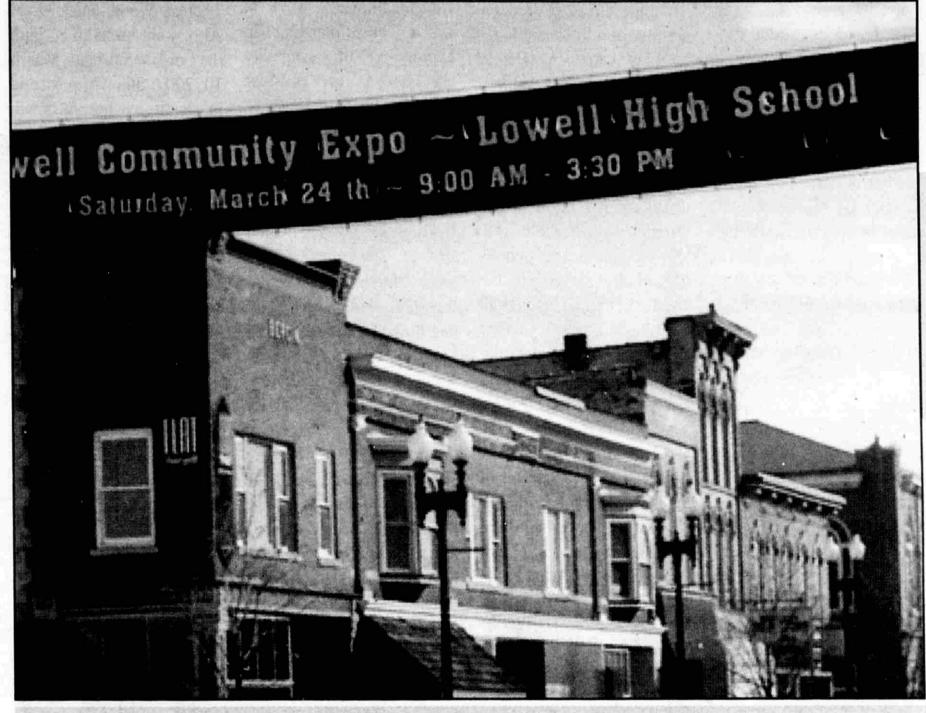
SPRINGPORT, MICHIGAN

The Lowell Leager

Volume 35 Issue 19

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, March 14, 2007



Local entrepreneur one step closer to building hall

By Emma Palova

ocal entrepreneur Kent McKay hopes to break ground in the fall for the construction of a hall on Lincoln Lake Avenue. Target completion date is April 2008 preceded by a public open house in March.

After the successful passage of a proposal to serve liquor in the last general election, McKay pursued financing and marketing for the building. "It is being financed by traditional and private parties," said McKay. "There is no corporation involved, I am doing it on my own from the ground up."

McKay added more amenities to the original conceptual plan mainly desssing rooms for grooms - called the "Groom's Den."

According to McKay, no facility in the greater area has a groom's den because the major emphasis is always on the bride. "The groom deserves just as much pampering as the bride," he said.

Entrepreneur, cont'd., pg. 4

The banner's up! Expo is on the way

The Lowell Community Expo will feature more than 150 area businesses, service groups, churches and government entities on March 24 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Lowell High School. "The Expo offers a great networking opportunity," said chamber director Liz Baker. "This event increases product and service awareness in the greater Lowell area."

LAS policy spells out no weapons on school property

By Emma Palova

he Lowell Area Schools Board Education reviewed a new policy on possessing and transporting dangerous weapons on school property Monday.

The policy, a part of the federal mandate "No Child Left Behind," stipulates that no person may transport weapons on the property or in a vehicle, except for on-duty law enforcement officers.

A dangerous weapon may include a firearm, knife, black jack, baton, iron bar, brass knuckles, martial arts devices or explosive devises.

The policy applies to both students, and the staff, according to superintendent Greg Pratt.

In other business, the district expects to complete the community survey

> School policy, cont'd., pg. 9

Small gift yields big results for Rotary community projects

Tor only \$12.50, residents Lowell helped make the world and their community a better place.

Local sauce and dressing manufacturer, Litehouse has teamed with the Lowell Rotary club every holiday season for the past 25 years. Each year, the partnership sells gift packs filled with a number of Litehouse signature products. The company donates the gift

packs so all proceeds go to Rotary projects. Over \$200,000 has been raised from this project.

Wendell Christoff, coowner of Litehouse, has strong convictions about the program. According to Christoff, a longtime Rotarian, the program goes a long way in fulfilling the mission of the serviceoriented Rotary club.

"Rotary is a international service organization, and the motto is 'service above self," Christoff said. "Since we make dressings, dips and sauces, we thought that would be a neat way to raise funds to help provide services of the community."

The club has also helped people worldwide.

"We have established a medical clinic in the northern part of Jamaica where we provide health and eye care for people in that very poor part of Jamaica," Christoff said.

Rotary has undertaken many other global issues, such as wiping out polio where it still exists and providing clean drinking water for impoverished people around the globe.

On top of the club's global projects, Rotary also contributes to a number of services in Lowell.

Members have built

Habitat Humanity contributed houses, and to the Lowell Area Arts Council, Lowell Fire Department, YMCA, and other organizations.

Rotary's college foundation scholarship provides \$10,000 over annually for graduating seniors.



Litehouse president Wendell Christoff, left, with Rotary president Jim White display holiday gift pack.



Girls' Night Out ... Page 3

Lowell Author... Page 11

Talent Search ... Page 13

ANDERSON

and Bill Bryant of Lowell: Baird of North Carolina and mother-in-law, four aunts, Emily (Rick) many great and great-great brother-in-law, service for Ellie was held later date. Thursday, March 8 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Spring Lake. Memorials to Catherine Carrier, aged

BAIRD

and received a business CO; three grandchildren, six

degree from Davenport in

CARRIER

Tomorrow's Child/Michigan 84, of Canon City, CO and SIDS are appreciated. formerly of Grand Rapids, passed away March 4, 2007. She was preceded Charles L. Baird, aged 96, in death by her husband. Hopkins, MI, died Monday, Vernon Carrier, in 1995, March 5, 2007 at the Allegan sister, Margaret Rode, General Hospital. Mr. Baird brother, Robert Van Setters. was born July 24, 1910 in Catherine will be lovingly Lowell, the son of Richard remembered by her son, and Hazel (Condon) Baird. Vern Carrier of Lowell and He graduated from Lowell daughter, Nancy (William) High School in 1927 Rienstra of Canon City,

CITY OF LOWELL

KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF ADOPTION AND SUMMARY OF AN ORDINANCE **AMENDING SECTIONS 16-27** AND 16-28 OF ARTICLE II, "PLANNING COMMISSION," OF CHAPTER 16, "PLANNING," OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LOWELL

The Lowell City Council adopted Ordinance No. 07- 02 amending Sections 16-27 and 16-28 of Article II, "Planning Commission," of Chapter 16, "Planning," of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell on February 19, 2007. The amendment provides for a seven-member Planning Commission, one of whom shall be a Council member appointed by the City Council and the remainder shall be appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council.

Ordinance No. 07- 02 is effective 10 days after this publication.



Betty R. Morlock City Clerk great-grandchildren; sisterin-law, Ina Van Setters. Services were held Friday, March 9, 2007 at the Reyers North Valley Chapel.

DEIBLE with her never-ending Hopkins. As a young man, and brothers, Charles and birds, playing Scrabble, and Veterans Hospital of Ann Mrs. Marjorie Harris of grandchildren, Brent (Lisa), Chruch Food Pantry. Arbor or Heartland Hospice Belmont, and Dorothy and

HUNT

Mrs. Ruth Hunt, age 89, of

Belding, passed away on Tuesday, March 6, 2007. She was raised on many farms in the Cannon and Grattan areas. While living in Grand Our precious little lady, Grand Rapids. He owned Albert M. Deible, aged 62, Rapids with the Bottum operated Hopkins of Middleville passed away family, she attended South Grace Anderson, was taken Lumberyard from 1955- March 10, 2007. Albert High School and graduated early to be with our Lord. 1975. He was a member was preceded in death in 1936. She loved working Our Ellie touched us all of the Masonic Lodge in by his daughter, Iris Kay crossword puzzles, watching smiles and warmth. Elnora Charles was a Golden Glove Fred. He was born July 10, tending her gardens. Some will be missed dearly, Ellie Boxer for many years, and 1944 and is survived by his would say that there was a leaves behind her parents, had worked as a policeman wife, Cheryl; sons, Cary common thread in the Hunt Mark and Erin Anderson in the Flint area. Surviving and Jason of Middleville; family for all of them loved of Wyoming; two brothers, are five children, James sisters, Margaret Johnson of to play cards. A talented Lucas and Adam, both at and Karen Baird of Illinois, Indiana, Rose Van Deventer seamstress, she enjoyed home; grandparents, Joan Shirley and George Lagos of Greenville; brothers, working with the 4-H Group. the Parkinson Diesease and Larry Anderson of of Florida, Daniel Baird of George Deible of Grant, Mrs. Hunt was a lady who Foundation and Hospice of Grand Rapids and Kathy Allegan, Gerald and Betty Edward Deible of Saranac; was dedicated to her family, Michigan. Hilma and in the early years she Martha Richard and Debra Baird of Goebel of Grand Rapids; cared for her borthers and Knowles of Pensacola, Fla.; Hopkins; 16 grand children; sister-in-law, Lucy Deible; sisters. Even as Ruth aged, Doris Jane Shortsle, aged Steve she still "mothered" people. 82, of Wyoming passed Hamilton, Wendy (John) grandchildren. He was (Ilze) Goebel of Cadillac; Mrs. Hunt is survived by her away March 6, 2007. She Tague; her grandchildren. White, Barbara (Tom) preceded in death by his many nieces and nephews. children, Donand Linda Hunt was preceded in death by Rachel and Meagan Wood; Butler, and Kristin (John) wife, Lola, and a brother, Funeral services will be at of Cedar Springs, Nancy her husband, Lawrence H. Amanda (Kevin) Regnerus; and Richard. There will be no 11 a.m., Thursday, March and David Jensen of Cedar Shortsle in 1981. She is Zac, Laci, and Jillian numerous great-aunts and visitation, private family 15 at the Roth-Gerst Funeral Springs, Dale and Sandra survived by her children, Wisner; Hayden and Jesse uncles and cousins. The services will be held at a Home, 305 N. Hudson Hunt of Belding, Doreen Robert (Esther) Shortsle, Miller - Tague; two great St, Lowell with Elder Seward of Riverdale, Diane Daniel (Carolyn) Shortsle, grandchildren; her sisters-in-George Hyslop officiating. and Bernard Kauffman and Fred (Nancy) Shortsle, law, Wanda DeGennaro and Oakwood John and Paula Hunt, all of Arnold (Beth) Shortsle; Jan DeGennaro, A Memorial Cemetery. Visitation will be Saranac; 21 grandchildren; brothers, Joseph Ypma, Mass was celebrated Wednesday, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. 28 great-grandchildren; Russ Ypma, Chuck Ypma, Tuesday, March 13, at Holy and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral brothers and sisters, Glenn Robert Mulvey; sisters, Family Catholic Church home. For those who wish, Lyons of Lowell, Mrs. Doris Barb Batchelder, Betty Memorial contributions may memorials may be made to: Geldersma of Belding, Ypma, Shirley Ypma; be given to the Holy Family

Ormand "Bud" Lyons. The Rapids, MI 49503.

