

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 34 Issue 49

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, October 11, 2006

Harvest Celebration this weekend

Costume, clown parade to highlight Lowell historical milestones

By Emma Palova

A costume parade featuring clowns and bands will sweep along Main Street as part of the Harvest Celebration this Saturday, the 14th. The one-time only parade will celebrate 175 years of Lowell history and 100 years of the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce. The fire department will be celebrating 150 years.

"It's a pretty significant event for the community," said chamber executive director Liz Baker. "It's a one-time-only parade. It's different from other parades."

The parade will feature 85 units including the Scottville Clown Band and 50 other clowns. Split into two phases, it will consist of a military contingent and the parade group. The military contingent will start the parade with a ceremony at the Veterans Memorial to honor past and present military. It will be followed by the costume and clown parade.

"This is not your typical Lowell parade," said chairman Dave Thompson. "We're going to have a lot of music and crazy stuff. We wanted to do something unusual."

It has been a longtime dream for Thompson to have a clown parade in town. Now, as chairman, Thompson won't even get to clown around.

"I'll be too busy," he said.

To celebrate the chamber's 100 years, Baker said

chamber officials felt they needed to do something big and different.

Apart from the parade, new this year at the Harvest Celebration are Ghost Stories readings presented by the Lowell Area Arts Council at the Lowell Fairgrounds at 6:30 p.m. for youth, and at 8 p.m. for adults.

"If you want to get really scared, come," said Baker.

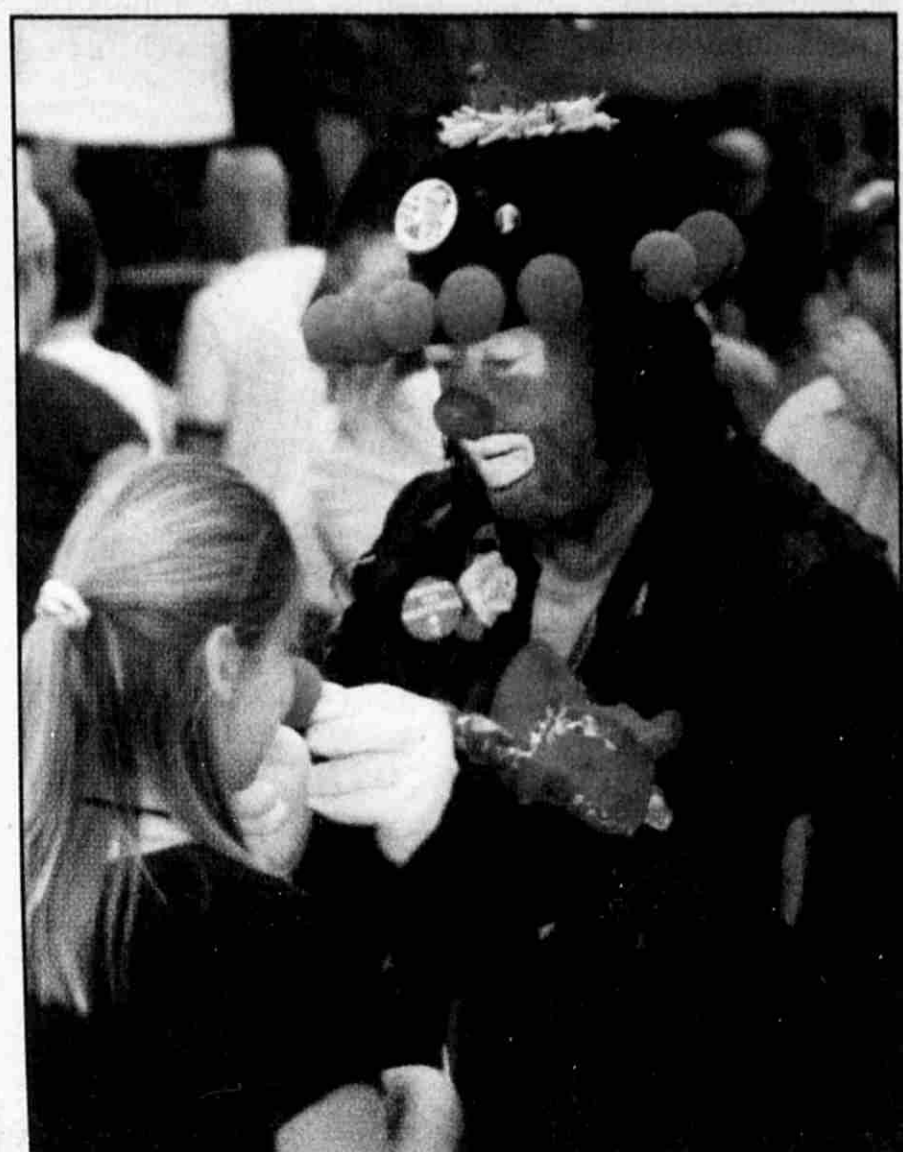
The Scarecrow Building Hoedown is the traditional mainstay of the Harvest Celebration. People are invited to build a scarecrow at the Lowell Fairgrounds to decorate Main Street. Everything is supplied.

"You can't imagine how much joy and pride this brings to the children and parents," said Baker. "It's a bonding time for the entire community." Scarecrows will bedeck Main St. until Oct. 30.

Other events on Saturday will include a 5K run/walk, and the arts and crafts show at the Lowell Fairgrounds. The Flat River Antique Fair will take place on the Riverwalk Plaza along Flat River.

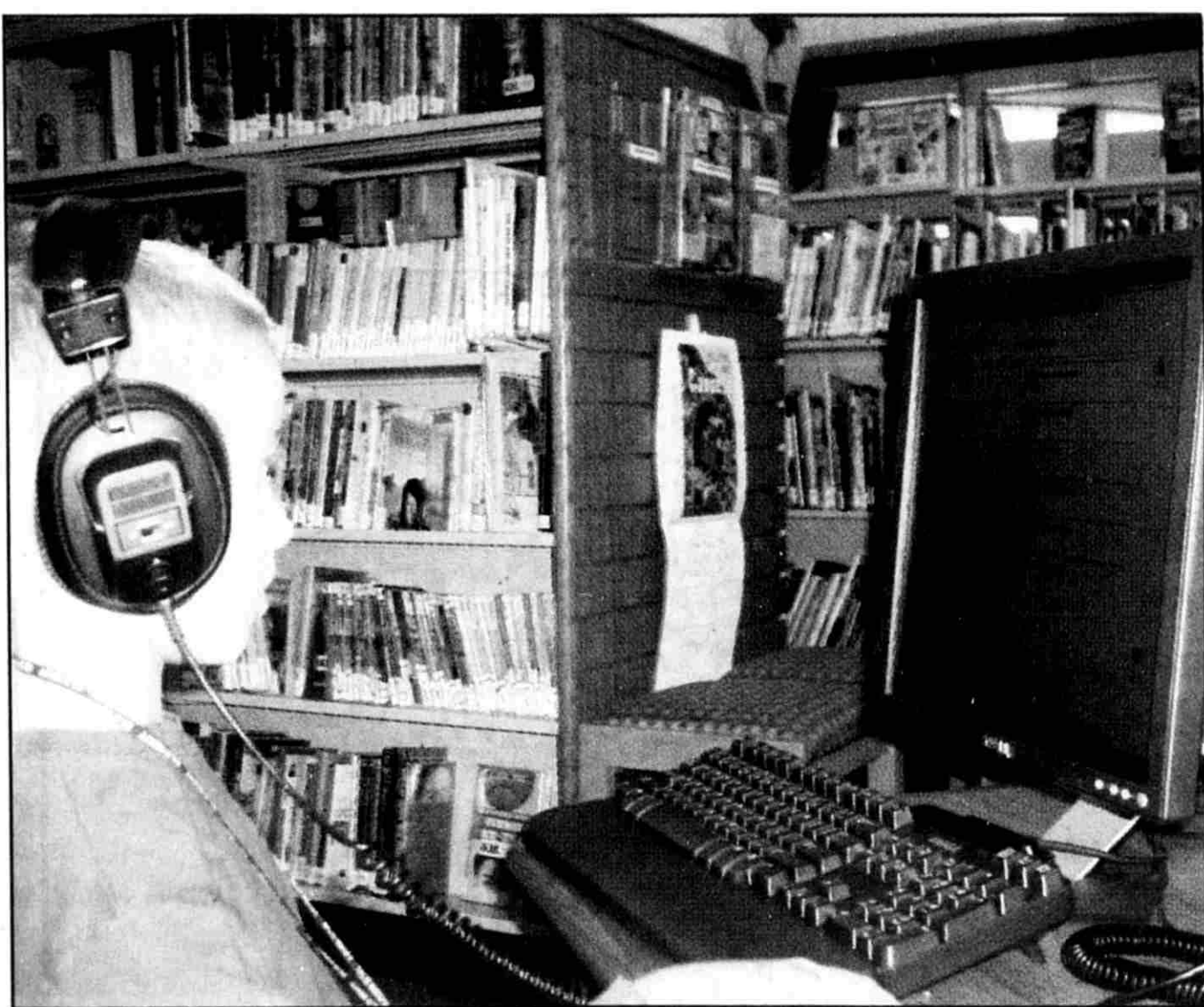
The annual chili cook-off on N. Broadway will benefit St. Mary's Pregnancy Center.

Bleacher seating will be available for a small donation to benefit the Flat River Outreach Ministries. After the parade, there will be a photo opportunity on the Lowell Showboat with the clowns and mascots. The parade starts at 1 p.m. sharp.



See-More the Hobo Clown is shown at a previous event placing a spare nose on a junior clown.

Englehardt branch to have self check-out stations



Caleb Ford, 7, enjoys new snazzy public computers at the Englehardt Library.

By Emma Palova

The Englehardt branch of the Kent District Library (KDL) will soon have new self check-out stations to improve service to its patrons. In preparation for the expedient service, the library has already installed a self pickup holding area at the front desk.

"It will speed up the check-out process," said branch manager Jane Aronson. "It's much like using an express lane. It will be much faster. Staff will still be available to place holds and to find books."

The two check-out stations, similar to a computer or an overhead projector,

will be placed at the front desk with assistance available.

Patrons will only need to set the book on a pad, and the machine will spit out a check-out slip.

"It will be quick in and out," said Aronson.

KDL has been getting ready for the new stations, also known as Radio Frequency Identification Technology (RFIT) since July of 2005. The first self check-out stations have been installed at the Wyoming branch and other large branches such as Walker, Cascade and East Grand Rapids.

KDL has spent the last year tagging materials and putting security systems in place.

"We've put a lot of preparation into this," said KDL spokesperson Regina Sjoberg. "We're getting really excited about this."

The biggest advantages of the self check-out stations are the ability to check out several books at once. The system is also very private, according to Sjoberg.

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New church building will house growing ministries

By Emma Palova

The First Congregational Church of Lowell UCC found a new home at 865 Lincoln Lake Ave. S.E.

The beautiful white building with an 85-foot tall steeple is situated on 19

acres of land. It is pastor Dr. Roger La Warre's dream to have ball and soccer fields for the community on the property.

"We're going to make a difference in this town," said La Warre.

The new building will

provide ample room for the church's growing ministry in the community. According to La Warre, the major goal is to eradicate the suffering of the poor in town.

As such, the congregation will focus on meeting family needs. La Warre

claims the biggest need is in providing infant and toddler care to single mothers who work the second shift.

The church has separate rooms for age categories from infants and toddlers to teens.

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Obituaries

EISINGER
Virginia Eisinger, aged 73, formerly of Laingsburg, died Saturday, October 07, 2006 in Lowell. She was predeceased in death by her husband Edward Eisinger in 2002. She leaves behind three daughters Ellen (David) Richardson of Milton, FL, Susan (David) Klem of Morrice, MI, Katherine (Michael) Sharpe of Vermontville, MI; her brother William (Lois) Gilbert of Caledonia; five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren. Virginia was involved in many service organizations, Lions and Lioness, Leader Dog for the Blind, Neighborhood Watch and Native American and Art Councils. She was an avid gardener, artist and community activist. A memorial service will be held Wednesday at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, at 11 a.m., Rev. Steven Harduk of First Baptist Church of Alto, officiating. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Faith Hospice of Grand Rapids, 2100 Raybrook St., Suite 300, or to a charity of one's choice.

MILLER
Ronald L. Miller, aged 38, of Wyoming, formerly of Lowell passed away October 3, 2006. He was preceded in death by his father Ted Miller. He is survived by his mother Nina Miller of Lowell; brothers Jim (Cheryl) Miller of Ada, Bob (Kathy) Miller of Grand Rapids; sisters Anita Miller (Lisa Storrs) of Lowell, Anna (Russ) Collins of Saranac; special close friends Geof, Brandon, Erica, Virginia and Jackie; also several nieces, nephews, aunt and uncles; Funeral service was held Saturday, Oct. 7 at Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, Pastor Donald Clay of Central Seventh-day Adventist Church, officiating. Interment South Sidney Cemetery in Greenville. Memorial contributions may be made to: Gift of Life Program in Michigan.

At Your Local Library
Sunday, October 8, 2006. She is survived by her son Jerry and Judy Taylor of Lowell; daughter Dana and Chip Hunter of Freeport; five grandchildren; stepson Leo Taylor of Belding; sisters Helene Featherley, Linda Furrow, Sandy Andersen, Robert and Hank Dunbar; brothers Carl and Fay Featherley, Jim and Ellen Featherley, Vic Featherley, Raymond and Jean Featherley, George and Jackie Featherley; many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her sister Marie Brown and stepson David Taylor. Funeral services will be Wednesday at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, at 1:30 p.m., Mrs. Fay Featherley, officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Visitation Tuesday 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to Welcome Home for the Blind, 1953 Monroe NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49505.

ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION
The Alto branch will have a friendly, informal book discussion for adults on Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 7 p.m. Visit the branch to get your copy of the selected title. Call Deb at 647-3820 or visit the library at 6071 Linfield Ave. in Alto.

SAMPLE RECIPES AT ENGLEHARDT BRANCH
Visit the Community Room at the Englehardt branch on Thursday, Oct. 19 at 4 p.m. for some inspiration from cookbook author and teacher Deanna House. She will prepare three or four recipes and share some samples with all who attend.

House is a freelance food writer regularly published in the Kalamazoo Gazette. She has also authored four cookbooks.

There is a \$5 registration fee. Call the library at 647-3920 to register or Joy Smith at 897-7957 for more information.

TAYLOR
Beverly J. Taylor, aged 67, of Lowell, passed away Monday, Oct. 9, 2006. She was preceded in death by her husband, James Taylor. She is survived by her son, James Taylor, Jr., and daughter, Beverly Taylor. Funeral services will be held Wednesday, Oct. 11, 2006 at 11 a.m. at the Englehardt Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, Michigan. Interment will be in the Englehardt Cemetery, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, Michigan. Memorial contributions may be made to the Englehardt Cemetery, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, Michigan.

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AHOY, MATES!
A pirate program titled "Shiver Me Timbers" will be offered at several Kent District Libraries this fall. Bring your buccaneer and seafaring skills when you come to read pirate stories, play "jolly" games and build crafts worthy of the cleverest of pirates. Children 6 and under are welcome.

To register for the Tuesday, Oct. 17 program at the Englehardt branch, call 647-3920. It begins at 6:30 p.m.

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
TONI BLOUGH.....COPY EDITOR
EMMA PALOVA.....LEAD REPORTER
JUSTIN SWAN.....SPORTS REPORTER
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

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Dawn Ysseldyke
Barb & Ray Zandstra

QUILT WINNER:
Carol Reagan

Fallasburg Fall Festival Volunteer Potluck Dinner
Anyone who volunteered at this year's festival or would like to be involved next year, please join us
October 26th at 6:00 pm
at the Lowell Area Arts Council.
Come and share your ideas to continue to make this fall festival one of the best there is! Please feel free to invite a friend.

THANK YOU!!!

DEMONSTRATING ARTISTS:
Hito Akehi
Betty Carpenter
Betty Christians
Karin Eldredge
Flat River Rug Hookers
Flat River Woodcarvers
Richard Eby

Gabriela Minnhaar-Tomatis
Perkins Custom Leatherwork
Roger Rosalemiec
Bud Thurtell
Diane VanderPol
Dorothy VanderPol

ORGANIZATIONS:
Alto Lions Club
Fallasburg Historical Society
First Congregational Church
Flat River Outreach Ministries
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Knights of Columbus
Lowell 1st United Methodist Church
Lowell Area Fire Department
Lowell Area Historical Museum
Lowell Lions Club
Lowell Rotary Club

FOOD BOOTH

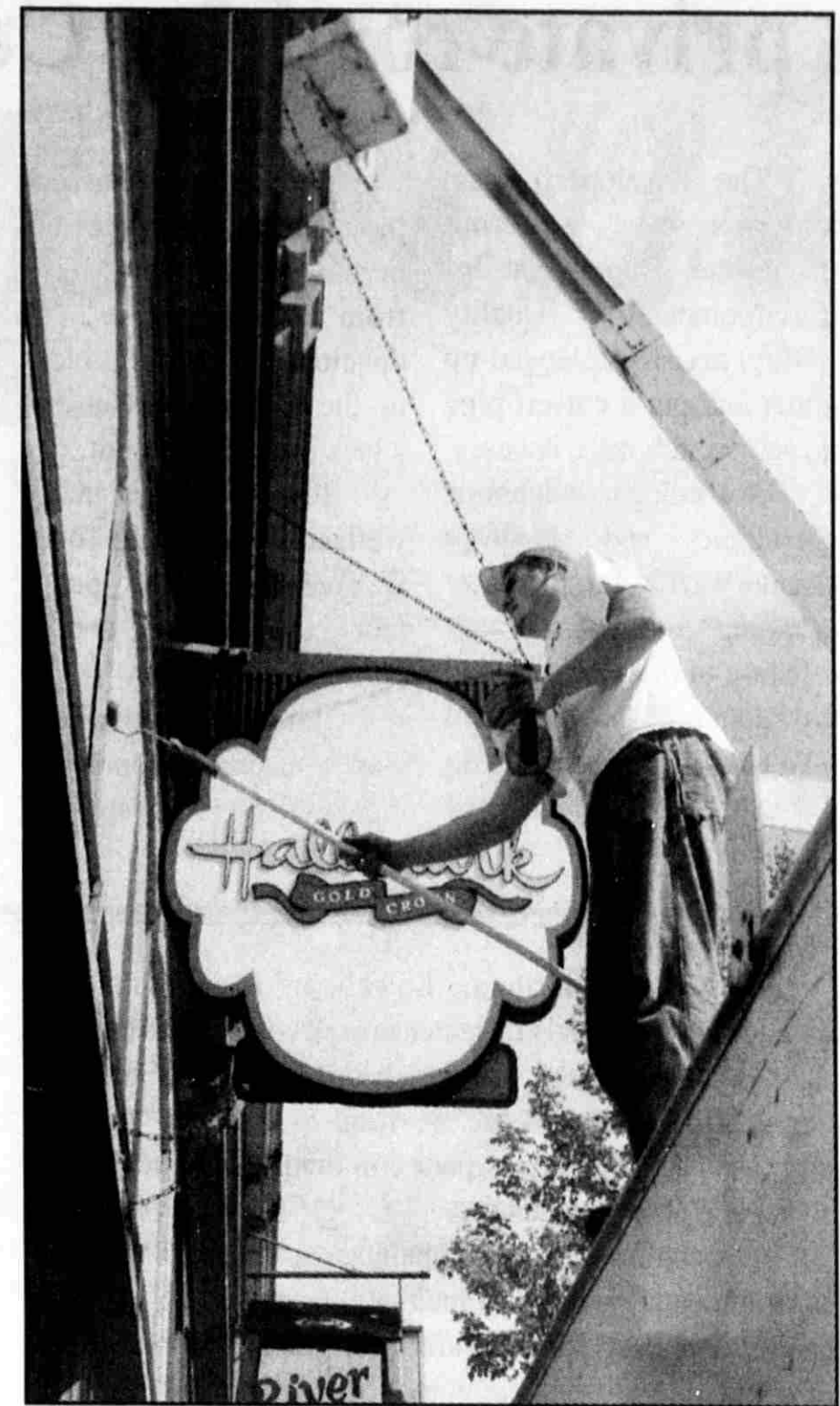
Also a BIG thank you for the crew at Fallsburg Park, performing musicians and Thebes Players, and the many, many community volunteers for a great festival this year!

