

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 35 Issue 20

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, March 21, 2007

11th Annual Expo to spotlight more vendors this weekend

By Emma Palova

The Backyard Boutique, L4 Lingerie and Wildflowers by Wildwood will be the new kids on the block at the 11th Annual Lowell Community Expo Saturday at Lowell High School.

The three businesses will be among the 150-plus exhibitors showcasing their wares and services Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Just in time for spring, the sold-out expo will offer new ideas for landscaping, new inventions such as the versatile MoveAbout stool by Rita Goggins, and an endless array of services.

The much awaited hometown Lowell City Directory 2007 will be available at the expo along with new products

by Lowell Granite. Exhibitors from the greater Lowell area include non-profit organizations as well as businesses.

"We want the visitors to walk away with understanding the importance of doing business locally," said Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Liz Baker. "One really can get just about everything in Lowell...And if it is not available locally, customers should seek input from the local businesses so they can get it for them."

Lowell schools will get their chance to shine as they demonstrate projects such as the Lowell High School shop class woodshop exhibit.

Those traveling this summer can get their passports from the City Hall and Modern Photographics' Passport Fair in the gymnasium during the Expo.

"We are very proud of the Lowell area school system

and we want people to know all the great things that are going on in the schools," said Baker.

Also, realtors have been invited from around West Michigan to let their potential clients know about the expo.

"We want visitors to walk away feeling really good about the Greater Lowell Area," said Baker. "The chamber truly believes in the spirit of community. We maintain Lowell is the next place to be."

The L.I.V.E. 7 (leadership) Class will be on hand to showcase the chamber's website www.lowellchamber.org.

Last year, more than 4,000 people visited the expo. Food and entertainment will be available.

Council blasted for lack of action on North Washington property



Bill Thompson spoke to the Lowell City Council on behalf of Boy Scout Troop 102 in regards to the city-owned North Washington property.

By Emma Palova

The Lowell City Council Monday took heat for its lack of action on the North Washington property.

The 27-acre city-owned parcel owned has been a controversial subject for more than a year since Lowell Light and Power vacated the property.

Bill Thompson, speaking on behalf of Boy Scout Troop 102, requested that the council to deed the property to the scouts in partnership with the North Country Trail Association.

"We're looking for ownership," Thompson said. "It's a natural park system,

not much money has been invested into it."

However, the proposal caused an outcry from mayor pro-tem Alan Mathews. Mathews claimed that the parties should have met one more time prior to making the official proposal to the council.

"I am not happy with the proposal," said Mathews. "(There are) too many ifs. We had talked about a compromise. We had talked about some development in the front."

The majority of the council members leaned toward having a few homes in front of the parcel where a little rental house stands. The former utility manager's

rental home may be taken down pending further decision of the council.

"My idea is to have a few homes on the front, not a development," said council member Jeanne Shores.

Thompson claimed that the land was a sacred site to the community, a true gem. "We're asking you to protect the land," he said. "The Boy Scout cabin has been sacred over the years. It hasn't cost anything to the city."

Other residents like Sharon Allison wanted to know what is going to happen with the land. "We

Washington property, cont'd., pg. 4

Girl Scouts from the Lowell area shook hands with city council members, mayor Chuck Myers, Jim Pfaller and Jim Hodges after they read the Girl Scout Week proclamation at Monday's city council meeting. Forty-two Girl Scouts opened the meeting with a pledge and recitation of the Girl Scout promise. Nationally, Girl Scouts are marking the organization's 95th anniversary. Lowell Girl Scouts who read the proclamation Monday to celebrate the anniversary were Cadette Katelyn Videto, Juniors Montana Launer, Paige Rozell, Michelle Starkey and Adrienne Rife, and Senior Katie Thomson. The troops will be celebrating the anniversary all year long.



 **Spring Has Arrived!**

And with it March appears to be going out like a lamb. Warmer temperatures and some springtime rain are predicted for the upcoming week.

Obituaries

FORD
Velma Jean Ford, age 80, of Grand Rapids, passed away on March 14, 2007. Velma retired from Knap & Vogt in 1978 after 26 years. She then worked for Sunshine Helpers for five years and Walmart for 10 years. She was preceded in death by her mother, Sara Kauffman, her father and step-mother, Daniel and Alberta Kauffman, and her sister, Eileen Holst. Velma devoted her life to her family. Her love of all children was especially focused on her grandchildren and great-grandchildren who were the lights of her life. She is survived by her children, Bob (Vicki) Sandoval of Arlington, VA, Pat (Dave) Minnema, Barb Mattix, Mike (Ellen) Ford, Lori Williams all of Grand Rapids, Mary (Ron) Widmayer of Howard City, and Bob (Mary) Ford of Lowell; 17 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren; her brother, Daniel (Dorothy) Kauffman of Clearlake Park, CA; and numerous nieces and nephews. Velma also had a large extended family of loving friends. Cremation has taken place. Memorial Services will be held at New Community Church on Saturday, March 24, 2007 at 11 a.m. with a luncheon following. In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate contributions to Hospice of Michigan or The New Community Church Nursery.

SCHNEIDER
Philip H. Schneider, Jr., aged 78, born December 24, 1928 passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, March 17, 2007. A life-long resident of Lowell, Phil spent his life working and living in the community. After his service as a Marine, Phil was a professional business man in Lowell, and took great pride in his service with Rotary and as Board President of Schneider Manor. He enjoyed each moment, and he will be missed by many members of the Lowell community who could count on Phil for his "handyman" assistance. Phil was preceded in death by a son, Philip H. Schneider, III and

a brother, Bruce Schneider. He is survived by his wife Marian of 29 years; his children, daughter-in-law, Barb Schneider; son, Craig Schneider; daughter, Carol Maynard; brothers, John and Mart and their families. Phil also leaves behind a legacy of seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Funeral services will be Wednesday, March 21, 2007, 10 a.m. at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, Rev. Dean Bailey of Alto-Bowne Center United Methodist Church and Pastor Larry Young of Resurrection Life Church of Rockford, officiating. Interment Merriam Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alto United Methodist Church, 12051 84th St. SE, Alto, MI 49302 or Resurrection Life Church, 3233 10 Mile Rd., Rockford, MI 49431.

STERZICK
Gordon Lee Sterzick, aged 74, of Alto, went to be with his Lord and Savior, Saturday, March 17, 2007. He is survived by his daughter, Debra Austin of Cedar Springs; brothers, William (Hilde) Sterzick of Alto and Amos E. Sterzick of Alto; sister, Betty Hainer of Ada; grandchildren, Shawn (Katy) Austin, Troy Austin (fiancé Kendra DeVries) and Brandon Austin; great-granddaughters, Olivia and

Alaina Austin; long-time friend, Judy Tincer. He was a member of the Alto Methodist Church and a graduate of Lowell High School Class of 1950. He loved sports of all kinds and singing in the Great Lakes Men's Chorus. Funeral services will be Wednesday, March 21, 1 p.m. at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, Rev. Dean Bailey of Alto-Bowne Center United Methodist Church and Pastor Larry Young of Resurrection Life Church of Rockford, officiating. Interment Merriam Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alto United Methodist Church, 12051 84th St. SE, Alto, MI 49302 or Resurrection Life Church, 3233 10 Mile Rd., Rockford, MI 49431.

WENGER
Kathryn Lynn Wenger, aged 50, passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, March 13, 2007 in Wichita Falls, TX. Cremation has taken place. She is survived by her parents, Howard and Madeline; sister, Cheryl, all of Caledonia; brother, Joseph (Lisa) of Alto; nephews, Jessie and Alex; niece, Samantha. Private services will be held at a later date.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate FILE NO. 07-182,944-DE

Estate of NOLA VERLE SPENCE deceased

Date of birth: 8/4/1954

TO ALL CREDITORS: The decedent, NOLA VERLE SPENCE, who lived at 11492 Grand River SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan died 12/1/2006.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to EUGENE WILLIS STURGEON, III, named personal representative, or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice. March 15, 2007

Craig A. Burgink PLC P29358 429 Turner NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 616-456-5048

Eugene Willis Sturgeon, III 4240 Pointview Lowell, MI 49331 616-691-7958

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate FILE NO. 07-182,969-DE

Estate of MARY T. COOK deceased

Date of birth: 8/9/1919

TO ALL CREDITORS AND UNKNOWN HEIRS: The decedent, MARY T. COOK, who lived at 501 Marsh Ridge NW, Apt. 208, Grand Rapids, MI 49504 died February 24, 2007.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to MARY WEIS, named personal representative, or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice. March 17, 2007

Daniel Blauw P37283 1515 Michigan St NE Grand Rapids, MI 49503 616-336-5098

Mary Weis 4154 Sand Creek Dr Grand Rapids, MI 49544 231-557-5312

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Lowell Rotary Club offers scholarships

The Rotary Club of Lowell Community Foundation is now accepting applications for four Rotary Club of Lowell scholarships.

The club has been awarding scholarships to graduating Lowell area seniors since 1997. One scholarship is specifically designated for students

attending Cornerstone University, while the other three are not university specific. All applicants must be either a graduating senior attending Lowell High School or a graduating senior, living in the Lowell school district, attending any public, private, charter or home based school. In line with the Rotary motto of "Service

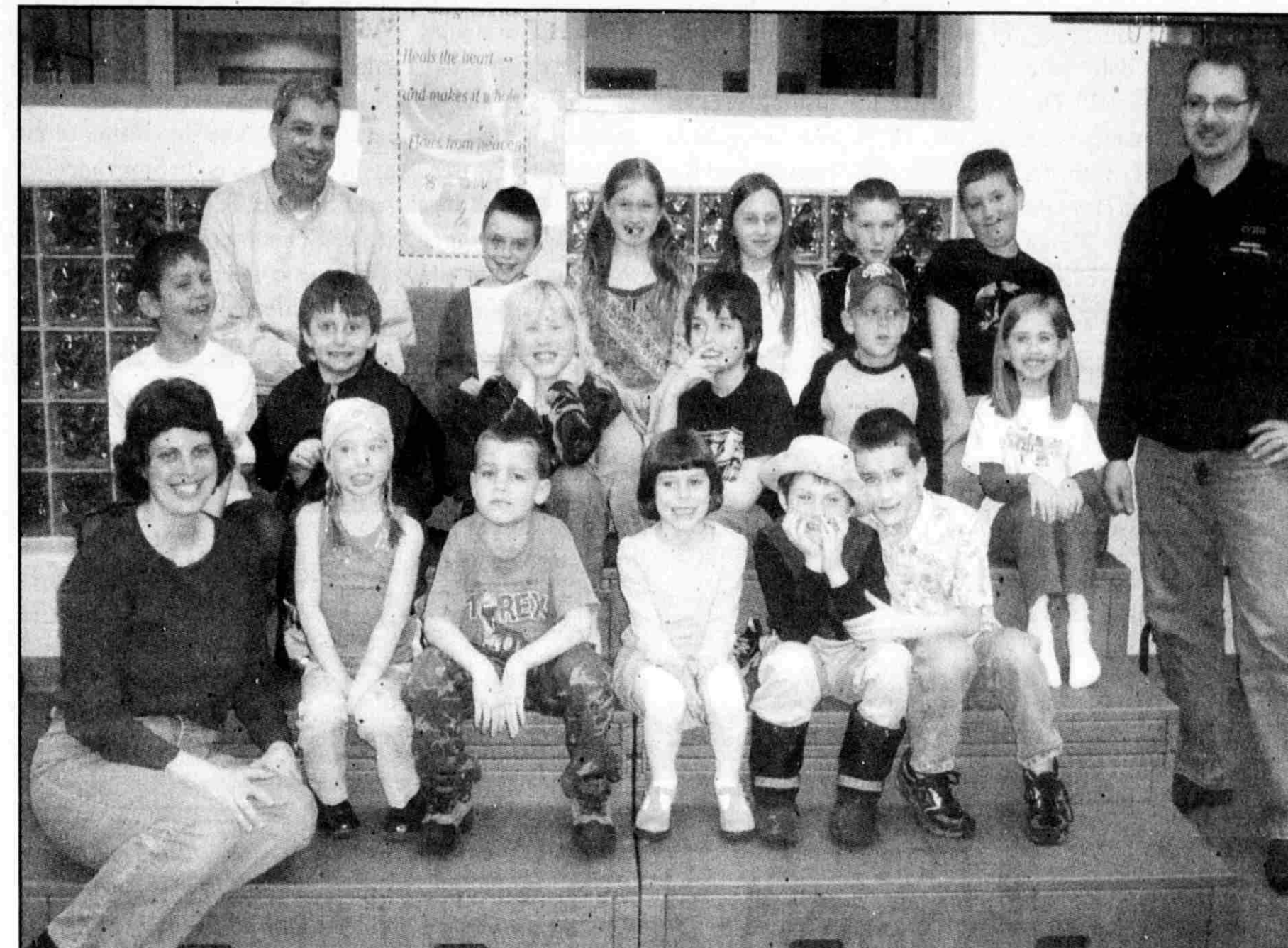
Above Self," community service is a primary factor in awarding the scholarship. Applications must be postmarked by April 1.

"We are pleased to increase the size of the scholarships which will be awarded this year, and hope that area students, upon graduation, will return to Lowell to be leaders

in the community," said Greg Flick, Chairman of the Rotary Club of Lowell Community Foundation. Since 1997, over \$50,000 of scholarships have been granted.

For more information on the scholarships or to obtain an application, please visit www.lowellrotary.org.

Odyssey of the Mind team competes



Three teams from Murray Lake Elementary competed in the Region 13 Odyssey of the Mind competition March 17. Each team was responsible for solving a long-term problem, of which they had worked on for the past several months, within an eight-minute time limit. While at the competition, the teams also worked to solve an unknown spontaneous problem. Odyssey of the Mind fosters creative problem solving skills and allows the kids to "think outside the box," while working together as a team to solve problems.

