

# The Lowell Ledger

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Wednesday, October 25, 2006

## Funds from annual chili cook-off benefit pregnancy center

By Emma Palova

**C**hili may not be good for babies, but the funds raised from the 5th annual

chili cook-off will benefit Saint Mary's Pregnancy Center.

Sponsored by Larkin's Restaurant, this year's chili cook-off at the Harvest

Celebration raised \$1,506. "It's the most money we've raised so far in conjunction with the Harvest festival," said owner Mike Larkin.

And the winner of this

year's competition was a newcomer to town, realtor Doug Wolf of Coldwell Banker Hoppough & Associates and his teammate, wife Kelly.

Wolf, former owner of Grumpy's Concession in Phoenix, Ariz., wasn't surprised with his victorious red chili entry.

"Even the competition liked it," he said. "I always make it very addictive with all natural ingredients."

Wolf said the couple appreciated the warm welcome from the community.

"We met a lot of new friends," he said.

Each year, the chili cook-off benefits a different charity. Last year, it was Flat River Outreach Ministries.

"We pick local charities that don't get much from anybody else," said Larkin. "It's local people helping local people."

Ruth Collar, director of the pregnancy center, said the money will assist them in purchasing much needed items.

"It will help so many girls," said Collar. "I am overwhelmed."

The money will help buy diapers, formula, baby food, wipes, blanket sleepers and mattresses.

Each client of the pregnancy center receives a new baby clothing set to take to the hospital.

"I am amazed at the amount raised and all the people who participated," said Collar.

At last week's city council meeting, mayor pro tem Alan Mathews said the more chili was wonderful.

The 3Js team from Valley City Linen in Grand Rapids took second place and Mad Dog's Chili received third.

In a separate white chili category, Heidi Christine's Hair Salon of Ada came in first. There were 21 entries.

"I think it's wonderful they pick a different charity each year," said Collar.

Larkin hopes to get more businesses involved next year.

"We want to improve it," he said.

The funds were generated from entry fees, sales of chili and T-shirts.



Mike Larkin, owner of Larkin's Restaurant, presented a check for \$1,506 to Ruth Collar, director of Saint Mary's Pregnancy Center.

## Both sides voice views on dove shooting referendum

By Emma Palova

**A** proposal on the November general election ballot will ask the voters whether a mourning dove hunting season should be allowed to harvest these birds statewide.

Mourning doves had been protected in Michigan since 1905; then in 2004, the state legislature passed a bill creating a dove shooting season. Due to public opposition, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)

decided to only open six southwestern Michigan counties for an experimental season.

In 2005, the committee to Keep Doves Protected as the official bird of peace gathered 275,000 signatures to freeze the law and put it on the 2006 ballot.

"It's so important to understand that a "yes" vote would authorize a dove season statewide, not only in limited areas," said committee director Julie Baker. "If you do not

want shooting of doves in your area or across Michigan, then you must vote no."

According to the committee, doves are not overpopulated or harmful to humans, property or crops. They are not killed for food, and there are already 40 game bird species for hunting in Michigan.

The proposal would authorize a hunting season for mourning doves from September to January. A dove hunter would pay a \$2 fee for a small game license.

The committee, however, wants to restore the dove shooting ban.

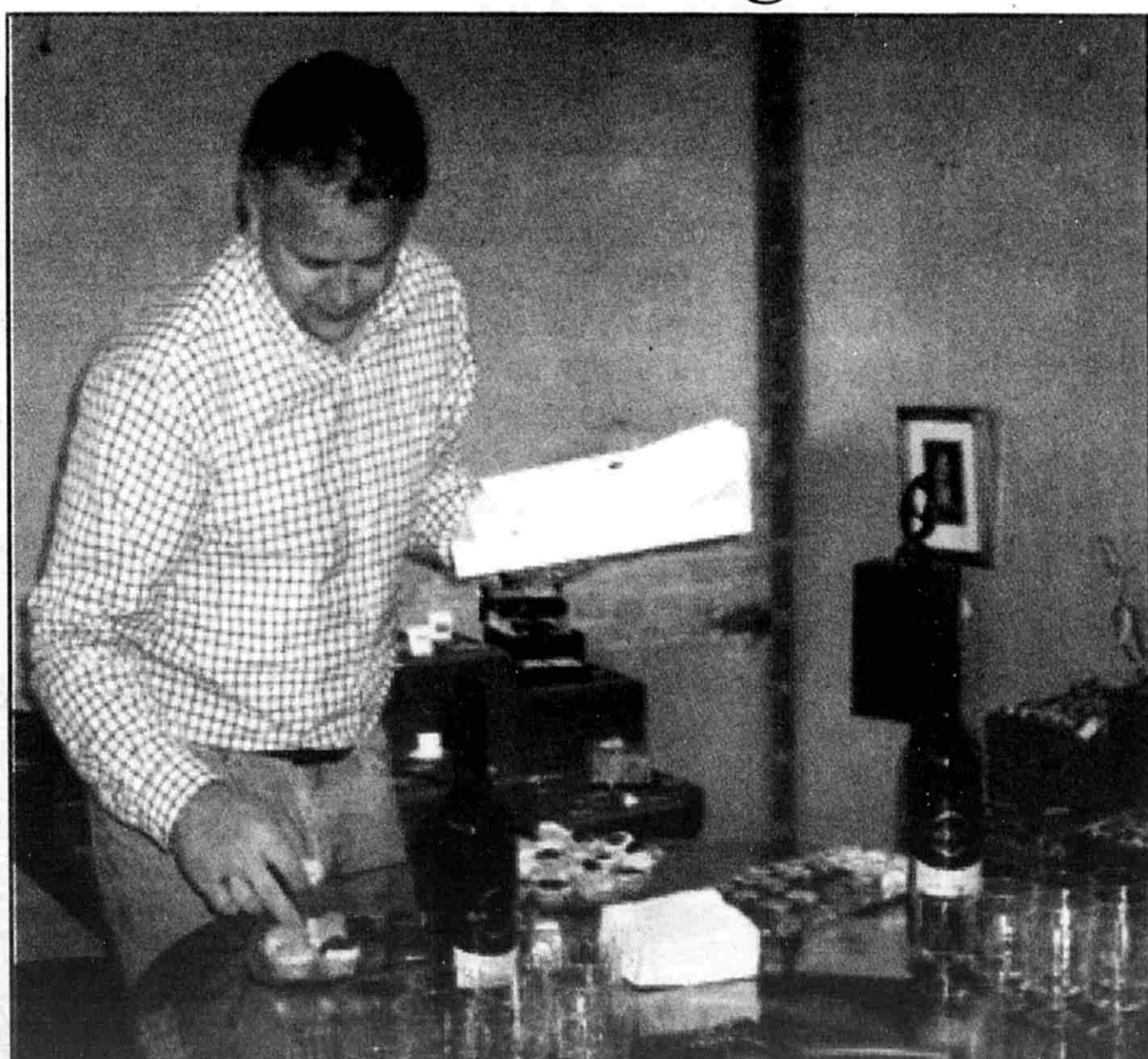
"We respect Michigan's hunting heritage, but allowing the shooting of mourning doves does not reflect Michigan values," said Baker. "Shooting the mourning dove, the official bird of peace, is like shooting a robin, our official state bird. They're not a viable food source."

According to Linda Tarte of Lowell, the dove hunting season coincides with the bird's nesting season.

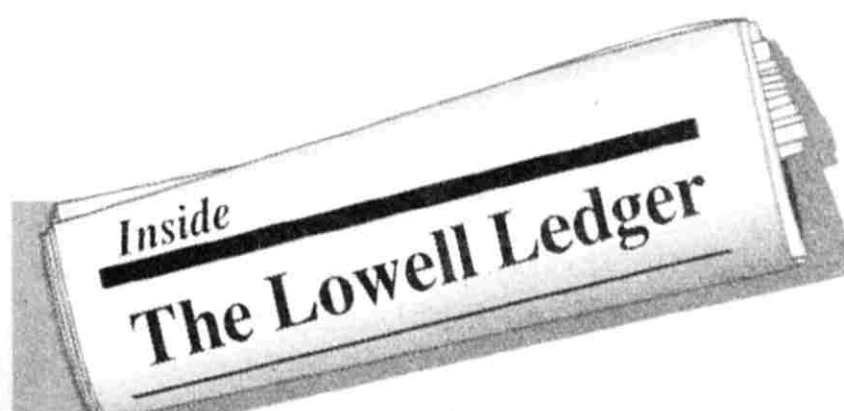
## Another successful "Girls Night Out"

**T**he third annual "Girls' Night Out" was well attended last Thursday evening. Hundreds of women enjoyed the customer appreciation outing at many local businesses.

At right, Cliff Yankovich of Chimera Design is shown serving Australian wine and beer, and chocolates.



Dove hunting, cont'd., pg. 11



Bluegrass In Town ... Page 3

Retiring Florist ... Page 12

Lowell Lepidopterist  
... Page 13



# Obituaries

**BRAAM**  
Donald "DJ" Braam, aged 23, of Wyoming, MI, went home to be with his Lord and Savior on Wednesday, October 18, 2006, following injuries sustained in an accident. While a senior at Grand Rapids Baptist High School, DJ accepted Christ. In high school he thrived as a captain playing soccer. DJ then joined the Army National Guard. He attended Grand Valley State University and worked at his grandpa's family business and was presently attending Western Michigan University. While in Iraq as sergeant he was described by his Iraq commander as a quiet, hard working soldier with a good attitude. His spiritual gifts are best described as a man who had a compassionate heart, and was mild, meek and humble.

Even though Yvonne and DJ were married nearly six months, Yvonne knew that DJ loved her, and they openly worshipped together and privately with prayer and devotions. He is survived by his wife Yvonne, formerly Yvonne Shelner; parents Bob and Pam (Quick) Braam of Grand Rapids; brother and sisters Chris Braam, Jodi and Casey Lauf of Wichita, KS, Ashley Braam, Megan Braam; Yvonne's parents Phillip and Sandra Shelner of Comstock Park; her brother Eric, her sister Kara and Chad White of Schererville, IN; grandparents Donald and Charlene Braam of Lowell, Mrs. Gloria Quick of Grand Rapids, Donald and Rose Swier of Ludington. DJ was preceded in death by his grandparents James Quick and Marilyn Swier, Arden and Phyllis Shelner.

**HILLER**  
Burton "Bill" Hiller Jr., aged 50, of Kentwood, passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, October 18, 2006. He was a loving and caring husband, father and grandfather, and enjoyed fishing and hunting. He was preceded in death by his son Burton W. Hiller III and father Burton W. Hiller Sr. Surviving are his wife of 24 years, Karen; daughters Kristen Hiller and fiancé Charles Keech, Jessica Hiller; grandson Jordan Whitehead; mother and step-dad Joan Hiller-Clare and Paul Clare of Grand Rapids; sisters Carol (James) Pellerito of Grand Rapids, Debra (Douglas) Meeuwenberg of Grant,

**HINES**  
Joseph M. Hines, aged 74, of Coldwater, died Friday, October 20, 2006 at The Community Health Center of Branch County. He was born on March 20, 1932, in Everson, Pennsylvania to James and Mary (Lucia) Hines. He married Phyllis Uber on April 25, 1953, in Scottsdale, Pennsylvania. Joe graduated from Scottsdale High School in 1950 and was a veteran of the Korean War serving with the U.S. Navy

brother Robert (Cindy) Hiller of Grand Rapids; mother-in-law and father-in-law Peggy and Wallace Barton of Dutton; brothers-in-law George Barton of Hastings, Kenneth (Tina) Barton of Lowell, Michael Barton of Dutton, Robert (Debra) Barton of Middleville; sisters-in-law Elaine (Phillip) Smith of Dorr, Christine Schutt of Grant; several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Funeral services were held Saturday at St. Charles Borromeo Church, 14043 Fulton St., Lowell. He was Zoning Administrator for Girard Township and served on the Lowell Twp. Planning Commission, past president of Lowell Lions Club, active in Boy Scout Leadership, and a youth baseball coach. Joe enjoyed golf, watching sports and woodworking. He especially enjoyed his grandchildren and spending time with his family and friends. Joe came to Coldwater 22 years ago while working in the propane gas industry, which he did for 33 years and retired as Regional Manager of Great Plains Gas Company in 1994. Joe was preceded in death by his parents, brother James Hines and infant sister Delores. He is survived by his wife Phyllis; sons Michael and Beth Hines of Grand Rapids, Mark and Sharon Hines of Lowell; daughter Melissa Carlson of Grand Rapids; sisters Renie Reynolds, Bernadette Bleyer, Mary Ann and Tom Burns all of Greensburg, PA; six grandchildren Travis, Ashley, Curt, Kyle and Mallory Hines, Lauren Carlson. The funeral service was held Oct. 23 at Dutchter Funeral Home in Coldwater, Rev. Fr. Leon Pohl of St. Charles Borromeo Church officiating. Interment at West Girard Cemetery in Girard Township. Memorials may be directed to the St. Charles Borromeo Elementary School.

University in 1957. She taught in the Lakeview School District as a full-time and as a substitute teacher from 1957 to 1979. Jem also worked at the former Yarnhaus from 1979 until it closed. From March 31, 1988, until the present she was employed at Farley-Estes & Dowdle Funeral Home as a receptionist. Jem married Raymond Richard Sikkenga August 16, 1958. He survives. Also surviving are sons David (Shari) Sikkenga of Centerville, Ohio, Steven (Lisa) Sikkenga of Otsego and Paul (Teri) Sikkenga of Lowell; six grandchildren Stephanie, Daniel, Matthew, Katelynn, Ryan and Tyler Sikkenga; sister Jane (John) Kesselring of Mt. View, California. She was preceded in death by her parents and an aunt, Elizabeth Davis. Jem was an active charter member of Chapel Hill United Methodist Church, and helped start the program that welcomes newcomers to Chapel Hill UMC. She was also a member and past president of the United Methodist Women and a member of the Elizabeth Circle and the Wednesday Card Group. She was co-chairman of the funeral luncheons at the church and was recognized as a "2nd Century Woman" by the church for her church and community involvement. She volunteered at the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen and for numerous other community needs. Jem enjoyed knitting, cooking, reading, crossword and word puzzles. She wrote lots of letters to family and friends and was a member of a bridge club. Funeral services were held Oct. 16 at Chapel Hill United Methodist Church with Rev. Dr. James M. Gysel officiating. Interment at Floral Lawn Memorial Gardens. Memorial contributions may be made to the Jem Sikkenga Memorial Fund at Chapel Hill UMC for various church activities.

**SIKKENGA**  
Miriam Jem Sikkenga, aged 70, of Battle Creek, died as a result of injuries suffered in an automobile accident on M-66 and Assyria Road, Saturday, October 7, 2006. Jem was born February 25, 1936, in Monroe, Michigan, the daughter of David and Miriam Jane (Davis) Edwards. She graduated from Monroe High School and received her B.A. from Western Michigan

## Bluegrass fundraiser, November 4

The West Michigan Bluegrass Music Association (WMBMA) is presenting a Bluegrass Hot Bands Fundraiser on Saturday, Nov. 4 at the Riverview Restaurant, 14043 Fulton St., Lowell.

An open jam session will begin at 6:30 p.m. with

the first of three bluegrass bands taking the stage at 7:30 p.m.

Performing are Heart To Heart, a great traditional four-piece bluegrass band from Midland; Ellen Beam and Bluegrass Twist, a five-piece traditional bluegrass band from Ionia; and

Patchwork, a four-piece progressive bluegrass band from Grand Haven.

A hot sandwich bar will be available until 9 p.m. All of this, including the music and food, in a non-smoking environment, is available to the public for only \$5 per person.

WMBMA is a nonprofit organization formed to preserve and promote bluegrass music in West Michigan.

For more information or an interview, call WMBMA president Jim Strangways at 457-5228 or visit the website at www.wmbma.org.

## Rotarians from Dominican Republic talk about need for water filtration project

By Emma Palova

With the theme "Senalemos el Rumbo" or Lead the Way, Rotarians from the Dominican Republic exchange program shared their experiences at the Lowell Rotary Club Wednesday.

Introduced by city clerk Betty Morlock, the

group of professionals made a presentation about their country and the water filtration project.

"I have a great love for that country," said Morlock.

Dr. Alexandra Martinez, a family dentist from Santiago, led the Dominican Rotary group Wednesday. Martinez is the assistant district governor and

secretary of the Rotary Club of Santiago Gurabito.

"We are grateful for all your help to our country," she said.

The Lowell Rotary Club has been mainly supporting water projects in a country with no water delivery or storage systems.

"Every day they drink contaminated water," said

Jim White, Lowell Rotary Club president. "They have no taps."

The Rotary Club has been raising funds for bio-sand concrete filters to be installed in every home in the Dominican Republic.

So far, 11,000 filters have been installed. Water

Rotary, con't., pg. 11



Alexandra Martinez, Manuel Almonte, Isaira Almonte, Janna Polanco and Elaine Moscoso from the Dominican Republic made a presentation to the Lowell Rotary Club Wednesday.

## VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Public notice is hereby given that the Vergennes Township Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing on **Monday, November 13, 2006 at 7:00 PM at the Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Dr, PO Box 208, Lowell Michigan 49331**, to accept public comment on the following applications:

Pawsitive Canine Training Center (Elizabeth Fahnenstiel) is requesting a special exception use permit to remodel an existing storage building to house a dog training facility for classes in agility and obedience training. The property is located at 501 Lincoln Lake Ave, west side, between the Lincoln Lake Business Park and Vergennes St in the NE quarter of section 34, across from the cemeteries.

Kent McKay is requesting a special exception use permit to construct a new building to be used as a banquet facility (wedding receptions, meetings, etc.) The property is located at 653 Lincoln Lake Ave, west side, adjacent on the north side to the Lincoln Lake Business Park in the NE quarter of section 34, across from the cemeteries.