"Kaleidoscope" designed & created by Dawn Ysseldyke

Lowell Area Arts Council

Finishing touches

Joe Wisner, right, and Drake DeCator put the finishing touches on the repainted Cousin's Hallmark facade on Main Street. Owners Karen and Mike Hale had the building powerwashed and brick replaced. They will also be refinishing the 100-year-old oak doors to their original look.



SEE MORE'S CORNER

Only a few days left until the parade

First off, you may notice that See-More is wearing earmuffs this week! Well, Bill Steffen, TV's weather man, called me Sunday and said to be prepared for some colder weather by the end of the week. If that's the case, be sure to dress a little warmer for the parade and all the other activities. It might even be a good idea to take a blanket along with you, huh? And, be sure to look for Bill in the parade!

One unit in the parade will include four very special kids who will probably be in a large carriage. They will be the parade's Princes and Princesses and they will be wearing crowns. These are some wonderfully brave kids who have all endured difficult battles with cancer. Their involvement in the parade is an acknowledgment that they are, indeed, very special and that we recognize the hardships they and their families have endured. Be sure to give them a warm welcome and maybe even a hearty cheer! They certainly have earned it! In fact, feel free to add your applause and cheers to all of the parade units who are out on Main Street Saturday, entertaining everyone!

On another note ... I understand that someone out there was apparently insulted by See-More's suggestion that we put our best side forward for our "out-of-town guests" and the suggestion we make an effort to say "Hello" and make them feel at home. Well, if you were insulted, See-More certainly apologizes! It was never his manner to insult anyone, especially someone kind enough to read his column. There are people, however, who sometimes need a

little encouragement to open up to strangers, and that's all the suggestion was. Obviously, the person in question didn't need it. But, for any of you "shy ones" out there who might, we hope you'll feel encouraged to say "Hello" to those who've come out to Lowell to help us celebrate our Three Unique Birthdays ... the 175th, the 150th and the 100th!

This will be the final column for See-More and I want to thank the Ledger for allowing him to tell you pertinent things about this year's Harvest Celebration Day. Cool weather or not ... we will have a lot of fun on Saturday afternoon at 1 p.m. for the parade, as well as the many other activities planned for that day! You know, we are all so fortunate to be a part of one of the finest little towns anywhere in the USA. Lowell truly is one of America's great communities, full of heritage, and friendly people!

See-More joins all of you in saying, "God Bless America" ... and to every one of you too!

ACT deadline approaching for students

College-bound high school students can take the ACT college admission exam on Dec. 9, the next national test date. The deadline for postmark or online registration is Nov. 3. Late registration deadline is Nov. 16 (an additional \$19 is required). Students can get registration materials from their high school counselor or register online on ACT's student web site (www.actstudent.org).

ACT scores are accepted by virtually all colleges and universities across the nation. There are four parts: English, reading, math and

science. An optional writing test is also available.

The basic registration fee is \$29; an additional \$14 is required for students who choose to take the ACT Writing Test. Free sample tests are available from school counselors and on ACT's web site which also offers additional free practice tests.

Lowell High School students should contact their counselor at 987-2908.

Youth arrested for window peeping

The Lowell Police Department has made an arrest of a window peeper. During the time period of Sept. 30 and Oct. 4, there were four incidents of window peeping in the area of Elizabeth and Amity streets, two of which were reported to Lowell police. A 16-year-old male was arrested in the act on Oct. 4 at approximately 7 a.m. Police declined to release the name of the juvenile; however, he was arrested and released to his parents.

These incidents are isolated to one home only. The complainant whose name is not released has teenage daughters and there

is an interest in at least one of the girls. The suspect was linked to the other incidents by his vehicle in which neighbors had identified as well as identifying the suspect from earlier incidents.

Any further information can be obtained by contacting Detective Steven Bukala.

Library, continued ... From Page 1

"If you do have problems, staff will help you," said Sjoberg. "It's fun, easy, quick and private."

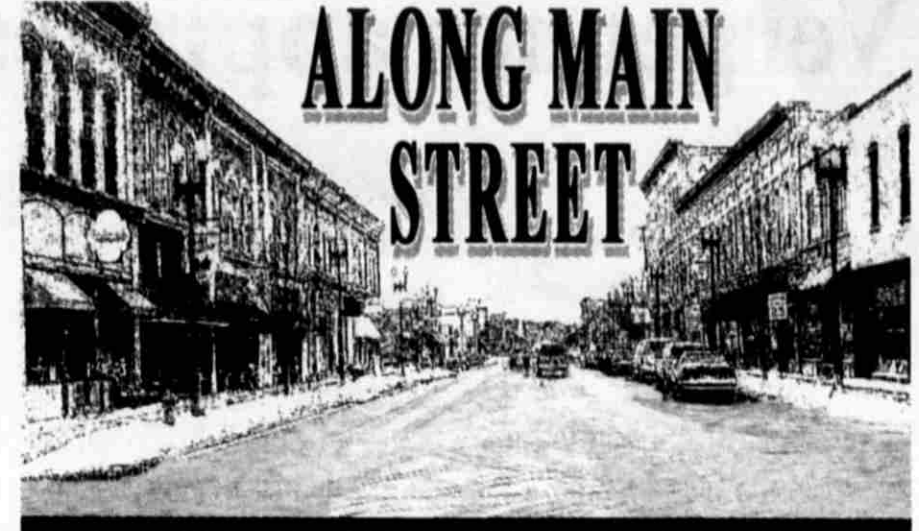
Moreover, the system enables the staff to put books back on shelves faster.

Sjoberg said so far people like the new stations, although some find that change is difficult. One dis-

received eight snazzy new public computers including children's stations in July.

Last week, Caleb Ford, who is home-schooled, came to the library to work on the new children's station.

"I love it," he said. The self-pickup holding area was created in June.



WITTENBACH/WEGE CENTER CLASSES
Nature classes are being offered to preschoolers/parents at the Wittenbach/Wege Environmental Center. Morning/afternoon sessions. To sign up call 987-1002 or email Smueller@lowellschools.com

ACADEMIC BOOSTERS
Parents are invited to an academic boosters meeting, Thursday, Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. in the academic boosters parent room (math hallway). Eighth grade parents welcome too.

FFA HOG ROAST
Lowell FFA will have a hog roast on Friday, Oct. 13 in the LHS cafeteria. Meal: 5:30 - 7 p.m. \$5 per person; kids 5 and under free. Auction: 6:30 p.m.

FOOD PANTRY IS BARE
Everything except vegetables are needed in the F.R.O.M. food pantry.

GHOST STORY READING
LAAC presents a free ghost story event in conjunction with the Harvest Celebration Saturday at the Lowell Fairgrounds. 6:30 p.m. for youth; 8 p.m. for adults. visit www.lowellartscouncil.org

LHS PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES
Wednesday, Oct. 11, 3-6 p.m.; Tuesday, Oct. 17, 3:30 - 7 p.m.

TRAILWAY MEETING
Lowell Township offices will be the location for the Planning for Trailway meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 11 at 6 p.m.

PSAT REGISTRATION
Sophomores or juniors who are college-bound should consider taking the PSAT on Oct. 18. Register in the Student Service Center. Cost: \$14; make checks payable to Lowell Area Schools.

HEALTH LECTURE
Dr. Andre Jubert will be at Englehardt Library on Thursday, Oct. 26 from 7-8 p.m. speaking on "The Frontal Lobe—Control Center of our Being." Free community event.

CONCERT IN LPAC
Roger MacNaughton and Steven VanRavenswaay team up for a concert on Nov. 5 at 3 p.m. in the Lowell Performing Arts Center at the high school. Piano and cello combine for some Christmas favorites and originals. For tickets: call 897-8545 or www.lowellartscouncil.org

DRIVER'S ED 2
LHS will offer Segment 2 on Nov. 6, 7 and 8. Students must pre-register now thru Oct. 20. Call or stop into the high school office. Classes meet from 3-5 or 4-6 p.m. Students must bring their Level 1 license and proof of 30 driving hours to the first class. Students must attend all three classes to receive a Segment 2 certificate.

TASTE OF VEGETARIAN
Sample healthful dishes and receive a free recipe booklet at the 8th annual "Taste of Vegetarian" Sunday, Nov. 12 from 4-6 p.m. at Cherry Creek Elementary. Free community event.

PARENTING CLASS AT TOTS
Love and logic parenting classes will be held in November and January. Cost: \$12 for 4 classes and workbook. Free childcare. Please register by calling Kathy at 987-2532.

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1:25, 4:10, 6:55, 9:40
OPEN SEASON (PG)
1:05, 3:05, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20
SCHOOL FOR SCOUNDRELS (PG-13)
1:10, 3:15, 5:20, 7:25, 9:30
JACKASS: NUMBER TWO (R)
1:15, 3:20, 5:25, 7:30, 9:35

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and 4oz. bag of battery popcorn

Vergennes approves private road for Cumberland Woods

By Emma Palova

The Vergennes Township Board approved a private road Monday for the Cumberland Woods development, contingent upon several conditions.

Major concerns included drainage issues and the abandonment of Cumberland Road. The development, located on 40 acres off McPherson Road, will consist of nine parcels. The number of land splits is based on the construction of the private road through the land division act, according to engineer Becky Page.

The developers, also, did not have a permit from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to cross a plugged-up ditch and put a culvert pipe to resolve drainage issues.

According to neighbors' Geraldine and Godfrey VanderWerffs, there's water standing in the field now because of the blocked ditch by fallen trees and sediment. "You have too much to do for us to approve this," said trustee Vern Nauta.

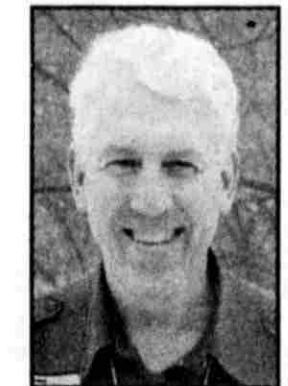
Richard DeVree insisted they will have the necessary permits within two weeks from various agencies. The developer could not clean up the ditch first because of a lack of a DEQ permit.

"It's a designated wetland stream," said Toben DeVree. "We can't put a tube in before we get the permit."

Godfrey VanderWerff was concerned about the increased flow of water and the lack of a retention pond.

"I want to resolve the issue of drainage," he said. "Let's have them clean it up. I don't want to commit to something that I don't know how it's going to end."

Finally, after a long discussion, the township board gave the developer a preliminary approval to construct a private road based on a long list of conditions. The conditions other than drainage and abandonment issues included obtaining a soil erosion permit, a deed restriction for the new homeowners not to interfere with the drainage plan, driveway access, road maintenance agreement, speed limit signage, VanderWerffs' review of the drainage plan and inspections. Nauta said the drainage area needs to be cleaned up and returned to its natural state.



On The Wild Side

With Ranger Steve Wittenbach/Wege Center Director

HIDDEN ASSETS

Lowell can be a place our kids and grandkids will want to be. It is up to us to keep it that way. I say, "keep it" that way because Lowell is a wonderful place to be. We have a mix of wild lands, domesticated agricultural land and developed urban/residential lands.

Many places, including Lowell, are losing wild lands and agricultural lands to increasing development. Some of the new development will enrich our lives and some will degrade the quality of life we want to maintain. The role of greenspace interlaced in our community is critical to our social and economic needs.

As a community, we can balance economic, social and environmental qualities to maintain a standard of living we desire. It is easy for individuals to get lost in one aspect of community development and lose sight of the other two community values that make it sustainable. It is easy to lose sight of balance when work becomes narrowly focused to economic growth, or social justice, or environmental quality.

We need economic, social and environmental sustainability for the best quality of life.

On Tuesday, Oct. 17 from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., West Michigan Strategic Alliance, with the support of a great composite of community partners, is hosting Natural Connections - Maximizing opportunities for Green Infrastructure into Sustainable, Livable, Communities.

This event will lead to an opportunity for constructing a long-term vision for neighboring communities to work together to create a future with a triple bottom line focused on economic, social and environmental sustainability. The future quality of life for West Michigan families can be a

Wild Side, cont'd., pg. 11

Community outreach is goal of standalone ordinance

By Emma Palova

The Vergennes Township Board may establish a standalone general law ordinance for the township Historic District Commission to increase community involvement and outreach.

falls under the township zoning ordinance. As such, according to Lynee Wells of Williams and Works, the administrative structure can

be awkward, conflicting and constraining.

Moreover, under the zoning ordinance, any alterations to historical structures are subject to review not only by the historic commission but also by the township planning commission.

By moving the Historic District Commission into the general law ordinance, the commission would have little relationship to zoning except for historic site removal and potential appeals. And according to zoning administrator Jeanne Vandersloot, the Historic District Commission could apply for grants for historic preservation.

Although historic

preservation can be expensive, it, on the other hand, makes historic districts look nice, said Vandersloot.

The township Historic District Commission could partner with the Fallsburg Historical Society to rejuvenate historic preservation efforts in the township. The historic society could also be a resource to the township Historic District Commission.

The collaborative efforts could include improving the condition of historic buildings in the Fallsburg village, and surveying other potential historic structures in the township.

"We want to take someone who wants to

drive this and meet at least once a year," said Vergennes Township supervisor Tim Wittenbach.

If the township establishes the Historic District Commission under the general law ordinance, the commission will start fresh with a new chairman and a board. Efforts of the commission could also include local farmland preservation and could inventory township centennial farms and rural historic landscapes. Designated historic structures can be eligible for state and federal tax credits.

Fallsburg Park is in an agricultural zone with a historic district overlay ordinance. The issue of moving the township Historic District Commission from the zoning ordinance into a general law ordinance will be discussed by planning commission on Nov. 13.

CITY OF LOWELL

FALL YARD WASTE PICKUP PROGRAM

For the months of October and November yard waste will be picked up on a weekly basis. Yard waste pickup will be on Thursday, the same day as your refuse/recycling pickup.

Please note if a holiday falls during the week, Thursday pickup will be delayed to Friday.

Yard waste bags are available at the same locations that have refuse bags and are \$10 for a bundle of ten bags.

If you have any questions, please contact City Hall (897-8457).

Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

EmploymentGroup is recruiting for full and part-time permanent cleaning positions. Must have 6 months experience. This is a long-term opportunity in a great working environment. Hours are M-F, 6pm-10pm or 6pm-2:30am. Pay up to \$9.00/hr.

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Viewpoint



by Roger Brown

COZY corner

Somebody once said, "Necessity is the mother of invention." In my warped opinion, that quote should be amended to, "Necessity is the mother of Honey-Dos." You know, "Honey would you do this?" and "Honey would you do that?"

Of course, after thirty-some years of marriage the "Honey" part has morphed into something more like, "You-Lazy-Slug."

My latest major project was forced onto my "To-Do" list from a source other than my wife. We live in a house that is built high on concrete stilts. I've never counted, but there must be between fifteen and twenty steps to get up to the living area. Everything, and I mean everything, must go up and down those stairs. Groceries, luggage, garbage, office supplies, parcels, guests ... you name it. I live in constant fear of the wife hauling off and buying a new piece of furniture or major appliance. Not so much because of the money, as getting the purchase up those stairs.

You might think all that stair climbing would keep a person young. On the contrary, I'm guessing that ascending those stairs, while lugging my lard-butt and a fifty-pound bag of dog food or a five-gallon water bottle, is simply moving up the day when some orthopedic surgeon will make a few yacht payments by replacing my knees.

Our twelve-year-old chocolate Lab, Tito, became the "necessity" in this little story. I used to describe Tito as the Carl Lewis of the dog world. In his prime he was the fittest animal I've ever been around. Unlike most Labs, he was fast, agile, lean and tireless. Muscles rippled everywhere. You know ... my exact opposite.

Well over a year ago, we began to notice Tito was favoring his right front leg. The vet diagnosed it as arthritis. The problem has become acute and has now affected other legs and joints. He has been on various medications. The meds seem to keep the pain down, but his overall condition continues to deteriorate. He gets around okay, but slowly and very stiff-legged. It's sad to watch.

The stairs became a huge obstacle. Tito has always been an extremely nervous dog when it comes to being handled. Carrying him up and downstairs was not an option. Imagine trying to manhandle a 75-pound bag of ferrets. We haven't even mentioned my bad back or the heat and humidity factor.

Terese and I considered relegating the poor old guy to "Dog World" a screened-in area downstairs equipped with a doggie door, ceiling fans, dog beds, etc. After twelve years of living with people, this was just not an option for poor old Tito. Not unless Terese or I moved into "Dog World" with him. You don't need three guesses to know which of us would pull that duty.

For months we have been exploring our options. Most were not good. For example, we have neighbors who were faced with the exact same situation. They obviously had the means, and decided to solve the problem with cash. About fifty-large later, they had a full-fledged elevator for old Mac.

their 14-year-old arthritic yellow Lab. The dog died a few months after the elevator was installed.

Another neighbor has a little business selling and installing elevators, lifts, dumb-waiters and those motorized seats installed on a stairway. This neighbor sold the elevator to the other neighbors. For our limited budget, she recommended what she calls a lift. It is basically an elevator in a freestanding metal housing. The lift would be ordered to fit the measurements of our location. I'd pour a slab, assemble the lift and do the wiring. The "good-neighbor-do-it-yourself-price" ... about \$15K! Tito, I love you dearly, but ...

Remember what we said at the beginning about necessity? An 880-pound capacity winch was ordered from a discount catalog for about eighty bucks. I made trips to the lumberyard, hardware, marine supply and a metal fabricator. As with all my projects, this thing was engineered on the fly. As the project took shape, a few more trips to the above suppliers were necessary. My wife kept pretty much hands-off, with her only demand being that it couldn't be a complete eyesore. That's a toughie!

From the top down, my solution to Tito's affliction looks something like this. A beam was constructed by sandwiching two 2x6's together. The sanded and painted beam is lag bolted to the roof soffit. The winch is bolted to the beam. The carriage is about four feet square and three feet high. It is glued, screwed, sanded and painted. The sides are white plastic lattice. Lengths of anchor chain attach to the four corners of the carriage and gather to a shackle above. The winch cable is hooked to the shackle. Two lengths of two-inch aluminum angle are secured, vertically, to the house. Plastic guides on the carriage insure that it rides up and down while stabilized by the aluminum rails.

That's about it. The lift is located at the end of an upstairs walkway where a four-foot section of railing was removed. The door to the carriage is hinged at the bottom and drops to serve as a ramp. Tito walks right on, we close the door, hit the button and lower him to the ground. One of us goes down the stairs to let him out to do his thing. When he's ready to come up, the process is reversed. As amazing as it may seem, my contraption actually works pretty darned good! Even if it was engineered on the fly.

The location is on the back of the house and mostly out of sight behind a porch. And, as the wife demanded, I made every effort to keep it from being a total eyesore. There haven't been any complaints, so I guess that hurdle was cleared.

The best part of my lift, other than sparing Tito the agony of dealing with those stairs, is the cost. All totaled, I have less than \$500 in this thing. That's a far cry from \$15 to \$50 thousand!

