

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 34 Issue 45

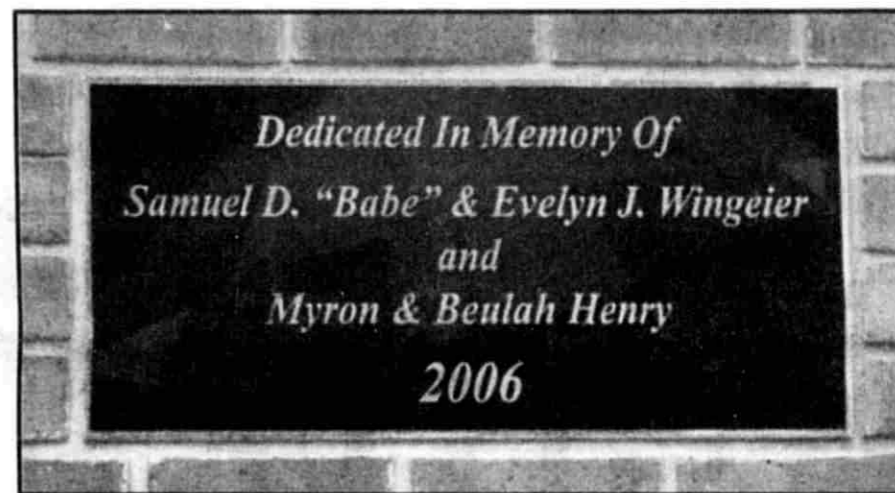
Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, September 13, 2006



New building dedicated at Schneider Manor

Schneider Manor board members John Timpson, from left, and Rev. Glenn Marks; manager Jody Haybarker; and board members Phil Schneider, Leo Pfaller, Ray Zandstra, Richard Bieri and Dick Bewell dedicated the new building at Schneider Manor before their board meeting Monday night. Construction of the building, which contains eight residential units for Lowell seniors, lasted five and a half months. It is the 12th building on the Schneider Manor property and is of similar construction to the others. It was ready so new residents could move in over Labor Day weekend. All of the units are already full.



A plaque dedicates the new building to Samuel "Babe" and Evelyn Wingeier and Myron and Beulah Henry.

Alto harvest festival this weekend

By Dan Schneider

The 26th annual Alto Harvest Festival will be held Saturday in the village of Alto in Bowne Township.

The event lasts all day, starting at 7 a.m. with a pancake breakfast at the

Alto Fire Station hosted by the Alto/Bowne Township Fire Department. Pancakes will be served until 9 a.m.

Opening ceremonies are scheduled to begin at 9:30 with the raising of the American flag and the singing of the national anthem.

World champion martial

artist Mariah Moore will be grand marshal at this year's festival.

Art and crafts vendors will be selling their wares starting at 10 a.m.

The Little Miss Alto and Miss Alto contests take place between 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. The first contest is for girls ages four to eight, the second is for girls ages nine to 17.

Some new additions to the festivities this year include a family float contest in the Harvest Festival Parade. The parade starts at 11:30 a.m. The best-of-show family float gets a prize of \$100. This year's float theme is "The Good Old Days."

"I actually got the idea from Better Homes and Gardens," festival chair Suzanne Hoeksema said. "They had a story about this neighborhood with all the neighbors having a parade on the street every year. We thought it would be a good way for families to do something together."

She said the idea is for people to build small-

scale, low-cost floats for the parade.

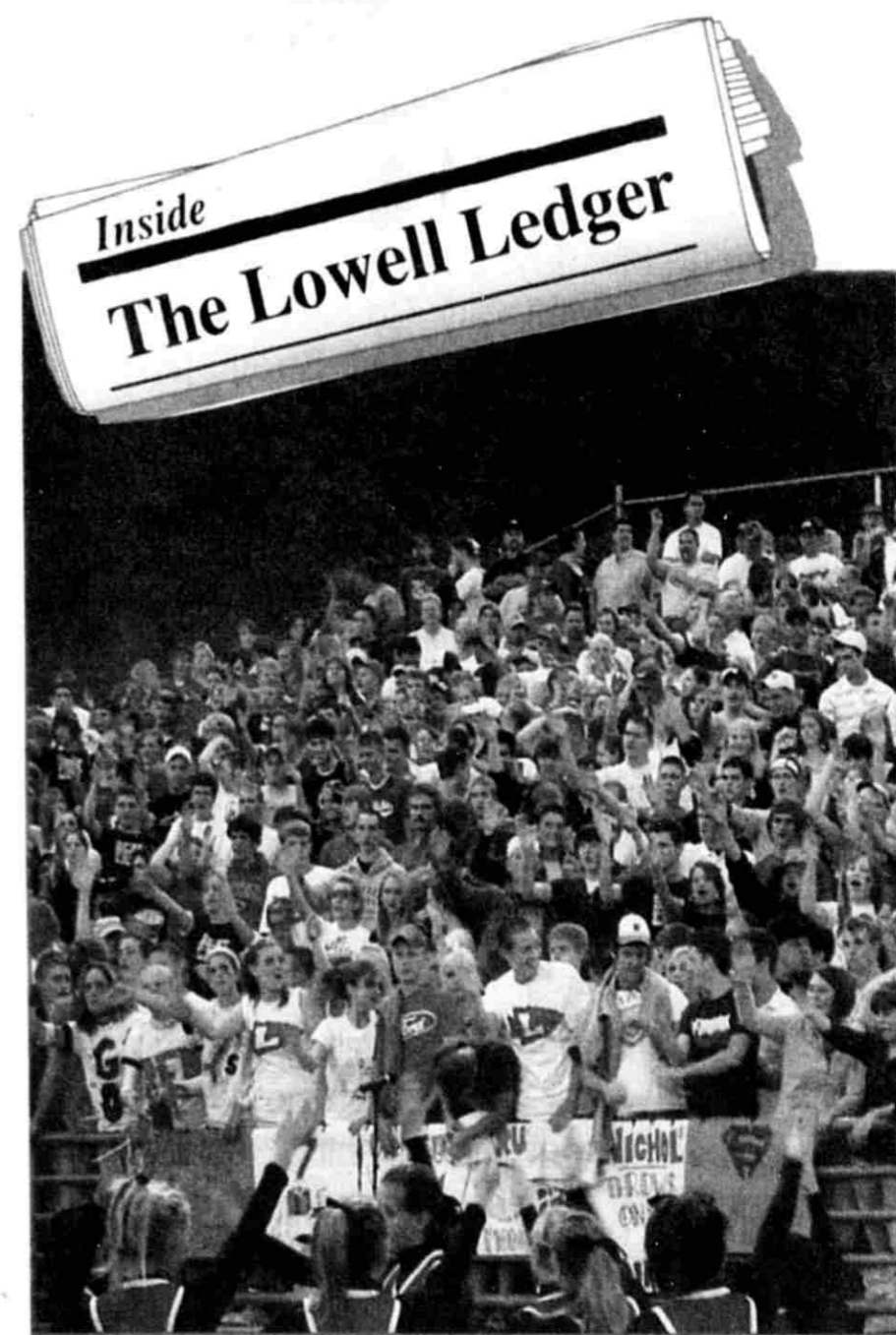
"Even if we don't get a lot of people, we'll probably do it again," Hoeksema said.

For more information on the parade, call Hoeksema at 868-7337.

Antique tractors will be on display where tractor aficionados can test their tractor knowledge by taking part in the Tractor Trivia Contest. The winner gets a \$50 gift card from Tractor Supply Company. Trivia quizzes are available at the antique tractor display.

Another new event, also related to tractors, is a children's tractor scavenger hunt. Children are given clues to find tractors hidden throughout Alto and are eligible for a treat at the conclusion of the scavenger hunt.

"That was something new we thought of this year," Hoeksema said. "We hope that they'll learn a little bit about the history



Big Game-Big Crowd ... Page 18

Removing Stumps ... Page 4

Got A Ghost Story? ... Page 9

On Display at LAAC... Page 12

Alton History ... Page 13

Fall Team Pics ... Page 15-17



A sign on the corner of 52nd Street and Linfield advertises this Saturday's festival.

Alto festival, cont'd., pg. 12

Obituaries

DEZEEUW
Grand Rapids, the son of Myrtle Ann DeZeeuw, aged 67, of Lowell, made her final homecoming to meet her Lord and Saviour Tuesday, September 5, 2006. She was preceded in death by her parents Rev. Harry and Rev. Gladys Thomas. Surviving are her husband of 43 years, Charles; children Lisa A. and Donald Freeman, Jeffrey DeZeeuw, Christopher and Amanda DeZeeuw; her loving grandchildren Elisha and Michael Oles, Bryan, Jonathan and Havanna DeZeeuw. Myrtle Ann was a school teacher, a devoted mother and a Prayer Warrior. Funeral services were held Thursday at the Reyers North Valley Chapel with Rev. Joan Skinner officiating. Interment in Grandville Cemetery.

JAKEWAY
Jerome "Jerry" Jakeway, aged 50, of Grattan Township, died unexpectedly September 3, 2006. Jerry was born on January 11, 1956, in

Paul and Julie Jakeway of Greenville, Therese and Don Shores of Ada. Jerry was preceded by his sister Mary, his mother Margaret and daughter Meggin. Mass of Christian Burial was offered Sept. 9 at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Parnell with Father Rock Badgerow presiding. Private interment in Smyrna Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be given to the Belding Athletic Boosters or the Gift of Life Program.

MOHRHARDT
Susan Mary Mohrhardt (Simmons), of Lowell, formerly of Grand Ledge and Plymouth, Michigan, aged 70, died September 9, 2006. She was preceded in death by her parents Paul and Mary Simmons and her brother Robert Simmons. She is survived by her husband David; children Susan (Tim) Erhardt, Chris (Julie) Mohrhardt, Shanna (Richard) Calderon-Barrera; grandchildren Rhiannon and Corinna Erhardt, Jacob, Cade and Caleb Mohrhardt, Hailey and Melody Calderon; brother Tom (Susan) Simmons; many nieces and nephews. A private graveside memorial service will be held at Oaklawn Cemetery in

WEEKS
Lyle G. Weeks, aged 69, of Grattan Township, Belding, went home to be with his Lord and Savior Saturday, September 2, 2006, at Spectrum Health Blodgett Campus. He was born February 25, 1937, the son of John and Theresa TerMeer Weeks in Grand Rapids. He married Judith D. Postema on July 2, 1957, in Grand Rapids. He was a veteran of the US Army and was the owner of Weeks Electric for 26 years. He was a Christian witness with his life serving as president of the council at Oakwood Christian Reformed Church in Belding Gideon's International trustee, past president of Gideon's of Michigan, president of Leadership Ministries Worldwide, founding board president of Faith Community Christian School, area children's supervisor of Bible Study Fellowship. His parents and sister Greta Shearer preceded him in death. He is survived by his wife Judy; children David (Beverly) Weeks, Deb (Jim) Tiesenga, John (Corina) Weeks, Rick (Cathie) Weeks all of Grattan Township; grandchildren; sister Lois (Richard) Defreeze of Grand Rapids; brothers-in-law Thomas (Grace) Shearer of Ada, Jerry (Marilyn) Postema of Fruitport; sisters-in-law Mary Sweargin of

WINOGROCKI
Jean T. Winogrocki, aged 88, of Lowell, formerly of the Detroit/Portland area, passed away August 8, 2006. She was preceded in death by her husband Edward; sons Thomas and Mark. Jean is survived by her loving daughters Catherine (Jeff) Baker of Ada, Joan Winogrocki of Lowell; 13 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; daughters-in-law Carol Winogrocki, Patricia Winogrocki; several loving nieces and nephews. Mass of Christian burial was September 11 at St. Mary Church, Lowell, with Rev. George Fekete presiding. Interment Portland Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to: Franciscan Sisters of Jesus, 6910 Virginia Ave., #2W, St. Louis, MO 63111 or charity of one's choice.

SKURKA
Mr. Stanley Walter Skurka, aged 93, of Alto, died peacefully on Friday, September 8, 2006, and went to be with his Lord. He will be deeply missed by daughters Norma Kimmel, Karen Lubinkas, Sharon Ambrose; son Robert (Diane) Lubinkas; six grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; one brother Harry Skurka; two sisters Stella Bartosiewicz, Irene (Frank) Ryba; several nieces and nephews; in-laws Evelyn Wierzwicki, Geraldine Hupp, Virginia (Dick) Jenison, Gerald Czerew. It was Stanley's wish to be cremated. He was preceded in death by his wife Eleanore, brothers Edward and Hank, sisters Helen and Esther. He was a founding member of one of the oldest polka bands in Grand Rapids and a retiree of Kelvinator. A Memorial Mass was celebrated Tuesday at Basilica of St. Adalbert. Interment Holy Cross Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to a cancer fund of one's choice.

Council approves several community events

By Emma Palova Contributing Writer
The Lowell City Council approved a variety of community events on Tuesday. Larkin's Restaurant will have its fifth annual chili cook-off on Oct. 14 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. as part of the Harvest Festival. North Broadway St. will be closed from the alley by the post office to Main Street. America will observe national Prisoner of War/Missing in Action at 2:30 p.m. in the chapel of the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. Riverside Drive will be closed from Foreman to Hunt Street on Oct. 7 for the purpose of a neighborhood block party scheduled from 4 to 11 p.m. The council also set a

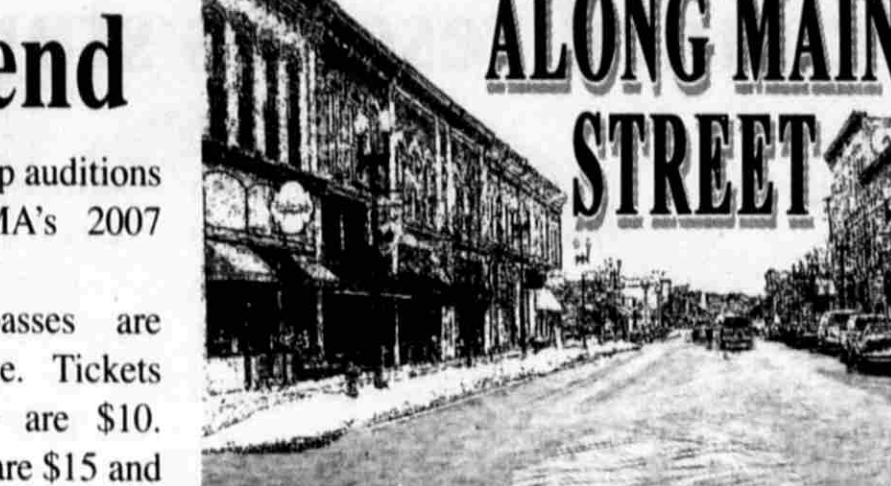
Bluegrass at the fairgrounds this weekend
The West Michigan Bluegrass Music Association (WMBMA) brings its 11th annual Fallfest to the Lowell Fairgrounds this weekend. The bluegrass festival features three days of music with 10 bands and a traditional, Appalachian-style clog-dance group. Music starts Friday night at 6 p.m. with bands such as Continental Blue, The Under Construction Bluegrass Band, Heart to Heart and Lucky Dog. This year's headline act is Canadian bluegrass band Hard Ryde from Ontario. They play two sets Saturday: one at 4 p.m. and the other at 9:15 p.m. Saturday's other acts include Kreekside, Twenty Three, The Wright Sisters and The Mike Adams Band. The band, Company of Strangers will play a gospel set at 10 a.m. on Sunday followed by group auditions for the WMBMA's 2007 festivals. Weekend passes are \$25 at the gate. Tickets for Friday only are \$10. Saturday tickets are \$15 and Sunday tickets are \$5.

LPD has busy Labor Day weekend

By Dan Schneider
Lowell police officers recorded multiple traffic stops over Labor Day weekend. From Sept. 2 to Sept. 4, they made four alcohol-related arrests. These included the arrest of Benjamin Bills, 27, of Lowell, who was arraigned last Tuesday on felony charges of third offense operating while intoxicated. Police arrested three individuals for driving with suspended licenses, and wrote "several" minor in possession citations, according to detective Steve Bukala. Police arrested James Schafer, 19, of Lowell, on Aug. 23 after a two-month investigation into the theft of a car from Eastgate subdivision. Schafer was arraigned on charges of receiving and concealing a stolen automobile, a five-year felony. On the afternoon of July 20, police responded to a report of a Chevy Lumina found in the creek at the north end of Creekside Park. The car had been in the creek approximately 12 hours, Bukala said. Schafer is accused of stealing the car and dumping it in the creek after driving it around with multiple passengers. "We determined that there were up to six or seven people who rode in that car from the time it was stolen to the time it was dumped," Bukala said. "The passengers were not charged because they weren't directly involved in stealing the vehicle."

Grattan Township development lawsuit withdrawn

By Dan Schneider
The developer withdrew its last lawsuits and Judge Donald Johnston formally dismissed them Aug. 31. "Late December of '99 Landon Holdings just showed up on our doorstep and said they were going to sue us and just go straight to court to try to get their development in," township trustee Paul Knoerl said. "They just came in and said 'Hi, we're Landon and we're taking you to court.'" That case, charging that Grattan's zoning ordinance was exclusionary to mobile homes, was decided in favor of the township by the Michigan Court of Appeals. In the six years since that time, Landon Holdings filed four separate lawsuits against the township. One of them went all the way to the Michigan Supreme Court, but the state's highest court declined to hear the case. Ron Redick, attorney for Grattan Township, said this number of lawsuits is not typical of developers. "This is more than normal, although given Landon's history in litigation tactics, it's probably not too



CHERRY CREEK EVENT
Parents of Cherry Creek Elementary students are invited Thursday, Sept. 14 from 6:15 - 7:30 p.m. to a special presentation on creating the Love & Logic family.

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

F.R.O.M. NEEDS ITEMS
The F.R.O.M. Food Pantry is currently in need of boxed potatoes, cereal, crackers, pork and beans, toilet tissue.

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

WITTENBACH CENTER WORKSHOP
An Invasive Plant Workshop will be held at the Wege/Wittenbach Center this Saturday from 9-10 a.m.; from 10 a.m.-noon is a Wege Natural area workday. Open to the public. Call Peter Homeyer at 451-9476 or Peter@naturenearby.org for more information.

LHS OPEN HOUSE
Parents are invited to the Lowell High School fresh commons for dinner at 6 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 18; open house in LPAC at 7 p.m. Visit students' teachers and follow a class schedule.

FALLSBURG FEST DECORATIONS NEEDED
The decorating committee would appreciate any flowers to help decorate the park for the Sept. 23/24 event. Call Carol Briggs before Sept. 20 at 897-5501 if you have any to donate.

TYLER CREEK CHARITY EVENT
Tyler Creek Golf Course, 13495 92nd St., Alto, will have a charity golf event, Saturday, Sept. 23 to benefit Operation Enduring Support. Call 868-6751 for info, and to reserve your space for the 4-person scramble; \$60 per person/\$29 for active duty military personnel.

FALLSBURG FALL FEST
The 38th annual Fallsburg Fall Festival will be held Sept. 23 and 24, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission, donation for parking. Call 897-8545.

LHS ALL ALUMNI GATHERING
The 3rd annual LHS alumni gathering is Saturday, Sept. 30 at the Monterey Center, Alto. Dinner, cash bar, music. Call 987-2501 or visit www.lowellschools.com.

SCARECROW BUILDING SUPPLIES NEEDED!
Material, sheets, wood, buttons, hats, etc., are needed. Call the chamber at 897-9161 to donate!

ALUMNI BAND IN THE WORKS
For the Harvest Fest parade on Oct. 14. If you are interested in participating call Nancy Raymor at 897-6149 or Bob Rice at 897-8959. Also let them know if you need an instrument.