Front row, left to right: coach Lori Lothian, Mackenzie Gould, Austin Pollock, Emily Lothian, Colby DeVries and Christian Davis; middle, left to right: Clayton DeVries, Eli Boulton, Alyssa Roest, Riley Coxon, Collin Bowers, Chloe Looman and coach Mark Looman; back row, left to right: coach Tim Korzen, Adam Korzen, Hannah Churches, Santana Boulton, Brandon Churches and Jared Laux.

Local wrestler wins weight class in national tourney

Grand Valley State University sophomore Joe Mendez won the 133-pound weight class in the NCWA national wrestling tournament in Dallas, Texas March 10.

Mendez, the son of Tom and Katie Mendez of Alto and a Lowell High

School graduate, finished the season undefeated and helped Grand Valley win the tournament.

Faced with a heavy school workload, Mendez initially planned to sit out this season before his teammates convinced him to return to the mat. Mendez

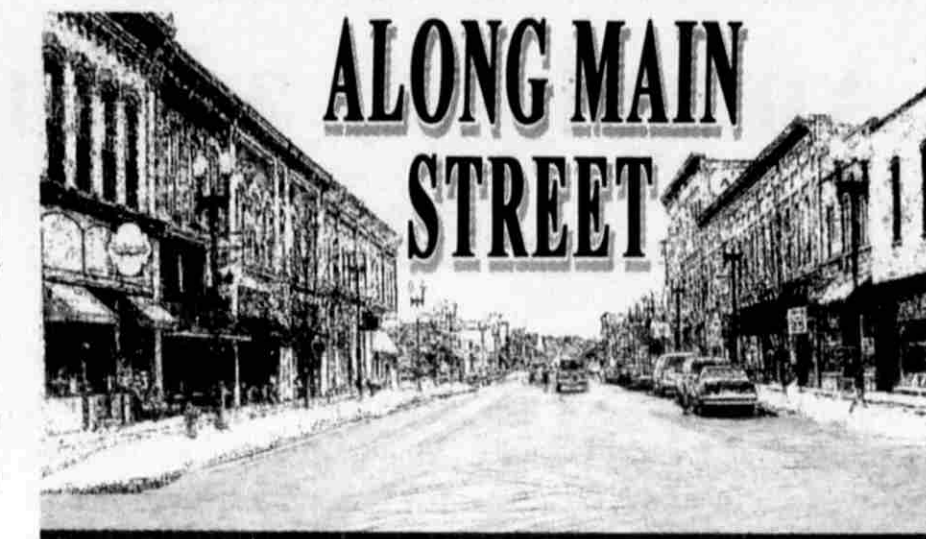
finished last season 19-1, his only loss coming in the national finals which his team won.

Mendez is working toward a degree in medical imaging and maintains a 3.5 grade point average.

Ninety percent of the politicians give the other ten percent a bad reputation.
- Henry Kissinger (1923 -)

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3/24 - 3/25 OVER THE HEDGE (PG)
PREMONTION (PG-13)
12:50, 2:55, 5:00, 7:10, 9:15
THE NUMBER 23 (R)
1:05, 3:10, 5:15, 7:20, 9:25
ZODIAC (R) 12:35, 3:40, 6:45, 9:50
300 (R)
12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40
WILD HOGS (PG-13)
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NIGHTMARE IN NEW GUINEA

The Lowell Area Historical Museum and Grand Valley State University will present a program and documentary film entitled "A Nightmare in New Guinea" on March 21 at 7 p.m. at the Lowell Performing Arts Center at Lowell High School. The public is invited to this free event. For more information, contact Linda Barnes, Lowell Area Historical Museum, PO Box 81, Lowell, MI 49331, 897-7688.

GOAT FUN DAY

The Kent County 4-H Goat Developmental Committee is still taking RSVPs for the Goat Fun Day event scheduled for Saturday, March 24, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. This event is free and open to anyone interested in learning about goats as well as the veteran 4-H. For RSVPs and questions, call Rob Vonk, MSU Extension office, 616-336-3278.

DRIVER'S EDUCATION SIGN UPS

Driver's Education sign-ups will run through March 26 at Lowell High School, Unity High School and Lowell Middle School. Classes are June 11-28 and July 9-26 from 7:30-11:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Cost is \$300 with \$150 due at sign-up. Contact Renay Bouwhuis at 987-2900 with questions.

CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

The Lowell Area Conservation Association will hold an open meeting on April 10 at 7 p.m. at the Lowell Fire Barn, 315 S. Hudson. The public is invited. Call 897-5314 for information.

TOTS SPRING ALMOST NEW SALE

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

SHOWBOAT NOSTALGIA TALENT SEARCH

Historic opportunity to perform at Showboat Nostalgia this summer. Amateur Act application deadline is May 1. Visit www.discoverlowell.org for further details.

FROM FOOD PANTRY

The FROM Food Pantry is presently in need 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.

CLASS OF 1997

The Lowell High School Class of 1997 will hold its 10-year class reunion on Aug. 18. Contact Heidi Barber (Noskey) at 616-642-0738 or by email hbarber79@hotmail.com, with address or if interested in helping.

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PASSPORT FAIR
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11th ANNUAL LOWELL COMMUNITY EXPO
LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL
11700 VERGENNES ROAD
SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2007
9:00 A.M. TO 3:30 P.M.
VISIT
LOWELL CITY HALL & MODERN PHOTOGRAPHICS BOOTHS (GYM A)
Call City Hall at 897-8457 prior to Expo for what you need to bring

Ambulance addition gets green light from city council

By Emma Palova

The Rockford Ambulance addition to the Look Memorial Fire Station got the go-ahead from the Lowell City Council Monday.

The 2,000-square-foot addition will free up space

for the fire station, while accommodating the growing ambulance service.

The city awarded the bid to the lowest bidder, Vander Kodde Construction, for \$221,300. The total cost of the addition, including contingencies, architectural

and engineering fees, is just over \$300,000.

The addition is funded with a mix of monies from the Look Memorial Fund, Lowell Area Community Fund, city and township funds and Rockford Ambulance.

"It is centrally located," said City Manager Dave Pasquale. "It will serve the city and the townships. It provides space for the fire department."

Mayor Chuck Myers said the ambulance addition exemplifies the spirit of

cooperation. "It's great to have the ambulance here," said council member Jeanne Shores.

A service agreement between the city and the Rockford Ambulance will cover the occupancy of the building until 2012.

In other business, the council approved \$7,607 for floor replacement at the Water Treatment Plant, Beachum Flooring will do the work.



Sharing The Vision

With Gregory Pratt
LHS Superintendent

The budget discussion at the State level has started many conversations about collaboration and shared services. You will be excited to know that Lowell Area Schools already works diligently to cooperate and increase efficiency where ever possible. Cooperative purchasing for paper, school supplies, AV supplies and equipment, peripherals and software already exist. To decrease costs the district participates in an insurance pool entitled "West Michigan Risk Management," a Special Education Transportation Consortium, Special Education (Assistive Technology) Services, and Substitute Teacher Services.

The district also works extremely close with the Kent Intermediate School District on curricular initiatives such as:

The KC4 Curriculum Development which provides all districts with curriculum advances and adjustments to prepare students for success in meeting Michigan's grade-level expectations.

The Literacy Coaching Network, and the Early Literacy Initiative which offers involvement in literacy extending from preschool work through Bright Beginnings to elementary and post secondary education through the Grand Rapids Reads initiative with adults. Reading experts help teachers bring children to grade level and train literacy coaches in each district to integrate reading skills in core content areas across the curriculum in secondary schools.

The Data Warehouse which is a state-of-the-art data storage, management and analysis service and puts tools on teachers' desktops to easily analyze student records and test scores to meet individual student needs, align curriculum and improve student achievement at the classroom, building and district level.

Career Readiness Certificate is a national leading initiative developed by ACT* that gives each of our high school graduates a nationally recognized and transferable career credential to certify their ability to apply what they've learned in the workplace. This is a significant economic

development tool as well, as ACT will maintain a national database of CRC holders to certify workforce readiness for current and future employers within our region.

These initiatives help our schools across the county become better places to engage students and increase student achievement. The partnerships that continue to be at the heart of education still reside here in the community. We rely on the daily parent support to see students achieve at the highest level. The support that the district receives from the community is unmatched. I have been fortunate to work with the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce and the businesses in the community to realize the support we have within the district. We not only receive monetary support for our programs, but realize a true partnership in maintaining a dynamic community. The Lowell Community EXPO to be

held this Saturday, March 24 at Lowell High School is one great example of how we work together to serve the greater community. Please continue to support our local businesses as they work to support our district.

*Originally, "ACT" stood for American College Testing. In 1996, however, the official name of the organization was shortened to simply "ACT." This change in the official company name was made to better reflect the broad array of programs and services they now offer beyond college entrance testing. Your comments about this matter or any issue would be greatly appreciated. Send to Superintendent Gregory Pratt, Lowell Area Schools, 300 High St., Lowell, MI 49331 or gpratt@lowellschools.com (check out our Web page at www.lowellschools.com or make comments to the Board of Education at boardofed@lowellschools.com)

Washington property, continued ... From Page 1

want to be assured," she said. "People get a little insecure."

Resident Lori Summerfield said the land will be a draw in the future, if kept natural. "We have a communication challenge here," she said. "Things seem to spiral."

North Washington Street resident Cathy Swift lives between the Oakwood Cemetery and the disputed property. She called the cemetery her front yard, and the property her backyard. Any development according to Swift would cause

logistical issues such as fire trucks turning around.

It was the consensus of the residents facing off the city council, that the property should not be developed. However, the council remained undecided as to the future of the property.

"It's sad, we've been blasted for doing nothing," said Mathews.

A Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) inspection of the land due to former occupancy by the utility is pending.

City grants temporary permit to Lowell Little League to use sponsor signs

By Emma Palova

The city council Monday gave a one-time permit to Lowell Little League to use sponsor signs at Creekside Park for this season only.

In the meantime, the

planning commission will work on an ordinance regulating the usage of signs in city parks for 2008.

The issue, along with signage for a proposed dog park, will be up for

discussion at the planning commission meeting next Monday.

"We have nothing in our sign ordinance dealing with signs in parks," said council member Jim Pfaller

who was concerned about sponsor billboards popping up all over the city parks.

The size of the one-Little League signs, cont'd., pg. 9

LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS BOARD BRIEFS

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Brooke Liu, Student Council President and Student Representative to the Board, reported that the students participating in the Alternative Spring Break are looking forward to helping with the Katrina hurricane clean-up. The second student council sponsored blood drive of the year will be held on March 23. The high school will be conducting a code red drill soon, and only juniors will report to school on Tuesday, March 13 due to the Michigan Merit Exam. Seniors are busy completing scholarship applications which are due by the end of the week.

REPORTS - Freshman Center Service Learning Award

Carla Stone and Ryan Graham gave a brief report on the service learning projects taking place at the Freshman Center. Carla then presented a plaque to Amy Pallo who accepted the plaque on behalf of the Freshman Center for receiving the 2007 Learn and Service Michigan Innovative Program Award.

Food Service Update

Kay Hahn and Erik Neering of Chartwells, gave a mid-year update to the Board on the Lowell Area Schools' Food Service program.

ACTION ITEMS -

The Board accepted the following gift:

Tim Dimmick donation of music CD's valued at \$500 to be used by the WLHS Radio Station.

Following a presentation by Roger Bearup and Scott Vashaw on the trimester schedule, the Board approved the change to a trimester schedule at the secondary level beginning with the 2007-08 school year.

CONSENT ITEMS -

Approved/adopted/denied were:
• Minutes for the February 12, 2007 regular meeting, and the February 26, 2007 Board Workshop

- The following payment of bills for February 2007:
GENERAL FUND.....\$1,315,840.77
SCHOOL SERVICES FUND
A. Food Service Fund.....\$74,170.50
B. Athletic Fund.....\$7,098.87
TRUST AND AGENCY FUND.....\$62,060.33
Scholarship Fund.....\$800.00
- Schools of Choice Resolution
- Personal Property Taxes Stricken
- New Board Policy #2790 "School Safety"
- New Board Policy #8455 "Unsafe School Choice Policy"
- Property Transfer Request Denial

BUDGET UPDATE - Connie Gillette reported that there has been no announcement made on this or next year's budget. The district is still waiting to see if there will be a mid-year cut. If there is no cut this year, there is even more concern for next year's funding.

CURRICULUM UPDATE - Roger Bearup reported that juniors will be taking the Michigan Merit Exam this week. Staff members continue to work on aligning curriculum throughout the district with emphasis especially in the area of writing. He offered a big congratulations to Karen Burd and her Bushnell School staff who were one of 10 schools in Kent County who received a grant for RTI (Response To Intervention). Grant dollars will go toward professional development next year in providing literacy interventions for students with reading challenges.