Oh, I should mention that the design allows for my 300-pound generator to be hoisted up and down. We keep it up on the porch during hurricane season. Just to make sure it doesn't go underwater ... like the last one did. They don't work very well after being submerged in saltwater. Also, groceries, water bottles, dog food, big suitcases, you bet ... load 'em up! I can't believe I didn't build this thing a long time ago.

And, when the orthopedic surgeon does replace these knees, Terese can hoist my carcass up and down until I've recuperated. Whew ... thought I was going to be relegated to "Dog World" until I could get up and down those stairs on my own!

P.S. How 'bout them TIGERS?!?!?! Got to put it to a Yankees fan at Rotary the other day! Woo-Hoo!

Ledger Entries

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



By Priscilla Lussmyer

125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL OCTOBER 12, 1881

At Muskegon 2000 men are on strike in the sawmills, box mill and shingle factory.

Lowell has sent over \$2000 in cash and goods to the Chicago fire sufferers.

The King Quick and King sawmill had another breakdown requiring major repairs at a time when the logs are piled high.

Common Council has bought W.B. Rickert's Islands # 6 & 7, running to the section line.

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER OCTOBER 11, 1906

Gov. Warner and Sen. Russell will lead the Republican "devil wagon" procession crossing through Michigan, including Ada and Lowell.

The Cannonsburg School closes for a vacation during potato digging.

Mrs. Chandler Johnson was in Grand Rapids on business Monday.

Marks Ruben will have blankets on sale Saturday for 31c to 98c; wool ones for \$3.90.

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO OCTOBER 8, 1931

Council decides to buy a new 600 hp diesel engine for the power plant. Total estimate including all necessary changes: about \$50 thousand.

Local teachers sign an oath to uphold the constitution, as mandated by the state legislature.

The generator and 25 new electric-eye bean sorters have arrived at the new Runciman bean plant.

All Kent County schoolchildren outside Grand Rapids will receive health habit cards in the hope of disease prevention, especially tuberculosis.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER OCTOBER 11, 1956

Congressman Gerald R. Ford's "mobile office" will be in Lowell on the 21st.

The 1957 Chryslers and Imperials will have the new twin headlights and 3-speed pushbutton transmissions.

The new Lowell Rifle and Pistol Club elects Frank Stephens president.

Aunt Jemima of pancake fame will be here in Lowell on Friday and Saturday, says Christiansen's Supermarket.

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER OCTOBER 7, 1981

Huge storms and between four and nine inches of rain down power lines and trees and close roads, even M-21.

Bob Ellis takes the first buck of the bow season at 8:10 a.m. opening day.

The Ledger offers half-price subscriptions for National Newspaper Week at \$3 in Kent County, \$4 elsewhere.

The Grand Rapids Museum has a fundraiser to buy a working carousel for the museum.

Letters... We love to hear from you!

The Lowell Ledger - welcomes all "Letters to the Editor" for publication on its "Viewpoint" page. Letters can be typed or written. However, we ask that they not exceed 250 words and not be strictly thank you letters. "Letters to the Editor" should be sent to the Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, P.O. Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or emailed to: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com. Letters must be signed and please include a phone number. Editing may be necessary for space, clarity and to avoid obscenity, libel or invasion of privacy. The Lowell Ledger thanks you in advance for your cooperation.

Engagements

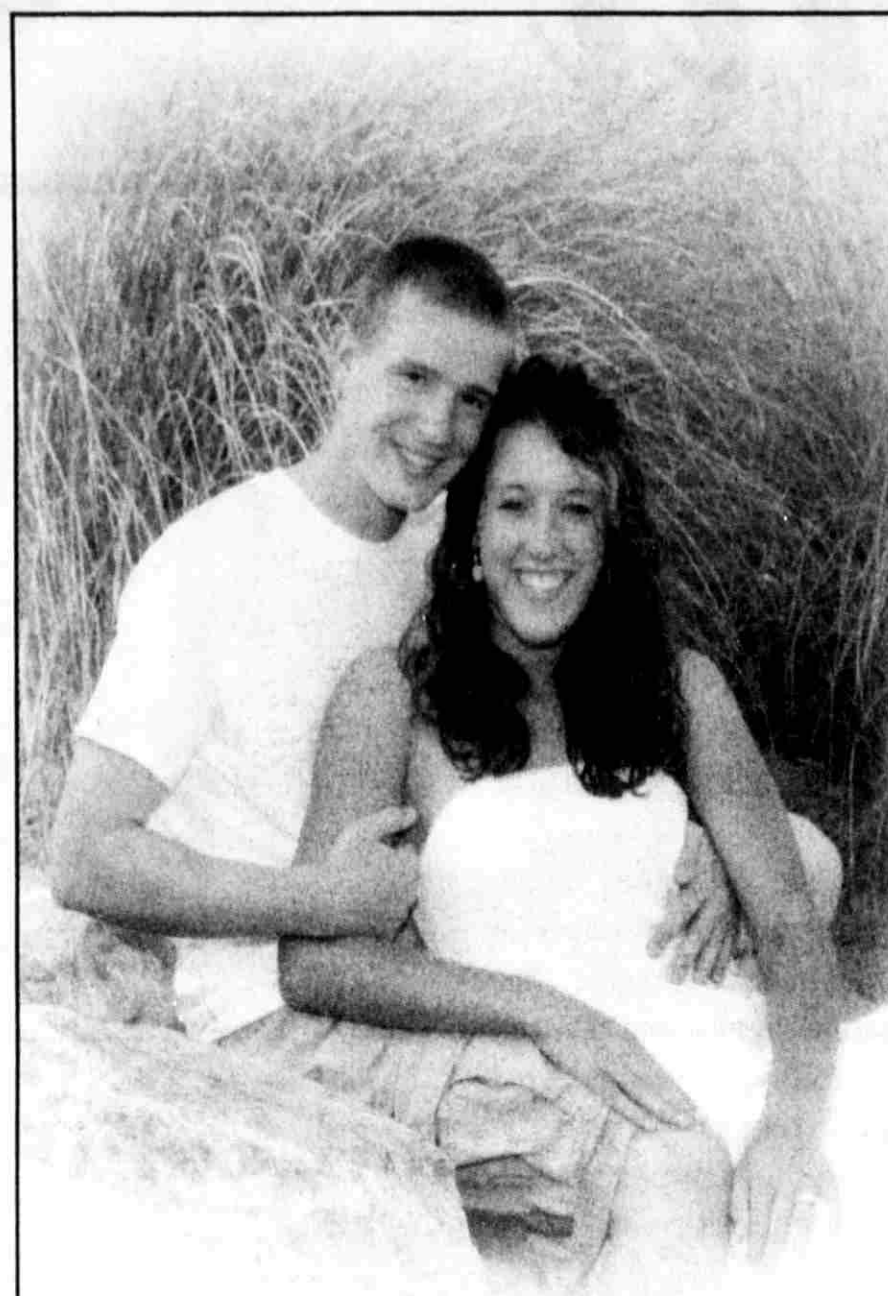
Wolbers/Adams

Ron and Joy Wolbers are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Chelsea Lynn Wolbers to Patrick Kyle Adams, both of Clarksville.

The bride-elect is a 2006 graduate of Lowell High School and is planning to attend Grand Rapids Community College for Nursing.

The future groom is a 2005 graduate of Lakewood High School. He is currently serving in the United States Army and is stationed at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii. He plans to continue his education while serving. He is the son of Erica Cardoso of Battle Creek.

The couple are planning a June 20, 2009, wedding on Mackinac Island.



Patrick Adams and Chelsea Wolbers

Weddings

Haybarker/Arnett

The July 11, 2006, wedding of Corrine Marie Arnett and Jason Richard Haybarker took place at Red Feathers Lakes, Colorado.

Parents of the couple are Kevin and Maureen Arnett and Kraig and Jody Haybarker.

Maid of honor were Nicole Turner and Courtney Arnett. Bridesmaids were Nicole Bouman and Angela Burch. Flower girl was Acacia Burnham.

Best man was Philip Stoddard. Groomsmen were Jason Turner, Vinod Sharma and Brian Haybarker. Ringbearer was Jayden Turner.

Following the outdoor wedding in the mountains, the couple honeymooned in Alaska. They will be residing in Columbus, Ohio, where Corrine will begin her career as an environmental engineer at CD&L and Jason as a lab technician at Scotts.



Mr. and Mrs. Jason Haybarker

Reflections of faith

David Sims, lead pastor
First Baptist Church

Prime Time serials. Entertainment Tonight. Movies by mail. Barnes & Noble. Libraries. Audio Books. It's obvious; there's no doubt about it - we really do like stories. The menu for the mind, the entrées of the imagination are powerful forces that can hold hostage the heart. Stories help put living flesh on the skeleton of history, and as we thought about together last week, they help define and value our existence. We are all part of a Big Story, a cosmic drama that not only gives us our roots and our purpose, but also explains the terrific mess in which we find ourselves on this blue marble planet.

While all began good, it did not stay good. Something went terribly wrong. Three school shootings in two weeks,

wars of terrorism, famine, disease, injustice, selfishness, sin and cemeteries all grimly remind us we have a problem - a BIG problem. The BIG story helps us understand these dark chapters - for we find out that there is another conspiracy, and it's not just a theory. It's reality! A glorious being, a created servant of God, turned bad. He fell in judgment of his jealous rebellion, taking a third of angel forces with him, and now conspires to take down the whole race of humanity with him. Satan invaded creation in the shadows of its darkness full of hatred for this new beginning of God-images. He slithered in his temptation to distrust God and disobey just as he had done in heaven so that they'd be doomed to the same hell that had been created for him and his ilk. His conspiracy worked and darkness invaded the light.

The enemy had won! Fleeing to the extremities of the galaxies he waited for the cosmos to collapse since it

wouldn't be needed anymore. It didn't. He rushed back just in time to hear the unbelievable - Eve's Seed would crush his head! The war was not over - he'd have to reignite his fight.

The battle rages: Cain - the Flood - Babel - whole generations caught up in a curse, a counter-kingdom to thwart all of God's goals. Every evil possible, all misery imaginable, whatever death inflictible he maneuvers and manipulates in desperate fear and insanity. We all are born into this sorry condition, this sad affair, this lethal spiritual death. Now we're sullied, polluted to the core. Now we're in debt, needing to pay back our offense to God at a God-sized, in other words, infinite, price. The way back is impossible - it would take a miracle. The risk God took in giving us a will seems to have sealed our doom. Or did it? Remember that other conspiracy? Stay tuned for the rest of the story - might you be in that chapter, too? You can be!

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p>ATTENTION: BIBLE BELIEVERS If you would like to attend a church where the King James Bible is held up as the perfect, preserved word of God with all the words of God for all English speaking people, then give us a visit at: 901 W. Main, Lowell 897-6284 or 485-4195 10AM Sunday School; 11AM Morning Service; 6PM Evening Service; Wed., 7:30PM Prayer Meeting.</p>	<p>ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Kirby and Harrison Alto • 616-691-8011 Worship.....9:30 A.M. Children's Church.....9:30 A.M. OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS Pastor Dean Bailey</p>	<p>DAY BIBLE CHAPEL 9305 Centerline, Saranac 897-6332 Worship.....9:45 A.M. Sunday School.....11:00 A.M. Nursery & Jr. Church Provided Rev. Frank Lattimore, Pastor "A Nondenominational Ministry With A Blended Word Centered Service!"</p>	<p>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL Rev. Randy Meyers - 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....11:20 A.M. Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M. Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free</p>	<p>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES 6:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 P.M. 119 Lincoln Lake, Lowell CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES Pastor Robert L. Hubbard Phone: (616) 897-1267 website www.aplighthouse.com</p>
<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 Worship Services.....8:30 & 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 Noonon, Asst. Pastor John King, Youth Pastor SUNDAYS: Worship: 10:00 a.m. - LIFE Home Groups & "XL" Youth Sunday evenings WEDNESDAYS: Family Night (For All Ages): 7:00 p.m. "XL" Youth: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Fr. George J. Fekete 402 Amity St. • 897-9820 www.stmarys-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 WIGANS 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 48, EFTN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>	<p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (United Church of Christ) 865 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE • 897-5906 Sunday Worship.....10:00 A.M. Church School.....10:15-11:15 A.M. Thursday Faith Alive 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 Fremmer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbcloowell.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. Thurlan 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>	<p>ANIMAL HOSPITAL OF LOWELL We want to be your Other Family Doctor. • Sick or Injured Animals Seen Same Day • Evening & Saturday Hours Available • Early Drop-offs & House Calls • 24-Hour Emergency Service • Science Diet Pet Foods • Boarding & Grooming Call 897-8484 11610 East Fulton Street • Lowell, Michigan</p>

New Arrivals

Kimble



Lucy Rose Kimble

Eric and Stephanie Kimble of Lowell (formerly of Grand Rapids) are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Lucy Rose. She was born September 18, 2006, weighing 5 lbs. 3 oz. and measuring 19 1/2 inches.

Proud grandparents are Bryan and Mary Kimble of Belding, Ed and Connie Roth of Lowell, and Tom and Kathy LaBine of Alto. Great-grandparents, many aunts, uncles and cousins welcome Lucy home, as well.

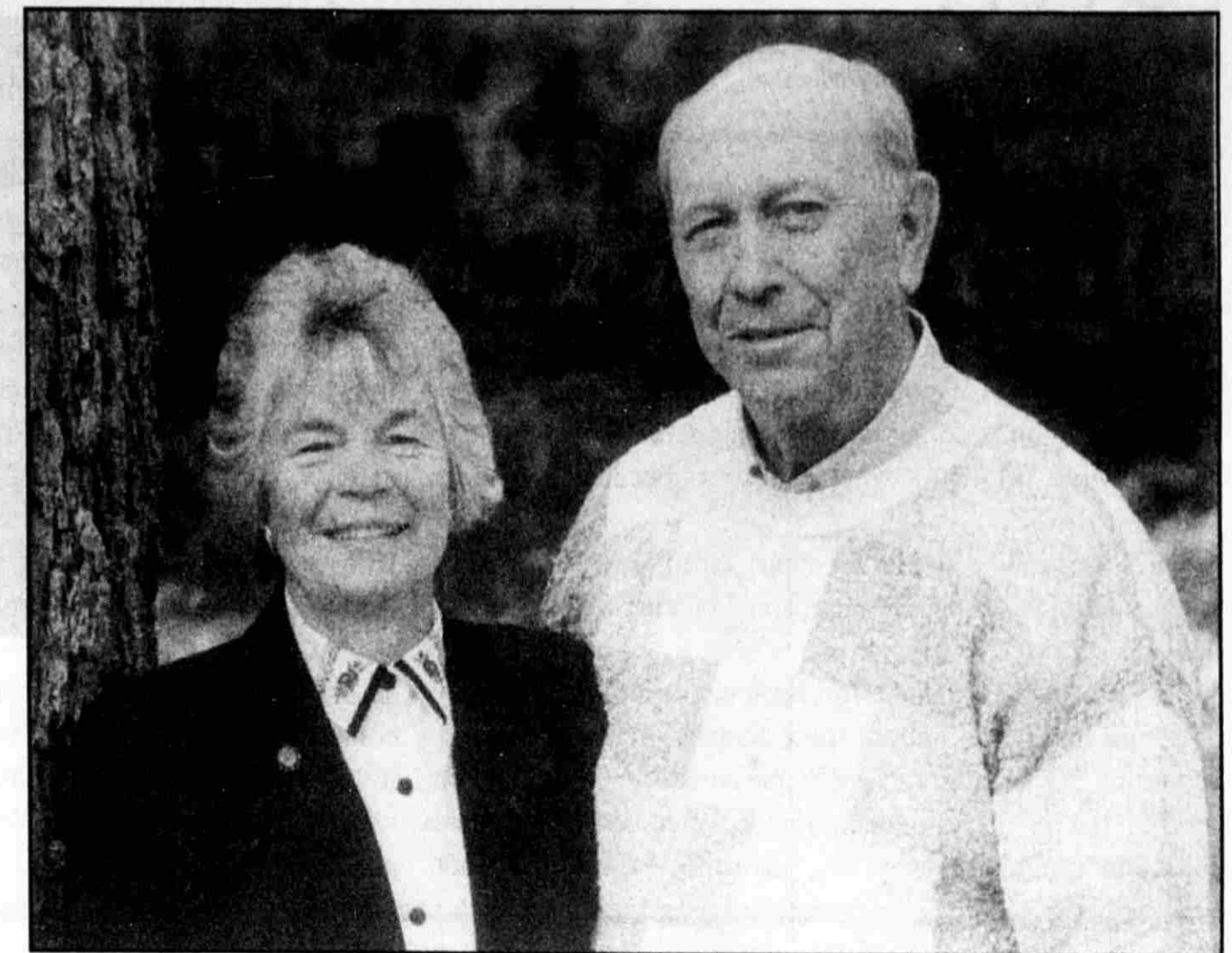
Happy Birthday

- OCT. 12:** Neille Stephens, Becky Batt.
- OCT. 13:** Adam Thaler, Joe VanLaan, Patrick Doyle, Emily J. Zengri, Kurtis Clouser Jr.
- OCT. 14:** Ericka Onan, Barb Erickson, Debra Duiven, Court Duiven, Kyle Hildenbrand, Jeanne Shores, Stacey Kinyon, Jim Watrous, Kelsey Callihan.
- OCT. 15:** Jamie Roth, Jason Roth, Elizabeth Raab, Mark Russell, Jan Lippert, Annie Oesch, Kevin Clouser, Frank Grudzinskas, Doug Felling.
- OCT. 16:** Paula Blough.
- OCT. 17:** Collin Kaeb, Kurt Telman, Jason Nearing.
- OCT. 18:** Mary Ellen (Rivers) Barber, Brian Willmarth, Brian Scott, Kunard, Hayden Andrews/Snyder.

Sterlings celebrate golden anniversary

Fay and Margo Sterling of Lowell will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary on Oct. 12 at a dinner with their family.

Their children are Dean and Rose Anderson, James and Judy Sterling, and Todd and Annette Pearson. They have seven grandchildren.



First Congregational Church is builder's 150th constructed to date

Dan Vos Construction Co. recently completed its 150th church at 865 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE. in Lowell.

The Ada-based design-build general contractor celebrated this milestone with the churchgoers of First Congregational United Church of Christ on Oct. 8 at a special dedication service. The congregation also celebrated its 150th anniversary during the inaugural service at the new church, its first new building in 150 years.

"With the completion of this house of worship, Dan Vos Construction has

completed more church projects than any other contractor in Western Michigan," said CEO Gary Vos. "We are now three-quarters of our goal of building 200 churches, which we hope to achieve before I retire."

The new church of First Congregational United, which has been serving the Lowell community at 404 N. Hudson for 150 years, will retain many characteristics of the traditional white church that its congregants have long called home. But the newer, larger facility will also feature 11,500

square feet of space on 19 residential acres, a single-level building with a spacious area for fellowship, multiple classrooms and nursery, and design elements such as columns at the main entrance and an 85-foot steeple.

Dan Vos Construction built its first church, Ada Christian Reformed Church, in 1953, two years after it was founded.

As a general contractor, Dan Vos has a long history of building everything from manufacturing facilities and professional buildings to schools and churches.

Pastor Dr. Roger La Warre of First Congregational Church said, "The high quality of work for which Dan Vos is known is reflected in the finished product of this church. This is in large measure due to the high standards exemplified in the men and women with whom we worked. They maintained a positive work environment and a high ethic for construction. If you want to cut corners, Dan Vos Construction is not the organization to hire. We have appreciated that fact."

