

# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 34 Issue 44

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

## Many Lowell landmarks celebrate anniversaries in 2006

By Dan Schneider

This year, 2006, features the coincidence of several anniversaries in Lowell.

In total, seven institutions are marking anniversaries of note.

First and foremost is the area of Lowell itself. Lowell was first settled 175 years ago, in 1831, by a French fur trader named Daniel Marsac. He established his trading post at the confluence of the Grand and Flat rivers in that year, becoming the area's first permanent settler.

Fur trading soon gave way to other industries such as lumbering, and Marsac's settlement (he

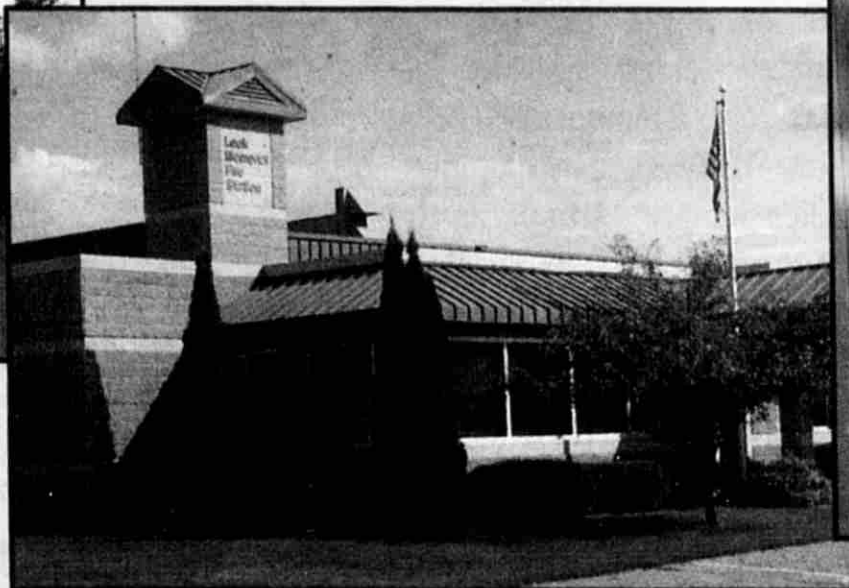
first named it "Danville") grew. It was 25 years later that there were enough buildings in Lowell to justify a fire department to protect them. Founded in 1856, the Lowell Area Fire Department is now celebrating its 150th anniversary.

The First Congregational Church of Lowell is celebrating that same anniversary, also founded in 1856.

Another edifice, the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce was established in 1906; it is turning 100 this year.



Lowell's downtown is on the national register of historic places. The Lowell area is celebrating 175 years of existence this year.



The Lowell Area Fire Department is 150 years old this year.



The LACC was founded 100 years ago in 1906.

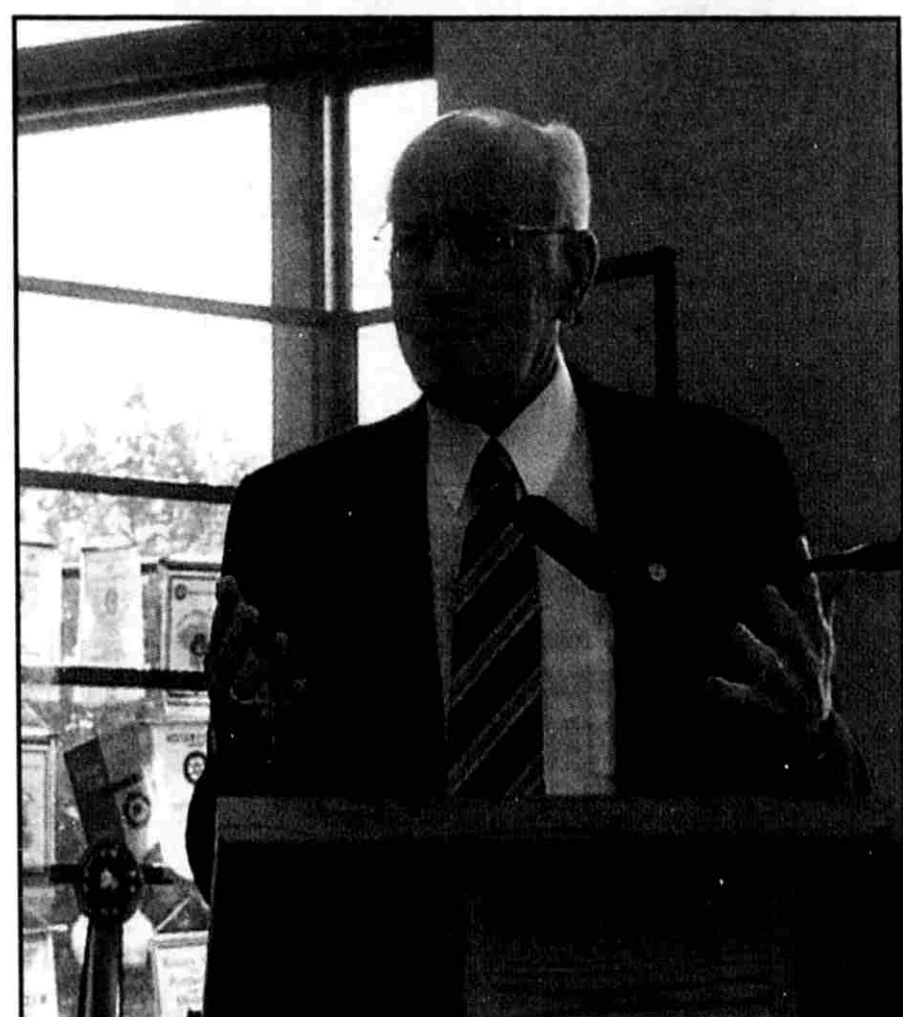


Superior Furniture has been in business in Lowell for 70 years.

The First Congregational Church of Lowell is celebrating 150 years this year.

Anniversaries, cont'd., pg. 16

## Congressman Ehlers speaks at Rotary Club meeting



U.S. congressman Vern Ehlers was the guest speaker at last Wednesday's Lowell Rotary Club meeting.

By Dan Schneider

Lowell Rotarians got a taste of what is happening on Capitol Hill last Wednesday as Michigan third district congressman Vernon Ehlers was the speaker at their weekly meeting.

Ehlers talked about the pressing issues of the day, first addressing the war in Iraq. He said it is important for the United States to help Iraq establish a self-sufficient security force and that sectarian violence in the country is a "serious problem."

Ehlers said he expected the war to be difficult from

the outset, and told then-deputy secretary of defense Paul Wolfowitz that "it was going to be easy to go in there and depose Saddam Hussein, but after that it is going to be difficult." Before the war, Ehlers said, Wolfowitz and secretary of state Condoleezza Rice believed the U.S. would be welcomed as liberators and reconstruction costs would be paid for by oil revenues. He said he told them that belief was "naive."

Ehlers did not disparage the overall goals of the mission in Iraq.

"They have made considerable progress, but there is still a ways to go,"

Ehlers said.

He talked about the high prices people are paying at the gas pumps. He said it is just one example of the mounting energy problems we are facing in America.

"I've been arguing since the '70s that we have to develop alternative forms of energy," Ehlers said.

He said we need to seek energy sources that do not contribute to global warming and other forms of climate change.

"Temperature is only one part of climate change," Ehlers said. "Wings, hurricanes, tornadoes, drought, those are also part

of climate change."

Oil dependency has hurt the U.S. in its war on terrorism, Ehlers said, saying we are financing both sides of the war.

"We're paying for our troops with our taxes" while much of the money we spend on petroleum products goes to the unstable middle-eastern countries that are the seeding ground for terrorism, he said.

"That's an untenable situation," Ehlers said.

He said education will be key if the U.S. is to stay competitive in a global economy.

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## Ambulance expansion funding nearly collected

By Dan Schneider

Rockford-Lowell Ambulance is close to securing the funds needed to build an expansion to the Look Memorial Fire Station.

The 2,178-square foot addition will provide garage bays for two ambulances and separate sleeping

quarters for male and female paramedics based at the station. Rockford-Lowell Ambulance CEO Roger Morgan said the estimated cost of the project is about \$303,000.

Rockford Ambulance has committed \$83,000 to the project; the Lowell Area Community Fund has granted the same amount.

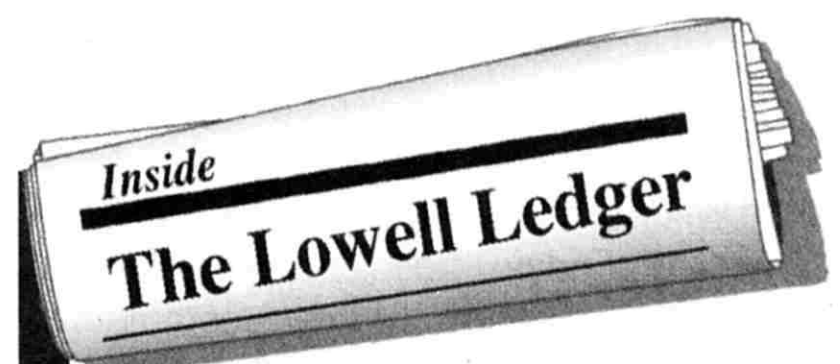
The Look Memorial Fund granted \$60,000.

Rockford Ambulance is asking for \$16,000 from the three municipalities it serves in Lowell: the city of Lowell, Lowell Charter Township and Vergennes Township. Last December, Vergennes Township approved the expenditure contingent on its approval by the other two

municipalities. The city also approved it last December.

Lowell Charter Township tabled the issue at its last meeting. Morgan hopes to secure grants from outside sources to cover the remainder of the cost, about \$26,000 if the construction estimate holds.

Expansion funds, cont'd., pg. 2



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# Obituaries

**BLOUGH** Kenneth J. Blough, aged 84, formerly of Alto, passed away August 28, 2006, in Belleview, Florida. He was preceded in death by his son Kenneth Jr. and great-granddaughter Catherine. He is survived by his wife Dillie; son Dennis (Donna) Blough of Alto; daughter Gloria (Dean) Moore of Ft. Myers, FL; brothers Lester Blough, Lloyd Blough, Noah Blough; sister Eleanor Noon; four grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren. Mr. Blough was a veteran of WWII serving in the United States Army. Funeral service was held Sept. 5 at the Calvary Grace Brethren Church, Alto, Rev. Mick Funderburg, presiding.

Interment Bowne Mennonite Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Grace Baptist Church, 10835 SE 70th Ave., Belleview, FL 34421.

**CLEMENSHAW** Mr. Robert D. Clemenshaw, aged 69, of Grattan Township, passed away on Thursday, August 31, 2006. While growing up, Bob enjoyed spending time at his parents' cottage on Big Pine Island Lake where he first met Marilyn. He served his country with the 82nd Airborne of the U.S. Army. During a return home, they were married in 1955. Bob became office manager at GR Mack Trucks; and later with his brother Ron, they owned and operated Comstock Park Feed Mill. He was a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church. He is survived by his wife, the former Marilyn Adams whom he married nearly 52 years ago; children Debra and Steven Hunt of Ellensburg, WA, Denise and Jeff Drake of Grattan, Diana and Joe McDermott of Lowell, David and Dohna Clemenshaw of Grattan; grandchildren April (David) Hollinger, Amanda Hunt, Rachel (Michael) Kelly, Robert Moser, William Moser, Christopher Ritz, Gregory Ritz, Katie Clemenshaw; two great-grandchildren; brothers Kim (Dee) Clemenshaw, Palmer Clemenshaw Jr.; sisters

(Ken) Myers, Lois (Dale) Byars; 10 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews; mother-in-law Mrs. Eugene (Hazel) Adams. The Mass of Christian Burial will be offered on Wednesday at 1 p.m. at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Parnell. Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider Heartland Hospice or Lack's Cancer Center.

**FOX** Treva Bernadine Fox, of Alto, passed away into the loving arms of the Lord on August 31, 2006, at her home. She was born May 1, 1926, in Kent County in the same home she presently lived in. She was the daughter of Francis and Roxie (Stahl) Seese. She married Carl J. Fox on March 17, 1945. They lived in Kent County and were married for 61 years. Treva was a very devoted, loving and caring wife, mother and grandma. She was a member of the Elmdale Nazarene Church where she taught Sunday school for many years; also a member of The Girls of Yesteryear, church ladies coffee group and Bowne Extension Women's Group. She enjoyed life to the fullest, loved the Lord, her family and friends, camping, crafts and sewing. Treva is survived by her husband Carl; children Phillip (Gloria) Fox, Phyllis

company has been happy with the location on South Hudson Street. "Weliketheaccessibility of major roads," Morgan said. "You have Hudson Street and Main Street's right by it. In emergency response, accessibility is everything." He hopes to break ground on the expansion before winter arrives.

