

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 35 Issue 26

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, May 2, 2007

Spring into the Past with area museums

By Emma Palova

The Tri River Museum Network is sponsoring the "Spring into the Past" tour of some of the area's finest museums on May 5 and May 6.

All the museums are located within the Grand, Flat and Thornapple rivers, and with spring finally here, the tour should be relaxing.

The tour started five years ago as a way to promote museums as well as communities. "Each museum has its own character," said Lowell Area Historical Museum director Judy Straub. "This helps bring exposure to our communities. It's a cool thing to do."

Annually, the tour gets a good turnout, according to Straub.

For history buffs, the tour is an opportunity to do some museum hopping and explore the quaint communities. In Lowell, the museum will offer guided tours and offer old-fashioned homemade candy and fudge for sale.

You may have an opportunity to meet Madame LaFramboise, a successful fur trader business woman re-enacted by Luanne Kaeb. Wander through the Victorian dining room, parlor, porch and garden.

Hop down to Alto, home to the Bowne Township Historical Society Museum and school house. Bowne Township has remained an agricultural community for the last 150 plus years.

Sally Johnson, president of the Bowne historical society, said the main purpose of the tour is to make people aware of the museums. "We're a well kept secret," she said.

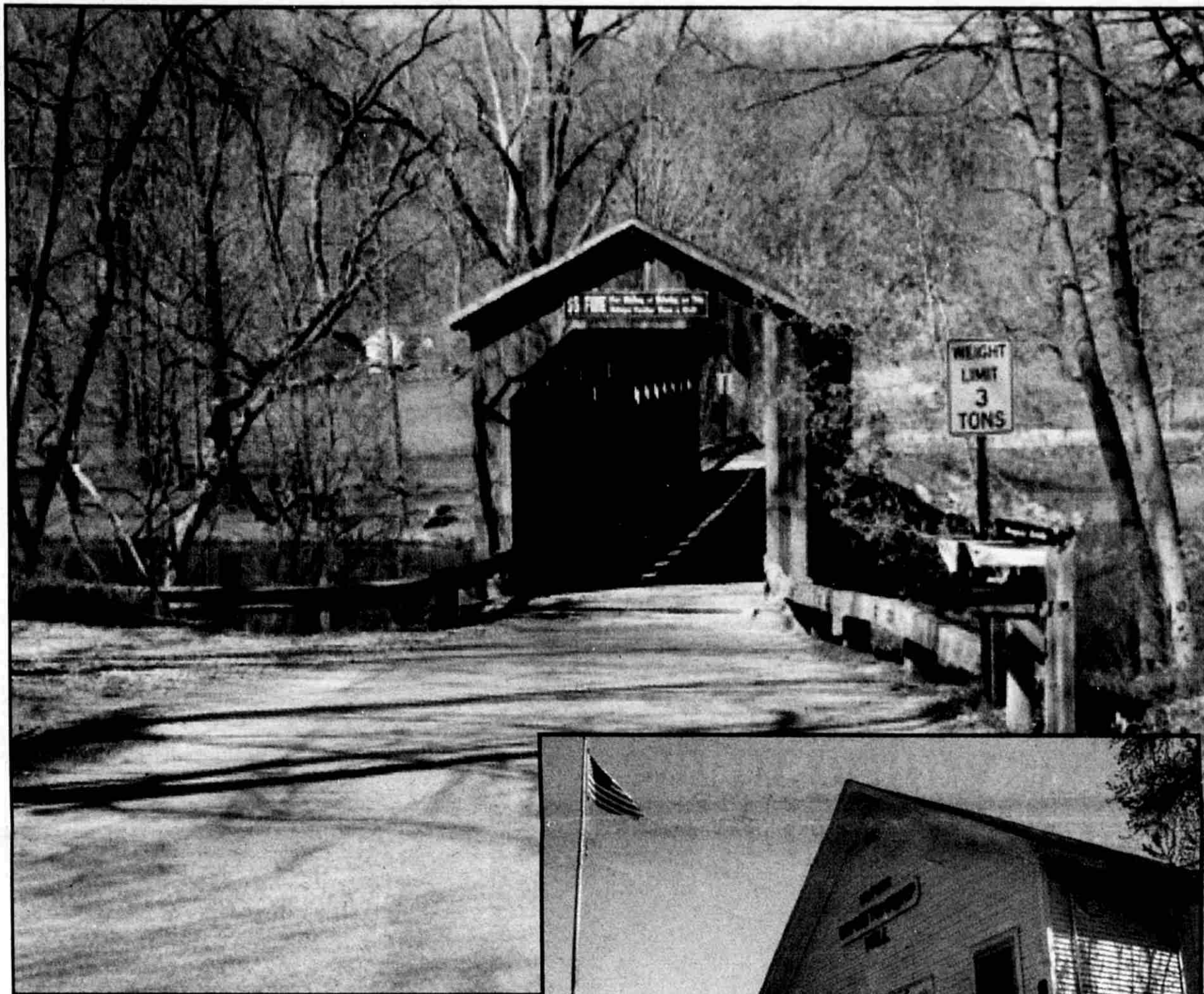
The Bowne Township museum and school house form a complex on the southeast corner of 84th Street and M50. Bowne will feature "The History Singers" in conjunction with the tour. Bill Militzer and Al Smitely will present an interactive program of song and history for kids of all ages.