College News

University officials have announced those students who received academic honors for the semester that ended in August at Ferris State University and Kendall College of Art and Design. From the Lowell area are: Theodore Bergin, Brian Bodemann, Jason

Craig, Emily Cyrocki, Dawn DeRaad, Jenny Dillinger, Christine Harwood, Tyler Hoard, Tara Kuipers, Colleen Ritchie, Kimberly Seaman and Angela Worsley. From the Alto area are: Liam Gavin and Michelle Lindale.

From the Ada area are: David Ardis, Jonathan Brown, Smita Chandra, Julie Dunn, Jeffrey Easto, Lindsey Evens and Scott Van Vossen.

Pierson A. Ebrom, of Ada, is among the 745 students who entered Colgate University, with the Class of 2010 in late August.

LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

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

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2006
at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash, SE

On the agenda will be any and all business which may be brought before this Board according to the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Ordinance.

Linda S. Regan, Clerk
Lowell Charter Township

LUNCH MENU
ELEMENTARY MENU
Week of October 16, 2006

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

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

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

THURS: French toast sticks/syrup or cereal/graham cracker w/ scrambled eggs, fresh fruit, 100% fruit juice, milk.

FRI: Pizza bagel (sloppy jo also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), corn, assorted fruit, peanut butter bar, milk.



Financial Focus

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

DO YOU HAVE A PLAN TO PROVIDE FOR LOVED ONES?

You work hard to provide a comfortable living for your family. But you also need to think about what might happen to them after you're gone or if you become incapacitated. That means you need to start planning. And the best time to begin is now, no matter what your age - because the future is not ours to see.

To properly provide for your family, you'll need to take quite a few steps. Here are some of the most important ones:

- Purchasing adequate life insurance - You may already have life insurance - about three-fourths of Americans do, according to LIMRA, a research and consulting organization serving the life insurance industry - but do you have a sufficient amount to pay off your mortgage, send your

children to college and meet other key needs? A financial professional can help you determine if your coverage is adequate.

- Lowering taxes - Some of the individual assets you leave behind may generate income taxes, which can be considerable. A tax advisor may be able to help you reduce this potential burden.

- Designating beneficiaries - You should periodically review the beneficiary designations on your life insurance contracts and qualified plans, such as 401(k)s and IRAs. It's essential to update these designations if remarriages and stepchildren are part of your family picture. Keep in mind that beneficiary designations will even supersede the instructions in your will, so, if these designations are out of date, your true wishes may not be carried out.

- Writing a will - If you were to die intestate - without a will - your assets might be distributed by a court. This could lead to a great deal of problems within your family.

- Creating a living trust - Even if you have a will, your assets will have to pass through probate - which can be time-consuming and expensive. But with a properly established living trust, your assets can pass directly to your beneficiaries without court interference, legal fees, lengthy delays and public disclosure.

- Drafting a general power of attorney - This document allows you to appoint another person to conduct your business affairs if you become physically or mentally incapacitated.

Clearly, trying to accomplish all these steps can be somewhat daunting. But you don't have to do it alone. By assembling a qualified estate-planning team, consisting of a financial professional, a tax advisor and an attorney, you can get the help you need to achieve your goals.

Of course, you're never really "done" with your estate planning. Why? Because, over time, your life can change in many ways. Your family or job situation may change, or you may become involved in charities that you wish to support. Consequently, you'll want to revisit almost every aspect of your estate plan every few years.

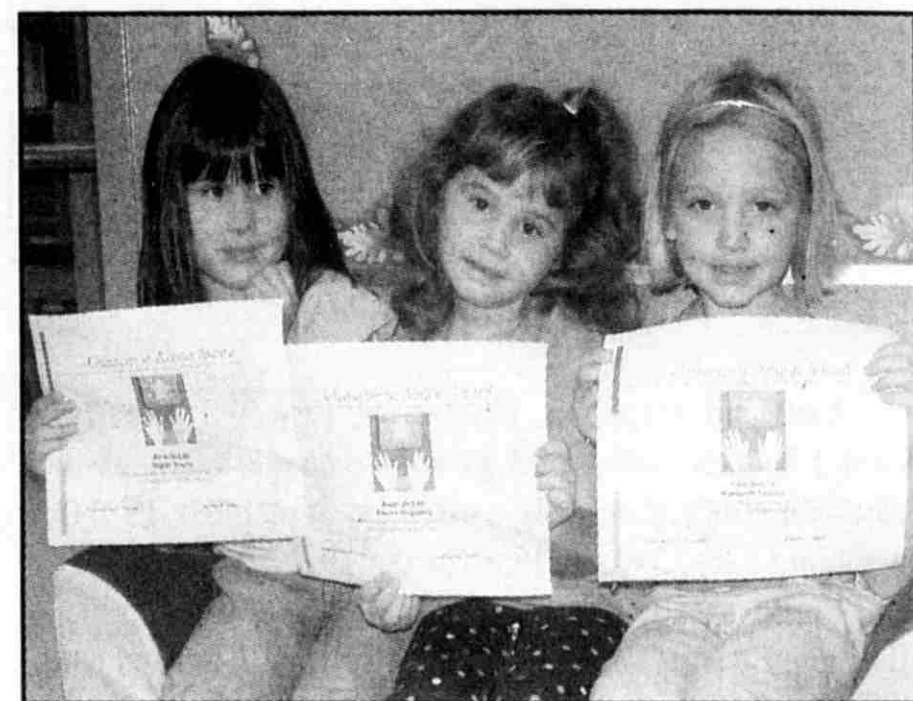
But you won't want to wait a few years before you begin your planning. You don't have to get all your plans in place at one time, but you do need to start the ball rolling. Estate planning can take a lot of work - but all you have to do is look at your family to know that the effort was worth it.

* Edward Jones, its employees and Investment Representatives are not estate planners and cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult with a competent tax specialist or attorney for professional advice on your specific situation.

Character in Action awards at Murray Lake



A number of students at Murray Lake Elementary were nominated by staff members for putting Lowell Schools' character traits into action on a daily basis. For the month of September, Character in Action Award winners, front row, left to right, are: Ethan Kaminski, Greta Morton, Brendan Cooper, Blake McVey, Taelor McGill, Alyssa McGill, David Kruse, Miah Ransom, Nathan Stevens and Landon Smith; back row: Anastasia Barnes, Breanna VanLaan, Allison Mooney, Jonathon Roberts, Rachael Yomtoob, Kailee Dawson, Taylare Harris, John Bigham, Jacob Stevens and Billy Dickson.



Skylar Young, Emma Organek and Marleigh Skibbe are September Character in Action Award winners at Murray Lake Elementary.

Above all, we must realize that no arsenal, or no weapon in the arsenals of the world, is so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women. It is a weapon our adversaries in today's world do not have.

- Ronald Reagan

Michigan hunters have increased awareness of wildlife disease

As more than 900,000 Michigan hunters go afield this fall in search of their favorite quarry, the Department of Natural Resources urges them to hunt safely and to take necessary precautions when handling and processing wild game. It is important to know the associated risks of various wildlife diseases and

what the DNR and other state agencies in Michigan are doing to reduce potential problems associated with diseased wildlife, especially as it relates to the fall deer hunt.

Bovine tuberculosis

In 2005, bovine TB was found in 16 white-tailed deer from five Michigan counties, all in the northeast corner

of the Lower Peninsula. Statewide, 7,361 deer were tested. Since testing began in 1995, 523 deer have been found positive from more than 145,000 deer surveyed. The best news, however, is that the number of TB-positive deer is decreasing. Still, every hunter should continue to be vigilant for any signs of this disease

in deer. Deer with severe TB may have tan or yellow lumps lining the chest wall and in the lung tissue. If you see this, contact the DNR so the carcass and viscera, in addition to the head, can be examined. Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) has not been found in Michigan. To date,

nearly 19,000 deer, elk and moose have been tested for CWD in Michigan and all have tested negative.

Avian Influenza

Birds can carry many types of diseases, including flu virus, but recently a more serious type of influenza has emerged. The Asian H5N1, commonly known as avian influenza (AI), is known as bird flu and emerged in Southeast Asia where wild birds and people get the diseases from infested birds. It has spread to other countries, but has not been found in North America. To date, the DNR has tested more than 200 birds, including ducks, geese, swans and shorebirds. Although there have been no positives from testing for the infectious type A virus, hunters should use precautions about hygiene when hunting.

Eastern Equine Encephalitis
Eastern Equine

Encephalitis (EEE) is transmitted by mosquitoes, much like West Nile Virus. There is a human health risk to EEE, as humans who are bitten by mosquitoes carrying the disease can become fatally ill. However, EEE is much rarer in humans than West Nile Virus. The greatest EEE risk facing hunters is exposure to mosquitoes, not handling or consuming normal appearing deer from infested areas. Though human infection is rare, citizens are urged to take extra precaution against EEE by taking action to reduce mosquito populations; using insect repellents for personal protection from bites and using protective clothing.

West Nile Virus (WNV) is a potentially serious illness. Experts believe WNV is established as

Wildlife disease, cont'd., pg. 22

Lowell High School's alumni gather for annual get-together

Small towns all over Michigan annually gather their alumni together for an all-alumni reunion. Lowell High School graduates celebrated their third such get-together Homecoming weekend, Sept. 30, at the Monterey Center near Alto.

The theme was the "Decade of the Seventies," and '70s graduates were honored with a continuous loop projection of team and individual photos from the '70s yearbook. Decorations were of tissue paper flower centerpieces and pet rocks. Even Elvis made an appearance. Music by '67 graduate Roger MacNaughton and Friends reflected many '70s tunes, and accompanied those present in a rousing '70s version of the Lowell High School Fight song. Alumni enjoyed a fine dinner, and area merchants and residents donated door prizes.

Arrangements for the event were made by the LHS Alumni Committee: Liz Graham Baker, Teresa Timpson Beachum, Tina Siciliano Cadwallader, Betsy Dommer Davidson, Kay MacNaughton Jones, and Marsha Verspoor Wilcox.



Elvis, pictured with Lorraine Schultz, left, and Judy Timpson at the 3rd annual LHS All-Alumni Gathering.

Big ride for big sellers



Students at St. Patrick School have been busy selling magazine subscriptions for their first fundraiser of the year. Students had several opportunities to receive prizes for turning in magazine subscriptions. These lucky students were able to ride a Hummer limo on Friday, Sept. 29 to the ice cream shop after turning in their orders.

Free Trees - Autumn Classics

Ten free trees, autumn classics, will be given to each person who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation during October.

The 10 trees are two sugar maples, scarlet oak, sweetgum, red oak, silver maple, white dogwood, Washington hawthorn, and two red maples. They will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between Nov. 1 and Dec. 10 with enclosed planting instructions. The six to 12-inch trees are guaranteed to grow, or they will be replaced free of charge.

To receive the trees, send a \$10 membership contribution to Autumn Classic Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410, by Oct. 31 or join online at www.arborday.org.

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All applicants must possess 6 months verifiable work history within the last 12 months. Apply in person Monday through Friday at:

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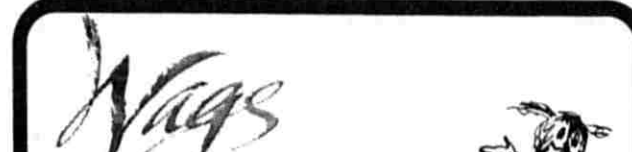
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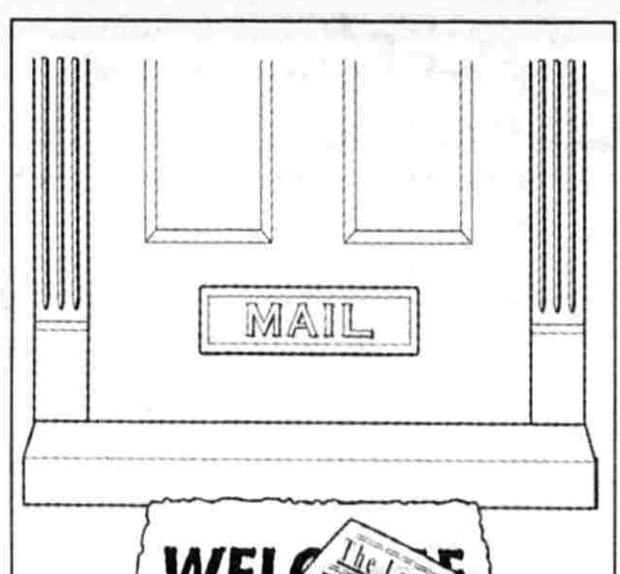
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On The Wild Side, continued ... From Page 4

community decision when we work as a community or we can get lost in individual daily work that loses sight of what is best for the our community.

The Natural Connections event will be great for local community representatives, developers, planners, conservationists and anyone committed to sustaining green infrastructure in our communities. You'll have the opportunity to learn "Best Practices" related to the integration of green infrastructure and sustainable design in urban/suburban revitalization from some of the world's premier thinkers and doers including Lester Brown, president and senior researcher for the Earth Policy Institute; Alexis Karolidis, AIA, principal

of the Rocky Mountain Institute and Gina Baker, director of Sustainable Design for Burt Hill.

I suggest local organizations send a representative to participate. Included should be local hunting and fishing clubs, Lowell Area Recreation Authority, LARA Trails Association, Lowell Area Historical Society, government agencies, local representatives from the

chamber of commerce, township committees (such as Vergennes Township Open Space committee), or the Lowell Wellhead Protection Group. Township supervisors themselves can really serve their residents by participating.

The event will be held at the VanAndel Arena; cost is \$60 per person.

Please call 616-726-2466 or email the West Michigan Strategic Alliance

at par@wm-alliance.org with questions.

Hopefully Lowell will be well represented to ensure that our natural environment continues to enhance quality of life here. Our community can restore, revitalize and rebuild green infrastructure by interconnecting green space and other environmental assets that support the functions of natural ecosystems and provide benefits to people.



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Volunteer of the Month



Heidi Heffron is Volunteer of the Month at Murray Lake Elementary. Heffron was nominated by several Murray Lake staff members. Whether she is helping a teacher in the classroom, hanging up bulletin boards, or running Murray Lake's Mileage Club, Heffron is up for the task. She said, "I like to volunteer. It lets me get to know the teachers and other parents. I also love hearing the funny stories that the children tell; it keeps me laughing until the next time I see them."

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BUSINESSES & SERVICES

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Upscale fashions have come to downtown Lowell

By Emma Palova

Softly painted walls in sage accessorized in black with fashionable panty display tables give a hint of what L4 Ladies Lingerie & Loungewear of Lowell is all about.

The new store, located at 216 E. Main Street, opened last week to fit any taste, from teenagers to moms and grandmas.

The store proprietor is Judy Folsom, a former missionary and independent medical transcriptionist.

Her husband Doug, owner of Michigan Tax, renovated the store by exposing the brick walls and pulling off plaster.

"This is unique to Lowell," said Judy Folsom. "We want to draw people from Ada and Cascade."

Doug Folsom also shortened the name of the store to L4.

"You know that was hard to say over the phone," he said.

The store carries big city fashion lines such as the much sought after Picadilly,

Hollywood Beyond Yoga, Hanky Panky, Paddy Murphy and XCVI.

Teens like to don the Paddy Murphy soft housecoats and bed jackets with their jeans, while their moms and grandmas will wear them around the house.

The XCVI casual wear includes fashionable gray flair pants and tops. XCVI was the number 1 casual wear seller at Nordstrom's last year. Knickers with lacy camisoles by Hollywood Beyond Yoga make an immediate statement.

And the new brief also known as boy shorts by Hanky Panky is in along with scanty warm pajamas.

Folsom buys everything out of Chicago at the Retail Fashion Shows.

"We have beautiful things and we're trying to keep the prices down," Judy Folsom said.

Not only does the new shop offer exquisite

fashion lines but elegant jewelry as well. The artistic Masquerade jewelry line made from polymer clay by Lynn Hartley features unique earrings, bracelets and broches. The store will also carry Hartley's shadow box designs.

And Folsom says she wants something for everybody. Her sister Sandy Bombe, who helped set up the store, said teens with grandmas will find something to suit their taste.

Signature tables in the front display soft Kiss Me bikinis in black, blue and pink colors.

The Folsoms are now renovating the third floor of the building for a condo.

L4 will have a 15 percent off sale through Oct. 15 to celebrate Lowell's 175th anniversary.

Hours are from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.



Judy Folsom shows off fashions at L4 Ladies Lingerie & Loungewear.

Walk to School Day aimed at promoting fitness

By Emma Palova

Hundreds of children walked to Cherry Creek Elementary School on Friday to promote physical fitness. The Walk to School Day enjoyed full participation as students who ride buses were dropped off at Creekside Park and walked the path to school.

"It's fun to have students, parents and administrators participate," said volunteer Lynn Draigh. "It improves physical fitness."

The Walk to School Day is in its fourth year. Twice a year volunteers, parents and students have the opportunity to walk the 0.5 mile long path.

"We're hoping to increase walks this school year yet," said Draigh.

The Walk to School Day is part of the Safe Routes to School program in Michigan through the Governor's Council for Physical Fitness. The program is in partnership with Michigan Department of Community Health and Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT).

Cherry Creek Elementary was one of the first pilot schools to receive a \$3,000 federal grant. The school partnered with Lansing to save money. The walking program enabled them to cut down on three buses, and reconfigure the

bus routes, according to director of operations Larry Mikulski.

The school has formed the Safe Walk to School program committee consisting of the PTO, the fire department, police chief Jim Valentine and board members. Valentine trained inspectors to provide patrols in the morning and evening on the safe routes.

"We're using the entire city," said Mikulski.

There are three major walking safe routes in the city just under a mile: from Valley Vista housing, from the west side of Amity Street to Riverside Drive, and from the cemetery.

According to Mikulski,

children who walk to school in the morning are more alert and have more energy. The grant paid for the bridge on the path, for lighting, audit and reports, as well as for added sidewalks.

The school has partnered with the city on their sidewalk program. In 2005 using MDOT grants, the city put in 4,288 more feet of sidewalks, curbing, crosswalks and markings. Although Cherry Creek was targeted for the walking program, the ultimate goal is to work on the physical

fitness program through high school, according to Mikulski.

The school will be applying for more grants for marking equipment to improve the walking routes.

"Obesity is a growing concern, and Michigan is number one," said Mikulski. "The program is helping to change lifestyles. Our goal is to give everyone the opportunity to have some measurement of exercise."

Mikulski said the committee hopes to expand the safe walking program to

include walking during the day to and from locations to all school buildings, as well as walking at noon.

In May, Cherry Creek Elementary received an award for its successful implementation of Safe Routes to School walking program.

The majority of the sidewalks for the school walking program were put in last year, according to parks and recreation supervisor Scott Fosburg. In 2005, the city spent \$66,206 in grants on sidewalks.



Superintendent Greg Pratt walked to Cherry Creek Elementary with students last Friday.

Police chief Jim Valentine walked to Cherry Creek Elementary with students last Friday.

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New building, continued ... From Page 1

One of the newest ministries is called Faith Alive; it meets every Thursday at 7 p.m. and is a time of refreshment, conversation and reprieve from life's pressures, said La Warre.

Faith Alive uses the motto, "God turns no one away, neither do we."

It is a ministry for anyone, whether they've had a terrible experience with the church, or have dropped out of organized religion, said the pastor.

"There are no strings attached," he said.

Faith Alive is also for those who didn't qualify on the holiness code based

either on sexuality, beliefs or social status.

"We all fall short," said La Warre, "but God's love is inclusive. We work toward peace and justice."

The UCC church and the First United Methodist Church were instrumental in keeping the Flat River Outreach Ministries going.

"We want to help the most abandoned," said La Warre. "We want to have worship service that sends a message of joy, dialogue and acceptance."