FLAT RIVER ANTIQUE FAIR
The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce needs antique and collectible vendors for Oct. 14. Call Liz at 897-9161 or www.discoverlowell.org

HARVEST ARTS & CRAFTS SALE
At the Lowell Fairgrounds Foreman Building on Oct. 14. For a booth application call Ron Wenger at 897-6050.

LARKIN'S CHILI COOK-OFF
Enter your team in Larkin's Chili Madness Cook-off Oct. 14. \$25 entry fee. For an application call 897-5977.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate
FILE NO. 06-182-035-DE
Estate of **SHIRLEY RENAE FORD, deceased**
Date of birth: 07/04/1953
TO ALL CREDITORS: September 8, 2006

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, **SHIRLEY RENAE FORD, who lived at 325 Bellevue, Wyoming, MI, died 10/28/2005.** Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against
Susan M. Potyraj P-46249 410 Bridge St. NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 616-454-4119
Amy Ford 3355 Newcastle Dr. SE Grand Rapids, MI 49508

BOWNE TOWNSHIP NOTICE
Bowne Township will be accepting bids for "Snowplowing" for the 2006-07 winter season. Please contact the Township Office at (616) 868-6846 to receive a copy of the specifications, or fax your request to (616) 868-0110.
Sandra L. Kowalczyk, Clerk Bowne Township

Maplewood Sq. Condominiums **CRAB APPLE COVE Condominiums**
HOMES STARTING AT \$109,500
FALL DISCOUNTS UP TO \$7,500⁰⁰
★ Rent OR Purchase ★ 616-676-9961
or View Our Website www.michaelnoskoinc.com

The Lowell Ledger (USPS 453-830)
Published weekly for 177th year in Kent County, 126th year outside the county by the Lowell Ledger Publishing Company, 105 N. Broadway St., Lowell, MI 49331
ROGER K. BROWN.....PUBLISHER
JEANNE BOSS.....MANAGING EDITOR
DAN SCHNEIDER.....LEAD REPORTER
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TAMMY JANOWIAK.....CLASSIFIED/ACCOUNTING
JAY VEZINO.....ADVERTISING SALES
(616) 897-9261
E-Mail: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com
Second Class Postage Paid at Lowell, MI
Published every Wednesday
POSTMASTER: Send address change to:
The Lowell Ledger
P.O. Box 128 • Lowell, MI 49331
www.lowellbuyersguide.com

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE
The Lowell City Council, acting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, will conduct a public hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, October 2, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lowell City Council Chambers, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan 49331.
The purpose of said hearing would be to receive comments on the following variance request:
• 420 Kent - Brian McLane petitioned to allow the keeping of four chicken hens at his residence. According to Section 4.19 C. of the Zoning Ordinance, fowl, rabbits or similar animals may be raised or kept for the owner's use on a lot not less than one-half (1/2) acre, provided the structure containing such animals shall be located not less than fifty (50) feet from all adjoining residential district lot lines or uses. The property is less than a half acre and therefore a variance was requested.
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

CELEBRATE ALTON! SEPTEMBER 16 10 AM - 5 PM
Lincoln Lake & 3 Mile
Cemetery Tours/Swiss in Alton/Old Fashioned Hymn Sing
Educational Displays/Alton General Store
BlueWater Saloon
4821 Bluewater Hwy. (M-21)
Just east of Johnson Road, on the right-hand side.
CALL FOR DETAILS (616) 642-0002
• LIVE COUNTRY MUSIC • CLASSIC COUNTRY JAM SESSION
• POOL LEAGUES • KARAOKE • OPEN 4 PM
NOW OPEN!

ADA-LOWELL 5 QUALITY THEATERS
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SHOWTIMES VALID 9/11 - 9/14
GRAND RAPIDS LOWEST PRICES BARGAIN PRICES
\$6.50 Adults Evening
\$5.00 Kids, Seniors, & All shows 4-8 PM
STUDENTS 2 FOR TUESDAY
Buy 1 ticket, get one free
PILSE (M-Tu 7:10, 9:10)
MATERIAL GIRLS (PG)
12:50, 2:55, 5:05
ANT BULLY (PG) 1:25, 3:20, 5:15
CRANK (R)
1:35, 3:25, 5:20, 7:30, 9:20
WICKER MAN (PG-13)
12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:20, 9:35
WORLD TRADE CENTER (PG-13)
7:15, 9:50
INVINCIBLE (PG)
12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15
COUPON FREE 2006
with \$2.00 purchase of movie tickets
at participating theaters
Expires 9/15/06

City council resolves stump removal issue

By Emma Palova
Contributing Writer

The Lowell City Council approved an amendment Tuesday to the tree removal policy concerning the grinding of stumps.

According to the amendment, whoever removes a tree in a public right of way will also be responsible for grinding the stump. Previously the city was responsible for the stump grinding.

The Lowell Light & Power has been removing trees to minimize the

potential of injuries or death from power lines coming in contact with trees. A 10-foot minimum clearance is being used uniformly as a national standard.

In the past, there has been controversy regarding tree removal in the city right of way and whether stumps should be removed.

According to LL&P general manager Tom Richards, the utility company has been trimming or clearing trees for several months to ensure proper safety and clearance to

electrical lines throughout the city.

Removal of trees has been offered at no charge to the customer. It has not been Lowell Light & Power's policy, however, to remove stumps because some are in a location where it is impossible to bring in equipment to grind stumps.

At the LL&P's board meeting on July 27, Richards said according to the Lowell Charter, property owners are responsible for keeping the right of way clear, as

well as the financial cost if the city removes offending trees or nuisances.

"Whoever removes the tree will grind the stump," said council member Jim Pfaller.

In related business, the council denied a request for sidewalk variances at 619 High Street and 800/810 Grindle Street. The petitioners, in their request, noted there were no other sidewalks in the area.

The council was not

in favor of the waiver because city policy requires sidewalks.

"We have made other people put sidewalks in as in the past," said council member Jeanne Shores.

In a special meeting set for Sept. 21, the council will consider Jeffrey Werner's request for a side yard variance to construct an attached garage. Werner said he cannot do anything without a variance. He had already spent money

on construction when it was discovered the 10-foot required distance between the house and the garage was not met.

As an alternative he will build an attached garage with a two-foot variance on the north side.

"He has done substantial work on the project," said city manager Dave Pasquale.

Werner will not be charged a special meeting fee.

Energy savings high on the list of school board discussions

By Dan Schneider

Energy cost savings were discussed Monday at the Lowell Area Schools board of education meeting.

Representing Honeywell, Inc., Greg Mackey presented the school board with a report on the district's savings through its partnership with his company. In 2004, the school district began a program through Honeywell to pay for upgrades in school buildings that would be paid for through energy savings from the more modern fixtures and other improvements.

As part of the agreement, Honeywell made a number of upgrades that have saved the district \$243,191 in energy costs over a year and a half. The largest cost saver was new lighting; Honeywell retrofits and replacements were

made to 8,021 light fixtures throughout the district.

Other improvements funded through the program included a new boiler at Lowell Middle School, the replacement of various windows in school buildings, installation of more modern control systems and smaller upgrades like adding weather stripping to doors.

In her budget update, assistant superintendent for finance and personnel Connie Gillette said state funding increases have brought Lowell's per-pupil foundation allowance up to \$7,085 per pupil. She said she is working with building administrators to determine a student count for the 2006-2007 school year, which will give the district a clear picture of its operating revenue for the year.

Superintendent Greg Pratt gave a presentation on

the data warehousing tools currently available through Kent Intermediate School District. The system allows districts to input data from sources such as Michigan Educational Assessment Program tests into a central computer storage system. That system can then be used to analyze data for particular student groups or for schools within the district or for a multitude of other student cross-sections. It can help teachers look at particular subject areas in need of improvement.

"The data warehouse is not the only tool that we have, but it is one tool that will help organize many tools that we use throughout the district," Pratt said.

He said 17 of the 20 districts in the Kent Intermediate School District currently use the data warehouse to some extent. The data warehouse hides each district's data from each other. Student-identifiable data can be accessed only by students' classroom teachers.

Homecoming 2006 will feature an effort by the Lowell High School student council to get the community more involved with the festivities.

One way this will be done is in the voting for top class float, reported student council president Brooke Liu at Monday's meeting. Rather than having a panel of judges vote on the best float, spectators at the homecoming football game will get to make the

decision. The floats will be parked outside Red Arrow Memorial Stadium before the game and throughout the first quarter. Spectators can vote for their favorite by making a one-dollar donation to Alternatives in Motion, a charity that provides wheelchairs for underprivileged people in need of them.

A family tailgate party, with lots of activities for children, is also scheduled before the game.

Funding request for digital scanner denied

By Emma Palova
Contributing Writer

The Lowell City Council denied a request last Tuesday to fund an \$8,000 diagnostic engine scanner purchased by Ralph Brecken, a Department of Public Works mechanic.

Superintendent Greg Pratt gave a presentation on

Due to budget concerns Brecken purchased the scanner two years ago to work on city vehicles. According to city manager Dave Pasquale, local auto dealerships charge \$100 to \$150 per scan. City maintenance records showed 52 scans per year. So, the scanner would pay for itself in less than a year. The scanner is used to tell what is wrong with an engine. Brecken himself financed the scanner.

"We have to have the machine to perform the job," said DPW director Dan DesJarden. "It's similar to a laptop, it's window-based."

However, the city council directed DesJarden

to request bids for the scanner from other companies, as well.

According to city policy, any purchase over \$2,000 must be bid out. The city, however, does not have to take the lowest bid.

"I am uncomfortable buying used equipment," said council member Jeanne Shores. "We should see if we could get another piece for a comparable price."

DesJarden said purchasing all the parts to get a similar scanner would cost \$9,500.

"He's a dedicated employee," said DesJarden. "He spent \$8,500 to do city work."

Council member Jim Pfaller said the city has a process to follow.

"It hasn't been followed," he said. "I want to see bids. It should have been addressed two years ago."

Mayor pro tem Alan Mathews said the council has a responsibility to the people.

"It's a lot of money to come out of your own pocket," he said, "but we have a procedure we have to do."

Brecken explained he did approach the city two years ago but was turned down due to lack of funds.

At Your Local Library



BE A FRIEND OF THE ENGLEHARDT BRANCH

The Englehardt Library is looking for Friends. Those interested are invited to attend a Friends business meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 19 at 10 a.m. Programming plans through the end of the year will be discussed.

The Friends of the Library are a source of information about the needs and wants of the community, as well as providers of programs and financial support. In the past, KDL Friends groups have sponsored used book sales, author luncheons, book discussions, ice cream socials and special branch programming.

For more information, call Joy at 897-7957.

Viewpoint



This has been one busy summer! By devoting the last seven or eight columns to my airplane adventure, I've passed over a lot of what would normally make the Cozy Corner. My son was married in early August. We got to spend time with our grandkids on a few occasions while they were Stateside for the summer. We have had to button up for a hurricane that thankfully fizzled. I recently managed to sneak away for a little mini-adventure to the National Stearman fly-in. In between all of this was work and all the day-to-day stuff that often generates column material. A busy summer indeed!

There is one major event from this summer I'd like to scratch off my list of backlogged column material. This subject is a toughie, but since this column has basically doubled as my journal for thirty years, I really need to deal with it. We lost Max in August.

Max was our fourteen-year-old Australian shepherd. I always called him the "lottery dog" because my wife rescued him from the Grand Rapids animal shelter when he was a puppy and immediately moved him to the Florida Keys. He won the doggie lottery! Max readily took to his role as a pampered "only dog" and Terese's constant companion. I say he was our dog, but he definitely knew where his bread was buttered.

When my yellow Labrador "Thor" was killed about six years ago, we moved his distraught buddy "Tito" to the Keys. At first Max wasn't too keen on giving up his only-dog status to the newcomer chocolate Lab, but they soon became inseparable pals. For six years that was our little family, or pack: Max, Terese, Tito and me. And yes, that was pretty much the order of dominance.

Max was a wonderful dog. He was a little on the whacky side compared to the straight forward pure "dog mentality" Labradors I'm used to, but a great dog just the same. Long-time readers will remember a few stories about old Max.

One day late in 2004, Max was run over by a car. His hip was dislocated and he never fully recovered. He had some arthritis setting in and he went mostly deaf about a year or so ago. Other than that, he was in really good shape, until recently. Earlier this year he began losing weight, despite a special diet to include steaks and chops purchased on sale at the grocery. He still had that alpha male, I'm-the-boss-around-here panache but for the last few months it was obvious his days were numbered.

Late July rolled around and we got the August edition of our paper on the streets. It was time to catch a plane to Michigan for my son's wedding. Of course, this was a joyous time for us, but the thought of leaving Max was troubling, especially for Terese.

We are extremely fortunate to have the services of a woman who stays at the house when we travel. She loves our dogs as much as we do. We had only been in Michigan for two days when we got the call.

The sitter had come home from work to find Max down and refusing to get up. We enlisted the help of neighbors, who also loved Max, with getting him to the vet clinic. Dr. Cruz, Max's doctor for most of his life, took one look and said, "Oh yeah, it's definitely time." They all stayed with Max and we were told it was very peaceful. We ordered that he be cremated and that was it ... Max was gone.

Losing Max was bad enough, but the grief was compounded by the fact we weren't there with him. I have to wonder if Max wanted it that way. And, he always got his way. Whatever the case, it was an extremely sad time for everyone, especially for Terese.

The next day found Terese and me in Grand Rapids to pick up my rented tuxedo for the wedding. The weather was

gray and rainy to match our moods. Terese asked that we stop at a pet store where she found a plaque for Max's future resting place under his favorite shade tree. When we left the store she asked if we could stop somewhere to pick up a Grand Rapids Press. I knew exactly what she had in mind.

To give you a little background, there has been a lot of tough talk as we watched Max and Tito age. The conclusion was that maybe we should try going "dogless" for the first time in our lives. All sorts of reasons were discussed. Looming retirement, a year to travel more, uncertainty about where we might end up living and other valid reasons all came into play. All that tough-talk went out the window when Terese spotted an ad, "Aussie Pups For Sale."

Terese called the number. The kennel was just a few minutes away, near Caledonia. They had four pups left. After questioning Terese about her preferences, they had a little male black-tri bathed and being towed off when we arrived. Terese fancies herself a fairly knowledgeable dog person. She was asking all the right questions about breeding, hip x-rays, shots, etc. But as she cradled the little fuzzle, fighting back tears, I could tell our no-more-dogs conversation was probably going to be postponed for a dozen years or so.

Not far into Terese's questions for the breeders came, "How old is he?" They responded with, "Oh, about fourteen weeks ... the litter was born on April 28th." I may as well have gone to the car for the checkbook right then and there. April 28th just so happens to be Terese's birthday. We drove away with a new puppy in Terese's arms and tears running down our cheeks.

After lots of suggestions for names with an Australian connection, we settled on "Mick", as in Mick Dundee from the "Crocodile Dundee" movies. I had liked "Boomer" as in boomerang, but Terese held out for Mick. I'm glad she won out. Mick now seems to be the perfect name for the little guy.

We flew home with Mick in a carry-on bag on the day all that hub-bub out of England was going down. Fortunately the TSA people were more concerned with bottled water and toothpaste than a puppy. Mick has been pretty well accepted by twelve-year-old Tito, which had been a genuine concern on our part. The dog sitter, the vet, neighbors ... anyone who has met him think Mick is pretty darned cool. Of course, Terese and I are flat-out in love with him.

When Max's ashes were returned to us, we had a little memorial service out in the yard. I had prepared a small concrete crypt for his remains, collar and tags. I stuck Terese's plaque in the wet concrete and scratched in Max's name alongside.

We had talked of inviting the dog-sitter and neighbors, but in the end it was just the four of us ... Terese, Tito, Mick and me. I played a Johnny Cash cover of "We'll Meet Again" on my boom box. Terese read a poem. We sobbed and sobbed. Tito was lying in the grass and simply watched us, like he knew what was up. And Mick ... he was acting exactly like a puppy, tearing around without a care in the world. I simply can't fathom life without a dog. So long Max ... welcome to the family Mick.

To The Editor

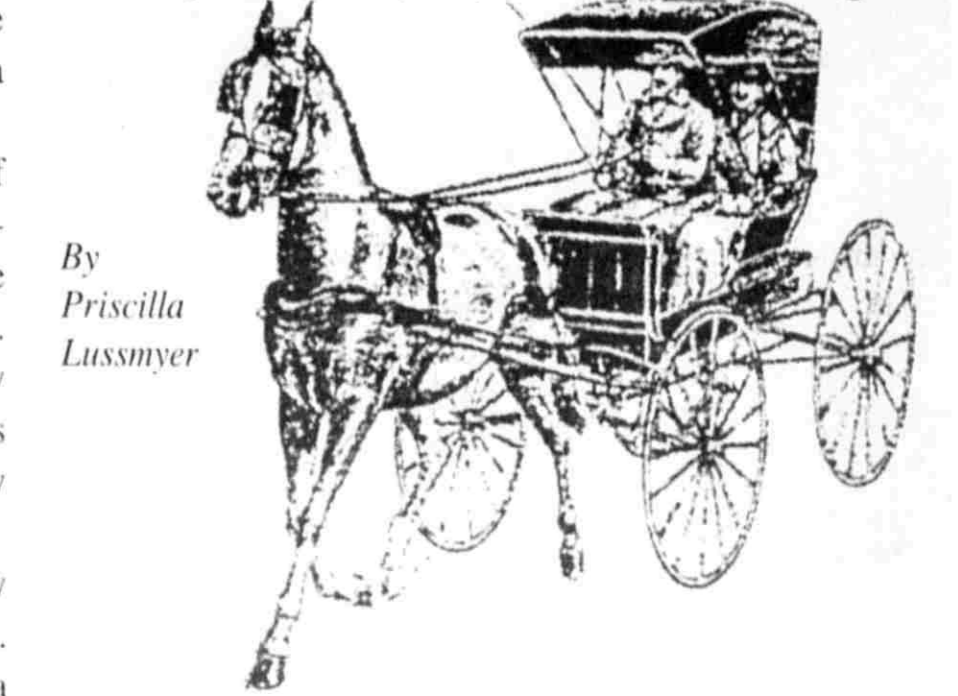
Dear Editor,
How interesting that 2006 marks so many anniversaries for Lowell institutions.

Here's another: The C. H. Runciman Elementary School was dedicated 50 years ago on December 2, 1956 (at 2:30 p.m.). Oh yes, I was there!

Joe Mapes
Vicksburg, Mich.

Ledger Entries

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



By Priscilla Lussmyer

125 YEARS
THE WEEKLY JOURNAL
SEPTEMBER 14, 1881

This issue is missing; the next one will be October 12, 1881.

100 YEARS
THE LOWELL LEDGER
SEPTEMBER 13, 1906

This week's front page feature is the Lowell Specialty Company engraving. The company manufactures sprayers and accessories.

A quarter-page ad has "prominent Physicians" endorsing Fletcher's Castoria (a laxative).

The new Board of Trade solicits members, recalling its rebuilding of the canning factory within a week of its burning.

Miss Lou Winegar of Keene Center will again teach at the Fallsburg School and will board with Miss Myrtle Raymond.

75 YEARS
THE LOWELL LEDGER
AND THE ALTO SOLO
SEPTEMBER 10, 1931

Stanley Moore of Lowell, 21, hitchhiking in Colorado, is picked up in a stolen car, becomes suspicious, and is killed by the thief.

With Board of Trade purchasing the lights, and Centennial bleachers on hand, Lowell will have its first night football game in the Friday opener.

Lowell's W.V. Burras is president of the State Mutual Rodded Fire Insurance Company, which has written a record \$10 million of insurance in one year.