DISCUSSION - Greg Pratt reviewed a new Board policy #5205 "Possessing, Transporting Dangerous Weapons". This will come back to the March board meeting for adoption on its second reading with minor wording changes.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Greg Pratt congratulated the athletic teams and the bowling league for their successful seasons. He announced that a donation of approximately 100 acres of land is being offered by Mr. Peter Wege to the community of Lowell for recreational purposes. The land will be transferred if the community leaders can work collaboratively in developing a master plan for the land. The school survey has been completed by approximately 500 people to date and the survey will remain open until Saturday, March 24. People attending the EXPO at the high school on Saturday, March 24 will be able to complete the survey online at the Lowell Area Schools' booth. Greg thanked the high school and middle school staffs who have been working on developing a trimester schedule.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Board Workshop - Monday, March 26, 2007 - 5:30 p.m.
Runciman Administration Building - Board Room
300 High St., Lowell, MI

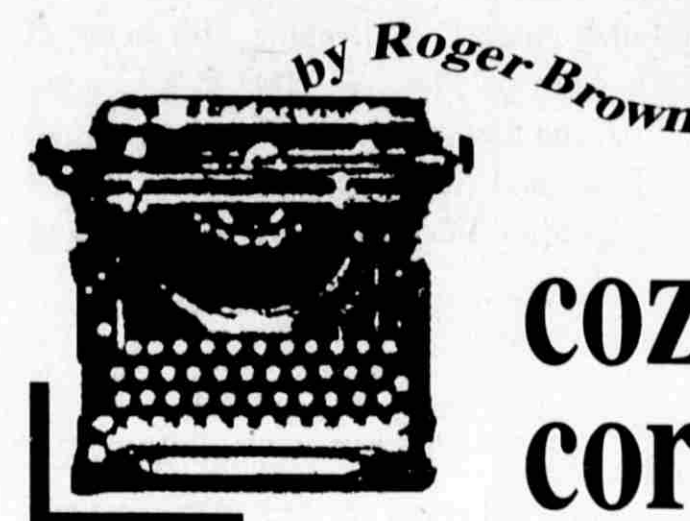
Regular Board Meeting - Monday, April 16, 2007
(Third Monday due to Spring Break)

Runciman Administration Building - Board Room
300 High St., Lowell, MI - 7:00 p.m.
Please visit our web page at www.lowellschools.com

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Viewpoint



cozy corner

The publication date for this offering is the 21st...the first day of spring. St. Paddy's Day has come and gone and we've already switched to daylight savings time. The Tiger's home opener is less than two weeks away and I.R.S. is breathing down our collective necks! Is it just me, or are the pages of my 2007 Far Side desk calendar literally flying by?

As the days zoom past, so go the weeks, months and years. Aren't we supposed to get a little wiser? I had a morning a couple weeks ago that would certainly throw cold water on that theory.

I'm always the first one up. Somewhere between five and six is the norm. One to two cups of coffee while watching Sports Center, then out the door for my four-mile walk. Day in...day out... that's the routine.

On this particular morning, I first poured a cup of coffee from the previous day and placed it in the microwave. After setting the time and starting the microwave, I proceeded to make a fresh pot. So far...so good.

My coffee maker is a typical automatic drip job. When I went to dump the old grounds in trash, the filter and grounds stuck in the basket momentarily. The contents finally ejected from the basket on the upswing of my flick of the wrist shot at the garbage container. Wet coffee grounds went everywhere, except into the trash. That was just the beginning.

The trash bin is in a pull out contraption nestled in the

kitchen cabinets. Cleaning up my mishap meant removing the apparatus, cleaning it, the inside of the cabinet, the floor, etc. Of course wet coffee grounds are nearly impossible to wipe up. After chasing coffee grounds around with a wet rag, I finally had the things cleaned to my satisfaction. With the cabinet put back together it was time to go back to the making coffee, or so I thought.

When I went to rinse out the basket and fill the carafe, it dawned on me that the microwave was still humming away. A peek through the door confirmed my fears. Some drowsy idiot had apparently punched in an extra digit when setting the timer. My coffee had boiled over, making a huge mess of things inside. On top of another cleaning job, I also burned my finger and thumb on the kiln temperature handle of the ceramic coffee cup.

Okay...with the microwave back in order, it was time to take another stab at making coffee. Guess what? Out of coffee in the canister. My coffee of late is a blend of finely ground Cuban coffee and store brand Columbian. They are both cheap, but mixed together they make really good, strong coffee.

We had a package of each in the pantry. Both brands were in those vacuum-packed foil bricks. The trick is to cut open both bricks, dump the contents into the canister and mix the grounds together with a big spoon...without making a mess. I've never mastered this "trick". This morning was no exception.

We've covered the difficulty of cleaning wet coffee grounds. The only thing worse, is of course, dry coffee grounds. After chasing the mess around with a wet rag, I was finally satisfied with the clean-up and went back to making coffee.

First, I went for the once-scalding coffee cup in the left sink basin. I figured I deserved a sip if... it had cooled enough. During clean up duty, I had at some point swung the faucet over to that side of the sink. The running water had pretty much rinsed out my last sip of coffee.

Back to making coffee. From here on out things went just fine. Fill the carafe, pour it in the top of the coffee maker, install a fresh filter, add four scoops of my special blend...voila!

As I finished up, I noticed that my wife's coffee maker was empty. She drinks low-lead, or de-caffeinated. Being the nice guy I am, I made her a fresh pot.

My wife's coffee maker is the same brand as mine, but a slightly different model. To pour in the water, I always lift the lid with my left hand and pour from the carafe with my right. Once I've begun pouring, I let go of the lid. This is no problem with my coffee maker, as the lid stays up. This lid snaps back into place. Leaving me, still drowsy and without a caffeine fix, pouring water all over the coffee maker and the counter. Gets me every time. Of course this morning was no exception. Another mess to wipe up. That's what I get for being a nice guy.

So, still without a caffeine fix, I flip on Sports Center. After an appropriate period of time, I figure I can go sneak a half-cup as mine brews. Guess what? I had neglected to hit the "on" button. My wife's de-caf was gurgling away, but that wasn't going to help with my caffeine dependency. I was "Jonesing" pretty good.

This time of year I'm checking the Sports Center score- scroll for Michigan State men's basketball, Redwings, Pistons and even Tigers spring training games. I couldn't say for sure, but I'm guessing they all came up losers as I waited for my coffee to brew. It was that kind of morning.

Back to this time passing quickly thing. How many times have you heard that time speeds up as you get older? Plenty, right? We've also been told that we get wiser as we get older. What I want to know is, now that I've reached an age where life is racing by (except when waiting for my coffee to brew), when do I get wise enough to not put myself through something like this "morning-of-perpetual-blunders?"

To The Editor

Dear Editor,

The State of Michigan is in a fiscal crisis in that much it appears we all agree. I must take issue, however, with Representative Hildenbrand's assessment of the situation. It is wrong to describe the Governor's budget recommendations as having increased from \$39 billion to the proposed \$43 billion. The real amount the state is working with is approximately \$9 billion. The majority of the state budget includes federal and restricted funds that cannot be touched. The discretionary portion provides funding for higher education, health care and public safety - but it is now \$3 billion in the hole from the Republicans' reckless elimination of the Single Business Tax and less revenue coming into the state. If the Legislature wants to eliminate any of these fees, taxes, Federal Revenues, they should tell us which ones they can eliminate. What will it be - Medicaid, School Aid, Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund - there are a few biggies. Even if they could, which they cannot, eliminate the millions of dollars associated with these funds, it still would not impact the General Fund General Purpose dollars which is where the shortfall is. If the Legislature wants to impact the General Fund by use of cuts, they would have to cut higher education, corrections, and health care etc. These would be cuts which would be devastating to the quality of life and the economy in Michigan.

Michigan is 3.4 percent below the national average when comparing the tax burden on individuals and businesses. Studies have shown that cutting taxes too much has led to poor economic performance in many states. One study from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities even uses Michigan as an example in explaining this poor performance.

A 2 penny on the dollar service tax is a small price to pay for a solvent School Aid Fund for our children and the restoration of revenue sharing which could help our city provide adequate police and fire protection, fix roads etc.

I guess that's my two cents worth.

Jim Turner

Dear Editor,

Recently there have been letters and articles about environmental issues around the Lowell Area. We have read about preserving the Boy Scout property, protecting trees, establishing a dog park, adding community walking trails, expanding our airport and more. There is obvious public concern about how growth affects the quality of life in and around Lowell. More issues will develop as our area continues to grow.

Often concerns come from residents who are directly affected by governing decisions, but everyone should have an interest in how and why community policies are made. Complaining, letter writing and speaking out in public are ways to be heard, but to have a positive, tangent influence on our future we need more focus. A few disgruntled citizens are just that; a group of citizens wields more power.

The Lowell Area Conservation Association is a proactive citizen's group that is committed to responsible planning and preservation of our natural resources. We discuss and act on a variety of topics. Meetings are open to all. Not everyone can serve on a governing board, council or planning commission, but you can do something. Please come to the next LACA meeting at the Lowell Fire Barn at 7 p.m. on April 10 to hear about how to help protect the natural beauty we enjoy in and around Lowell.

Sharon Ellison
Co-Chairperson
Lowell Area Conservation Association

Dear Editor,

In this land of free enterprise, cannot sweat equity and entrepreneurship be rewarded? Cannot people in power take time to talk and iron out the differences? Compromise is not a dirty word.

Is it not time to rewrite the cottage industry law, conserve our resources, both land and talent.

Jan Johnson

Dear Editor,

I submit yet another installment to the Occasional Reports from the Lowell Township Planning Commission. My motto: "I do so you won't have to." The commission meeting of March 12 had a very full card. In order of business:

a) Public hearing regarding changes to the ordinance re sale of agricultural produce/products, essentially the traditional roadside operation. There is one such establishment east of my place on 36th, which chivalrously accepts my I.O.U.s. This attempt by the commission to clarify and make more liberal the existing order met with an amazing amount of discussion from the floor, not all positive, in which the Right to Farm Act was cited several times. The invocation of the Act was hardly dispositive, of a he-said-she-said variety. Safe to say no one had reviewed any case law, because I had not.

b) A prominent businessman was caught expanding a patently industrial operation in Ag-2 zoning. Stripped of the law Latin, it is called a "no." He was duly cited, something impossible just a few months ago. Many people were present to send up a great dithyramb. The accused was handsome, amiable, certainly well connected, much loved all around and, oh yes, in violation of ordinance. Even Governor Granholm was cited in passionate testimonial from the floor. The greatest line of the evening was when planner Tim Johnson was asked how he slept at night. His reply: "I'm not the one on trial here." Stripped of the law Latin, it is called a haymaker.

c) The questionnaire for the coming master plan revision received detailed discussion between planner and the Commission. They are intent on proceeding carefully. One question I would like included: Shall the zoning ordinance be abolished? As in, no zoning. An observer of the evening's proceedings notes an impatience with all these lousy land use controls. There is a yearning to be free, and why not? Timpon Trucking can build the Chrysler Building if it wants; I can sell my corner for a Seven-11; that tiresome petitioner from last year can build his dream house in Ag-1, and a chance for "property rights" reformers to get out of the closet and fire that "shot heard 'round the world."

Engagements

Postema-Smith

Jenny Leigh Postema and Gregory Allen Smith will be wed on March 24, 2007. The bride-elect and her parents, Dave and Jean Postema, are of Lowell. She graduated from Grand Rapids Christian High School in 1996 and attended Reformed Bible College. The groom-elect, of Juneau, AK, is the son of Greg and Barbara Ann Smith of



Jenny Postema and Gregory Smith

Big Lake, MN and Judie O'Donnell of Monticello, MN. He graduated from Monticello Senior High School in Minnesota and attended Minnesota State University Moorhead. Currently he works for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The couple will be residing in Alaska.

Happy Birthday

MARCH 21: Terry Raymor, Ardis Barber, Gary Yeiter, Molly Clark.
MARCH 23: Brian Gabrion, Richard King, Brendan Lally.

MARCH 24: Andy Quada, Troy Sloan.
MARCH 26: Margaret Hoats, Carol Maynard.

MARCH 25: Chris Yeiter, Shirley Carigon, Sari VanKeulen.
MARCH 27: Joel Roudabush, Kelly Geldersma.

Reflections of faith

Michael Rhodabarger
Pastor, Church of the Nazarene

Think, for a moment, of the last time you had heard a group of people sing. Do you remember how beautiful and perfect the harmonies were? I love to hear people sing but there is just something powerful about harmonies.

This week's theme is about connecting with God and His people in a way that is not only beautiful but powerful. As I think about my own life I remember many of the struggles and trials I had been faced with. Looking back, I see two very vital connections that helped me through: My God and my church family.

Have you ever heard that saying that says, "No man is an island?" Have you ever felt like an island? Have you ever felt as though you're dealing with issues all alone?

When a choir sings in perfect harmony there is an effort being put forth by everyone involved. If one drops out, it just isn't the same. If one tries to "out-sing" the other, it really sounds bad. In the same manner we recognize that we not only need to lean on the church and God for support, but also everyone is equally important in the sight of God.

Paul wrote some very simple words yet so incredibly moving when he wrote in Romans 12: 16 "Live in Harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position."

When this type of behavior takes place we begin to see a much needed shift take place in our communities. We begin to see what is called "synergism." Synergism simply means that the whole is greater than and can accomplish more than the individual parts.

I am convinced that most people are interested in the spiritual realm of life. What does it all mean and how do I fit in. These kinds of answers are certainly found within the contents of the Bible but more often discovered in the Bible through the availability of a friend.

It is important that we grow spiritually but it becomes very difficult if we are not actively connected to a body of believers. Others cannot grow if the body of believers is not reaching out and connecting with those that are hurting.

We can grow but it must be done by living in harmony with God and His people. Who are God's people? Anyone who has breath. All are created by God, and all have value in His sight.

Can we begin to look at others through the eyes of God? We will certainly have disagreements with one another, but Paul, the writer of Romans, has reminded us that, regardless of position, we all have worth.

Charles Lindbergh (1902 - 1974)

New Arrivals

Tiede

Matt and Mindy Tiede are proud to announce the birth of their son Brantley August. Welcoming him home is big sister Kadence. Born on March 2, 2007 at 8:12 a.m., weighing 9 lbs. 7 oz. and measuring 20 inches long. Proud grandparents are Barry and Nancy Onan and Merlin and Mary Tiede and uncles Mick Tiede and Coby Onan and aunt Stacey Onan.

Roll

Adam and Katie Roll of Lowell are thrilled to announce the births of their sons on January 29, 2007. Mason Robert weighed 4 lbs 15 oz and was 17 inches long. Hayden Kenneth weighed 5 lbs 11 oz and was 18 inches long. Proud grandparents are Ken and Kathy Akers of Lowell and Bob and Lori Roll of Spring Lake.



Mason Robert and Hayden Kenneth Roll

I realized that if I had to choose, I would rather have birds than airplanes.