WOOD

10, 2007. She was preceded in death by her husband. Howard E. Wood; and two brothers, Fred and Vincent DeGennaro. Surviving are her children, John (Lynn) Wood, Loretta (Les) Wisner, Michael Wood, Lisa (Mark)

SHORTSLE

service was held Friday

Congregational Church,

UCC. Those planning an

the Bostwick Lake

Lloyd "Buster" Lyons of Tim, Brenda (Todd) Keeler. Homosassa, Fla.; sisters- Julie and Christina Shortsle. in-law, Mrs. Mary Lou Arnold and Joseph Shortsle. Phillips of Rockford, and Doris was a longtime Mrs. Margaret Hunt of member of First Assembly Sparta; and nieces and of God Church. Memorial nephews. She was preceded contributions may be made in death by her husband to: Alzheimer's Association. Lloyd Hunt on November 213 Sheldon Blvd. SE, Suite 2, 1989, grandsons, Daniel A, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 in May, 1996 and Chris in and/or Hospice of Michigan. March, 2005, and a brother, 1260 Ekhart NE, Grand

Theresa Wood, aged 79, of

Alto, went home to be with

the Lord on Satruday, March

Lend A Hand VOLUNTEER **OPPORTUNITIES** Based on 1990 census figures, at least 19,000 adults in

VOLUNTEER TUTORS NEEDED

The Kent County Literacy Council has scheduled a one to speak another language to teach ESL. hour information session for Tuesday, March 19 at 6:30 p.m. for prospective volunteer tutors.

Those interested in becoming volunteer tutors can find Call 459-5151 to register. out more about the Council and its literacy programs. At the end of the session, there will be an opportunity to sign up for tutor training.

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP NOTICE

The Vergennes Township Board will hold a public hearing for comment on the proposed 2007-08 budget during a regular meeting of the board to be held March 19, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. The board meets at the township offices located at 10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell, MI 49331.

Copies of the proposed budget are available at the Township Hall on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Written comments will be accepted if received by 7 pm on March 19th by the Township Clerk. They can be sent to PO Box 208, Lowell, MI 49331, or by e-mail to clerk@vergennestwp.org.

Mari C. Stone Vergennes Township Clerk

The Kent County Literacy Council is a non-profit, United Way agency devoted to reducing illiteracy in the

Kent County cannot read at a functional level and at least 6,000 adults cannot speak or understand English well. By training people to be tutors, the Council can offer one-onone reading help to adults asking for assistance in reading or English as a Second Language (ESL). Tutors do not need

The information session will be held at the Yankee Clipper Library located at 2025 Leonard, NE, Grand Rapids.

FAXING

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The Lowell Ledger

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Girls greet spring with annual night out

By Emma Palova

Girls and gals will enjoy camaraderie at the annual Girls' Night Out on town in historic Lowell this Michigan this year at all our Thursday.

certificates.

Many participating merchants will be offering munchies, appetizers and refreshments, as well as featured product specials and services.

The Flat River Cottage will be celebrating its first year anniversary as it readies for a move to a new bigger location further east on Main Street. The new location at 317 E. Main will have a full working woodshop among other features.

During Girls' Night Out, the Flat River Cottage will be serving hot beverages if it's cold or bottled water.

The event enjoys a great turnout, according to Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce director Liz Baker.

"We always use events. as a way to market our community," said Baker. At the last week's

Women's Expo in Grand Rapids, the Chamber of Out.

Commerce gave away Wildflowers by Wildwood for rent. Museum caterers \$2,000 worth of Lowell gift are new this year.

"We will see many new the event include Chimera will provide appetizers and faces from around West Designs, Cousin's Hallmark events," Baker said. Historical Museum.

Girls Night Out is The museum held twice a year, once in showcasethe 1870s Victorian lowellchamber.org or call the spring and in the fall, rooms that are available 897-9161.

and the Lowell Area

will

Flat River Grill, Jimmy's Other mainstays of Grill & Hot Box Catering Girls' Night Out runs

from 5-9 p.m. For more information go to www.



Karen Wade is one of the local consigners at the Flat River Cottage for Girls' Night

Students 2 For 1 Ticket Tuesday

3/17 - 3/18 FLUSHED AWAY (PG

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FREE

Special presentation of "Nightmare in New Guinea: Michigan National Guard in WWII

newly produced documentary on Michigan's Red quest of Australia. General service since 1855, served Arrow Division.

ch 21, from 7-8 p.m. This tely fighting in New Gui- These men saw 654 days Arrows." year-long collaboration has nea against superior forces of combat, which is signiproduced the only histo- of Japan. rical documentary on the West Michigan "hometown gle warfare and no expeheroes" of WWII.

Shortly after the sur- men of Michigan's National

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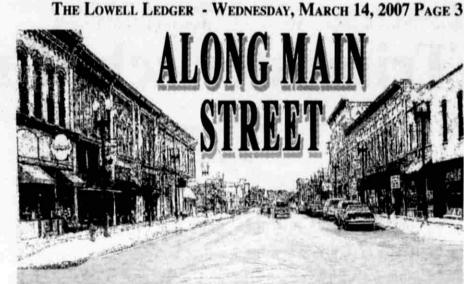
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Lowell Area Histori- prise attack on Pearl Har- Guard, the 126th Infantry military unit in American cal Museum, Grand Valley bor, the Japanese Imperial Regiment—a Red Arrow history. Crippled by disea-State University and Lowe- Army that had invaded Division-were mobilized se and battle wounds, the Il Area Schools will hold a the Philippines, conquered to defeat the heretofore surviving veterans returned special screening of Night- Singapore, and controlled undefeated Japanese Impe- home individually, never mare in New Guinea, the two thirds of China, and rial Army. The Red Arrow being formally honored by set their sights on the con- Division, in active military their hometowns.

The bravery and coura-Douglas MacArthur, Com- in the Civil War and victo- ge of these soldiers helped The screening will take mander-in-Chief in the rious against the Germans turn the tide of WWII and place at the Lowell Perfor- Pacific, needed American in WWI, fought to victory later became the impetus ming Arts Center at the Lo- troops to supplement the in the harsh malaria-ridden for naming the athletics well High School on Mar- Australian forces despera- jungles of New Guinea. program the "Lowell Red



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. Contact Student Services Center at 987-2908 for more information.

LOWELL YOUTH FOOTBALL

Lowell Youth Football will hold its representative election on Monday, March 19, 6:30 p.m. at Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, 113 Riverwalk Plaza.

RIVERWALK GALLERY

"Amazing Colors," art work by artist Cheryl Perry, will be on display at the Riverwalk Gallery, 113 Riverwalk Plaza, through April 13. The public is invited to a reception on Friday, March 16 from 6-9 p.m.

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. For more information, contact Linda Barnes. Lowell Area Historical Museum, PO Box 81, Lowell, MI 49331, 897-7688.

DRIVER'S EDUCATION SIGN-UPS

Registration for drivers' training will be held at Lowell High School, Unity High School, and Lowell Middle School through Monday, March 26. Classes are June 11-28, 7:30-11:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. and July 9-26, 7:30-11:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.. Cost is \$300 with \$150 due at sign-up and the remaining \$150 due by the last day of school. Contact Renay Bouwhuis at 987-2900 with questions.

TOTS SPRING ALMOST NEW SALE

The Tots on Track for School annual Almost New Sale is April 28 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Bright Beginnings Early Childhood Center Gym, 300 High Street, Lowell. Bring your own tables. Set-up will be from 8-9 a.m. Call Kathy at 987-2532 to reserve space. Participation is free.

FROM FOOD PANTRY

The FROM Food Pantry is presently in need of of canned fruit. Please help if you are able. The FROM Food Pantry is now located at 11535 Fulton St. E. (former Cumberland Manor), 897-8260.



Trimester scheduling to stress core class time

By Emma Palova

Trimester scheduling at Lowell High School will not only increase class time, but it will stress core teaching over club activities.

In order to comply with the new Michigan Merit Curriculum, the Lowell Area Schools Board of Education approved a scheduling change at the high school Monday.

With the new scheduling come first."

and seminars may be built into the schedules, most will have to take place before or minutes from blocks.

said high school principal new costs. "It doesn't cost

schedules divided into two semesters or 180 days, the students will have three the students get more trimesters divided into 60 some of the club activities days. Additional time for core classes. On top of students and teachers has been gained by subtracting demonstrate competency to

Other benefits of seat time. "If it's a choice between trimester scheduling include core teaching or a club," smaller class sizes and no Vashaw. "We're getting trimesters.

more efficiency. It allows for more flexibility."

In trimester scheduling, that, the students have to get credit rather than just do

"We will take the best of Vashaw although the curriculum is the past, and shed things that rigorous, students across don't matter to lower stress Scott Vashaw, "core has to any more money," said the board will benefit from levels," Vashaw said

The new Michigan

it into the new system.

It meets the needs of Merit Curriculum requirements include credits in honor students, struggling students and middle students English language arts, math. science, physical education. are impervious to visual applied arts, online experience and social On the other hand,

"It's a systemic change plan to take what's best from just a high school block scheduling and carry change," said Vashaw.

> The middle school will also be affected by the change in terms of transitioning to high school.

Farmers Insurance donates \$500 to local organization

Dave Emmette (left), owner of local Farmers Insurance agency, donated \$500 to Knights of Columbus Council 7719. Mark Brown, Grand Knight, (pictured on right) accepts donation. Emmette is an officer with the Knight of Columbus which recently donated funds to the Flat River Outreach and St. Mary's Pregnancy Center.

College News

recently received a fouryear bachelor of business administration (BBA) degree from Northwood University.

of Robert and Kathleen students recently honored Jackson of Alto.

nounced its mid-year 2006- Honors Convocation on Feb. 2007 graduates, students 11. These full-time students conclusion of the fall 2006 a cumulative grade point semester and the winter average of 3.5 or greater 2007 interim term.

Kelley M. Jackson L. Garlick and Adam M. Hollemans. From Lowell was Matthew P. Jen.

Kimberly Rae Seaman of Grand Rapids was among She is the daughter the full-time and part-time for academic excellence at the 47th annual Ferris Calvin College has an- State University Academic the honored have maintained (4.0 scale) for the previous

From Ada were **Connie** three consecutive semesters.

Simple Steps

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To the Home of Your Dreams

Jessica R. Hamp of Lowell was honored on Michigan

The seating capacity has remained the same to

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ive Hundred Dollars

IONIA COUNTY NATIONAL BANK

the Dean's List at Western University. Students must earn at least a 3.5 grade point average in at least 12 hours of graded

Equal Housin Lender

250 guests each. Work space and storage actively on the project 14 will be located in the heart of the house, although the emphasis is still on the

accommodate concurrently

up to two wedding parties of process."

entrance and the fover. part-time and some fulltime employees will be built and designed by Dan Vos Commerce Company based in Ada.

Ada

Hills

Family

A. Albeiruti DDS

676-1800

Dentistry

months ago to fill a need in the community. "The facility has a very new slogan is proving that

high quality work," McKay

The facility with 35 vets and directly across from place to be." the cemetery," he said. Lowell Chamber of

Executive

Entrepreneur, cont'd. ... From Page 1 "They're known for Director Liz Baker said that the chamber looks at all new said. "It's been a long businesses as an opportunity

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for the community to grow. McKay started working "Having a banquet venue with a different approach will fill the gap," she said. "Once again, I think our

good location between two Lowell really is the next

begging for a treat and might even dig out a cool spot to lay down in your flower bed. It's a good thing they are so cute, friendly and lovable. Until recently, Terese and I have overlooked the faults Good Boy Mick!!! bit of a problem. His name is Mick.

The last time this column criticized somebody else's dog, a call came in to "Sound Off" reminding me of the late Thor, my famously "bad" dog. At the risk of that person Max, our 14-year-old Australian Shepherd, died last calling in with yet another reminder, I'm going to be a bit

Viewpoint-

My first inclination would be to catalog a few instances of bad behavior on the part of my neighbor's dogs. That goes against one of my cardinal rules for what I dare write in this column. I can make fun of myself, my family, our dogs, whatever. Readers laugh and think it is funny, but if I write something about friends or acquaintances... they aren't friends for long.

critical of my neighbor's dogs.

wy Roger Brown

COZY

corner

That point noted, I won't go into many details about the neighbor's Airedales. Let me just say that the "Dog Whisperer" guy could do an entire season of shows working with this pair.

The Airedales are Molly, an eight or nine year old female and Casino, a three-year-old male. When Casino was a pup, they considered calling him Jack. I always liked that name better and still call him Jack. Actually, I usually call him by his full name... Jackass

problem for the neighborhood is, they don't stay at home. They are free to roam the entire island. They tip over garbage cans, mess in yards, put muddy paw prints on doors while

and thought the Airedale antics were cute. Now we have a

happy to see the Airedales move along to the next stop on their regular tours of the island. Our dogs were more than content to hang around home and not give chase. Mick is a

summer. We replaced him right away with Mick, another male Aussie. We have been extremely fortunate on several fronts with Mick. One very good trait is that he prefers to hang out here in his own yard. Another commendable feature is that he comes, on the run, when called. Ah, but

The younger Airedale, Jackass, is Mick's best buddy. They run, play and wrestle in our yard for hours. Sometimes, Mick just can't resist the temptation to go on a runabout when the Airedales decide to move along.

If we happen to catch the departure, we can call Mick it far enough away to get "dog-deaf" and it's "see ya later, outright guffaw!

At these times I have to get in the truck and go looking. laughed just a little too hard.

What the Airedales do at home is their business. The Fortunately, I know all the usual haunts. When they are finally tracked down, Mick is scolded and loaded in the truck. He is very sensitive, another good trait, and cringes all the way home. Back at the house, he is forced to lie on his bed in a bad-dog time out. The process seems to be working.

During most Airedale visits, Terese or I will notice that they have disappeared and Mick is still hanging around.

Our biggest concern is that Mick will run off with the Airedales and be hit by a car or meet with some other dog Our arthritic old dogs, Max and Tito, were always hazard. Consequently, the visits by the roaming Airedales aren't as "cute" as they used to be. Perhaps my entire attitude toward them is changing a little.

> I say all this about the Airedales in an effort to prep you for something my neighbor told me yesterday. The neighbor is the wife of the guy who owns the Airedales. I put it that way because the dogs are most definitely all "his". His wife merely tolerates them. I should say, by "them", I'm talking only about the dogs.

> I met the wife out on a morning walk and we stopped to chat. I had Mick with me and she complimented me on his good manners. She then added, "I gotta tell you this..." She went on to say that she had an old friend in for a visit over the previous week. When her friend left, she said she had a great time, but wouldn't be back until the dogs were dead.

Now, I'm guessing this crack was made in jest. That said... a joke is typically not funny unless there is at least a back. Even if we holler before they get too far out of range, little truth at the core. In this case, there is more than a little Mick will come back. But on a few occasions he has made truth in there. I laughed right out loud. In fact, it was an

After parting company I wondered to myself if I had



A Clear and **Encroaching Danger** to the Great Lakes

With Senator Carl Levin

Every March, advocates for the Great Lakes host a "Great Lakes Day" in Washington to focus national attention on these precious resources, which we in Michigan cherish and rely on every day. This month, I introduced two bills, along with other concerned Senators, that are urgently needed to prevent a potential catastrophe for the lakes from the invasion of Asian carp.

Asian carp pose a serious threat to the health of the Great Lakes. Asian carp grow quickly, reproduce often, consume large amounts of food needed by other species, and face no effective natural predator. If they are introduced here, the species could rapidly wipe out much of the current fish population – and fishing industry – in the Great Lakes. The trout, salmon, bass, perch, walleye, and other species we currently enjoy could essentially be pushed aside by this one voracious species.

Asian carp are already having a devastating impact on

fish species and undermining the traditional fishing industry. for boaters, fishermen, and other sport users.

The species has been heading toward the Great Lakes and has been spotted as close as 50 miles from Lake Michigan. A few years ago, the government built a "dispersal barrier" on the canal connecting the Mississippi River and the Great Lakes to stop the advance of the carp and other invasive species. A dispersal barrier is essentially an electrified field that is highly uncomfortable for the fish, preventing them from crossing it. The barrier, however, was only designed for temporary use. It is wearing out and needs to be replaced.

Building a new dispersal barrier is a key provision of the National Aquatic Invasive Species Act of 2007, which I recently introduced in the Senate. After the second barrier is built, the first barrier would be improved to become a permanent barrier. The bill calls for the barriers to be fully operated by the federal government.

The total cost of the National Aquatic Invasive Species

has a spending problem. The local residents I talk with in

Kent County aren't asking me to increase taxes. There is still

the Mississippi River basin. The carp are overtaking native Act would be \$150 million a year, but, although that is a significant amount of money, it is a bargain when compared According to estimates from the state of Illinois, around 88 to the economic destruction the Asian carp and other invasive percent of commercial fishermen on the Illinois River have species could cause. For example, the invasive zebra mussel been forced out of business because the catfish and buffalo has caused \$3 billion in economic damage over the past 10 fish they once caught are gone. Asian carp are also known years. Fishing on the Great Lakes is a \$4 billion per year as "jumping carp" and, in addition to the environmental and industry. If the Asian carp reach the Great Lakes, it would economic havor they cause, they pose a real safety hazard be a body blow to an important industry and to Michigan's

> The National Aquatic Invasive Species Act includes several other provisions that are important for protecting our lakes. It takes a comprehensive, preventative approach toward the problem of aquatic invasive species rather than just focusing on what to do when a species is established and a nuisance. For example, many aquatic species invade a new ecosystem after being carried there as "stowaways" aboard

> > Levin, cont'd., pg. 9

To The Editor

Articles in the Lowell Ledger and The Grand Rapids Press has brought forth that Lowell is looking at putting a community pool and a new YMCA on donated property. Has our city fathers forgotten that this state and the city of Lowell is in a recession that is ongoing and getting stronger and will be with us for a very long time. City Councilman Jim Pfaller said raising money for the project will be pretty easy but the challenge is long-term maintenance. I would like to ask Mr. Pfaller if money is so easy to come by why aren't our roads in better condition and other necessities seem to be on hold Maintaining a building, pool, and paying personnel yearround can be very expensive. I believe Lowell has taken on protect. For me, my top priorities are to create a competitive more than one project where the cost of maintenance has multiplied many times over. The February 21, 2007 issue of The Lowell Ledger stated on February 21, 1957 four village committed to respecting taxpayer dollar and will continue employees are laid off in efforts to balance the budget in recession times. That was 50 years ago and we are no longer protecting our way of life and strengthening the Michigan a village but a city that should not be adding new taxes for a project that is not considered a necessity in a time of a

> Sincerely. Jim Howard

Michigan's Fiscal Crisis

With Rep. Dave Hildenbrand

The State of Michigan is in a fiscal crisis and the actions we take in the coming weeks and months will affect the future of our state and our way of life. We must address how we are going to deal with a projected budget deficit and how we prevent it from happening in the future.

The Governor has proposed a new tax on services as well as increases to already existing fees. The Governor believes that the problem is that the state isn't getting enough revenue and that we must increase taxes to make up the difference. I don't believe this is an accurate assessment of the situation. Over the past few years the budget has increased from \$39 billion to \$43 billion this year. Michigan

more that government can to do reduce spending. Raising taxes isn't the solution. In order to put the state back on track, we must reform and restructure state government. In addition, we also need to establish more accountability in how tax dollars are spent. As we address the budget issues, it is important

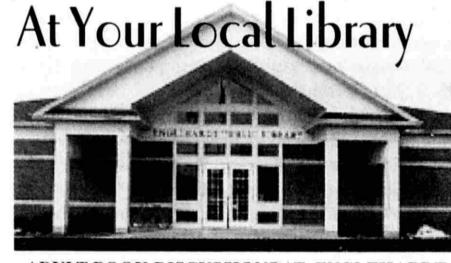
to recognize that we all have priorities that we want to economic environment, provide a quality education for our kids, and protect our most vulnerable citizens. I remain to work with my colleagues to solve the budget crisis while

Representative Hildenbrand can be contacted toll-free recession that sees no end. at: (877) 328-3086; or via e-mail: rephildenbrand@house. mi.gov; or P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909.



Freed/DeGraw

Announcing their plans for a July 7, 2007 wedding are Janelle J. Freed and Matt D. DeGraw. The bride-to-be and her parents, Rev. Gregory and Christine Freed, are of Clarksville. She is a graduate of Lowell High School and Olivet Nazarene University. She currently works at Delta Mills Nazarene Childcare. The groom-elect and his parents, Alan and Susan DeGraw, are of Jenison. He is a graduate of Jenison High School and attended Grand Rapids Community College. He is currently working for Valvoline Instant Oil Change.



ADULT BOOK DISCUSSIONS AT ENGLEHARDT

Adult readers are invited to friendly and informal book discussions at the Englehardt branch of the Kent District Library. Discussions will cover favorite characters and scenes, plot twists, cultural context, and more. The Book Worms book titles and meeting dates are: Tuesday, April 10, 10 a.m., Choose one or both: The Undertaker's Wife: Life in a Small Town Funeral Home by Celia Hastings or The Undertaking: Life Studies From the Dismal Trade by Thomas Lynch. Tuesday, May 8, 10 a.m., Without Reservations by

For more information, contact Joy Smith at 897-7957 or Lynda Austin at 647-3920. The Englehardt branch of KDL is located at 200 N. Monroe St. in Lowell.

Come and See the film "FACING THE GIANTS" Friday, March 16 • 7:00 PM

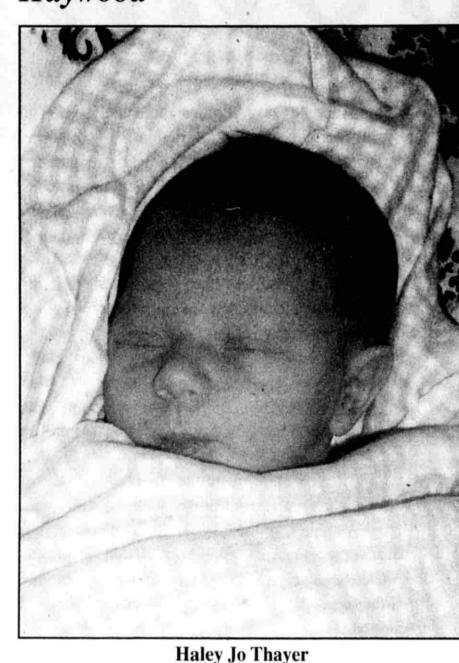
Donations go to our boys club "Cadet" program

Mark your calendar for the **Easter Egg Hunt!** Saturday, April 7 • 10 AM for children ages 3-10



At Calvary Church 1125 West Main Street Phone: 897-7060

Haywood



Lindsey Thayer and Blaine Haywood are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Haley Jo on March 2, 2007, weighing 5 lbs 15 ozs and measuring 18.5 inches long. Grandparents are Sid and Mary Jo Haywood and Tom and Joni Thayer, all of Lowell.

Week April 15-21

and features an endorsement by comedian George Lopez.

National Library **Happy Dirthday**■

grandmother is Mary Bromegan of Bryan, Ohio.

This year's theme is "Come Together at Your Library," KDL joins the America Library Association in letting Lambert, Sara Schoen. everyone know that libraries are places where people can

MARCH 15: come together, and this is especially so at KDL's warm and Daniel Vegter, Ward Boulard cozy library "living room." First sponsored in 1958, National Jr., Brett Hobrla, Margot Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the Miller, Skylar Bowne- Ellison, Alberta Ryder. American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April. It is a time to celebrate the contributions

MARCH 16: use and support. All types of libraries - school, public, Greg Briggs, Louise Weeks.

MARCH 17: Renee Barnes.

.10:00 A. N

..11:20 A.M.

.6:00 P.M.

CALVARY CHRISTIAN

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Lillian Janet Rollins

Mich. announce the birth of their daughter Lillian Janet,

born February 27 at 12:32 p.m. weighing 6 lbs, 14 oz and

measuring 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., George and Janet Rollins of Lowell,

and Robert and Audrye Boonstra of Rockford. Great great

George III and Jessica (Garber) Rollins of Belleville,

MARCH 14:

Wheeler, Mike Bruce Phillips Jr., Chase Stevens, Dan Baird, Kari Treglia, Jim Hacker, Denise Shannon (Brenk) Woolfenden.

Jeremy Barber, Elmer Czapek, Terry B. Abel, Kimberly Dixon, Sean

MARCH 18:

MARCH 19:

MARCH 20: John Roudabush, Cody Moore, Denise Fyan.

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Thursday Faith Alive Worship..

hannon Hanley

100 days and counting at St. Patrick School



March 1. The children enjoyed eating a sausage and two pancakes made to look like 100. They also had fun concept of 100. doing things like licking a lollipop 100 times, doing 100

St. Patrick School kindergarten students in Carole jumping jacks, and putting 100 fruit loops on a string Walsh's class celebrated their 100th day of school on to make a necklace. All the morning activities centered on the number 100 to help the children understand the

An education isn't how much you have committed to memory, or even how much you know. It's being able to differentiate between what you do know and what you don't.

- Anatole France (1844 - 1924)

THE LOWELL LEDGER - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2007 PAGE 7

Jim Lang,

Wayne A. Christenson John G. Meier & Tracy Lixie

COLORECTAL CANCER: HOW TO DETECT IT EARLY

Since March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month it seems appropriate to discuss what colorectal cancer is and how to detect it.

Colorectal Cancer is the third most common type of cancer in the body. Every person has approximately a six percent lifetime risk of developing colorectal cancer. Fortunately it can be treated, and in most cases cured, if you catch it early.

Most colorectal cancers begin as a polyp. Polyps start out as a small growth on the colon or rectal wall that can take years to develop into a cancer that grows and spreads. You should see your health care provider if you have any of these warning signs: bleeding from the rectum, blood in your stool or in the toilet after your have a bowel movement, a change in the shape of your stool, cramping pain in your lower stomach, or a feeling of discomfort or urge to have a bowel movement when there is no need to have one.

Colorectal cancer is more common in older individuals, so health care providers usually begin screening after the age of 50. Those individuals with a family history of colorectal cancer should begin their screening at an earlier age.

Screening for colon cancer involves a yearly digital rectal exam and one or more of the following tests: yearly fecal occult blood test (tests stool for blood you can't see), flexible sigmoidoscopy every five years (a tiny camera that views the lower half of the colon), double contrast barium enema every five years (x-rays to detect abnormal spots in the colon), or colonoscopy every 10 years (a tiny camera that views the entire colon).

Talk to your health care provider about your potential risk of developing colorectal cancer and when you should begin testing for it.

College News

Central Michigan University announced August Lowell, made the Dean's and December graduates. List and the Honor Roll Arts and Aaron Charrouf School in Lansing. of Lowell received his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration.

April Rand of Ada received during fall term at The her Bachelor of Applied Thomas M. Cooley Law

Richard Ford, of

REMEMBER... Our deadline is 4 P.M. ON FRIDAY!

Call us if you can't make it until Monday. If we can, we'll help you out! The Lowell Ledger • 105 N. Broadway

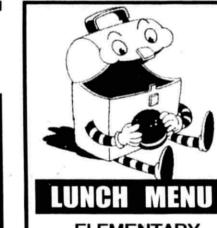
SPECIAL THANKS FROM SLOAN RACING

Bry Sloan-Johnson would like to thank all family, friends and sponsors for supporting him through the 2006 race season.

A special thanks to: Woody's Vacs, Woody's Off the Truck Golf Sales - Grandpa & Grama Jim & Ruth Wood; Brenda's Hair Design. Load All, Newman Data Service and a very special thanks to Rudy Smith owner of A-1 Lazer.



Thanks again, Troy, Angie, Bry Sloan-Johnson



Week of March 19, 2007

pizza sauce (3 meat sub also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), broccoli, assorted fruit,

TUES: Ham & cheese sub/lettuce

potatoes, assorted fruit, milk.

cheese/pretzel Lake), mini assorted fruit, milk.

ELEMENTARY

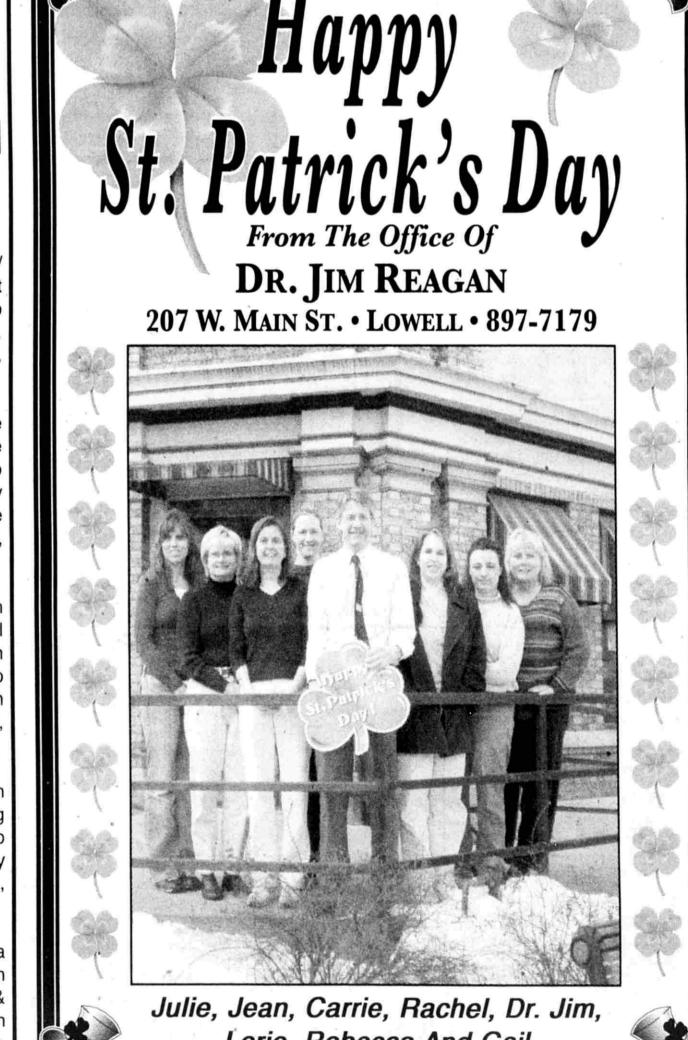
MON: Bosco sticks w/

(deluxe nachos w/meat also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), fresh fruit, apple

WED: Baked chicken nuggets & dinner roll (turkey & cheese on bun also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), oven

THURS: Hotdog on (yogurt/string offered at Alto & Murray carrots

FRI: Cheese pizza (BBQ ribbette on bun also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), green beans, assorted fruit,



Lorie, Rebecca And Gail

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Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Lee Taylor -Sun. Worship Service......9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M

Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648 Sunday School. .10:00 A.M

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.9:45 A.M. Rev. Randy Meyers - 897-7060 Sunday School. 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Nursery & Jr. Church Provided Rev. Frank Lattimore, Pastor Sunday School "A Nondenominational Evening Worship. Ministry With A Blended Nursery available at both services

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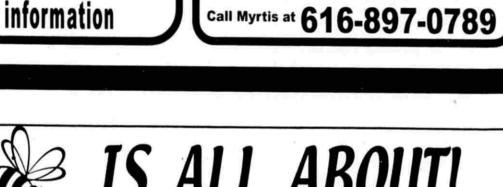
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Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold **EdwardJones** Serving Individuals Investors Since 1871

NEW PENSION RULES BENEFIT 401(K) BENEFICIARIES

As you're probably aware, the traditional pension plan has not fared so well in recent years. In fact, many large companies have frozen or discontinued their plans. Congress passed laws last year to strengthen pensions, but some other provisions of this legislation may interest you even if you don't have a pension — especially if you may be coming into an inheritance that includes a 401(k).

And a 401(k) can be a sizable bequest. By the time many people retire, their 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan - such as a 403(b) or 457(b) - may be their biggest single financial asset. Even if they died before depleting the funds in their 401(k) or other plan, they might still have a large chunk of money to pass on. It's never been much of a problem to leave this money to a spouse, who could roll the funds into an IRA. Once the money was in this IRA. the surviving spouse could continue enjoying the benefits of tax-deferred growth.

However, non-spouse beneficiaries - such as children, grandchildren, siblings and domestic partners — did not have this luxury. When these beneficiaries inherited a 401(k) or other retirement plan, they were generally forced to take the entire balance within five years of the account owner's death - and some plans required them to take the payout as a lump sum within one year. These accelerated payments were likely to create what is euphemistically called a "taxable event." In plain English, this means that if you were a non-spouse beneficiary, you were likely to take a big tax hit after you lakes. inherited the 401(k) or other retirement plan.

Now, however, things have changed, thanks to the new pension laws. Effective Jan. 1 of this year, if you are a nonspouse beneficiary, you can transfer an inherited 401(k) or other retirement plan into an IRA. And that means you can "stretch out" distributions and taxes over your lifetime, rather

than being forced to take withdrawals immediately or over a period of a few years. By stretching this inherited account, you can continue to enjoy tax-deferred growth, which can create a significantly greater amount of income over your

Clearly, this can be a huge advantage to you. But you need to make sure you're following the correct procedure. In "legalese," you have to make what's known as a trusteeto-trustee transfer by establishing an "inherited" IRA and have the check from the 401(k) or other plan made payable to the trustee or custodian of this IRA. Once this account is established, you can't contribute anything more to it or roll the money into any other IRA you might have.

Your financial advisor can help you set up the inherited IRA and invest the distributions from the 401(k) or other

THE LOWELL LEDGER - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2007 PAGE 9

plan to help you meet your financial goals in a way that is appropriate for your individual risk tolerance. You may also want to consult with your tax advisor before transferring funds from the retirement plan to the IRA.

In any case, once you learn that you are going to inherit a 401(k) or other retirement plan, start doing your homework right away. If managed correctly, this type of inheritance can make a big difference in your life - so make the most of your opportunity.

School policy, continued ... From Page 1

process at the Lowell Community Expo. Last of the surveys will be collected at the event, where Lowell Area Schools will have a

To date, the district has Part of the land could be said Pratt. received 500 surveys back.

School officials are also used to build a YMCA pool, working actively to develop while the balance could be a master plan along with dedicated for open space and other entities for the possible a green home development. donation of 100 acres of land from the Wege Foundation. details to be worked out,'

"There are a lot of

A tentative meeting is scheduled for March 29 to further discussions about the Wege property.

Levin, continued From Page 5

a ship. This bill would set tougher standards for ensuring transportation or importation of live Asian carp without a that a ship's ballast water does not contain living organisms and would invest in new technologies for screening and eliminating organisms. Particularly important to the Great Lakes is the requirement that ships reporting "no ballast on board" flush out their ballast tanks before entering the and specifically that Asian carp must not be allowed to

The second bill we introduced is called the Asian Carp Prevention and Control Act. This bill would require the government to recognize three species of Asian carp – the bighead, black and silver carp - as harmful to wildlife. By doing so, Congress would prohibit the interstate

permit and therefore reduce the risk that Asian carp will be introduced into the Great Lakes.

There is widespread agreement that the problem of aquatic invasive species needs to be addressed by Congress reach the Great Lakes. I am optimistic that we will address invasive species in a comprehensive manner this year and will pass legislation to build a new dispersal barrier before



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Lowell Unity High School team grabs first in Quiz Bowl



Kirsten VanderJagt, Esther Porritt, Marissa Garza, Tim Stevens and Ed Zanderbergen of Lowell Unity High School took first place in the 22nd annual Quiz Bowl.

By Emma Palova

Which country produces the most nuclear energy?

That was the tie breaking question that won the 22nd Annual Quiz Bowl for alternative high schools for Lowell Unity earlier this month.

The team from Unity beat out eight strong teams at the competition in Grandville.

Of course, there were other questions about deism and Confucius

"The deism was very hard," said team leader Tim Stevens. "It was the religion of our forefathers."

Stevens and his team were pretty proud of their victory

"I knew we had a strong team," said Stevens. "I didn't know we were going to beat everybody else out. (There are) a lot of stereotypes. We wanted to bring the reputation up...It was a great pat on the back."

It was Stevens' second year in the Quiz Bowl testing his memory, history and math skills.

"I've learned how important it is to pay attention in school," he said. "The questions were harder than last year.

We want to show the community we are capable." But what about the nuclear energy question?

"My dad knew it was France," said team member Esther Porritt.

Not only was the team capable, but overall the team members and teacher Jon Bieneman were proud of Lowell Unity High School.

"It was an awesome opportunity to go and see students rise to the occasion and do a good job," said Bieneman. "They practiced throughout the year."



VARSITY SPRING SPORTS SCHEDULE

This Page Brought to You By The Lowell Ledger

BOYS VARSITY BASEBALL

* Indicates a home game at Cherry Creek baseball field Games begin at 4 p.m. unless indicated 4/7 at 9 a.m. Coldwater Tournament (3) 4/10 Forest Hills Eastern (2) 4/12 Unity Christian* 4/14 at 10 a.m. Lowell Invitational 4/16 Portland (2)

GIRLS VARSITY SOFTBALL

* Indicates a home game at Cherry Creek softball field Games begin at 4 p.m. unless indicated 4/10 Forest Hills Eastern (2) 4/12 Unity Christian (2)* 4/14 at 10 a.m. East Kentwood Tournament 4/16 Portland (2) 4/18 Ionia

BOYS & GIRLS TRACK

* Indicates a home meet at LHS Red Arrow Stadium Games begin at 4:15 p.m. unless indicated 4/12 East Grand Rapids* 4/14 at 9 a.m. Hastings Relays 4/17 Greenville

GIRLS VARSITY GOLF

* Indicates a home meet at Deer Run Golf Course. All meets begin at 3:30 p.m. unless indicated. 4/10 Forest Hills Eastern* 4/12 Cedar Springs* 4/13 Lakewood 4/16 at 9 a.m. Pre-conference at Thornapple Pointe 4/18 East Grand Rapids*

GIRLS VARSITY SOCCER

* Indicates a home game at Red Arrow Stadium. Games begin at 6:45 p.m. unless indicated. 3/26 at 5:45 p.m. Caledonia* 4/11 Cedar Springs* 4/14 at 12:45 p.m. Jenison* 4/16 Rockford* 4/18 Zeeland East

BOYS VARSITY TENNIS

* Indicates a home game at LHS tennis courts Games begin at 4 p.m. unless indicated 4/10 Thornapple Kellogg 4/12 Lakewood* 4/14 at 9:30 a.m. Lowell Invitational* 4/17 Whitehall* 4/18 East Grand Rapids*

Book comes out at the same time as "Fowl Weather" ends

By Emma Palova

parrots, was just one of many animals that inspired a local freelancer to author two books.

"Enslaved by Ducks" Bob Tarte penned "Fowl by Algonquin Books.

explained his journey from being a non-animal person to living with two dozen

primary caretaker of the Street and the Grand River. The belligerent Ollie, animals, introduced Tarte The annual area floods attract to naughty rabbit Binky and from then on it was just had to build special pens for

> all these animals," said Tarte. going to happen.'

Unfortunately dove Howard with Alzheimer's Disease. passed away at the generous

in bird's suits," he said.

The couple lives on a

As winter goes out, fowl comes in and gathers behind Main St. businesses on the Flat

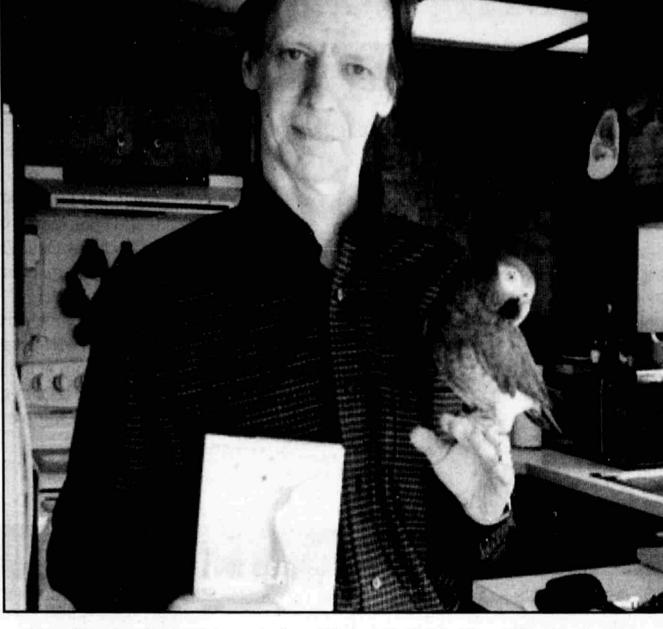
Wife Linda, who is the sliver of land between Fulton fowl and birds. The Tartes the fowl. "Ducks are very "It's chaotic living with labor intensive," said Tarte.

As described in his "You never know what's newest book, the trials and tribulations of living with Other than Bella, Tarte so many animals have Weather" recently published was especially attached helped Tarte overcome his to naughty Binky, and to own personal struggles. His Holding his favorite Mussolini in a bird's suit. mother has been diagnosed

> And Tarte finds solace and humor in situations in "Parrots are like people dealing with the birds that comfort him. He even says

> > **F**ountain

View >



Lowell author Bob Tarte recently published hid book "Fowl Weather" which was inspired by the couple's animals.

that he has learned patience from the animals.

for him. Sometimes Tarte book on the subway. situations like when he has laughing," she wrote to hold the water dish for the cat at a certain height.

question, "Why should money. Although he remains "I've learned how anyone read your books?" hopeful his second book will with trauma," Tarte answered: "People will do just as well as the first "They're very be happy they're not living one.

sympathy woman who was reading his cat no. 5, Mabel.

response to a the way to make lots of

The author already has Once Tarte received plans for a third book that with an e-mail from a New York will focus on cats - mainly Tarte's books are

available at Schuler Books and Barnes & Noble. For As a freelance writer, more information go Tarte knows writing is not www.bobtarte.com

Are you losing someone you love to Alzheimer's or Dementia?

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COMING EVENTS

MARCH

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

THURS., MAR. 15: Beef or chicken homemade stew dinner, Saranac High School Cafetorium, 5 - 7 p.m. Adults \$6, children, age 10 & under, \$3. Children's menu available. Sponsored by The Boston/Saranac Historical Society. Proceeds for upcoming 100th birthday celebration of the Depot.

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

TUES., MAR. 20: Dinner at Sam's Joint, 4:30 p.m. at 374-7762. Sponsored by Lowell Senior Neighbors.

MONDAYS

TUESDAYS

Living Sober Group, New AA Group, 7:30 p.m. at 119 Lincoln Lake (behind Fireplace Plus).

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.

Nash S.E. at 7:30 p.m. EVERY OTHER MON.: Lowell Area Juggling Club, Community

4TH MON.: Clark-Ellis American Legion Post 152, 3100 Alden

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 MI#372 at Key Heights Mobile Home Park Community Bldg. Weigh-ins are at 5:45 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

2ND TUES.: Diabetic Support, 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 897-5981. Commerce, 113 Riverwalk Plaza. 897-5449 for information.

WED., MAR. 21: Shop Meijer, 11:15 a.m. Movie at Center, 12:45. Sponsored by Lowell Senior Neighbors.

SAT., MAR. 24: Lowell Area Fire Department Pancake Breakfast at Look Memorial Fire Station, 315 S. Hudson. Serving 7 - 11 a.m. Cost: Donations at the door. Proceeds to go toward fire equipment.

SAT., MAR. 24: Masonic Lodge #355, serving Belding, Ionia and Lowell will host a "Texas Hold'em Tournament," in the dining room of the temple, 211 E. Main St., Belding. Registration begins at 5 p.m.; first cards dealt at 6 p.m. Must be 18. For pre-registration call John Fossler

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 Course at 7 p.m. St. 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking.

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

WEDNESDAYS

Living Sober Group, New AA Group, 7:30 p.m. at 119 Lincoln Lake (behind Fireplace Plus).

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 7:30 p.m. Methodist Church, corner of Avery & Jackson. 897-5936.

Tri-town Conservation Club trap & skeet league, 5616 Dunn 6:30 - 8 p.m. Rd. 6-10 p.m.Larry 754-7104.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THURSDAYS

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

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

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.

Notices in the "Coming Events" are free to any nonprofit organization in the Lowell, Ada, Alto

& Saranac areas. Keep notices brief; may submit by mail, phone - 897-9261, fax -897-4809 or

email - ledger@lowellbuversquide.com. All submissions are subject to available space.

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 897-7842.

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

EVERY THURS.: 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

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

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, walkins are welcome. Call Jan 897-5759 for location and more

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

2ND THURS.: Genealogy-Alto Family Tree Club at Alto Library

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

Living Sober Group, New AA Group, 7:30 p.m. at 119 Lincoln Lake (behind Fireplace Plus).

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

Showboat extravaganza planned - organizers looking for local talent

The search is on for local amateur talent to perform at a 75th anniversary celebration of the Lowell Showboat.

competition will determine who will perform at the

summer vaudeville attraction for many years, provided a weekend of lively entertainment. Organizers hope to recreate a weekend from the old days, though there hasn't been a production on the Showboat in 10 years.

Twenty-four selected from applications at www.discoverlowell. sent to the Lowell Area Arts org. Deadline is May 1. Council, will compete May Questions may be e-mailed community-wide 12 at Amateur Act Audition to talentsearch@lowellartsc Arts Council Day at the Lowell Performing Arts Center at Lowell High event planned for Aug. 24- School, according to talent begintorecruitformerchorus Showboat, Seese.

> will take place during the Riverwalk Festival July 14. Six winning acts will

Nostalgia Event in August.

ouncil.org.

committee chairperson Rick members and endmen. Organizers are planning From the 24, 12 will to keep as much of the be chosen to compete in original format as possible. semi-final competition that The program will include slapstick comedy by the endmen, the local Showboat Chorus under the direction perform at the Showboat of Roger MacNaughton, the amateur acts and a headliner Applications for the act to complete each night's

acts, audition day are available lineup. Sponsors of this free and the Lowell Area community event include Chamber of Commerce. the Lowell Area Historical Museum, Lowell Area Also, efforts will soon Showboat Nostalgia

The extravaganza is being funded through grants from the Look Memorial Fund and the Lowell

Community Fund. A local group. the Cattail Bend Committee. is coordinating the celebration.

To add to the festivities, the Lowell Area Arts Council celebrate its 30th anniversary and the Lowell Area Community Fund its 10th.

Relay for Life kickoff celebration held at Lowell Performing Arts Center

Let's Relay was the theme of the Feb. 27 kickoff celebration for Relay for Life of Lowell. Over 100 people came out to the Lowell Performing Arts Center at Lowell High School to learn how they can form teams for the cancer benefit that will take place June 29-30 from noon to noon at Red Arrow Memorial Stadium., Twenty teams have signed up so far.

Participants collect pledges for the overnight event in which teams of people take turns walking or running laps. Each team tries to keep at least one team member on the track at all times.

Event co-chair Carol Briggs said that last year's first Relay for Life in Lowell raised over \$47,000. Organizers are hoping to get 25-30 teams and raise \$60,000 locally this time around.

Relay for Life is the American Cancer Society's signature event that raises awareness and funding to fight cancer. Just under \$3 million from the nationwide event stayed in the area last year and provided grants to staff at the Grand Rapids VanAndel Research Relay for Life.

Institute and was used in

development.

Valentine's shirt, which read it!," drew a loud round of

development and offered suggestions there right now thinking on how to raise funds.

"Had it, fought it, survived with Melissa Kelley who can. If you are thinking 'I'm encouraged community event either most definitely do." chairperson Shelby Jernberg by joining a team or encouraged teams to join volunteering time where on Relay for Life of Lowell, the fight against cancer needed. "If you are sitting contact Briggs at 897-5501.

performed the song "Skin" and courage shown during American Cancer Society 'I'm not sure if I know cancer research and staff which she shared at last their fight against the disease. representative Elizabeth enough people to form a year's Relay. Cancer Addressing the crowd were Males announced team team,' my response is yes, Fourth grade cancer survivors in attendance were Heather Organek, Anna's excellence award winners you do," said Kelley. "If you survivor Anna Organek recognized for their strength mother, and breast cancer and recognized the teams are thinking 'I'm not sure if survivor Chery Valentine. that have signed up so far. I can raise enough money,' The program ended my response is, yes, you everyone not sure if I have the time or to become active in the ability,' my response is, you

For more information



Anna Organek sings during kickoff celebration for

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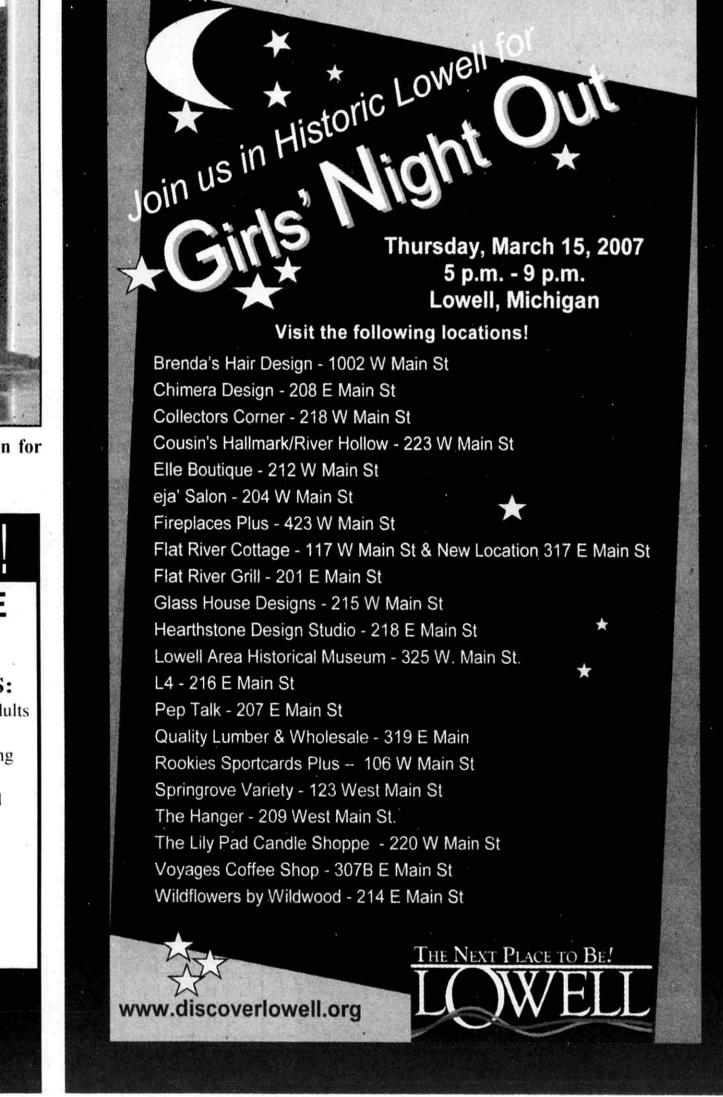
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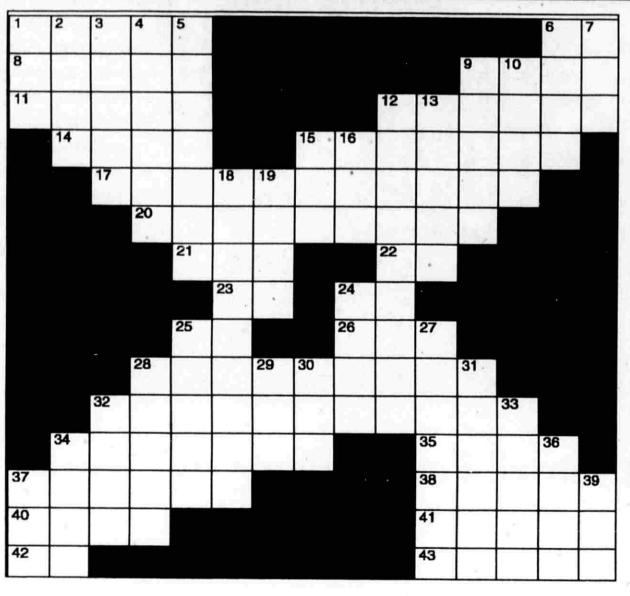
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CW073116

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Cygnus star 6. Hafnium
- 8. Learn by repetition
- 9. Small pierced object for stringing
- 11. Erik ___, composer
- 12. Scanty or spare
- 14. Incites hostile action 15. A witty saying
- 17. Upset the order of
- 20. Occupancies
- 21. Medical practitioner
- 22. Anno Domini (in the year of Our Lord)
- 23. Of I
- 24. Special therapy

CLUES DOWN

1. Tooth caregiver

Sacred

6. Heme (var.)

9. Uncovers

7. 32nd President

10. Oh, God! (var.)

12. Small replica

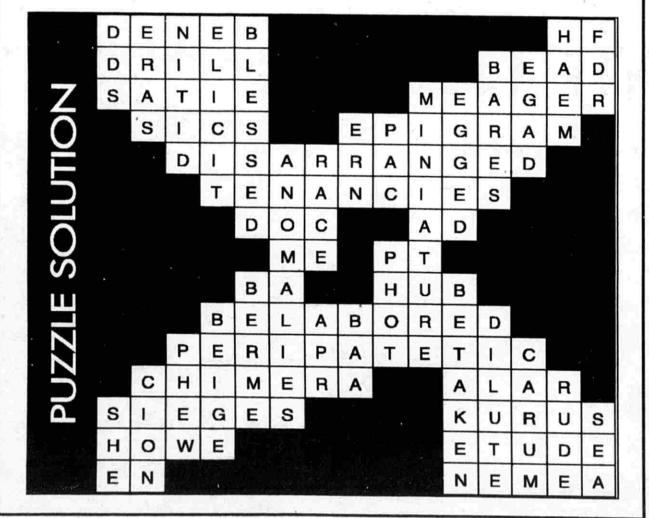
2. Geological times

- 25. Barium 26. Center
- 28. Discussed at length
- 32. Walking about from place
- to place 34. Composite Greek she-monster
- 35. Trademark used for daminozide
- 37. Blockades
- 38. Turkish monetary units 40. British Revolutionary War
- general
- 41. Opus 42. Linear unit
- 43. Site of Greek games in 573
- osynthesis: light conversion
- 3. Gleaming 25. Ground along a dike 4. Evoke
 - 27. Cause oneself to go
 - 28. Light brown

 - 32. Stinks!
- 13. Encouraged 15. Any of several sea eagles
- 16. Political action committee
- 18. Departures from the norm
- 29. 4th month (abbr.) 30. Sheep sound
- tration

- 19. Type of sports competition
 - 39. Ocean

CW07311A



RANDOM THINGS ...

March ushers in Spring on March 21st!

in the old Roman calendar the ides (the 13th of all months except March, May, July, and October when it falls on 15th. Julius Caesar wasassasinated on The ides of March.

The March of Dimes

agency was established in 1938 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to combat epidemic poliomyelitis, or polio. It was then called the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

It funded the development of the Salk and Sabin vaccines that help prevent polio. The agency adopted its present name in 1979.

Send Winter Off With Soup

While spring may be right around the corner, here in Michigan chances are it has yet to completely give up the ghost. That said, a few more cold days are likely on the horizon, meaning a hot bowl of soup is just as valuable now as it was last month.

Perhaps no soup is more worthy of meal status than minestrone. Recipes can vary depending on the cook, but most minestrone soups, such as the following recipe from the Culinary Institute of America's "Book of Soups" (Lebhar Friedman), come loaded with pasta, vegetables and beans. This recipe, exhibiting the varied ingredients of minestrone soup, even features pancetta, a type of Italian bacon that can be found in most delis or butcher shops. If not, it can be removed from the recipe.

MINESTRONE SOUP

Makes 8 Servings

1/4 cup chopped celery

• 1 cup sliced carrots

• 2 quarts chicken broth

• 1 cup chopped, drained, canned tomatoes

• 1/3 cup drained, canned kidney beans

• 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper (or to taste)

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 ounce pancetta, chopped (5-6 thin slices) 2 garlic cloves, minced

• Freshly grated parmesan cheese, as needed

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

7 8 8 8 8 1 3 4

834176829

9 8 4 6 7 8 8

2 9 2 8 1 4 8 3 6 2

8 5 2 4 6 9 7 1 8

more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

- 1 1/2 cups chopped green cabbage • 1 cup chopped onions
- 1/2 cup peeled, diced potato
- 1 ounce Parmesan cheese rind
- 1/4 cup drained, canned chickpeas
- 1/3 cup pesto
- 1/2 teaspoon salt (or to taste)
- 3 ounces vermicelli or angel hair pastas, broken into 2-inch pieces
- 31. Reduce a liquid's concen-
- 33. Caraway
- 34. Coer___: compel by force
- 36. Ill-mannered
- 37. The woman

SUDOKU Heat the oil in a soup pot over medium heat. Add the pancetta and cook until the fat melts, 3 to 5 minutes. Do not Numbers ike puzzles? Then you'll love

you hooked from

the moment you

sharpen your

pencil and put

savvy to the test!

your sudoku

Add the cabbage, onions, carrots, celery, and garlic. Cook until the onions are translucent, 6 to 8 minutes. Add the tomatoes and sauté another 2 to 3 minutes.

Add the broth, potato and parmesan-cheese rind. Bring to a simmer and cook until the vegetables are tender, about 30 minutes. Do not overcook. Meanwhile, cook the vermicelli according to package directions, until tender. Drain.

When the vegetables in the soup are tender, add the cooked vermicelli, chickpeas and kidney beans. Remove and discard the parmesan rind. Season the soup to taste with the pesto, salt and pepper. Serve in heated bowls, sprinkled with cheese.



Lowell FFA members attend state convention

contests or to receive awards.

the campus of Michigan State University in East Lansing.

are designed to help the in order to make them better leaders and more prepared for the future.

Audrey Blodger, Caitlin Oesch, Emma Roderick, and Kelsey Ward competed

FFA in the Junior High Conduct several members receiving also received this award Silver award in the Small of Meetings contest taking individual recognition. home a Silver award. Josh Merriman also attended as Wade, and Patrick Walsh

In the contest, middle recognition, given to senior was school members had to FFA members with at least a demonstrate that they could run a meeting using correct parliamentary procedure.

public speaking contest, Ian the State Association can BlodgeralsoreceivedaSilver bestow upon a member. The award. Extemporaneous State Degree is awarded to speaking tests the student's senior members that have knowledge of a broad topic shown they have earned area. Students select the a certain amount or have topic area and at the contest, invested a set number of draw a specific question to hours in an FFA Supervised Bartholomew, write their speech about. Agricultural After one half an hour prep project. time, the students present their five- minute speech.

Receiving a Silver award in the Jr. High Conduct of Meetings Contest were: (front

row, l-r): Emma Roderick, Mark Harden, Kelsey Ward; back row: Audrey Blodger,

Katie Bartholomew, Alli Oesch and Caitlin Clover.

for the National FFA Band.

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\$15.00

\$30.00

materials, and a consultation with the pharmacist

Morgan Olin, Mike Bartholomew and Kendra Roth, Katie Rottier, Stephanie Roth received Proficiency all received scholarship 3.3 grade point average.

These students also received the State FFA In the extemporaneous Degree, the highest award

> Nick Canfield, Regan Doyle, Grady Drown, Brian Langlois and Andy Oesch

from Lowell.

Brian Langlois and Mike Awards for their Supervised projects. The Proficiency Awards take a student's SAE and judge it compared

Langlois received



Silver award Extemporaneous Public Speaking.

to others in the same area.



Ian Blodger received compete for the award at

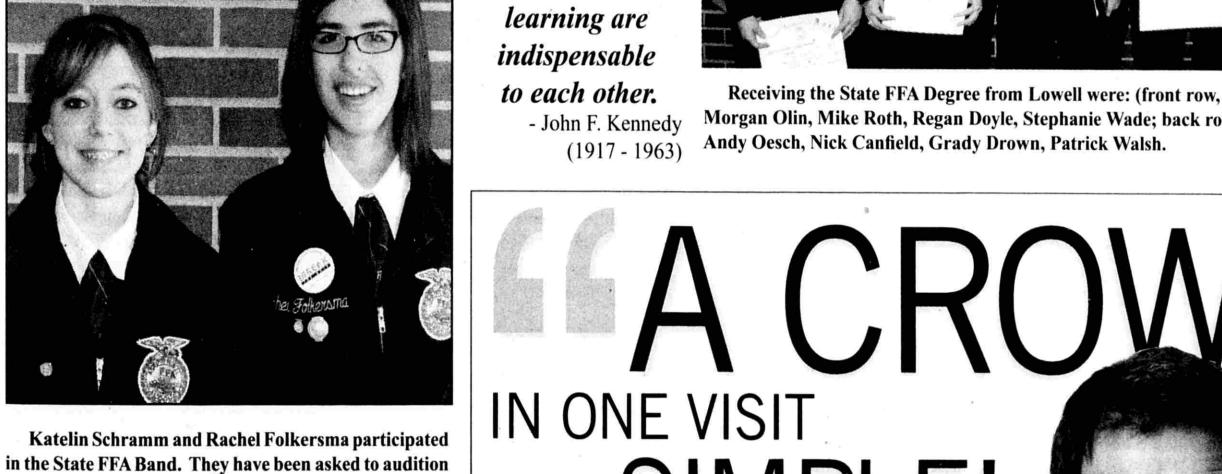
Animal Care area for his farm. As the state winner, Roth's application will be Kennel. Roth was named Experience the state winner in Forage Production for the work he

Briana Buck, Jim Leara Glinzak, Jenny Humphries, April Wolf and Blake Zigmont each received the Outstanding Junior Award. This award is similar to the State Degree but with smaller time and money requirements.

Lowell was represented in the State FFA Band also. Rachel Folkersma and Katelin Schramm auditioned and were chosen to perform in front of over 1,500 people at the Convention sessions held at the Wharton Center. In addition to performing in the State band, Folkersma and Schramm were asked to audition for the National FFA Roth was named the State Band that performs at the Winner in the Forage National FFA Convention Proficiency in Indianapolis, Indiana this Area. He is now eligible to October.



Receiving the State FFA Degree from Lowell were: (front row, I-r): Katie Rottier, Morgan Olin, Mike Roth, Regan Doyle, Stephanie Wade; back row: Brian Langlois, Andy Oesch, Nick Canfield, Grady Drown, Patrick Walsh.



Leadership and

"If I had known it would be this easy, I wouldn't have put off getting a crown for so long. One visit and it was done. The crown fits and looks great. I have my smile back...simple!"

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LHS girls basketball team tops in free throws

The 2006 Lowell High School varsity girls basketball team was recently recognized as a Top Ten Team in Free Throws for last season. The team overall made 271 of 412 free throw shots for a 65.8 percentage - good enough to earn seventh place in the state for all classes. The best free throw shooting team in the state shot 70.7 percent at the free throw line.

Junior Chelsea Harrison placed eighth in the state overall making 81.7 percent of her free throws or 103 of 126. Harrison was also named honorable mention to the 2006 Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan (BCAM) All State Class A team.

Senior Kelsey Crowley was named to the 2006 BCAM Academic All State Team. Those named to the academic team must maintain at least a 3.5 grade point average and be named to an all-state team. Crowley has a 4.268 grade point average and was named to the third team Class A All State by both the Detroit Free Press and BCAM.

College News

The Aguinas College Hurdles (8.66), just .03 finished off the final day seconds behind the winner of the NAIA Indoor Track and .01 behind second place and Field Championships finisher. The performance in grand style as five Saints earned her All-American earned All-American honors honors and established a (finishing in the top six) a new school record. She total of seven times.

Leading the awards place finish in the 800 third in the 60 Meter honors three times in one captured third place to help respect. It's another step place match.

two individual events.

All told, the women's showing the Saints have ever experienced.

For the second year

North Central score 30.5 points and place 10th.

the school."

fourth-seeded

and

this tournament was to place in the top 10," said head coach Kevin Bratland. "More importantly, I wanted those guys to go out and accomplish their goals. 7-3 decision to top-seeded They've been working hard sixth place finish. That made performances at the NCAA wanted, but to do it the way Central career with a 4-1 place third." Kent started the final day her just the fourth Aquinas III Wrestling Championships they did it builds character win over second-seeded of competition by finishing athlete to earn All-American March 2-3. Both Cardinals and that's how you earn Ross Needham in the third-

"Our goal going into

Gingerich finished fifth forward for the program and in the nation last year at At 157 pounds, the 157 pounds for his first All-

American honor. edged Kyle Fornes 5-4 and "It was definitely nice Jess Milks 13-5 to advance to go out with a win and to the semifinals. The not a loss," Gingerich said "It was tough coming back senior than lost a narrow after that (the loss) because eventual national I really wanted to be the all year. There are a lot of champion Jeremy Anderson. national champion. I was in a row, North Central's ups and downs in the season. Gingerich bounced back ahead 2-1 on Anderson and Adam Johnson of Portland For both Adam and Bobby to and pinned (5:49) third- almost took him down for a and Bobby Gingerich of come back and get third was seeded Aaron Wernimont in 4-1 lead, but I don't know and meet by anchoring the Lowell have achieved All- a great accomplishment. It's the consolation semifinals what happened. It feels a 1600 meter relay team to a American status with their not necessarily what they before completing his North lot better now to be able to

Lowell's own karate kid continues to compete around the state

The "Where Warriors competitors from Canada and the United States. Moore

"Mariah Moore is one of ago my finest practitioners of the an incredible performance straight ahead). of the Filipino martial arts

was named Grand Champion opportunity to meet her and the sickles." in an international martial was equally impressed with arts tournament March 3 in her character and demeanor another first place in the Open

meters and finished the day

The event was directed and hosted by the American in the Philippine Islands) and Korean Tae Kwon Do Moore also took second place schools which were founded in the fighting competition. took home a five-foot high by 8th Dan Grand Master

Kama's stole the show at know a competitor has done Moore emerged victorious. 2007 season. our tournament," said John great when they spark an

Alto's Mariah Moore Belt, Judge. "I had the weapons purchase will be

Moore then earned

She performed Mayon by 6th Dan Master Ric Curp (meaning-an active volcano All color belts (belt

Mel Roza about 30 years ranks under black) winning first place in their respective Leading up to being division earned the right Jornales System Sandatahan crowned Grand Champion, to compete for the very Arnis-Sikaran which literally Moore took first place sought after title, Color Belt means armory of weaponry," in Weapons with her Grand Champion. Among a said Grand Master Bong Sickles (Kamas) on ropes field of over a dozen very Jornales. "She can excel, full performing Arnis Sikaran talented and very competent of energy, in what she learns Jornales System Form, opponents ranging in age and demonstrates them in Sagasa Sangot (meaning- from six to 30, Moore once again proved that she

Driven, Moore trains Colwell 2nd Dan Black interest in you. My next two to four hours per day



Moore during a recent competition.

Last July, Moore,

"I saw her do her is a force to be reckoned four to six days per week. a member of the U.S. Florida. She is the current weapons form with the in," said Master Curp. "You call was unanimous and has attended so far in the Kali Arnis Federation World Weapons. Championships in Orlando,

through competitions and weapons form with the with delivering a very Consistently on top of her National Team, took two World Champion in Full sickles which is not a weapon refreshing and near flawless game, she has swept or nearly gold medals for the United Contact Stick Fighting and "Mariah's skill in her I was ever very interested performance. The judges' swept every tournament she States at the World Escrima in Traditional Multiple

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RED ARROW S PORTS

Large contingent of Lowell Red Arrow fans support wrestlers at Individual State Finals in Auburn Hills

By Sean Garner

chance to be a four-time state champion, but Jackson Morse let the whole state know he belongs among the The referee's decision elicelite wrestlers in Michigan.

The 125-pound freshman went into Saturday crowd evening's MHSAA Individof Auburn Hills against New call Boston Huron's undefeated decided underdog. After 6 minutes on the mat however, Morse proved he belonged on the highest stage.

However, a controversial call in overtime would ally troubled me."

Lowell High School

junior Bry Sloan-Johnson

took second place in points

in the mini-stock class at the

I-96 speedway for the 2006

14 other drivers between the

ages of 20 and 40. He was

only 15 during the 2006 race

some hard charging to stay

second in points towards the

end of the season because of

being on the Lowell varsity

football team. The races and

football games were on the

try out new tracks, with a

first-time visit to Orleans

Raceway starting 22nd and

Sloan-Johnson

Terry Abel

SE - Suite 4

Grand Rapids

616-940-7039

6740 Cascade Rd

Sloan-Johnson likes to

Raceway getting him a move up a class with a new

feature win out of 20 cars. He car in the street stock division

ended his 2006 race season for the 2007 race season at

ending up finishing in fourth son of Troy and Angie Sloan

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will of Grand Rapids.

with a 50-lap race at Orleans the I-96 speedway.

He competed against

Sloan-Johnson had to do

race season.

same night.

place.

end Morse's dream of being a freshman state champion, He may not get the as a deciding takedown was awarded to Novak, while the majority of both wrestlers' bodies were out of bounds. ited a myriad of boos from much of the Division II champion, but oh well."

ual State Finals at the Palace was also puzzled by the potential as a wrestler and

"I guess it is just differences of opinion," Dean said. "I don't think I have ever seen a takedown awarded in that position in my whole career. So for that to happen at such a critical moment re-

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- Steve Jobs (1955 -)

of Lowell and Brian Johnson

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acknowledges his disapproval of the call, but does pressed." not dwell on it. "I can't change the call,

but I didn't really agree with it." Morse said, "I did think about being a four-time state Dean thinks Morse is

Head coach Dave Dean just starting to realize his

son," Dean said. "Aside from his skills as a wrestler, competitor. He is so clear and so focused, but he is also a very dignified person. For him to keep his dignity

Local driver comes in second at I-96 speedway

NOLAN'S MARKERS GIRGLE

weekend's individual state excelfinals, tying the 2001-2002 team's school record. Of the py to make it here," Doyle qualifiers, Lowell also 10 qualifiers, five placed in the top eight, earning allstate honors.

Seniors Dominic Doyle helped." (285), Ray Seese (130), Rob "There is a lot to Jack- Karasiewicz (140) placed third, sixth and seventh, respectively. Sophomore Tim fifth place performance.

> Doyle's third-place finish might come as a surprise to some, considering

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Morse himself humbly at a moment like that, I tell he came in fourth place at "You're not just scouting you I couldn't be more im- the regional tournament, but teams, you are scouting in-Dovle felt confident once he dividuals, trying to prepare The Red Arrows quali- got in the tournament, that your kids for the different fied 10 wrestlers for this past he had the opportunity to kind of matches that they

"At first, I was just hap-

number of personal issues wrestlers. this season, Doyle's courage

that touches the soul." Dean

the individual tournament cess in the future. presents challenges which

strictly on competition, not of endless." on training," Dean said.

might be in."

In addition to the 10 said. "Once I got here, I just boasted one of the larger took it one match at a time. I cheering sections at the Paldid get a good draw and that ace consisting of junior varsity wrestlers, alumni, and After dealing with a parents of non-qualifying

"One of the things that in the face of adversity has always impresses me about Jackson is just a tremendous Gingerich (135) turned in a earned him the respect of his Lowell is how much support everybody gives each other," "For Dom to compete Dean said. "It still felt like and perform the way he has a team event this weekend. in the face of everything he A lot of people came down has been through this sea- and cheered the guys on. It son, it is really something is something very special."

Despite the many sucsaid. "There is no BS with cesses of the Red Arrows this him. Dom Doyle is a guy I'd past season, Dean believes have in my foxhole. He gives the team could have actually you everything he has." accomplished more and will Dean says preparing for look forward to greater suc-

"I was really proud of are similar but also unique the team," Dean said. "But I from the team tournament. think you always want more "When you get to this for the guys. You want more point, with the individual guys to place. You want tournament, the focus is more guys to win. It is kind

CITY OF LOWELL **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Lowell City Council will conduct a public hearing at their regular scheduled meeting of Monday, April 2, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. at the City Council Chamber, Lowell City Hall, Second Floor, 301 E. Main St., Lowell for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

An Ordinance to add Section 4.13A to Chapter 4, "General Provisions," of Appendix A Zoning Ordinance of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell regarding non conforming

Copies of the proposed Ordinance are 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 E. Main St., Lowell, MI 49331 prior to the meeting or appear in person.

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



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trouble spots also can be e- uses roads maintained by mailed to the department. MDOT, and we appreciate Reports of potholes on the public's help in letting state roads (M, I and U.S. us know about potholes they roads only) will be routed may spot.' to the nearest MDOT Transportation Center (TSC).

this time of year. The on state roads," said State Michigan Department of Transportation Director Transportation (MDOT) has Kirk T. Steudle. "We are a toll-free number to invite committed to fixing potholes motorists to report potholes as quickly as possible in they observe on state roads. order to ensure a smoother Information about ride for everyone who

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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 neccessarily represent the views of the Ledger. Feel free to sign your comment. For more lengthy views please consider a letter "To

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MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Public notice is hereby given that the

Vergennes Township Planning Commission

will be holding a public hearing on Monday,

April 9, 2007 at 7:00 PM at the Township

Hall, 10381 Bailey Dr, PO Box 208, Lowel

Michigan 49331, to accept public comment on

Wednesday, and Fridays at the Township Hall

Written comments may be received by mail, in

person or in the mail slot located at the office

entrance until the night of the hearing.

Comments may also be emailed to

If you plan on attending this hearing and are

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please notify the Township by calling 616-

Vergennes Township Planning Commission

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897-5671 as soon as possible.

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- 5. Execution Fee (check or money order made out to "City of Lowell") for \$30.00
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Questions call City Hall at 897-8457 prior to Expo

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EVENTS

SMYRNA'S ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DAY CEL-EBRATION - Sat., March 17. Smyrna Maccabee Hall. Roast beef dinner, 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Hot beet Supper, 5 to 8 p.m. Euchre tournament, 1:30, 4:30 & 7 p.m. Cash bar all day Everyone welcome.

SALES

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Broadway, Lowell.

CARD OF THANKS

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our

thanks to all our friends. family and neighbors for the help given us at the loss of our husband, father and grandfather, Merle "Snowball" Alexander for the many calls, cards, flowers and gifts. We especially want to thank the Women of the Moose for the great luncheon, the Haybarkers, Fords and Balls for the wonderful in-between luncheon, Rev. Bailey for the beautiful tribute and Roth-Gerst Funeral Home for their extra support and compassion.

> Sincerely, Gladys. Doug & Karen Ford. Kenneth Alexander; Bill & Carol Grummet: Ray & Lisa Alexander: Tom & Jodi Alexander & grandchildren.

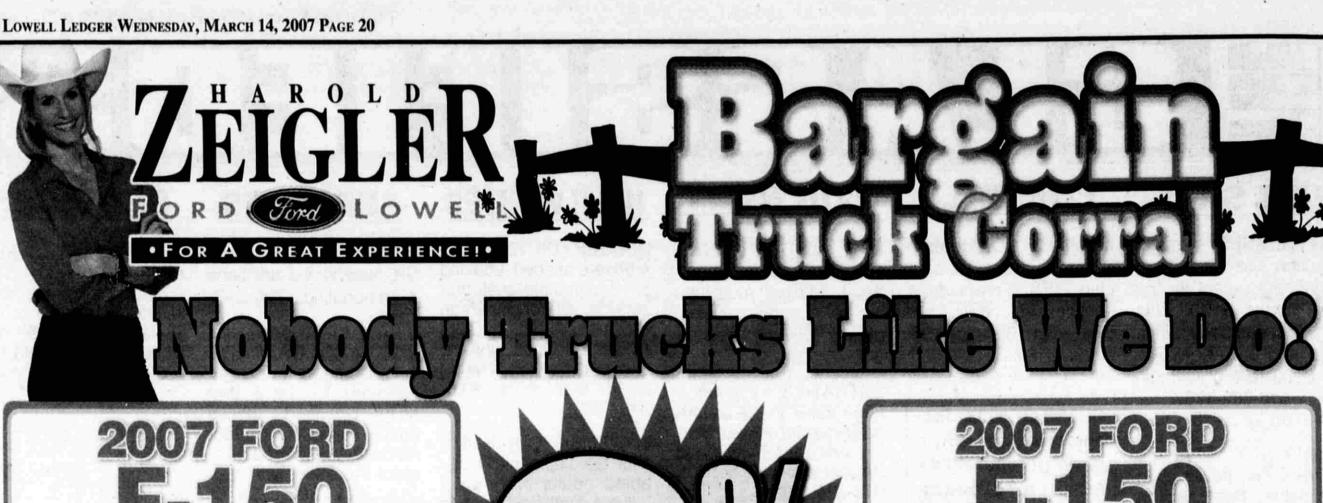
Updates to portions of the text and maps are being proposed. Copies of the draft updates to the Master Plan are available for public viewing during regular business hours between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm Monday

THE PRESENT OF

LAMINATING

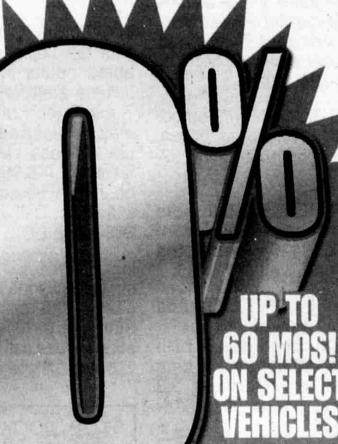
50¢ for cards

The Lowell Ledger



PACKAGE SAVINGS \$1,000 \$25,840

TOTAL SAVINGS \$7,520



PACKAGE SAVINGS \$1,000

TOTAL SAVINGS.... \$7,789















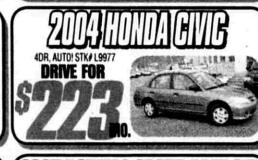












































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