Swing back up north over the Covered Bridge in Fallasburg Park in Vergennes Township to see the Fallasburg Historical Village and School House, which are both on the National Historic Register.

East of Lowell is the Boston-Saranac Historical Depot Museum located on Bridge Street with special displays celebrating 100 years of the Depot. In 1907, the Boston-Saranac Depot served the Grand Trunk Railroad. Adjacent to the museum is a Grand Trunk caboose which will be open for viewing during the tour.

"We have a special display of pictures," said historian Marilyn Cahoon who also said that the tour has grown over the years with more people coming in. The society will also have a bake sale.

Other museums on the tour include, Ada, Ionia, Belding and Greenville.



Part of the historical spring tour are clockwise, the Covered Bridge in Fallasburg, the Bowne Township Hall and the Boston-Saranac Historical Depot.



Luanne Kaeb dressed as Lowell first business woman, a fur trader Madame LaFramboise.

Planning commission sets limits on fowl, discusses zoning variance

By Emma Palova

In a public hearing last week the Lowell planning commission set limits for keeping fowl in the city. The action comes after several months of controversy.

The issue will go to the city council for approval May 7.

Under the proposed amendment, fowl and

rabbits are permitted by right on one acre lots in any residential district.

The ordinance will allow the keeping of fowl on 0.5 acres by special use permit. However, only two animals may be kept on 0.5 acres.

In case of keeping animals outside, the lot must have 50 feet setbacks from each property line. The

ordinance will not regulate inside animals.

Any health standards issues pertaining to fowl will be referred to the Kent County Health Department.

"Most zoning is complaint driven," said planning chair Maryalene LaPonsie. "But we do not want to regulate having pets inside the house."

However, Dan

DesJarden, director of the Department of Public Works, said the amendment conflicts with the city code of ordinances.

"You have a lot of conflicting information," said DesJarden.

In new business, resident John Sterly

Planning commission, cont'd., pg. 3

Obituaries



GARCIA

Carmen Garcia, aged 88, of Lowell passed away April 25, 2007. She is survived by her daughter, Clara (Herbert) Rice of Lowell; grandchildren, Catherine Hevia and Rita (William) Fox; one great-grandson, Aaron Fox. Carmen was born January 22, 1919 in Cuba and came to the United States 43 years ago. She was a member of St. Mary Church of Lowell. Mass of Christian burial was offered Saturday, April 28 at St Mary Church.

STEPHENS

Carl "Steve" Stephens Jr., age 59, of Lowell passed away unexpectedly Friday, April 27, 2007. He was preceded in death by his parents Carl Sr. and Barbara Stephens and a nephew Jon Hadwin. He is survived by his brother Dan (Karen) Stephens, sisters Carol Hadwin, Sharon

United Methodist Church of Plymouth. Memorial contributions may be made to Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, 24359 Northwestern Hwy., Ste. 225, Southfield, MI 48075.

TORNGA

Virginia A. (Doyle) Tornga aged 83 of Plymouth passed away April 18, 2007. Beloved wife of Jack. Loving mother of Christine (Charles) Bush and Gretchen Beems. Proud grandma "Nana" of Heather, Andrew, Megan and Meredith. Great-grandmother of Tyler and Noah. Dear sister of Anita (Rowland) Hanson. Preceded in death by her sister Gloria Roth Powell, brothers William S. Doyle and Charles R. Doyle. Graduate of University of Michigan. Member of Chi Omega Sorority. Mrs. Tornga was a retired teacher from the Dearborn Heights School System, and a long time volunteer at the PlymouthLibrary. Memorial services were held at First



VAN DUSER

Kenneth LeRoy VanDuser, aged 71, of Lowell passed away April 23, 2007. He was preceded in death by his sister, Arlene Henry; brothers, Bruce VanDuser and Blain Hoogendorn. Ken is survived by his wife, Wilma; children, Edwin VanDuser of Arizona, Amber Corrigan of Ionia,