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

Vergennes Township Planning Commission

## BOWNE TOWNSHIP NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the **OPTECH Computer Program Testing for the November 7, 2006 election is Wednesday, October 25, 2006 at 11:00 a.m. at the Township Office - 8240 Alden Nash S.E. Alto, Michigan.**

Sandra L. Kowalczyk  
Bowne Township Clerk

## NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that at the regularly scheduled meeting of October 16, 2006, the Lowell Charter Township Board adopted Ordinance 09-2006, an amendment to the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Ordinance. The ordinance amends section 4.4.8.D Issuance and Denial of sign permits. The amending ordinance changes the requirement that a permit be issued within seven days of receipt of a valid application to 120 days.

This ordinance shall become effective November 1, 2006. A copy of the complete text of the amending ordinance can be obtained at the Lowell Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash SE, during regular Township hours or by calling 897-7600.

Linda S. Regan, Clerk  
Lowell Charter Township

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## Tri-Rivers Historical Museum Network Presents: "ATTIC TREASURES ROADSHOW"

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**Saturday, Oct. 28th, 2006**

10 am to 3 pm

**Saranac High School**

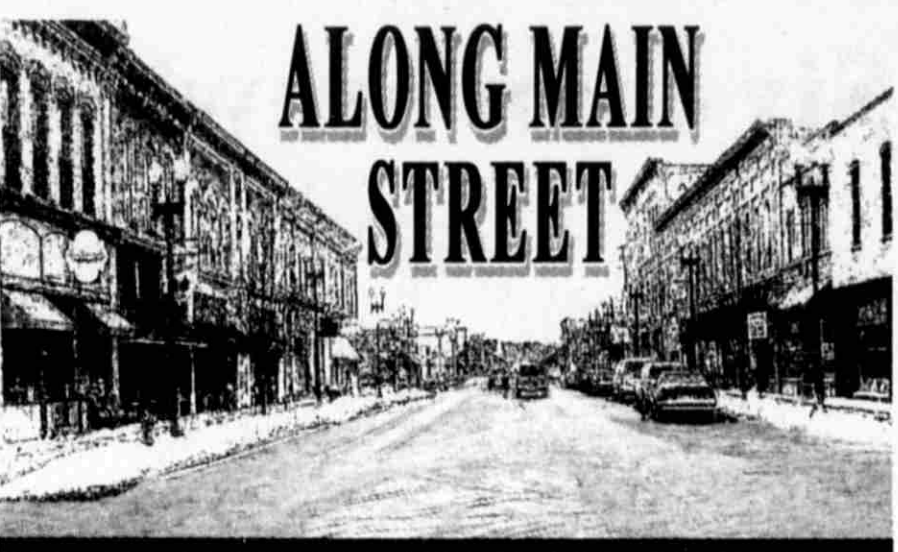
150 S. Pleasant, Saranac, MI

**\$5.00 per item (oral appraisals only)**

**no coins or jewelry**

**Lunch & Homemade Baked Goods.**

**Phone (616) 868-6424 for more details.**



### LAAC PRESENTS

"Alice in Wonderland" this Saturday and Sunday. Tickets at arts council, 149 S. Hudson; 897-8545; or lowellartscouncil.org.

### JEEPERS CREEPERS

The Lowell Area Arts Council has an art exhibition titled "Jeepers Creepers" at Huntington Bank, 414 E. Main, now through Nov. 27. Exhibit of mixed media works by area artists in the spirit of Halloween.

### HEALTH LECTURE

Dr. Andre Jubert will speak at Englehardt Library this Thursday, 7-8 p.m. on "The Frontal Lobe—Control Center of our Being." Free!

### LOWELL/GREENVILLE FOOTBALL

Lowell will host Greenville in the pre-district football game this Friday at 7 p.m. Gates open at 5:30. Tickets sold in athletic office Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. \$5 per person, except babes in arms. No passes; no reserved seats.

### HAUNTED SHOWBOAT

The 3rd annual "Halloween at the Showboat" is Saturday, 12 - 4 p.m. Visit a haunted boat; friendlier side for youngsters. Pinatas and pumpkin decorating. Call 897-8445 for info. Wear your costume.

### NON-PERISHABLES FOR HALLOWEEN

Lowell High School students will be walking with wagons and going door-to-door asking for non-perishable foods to benefit Flat River Outreach Ministries on Tuesday, Oct. 31. Help support the cause.

### FATHER-DAUGHTER DANCE

The dance will be held Wednesday, Nov. 1 at Cherry Creek Elementary, 6:30 - 8 p.m. \$15 per couple. Registration forms available at your school. Return by Oct. 27. Call 987-2982 with questions.

### BLUEGRASS FUNDRAISER

Riverview in Lowell will have a bluegrass hotbands fundraiser on Saturday, Nov. 4 beginning at 6:30 p.m. Three bands, jam session, food: all for \$5.

### CONCERT IN LOWELL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Roger MacNaughton and Steven VanRavenswaay piano/cello concert on Nov. 5 at 3 p.m. in the Lowell Performing Arts Center at the high school. Christmas favorites and originals. Tickets: call 897-8545 or www.lowellartscouncil.org

### LOWELL VETERANS PROGRAM

Lowell Area Historical Museum will present "Lowell Veterans Tell Their Stories: Letters Home - Love & War" on Thursday, Nov. 9 at 7 p.m. in LHS Performing Arts Center. Veterans: Allen and Marian Wisner and Collin and Eleanor Williams. Public welcome.

### TASTE OF VEGETARIAN

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

### CANNONSBURG SCHOOL SKI/SNOWBOARD CLUB

For information contact Laurie Summerfield at 987-2900, LSummerfield@lowell.k12.mi.us or Robin Briggs 897-9904, Rbriggs@lowell.k12.mi.us or pick up at your school office. Nov. 15 deadline for passes for Thanksgiving break.

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FLICKA (PG) 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:00, 9:10  
THE MARINE (PG-13) 1:55, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50  
THE GRUDGE 2 (PG-13) 12:45, 2:55, 5:05, 7:15, 9:25  
MAN OF THE YEAR (PG-13) 1:55, 4:20, 6:50, 9:15

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## Six-man brawl at the bar sends one to the hospital

By Emma Palova

Six area men got into a fight at Larkin's Restaurant on Oct. 17. Although the restaurant did not incur any property damage, a 33-year-old Belmont man had to be

transported to Spectrum Health Butterworth Campus by ambulance. The others refused medical treatment.

Detective Steve Bukala said he is anticipating charges next week in the 63rd District Court. The incident is still under investigation.

Christopher Hurst and Brandon Robinson, who refused to cooperate with the responding officers, are facing charges of drunken disorderly conduct, a 90-day misdemeanor with a \$500 fine up to aggravated assault.

Aggravated assault is a one-year misdemeanor charge with a \$1,000 penalty.

Bukala said they could also be charged with disturbing the peace. "I am not an-

icipating assault charges," said Bukala. "Alcohol was a contributing factor."

Owner Mike Larkin said the bartender immediately responded and called the police.

"It's very rare," said Larkin.

According to Larkin, a fight like that has only happened three or four times in 11 years.

## Planning commission tables revision of fowl ordinance

By Emma Palova

The Lowell Planning Commission tabled the revision Monday of an ordinance regulating small animals in the city limits.

After much struggle, the panel decided to make the ordinance more restrictive and may eliminate entirely the keeping of fowl in the city.

The issue arose after city resident Brian McLane requested a variance from the zoning board of appeals (ZBA) to keep his four chickens for eggs and 4-H projects. The city ordinance allows fowl, rabbits and

similar animals on at least 0.5 acre of property.

McLane owns 0.4 acre on two city parcels. At a special planning commission meeting in September, the panel was against granting the variance. The ZBA transferred the issue back to the planning commission to come up with a review of the ordinance within 90 days, while allowing McLane to keep his chickens.

Although McLane presented research that even New York City allows chickens, but no roosters, the commission remained adamant Monday.

"The ordinance is good," said commission member Mark Mundt. "We need to look at it to make it more restrictive. Our ordinance is liberal."

According to Mundt, the surrounding communities require a minimum of two acres to keep fowl. Rockford allows only pets.

Commission member Garland Berry wondered why the chickens weren't removed from the property if the variance wasn't granted by the ZBA.

"Why was this done all backwards?" he questioned. "This could become very

complicated. Let's leave it as it is. We have a nuisance ordinance that handles other situations like odors."

Commission member Jerri Teelander suggested eliminating chickens completely from the ordinance.

"This is city living," she

said. "I am for barring animals from the city."

Other suggestions included allowing animals in suburban residential areas and addressing the keeping of parakeets as pets.

Although McLane maintained his chickens have not

impacted the neighbors, the complaint against the chickens was initiated from the community.

The ordinance will be reviewed at the November meeting or in a special work session if necessary.

## Planning commission approves requirements for single homes in R3

By Emma Palova

The Lowell Planning Commission approved requirements Monday for single family homes in the higher density (R3) zone.

A public hearing for the amendment, which makes the zoning districts more uniform, has been set for Nov. 27. All the zoning districts now have a minimum lot width requirement of 66 feet.

"If we're going to make them all the same," said commission member Mark Mundt, "why have them? We're not here to facilitate builders, but to move the community forward."

According to Mundt, the districts have been set to accommodate different lifestyles. In low density R1, people can enjoy country living in the city.

However, commission member Maryalene LaPonsie said the districts are a density issue, not a lot width issue.

In other business, the city has received 293 survey responses. The next step, according to city manager Dave Pasquale, is to hold a visioning session with the city council.

Consultants McKenna Associates will be tabulating the results of the survey as part of the city master plan update.

"I want to keep a time line," said planning commission chairman Clark Jahnke. "I want to verify where we're at and where we're supposed to be."

There will be a work session in December with an update on the off-street parking lighting section of the zoning ordinance.

## College News

Meghan Beachum, a sophomore at Hope College, participated in the Pull, one of the nation's oldest college traditions now in its 109th year. She was a moralizer for the class of 2009 team.

The Pull is an annual fall highlight at Hope. It started as a tug-of-war between the freshman and sophomore classes for the freshmen to earn their place on campus. Each team has 18 students on the rope as pullers; another 18 act as guides and morale boosters or moralizers. The class of 2009 won this year's Pull, held Sept. 23. Beachum, a 2005

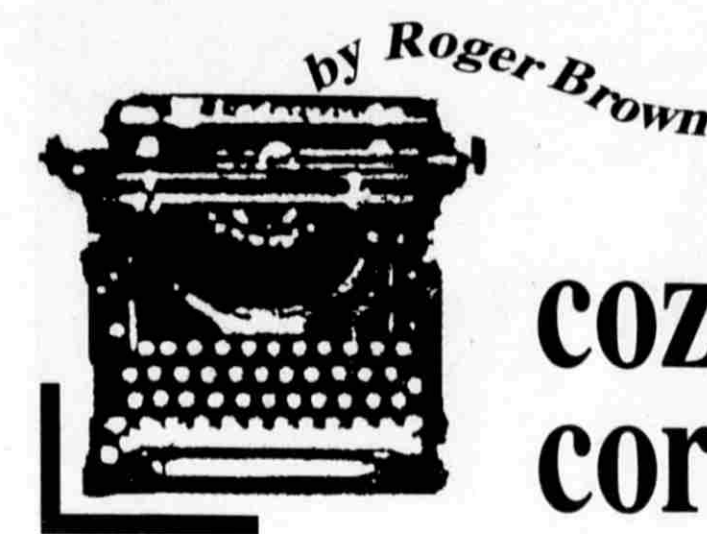
graduate of Lowell High School, is the daughter of Perry and Teresa Beachum of Lowell.

Rebecca Underwood, a freshman midfielder for the Saints women's soccer team at Aquinas College, was named to the All-WHAC honorable mention team.

The Saints record is 9-8-1 overall. They competed in the first round of the WHAC conference tournament at Cornerstone University on Oct. 24.

Underwood is a 2006 Lowell High School graduate.

# Viewpoint



My wife and I are currently visiting our daughter's family in Chengdu, China. We've been here about ten days now and our time is winding down. It is 11:30 Monday morning here. It is coming up on midnight Sunday back in Lowell. We just finished watching game two of the World Series, live, on an Asian version of ESPN. Go Tigers!!! The grandkids won't be home from school for a few hours, so this is an opportune time to crank out a column.

The obvious topic for a column would be this trip, so I guess I'll run with that. Here are a few observations I've made and some conclusions I've drawn about China. Remember, these are simply my observations. You'd be ill advised to take any of this too seriously. If you are really interested in China, there are a lot better sources of information than me.

Getting here: For Terese and me, we drive to the Miami Airport, fly to Chicago, on to Shanghai, clear customs and transfer to Air China for the three-hour flight out to Chengdu and finally a short drive to my daughter's house. All that travel takes about 36 hours. Not only is that a long trip, there are twelve hours of jet lag to overcome once you get here. It's a good thing my grandkids are as cute as they are. It's doubtful we'd keep making the trip otherwise. We love our daughter and China is interesting ... but without the attraction to the grandkids we'd be watching the World Series at home.

Chinese people: First and foremost, there are a lot of them. The population is about five times greater than ours, all packed into a country about the same size. Personal space and privacy are hard to find. If you visit here, especially in the cities or popular tourist spots, be prepared for people ... lots and lots of people. For instance, I'd never heard of Chengdu before my daughter's family moved here from Shanghai two years ago. There are something like eleven

million people living here. I'm not going to take the time to look it up, but that is about the head count of the entire state of Michigan, all jammed into one metro area.

From what I see, the Chinese are reasonably happy, healthy and to at least some degree, educated. The men are male chauvinists. They all smoke (you almost never see a woman smoking), drink (loudly) with their pals, seem to have all the best jobs, and the wealthy ones keep concubines. They constantly hack up phlegm and spit it out in almost any setting. Most grow a pinky fingernail to about an inch for perpetual nose mining. It's hard for me to warm up to Chinese men.

The women seem content to leave the men to their devices. You often see women and girls walking arm in arm or holding hands when out and about. They are always chatting it up and seem happy. The kids are like kids everywhere. They are playing and just having fun. Old folks live with their families and are well cared for. They walk a lot, tend gardens, get together for morning exercises in parks, and many old men keep pet birds that they bring out to show off in the parks every morning.

Growth: This is the defining characteristic of China. In and around the cities I've visited are buildings, big buildings, going up everywhere you care to look. An article I read in U.S.A. Today claimed that 25 percent of the entire world inventory of construction cranes is located in the greater Shanghai area. One city! I'm guessing another good chunk of that inventory is at work here in Chengdu. Visit any big box store in the U.S., check to see where most merchandise is made, and this phenomenal growth should be no surprise. Still, when you see it for yourself, it is hard to believe. It's really hard to fathom for an old country boy like me.

Food and diet: Obviously, the Chinese eat better than we do ... and exercise more. You almost never see a fat Chinese person, and their longevity is pretty good despite issues with smoking, health care, pollution, etc. The food, especially here in Sichuan Province, is very tasty. What's in it can be an issue for me.

My son-in-law says he was recently taken to a "hot pot" restaurant specializing in fish heads. My daughter food shops at Carre-Four, a big chain store similar to a super Wal-Mart. On a tour through the meat department, I found pork neatly packaged in cellophane, weighed and priced. Beyond the normal cuts we'd see at Meijer were ears, snouts, feet,

Cozy Corner, cont'd., pg. 8

## To The Editor

Dear Editor,

What an undertaking! The "Alice in Wonderland" play/musical company is to be commended. The costumes were fabulous and the set was super! It is such a joy to watch the talent unfold here in Lowell.

Brent Alles and Sally McAlpine have outdone themselves. How kind it was to include all the children that tried out for parts even though extra characters were written in.

Good job everyone!  
Bonnie Grooters

Dear Editor,

Last Friday, Oct. 20, 2006, I had the honor to hear General George Sada. Mr. Sada was an Iraqi general. He was second in the Iraqi Air Force. He also worked for and knew Saddam.

He was in a position of influence when Iraq took 45 pilots as prisoner of war, 21 of them were American. One of Saddam's sons declared that they were criminals of war, not prisoners of war, and because they were not prisoners but criminals they should die. The son wanted to kill them right there, but Mr. Sada risked his life, and said no. For this, he was put in jail. He was to have been hanged, but his life was spared because it became very clear that he had been right.

In the first Gulf War, Desert Storm, when America launched a bomb from the Mediterranean Sea, it landed on Saddam's bed. Saddam was not there, but someone else was. This bed was in an underground bunker, with walls 14 feet thick of concrete. Since Saddam was not there, the other men convinced General Sada to take the bed for the night.

Sincerely, Alissa Ford  
age 14, 9th grade home school

## Ledger Entries

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

By Priscilla Lussmyer



125 YEARS

THE WEEKLY JOURNAL  
OCTOBER 26, 1881

A fatal horse disease, "pink-eye," is reported as close as Grand Rapids.

As this is the diphtheria season, keep your children at home if they have sore throats.

The rains have made mud, but a number of new crosswalks are improving things in Lowell.

With the new additions, the school library now numbers 571 volumes.

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER  
OCTOBER 25, 1906

Island Park's "Organ Chautauqua" next summer will feature U.S. Vice President Fairbanks and orator William Jennings Bryan, says organizer Rev. Russell Bready.

The Fallas canning factory is still very busy with mince meat, canned apples and apple butter.

A newly-invented potato knife makes eight pieces in one cut.

Kent County's board of supervisors vote down a resolution to reduce their clerical force and suggest \$150 to buy a rope and hang the resolver.

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER  
AND THE ALTO SOLO  
OCTOBER 22, 1931

Several local people live at the Kent County infirmary. Cost of caring for inmates is \$2.55/week for all expenses.

Carl Freyermuth and Edward Kiel found the Palace drycleaners at the corner of Main and Riverside in the Kiel block.

The man who murdered Lowell's Stanley Moore in Colorado has been arrested.

Michigan license plates go on sale early to finance winter highway construction and thus hire more unemployed workers.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER  
OCTOBER 25, 1956

Michigan's navy bean crop is the biggest on record (40 years) and a fifth bigger than last year.

C.H. Runciman will introduce barbershop quartets next Saturday at their convention concert here in the "new, ultramodern" elementary school auditorium.