Postmaster Borgerson reminds that postal rates to Canada and England have gone up a penny on both cards and letters.

50 YEARS
THE LOWELL LEDGER
SEPTEMBER 13, 1956

Showboat profits were \$9,371.62 this year, the best since the "Gala Year" of 1952.

Ballpoint pens arrive at the post office, leaving Orrin Sterken extra time saved from hand-mixing ink from powder and water.

The Class of '55 donates its treasury of almost \$300 to buy adequate bulletin boards for the high school.

Justice of the Peace Rittenger handled 77 cases in August, of which 32 were for speeding.

25 YEARS
THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER
SEPTEMBER 9, 1981

The new hillocks in Richards Park are seeded to grass and the potential ice skating rink bermed.

Lowell Jaycees install the old firebell in the new "pocket park" on East Main.

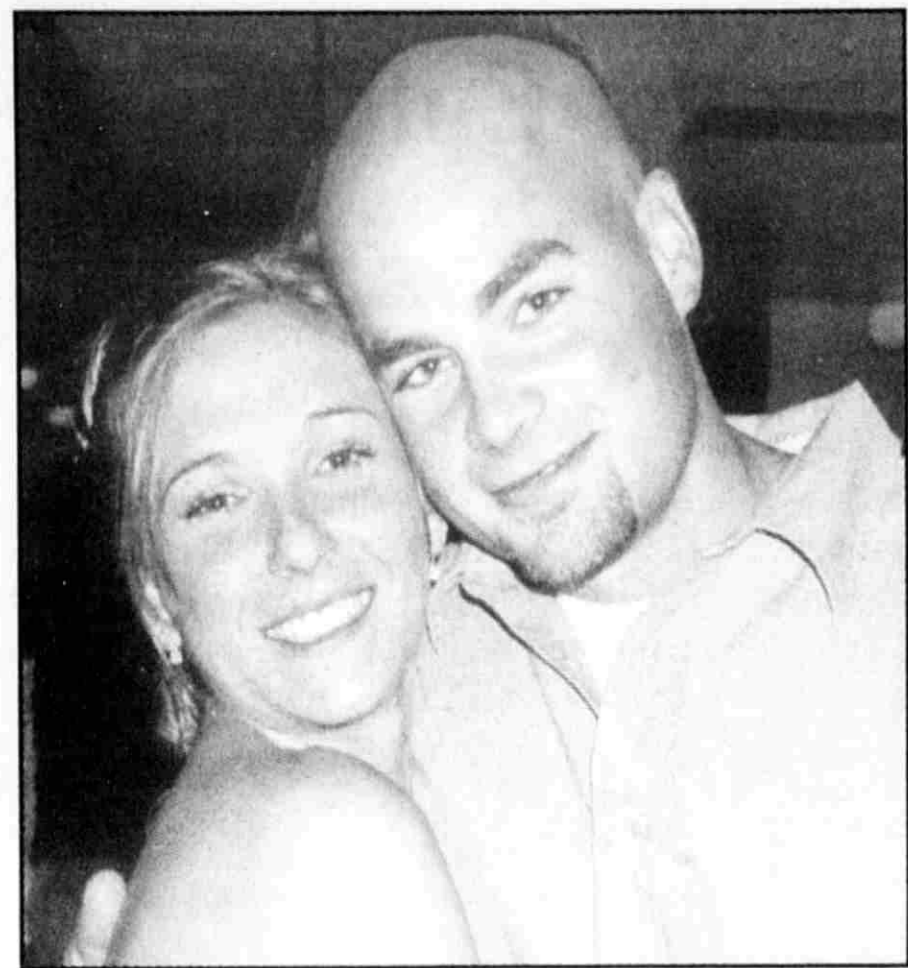
Kent County's musings about removing the Burroughs Dam receive a strong negative response.

Roger Brown delivers an alphabetized list of sailing terms, what they mean, and don't mean.

Engagements

Anderson/Osborne

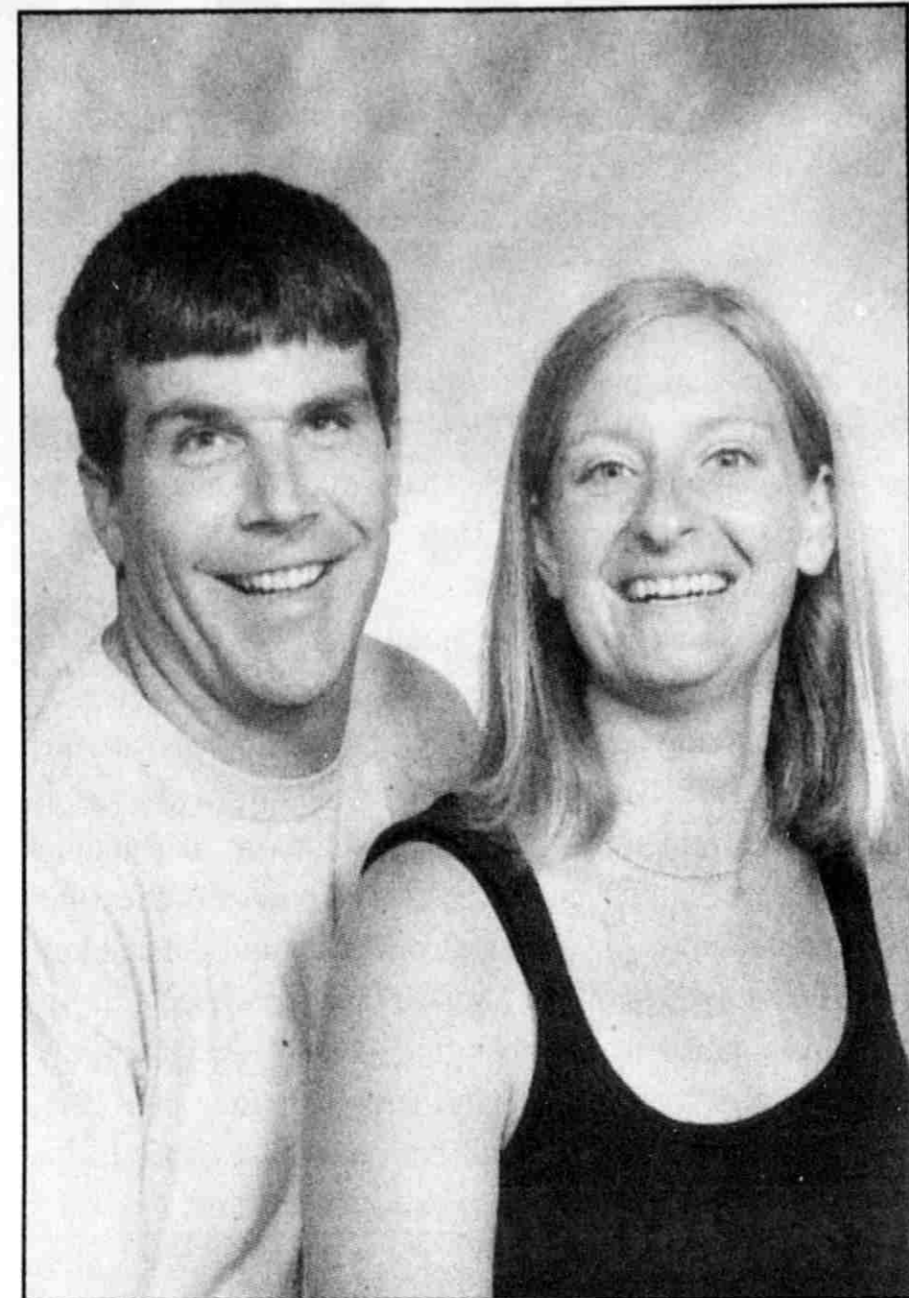
Wierengal/Junglas



Elizabeth Wierenga and Kenneth Junglas III

Announcing their plans for a September 23, 2006, wedding in Pentwater are Elizabeth Wierenga and Kenneth Junglas III. The bride-to-be and her parents, William and Joanne Wierenga are from Lowell. She is a graduate of Lowell

High School and Grand Valley State University. The groom-elect is the son of Kenneth and Kathleen Junglas, all from Lowell. He is a graduate of Lowell High School and Ferris State University.



Kelly Osborne and Heidi Anderson

Heidi Lynn Anderson and Kelly Osborne will marry in a September 30, 2006, ceremony in Lake Odessa. The bride-to-be is the daughter of Glenn and Bonnie Anderson of Alto. The future groom is the son of Marie Blair of Grand Rapids and Steve Osborne of Port Isabel, Texas.

New Arrivals

Robinson

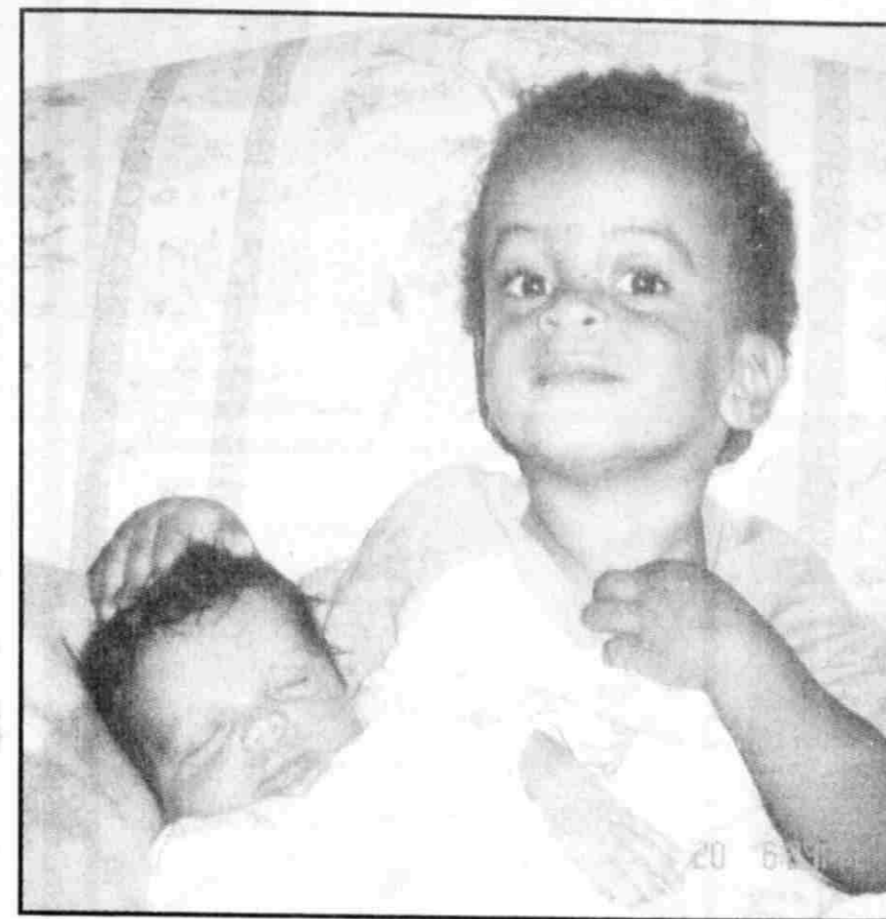


Jordan Douglas Robinson with big brother Tyler.

Jordan Douglas Robinson was welcomed to the world on July 10, 2006, by parents Nicole and Adam Robinson, and brother Tyler, all of Lowell. Proud grandparents are Shirley Robinson of Belding, and Doreen and Doug DeVries of Lowell. Great-grandparents are Carole and George Anderson of Lowell.

New Arrivals

Wilson



Anthony Curtis Wilson with big brother Dominic Jevon

Dominic Jevon Wilson is proud to announce the arrival of his brother, Anthony Curtis. Anthony was born August 13, 2006, weighing 7 lbs. 15 oz. and measuring 21 inches. Proud parents are Curtis and Stephanie (Anderson) Wilson of Lansing. Grandparents are Glenn and Bonnie Anderson of Alto, and Evelyn Rose of Saint Ann, Jamaica, Arizona. Great-grandparents are Dale and Gladys Shade of Chandler, Arizona.

VanAlstine



Kaylynn Marie VanAlstine

Sgt. Joshua J. VanAlstine and his wife Evelyn are proud to announce the arrival of their

daughter, Kaylynn Marie. She was born June 30, 2006, at 9:37 p.m. at Camp Pendleton Naval Hospital in Oceanside, Calif., where Josh is stationed. She weighed 4 lbs. 4 oz. and measured 17 3/4 inches.

Welcoming her home are big sister Taylor and big brothers Jacob and Brady. Proud grandparents are Mark and Peggy Johnson of Alto, Cheryl Craft of Portsmouth, Ohio. Proud great-grandparents are Dale and Charlotte Johnson of Alto and William and Barbara Jousma of Caledonia. Very proud aunts are Kristin and Lisa Johnson of Alto.

Young



Xavier Eli Young

Royce and Brooke (Bennett) Young are happy to announce the arrival of their precious "little man" Xavier Eli. He was born July 28, 2006, in Cleveland, Tennessee, weighing 6 lbs. 14 oz. and measuring 20 3/4 inches. Proud and blessed grandparents are Keith and Diane Bennett, formerly of Lowell, and Ms. Deborah Young of Lexington, Ky.

HEALTH

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



DIABETES AND HEART DISEASE

If you have diabetes, you're at increased risk of having a heart attack or stroke compared to the general public. Diabetes is considered one of the five risk factors for heart disease. The other four consist of family history of heart disease, smoking, high cholesterol, and hypertension (high blood pressure). If you have diabetes, there are things you can do to reduce your risk for heart disease. Learning the ABCS of diabetes can help you control your donation and stay healthy.

A stands for the A1C test. This test, also called the glycosylated hemoglobin test, gives a three-month average of your blood sugar levels. This test should be performed every three to six months, and should be kept below 7 percent.

B stands for blood pressure. Having high blood pressure overworks your heart. All diabetics and non-diabetics should be screened regularly for high blood pressure. However, diabetics must keep their blood pressures below 130/80, which is lower than required for non-diabetics, who must stay below 140/90.

C stands for cholesterol. "Bad" cholesterol, or low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol, can build up and clog your arteries. Diabetics should have their cholesterol checked yearly, and keep their LDL below 100. Once again, this value is lower than the level required for non-diabetics, who must stay below 130.

S stands for smoking. This is an obvious one. All smokers are at increased risk of heart disease, but if you're diabetic, that risk is more than doubled.

If you have questions about managing your diabetes and reducing your risk of heart disease, see your healthcare provider.

Happy Birthday

- SEPTEMBER 14: Dennis Denton, Noelle Christian Barnes, Dan Dewey, Dewey Francisco, VanDyke, Michael Timmers, Missy Ossewaarde, Megan Gee.
- SEPTEMBER 15: Abbey Goff, Megan Brandi Phillips, Mark Claypool, Brian Ryder, Trierweiler, Nick Baker, Renae Heinicke, Griff Brenk, Julie Kline.
- SEPTEMBER 16: Doris Malone, Jason Fetterhoff.
- SEPTEMBER 17: Donald Rittersdorf Jr., Patrick Parish, Mitchell Walling, Phillip Wilson.

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LUNCH MENU ELEMENTARY MENU Week of Sept. 18, 2006

Reflections of faith

Dr. Roger La Warre
First Congregational Church

Maybe it is because we have one standing at the entrance of our church that I have noticed the number of Peace Poles across the state and the nation. Written in many languages I see the message "May Peace Prevail on Earth." As I remember the horror and tragedy of September 11, 2001, these words on a Peace Pole become an ever more passionate prayer.

We all have been affected by the events now known as 9/11. For some, the effect has been to move them toward cynicism. You and I can understand the feeling that tells us there is someone just waiting to blow us up in the name of God. We can share some of the fear and uncertainty that can lead to cynicism. But I refuse to be the cynic, and I refuse to blame God or to look down on the Muslim religion with blame.

What we do in America does affect the world. The things I buy, the food I eat, the decisions I make about the environment and the policies set by my government all have positive and negative effects on people in even the remotest parts of the world. There are those whose lives are motivated with hate and the lust for power. Those groups and individuals have always been a threat to the basic values critical to having peace and mutuality. Those groups and

individuals will always be a threat to the pluralism that is so much an American ideal.

As you and I remember the events of September 11, 2001, let us be strong in the advocacy of our faith. Let the words of the prophet Micah be the light that we follow as we seek to live as a world citizen no longer espousing a false isolationism. "He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8) I cannot be the cynic nor can I allow myself to generalize evil in the Muslim religion or in the people of a nation. I can be one who takes the words of Micah and applies them to my little corner of the world, living the prayer that I see on the Peace Poles across the world and in my back yard, "Lord, May Peace Prevail on Earth" and I add, "and may it begin with me!"

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p>ATTENTION: BIBLE BELIEVERS If you would like to attend a church where the King James Bible is held up as the perfect, preserved word of God with all the words of God for all English speaking people, then give us a visit at: 901 W. Main, Lowell 897-6284 or 485-4195 10am Sunday School, 11am Morning Service, 6pm Evening Service, Wed., 7:30pm Prayer Meeting.</p>	<p>ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Kirby and Harrison Alto • 616-691-8011 Worship.....9:30 A.M. Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.</p> <p>OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS Pastor Dean Bailey</p>	<p>DAY BIBLE CHAPEL 9305 Centerline, Saranac 897-6332 Worship.....9:45 A.M. Sunday School.....11:00 A.M.</p> <p>Nursery & Jr. Church Provided Rev. Frank Lattimore, Pastor "A Nondenominational Ministry With A Blended Word Centered Service!"</p>	<p>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL Rev. Randy Meyers - 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....11:20 A.M. Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M. Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free</p>	<p>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES 6:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 P.M. 119 Lincoln Lake, Lowell CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES Pastor Robert L. Hubbard Phone: (616) 897-1267 website www.aplighthouse.com</p>
<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 Worship Services.....8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR Nursery & child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648 Sunday School.....10:00 A.M. Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M. Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M. (Sept. - April) Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M. Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418 YOU ARE WELCOME!</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God) 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, Senior Pastor Dave Noonan, Asst. Pastor John King, Youth Pastor SUNDAYS: Worship: 10:00 a.m. - LIFE Home Groups & "XL" Youth Sunday evenings WEDNESDAYS: Family Night (For All Ages): 7:00 p.m. - "XL" Youth: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Fr. George J. Fekete 402 Amity St. • 897-9820 www.stmary-lowell.com Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM, SUN. 9:30 AM Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETE WIGGINS 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 48, ENTRY FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>	<p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (United Church of Christ) 404 North Hudson • 897-5906 Sunday Worship.....10:00 A.M. Church School.....10:15-11:15 A.M. Thursday Worship.....7:00 P.M. Dr. Roger LaWarre.....Pastor Shannon Hanley.....C.E. Director Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise & Worship</p>
<p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 www.goodshepherdlowell.org Sunday School.....9:00 A.M. Worship Service.....10:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA/CLUB JC.....Wed. 6:15 & 6:30 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free</p>	<p>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Rev. Thurian Meredith 9:45 A.M.Worship/Fellowship 11:15 A.M.Sunday School 897-9863 or 897-9588 Nursery & Children Worship Programs Provided A friend...a family...a mission!</p>		<p>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 201 N. Washington • 897-8800 Sunday School.....9:30 A.M. Morning Worship.....10:40 A.M. Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M. PASTOR MICHAEL RHODABARGER Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>

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Church Phone: 897-7060, E-mail: calvarycrc@juno.com

MON: Bosco stick w/ meatsauce (3 meat sub also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), tossed salad, assorted fruit, milk.

TUES: Chicken nuggets/bread (turkey/cheese on bun also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), oven potatoes, peas & carrots, assorted fruit, milk.