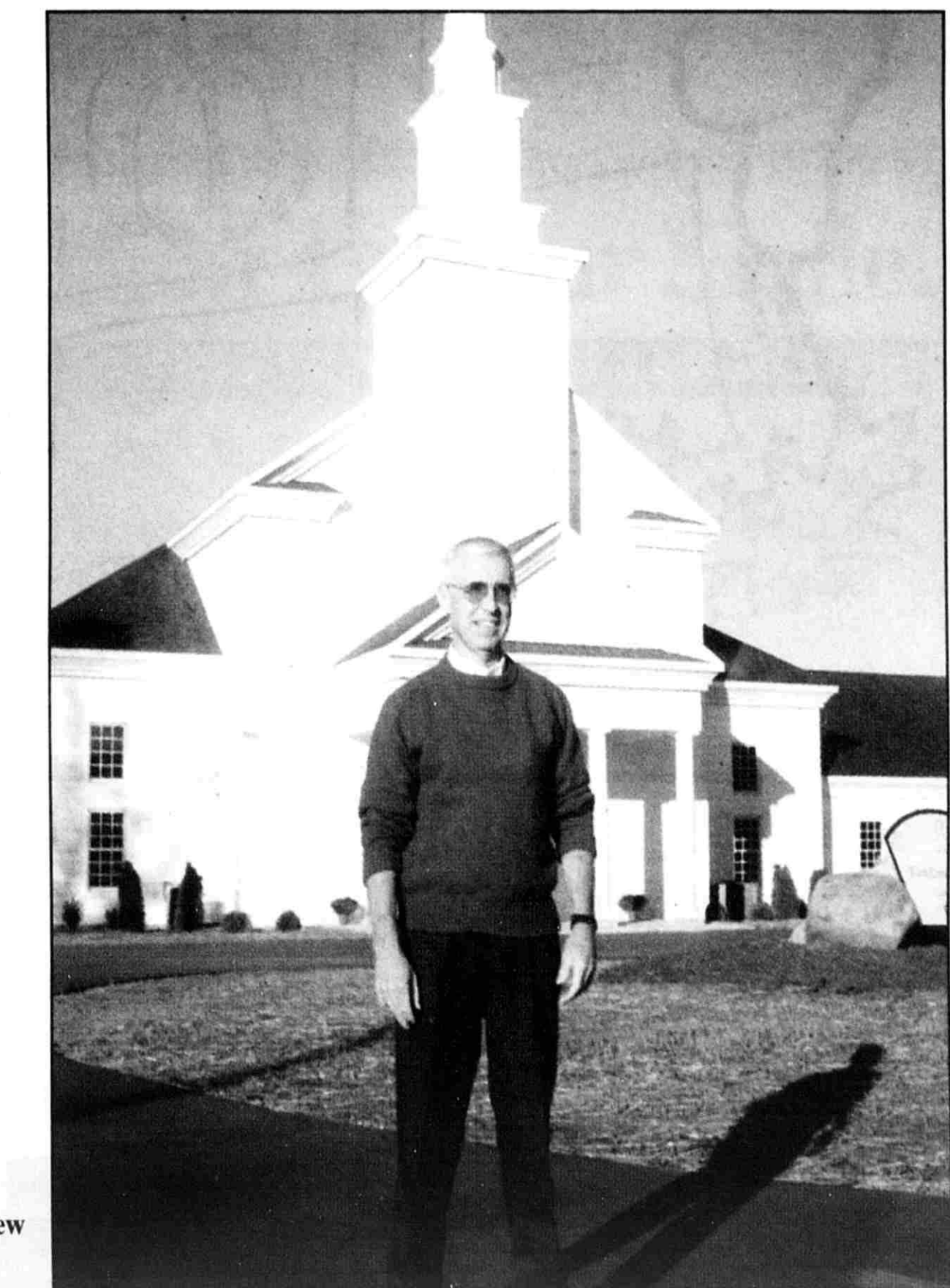
Other goals include providing a healing ministry to the community such as funeral luncheons; adult and

children's libraries are also available.

The building, built by Dan Vos Construction Co. of Ada, is well designed to accommodate large as well as small groups. The sanctuary seats 280 people, and is expandable.

The church is also celebrating its 150th anniversary this year. Established in 1856, the church was originally located at 404 N. Hudson St.

The church building in town will be sold to a congregation that is currently meeting in a school, and has no worship space, according to La Warre.



Pastor Dr. Roger La Warre stands in front of the new church located at 865 Lincoln Lake Ave.



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Ask Kathryn

With Kathryn DenHouter Ph.D.



Another question pertaining to parenting will be discussed today. The question: "Can you give me some ideas for teaching children responsibility?"

To teach children responsibility, the parent has to be responsible as well. Children are brilliant at "sniffing out" the weaknesses of their parents. It is because we have imperfect parents that we have imperfect children. There are, however, what I call "non-negotiables." These are behaviors that are clearly unacceptable for you and your family. So it is important for the parent to identify what he/she considers non-negotiable behavior, and what they consider negotiable behavior. Parent have to have a clear understanding of this, so they can consistently reinforce the behavior that they want from their child. The "negotiable" behavior (i.e., chewing gum in the car, arguing with a sibling) can be handled in a more relaxed manner. As parents, we have to choose our battles so that our energies can be used for behaviors that are clearly unacceptable.

There are three "r's" in teaching children responsibility: 1.) relationship, 2.) reasonableness, and 3.) reinforcement. First of all and most importantly, there needs to be a relationship between the parent and child. Building a relationship takes time. It is important to set aside time with your child to just relax together and enjoy each other's company. In our fast-paced world, that is getting to be more

and more challenging. If the relationship is "at odds," when the child is disciplined by the parent, the child perceives it as a rejection of him/her, and will act out even more because of this insecurity and anxiety. In summary, the relationship is key to successful discipline and learning responsibility.

Secondly, the demands or expectations of the child have to be reasonable. This is often determined by the developmental level of the child. For instance, a child who is two years old cannot be expected to clean up their room, and wash their dirty clothes. The responsibilities and expectations of the parent have to be reasonable and age appropriate. These developmental levels can be learned, so check out the hand-outs given by the TOTS program in Lowell, or by teachers in the early elementary programs or elementary schools.

Finally, it is important to reinforce the good or responsible behavior. This has to be done consistently and frequently. Repetition of responsible behavior is what helps the child integrate this behavior into their everyday life. This happens when the parent "catches the child being good." This is the kindest thing a parent can do for their child. It creates a positive environment and fosters high self-esteem in their child.

In summary, the relationship with your child has to be good, and you develop this relationship by spending time with your child, and enjoying who your child is.

Secondly, the expectations of the adult have to be reasonable and age appropriate to reduce frustration and feelings of inadequacy, and finally, the parent has to "catch their child being good" by verbally reinforcing when the child is doing the responsible behavior.

I welcome your questions. Please send them to my email address: kathryndenhouter@yahoo.com.

HEALTH

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



CHECKING FOR SIGNS OF SKIN CANCER

It is a good idea to check your skin each month for signs of skin cancer. Be sure to check all of your skin, including the bottoms of your feet and the top of your head. Look for any new moles or changes in your moles. Following the "ABCDE" rule can help you look for signs of skin cancer.

A for asymmetry: A mole that doesn't look the same on both sides.

B for border: A mole with jagged or blurry edges.

C for color: Darkening of a mole, loss of color, spread of color, or multiple colors such as blue, pink red, white, purple or gray.

D for diameter: A mole larger than the size of a pencil eraser.

E for elevation: A mole that is raised above the skin and has a rough surface.

Other signs to watch for include a mole that bleeds or grows fast, a scaly or crusted growth on the skin, a sore that won't heal, or a mole that itches. If you notice that a mole has changed, or you have a new mole that doesn't look like your other moles, you should be evaluated by your doctor.

*I have come to the conclusion
 that politics are too serious a
 matter to be left to the politicians.*

- Charles De Gaulle (1890 - 1970)

Lend A Hand

VOLUNTEER
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HELP PROMOTE LITERACY

The Kent County Literacy Council has scheduled two information sessions: Wednesday, Oct. 11 and Monday, Oct. 16 for prospective volunteer tutors. These sessions will be held at 6:30 p.m. and lasts one hour. At the end of the session, there will be an opportunity to sign up for tutor training.

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

The Oct. 11th information session will be held at the Cascade Library, 2870 Jacksmith Ave. SE, Grand Rapids; the Oct. 16th session will be at the Grand Rapids Public Library, 111 Library St. NE. To register, call 459-5151.

Local horse trainer wins national championship

Joe Goodenow and AQHA mare Does N Diamonds, owned by Heather Pelon of Lowell, traveled to Oklahoma City on Sept. 14 to compete in the Foundation Quarter Horse Registry National Show. The competition had over 500 entries, drawing people from all over the United States.

Competing in western pleasure, reining, roping and cow work, Goodenow and Does N Diamonds accumulated the most points in the open competition; Does N Diamonds also stood Reserve Grand Champion mare.

Goodenow was awarded the title of High Point Open Champion and received a new horse trailer for the honor.



Joe Goodenow with his mare Does N Diamonds during competition at the Foundation Quarter Horse Registry National Show.

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SEPTEMBER SMILES OF THE MONTH:

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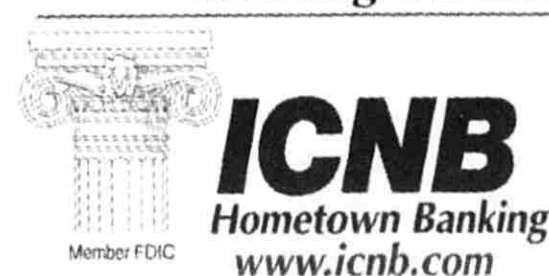
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COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

WED., OCT. 11: Planning for trailway meeting at Lowell Township Hall 6 p.m. Public welcome.

FRI., OCT. 13: 12 p.m. Pizza. Lowell Sr. Neighbors.

SAT., OCT. 14: Camp Tuhsmehta (camp for blind children) haunted house free and open to public. 7-10 p.m. Located 7 miles west of Greenville.

SAT., OCT. 14: Harvest Hustle 5K run/walk, 8 a.m.

SAT., OCT. 14: Larkin's Chili Cook-off, 11 a.m.

MON., OCT. 16: 11 a.m. Shop and lunch at Robinettes. Lowell Senior Neighbors.

TUES., OCT. 17: Crafts with Eva, 9:30 a.m. Lowell Senior Neighbors.

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 Vandervulp at 897-4302 for more info.

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

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

2ND MON.: Lowell Board of Education meets at 7 p.m. in Administration Building, 300 High Street.

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

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

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

EVERY MON: Women of Grace study series, St. Mary Church, 402 Amity, 7:30 - 9 p.m. Cheryl 868-6204.

TUESDAYS

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

Cub Scout Pack 3188 at 1st United Methodist Church 621 E. Main St. 6:30 p.m. Call Bruce Doll, cubmaster at 304-0082.

Weight Watchers, Alto United Methodist Church, Kirby & Harrison, 5:30 p.m. Reg. 1/2 hr. before meeting. 800-651-6000.

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

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

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

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

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

WED., OCT. 18: PSAT. Cost: \$14. Sophomores and juniors should contact student service center to register.

THURS., OCT. 26: Health lecture by Dr. Andre Jubert at Englehardt Library, 7-8 p.m. "The Frontal Lobe" Free.

SAT., NOV. 4: Heritage Holiday arts/crafts show, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. in Saranac H.S. auxiliary gym. 642-9664.

SUN., NOV. 5: Concert w/Roger MacNaughton/Steven VanRavenswaay piano/cello, Christmas favorites, etc. at LPAC. Call 897-8545 or www.lowellartscouncil.com.

SUN., NOV. 12: 8th annual Taste of Vegetarian, 4-6 p.m. at Cherry Creek Elementary. Free event for community.

SAT., NOV. 18: Good News Community, "Big Event" at Deer Run Golf, 6 p.m.-12 a.m. \$271 person. 363-0270.

TUESDAYS

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

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

2ND TUES.: Doric chapter #75, Order of Eastern Star 6:30 dinner, 7:30 p.m. regular meeting. 211 E Main, Belding.

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

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. Beltline) 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.

EVERY TUES.: Women of Grace study series, St. Mary Church, 402 Amity St., 9:15 - 10:45 a.m. Beth 897-5771.

WEDNESDAYS

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

8 p.m. ALANON upstairs at new 1st Congregational Church, 865 Lincoln Lake S.E. enter north parking lot, side door.

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

1ST WED.: GR/W. Mich. Scrabble Club at Schuler's Bookstore, 28th St. 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. walk-ins welcome. Jan 897-5759.

2ND WED.: Lowell Area Trailway, 6 p.m. alternate locations. Call Mari Stone 897-5671 or www.lowellareatrailway.org.

2ND WED.: Kent County Youth Fair Board meets 7:30 p.m., King Memorial Youth Center, 4-H Fairgrounds. Call 897-6050.

2ND WED.: Royal Arch Masons, Hooker Chapter #73, 7:30 p.m. in Belding Masonic Temple, 211 E. Main; dinner at 6:30 p.m.

2ND WED.: Lowell Women's Club, 11:45 a.m. in Schneider Manor Community Room, 725 Bowes Rd.

2ND WED.: Support group for Peripheral Neuropathy, 4 p.m., St. Paul's Anglican Catholic Church, GR. Dorothy 897-9794.

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. support group at Fountain View of Lowell, 11535 E. Fulton, 1 p.m. 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THURSDAYS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY

2ND & 4TH 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.

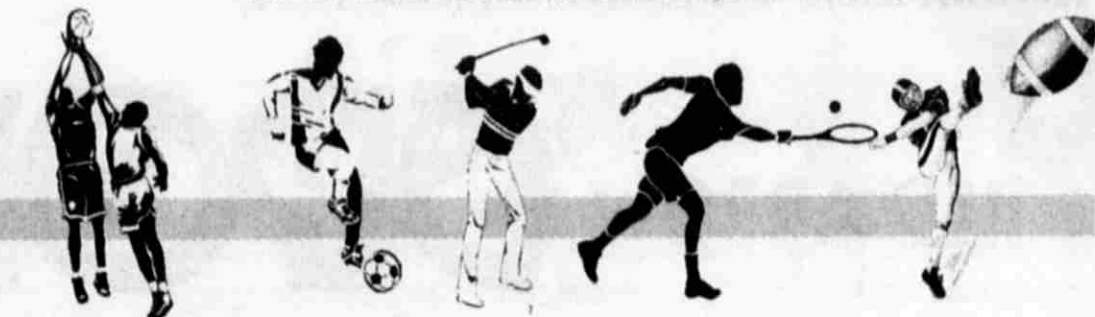
2ND SAT.: Lowell Amateur Radio Club, held at Lowell Airport, 730 Lincoln Lake NE. 9 a.m. social time; 10 a.m. meeting. LARC sponsors 145.27 MHz area radio repeater system.

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.

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.

RED ARROW SPORTS



Lowell tennis: something to smile about Girls' team finishes with respectable marks in conference tournament

By Justin Swan

Life's not easy as a high school tennis player when you're facing powerhouses like East Grand Rapids and Forest Hills Northern every other weekend.

Over there tennis lessons are just another side dish at the dinner table. A healthy helping of green beans, a scoop of mashed potatoes and a slice of The Basics of Tennis starring Stefi Graf aren't as far fetched as you might think. That's why coach Bonnie Walls was grinning from ear-to-ear when she learned her #1 singles player, senior Heather Spratt, had earned third place at the O-K White Conference Tournament over the weekend at Forest Hills Central High School.

And the glee didn't stop there. Lowell's #2, #3 and #4 singles players, Tanya Baker, Melissa Zuiderveen and Lauren Heernstra, each placed fourth in the tournament.

Meanwhile, under her watchful eye back at Forest Hills Northern High School for the tournament's doubles matches, Walls watched her #1 doubles team drop an unexpected first match to Kenowa Hills before coming back and winning two straight matches to place fifth.

And while some might find those results laughable rather than respectable, well, again, life's not easy when you're facing powerhouses like East Grand Rapids and Forest Hills Northern. But for a program that once swam in the cellar of the O-K White's tennis competition, these results are certainly commendable and worth a proud smile.

"I'm really proud of this year's team," said Walls, who coaches along side her husband Roger. "We thought we'd be down this year after losing so many seniors. But this has been the hardest working team, and overall they've been so great at picking each other up and helping each other out."

And if you really want to see Walls smile, just mention her senior Heather Spratt who, aside from her incredible 18-7 record this season, has shown some quality character both on and off the court.

"Heather is as nice as they come and she loves the game," said Walls. "She is a real hard worker who doesn't

get ruffled, and her tenacity and even-natured way has allowed her to develop into a real nice player."

Walls admits she didn't see much talent in Spratt when she first joined the team as a freshman in 2002. But first impressions aren't everything in tennis. "It's incredible what she's accomplished," Walls said. "Tennis is a very difficult sport to learn, and fortunately Roger and I have some good techniques to use that really have helped the Lowell program get better."

Spratt's 18-7 record is the best Walls has gotten out of a #1 singles player in her and her husband's eight years at Lowell. And according to Spratt it's all been a joy for her.

"This year's been so much fun," she said after her play over the weekend. "I think I've had a really good year and it was nice doing well in this tournament. It's going to be sad when it's all over."

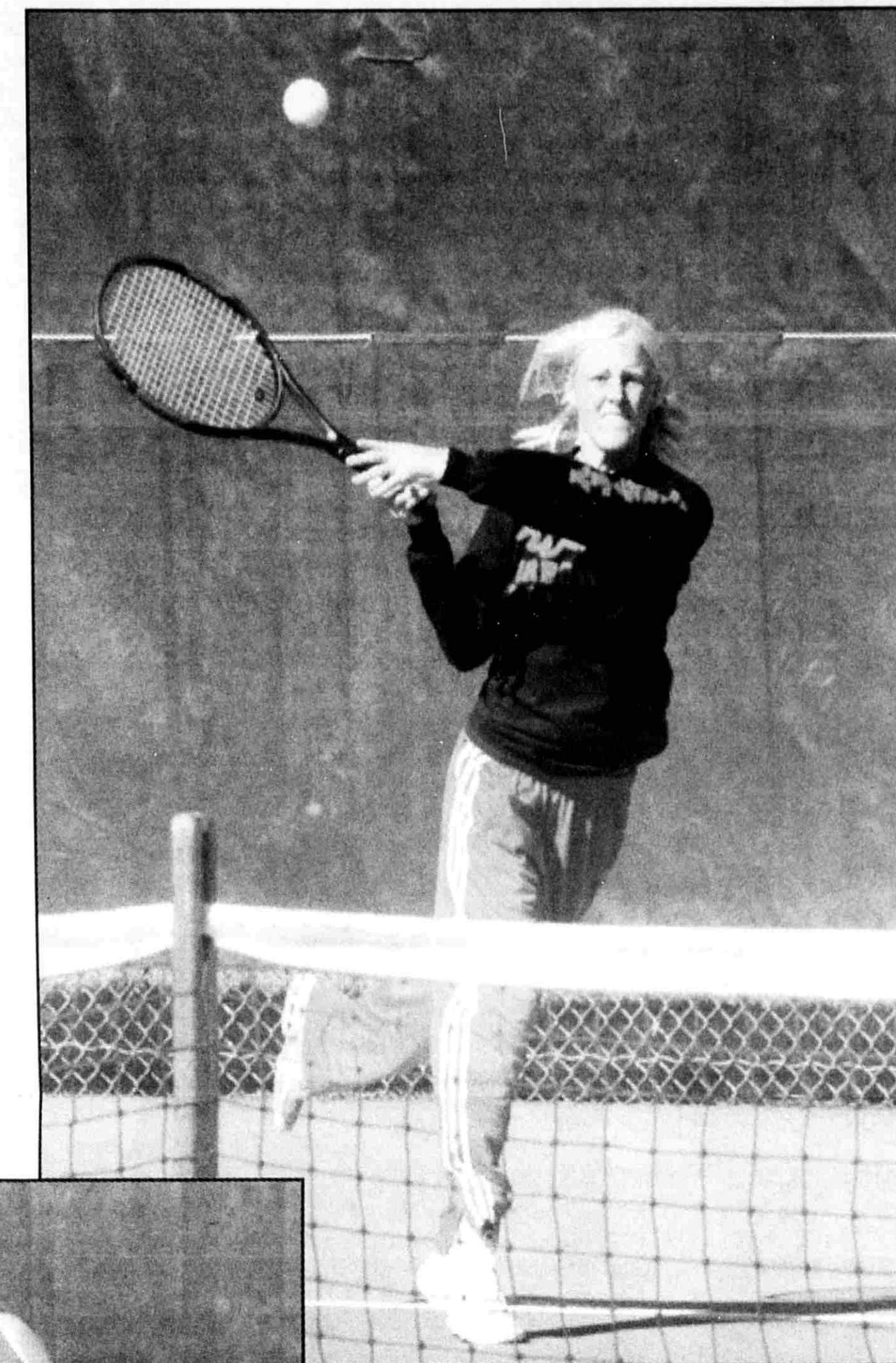
Barring the weather Lowell will compete at the

regional tournament on Thursday. And depending on the outcome some, or all, may qualify for the state tournament later this month. But for now Walls couldn't ask for anything more, especially since East will be moving out of the O-K White next season.