Carl English, first superintendent of the Lowell power plant, 1896-1901 and builder of the first motor car in Lowell, dies.

Leonard and Orville Jackson buy the Speerstr Dodge-Plymouth Agency; Leonard has been sales manager.

25 YEARS  
THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER  
OCTOBER 21, 1981

The girls' tennis team qualifies for state finals. Tawnie Knotnerus and Fran Saboo qualify for singles finals.

The golf team finishes an unbeaten season with a fourth place in regionals.

The tottering Saranac creamery building still stands while the county and village argue.

Even with a 6.1 percent increase in Labor Day miles traveled, this year's death toll is the lowest in 23 years (15).

## CITY OF LOWELL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST OF THE OPTICAL SCAN TABULATING EQUIPMENT FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION, NOVEMBER 7, 2006

Notice is hereby given that the public accuracy test of the Optical Scan Tabulating Equipment for the November 7, 2006 General Election will be conducted on Wednesday, November 1, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. at the Lowell City Hall, First Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan.



Betty R. Morlock  
City Clerk  
(616) 897-8457

THE RESIDENTS OF THE LAURELS OF KENT INVITE YOU TO TRICK OR TREAT 6:30 - 8:00 TUESDAY OCTOBER 31ST CANDY STATIONS THROUGHOUT THE BUILDING

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# Weddings



Mr. and Mrs. Eric Vinciguerra

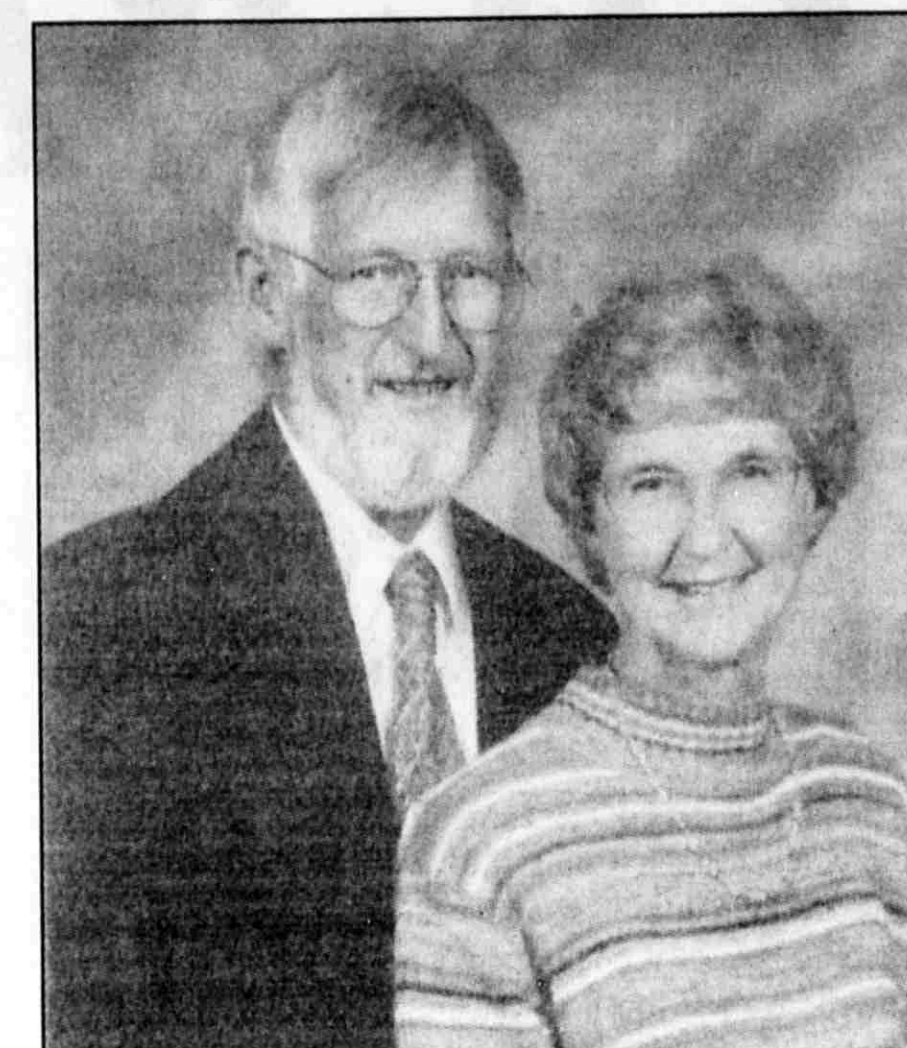
## Vinciguerra/Robords

St. Mary Catholic Church in Charlotte, Mich., was the setting for the marriage of Jessica Lynn Robords and Eric Andrew Vinciguerra on July 15, 2006. Parents of the couple are Alan and Cindy Robords of Charlotte and Bill and Nancy Rowell of Lowell. Matron of honor was Brenna Randall. Bridesmaids were Sadie McDaniel and Susan Vinciguerra. Best man was Brian Vinciguerra. Groomsmen were Josh Barnhart and Joshua Hoelter. Ushers were Mitch Randall and Josh Curry. Father Denis Spitzley presided over the double ring ceremony. The couple honeymooned in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, and currently reside in Mt. Pleasant.

## Happy Birthday

**OCT. 26:** Ray Jones, Mike Ray, John Butler Jr., Jared Thomas Cook, Kait Spencer, Jeremy Drake, Cummings, Valerie Stuewe.  
**OCT. 27:** George Cook, Tim VanLaan, Bill Richter, Bob Richter, Tracey Johnson, Judy Connor Duiven, Lou Mulder, Purdy, Larry Taunt.  
**OCT. 28:** Aaron Stencil, Bonnie Essich, Debbie Stoutjesdyk.  
**OCT. 29:** Tammy Barber, Al Mulder, Walt Batt, Abbot Kastanek, Brenda Lea Owen, Patti Brenk, Suzanne Olin, Anthony Kiedis.

## Cookes celebrate ruby anniversary



Melvin and Wanda Cooke

Melvin and Wanda Cooke of Ada will observe their 40th wedding anniversary on Oct. 28. The event was celebrated with a family dinner. Children of the couple are Ken and Carolyn Cooke of Alto, Paul and Marcia Cooke of Grandville, Karen Madigan of Lynchburg, Virginia, and Jason and Sara Cooke of Boise, Idaho. The couple have eight grandchildren.

# Reflections of faith

Character, and His Story, the Bible, includes comments and reflections that include you and me personally! There we find a glimpse into His plan, His legacy, His inheritance. There we find insight into His personal dream and hope for us. Captivating!  
 The Redeemer God-Man, Jesus, who trumped the dark conspiracy of the devil by His death and resurrection, turned around and went back to heaven - and the world just went on with hardly a glance. Instead of a kingdom, we see something called a Church. Instead of perfection, we find "same old" - same old life plus persecution. But it's not a surprise; it's no accident - for behind the scenes a change has begun. He's changing hearts, uniting people, forming a family, and has a scheduled day to return - to do for the whole world what He did for a few the first time He came.  
 Jesus the Lord will bring radical newness everywhere - total healing and wholeness, control of weather, command of animals, raising the dead, ruling in righteousness, justice, peace and prosperity. All that the first Adam failed to do, He'll complete. He'll turn the entire world into a garden and fill it with people who walk with Him. He'll judge all evil and evildoers, and sentence eternally the evil one whose last gasp will be to manage a fake God-copy (antichrist) to try to deceive and destroy people for good, and defeat God forever. That foe will utterly fail. The Redeemer will cleanse the universe with a flood of fire instead of water and obliterate all traces of sin and corruption.  
 History comes back around to a perfect world - yet even better than at first! No invasion of hell's darkness will ever threaten. Heaven descends to merge in a new heaven and earth where God will dwell always and personally with His people. Consummation unending. And now we see that the "rest of the story" is not an Appendix, but an Introduction! Not a Postlude, but a Prelude! Not a Prologue, but an Epilogue - a brand-new beginning! All these chapters are only the title page of an amazing eternal Story autographed by its Author!  
 Will you be part of this astounding Story of the Future? You can be! The key for all of us is summed up in the Bible book of John, chapter 3, verses 14-18. Please, get your name on the reservation list. Jesus is THE answer. I hope your name will be included in what promises to be the lengthiest portion of God's Story. Yes, the Best is yet to come!

# AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p><b>ATTENTION: BIBLE BELIEVERS</b>                  If you would like to attend a church where the King James Bible is held up as the perfect, preserved word of God with all the words of God for all English speaking people, then give us a visit at: 901 W. Main, Lowell                  Across the street from the Vennin Dodge dealership.                  897-6284 or 485-4195                  10am Sunday School; 11am Morning Service; 6pm Evening Service; Wed., 7:30pm Prayer Meeting.</p>	<p><b>ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b>                  Kirby and Harrison                  Alto • 616-691-8011                  Worship.....9:30 A.M.                  Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.</p> <p><b>OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS</b>                  Pastor Dean Bailey</p>	<p><b>DAY BIBLE CHAPEL</b>                  9305 Centerline, Saranac 897-6332                  Worship.....9:45 A.M.                  Sunday School.....11:00 A.M.                  Nursery &amp; Jr. Church Provided                  Rev. Frank Lattimore, Pastor                  "A Nondenominational Ministry With A Blended Word Centered Service!"</p>	<p><b>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL</b>                  Rev. Randy Meyers • 897-7060                  1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI                  Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M.                  Sunday School.....11:20 A.M.                  Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.                  Nursery available at both services                  Barrier-Free</p>	<p><b>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH</b>                  SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 A.M.                  SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES 6:00 P.M.                  WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 P.M.                  119 Lincoln Lake, Lowell                  CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES                  Pastor Robert L. Hubbard                  Phone: (616) 897-1267                  website: www.aplighthouse.com</p>
<p><b>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b>                  621 E. Main Street • 897-5936                  Worship Services.....8:30 &amp; 11:00 a.m.                  Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.                  DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR                  Nursery &amp; child care available at both services                  Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p><b>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH</b>                  Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648                  Sunday School.....10:00 A.M.                  Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.                  Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M.                  Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M.                  (Sept. - April)                  Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M.                  Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418                  YOU ARE WELCOME!</p>	<p><b>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God)</b>                  3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery                  Robert W. Holmes, Senior Pastor                  Dave Noonon, Asst. Pastor                  John King, Youth Pastor                  SUNDAYS:                  Worship: 10:00 a.m. - LIFE Home Groups &amp; "XL" Youth Sunday evenings                  WEDNESDAYS:                  Family Night! (For All Ages): 7:00 p.m.                  "XL" Youth: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH</b>                  Fr. George J. Fekete                  402 Amity St. • 897-9820                  www.stmary-lowell.com                  Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM                  Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM                  Holy Day Masses: 9 AM &amp; 7 PM                  Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM                  Prayer &amp; adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM                  RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETER WIGGINS 897-7915                  SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 49, EWTN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>	<p><b>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL</b>                  (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 &amp; Worship</p>
<p><b>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH</b>                  10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod)                  Highway between Lowell &amp; Saranac on M-21                  www.goodshepherdlowell.org                  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><b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b>                  2275 West Main Street • 897-7168                  Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org                  Rev. David O. Sims &amp; Rev. W. Lee Taylor                  Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor                  Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. &amp; 6:00 P.M.                  Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M.                  AWANA CLUB JC.....Wed. 6:15 &amp; 6:30 P.M.                  Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times                  Nursery Provided • Barrier Free</p>	<p><b>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b>                  3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell                  Rev. Thurlan Meredith                  9:45 A.M. ....Worship/Fellowship                  11:15 A.M. ....Sunday School                  897-9863 or 897-9588                  Nursery &amp; Children                  Worship Programs Provided                  A friend...a family...a mission!</p>	<p><b>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b>                  201 N. Washington • 897-8800                  Sunday School.....9:30 A.M.                  Morning Worship.....10:40 A.M.                  Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M.                  Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M.                  PASTOR MICHAEL RHODABARGER                  Staffed Nursery Provided                  Barrier-Free Entrance</p>	

## FLPC offers Saturday musical event

The Franciscan Life Process Center will be filled with music of every style and genre for 10 hours on Saturday, Nov. 11. Musicians and performers from the area's communities, students, staff members and friends donate their time during this annual event which benefits the Music Therapy program. Many children with special needs, teens with emotional and behavioral difficulties, families in stressful situations, persons in acute care hospital, and elderly with dementia and/or Alzheimer's are served through the center's specially-trained music therapists. Performances are scheduled from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. at 11650 Downes Street, Lowell. Performers include pianists' Judy Lacks and Kenneth Bos, Ransom Street Big Band, contemporary gospel vocalist Melvin Crawford, guitarist Michael

Everhart, fiddler and violist Robert Shaffer, the Thunder Floor Cloggers, Abacus Praise Group from Holy Family Church in Sparta. Donations and sponsorships will be accepted; the event is free to the public. For more information, call 897-7842.

## Lend A Hand VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- SCARECROW REMOVAL**
    - Take down the scarecrows along Main St. Meet at the chamber Monday, Oct. 30 at 1 p.m. Call the chamber at 897-9161.
  - HOLIDAY PREPARATION HELP**
    - Get the Lowell Showboat ready for Christmas; clean up is Saturday, Nov. 4 from 9 a.m. - ?
    - Decorate the upstairs rooms on the Showboat for the Christmas holidays. Needed are Santas and angels; please drop off Tues. - Fri., 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the chamber.
    - Provide Christmas pictures of your kids taken with Santa on the Showboat; used to make framed collages to display on the boat during Christmas season. Send to LACC, P.O. Box 224, Lowell, attention Mrs. Claus; or drop them off at chamber.
    - Provide an outside fire pit for the Christmas Festivities Friday, Dec. 8.
- If you can help or donate to any of the above, call the chamber at 897-9161.

## In The Service

Army National Guard Pvt. Ryan S. Nabkey has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. During his nine weeks of training, Nabkey studied the Army mission, history, tradition and core values, physical fitness, and received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training, drill and ceremony, marching, rifle marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics, military courtesy, military justice system, basic first aid, foot marches, and field training exercises. He is the son of Samuel Nabkey of Ada and Debra Whitmore of Grand Rapids.

## Membership of Vergennes Club spreads throughout community

Vergennes Club is no longer limited to residents of Vergennes Township. Back in August of 1914, when Mrs. Melville (Nellie) McPherson called the first meeting together, members were all from Vergennes Township. That was 92 years ago, and since then, members may live anywhere in the Greater Lowell area. Improving house-keeping skills, cooking and sewing, and keeping up on politics were objectives women shared years ago. Today's meetings, held at Schneider Manor Community Room, demonstrate that women still share many of those same interests. Meeting contents this year have varied from a talk by Ivan Blough on the Lowell Area Historical Museum's project to honor WWII veterans' memories of that conflict to a lesson by Alice Bauer in china painting to the North Country Trail Association. New ideas and projects are constant finding their way to the speaker's podium. The next meeting will be held Nov. 2. For more information on meetings and possible membership, call 897-7394.

## Business Matters

Greenridge Realty announced that Jayne Overbeck received Realtor of the Month in September. This award recognizes Overbeck for her outstanding success and achievements.

**VERGENNES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
 ...in appreciation of our Pastor, Than Johnson, for his dedication and leadership for the body of Christ at Vergennes United Methodist Church

# HEALTH

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

### HEPATITIS A

Hepatitis A is a liver disease caused by a virus. It is spread through feces. You can get infected through close contact with an infected person, and you can also get it by eating contaminated food or drinking contaminated water. The virus can live on hands and in water or soil. If you contract Hepatitis A, you may get a sudden fever or a headache. Other symptoms include nausea, vomiting, stomach pain, diarrhea, chills, aching muscles and joints, cough, and itchy skin. Later in the disease, jaundice may develop. Rarely, the brain can become affected, causing confusion or even coma. There is no medicine to treat Hepatitis A. Supportive care includes resting, eating a balanced diet, and avoiding alcohol and Tylenol (to prevent further liver damage). The most contagious time period is shortly after you're infected. Adults who are healthy are no longer contagious two weeks after the illness begins. Children and immunocompromised adults can be contagious for up to six months. The best way to avoid contracting Hepatitis A is to wash your hands before and after cooking, using the bathroom, and changing diapers. There is now a vaccination available, and is recommended for anyone traveling outside the U.S.

## Watch for The Ledger 1st Buck Contest!

Nov. 15 Opening Day!

**LUNCH MENU**  
 ELEMENTARY MENU  
 Week of October 30, 2006

**MON:** Italian dunkers (breadstick) w/ meatsauce (stacked turkey/cheese on bun also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), green beans, assorted fruit, milk.

**TUES:** Cheeseburger on bun (BBQ on bun also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), baked beans, fruited gelatin salad, milk. Special treat.

**WED:** Pancake w/ syrup or cereal/graham cracker w/scrambled eggs, fresh fruit, applesauce, milk.

**THURS:** Pepperoni pizza, fresh tossed salad, assorted fruit, milk.

**FRI:** Chicken patty on bun (chili & crackers also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), carrot coins, assorted fruit, milk.

## Bring your Friends to TRUNK OR TREAT A COMMUNITY EVENT OCTOBER 31 INVOLVING LOADS OF CANDY IN CAR TRUNKS!

In the First Baptist Church parking lot. Also included:  
 "Safe" Candy • Lots of Games • Popcorn  
 • Cotton Candy • Prize Drawings  
 Coffee and doughnuts for parents. And it's all FREE!

**Time: 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.**  
**Address: 2275 W. Main, Lowell, MI**  
**It will be just as fun as when you were a kid!!!**

Call 897-7168 or email fbclowell@sbcglobal.net if you have any questions or comments.



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

tails, tongues and all the organs, to include intestines. The chicken packages included heads and feet. Over in the fish department I couldn't decide if it was more like a bait store or a pet shop. There were aquariums full of frogs, eels, turtles and unappetizing fish that looked like carp and suckers. On ice there were pungent brine shrimp, weird looking crabs and various saltwater fish that I use as bait or consider junk fish. All this makes me wonder what is really on my plate when out to dinner. I tend to stick to the vegetables.