WED: Cheese Pizza (egg salad sandwich also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), green beans, assorted fruit, milk.

THURS: Deluxe nachos w/meat, cheese & lettuce (Stacked ham/cheese on bun also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), carrot coins, assorted fruit, milk.

FRI: Macaroni & cheese w/cinnamon roll (Hot dog on bun also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), broccoli, assorted fruit, milk.

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Arts council sponsors ghost story contest

By Dan Schneider

It was a dark and stormy night in Lowell. Lightning flashed outside but darkness filled the small, green office that constitutes the news room at the Lowell Ledger because

that office has no windows and whistling wind. A tapping. Tap tap tap. It was the sound of typing, coming from the small, green, dark office. But no one was at the keyboard. The keys depressed themselves. There was no logical explanation

for why the keys were doing that. There was only a supernatural explanation. Yes, a story was being typed in the Lowell Ledger office by ... A GHOST!

It would have scared the heck out of anybody who saw him. But there was nobody there to see him. Just the ghost, typing a story about the upcoming Lowell Area Arts Council ghost story contest.

The Lowell Area Arts Council is encouraging the submission of ghost stories far superior to the preceding for their inaugural ghost story contest. The best stories will be read the evening of the Lowell Harvest Festival, Saturday, Oct. 14, in a scarily-decorated barn. A prize of \$50 will be awarded for the best story in the adult category, and a prize of \$25 for the best story in the youth category (18 and under). There is a \$2 fee per entry. Entries must be typewritten. The entry deadline is Tuesday, Sept. 26. Contact the Lowell Area Arts Council for more details, 897-8545.

Lawsuit, continued ... From Page 3

unusual in a case they're involved in," he said. Lawyers from Redick's firm, Mika, Meyers, Beckett and Jones, PLC, have represented Cannon and Courtland townships in Kent County, Polkton Township in Ottawa County, and a citizen's group in Barry County's Thornapple Township in lawsuits involving Landon Holdings. A Landon development

did go in, in Courtland Township after the township settled out of court early in the proceedings, but few mobile homes have been built there. Landon Holdings also attempted to establish a large-scale mobile home development in Bowne Township. There, they did not have grounds to sue since property zoned for mobile homes already existed in the

township. "We had an area that was zoned for their type of use, but they didn't want it so they just walked away from it," Bowne Township clerk Sandra Kowalczyk said. "They asked us for a rezoning but we didn't have to do that because we already had an area that was zoned for their type of use." Cannon Township assisted Grattan in funding Grattan's legal defense

against Landon Holdings once Grattan's insurance financing ran out. Knoerl said the Landon lawsuit was an important campaign issue when he and three other current township board members ran for election in 2000. "We ran in 2000 because we felt very strongly about fighting this development," Knoerl said.

He was a very excitable ghost prone to making exclamations. It was a short story. The Lowell Area Arts Council is encouraging the submission of ghost stories far superior to the preceding for their inaugural ghost story contest. The best stories will be read the evening of the Lowell Harvest Festival, Saturday, Oct. 14, in a scarily-decorated barn. A prize of \$50 will be awarded for the best story in the adult category, and a prize of \$25 for the best story in the youth category (18 and under). There is a \$2 fee per entry. Entries must be typewritten. The entry deadline is Tuesday, Sept. 26. Contact the Lowell Area Arts Council for more details, 897-8545.

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Light & Power/Cable change auditors prior to December audit deadline

By Emma Palova
Contributing Writer

Citing poor performance by current auditors of Lowell Light & Power/Cable, the utility board, represented by manager Tom Richards, requested a change of firms to Vredevelde Haefner CPA's a few months prior to its December audit deadline.

The Lowell City Council approved the change for the 2005/2006 audit of the utility only, with stipulation to go out for bids next year.

Council member Jim Pfaller opposed the move stating the city has a procedure to follow to go out for bids.

"We have a threshold of \$2,000 to go out for bids," he said.

Richards said, however, that services by bid are not the most expedient way to meet timetables of utility accounting.

CPA firm Biggs Hausserman Thompson & Dickinson PC, of Saranac, has been auditing both the city of Lowell and the utility off and on for the past 30 years. However, the firm wished to resign from auditing the utility due to

lack of communication about the firm's qualifications from the utility board.

On the other hand, Richards said the utility board was concerned about the lack of responsiveness, failure to meet deadlines and qualifications to audit an electric utility. According to the resignation letter from Biggs Hausserman Thompson & Dickinson, the firm admitted to being late in finalizing audit reports for last year.

"They wished to be released for the remainder of the contract," Richards said.

In 2005, the firm in Saranac was the lowest bidder on both the city and the utility audit contracts. The only other bidder was Rehman Robson of Grand Rapids, who performed the city and utility audits from 2001 to 2004. Since then, two principals from Rehman Robson started a new firm Vredevelde Haefner CPA's.

"Their qualifications, experience and performance have consistently met all of the utilities' requirements," said Richards. "It's the same people doing work for us. We're familiar with their

work. We know what to expect."

The cost of the audit to be performed prior to the December deadline is \$9,000.

According to Richards, the two utility funds, electric and cable, are audited separately, but they are merged in final reports.

Richards said due to Biggs Hausserman Thompson & Dickinson's lack of responsiveness, the utility was in violation of two requirements of power sales contracts with three major power generating plants, Belriver Plant, Campbell III and Kalkaska Combustion

Plant.

City manager Dave Pasquale said Biggs Hausserman Thompson & Dickinson are in the second year of a three-year contract with the city.

"We have too much respect for the city council to

create unnecessary friction between the separate board of each entity," the resignation letter stated. "Therefore we resign from the Light & Power and Cable TV fund portions of last year's audit agreement."



Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold
Edward Jones
Serving Individuals Investors Since 1871

ARE YOUR COLLEGE SAVINGS PLANS ON TRACK?

It's back-to-school time again. If you are a parent of a college student, you've probably already made whatever arrangements you are going to make to meet those hefty tuition payments - and some of these arrangements can involve considerable sacrifice. But if your children are a few years away from heading off to school, you can still take advantage of some attractive college savings vehicles - and the best time to start exploring these options is now.

How important is it to save early and often for college? Just ponder these figures from the 2005-2006 school year: For students attending four-year public colleges and universities, the average total cost was \$15,566, while students at four-year private colleges and universities paid, on average, \$31,916, according to the College Board. These numbers will surely rise for this school year, and, in all likelihood, for the next few years, too. In fact, for the past decade, inflation has been much higher on the college campus than in the world outside.

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So, what can you do? What's the best way to save and invest for college? As is the case when you save for retirement, it's a good idea to find vehicles that offer both growth potential and tax advantages. Here are a couple to consider:

- Coverdell Education Savings Account - Depending on your income level, you can contribute up to \$2,000 annually to a Coverdell Education Savings Account (ESA). Your Coverdell earnings and withdrawals will be tax-free, provided you use the money for qualified education expenses. (Any non-education withdrawals from a Coverdell ESA may be subject to a 10 percent penalty.) You can place your contributions to a Coverdell ESA into virtually any investment you choose - stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit, etc.

- Section 529 savings plan - In a Section 529 savings plan, you put money in specific investments. All withdrawals will be free from federal income taxes, as long as the money is used for a qualified college or graduate school expense of the beneficiary you've named - typically, your child or grandchild. (However, 529 distributions will appear as income on the child's tax return, which could affect financial aid calculations.) Withdrawals for expenses other than qualified education expenditures may be subject to federal, state and penalty taxes.

Aside from the tax benefits, a Section 529 savings plan offers other advantages. First, account limits are quite high - you can accumulate more than \$200,000 per beneficiary in many state plans, although special gifting provisions may apply.

And, just as importantly, you can get significant estate-planning benefits from a Section 529 savings plan. Because you can contribute large amounts of money to the plan, you may be able to reduce the size of your taxable estate. Plus, even though the assets are out of your estate, you retain control of them. You decide who will get the money and when he or she will get it. You can even change the beneficiary to another family member.

Before investing in either a Coverdell ESA or a Section 529 plan, see your tax advisor. Contributions for Section 529 plans are tax-deductible in certain states for residents who participate in their own state's plan. But don't wait too long. While college may look a long way off for your children or grandchildren now, time has a way of sneaking up on you - so don't let it catch you unprepared.



On The Wild Side

With Ranger Steve
Wittenbach/Wege Center Director

FARM EXPERIENCES

Have you been to your Uncle Al's farm? Probably not! Let me share going to Uncle Al's. I grew up a city boy, two blocks from the country (city limit). Beyond the city limit were farm fields and fallow fields abandoned from farming for various reasons - that is another story.

My dad took us into the country to visit his Uncle Al. Upon arrival, we found him in the cornfield harvesting ears of corn the machinery missed. It was the 1950's and we were shown how to gather the missed ears remaining in the field.

Uncle Al and my dad departed the field leaving us boys to do the important work. Later we were allowed to go play in the hay barn. One major problem confronted me as I headed for the hayloft. A room full of hay under a loft of baled hay lay ahead but I had to traverse a terrifying gauntlet to get to it.

Cows were in stalls and I was not too fearful of walking behind them. One stall, however, contained a bull. We all know about bulls and have seen how they attack matadors. It had a large ring in its nose and we know it is there to grab and twist to control the bull. Of course, the other kids compounded my fears with many frightening comments.

I had to walk behind the bull to get to play in the hay. I was afraid and wondered whether the reward was worth such a foolish dangerous risk. I stood contemplating. After hearing and seeing the others have fun jumping from the hayloft into the pile of hay, my bravery was charged. The risk seemed worth the reward. I made a running dash with hopes

Oakleigh Manor champs

The Oakleigh Manor softball team, coached by Bruce Beimers and Gordy Hamacher, recently competed in the Hometown Festival Softball Tournament. Comprised of players from Lowell, Saranac, Cedar Springs and the Grand Rapids area, they won the 70 and older division by beating the Grand Rapids Grey Sox with a score of 8-7 to win the championship. Tournament director Wayne Quick presented the championship shirts.



Pictured, back row, left to right, are: Wayne Quick, Bruce Beimers, Gordy Hamacher, Mitch Dykstra, Terry Brown, Bill Wolf, Richard Frey, Roger Terpstra and Ron VanBennekom; front row are: Bob Mock, Ivan Blough, Bob Chase, Jim Stuart and John Carrel.
Photo submitted by Ivan Blough

There is a healthful hardness about real dignity that never dreads contact and communion with others, however humble.
- Washington Irving (1783 - 1859)

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EOE/AA

THE LOWELL LEDGER - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2006 PAGE 11
of surviving to play. Meanwhile, the bull stood docilely in its stall. Farm life was pretty much unknown to me. I did not understand what was dangerous and what was not.

At a later date I experienced herding cows to the barn for milking. By milking time the cows are ready to return to the barn but they do want to stop along the way to eat choice crops on the path. The path was wide enough for tractor and truck. On each side was an electric fence to discourage cows from making their own crop harvest of beans or alfalfa.

The first time I brought the cows in I was concerned about two cows squeezing me between them. I walked along the outer edge of the path. As they crowded into the narrow path, I was pushed against the electric fence for what seemed like forever. Though I hit the cow, it did not free me from the shocking wire. It, too, was being pushed by surrounding cows. Finally, I was able to get free from being electrocuted. After that I walked in between the cows as they passed between the crop fields. Being squashed between cows no longer seemed the bigger fear.

The point of sharing experiences is to provoke your own memories of farm experiences. Many in our community who have grown up on a farm will find my foolish concerns humorous and dumb. I expect more people in our community have had few farm experiences. Let me share one more agriculture farm experience.

We decided to eat chicken for supper. I requested to carry the chicken. I was told not to get too attached to it because we were going to eat it. I said, "I won't." I carried the chicken to a tree stump and held it by its feet with my left hand. Using my right hand, I severed its neck with a hatchet. It went well except for some skin. It took a second swing to completely separate the head and body. Immediately we drained the blood, removed the innards, plucked and prepared the meat for dinner.

Hopefully, I have not lost you yet. That is the only animal I have taken from barnyard to dinner table. I do not regret it. On the contrary, I think everyone or at least those of us who eat meat should at least once in their life experience where the meat on the table comes from.

That might result in more vegetarians among us. For all of us I suspect there would be a greater appreciation for the life that was given to nourish us. Not only would we have greater appreciation for where food comes from but we might even develop a greater respect for other life forms.

If each of us actually harvested a life of an animal to eat, we might even have a greater understanding for giving thanks to the animal we eat instead of mindlessly eating it without a thought as to where it came from or what it cost the animal to enrich our health. We also may appreciate the agriculture in our lives more.

Between 1900 and 2000 the number of farm families in the United States dropped from 40 percent to less than 2 percent. At Wittenbach/Wege Agri-science and Environmental Center we hope to provide opportunity for all community members to discover the role of agri-science in our lives.

Coffee Break

A community Bible study

- Meeting New Friends • Fellowship And Refreshments
 - Sharing Questions And Concerns
- No Previous Bible Knowledge Or Experience Expected!

Starts Tuesday, September 19, 2006
9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Come and bring a friend!

Evening group begins September 12, 2006
7:15 - 8:45 p.m.

Story Hour

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- Creative Crafts
- Songs And Snacks For 3- To 5-Year-Olds

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Everyone Welcome!



Arts council exhibit blends art, literature

By Dan Schneider

Art on display through Oct. 21 at the Lowell Area Arts Council strives to promote a relationship between the visual art and the written word.

Called "InnerScapes," the exhibit features either artwork that incorporates text elements in its design, or written work that compliments and adds to the

visual art. In some pieces, it's hard to tell which came first, the art or the writing.

"We had no idea if the written work was a reaction to the art or if the art was a reaction to the text," exhibit co-juror Diane Carroll Burdick said.

In jurying the show, she and co-juror Linda Nemeck Foster looked for pieces in which both elements blended seamlessly together.

"We both really felt that the balance had to be strong, the artwork couldn't outweigh the text or vice versa," Burdick said.

In those works, the writing and visuals simultaneously add meaning to each other. Taken as a whole, Burdick said, the pieces make for a rich art show at the arts council's Hudson Street gallery.

"It's just very diverse,"

she said. "People might look at it and say 'wow, that's nice eye candy.' Once you read, it just adds so much depth."

Burdick said the real synthesis between the visual art and the words goes on in the mind of the observer.

"When you put the two pieces together, you are challenged by the by-product of what is created," she said.

The jurors are familiar with the collaboration of words and visuals in art. Burdick, a photojournalist and fine art photographer, and Foster, a poet who was Grand Rapids' first poet laureate, worked together on a series of photograph/poems.

Burdick took a hand-colored series of black and white landscape photographs. Foster lived with the pieces for a while, then wrote haikus she composed on the photographs' matting.

The photographs and haikus were collected into a book, *Listening to the Landscape*, published by Eerdmans Publishing Company. Some pieces from their collaboration are included in the "InnerScapes" exhibit.

"Diane approached me in 1998, that's how long we've been working on this project," Foster said. "I look

at this project with the idea of the writing perfectly balancing the words with the artwork."

She wrote several drafts of most haikus before adding the words to the photographs' mat boards. Works from the series were first shown in art galleries and later made into a book. The book will be for sale at the arts council for the duration of the "InnerScapes" exhibit.

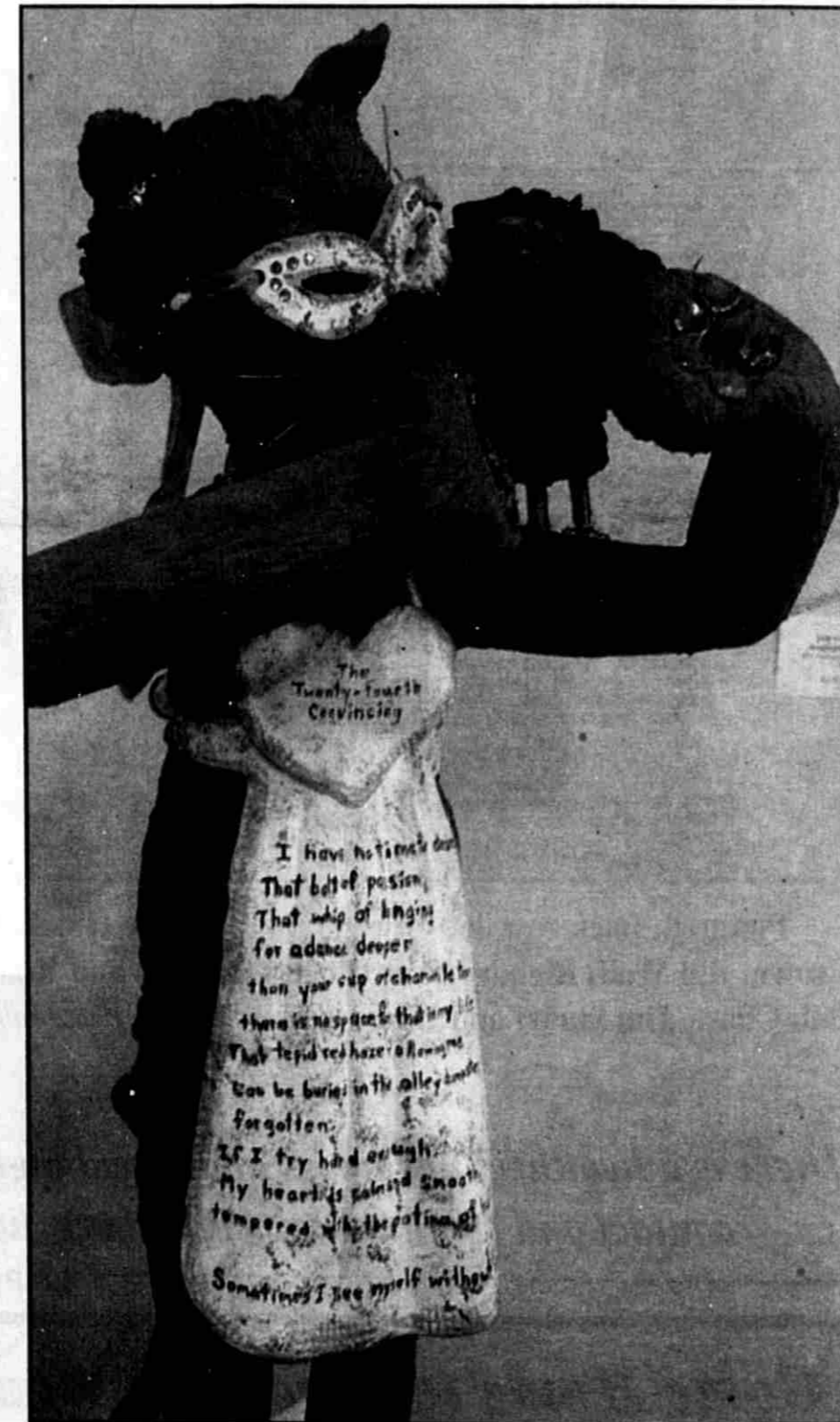
Foster was impressed by the variety of work the show encompasses.

"We've got sculpture, we have conceptual art, we have poetry, we have photography, we have collage; it was just a nice mix of many different kinds of art forms," she said.

The Lowell Area Arts Council is located at 149 S. Hudson Street.



"Fence" is the work of artist Curtis Frillman of Grand Rapids.



"The Twenty-Fourth Convincing" by Amanda and Judy Geertz won third prize in the competition.

Celebrating Alton history

By Dan Schneider

In the last two decades of the 19th century, Alton was an up and coming town.

At the crossroads of Three Mile Road and Lincoln Lake Ave., Alton had a grist mill, a cheese factory, a blacksmith's shop, a sawmill and a dress shop. In 1896, the people of Alton were looking forward to the arrival of the Pere Marquette Railroad. Farmers planted peach trees in their fields, anticipating a ready route to get their fruit to market on the railroad.