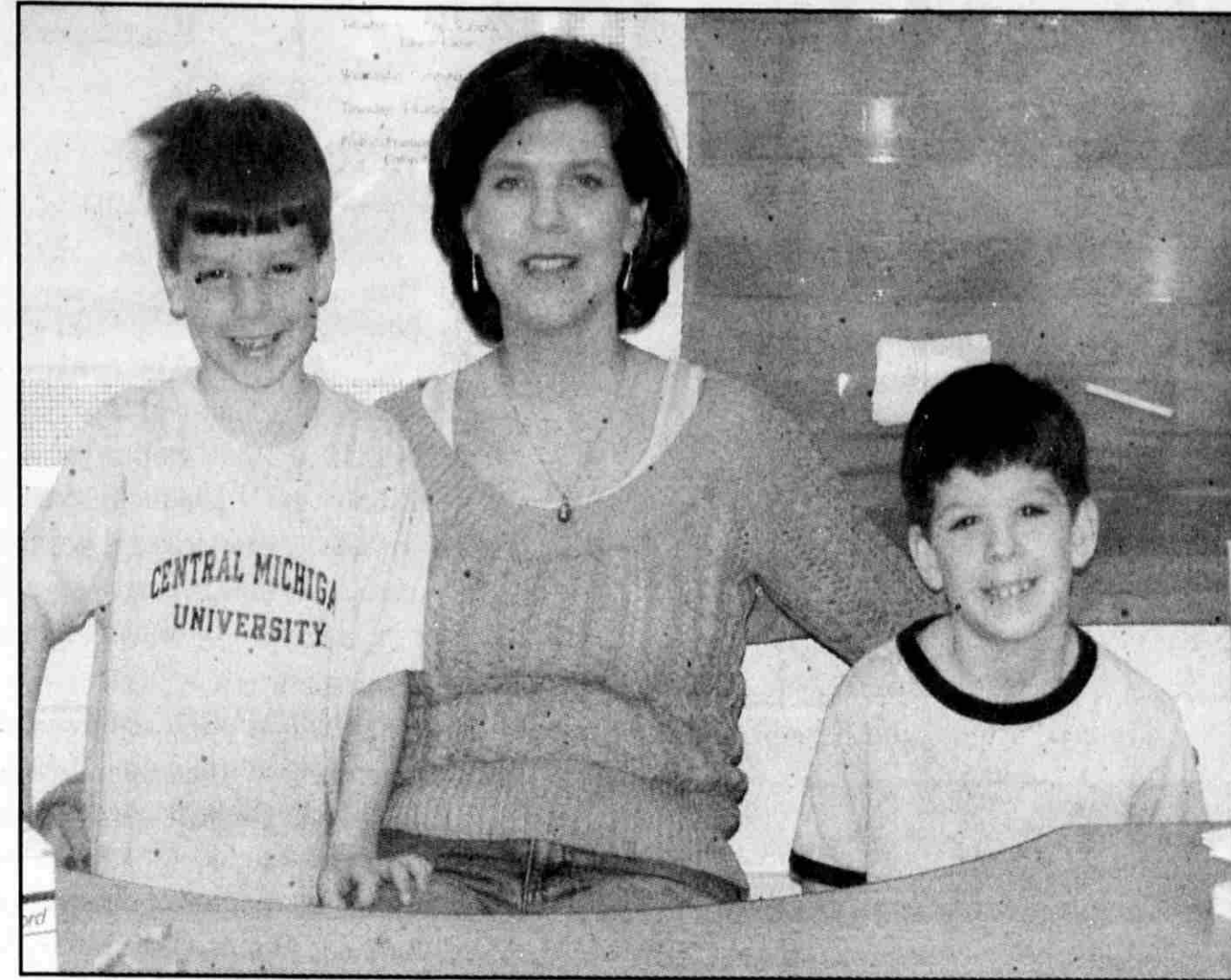
Volunteer of the Month

Cathy Noffke was named Murray Lake Elementary's February Volunteer of the Month.

She is a Lowell graduate and mother of Alicia, Alexis (7th grade students at Lowell Middle School), Ben (second grade at Murray Lake), and Ryan (first grade at Murray Lake).

Noffke can be seen throughout the school helping in classrooms and was a big help at the recent Science Expo. Noffke was nominated by several Murray Lake staff members who are extremely grateful for all of her help.

"Cathy lost her husband Scott about a year and a half ago after a long battle with brain cancer," said Murray Lake principal, Brent Noskey. "This enormous challenge has not stopped her from being active in her children's education.



Cathy Noffke is Murray Lake's Volunteer of the month.

Cathy's courage to move on from such a tragedy is an inspiration to all of us. I see her so often in our building. I sometimes think she

is an employee. We all enjoy being in the classrooms helping teachers or working with the students at Murray Lake."

Murray Lake staff member of the month

Sally Jernigan is Murray Lake Elementary's staff member of the month for February. Jernigan is married to husband Mike and has three children- Josh, Whitney, and Rex. She is also grandmother to Malerie. Jernigan was nominated

for the award by several staff members. "Sally has really taken off with our new reading program," said kindergarten teacher Karla Byrne. "I see tremendous growth in all of the students that she sees. She also does a very nice job in our lunchroom. She is a wonderful person, and Murray Lake is lucky to have her on staff."

"It is pure joy for me to work with the kids and see their faces light up when they 'get it!'" said Jernigan.



Murray Lake Elementary February Staff Member of the Month Sally Jernigan works with students Addison Mallindine and Timmy Baerwalde (who are dressed up for pajama day).

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p>ATTENTION: BIBLE BELIEVERS If you would like to attend a church where the King James Bible is held up as the perfect, preserved word of God with all the words of God for all English speaking people, then give us a visit at: 901 W. Main, Lowell 897-6284 or 485-4195 10AM Sunday School; 11AM Morning Service; 6PM Evening Service; Wed., 7:30PM Prayer Meeting.</p>	<p>ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Kirby and Harrison Alto - 616-691-8011 Worship.....9:30 A.M. Children's Church.....9:30 A.M. OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS Pastor Dean Bailey</p>	<p>DAY BIBLE CHAPEL 9305 Centerline, Saranac 897-6332 Worship.....9:45 A.M. Sunday School.....11:00 A.M. Nursery & Jr. Church Provided Rev. Frank Lattimore, Pastor "A Nondenominational Ministry With A Blended Word Centered Service!"</p>	<p>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL Rev. Randy Meyers - 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....11:20 A.M. Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M. Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free</p>	<p>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES 6:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 P.M. 119 Lincoln Lake, Lowell CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES Pastor Robert L. Hubbard Phone: (616) 897-1267 website www.aplighthouse.com</p>
<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 21 E. Main Street • 897-5936 Worship Services.....8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR Nursery & child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648 Sunday School.....10:00 A.M. Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M. Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M. (Sept. - April) Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M. Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418 YOU ARE WELCOME!</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God) 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, Lead Pastor John King, Youth Pastor SUNDAYS: 10:00 a.m. - Worship & Evening; LIFE home Groups & "The Source" Youth WEDNESDAYS: Family Night: (for all ages) 7:00 p.m. "The Source" Youth: 7:00 p.m. Loving God... Loving People!</p>	<p>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Fr. George J. Fekete 402 Amity St. • 897-9820 www.stmary-lowell.com Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETER WIGGINS 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 49, ENTW FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>	<p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (United Church of Christ) 865 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE • 897-5906 Sunday Worship.....10:00 A.M. Church School.....10:15-11:15 A.M. Thursday Faith Alive Worship.....7:00 P.M. Dr. Roger LaWarre.....Pastor Shannon Hanley.....C.E. Director Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise & Worship</p>
<p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 www.goodshepherdlowell.org Sunday School.....9:00 A.M. Worship Service.....10:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.lfclowell.org Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA/CLUB JC.....Wed. 6:15 & 6:30 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided - Barrier Free</p>	<p>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Rev. Thurlan Meredith 9:45 A.M.Worship/Fellowship 11:15 A.M.Sunday School 897-9863 or 897-9588 Nursery & Children Worship Programs Provided A friend...a family...a mission!</p>	<p>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 201 N. Washington • 897-8800 Sunday School.....9:30 A.M. Morning Worship.....10:40 A.M. Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M. PASTOR MICHAEL RHODABARGER Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>	

HEALTH

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

Many people visit the doctor's office when they are sick or have a chronic medical problem. Did you know that it is just as important to visit the doctor's office when you are healthy? A visit to the doctor when you are healthy is a proactive approach to staying healthy as you age. A preventative service might be recommended to you based on your age, gender, risk factors, or family history. A preventative service might consist of a test, measurement, immunization, or advice.

Children should have regular Well-Child Exams (physicals) to monitor their growth and development. In general, young children should be seen for well-child exams at 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, and 24 months after birth. Older children should then be seen yearly. Immunizations are one of the most important preventative services offered in this age group. In addition to monitoring growth and development, advice may be given on topics such as diet, exercise, seat belts, tobacco, and peer pressure.

Adults males should have regular complete physical exams every 3-5 years until age 40, every 2 years in their 40's, and then yearly once they turn 50. Preventative services covered typically include blood pressure, weight, cholesterol and testicular cancer screening. Prostate cancer screening usually begins at age 40 and consists of a blood test, along with a rectal exam. Colon cancer screening begins at age 50 and typically consists of a colonoscopy every 10 years form then on.

Adult females should have regular complete physical exams every 1-3 years until age 40, every 1-2 years until age 50, and then yearly. Services typically covered include blood pressure, weight, cholesterol, and breast and cervical cancer screening. Pap smears are performed to screen for cervical cancer, and should be done yearly on all sexually active, unmarried females. Females who are sexually active, but in a long-term monogamous relationship (marriage), should have pap smears done every 2-3 years. Breast Cancer screening is typically accomplished with breast exams with each physical, along with a mammogram. Mammograms are typically recommended for women every 2 years in their 40's, and then yearly at age 50. Women should be screened for colon cancer at age 50, typically with a colonoscopy, and then every 10 years afterward.

There may be circumstances which place a person at higher risk for certain disease states. This may require them to start preventative screens at an earlier age, and to be screened more frequently. Lifestyle choices such as smoking and unprotected intercourse increase a person's risk of cancer. A family history of certain types of cancer may also increase a person's risk for cancer. If you have a family member with colon, prostate, breast, or ovarian cancer, you should start your preventative screens earlier.

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At Your Local Library



CARNIVAL COMES TO ALTO BRANCH

Spring Carnival Storytime will take place on Monday, April 2 at 10:30 a.m. at the Alto branch of the Kent District Library, 6071 Lindfield Ave.

The event features carnival-themed games, crafts and stories for children ages six and under.

For more information, contact the library at 647-3820.

SYSTEMWIDE BOOK SALE AT ENGLEHARDT

Residents may find those great spring break books and hunt for hidden gems among the rest.

The Englehardt branch of Kent District Library will hold its semi-annual book sale on Friday, April 20 from 9:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. at the library located at 200 N. Monroe.

All donations will be gratefully accepted. All books will be sold for \$3.00 per bag.

This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Englehardt Branch of KDL in conjunction with the systemwide book sales. All proceeds benefit the library building fund.

For more information, contact the Englehardt branch at 647-3920.

Little league sign, continued ...

From Page 4

season sponsor signs will not exceed 32 square feet, according to Toby Alderink of Lowell Little League.

Alderink said he already had 10 sponsors signed up for this season. The sponsors are paying \$250 for a smaller eight-foot-square sign. "As a struggling league we do not want permanent signs," he said.

Mayor Chuck Myers was adamant about the issue being in writing and tackled at the planning commission level.

"I don't want us to

look like the bad guys," he said. "This should go to the planning commission."

Myers, a vice-president for ICNB, was also doubtful about the sponsorship. "The economy has forced businesses to rethink advertising dollars," he said.

The planning commission is expected to come up with a policy to cover all interested parties for the 2008 season. The meeting will be held on March 26 at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 301 E. Main St.



Lyman signs with Davenport basketball

Lowell High School senior Brittany Lyman, a four-year member of the varsity girls' basketball team, chose Davenport University to further her education and basketball career. She signed with Davenport on March 1. She is pictured front row at right next to Davenport coach Mark Youngs. In back row are AAU coach Curtis Malling, Lowell High School coach Dee Crowley, Lowell High School assistant coach Danielle Gallert and AYBT coach Greg Foster.

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2007 Ford F-150 Super Crew 4x4 MSRP \$36,700 CORRAL SAVINGS \$2,789 PACKAGE SAVINGS \$1,000 REBATE \$3,000 OWNER LOYALTY \$1,000 BUY FOR \$27,911 TOTAL SAVINGS \$7,789	2007 Buick Rendezvous MSRP \$26,725 MARCH BONUS \$1,000 GOOD SAVINGS \$1,300 REBATE \$3,750 BUY FOR \$20,675	2007 Pontiac Grand Prix Down payment \$2,000 End value \$12,854.80 Security deposit \$0.00 Cost per mile over limit \$.25 Due at signing \$2,197 Term/miles allowed Total payments \$10,982.40 39MOS/32500 MILES DRIVE FOR \$197 PER MONTH!	2007 Chrysler Town & Country Touring MSRP \$28,945 GRAND DISCOUNT \$1,246 REBATE \$4,000 OWNER LOYALTY \$2,000 BUY FOR \$21,699 TOTAL SAVINGS \$7,246
2007 Ford Explorer XLT 4x4 MSRP \$30,795 CORRAL SAVINGS \$1,392 REBATE \$3,500 OWNER LOYALTY \$1,000 LEASE PRICE \$24,503 BUY FOR \$5,892	2007 Chevrolet Equinox MSRP \$21,235 MARCH BONUS \$1,000 BUY LOWELL \$1,100 REBATE \$1,000 BUY FOR \$21,235	2007 GMC New Sierra 4x4 X-Cab Down payment \$2,200 End value \$18,275.60 Security deposit \$325 Cost per mile over limit \$.25 Due at signing \$2,822 Term/miles allowed Total payments \$11,606.79 39MOS/32500 MILES DRIVE FOR \$297 PER MONTH!	2007 Jeep Liberty Sport 4x4 MSRP \$25,645 GRAND DISCOUNT \$1,215 REBATE \$3,500 OWNER LOYALTY \$2,000 BUY FOR \$18,930 TOTAL SAVINGS \$6,715
2007 Ford Escape XLT 4x4 MSRP \$27,575 CORRAL SAVINGS \$1,259 PACKAGE SAVINGS \$585 REBATE \$3,500 OWNER LOYALTY \$1,000 BUY FOR \$21,231 TOTAL SAVINGS \$6,344	2007 Chevrolet Suburban LT MSRP \$41,459 MARCH BONUS \$2,000 GOOD SAVINGS \$3,000 REBATE \$2,000 BUY FOR \$35,459	2007 GMC Envoy Down payment \$2,100 End value \$17,351.90 Security deposit \$325 Cost per mile over limit \$.25 Due at signing \$2,723 Term/miles allowed Total payments \$11,630.58 39MOS/32500 MILES DRIVE FOR \$298 PER MONTH!	2007 Ram 1500 Quad Cab 4x4 MSRP \$36,935 GRAND DISCOUNT \$3,536 PACKAGE SAVINGS \$1,200 REBATE \$5,000 OWNER LOYALTY \$2,000 BUY FOR \$25,199 TOTAL SAVINGS \$11,736

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HURRY! ENDS MARCH 24TH!