Kathryn Smith of Lowell; brother, Brian Hoogendorn of Arizona; three grandchildren, Kendall and Zachary Corrigan, William Little; also nieces and nephews. Ken retired from General Motors and worked part time at Sam's Club on 28th SE. Following Ken's wishes there will be no services. Memorial contributions may be made to: American Cancer Society, West Michigan Area Service Center, 400 Ann Street NW, Suite 202, Grand Rapids, MI 49504

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate FILE NO. 07-183,168-DE

Estate of BALTUS JOHN DEHAAN deceased

Date of birth: 9/22/1923

personal representative, or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave NW, Ste. 2500, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/ proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: April 23, 2007

TO ALL CREDITORS The decedent, BALTUS JOHN DEHAAN, who lived at 4022 Madison SE, Wyoming, MI 49548, died 6/21/2005.

Justin Michael, Attorney 4550 Cascade Road Suite 102 Grand Rapids, MI 49546 616-940-9991

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to GARY L. DEHAAN and PATRICIA L. SELVIUS, named

Gary L. DeHaan 3138 Lawton NE Grand Rapids, MI 49529 and Patricia L. Selvius 840 Beach SW Wyoming, MI 49509 616-361-5442

Several issues on May election ballot

Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land reminds residents to exercise their rights by voting in the Tuesday, May 8 election.

Communities in all 83 Michigan counties are holding elections. Many of the votes affect school districts, but cities, townships and libraries are also asking residents to come to the polls.

"Although school is winding down for the summer, decisions made now will affect local districts all year long," said Land,

Michigan's chief election officer. "The same is true for municipalities and library districts. I encourage voters to take the time to research the issues and cast their ballots."

These elections are being held under Michigan's consolidated elections law. Other election dates are in February, August and November.

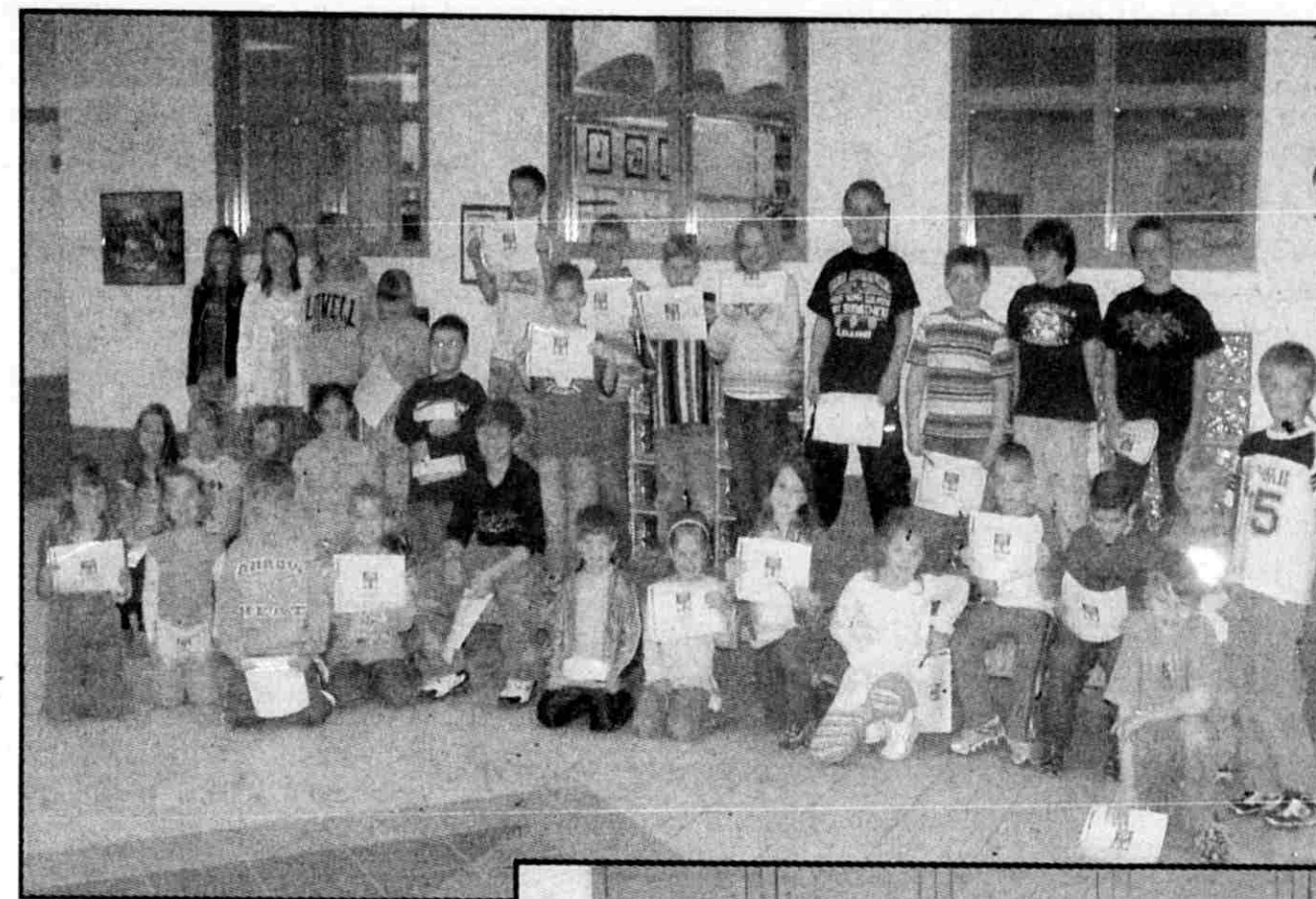
To find out if there is an election in their community, voters can visit the Secretary of State Web site at www.Michigan.gov/sos or check with their county clerk's office. In addition, the Michigan Voter Information Center can help residents determine whether they're registered to vote. It also directs voters to their polling locations and provides other information. The Web site is www.Michigan.gov/vote.