Traffic and roads: Imagine leaving a big sporting event, trying to work your way out of the parking lot and heading back home. That pretty well describes any big city intersection here in China. I can't begin to understand how they sort themselves out. A blind faith in the other guy's brakes and survival of the fittest attitude is the only way to get around. Thankfully my son-in-law's employer thinks enough of their employees to furnish drivers.

Like everything in China, the roads run from one extreme to the other. They can be anything from wonderful freeways to two-lanes in nightmarish condition and clogged with traffic for miles and miles. We tried to take a three-day road trip from Chendu to the big parks at Jiuzhaigou 200 miles north of here. The parks are in a mountainous region of awesome beauty. I've heard the parks compared to Yellowstone and Yosemite, but on a smaller scale. People

told us to figure on ten to fourteen hours. Two hundred miles, fourteen hours ... I found that hard to believe.

We left last Thursday when the kids got out of school. The first forty miles were a breeze on a nice new divided highway. We made our way through a busy city with little trouble and soon found ourselves in a traffic jam on a mountain road jammed with tour buses, huge trucks and every other type of vehicle imaginable. We inched forward for a couple miles and came to a complete stop in the middle of a tunnel about a half mile long. Nothing moved for over an hour. Finally, we all hiked out for some fresh air. If we had a coal mine canary, he'd have been a goner for sure.

The traffic finally began inching forward and we jumped in the van when the driver emerged from the tunnel. We came to a complete stop another half mile up the road. The driver asked some southbound tour bus drivers what to expect. Some of them had been on the road for over ten hours and predicted traffic to only get worse for the weekend. We decided to abort the mission. We'll have to settle for pictures on the Internet.

The economy: Again ... extremes. My daughter's family lives in a townhouse in a gated community near the center of the city. I suppose it is reasonably affluent by Chinese standards. Most of the inhabitants are Chinese, and you are more likely to see a Mercedes, BMW, Volvo, Saab or

some other expensive sedan in the driveway than a cheap sub-compact. Obviously, somebody is making hay from this boom.

The main street just outside the main gate is being totally renovated with a brick roadway and sidewalks. There must be hundreds of manual laborers at work on the project. Their housing is in several encampments made of scaffolding covered with plastic tarps. They sleep on bunks made of plywood scraps and curl up in whatever blanket they can find. I don't even want to know what they eat or where their bathroom facilities are. My daughter won't hazard a guess as to what they eat, but she said I would be surprised at how little it is. That's the other end of the economic spectrum.

I've prattled on long enough. As I said, these are simply my observations of life in China. Don't take any of it to the bank. I really do enjoy visiting, but there is no way I could live here ... especially in a big-city setting like this. I'm looking forward to getting home to my dogs, driving my own car and watching sporting events at a normal time of day. Again ... Go Tigers!!! And ... how about those Red Arrows!!! We can listen to their games live on the Internet at 7:00 Saturday morning here. My son-in-law is a U of M grad and watches their games live on the Internet in the wee hours of Sunday morning. Like I said, I'm looking forward to sporting events at a normal time of day.

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## DNR says 2006 deer hunting prospects similar to '05

White-tailed deer numbers across the state of Michigan are very similar to a year ago, so Department of Natural Resources' wildlife biologists believe this year's combined archery and firearm deer harvest will be similar to last

year's total, about 415,000 animals, with an estimated 60 percent of those deer taken in southern Michigan.

About 725,000 individuals are expected to go deer hunting this year. These hunters will spend more than 10

million days enjoying deer hunting recreation during the archery, firearm and muzzleloading seasons combined. This is more days spent deer hunting than in any other state or Canadian province. As a result, deer hunters will contribute more than \$500 million to Michigan's economy through the purchase of food, lodging, transportation and equipment.

Although bowhunters are expected to take about the same number of deer as last year, the firearm and muzzleloading harvest should increase if hunters and landowners take advantage of the hunting opportunities provided by the DNR.

"Our goal has been to reduce the size of the herd in southern Michigan, but that's only realistic if hunters cooperate and if landowners allow hunters on their land," said DNR Big-Game Specialist Rodney Clute.

According to the DNR's annual statewide deer hunting forecast, the deer herd is dynamic and not evenly distributed across the state. The whitetails' reproductive capability and their ability to adapt to the variety of habitats across the state have resulted in a Michigan deer herd estimated to be over 1.6 million animals. This is exciting to citizens who enjoy hunting or observing deer, but is problematic to the habitat and the overall ecosystem. Deer-vehicle accidents are still high in many areas, damage from deer to agricultural crops remains high, and both growth and vegetative composition in some forest areas has been disrupted by deer.

Deer are prolific breeders with few natural predators other than hunters, so in most parts of Michigan, deer have a higher birth rate than death rate each year. The number of deer in an area impacts the quality and quantity of habitat, deer productivity, and deer/human conflicts. In southern Michigan, deer enjoy ample food and cover. Over time, they have become more tolerant of humans and now inhabit much of suburbia, as well as the transition zones between rural and urban. Deer distribution also varies within every deer management unit (DMU). Most deer are found on private land. Harvesting deer through hunting helps keep the deer herd in balance with the habitat. A regulated hunter-harvest of both sexes is necessary to maintain a healthy and thriving deer population. Antlerless deer license quotas are established for each DMU to achieve a desired harvest of antlerless deer for that unit. Where an increased deer population is desired, no antlerless deer licenses are offered.

"Overall, we are expecting this year's harvest to be approximately an equal number of antlered and antlerless deer," Clute said.

For a detailed forecast, visit the DNR Web site at [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr).

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

## BOWNE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

### PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTIONS 3.01 AND 3.24 REGARDING PRIVATE ROADS

Public notice is hereby given that the Bowne Township Planning Commission will hold a hearing on Thursday, November 9, 2006, at 7:30 p.m., in the historic Township Hall, located at 8240 Alden Nash Avenue, Alto, Michigan, to hear public comments regarding a proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance. The proposed amendment:

- 1) Amends Section 3.01 (Access to a Street) to require all lots or parcels to have frontage on an approved public street or private road prior to construction of any building.
- 2) Amends Section 3.24.A. (Location Allowed) to allow private roads in all districts except agricultural, commercial, and industrial districts.
- 3) Amends Section 3.24.D. (Design Standards for Private Roads Serving Six or Fewer Lots) as follows:
  - a) Requires turnarounds in a cul-de-sac to have a right-of-way radius of at least sixty (60) feet and a gravel turning radius of at least forty (40) feet.
  - b) Increases the maximum length of a private road from 1,000 feet to 2,000 feet, measured on the nearest edge of the public street right-of-way to the center of the furthest cul-de-sac or road end.
  - c) Requires all cul-de-sacs to be posted with "no parking" signs.
  - d) For any private road exceeding 500 feet in length, requires emergency vehicle turnouts not less than every 500 feet and requires the turnouts to meet certain requirements including a minimum area of 40 feet in length and 12 feet in width.
- 4) Amends Section 3.24.E. (Design Standards for Private Roads Serving Seven or More Lots) as follows:
  - a) Requires turnarounds in a cul-de-sac to have a right-of-way radius of at least 60 feet and a paved turning radius of at least 40 feet.
  - b) Measures the length of the road from the nearest edge of the public street right of way to the center of the furthest cul-de-sac or road end.
  - c) Requires all cul-de-sacs to be posted with "no parking" signs.
  - d) For any private road exceeding 500 feet in length, requires emergency vehicle turnouts not less than every 500 feet and requires the turnouts to meet certain requirements including a minimum area of 40 feet in length and 12 feet in width.
- 5) Amends Section 3.24.G. (Maintenance and Repairs) as follows:
  - a) Requires the property owners adjacent to a private road to maintain and repair the private road and to be responsible for the costs thereof.
  - b) Requires the applicant/owner of the proposed private road to submit a recordable private maintenance agreement or restrictive covenant agreement (or, in the case of a site condominium, the Master Deed and Bylaws) to provide for the regular maintenance, repair, and snow plowing of the private road. The Planning Commission shall not approve a private road application until the agreement (or Master Deed and Bylaws) has been approved by the Planning Commission.
  - c) Requires the maintenance agreement (or Master Deed and Bylaws, in the case of a site condominium) to contain certain provisions including a method for financing road improvements and maintenance and apportioning the costs thereof, a statement that Township funds shall not be used to build or maintain the private road, remedies for failure to maintain the private road, easements to the public for utilities and emergency or other public vehicles, and the requirement that the agreement will be recorded with the Register of Deeds and will run with the land.
  - d) Requires the maintenance agreement to include a statement that the private road is not required to be maintained by the Kent County Road Commission or Bowne Township.
  - e) Requires the applicant and those who use a private road to indemnify and hold the Township harmless from any claims arising from the failure to construct, maintain, or repair the private road and requires this statement to be inserted in all deeds for lots served by the private road and in the maintenance agreement.
  - f) Provides for remedies for violations of Section 3.24.G. and allows the Township to stop work or refuse to issue permits to property owners on the private road if there are violations.
  - g) Authorizes the Planning Commission to impose additional requirements for maintenance agreements to effectuate the intent of Section 3.24.

Interested parties may be heard at the public hearing. Written comments will be received until the close of the public hearing and may be addressed to the Township Clerk, P. O. Box 35, Alto, Michigan 49302. The proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance may be copied or examined at the Township Hall, 8240 Alden Nash, Alto, Michigan, on Wednesdays and Thursdays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and on Fridays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

October 25, 2006  
Sandra L. Kowalczyk, Clerk  
Bowne Township

## BOWNE TOWNSHIP NOTICE BIDS

Bowne Township is now accepting bids for work to be done on the Ladies Aide Hall, Shed and the Schoolhouse Museum. Please call during regular office hours for the bid specifications - 616-868-6846 Wednesday & Thursday 9-5, Friday 9-12 noon. Bids will be awarded November 20, 2006.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk  
Bowne Township Clerk

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## Doves, continued ... From Page 1

"It's really immoral to shoot them when the mothers are in the nest with their babies," she said. "There's no meat on them. Hunters just like to have something else to shoot as a target practice. They should have the freedom to live their lives."

Jim McPherson of Saranac said he was against the proposal.

"It is not a fair chase," he said. "They just come flying into your own yard."

June Jolink of Lowell, who has been hunting since 16, said doves are beautiful birds. "I don't see any reason to hunt them," she said. "You already have other birds like pheasants and turkeys you can hunt. You have enough already."

However, proponents of the proposal say any ban on hunting doves could eventually lead to limiting other hunting, as well.

John Black, field captain of the Qua-Ke-Zik Sportsman Club in Saranac, would not comment about the proposal because of the club's nonpolitical bylaws.

However, on a personal note, Black has been hunting for more than 50 years. He goes dove hunting to Kansas.

According to Black, you have to be a skilled hunter to shoot a dove.

"It's a challenge, they're hard to hit. They're fast and agile," Black said. "It's a good eating bird. You fish for bluegill and you don't get a lot of meat either."

Black said hunters use the pass shooting method of sitting and waiting for the birds to fly by. He said doves like to hang around grain fields and marijuana patches.

"They have dark meat, they are delicious," he said. "They don't go to waste."

Ann Wilson, acting press secretary for the MDNR, said the department took a neutral position on the issue of shooting doves.

"We have very little jurisdiction over migratory birds, only over game birds," she said.

However, in 2004, the MDNR was in charge of the administration of experimental dove hunting in six rural counties as part of a federal dove management program; they included Berrien, Branch, Cass, Hillsdale, Lenawee and St. Joseph, adjacent to Indiana and Ohio.

According to the dove call count survey and the breeding bird survey, there are four million migratory doves in Michigan. Wilson said there has not been a change in dove population over the last 38 years. During the fall migration, 400 million doves migrate continent-wide to the south. Canadian doves migrate through Michigan.

"We can only provide scientific information," she explained.

Al Stewart, wildlife biologist with MDNR, said doves are a highly monitored migratory game bird.

"If there was any threat or fluctuation of doves, the Fish and Wildlife Service would get involved," he said.

Stewart explained that doves are highly sought after birds for the flavor of their meat and texture.

"They have more meat than a bluegill," he said. "They are very delectable. There is a tradition associated with dove hunting. You can cook them on the grill."

Funding from the \$2 dove stamps would go into programs such as the game and fish protection fund and the non-game fish and wildlife trust fund; they would also be used for land acquisition of parks.

By passing the bill in 2004, the legislation authorized the natural resources commission to establish a hunting season for doves as migratory game birds. The federal framework for hunting doves allows the bird to be hunted from Sept. 1 through Jan. 15.

"Doves are one of the most common and numerous birds widely distributed in the U.S.A.," Stewart said. "Most states have dove hunting. Michigan just had not participated."

## Rotary, continued ... From Page 3

from any source filters through the bio-sand layers and comes out clean from the bottom.

"They never have to be replaced, but there's more work to do," said White.

The bio-sand water filters are now manufactured in the Dominican Republic by a trained workforce.

"We're encouraging everyone to purchase one bio-sand filter for the country," said White.

Other needs include developing a 30-acre ecological park in Gonzalez after the devastation of forests.

"The town needs to re-establish some of that," said White.

Last year, Rotary clubs helped supply hospital beds to nursing homes in the Dominican Republic. Money

is still needed for supplies for children's surgeries.

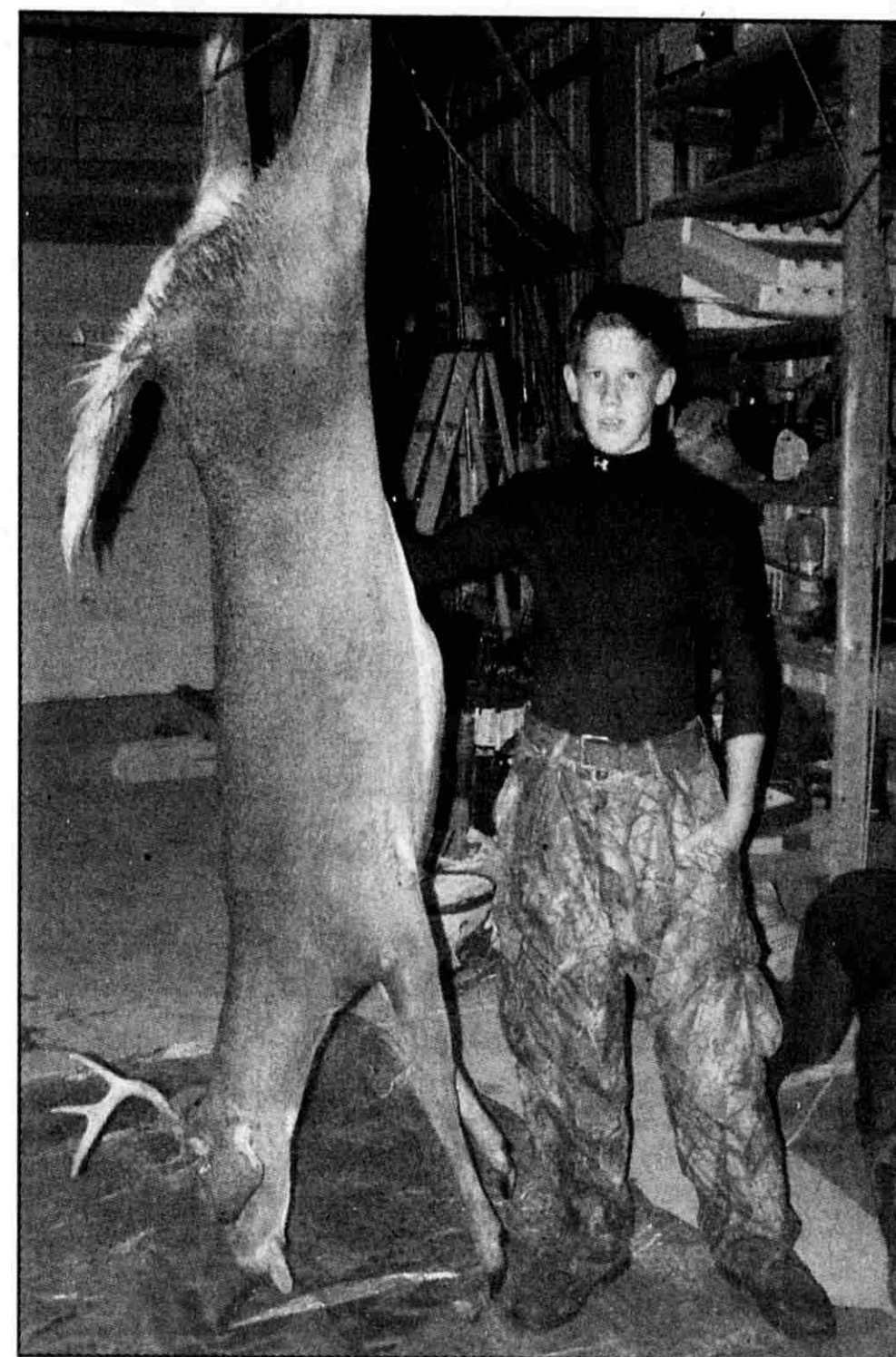
In the past, the Lowell/Rockford Ambulance has helped repair and ship ambulances to the Dominican Republic; two fire trucks have also been donated to the country.

Besides Martinez, other members of the exchange group included Manuel Almonte, Janna Polanco, Isaira Almonte and Elaine Moscoso.

They toured Litehouse, Inc. and Root Lowell.

"The visit gave us a chance to learn about the water project firsthand," said White.

## Another young hunter bags a buck



Ben Carlson participated in the youth hunt with his dad and shot an 8 point buck from a tree stand on his property on Lincoln Lake.

His twin sister also went hunting, but did not see anything. Ben is an eighth grader at Lowell Middle School and a member of the 78ers football team.

He is the son of Jay and Robin Carlson of Lowell.

## VERGENNES TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS Voting YES on the "spirits" proposition will:

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- Manage growth in a positive way
- Allow each citizen to decide what is best for themselves

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Vote YES on the last issue on your Vergennes Township ballot.

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This is a special Thank You for all who helped Lowell celebrate "Three Community Birthdays" as part of this year's Harvest Celebration Activities.

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We want to recognize Volunteers and Organizations including: The Lowell Rotary Club, Chief Jim Valentine and the Lowell Police Department, Chief Frank Martin and the Lowell Fire Department, The Kent County Sheriff's Department, The Michigan State Police, Marcia Roth and the Lowell Senior Neighbors, the Lowell Area Schools, Larry Mikulski and the Lowell School Bus Drivers, the Kent County Youth Fair Staff, Lowell Unity High School Students, Lowell High School Cheerleaders, Mr. Keglowitz's Video Class, Modern Photographics, Brian Doyle, Good Chevrolet-Buick, Wittenbach Pontiac-GMC, The City of Lowell, the Lowell Downtown Merchants, Amy Hayes of Pep Talk and the Lowell Ledger.

And, The Committee who worked to make it all happen: Teresa Beachum, Joy Smith, Gayle Stiefen, Jan Thompson, Jim Valentine, Ron Wenger, Larry Mikulski, Mike Larkin, Patty Sellner, Barbara Schmalz, Michelle Ellison, Pat Alchin, Liz Baker and Dave Thompson...and some very understanding families.

In addition, we also want to recognize the many additional volunteers and everyone who participated in the Parade itself, all of whom contributed to make this a very, very special Harvest Celebration.

**Thank you everyone,**  
Dave Thompson, Parade Chairman  
Liz Baker, Director, Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce



## Retiring local florist will miss the people

By Emma Palova

More than anything, Beverly Holst, owner of Ball Floral, will miss the people she has helped in the good times and bad with her flowers.

"It's something I have always wanted to do," she said. "I like meeting people and working with flowers."

After 30 years in business, Holst is retiring to spend more time with

her family and to pursue her love for gardening. She started her lengthy career as an employee at Lippert's in the early '70s.

At the drugstore and gift shop, Holst took an

interest in gifts. Later, she became a certified florist and bought Ball Floral in 1975. For many years, Ball Floral was the only flower shop in town.

It never changed names, for its reputation was well

established as Ball Floral, formerly owned by Harold and Rose Ball.

Throughout her career, Holst has provided flowers for anniversaries, birthdays and weddings, as well as for funerals.

Holst was one of the founding members of the Lowell Showboat Garden Club. She was active with the Lowell Showboat, first in the choir, later in decorating it.

In the '70s, the showboat used to be decorated with foil for different occasions.

"It glittered," said her son Kelly Holst.

She had a standing list of orders for decorating at Oakwood Cemetery for Memorial Day.

Both of her sons' Kelly and Kent helped out at the shop with deliveries and maintenance.

"I was her fix-up man," said Kelly Holst. "She was proud of how she ran the store."

When Holst and her crew worked through the night before events like prom, Easter and Secretaries' Day, her sons delivered food to them.

"She has served the area very faithfully," said Kelly Holst. "When people didn't have money, she would extend their line of credit."

Although there are no fresh flowers left in the shop's inventory, there are plenty of gift ideas. Items include vases, stuffed animals, baskets, bird houses and bird cages, Christmas decorations, plant stands and souvenirs.

To reduce inventory, the shop will open up with special hours on Oct. 30 and the week of "Christmas Through Lowell."

"I would like to thank the community and encourage them to visit," said Holst.

The shop will be renovated and possibly rented out.



Beverly Holst with her great-granddaughter Trinity Holst, 4, at Ball Floral.

## Discover moths and butterflies at Wittenbach/Wege Center this weekend

By Emma Palova

Butterflies and moths are not only beautiful but may be used to make medicine for various diseases.

A seminar at the Wittenbach/Wege Center will showcase mysterious butterflies and moths on Oct. 28 from 1 - 3 p.m.

"We want to make a connection on how science is applied in a real world situation," said ranger/center director Steve Mueller.

The "Discovering Butterflies and Moths" program presented by Mueller will display butterflies and moths from Utah and Michigan.

Mueller, a lepidopterist for 30 years, has conducted research in both states. Most recently, he has discovered a new species of moth while doing research at the Bryce Canyon National Park for the High Plateaus Institute in Utah. He is currently

working with a Canadian scientist Chris Schmidt at the University of Alberta on naming the moth.

So, monarch butterflies are not only beautiful in the gardens, but may also be useful in medicine. For example, chemicals in monarch butterfly wings are used to make heart medicine.

Chemicals from the newly discovered moth may be used in the future to treat diseases that have not yet been discovered, said Mueller.

"We want to get the public involved to participate in the research," he said. "College students could get a credit in science by doing research."

One of Mueller's goals is to involve a variety of community groups in scientific research. These may include the West Michigan Butterfly Association, Sierra Club, the Grand Rapids

Audubon Association, hunting clubs and high school environmental clubs.

"We need to teach people about butterfly and moth discoveries and increase community opportunities," he said.

Mueller also discovered two species of butterflies in Utah that were not known to live there. These were the Red Spotted Purple and the Caras Skipper.

"Moths are much more challenging than butterflies," he said. "There are a lot of mysteries in both. Insects have intriguing things to understand such as genetics."

One of the founders of DNA fingerprinting was a lepidopterist, said Mueller.

The program at the Wittenbach/Wege Center will show how science plays a vital role in daily lives, and include an introduction of scientific opportunities to both youth and adults, and

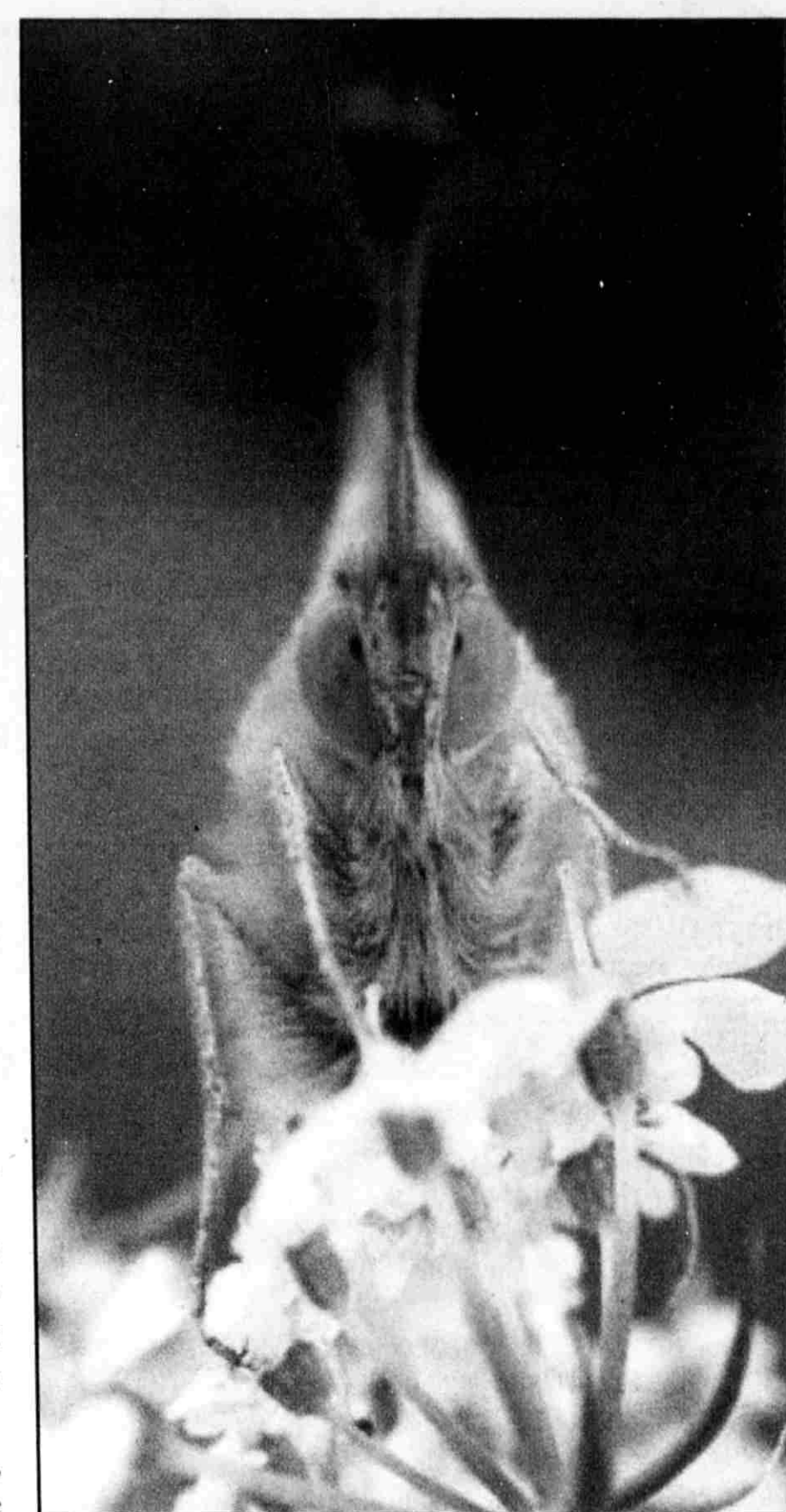
how to do butterfly research on a family vacation.

In Michigan, Mueller found the Northern Blue Butterfly breeding population. From 2000 to 2005, Mueller coordinated a butterfly survey for Michigan and published his findings. He now will be the lead research coordinator instead of sole researcher at the Bryce Canyon National Park.

Mueller will also talk about the misconceptions of science, mainly theories at the seminar.

"Theory is more truth than facts," he said. "Facts keep changing, theories are the most accurate truth. Science is not absolute, it gets constantly adjusted by refining. We need to get as close to the truth as we can."

According to Mueller, a scientist is never at the end of having a perfect answer. "Science is a study



An extreme closeup photo of a Clouded Sulphur moth resting on some Queen Anne's lace.

Photo submitted by Linda Koning, president, West Michigan Butterfly Association.

of the natural world, not the supernatural," he explained. "It's self-correcting. It needs physical evidence."

Ranger Steve, as he is often called, said the general public does not have a clear understanding of what science is. He wants to continue to conduct school programs and research in the future.

"The more you study butterflies, the more you have to think about their habitat," she said. For example,

Mueller helped develop the Wittenbach/Wege Center when Bert Bleke was Lowell Schools superintendent.

"Science has brought major advances in the last 500 years," he said. "We need to understand how it connects with our lives to stay on the cutting edge. You never know what you're going to find."

The program will be co-hosted by the West Michigan Butterfly Association (WMBMA). WMBMA president Linda Koning said she finds butterflies fascinating in connection to their nectar host plants.

"The more you study butterflies, the more you have to think about their habitat," she said. For example,

monarch butterflies feed on milkweed. In the winter they migrate to Mexico; in the spring they mate in Mexico, and sometimes it takes three generations before they return to Michigan.

Koning has tagged a butterfly that was later found in Mexico. It flew 1,823 miles to Mexico. Koning, a former LPN, studies caterpillars on clovers from eggs to adults.

"It is very important to protect species; if it disappears, we lose the benefit," said Mueller. "There is an inherent value in species. It is important to save all this stuff to protect the diversity of life on earth."

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Halloween trick or treating in the city of Lowell will be on Tuesday, Oct. 31 from 5:30 - 8 p.m. Households wishing to participate with treats should leave the outside porch lights on. Those not interested in participating should turn the outside lights off.

Following is a list of Halloween safety tips for children and parents:

- An adult should accompany children when trick or treating
- Wear light colored costumes or clothing. If a costume is dark colored, place reflective material on the costume and/or trick or treat bag.
- Mask or face coverings should have large eyeholes, or consider make-up.
- Carry a flashlight.
- Always walk on sidewalks; if there is no sidewalk, walk on the side of the road facing oncoming traffic.
- Always look for cars before crossing the street, and cross only at intersections. Never cross a street from between parked cars.
- Children should not be allowed to eat treats until a parent has inspected them.
- Trick or treat in your own neighborhood or at homes you are familiar with.

A list of motorist safety tips include:

- Drive with headlights on during daylight hours.
- Be ready for children running across the street in front of you. Be especially cautious driving near parked cars; expect children to dart from between the cars
- Drive at a safe and prudent speed, below the speed limit during trick or treat times.
- Be ready for the unexpected. Anticipate children's movements and be ready to brake.
- When approaching pedestrians waiting to cross the street, make sure they see you. If the pedestrians do not look at you, tap the horn to get their attention.

Make this Halloween a safe and fun one for the community of Lowell.



## "With My Active Lifestyle I Can't Afford To Be In Pain."

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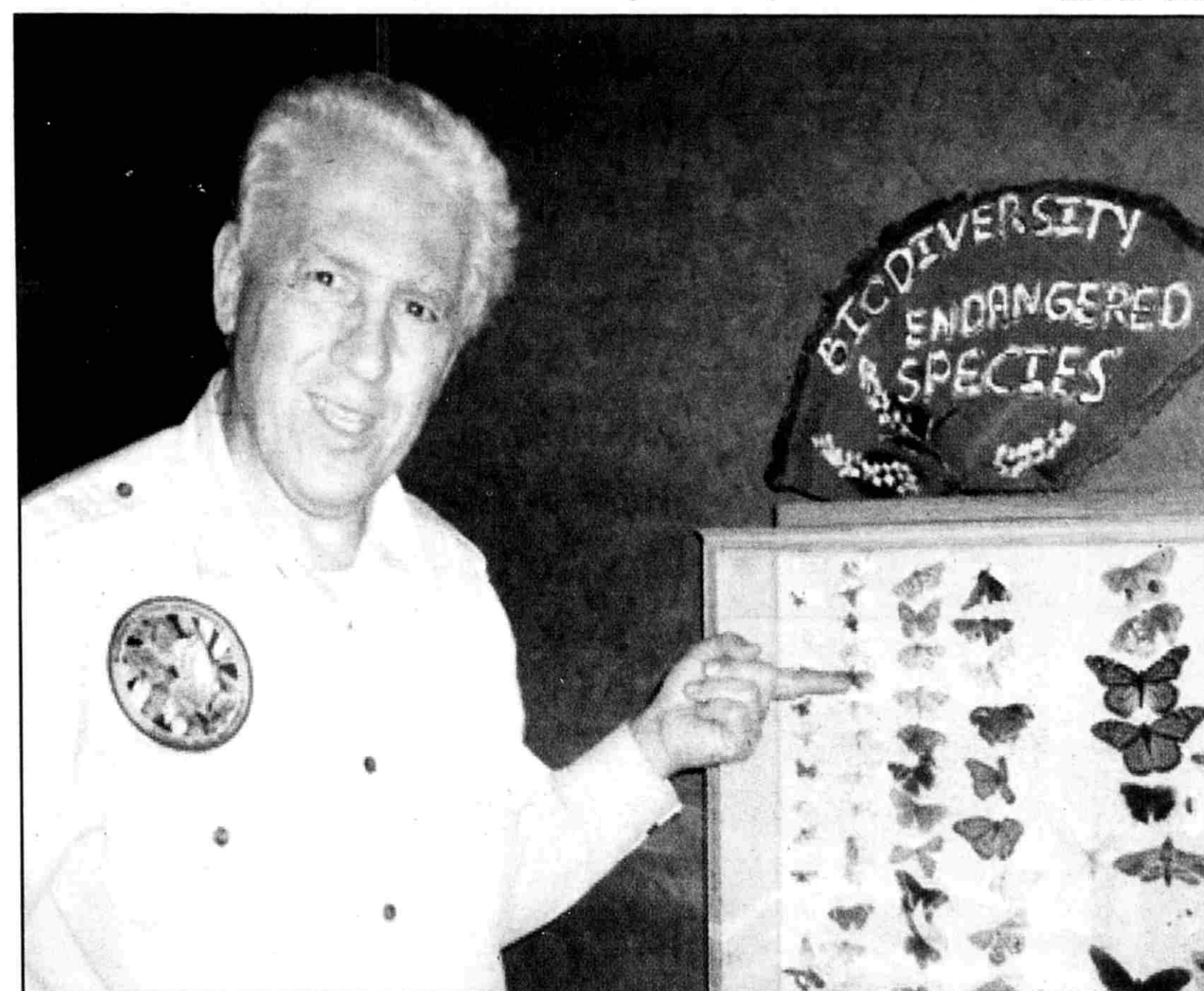
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\*This is a dramatization



Steve Mueller, Wittenbach/Wege Center director, with part of his butterfly collection.

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# COMING EVENTS

## OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

**SAT., OCT. 28:** 3rd Annual Halloween Haunted Showboat, 12 - 4 p.m. Pinatas and pumpkin decorating also. Call Staci at 897-8445. Wear your costume!

**MON., OCT. 30:** Traverse City Music House, 8:00. Lowell Senior Neighbors.

**THURS., NOV. 2:** Vergennes Co-op Club, 1 p.m. at Schneider Manor. Program: DDA's role in Lowell. Jim Reagan. Bring reservations/money for Dec. 7 Christmas dinner at noon. Hostesses: Mary Myers & Barb Briggs. Donations to FROM.

**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.lowellartsouncil.com.

### 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 Chery Creek Elementary. Call Dave (YMCA) 897-8445. Fee \$3.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LPAC. Call 897-8545 or www.lowellartsouncil.com.

**MON., NOV. 6:** Athletic Boosters Club regular business meeting at 7 p.m. at LHS staff lounge.

**THURS., NOV. 9:** LAHM presents local veterans stories at LPAC, 7 p.m. Public welcome. 897-7688.

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

**MON., NOV. 13:** Members of Clark Ellis Post 152 American Legion invited to catered annual Veterans Dinner, 6 p.m. at Lowell Veterans Hall, Alden Nash SE. Call 897-8258 Rich Bieri to make reservations.

**SAT., NOV. 18:** Good News Community, "Big Event" at Deer Run Golf, 6 p.m.-12 a.m. \$27/ 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.

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.

**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.lowellartsouncil.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-denominational help for pregnant women/adolescents, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.; Mondays: 5:30-7:30 p.m. 897-9393.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### 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.



## Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold  
Edward Jones  
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### GEN-XERS FACE RETIREMENT CHALLENGE

If you have children or grandchildren born in "Generation X" - loosely defined as those people born between 1965 and 1980 - they still have quite a ways to go before retirement. But that doesn't mean they shouldn't be thinking about retirement - and saving for it.

Unfortunately, many members of the Gen-X cohort are doing a poor job of retirement planning. About half of all workers born between 1965 and 1972 are "at risk" of having too little money to maintain their standard of living during retirement, according to the National Retirement Risk Index created by the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College. (This study didn't include the younger Gen-Xers because their financial histories are not considered long enough to yield meaningful interpretations of future behavior.)

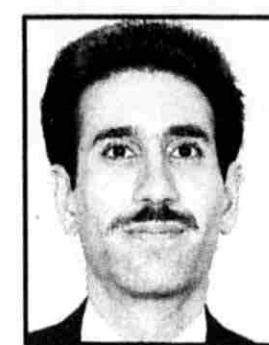
The Retirement Risk Index uses a variety of variables to come up with its projections, but they pretty much boil down

to one conclusion: Older Gen-Xers aren't saving enough to pay for the type of retirement they'd like to have.

If you think your child or grandchild - let's call her "Jen" - might be in the low-savings group, what changes can you encourage her to make to reach a different - and more favorable - destination? Here are a few suggestions:

- Don't panic. Gen-Xers have one really good asset on their side: time. Even the first wave of Generation X members have roughly 25 years until reaching the "typical" retirement age of 65. That means Jen still has time to make some moves that can help her make good progress toward her retirement goals - if she doesn't wait too long.

- Take advantage of retirement savings opportunities. If Jen has a 401(k) where she works, encourage her to take full advantage of it. Her money will have an opportunity to grow on a tax-deferred basis, and her contributions are typically made with pre-tax dollars, which means the more she puts in, the lower her adjustable gross income. Ideally, Jen should contribute as much as she can afford, increase her contributions whenever she gets a raise, and spread her money among the range of investments available in her plan. Also, if Jen can afford it, she should contribute to a Roth or traditional IRA every year. Both offer tax advantages and can be funded with money going into virtually any investment - stocks, bonds, government securities, etc.



## Legal Ease

With Jonathan David

**DEAR JONATHAN:** My home here and my condo in Florida are titled in my name and my daughter's name as tenants in common. Upon my death, will these properties go directly to my daughter and avoid probate?

**JONATHAN SAYS:** No. When real estate is titled between two people as "tenants in common," that means that each individual holds an undivided one-half interest in that property. Consequently, upon death, the decedent individual's interest passes to his or her heirs at law if there is no will or trust, or if there is a will or trust, to that individual's beneficiaries who are named in such will or trust. However, the transfer of this individual's interest only takes place upon the completion of probate.

If it is your desire that those properties pass to your daughter upon your death without having to first go through probate, then you will want to set up a living trust agreement naming your daughter as the beneficiary of those properties. You will next want to transfer your one-half ownership interest in those properties to your trust while you are alive, and by doing so, your interest in those properties will avoid probate upon your death.

Another way those properties can avoid having to go through probate is if they are titled in both yours and your daughter's name as joint tenants with full rights of survivorship. Upon your death, the title to each property will be vested 100 percent in your daughter's name. The disadvantage to titling the property in joint names, however, is that your daughter's income tax basis on the property will be lower than what it would be if she received that same property through the trust mentioned above. If she receives the property through the trust arrangement, she would receive a stepped up basis on the property which is equal to the fair market value of the property at the time of your death.

\*\*\*

*My motto was always to keep swinging. Whether I was in a slump or feeling badly or having trouble off the field, the only thing to do was keep swinging.*

-Hank Aaron

\*\*\*

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• Identify retirement goals. We all have different visions of the ideal retirement. While Jen might want to work until 65 and then open a small business, her friend might want to retire early and travel the world. Consequently, the amount Jen will need to save - and even the investment philosophy she follows - should be based on her individual retirement goals.

• Get professional help. It's not always so easy to create and maintain long-term investment strategies. Which investments are right for Jen's individual needs? How aggressive should she be? When should she make changes to her portfolio? A financial professional can help Jen answer these and many other questions that will arise over the years.

For people in Jen's age group, retirement may seem like a distant vision. But it's moving closer every day - and she'll want to be ready when it finally arrives. Encourage her to take the steps necessary to prepare herself.

## Business Matters

**Wendell Christoff**, co-owner of Litehouse, Inc., in Lowell, was re-elected to serve as treasurer of the 2007 Board of Directors for The Association for Dressings and Sauces.

The election was held in Asheville, N.C., on Oct. 16 in conjunction with the Association's 2006 Annual Meeting.

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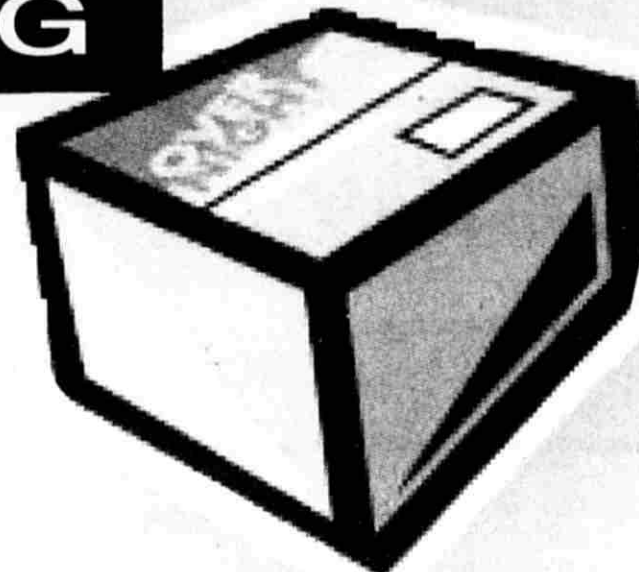
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## Alice in Wonderland at Lowell Performing Arts Center thru Sunday



Pictured left to right: Rob Freund (King), Nancy Huhn (Queen), Allan Lally (Tweedle Dum), Allison Hastings (Tweedle Dee), Erin Bajema (Alice), Rachel Wittenbach (Cheshire Cat).

"Alice in Wonderland," presented by Lowell Area Arts Council's Thebes Players, is in its second week at the Lowell Performing Arts Center at Lowell High School.

Will Tweedle Dum and Tweedle Dee help Alice get to the eighth square of the chess board? Will she be crowned queen or will the wicked Queen of Hearts get her way, "Off with her head!"

The play continues this Saturday, Oct. 28 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 29 at 2:30 p.m.

The GRINS are on us, well the Cheshire Cat anyway; and what's this I hear about a rumble between the hearts and spades? All is not well in Wonderland I fear.

Come and see Alice plunge down the rabbit hole; get involved in that madcap and deliciously satiric series of adventures immortalized by Lewis Carroll.

The audience will witness 61 fantastical creatures of Carroll's stories brought to life, from the curmudgeonly Caterpillar (Doug Halbeisen) to the Mad Hatter (Dave Huffman) and the Queen of Hearts (Nancy Huhn).

Advanced tickets are available through Pay Pal at [www.lowellartscouncil.org](http://www.lowellartscouncil.org); also visit the Lowell Area Arts Council at 149 S. Hudson; call 897-8545, or visit the website at [www.lowellartscouncil.org](http://www.lowellartscouncil.org). Tickets are also available at the box office on the day of the performance.

## JOB FAIR

Where: Greenville Michigan Works  
114 South Greenville West Drive  
When: Friday, October 27 • 2:30 - 4:30 PM

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*You wouldn't have won if we'd beaten you.*

- Yogi Berra

## 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).



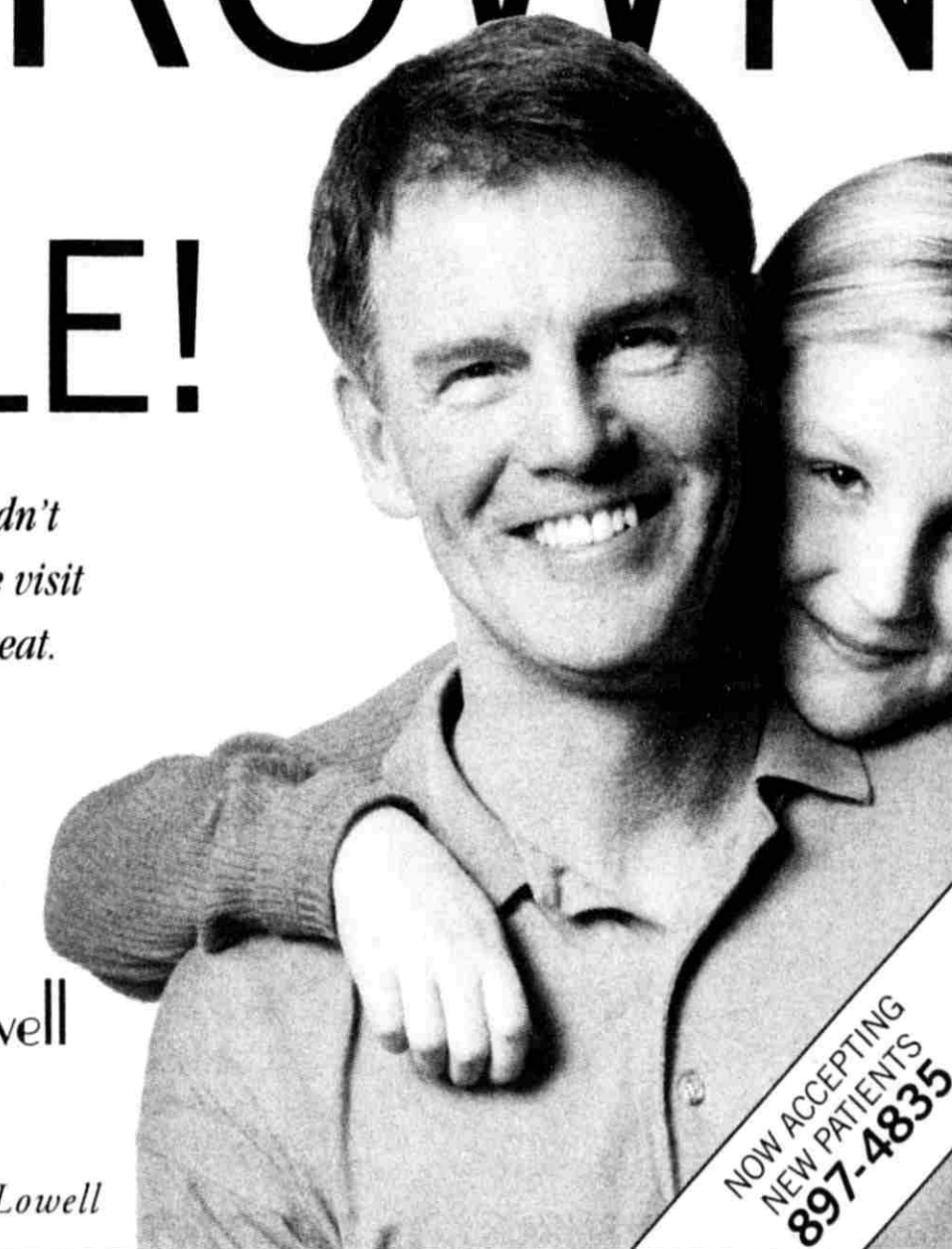
Betty R. Morlock  
City Clerk

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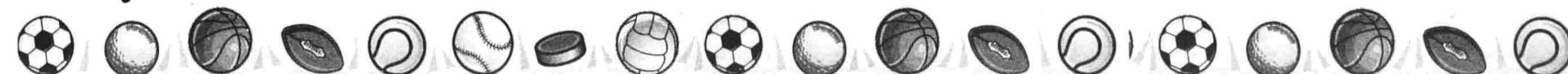
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# TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN COUNTY OF KENT, MICHIGAN

## NOTICE TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN OF THE NOVEMBER 7, 2006 SPECIAL ELECTION

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

### MILLAGE PROPOSITION

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

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

As an example, a resident with a home having a taxable value of \$100,000 would have an increase in annual property taxes of \$35.77.

The purpose of the millage levy is to offset decreases in the Township's allocated operating millage levy as a result of the Headlee Amendment. Property tax revenues generated by this millage levy will be used for general Township operations. It is estimated that a levy of .3577 mill would provide revenue of \$50,645 in the first calendar year. Revenues from the millage will be disbursed to the Township of Grattan.

YES \_\_\_\_\_  
NO \_\_\_\_\_

List of Polling Place Locations:

Precinct 1:	Grattan Township Hall 12050 Old Belding Road
Precinct 2:	Fire Station 12134 Old Belding Road

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

### Statement of Kent County Treasurer as to Voted Increases

I, Kenneth Parrish, Treasurer of Kent County, Michigan, hereby certify that as of September 6, 2006, the records of this office indicate that the total of all voted increases over and above the tax limitation established by the Constitution of Michigan, in any local units of government affecting the taxable property located in Grattan Township, Kent County, Michigan, is as follows:

Unit	Voted Increases	Years Effective
By Kent County:	.84 Mill .33 Mill	1990 to 2009, inclusive 2006 to 2013, inclusive
By Grattan Township:	1.10 Mill 1.00 Mill .50 Mill	1979 Unlimited 2004 to 2009, inclusive 2004 to 2009, inclusive
By Belding Area Public Schools:	18.00 Mills (exempting principal residence and qualified agricultural property) 7.00 Mills 2.00 Mills	1999 to 2018, inclusive 1996 to 2026, inclusive 2006 to 2018, inclusive
By Rockford Public Schools:	18.00 Mills (exempting principal residence and qualified agricultural property) 1.00 Mill .715 Mill 1.65 Mills .143 Mill 3.091 Mills .446 Mill 1.27 Mills 1.185 Mills	2000 to 2009, inclusive 2004 to 2023, inclusive 1990 Unlimited 1992 Unlimited 1996 Unlimited 1997 Unlimited 1997 Unlimited 1997 Unlimited 1997 Unlimited
By Lowell Public Schools:	18.00 Mills (exempting principal residence and qualified agricultural property) 5.60 Mills .55 Mill .10 Mill .75 Mill	2006 to 2009, inclusive 1990 to 2020, inclusive 2000 to 2030, inclusive 2004 Unlimited 2005 Unlimited

Dated: September 6, 2006

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

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

Lana Green, Clerk  
Township of Grattan

## Legal Ease, continued ... From Page 15

You cannot just name a new person to act under your current documents without creating the additional paperwork mentioned above. The better alternative would be to make sure you have enough back-ups named in your current documents to preclude the possibility that none of those fiduciaries will be able to act at the time necessary.

Another question is what happens if you are no longer legally competent and the fiduciaries you have named in your documents are not able to act on your behalf. In this event, your durable power of attorney and health care power of attorney will be of no use to you, and you will most likely have to have a guardian and/or conservator appointed on your behalf through the probate court. In the case of your will, the court will need to appoint a personal representative to probate your estate upon death; and in the case of your trust, typically the trust will provide how a successor trustee can be appointed if there is one acting, and it is typically done by the beneficiaries.

In all of the above scenarios, it is quite possible that the fiduciaries named to act in those various instruments would not be the ones you would have chosen if you had had the opportunity to do so. That is why it is always better to name enough alternate fiduciaries in your documents to make sure that a person you have named will be available to act on your behalf when the time comes.

**DEAR JONATHAN:** What happens if the beneficiary I have named in my life insurance policy dies before I do? Do the proceeds then go to his children?

**JONATHAN SAYS:** If the primary beneficiary named on your life insurance policy fails to survive you and you have not named a contingent beneficiary to receive the proceeds of that policy, then the proceeds will be distributed to your estate and will have to be probated. Once probate is completed, those proceeds will be distributed to the beneficiaries named in your will, or if you did not leave a will, then to your heirs pursuant to state law. If you want the children of your primary beneficiary to receive those proceeds if the primary beneficiary predeceases you, then you should name those children as the contingent beneficiaries on the policy.

**DEAR JONATHAN:** I noticed that my late father's will is witnessed by one of his sons who is also a beneficiary. Is that a problem?

**JONATHAN SAYS:** No. Under prior law, an interested party could not be a witness to a last will and testament. However, under a Michigan's current law, an interested party is not prohibited from witnessing a will.

*The information contained in this column is not to be construed as legal advice or legal representation and should not be relied upon as such. If legal advice or legal representation is desired, please consult with an attorney.*

### We've drafted some new players.



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### A plan for protecting our precious Great Lakes

With Senator Carl Levin

#### CHANGING COURSE IN IRAQ

As part of my work on the Senate Armed Services Committee, I recently traveled to Iraq and other countries in the Middle East to assess the situation there. It was my seventh visit to Iraq since the war began, and I am saddened to report that conditions in that country are getting worse, not better. I returned from the trip more convinced than ever of the need to change course in Iraq.

The bright spot on the trip was that we had the opportunity to meet with American troops, including many who hail from Michigan. I found their morale high and their professionalism extraordinary. America is well served by these outstanding men and women. Regardless of one's views on the Iraq war, all Americans are proud of our troops' service and inspired by their sacrifice.

We owe these men and women who are risking their lives for America an honest debate over the President's Iraq policy. The President, however, has oversimplified the choices in Iraq by saying we can either "stay the course" or "cut and run." That is a false choice. The best option is a third policy - change the course in Iraq.

The President's "stay the course" policy has given the Iraqi leaders the impression that we will stay in Iraq for as long as they need us. As a result, they have less incentive to make the difficult choices and compromises they need to make. As our uniformed military leaders have repeatedly told us, there is no military solution to the violence in Iraq; there must be a political solution among the Iraqis. Iraqi leaders are continuing to fiddle while their country is burning.

We need to deliver a cold dose of reality to the Iraqi leaders and tell them that we are not going to be their security blanket without end. We need to tell them that we will begin a phased redeployment of U.S. forces from Iraq by the end of this year. Nothing will get the attention of the Iraqi leaders like seeing the first American troops begin to leave Iraq.