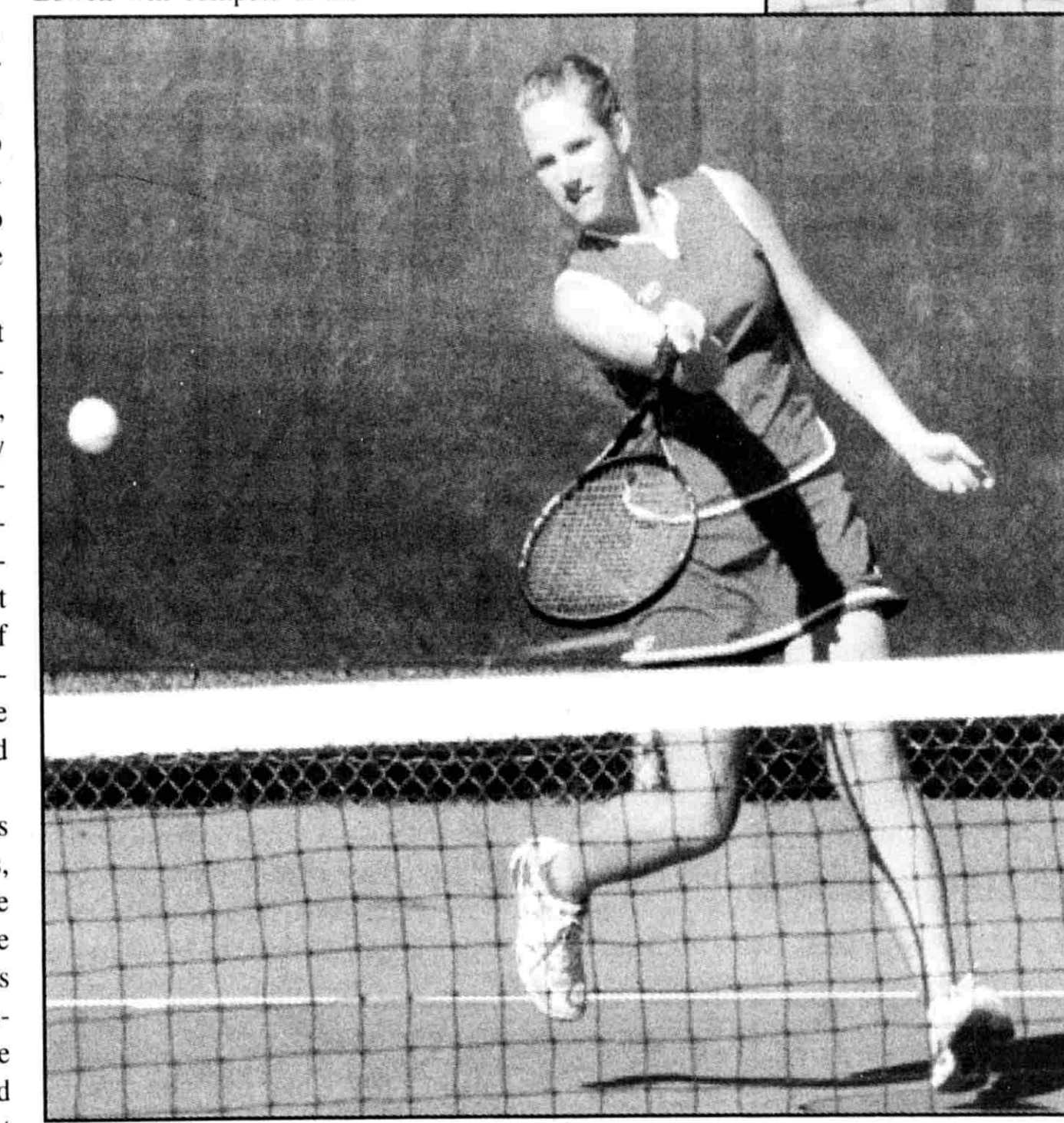
"Caledonia's going to replace East but overall we should improve," Walls said. "I think we can compete with Northview right now and maybe even Central but we're constantly getting better."

Next year's team should be quite a bit stronger with both the #2 and #3 singles returning. Melissa Zuiderveen's 18-7 record puts her in contention for the soon to be vacated #1 singles spot. But she'll have to battle for the position with current #2 singles player Tanya Baker.

All in all, competition for position is good in an up and coming athletic program ... just another reason for Wall's to be smiling.



Senior Heather Spratt finished 18-7 this season against some of the best players in the state.

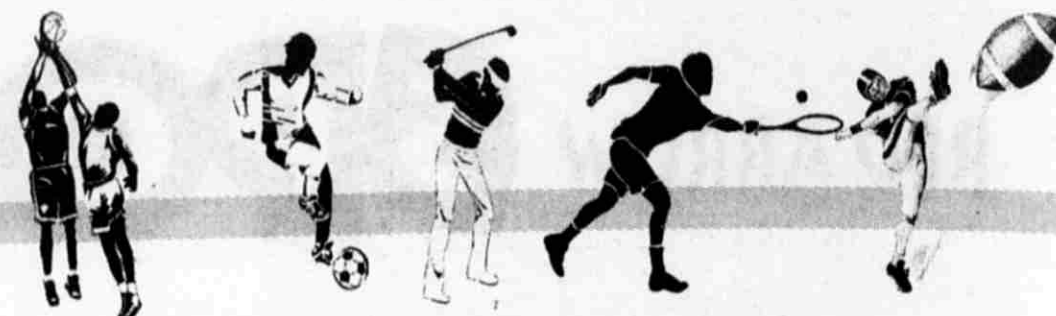


Junior Tanya Baker hopes to build on an improving program next year.

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RED ARROW SPORTS



Golf, cross country teams battle the elements

Rainy week causes longer times & added strokes as two seasons near the end

By Justin Swan

The race was on last week at Northview High School as the boys and girls cross country teams faced Forest Hills Central, earning mixed results and muddy legs after jogging through the school's soggy course.

"It was slow," said senior Keaton Dilly, whose 17:45 time placed in first overall. "That was the wettest course we've run on yet."

Meanwhile at Deer Run Golf Course, the Lowell boys golf team hosted the 2006 conference tournament where head coach Gary Fredline's team earned a sixth place finish. It was good enough to qualify for the regional tournament this month.

"I'm really pleased," Fredline said. "The conditions were pretty tough, it was cold, windy and wet;

a lot of players had a hard time with the course but my players did fairly well."

Following a week of stormy weather that had delayed several high school sports across the state, including Lowell's tennis, golf and cross country programs, it was literally time to sink or swim by mid-week as those season's ends near.

"I'm really happy with

how well our boys have done this year," said cross country head coach Clay VanderWarf. "We have a couple guys really helping us with some top finishes and the other guys are about 20 to 30 seconds back."

While Dilly's top finish overall, combined with Andy Mark's fourth place mark of 18:21, offered a reason for hope, Lowell (3-1) fell to Forest Hills Northern (4-0) for their first conference loss of the season. The girls didn't fair any better despite senior Monica Fitzpatrick's second place time of 21:22.

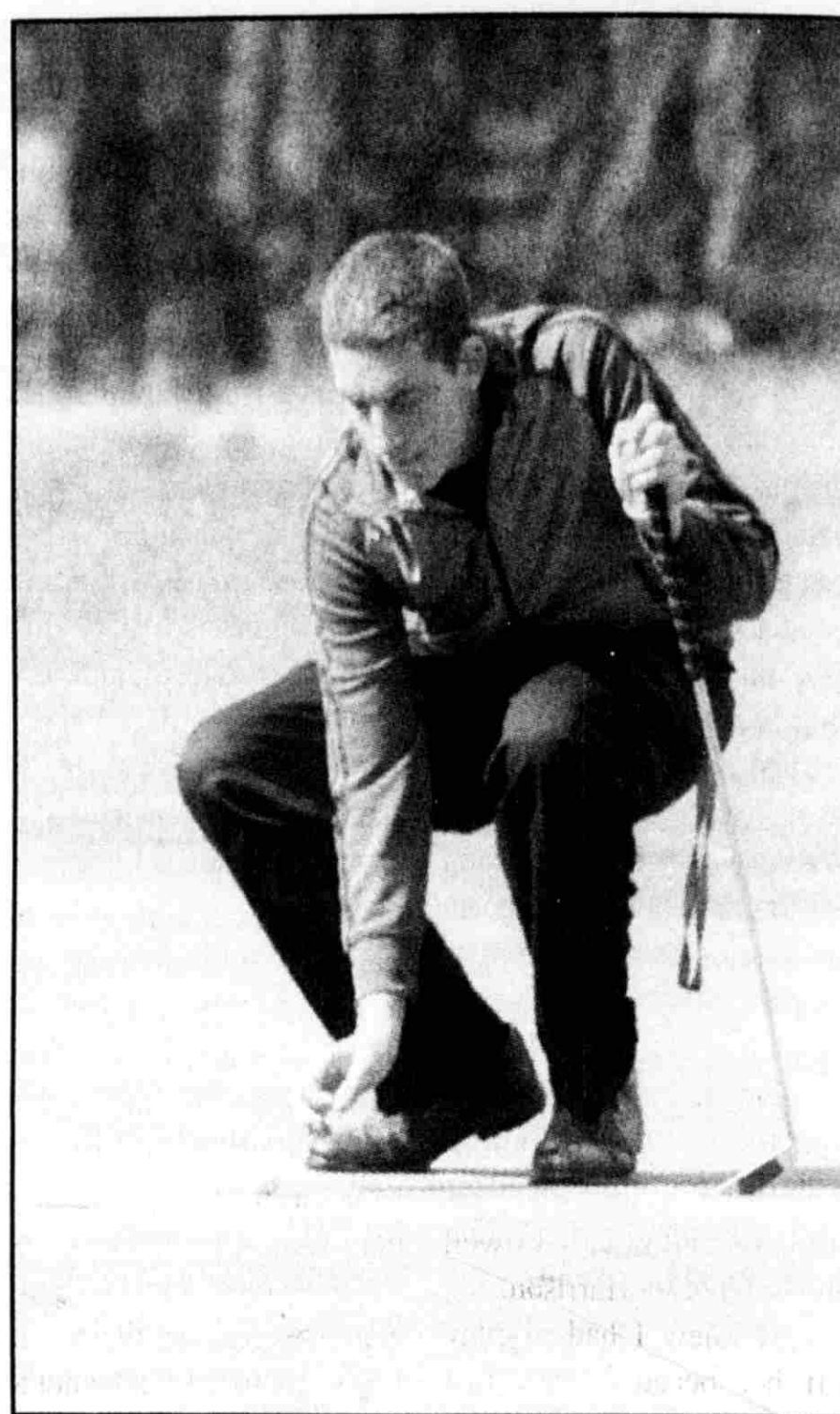
"Our girls' team is smaller since we only have 12 runners," said VanderWarf. "We're a little bit down this year but their spirits remain high. Monica has run real well this year too."

According to VanderWarf, there's reason for optimism as the post-season tournaments approach.

"I think we have a decent shot at being conference champs," he said, in regards to the boys' team. "By conference tournament time it should be a real competitive race."

As for the girls, the hope is that some individual runners, like Fitzpatrick, will be able to earn a birth in the state tournament, according to VanderWarf.

For the golf team the optimism was strong going



Junior Lance Perkins would tap in this putt for an 82 on the round.

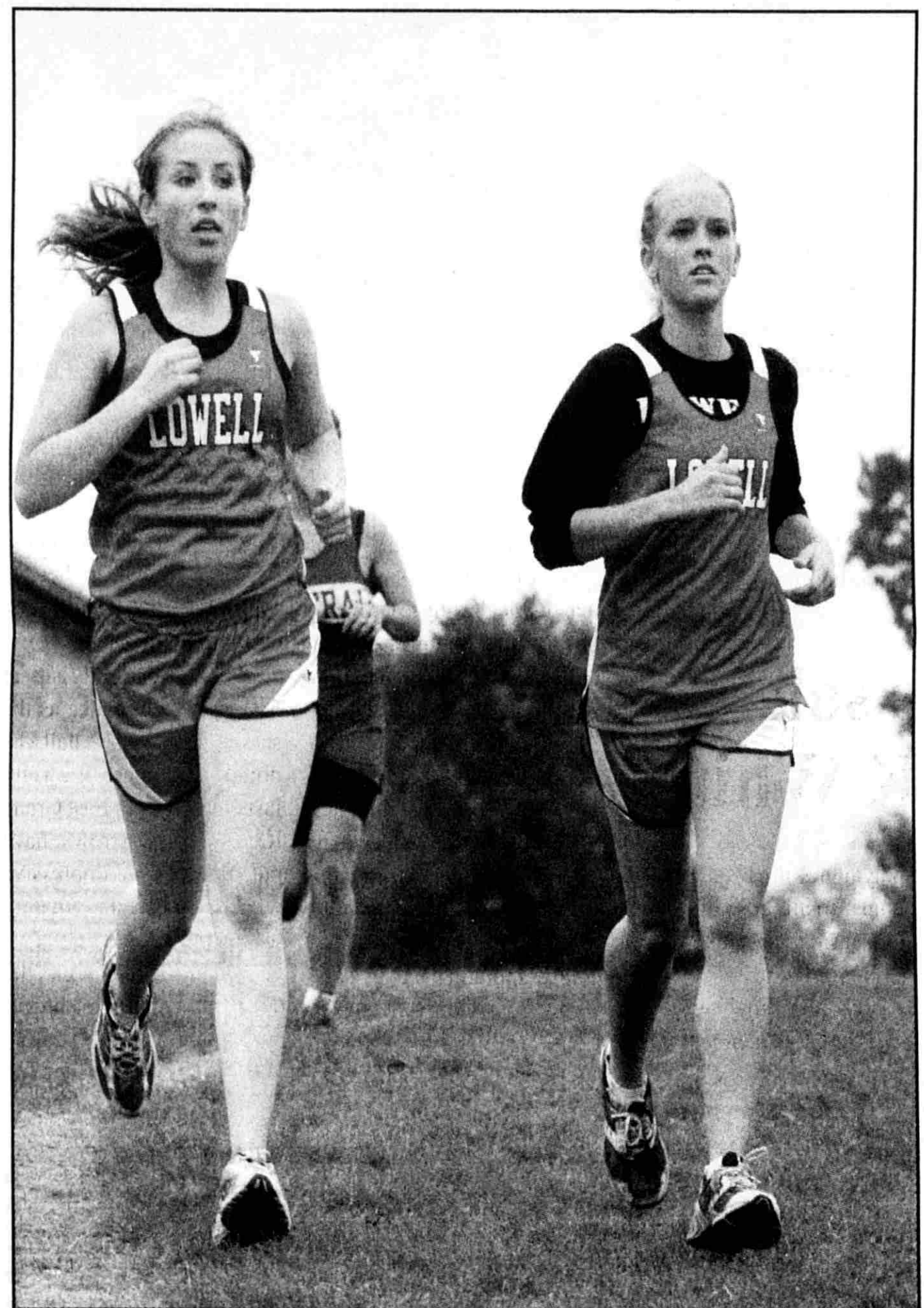
into last week's conference tournament, given Lowell's home course advantage at Deer Run. While only placing sixth overall the Red Arrows were just four strokes out of third place on the difficult course.

"This course is tough, so we have an advantage since we play it a lot," said player Lance Perkins, who shot an

82. "I think my score will be one of the better ones since the conditions are like this."

"This is a tough course for sure," said Andy Suvacz, a junior from Kalamazoo Loy Norrix. "I've never played it which is why I shot a 92. Not good."

The boys' golf team will compete in the regional tournament on Thursday.



The girls cross country team has yet to win in 2006, but with a lot of new runners hopes are high for 2007.

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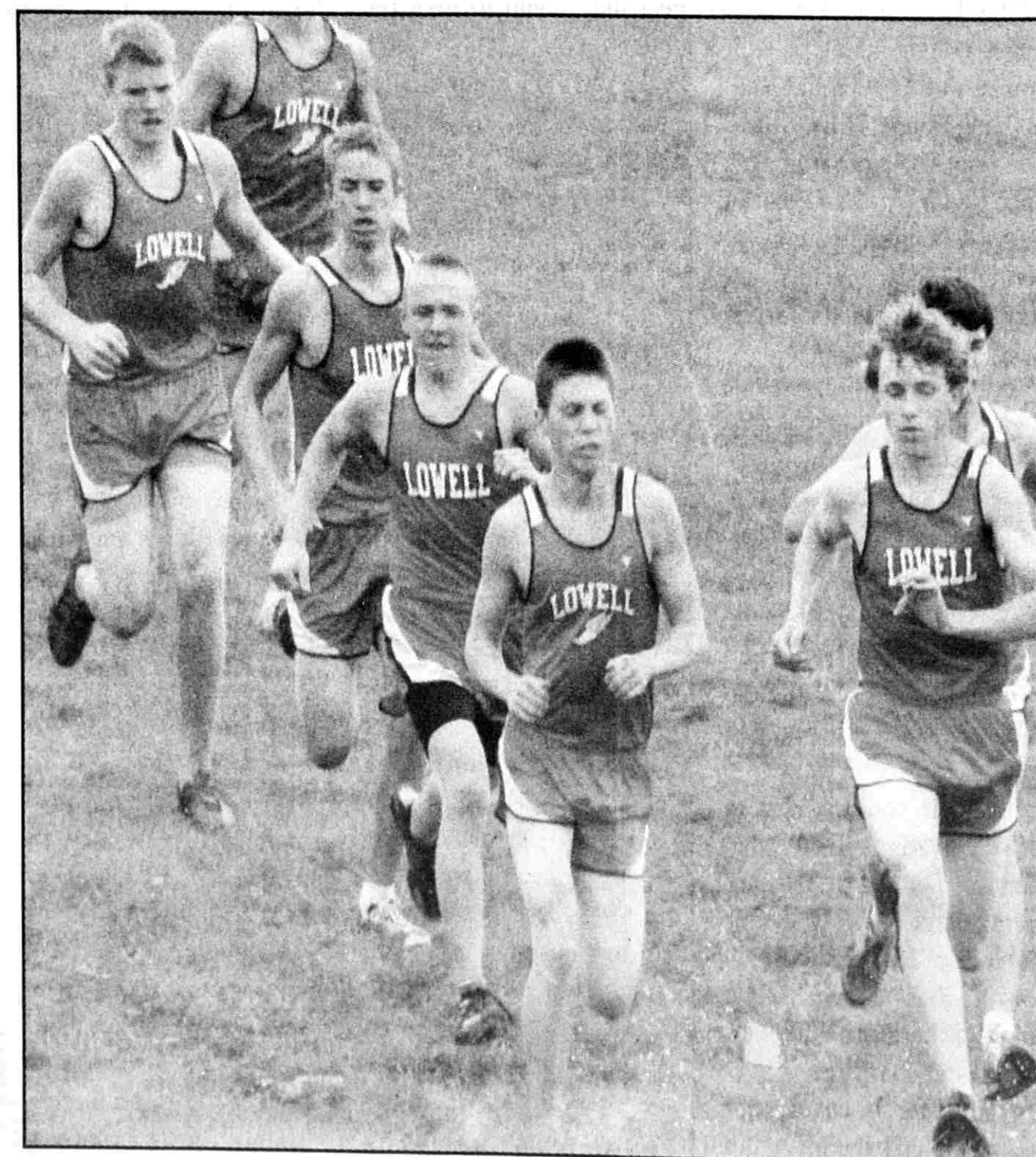
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Seniors Keaton Dilly (in front) and Andy Mark have been constant front runners for coach VanderWarf.