"The '80s and '90s were kind of the hey-day of the village," Alton resident and amateur historian Shantell Ford said.

But the railroad never built a depot in Alton when it came through in 1900 and the village gradually faded away. Now all that remains is the historic Alton Church Building, remnants of the millpond dam and a schoolhouse that is now a

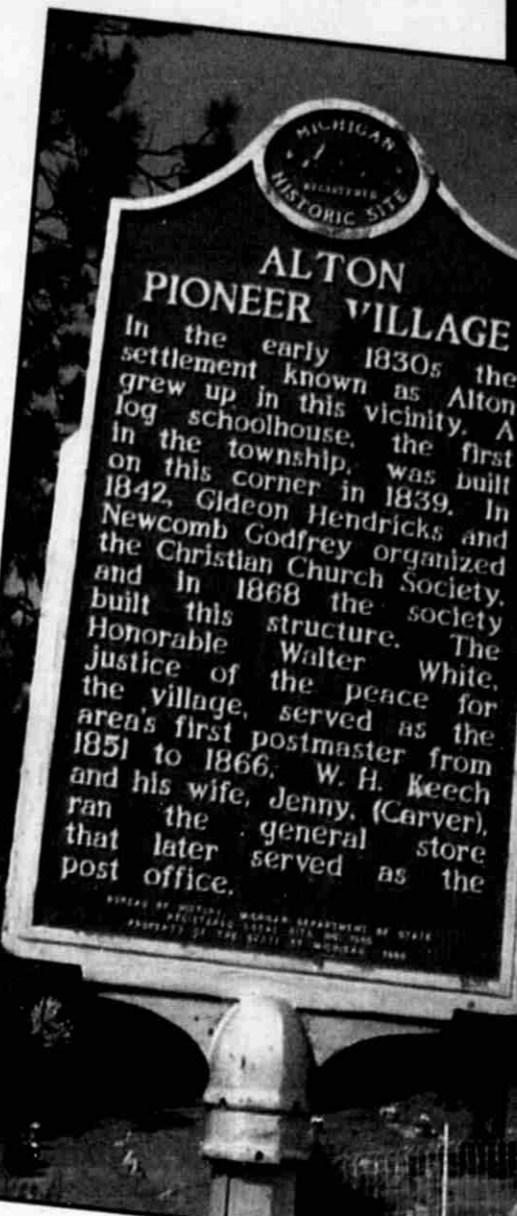
private residence. A few of the village's original houses remain, but they have been buried behind additions over the years.

Built in 1868, the white church building was the center of public life in the village during the late 19th century.

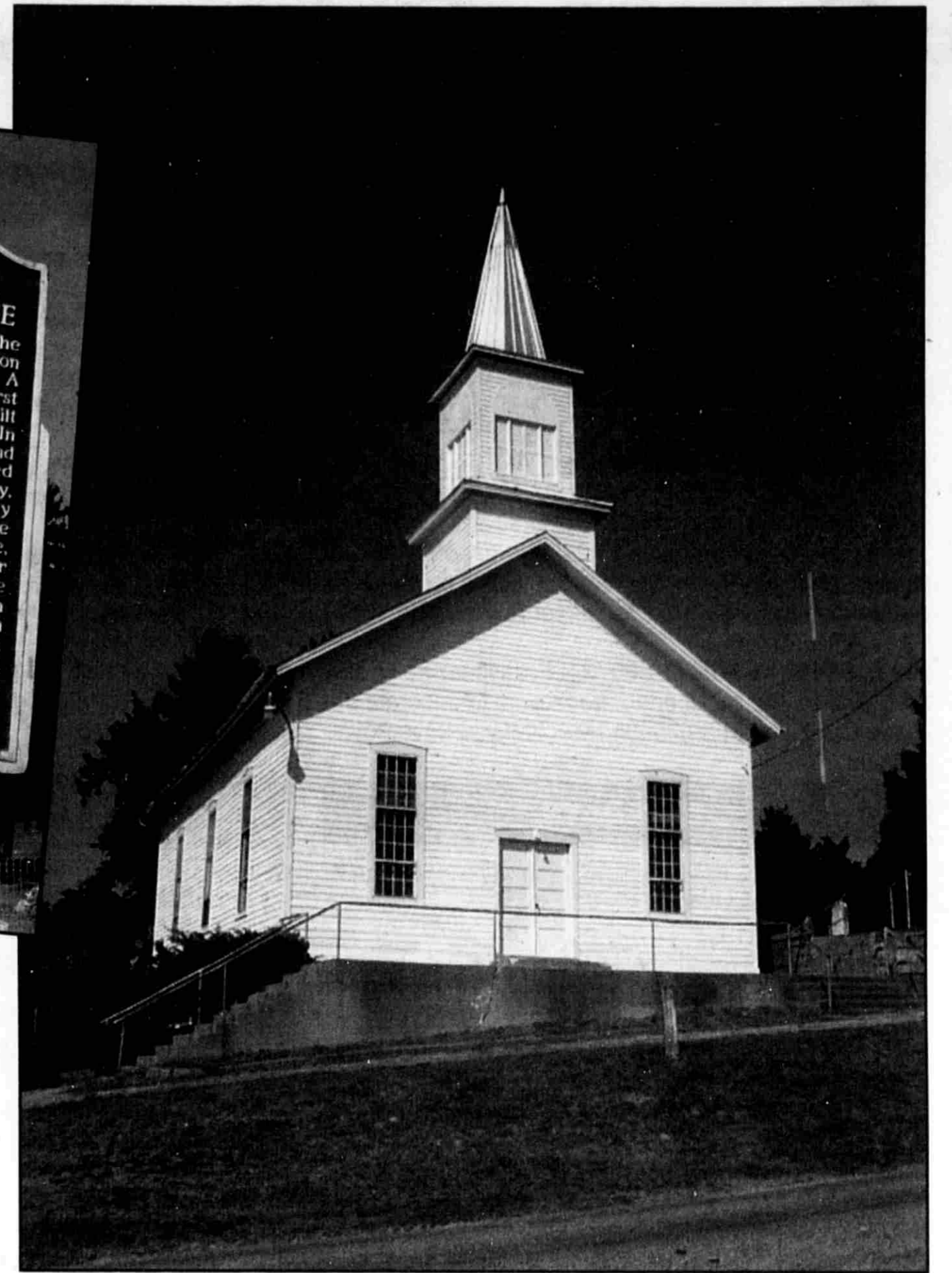
"It was a major community structure," Ford said.

The site of weddings, school recitals, and social events, multiple congregations worshipped in the church's sanctuary. The church was originally built with the idea of hosting services by more than one denomination.

Alton Bible Church, the last church to call the building home, outgrew the space in the 1970s and built a new sanctuary across the street. Since then, the old church has sat unused. It will be open to the public Saturday, Sept. 16 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. for a celebration of Alton history.



Alton Pioneer Village is a Michigan registered historic site.



The historic Alton church building is the only structure to survive from the old days of Alton.

11 a.m., there will be a presentation on the history of the Swiss in Alton.

The Swiss settled in Alton in numbers during the 1880s and 1890s, according to Luann Kaeb, who will help present the Swiss history, Saturday. Her ancestors settled in Alton around that time.

"I would assume it looked like Switzerland to them or felt like Switzerland," she said in explanation of why they settled in Alton rather than Lowell. "It was hillier there than here."

Lunch will be available by donation. At 1 p.m., an old-fashioned hymn-sing is scheduled.

"My desire was to get the building open, let people see inside," said Ford, an organizer of the historical celebration. "Then maybe we'll be able to do some fundraising."

Ford hopes to raise money to get the building in good enough shape to be a historical destination or even be used once again as a community center. She said the building has been cleaned up for the celebration, but

restoration work is needed. The building could use new ceiling tiles, new interior and exterior paint and new carpeting, among other necessary improvements. There used to be standing water in the basement, but volunteers thoroughly cleaned it out and repainted it.

Ford plans to start the fundraising slowly, hoping to raise enough money to cover the cost of insuring the building. Currently, nearby homeowners are paying for its insurance out of their own pockets.



Tours of Alton Cemetery will be offered at 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. at Saturday's Alton historical celebration.

Harvest Hustle



A 5K Run/Walk • October 14, 2006
8:00 am start

Register at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce or the Lowell YMCA

Dust off your running shoes and join us as we Hustle through Lowell. This event kicks off the annual Lowell Harvest Festival.

The Harvest Hustle is a family friendly event; run, walk or jog, let's all just get moving!



Contact Lowell Community Wellness at (616) 340-7781 for more information or go to www.lowellchamber.org Harvest Hustle

Lowell Community Wellness is funded through the Lowell Area Community Fund.

Alto festival, cont'd. ... From Page 1

of Alto and have fun in the process."

The history comes in the form of the clue cards, which have Alto's historical buildings on them. Along with the history of a building, each card has a clue about the building's current use.

Participants can find a tractor and the next clue card at each of the historical buildings.

The Blue Ribbon Baking Contest this year will feature six categories: desserts, cookies/bars, candies, yeast/quickbreads, jams/jellies and pickles/preserves. The

winner in the adult category and the youth winner each receive a \$25 cash prize.

Baked goods can also be won at the Alto Harvest Festival in Baking Bingo. Successful bingo players win baked goods and baking essentials.

This year's festival features a pie and watermelon eating contest, a puff and pedal race, and a golf chipping contest. There will be games for children, a moonwalk, pet show, and the Alto Library used book sale.

A talent show is scheduled from 3 to 5 p.m. New acts can sign up on the day of the festival.

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SATURDAY, SEPT. 30, 2006

5:30 PM - Dinner and Music

Monterey Center • 6595 Alden Nash SE (M-50 South) • Alto, Michigan

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NUMBER OF MEMBER/GUEST RESERVATIONS _____ @ \$25 each= _____ Check Enclosed
NUMBER OF NON-MEMBER/GUEST RESERVATIONS _____ @ \$30 each= _____ Check Enclosed
NAME OF SPOUSE/GUEST(S) for name tag _____

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300 High Street - Lowell, MI 49331

Your check will secure your reservations at the 3rd Annual Lowell All Alumni Gathering.
Join us for a memorable time!

For reservations call 987-2501 or visit www.lowellschools.com

COMING EVENTS

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

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

WED., SEPT. 13: Planning for Trailway meeting at Vergennes Township offices at 6 p.m.

MON., SEPT. 18: Lowell band boosters meeting in middle school band room, 7 p.m.

MON., SEPT. 18: LHS open house. Dinner: 6 p.m. in Frish Commons; open house in LPAC, 7 p.m.

SAT., SEPT. 23: Tyler Creek Golf Course, Alto, charity golf event benefiting Operation Enduring Support. Register 8 a.m.; shot gun 9 a.m. \$60 per/\$29 active duty military personnel. Call 868-6751 for info or to reserve a spot.

SAT., SEPT. 23/SUN., SEPT. 24: Fallasburg Fall Festival, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Needed are flowers to decorate the park. Call Carol at 897-5501 by 9/20 if you have any to donate.

THURS., OCT. 5: Vergennes Cooperative Club will meet at 1 p.m. at Schneider Manor. Program: Liz Ripley, Indian Reservation. Hostesses: Julie Hurley/ Aileen McCabe.

SAT., OCT. 14: Annual Harvest Hustle 5K run/walk. Starts at police station 8 a.m. Call Patty 340-7781 for info.

SAT., OCT. 14: Larkin's Chili Madness chili cook-off. Call 897-5977 for application/info. \$25 entry fee.

SAT., OCT. 14: Scarecrow building hoedown, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Lowell Fairgrounds. Supplies provided. Visit www.discoverlowell.org

SAT., OCT. 14: Flat River Antique Fair needs antique and collectible vendors. Call Liz at 897-9161 for info or application.

MONDAYS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

EVERY OTHER MON.: The Lowell Area Juggling Club meets in the Community room at Englehardt Library, 6:30 - 8 p.m. Ages 12 or older. No dues. Call 897-9879.

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

TUESDAYS

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

Cub Scout Pack 3188 meets at 1st United Methodist Church (as long as there is school), 621 E. Main St. 6:30 p.m. Call Bruce Doll, cubmaster at 304-0082.

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

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

TUESDAYS

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

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

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

2ND & 4TH TUES.: MOPS - Mothers of Preschoolers meets at Impact Church, 1069 Lincoln Lake, 9:15 - 11:30. 897-8304.

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

3RD TUES.: Parents of children w/AD/HD at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 32156 4 Mile NE/E. Bellline) at 7 p.m. Call Linda at 874-5662; teen group: call Sarah at 281-6588. No cost.

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

WEDNESDAYS

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

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

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

3RD WED.: GR/W. Mich. Scrabble Club at Schuler's Bookstore, 28th SE 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. walk-ins. Jan 897-5759.

3RD WED.: Alzheimer's Assoc. of West Mich. offers an Alzheimer's Support group at Fountain View of Lowell, 11535 E. Fulton, 1 p.m. Call Carrie Pattee or Cindy Meyer at 897-8413.

THURSDAYS

Weight Watchers at Lowell Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington St. 5:30 p.m. Register 1/2 hr. before the meeting. For info. 1-800-651-6000.

LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM: Tues., Sat. and Sun. 1-4 p.m.; Thurs., 1-8 p.m.. Families: \$10; individuals \$3; 5-17 \$1.50; members are free. Call 897-7688.

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

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

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

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

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

THURSDAYS

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

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

St. Mary's Pregnancy Crisis Center, 402 Amity St., non-denominational help for pregnant women/adolescents, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.; Mondays: 5:30-7:30 p.m. 897-9393.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY

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

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

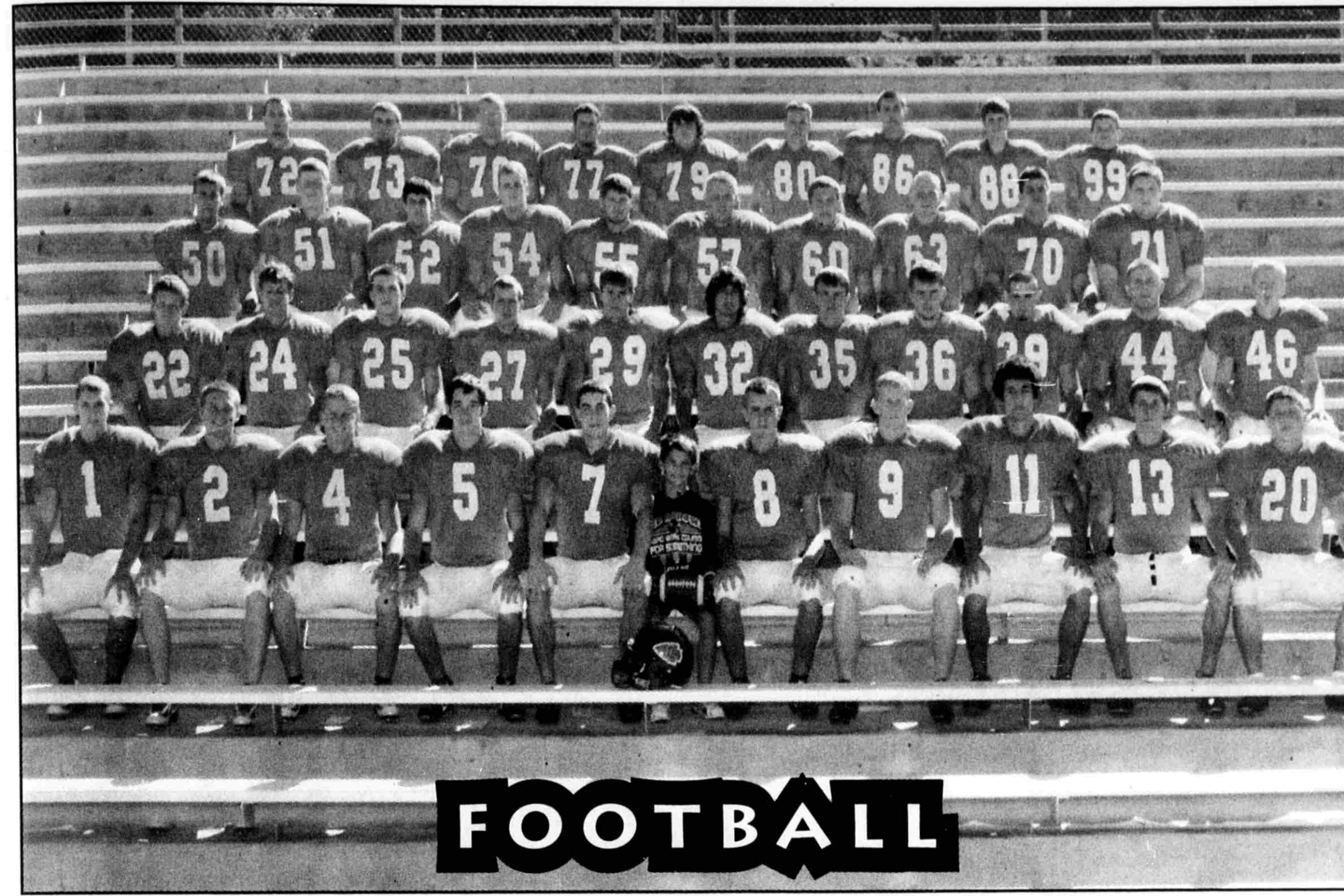
2ND SAT.: Ada Historical Society, 10:30 a.m. at Averill Historical Museum, 7144 Headley, Ada.

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

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

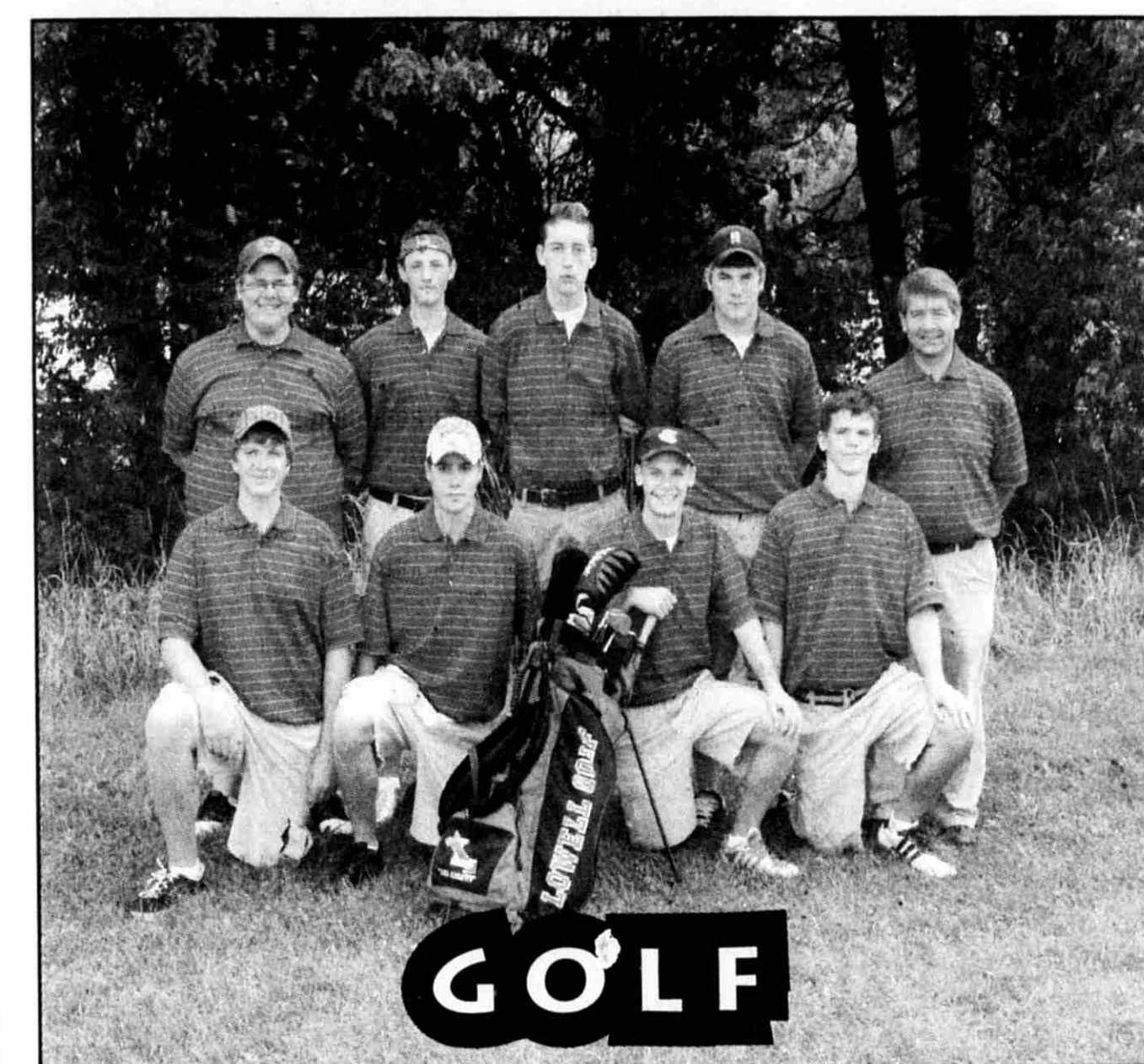
SUN.: Tri-town Conservation Club trap & skeet league, 5616 Dunn Rd. 12-5 p.m. Call Larry at 754-7104. Public welcome.