Don't "miss" Humpty Dumpty's last performances this weekend

The Thebes Players production of the "whodunit" one-act comedy Humpty Dumpty is Missing...or The Mysterious Case of the Fallen Egg will be presented three more times this weekend.

The production is an affectionate spoof of the private-eye thrillers of the 1940s and 1950s. Sammy Scoop is a private investigator in the tradition of his grandfather, Samuel Shovel and his father, Sam Spade.

Sammy faces the biggest challenge of his illustrious career with the sudden fall and disappearance of the jolly Humpty Dumpty, who apparently had no enemies. But Sammy and his sidekick, Alice from Dallas, soon come up with a list of suspects who had motive and, perhaps, opportunity.

The play, written by Joseph Robinette, is directed by Coleen Downey and produced by Brent Alles. Remaining per-

formances, at the Lowell Performing Arts Center at Lowell High School, are March 23 at 7:30 p.m. and March 24 and 25 at 2:30 p.m. each day. Tickets are \$12 general admission and \$10 for students, seniors and Lowell Area Arts Council members. Group tickets, \$8 each for groups of 10 or more, are available in advance. For more information, call the Lowell Area Arts Council at 897-8545.



Jennifer Borello, center left, playing the part of Mother Hubbard and Peggy Schmidt, center right, playing the part of Mother Goose. Looking on at right are Kiran Rilea, Eboni White, Erin Duma and Kolby Kloosterman as the King's Women, Alec Juarez as Peter Cottontail, Bridget Lally as Flopsy, Amber Cargill as Mopsy and Megan Dollar as Cottontail.



Kristina Noonon as the Troll and Tim Bem as Little Billy Goat Gruff.



From left, Ken Trupke as Sammy Scoop, Colleen Lally, Katie Bush and Mike Wittenbach as the wall and Mike Lally as the Police Chief.

College News

Former Assistant Coach and Lowell Red Arrow Goalie **David Maylone**, now Head Coach for the Boise High School Braves in Boise, Idaho, led his hockey team to a state championship on March 4. The team will compete later this month in Salt Lake City, Utah for the division championship. Maylone is a junior at Boise State University.

Of Lowell: Brian J. Abbring, Rebecca J. Brinkley, Kayne Culbertson, Ryan T. Curtis, Leah R. Dyksterhouse, Nichole L. Elliott, Tiffany R. Gauger, Diane M. Johnson, Ashley D. Kehoe, Christine E. LaFave, Amber L. Osborne, Anthony M. Pedley, Lindsey E. Plescher, Alissa M. Richards, Kayla J. Ritenburgh, Keeley K. Sadlak, Tiffany T. Venneman, Mariana W. Vieira, Shannon M. Walsh.

Of Alto: Sarah E. Appold, Alexandra L. Cordingly, Molly C. Cramer, Jeffrey B. Craven, Andrew D. Cromer, Steven R. Denhof, Harmony L. Gould, Sarah J. Hoff, Joshua W. Hulst, Nathan K. Layle, Emily A. Martinez, Amanda M. Sinning, Christopher A. West.

Benedictine College has recognized those students who have distinguished themselves academically during the last semester. **Nathanael Taylor**, of Lowell, was recently named to the President's List for the fall semester, which ended December 12, 2006. To achieve the President's List, students must carry a minimum of 12 credit hours and have a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

Cadet Benjamin Ritzema, son of Dion and Catherine Ritzema of Alto, has been named to the Dean's List for the Fall Semester covering August through December, at the U.S. Military Academy. To earn this honor, a cadet must maintain a 3.0 average in all courses.

Ritzema graduated from Lowell High School in 2006. He plans to graduate from West Point in 2010 and be commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army.



Benjamin Ritzema

COUNTDOWN TO KINDERGARTEN PARENT MEETING SCHEDULE

Attendance is important!

You will be scheduling your child's visitation time!

ALTO ELEMENTARY
 Kindergarten Parent Meeting
 Thursday, April 19, 2007
 6:00-6:25 PM - Sign-up
 6:30-7:30 PM - Meeting

BUSHNELL ELEMENTARY
 Kindergarten Parent Meeting
 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 2007
 6:00-6:25 PM - Sign-up
 6:30-7:30 PM - Meeting

MURRAY LAKE ELEMENTARY
 Kindergarten Parent Meeting
 TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2007
 6:15-6:25 PM - Sign-up
 6:30-7:30 PM - Meeting

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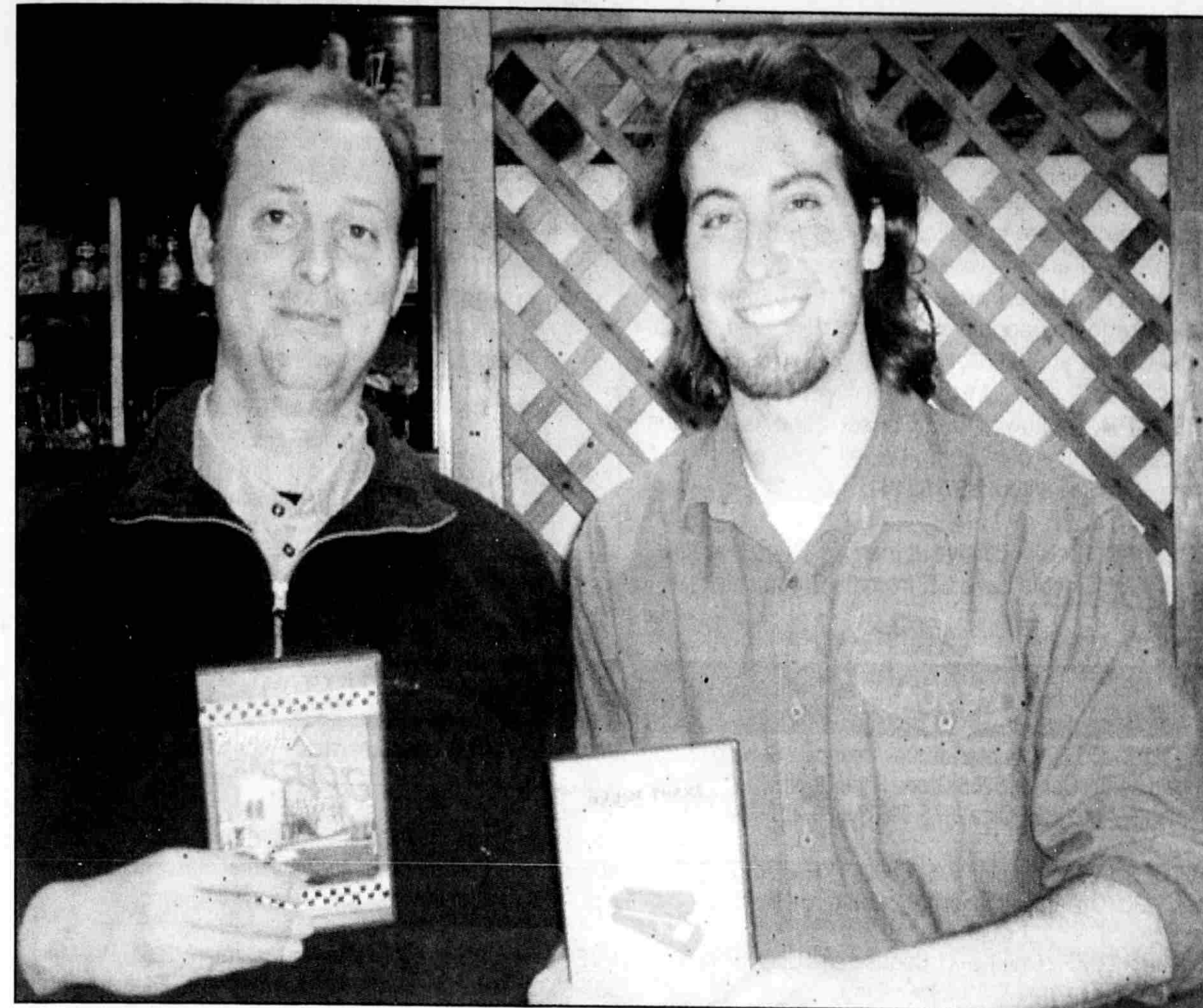
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Mythopoea creators bring fun back into video games

By Emma Palova



John Leutz II and Sean Polhemus, founders of Mythopoea Games Inc., will soon launch their video game Office Purks in the European market.

Mythopoea Games creators John Leutz II and Sean Polhemus of Lowell believe video games should be fun without violence.

They have developed electronic games "Phoenix Racing" and "Office Purks," the latter scheduled for release in the European markets by Boonty company on April 2.

Boonty is the largest online game distributor in western Europe. "Office Purks" will be carried on 242 web sites.

The Mythopoea team will also be showcasing their product at the 11th Annual Lowell Community Expo this Saturday in booth 196. They will have a television with loops of the games available, and a computer to try the games for free.

Mythopoea CEO Leutz II started the business in 2004 running the games online. He was later joined by Polhemus, who is president of the company.

In "Phoenix Racing," a casual online and retail game, players can get their brains in the racing mode, according to Polhemus.

"We believe in taking

games to what they used to be," said Leutz II. "We want to take the gore and the shock out of it."

So, in Mythopoea games, the player submerses in the enjoyment factor. "It's all about happiness and fun," said Leutz II.

Currently, Leutz II and Polhemus are in negotiating stages with Best Buy, WalMart and Meijer to have games sold in retail. After the expo, their games will be available at Red Frog, a local computer store.

The games retail for \$5 on the lower end to \$19 on the higher end. Another new Mythopoea game is "Ultimate Snowdown," a snowball fighting game.

"We want to polish the games up," said Polhemus. "...make them competitive to the mainstream market." Right now, Mythopoea Games are considered independent.

"The fact that we made it this far and that we're moving forward is the best testament," said Leutz II. "We just keep getting bigger and better."

For more information go to www.mythopoeagames.com

Character counts



Murray Lake Elementary's students who received Character in Action awards this month are front row: Corynn Rogers, Austin Goebel, Logan Smith, Eric Gable, Kyle Mankel, Logan Landman, Mark Rasch, Jacob Wosinski, Thomas Hubert, Kennedy Coxon, Francesca Robinson, Alyssa McCormick. In back row: Nina Vulpetti, Isabelle Dial, Keana Farni, Bailey Ostrander, Ben Noffke, Dylan Mankel, Andrew DeVost, Zac Inman, Ki Higley, Adam Anderson. Not pictured are Maysen Yaw, Autumn French and Sam Mason.

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COMING EVENTS

MARCH

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 at 374-7762.

MON., MAR. 26: Shop Horrock's, 12:45 p.m. Sponsored by Lowell Senior Neighbors.

MONDAYS

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.

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

EVERY OTHER MON.: Lowell Area Juggling Club, Community room, Englehardt Library, 7-8:30 p.m. 12/older. 897-9879.

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

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

TUESDAYS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WED., MAR. 28: Food Pantry, 12:45 p.m. Sponsored by Lowell Senior Neighbors.

TUES., APR. 3: Recent Explorations, a collection of works by artist Loretta Sailors and John Knight, runs through April 28 at Franciscan Life Process Center, 11650 Downes St NE, Lowell. Hours are 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Mon.-Fri., weekends by appointment. For more information, call the Center at 897-7842.

TUES., APR. 10: Lowell Area Conservation Association open meeting at 7 p.m. at the Lowell Fire Barn, 315 S. Hudson. Public invited. 897-5314.

WED., APR. 18: Blood Drive at the First Congregational Church, 865 Lincoln Lake SE from 3 - 7 p.m.

TUESDAYS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

EVERY TUES.: 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 Methodist Church, corner of Avery & Jackson. 897-5936.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THURSDAYS

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

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

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

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

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

ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY: Mon.-Wed., 12-8 p.m.; Thurs. and Fri.: 9:30 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 Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. - 4 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 Rapids.

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

1ST & 3RD THURS.: Alto Lions Club meets at Deer Run Golf Course at 7 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY

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.

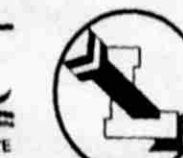
2ND SAT.: Ada Historical Society, 10:30 a.m. at Averill Historical Museum, 7144 Headley, Ada.

2ND SAT.: Lowell Amateur Radio Club, held at 11535 E. Fulton, Flat River Outreach Ministries. 9 a.m. social time; 10 a.m. meeting. LARC sponsors 145.27 MHz area radio repeater system.

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

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

Presented by...



11th Annual LOWELL COMMUNITY EXPO

March 24, 2007

9 AM TO 3:30 PM

Lowell High School • 11700 Vergennes

- Over 150 Booths On Display
- Entertainment
- Local Mascots
- Door Prizes
- Exhibitors' Giveaways
- Concessions
- Free Admission
- Free Parking

Lowell Area Chamber Of Commerce
897-9161 Or www.lowellexpo.org

Addorio Technologies
Advanced Eyecare Professionals
All Source Imaging LLC
All Weather Seal
American Cancer Society
Animal Hospital & Pet Complex of Lowell
Appletree Christian Learning Center
Arbonne International
Arctic Heating & Air-conditioning
Arrowhead Golf Course
B. C. Pizza
Beachum Flooring
Branch Adventures
Browning Detection Systems LLC
Calvary Christian Reformed Church of Lowell
Canfield Plumbing & Heating Inc.
Chase
Chimera Design Fine Jewelry
Chu's Pearls
City of Lowell
Coldwell Banker Hoppough's & Associates
Controlled Environments Structures
CoverUp Enclosures
Culligan of Greenville/Ionia
Curves for Lowell
Dawn Borup Photography
Deer Run Golf Club
Dery Physical Therapy Services P.C.
Digital Image Signs & Graphics
Double R Ranch Resort & Golf
Dream Maker Bath & Kitchen
Earthworm Dozing & Excavating, Inc.
Edward Jones Investments
Farmers Insurance
Fifth Third Bank
Fireplaces Plus of Lowell

First Baptist Church
First Congregational Church of Lowell
First United Methodist Church of Lowell
Flat River Outreach Ministries
Floors by Design, Inc.
Foster's Countryside Greenhouse
Fountain View of Lowell
Fravel Financial Services
Garlic Weed Display
Glass House Designs
GOOD Chevrolet Buick
Goodwill Industries
Grand Dodge Jeep Chrysler
Grand River Veterinary Hospital PC
Great Clips for Hair
Great Lakes Paving
Greenridge Realty Inc.
H & R Block
Harding Enterprises/Diamond Plate Works
Healing Wind Touch Therapy
Health Motion Physical Therapy
Heritage Furniture Restoration
Home Experts Heating, Cooling & Electric
Hunter Construction
Huntington Bank
Huyser Orthodontics
ICNB
Impact
Jousma Flooring
JVR Builders
Kent County Youth Agricultural Assn.
Kent District Library
L.I.V.E. 7
L4 Lingerie & Specialty Boutique
Laurels of Kent
Leonard's Photography
Life in Balance

Lighthouse, Inc.
Lowell / Rockford Ambulance
Lowell Area Arts Council
Lowell Area Boy Scouts Troop #102
Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce
Lowell Area Community Fund
Lowell Area Farmers' Market
Lowell Area Fire Department
Lowell Area Historical Museum
Lowell Area Recreation Authority
Lowell Area Schools
Lowell Area Schools Education Foundation
Lowell Charter Township
Lowell Church of the Nazarene
Lowell City Directory
Lowell Community Wellness
Lowell Granite Company
Lowell Ledger - Litho - Buyers Guide
Lowell Light & Power & Cable TV
Lowell Lions Club
Lowell Rotary Club
Lowell Youth Football
Mandolin Design
Marne Jerky Co
Mary Kay Cosmetics/Diane's Designs Family Hair Care
Melaleuca
MI Home Inventory Services
Midwest Concepts
Mika Meyers Beckett & Jones PLC
Modern Photographics
Mythopoea Games Inc.
Net Group
NMB Industries LLC
Pawstive Canine Training Center LLC
Paws-tively Grooming
Personal Choice Cabinetry
Porter Hills

Premier Mortgage Funding, Inc.
Qdoba Mexican Grill
Quality Lumber & Wholesale
ReBath Remodeling of Michigan
Reliv International
Ronda Tire, Lowell Tire
Regal Insurance Agency
Rickert Landscaping
River Valley Credit Union
Royal Heritage Conference Center
Rudd's Septic Service
Shopping Made Easy/Jana's Jewelry
Simplicity Gourmet
St. Patrick Parish
State Farm Insurance
State Representative Dave Hildenbrand
Sunshine Senior Care
Tastefully Simple
The Backyard Boutique
The Investment Center @ ICNB
The Lily Pad Candle Shoppe
Trombly Chiropractic
Tupperware
United Methodist Preschool
Vents, LLC
Voyages Deli & Coffee Shop
Waddell & Reed
Wags Pet Grooming, LLC
West MI Chapter of North Country Trails
West Michigan Sawmill
Wildflowers by Wildwood
Wolbers Possehn Pool & Landscapes
Woody's Vacuum Sales & Service
Xango Independent Distributor
YMCA - Lowell

Dog Grooming Demos,

9:30 am, 10:45 am, 12:30 pm & 1:45 pm, presented by Wags Pet Grooming

Roaming Jugglers, 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm, presented by the Lowell Area Juggling Club

Luncheon, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm, presented by Lowell Schools Food Staff

"How to Raise Financially Responsible Children",

11:00 am, presented by Linda Fravel of Fravel Financial Services

Money Management Workshop.

1:30 pm, presented by Paul Cummings of Waddell & Reed

LHS Woodshop Exhibit, all day, presented by the LHS Shop Class

\$5 Hair Clipper Cuts, all day, presented by Great Clips for Hair

Passport Applications & Pictures,

All day, presented by City of Lowell/Modern Photographics

"The Move About" Demos, all day, presented by NMB Industries

Grip Strength Testing, all day, presented by the Laurels of Kent

5 Minute Chair Massage, all day, presented by Healing Wind Touch Therapy

Discover Lowell Website & Volunteer Opportunities, all day, presented by L.I.V.E.

Exercise Machine Demo, all day, presented by Curves of Lowell

- ALL DAY OUTSIDE -

Bucket Rides, Work & Safety Procedures

Presented by Lowell Light & Power

ENTERTAINMENT ON THE BIG STAGE- GYM A

9:00 am.....National Anthem - Brennan Prill

9:30 am.....Gymnastics - 5th Graders

10:00 amCha Cha Slide - Brownie Troop 3089

10:30 am.....Singing 3rd Grader

11:00 am.....First Baptist Church Puppets

11:30 am.....Amber Lyles & Hannah Stewart - Singers

12:30 pm.....Payton Murphy - Singer

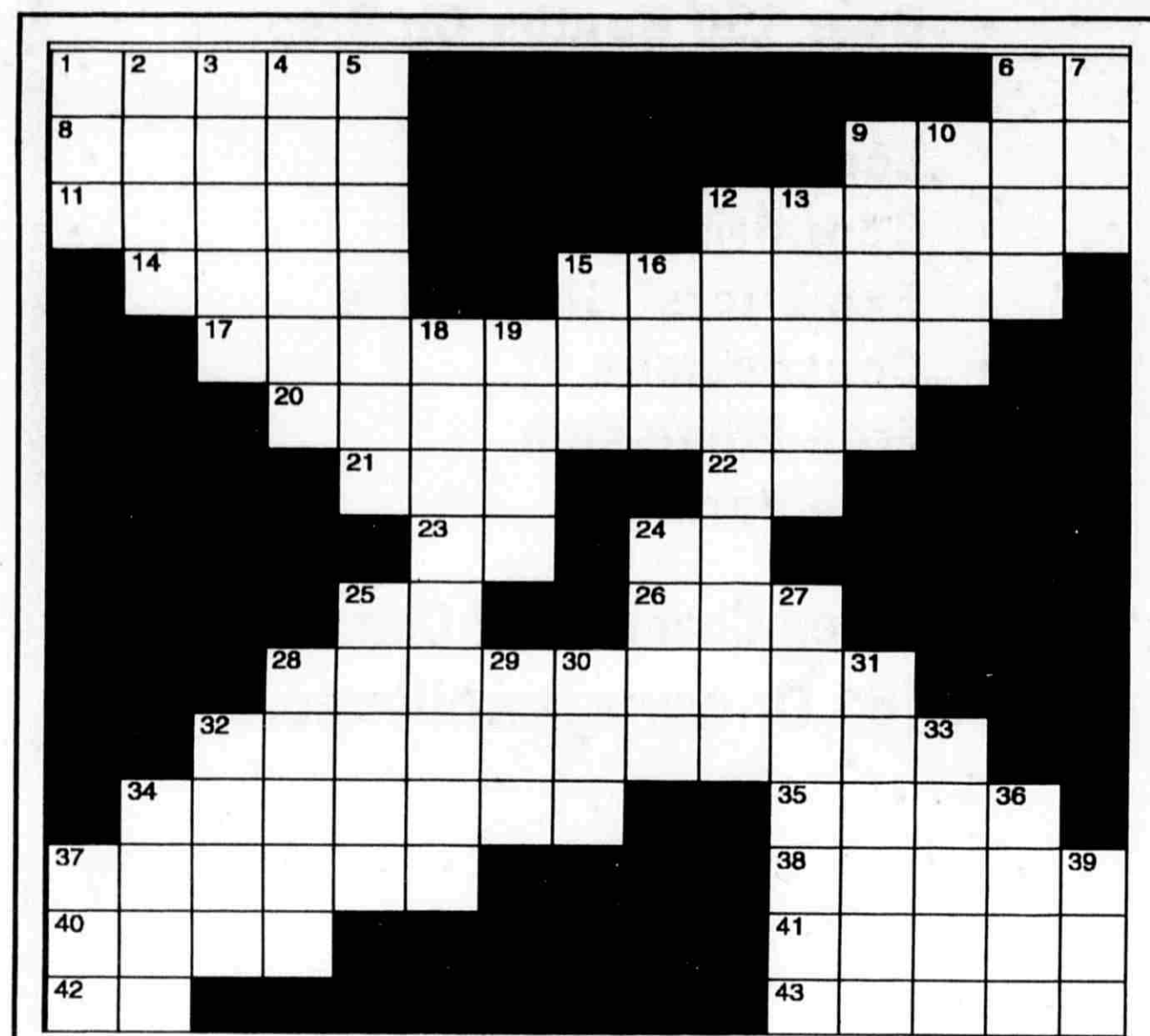
1:00 pm.....Beginning Orchestra

1:30 pm.....The Fiddle Club

2:00 pm.....Rachel Fox - Singing 3rd Grader

2:30 pm.....Jump Roping - Elementary Students

PAUSE, PONDER & PASS SOME TIME!



CW073110

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

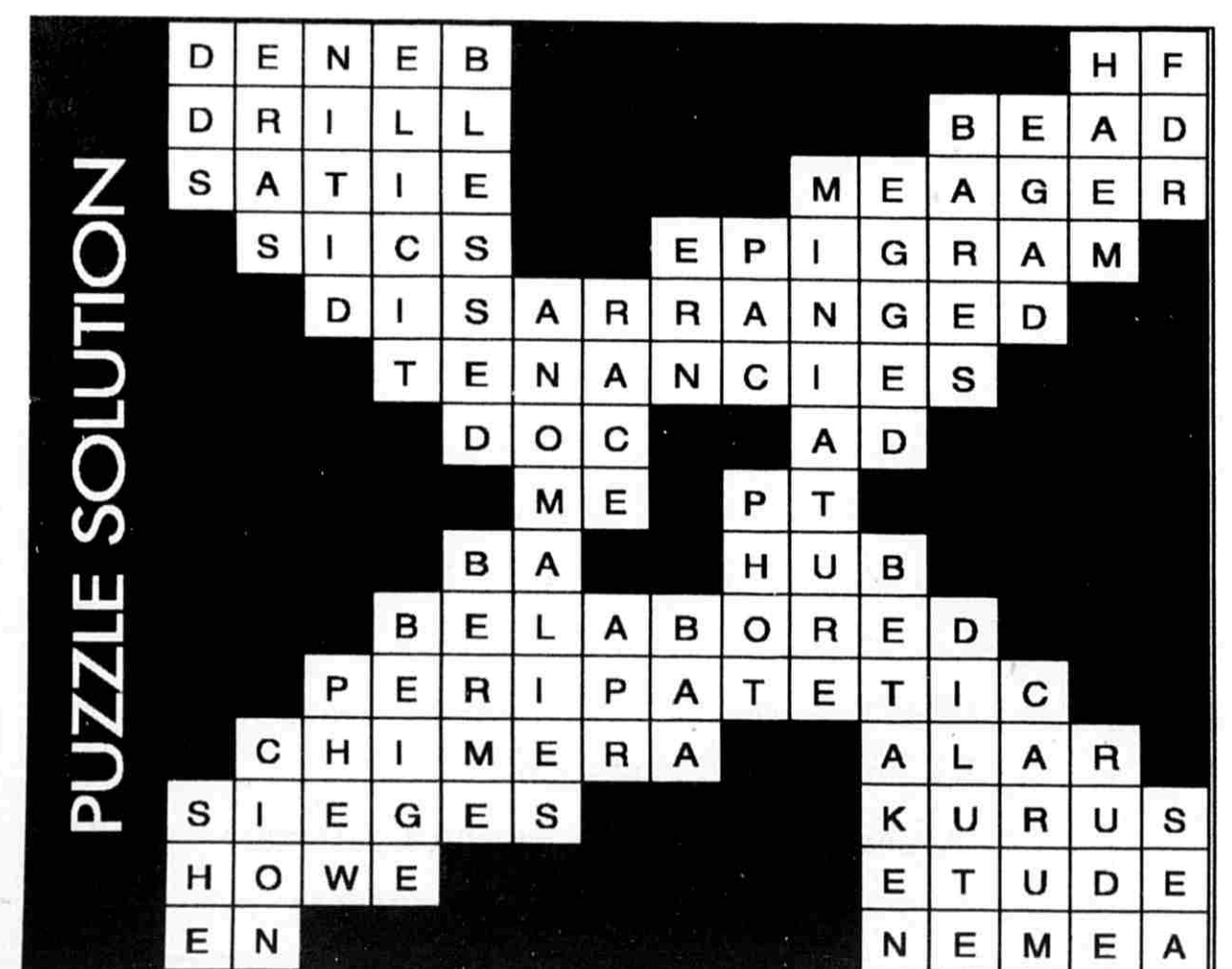
25. Barium
26. Center
28. Discussed at length
32. Walking about from place to place
34. Composite Greek she-monster
35. Trademark used for daminozide
37. Blockades
38. Turkish monetary units
40. British Revolutionary War general
41. Opus
42. Linear unit
43. Site of Greek games in 573 BC

CLUES DOWN

1. Tooth caregiver
2. Geological times
3. Gleaming
4. Evoke
5. Sacred
6. Heme (var.)
7. 32nd President
9. Uncovers
10. Oh, God! (var.)
12. Small replica
13. Encouraged
15. Any of several sea eagles
16. Political action committee
18. Departures from the norm
19. Type of sports competition

24. __osynthesis: light conversion
25. Ground along a dike
27. Cause oneself to go
28. Light brown
29. 4th month (abbr.)
30. Sheep sound
31. Reduce a liquid's concentration
32. Stinks!
33. Caraway
34. Coer __: compel by force
36. Ill-mannered
37. The woman
39. Ocean

CW07311A



RANDOM THINGS...