RED ARROW SPORTS



Lowell leads entire way against a strong Grand Rapids Christian

By Justin Swan

It lacked the excitement of a traditional conference match up, but not a single player, coach or fan dared to look past Grand Rapids Christian (8-3) Saturday night, who came into Lowell hoping to avenge last year's 52-45 loss on their home court.

"It's always a game of two traditional powerhouses that really go at it," said Lowell head coach Dee Crowley. "I thought we did the things we had to do to keep them off the boards and force them into taking tough shots."

The Red Arrows topped the Eagles 48-41 with an aggressive inside presence, clutch 3-point shooting and blanket defense on the Eagle backcourt that includes standout guard junior Jamillya Hardley, who was all but shutdown by Lowell junior Chelsea Harrison.

"I knew I had to play off her because she's fast and has a nice little pull up jump shot," Harrison said. "She made some, she missed

some and I just played hard against her."

Hardley was held to just two points in the first half but showed signs of life in the third quarter when she scored four straight points, tightening the game at 38-35. A quick Lowell timeout stopped the bleeding as the Red Arrows went on a 10-6 run to finish the game.

"It's a non-conference win against a traditional power," Crowley said. "It gives us a good idea of whether we can play with the really good teams or not."

"We knew it'd be a tough match," said senior center Amanda Geelhoed. "We came out with a ton of intensity and were ready for them."

Geelhoed led all scores with 14 points and added 10 rebounds, a stat Crowley said was very important for her team.

"We felt our inside game was stronger than theirs and I wanted to take advantage of that," Crowley said. "They have a lot of height but I thought we were just as



Head coach Dee Crowley is trying to lead the Red Arrows to a 4th consecutive O-K White title.

strong inside with what we do. Amanda played a good game."

Getting to the boards proved to be a large factor with Lowell, who out-

rebounded the Eagles 36-27, including 12 offensive rebounds that often led to second chance opportunities.

But one glaring concern lay in turnovers. The Red Arrows gave up countless opportunities on the inlet pass, often due to some soft passes, according to Crowley

... something her team will work on in preparation for their trip to East Grand Rapids this Thursday. The Pioneers are responsible for Lowell's only conference loss this season when they topped the Lady Arrows 39-44 at Lowell last month.

"That's the one loss we really shouldn't have," said Crowley. "Hopefully we'll come with a little attitude to show it was a fluke the first time." "We're going to

beat East," added Geelhoed. "Last time we came out thinking 'it's just East' and we didn't know how intense they were going to be; we came out flat. This time we're going to get 'em."

Lowell currently sits at 5-1 in the conference as the season nears the halfway point. And since Lowell's last meeting with East Grand Rapids, the Arrows have put together an impressive winning streak, totaling seven straight.

But with each win, "the target is getting a lot bigger on us now," said Harrison. "We just have to keep on playing strong."

Red Arrows football takes sole possession of first place in OK White

With a rambunctious homecoming crowd pumped up for a first place battle in the O-K White, the Rangers had everything in place for an upset of the Red Arrows. Except for their offensive blocking assignments that is.

As fast as you can say overrated, the Red Arrow defense was in the Forest Hills Central backfield gobbling up the Ranger's quarterback while putting up the game's first points as a result of the safety.

Lowell's ensuing drive, following Central's safety punt, resulted in a touchdown and the route was on as Lowell (7-0) upended Forest Hills Central (4-3) 52-13 to take sole possession of first place in the O-K White.

"We were preparing on our focus in practice because we were playing a team that was undefeated in the league and I think our kids responded well in that regard," said Lowell head coach Noel Dean.

In fact, the only complaint Dean had happens to be the result of just how good their team is.

"Sometimes we score so quickly that it puts us at a bit of a disadvantage,"

he said. "It seems like the defense always has to turn around and go right back out there."

The dynamic tandem of quarterback Keith Nichol and Mike McElroy did the best they could to give the defense a rest. On one drive in the second quarter Nichol fumbled the ball deep in his own backfield. The recovery by teammate Bill Mechaney resulted in a lengthy third-and-thirty three.

"All our plays are based on the coverage that they're giving and in that situation we got a cover 3 look and Mike had a man up on him," Dean explains. "Keith moved the free safety to the middle of the field and went vertical to McElroy and it worked out in our favor."

The pass was complete for a first down deep in Ranger territory. Three plays later, and following a penalty that made it a long third-and-goal, Nichol finished off the 80-yard drive with a touchdown scamper that required every ounce of Nichol's skill, as he kept his feet under him and lunged in for the score.

As for McElroy, touchdowns aren't his only forte as he hauled

in two interceptions on consecutive passes from Ranger quarterback Alex Chop, again showing the quality balance behind both the individual players and the team entirely. Lowell's defense held the Rangers to just 80 yards rushing and 76 yards passing.

Meanwhile the Red Arrow offense tallied up a total of 427 yards of offense. And while Dean is pleased with his team's development over the weeks he hopes that lopsided victories will afford his younger players some deserved opportunities.

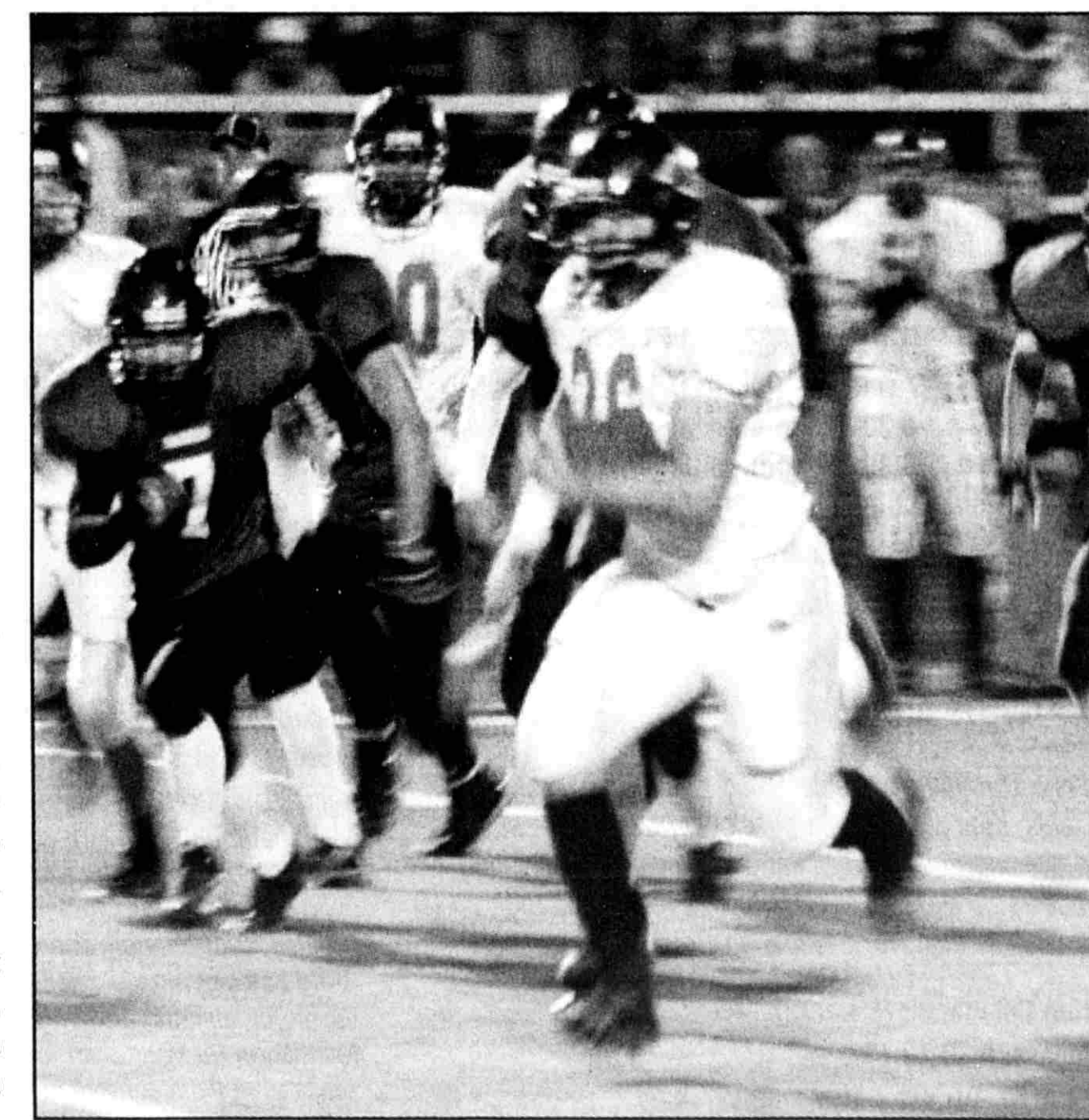
"I think we have to try to balance ourselves for the long run with playing time," Dean said. "We need to be able to play four quarters and meet the needs of our second and third string kids. They work really hard in practice and deserve the right to play. That will be something we'll have to consider as we approach game ten."

That game will be at home against Northview, who pushed last year's match up deep into the fourth quarter before surrendering.

"Last year it took us the last play of the game to win it," Dean said. "We'll be

playing for the league title at home, so all those things are in consideration as we get ready for them."

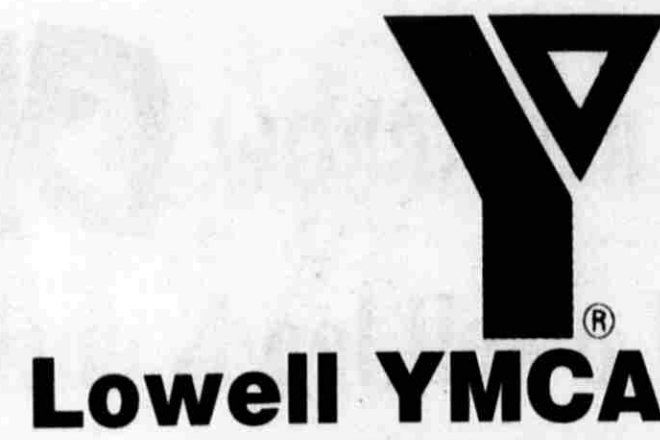
Lowell's final game will be Oct. 20 at Kenowa Hills the following week.



Running back Kameron Blake breaks away from the Ranger defense in the first quarter.

Fall Guide *to fun*

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SATURDAY: 7 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

SUNDAY: 11 A.M.-4 P.M.

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INSTRUCTIONAL BASKETBALL

Age 4-Pre-K (boys & girls)

This program will introduce your child to this exciting sport. We will teach the basics of the game including shooting, dribbling, and passing. The focus will be on peer-to-peer interaction and the development of motor skills. Playing games and having fun is most important in this class.

Mondays: 6:00-7:00 p.m.

October 30-December 11 (7 classes)

Register by October 25 • Guarantee Deadline: Oct. 18

Location: Cherry Creek Elementary

YMCA Member: \$32 • Non-Member: \$55

INSTRUCTIONAL BASKETBALL

Kindergarten (boys & girls)

This program continues to build on skills to improve a child's fundamental knowledge of the game. Youth will learn proper shooting, passing, and defense techniques. Children will begin to apply these skills for game situations. We will do some scrimmages to teach spacing and strategy. Our goal will be to have fun and enjoy the game.

Saturdays: 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

November 4-December 16 (6 classes)

Register by October 25 • Guarantee Deadline: Oct. 18

Location: Murray Lake Elementary

YMCA Member: \$27 • Non-Member: \$50

INSTRUCTIONAL BASKETBALL

1st & 2nd Grade (boys & girls)

This program will continue to build on skills and techniques in greater depth and challenge youth to implement techniques they have practiced. The first 3 classes are purely instructional and the last 3 classes consist of a half hour practice with a half hour game.

Saturdays: 1:00-2:00 p.m.

November 4-December 16 (6 classes)

Register by October 25 • Guarantee Deadline: Oct. 18

Location: Murray Lake Elementary

YMCA Member: \$30 • Non-Member: \$54

ROKEN KARATE FOR BEGINNERS

Ages 6+ (Must be 6 by start of the program)

Learn basic karate punches, kicks, blocks, and moves - you work at your own pace.

Oct. 31-Dec. 16 (7 weeks) - No class Thanksgiving week.

Tuesday: 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Thursday: 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Location: Church of the Nazarene, 201 N. Washington

YMCA Member: \$45 • Non-Member: \$112

ROKEN KARATE FOR ADVANCED

Ages 6+ (Must be 6 by start of the program)

White Belt/Black Stripe and sponsorship from Sensei, you are introduced to new skills and more difficult routines.

Oct. 31-Dec. 16 (7 weeks) - No class Thanksgiving week.

Tuesday: 7:10-8:25 p.m.

Thursday: 7:40-8:40 p.m.

Location: Church of the Nazarene, 201 N. Washington

YMCA Member: \$45 • Non-Member: \$112

ROKEN KARATE FOR ADULTS

Ages 12+

White Belt/Black Stripe and sponsorship from Sensei, you are introduced to new skills and more difficult routines.

Oct. 31-Dec. 16 (7 weeks) - No class Thanksgiving week.

Tuesday: 8:30-9:30 p.m.

Thursday: 6:30-7:20 p.m. or 8:50-9:50 p.m.

Location: Church of the Nazarene, 201 N. Washington

YMCA Member: \$45 • Non-Member: \$112

KINESTHETIC KIDS

Ages 3-4

This is a 45-minute class designed specifically for 3 and 4-year olds. Kids will work on developing basic skills such as hand-eye coordination, ball handling, kicking, agility, and balance. This class will also help kids to develop their social skills such as teamwork, following directions, and sharing.

starting October 30 (7 weeks)

Thursdays: 9:30-10:15 a.m.

YMCA Member: \$40 • Non-Member: \$55

RECREATIONAL BASKETBALL LEAGUE

3rd-4th Grade (coed)

5th-6th Grade (gender specific)

This league will give youth the chance to practice and compete with their team and coach. It is designed with participation and enjoyment as the priority. Each youth will receive equal playing time. Teams will practice during the week and have games on Saturdays. They will learn team play in a 5 on 5 setting, and be instructed in the rules of an actual game. These leagues may travel to other local YMCAs for games. Teams will be grade specific.

Guarantee Deadline: October 18

Practices begin week of Oct. 30; Games begin Nov. 4

YMCA Member: \$35 • Non-Member: \$62

SPIRIT LEAGUE BASKETBALL

5th-8th Grade

This is a competitive league where playing time is based on ability and may not be equal. Each participant MUST have prior basketball team experience. These teams will travel and have games at other local YMCAs. Teams will be grade and gender specific.

Guarantee Deadline: October 18

Practices begin week of Oct. 30; Games begin Nov. 4

YMCA Member: \$39 • Non-Member: \$66

PRESCHOOL TUMBLEBUGS

Location: All classes meet in the Lowell YMCA Teen Center

Cost for All Tumblebug Classes: YMCA Member: \$30 • Non-Member: \$60

Ages 24-36 months

October 30-December 16 (7 weeks)

Tuesday: 6:30-7:20 p.m.

Requires a parent or caregiver to participate. Parents work with their children on basic motor development at adventure stations to develop balance, coordination, and confidence using basic gymnastic skills and positions, building a strong foundation for your child to develop a sense of athletic achievement, self-esteem, and social skills.

Ages 3/Young 4's

October 30-December 16 (7 weeks)

Tuesday: 7:30-8:20 p.m.

Introduction to the magic of gymnastics. Children learn how to deal with the physical, mental, emotional, and social aspects of childhood in a playful, creative, and stimulating environment. We focus on balance, body awareness, and coordination in addition to specific gymnastics skills.

Older 4's and 5's

October 30-December 16

Thursday: 7:30-8:20 p.m.

Children will begin participating in specialized activities that are geared toward building strength, flexibility, and individual skills in gymnastics. Children begin to relate gymnastics to vocabulary with the skills they learn. Dress your child to participate... a leotard for girls; shorts and a t-shirt for boys.

ADVENTURE GUIDES

Grades K-4

Parent/Child activities; home and outdoor based. Spend time with your children while connecting with other families learning about the outdoors and each other. We need five pairs to start. Dates and times will be chosen by the group. Contact Ryan at the YMCA for more information.

YMCA Member: \$26 • Non-Member: \$58

Additional Child (Member): \$15 • Non-Member: \$35

GUITAR (BEGINNER-INTERMEDIATE)

Ages 6-9 Beginners

Ages 10-15 Beginners-Intermediate

Ages 16+ Beginners-Intermediate

Michael Howard is an experienced guitar instructor and has been a pro entertainer for 30 years. Mr. Howard teaches acoustic, 6-string electric, 12-string, rhythm, and lead. Bring your own guitar and Melbay Method Book 1. Call Mike Howard to schedule your class (897-5716) then confirm your reservation by making payment at the Lowell YMCA.

Location: YMCA Teen Center

7 weeks

YMCA Member: \$55 • Non-Member: \$75

THIRD ANNUAL HAUNTED SHOWBOAT

Saturday, October 28

Noon-4:00 p.m.

One side is "kid friendly," the other side is **SCARIER!**

Games
Pumpkin Painting
Piñatas
Face Painting
Donut Eating Contest

Lunch served. Costumes encouraged.

Teen Programs

HEALTHY U

Grade 6

This after school program teaches you how to eat right and improve your skills to help you live a healthy life! FREE YMCA Youth/Teen Membership! Check with the YMCA or the middle school counselors for further information.

Monday & Wednesday after school, at the Middle School

FREE!

TEEN TAKEOVERS

Grade 5-15 years

Play video games, eat pizza, work out, and sakte.

Fridays 7:00-11:00 p.m.

November 3, December 1

YMCA Member: \$6 • Non-Member: \$9

LEADERS CLUB

Grades 6-12

Leaders Club is one of the YMCA's most intensive and comprehensive teen programs. Young people meet on a weekly basis in small groups, working closely with their peers and a counselor on skill- and character-building activities, as well as on planning and organizing club projects. This program provides a safe haven for young people to become confident and competent adults with a sense of belonging in their community.

Tuesday 3:30-4:30 p.m.

YMCA Member: \$20 • Non-Member: \$30

SERVICE PROJECT

to benefit Flat River Outreach

November-December

Call Ryan Rose at 897-8445 for more details.