2006 FALL VARSITY TEAMS



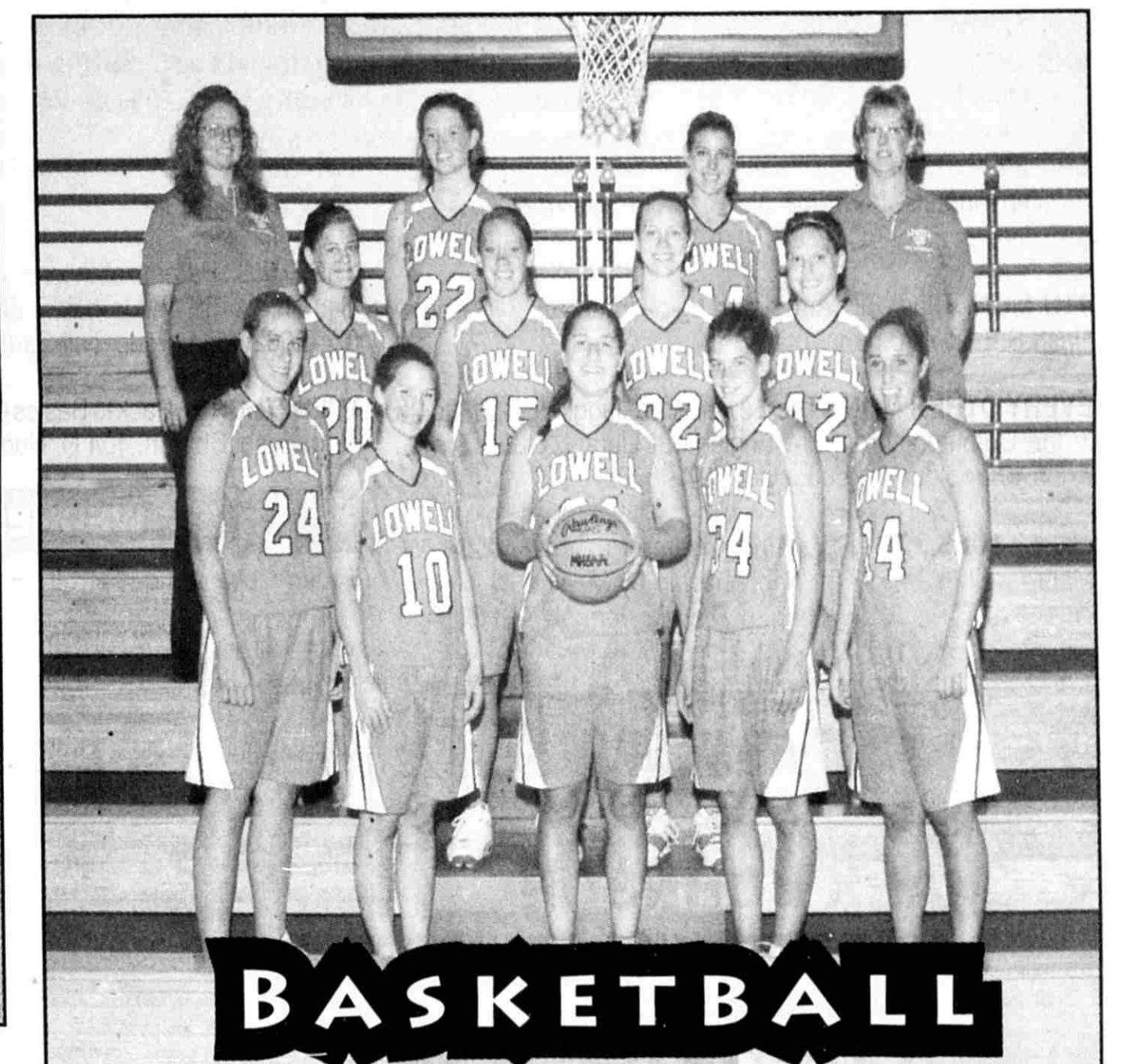
The 2006 varsity football team. Pictured, front row, from left to right: Jacob Swift, Mike McElroy, Torsten Boss, Justin Harden, Keith Nichol, team manager Zeth Dean, Pete Scudder, Nate Vaught, Ryan Magnuson, Justin Corwin, Bill Watikunas; second row: Ryan Mechaney, Kory Stevens, Justin VanAcker, Ben Canfield, James Richardson, Anthony Herrera, Randy Hogan, Kameron Blake, Shane Elliott, Travis Hippy, Nick Canfield; third row: Chris Ritz, Larz Lindstrom, Brad Nordman, Taylor Sprague, Mike Kinsley, Derek Thebo, Alex Fleet, Brandon White; back row: Evan Ormiston, Tylor Meppelink, A. J. Nozal, Mike Crain, Chris Miller, Jesse Droog, Josh Faulkner, Colton Hause and Bryant Johnson.

FOOTBALL



The 2006 boys varsity golf team, front row, from left to right: Ben Scudder, Allen Messing, Eric Mundt, Kyle Bardwell; back row: Gary Kilgore, Brian Scheider, Lance Perkins, Richard Porter and coach Gary Fredline.

GOLF



The 2006 girls varsity basketball team. Pictured, front row, left to right: Keri Fosburg, Breanna Bueche, Brittany Lyman, Andrea Converse, Chelsea Harrison; middle row: Mary VanderLaan, Brittany Bueche, Kelsey Crowley, Brittany Clark; back row: coach Dani Gallert, Lindsey Trierweiler, Amanda Geelhoed and coach Dee Crowley.

BASKETBALL



JULY 6 - OCTOBER 14

OPEN: 3 PM to 7 PM - Thursdays

LOWELL FAIRGROUNDS

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2006 FALL VARSITY TEAMS



The 2006 boys cross country team. Pictured, front row, from left to right: Will Bryan, Sean Greenhoe, Josh Corteville, Cameron Dilly, Jesse Smoes, Tim Gingerich, Corey Fitzpatrick, Shaun Hale, Tom Mark, Raymond Seese; back row: coach Clay VanderWarf, Cody Kastanek, Otto McNaughton, Kirk Geldersma, Kyle Ingebretson, Justin Abdo, Keaton Dilly, Dixon Moore, Regan Doyle and Andy Mark.

X-COUNTRY



The 2006 girls cross country team. Pictured, front row, from left to right: Karen Judd, Caitlin Sirowatka, Emily Hauschild, Jane McNaughton; back row: coach Clay VanderWarf, Monica Fitzpatrick, Mary Kate Walsh, Paige Senters, Katie Riddle and Morgan Olin.

X-COUNTRY



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GO TEAM!

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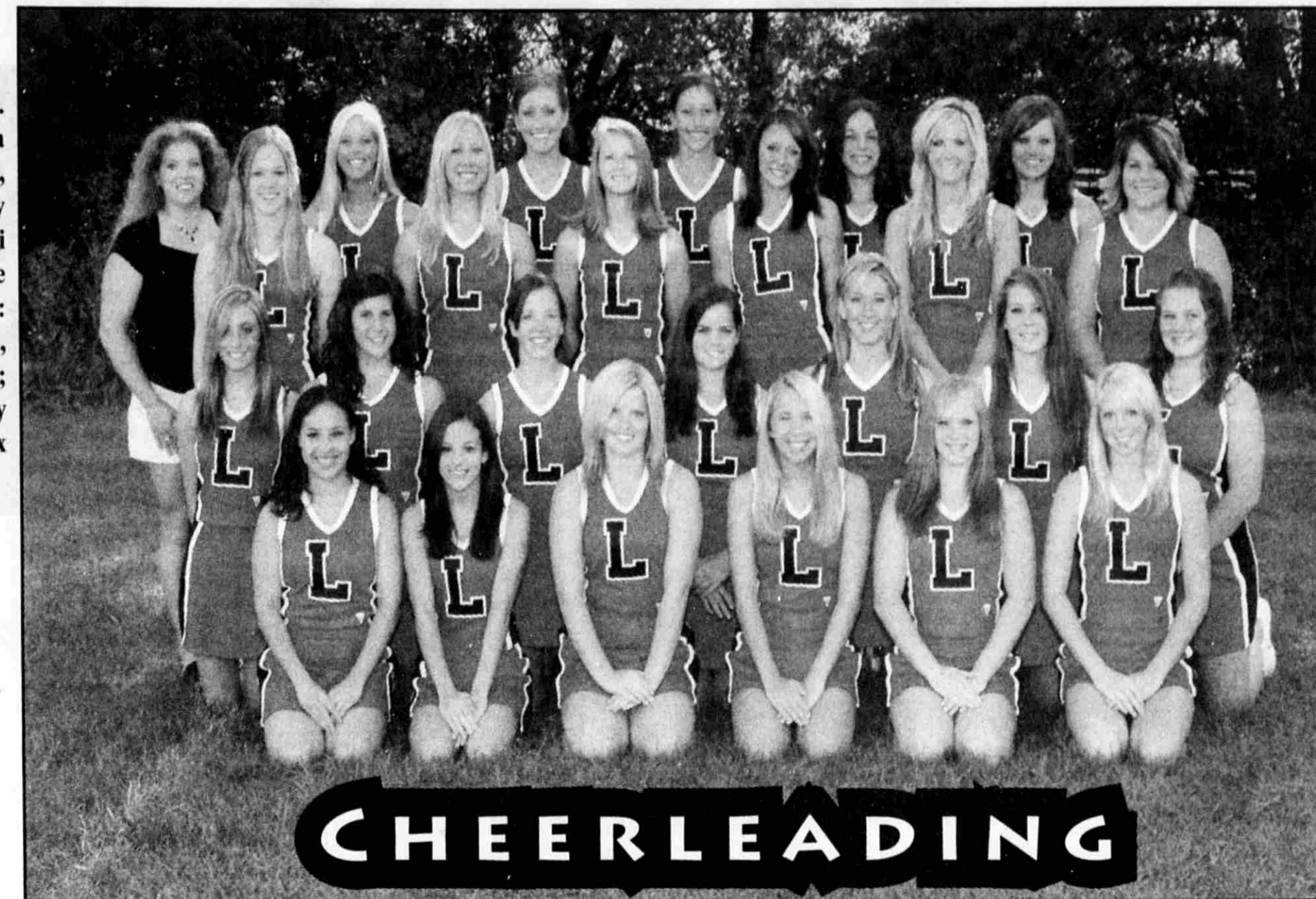
www.modernphotographics.com

104 W. Main
897-5606

The 2006 boys varsity soccer team. Pictured, from left to right: Del Rockwell, Bud Shepard, Phil Bieri, Drew Kyllonen, Andrew Gerig, Josh Wallner; middle row: Katlin Manszewski, Ian Beddows, Ryan Padgett, Chris Barlow, Austin DeClercq, Jacob Karasiewicz; back row: Jerry Adams III, Spencer Sellner, Adam Bowers, Tim Oberlin, Matt Schloop, Greg Harreld, Nick Abdo and coach Paul Legge.

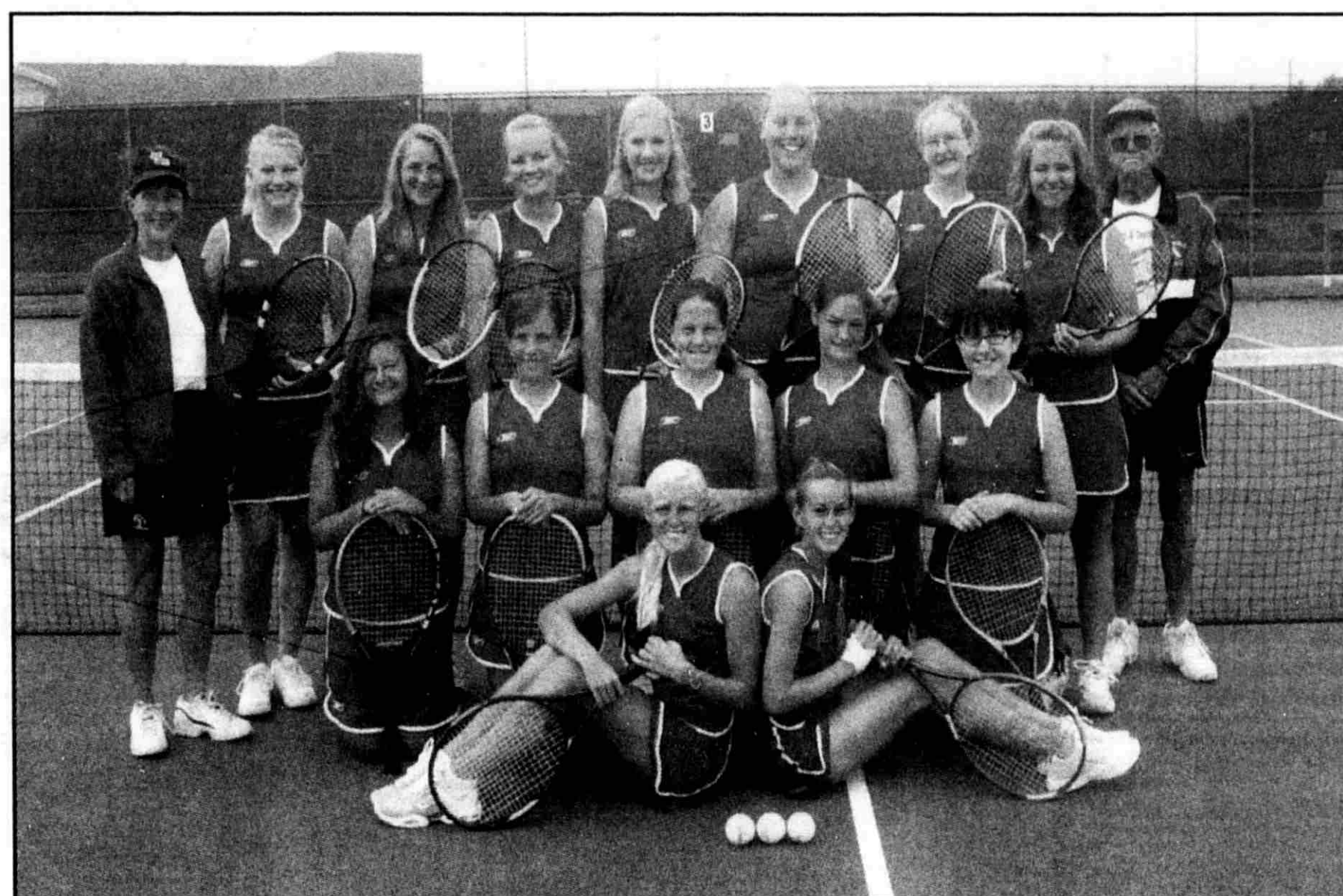
2006 FALL VARSITY TEAMS

The 2006 varsity sideline cheer team. Pictured front row, left to right: Olivia Breker, Theresa Buist, Nikki Gould, MacKenzie Conley, Alyssa Buikema Stacey Janeschek; second row: Taryn Ullery, Tori Ruesink, Kylee Karas, Hannah Fleet, Katie Ann Polaski, Tiffanie Curtis; third row: Laura Walsh, Lisa Nugent, Kaylyn Koza, Jamie Phillips, Kasi Hanrahan, Tara Beran; back row: coach Kari Dawson, Chelsey Bishop, Jesi Hook, Sydney Burrows, Alex Herb and Krysta DeVries.



GO TEAM GO!
Support Your Red Arrow Teams!

CHEERLEADING



TENNIS

The 2006 girls varsity tennis team. Pictured, back row, from left to right: Coach Bonnie Wall, Kelli Kowalski, Caitlyn Baker, Patty Lawrence, Megan Willemstein, Tarrah Tawney, Lindsay Aiken, Tanya Baker, coach Roger Wall; middle row: Leara Glinzak, Erin Brechbiel, Katrina Schollaart, Melissa Zuiderveen, Mallory Hines; front row: Heather Spratt, Lauren Heemstra.

*For when the
One Great Scorer comes
To write against your name,
He marks-not that you won or lost-
But how you played the game.*
- Grantland Rice
(1880-1954)

GO RED ARROWS!

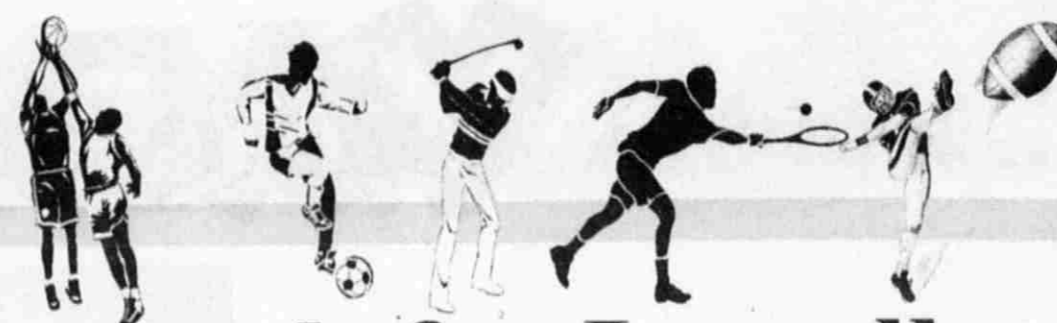
TUMMINO AND TUMMINO, P.C.
Attorneys At Law
311 East Main St.
897-5931

GO TEAM! LOWELL!

David Durkee O.D. F.A.A.O.
Heidi Gordon, O.D.
2186 W. Main
897-2020

GO TEAM GO!

RED ARROW SPORTS



Thunder, lightning, Pioneers no match for Lowell

By Dan Schneider

A three-point edge when the storm hit Friday night was enough for a Lowell win over East Grand Rapids.

Well, it also took two interceptions and a little more than a quarter of tough

defense to seal the 28-25 victory Saturday morning.

A lightning storm sent Friday night's Red Arrow Memorial Stadium crowd fleeing for cover in their cars and inside the high school with less than two minutes

remaining in the third quarter. Lowell and East Grand Rapids returned to the field at 10 a.m., Saturday, to finish the game.