Environmentally friendly, or "green," products and practices can make your home healthier and more comfortable. But how do you incorporate green materials into your home? Here are some suggestions.

- Local building materials. One of the simplest ways to go green is to look for building materials that are indigenous to your area. For instance, use stone that is quarried locally.
- Bamboo and natural cork flooring. These renewable, fast-growing woods are long-lasting and naturally termite-resistant. They come in many different styles and colors.
- Natural fabrics and carpets. Fabrics with natural fibers and natural dyes, such as undyed cotton and natural hemp, won't off-gas - in other words, release toxic gases that can affect indoor air quality.
- Non-toxic paints, stains, sealants and glues. Look for products that are low in volatile organic compounds, or VOCs. Check a product's label for VOC information.
- Energy-efficient lighting. The use of low-voltage lights and newly developed fluorescent lights can help reduce energy use.
- Energy Star appliances. When replacing washers, dryers, refrigerators and dishwashers, look for products with the Energy Star label, which use less energy and help reduce energy costs.

AROUND THE HOUSE...

When repotting large plants, first fill the container half way with packing peanuts.
(Those styrofoam "peanuts" that protect products during shipping).

Fill the rest of the container with potting soil and add your plant.

This really cuts down on the weight of those large tropical plants decorating the house.

*If you have a helpful around the house tip, send it in to:
The Lowell Ledger, P.O. Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331
or email us ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com.
In subject line write "Around the House."*

READER'S CORNER

Arranging a bowl of flowers in the morning can give a sense of quiet in a crowded day - like writing a poem, or saying a prayer.

- Anne Morrow Lindbergh

SUDOKU

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

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

ATTENTION READERS

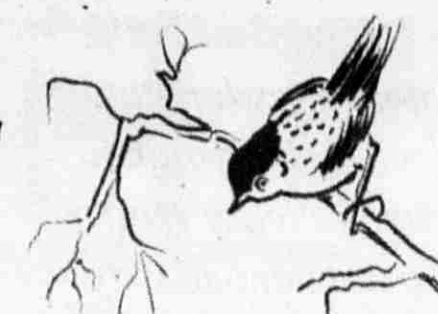
Are You Feeling CREATIVE?
If you would like to submit a poem, verse, cartoon, drawing or recipe for the Reader's Corner, we'd like to print it.

Not all will be accepted and submissions will not be returned unless a self-addressed, stamped envelope is included.

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

Outdoors

By Dave Stegehuis



TRY IT YOU'LL LIKE IT

Preconceived opinions can sometimes deter us from experiencing a new activity. A lack of understanding or fear can also prevent us from getting involved.

At a recent family gathering, on the Big Island of Hawaii, I was invited to go snorkeling. Because of an aversion to

salt water, I declined. My brother did participate and insisted I use his equipment to explore the tidal pool. I reluctantly accepted the offer and proceeded to suit up. I sat on some rocks to put on the fins when one of the "rocks" began to move away. The sea turtle and I were both surprised and the huge reptile slowly swam away to find a more secluded area to rest. That exciting beginning turned into an amazing afternoon.

The coral reef was alive with all forms of plant and animal life. The fish exhibited combinations of brilliant colors such as bright yellow, blue, black, orange, and silver, and came in a variety of sizes and shapes. Just when I thought I had seen them all, another species would appear. The fish inhabited the pool in great numbers, were very

approachable, and swam by without paying much attention to the strange finned intruder. After this exciting and unique encounter with nature, I thought of how close I had come to not having the experience.

Weeks later, a mission trip took me to the West Indies. I had once read in a barbershop magazine about world class diving off the island of St. Lucia. When someone suggested snorkeling on a day off, I jumped at the opportunity. I recognized some of the same fish found off Kona, but also many new species. One in particular was bright blue and looked like it was lit up with tiny LEDs. Now when someone asks "do you snorkel?" I say yes. The point here is that it may not be wise to be too quick to pass up opportunities to explore new activities.

It is best to learn as much as possible about an activity before getting involved or to begin under the guidance of one who is experienced. To do otherwise could result in a bad experience and cause one to give up. Special training or certification is sometimes necessary for a safe and worthwhile experience.

I have never hunted waterfowl primarily because I don't care to eat ducks or geese. Those who do hunt waterfowl seem to be extremely passionate about it, so I believe the chance of getting hooked on it is great.

Be on the lookout for new experiences and keep an open mind. Try it - you may like it.

Financial Focus

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

USE "LADDER" TO CLIMB ABOVE INTEREST RATE WORRIES

Interest rates are constantly changing. But how do rising or falling interest rates affect your investment strategies?

There's no simple answer, of course. If you own stocks, higher interest rates could be a cause for concern, because when interest rates rise, it becomes more expensive for companies to borrow to expand their operations. As a result, these businesses may feel a squeeze on their profitability - and their stock prices. And yet, some businesses are much more affected by rising interest rates than others, so, as an investor, you can't really base your actions on a blanket statement such as: "Higher interest rates are bad for all stocks."

The situation is a little different if you own fixed-income vehicles, such as bonds. When interest rates rise, the value of your bonds will fall. That's because no one will want to pay you the full price for your bonds when he or she can buy new ones issued with a higher interest rate. To sell yours, you'd have to offer them at a "discount" to their face value. On the other hand, if interest rates fall, the value of your existing bonds will rise, so if you were to sell them, you could get a premium price.

Of course, if you're like many people, you don't buy bonds just to sell them. You want to hold them until maturity, when you can expect to get your principal back, assuming it's a quality bond and the issuer doesn't default. And, along the way, you've gotten regular interest payments, which you can use to supplement your cash flow or to reinvest.

However, even if you do plan on holding bonds or certificates of deposit (CDs) until maturity, you might want to pay some attention to what's happening with interest rates.

After all, if you depend on bonds or CDs for some of your income, and rates are down when these investments mature, you could face a difficult choice: Should you purchase new fixed-income vehicles at current rates, or should you "park" your money somewhere and hope for rates to rise again soon?

Fortunately, you can find a better solution than either of these options. How? By building a "ladder" of fixed income investments. To build a ladder, you purchase a variety of fixed income vehicles [any combination of corporate bonds, U.S. government-sponsored enterprise (GSE) and/or Treasury securities, municipal bonds or certificates of deposit] with a wide range of maturities - short-, intermediate- and long-term.

Once you have established a bond ladder, you are prepared for both rising and falling interest rates. When rates are rising, the proceeds from your maturing bonds can be used to invest in new ones at higher levels. When market rates are falling, you'll continue to benefit from the higher rates offered by your longer-term bonds.

In addition to helping you productively reinvest your maturing bond proceeds in all interest rate environments, a well-structured bond ladder may, over time, help you increase the income you earn on your fixed-income portfolio. And, at the very least, by regularly reinvesting part of your portfolio in all market conditions, you may be able to smooth out your returns.

See your financial advisor for help in putting together a fixed-income ladder that can help you meet your needs.

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

LUNCH MENU
ELEMANTARY MENU
Week of March 26, 2007

MON: Pepperoni pizza (egg salad sandwich also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), broccoli, warm apple slices, milk.

TUES: Cheeseburger on bun (chili & crackers also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), corn, assorted fruit, homemade peanut butter bar, milk.

WED: Pancake w/ syrup (cereal/graham cracker also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), scrambled eggs, fresh fruit, applesauce, milk.

THURS: Baked chicken patty on bun (grilled cheese also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), carrot coins, assorted fruit, milk.

FRI: No School. Spring break begins.

SUBWAY HELP WANTED
All Shifts, apply in person
SUBWAY 2050 W. Main Lowell
eat fresh! 6749 E. Fulton Ada

WANTED HOMES THAT NEED ROOFING
A select number of home owners in the area will be given the opportunity to have a lifetime Erie Metal Roofing System installed on their home at a reasonable cost.
If we can use your home in our campaign to showcase the look of our new metal shingle roof, we will definitely make it worth your while.
Should your home and location meet our marketing needs, you will receive attractive pricing and have access to our special low interest unsecured bank financing.
An Erie Metal Roofing System will provide your home with unsurpassed beauty and protection...guaranteed!
Unlike other roofing materials, an Erie Metal Roof can be installed even in the Winter months
INQUIRE TODAY TO SEE IF YOUR HOME QUALIFIES!
www.ErieMetalRoofs.com
1-800-952-3743

Sunrise Senior Living
Is opening a new Assisted Living in the Grand Rapids area, and is looking for caring people who are team players, who enjoy Seniors.
Positions Available:
Care Givers, Medication Care Managers, LPN's, Concierges, Cooks, Dishwashers, and Housekeepers.
Sunrise offers:
• Flexible Part-Time Hours
• Benefits for Part-Time Employees
• Tuition Reimbursement
For more information please contact:

3041 Charlevoix Dr., SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546
Main (616)942-7200 • Fax (616)942-7203

Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc.
The FROM THRIFT SHOP has to be one of the busiest places in town!
The store is full of goodies for every member of the family from Grandpa and Grandma to the youngest child.
(Sometimes we even have dog sweaters and kennels)
We now have a Furniture Store as well, and will pick up your furniture donations. Just call 897-8567 and leave your name, address and phone number and we will arrange pick-up.
If you haven't been to our new location yet - what are you waiting for? We are at:
11435 Fulton Street E
(In the former Cumberland Manor Building)
OUR STORE HOURS ARE:
Monday thru Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Saturdays: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
PHONE: 897-8567
Think of our ministry when you are ready to donate your clean, gently-used items and be sure to visit our table at EXPO!

At Your Local Library



MOSAIC ART CLASS AT THE ENGLEHARDT BRANCH OF KDL

Visiting art instructor Amanda Trimble will conduct a mosaic art class on Saturday, April 28 from 10 a.m.-noon at the Englehardt Branch of the Kent District Library, 200 N. Monroe.

Participants will learn how to make a one-of-a-kind flower pot keepsake. A \$5 registration fee includes instruction and supplies.

All artists must register by April 21. Register online at www.kdl.org or by contacting the branch at 647-3920. The registration fee may only be paid at the branch.

There is always more misery among the lower classes than there is humanity in the higher.

- Victor Hugo (1802 - 1885)

Sound Off

The Ledger
"Almost"
Anything
Goes Column



www.lowellbuyersguide.com

Or CALL...897-0787

Brief, "Sound Off" comments are always welcome but will be, at times, edited for content and length. All comments are submitted by the public and do not necessarily represent the views of the Ledger. Feel free to sign your comment. For more lengthy views please consider a letter "To The Editor".

Smoking is a nasty habit, but dipping snuff is even more disgusting! GROSS!!

How about Lowell Cable getting us the food channel.

I hope the RAW bus will be at the Expo. I've heard a lot about it.

Mr. McFarland, we hope your St. Pat's day was excellent and you drank numerous Shamrock Shakes.

We miss you so. -Eighth-grade honors English class, who used no jsns in this message.

In regards to last weeks posting of the baby/child sale...is this something that only Lowell does? I'd be willing to give my teenager away!

Taking Buddha & Sumo wrestler statues will bring you bad luck. Please return them immediately. Check classifieds for more information.

A. Otis owned Faro's! B. We DO have a bait shop! C. Wrestlers rock! D. Let the lady use the phone already! E. Have a nice day!

Racism isn't born, folks, it's taught. I have a two-year-old son. You know what he hates? Naps!

- Dennis Leary

If the City Council wants to silence the controversy over the N. Washington they should just make it a public park. Then everyone could use it permanently.

LAS is so fortunate to have Tim (aka Firefighter Tim) on staff. Having an EMT available for students and staff in a medical emergency is reassuring as a parent.

Thanks firefighter Tim for taking such good care of our favorite teacher during her seizure. You calmed down some pretty freaked out moms. LAS is lucky to have you on staff.

If the City Council wants to silence the controversy over the N. Washington they should just make it a public park. Then everyone could use it permanently.

Who is Otis? The only Otis I know is Bibler and he and his kids used to pick up nightcrawlers in Fallsburg.

Yes, a Lowell church has an Angel Food Ministries. That would be the Lowell Nazarene Church.

We all agree! We need a bait shop in Lowell.

Hey Roger - I don't let my dog go out anyplace when she's not on a leash. Maybe you and your neighbors should practice the same thing. My dog is free to run on my property - not on yours.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate FILE NO. 07-182,828-DE

Estate of ELSIE I. MALONEY deceased

Date of birth: 8/4/1913

TO ALL CREDITORS: The decedent, ELSIE I. MALONEY, who lived at 930 Sibley, Lowell, MI 49331, died 12/28/2006.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to DARLA D. MALONEY, named personal representative, or to both the probate court at 930 Sibley, Lowell, MI 49331 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

March 21, 2007
Michael J. Tummino, Jr. P21618
311 E. Main
Lowell, MI 49331
616-897-5931

Darla D. Maloney
930 Sibley
Lowell, MI 49331



Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc. would like to say a big "THANK YOU!" to Larkin's for giving us the use of their banquet hall for the all-day concert benefiting the FROM Food Pantry and for putting us on the marquee!