We should also change the mission of the remaining forces to put an Iraqi face on daily security operations there. We should adjust our focus to one of training and supporting Iraqi security forces, targeted counterinsurgency operations, and protection of U.S. personnel and facilities.

With these steps, the Iraqi leaders will finally understand that our military presence in Iraq is neither permanent nor unconditional. When they do, it will be more likely that they will take the steps necessary to deal with sectarian violence and to defeat the insurgency. This will require concession and compromise on all sides. The militias must be disarmed to avoid all-out civil war, oil revenues must be equitably distributed among regions of the country, and all Iraqis must believe they have a stake in the Iraq nation.

The Administration needs to change course in Iraq and deliver the message to the Iraqi leaders that they alone can defeat the insurgency and that they must choose between civil war and nationhood. We have opened the door for the Iraqis to have a nation. Only they can decide whether to go through it.

## Newly-Constructed Homes Should Be Tested For Radon

As Radon Action Week comes to a close, the Department of Environmental Quality is reminding new home buyers that while new home construction often includes the use of radon-resistant techniques, they still should be tested for radon.

"A system installed during construction can help to significantly reduce radon levels in a home," says DEQ Director Steven E. Chester. "Whether or not a new home has a passive radon vent system, it should be tested to be sure the radon levels are low."

Radon is a radioactive gas that occurs naturally in soil and rock, and it is believed to be the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. Radon can accumulate to unhealthy levels when it leaks into a home through foundation openings, and the United States Environmental Protection Agency estimates that it results in approximately 21,000 lung cancer deaths in the United States each year. Studies project that more than 600 of those lung cancers occur in Michigan alone.

Passive radon systems built into new homes can allow the gas to bypass the house and be vented out to the atmosphere, above the roof, where it can be quickly diluted and dispersed. Since the passive systems do not guarantee low radon levels, a test should be conducted after construction

is completed and the house is considered livable. If elevated radon levels are found, the system can be easily activated with the addition of an in-line fan. Active systems are very effective at reducing radon levels.

Do-it-yourself radon test kits are available from local health departments, as well as from some home improvement centers and hardware stores. If an independent party is needed to do the test, lists of radon measurement professionals are available from the National Environmental Health Association (www.radngas.org) and the National Radon Safety Board (www.nrsb.org), or from the DEQ or your local health department.

The Michigan Residential Code requires radon-resistant construction in nine high-radon potential counties (Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Hillsdale, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Lenawee, St. Joseph, and Washtenaw), and though builders in other counties are not required to use radon-resistant construction techniques, some are voluntarily adopting the process, and buyers can request the system in their new home.

"Testing is easy and inexpensive, and it will provide peace of mind to know your family is safe," added Director Chester.

For more detailed information about radon and radon-resistant home construction, visit the DEQ Web site at www.

michigan.gov/deqradon or call the DEQ Radon Program at 1-800-RADON GAS (1-800-723-6642) for a free packet of information. Also, for a step-by-step guide on how to build radon-resistant homes, visit the U.S. EPA Web site at www.epa.gov/radon/images/buildradonout.pdf.



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**SUNDAY, November 12**  
4:00 - 6:00 PM

Sponsored by Riverside Fellowship of Seventh-day Adventists

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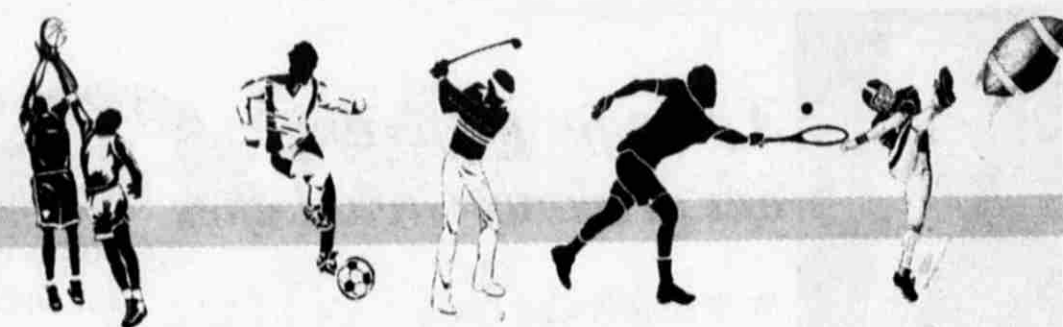
Games, Crafts, Treats,  
Goodie Bags and Prizes.  
Costume Contest, Photos!

**Saturday, October 28th**  
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Moose Recreational Facility**  
1320 East Main, Lowell



# RED ARROW SPORTS



## Girls basketball wins tenth straight contest

By Justin Swan

When the Lowell girls basketball team visited East Grand Rapids in which the girls gave up a fourth-quarter lead, the Red Arrows were looking for a lot more than identity.

A lot has changed since September. In fact, the girls have rattled off 10 consecutive wins since their 38-28 triumph over Greenville that day. The

Arrows appear to have come full circle after putting away Greenville again last week, 58-30, in the team's final regular season game. And while the wins have come in

impressive fashion, it's hard to deny the girls their due, as they continually find ways to improve in all facets of the game, even amidst their double digit winning streak.

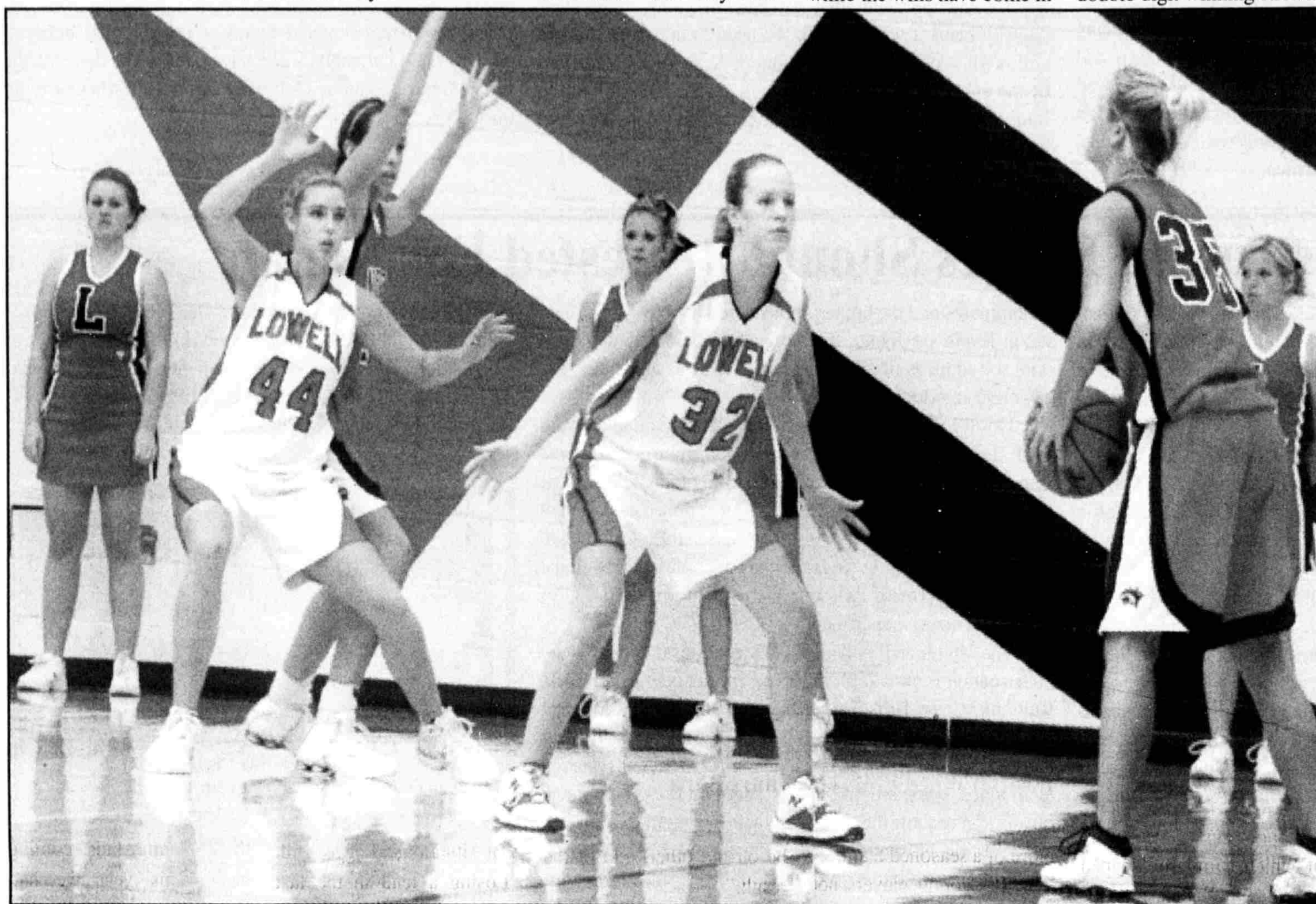
Against Northview on Sept. 28, the Arrows showed some endurance after leading the game nearly the entire way, before blindly giving up the lead in the fourth quarter. Lowell would steal the game back from the Wildcats and go on to win 44-38. You can attribute that win to some clutch free-throw shooting.

Two games later, the Lady Arrows showed some muscle against a powerhouse program in Grand Rapids Christian, ripping the Eagles 48-41, holding their star player to just six points.

Less than one week later, the girls showed some poise in front of a hostile East Grand Rapids' crowd, avenging their early season loss to the Pioneers with a 50-30 thumping. It put them in first place in the O-K White.

With four games remaining before tournament season begins in November, the Lowell team is on track to win yet another league title.

The next home game is Tuesday, Oct. 31 versus Forest Hills Central.



The Lady Arrows have gotten a lot of help from seniors' Kelsey Crowley, right, and Amanda Geelhoed, left.

## Lowell football draws Greenville for round one

By Justin Swan

Rest assured! There's still a lot of football to be played. And in the win-or-go-home context from here on out, Lowell head football coach Noel Dean can sleep at night knowing his team is well prepared.

"To go 9-0 and win a league title is a heck of an accomplishment for our kids considering we've only had four undefeated seasons in over 70 years," Dean said.

"Our goals are to go into every game and just win them," he added. "That's where our focus is each week. We want to get our kids to a level of football where they have an opportunity to go into it each week and win."

This week's goal is to upend league foe Greenville, who will travel to Bob Perry Field this Friday for the opening round in the MHSAA Division 2. Lowell and Greenville, along with

Muskegon and Hudsonville, are the lone Grand Rapids area representatives in a toss-up division that holds five undefeated programs. Only Division 5 (6) and Division 8 (6) contain more schools without a loss.

"We knew we were going to be in for a tough road," said Lowell athletic director Barry Hobrla. "This is about what we expected. (Greenville) is a talented team. We know that the

winner of the Hudsonville and Muskegon match-up could present us with a state final type of game."

"I know we're on the tougher side and Greenville is obviously a great challenge for us," Dean said. "Then you have some undefeated teams, so from that standpoint it should be very interesting."

But Coach Dean isn't looking ahead too far. To him, each week brings a new set of learning opportunities. Be it instilling entirely different game plans, making small adjustments based on an opponent, or making changes to overcome some lack of execution, as minuscule as they may be during an undefeated season, Dean always finds something to fix.

"Certainly every week we're working on the turnover and penalty issues, and also playing within the context of the game and not making it an individual game and not looking at personal goals, just looking for a win," he said.

According to Dean, his players should have some added motivation to beat Greenville, despite

the obvious implications around playoff season. "They made a big deal out of us not being able to get as far as they did last year and our kids should take that very personal," Dean said. "Going into the game we have an opportunity to end their season and we look forward to that challenge."

Lowell defeated Greenville 56-10 in week 4, which can be construed as a turning point in the Red Arrow season, at least defensively, as they've surrendered only 20 points since that game.

"Our defense has just been phenomenal and is probably the most overlooked aspect of our team," Dean said. "We've done a great job of coming together and with great efforts week in and week out. One thing we're most proud of is our defensive side of the football."

Lowell will have the luxury of a well-rested offensive line after two all-league linemen sat out of last week's lopsided victory over Kenowa Hills to rest some "bumps and bruises," according to Dean. The result was 309 yards on

the ground, and a breakout game for Bill Watikunas, who ran for 112 yards and two touchdowns.

"Kameron (Blake) and Bill are two really good football players and pretty good running backs," said Dean. "We're okay in that position and did a good job. We went with some guys who hadn't played as much and we wanted to get into a smash mouth, straight forward football game."

Looking ahead, the Red Arrows will need everything they have this post-season, especially if they advance, with the winner of Hudsonville (7-2) vs. Muskegon (9-0) next on the schedule.

"We faced this situation before when we were anticipating Muskegon, and Hudsonville went into Muskegon and knocked them out," said Hobrla. "Hudsonville plays such a tough division they're really battle tested when they get to this point in the playoffs. Muskegon's played a bit of a weaker schedule, so Hudsonville may be ready to take them."

It will all unfold beginning Friday at 7 p.m.

# RED ARROW SPORTS



## Soccer season ends in overtime Boys soccer team loses breath, game in final minutes

By Justin Swan

A visibly upset Chris Barlow, who tucked beneath his shirt following the team's riveting overtime loss to East Grand Rapids last week, summed up the 2006 Lowell boys soccer season.

"That was quick, a quick season," he said. "We played good solid soccer for about 70 minutes (against East), but for the last 10 minutes we just got tired and made a few mistakes that cost us."

"It was a great game," said Lowell varsity soccer coach Paul Legge. "I think that's about as good of a game as we've played all season. I think we ran out of gas a little bit late in the end, but that was one of the best efforts we've had all season."

The game was scoreless for nearly the entire first half. Lowell struck first with a spectacular goal by junior Nick Abdo, off a steal and assist by senior Austin DeClercq, with 12 seconds remaining in the opening half. But the Pioneers' second half pressure proved too much for the Red Arrows, who found few opportunities in the final 40 minutes. The first of two goals allowed came with 6:50 remaining in the

game during an onslaught of offensive opportunities by the Pioneers.

"They were persistent," Legge said. "At six minutes left they're still fighting in the game. At the 10 minute mark they could easily have said, 'well we're running out of time', but they were just persistent."

"We got our momentum going in the second half," Abdo said. "We just played seventy-three minutes of soccer, and then the last seven minutes we broke down and they got quite a bit of shots."

"It sucked," added Barlow. "We knew we could fight for it, we knew we had the heart, and we put it in there. We were good enough this season; even though we were young, we just had to do it. It came down to how much we wanted to win."

According to Legge, there are a lot of positives to be found from his team's disappointing season, many of which, similarly, shaped East Grand Rapids into the team they are today.

"(East) is very similar to where we were at two seasons ago," Legge said. "All these kids that were freshmen and sophomores are now juniors and seniors, and they took some lumps along the way - now they're



Senior Chris Barlow and company express some emotion following the team's overtime loss to East Grand Rapids last Thursday.

more of a seasoned team.

"It's young players not understanding the things they need to do to carry themselves through a tight situation, and it's good experience for some of these kids that are sophomores," he added. "This season has been a good experience to prep our players for next year, and get them ready to

be on the other side of the result."

Lowell's late-game blunders were a nightmare all season long, but especially to the rival Pioneers who topped the Red Arrows 3-2 in a snowy overtime victory in the O-K White tournament earlier this month.

"Yeah, it was kind of a reoccurring theme in

that situation," Legge said. "Losing a lead in the last couple of minutes, and in a short span; that's happened a lot this season."

But you can chalk these mishaps up to youth and inexperience, according to Legge, who expects a pretty solid turn around next year.

"We've got a freshman who's got a full season of varsity play and we have six sophomores who've started all season," Legge said with a smile. "Nick's (Abdo) a junior and has been a two-year starter for me now, and we'll have him coming back as a senior with a lot of goal-scoring experience."

"It's a good thing, it's a positive thing having all

these young kids coming back. This year we had three starters coming back; next year we'll have seven or eight - and that makes a huge difference."

"Chris Barlow was the leader this year so I'll just come back and continue to bring the team back next year," Abdo said. "We've got a young team, so we'll have a lot of starters coming back. It was a rebuilding year, but next year we'll be better."

East Grand Rapids would go on to defeat Northview 3-0 for the District Championship. Lowell finished the season with a 6-14 record.



Junior Nick Abdo scored in the closing seconds of the first half to give the Red Arrows a 1-0 lead.

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# TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN COUNTY OF KENT, MICHIGAN

## NOTICE TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN OF THE NOVEMBER 7, 2006 SPECIAL ELECTION

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

### MILLAGE PROPOSITION

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

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

As an example, a resident with a home having a taxable value of \$100,000 would have an increase in annual property taxes of \$35.77.

The purpose of the millage levy is to offset decreases in the Township's allocated operating millage levy as a result of the Headlee Amendment. Property tax revenues generated by this millage levy will be used for general Township operations. It is estimated that a levy of .3577 mill would provide revenue of \$50,645 in the first calendar year. Revenues from the millage will be disbursed to the Township of Grattan.

YES \_\_\_\_\_  
NO \_\_\_\_\_

List of Polling Place Locations:

Precinct 1:	Grattan Township Hall 12050 Old Belding Road
Precinct 2:	Fire Station 12134 Old Belding Road

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

### Statement of Kent County Treasurer as to Voted Increases

I, Kenneth Parrish, Treasurer of Kent County, Michigan, hereby certify that as of September 6, 2006, the records of this office indicate that the total of all voted increases over and above the tax limitation established by the Constitution of Michigan, in any local units of government affecting the taxable property located in Grattan Township, Kent County, Michigan, is as follows:

Unit	Voted Increases	Years Effective
By Kent County:	.84 Mill .33 Mill	1990 to 2009, inclusive 2006 to 2013, inclusive
By Grattan Township:	1.10 Mill 1.00 Mill .50 Mill	1979 Unlimited 2004 to 2009, inclusive 2004 to 2009, inclusive
By Belding Area Public Schools:	18.00 Mills (exempting principal residence and qualified agricultural property) 7.00 Mills 2.00 Mills	1999 to 2018, inclusive 1996 to 2026, inclusive 2006 to 2018, inclusive
By Rockford Public Schools:	18.00 Mills (exempting principal residence and qualified agricultural property) 1.00 Mill .715 Mill 1.65 Mills .143 Mill 3.091 Mills .446 Mill 1.27 Mills 1.185 Mills	2000 to 2009, inclusive 2004 to 2023, inclusive 1990 Unlimited 1992 Unlimited 1996 Unlimited 1997 Unlimited 1997 Unlimited 1997 Unlimited
By Lowell Public Schools:	18.00 Mills (exempting principal residence and qualified agricultural property) 5.60 Mills .55 Mill .10 Mill .75 Mill	2006 to 2009, inclusive 1990 to 2020, inclusive 2000 to 2030, inclusive 2004 Unlimited 2005 Unlimited

Dated: September 6, 2006

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

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

Lana Green, Clerk  
Township of Grattan

# Sound Off

The Ledger  
"Almost"  
Anything  
Goes Column



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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".