Neither team managed a score Saturday, but a pair of Lowell interceptions helped

the Red Arrows make the three-point lead stick. Mike McElroy had the first one. Then Tylor Meppelink sealed the win with a second pick that stopped a threatening East Grand Rapids drive with 47 seconds left on the clock.

"Tylor Meppelink, hopefully he hasn't peaked, we're expecting some more big things out of him this season," Lowell coach Noel Dean said.

Friday night's crowd was huge. Spectators parked cars on either side of Alden Nash Avenue for about a quarter mile south of the high school entrance. A lot of them came back Saturday morning, though the Lowell bleachers were more heavily populated than the visiting side.

"It's exciting to see so many fans come back out. We've got the best fans in the world," Dean said.

The weather delay might have been an unwanted complication in the game.

"This is awfully hard for kids to come back and have to finish playing a game," Dean said. "That was the

longest I've had to ponder third and four."

"We try to stay even-keeled about everything."

But Lowell didn't let the delay get to them.

Football, cont'd., pg. 19

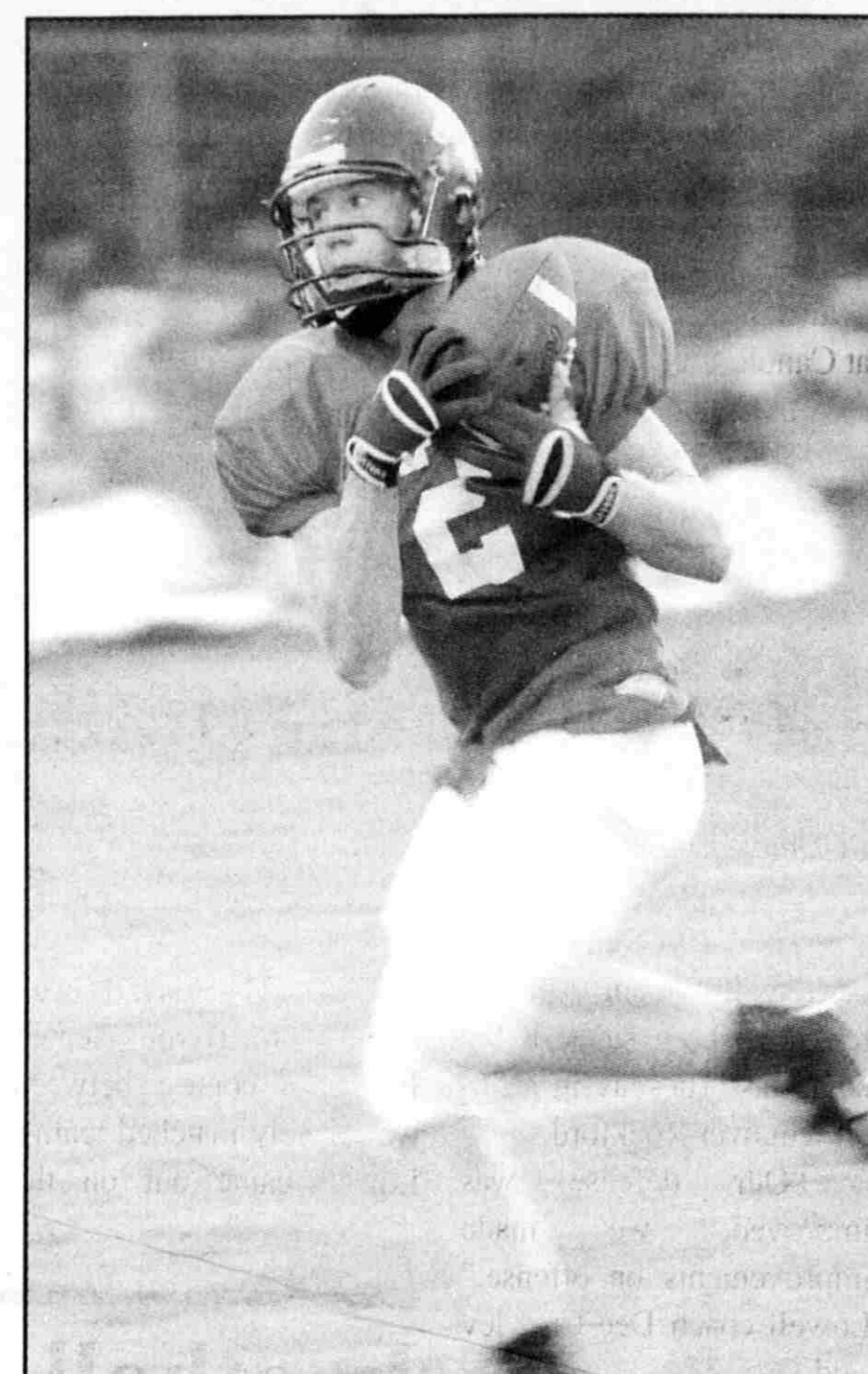


Photo submitted by Joe Provonche
Lowell's Mike McElroy hauled in a 44-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter of Lowell's game against East Grand Rapids, Friday.

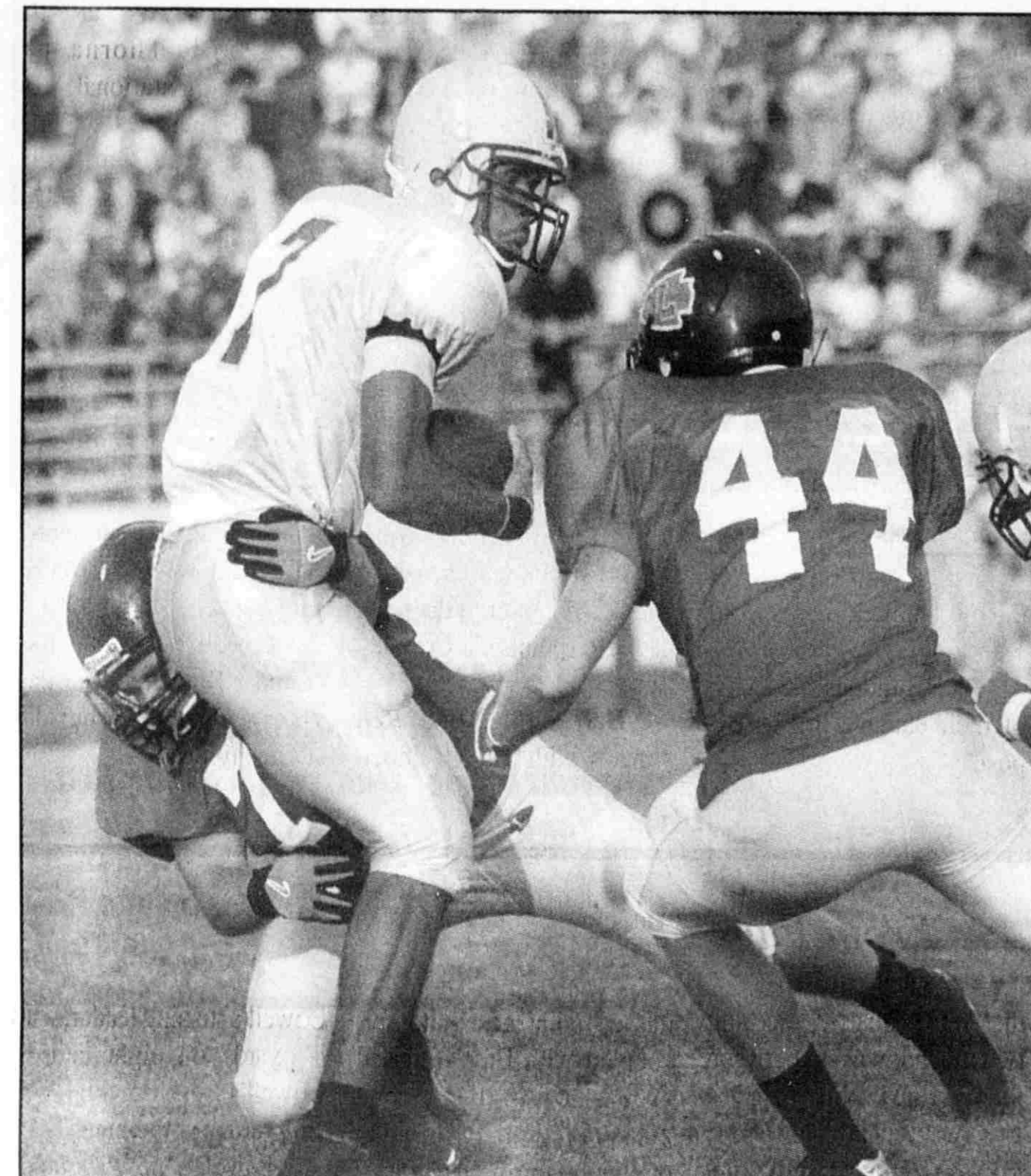


Photo submitted by Joe Provonche
Lowell defenders sacked East Grand Rapids quarterback DeMarcus Grady during the evening portion of the Pioneers versus Red Arrows football game, Friday.

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AUGUST SMILES OF THE MONTH:

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| Gabriela Hernandez | Alex Brandt | Sawyer Buck |
| Gage Schell | Ashley White | Miles Barnes |
| Jarrett Plekes | Harlie McMullin | Andrew Struckmeyer |
| Quintan Bunn | Alyssa Sloma | Nick Struckmeyer |
| Cassandra Rus | Conner Smith | Ryan Tarcela |
| Rebecca Loser | Tanner Ownes | Jarrett Plekes |
| Levi Churches | Hunter Owens | Bryce Morgan |

FAMILY DENTISTRY OF LOWELL

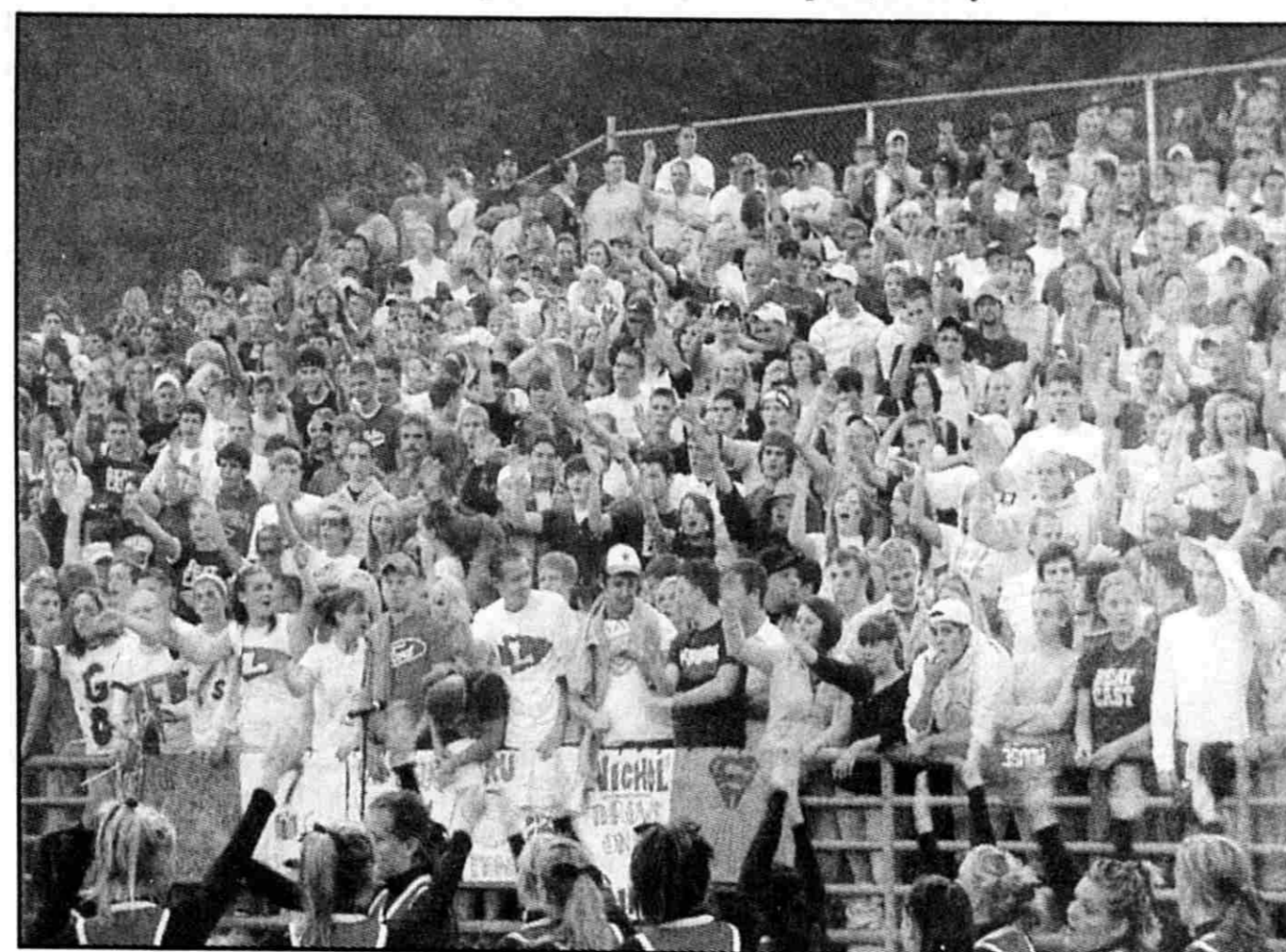
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Boys cross country beats East, girls team struggles

By Dan Schneider

Both Lowell cross country teams opened the OK White season last Wednesday, running against East Grand Rapids on the Kenowa Hills course.

The boys team swept the first three places in their race, beating the Pioneers handily by a score of 17-44. Keaton Dilly lead the way for Lowell, winning the race in a time of 17:39. Andy

Mark finished second in 18:04. Cameron Dilly came in third in 18:22. Kirk Geldersma finished fifth in 18:38 and Cory Fitzpatrick was right behind him with a time of 18:44.

East Grand Rapids only runner to crack Lowell's scoring five was Scott Ammon, who finished fourth in a time of 18:29. Mike Schumm (eighth, 19:04) and Justin Boss

(ninth, 19:05) rounded out Lowell's varsity seven. The Lowell girls team struggled against East Grand Rapids. The Pioneers swept the first seven places in the race, winning 15-50.

Karen Judd was Lowell's top finisher, placing eighth with a time of 22:18. Katie Riddle placed 12th with a time of 24:07. The rest of Lowell's varsity seven were Austyn Foster (14th, 24:17), Paige Senters (17th, 24:58), Haley Getzen (22nd, 26:14), Morgan Olin (23rd, 26:22), Emily Hauschild (25th, 26:42) and Caitlin Sirowatka (29th, 29:21)

Red Arrow golf team victorious over Belding

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell boys golf team won their match against Belding last Tuesday at Candlestone Golf Club.

The score was 166-185. Brian Scheider was Lowell's top scorer with a 39 on nine holes. Rich Porter

and Eric Mundt each shot a 42. Gary Kilgore shot a 43.

The scores were a bit higher than Lowell's last two outings on their home course, Deer Run, but they were enough to top the Redskins.

"Candlestone is kind of

a tight course and there's a lot of places you can get in trouble," Lowell coach Gary Fredline said. "So I was happy with the scores."

At the Lakeview Tournament Friday, Lowell finished fourth among eight teams in its division. The

match play tournament was held at Birchwood Golf Course in Lakeview.

Allen Messing took first place in the fifth flight for Lowell. Rich Porter took second place in the third flight.

Lowell hosted Forest

Hills Eastern, Monday. Last Wednesday's match against Greenville was rained out. It has been rescheduled for Thursday at Glenkerry Golf Club. Lowell hosts Forest Hills Northern next Monday.

Lowell ran at the Middleville-Thornapple Kellogg Invitational on Monday. Their next meet is Wednesday at Greenville. The Red Arrows travel to the Sparta Invitational, Saturday.

Lowell basketball beats Rockford, falls at Byron Center

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell girls basketball team played tough on both sides of the court last Tuesday in a 56-38 win over Rockford.

"Our defense was improved, we made improvements on offense," Lowell coach Dee Crowley said.

The win helped the Red Arrows rebound from a tough season-opening loss to Unity Christian.

"It was important for our girls to play hard" against Rockford, Crowley said.

Lowell's defense limited the Rams to five points in the first quarter and held them scoreless in the second quarter to take a 31-5 lead into halftime. On offense, Lowell made more effective use of the post than they had against Unity Christian. Amanda Geelhoed had 12 points in the paint and Lindsey Trierweiler added six.

"They were a factor in the game," Crowley said. By the end of the third quarter, the Red Arrows had built a 48-15 lead.

Lowell's scoring was well-distributed among several players. Chelsea Harrison led the Arrows with 14 points, Kelsey Crowley scored 13 and Brittany Lyman added eight.

"Our goal is to have four players in double figures, so

we came close," Crowley said.

Last Thursday, Lowell traveled to Byron Center. It was a contest between two closely-matched teams. Lowell came out on the

losing end, 49-47 in a game that was close throughout.

"There were a lot of lead changes and a lot of ties throughout the game," Crowley said. "We are very similar teams, we play kind

of the same style. Byron Center is probably one of the most athletic teams we'll see."

The Bulldogs did much of their damage in the low post.

Lowell's rushing leader, with 47 yards on eight carries, scored nine, Lyman scored eight, and Kelsey Crowley added seven.

Lowell hosted East Grand Rapids, Tuesday. Their next game is Thursday at Greenville.

Lowell's rushing leader, with 47 yards on eight carries, scored nine, Lyman scored eight, and Kelsey Crowley added seven.

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The Lowell High School marching band played selections from the musical Rent during halftime of Friday's game.

What's Your Sport?

Keep Caught Up On All The Lowell High School's Sports Action In **The Lowell Ledger**



LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS VARSITY FALL SPORTS SCHEDULE

This Page Brought to You By **The Lowell Ledger**

CROSS COUNTRY

* Indicates a home game LHS campus. Games begin at 4 p.m. unless indicated

- 9/13 at 4:15 p.m. at Greenville
- 9/16 at 8 a.m. Sparta Invitational
- 9/23 at 9 a.m. Bob Perry Memorial Invitational*
- 9/27 at 4:45 p.m. FHN*
- 9/30 at 9 a.m. Carson City Invitational
- 10/4 at 4:15 p.m. FHC at Northview
- 10/11 at 5:15 p.m. Northview at EGR
- 10/16 at 4:15 p.m. Kenowa Hills*
- 10/20 Conference at Northview



GIRLS BASKETBALL

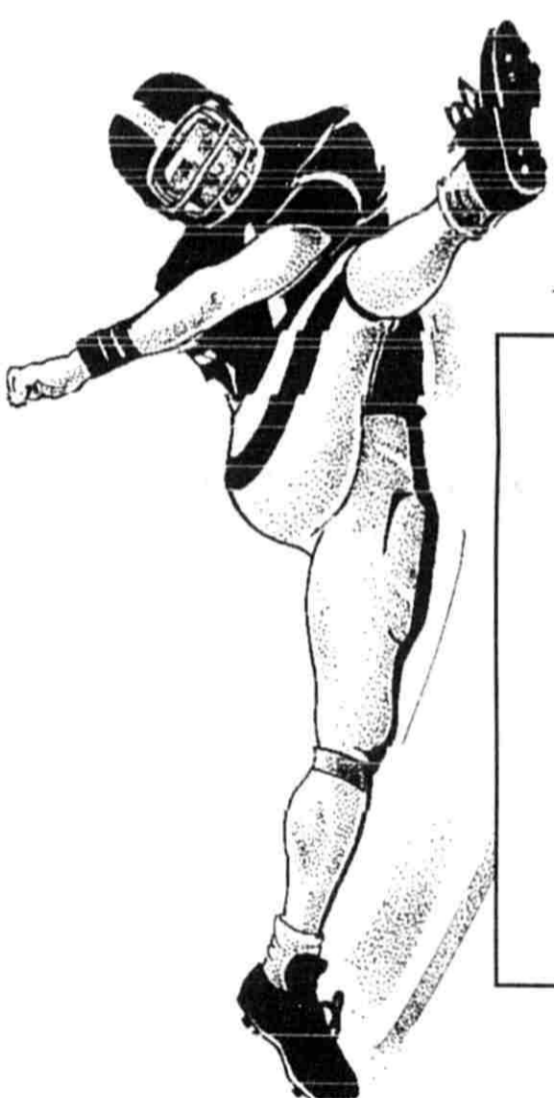
* Indicates a home game LHS Main Gym Games begin at 7 p.m.

