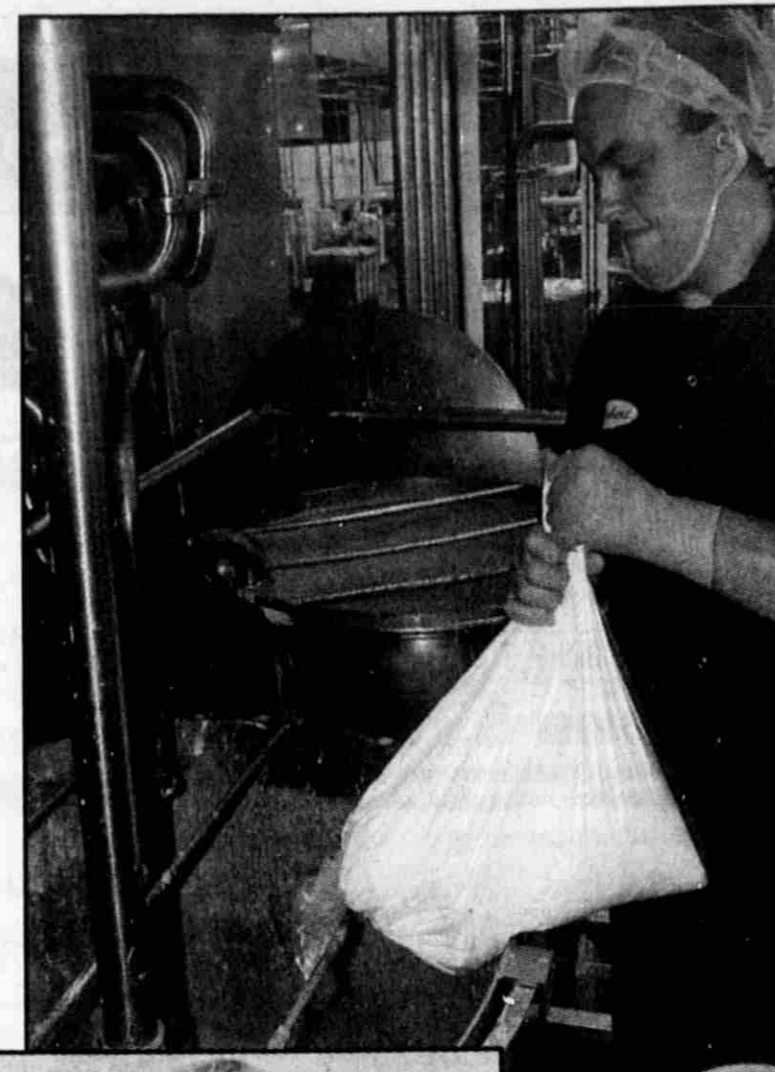
Queued up between the metal rails of the conveyor belt, the jars move through

a rotating plastic corkscrew while a machine encircles them with labels. Then, with a "shloop" noise, the filler machine dispenses 25 ounces of Original Ranch dressing into each jar.

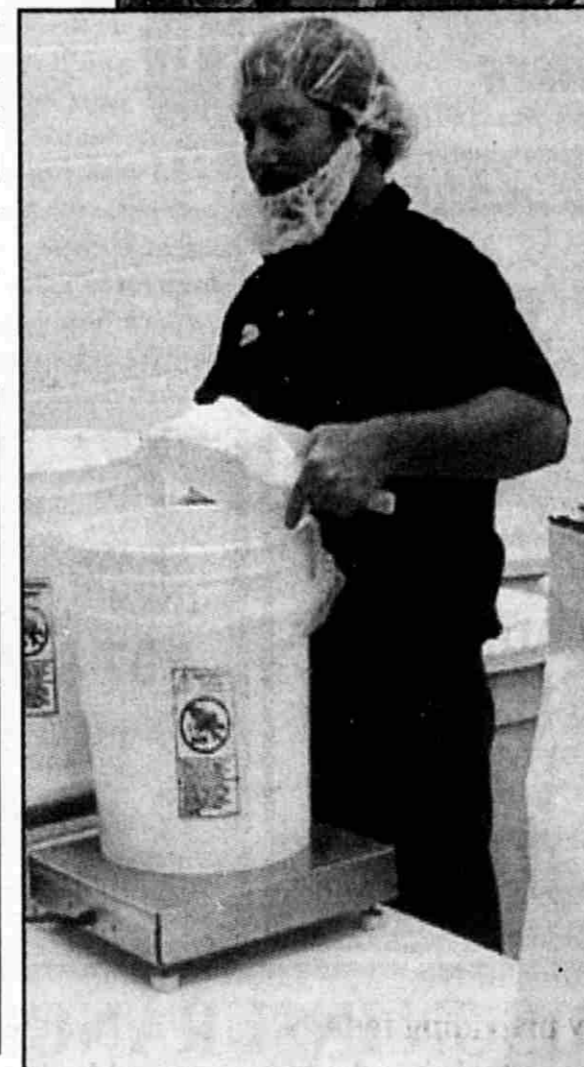
A machine screws the lids on with 25 pound-feet of torque.

Jars go into boxes. Boxes are loaded on pallets. Pallets are wrapped in plastic and moved by forklift to the shelves in the refrigerated warehouse.

Usually, Litehouse products are stored in the warehouse a maximum of 13 days before they get loaded onto trucks and shipped all over the country and to provinces in Canada.



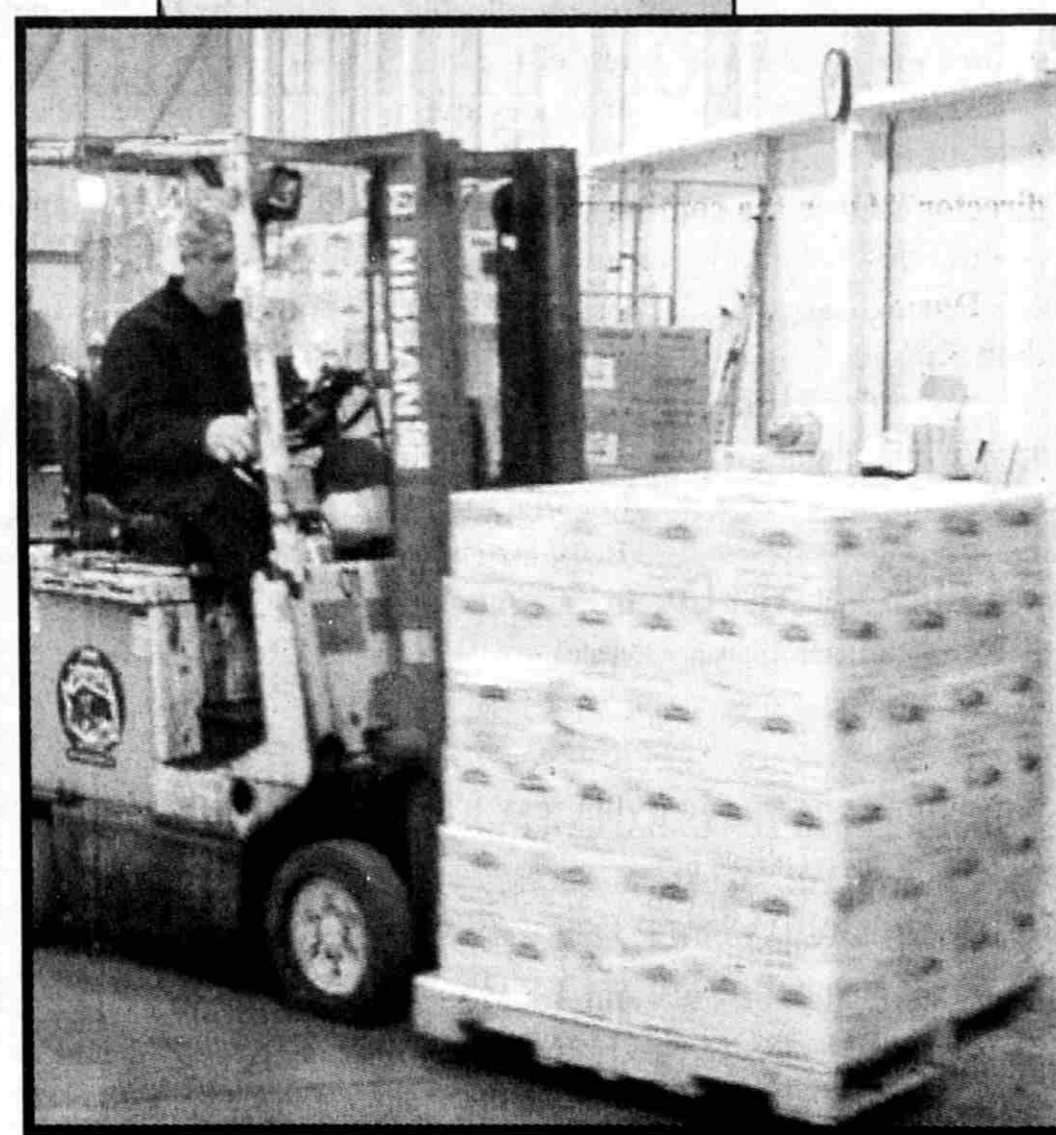
Above, Robert Anderson adds sour cream to a batch of Original Ranch salad dressing.



At left, Ray Hackman measures out ingredients for a batch of Bleu Cheese dressing. Spices are mixed and portioned out at least 24 hours in advance of salad dressing production.



A complex network of pipes carries canola oil, buttermilk and other bulk ingredients to the mixing station on the production floor.



Shaun Parker loads a pallet of Litehouse dressing onto a semi trailer for shipment.

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New spot to enjoy artwork while having a cup of java

By Dan Schneider

There is a new place to look at art in Lowell.

As luck would have it, it is also a place where people can buy and drink a cup of coffee. So it has now become a place where people can buy a cup of coffee and drink it while looking at art.

"David (Davis) and I just started talking about wanting to give artists an opportunity to show their work," said Voyages Coffee Shop owner Sterling Massey.

Davis organizes art exhibits for the Lowell Area Arts Council outside of the arts council's gallery

on South Hudson Street. A major component of the arts council's mission is to introduce art into people's daily lives in Lowell. To that end, they already have regular art displays at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, the Huntington Bank branch at 414 E. Main Street, and the Lowell Area Schools administration building.

Massey said his coffee shop has adequate wall space to display several pieces of art. The fact that it is a coffee shop is also beneficial for artists.

"We talked about this being a good space for receptions," Massey said. And the artists' work

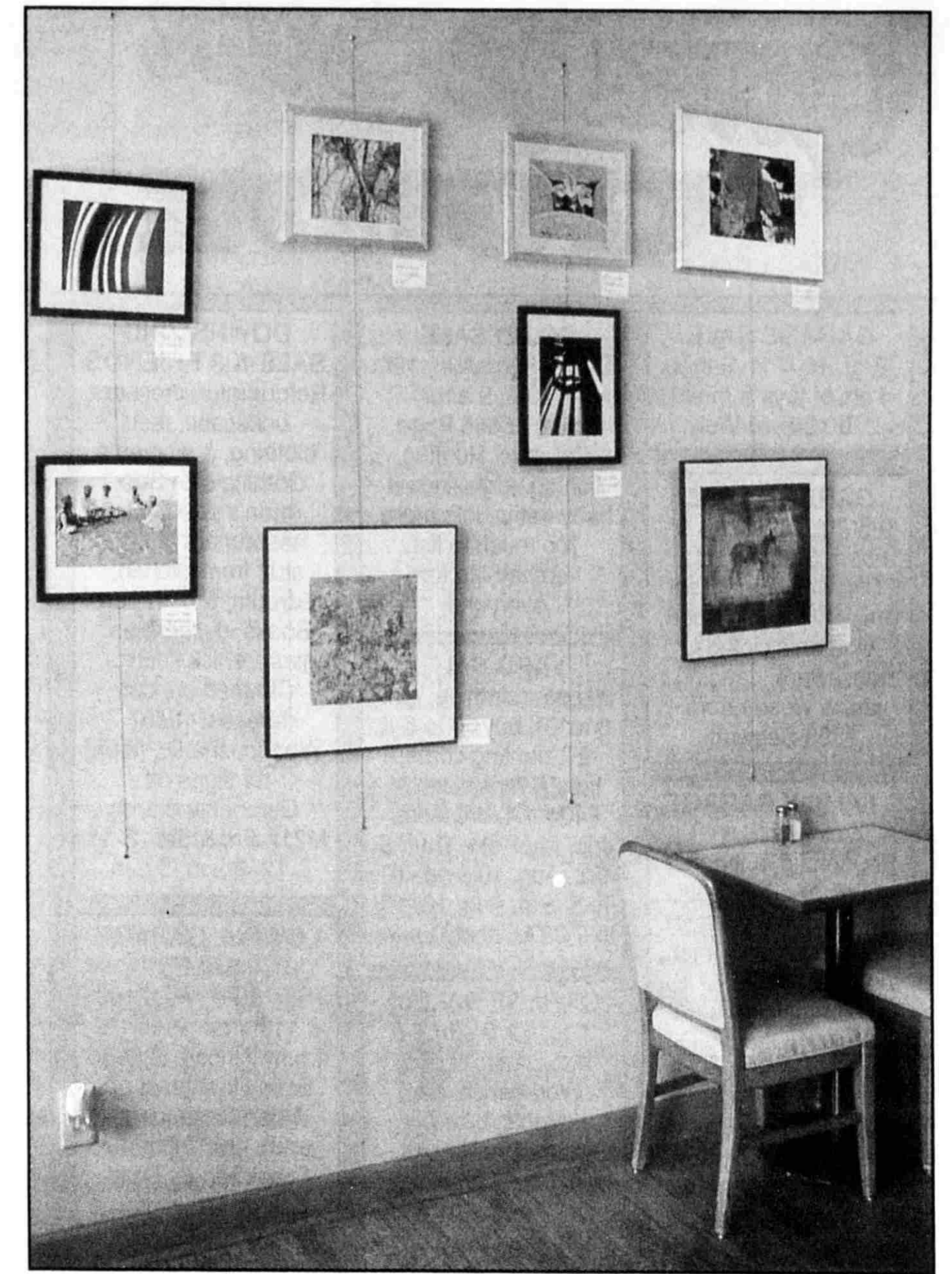
provides changing decor for the coffee shop.

"It creates a certain amount of energy, talk, that will help Voyages out, too," Massey said. "So it's not totally altruistic, it's just everybody scratches everybody else's back."

Currently on the walls are works by Pravin and Arvind Sevak. Pravin's work consists of photographs while Arvind's includes paintings and prints.

Following this exhibit will be watercolor and mixed media work by Dick Nosky and Jerry Teelander.

Voyages Coffee Shop is located at 307 E. Main Street.



Artwork on the walls of Voyages Coffee Shop, a new place to see art in Lowell.

Officers cracking down on drunk drivers during end-of-summer enforcement blitz

To ensure the safety of motorists taking advantage of summer's final travel weeks, law enforcement officers across Michigan are stepping up enforcement during a statewide drunk driving blitz.

From Aug. 18 through Sept. 4, more than 500 Michigan law enforcement agencies are participating in the You Drink & Drive. You Lose. drunk driving crackdown. This effort includes the Labor Day holiday weekend, which typically marks the end of summer.

The Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP) is coordinating the enforcement effort by providing federal traffic safety funds to nearly 230 agencies in 55 counties to boost patrols in selected areas and by funding paid advertising to ensure widespread awareness of the crackdown.

"No matter what you drive - a car, truck, SUV or motorcycle - if you're caught driving drunk, you will be arrested," said Michael L. Prince, OHSP division director. "Over the coming weeks, Michigan's law enforcement community will be out in force looking for and arresting drunk drivers."

During last year's Labor Day You Drink & Drive. You Lose. crackdown, more than 3,200 motorists were arrested for alcohol-related offenses.

In spite of the progress that has been made to reduce drunk driving, approximately 35 percent of all traffic fatalities in Michigan still involve alcohol and/or drugs. In 2005, 408 people died and 7,982 were injured in alcohol and/or drug-related crashes on Michigan roadways. Over the 2005 Labor Day holiday weekend, 14 people died in Michigan crashes. Five of those fatalities involved alcohol, according to the Michigan Department of State Police, Criminal Justice Information Center.

Motorists are reminded that if they catch a buzz, they should catch a ride, because the penalties are not worth the risk. Those convicted of a first drunk driving offense face:

- Up to 93 days in jail
- Up to a \$500 fine
- Up to 360 hours of community service
- 6 points on a driver's license
- Up to 180 days' license suspension

In addition, convicted drunk drivers will be subject to a \$1,000 fee for two consecutive years, for a total of \$2,000 in additional costs. Anyone who refuses a breath test the first time is given an automatic one-year driver's license suspension.

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