## Expansion funds, cont'd. ... From Page 1

The nonprofit ambulance company operates a total of 10 ambulances in Lowell, Rockford, Grand Rapids Township and Sparta. Two of them are stationed in Lowell. The company has shared space with the Lowell Area Fire Department since 1990. "This (addition) will give us a little more room to maneuver," Morgan said. He said the ambulance

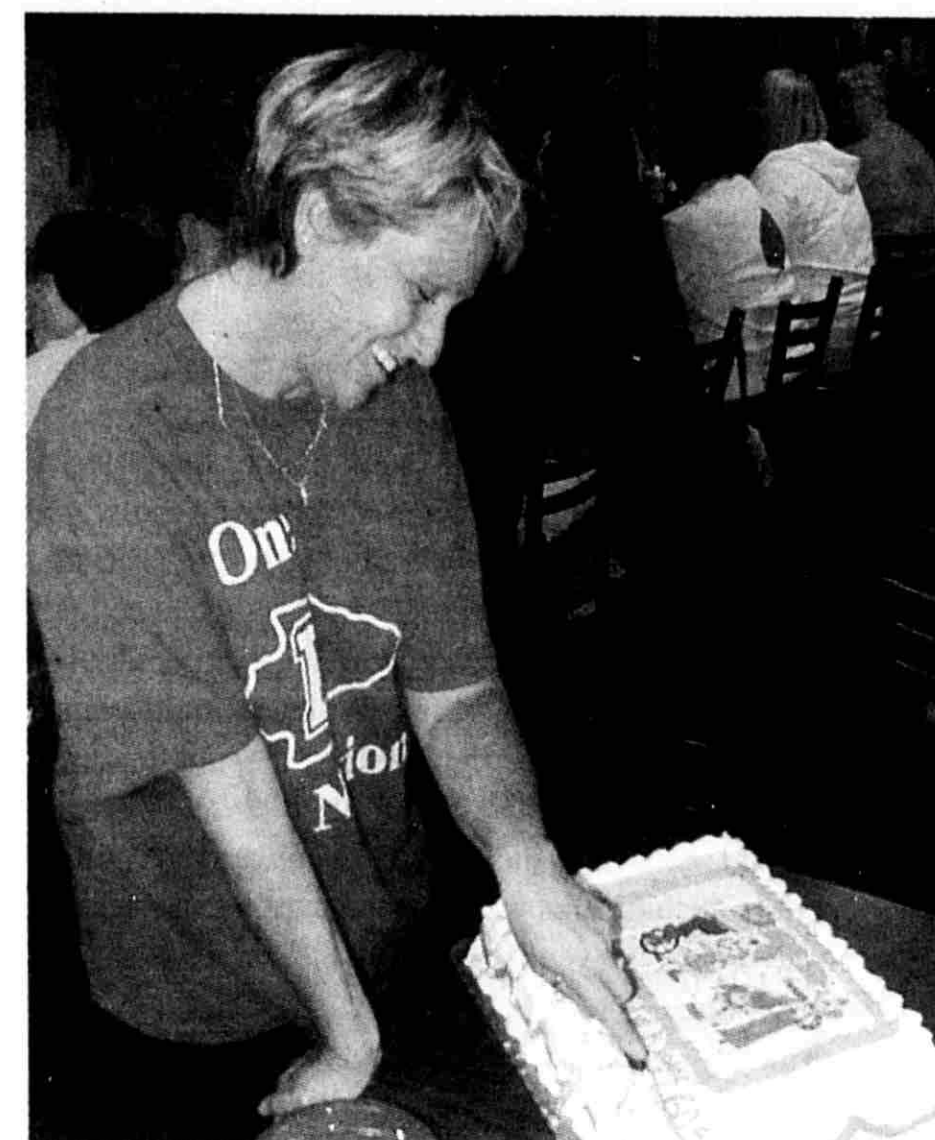
## Bus drivers fuel up for '06 at annual breakfast



Lowell Area Schools bus drivers enjoyed breakfast at Keiser's Tuesday morning after completing the first run of the school year. Dave and Jan Thompson host the breakfast annually for all of the district's bus drivers. This year's breakfast was the 14th annual.

## Keiser's celebrates 60 years in business

Trudy Cahoon, co-owner of Keiser's, cut a birthday cake Tuesday morning at the restaurant. Dave Thompson brought the cake to celebrate Keiser's 60th birthday on the morning of the breakfast he hosts annually for Lowell Area Schools bus drivers. The birthday celebration was a little late, as Keiser's marked 60 years in business last December.



## YMCA program receives national accreditation

The Lowell YMCA's early childhood program recently received accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). To qualify for the accreditation, the program had to meet NAEYC standards in 10 categories including teachers, community relationships, curriculum and assessment of child progress. The accreditation process took about a year, Lowell YMCA associate executive director Staci Messersmith said. It included a self-evaluation and a visit by an NAEYC validator. "It basically lets parents know that we hold our standards to a higher level than the state requirements," Messersmith said. The YMCA early childhood program is for children ages six weeks to kindergarten. The Lowell Head Start Michigan Family Resources early childhood program is the only other early childhood program in Lowell to receive the accreditation.

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**THE FOODMOBILE**  
MOBILE FOOD PANTRY  
THIS MONTH'S SPONSOR: FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL  
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## BOWNE TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

SEPTEMBER 21, 2006  
7:30 P.M.

There will be a meeting of the Bowne Township Zoning Board of Appeals on Thursday, September 21, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. in the Bowne Township Office, located at 8240 Alden Nash S.E., P.O. Box 35, Alto, MI 49302, to hear the following requests:

- Lynn & Rebecca Mazurek requesting a variance for 11395 108th Street, located in Section 33 SW 1/4, Parcel Number 41-24-33-300-010. The request is for a length greater than 3 times the width for Lot 2 & Lot 3 as stated in the Schedule of District Regulations.
- Brian Patrick requesting a variance for 6171 Montcalm Road located in Section 1 NE 1/4 Parcel Number 41-24-01-200-009. The request is to reduce the set back requirements stated in the Schedule of District Regulations from 75 feet to 45 feet back lot line.

The complete applications can be reviewed at the Bowne Township Office from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, and 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Friday. Public comments will be heard at the meeting. Written comments received by mail, in person or in the mail slot located at the township office entrance will also be considered if received at the Township office prior to 7:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Comments may also be e-mailed to [clerk@bownetwp.cc](mailto:clerk@bownetwp.cc).

Sandra L. Kowalczyk  
Bowne Township Clerk

## LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing to consider a request from Aaron Decker for a Special Land Use Permit to operate a day camp known as Roanoke Ranch for disadvantaged children for riding and working with horses in the R-1 Zoning District.

**LOCATION & ADDRESS:** The property is located north of the intersection of Timpson Avenue and Grand River Drive at 11399 and 11171 Grand River Avenue (PP# 41-20-09-100-021 and 41-20-09-100-018).

The hearing will be held as follows:

**WHEN:** MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2006  
**TIME:** 7:00 P.M.  
**WHERE:** LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL  
2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE  
LOWELL, MI. 49331

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

Tim Clements, Secretary  
Lowell Charter Township  
Planning Commission

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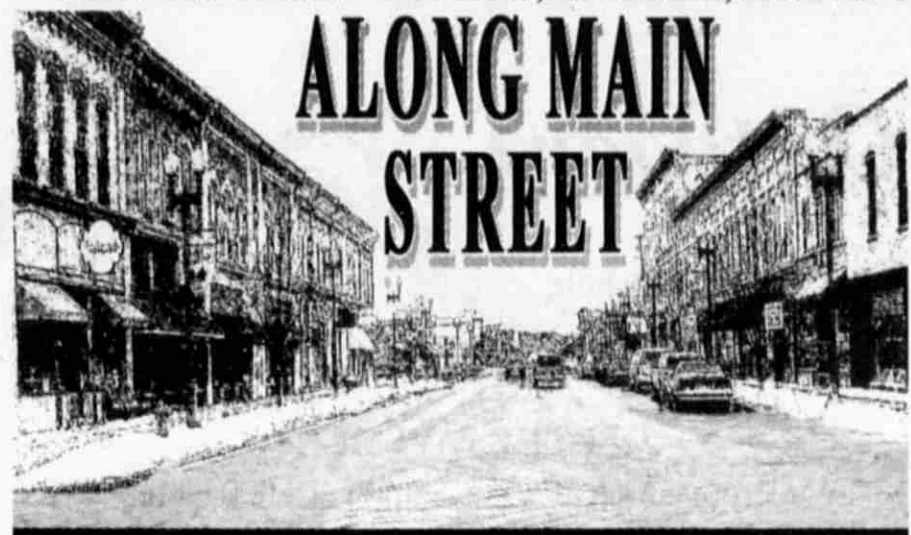
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WICKER MAN (PG-13) 12:30, 2:45, 5:30, 7:30, 9:35  
WORLD TRADE CENTER (PG-13) 1:55, 4:30, 7:15, 9:50  
CIVIL WAR (PG) 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15  
TALLADEGA NIGHTS: THE BALLAD OF RICKY BOBBY (PG-13) 4:40, 7:10  
**GOUPON**  
20¢ DRINK  
with \$2.50 purchase  
of food & beverage purchase  
at participating locations only. See coupon for details.



**GYMNASTICS CLASSES**  
Community Education still has a few openings for gymnastics classes beginning the week of Sept. 5. Call 987-2550 to sign up.

**FOOTBALL TICKETS**  
Tickets for Friday's game vs. EGR will be sold Thursday and Friday from 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the high school athletic office.

**PICTURE DAY AT LHS**  
Forms available in offices. Pictures are Sept. 7, 8 - 11:15 a.m. Picture required for ID card purposes \$1. Make-up date: Oct. 12.

**COMMODITIES AT MOOSE**  
Free food (commodities) will be distributed Sept. 7 from 9-5 p.m. at the Moose Rec. Bldg., 1320 E. Main. New registrations/ renewals need to bring all documents with them.

**FOODMOBILE**  
Free food distribution at Lowell Fairgrounds, Foreman Building, Saturday, Sept. 9, 10-11 a.m. Available to residents of the Greater Lowell area. Bring your own box or bag.

**LIFE FEST AT FLPC**  
The 18th annual LIFE fest is Saturday, Sept. 9 at the Franciscan Life Process Center. Cuisine, music, bidding, \$60 per ticket. Call 897-7842.

**HISTORICAL MUSEUM PROGRAM**  
"Tales of the Great Depression" with Howard Taylor, storyteller, will be presented at Lowell Twp. Hall on Sept. 12 at 7 p.m. Admission free (donations accepted); light refreshments.

**BLUEGRASS MUSIC FEST**  
Fallfest 2006 will be held at Kent County Youth Fairgrounds Sept. 15-17. Music, vendors, food. Beginning 6 p.m. Friday. Call 457-5228 for info.

**ALUMNI BAND IN THE WORKS**  
An alumni band for the Harvest Fest parade on Oct. 14 is forming. If you are interested in participating call Nancy Raymor at 897-6149 or Bob Rice at 897-8959.

**OPEN HOUSE FOR "TOTS"**  
Families with children 0-5 are invited to Bright Beginnings Early Childhood Center, 300 High St., Monday, Sept. 11 from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. or 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Meet the staff and sign up for a playgroup. Call 987-2532 for more information.

**ALTON VILLAGE CELEBRATION**  
110 years being celebrated in Alton Village Saturday, Sept. 16, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Church/ cemetery tours, exhibits, period crafters, programs all day.

**LHS ALL ALUMNI GATHERING**  
The 3rd annual LHS alumni gathering will be Saturday, Sept. 30 at the Monterey Center near Alto. Dinner, cash bar and music. For reservations call 987-2501 or visit [www.lowellschools.com](http://www.lowellschools.com).

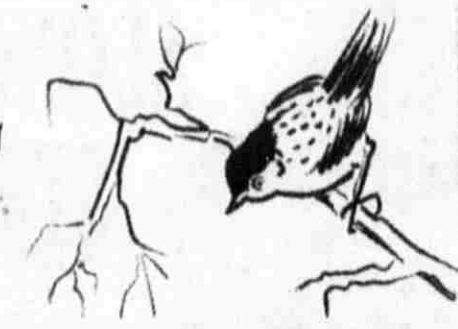
**SCARECROW HOEDOWN SUPPLIES NEEDED!**  
Scraps of material, sheets, wood for scarecrow forms, buttons/notions, hats, etc., are needed. Call the chamber at 897-9161 to donate!

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# Outdoors

By Dave Stegehuis



## OFF THE PAVEMENT

Wilderness State Park occupies 10,000 acres at the northwest tip of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. The park boundaries encompass miles of Lake Michigan shoreline, several streams, heavily forested high ground of mixed hardwoods and conifers, ponds, and plenty of typical north country swamp.

I suspect that the dense swamps are what saved the area from settlement and development. Just south of the park, agriculture was big business during the first half of the last

century. My grandfather grew potatoes in the area around 1910, but found building new roads with a team of stout horses more profitable.

Camping sites with electricity and bathroom facilities are available at the park's campground on the shore of Lake Michigan. Except for campground access roads and a snowmobile trail, the state park is off limits to motorized vehicles.

There are over 25 miles of trails that provide access to the interior of the park, including a section of the North Country Trail which passes through from southwest to northeast. All trails are well marked and provide relatively easy hiking. A few trails allow bicycle traffic. Trail maps and information about local wildlife and plants are available at the park contact station.

We camped at the park with our daughter, son-in-law, and grandsons a few weeks ago. We hiked a number of the trails and found them to be a safe and convenient way to

experience some rugged country which would be difficult to explore without established trails.

The park is near Mackinaw City where, during the summer, throngs of people gather every day to shop, visit historical sites, and board boats bound for Mackinaw Island. With thousands of people only nine miles away and hundreds of campers in the park campground, we met only two people while hiking about 16 miles of trails in the park's interior. The contrast between the crunch of people on the streets of Mackinaw City and the solitude of the ponds and woods of the state park was remarkable.

I realize there are many interesting and educational places to see and things to do, but apparently experiencing nature for itself is not a high priority these days. There is a lot to learn and enjoy in woods and fields. Break away from the crowd occasionally, and get off the pavement to find your own adventure.

## SEE MORE'S CORNER

### Be a Part Of the All-Star Alumni Band & Clown School Class



Well, we're only about five weeks away from the Big Parade which means it's time to begin putting details together. First of all, the Friends of the Lowell Library have arranged for a Clown Workshop for those who'd like to experience the fun firsthand of being a parade clown, but are just a little shy about taking that initial step. The class will give you tips on makeup (it's really easy when you have a couple of pros working with you), "ditto" for a costume, and finally, some tips and tricks on how to be the best clown you can be. It will be great fun, take it from me, 'Ol See-More; and sharing it with friends makes it even more fun. Don't pass up this great opportunity!!! (This is all under the auspices of the Friends of the Lowell Library and we want to thank them for making it possible! They'll even provide your make-up!). The deadline for signups is this Friday, Sept. 8! Call the Englehardt Library at 647-3920 to be included!

Secondly, there's a Big Time Lalapalooza All Star (Lowell) Alumni Band forming just for this parade and we're looking for all you former "tooters" (a.k.a., musicians) to

join the fun! It's a chance to get the old instrument out, oil it up and maybe your old joints, too, and become part of this one-time historic event. You and your friends will be reminiscing for years about the day you all got together and became part of the Biggest Parade Lowell's ever seen! Don't have an instrument? We'll provide one ... and if we run out ... well, there's always a kazoo or two around. Seriously, get some friends together and join this elite and soon-to-be-semi-famous-entourage! "Only one rehearsal" before the parade ... that's the word on the street ... after all, you won't be playing in the Rose Garden at the White House, you know! Call either Nancy Raymor (897-6149) or Bob Rice (897-0314) to be a part of this Alumni Parade Band with a Sound That'll Be (more or less) Renowned! Uniforms? Don't worry ... whatever you wear to the rehearsal will probably be just fine! (?)

Also remember, there will be about 500 bleacher seats near the Riverwalk and the Reviewing stand for only \$2 a pop, all of which goes to the Flat River Outreach Ministries Christmas programs to make life a little sweeter for others at Holiday Time! Otherwise, bring a chair. There will also be some limited seating for up to 60 handicapped and seniors on the street level next to the Reviewing stand, and that's free!

So, start counting the days and making plans to be there. It'll be too, too much fun to miss! Oh, and thanks for your friendly greetings during the Summer Concert Series. And look for me around town and, of course, at the beginning of the parade. I'll be looking for you!

See-More,  
Lowell's Friendly Hobo Clown

## Financial Focus



With Christopher C. Godbold

Edward Jones  
Serving Individuals Investors Since 1871

### TEACH KIDS EARLY ABOUT SAVING & INVESTING

Bad habits are hard to break. But good habits also tend to stick around for a long time. And that's why you will want to teach young children about the importance of saving and investing. It's almost never too early to start - and your efforts can provide a lifetime of benefits.

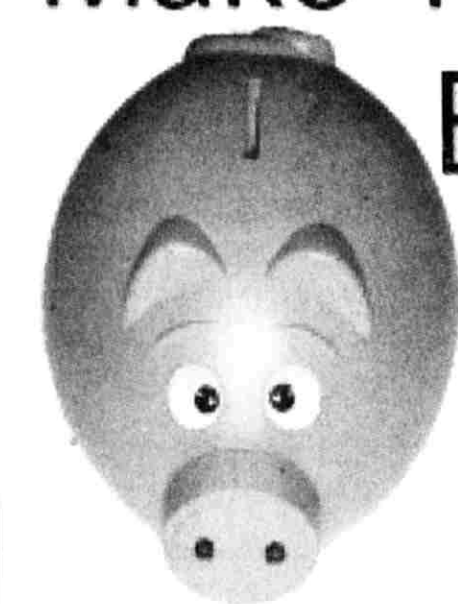
By the time most children reach age five, they have more than enough cognitive skills to understand the basics of saving money. Of course, the older they get, the better equipped they will be to handle more sophisticated concepts of investing.

In any case, when your children are young, start them off on the right financial path by taking these steps:

- Set attainable goals - Kids will be more motivated to save money if they can see themselves achieving goals. And that's why you don't want to burden them too soon by trying to get them to save for a long-term objective such as college. Such a goal may well be appropriate - and even desirable - when children are a bit older, but when they are quite young, have them put money in a simple savings account for things like toys, video games, CDs, etc. By putting away money regularly and seeing how their efforts are rewarded, children will learn something about financial discipline and delayed gratification - and they're likely to be more appreciative of their possessions.
- Reward children's efforts - To help children learn to save and invest, you may want to offer a helping hand. Specifically, consider partially "matching" children's

Financial Focus, cont'd., pg. 7

## Make Your Piggy Bank Jealous.



6 month CD 5.25% Interest Rate  
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12 month CD 5.35% Interest Rate  
5.46% Annual Percentage Yield



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Minimum opening deposit of \$500. Available through September 15, 2006. Penalty for early withdrawal.

**Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc.**

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*All of the money you spend goes to help people in the Greater Lowell Area with food and emergency financial aid. We are staffed entirely by volunteers.*

**WE'RE STILL LOCATED IN THE SAME PLACE:**  
519 E. Main St.  
Lowell  
Corner of Main & Jackson Streets

**PLEASE NOTE:**  
Beginning in October we will open at 10:00 AM!

**WED., THURS., FRI.:  
NOON - 6:00 P.M.**

**SATURDAY: 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.**

**897-2037**

# Viewpoint



by Roger Brown

## Cozy corner

Let's get this old airplane back to the hangar! July fifth dawned at the North Omaha Airport as another spectacular flying day. After coffee I checked once again on the gas situation. The tanker hadn't arrived. My fuel gauge and my calculations said I had enough gas to make the fifty miles to Harlan Co., Iowa.

My fuel calculations were about right. The old Stearman took 38.9 gallons at Harlan Co. The tank is placarded for 46 gallons. That's cutting it close. The troublesome thing was that the simplistic cork float fuel gauge hadn't yet reached the empty/reserve mark. I made a mental note of that, but the significance of this discrepancy never really sank into my old gray matter. You'll see what I mean in some future column.

Olie Pash runs the show at Harlan Co. What a great guy! He has made a life of aviation by crop-dusting, instructing, banner towing and even some air show work in a Pitts Special. We talked quite a long time. Olie likes to talk about his grandkids, one of which did a couple two-year tours with the Blue Angels. Of course Olie taught him to fly. I could have hung out with Olie all day, but saddled up and moved on.

Prairie Du Chien, Wisconsin, located along the Mississippi River, was punched into my G.P.S. This was another long leg of flying over rich farmland. This time it was Iowa. Close to three hours later the river came into view. I fueled up and decided to fly on ahead somewhere for lunch. My late breakfast came out of a vending machine ... Diet Coke and a candy bar. As we always say about my grandson's eating habits, "It's all about nutrition." Yeah ... right.

Forty miles ahead was Richland Center, a wonderful grass strip on the edge of a small town. A retired banker and Luscombe owner is the airport manager. He lives at one end of the strip and saw me land. We chatted about my plane and my map. He then drove me to the local restaurant and we had lunch together. I'm telling you folks: the aviation community is the nicest bunch of people on the planet.

Next stop, Oshkosh, Wisconsin. I was a couple weeks ahead of the huge air show, but thought there might be some early bird volunteers camped there. No such luck. I opted for a motel. The secretary where I bought fuel did some calling around for room prices. Surprisingly, the new Hilton, right on the field, was nearly as cheap as any, after factoring in the F.B.O.'s discount. After sleeping on airport couches and in my little one-person tent, the Hilton was a real treat!

The next morning had me in the Hilton courtesy van on my way to the EAA Museum and the EAA Antique Airfield. I spent the better part of the morning wandering around

these attractions. Of course I could have stayed longer, but near perfect flying conditions beckoned.

After working my way out of the controlled field at Oshkosh, I was soon flying up the east shore of Lake Winnebago, skirting the Green Bay airspace and on my way north up the Door County peninsula. This was some pretty flying! I had the beautiful Door County landscape rolling along beneath me, Green Bay (the body of water) off my left wing and Lake Michigan to the right. What a great day to be flying an open cockpit airplane!

The grass strip on Washington Island was my next stop. Since I'd never been there, I did some asking around. Basically, it's a lot like our Beaver Island. The airport manager gave me a ride to town in his 1949 Willy's Jeepster. I had the lawyer basket. Lawyer is a kind of fish, though lots of lawyer jokes do come to mind.

After lunch I flew on to Escanaba to spend the night. Yes, this route included some open water flying. Yes, you do hear night noises in the daytime when flying an antique over water.

Escanaba worked out pretty well. I pitched my tent in the grass and hooked a ride to a nearby restaurant overlooking Lake Michigan. That evening, sleeping in my little screen tent it was, "Escanaba In the Moonlight."

The next day was another near perfect day for flying. On the short trip up to Manistique I did a lot of sightseeing from the air, just taking my time and circling things that seemed interesting. As I said before, I still had vacation time left and my charge card wasn't maxed out.

I really didn't need fuel, but I topped off the plane at Manistique. I met a nice couple in a Cessna that were also there for fuel. I told them I was going on to Beaver Island for the night. Turned out that they lived on the island and offered up their car for me to use. Again, can't say enough about aviation people.

The handiest place for lunch in Manistique was a nearby casino with courtesy van service. I took advantage of a free ride and cheap lunch subsidized by the kind folks feeding the slot machines.

Leaving Manistique I followed the beautiful Lake Michigan shoreline to the east until it was time to head south to Beaver Island. More night noises in the daytime. The crossing was as gorgeous as it was uneventful. I landed at the downtown airfield, Welke, where I pitched my tent, found the keys to my "courtesy car" and made myself at home.

This would be the last night of my trip, so I made the most of it. I snooped around the island until dark and treated myself to a good meal. Back at my campsite I tried to find the Tigers game on my radio and enjoyed the stars.

The next morning I invited a couple other campers to ride with me in search of breakfast. As it so happened, there was a fly-in scheduled for that morning at the other airport on the island. We drove over there for pancakes and watched planes land. Seems like that's the way this whole trip went. Despite very little planning, things always worked out just right.

Again, the weather was just beautiful as I took off for the twenty-mile open water crossing to Charlevoix. After two

Cozy Corner, cont'd., pg. 9



## Sharing The Vision

With Nancy Hopkins  
Board of Education President

There is probably no one easy way to keep our kids on track when it comes to progress and success in school. Most parents admittedly are not experts on motivation and achievement in children. But, all parents can strive to create a predictable and consistent environment at home, and a relationship with their child's school that inspires their children to reach their full potential.

Parents must know that they can make a difference. Parents should focus on the academic achievement of their children, while helping children find balance in their lives. One of the best ways for parents to help their kids is to forge effective partnerships with their schools and teachers, and

do so from the start of the school year. In our district a high value is put on collective input from parents, teachers and building principals identifying ways all can become effective partners and advocates for each and every student.

Effective partners find ways to support student achievement at home and to deal with homework. Shared advocacy promotes common ground in both teacher and parent values and balances extra-curricular interests with academic responsibilities. Confronting negative peer pressure is better managed when a child can rely on consistency from teachers and parents bound in partnership.

Lowell Area Schools encourages all parents to partner with their children's schools and teachers. Parents with strong partnerships with our schools and teachers help their children grow into healthy, well-educated, confident adults. Their children believe that what their parents and teachers say and do really matters.

Comments may be made to the Board of Education at boardfed@lowellschools.com

## Ledger Entries

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



By Priscilla Luusmyer

125 YEARS  
THE WEEKLY JOURNAL  
SEPTEMBER 7, 1881

This issue is missing; the next one will be October 5, 1881.

100 YEARS  
THE LOWELL LEDGER  
SEPTEMBER 6, 1906

An engraving shows the Lowell Cutter Company, a complex of four long buildings with two tall smokestacks at the rear, on the front page.

Village trustee E. VanDyke fills the vacancy of resigned trustee R.E. Loveland.

There were 125 Grattan Silver Grays who met at the Grange Hall for choir selections, readings, several short speeches and a chicken pie dinner.

The West Michigan State Fair will run for two days in Grand Rapids with special attractions of acrobats and trained animal acts.

75 YEARS  
THE LOWELL LEDGER  
AND THE ALTO SOLO  
SEPTEMBER 3, 1931

Myrtle Slotman, 13, eighth-grade graduate of #2 Fractional, Gaines Township last spring, wins the county spelling championship for the second time; her sister Eileen was the 1929 champ.

Lowell schools opened with a total of 577, with gains in the upper grades and decrease in lower grades.

C. H. Runciman's trotter, Argot Cochata, won at two county fairs last week and L.C. Upson's trotter, Miss Lobeck Todd, at Ithaca.

Oscar Allen of the Ledger staff has a bright new Chevrolet.

50 YEARS  
THE LOWELL LEDGER  
SEPTEMBER 6, 1956

Over 250 children show up for the first day in the new elementary school building at High and Monroe streets, for a total of 1,105 in the public schools.

The Lowell Lions Club Harvest Festival in progress at the fairgrounds will benefit the Swimming Pool Fund.

Eunice VanderVeen is the Kent County Bookmobile driver this year.

Michigan Milk Producers Association gets a raise in Class I milk prices, averting a walkout.

25 YEARS  
THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER  
SEPTEMBER 2, 1981

Leonard Rittersdorf completes 31 years as custodian of the Lowell post office.

School opens with teachers and administration still at odds on promotion and layoff agreements, class size and salaries.

The "New Olympians" show team, which performs internationally, will hold tryouts for Junior Olympians on Sept. 26 in Wyoming.

Due to state budget cuts, free flu vaccines for older adults will not be available this fall.



# Engagements

## Wright-Gittins/Mittelstadt



**Leonard Mittelstadt and Melissa Wright-Gittins**

Austin Gittins of Lowell is happy to announce the engagement of his mother, Melissa Wright-Gittins of Lowell, to Leonard Mittelstadt of Greenville. The bride-elect is the daughter of Janet and Grant Wright. They will become one family on November 11, 2006.

# College News

**Molly Kirsch Gallagher** graduated May 13, 2006, from the University of Detroit Mercy. The 2002 Lowell High School graduate received a bachelor's of science degree, magna cum laude, in nursing and passed her state board examination July 24. The four-year program at UDM has classes at Aquinas College in conjunction with St. Mary's Hospital. Gallagher is currently employed at St. Mary's Hospital in intermediate intensive care.



## In The Service

**Air Force Reserve Airman 1st Class Kristian M. Magro** has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. During the six weeks of training, he studied the Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force. Magro graduated in 1994 from Lowell High School and received a bachelor's degree in 2002 from Grand Valley State University.

happening while our world continues to be more deeply divided between the "haves" and the "have-nots."

The continuing genocide crises in Darfur in western Sudan was exacerbated in late April of this year when the funding for U.N. food aid was abruptly cut in half. Very few of us paid attention to this since this region is not strategically situated and possesses no desirable natural resources. They have no effect at all on the world economy: they are simply our neighbors.