Adult/Fitness Programs

TAI CHI CHUAN

This new and exciting addition is now at the YMCA! Tai Chi creates balance, flexibility, and calmness with an emphasis on deep breathing. Tai Chi integrates your body, necessary in centering and grounding.

begins October 30 (7 weeks)

Saturday 8:15-9:15 a.m.

YMCA Member: \$49 • Non-Member: \$65

WOMEN ON WEIGHTS (WOW)

Age 18+

Women on Weights is a group setting with a personal coach. Functional movements that are safe and effective for all levels of group fitness are taught in this class. This 7 week program will help you break through to the next level. Sign up today.

starting October 30

Mondays & Wednesdays: 8:00-9:00 a.m.

YMCA Member: \$50 • Non-Member: \$75

PERSONAL TRAINING

A one on one session with a certified Personal Trainer. Includes a body composition assessment and a specialized program. Gift Certificates available.

YMCA Member: \$50 • Non-Member: \$60

FIVE SESSION PACKAGE

YMCA Member: \$180 • Non-Member: \$280

TEN SESSION PACKAGE

YMCA Member: \$360 • Non-Member: \$540

BUDDY TRAINING (ONE SESSION)

YMCA Member: \$65 • Non-Member: \$75

GROUP STRENGTH TRAINING

Learn a variety of more advanced strength training techniques from certified Personal Trainers. You will be educated on various strength training techniques to help you meet your individual strength goals. (Minimum of six participants please.)

starting October 31 (7 weeks)

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 10:30-11:30 a.m.

YMCA Member: \$50 • Non-Member: \$75

MASSAGE THERAPY (Gift Certificates available)

Therapeutic massage offers a range of health benefits for the entire body. New clients receive \$5 off first visit with mention of this ad. Schedule an appointment with Jenn, our certified massage therapist.

YMCA Member: \$30/30 min. • Non-Member: \$35/30 min.

YMCA Member: \$50/60 min. • Non-Member: \$60/60 min.

YMCA Member: \$75/90 min. • Non-Member: \$95/90 min.

Child Care

MONDAY-FRIDAY: 6:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

at Runciman Elementary School, 300 High St.

Lowell, MI 49331

(616) 987-2535

Serving families of children 6 weeks-Kindergarten



CHERRY CREEK ELEMENTARY

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE

12675 Foreman • Lowell, MI 49331

(616) 897-2688

1st-5th Grade

MURRAY LAKE ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL-AGE CHILD CARE

3279 Alden Nash • Lowell, MI 49331

(616) 987-2780

Serving families of children in K-5th Grade

GENERAL PROGRAM REFUND POLICY

Class/program cancellations are accepted up to 72 hours prior to the start date of the class/program. Refunds will not be given after the start of class except for documented bereavement or medical reasons. We will refund 100% of the cost of the class/program if cancellation has been requested 72 hours or more in advance of the start date of the class/program. In the event that you must cancel your registration less than 72 hours prior to the start of a class/program, you will receive a credit voucher to apply towards a future class/program. Please contact the member service desk or a program director for more information. This policy applies to all programs except Camp Manitou-Lin, Child Care, and Extreme Fun Club.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Confidential financial assistance is available to those who qualify. Contact Marta at 897-8445 for more information.

The "V" symbol indicates that volunteers are needed for this particular program/activity. For more information, contact the YMCA at 897-8445 to be directed to the appropriate department.

Wildlife disease, continued ... From Page 8

a seasonal epidemic that flares up in summer and continues into fall. As with EEE, the best way to avoid illness is to avoid mosquito bites. If a hunter is bitten by an infested mosquito, symptoms generally will develop three to 14 days after the bite occurs. In cases with milder symptoms, people experience fever and aches that pass on their own. In more severe cases, hospital care is required. Hunters should take precautions to prevent mosquito bites by using repellents, keeping skin covered and treating insect bites with antiseptic. Tick-borne illness

Tick-borne illnesses, which are a potential threat in Michigan, include Lyme Disease, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Tularemia

and Ehrlichiosis. Ticks are significant carriers of pathogens that can cause human illness. In Michigan, these diseases are rare, but they do occur and can be serious if not properly diagnosed and treated. All illness that originates with a tick bite can be treated with antibiotics. Patients and domestic animals treated in the early stages usually recover rapidly and completely. Check hunting dogs regularly and if cleaning a deer or other game, always wear gloves and check your clothing and hair after processing is done. Ticks can attach to any part of the human body, but prefer body creases and areas with hair. Ticks should be removed using fine-tipped tweezers. Wash the bite right away with soap and water, then apply an antiseptic to the wound. Expert tick identification is available at a number of state agencies.

General Precautions

Hunters should not handle or consume wild animals that appear sick to act abnormally. Always wear heavy rubber or latex gloves when field dressing wild game. If intestinal contents contact meat, consider that meat contaminated and cut it off, then discard. Big-game animals should be field dressed immediately to cool the carcass and then hung by the head to allow the body cavity to drain thoroughly. In warm weather, carcass cooling can be hastened and maintained by bags of ice which can be placed directly into the body cavity. Protect the carcass from flies. Wash hands with soap and water before and after handling meat. Sanitize equipment and work surfaces thoroughly. Always cook venison and other wild meat until it is no longer pink and the juices run clear. For more information, visit the DNR Web site at www.michigan.gov/emerging_diseases.

Van BRO'S Since 1998
IRRIGATION, INC.
Residential & Commercial Installation & Service Of Underground Water Sprinklers
616-761-6256

The Lowell Equestrian Team
would like to thank the following businesses for continued support of sponsorship, enabling the team to make it to the Regional Level. Your support is greatly appreciated!

- Blue Ribbon Feed
- Equine Medical
- Family Fare
- Mark & Karen Blodger
- Mary Benedict
- Philip & Lynn Nauta
- Dairy De-Lite
- Harold Zeigler Ford
- Joe & Gail Parker
- Good Chevrolet Buick
- CSC Spotted Horizon
- L.A. Trim
- Karianne & David Shurlow
- Caledonia
- Farmers Elevator
- Dekker Bookbinding
- Animal Hospital & Pet Complex
- Dr. Todd Gillan D.D.S.
- Grand Rapids Western Horse Club
- Timpson Orchard
- Pep Talk

And a special Thank You to all of our parent volunteers.
Sincerely, Lowell Equestrian Team Coaching Staff

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".

I've already decided who gets my vote---the first candidate with the courage to propose adding politicians to the list of groups which must abide by the do not call laws.

My uncle and brother lost their jobs at GM due to downsizing, my brother now works for the Honda plant in Marysville, OH and he has job security - I only buy Hondas!

Happy 22nd birthday my dupa! I love you! - Your Polish princess

To the people whose greyhound I found, if you ever need a dog sitter or anything just stop by. He was a total sweetheart.

Does anyone remember when Betsy DeVos was head of the Michigan Republican Party? In the Grand Rapids Press the headlines were: Betsy DeVos says Michigan workers make too much money.

To the people that came into our bar Saturday night claiming they owned the town - shame on you for acting like naughty children.

Seems that the more money you make, the less intelligent you are.

Wow! Six graduates playing in college. Lowell must have a pretty good volleyball program. I'm impressed.

It's a city ordinance you must have your cats kept indoors or on a leash or my dog will go after it. Your cat's gonna scat.

Who is Emily?

There's nothing wrong with the Spartan uniform on the bear. Just remember the unbomber came from the University of Michigan.

I'm a disappointed grandma. My granddaughter was on the Homecoming Court and no picture.

When will the schools hold a meeting for parents to discuss the recent violence in schools? I know Lowell doesn't have a history of violence but maybe we can get some thoughts together on the subject.

To the person who has five cars, GM/Ford in their driveway... Do the math and figure out how many parts are imported from somewhere either overseas, Canada or Mexico.

Hello Mike Lessens here of VFW Post 8303 in Lowell. I wanted to thank the members of the community for taking the disposal of flags seriously. We're collecting flags out here at the Vet's center - the local Scout Troop 102 does the disposal in a special ceremony. Continue the good work.

DROP EVERYTHING!
Your eBay Drop-Off Center
Drop Everything and go! Just drop off your items and we'll sell them for you on eBay!
NOW OPEN!
Bring In This Ad and Receive 10% Off Commission Fees!
EXPIRES 10/20/06
Drop-Everything.com
416 Ada Dr. SE Suite B in Ada (In the Thornapple Village Center on Ada Drive at East Fulton)
(616) 682-1122

A CROWN
IN ONE VISIT
...SIMPLE!
"If I had known it would be this easy, I wouldn't have put off getting a crown for so long. One visit and it was done. The crown fits and looks great. I have my smile back...simple!"
Family Dentistry of Lowell
- ANN WILSON, D.D.S. -
Tel. 897-4835 • 147 North Center Street • Lowell
NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS 897-4835

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE FOR SALE FOR SALE FOR RENT HELP WANTED SERVICES

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

4 MACHINIST BENCH TOOL BOXES - 2 bases & tools, 1st \$1000 or over. Call 691-8847, ask for Roger.

MATTRESS, BOX SPRINGS & FRAME FOR SALE - Simmons Beautyrest Salisbury single sided pillow top, 10 year warranty bought in 2001. Replacing with Select Comfort. Asking \$550 obo. 868-0841.

1991 CHEVY 3/4 TON PICKUP - 4WD, ext. cab, rebuilt trans./engine, many new parts. \$4,800 obo. Call 616-987-6475 or 616-437-5198.

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

RABBIT CAGES - new & used, inside & outside; baby bunnies & pigeons. 616-691-6619.

BUNK BEDS - Back to school special! From \$79. All wood. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

MOSSBURG - 12 ga. shotgun combo, \$150. 813-7882.

2003 SUZUKI XL - Limited, 4x4, 46,000 miles, \$12,200 obo. Call cell 498-0476 or home 897-5825.

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

1980 HONDA CX 500 DE-LUXE - excellent shape, runs great, new back tire. \$1,000 obo. Call Jakub at 616-550-3602.

MICROWAVE - with 5-shelf oak stand on wheels. \$150. Call after 6 p.m. 897-6346.

COUCH & LOVESEAT SET - (2 mos. old), new condition, autumn beige, new, \$900, sell \$350. Call 517-719-8062.

SIBERIAN HUSKY - not registered, male, blue eyes, 6 months old, \$100. 987-6475 or 437-5198.

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

1988 CHEVY PICKUP - 4X4, good shape, \$2,900. 987-6475 or 437-5198.

1999 PONTIAC - Grand Prix GT, 129K, \$4,500. 987-6475 or 437-5198.

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

2004 HONDA CBR 600 - blue, after market pipe and turn signals, \$5,800. 616-560-3586.

YEAR & A HALF OLD SEASONED ALL HARDWOOD - Delivered, \$155 per cord, 581-4336.

AFFECTIONATE MULE - bride and saddle for sale, \$375. Call 868-7068 for more information.

FOR SALE - Hobbico RTF RC airplane. Paid \$400 now, asking \$175. Approximately 2 hours of use. 813-7882.

FIREPLACE WOODSTOVE INSERT - Osburn, excellent condition, have all hardware, electric fan, \$250. 550-9643.

SHARP 1998 TOYOTA - Celica GT, kbb \$7,300. Accepting offers. Call 897-7841.

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

WESTERN PRO SNOW-PLOW - 2001, 3 seasons, limited use, \$1,900; buzz saw, 3 pt. hitch, PTO drive, \$100. Call 897-7377.

PROPANE FURNACE - Down flow, 4 years old, AC coil. Call 437-2340 or 897-2655.

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 616-293-6160. Can deliver.

'91 SATURN SL1 - 4 door, 5 speed. Runs and drives. Asking only \$500. 897-4205.

WOODED ACREAGE! - Nice 6.7 acre build site! Located off Pinckney Rd. Saranac Schools. West Michigan Real Estate 897-0530.

BEAUTIFUL '94 HONDA GOLDWING - low mileage and mint. 262-7567.

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

FOR SALE - 19 yr. old Polish Arabian gray mare, 14.2 hands, \$1,000 obo. 897-7043.

HOUSE FOR SALE - Saranac, 3 yr. old home, 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, full basement, Cape Cod in country, new pole barn with electric, 2.35 acres. Call 642-0468.

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BUNK BED WITH LADDER - 2 dressers and nightstand. Excellent condition. Birchwood. \$500. Call after 6 p.m. 897-6346.

'00 HYUNDAI ELANTRA WAGON - 83k miles, transferable "bumper-to-bumper" warranty, power package, AC, cruise, new tires, hitch, roof rack, stereo/cassette, great gas mileage, excellent condition, \$6,750. 616-897-8464.

LOOKING FOR A LOVING HOME - 2 yr. old black/white lab mix, 50 lbs, house trained, lovable & affectionate, plays well with other dogs, probably okay with cats. UTD on shots. Neutered. Needs home without young children. Call 682-2704.

FOR RENT - House, barns with stalls & pastures, 3 bedrooms, newly remodeled, Lowell schools, washer/dryer. Call 616-897-5807 or 616-915-4200.

ADA - 2 bedroom country home. Available now. \$650/month plus deposit. Call 676-3378.

LAKE HOUSE FOR RENT! - Just remodeled, 3 bedroom with 60 ft. frontage on All Sports Big Crooked Lake, \$1,150 per mo. 616-318-7470.

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.

OPEN HOUSE - Charming Cape Cod in the city of Lowell with three bedrooms or den can be used as fourth, two remodeled bathrooms, stainless appliances, in ground pool, completely updated with new carpet, paint and window treatments. Open Sunday 2-5, 514 North Monroe. 460-4085.

1980 EL CAMINO - 350 cu. in. V8, stereo system, electric blue with flames, must sell. \$1,900 or make offer. Call 676-2572.

LOWELL - Surprisingly low down payment. Lovely brand new 2 bedroom home in the middle of the woods overlooking pond. Nature lovers paradise. Quiet street. Private, new secluded community just east of downtown. 24 hour FREE RECORDED MESSAGE - 1-800-507-6457 ext. 86004 - Holwerda Homes.

FOR SALE - 2005 Ford Taurus SE, has the wing, new tires, excellent condition, 47,000 miles, will sell for under bluebook. Call 616-897-6516 or 616-560-6185.

FOR RENT
HOUSE FOR RENT - short term lease through May 15, 2007, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, ranch on 3 country acres, at 1277 Alden Nash NE. All new flooring. \$800. Call 897-0686.

BUYING OR SELLING YOUR HOME? - www.robertrealty.net.

LOWELL - \$500 moves you in! 1 bedroom, 1.5 bath, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, washer/dryer hookups, air, garage, cathedral ceilings, \$650-675/month. Stoneridge Apts. 1-866-443-3098. www.wmpmonline.com.

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

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

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

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

FOR RENT - Beautiful 3 bedroom on Bailey Dr. Garage, large yard. \$800+. Call 517-349-2936.

FOR RENT - House, barns with stalls & pastures, 3 bedrooms, newly remodeled, Lowell schools, washer/dryer. Call 616-897-5807 or 616-915-4200.

ADA - 2 bedroom country home. Available now. \$650/month plus deposit. Call 676-3378.

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4TH ANNUAL OUTDOOR FLAT RIVER ANTIQUE FAIR/HARVEST CELEBRATION - Sat., Oct. 14, 2006 in downtown Historic Lowell along the Flat River, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Vendor space available. Call the Chamber for more information, 616-897-9161 or visit our website at www.discoverlowell.org.

WANTED
WANTED - Old wood shelving units, suitable for display in antique mall. Must be durable. Call Kim at 897-6629.

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

PERSONALS
SOARING HEARTS - 21 & over singles dance. Fri., Oct. 20, at Deer Run Golf Club, Lowell. \$8 adm. For more info call 616-885-0503.

LOST
LOST - Army ring, sterling silver with turquoise chips setting. 987-9139.

SALES
GARAGE SALE - Thurs. & Fri., Oct. 12 & 13, 9-5 p.m. Antiques, household items, teenage clothes, & more. 820 N. Jefferson, Lowell.

GARAGE SALE - Oct. 14, 9-5 p.m. & Oct. 15, 9-3 p.m. Adult clothing, girls clothing (6-8), used computer equipment, home furnishings, holiday decorations, craft supplies, kids toys & much more. 188 Foleys Grade, Lowell (Lincoln Lake to Burroughs to street).

MOVING SALE - In-home sale includes appliances, furniture, kitchen accessories, clothing and toys. Anything and everything after merging two homes including the house, too. Friday 9-3, Saturday 9-3 and Sunday during open house 2-5. 514 North Monroe.

NEED A DUMPSTER? - Garage, attic, household cleanup, roofing, trash, junk etc. 14 to 20 yards available. Call for free estimates. 616-835-2238.

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

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

JIM'S FLOOR COVERING SALES & INSTALLATION - 22 years experience. Best price & quality installation on vinyl, carpet, and laminate flooring. 897-0737 or 567-8515, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., leave message.

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

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

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BUSINESS CARDS - For as little as \$26 for 250. (white card stock, black ink). We can also print cards in 4 color. Before you order your cards from somewhere else - check our rates! Call Lowell Litho, 897-9261.

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SHIP UPS AT THE LEDGER OFFICE - Daily pickup at 3 p.m. We cannot accept hazardous materials or firearms. Compare our prices! Call for a price quote! We will need weight, zip code & dimensions for a price quote over the phone. 105 N. Broadway, 897-9261.

WEDDING INVITATIONS Available at Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway. Stop by & check out aone of our books for the weekend. Wide variety of invitations & prices. Ph. 897-9261

HARVEST CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2006

Clown & Costume Parade

Presented by the **Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce**

Starting at the Lowell Fairgrounds and traveling East on Historic Main Street

1 PM Sharp!

Beginning with special military tribute at the Veterans Memorial on Main St.

The Parade features the Scottville Clown Band

several musical groups, clowns, costumes and much more!



2nd Annual Harvest Hustle 5K Run/Walk

Presented by the **Lowell Community Wellness**

Avery Street on the north side of the Lowell City Hall

Starting at 8 AM



5th Annual Harvest Arts & Craft Show

Presented by the **Kent County Youth Fair**

Foreman Building on the Lowell Fair grounds

9 AM to 4 PM



Scarecrow Building Hoedown

Presented by the **Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce**

Build a Scarecrow for Main Street at the Lowell Fairgrounds

We supply everything; just bring your creative hands!

9 AM to 12 PM

5th Annual Chili Madness Chili Cook-off

Presented by **Larkin's Restaurant**

on Broadway Street

Cooking begins at 11 AM

Tasting 3 PM

Funds raised to benefit the St. Mary Pregnancy Center

Live Music 3 PM - 6 PM



4th Annual Flat River Antique Fair

Presented by the **Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce**

on the Riverwalk Plaza along the Flat River

9 AM to 4 PM



Scottville Clown Band Concert

Presented by the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce

at the **Lowell Fairgrounds**

3:30 PM



Ghost Stories

Presented by the Lowell Area Arts Council

at the **Lowell Fairgrounds**

6:30 PM - Ghost stories for youth

8:00 PM - Adult ghost stories



Check our website at www.discoverlowell.org • (616) 897-9161

Parking at the Harvest Celebration

The Harvest Celebration is just a few days away! If you have been following See-More the Clown, then you probably know that we anticipate increased attendance during the Harvest Celebration and Clown Parade. Extra parking and shuttle rides will be provided for your convenience. Shuttle service will begin at 11 a.m. and run through 5 p.m. at various locations.

Parking and shuttle service from Lowell Middle/Bushnell School area will drop off at Elm St. and Riverside Dr.

Parking and shuttle service from the Good Chevrolet area will drop off in Little Caesar's Pizza parking lot.

We thank you in advance for your support and hope that you have a wonderful day at the Harvest Celebration!

- Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce