

The Lowell Ledger

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Wednesday, March 7, 2007

Wege Foundation may donate land to community

By Emma Palova

More recreational land for the greater Lowell area, along with a new taxing authority may become a reality.

The Wege Foundation proposed to donate 100 acres of land on the corner of Alden Nash and Vergennes roads for recreation if the community can come up with a feasibility study.

A community group representing the city of Lowell, Lowell schools, Vergennes Township, Lowell Township, Lowell Area Recreation Authority (LARA) and YMCA met Thursday with foundation representatives.

"Mr. Wege is open to giving the land based on a solid recreational plan," said Wege's spokesperson Bert Blake. "He does not want to dictate the specifics."

According to Blake, it will be up to the community to develop their vision for

the land, to come up with any needed funding and to work the plan. The foundation placed several conditions on the proposed donation.

These include, a recreational plan, the land will be part of the trail system with green space and botanical gardens, as well as ball fields. On the south end of the property, 25 acres will be reserved for a zoned use. That area may be used for a green home development.

And the community cannot ask for any money from the Wege Foundation, according to LARA spokesperson Betsy Davidson.

"It's a community wide effort," said mayor Chuck Myers. "It's in very primary stages. There's a huge demand for recreation, ball fields and soccer fields."

Although, the entire project is in its infancy, the community will most likely



This land at the corner of Alden Nash and Vergennes may become part of the trail system if the Wege Foundation donation becomes a reality.

Land donation, cont'd., pg. 3

Library stands by its policy on lending materials to the public

By Emma Palova

In response to a recent incident of a 14-year-old boy checking out a historical

pornography book at the Engelhardt library, Kent District Library officials said they followed policy.

"The parents are

responsible for minor use of the library," said KDL communications manager Regina Sjoberg. "They should be cognizant about

their kids." Sjoberg said that parents have to sign off on the registration card to that responsibility.

The boy ordered "The

Big Book of Porn, a history of pornography," through the Lakeland Cooperative. The book arrived at the Engelhardt Library from

the Grand Rapids Public Library.

Engelhardt Library

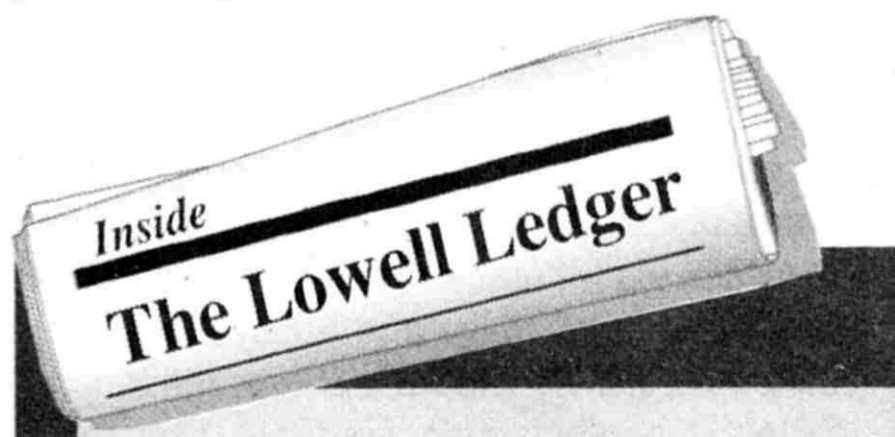
Library,

cont'd., pg. 3



Over half a century of community service

World War II veterans Dave Clark, Brian Doyle on behalf of King Doyle, and Sam Yeiter accept certificates of recognition from Lowell American Legion post commander Faye Johnson for 60 years of membership in the legion at the Rotary lunch Feb. 28.



Check Scam ... Page 3

Lowell Inventor... Page 11

Wrestling Finals ... Page 17

Obituaries



Audrey, Kort, Ellery, Kale, and Brady; sister, Lucile Adriane. Merle was a retired Lather from Leggett and Michaels and Bouma Construction. Funeral services were held Monday, March 5 at the Roth-Gerst Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Lung Association.

ALEXANDER
Merle "Snowball" Alexander, aged 79, of Lowell passed away surrounded by family on February 28, 2007. He was born June 12, 1927. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Gladys; children, Karen (Doug) Ford, Carol (Bill) Grummet, Ken (Alex) Alexander, Ray (Lisa) Alexander, Tom (Jodi) Alexander; grandchildren, Bob, Doug, Katie, Ami, Charlie, Jill, Holly, Kaley;

JAHNKE
Patricia L. Jahnke, aged 71, of Allendale, formerly of Middleville, passed into eternity on Tuesday, February 27, 2007. She is survived by her husband, Norm Jahnke; five children, Colleen (Don) Aemisegger of Grand Rapids, Narleen (Jim) Patterson of Lakeview, Cheryleen Blattner of Grand Rapids, Clark (Cheryl) Jahnke of Lowell, and Eileen (Dave) Trestain of Vancouver, Washington; 12

grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren. Preceded in death by a grandson, David Lee Beeler and a brother, Arthur Hertel. A memorial service was held Saturday, March 3, 2007 at Allendale Wesleyan Church.

SICILIANO

Charlotte Gardner Siciliano, aged 82, of Lowell passed away March 2, 2007. She was a loving mother, grandmother, sister and aunt. She is survived by, her daughter, Lisa (Benn), her pride and joy grandson, Matthew, sister-in-law Vada Gardner; cousin Margaret Gardner; Roma Minnie and children Ed, Ken and Ron; Norma (Ron) Noall and children Steve and Brenda; Jim Heim and children Elise, Chris and Bill; Sharon (Bob) VanDerwall (Gardner); Jeri (Gardner) and children Holli, Greg, and Brian; Macy Harfst. Her accomplishments included long time service in Community Development Program for Kent County, administrator of CETA program, treasurer of Vergennes Club, and Lydia Circle. She maintained a deep spiritual involvement through the First United Methodist Church of Lowell. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 6 at the First United Methodist Church. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Lung Association or First United Methodist Church of Lowell.

Time to renew watercraft registration

More than 250,000 watercraft registration renewal notices were mailed to Michigan boat owners, Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land announced.

All notices include a special personal identification number, allowing watercraft owners access to the Department of State online or touch-tone telephone renewal systems. Both options are available through Aug. 31 and can be accessed 24 hours a day. Payment is by Visa, MasterCard or Discover credit cards.

"In Michigan you're only minutes from water, making the state a true boater's paradise," said Land, who oversees watercraft titling and registration. "The boating season is just around the corner, and I want to make sure that all watercraft are properly registered."

Arbor Day Foundation offers 10 trees with membership

Ten free white flowering dogwood trees will be given to each person who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation this month.

The free trees are part of the non-profit foundation's Trees for America campaign.

"White flowering dogwoods will add year-round beauty to your home and neighborhood," John Rosenow, the foundation's president, said. "Dogwoods

have showy spring flowers, scarlet autumn foliage, and red berries which attract songbirds all winter."

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between March 1 and May 31 with enclosed planting instructions. The six to twelve inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

Members also receive a subscription to Arbor Day,

the foundation's monthly publication, and The Tree Book with information about tree planting and care.

To become a member of the foundation and receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to TEN FREE DOGWOOD TREES, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by March 31. Or join online at www.arborday.org.

Chamberlain will teach participants how to plan, shop, and freeze meals in advance. The \$10 class fee includes a soup supper and a manual to take home.

Registration is required and space is limited. Call the Englehardt Branch at 647-3920 to sign up.

After supper, participants are invited to take part in downtown Lowell's Ladies' Night Out. Shops will be open from 5-9 p.m.

For more information, contact Joy Smith at 897-7957. The Englehardt Branch is located at 200 N. Monroe St. in Lowell.

At Your Local Library



FREEZER COOKING FOR A BUSY FAMILY

The Englehardt branch of the Kent District Library has a program for on-the-

go cooks whose busy days leave little time to prepare dinner.

Lisa Chamberlain will present "Freezer Cooking for a Busy Family" on Thursday, March 15 at 4 p.m.

LPD warns of check cashing scam

A few local residents were almost victims of a check cashing scam, according to the Lowell police department.

The checks, supposedly from United Pacific Lottery Payment Center have been circulating in the area. They are mailed from within the United States and look legitimate. Included with the check is an official looking letter "From the Desk of Director of International

Promotions Prize Awards." The letter goes on to notify you that you are a winner in their promotional prize sweepstakes and that its purpose is to tell you how to collect your winnings.

According to the letter, you must pay a fee and when you cash the check that fee will be deducted from your prize amount. If indeed a person were to cash the check they

are responsible for fees and repayment penalties. There is no account manager and the return address on the check is a P.O. Box in Canada. The document looks

legitimate however, when the checks are run through a copy machine, a VOID label comes through.



Honors band students participate in Albion College band program

Several local students participated in an honors band program held at Albion College last month.

The honors band draws top high school musicians from across Michigan. The weekend of lessons and rehearsals culminated with a public concert given by the Honors Band and the Albion College Concert Band.

Participants are selected

on the recommendation of their band director and an audition with Albion College director of bands Samuel McIlhagga.

Lowell High School participants are senior Brooke Liu, bass clarinet; senior Jessica Nelson, baritone saxophone and freshman Chelsey Treglia, alto saxophone.

Land donation, continued ... From Page 1

have to face some long term issues, such as costs and funding.

A taxing recreation authority may be needed to deal with the cost of maintenance, according to Myers. If a taxing authority is established, taxpayers would pay for maintenance of the recreation property.

"It will be a coordinated effort," said Myers. The community group's charge

now is to come up with a feasibility study, a timeline and funding.

"The funding is up for speculation," said Lowell superintendent Greg Pratt. "This could be developed into a gem for the community. There is a need for such property."

Representatives from each entity will now take the proposal back to their governing boards.

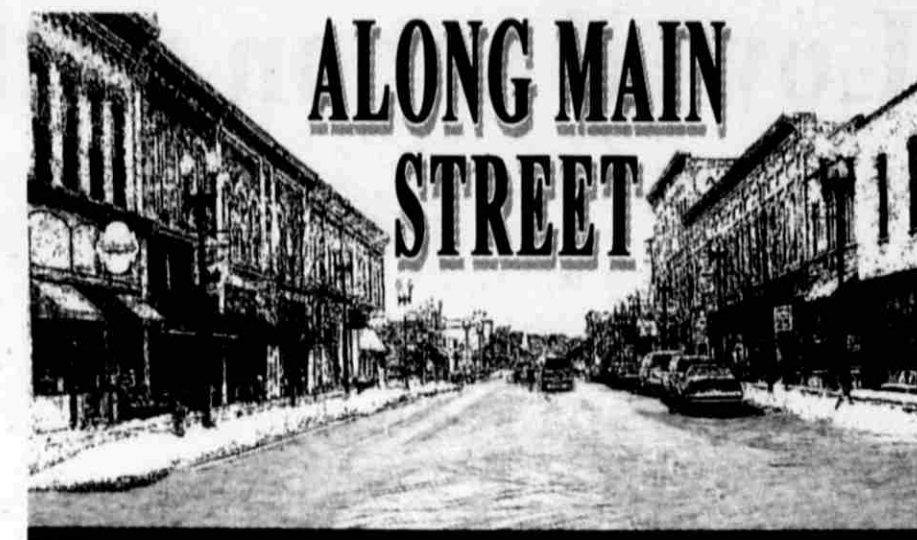
Business Matters

Mark Johnson, local agent for Farm Bureau Insurance in Alto, was honored for his sales and service to clients at a recent sales convention held in Traverse City.

Johnson earned membership in the Multi-Line Sales Council (MLSC), an elite group of insurance professionals

dedicated to continuing self-education, adhering to high ethical standards in their professional lives, and striving for excellence in their chosen profession.

Johnson also earned the Executives Club Award which is presented to Farm Bureau Insurance's top 25 agents in Michigan.



CROP WALK RALLY

The Lowell Crop Walk Rally is Thursday, March 8 at 7 p.m. at the new FROM building, 11535 Fulton St. E., Lowell. Sponsor sheets may be picked up that evening.

CONCERT FOR FOOD PANTRY

An all-day family friendly concert, "Who Cares," will take place on March 10 at Larkin's Other Place, 301 W. Main St. Bands play from noon-9:30 p.m. Cost is \$6 (with \$5 going to the food pantry) plus two items of non-perishable food.

LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM

The Lowell Area Historical Museum will be conducting its next volunteer training on March 13 at 7 p.m. at the museum (corner of Hudson and Main streets).

Volunteers are needed as greeters, tour guides and donation processors. Other opportunities are available in clerical support and special events.

If interested in becoming a museum volunteer, call Judy Straub at 897-7688.

CLASS OF 2011 ORIENTATION

Wednesday, March 14, 7-8:30 p.m. at the Lowell Performing Arts Center. This orientation is for parents and their students who will be entering high school in the fall of 2007. In addition to an informational session, teachers and club sponsors will also be available to answer questions. For more information, contact the Student Services Center at 987-2908.

FREEZER COOKING FOR A BUSY LIFESTYLE

The Friends of Englehardt Library are sponsoring a class taught by Lisa Chamberlain that helps you plan, shop and freeze your meals in advance. The class will meet Thursday, March 15 at 4 p.m. in the library, 200 N. Monroe. The class fee of \$10 includes a manual to take home and a soup supper. Sign up by March 10 as registrations are limited. For more information call the library at 647-3920.

NIGHTMARE IN NEW GUINEA

The Lowell Area Historical Museum and Grand Valley State University will present a program and documentary film entitled "A Nightmare in New Guinea" on March 21 at 7 p.m. at the Lowell Performing Arts Center at Lowell High School. Hear how the Red Arrow Division of the 126th Infantry Regiment of the Michigan National Guard overcame the previously undefeated Japanese Imperial Army and later became the name chosen to represent the Lowell Area Schools athletics program. Public invited. Free admission. Contact Linda Barnes, Lowell Area Historical Museum, PO Box 81, Lowell, MI 49331, 897-7688.

CALL FOR AUDITIONS

The Thebes Players Community Theatre is seeking adult actors for Death Trap. Dates of the production are June 15-24 at the Lowell Performing Arts Center at Lowell High School. Rehearsals for the play will begin on Monday, April 30. Auditions are on Thursday, April 26 and Friday, April 27 at 7 p.m. at the Lowell Chamber of Commerce, 113 Riverwalk Plaza.

For more information or to borrow a script for review call or visit the Lowell Area Arts Council at 149 S. Hudson, Lowell, MI (616) 897-8545 or refer to our website at www.lowellartscenter.org.

FROM FOOD PANTRY

The FROM Food Pantry is presently in need of dairy products (cheese, milk, yogurt), canned fruit, laundry soap, and paper products. Please help if you are able. The FROM Food Pantry is now located at 11535 Fulton St. E. (former Cumberland Manor), 897-8260.

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC NOTICE

There will be a meeting of the Vergennes Township Zoning Board of Appeals on Thursday March 22, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at the Vergennes Township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr. PO Box 208, Lowell to hear the following business:

Diane Gee had previously requested variances on the property known as 853 Montcalm Ave, located just south of Covered Bridge Rd on the west side and a public hearing had been held. She is returning with more information and home details.

The ZBA will be reviewing a lighting complaint and determining if the lighting is a nuisance according to the ordinance standards.

They will review any other business that may come before them as permitted by the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act and Vergennes Township Zoning Ordinance.

The complete Gee application or lighting complaint can be reviewed at the Vergennes Township Hall from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Public comment will be heard at the meeting. Written comments received by mail, in person or in the mail slot located at the office entrance will also be considered if received at the Township office prior to 7:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Comments may also be emailed to zoning@vergennestwp.org.

Vergennes Township ZBA

UPS WE SHIP UPS!
The Lowell Ledger
105 N. Broadway
897-9261

Thank You
We would like to express our sincere thanks to all of our friends, family and neighbors who helped us during the loss of our husband and father, Russ, for the many acts of kindness, gifts, prayers, cards and food. They will never be forgotten.
Also a special thanks to:
All who assisted in the rescue, Jerry Gallagher Farms, BJ Welton & Randy House for trucking, all who assisted in the corn clean up, Roth-Gerst Funeral Homes, Daisy Floral, Pastor Roush, the members of the South Boston Bible Church & Friendship Country Chapel for the luncheon, Scott Stanard and Mark Anderson for their thoughtful words spoken and Amy & Sandy Main for their musical tribute.
Sincerely, Lavon, Scott & Shannon, Ryan Fisk & Hillary Smith

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Looking for any Red Arrow Vets or family members with information pertaining to their years of service.
Please contact
Lowell Historical Museum
prior to March 14 897-7866.
On March 21 there will be a presentation at the Lowell Performing Art Center at 7 PM

The Foodmobile
Mobile Food Pantry
THIS MONTH'S SPONSOR: CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER
FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION (mostly produce)
Lowell Fairgrounds
Foreman Building, S. Broadway
Saturday, MARCH 10, 2007
10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. (or until food is gone)
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Lowell set on path to become Tree City USA

By Emma Palova

In the wake of the recent tree trimming controversy, the city council nodded to a citizens' proposal for Lowell to become Tree City USA on Monday.

City council will reduce number of commissioners

By Emma Palova

Starting July 1, the Lowell city planning commission will have fewer members.

The city council Monday approved a change in the city charter that reduces the number of commissioners from nine to seven. The reduction was made to help the panel work more effectively.

Planning Commission chair Maryalene LaPonsie objected to the change that she believes results in less public representation. In her letter to the council, LaPonsie stated that the public already feels disenfranchised from the local government.

"We will lose diversity and experience on the board," she wrote. "I hope you will be able to accommodate leaving commissioners."

However, according to council member Jeanne

A committee led by Jim Reagan outlined the path to reach the desired tree designation. "My main focus is to get a tree planting program started," said Monday.

Reagan. "It's not a good idea to plant a whole bunch of trees all at the same time."

The entire program, sponsored through the Arbor Day Foundation, will require a city budget of \$8,000. The city will have to establish a tree board, a community tree ordinance, a forestry program and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation. "It's a good tactic to have," said city

manager Dave Pasquale. "It's a very positive stance."

The citizens' committee has been working with Dana Chase from the Garden Club, Michigan Department of Natural Resources Urban and Community Forestry Coordinator Kevin Sayers, and City Department of Public Works director Dan DesJarden.

In related tree business, Lowell Light and Power

requested a joint session with the city council in response to a requested \$17,000 reimbursement for tree removal on Bowes Road last year.

"Our board is not prepared to take action on the council's request," stated Lowell Light and Power manager Tom Richards in a letter to the city council. "We

would like to work together toward a cooperative solution to resolve concerns over this and related issues."

A tentative date has been set for March 20 at 7 p.m. at the city chambers at 301 E. Main St.

In other business, the city will host a mayor exchange day with Portland on May 10.



Sharing The Vision

With Nancy Hopkins
Board of Education President

It is a recognized fact that school districts can not do their jobs without the involvement and support of their community. As the Board continues its work on the district's strategic plan the input from our community is significantly important.

Currently the Lowell community has the opportunity to provide critical information by participating in a survey that will guide the Board in its decisions in the months ahead. This on-line survey will help the Board make the best decisions possible for the district as it grows and to meet the needs of all of our students.

The survey can be found through a link on the Lowell Area Schools website www.lowell.schools.com. Click

on "Lowell Community Survey" at the top of the home page. You will find a helpful question and answer section to review prior to completing the survey. The survey itself is designed in two parts and will gather the community's perception and opinions of our district's educational programs, operations and related facility needs.

It will take approximately 15 minutes to complete the survey. Knowing how valuable your time is, the Board and Superintendent Greg Pratt thank you in advance for completing the survey. Your input and opinions are greatly appreciated and highly valued. The survey will be available online until Friday, March 16. Please be assured that your answers will remain completely confidential and anonymous.

As the Board moves ahead with the district planning process the community will continue to receive updates. Also, feel free to contact Superintendent Pratt at 987-2501 to share questions and comments.

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

Searching for Michigan's top agriculture exporter of the year

The search for the "2006 Michigan Agriculture Exporter of the Year" has begun. The winner will be selected from within the state's growing agriculture export industry and receive recognition at an event to be announced at a later date.

"Michigan's large and small agricultural exporters are expanding trade markets with every shipment of the state's quality products," said Mitch Irwin, Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) director. "With

studies confirming annual revenue approaching the \$1 billion mark, this industry's role in diversifying and boosting the economy deserves recognition."

In 2006, the top honors went to Cherry Central Cooperative of Traverse City for their dedication and success in exporting Michigan products to various countries around the world. The Michigan Apple Committee and four Michigan apple shippers also received honors for their continued work to get fresh Michigan apples into the Mexican market.

Michigan is second in the nation for agricultural

diversity and exports one third of its 200 agricultural commodities every year. In 2005, these exports generated \$961 million in 2005 and employed more than 12,877 residents.

Applications for both large (500-plus employees) and small (under 500 employees) exporters are due to MDA's International Marketing Program by March 26. The "2006 Michigan Agriculture Exporter of the Year" application requests background information on the company, its products, the percentage growth of company exports, and its export destinations.

To be eligible, a

company's products must be more than 50 percent grown, processed or manufactured in Michigan. Companies with headquarters in other states, but production facilities in Michigan, are invited to apply on the basis of their Michigan-made exports.

Self-nominations are encouraged. A review panel will evaluate applications and present recommendations to the MDA director for a final decision.

For more information or to receive an application, please contact Jamie Zmitko, International Marketing Program Manager, at (517) 241-3628 or via e-mail at zmitkoj@michigan.gov.

Viewpoint



by Roger Brown

Cozy corner

Phobias... I've got a few. To prepare for this week's column, I figured I should know the name of the phobia I intended to write about. When I "Googled" phobias, I selected an A to Z list and got two pages. There are certainly a lot of things out there to spook us. Some do seem a bit ridiculous.

Examples of silly phobias might include anthrophobia... the fear of flowers, chionophobia... the fear of snow, ombrophobia... the fear of rain, chromophobia... the fear of colors, leukophobia... the fear of white, melanophobia... the fear of black, porphyrophobia... fear of purple and you can even be afraid of paper... that's papyrophobia.

You can have a named phobia for a fear of doctors, dentists, hospitals, blood, bacteria, disease and death. Any kind of bug or animal... there's a phobia for it. Are you afraid of men, beautiful women, teenagers, people or society in general??? They've got a name for your phobia. That last one is me. Society is really starting to scare me. I've got a little anthrophobia going on. I can hardly watch the news or read a paper without being a little nervous. You can't tell me 24/7 Anna Nicole coverage isn't a little scary.

When it comes to phobias I have a couple biggies. Ophidiophobia is the fear of snakes. If not an outright fear or phobia, I at least have a healthy respect for the slinky

things. They just plain give me the creeps, and I don't care to be anywhere near them.

My number one fear is acrophobia... the fear of heights. I'm not talking about flying, that's pteromerhanophobia. I can do aerobatics in my old open cockpit airplane with no problem. I have even jumped out of an airplane. I've been up in a hot air balloon. That kind of stuff doesn't bother me. Put me near the edge of a two-story roof and I'm petrified.

I've tried to overcome this fear. In my travels I've been to the top of several tall buildings. The Empire State Building, the John Hancock and the Jin Mao in Shanghai are three that come to mind. They're all around that hundred-foot mark. I break into a sweat on the way up, take a quick look around and head for the elevator. Been there, done that, don't need to do it again.

Years ago, when the Renaissance Center was quite new, we took the kids on a weekend trip to Detroit. On our first ride up the elevator at the Ren-Cen I was doing okay. After a few floors the elevator shaft becomes clear glass for a view out over the city. I went pale and pinned myself to the rear wall of the elevator. My wife still makes fun of me for that display of courage in front of the kids. It's a wonder I didn't scream like a little girl.

I've walked the rickety suspension bridge over Royal Gorge in Colorado. It's something like 1,200 feet to the river below. When we made it across, I realized we still had to walk back to the car. Yikes!

On a trip to China to visit my daughter, she took us on a side trip to Tibet. Riding up those mountain roads in a Land Cruiser with a devil-may-care driver was all I could handle. Coming down was even worse. No guardrails. No shoulder. Just hundreds of feet of clear mountain air between us, and some eventual impact.

Like I said, even a little two-story roofing project or gutter cleaning job scares the dickens out of me. Having a

really good handhold helps a lot. Problem is, with these type projects, you need your hands for other things. It's kinda hard to put down shingles with your fingernails dug into the sheathing.

All of this acrophobia stuff finally brings me to a piece that was on the news recently. An Indian tribe in Arizona will soon open an aerial walkway that extends 150 feet out over the Grand Canyon.

The walkway is horseshoe in shape and sticks out over the canyon with no apparent means of support. It's touted as an engineering marvel. They say it is designed to hold the weight of six 747's and withstand hurricane force winds. The idea is that admissions will raise money for the impoverished tribe. Okay...okay...I get all that.

As a card-carrying acrophobic, I have some concerns about this walkway thing. One, is that it's 4,000 feet to the canyon floor! Two, the floor of the walkway is clear glass. The tribal leader interviewed in the piece said it's like walking through the sky. I don't think so!!!

It would take a Caterpillar D-8 bulldozer to push me out onto that thing! It would take the same D-8 to pull me back off after I freeze in fright! And, they'd better have an ambulance handy with some of those paddles on board to jump start my heart.

I've been to the Grand Canyon. Looking out over the edge is spooky enough. Walking out on a glass pathway scares me silly just thinking about it. I hope these Indians did their market research. Sorry, but it'll be a cold day in Arizona when I pay money to walk out on that thing! In fact, I probably would have sent money for them to not build it.

That's all I had... just a little sky walk warning for all my fellow acrophobics. Also, I'm not sure how much longer I can continue writing this column. After looking over the list of phobias, I think I may be developing a touch of cyberphobia. That's a fear of computers.

Outdoors

By Dave Stegehuis



hire a guide when hunting in unfamiliar territory to increase the chance of locating game and for safety. Choosing the right guide or outfitter is a decision that can make or break a hunt.

Booking services which assist one in finding a hunt may or may not be dependable. These agents deserve as much scrutiny as the guides or outfitters themselves. The most reliable way to find a good outfitter is to speak with people who have hunted with him or her. Even better is getting information from someone you know, otherwise the business of booking a hunt is risky.

In any case, ask a lot of questions. For example, how much experience has the outfitter had in the hunting area as well as what is the background of the guide if one is to be assigned. From what point is transportation provided? If flying, what are the weight limits? Other concerns might be the type of accommodations, the number of hunters in camp, and the hunter to guide ratio. Game care and transportation are important if an animal is eventually taken. Is it possible to change hunting areas if game has moved due to migration patterns or weather? Get an idea of what the success rate for taking game has been. Be clear on deposit and cancellation policies.

Most outfitters are hard working people who do their best to see that their clients have a good experience. The long-term success of their business depends on it. You need to do your homework to find out who the good ones are.

Fall is a long way off, but it is time to begin planning for the upcoming hunting season. This is true for hunters who hunt locally as well as those who travel great distances in pursuit of game.

Finding a place to hunt near home has become more difficult as land is divided into increasingly smaller parcels. Gaining permission to hunt on private property should be addressed now instead of a short time before the opener. This early effort demonstrates respect for the landowner and will allow time for scouting and other preparations.

Hunting out of state and in other countries requires even more of a head start. Many states, especially in the west, require non-residents to enter a drawing to secure licenses to hunt most big game animals. Deadlines for postmarking these applications vary from state to state, species to species, and whether the season is designated for archery, rifle, or muzzleloaders. Contact the appropriate wildlife agencies for the dates.

To legally hunt in some places requires the services of a guide if the hunter is a non-resident. It may be wise to

To The Editor

Dear Editor,

I can certainly understand public concern about children and pornography, and a recent situation at the Englehardt Branch of KDL brought this issue to my attention.

A fourteen-year-old boy ordered a Grand Rapids Public Library book about the history of pornography in Hollywood. While this book could be a valid reference source on a topic of concern, it most certainly did contain some material that many people see as being unfit for children.

The Kent District Library, of which Englehardt is a branch, has a policy that it does not monitor the use of library materials by minors. This is an American Library Association precept, put into place as a protection against censorship. You will find that most public libraries have adopted this policy.

KDL does filter Internet use by children, but it would be impractical to try to monitor the reading habits of each and every person that enters a public library. Also, it is a parent's right to decide what his or her children read. Indeed, it is a responsibility. A public library must not interfere with that obligation.

The youth registration cards for the Kent District Library require that a parent or guardian sign the registration card for a minor child. The card states that the library offers information in many formats, and the parent agrees that "it is my responsibility to supervise my child's access to this information."

I suspect that the KDL Board will be reviewing this situation. Also, I am sure that our local library does not order pornography, and that it supports the civil and legal rights of all people, regardless of political beliefs, race, religion, or other characteristics.

Charles R. Myers

B-N-I.
Three letters that have changed the way thousands do business worldwide by:
*Sharing warm referrals instead of cold leads.
*Leveraging word of mouth advertising in a supportive weekly business environment.
To learn more about us visit our website at www.thornappleriverbni.com.
Or call Cheryl at 868-7551

3 Simple Steps
To the Home of Your Dreams

The Home Builder's Package by ICNB
Hometown Banking

- Land Loan**
Take the first step and purchase the perfect land for your dream home. ICNB offers you a very attractive rate to get you started.
- Construction Loan**
Start building your dream home by taking the next step with a construction loan. For your continued business we offer you a discounted origination fee.
- Mortgage Loan**
Move into your new home with a mortgage loan from ICNB. We've been with you since your first step, so we will waive your origination fee.

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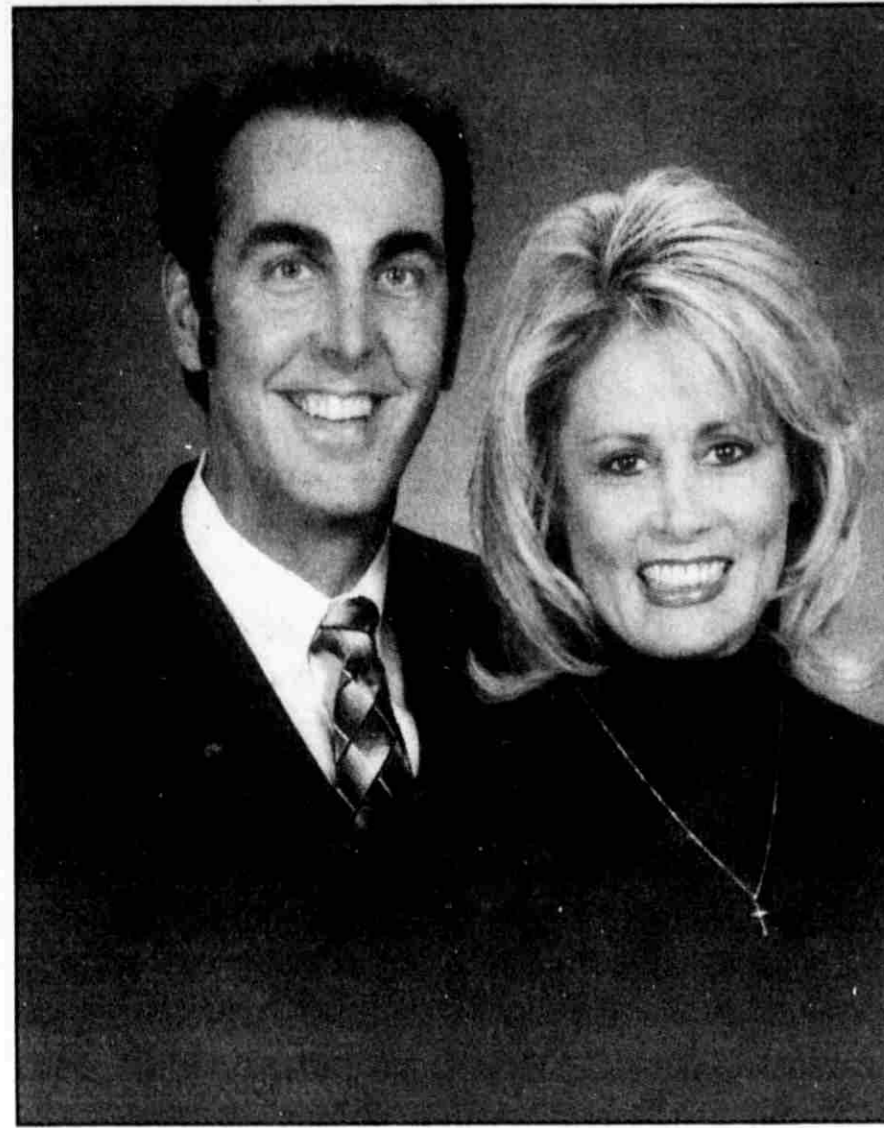
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Letters... We love to hear from you!

The Lowell Ledger - welcomes all "Letters to the Editor" for publication on its "Viewpoint" page. Letters can be typed or written. However, we ask that they not exceed 250 words and not be strictly thank you letters. "Letters to the Editor" should be sent to the Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, P.O. Box 1215, Lowell, MI 49331 or emailed to: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com. Letters must be signed and please include a phone number. Editing may be necessary for space, clarity and to avoid obscenity, libel or invasion of privacy. The Lowell Ledger thanks you in advance for your cooperation.

Engagements

Moran/Chadwick



Peter Chadwick & Tina Moran

The marriage of Tina Moran and Peter Chadwick will be celebrated June 9, 2007. The future bride, formerly of Lowell, lives in the Cascade/Forest Hills area. She is employed as a surgical technician at Cascade Hospital for

Animals and is the daughter of Ione VanBuskirk of Cascade. The groom-elect, of Grand Rapids, is a financial services professional at Pinnacle Insurance Partners. He is the son of Tom and Karen Chadwick of Muskegon.

Reflections of faith

By Mike Rhoadbarger
Pastor, Lowell Church of the Nazarene

Personally, I am convinced that this world is filled with good people. I have worked many different jobs before I went into the ministry and every time I met someone new I would find that underneath the rough exterior lies a person not unlike myself - someone needing answers and trying to find his way in this world.

For me, those answers came in many different shapes and packages, or at least I thought they were answers. Often, I would find myself left with that empty feeling inside. You know the feeling, don't you?

It's that emptiness that a teenager feels when mom and dad didn't show up to see him or her play or perform at school. It's that emptiness that the wife feels when her husband fails to acknowledge her when he comes in from work each and every night. It's that emptiness that you feel when you are let down by your employer, a friend, or your wife.

I have felt that emptiness so many times in my own life. It is one of those feelings that make you feel as though you're sinking deeper and deeper into the mud pit of life. Is there any way out? Are there really any answers out there that apply to me?

These are all the kinds of questions I used to ask. Let me show you a promise from the Bible that has proven true to so many people. In the book of Psalms, the 40th chapter it says, "I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm

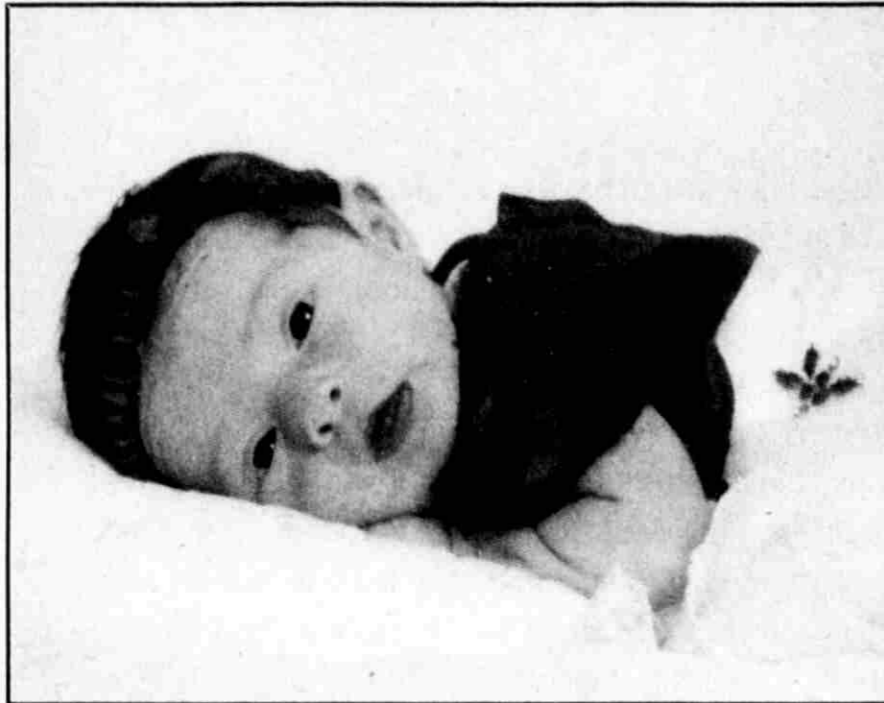
Rollins



Lillian Janet Rollins

George III and Jessica (Garber) Rollins of Belleville, Mich. announce the birth of their daughter Lillian Janet, born February 27 at 12:32 p.m. weighing 6 lbs, 14 oz and 19 inches long. Grandparents are Merle and Sandy Garber and George Jr. and Karen Rollins, all of Lowell. Great grandparents are Merle and Marjory Garber of Nashville, Mich. and George and Janet Rollins of Lowell. Great great grandparents are Robert and Audrey Boonstra of Belmont.

Risner



Allye Jane Risner

Celena Risner of Clarksville and Tim Emelander of Lowell announce the birth of their daughter Allye Jane. She was born December 17, 2006 weighing 6 lbs, 4 oz and measuring 19 1/2 inches. Grandparents are Steve and Cora Risner of Alto, Ken Emelander of Saranac, and Yvonne Emelander of Ovid.

New children's choir at First Congregational Church

First Congregational Church of Lowell announced the formation of a children's choir in Lowell open to all residents of the area. Dr. Monique Salinas-Stauffer, music director of the church, will direct the choir. She is the executive and artistic director of the Girls Choral Academy and has a doctorate in music education. The choir will perform monthly in the church, and teach children how to sing, how to breathe, and how to focus, along with many other techniques of good musicianship and singing. Children grades 2-5 are eligible to participate. Rehearsals are being held on Wednesdays from 6-7 p.m. beginning March 14 at the church located at 805 Lincoln Lake Ave. Participants do not need to be church members, and there is no cost. Call 897-5906 for more information.

place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord."

I believe that this scripture is true. I believe that people, good people, are in need of answers and I also believe that "many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord."

Why do I believe this? I believe it because I have seen so many people with so many frustrations that were left feeling empty when they looked for all the answers in the wrong places.

If you look for the answers from God you will find that you are no longer slipping deeper and deeper. You will find that solid ground that you didn't think existed. You will find yourself singing a song when all you knew was bitterness.

You've spent too much time searching for happiness in places that happiness does not exist. I found it when "...he turned to me and heard my cry."

Hope for those with age-related macular degeneration

Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is the leading cause of visual impairment for individuals age 50 and older. Although there is currently no cure, there is hope for those with AMD.

As part of Age-Related Macular Degeneration/Low Vision Awareness Month in March, Dr. Mike Flohr, MD, a Lowell ophthalmologist, urges local residents to be screened for age-related vision problems by having

regular eye exams and talking with their Eye M.D. about new treatments and low vision resources, if experiencing vision loss.

Macular degeneration is a progressive, usually painless disease that affects the macula, the spot on the retina at the back of the eye responsible for central vision, causing central vision to blur, but leaving peripheral vision intact. Thus, AMD does not lead to total blindness.

"Research continues for AMD treatments, and I think we'll see increasingly effective treatments becoming available in the near future. For example, current findings show that high levels of zinc and antioxidants can play a key role in slowing the progression of advanced AMD and that conventional laser and photodynamic therapy can reduce the risk of moderate to severe vision loss in patients with specific forms of "wet" macular degeneration," comments Dr. Flohr. "Other experimental treatments, including intraocular injections of antineovascular factors and the insertion of a "retinal chip" which may restore vision loss are also currently being investigated."

"Beware of claims being made on the Internet, in newspapers and in magazines announcing cures for macular degeneration. Investigate the claims thoroughly and talk with your ophthalmologist before undergoing any treatments," added Dr. Flohr. "Most of these treatments have not been proven safe or effective and may be very costly."

Vision loss does not have to mean loss of independence or quality of life. If you have low vision, ask your Eye M.D. about low vision rehabilitation. He or she can provide low vision services or refer you to local agencies that can help. Early detection and treatment is the best defense against losing your vision. If you are at risk for macular degeneration, see your ophthalmologist for a complete eye exam at least every one to two years.

Eye health care is provided by the three "O's" - opticians, optometrists and ophthalmologists. It is the ophthalmologist, or Eye M.D., who can treat it all - eye diseases and injuries, and perform eye surgery.

Murray Lake Volunteer of the Month

Wendy Alderink (a.k.a. "The Store Lady") was named Murray Lake Elementary's Volunteer of the Month. Alderink, who graduated from Lowell High School in 1990, is a lifetime Lowell resident. Wendy is married to husband Toby, and their son, Anthony, is a fourth grader at Murray Lake. Alderink's nickname "Store Lady" was given to her by Murray Lake students because she runs the school store on Friday afternoons. Alderink also volunteers throughout the building and serves on the board of Murray Lake's Family Links Council. Alderink was nominated by several staff members.

"Wendy handles all of the kiddoes at our school store with great patience and compassion," said Office assistant Angela Baerwalde. "There are several parents who come into our office and say, 'She is GREAT at that.'" "Wendy is a very calm,



Wendy Alderink with students at Murray Lake Elementary.

patient, and caring person." said gym teacher, Missy Harrison. "She also helps out on several other activities at our school. Thanks for all you do Wendy!"

Alderink says, "I enjoy volunteering at Murray Lake because it allows me to know what is going on in my son's school. The kids at Murray Lake are

great and they just love the school store. The staff is very friendly and helpful as well; this makes it very easy to want to volunteer at school."

Energy and persistence conquer all things.

- Benjamin Franklin (1706 - 1790)

Happy Birthday

MARCH 7:

Carrie Metternick, Marshal Mooney, Michael Barnes, Shirley Canfield.

MARCH 8:

Amber Rittersdorf, D.J. Main, Charles Drake, Colleen Lally.

MARCH 9:

Bob Vezino, Marsha Roudabush, Mark Richmond.

MARCH 10:

Daniel Miller, Randy Kuiper.

MARCH 11:

Pat Ball, Kim Barnes, Renee Nugent, Larry Martin.

MARCH 12:

Daura Baird, Lisa Homrich, Laura Horsley, Julie Idema, Kathy Fyan.

MARCH 13:

Sophia D'Agostino, Dode Dey, David Davis, Paul Seese, Tyler Schneider, Jack Robert Malone.

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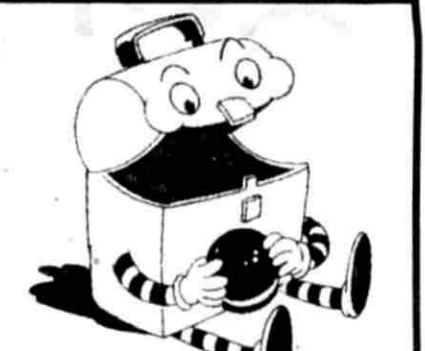
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Saturday, April 7 • 10 AM for children ages 3-10



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LUNCH MENU

ELEMENTARY MENU
Week of March 12, 2007

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

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

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

THURS: French toast sticks/syrup (cereal/ graham crackers also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), scrambled eggs, fresh fruit, 100% fruit juice, milk.

FRI: Half Day. No lunches served at elementary.

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p>ATTENTION: BIBLE BELIEVERS If you would like to attend a church where the King James Bible is held up as the perfect, preserved word of God with all the words of God for all English speaking people, then give us a visit at: 901 W. Main, Lowell 897-6284 or 485-4195 10AM Sunday School; 11AM Morning Service; 6PM Evening Service; Wed., 7:30PM Prayer Meeting.</p>	<p>ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Kirby and Harrison Alto • 616-691-8011 Worship.....9:30 A.M. Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.</p> <p>OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS Pastor Dean Bailey</p>	<p>DAY BIBLE CHAPEL 9305 Centerline, Saranac 897-6332 Worship.....9:45 A.M. Sunday School.....11:00 A.M.</p> <p>Nursery & Jr. Church Provided Rev. Frank Lattimore, Pastor "A Nondenominational Ministry With A Blended World Centered Service!"</p>	<p>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL Rev. Randy Meyers - 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....11:20 A.M. Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M. Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free</p>	<p>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES 6:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 P.M. 119 Lincoln Lake, Lowell CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES Pastor Robert L. Hubbard Phone: (616) 897-1267 website www.aplighthouse.com</p>
<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 Worship Services.....8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR Nursery & child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648 Sunday School.....10:00 A.M. Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M. Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M. (Sept. - April) Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M. Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418 YOU ARE WELCOME!</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God) 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, Lead Pastor John King, Youth Pastor SUNDAYS: 10:00 a.m. - Worship & Evening; LIFE Home Groups & "The Source" Youth WEDNESDAYS: Family Night: (for all ages) 7:00 p.m. "The Source" Youth: 7:00 p.m. Loving God... Loving People!</p>	<p>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Fr. George J. Fekete 402 Amity St. • 897-9820 www.stmary-lowell.com Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 9 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OPEN TO VISITORS - CALL FOR MORE INFO: 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 48, ENTN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>	<p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (United Church of Christ) 865 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE • 897-5906 Sunday Worship.....10:00 A.M. Church School.....10:15-11:15 A.M. Thursday Faith Alive Worship.....7:00 P.M. Dr. Roger LaVare.....Pastor Shannon Hanley.....C.E. Director Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise & Worship</p>
<p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 www.goodshepherdlowell.org Sunday School.....9:00 A.M. Worship Service.....10:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremmer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbcloowell.org Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA/CLUB J.C.....Wed. 6:15 & 8:30 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided - Barrier Free</p>	<p>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Rev. Thurian Meredith 9:45 A.M.Worship/Fellowship 11:15 A.M.Sunday School 897-9863 or 897-9588 Nursery & Children Worship Programs Provided A friend...a family...a mission!</p>		<p>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 201 N. Washington • 897-8800 Sunday School.....9:30 A.M. Morning Worship.....10:40 A.M. Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M. PASTOR MICHAEL RHODABARGER Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>

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WANT TO ACHIEVE FINANCIAL GOALS? DO THE MATH

If you breathed a sigh of relief when you put away that algebra or geometry textbook for the last time, you might not be eager to take up the subject of math again. However, by doing some number crunching, you can put a "price tag" on your long-term financial goals—and that's the first step toward achieving them.

To quantify the costs of your objectives, you must be specific about what you're trying to accomplish. Do you want to retire as soon as you possibly can and then spend your time traveling the world? Or are you planning to work until 65 and then open your own small business? Obviously, these are vastly different goals — with vastly different costs to you.

Once you know what you really want to do when you retire, you should be able to project your annual yearly expenses. Then, you can ask yourself these questions:

- How many years will I spend in retirement? None of

us can predict exactly how long we will live. But if you consider your overall health, your lifestyle habits and your family's history of longevity, you can come up with a reasonable estimate of how many years you might have to pay for in retirement.

- Where will my income come from? To pay for your retirement goals, you'll likely need to draw on all types of income available to you, including Social Security and your investments, such as your IRA, 401(k) and whatever individual stocks and other securities you may own. To help reach the level of income you'll require, you will need to monitor all these investments over the years, and make changes as needed.

Calculating Costs of Other Goals -

Achieving the "ideal" retirement might be your biggest financial goal, but it's almost certainly not the only one. But no matter what goals you have, you'll still need to "do the math" necessary to calculate costs and arrive at solutions.

So, for example, if you'd like to help pay for college for your children (or grandchildren), you'll need to look at what college costs today, how much it's likely to cost in the future and how much money you can devote to paying those costs.

To illustrate: For the 2006-2007 school year, it costs, on average, \$16,357 for students attending four year public colleges and universities, according to the College Board.

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Featured Artist

Zurina Ariffin

By Emma Palova

Using the tjanting pipe, Malaysian artist Zurina Ariffin applies dye to a batik of Bali blue and red puppets.

Ariffin, a multi-faceted artist, enjoys the traditional dot batik art as an expression of her love for Malaysia. Her studio at Stoneridge Apartments in Lowell is filled with waxes, dyes, French gutta, soya and bees wax. Those are the

traditional elements used to create the age old art that as a rule depicts people, not landscapes or animals.

In batik, the design is transferred or traced from paper to silk mounted on a frame. Then it is waxed and dyed for color. Gold is used to portray royalty. Batik can be used for sarongs, dresses, shirts, ties and scarves and interior decorations.

Batik techniques such as silk screening, stenciling and painting add color and design on fabrics.

"I am able to grade the colors to create a range of shades for more intricate and detailed designs," she said.

Ariffin, a successful graphic artist from the Malaysian capital Kuala Lumpur, came to Lowell to follow her husband James Mayne, a creative scientist for Altacor. Trained as a fashion designer, Ariffin studied batik at the National Craft Complex in Kuala Lumpur.

"I have fallen in

love with the art of batik which provides me with a beautiful way to express my creativity," said Ariffin.

Ariffin also applies her batik art on T-shirts, cushion covers, bookmarks and scrunchies. "You can paint on everything, wood, furniture," she said.

Ariffin's greatest success came on the cultural catwalk in 1990. That year, Miss Malaysia donned a black and gold dress designed by Ariffin. To date, it remains Ariffin's dream to make a gown for Miss America.

However, in the meantime, she will continue her involvement with the Lowell Area Arts Council. She is hoping to give batik

classes so the community can get a taste of this ancient art. Ariffin is also interested in teaching Malayan martial arts in the community.

One of the walls of her apartment is decorated with the precious Kris weapon that women in Malaysia wear in their hair for their protection.

"Her work is exquisite, full of excitement and good for spring," said arts coordinator David Davis. "Zurina and her husband have been involved with things at the arts center."

Ariffin's batik painting and the 1990 Miss Malaysia dress will be on display at the Huntington Galleria through April 9.



Malaysian artist Zurina Ariffin is displaying her batik art and 1990 Miss Malaysia dress at the Huntington Galleria through April 9.

Inventor boasts a thousand applications for "Sitting down on the job"

By Emma Palova

An avid gardener, Rita Goggins likes to haul dirt in a wheelbarrow and bring pails of water to her perennials. However, after an accident 10 years ago, Goggins was left with screws, rods and pins on the right side of her body limiting her ability to continue gardening.

"I couldn't kneel for an extended period of time," she said. "...or squat. I wasn't getting any younger."

Goggins, a marketer for Grand Valley Health Plan and owner of NMB Industries, was determined to continue gardening as a stress reliever. Growing up on a dairy farm in Ravenna, Goggins remembered the good old three-legged strap-on stool for milking.

"It was attached right to you," she said. "And allowed your hands to be free for other tasks." From that fleeting memory, Goggins took "sitting down on the job" to the next level.

Actually, "Sitting down on the job" is the marketing slogan for her beloved invention, a stool named "The MoveAbout."

Sometimes Goggins refers to her invention as "the it."

"The MoveAbout" weighs 3.5 pounds with adjustable waist straps that expand to XX size. It also has adjustable height from 11 to 18 inches in one-inch increments. Its non-skid base has optional rubber spikes as it tilts, pivots and sways.

"The MoveAbout" is supported by a telescoping rod that suits any situation. "It attaches to the user and walks with you," said Goggins. "It is versatile for any type of soil or surface. It just comes right with you."

Today, only a few steps away from hitting the retail market with her patent-pending stool, Goggins is excited about her invention.

Although she's just not ready to quit her day job yet, Goggins does expect to get rich.

"It has been an interesting venture coming out of a need," she said. "We will start penetrating the market from a national standpoint."

The multi-functional stool offers endless applications aside from stoop labor or gardening. "That's the beauty of it," said Goggins.

Local ice fishermen have been pushing Goggins to get the stool on the market



Lowell inventor Rita Goggins is launching her "The MoveAbout" stool on the market this month.

before the ice thaws. Also interested in the product are sports photographers who have to sit through a game, waiting for an action shot.

Some members of large families would like to use the stool to seat their relatives.

The stool can also be

used for filing and stocking shelves. That is Goggins' long term goal to get the product OSHA-endorsed for any stoop labor because of its ergonomic benefits.

She plans on adding a tool caddy and an optional seat cushion.

"The ideas keep just coming in," Goggins said. "We keep on getting more users in different applications."

And Goggins will not be bringing a chair to the upcoming expos for her product demonstrations. She will be bringing her stool.

Only West Michigan manufacturers will be involved in making the product, although Goggins could get a better price overseas.

"It was a difficult decision when you compared the price difference, but the advantages to working with manufacturers here locally has far outweighed the cost difference," said Goggins.

Local manufacturers include Craft Steel Products, J-Tec Products, Laser and Engineering, Zatkoff, Great Lakes Label and Mirtek.

"The MoveAbout" will be made available to the public at the Women's Expo March 9-11, followed by the Lansing Home & Garden Show March 15-18, and the Lowell Community Expo March 24.

For more information go to www.moveaboutstool.com

Michigan's first ballast water permits issued

The first 10 ballast water control general permits were issued to an international shipping company in accordance with Michigan's new ballast water control law, the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) announced.

The law, which went into effect Jan. 1, is designed to prevent the introduction of invasive species into the Great Lakes.

NaviBulgar-Smolyan, a Bulgarian shipping company, has received DEQ authorization to engage in port operations in Michigan when the St. Lawrence Seaway opens next month.

"This marks a milestone in our efforts to protect the health of the Great Lakes and demonstrates the ability for all shipping companies using Michigan's ports to obtain these important environmental permits in a timely manner," said DEQ Director Steven E. Chester. "Any user of the Great Lakes must share in the responsibility to ensure our waters are clear of invasive species and safe for future generations to enjoy."

Under the new law, ongoing ships must obtain a permit from the DEQ in order to use Michigan ports. Permits are issued only if the applicant demonstrates that they will either not discharge ballast water or will use one of four approved environmentally sound technologies and methods to prevent the discharge of aquatic invasive species.

NaviBulgar applied for permit coverage for its vessels to conduct port operations without discharging ballast water; however, the company is evaluating several ballast water treatment methods for future implementation.

Vessels often take in thousands of gallons of bal-

Ballast water permits, cont'd., pg. 20

Girl Scouts learning to think globally



About 100 Girl Scouts from the Flat River Neighborhood came together on Feb. 23 to celebrate World Thinking Day at Murray Lake Elementary.

Girls "toured" eight different countries and learned about birthday traditions in those countries. The United States was proudly represented as well.

Scouts were able to play a game, do an activity, a craft or even have a taste of that country while they visited. The event also celebrated the 95th birthday of Girl Scouts this month.

World Thinking Day is a chance for Girl Scouts (Girl Guides in other countries) to think about their peers in other parts of the world. Thinking Day is actually on Feb. 22 which is the birthday of Lord and Lady Baden-Powell who began the Boy Scouts in Europe. It was through Lord Baden-Powell that Juliette Lowe was inspired to begin Girl Scouting in the United States. These days World Thinking Day is also a day of fundraising done on a global scale to assist girl programs where there currently aren't any. In the Lowell neighborhood, donations of craft kits, project activities and fun Band-aids were made to DeVos Children's Hospital. The girls also sent homemade birthday cards which were made at the Thinking Day event.

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Lowell Planning Commission-Citizen Advisory Committee will conduct public hearings at their regularly scheduled meeting of Monday, March 26, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at the City Council Chamber, Lowell City Hall, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

An Ordinance to add Article VI, "Completion of Exterior Features of Structures," to Chapter 7, "Buildings and Building Regulations," of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell.

To rezone parcels #41-20-02-435-006 (211-225 S. Washington) and #41-20-02-439-005 (130 S. Washington) from R-3 (Multiple Family Residential) to LI (Light Industrial).

Copies of the proposed Ordinance available for public inspection during normal business hours at City Hall and the Englehardt Public Library.

Interested persons may submit written comments to City Hall, 301 East Main, Lowell, MI 49331 prior to the meeting or appear in person.



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

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COMING EVENTS

MARCH

FRI., MAR. 9: Dinner at Deer Run, 4:30 p.m. Sponsored by Lowell Senior Neighbors.

MON., MAR. 12: Food assistance, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Sponsored by Lowell Senior Neighbors.

TUES., MAR. 13: Traveling breakfast at Forest Hills Inn, 8:30 a.m. Sponsored by Lowell Senior Neighbors.

TUES., MAR. 13: Doric Chapter #73, Order of Eastern Star will be holding its regular communication at 7:30 p.m. in the Masonic Temple, 211 E. Main St., Belding. Dinner will precede the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

WED., MAR. 14: Hooker Chapter #75, Royal Arch Masons will host a dinner at 6:30 p.m. in the dining room of the Masonic Temple, 211 E. Main St., Belding. The stated convocation will be held in the Lodge Room at 7:30 p.m. All Royal Arch Masons may attend.

MONDAYS

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

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

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

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

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

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

2ND MON.: Bowne Township Historical Society meets Oct. thru March 10 a.m. & April thru Sept. 7 p.m. 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, 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.: Lowell Area Juggling Club, Community room, Englehardt Library, 7-8:30 p.m. 12/older. 897-9879.

MON., TUES., THURS.: Alpha Women's Center, 2251 W. Main. Call 987-9533 for appt./open Mon. 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tu. 6-9 p.m., Th. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Diapers, formula and clothing.

EVERY MON.: Women for Sobriety, 7-8 p.m. Bowne Center United Methodist Church, 84th & Alden Nash. Call Sue 868-6219; www.womenforsobriety.org.

TUESDAYS

Take Off Pounds Sensibly Tops #1372 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; 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.

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

WED., MAR. 14: Food pantry, 12:45 p.m. Sponsored by Lowell Senior Neighbors.

THURS., MAR. 15: The Friends of Englehardt Library is sponsoring Freezer Cooking for a Busy Lifestyle class at 4 p.m. in the library. Fee of \$10 includes a manual and a soup supper. Registration to be paid by March 10 at the library. For information call 647-3920.

MON., MAR. 19: Lowell Music Booster meeting, 7 p.m. at the Lowell Middle School band room.

SAT., MAR. 17: A collection of work by March artist-in-residence, mixed-media artist Meredith Parrish runs through March 31 at Franciscan Life Process Center, 11650 Downes St. NE. Hours are 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Mon.-Fri., weekends by appointment. A reception will be held from 4 - 7 p.m. For more information call 897-7842.

TUESDAYS

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.: Back to Basics Closed AA meetings at 404 N. Hudson St. 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking.

EVERY TUES.: Thomapple River Chapter BNI professional networking group, 7-8:30 a.m. Ada Bible Church, 8899 Cascade Rd. Cheryl 868-7551.

WEDNESDAYS

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

8 p.m. ALANON new location: 206 N. Jackson, north of 1st United Methodist Church, corner of Avery & Jackson. 897-5936.

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 St. 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. walk-ins. Jan 897-5759.

3RD WED.: Alzheimer's Assoc. of West Mich. support group at Fountain View of Lowell, 11535 E. Fulton, 1 p.m. 897-8413.

THURSDAYS

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

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

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

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

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

LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL: Tues.-Fri.: 12-6 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m. Monday a.m. by appt. 149 S. Hudson. Call 897-8545 or www.lowellartsCouncil.org.

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

FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES THRIFT SHOP Wed.-Fri. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. 11535 Fulton St. E. Call 897-8567. Pantry 897-8260.

THURSDAYS

Pottery classes at Franciscan Life Process Center, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Call 897-7642.

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

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 Deer Run Golf Course 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 a.m. - 2 p.m. Round Robin, bring your board, all levels, walk-ins are welcome. Call Jan 897-5759 for location and more information.

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

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

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

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

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

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

FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY

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

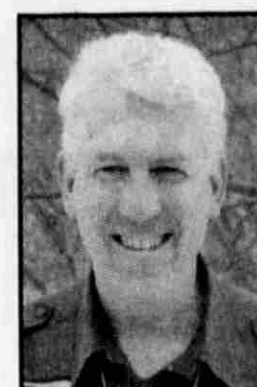
FRI.: Arts/Crafts volunteers, Franciscan Life Process Center, 9:30-12:30 p.m. Call Pat at 897-7842.

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

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

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

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



On The Wild Side

With Ranger Steve Wittenbach/Wege Center Director

MAPLE SAP IS FLOWING

Be sure to try a "sap sickle" and take notice of the swelling tree buds. Each spring I look forward to sap dripping from a tree branch injury during freezing weather. As the sap flows up from roots, it will drip from injuries. During ice storms twigs break and leave open wounds on the tree. Before these seal, the sap freely drips and if temperatures are below freezing a sap sickle forms. I take this natural frozen spring treat and suck on it like a popsicle. It is something I taught my daughters and hope they will pass on to their kids to keep a connection with the "Wild Side" and things natural.

Come experience the Maple Fest to learn traditions, fun, and good pancakes starting at 8:30 a.m. on March 10.

Passing on traditions is an important part of our Maple Syrup Festival at Wittenbach/Wege Agri-science and Environmental Center. We invite you to enjoy how earlier generations harvested this forest product. We will demonstrate how Native Americans boiled maple sap until it became a sugar candy.

Volunteers from the Lowell Historical Museum will demonstrate time period methods for collecting sap and making syrup. They will be making fresh donuts at the WWC cabin between 9 a.m. and noon.

Another natural event happening during the maple syrup run is Eastern Bluebirds establishing nest box territories. The events of spring are not isolated events. They are all interconnected.

While enjoying sap sickles, I watch birds and squirrels come to the tree injuries to lap up dripping sap or to lick icy sap sickles. These are bright days for animals that have spent the long winter here. They relish the sweet treats nature provides.

It has already been reported to me, a bluebird was

building a nest on top of a mouse nest in a bluebird box this February. During the maple syrup run, it is the time to clean out bluebird houses and ready them for the birds.

At 10:30 a.m. while eating pancakes, the public is invited enjoy John Harville's Power Point presentation entitled "Inviting Bluebirds to Your Backyard." This gives a short history of the Eastern Bluebird, why bluebirds have been and are in trouble, and what we have been doing and can do to help them.

We are establishing an Eastern Bluebird Trail in our native species prairie. About five years ago we re-established a native prairie and now will make an effort to help re-establish a native bird population that experienced decline and is making a come back with human help. People

can live in harmony with things wild and natural. We can help maintain a sustainable environment that provides sap sickles, maple syrup, native grasses, and bluebirds.

People often ask if tapping trees will kill them or cause serious damage. It depends on human behavior. If we act greedy and place taps every three inches around the tree, we can cause serious damage. Likewise, if we harvest all dead trees, we can eliminate about 70 bird species that depend on tree cavities here in Michigan.

Encourage your friends and relatives to come WWC to learn how we can protect a healthy natural world rich with sap sickles, maple syrup, and Eastern Bluebirds. The Wild Side is all sustainable practices that give us reason to look forward to next year.



Luanne Kaeb with visitors is boiling the sap from the maple trees.

Lowell High School inducts new National Honor Society members

Fifty-two Lowell High School students were inducted into the National Honor Society on Feb. 27.

New honor society members are: Nicholas Abdo, Nicole Baker, Bieri, Logan Brenk, Alexander Brock, William Bryan, Breanna Bueche, Renee' Buist, Brittany Clark, Andrea Converse, Codyjames Dalton, Anthony Dubbink, Andrew Gerig, Learn Glinzak, Jeanette Griner, Lauren Hanson, Chelsea Harrison, Mikhaila Hart, Melissa Hawks, Kenneth Hayes, Anthony Herrera, Deanna Hewitt, Eric Holmgren, Heather Jousma, Stephanie Kehoe, Kimberly Kline, Andrew Kuhn, Drew Kyllonen, Patricia Lawrence, Brittany Litchfield, Megan Majestic, Katlin Manszewski, Katelin McElroy, Brett McMahon, Jessica Meyer, Eric Meyers, Ellen Mork, Kristin Nagy, Andrew Oesch, Casie Pedley, Marie Richardson, Maranda Ruegsegger, Ashley VanderHeide, Lauren Wisniewski and Michael Schumm, Alexis Strouse, Tricia Thuston, Walendzik, Timothy Wernet, Amber Waldron, Heather Melissa Zuiderveen.

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"No Cavities" Club Members

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Brodyn Rairigh	Shelby Young	Jonathan Nichols
Max Dean	Tanner Owens	Hunter Owens
Levi Churches	Sam Adams	Rebecca Loser
Sebrina Senninger	Andrew Struckmeyer	Christopher Mier
Harlie McMullin	Nick Struckmeyer	Graham Polinder
Coty Curtis	Seth Wachlerle	Lyndsay Hyatt
Marissa Polinder	Colton Churches	Stephanie Cantrell
Garret Plekes	Brandon LeVault	Andrew Martin
John Martin	Reeve Katt	Arielle Martin
Krysten Grover		

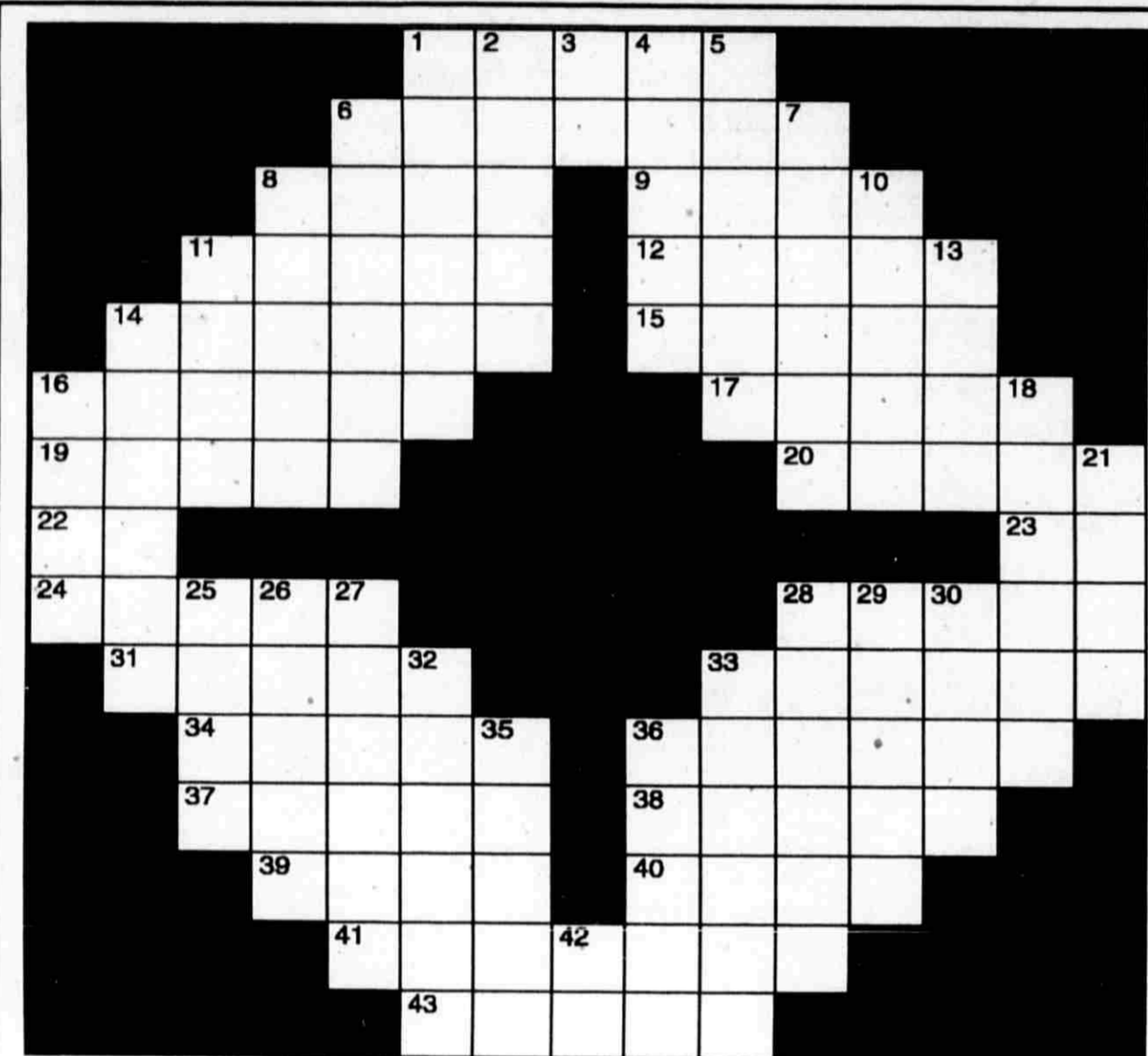
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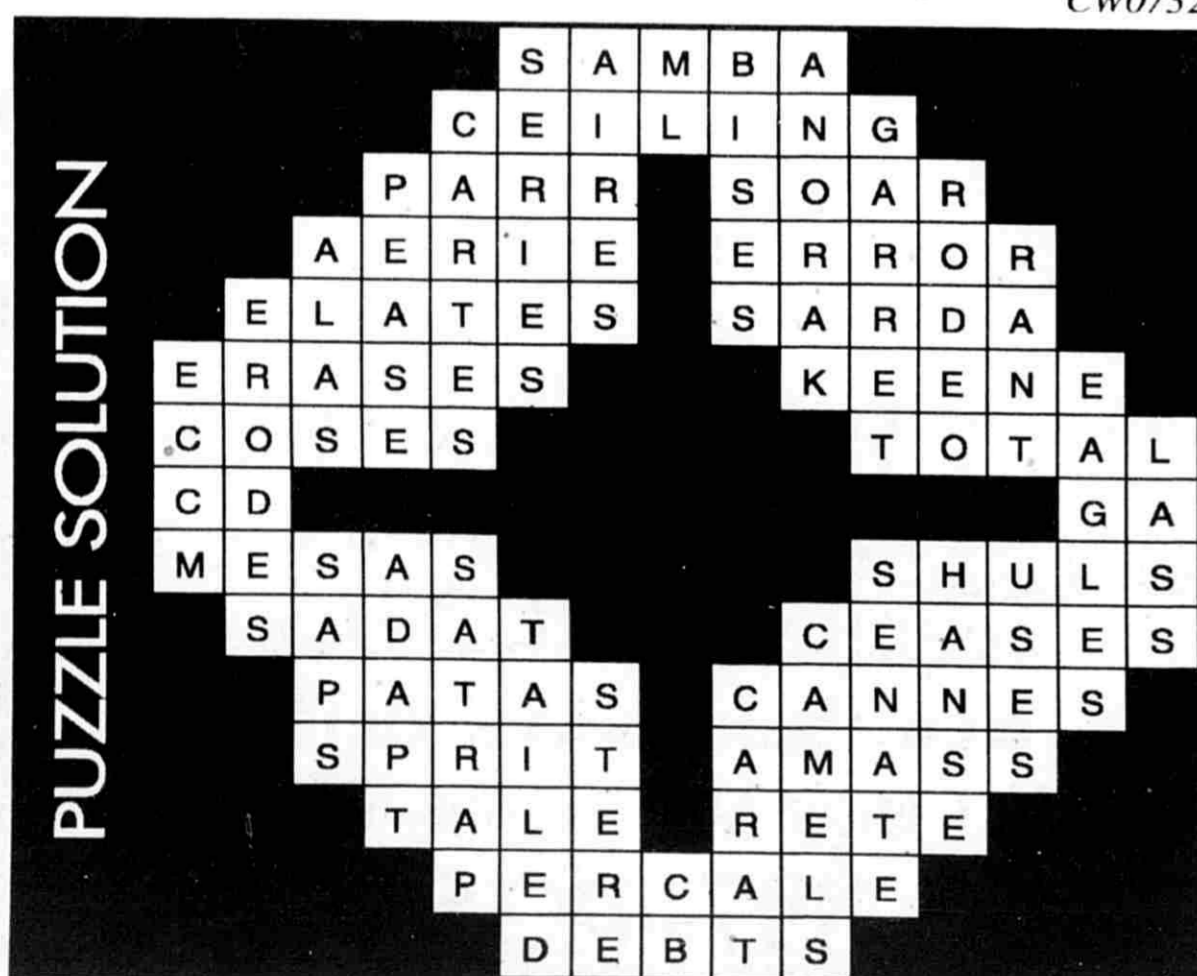
CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Latin ballroom dance
- 6. Overhead lining of a room
- 8. Henry's last wife Catherine
- 9. Rise upward into the air
- 11. Eagle's nest
- 12. Mistake
- 14. Makes joyful
- 15. Bonitos
- 16. In a way, removes
- 17. City in SW New Hampshire
- 19. Lettuces
- 20. Sum
- 22. Plays music
- 23. Gallium
- 24. Plateaus
- 28. Synagogues
- 31. Anwar ____, Egyptian statesman
- 33. Ends
- 34. Monkey of W. Africa
- 36. Hosts film festival
- 37. Bow ____: light spar
- 38. Accumulate
- 39. Story
- 40. Network of nerves
- 41. Fabric
- 43. Liabilities

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Succession of programs
- 2. Buenos ____
- 3. Milliliter
- 4. Wood I ____: large wading birds
- 5. Ski jacket
- 6. Bills of fare
- 7. Attic
- 8. 1st Baron Daryngton, Herbert
- 10. Cowboy show
- 11. Expression of sorrow
- 13. Emotional speech
- 14. In a way, falls into ruin
- 16. Electronic counter-counter-measures
- 18. Raptors
- 21. Young lady
- 25. Drains
- 26. Conform
- 27. Ancient Persian ruler
- 28. Assembly possessing high legislative powers
- 29. ____ and Gretel
- 30. Economic consumptions
- 32. Followed
- 33. Even-toed desert mammals
- 35. Cubic meter (French)
- 36. Weight unit for gems
- 42. A radio band

CW07321A



RANDOM THINGS...

Starting this year we set our clocks and "Spring Ahead" earlier on March 11 at 2 a.m. On August 8, 2005, President George W. Bush signed the Energy Policy Act of 2005. This Act changed the time change dates for Daylight Saving Time in the U.S. Beginning in 2007, DST will begin on the second Sunday in March and end the first Sunday in November.

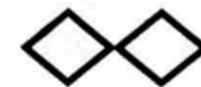
F.Y.I. -The official spelling is Daylight Saving Time, not Daylight Savings Time. Saving is used here as a verbal adjective (a participle). It modifies time and tells us more about its nature; it is characterized by the activity of saving daylight. It is a saving daylight kind of time. Saving is used in the same way as saving a ball game, rather than as a savings account.

Nevertheless, many people feel the word savings (with an 's') sounds better. Daylight Savings Time is also in common usage, and can be found in dictionaries.

Actually Daylight Saving Time is inaccurate, since no daylight is actually saved. Daylight Shifting Time or More Daylight, Less Sleep time might work as well.



Many people mistake lizards for salamanders. The salamanders are commonly called "spring lizards" or "wood lizards." Salamanders and lizards look much alike, but they are not related. Both are cold-blooded but lizards have dry, scaly skin and clawed toes. Salamanders are amphibians related to frogs, and have moist skin and no scales or claws.



The spring cankerworm (*Paleacrita vernata*) is the larva (caterpillar) of a moth. It is also called measuring worm, inchworms, loopers, or spanworms. This worm crawls by pulling the back part of its body toward the front part, forming a hump in the middle. With its six front legs it inches to "measure" the distance it can reach by straightening its body. It has only two or three pairs of prolegs (leglike structures) on the back part of its body. Most caterpillars have five. This worm can stand upright and motionless on a twig resembling a branch thus escaping the notice of its enemies.



A spring is a natural source of water that flows from the ground. Water from rain and melting snow seeps into the ground. It filters through the pores and cracks in the soil into the layers of rock. The water finally reaches a layer through which it cannot pass. This water held underground is called ground water. Gravity may force the water to rise until it finds a way out to the surface to form a spring.

READER'S CORNER

One ought, every day at least, to hear a little song, read a good poem, see a fine picture, and if it were possible, to speak a few reasonable words.
- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749 - 1832)

ATTENTION READERS
Are You Feeling **CREATIVE?**

If you would like to submit a poem, verse, cartoon, drawing or recipe for the Reader's Corner, we'd like to print it. Not all will be accepted and submissions will not be returned unless a self-addressed, stamped envelope is included.

You may bring your signed creations to the Ledger office 105 N. Broadway, OR mail them to: Ledger/Readers Corner P.O. Box 126 Lowell, MI 49331 OR E-mail: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com Subject: "Readers Corner"

SUDOKU

		8						
	4	3				8	7	
	3	4	9					
6		9	2	1		4		
		1	8	5				
	5							
2			8	7				
						1	6	
7		1	5	8				

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

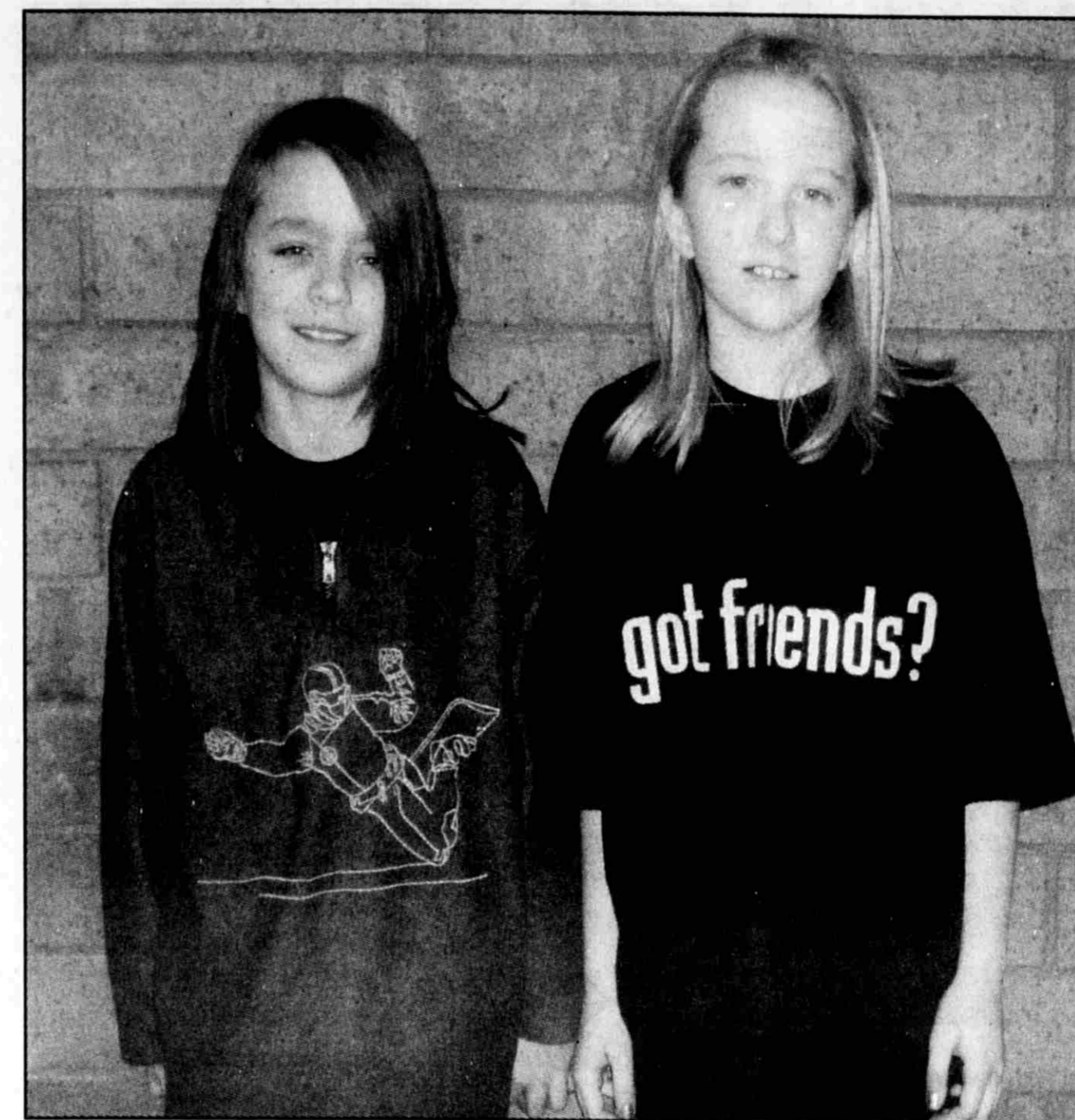
Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

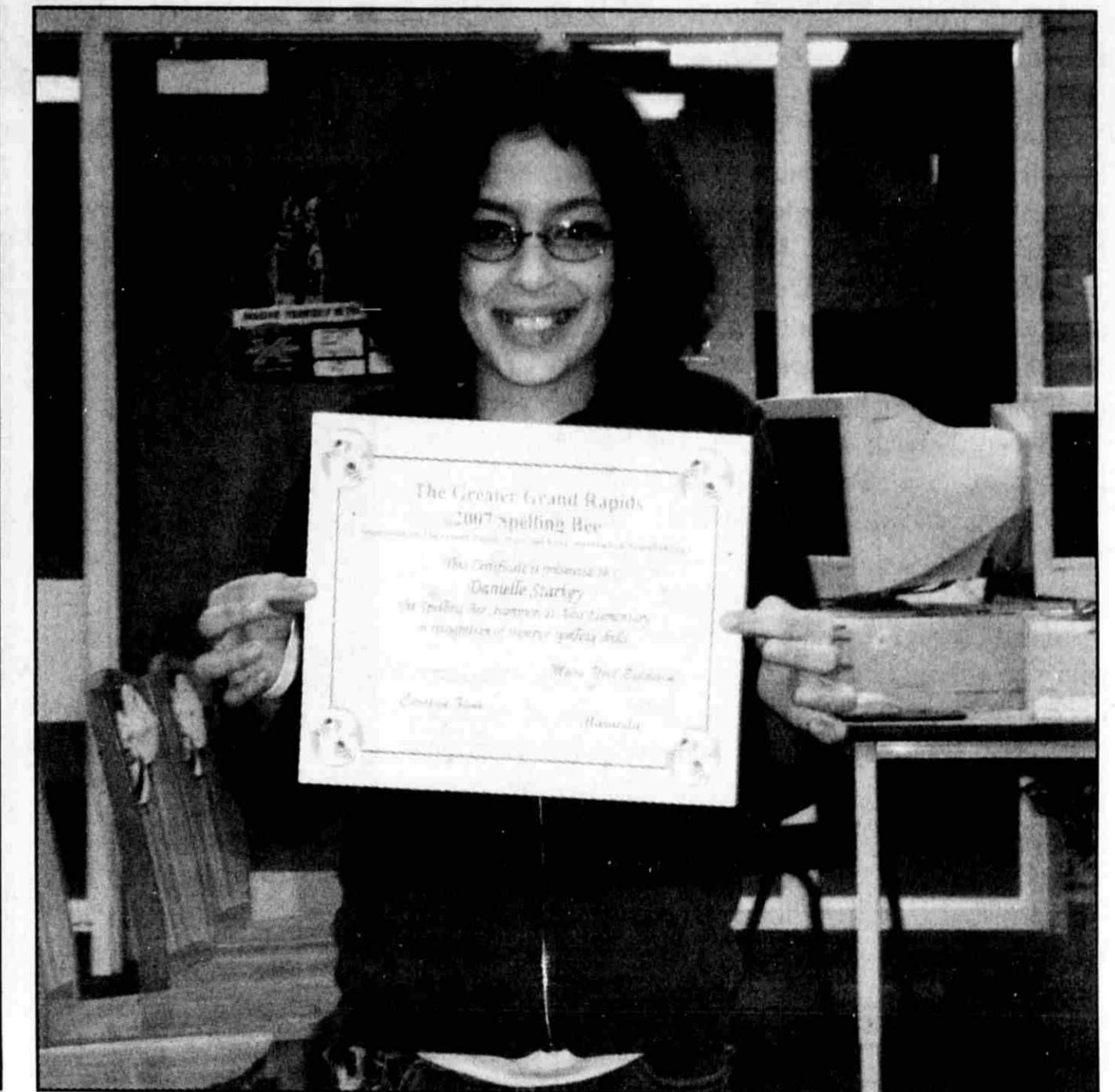
2	7	9	5	1	9	6	2	8
9	1	6	8	2	7	8	7	9
9	2	8	8	6	7	9	2	1
8	2	7	9	8	5	1	6	
6	9	5	7	8	1	2	6	7
7	8	1	2	9	6	7	8	9
1	9	2	6	7	2	8	9	8
2	8	9	1	8	9	7	6	2
8	6	7	9	2	8	1	5	7

ANSWER:

They're tops in spelling

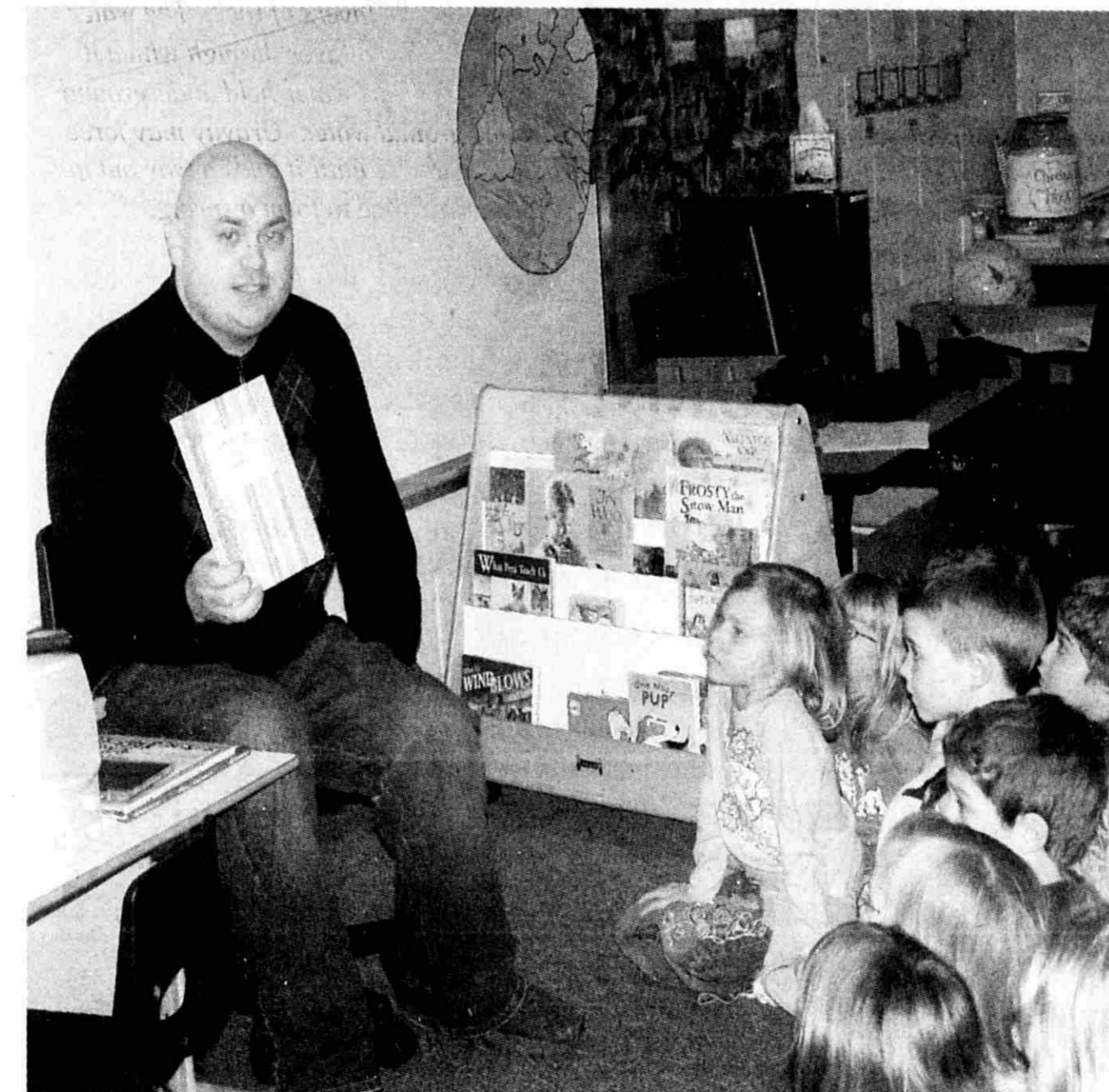


Cherry Creek Elementary fifth grade students Brandon Strzyzewski and Paige Hale represented their school well at the regional spelling bee Feb. 27 at Crestwood Middle School in Kentwood. Hale was one of the final three contestants and Strzyzewski lasted 27 rounds. The contest went 48 rounds before a winner was announced. Both students advanced to regionals after winning the school spelling bee at Cherry Creek.



Danielle Starkey, a fifth grade student at Alto Elementary, outlasted 15 other students in the regional spelling bee Feb. 27 to earn a spot in the Greater Grand Rapids Spelling Bee which will take place on March 27. She and her twin sister, Michelle, were champion and runner-up in the school spelling bee to advance to the regional competition that took place at Red Hawk Elementary in Cedar Springs. The winner of the Grand Rapids bee will advance to national competition in Washington D.C.

Children's author visits Murray Lake Elementary



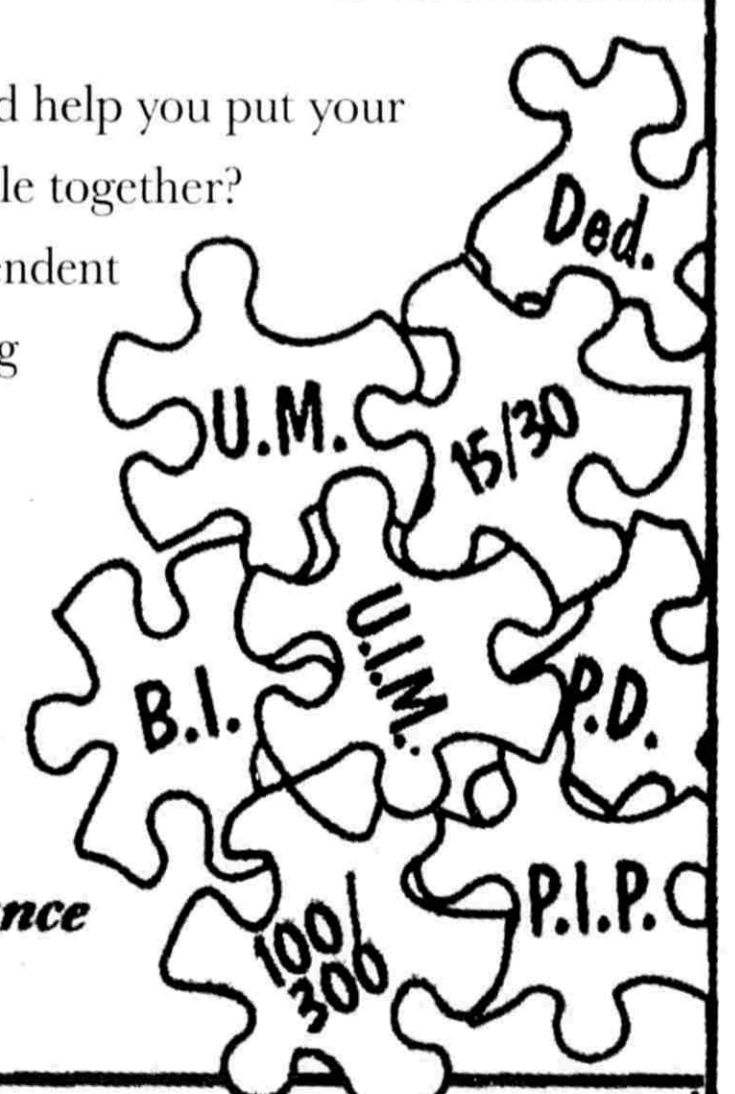
Pictured at left is author, Ryan Hipp sharing some of his work with Murray Lake Elementary's kindergarten students. Hipp kicked off Murray Lake's March is Reading Month. Hipp co-wrote and illustrated the book, *A Curious Glimpse of Michigan*. He also helped produce a music CD that goes along with the book. He has also illustrated, *The Tomato Collection*, written by Kevin Kammeraad. Hipp has also been a guest illustrator on several other projects. Murray Lake students returned from Hipp's performance excited to read and anxious to create stories of their own.

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Lowell Ro-Ken Karate Association celebrates a year of accomplishments

Blue belt Nicole Cummings received the coveted Robert Kendall Memorial Award at the Lowell Ro-Ken Karate Association's annual awards banquet March 2.

Cummings joined the ranks of Robby Coffey and Mariah Moore who received the honor in previous years.

Robert Kendall is the founder of the Ro-Ken Association and was Sensei Aaron Bailey's Sensei (teacher).

This award comes with very special honors. A student receives this honor only once then becoming part of a very small yet elite group of students who possess and exhibit outstanding dedication to the Roken Karate organization and to the martial way. The recipient must be trustworthy, honest,

dedicated, responsible, and respectful.

The Students Choice Award went to purple belt Coffey who was picked by his peers for being helpful, a good role model and an exemplary martial artist.

Most Improved went to green belt Parker Buck.

The KIA Award, given to the student who is most spirited, determined, and presents an overall positive attitude, went to orange belt Newt Longway.

Sensei Bailey concluded that 2006 was a year of great accomplishments and encouraged students to step out, step up, and try new things making reference to Robby Coffey who is currently training in the Chinese style of Wushu with Chinese world champion Wang Fang. Bailey also

mentioned Mariah Moore who is the reigning two-time World Escrima Kali Arnis Federation (Phillipine Martial Arts) World Champion in full contact

fighting and traditional multiple weapons training with karate Hall of Fame and Grand Master Bong Jornales.



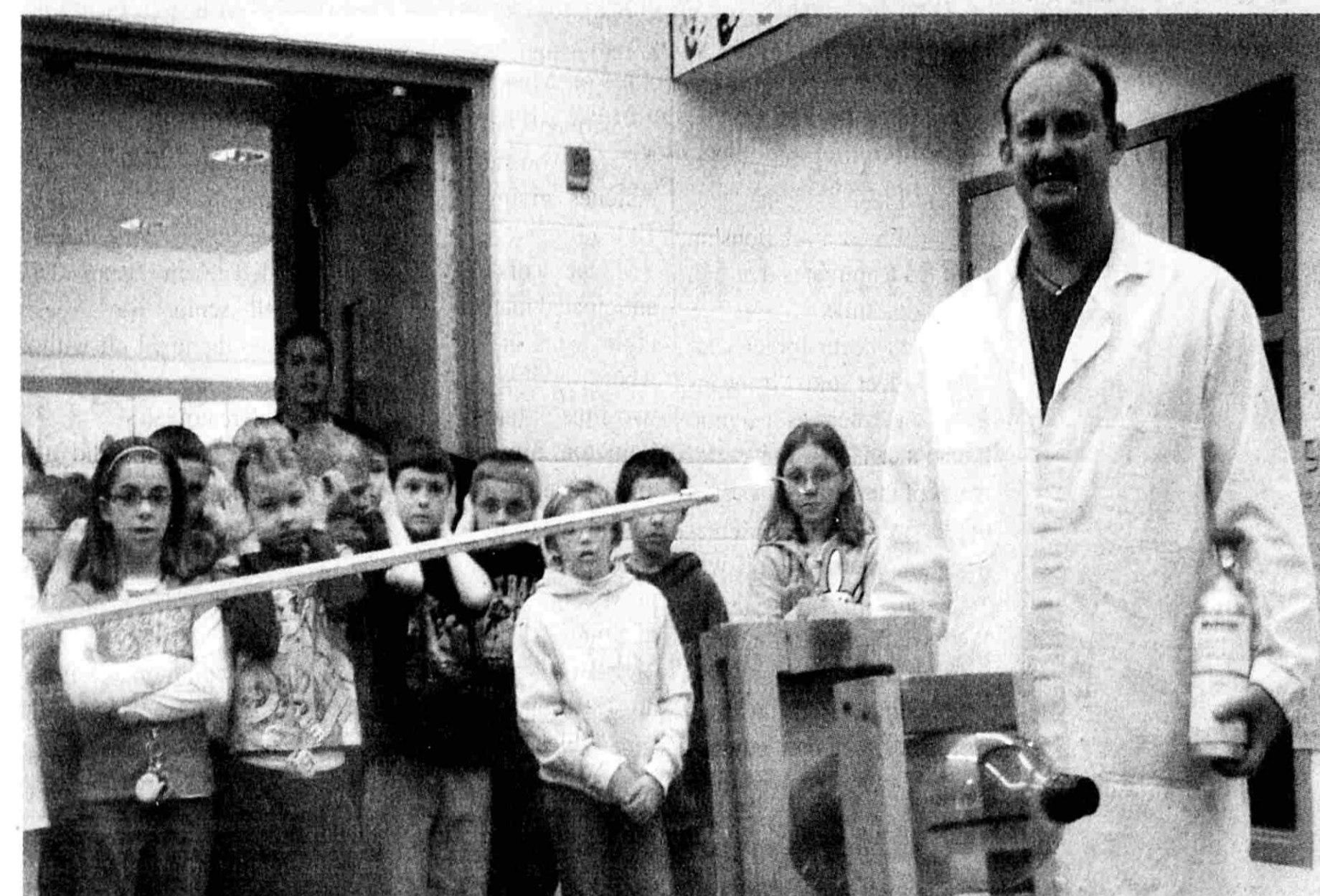
Nicole Cummings, Robert Kendall Memorial



Robby, student choice.



Newt Longway, left, the KIA recipient.



Lowell High School chemistry teacher Tim Antel monitors his students' attempt to send a pop top 50 feet down a hallway. Murray Lake fourth grade students look on, eager to see the result of the expo science experiment.

Science expo held at Murray Lake Elementary

The first-ever Science Expo at Murray Lake Elementary Feb. 23 was literally a blast. The blast came from one of the many demonstrations presented to help students learn about science while having fun.

High school advanced chemistry teacher Tim Antel and some of his top students blasted off a two liter pop top to demonstrate a chemical reaction within the bottle.

The firecracker sound caused students to cover their ears. The pop top exploded off the bottle and sailed down the fifth grade hallway, just missing its target, a box set up to catch it.

Known as "Mr. Science", fifth grade teacher Mike Fillman, came up with the idea for the show. Fillman is in charge of re-supplying the district's Battle Creek Science Kit materials and has played a large part in many of the elementary science curriculum decisions over the past several years.

"I thought it would bring science alive for the kids," said Fillman. "I wanted them to see how fun science can be." Eager students participated in the "Scene of the Crime", a session run by state police officers sharing the science of forensics. Students were able to dust for finger prints and collect "fake" blood samples.

Other students excitedly tried to get their created balloon flying machine across the room in the "Great Straw Race", run by middle school teacher Burt Breuker. In this session, students used the science of flight to create a flying machine that used thrust and lift to propel it across the classroom.

Other sessions included: weather with TV 8 and TV 13, Butterflies with Ranger Steve, Momentum with high school teacher Tim Dimmick, Science is Fun with middle school teacher Tammy Coleman, the Star Lab with Cherry Creek Elementary teacher Jim Kovach, Attitude Determines Altitude with Jerry Pahl from the Air Zoo in Kalamazoo, and several other sessions that had students "living" science.

"I thought the chemistry experiments were awesome," said fifth grade student Morgan Fuller. "I learned a lot about science today, and had a lot of fun."

"Seeing the gummy bear blow up was cool," added fellow fifth grade student Ben Boogard.

"The day went better than I ever expected," said Fillman. "Our committee (Karen Eldridge, Nancy Breuker, Lori Cyrocki, Mary Helen DeLiefde, Linda DeCator, Julie Madron, Glenna Blanding, Sue Wilterink, Jacqui Dimmick, Angela Baerwalde, and Brent Noskey) did an outstanding job planning and preparing for this day. I've already heard many positive comments from students, parents and staff. It was just an amazing day."

"It was a wonderful day for our students," said Murray Lake principal Brent Noskey. "Mike and his team did a terrific job organizing the day."

The science expo was made possible through a grant from the Lowell Area Schools Education Foundation.

RED ARROW SPORTS



Wrestling squad exceeds expectations at state competition

By Sean Garner

Many did not think the Lowell wrestlers would make it as far as they did, but coach Dave Dean always thought his team could contend for a state championship.

The Red Arrow wrestling squad was runner-up in the state tournament losing to a tough Allegan team in the finals 34-27.

The team competed against seven other teams in Battle Creek last weekend

seeking a MHSAA Division II state championship.

Dean said he believed his team would contend for a state championship ever since they started training in the summer.

"The nature of my coaching staff is trying to figure out ways to put the best team on the mat," Dean said. "Some years it is more complicated than others. This year, we knew we had the talent to get there."

At the beginning of the year, Lowell was considered

by most to be outside the top five in Division II and second in their own region to Greenville. This coming despite the fact that the Red Arrows had finished in the top two of Division II six of the previous nine years.

Senior 140 pounder, Rob Karasiwicz said he enjoyed the rare position of being the underdog. "I don't know how everyone else handled it," Karasiwicz said. "But I liked it. I think it made us better as a team."

For the seniors on

this Red Arrow team, this was their second experience wrestling in the championship meet. Lowell won the state championship in 2004 with a victory over Mason.

Karasiwicz was the 112 pound wrestler on that team and said that team's success in 2004 helped motivate the Red Arrows in 2007.

"It was a lot better to win it, but I think wrestling here that first time gave us a great experience for this time around," Karasiwicz said.

Alex Fleet, a senior at 189 pounds, was understandably emotional after the match, sharing warm embraces from team and family members. Having spent four years on the Red Arrow wrestling squad, Fleet says he says he has forged a relationship with his teammates that will last a long time.

"You never forget your team," Fleet said. "It means a lot to get here as a senior. It also means a lot to have so many of the young guys step up. Everybody wrestled real tough. Sometimes you win and sometimes you don't. We gave it a heck of a run."

On their path to the finals, the Red Arrows surprised a great number of people in the wrestling community with a 41-21 win over Petoskey in the quarterfinals, and an even more stunning 55-9 victory over Eaton Rapids, the No. 3 team in the state.

"It (the Eaton Rapids match) was shocking for all of us," Dean said. "The team

came to compete throughout the tournament, as evidenced by that final score. Some people may doubt some of the matches that took place, but the bottom line is we have kids that expect to win every time they step out on the mat."

Lowell started the match against Allegan strong. Beginning at 130 pounds, Lowell sent out 125 pound Jackson Morse, who beat Allegan's Chico Beach by technical fall. Tim Gingerich followed that performance with 16-8 major decision over Curtis Cameron to give the Red Arrows a 9-0 lead.

Lowell carried a 12-9 lead going into the 160 pound match, where the Red Arrows ran head-first into the strength of the Tigers. Allegan won each of the five matches, giving them a 31-12 lead.

One of the more anticipated match-ups of the night came at 189 pounds, where Allegan bumped two-time state champion Cameron Simaz from 171 to wrestle Fleet. Simaz, considered by many to be the best wrestler at any weight in Michigan, upended Fleet in a tight 3-1 match.

"He's good, but he's no 189 pounder, that's for sure," Fleet said. "I might fight a little harder when I'm doing it for the team. I try my hardest for the team always, and if that's my best tonight, so be it. You can't win them all."

Lowell regained momentum with consecutive pins in the two lowest

weight classes. Freshman Matt Griffioen came back from a 15-4 deficit to pin Allegan's Matt Smith with just 28 seconds remaining in the match.

"It was looking pretty bleak until then," Dean said. "You have to be proud. He did a tremendous job fighting back from being down so much."

Red Arrow Tyler Jack followed that match up with his third pin of the weekend. Jack, who struggled early in the season, has made considerable improvement throughout the year, according to his coach.

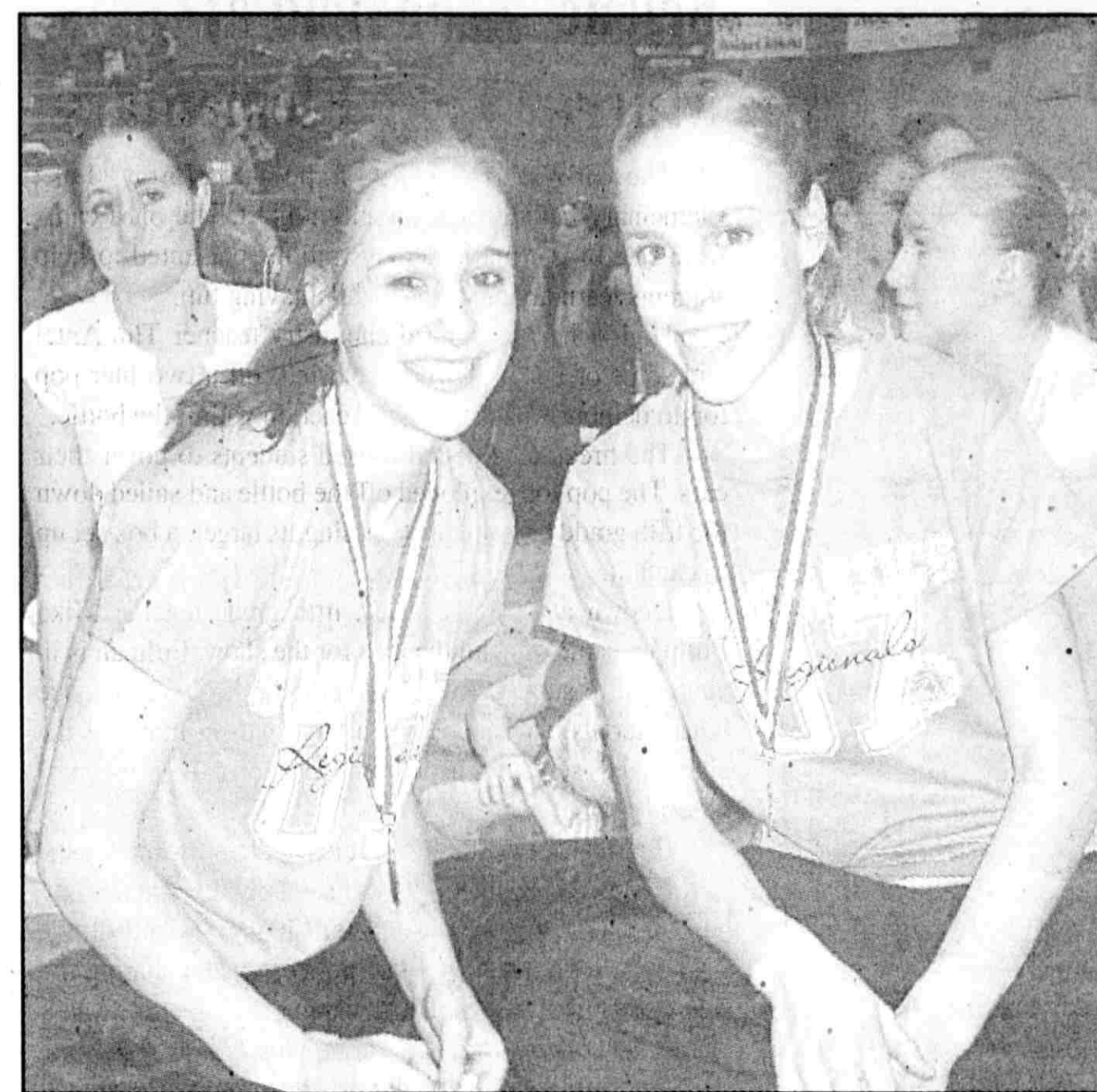
"Ty Jack has really come into his own," Dean said. "Confidence is sky high with him at this point in the season."

Allegan would put the match away at 119, where Steve Poffenberger defeated Zach Baum 2-1. Lowell senior Ray Seese finished the night off with a 5-3 overtime decision over Andy Krcatovich.

"The coin flip did not go how we wanted it to go," Dean said. "We wanted to match Jackson up against Krcatovich. But in the end, they both won so that obviously didn't make much of a difference. We just got beat by a better team."

The season is not over for all the Lowell wrestlers. Ten of the Red Arrows will head to the Palace of Auburn Hills Thursday through Saturday for the Individual State Finals. Lowell's 10 qualifiers trails only Allegan which has 11.

Two Gymnasts on to state



Lowell gymnasts Kelsey Teft and Richelle Kimble will compete in the state gymnastics meet this Saturday at Troy Athens High School. The two qualified at the regional meet last weekend at Rockford.

Work and acquire, and thou hast chained the wheel of chance.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1882)

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Low income residents urged to apply for Michigan Home Heating Credit

As the arctic blast that froze Michigan in recent weeks moves on, low income residents are urged to apply for a Michigan Home Heating Credit.

Eligible applicants can get up to \$200 or more for their winter energy bills through the Home Heating Credit program. Applicants do not need to file a Michigan tax return to apply for this credit.

"There is money available in the Michigan Home Heating Credit program to assist low income residents with their energy bills," said Debra Harmon who manages Consumers Energy's low income, senior citizen, and special need assistance programs. "Unfortunately, most eligible people do not take advantage of this program...Only one third

of those qualified typically apply for this credit." Home Heating Credit forms (MI-1040CR-7) are available at the following locations: most public libraries, Secretary of State branch offices, Department of Human Services branch offices, or by calling Consumers Energy's toll-free number, 800-477-5050. Forms are also available from the Michigan

Department of Treasury by calling 800-367-6263 or at www.michigan.gov/heatingassistance. Hearing or speech impaired residents can get information about the program by calling 517-636-4999.

The Department of Treasury offers help in filling out the forms; information on that service is available by calling 800-827-4000.

An insert in Consumers Energy's February bills provides details about the Home Heating Credit and how to file for it. Last year, nearly 358,000 Michigan residents received \$64.3 million in aid through the program, which is funded by the federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

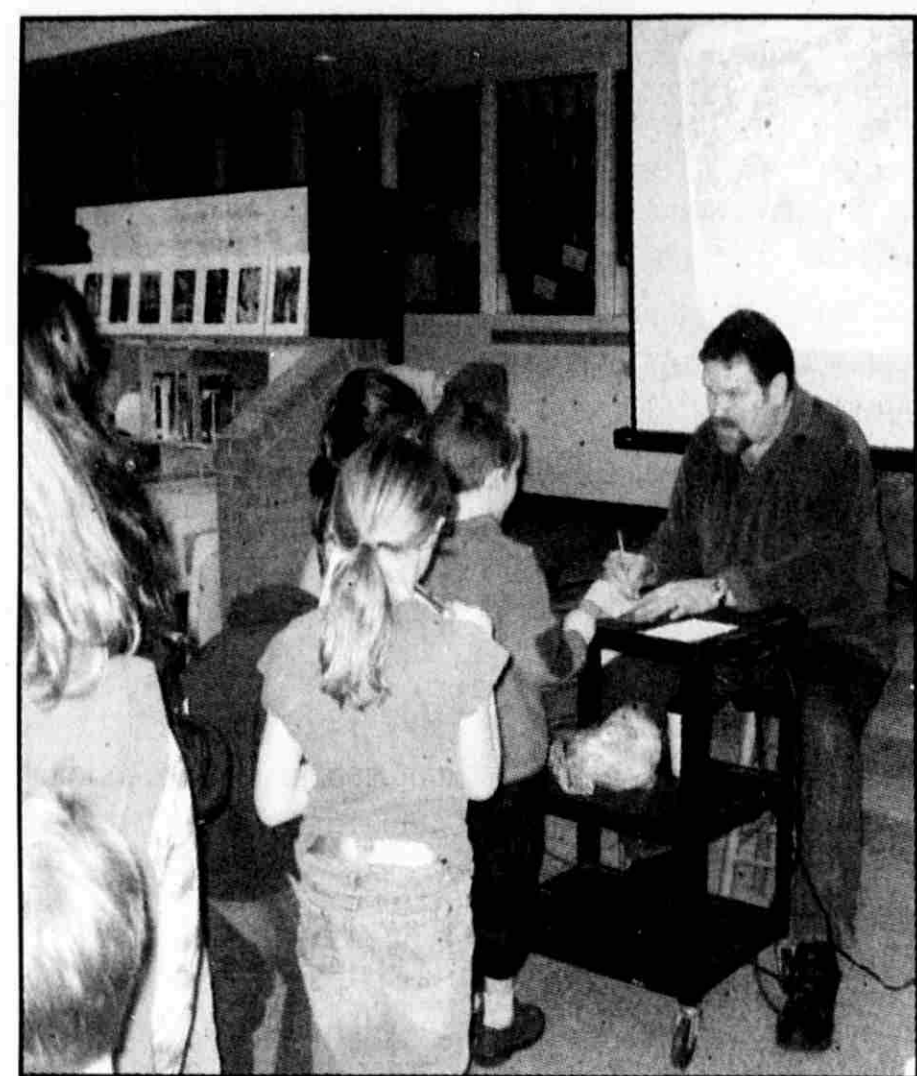
The credit can be

applied to all heating costs, including propane and purchased firewood. The deadline to file is Sept. 30, but residents are encouraged to file now for the credit.

Consumers Energy, the principal subsidiary of CMS Energy, provides natural gas and electricity to almost 6.5 million of the state's nearly 10 million residents in all 68 Lower Peninsula counties.

Michigan artist visits Alto Elementary

Michigan Artist and storyteller Tom Woodruff presented a draw-along workshop at Alto Elementary Feb. 20 after the Family Links/PTO meeting. Through storytelling and step-by-step instructions, students and parents became illustrators turning words and ideas into pictures. Families were amazed at how easy the artist made it. Soon, they had an illustration of a winter scape as seen through a child's room window. Woodruff is a regular guest at Alto as he visits every fall to draw and share some history of Michigan and the Great Lakes region for fourth grade students.



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".



To the nice man who helped a new mother get some caffeine when she didn't have enough money. Thank you! Your generosity is appreciated very much. You renewed my thoughts about people in this town.

If you can not chew gum and walk at the same time, why do you think that you can talk on the cell phone and drive at the same time?

Can smokers not smell their own stench? Even their money that they pay a grocery bill with stinks like old nasty cigarette smoke. Gross!

I took great comfort walking on a windy Friday evening knowing LLP kept me from being injured by falling tree limbs.

Congratulations to LHS Wrestling Team! Runners up at Team State. What a great season guys. Good luck to those going to Individual State this weekend.

Congratulations to the LHS Bowling team on this years success. Also to the girls gymnastics team. Lowell should be proud.

We will miss the Alto Solo. Thank you Linda for 11 years of good work.

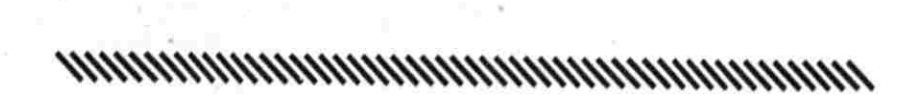
Thanks Otis for serving this community for so long. No one in town beats your pizza! I really miss it!

Don't anyone think we need a different store?

Thank you Cass. You and your people are wonderful. You actually made physical therapy enjoyable.

This is Matt. I was wondering if Sound Off was a hearing aid company.

If you have concerns about the school lunch program. Call the Lowell Area Schools central office to voice your opinion.



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MATTRESSES - Large selection just like the big advertisers except for the cost. Twins \$100, fulls \$120, queens \$140, kings \$180 and up. ALL NEW. NO \$200 fake pillowtops. G.R. 616-682-4767 or 293-6160.

SHELTIES - Beautiful intelligent, fun to train. Shots, wormed, dew claws removed. Bairds, Lowell 897-9081.

A KING SIZE - pillow top mattress set, never used with deluxe frame, still in box, cost \$1,050, sacrifice \$335, 616-452-8430.

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

AMISH LOGHEADBOARD and queen pillow top mattress set, new in plastic, sell all for \$275, 616-248-4930.

FOR SALE - Frabill, one man ice tent, like new; ice augers, two 6 in. & one 7 in. Call 676-2367 after 5 p.m.

A BED - A new queen pillowtop mattress set, still in plastic. Must sell \$120, 616-318-6998. Can deliver.

REDDY HEATER - 60,000 BTU, torpedo w/5 gal. kerosene container; Troy Built trimmer/brush cutter, Model TB90BC, new 2006 w/manuals. \$80 each. 987-4251.

AIR BED - Selecta comfort firmness for each of you. Dual chambers with remote & warranty. 50% less than the mall. All new. Queen \$795, king \$995 and up. G.R. 616-682-4767 or 293-6160.

A BRAND NEW - king pillowtop mattress set \$225. Call 616-949-2683.

FOR SALE - Craftsman rider w/pow, \$600; yard trailer, \$40; tablesaw w/stand, \$50; Lawnboy garden tiller, \$50; portable DVD player, \$70. 642-6196.

BORDER COLLIE PUPPIES - Intelligent, fun to own. Parents eyes/hips certified. Shots, wormed, dewes. Bairds, Lowell 897-9081.

A BED - Tempur pedic style memory foam mattress set. Value over \$1800 must sell \$395. 616-949-6525, delivery available.

ELDERLY RETIRED - and widowed minister with Parkinson's wants loving home for his older, neutered male cat. Call Linda at 897-9202.

FISH FOR STOCKING - Most varieties. Ponds. Lakes. Laggis' fish farm, 269-628-2056 days or 269-624-6215 eves.

A BEDROOM SET - 7 pc complete set with sleigh bed! Brand new, never used. Value \$2,000 sell \$575. 616-318-6998.

AKC GORGEOUS NEW-FOUNDLAND PUPPIES - Complete vet check, parents have clearances, great pedigrees. Written guarantee, loving homes only. 989-283-0066.

HOME FOR SALE BY OWNER - Ionia, 319 Jefferson, completely renovated, 2200 sq. ft. 2 story home. Includes 4+ bedrooms, 2 full baths, main floor laundry, full basement, 1 car garage & much more. 0 down, good or bad credit. Call 616-835-7519.

FOR SALE - 200 pc-cement block. \$100 for all. 897-5767.

EXPRESS VIDEO IS CLOSING - All inventory must be sold. Sale starts March 3 at 11 a.m. 70 N. Bridge St., Saranac.

CATS - Need to find good home for 2 cats. I have too many. 2 tiger kittens, born 8/20/06. Litter trained, very friendly, love attention. Live in the garage, could be indoor/outdoor or both. 691-7926.

MEMORY FOAM MATTRESS - Relieves back pain. YES it really does. All sizes. ALL NEW. Try it FREE. G.R. 616-682-4767 or 293-6160.

FOR SALE - 3.8 acres in Lowell Schools, Ionia County. Mobile & modulars welcome. Reduced to \$39,900 obo. Must sell quickly. Call Kim at Greenridge, 974-4228 or 485-0099.

PARAKEET BIRDS - 2 rare, includes cage, toys, \$25; 1994 Arctic Cat snowmobile, rarely used, stored inside, runs great, \$1,000 obo. 676-9131. No Sunday calls please.

RATIGAN LAKE - Charming home w/stone fireplace, cathedral ceilings & garage w/80 ft. of private frontage on all-sports, 56-acre, Ratigan Lake! \$165,000. patschaefer.com, 581-7580, Five Star, 977-7790.

1994 FORD EXPLORER - white w/tan leather, Eddie Bauer, 4x4. Retail, \$2,980, sell for \$1,480/b.o. 682-0821.

FOR SALE - 4 Cooper Weather Handlers tires, 235x15", 80% tread, \$200 obo. 616-897-5767.

SALES

4-H TACK SALE - March 17, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. New & used, over 30 suppliers. For booth information call 868-6042. Sponsored by Ionia County 4-H.

ANTIQUA SHOW - March 10 and 11. Barry County Fairgrounds on M-37, South of Grand Rapids. Take M-37 south from M-6 past Middleville. Sat. 9-5 p.m.; Sun. 9-3 p.m. \$3 admission.

FOR RENT - Newly remodeled 1 bedroom home, \$500/month. Call 616-862-6714.

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.

HORSEBOARDING - room for one horse at my private barn, excellent quality care, daily turnout. \$200/month. Call Mary at 616-897-5124.

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

HOME FOR RENT - Newly remodeled 3 bedroom. Washer, dryer, dishwasher included in rent. Large fenced yard, 2 car garage, nice neighborhood. Small pets considered. References required. \$925/mo. + utilities. Available April 1, 2007. 682-0269 eves.

EXTRA NICE - 2 bedroom large trailer in the country on private lot between Belding and Lowell. Remodeled. Washer and dryer hookup. 616-794-1109.

FOR RENT - Very nice 3 bedroom 1 bath ranch home in the country just minutes north of Lowell. Extra big lot, garage and deck, full basement, central air, all appliances included. No smoking, no pets, one year lease, \$900 per month plus security deposit. Lowell schools. 897-8555 or cell 446-5909.

HOUSE FOR RENT - Ada Twp., Lowell Schools. Ranch, 3 bedroom, 1 bath main, 1 bedroom, 1 bath in daylight basement, 3.3 acres. \$1,200/mo. 616-915-3927.

OFFICE FOR RENT - Prime downtown Lowell location. \$650 + utilities. 893-5499.

FOR RENT - 3 bedroom apartment across from park, \$625/month plus deposit. Call 897-0486.

SENIORS!! - Rent could be as low as \$70 per month! 1 bedroom HUD subsidized apartments for rent! Rent based on income for those who qualify! BEAUTIFUL 6 acre country setting! Pets welcome! IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY! Conveniently located 20 minutes East of Grand Rapids. HURRY... before they are gone! Equal Housing Opportunity. 616-693-2271, hearing impaired dial 711.

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

APARTMENT FOR RENT - Lowell. One bedroom w/garage. Quiet location. \$450 + heat. 893-5499.

SOUND OFF PHONE LINE 897-0787

COOK - Part-time, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Will train. Accepting applications at Fountain View, 11535 E. Fulton, Suite 200, Lowell.

HELP WANTED - Temporary office & packing help. \$7/hr., M-F, 9-5 p.m. Send work experience to: GLP, 615 Chatham, Suite 2, Lowell, MI 49331.

LANDSCAPE FOREMAN NEEDED - Must know perennial garden maintenance. Call 897-2547.

HELP WANTED - Accepting applications for cooks, cashiers & prep cooks. Starting pay \$10/hr + benefits. Please call 787-7875 to setup an interview.

EXPERIENCED HEALTH AIDE NEEDED - to visit local elderly man 5 days a week. Duties include blood sugar monitoring, minor dressing changes, & light house work. Pay \$9.25 per hour for 1 to 2 hours per day, flexible schedule. Please send a note with your phone number & some information about yourself to: Employment, PO Box 455, Ada, MI 49301.

GIRLS VARSITY GOLF COACH - Applications should be submitted with a cover letter and resume to Barry Hobra, Athletic Director, Lowell High School, 11700 Vergennes, Lowell, MI 49331 by 12 noon, March 12, 2007.

SPORTS REPORTER NEEDED - The Lowell Ledger is looking for a stringer to cover Lowell High School sports. Opportunity to earn some extra cash doing something you enjoy! Photography experience a plus but not necessary. Along with your name, address & contact information, applicants should send writing examples to: The Lowell Ledger, PO Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or email: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com in the subject line "sports reporter".

NEW GALLERY - Fire and Water Art! 219 W. Main in Lowell. OPEN Wed. - Sun. 1-6 p.m. CUSTOM FRAMING. Sculpture, paintings, jewelry & more. www.fire-and-water-art.com or 890-1879.

DON'T HAVE TIME TO COOK? - Experienced & certified; offering menu planning, shopping & cooking. Based on your needs. Call 868-5287.

ALTO DAY CARE - has 4 full time openings for 1st shift. Accept FIA and food program. Fenced-in back yard, CPR plus first aid. 868-0752.

AIR DUCT CLEANING - reasonable rates. Call Randy at R&R Enterprises, 616-581-8561. Mention this ad for 15% discount.

WANTED

WANTED - Motorcycles. Cash paid for road bikes, running or not. Call 616-446-8352.

ROOMMATE WANTED - female retiree looking to share two bedroom apartment in Saranac. Call 616-915-1794.

BUYING ANTIQUES, COLLECTIONS, COMPLETE ESTATES & "STUFF" - Call today 616-550-0521 for appointment for free estimate.

WANTED TO BUY - Flagstaff or Sunnybrook 5th wheel camper, 24', 26', 2003 or newer model w/1 slide, in excellent condition. Call Rick or Carol at 897-5501.

SHIP UPS AT THE LEDGER OFFICE - Daily pickup at 3 p.m. Compare our prices! Call for a price quote! We will need weight, zip code & dimensions for a price quote over the phone. 105 N. Broadway. 897-9261.

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

JIM'S FLOOR COVERING SALES & INSTALLATION - 22 years experience. Best price & quality installation on vinyl, carpet, and laminate flooring. 897-0737 or 560-8515, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., leave message.

LOWELL CITY DIRECTORY - New books will be available mid-March.

GRADUATES - We have open house & thank you cards with envelopes, 5c each. Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

JOHN DEBIAK, certified farrier. Horseshoeing & hoof trimming with twenty years of professional, full-time experience. Call 897-4290.

NEED A RESUME? - I have over 22 years experience in formatting & writing professional resumes & cover letters. Call me at 616-897-6592 & leave a message or email me at: mkdsgn315@yahoo.com.

PIANO LESSONS - Piano teacher has a few openings available for piano lessons. For more information call 897-7994 & ask for Ruth.

ROLL TICKETS AVAILABLE AT LOWELL LITHO - Single & double rolls, variety of colors. Single roll, \$5 ea. + tax & double rolls \$7.50 + tax ea. Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell, Ph. 897-9261.

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

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

BUSINESS CARDS - For as little as \$25 for 250. (white card stock, black ink). We can print cards in 4 color (for as low as \$20). Before you order your cards from somewhere else - check our rates & our new styles! Call Lowell Litho, 897-9261.

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

DOES YOUR CHRYSLER, PLYMOUTH, DODGE CAR, TRUCK OR VAN NEED REPAIR? - Don't make a mistake & take it anywhere else - give Geo-Tech a try! Contact George at Geo-Tech Transmission & Repair. Call 897-0743.

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

When calling please have zip code, weight & dimensions of box

The Lowell Ledger The Lowell Ledger The Lowell Ledger

CONNECT WITH US

Here's how to connect with The Lowell Ledger

PHONE (616) 897-9261

FAX (616) 897-4809

E-MAIL ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com

MAIL P.O. Box 128 Lowell, MI 49331

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!

Ballast water permits, continued ... From Page 10

last water to stabilize the ship when traveling without cargo. The ballast water is then released in port as new cargo is loaded, potentially

releasing millions of live organisms into the Great Lakes. Often these invasive species have no natural predators in their new en-

vironment and can crowd out native species, cause environmental damage, or transport foreign disease or parasites.

"Invasive species cost literally billions of dollars to control once they are introduced to the Great Lakes ecosystem, and too often,

trying to control them is a losing battle," said Michigan Office of the Great Lakes Director Ken DeBeaussaert. "We encourage our fellow

Great Lakes states to follow Michigan's example and put to end the introduction of invasive species from ballast water."

A Better Place...

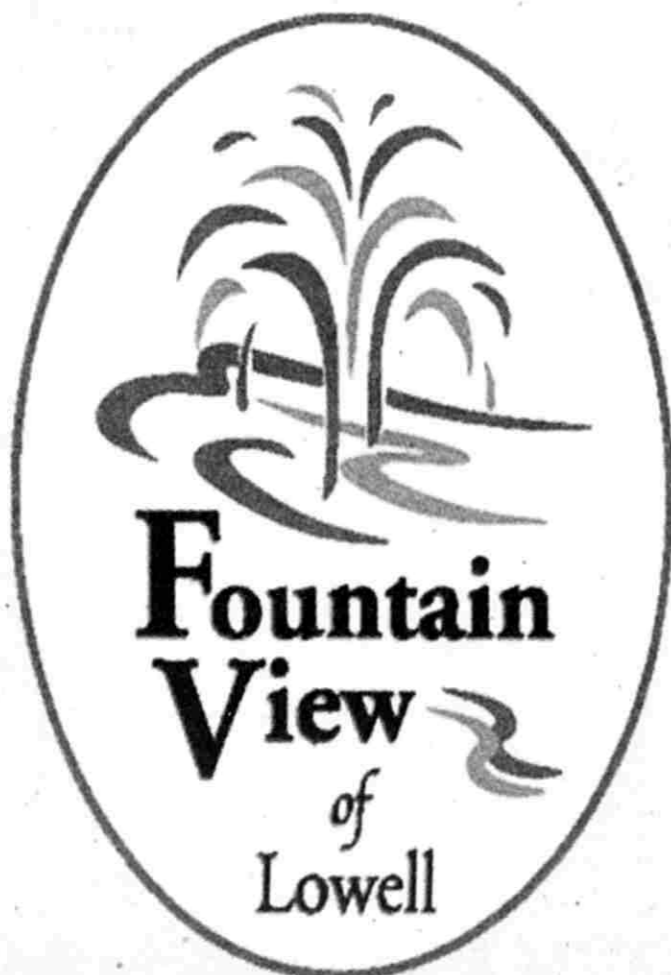
The Place of Choice

Fountain View is designed to provide choice and convenience for seniors requiring various levels of assistance with activities of daily living. Working together with you, we offer a family atmosphere, companionship and care while our residents maintain their independence and dignity.

Fountain View is pleased to offer quality *Assisted Living* services and *Specialized Memory Care* for those dealing with Alzheimer's, dementia and other types of memory loss.

We're in touch with changing needs

- Spacious, Private and Couples Suites
- Assistance with Personal Care Needs for the Independent and Frail Elderly
- Medication Administration
- Separate, special needs Alzheimer's & Dementia Residence
- Individualized Care Plans
- Respite Care Between Hospital and Home or Caregiver Relief
- Monthly Alzheimer's Support Group
- Physical and Occupational Therapy
- Trained Staff 24 Hours a Day
- Nutritious Meals and Snacks Provided Daily
- Beautiful Landscaped Grounds, Walkways and Courtyard
- Hair Salon
- Scheduled Activities
- Library



Fountain View Mission Statement

It is the purpose of Fountain View to honor God by providing high quality senior lifestyle services that promote the value and dignity of every person.

**11535 E. Fulton • Lowell, MI 49331
(616) 897-8413**

www.leisure-living.com