Also, thanks to Deb Apol for all of her help and hard work. Finally, thanks to Deb Chambers, who originated and carried out the concert idea and to the bands who donated time and talent for the event.

Again, thanks to all of you and God bless you!

A-Jill-ity Glenn Kennels proudly presents two new classes for you and your canine companion.

"Introduction to Agility" will introduce both of you to the wonderful world of agility using positive reinforcement training methods. This series of classes is designed for the dog and owner that have had no prior agility training. Dogs must be 10 months old, handlers must be 12 years old or accompanied by an adult. Six sessions starting Thurs., April 26, 2007, 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. \$50.

"So...You're an Agility Addict?" will focus on the rules and regulations of AKC and CPE competition agility. Advice and tips on overcoming "first show jitters" will be discussed. Each week a different AKC and CPE course will be set up and handlers and dogs will learn by actively participating in these "fun runs". Prerequisite "Introduction to Agility" or pre-approval. Six sessions starting Mon., April 23, 2007, 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. \$50.

Classes are located in Lowell, approximately 1.5 miles north of Keiser's Kitchen. Call 616-897-6245 after 5:30 or 616-970-4359 any time. Leave message, all calls will be returned.

BNi Experience the power of referrals. Increase your sales staff by 20-30. Sound too good to be true?

It happens weekly at the Ada/Lowell BNI meeting. To find out more about this proactive business organization visit our website at www.thornapperverbni.com. And if you are serious about growing your business, call Cheryl at 868-7551



Newly remodeled, 3 bedroom, 1 bath ranch. Home in the country just minutes north of Lowell. Lowell schools, extra big lot, garage and deck. Full basement, central air, all appliances included. No smoking in house. 1 year lease, \$900 per mo. plus security deposit. Call 897-8555 or cell 446-5909

LOOK AT ME NOW!!!

The Laurels of Kent celebrates another successful rehab to home!

Wilma Hull came to The Laurels of Kent to receive sub-acute rehabilitation after her hospital stay and upon completion of her therapy program she wanted to express her appreciation. "Warm Thanks to the entire staff of The Laurels of Kent! To those of you who crossed my path directly with care and kindness, and to those of you in the shadows whose contributions to my welfare also made a difference. YOU ALL GAVE ME TOMORROW WHEN I THOUGHT MY LIFE WAS ALL YESTERDAYS!" Sincerely, Wilma Hull

Congratulations Wilma on Your Return Home!



THE LAURELS OF KENT
A Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
350 N. Center St. • Lowell, MI 49331 • (616) 897-8473

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE MUST SELL - Craftsman rider w/plow, \$600; yard trailer, \$40; tablesaw w/stand, \$50; portable DVD player, \$70; misc. tools; 1993 Plymouth Acclaim, \$600. Call 642-6196.

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

'03 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 - Ext. cab, 4x4, long box, cap, auto., 5.3 liter V8, only 33,000 miles. \$14,900. Call 616-460-9765.

FOR SALE - 2 cockatiels with cage. \$100. Call 897-4357.

GOLF BALLS FOR SALE - Previously experienced. All in perfect condition - Titleist & Maxfli Noodle, \$6 per doz.; Pinnacle & Nike, \$5 per doz.; Top-Flite, \$4 per doz or 3 doz. for \$10. Call 897-8520.

FOR SALE - GAS DRYER, \$45; Amana microwave, \$15. Call 897-8555 or 446-5909.

HOME FOR SALE - 10702 Settlemore, priced reduced to \$149,900! Open Sunday, March 24 from 1-4. One and half story home approximately 1,600 sq feet with four bedrooms and two full bathrooms in Lowell Schools. Completely renovated inside & out. Move in right away. Call 540-6541.

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

FOR SALE - Chapel Hill Deluxe Companion mausoleum crypt. Price \$6,200, will sell for \$3,000. Call 897-5883.

SPRING IS HERE & SO ARE THE BLUE BIRD SCOUTS - Be ready for them with a brand new blue bird house. Also wren houses, bat houses & feeders available. Excellent quality & the best prices around. Bob's Bird Houses, 12279 60th St., Alto, 868-6633.

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

HOUSE FOR SALE - OPEN HOUSE, Sun, March 25, 1-4 p.m. 10737 Woodbush, Lowell. 4 bedroom, 2 full baths, main floor laundry, Lowell schools. Call for appointment 897-5529.

SOLID OAK GUN CABINET FOR SALE - Holds 13 guns & has additional storage in bottom. Can email pics. \$500 obo. Jennifer, 616-915-2268.

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

FOR SALE

2004 ROCKWOOD ULTRA LIGHT TRAVEL TRAILER - w/slide-out, 33 ft., sleeps 5, excellent condition. \$14,500. Call 897-6331 bet. 5 p.m. & 9 p.m.

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

2007 DEER RUN PREFERRED PLAYERS PASS - LAST WEEK AVAILABLE! Stop by the Buyers Guide office and get yours! A \$625 value - all for only \$50. For more information call Jay at 897-1355.

1996 CHEVY BLAZER - well maintained, upgraded sound system, leather, tinted windows, \$3,400 obo. Call 616-915-2268 with any questions.

FOR SALE - Dining room table w/2 leaves, large & excellent condition w/4 chairs, assorted furniture. Best offer. Call 676-0173.

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

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

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

CHURCH ORGAN - Vintage early 1950's Allen organ with double keyboard & pedals. Free with your removal. Call Rhonda at 897-9820.

GOLF BALLS FOR SALE - All in perfect condition with no scuff marks. Assorted brands, only 25c each. Practice balls, \$12 per 100. Call 897-8520.

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

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

HERFORD, WHITE FACED, BULLS FOR SALE - 5 mo. old, 400 lbs, \$300; 10 mo. old, \$450; 18 mo. old, \$700. 868-6091.

MOTORCYCLES - '99 Honda XR70, \$600 and '96 Honda XR100, \$800. Kids grown up. 443-1546 cell or 897-8369 home.

FOR RENT

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

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

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

FOR LEASE/SALE/OPTIONS - Cute 3 bedroom, 1 bath home in Lowell close to schools. Available April 1. Call 560-0405 or 560-0751.

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

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

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

FOR RENT - Lowell duplex, 2 bedroom, country setting, \$575/mth, no smoking or pets. Call Joyce Smith, 616-293-0980.

SARANAC, W. RIVERSIDE - 2 new mobile home sites for rent. Phone 642-6985.

HOUSE TRAILER FOR RENT - Two bedroom, south of Saranac, \$535/month plus deposit. 616-527-4418 or 616-291-1413.

WANTED

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

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

LADIES NEEDED FOR GOLF LEAGUE - Wednesday nights at Saskatoon beginning May 2nd. Call Nancy at 616-437-1927.

WANTED - 20 people who need to lose up to 30 lbs. in a month. All natural, doctor recommended. Eat the foods you love, such as McDonald's. Call Kristin today at 616-304-3580 or email Krisd1981@gmail.com.

MOTORCYCLES - '99 Honda XR70, \$600 and '96 Honda XR100, \$800. Kids grown up. 443-1546 cell or 897-8369 home.

HELP WANTED

DELIVERY DRIVER - CDL-A drivers needed. Looking for dependable customer service oriented person w/chauffeurs CDL-B, CDL-A license. Good working environment. Also hiring nights/weekends. 616-248-7729.

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

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

TK'S HEART PETSITTING - Loving & expert care for your pet(s) while you work or vacation! References available. Call Tera, 897-7347 or cell 847-254-1734.

NANNY NEEDED - Looking for our Mary Poppins! Live in nanny needed. All we ask for is someone to play with us, feed us and take care of us like our mommy. Please no live in boyfriends and take showers - good hygiene a must, and love kids. Pay negotiable. Needed now! Please call Patricia at 897-9135 or 901-834-8856.

PERSONALS

REWARD - for the return of Jolly Buddha and/or Sumo Wrestler statues taken from my yard. Call 690-7335.

SALES

MOVING SALE - John Deere 48 inch tractor \$1,200; computers starting at \$500, paid \$2,300; several DVD movies; baby furniture; Town and Country van worth \$3,500, first \$2,000 takes it. Sale starts Thursday, March 22, 23, 24 from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. 630 Forstrom Dr., behind Lowell Airport off Vergennes.

GARAGE SALE - 2345 Bowes Rd. Thurs., March 22; Fri., March 23 & Sat., March 24.

FREE

MALE NEUTERED CAT - Needs a new home. Orange & white. Adolescent. He was found last spring & I've taken him in. 915-8611.

WANTED A LOVING HOME - for a 7 year old neutered, declawed, handsome, indoor male cat. Loves attention! Call Linda at 897-9202.

SERVICES

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

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

MARCH SPECIAL - Locks rekeyed or keyed alike, includes up to 4 locks, \$50. Also deadbolt lock & installation \$75 at your home or business. Call Bob Ford 299-3198.

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

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

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

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

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

REDfrog COMPUTERS - HIGH SPEED INTERNET! \$29.95. Dialup internet, \$9.95. Computer repair, virus removal. We build computers for you! Wholesale! **Lowell 897-5814**, M-F 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., S 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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

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

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

BRENDA B'S DAYCARE HAS OPENINGS - Christian home. We have lots of fun! Call today, 987-9351.

UPHOLSTERY - Furniture, RV cushions, boat seats, dinette chairs, 50+ years exp. Low prices, 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. Richard Kuyt Sr. 531-3309.

SERVICES

HAVING AN OUTDOOR EVENT THIS SUMMER? - We rent: Tents, tables, chairs, lighting, food service equipment, keg coolers, complete DJ services. Karaoke available! Spring 2007 special - \$50 off any package. Look for the coupon in this edition! Offer expires 5/1/07. B & D Event Rental & D.J. Service, 885-0503 or 885-0502.

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

FRESH IDEAS CUSTOM ORGANIZING SERVICES - DeCluttering Spring Special: half price all March appointments! Call Lori at 318-3830. We Love Organizing!

DIVORCE BY AGREEMENT - Save \$\$\$! Non-attorney. Free quote & brochure. David, 616-248-5045 ext. 51 or 888-381-6863 ext. 51 (24 hours).

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

J&S LAWN SERVICE - General lawn maintenance wanted. Mowing, trimming, edging, cleanup & light landscaping. Low rates. Contact Jim at 693-2278 or 745-8320 for free estimate.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY RESTORE - Discount home improvement materials - donations welcome. Hours Tu.-Fr., 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sat. 9-4 p.m. Closed Sun. & Mon. 5701 S. Division, Grand Rapids, 616-531-4591.

SEAMLESS GUTTER - Bleam Eavestrouthing. Free estimates, 50 colors, leaf guards. Since 1959. Choose the experience! (616) 765-3333 or 1-877-945-RAIN. www.bleamaves.com

POORTENGA BUILDERS, INC. 616-299-7160 - Custom framing, new home construction, additions, garages, decks, excavating work and much more! Licensed and insured. Visit us at: www.builditfixit.com.

BILL'S CUSTOM-MADE FURNITURE & CABINETS - All types of wood: oak, maple, hickory, cherry plus others. Reasonable rates and free estimates. Call 989-855-3644.

RISNER ROOFING - serving you since 1961. Ice and snow removal. Licensed & insured. Free estimates. Call Steve, 868-6015 or Terry 897-7968.

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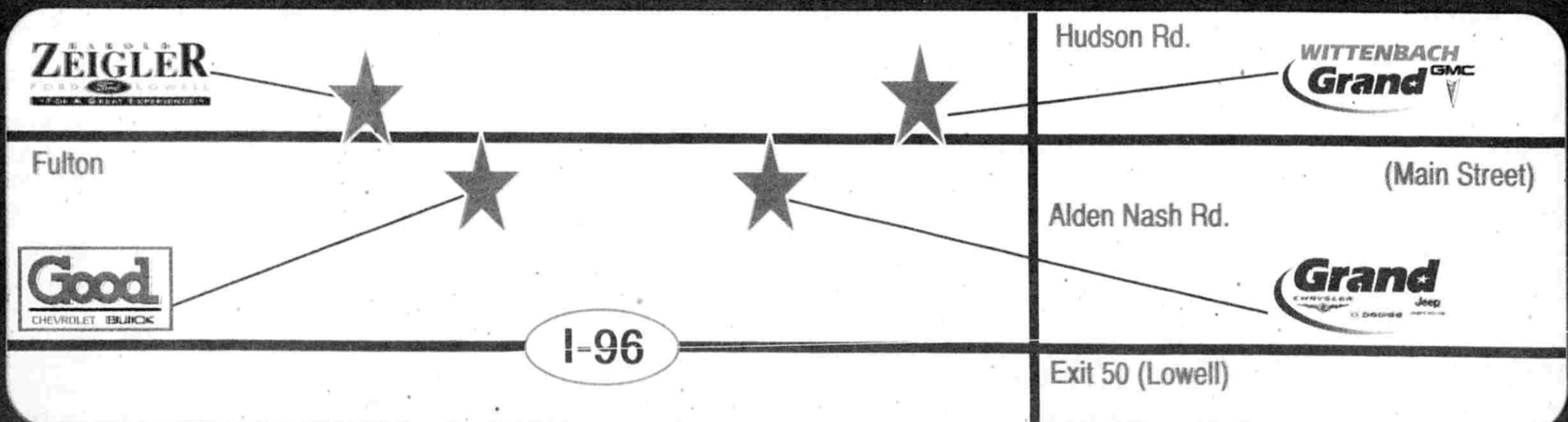
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