*The scarecrows along Main Street need to go. They could cause an accident.*

*G.M. You talk jibberish! Why bother? No one can understand you!*

*How about a little pride in our city? Let's use the trash can provided at the public parking lot on Main Street. Are you too lazy to walk a few feet?*

*Go Jen! You're the best for our state! You've done a great job with what you had to work with! Republicans don't understand deficit!*

*Has anyone noticed young men and women running on the streets of Lowell? That's our CC team!! Cheer them on!!! Some of them may be headed for State Championship!!*

*My father's fiftieth birthday was October 21. My mom called in & asked to put it in the paper. It is October 21, and no birthday announcement. Thanks a lot Ledger.*

*Liz- we squeeze our red noses in salute to you and your team for a great Harvest Festival!! Isn't Lowell a great town!!!*

*The Halloween decorations on Main St. downtown Lowell are really great! Brings a smile everytime I drive thru town! Thanks for the fun!*

*Just throw every incumbent out of office. Everything is wrong! Time to start over with all new faces and all new ideas.*

*Alice in Wonderland was great! There are still a few more performances left.*

*Thanks to the winner who stole my antenna off my Expedition during my son's football game Sat. night at Burch Field!*

*She isn't "Ugly Betty" she's cute Betty.*

*Congratulate the Lowell Freshman on their undefeated season. Way to go guys!*

*A big thanks for a great parade and day!*

*Didn't you know that the Lowell Police can only see senior citizens? When the trucks and teenagers go speeding by - they're blind!*

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## NOTICE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

### Accuracy Test of Voting Equipment

A public accuracy test of the voting equipment to be used in the November 7, 2006 General Election will be held on Monday, October 30, 2006, at 1:00 p.m. at the Vergennes Township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr., Lowell, MI 49331.

Mari C. Stone  
Vergennes Township Clerk

# CLASSIFIEDS

## FOR SALE FOR SALE FOR RENT HELP WANTED SERVICES SERVICES

**SINGLE/DOUBLEWIDES** - starting at \$615. 3 bed/2 bath. **Valley Vista Village**, 1800 W. Main St. **616-897-8427** Stop by and visit with us. Not ready to buy, ask about our new **rent to own program**. **www.HometownAmerica.com**.

**MATTRESS / BOX SPRINGS** - Brand new, \$69/set. Twin, full, queen, delivery available. Dennis Distributing, 315 N. Lansing, St. Johns, 989-224-4822.

**APPALOOSA GELDING** - 21 years old, friendly, road safe, well trained for beginner to advanced. Great health, 15.1 hands. 868-7339.

**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.

**HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER** - 135 S. Center, City of Lowell, \$114,000. 2 bedroom, new kitchen, hardwood floors, 3 season porch, 1 stall garage, large fenced in yard. Call 616-291-5403.

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

**LARGE STATELY HISTORIC HOME IN LOWELL** - 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 baths, double lot, stately grounds. Would make beautiful bed & breakfast. Call Judy Gilbert, Coldwell Banker Schmidt, 460-9025.

**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.

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

**FOR SALE** - 2000 Dodge Ram 1500 SLT ext. cab. New trans. Great truck. Must sell, \$12,000 obo. Call 885-4589.

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

**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.

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

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

**2YELLOWLABS** - Looking for a loving home. Need space to run & play. Family members work - need somebody to spend time with them. 1 male & 1 female, neutered, 5 years old. Please call if interested, 868-6741.

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

**LOWELL - Open Sun., Oct. 29, 1-3 p.m.** 901 Heffron (N. off M21 on Center to Heffron). Beautifully updated 2-bedroom ranch in park-like setting w/shade trees in the Lowell School district. Visit raskarealty.com or call 800-864-6444. Rask Realty.

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

**1995 HONDA TRX 300ATV** - utility quad w/racks, good shape, runs well, \$1,500 obo. Cell 269-223-9327 or 987-9025.

**BED A VISCO TEMPUR-PEDIC** - style mattress set. Total support, relieves back pain. 20-year warranty. Store price \$1899, will sell \$899. Never used. Brand new sets on "Sale" at RCD wholesale. 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160. Can deliver.

**MERNADO WOODS** - 13 sites available. Lots for sale - Boston Township, Lowell address, Lowell school of choice. Lots range from .33 acre to .54 acre, beautifully wooded sites. Land contracts available! Directions: Cascade Rd. E. of Alden Nash, E. to Kyser, N. to MacArthur, E. to lots on left side (Mernado Woods). Look for the Re/max signs. For further details call Peter Smith at Re/max SunQuest, 616-460-6634.

**COLLECTOR'S KORNER** - Coins, stamps, pocket watches, estate jewelry. Buy, sell, trade, appraisals. Tues. - Sat., 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Get the most out of your scrap gold & silver jewelry - will pay more than anyone around! 218 W. Main, Lowell, Ph. 616-821-9232.

**1999 DODGE RAM** - 1500 window van, 7 passenger, power, many miles, runs great, V6, \$2,500 obo. Call 676-5534.

**LEDGER OFFICE HOURS:**  
MON. - THURS. 8-5  
FRI. 8-4  
Closed Sat. & Sun.  
105 N. Broadway, Lowell.  
Phone 897-9261

**COZY** - 3 bedroom, 1 bath home in Lowell, 713 N. Washington. Lots of storage room, \$775 plus utilities. Call 897-9357 or 648-5533.

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

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

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

**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.

**UPSTAIRS 2 BEDROOM APARTMENT** - In Lowell for rent. Available immediately. \$475 + utilities, \$200 deposit. 299-3198.

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

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

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

**DUPLEX FOR RENT/SALE IN IONIA** - 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, wood floors, open stairway, basement, garage, stove, ref, washer/dryer, 1700 sq ft each. No pets. \$600 mo. + \$650 deposit, utilities & references. Call 616-299-4697.

**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.

**HOUSE FOR RENT** - Saranac, 3 bedroom, quiet country setting, 2 car garage, storage building, pets & short term lease negotiable. Call 616-642-9006.

**1 BEDROOM BASEMENT APARTMENT FOR RENT** - Full kitchen, dishwasher, washer, dryer, 1100 sq. ft. 529 Avery, Lowell. \$700 mo. plus heat. Water & electric included. Call 897-5686.

**HOUSE FOR RENT** - in Ada. Large yard, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. 1st month's rent & deposit. Appliances included. Call 676-3378.

**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.

**SEEKING NANNY** - New family seeking full-time in-house nanny for our new daughter in the Lowell area. Please call Rick or Amie at 897-0965.

**HELP WANTED** - Experienced tax preparer for the upcoming tax season. Experience is a must. Call 897-1140.

**LPN** - Flexible part-time hours. Must be reliable. Geriatric experience a plus. Very pleasant working environment. Call 616-957-9767 Monday-Friday, 10am - 5pm.

### WANTED

**WANTED** - Treadle sewing machine base, any shape, any brand. 648-4865 or 897-0064.

**WANTED** - Crafters & home business vendors, 2nd annual MOPS 2-day craft show. Call Jessica Mazarka, 868-7463.

**FULL TIME COLLEGE STUDENT** - that can't afford much looking for furniture for apartment. Call 262-6827 or 897-5711.

**WANTED** - Gravity box with good running gear in good condition. Please call 616-890-5718.

### LOST

**LOST** - Woman's red leather wallet. Keep cash. Please call 616-897-9688. Family photo & cards needed.

### EVENTS

**PUBLIC SIGHT-IN** - Qua-Ke-Zik Sportsman's Club will host a supervised fall sight-in at their range facility at 8731 W. Riverside Dr. The sight-in will be on Oct. 28 & 29 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Cost is \$5 per gun w/targets & assistance provided. Everyone is welcome. For more information go to **www.Qua-Ke-Zik.org**.

**ANNUAL COMMUNITY HALLOWEEN PARTY** - Open to the public. Games, crafts, treats, goodie bags, prizes, costume contest & photos, all FREE! Sat., Oct. 28, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Moose Recreational Facility, 1320 E. Main. Sponsored by Lowell Moose Lodge #809.

### IN MEMORIAM

**IN MEMORY OF BUDD BISHOP** who passed away 25 years ago on November 1, 1981. Sadly missed by his wife Jean & family

### SERVICES

**CUSTOM CABINETRY** - Solid wood, handcrafted kitchens, baths, entertainment centers, etc. At or below cost of pre-builts! Stop in or call Personal Choice's showroom! 616-897-1130.

**NEED YOUR PET FIXED?** - Call C-SNIP, 616-455-8220, a nonprofit, reduced fee spay & neuter clinic.

**USED TIRES** - Take offs, hundreds to choose from, like new, reasonable prices, mounted and balanced. Call 292-7649.

**SEPTIC CLEANING** - Call Rudd's Septic Service for all your septic needs. 897-8560.

**COPY SERVICE, FAX SERVICE, LAMINATING, UPS SHIPPING & MORE AVAILABLE AT THE LOWELL LEDGER**  
M-Th. 8-5 p.m.  
Fri. 8-4 p.m.  
105 N. Broadway

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

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

**ZOOLAND DAYCARE** - Full-time & part-time openings for 1st & 2nd shifts. All ages and special needs children accepted. Call for more information or to schedule an interview, 897-8386 or 308-0195.

**LOCAL HANDYMAN** - Call Larry of Lowell, 897-5431. Landscaping, skilled carpenter, painting, plumbing & more.

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

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

**UPS SHIPPING AT THE LOWELL LEDGER!**  
Call for a price quote!  
897-9261

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

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

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

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

**BUYS FAMILY CHILD-CARE** - 1st shift. Part time 2nd shift. CPR/First aid. Degree in Early Childhood Education. Off 64th St. (Drew Rd.) between Alto and Clarksville. DHS accepted. 616-868-6290. Lic #DF340280186.

**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

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

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

**SOUND OFF PHONE LINE**  
897-0787



250 VEHICLES ARE SCHEDULED FOR SALE!

HURRY! 5 DAYS ONLY!

# NOTICE

## USED VEHICLE SELL-OFF

### We Must Sell-Off 2 Million Dollars in Inventory

Including Fords, GMCs, Chevys, Saturns, Chryslers, Dodges, Oldsmobiles, Pontiacs, Buicks & Many More Makes!

**OVER 250 VEHICLES TO CHOOSE FROM!**



**PRE-OWNED**



**LOCAL TRADES**



**LEASE RETURNS**



**SPORT UTILITIES**

**2004/2005 Ford F-150 Supercab**

with 4WD for \$99/month<sup>1</sup>

**2006 Chrysler Town and Country**

with Stow and Go for only \$14,981

**TUESDAY OCT. 24**  
9AM-5PM

**WEDNESDAY OCT. 25**  
9AM-6PM

**THURSDAY OCT. 26**  
9AM-6PM

**FRIDAY OCT. 27**  
9AM-6PM

**SATURDAY OCT. 28**  
9AM-6PM

**WE WANT TO SELL EVERY VEHICLE. IT'S A BUYER'S MARKET. VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD REGARDLESS OF PROFIT TO FIT YOUR BUDGET**

*Trade-ins, Lease Company Returns, Unsettled Vehicle Purchases, Auction Direct Vehicles! All of these and more must be sold!*

**250 Fords, GMC, Chevys, Saturns, Chryslers, Dodges, Pontiacs, Buicks, Imports and Many More Makes Will Be Sold!**



Special purchase vehicles will be available for 5 days only before they are sent to auction!

**NO PAYMENTS FOR 90 DAYS!\*** **ALL TRADES WELCOME**

- Vehicles are in excellent condition!
- Many with factory warranties!
- Over \$2 Million in inventory Must Go!
- Come in early for best selection!
- Be prepared to take immediate delivery!

**CREDIT AMNESTY SPECTACULAR**

VALID: Check No. 15943  
OCTOBER 24-28, 2006

Pay to the order of: Future Satisfied Customer AMOUNT: **\$1,000.00**

The sum of: One thousand dollars & 00/100 \*\*\*\*\* SECURED

NATIONAL AUTOMOTIVE FINANCIAL INSTITUTE

Valid only when used toward the purchase of any used vehicle from dealer stock valued over \$5,000. Prior sales excluded. Not valid for parts, service or any other offer. Cannot be combined with any other offer including specially priced 2004/2005 Ford F-150 Supercab and 2006 Chrysler Town and Country.

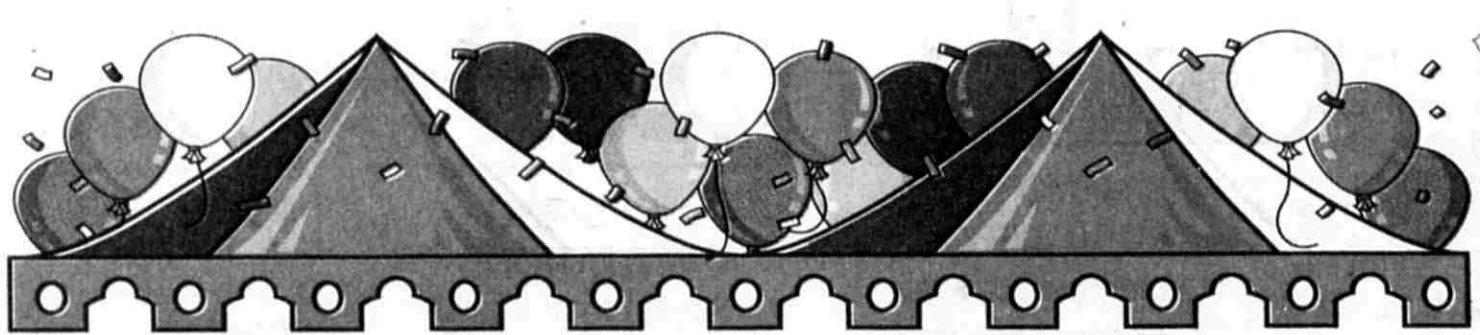
MEMO: :98740837: 2521 96000015 6521

*[Signature]*  
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

DO NOT CASH - NON-NEGOTIABLE - NON-TRANSFERABLE - ONE COUPON PER PURCHASE - VOID AFTER CHECK DATE

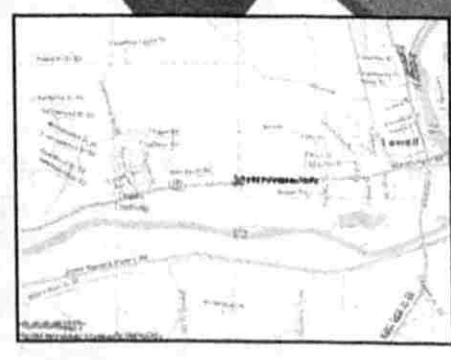
## CREDIT AMNESTY EVENT...AT HAROLD ZEIGLER FORD

No Dealers will be allowed to purchase any vehicle at this credit amnesty sale! Thousands of dollars will be saved only by the public! COME EARLY FOR BEST SELECTION!!!



**TUESDAY OCT. 24** 9am-8pm  
**WEDNESDAY OCT. 25** 9am-8pm  
**THURSDAY OCT. 26** 9am-8pm  
**FRIDAY OCT. 27** 9am-8pm  
**SATURDAY OCT. 28** 9am-4pm

**HAROLD ZEIGLER FORD** 11979 E Fulton  
Lowell, MI 49331  
888-700-0391



FOR QUICKER PRE-APPROVAL LOG ONTO



\*Example: \$14,981. 2001 Ford Focus, sales price \$19,999. \$1 down plus tax, title and license fees. \$99/mo. @ 9% APR on approved credit. See dealer for details. Subject to lender's final approval. \*\*To qualified buyers with lender approval. Interest will accrue during this period. \*\$15/mo for a 24 month/20000 miles per year lease with \$1995 cash plus tax due at delivery. With approved credit. Included voucher can not be used for specially priced Ford F150 and Chrysler Town and Country. OFFICIAL RULES: NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. A PURCHASE DOES NOT IMPROVE YOUR CHANCE OF WINNING. Dealer is sponsoring giveaway. While supplies last. See dealer for details. Bring to event location to compare to prize board and claim your prize. Winner/addressee must be 18 years or older, and must bring flyer and/or game piece to event location during the sale dates listed above to redeem prize. 1) All taxes and any necessary shipping are the responsibility of the prize winner. 2) Odds of winning Prize I (valued at \$199) or Prize II (valued at \$210) are 1:250,000. Odds of winning Prize III (retail value of \$400) are 249:997,250,000. Odds of winning \$10,000 cash are 1:250,000. Vacation package award requires the customer simply make or fax it in with a \$15.00 processing, postage and handling fee to receive their reservation form. One can also redeem higher certificate online at www.gaincreditforyou.com. The designated winner must show valid state I.D. and must be verified as the designated winner on file at the insurance company. 3) Grand prize shall be awarded within 45 days of receipt and verification of documentation by the qualified prize winner. 4) This promotion is void where prohibited by law. 5) Dealer and/or event contractor, and advertising agency are not responsible for lost, late or misdirected prize piece. Not responsible for types. Photos are for illustration purposes only. 6) The Sweepstakes game is sponsored by the dealership listed on advertisement. 7) Eligibility limited to U.S. residents. See sponsor for complete rules.