Jesus' response to his critics in Mark 7 helps us understand where the problem lies and why suffering can go on, seemingly unnoticed even in our back yards. In Jesus' day, the scribes and Pharisees placed great emphasis on ritual cleansing ... washing hands as part of a purification law. This is not an issue of transmitting disease through unwashed hands. It is an issue of following the proper religious procedures to show one's devotion to God.

The issue for Jesus is not people's hands, but their hearts. He is talking to us about true worship and true devotion. This is an issue of faithful living and not a matter of external

# At Your Local Library



## ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY DISCUSSION GROUP

The informal Bookworms book discussion group for adults will meet one Tuesday a month at 10 a.m. this fall at the Englehardt branch.

"Tyrannosaur Canyon" by Douglas Preston will be discussed on Sept. 12.

"Before You Know Kindness" by Christopher Bohjalian is the next book discussion on Oct. 10.

On Nov. 14, "The Screwtop Letters" by C.S. Lewis will be reviewed.

Call Lynda Austin at 647-3920 with any questions.

## USED BOOK SALE AT ALTO BRANCH

The Alto Friends of the Library will hold their annual used book sale on Saturday, Sept. 16 from 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. during the Alto Fall Festival. Buy a bag and fill it with some great used books at bargain prices. The event will be held at the library, 6071 Linfield Ave.

## CLIFFORD DROPS IN ON HIS FANS

Clifford enthusiasts will be excited to visit their library this fall. In conjunction with the recent Adventures with Clifford The Big Red Dog, traveling exhibit at the Grand Rapids Children's Museum, Kent District Library invites toddlers and preschoolers to experience Clifford-related activities: crafts, games and the books.

The Englehardt branch will offer the program on Wednesday, Sept. 20 at 6:30 p.m. Call 647-3920 for more information.

ritual or how often, one attends a service of worship. You see, Jesus is telling us we must look at the center of our motivation, our inner person, our intentions, which can be impure. True worship of God comes from what is happening inside of us, not from the liturgies, or the denominations familiar to us. For, the righteousness of God calls out for justice, for mercy, and for the radical love of God and neighbor.

The terrible situation facing Sudan and many of the poor of the world calls to us as Christian men and women... we must no longer honor God with our lips and ignore our brothers and sisters in need. For too long our hearts have been far from God and our worship in vain. Our church practices are human inventions just as ritual washing is a human invention. Jesus challenges us in this teaching to understand that true worship is not a matter of outward trappings, but rather it comes from the heart, is an expression of love for God and for neighbor, and seeks to motivate us toward living lives of justice and mercy. May we grow in this understanding and in our Spiritual formation.

# Local shooter sets his sights on Olympic development camp

By Dan Schneider

Vergennes Township resident Josh Kleczynski will travel to Boulder, Colo., for the Scholastic Clay Target Program's Junior Olympic Development Camp later this month.

A senior at Lowell High School this year, Kleczynski started a youth shooting team at the Kent County Conservation Club (KCCC) last year. To start the club, he sought and received permission from school district officials and recruited other shooters from the high school. Now, the team includes shooters from Greenville and Wyoming, and another team member is home schooled. Javon Brown, the team member from Wyoming, will also

travel to the Junior Olympic Development Camp, which runs from Sept. 20 through the 24th. The KCCC teams were highly successful at the Scholastic Clay Target Program's national shoot in Rochester, New York, in July. The skeet team took home a first-place trophy in the senior novice division. The sporting clays team was the senior novice runner-up. Kleczynski and Brown are among the seven skeet shooters from across the country to receive invitations to the camp. Chuck Peterson, the director of Michigan Sporting Clays, wrote letters of recommendation on their behalf to the camp selection committee. Kleczynski said that was one factor in

his selection. But there are others.

"They look for past experience and I've shot a lot of registered targets in the past," Kleczynski said.

Kleczynski has shot at registered events, where shooters' scores are posted and recorded throughout Michigan and in Indiana against competitors of all ages. He holds a class A rating with his 12 gauge, which is what he will be shooting at the camp.

His starting the club at the KCCC is probably another reason the camp selection committee gave Kleczynski the nod. They were looking for young shooters who have an interest in helping the sport grow.

"They say they want 'ambassadors to the shooting sports', those are their actual, direct words," he said.

Kleczynski's interest in target shooting was limited to shooting paper targets in his backyard with a .22-gauge rifle until two-and-a-half years ago when he

began working as a line puller at the sportsman's club. He took up clay target shooting and has been into it ever since, particularly the skeet discipline.

Kleczynski plans to try out for the U.S. national team in the future. Tryouts are held in the spring and fall. He said it takes an enormous amount of practice, on the order of shooting 1,000 targets, three times per week, to hone shooting skills to Olympic levels.

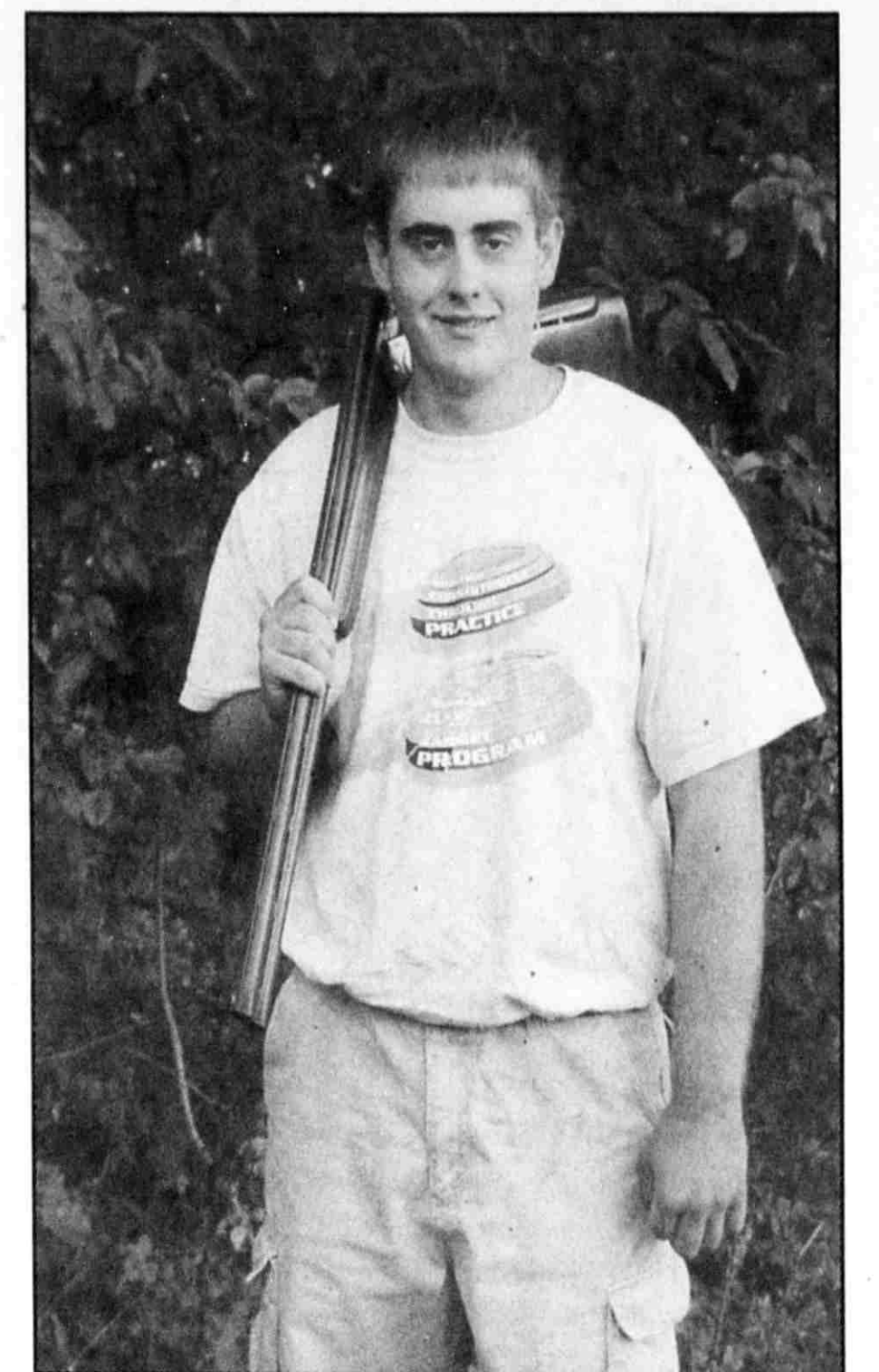
But he said he doesn't have to become an Olympian in the future to make the camp worthwhile.

"We're hoping he's going to the Olympics, but he could train people, he could do anything," said his father, Bob Kleczynski.

Kleczynski has done some informal coaching of the other shooters on the KCCC youth team. He hopes to have more to teach them after returning from the camp.

"I don't want to just go out there and learn and just shoot," Kleczynski said.

"I want to pass it along. Hopefully, I'll be able to train some more people on the team to be able to go down there ... next year."



**Josh Kleczynski, a Vergennes Township resident and senior at Lowell High School, will travel to the Scholastic Clay Target Program Junior Olympic Development Camp in Boulder, Colo., later this month.**

# Financial Focus, continued ... From Page 4

deposits into their savings accounts. If you were to put in a quarter or fifty cents for every dollar they deposit, their savings will have an opportunity to grow faster and they will feel they are getting "bonus" payments.

- Make investing fun - Try to get your children or grandchildren involved in picking and following a stock for fun. So, if your children are interested in athletic shoes, for example, take a "research trip" to the nearest sporting goods store and study which shoes seem to be most popular. Also, ask your children what types of shoes their friends are wearing. If your children are old enough, you may also want to go over annual reports and other financial information about the stock, but don't get too bogged down with numbers, especially if you see your child's eyes glaze over. Do, however, follow the stock's price and discuss the factors that may or may not be causing this price to rise or fall.

- Stress long-term nature of investing - Stress that a stock is not the same as a bank account, and educate them to understand this type of investment is not for impulse purchases or to meet short-term goals. Instead, tell your children that stocks are for the long term. You might want to share with them some of your brokerage statements that show how many years you've owned some of your investments.

By following these suggestions, you can help your kids develop good savings and investment habits. Talk to them soon.

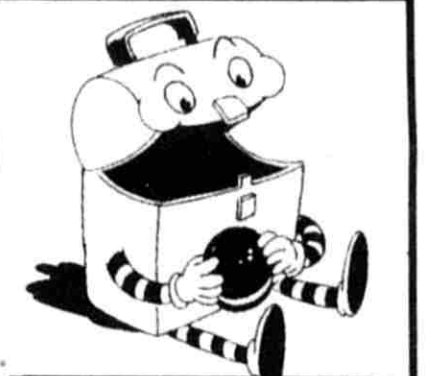
# Reflections of faith

Dr. Roger La Warre  
First Congregational UCC

"The people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines." Mark 7:6-7 Oh, how many times we have read these words arising from Isaiah's prophecies (29:13) and applied the teaching to other people. Today, we must read the words as we look in a mirror. We know that too much of our lives, of our expectations, of our energies are going to meet our own needs, wants and personal preferences. This is happening while at our very door there are those who live alone, suffer from the pains of loneliness, poverty and the lack of compassion from others. This is

# Happy Birthday

- SEPTEMBER 7:** Allison Mahalic, Linda Morrison, Charles Gee, Gloria Morris, Todd Lenneman.
- SEPTEMBER 10:** Deborah Claypool, Nathan Propst, Jim Smith.
- SEPTEMBER 12:** Susan Barry, Diane Johnson.
- SEPTEMBER 13:** Beatrice Kuiper, Randy McIntyre, Gloria Ossewaarde, Haley Briggs.
- SEPTEMBER 11:** Sean Ellis, Justin VanDyke, Sarah Schalow, Amy Cook.
- SEPTEMBER 8:** Wilma Fairchild, Terresa Kenney, Papa Wilson.
- SEPTEMBER 9:** Sarah Schalow, Amy Cook.



**LUNCH MENU**  
ELEMANTARY MENU  
Week of Sept. 11, 2006

**MON:** Corndog (cheeseburger on bun also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), green beans, assorted fruit, milk.

**TUES:** Chicken patty on bun (Chili w/ crackers also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), fresh vegetables/dip, assorted fruit, milk.

**WED:** Rotini & Italian meatsauce w/garlic breadstick (Stacked ham/cheese on bun also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), carrot coins, pineapple, milk.

**THURS:** Fresh toast sticks/syrup (cereal/gramham cracker w/ scrambled eggs also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), fresh fruit, 100% fruit juice, milk.

**FRI:** Pizza bagel (sloppy jo on bun also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), whole kernel corn, assorted fruit, chocolate chip cookie, milk.

# AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p><b>ATTENTION: BIBLE BELIEVERS</b> 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 Across the street from the Verner Dodge dealership. 897-6284 or 485-4195 10AM Sunday School; 11AM Morning Service; 6PM Evening Service; Wed., 7:30PM Prayer Meeting.</p>	<p><b>ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> Kirby and Harrison Alto • 616-691-8011 Worship.....9:30 A.M. Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.</p> <p><b>OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS</b> Pastor Dean Bailey</p>	<p><b>DAY BIBLE CHAPEL</b> 9305 Centerline, Saranac 897-6332 Worship.....9:45 A.M. Sunday School.....11:00 A.M.</p> <p>Nursery &amp; Jr. Church Provided Rev. Frank Lattimore, Pastor "A Nondenominational Ministry With A Blended Word Centered Service!"</p>	<p><b>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 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><b>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH</b> 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><b>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 Worship Services.....8:30 &amp; 10:00 a.m. DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR Nursery &amp; child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p><b>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH</b> Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648 Sunday School.....10:00 A.M. Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M. Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M. (Sept. - April) Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M. Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418 YOU ARE WELCOME!</p>	<p><b>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God)</b> 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, Senior Pastor Dave Noonon, Asst. Pastor John King, Youth Pastor SUNDAYS: Worship: 10:00 a.m. - LIFE Home Groups &amp; "XL" Youth Sunday evenings WEDNESDAYS: Family Night (For All Ages): 7:00 p.m. "XL" Youth: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> 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 &amp; 7 PM Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM Prayer &amp; adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETER WISGARD 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 48, ENTRY FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>	<p><b>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> (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 &amp; Worship</p>
<p><b>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Highway between Lowell &amp; Saranac on M-21 www.goodshepherdlowell.org Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremar, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p><b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org Rev. David O. Sims &amp; Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. &amp; 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA/CLUB JC.....Wed. 6:15 &amp; 6:30 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free</p>	<p><b>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Rev. Thurian Meredith 9:45 A.M. ....Worship/Fellowship 11:15 A.M. ....Sunday School 897-9863 or 897-9588 Nursery &amp; Children Worship Programs Provided A friend...a family...a mission!</p>		<p><b>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b> 201 N. Washington • 897-8800 Sunday School.....9:30 A.M. Morning Worship.....10:40 A.M. Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M. PASTOR MICHAEL RHODABARGER Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>

**Lowell Area Schools "Superintendent's Night In"**  
Greg Pratt will be in on Monday, September 18 to answer any questions from students, staff members or members of the community and to hear comments and suggestions.  
**RUNCIMAN ADMINISTRATION BUILDING BOARD ROOM**  
300 High St., Lowell  
Monday, September 18, 2006  
7:00 p.m.

**Guaranteed Lowest Rate.**  
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35 YEARS

**LOOK AT ME NOW!!!**  
The Laurels of Kent celebrates another successful rehab to home!  
The Laurels of Kent had the opportunity to provide therapy to another patient of Orthopedic Surgeon, Dr. Eric M. Orenstein. Alice Allen received a successful knee replacement and then came to the Laurels of Kent to stay in our accommodating Private Ortho-Suite enjoying its luxuries while receiving Physical and Occupational Therapy. Along with celebrating a return home with her husband Robert, they are also celebrating their 60th Anniversary on August 24. Their children will also be home to help celebrate their anniversary. We wish them the best!  
**Happy Anniversary and Congratulations, Alice!**  
**THE LAURELS OF KENT**  
A Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center  
350 N. Center St. • Lowell, MI 49331 • (616) 897-8473



## Ledger writer journeys to her Czech homeland

*Editor's note: Emma Palova is a regular contributor to the Lowell Ledger. Palova has traveled to Czech Republic, the country of her birthplace, for the second time since she permanently moved to the USA in 1989. Following is a brief account of her discoveries.*

By Emma Palova

Ahoy or hello from Czech Republic.

Traveling through the hilly countryside on a winding highway from Prague to Moravia, a region close to the Slovak border, was like watching a long-forgotten movie.

As the film started unwinding, I wondered where will it take me. Our entire family comes from this region rich with folklore, wheat fields, rugged highlands and plum

brandy. So we decided to stay with our family in a tiny village called Stipa, near Lesna zoo park in the heart of Moravia during our trip. The Lesna zoo park with an English-style castle annually attracts thousands of visitors to the area. The village is also known as a Marian pilgrimage place.

I haven't lived in the country since the downfall of communism on Nov. 27,

1989. The first time I visited in the fall of 2000, the changes were mesmerizing. But I was in for a surprise again. No longer Czechoslovakia, but Czech Republic has entered the European Union (EU), and although the official currency until 2010 will remain the Czech crown or koruna, the signs of unification of many different countries were omnipresent. Since it was the high

Czech, but represented a variety and in many cases the names of the dishes were in English and in German.

The Czech Moravian Highlands provided a nostalgic backdrop for villages and towns along the way nestled in valleys, and sometimes high on the slopes. Red-tiled roofs and colorful maintained stucco facades signified the remaking of a country.

And most importantly, the towns breathed the free Czech enterprising spirit awakened from decades of oppression. This was present at the local markets where country folk were peddling peaches, nectarines, flowers or shoes, in wineries called Vinotekas set up right in people's front yards.

Vinotekas served light wine from Mikulov in Southern Moravia directly from the casks, even to go. Country women sold home-made cream rolls and pastries, right from the curb of the sidewalks in front of their houses. People had signs advertising their hostels and bed and breakfasts inside their homes.

Everything was for sale, and still up for grabs. Although some old communist plants with dark chimneys were left abandoned for ghosts to haunt, others have been returned to their owners in a series of restitutions. The famous plum brandy factory Jelinek in Vizovice now enjoys a clientele from all over the world.

A traffic jam near Brno, the biggest city in Moravia, gave us a chance to check out

the remnants of communist architecture. Due to space constrictions in all the cities, designers had only vertical space to create apartments for the swelling population. So, the typical apartment complexes in big cities packed in anywhere from 30,000 to 60,000 people in apartment units up to 12 stories high. Locals call them "concrete forests," but the majority of the country's population still lives in apartments. The apartments remain in high demand, and private companies continue to add more units to the existing ones.

Leaving the highway for the country roads seemed like a relief at first, later it proved to be a challenge. The winding roads with sharp curves are narrow and without any shoulders. They serve cars, trucks, buses, bicycles, motorcycles and pedestrians, usually all at once.

But the peaceful countryside vistas and the close proximity of most destinations made up for the lack of wide roads. The fields at the foothills of the White Carpathian Mountains near the Slovak border were splashed with yellow from sunflowers, like from a Thomas Kinkade painting. Window boxes with red and purple geraniums adorned every house in the country.

Most towns and villages in Czech Republic are actually medieval burghs from the old feudal system. The Czech Republic was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire until 1918, in which the nobility and the clerics shared power over the countries in the empire.

As such, almost every town boasts a castle and a gothic or baroque ornate church. The castles too were returned to the owners after 1989 in restitutions. Also the church has gained back its clout and properties lost under atheism, the official religion of communism.

Homeland, cont'd., pg. 16



A countryside photo taken by Palova on her trip home to the Czech Republic.

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season for vacations, most places of interest were jammed. Tourists spoke different languages, and license plates of the members of the union had the ring of stars on a blue background. The food on the menu was no longer just traditional

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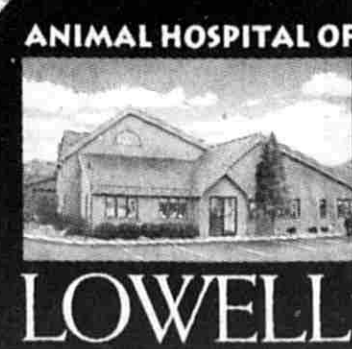
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## Featured Artist

Nancy Kleeves-Liszewski

By Dan Schneider

Pastel painter Nancy Kleeves-Liszewski likes pastels for their bright, deep color.

"It's very vibrant colors," she said. "It's very immediate, you don't have to mix anything. With pastels, whatever color you pick up, that's the color you have."

A painter for 30 years, Kleeves-Liszewski started out painting with watercolor, oils and acrylics before picking up pastels.

"I took a class in pastels about 15 or 20 years ago and that's been my main medium ever since," she said.

Her love of color is evident in her work on display at the Franciscan

Life Process Center (FLPC), where she is the September artist-in-residence. Particularly in pieces like the one titled "Searching," which features running horses as its subject, bright colors jump out of her frames.

Kleeves-Liszewski uses pastels for portraiture. In fact, the bulk of her paintings on display at the center are portraits. Native Americans are the predominant theme in the paintings. Working from photographs taken at Pow Wows across the country, Kleeves-Liszewski has made several paintings of Native American subjects.

"I've always taken a liking to the Indian culture," she said.

She was once asked why she had such an interest. She was without an answer until her father, who also heard the question, told her that her great-grandfather was an Indian.

She painted several paintings from photographs she took on a trip out west. They include one in the center show called "Look, She's Taking Our Picture." The painting features two young girls in traditional Native American regalia. Kleeves-Liszewski took the photograph at a Pow Wow in Tucson, Ariz.

Kleeves-Liszewski said she hopes her work brings thoughts of beauty, peace and

spirituality to the forefront of people's minds. These are things she thinks the world could use more of.

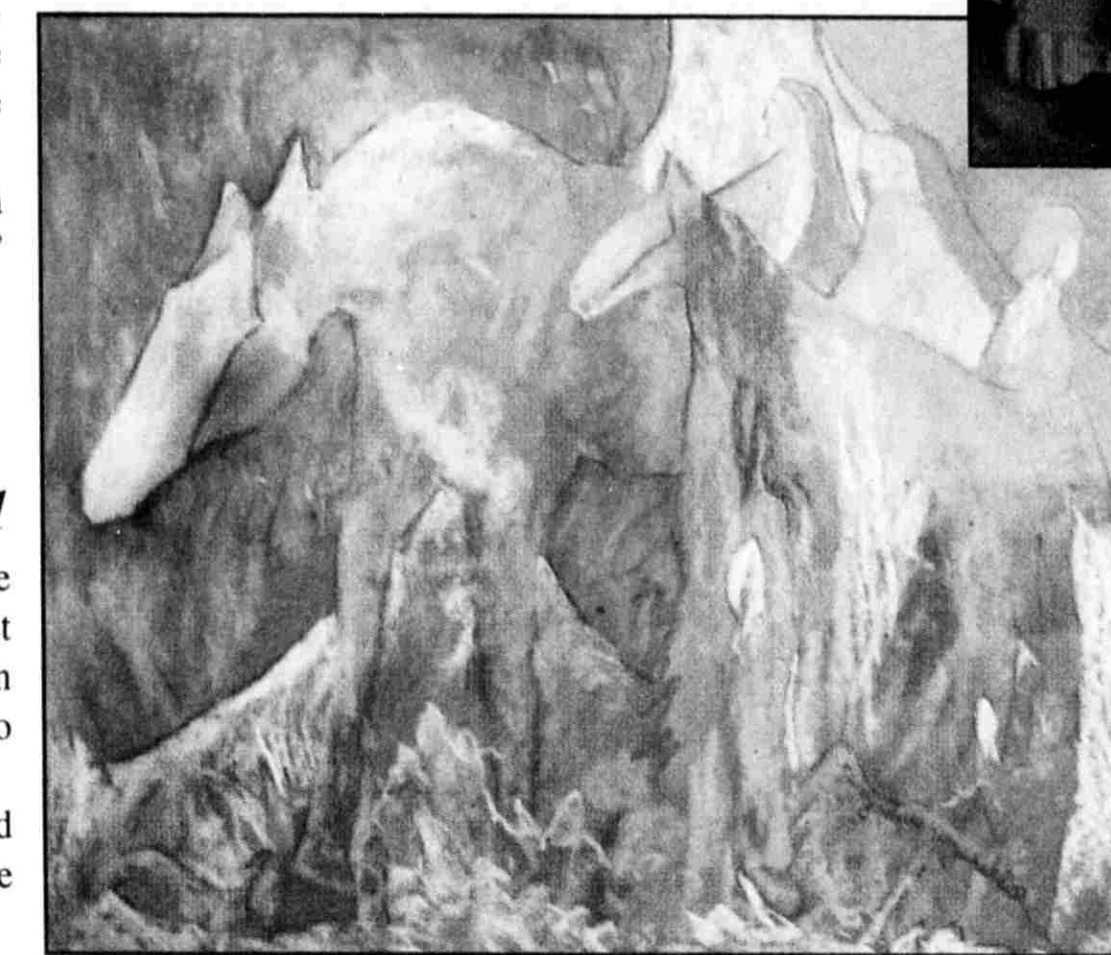
As artist-in-residence at the FLPC, Kleeves-Liszewski will be spending time painting on the center's grounds. She will also teach a workshop, titled "Portraits from Life," at the center on Sept. 15 and 16. The workshop is open to all level students working in pastel and watercolor.

Kleeves-Liszewski's work will be on display through Sept. 30 at the FLPC located at 11650 Downes Street in Vergennes Township.



Above, "Look, She's Taking Our Picture," is among the pastel works by Nancy Kleeves-Liszewski currently on display at the Franciscan Life Process Center.

At left, "Searching," a pastel piece by Nancy Kleeves-Liszewski.



## Ehlers, continued

... From Page 1

"The answer is to continue to be creative and innovative ... that is our strength in this country," Ehlers said. "We lost our spark in many ways. We aren't educating our children the way we should be. The jobs of the future are going to require an education in math and science."

On the subject of Michigan's local economy, he said it hasn't kept up with growth seen in other places in the country.

"The economy, I'm pleased to report, is really, really good except in Michigan," Ehlers said.

"It will be very interesting this fall," he said, referring to the gubernatorial election.

At the federal level, he said the budget-deficit situation is improving.

"If it weren't for the Iraq war and Katrina and a few other things, we would have a balanced budget right now," he said.

Ehlers said President Bush's unpopularity is a liability for Republicans going into November elections.

"It's going to be interesting but it's going to be tough for Republicans," Ehlers said. "The current unpopularity of the president is really hurting us."

But he predicted the GOP will hold on to its majority in both the House and the Senate.

## Cozy Corner, continued ... From Page 5

weeks of this good fortune, near perfect weather was what I'd come to expect! I don't have to tell you Michiganders how pretty Lake Charlevoix, Grand Traverse Bay, Torch Lake, etc., are. I've flown all over the country, and this part of Michigan in the summertime is as good as it gets!

As I worked south, the wind picked up substantially off of the southwest. Cadillac was my fuel stop and the wind was obligingly coming straight down the runway. With the headwind it was about an hour and a half on down to Lowell. Having flown this area for nearly twenty years, the towns, lakes and roads were all very familiar. I shut off my G.P.S., tucked my map under my butt and savored this last leg.

It was early afternoon when the Stearman and I touched down on runway 24 in Lowell. I taxied up to the hangar

and shut her down. What a trip!!! After fourteen consecutive days of flying I was ready to ... well ... Honestly, if I had the time and money, I would have been happy to take right off on another trip.

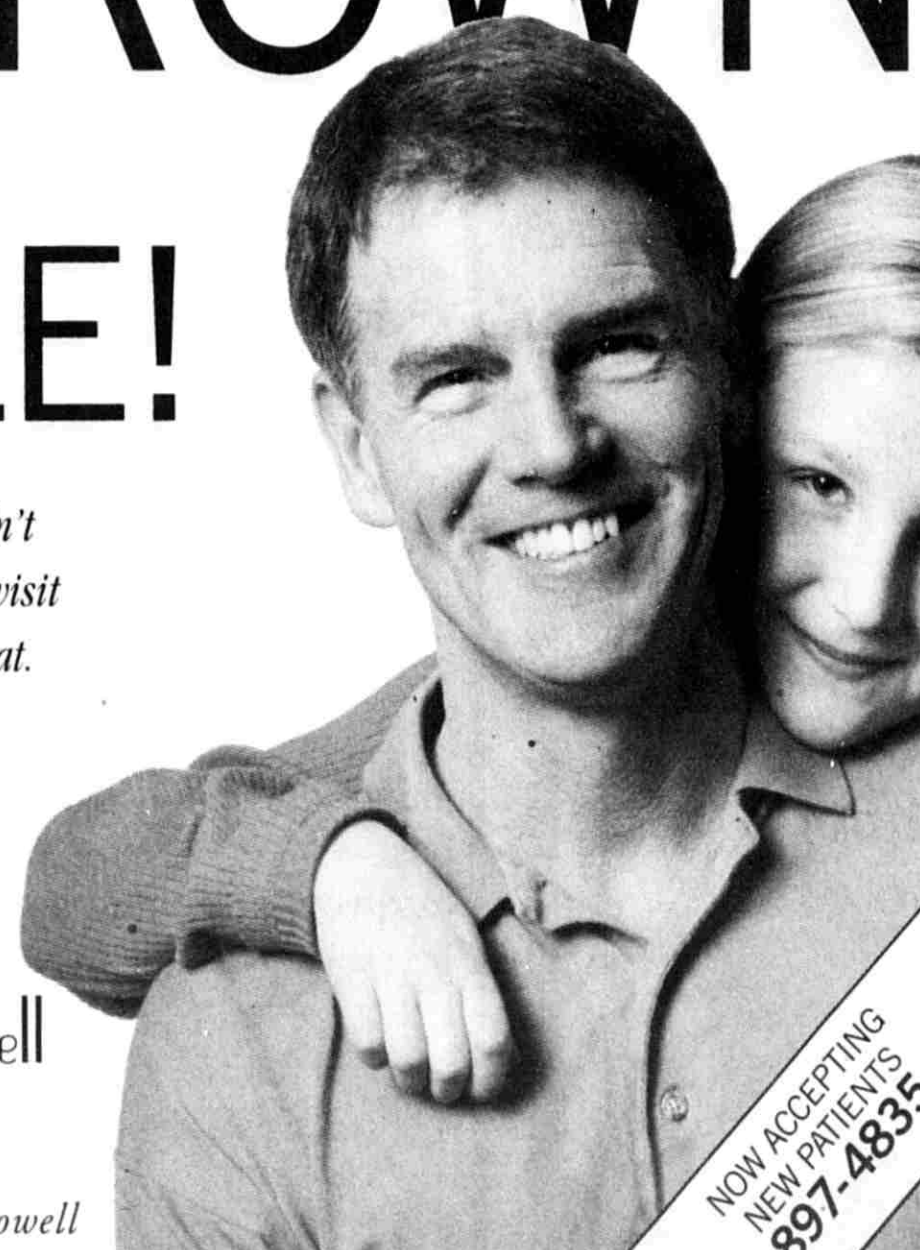
To our readers: Sorry there were no photos to accompany this last episode. I ran out of room on the digital camera's memory card. Also, thanks for putting up with this odyssey. I tried to keep it interesting and hope it hasn't been like somebody's "home movies from Hell" or traveling with Dell Griffith (John Candy's character in "Trains, Planes and Automobiles"). Feedback at the Ledger has been mostly positive, so I just kept rolling with it. Again ... thanks.

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## CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council, acting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, will conduct a public hearing at a special scheduled meeting on Thursday, September 21, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. at the City Council Chambers, Lowell City Hall, Second Floor, 301 E. Main Street, Lowell, Michigan for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

- 403 North Monroe - Jeffrey Werner has petitioned for a side yard variance to allow an attached garage within 4 feet of the north side yard lot line rather than the required 6 feet.

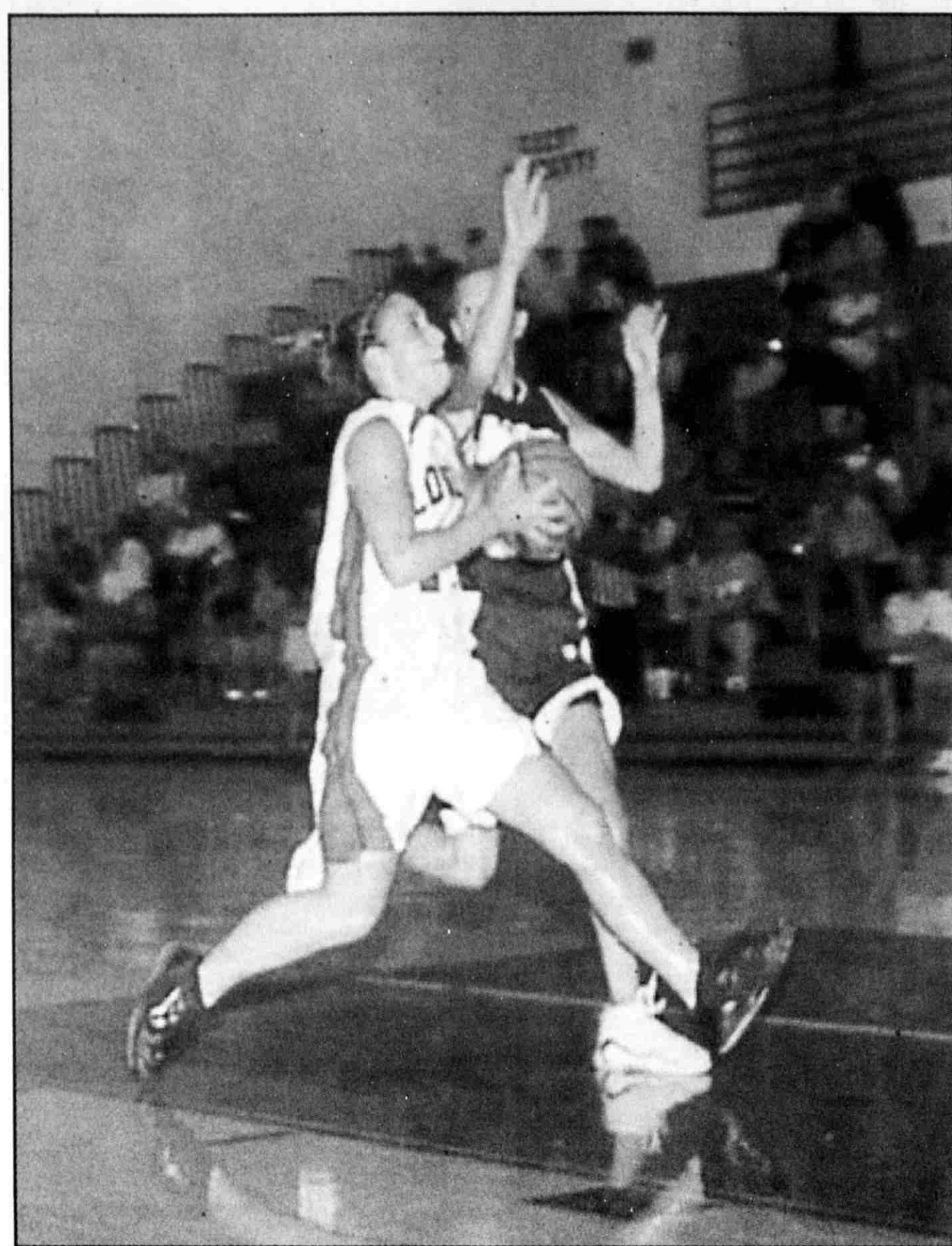
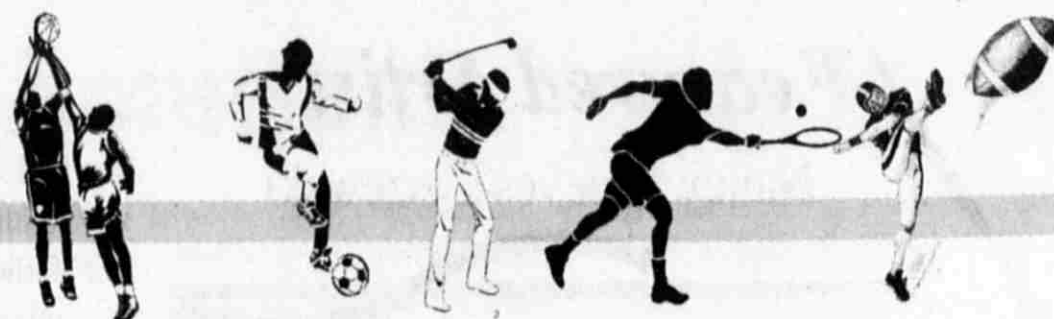
Interested persons may submit comments to Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main Street prior to the meeting or appear in person.



Betty R. Morlock  
City Clerk



# RED ARROW SPORTS



Lowell's Chelsea Harrison drives toward the hoop in last Wednesday's game against Unity Christian.

## Girls basketball falls to Crusaders in season opener

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell girls basketball team opened the 2006 season with a tough loss to Unity Christian, 43-35 last Wednesday.

The Crusaders scored first in the tight first half of the game. Lowell took its first lead late in the first quarter, 13-12, on Brittany Bueche's second three-pointer of the game.

Lowell relied heavily on shots from behind the arc in the game's early going. After one quarter, it was 15-12, Lowell, and nine of the Arrows' points were from three-point field goals.

Unity Christian took

a 21-20 lead into halftime. Lowell took the lead back quickly in the third quarter. But then a scoring drought kept the Arrows' score at 26 for the remainder of the third quarter and most of the fourth.

With 2:41 left to play in the game, Unity Christian's Carrie Snickers hit a three-point field goal that gave the Crusader's their biggest lead of the night, 41-26.

"Give the credit to Unity, I thought they had a really good defensive team," Lowell coach Dee Crowley said.

The Crusaders clamped down on Lowell's perimeter

game after getting hurt by three-pointers in the first half. Lowell struggled to establish themselves inside the paint throughout the game.

"I didn't think we used the post enough," Crowley said.

She said looking inside more often would have opened up more options for the offense.

"They (the post players) didn't have to make a move every time, but touch it and make something else happen," Crowley said.

The low numbers on the

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

## Red Arrow cross country teams off and running

By Dan Schneider

Lowell's varsity cross country team are hitting the trails for the 2006 season.

The boys and girls teams started the season Aug. 24 at the East Grand Rapids Invitational. The boys team finished second overall and the girls team finished sixth.

Leading the way for the boys were Keaton Dilly (fifth place overall with a

time of 17:34), Andy Mark (sixth, 17:37), Cameron Dilly (ninth, 18:09), Cory Fitzpatrick (13th, 18:31) and Kirk Geldersma (14th, 18:32).

Top finishers for the girls team were Karen Judd (sixth, 21:32), Paige Senters (27th, 25:30), Emily Hauschild (28th, 25:32), Morgan Olin (36th, 26:41) and Katie Riddle (38th, 27:47).

At the Wayland Invitational on Aug. 26, the boys team finished second overall and the girls finished ninth out of 15 teams.

The top finishers for the boys were Keaton Dilly (seventh, 17:34), Mark (eighth, 17:41), Cameron Dilly (12th, 18:10), Fitzpatrick (16th, 18:22) and Geldersma (17th, 18:24).

For the girls team, top finishers were Judd (ninth, 21:25), Hayley Getzen (38, 25:00), Hauschild (43rd, 25:19), Senters (52nd, 26:44) and Olin (54th, 26:59).

The boys team has a large roster this year, with 29 runners out for the team. "It's a big group and a good, hard-working bunch of guys," coach Clay VanderWaf said.

Andy Mark and Keaton Dilly will be leading the team this year.

"They're basically running neck and neck," VanderWaf said.

Cameron Dilly, Kirk Geldersma and Corey Fitzpatrick will make up the rest of the scoring five.

"One thing they've really been focusing on is staying together in a pack," VanderWaf said.

The girls team is smaller, with 12 runners, and less experienced than the boys team, but they, too, are working hard in practice.

"I've got a lot of people who are willing to really put the work in," VanderWaf said.

Seniors Karen Judd and Monica Fitzpatrick will lead

*Cross country, cont'd., pg. 11*

## CITY OF LOWELL NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids for a Municipal Lease with a \$1.00 Buy Out for a 2006 or 2007 Cab, Chassis and Service Body Heavy 3/4 Ton Truck will be accepted at the Lowell City Hall office, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan 49331 until Tuesday, September 26, 2006, at 2:00 p.m. where they will publicly be opened and read aloud. Please be sure to mark envelope "CAB, CHASSIS AND SERVICE BODY BID".

Specifications are available by contacting Ralph Brecken, City Mechanic at (616) 897-5929.

The City of Lowell reserves the right to reject any or all bids and also the right to waive any formal defects in bids when deemed in the best interest of the City. Further, the City reserves the right to accept a bid higher than the lowest bid, if the City's interest will be better served.



## Golf team shooting consistently in first dual matches

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell boys golf team had a pair of strong scores last week, though the match results were mixed.

Last Wednesday at Deer Run Golf Course, Lowell shot a team score of 161, which was six strokes higher than defending state champion East Grand Rapids' score of 156. It was Lowell's first OK White dual match and a significant improvement over their last place finish in the Aug. 23 pre-conference tournament.

Lowell's leading golfers were Eric Mundt, who shot a 39 for nine holes, Rich Porter (40), Brian Scheider (41) and Lance Perkins (41).

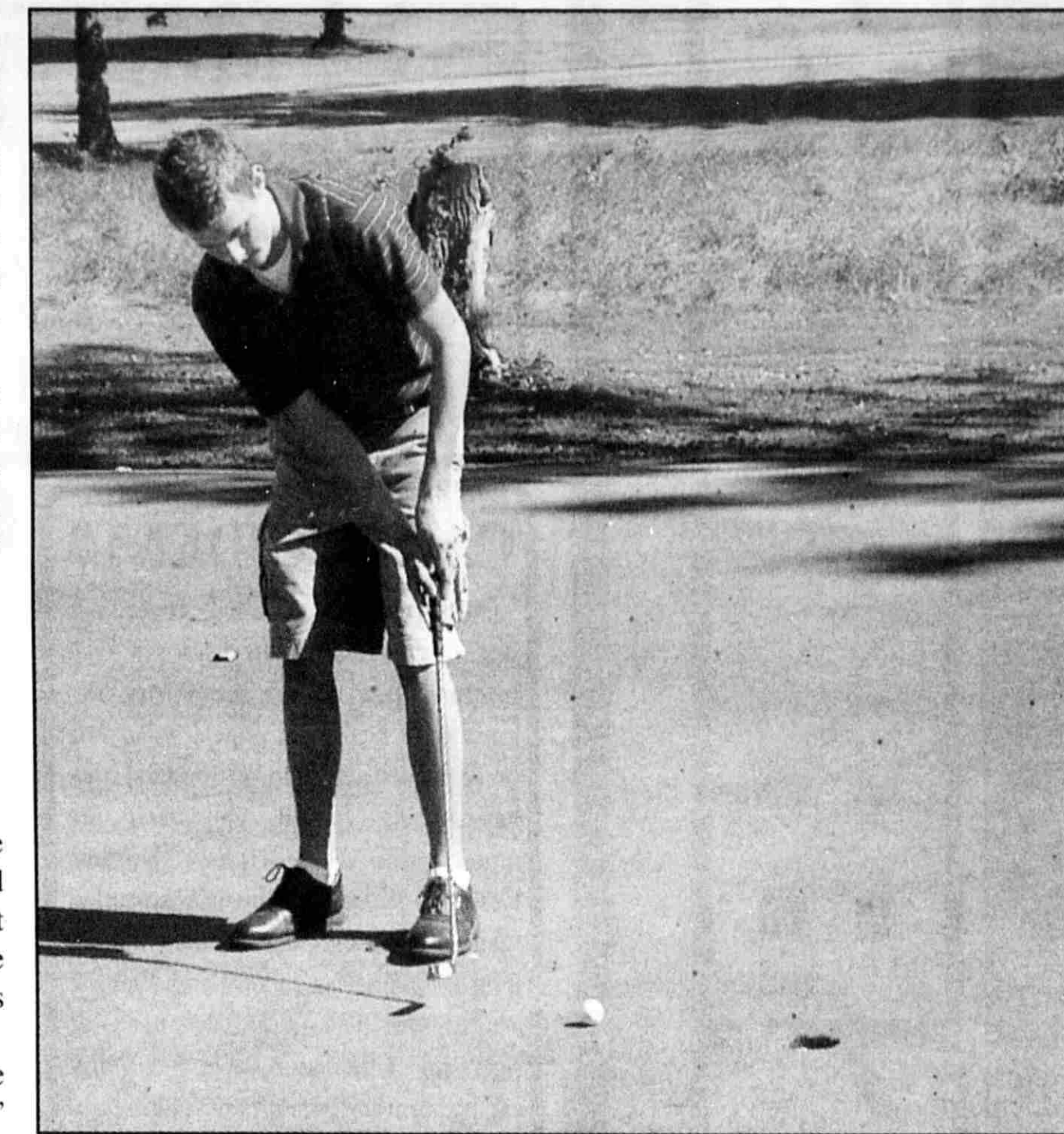
"I was real pleased, we shot quite well," Lowell coach Gary Fredline said.

They followed it up with a 162-167 win over Cedar Springs the following day at Deer Run. Leading scorers for Lowell were Scheider (39), Mundt (40), Perkins (41) and Porter (42).

"We were only one

stroke different and they were really consistent there and it was enough to beat Cedar Springs," Fredline said. "I'm real happy with the dual season so far. If we can continue to score at that level, we'll be a force to be reckoned with."

Lowell traveled to Belding, Tuesday. The Red Arrows' next matches are Wednesday at Greenville and Friday at the Lakeview Tournament.



Lowell's Brian Scheider sunk this putt at Deer Run Golf Course during last Thursday's match against Cedar Springs.

## Soccer regrouping this year

By Dan Schneider

It's a good, old-fashioned rebuilding year for the boys soccer team at Lowell this season.

An exodus of seniors--last year's team graduated 11 players, eight of them starters--has left the Red Arrows with only three returning starters. This year's young team includes five sophomores and a freshman. Chris Barlow, Austin DeClercq, Adam Bowers, Tim Oberlin and Ryan Padgett are the five returning seniors. Barlow, DeClercq and Bowers were starters last year.

With eight seniors starting on last year's team, there wasn't room on the roster to bring many players up from junior varsity. That led to fewer players with

varsity experience on this year's team.

"We only had one or two players who went up last year, whereas past years it was three or four," said Lowell coach Paul Legge.

He said that led to a good mix of youth and experience on those teams, wherein the younger players could learn from the veterans. This year's team is mostly youth.

"We're going to take some lumps this year, it's going to be a learning process," Legge said. "We're going to have some great games but we're going to have some rough ones early in the season that we'll just chalk up as learning experiences."

Lowell has already had a few rough games with an 8-0 loss to East Kentwood

and a 3-0 loss to Grandville in the second and third games of the season. But Legge said he saw some good signs of life in the loss to the Bulldogs.

"We played the Grandville game very well," Legge said. "We just didn't put the ball away and it cost us."

In its season opener Aug. 22 at Caledonia, the Arrows lost 3-2 but very nearly had a different result.

"We were actually ahead until the last six minutes of the game and then we gave up two goals late in the game," Legge said.

Lowell hosted Rockford, Tuesday. The Red Arrows' next game is Thursday, when they host Unity Christian at Red Arrow Memorial Stadium.

## Basketball, continued ... From Page 10

scoreboard reflected what Unity Christian coach Scott Soodsma feels will be his team's main strength this season.

"I think we live and die by our defense," Soodsma said. "We're not going to shoot you out of the gym. The key tonight was our team defense."

Lowell played only six players in last Wednesday's game. The starting five were Chelsea Harrison, Brittany Bueche, Lindsey Trierweiler, Kelsey Crowley and Amanda Geelhoed. Brittany Lyman came in off the bench. Crowley plans to

increase the team's depth as the season continues.

"We're hoping to eventually go seven-eight deep," Crowley said. "We're going to have to because we're going to need to give players rest."

She said juniors Mary VanderLaan and Breanna Bueche are among the players who will be able to step in and contribute off the bench. Lowell returns three starters from last year's 23-1 team.

It was tough starting the season with a loss, but Lowell hasn't backed down from any challenges in

scheduling this year's early-season games.

"We want to play the tough teams and our first three are pretty tough with Unity, Rockford and Byron Center," Crowley said.

Lowell hosted Rockford, Tuesday, and travels to Byron Center, Thursday.

## Cross country, continued ... From Page 10

the girls team this year.

"Then it's a situation of getting our fourth and fifth runners up there and they're coming along," VanderWaf said. "We're small this year ... and a lot of them are new ... new to the sport and new to running."

VanderWaf expects the boys team to be competitive in this year's OK White

conference, where he sees a lot of parity among the teams.

"I don't see any team in the OK White that's going to run away with it this year," VanderWaf said.

And the girls team may surprise as the season progresses and the new runners get more experience.

## A Heartfelt Thank You!



Pictured above surrounding Velma are: son Bert and Ruby Baker and children Andrea and Chris Demisch, Courtney, Jake, Adam, Caleb, daughter Ann and Ron Wittenback and children Kevin and Cher Goggins and Chris and Shannon Goggins, great-grandchildren Caden, Lilli and Ryan Goggins.

The family of Bob Perry would like to thank everyone for the wonderful tribute to our husband, dad, grandpa and great-grandpa. The naming of the field as the "Bob Perry Field" is such a great honor and has placed him permanently where his life was so wholly dedicated for over 50 years. To all those responsible and those who worked so hard and also those who donated to this cause, we sincerely thank you all. He would be so proud.

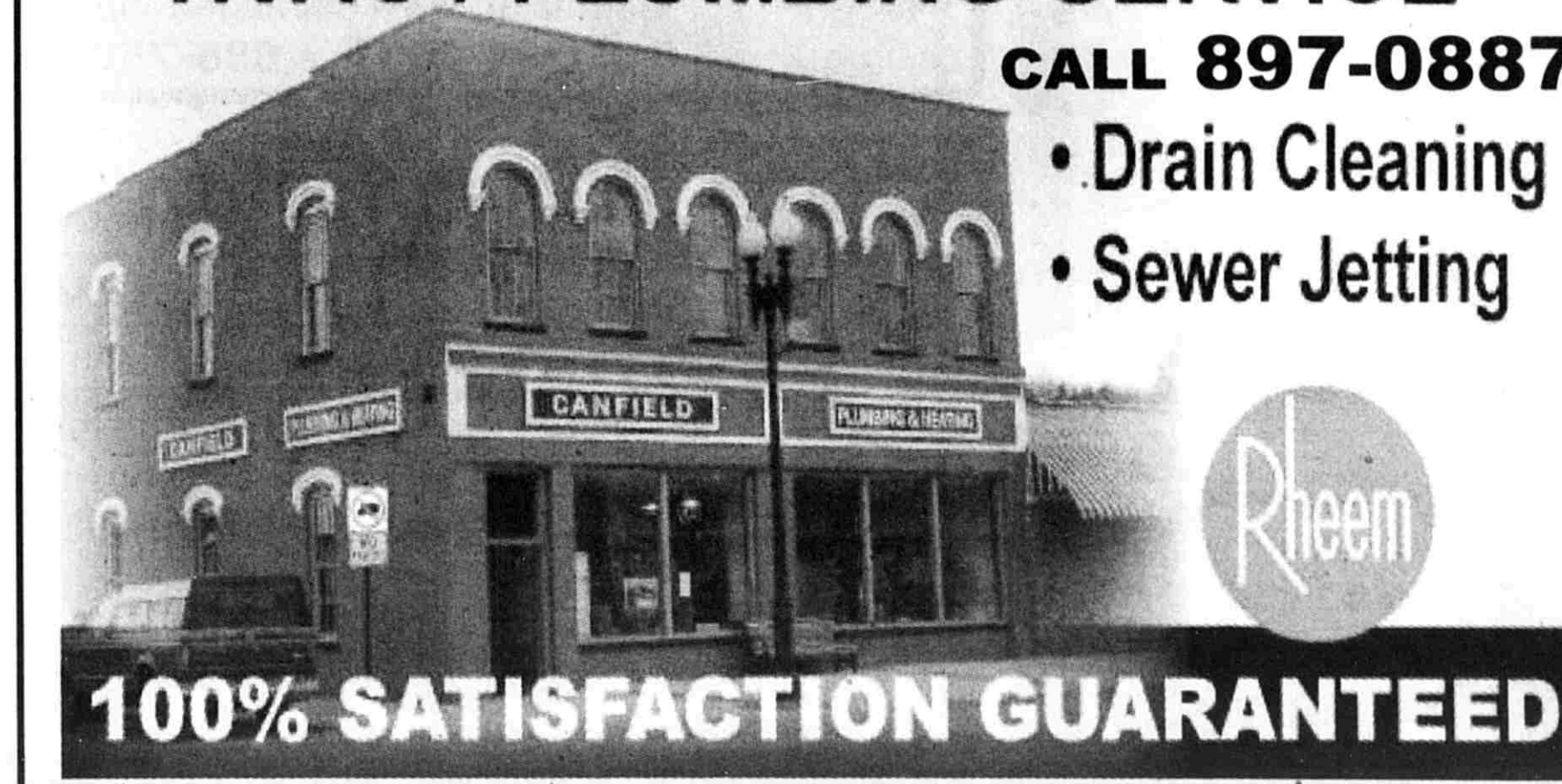
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**Lowell football team steamrolls Lansing-Sexton**

*Red Arrows keep Big Reds off scoreboard until fourth quarter*

The Lowell varsity football team built its early-season record up to 2-0 with a win over Lansing-Sexton Friday at Red Arrow Memorial Stadium.

**Lowell tennis beats Whitehall**

The Lowell girls tennis team hosted Whitehall last Tuesday, beating the Vikings five flights to three.

Lowell's Heather Spratt won first singles, 6-2, 6-4 over Kelly Bobryk. Melissa Zuiderveen won third singles for Lowell, beating Hope Potter 6-2, 6-2. In the fourth-flight doubles match, Lowell's Lauren Heemstra defeated Allie Annese 6-0, 6-0.

Winning doubles teams for Lowell were Leara Glinzak and Caitlin Baker (third team) and Kelli Kowalski and Katrina Schollaart (fourth team). Glinzak and Baker defeated Sam Bowen and Chelsea Uganski 6-4, 2-6, 6-0.

"It was good to see them come back strongly after losing the second set 2-6," said Lowell coach Bonnie Wall.

Kowalski and Schollaart beat Emily Berlin and Kelly Jaworski 6-1, 6-1.

Last week's match at Portland was rained out. It was rescheduled for Wednesday.

Lowell's next matches will be at the Northview Tournament, Saturday.

The Red Arrows beat the Big Reds by a score of 45-7. Lowell held Lansing-Sexton to a single touchdown, which they scored in the fourth quarter.

The Arrows, meanwhile, scored 21 points in the first quarter. The first was on a 14-yard run by quarterback Keith Nichol. Then Mike McElroy caught a Nichol pass for a 39-yard touchdown. McElroy caught a four-yard pass from Nichol for Lowell's third touchdown of the game.

Lowell was up 35-0 at halftime after a 34-yard McElroy touchdown reception and Justin Harden touchdown reception in the second quarter.

Chris Barlow kicked a 21-yard field goal for Lowell in the third quarter and Kory Stevens ran the ball 10 yards for a touchdown in the fourth quarter.

Nichol completed 10 of 14 passes for 168 yards. Kameron Blake was the Arrows' leading rusher with 144 yards on 12 carries.

Lowell opens OK White conference play this Friday when the Red Arrows host East Grand Rapids.

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# The Lowell Ledger Garage Sale GUIDE

**THIS IS THE LAST ISSUE THAT THIS SECTION WILL APPEAR. SEE YOU IN THE SPRING**

<p><b>SALE</b> Fri. Sept. 8 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. &amp; Sat., Sept. 9 from 9 a.m. - ? Brand name teen and adult clothes, queen sleigh bed, housewares, "76" Jeep CJ 7 restoration project. 652 Birchwood Ct. (2 blocks north of Lowell Middle School)</p>	<p><b>YARD SALE</b> September 9, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., 362 Donna, Lowell. Everything's a dollar or less!</p>
<p><b>3-FAMILY GARAGE SALE</b> Kids clothing, high chair, kid table &amp; chairs, handcrafted jewelry, crafts, Steelcase desk, home audio equipment, Tupperware. Sat., Sept. 9, 9-5 p.m. 218 Broad St., Clarksville.</p>	<p><b>YARD SALE</b> Sept. 7th, Thurs. 9 to 4 at 3136 Segwun Ave. Coca cola collectibles, Christmas decorations and other holiday goodies, tools, a bar, good clothing size 6 to 14, lamps, frames, microwaves, and many other treasures.</p>
<p><b>GARAGE SALE</b> Fri. 9/8 &amp; Sat. 9/9, 9 a.m. - ? Cartop cargo carrier, 1-yr old refrigerator, like new full-size boxspring &amp; mattress, small girl's Huffy bike, 3 ft. garden fence stakes, pool ladder, decorative items, men's 3XLT &amp; women's 12-14 clothes, kids' toys &amp; clothes, lots of misc. Phone 897-9417. 11360 Foreman.</p>	<p><b>GARAGE SALE</b> Sept. 7, 8, 9 from 9-7, 9762 Centerline, off M-21 between Lowell &amp; Saranac. Child's loft bed, craft supplies, clothes, jewelry, books, household, John Deere lawn tractors - 318 &amp; 180, Cub Cadet 105.</p>
<p><b>MOVING SALE</b> Thurs., Sept. 7 &amp; Fri., Sept. 8, 730 E. Main St., Lowell. Furniture, washer, stove, refrigerator, bookcase, cherry buffet cabinet, china cabinet, lamps, beds, collectibles, Avon, Avon Club bottles, toys, kids' winter jackets, clothing, new Christmas items &amp; many items too numerous to list.</p>	<p><b>FOUR FAMILY YARD SALE</b> Sept. 7, 8 &amp; 9, 9 to 5. 10963 Cascade Rd.</p>
<p><b>MOVING/ESTATE/LIQUIDATION SALE</b> Books, home furniture, Steelcase modular desks, chairs, dividers, dishes, antiques, clothes, baskets, collectibles, windows, truck tool boxes, used furnaces, used AC, mobile stairway, file cabinets, more. Located at 1634 Peterson Rd., Orleans, MI, 2 miles west of M-66, 3.5 miles north of Ionia. Sale is Saturday, Sept. 9 and Sunday, Sept. 10, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. No presale available.</p>	<p><b>2 GARAGE SALES</b> on Sayles Road between Marble &amp; Harley, 8 to 5, Sept. 7th &amp; 8th. Clothes &amp; misc.</p>
<p><b>FOUR FAMILY SALE</b> Vintage clothing, furniture, antiques, collectibles, household, too much to list! Something for everyone! Sept. 13 through 16, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. 11545 64th St., Alto (corner of 64th &amp; Bancroft).</p>	<p><b>HUGE GARAGE SALE</b> Sept. 7 &amp; 8, 10-5 p.m. 11002 Keystone Dr. private, Lowell. Living, bed &amp; dining room furniture, tools, toys, bikes, clothes, wedding deco, something for all.</p>
<p><b>KID SALE</b> 0-24 girls, 0-6 &amp; 2T boys, toys, dressers, etc. 927 Lincoln Lake. Thurs. - Sat. Sept. 7 &amp; 8, 10-5, Sat. 10-?</p>	<p><b>HUGE BABY SALE!!</b> Boys 0-4T &amp; girls 0-4, maternity clothes, stroller, car seats, bassinet, toys, much more... great prices!! 2375 Montcalm Ave. Between Riverside &amp; Oberley. Fri., Sept. 8 &amp; Sat., Sept. 9. 9-6. Rain or shine!!</p>
<p>This Page Will Return on May 2, 2007!</p>	

**You Can Still Place Your Garage Sale Ads In The Buyers Guide & Lowell Ledger!**

**Deadline for the Buyers Guide is Thursday at 5 p.m. & The Ledger is Monday at 5 p.m.**

**Phone 897-9555 or 897-9261  
Fax 897-4809  
Email: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com**

We assume no financial responsibility for typos in ads taken over the phone or for emailed or faxed ads not received. All care & diligence are used to prevent omission or error in any ad or any part of an ad. If your ad is phoned in, please make sure it is repeated back to you.

# CLASSIFIEDS

**FOR SALE FOR SALE FOR RENT HELP WANTED SERVICES SERVICES**

**AKC/OFA STANDARD POODLE PUPS** - Vet checked, first shot & wormed. Hand raised, pre-spoiled. Open registration possible. \$400-\$500. Call 231-873-9860.

**MATTRESSES** - Back to school mattress "Sale" All sizes. All new. Large selection. "Good sleep improves grades." Call 616-682-4767 or 616-293-5188. Can deliver.

**FALL RASPBERRIES** - Bird Berry Farm in Belding. Call (616) 794-5041 for picking information.

**BUNK BEDS** - Back to school special! From \$99. All wood. Dennis Distributing. 989-224-4822.

**2000 POLARIS INDY 340 Deluxe** - beautiful sled, very low mileage, \$1,400. Great family fun. 897-9946.

**APPLIANCES** - refrigerators, stoves, washers & dryers. Reconditioned & warranted from \$69. Delivery available. Dennis Distributing, 315 N. Lansing, St. Johns, 989-224-4822.

**HAPPY JACKSKIN BALM** - treats "hot spots". Stop scratching & gnawing without steroids on dogs & cats. **TSC Stores** 987-9338. www.e-stitch.com.

**BEDS \* BEDS \* BEDS** - Year end closeout "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 616-293-5188. Can deliver.

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

**HOME FOR SALE - Forest Hills near new high school, quiet road, 1.7 acres, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, newer mechanicals, central air, ready to move in, \$139,900. 676-9131. No Sunday calls please.**

**ABEautiful FULLSIZED PILLOWTOP MATTRESS SET** - In plastic, w/deluxe frame. Cost \$800, sacrifice for \$250. Call 616-366-2709.

**BUY A HOME** - with no money down! New construction, 2 br, 1 bath, land ranging from 1.7 to 3.9 acres. Prices starting from \$155,000! Time to customize to your liking! Call Heather French, Flat River Real Estate, 616-262-4583 or 616-897-1300, ext. 103.

**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 616-293-5188. Can deliver.

**LEDGER OFFICE HOURS:**  
MON. - THURS. 8-5 FRI. 8-4  
Closed Sat. & Sun.  
105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

**1999 GMC SUBURBAN** - 3 seat, rear air, towing package, 123,000 miles. Call 648-5550.

**REAL WOOD ENTERTAINMENT CENTERS** - 6 only. Less than 3 mos. old. Freight returns. Oak, Mahogany. From \$98. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

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

**COTTAGES ON WATER** - enjoy fall colors or hunting for duck or deer. State land everywhere including 700 acre island. Free boat use. 897-5062.

**FOR RENT** - 2 bedroom house with 2 stall garage in the country close to expressway, no smoking on premises, no pets. Call 240-2254.

**LOWELL** - \$500 moves you in. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, washer/dryer hookups, air, garage, cathedral ceilings, \$675/month. Stoneridge Apts, 1-866-443-3098. www.wrpmonline.com.

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

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

**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.

**NICE HOME FOR RENT IN LOWELL** - 4 bedrooms, finished basement w/office, high speed internet, \$1,000/mo. Call 269-838-2101.

**WHEATLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL** - Cottages for rent on the water. Sept. 8, 9 & 10. Approx. 15 miles from festival. 897-5062.

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

**COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR LEASE** - Approximately 500 sq. ft. overlooking Flat River with parking and signage at 96-100 Main St. in Lowell. Great for office, attorney or accountant. Call 616-874-1316.

**EVENTS**  
**SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** - at 3189 Snow Ave. SE will serve a family style Turkey & Dressing dinner on Wednesday, September 13, starting at 5:30 p.m. Adults are \$8, children 6-12 are \$2 & children 5 & under are free.

**MARKETING RESEARCHER** - Start today! Gather people's opinions on what goes to market nationwide. Keyboard and good communication skills required. No selling. \$8 per hour. Interview public for their opinions. Day, evening, and weekend hours available. Call Alice 616-363-7643. EOE.

**GROWING PRINT SHOP** - is seeking an entry level, part time press room assistant to operate printing presses and bindery equipment. Mechanical ability needed. Will train. Send resume or apply at Hooper Printing, P.O. Box 182, 2125 Bowes Rd., Lowell, MI 49331.

**DELIVERY DRIVER - CDL-A** drivers needed. Looking for dependable customer service oriented person w/chaufer's CDL-B, CDL-A license. Good working environment. Also hiring nights/weekends. 616-248-7729.

**WAREHOUSE ORDER PICKERS & PACKERS** - needed. Will train right person. Entry level, days M-F. Part time cleaning person. Call Bill 897-8044.

**UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS BEEN DENIED?** - Employer or state preventing you collecting unemployment benefits? Call now for possible free assistance! 1-800-305-2899.

**HOUSEKEEPER** - Fountain View of Lowell is looking for an energetic, thorough housekeeper. 5 hours a day, 3 or 4 days a week, including every other Saturday. Taking applications Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at 11535 E. Fulton, Lowell.

**FOR RENT** - House or farm to rent with room for horses, dogs & cat. 616-794-0649.

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

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

**BRENDA B'S** - A small & cozy in-home daycare, very flexible, very affordable. Lots of fun. Call Brenda 987-9351.

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

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

**SOUND OFF PHONE LINE 897-0787**

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

**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.

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

**STEPEK 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.

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

**BILL'S CUSTOM MADE FURNITURE & CABINETS** - All types of wood: oak, maple, hickory, cherry plus others. Reasonable rates and free estimates. 899-855-3644.

**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.

**ASK HOW OUR NEW FREEDOM PROGRAM** - will get you into a home of your own, or rent to own your home starting at \$498 at Valley Vista. New hours to serve you! 10-7 Tues.-Fri.; Sat. 10-5, 877-634-6700. Call today! www.HometownAmerica.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.

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

# Sound Off

**The Ledger "Almost" Anything Goes Column**  
www.lowellbuyersguide.com  
**Or CALL...897-0787**

*Brief, "Sound Off" comments are always welcome but will be, at times, edited for content and length. All comments are submitted by the public and do not necessarily represent the views of the Ledger. Feel free to sign your comment. For more lengthy views please consider a letter "To The Editor".*

**Shame on the van that hit my dog on Portland Road.** You didn't even have the courtesy to stop, let alone slow down. Shame on you.

**Cheerleading is a sport!!!** Lowell cheerleaders work hard at what they do and work just as hard as any other team players. I'm sick of hearing that it's not.

**Everywhere, many, if not most children, do not wear bicycle helmets.** Even though, it would be prudent for parents to furnish them, it is not law, so cannot be enforced.

**All this money DeVos is spending on advertising, he could really help out the Grand Rapids Public Schools** with a "Grand Rapids Promise" like the Kalamazoo Promise. That would be money better spent!

**What a delightful surprise to be able to listen to the Lowell Red Arrows/Grandville football game on Channel 20 - WLHS! Go Red Arrows!**

**To the folks that stole my Faygo flag, if you return it, no ?? asked! If I have to investigate & find out who did it, the gloves are off my fair friend. Off, I say!**

**Lowell needs MORE volunteers and less whiners!** Set a positive example by volunteering and it'll open your eyes to why things happen both good and bad. It's also great resume material.

**Congrats to the JV & Varsity footballers!** We couldn't wait for football season to start - now we know why!

*It's a shame! Friends don't let friends drive drunk! Let's start looking out for our buddies. -LHS 11th grader*

*I think we need to ask those wise local businessmen how we are going to make up the 2 billion in revenue that the SBT brings in. Without raising our taxes.*

*Do the schools provide anything anymore? I have a hard time believing they don't even provide a pencil sharpener.*

*Why wasn't the Sound Off in the paper last week!? It may be sad but the Sound Off is one of the reasons I buy the Lowell Ledger.*

*The new light on the flag at the station by the x-way stinks. You can hardly see the flag. We need the old lights back so we can all enjoy a fantastic sight again.*

*Have you seen the Chambers' new website? WOW - Fabulous resource for Lowell- spread the word/link www.lowellchamber.org*

*Who the heck grows lima beans? All I ever see is soy bean fields. Do they only grow in Lima, OH, Lima, MT or Lima, NY? Or maybe even Peru. - Russ Puth*

*Donna & Dolly, the music was beautiful. If you want to hear beautiful music go to F.B.C.*

**WELCOME TO FARMERS' MARKET**

**JULY 6 - OCTOBER 14**  
**OPEN: 3 PM to 7 PM - Thursdays**  
**LOWELL FAIRGROUNDS**  
No Pets Allowed  
(No Farm Market Fair Week)  
**For more information call**  
**616-897-6050 or 616-292-9786**

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