- 9/14 at 7:30 p.m. at Greenville
- 9/21 at 7:15 p.m. FHN*
- 9/26 at 7:30 p.m. at FHC
- 9/28 at 7:30 p.m. Northview*
- 10/3 at Ionia
- 10/5 at 7:30 p.m. Kenowa Hills
- 10/7 G.R. Christian*
- 10/12 at 7:30 p.m. at EGR
- 10/14 at East Kentwood
- 10/19 at 7:30 p.m. Greenville*
- 10/24 at 7:30 p.m. Caledonia*
- 10/26 at 7:30 p.m. at FHN
- 10/31 at 7:30 p.m. FHC*
- 11/2 at 7:30 p.m. at Northview
- 11/7 at 7:30 p.m. at Kenowa Hills
- 11/9 at 7:30 p.m. OK Green Crossover

FOOTBALL

* Indicates a home game Red Arrow Stadium Games begin at 7 p.m. unless indicated

- 9/15 at Greenville
- 9/22 at Reeths Puffer
- 9/29 FHN* (Homecoming)
- 10/6 at 7:30 p.m. at FHC
- 10/13 Northview*
- 10/20 at Kenowa Hills



BOYS SOCCER

* Indicates a home game Red Arrow Stadium. Games begin at 6:45 p.m. unless indicated

- 9/14 at Greenville
- 9/19 at Reeths Puffer
- 9/21 Forest Hills Northern*
- 9/23 at 11:30 a.m. East Lansing Tournament
- 9/26 at Forest Hills Central
- 9/28 Northview*
- 10/3 at Kenowa Hills
- 10/5 OK White Tournament time & place TBA
- 10/6 at 4 p.m. Petoskey*
- 10/10 OK White Tournament time & place TBA
- 10/12 OK White Tournament time & place TBA

GIRLS TENNIS

* Indicates a home game LHS tennis courts. Games begin at 4 p.m. unless indicated

- 9/13 at Greenville
- 9/16 at 9:30 a.m. Lowell Invitational
- 9/18 Thornapple Kellogg*
- 9/20 Forest Hills Northern*
- 9/25 at Forest Hills Central
- 9/27 Northview*
- 10/2 at Kenowa Hills
- 10/7 Conference at FHN - time TBA

BOYS GOLF

* Indicates a home game held at Deer Run Golf Course. Games begin at 3:30 p.m. unless indicated

- 9/18 Forest Hills Northern*
- 9/19 at Forest Hills Central
- 9/25 Northview*
- 9/27 at Kenowa Hills
- 9/29 Wayland*
- 10/5 District at Deer Run - Time TBA
- 10/10 at 9 a.m. Conference at Thornapple Pointe

Support Your Team



Lowell boys soccer falls to Rockford, Unity Christian

By Dan Schneider

Lowell boys soccer lost its matches against Rockford and Unity Christian last week.

The Red Arrows hosted the Rams last Tuesday with Rockford winning, 4-2.

The Rams took a 2-0 lead with 6:16 left in the first half. Lowell's Nick Abdoocut the margin in half, sliding into the left goal post to score a wild rebound goal at the 2:12 mark.

Neither team had definite control of the play in the first half. Possessions passed quickly between the two teams. In the second

half, Rockford started taking control of the ball and setting up its attacks better.

The Rams scored two more goals before Abdooc scored his second goal of the game at the 13:42 mark.

Lowell hosted Unity Christian last Thursday. The Arrows fell to the Crusaders by a score of 7-0.

Lowell hosted East Grand Rapids, Tuesday. The Arrows' next match is Thursday at Greenville.

Lowell's Ian Beddows moves the ball upfield in last Tuesday's game against Rockford.



Rain puts damper on Red Arrow girls tennis matches

By Dan Schneider

Weather only allowed Lowell to play one complete tennis event last week.

Even that event, the Northview Tournament, was shortened because of the threat of rain. But by playing eight-game "pro sets" rather than full matches, the teams

were able to finish the tournament before rain could develop.

Lowell placed second with 16 points. Host Northview won the round-robin tournament with 19 points. Grand Rapids West Catholic finished third with 13 points and Fremont

scored no points to finish

fourth out of four teams in the tournament.

Lowell's Heather Spratt took the first-flight single championship. In her match with second-place

finisher Nicole Fongers of Northview, Spratt won 8-6.

Lauren Heemstra of Lowell took first place in

fourth-flight singles. In her match with second place

finisher Courtney Clark of West Catholic, Heemstra won 9-7.

Melissa Zuiderveen took second place in third singles. Lindsey Aiken

and Terrah Tawney took second place in flight-one

doubles for Lowell. In second doubles, Lowell's

Megan Willemstein and Erin Brechbiel took second

place; Caitlin Baker and Leara Glinzak placed second

in third doubles for Lowell. Lowell played a partial match at Portland

last Wednesday with rain

cutting it short. The match's completion is scheduled for later in the season.

Monday's scheduled OK White opener against East Grand Rapids was canceled due to rain. It was rescheduled for Tuesday.

Lowell's next match is Wednesday at Greenville.

Lowell equestrian "A" team wins first MIHA meet

"C" team takes second place at Saturday's meet held in Cedar Springs

Submitted by Mary Slatten

Lowell High School's equestrian team took the lead at their first 2006 Michigan Interscholastic Horsemanship Association (MIHA) meet in Cedar Springs last Saturday.

This year's team is made up of 32 riders, which are divided into A, B, and C teams. They are coached by Mike and Linda Foote.

The Lowell A-Team scored 249 points, taking first place, and were several points ahead of the other four A-teams present.

Cedar Springs came

in second at 160 points. Rockford was third at 91 points, Belding took fourth with 53, and Tri-County was fifth at 47.

The Lowell-B Team totaled 40 points, taking sixth place. The Lowell-C Team scored 102 points to take second place, just 29 points behind Kent City at 131 points.

Notable first place points were attained by Jess Bouman (Hunt Seat Bareback and Western Reining); Ashley VanSpronsen (Speed Timed Event); Amy

VanEns (Western Fitting and Showing and Western Equitation); Cara Wilcox (Hunt Seat Equitation and Trail); Rachelle Wilcox (Western Bareback); Kourtney Wittenbach (Saddle Seat Fitting and Showing and Saddle Seat Pattern); April Wolf (Speed Timed Event); and Sara Fosburg (Flag Race).

The following riders earned additional lead points in events:

Hunt Seat Fitting and Showing: Wittenbach, Cara Wilcox, Maranda

Ruegsegger, Bouman, Gina Giuliano, Leigha Frisbie and Fosburg. Western Fitting and Showing: Wittenbach, Bouman, Rachelle Wilcox, Ruegsegger, Giuliano, Frisbie, Fosburg and Ian Blodger. Saddle Seat Fitting and Showing: Bouman, VanEns and Randi Drier. Saddle Seat Equitation: Jessi Meyers, Drier and Andrea Kulhawik. Saddle Seat Pattern: VanEns, Meyers and Kulhawik. Hunt Seat Bareback: Meyers and Ruegsegger. Hunt Seat Equitation: Bouman,

Giuliano, Brooke Mellema, Frisbie and Fosburg. Western Equitation: Rachelle Wilcox, Cara Wilcox, Mellema, Frisbie and Blodger. Western Bareback: Jennie Reeser, Bouman, VanEns, Fosburg and Blodger. Trail: Rachelle Wilcox, Reeser, Blodger, Frisbie and Fosburg. Flag Race: Ashton VanderWarf, Katie Jousma, Cassie

Fosburg. Balfour, Frisbie and Blodger. Clover Leaf: Wolf, Karlye Ordway, Hannah Hudgens, VanSpronsen, Jousma, Kari Berg, Balfour, Fosburg and Blodger. Speed Timed Event: Amber Waldron, Hudgens, Christian Koning and Fosburg; and Two-Person Relay: Koning, VanSpronsen, Jousma, Balfour, Frisbie and Fosburg.

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A real whopper!

John Schramm of Lowell pulled this monster mud catfish out of the Grand River Thursday, Aug. 31. The fish was 43 inches long and weighed 38 1/2 pounds. At the age of 12, Schramm already has several years of fishing experience, including fishing in the Lowell Moose Lodge Fishing Derby. He caught his first catfish earlier this summer. It was not keeper size, however. While the catfish caught Aug. 31 was keeper size and then some, it was released back into the Grand River. Al Reynolds and Jerry Comp helped Schramm land the enormous fish.

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".

With all the "No Skateboarding" signs, why doesn't our city provide the kids with a place to skate?

I would like to thank the kind person who returned the \$10.00 I mistakenly left in the self-checkout machine at Meijers last Wednesday. I was pleasantly surprised to recover it.

To the woman that said thank you to the fireman at Meijers. It was greatly appreciated.

I won't support any candidate that backs Bush's bizarre foreign or domestic policies. More tax cuts on the wealthy or on companies that are making huge profits.

Does anyone know where I can get 80 yards of oatmeal colored Berber carpet?

To the organizers of the Lowell Youth Football teams...you're doing a great job!

They should recognize the marching band in the paper, we are part of the football games too!

Lately I have been hearing rational dialogue about market forces driving down gas prices. Maybe market forces drove them up in the first place and not evil scheming George Bush. - FB

Grand Chrysler's customer service was outstanding. We'll be back! - Angela Denison

Thanks for the new light on the Flag! We can still see it and the fantastic night sky. :-)

Negative attacks? DeVos has been attacking Jen for months now! What a whiney baby!

I agree, go to FBC to hear great music.

DeVos can't lie to us on this side of the state. He did let 1400 of us go from our jobs. We all know one or more people that lost their job at Amway.

Did they ever draw the 50/50 numbers at the LHS game Friday night? I kept my tickets. Did I win?

I have problems w/the schools not having a moment of silence or mentioning it in the daily announcements for the 5th anniversary of 9/11...and you wonder why kids have no sense of patriotism these days.

Way to Go Red Arrows! It was a great game!

Thanks Roger Brown for your articles. My middle school son wants to be a pilot because of your articles.

Thank you Lowell for being patient the first week of school - Lowell Bus Drivers - Angie Denison

Lowell has the best sports announcer in Tony Stencel - enthusiasm, accuracy, professional demeanor. You are very much appreciated.

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CLASSIFIEDS

SALES SERVICES SERVICES SERVICES SERVICES SERVICES

2-FAMILY GARAGE SALE - Kids & adult clothing, baby items, scrapbooking/stamping magazines & supplies, household items, furniture, lawn mowers, tools & more! Corner of Bennett & Parnell. Fri. & Sat., Sept. 15 & 16, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

GARAGE SALE - Thurs., Sept. 14-Sat., Sept. 16, 10-7. 8292 Timpson, Alto, just off 84th St. Girls clothes 0-12 mo., boy clothes 18mo-2T, some toys, cherished teddy bears, porcelain dolls, household and much more.

ESTATE & GARAGE SALE - 11216 Bluewater Hwy, 2 miles east of Lowell. Sept. 14, 15, & 16, 9 to 5.

MOVING SALE - N. of Lowell-1 mile west of Lincoln Lake Rd-11901 6 Mile Rd. Wed-Sat 8-6, books, tools, tools, tools, handyman supplies, gardening tools, commercial lawn mower, furniture, and much more. Everything must go!

KELLY'S CLEANING - home or business, references, thorough cleaning, reasonable rates. Call 691-7141.

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

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CLASSIFIEDS...CONTINUED

SALES
2MULTI FAMILY GARAGE SALES - lots of stuff! Furniture, clothes & collectibles. 4710 & 4704 Wheat Dr. S of Lowell, between 28th & Ware. Sept. 14-16, 9 to 5 p.m.

ESTATE SALE - Antiques, vintage clothing, trunks, Berkey & Gay bedroom set, fabrics, crafts, household items, glassware, linens, furniture. 90 yrs. of collectibles. Thurs. & Fri., 9/14 & 15, 9-5pm, Sat., 9/16, 9-noon. 6494 Morse Lake Ave, Alto.

END OF YEAR SALE - Sept. 14 & 15, 8:30-11:30pm Denise St., Key Heights. Water skis, brown dorm refrigerator, golf clubs, ball cards - hockey, football, & Yugioh, lots of misc. All priced to sell.

YARD SALE - 13062 Grand River SE, numerous items, log splitter, saws, formal dresses, dishes, etc. Fri. & Sat., Sept. 15 & 16, 9 to 5 p.m.

ESTATE/MOVING SALE - 12345 92nd St., Alto. Quality items, antique furniture, antique reed organ, horse tack & apparel, home decor, piano, violins, organ, books, skis, toys & much more. Sept. 17, 22 & 23, noon - 4 p.m. 868-6864.

YARD SALE - 510 High Street, Lowell. Sat., Sept. 16, 9 - 4 p.m.

HUGE MULTI FAMILY SALE - Fri. - Sat., 9/15 & 16, 8:30 to 6. 2655 Gulliford Dr., south off Grand River, 1 mile west of Alden Nash.

FOR SALE
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.

GOLF BALLS FOR SALE - Previously experienced all in perfect condition - Titleist & Precept, \$6 per doz.; Pinnacle & Nike, \$5 per doz.; Top-Flite, \$4 per doz. or 3 doz. for \$10.. Many other brands also. Call 897-1355.

BED A VISCO TEMPUR-PEDIC - style mattress set. Total support, relieves back pain. 20-year warranty. Store price \$1899, will sell \$899. Never used. 616-682-4767 or 616-293-5188. Can deliver.

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

AIR BED - Selecta comfort firmness for each of you. Harmony 5000 pillowtop set. Dual chambers. Digital number remote. Never used. Mall price \$1799, sell \$1099. 616-682-4767 or 616-293-5188.

FOR SALE - 1992 23 ft. Coachman trailer, excellent condition. Call 616-648-5550.

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

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

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

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FIREWOOD FOR SALE - \$150 cord, all hardwood, you pick up. Call 897-0279.

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'95 MERCURY SABLE - 110,000 miles, white, alloy wheels, leather int., new tires & brakes, no rust, \$2,200. Call 616-550-8941.

60 INCH SONY TV - older model, good condition, \$200. Call 897-0029.

1991 DODGE DAKOTA - long bed, 318 V8, well taken care of and used little for last 4 years. Very low mileage for its age, 116,000. No rust and has had no rust repair. No collision repairs. Interior excellent, oil changed every 3000 miles. Retiring from business. \$1,500 obo. 897-7310.

1994 CHEVROLET CAVALIER - 2 door, 2.0 motor, very dependable, \$750 obo; 1995 Chevy 1500 series, new tires, brakes, etc., \$2,500 obo; 17 ft. Silverline, 1978, one owner, 115 horse motor, elec. prop & more, \$1,800 obo. Please call 616-773-4421. Moving must sell!

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.

6 DRAWER CAPTAIN'S BED - X-long twin, pillowtop mattress, \$75 obo; dresser, wide 5 drawer, best offer. 868-6296.

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

CALCULATORS - Graphic & scientific, TI-83 plus, \$45; TI-30XA, \$5; TI-34, \$5. Call 868-7576.

WOODED ACREAGE! - Private +/- 3-5.8 acre build sites. Saranac schools. Located on Pinckney & Rickett. West Michigan Real Estate. 897-0530.

FOR SALE - Motorized wheelchair, works good, \$800 obo; manual wheelchair, \$100 obo; Hoyer bed lift, brand new, \$800 obo. Call 616-894-1523.

FOR SALE - 3 living room chairs & 3 piece patio set, reasonable. Call 897-5492 if no answer leave message & we'll return your call.

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

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FOR SALE - 4 Firestone P225/70R14.98R, M&S tires. On Ford rims, like new, \$150 obo. Call 897-3013.

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

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

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.

FOR RENT - HOUSE, barns & pastures, country setting, 3 bedrooms, out-barns, newly remodeled, Lowell schools, washer/dryer. Call 616-897-5807 or 616-915-4200.

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

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HOUSE FOR RENT - Saranac, 2 story country home, 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, main floor laundry room, easy access to expressway, \$800 per month. 975-2148.

HOME TO SHARE - Looking for a mature, responsible & clean male to share my home. House privileges, garage, laundry, etc. Nice private room, bed, dresser & Direct TV included, as well as utilities. \$480 per month. Phone 868-6421.

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.

HOUSE FOR RENT - 3 bedroom, \$800/mo. plus utilities, no pets. Call 648-5533.

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.

FOR RENT - New house, nice Ada area, clean & quiet in a smoke-free home. 626-7567

WANTED
WANTED - Motorcycles. Cash paid for road bikes, running or not. Call 446-8352.

FREE
FREE TO GOOD HOME - 3 year old female Doberman. We are moving & simply can't take her with us. She is up to date on all vaccinations with GR vet in Lowell. Must have fenced in yard with room to run, NO OTHER DOGS & older children or no children. She is very loving & loyal. I really hate to give her up. If you can provide the love & attention she needs, please call Jodie 616-540-5834.

FREE KITTENS - to a good home. Please call after 6 p.m. 616-642-9309.

EVENTS
CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED - A weekly Bible study of the book of Mark. Meeting every Friday from 7:00-8:30pm starting 9/22/06. A light meal will be served. For questions and location call Steve or Susan at 868-0961.

LOST
LOST BLACK LAB - West of Lowell. Answers to Stanley. Call 897-6807.

CARD OF THANKS
I WISH TO THANK the lady and gentleman who stopped to assist me when I fell from my bike on the bridge over Grand River. Thanks also to Andy and Mark of the Rescue Unit for checking me out. My hip was not broken but sustained a large hip bruise plus two broken ribs. The Road Commission could assist too by patching the expansion joint on the south end of said bridge - into which my bike fell throwing me into the line of traffic.
Ron Stevens

HELP WANTED
CALL CENTER - Start today! Interview people for their opinion on TV and radio research 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.

SPORTS REPORTER NEEDED - The Lowell Ledger is looking for a freelance sports reporter/photographer for local high school events. Please send writing samples and/or tear sheets to: Managing Editor, PO Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or email jboss@lowellbuyersguide.com. In the subject line put "SPORTS REPORTER."

LAURELS OF KENT - is looking for dietary aides, part time evenings & weekends. Kitchen experience preferred. Apply at 350 N. Center.

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

IN MEMORIAM
In memory of **Kenneth R. Kropf**
Out through the fields and the woods, And over the walls I have wended; I have climbed the hills of view, And looked at the world, and descended; I have come by the highway home, And lo, it is ended.
Robert Frost.
Remembering you and missing you on your birthday, September 10. Your brother & his family

LOWELL COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE



For Their Sake, Give Blood

**Wednesday
September 13, 2006
2 p.m. - 7 p.m.**

**Look Memorial
Fire Station**

315 S. Hudson, Lowell

Sponsored by
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