Voters who need to have their absentee ballot mailed to them must apply for the ballot no later than 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 5. Absentee ballots can be obtained in person anytime through 4 p.m. on Monday, May 7. Voters who request an absentee ballot in person on Monday, May 7 must vote the ballot in the clerk's office. Emergency absentee ballots are available under certain conditions through 4 p.m. on the date of the election.

Additional election information can be found at www.Michigan.gov/sos.

Character in Action awards

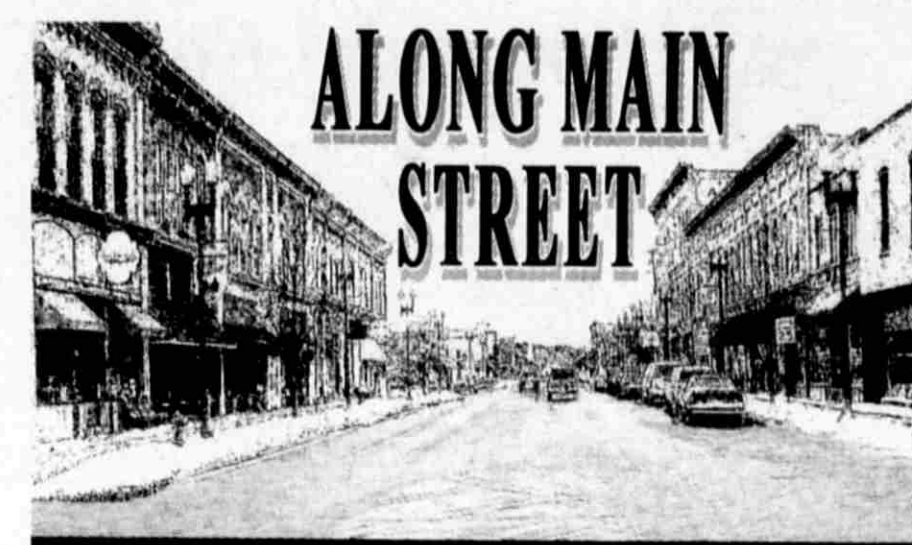
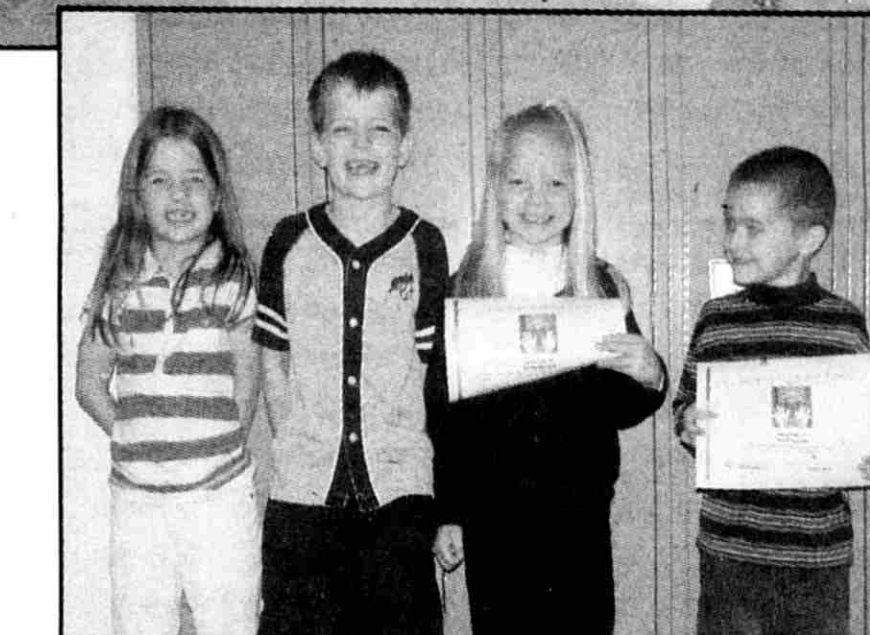
Pictured are Murray Lake Elementary's Character in Action award winners for March. These students were nominated by teachers for putting March's Citizenship trait into action on a daily basis.



Front row: Isabelle Flezar, Andi Reynolds, Gabe Steed, Calvin Warning, Ryan Noffke, Kennedy Zimmerman, Cassie Dean, Kyle Stephens, Austin Smit; second row: Emily Hock, Sara Majestic, Maria Nowak, Kortney Beachler, Zach Kaywood, Casey French, Garrett Pratt, Zachary Post, Tyler Kacpia, Ty Grasman; third row: Megan Kohdl, Kayla Kole, Maranda Hollaway, Fiona Kelly, Austin Grim, Max Majinska, Thomas Mahalic,

Todd Hovey, Francesca Robinson, Aron Mierendorf, John Rogalke, Riley Coxon, Trevor Bouman.

At right, from left to right, are: Reagan Coxon, Gavin Coxon, Jenna Hap-pie and Jarred Sweet.



FALLSBURG VILLAGE

Fallsburg Village officially opens for the season Saturday and Sunday, May 5 and 6. The Fallsburg Historical Society will hold open three museums, The John Falls House, The Misner House and The Schoolhouse, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days as part of "Spring Into the Past," "a tour of West Michigan's finest small museums." The Schoolhouse Museum will then remain open most Sundays from 2-4 p.m. through October. For more information about membership, events or volunteering visit the Fallsburg Historical Society website at www.fallsburg.org or call 897-7161.

CROP WALK

Are you walking to help end hunger? Have you signed up your friends and family members to sponsor you or are you sponsoring someone else? The Crop Hunger Walk is on Sunday, May 6, and begins at First United Methodist Church on the corner of Main and Jackson streets at 1:30 p.m. A share of money collected will benefit FROM and the Senior Center.

LAS ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB MEETING

The Athletic Boosters will hold their regular business meeting in the high school staff Lounge on Monday, May 7 at 7 p.m. Please come and help support our athletes.

CALLING ALL FORMER ENDMEN & CHORUS MEMBERS

The Lowell Showboat is looking for all former members of the Showboat Chorus and all former endmen to become a part of the Showboat Nostalgia - 2007. Informational meeting Monday, May 7 at 7:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main St. For information see www.discoverlowell.org.

TOTS ON TRACK FOR SCHOOL PRESCHOOL FAMILY CARNIVAL

Games, prizes, ice cream, face painting and balloons. \$2 per child. May 8, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Bright Beginnings Early Childhood Center Gym, 300 High Street. Please call TOTS office at 987-2532 to register.

LAHM PRESENTS "THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN MUSIC"

The Lowell Area Historical Museum is pleased to present renowned pianist, Rich Ridenour on May 11 at the Lowell Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$20 for students with valid ID. Tickets include dessert buffet with coffee and tea. Social hour and desserts begin at 7 p.m., program at 8 p.m. For tickets or information contact Judy Straub at 897-7688.

CLASS OF 1957

The class of 1957 is holding its 50 year reunion on September 14, 15, 16. If anyone knows the whereabouts of the following classmates - Carol (Spaans) Adruabse; Sandy Cole; Charles Daniels; Clifton Du-Vall; Sylvia DuVall; Millie (Johnson) Faulkner; Judy Fletcher; Gerald Gibbs; Judy Hamer; Irvin Zane Miller; Ronald Poe; Dick Schneider; Robert Walton or Carl Wroblewski - Please contact either Errollyn (Osborne) Weeks at 616-897-9080; Margaret (Wood) Kerher at 616-987-9281 or Sharon (Mullen) Eickhoff at 616-897-9664.

CLASS OF 1977

We have mailed invitations to those we found addresses. If you have not received one or know of any classmates who have not please contact Deb at Canfield Plumbing & Heating, 897-0887. Reunion date is July 28, 6 p.m. at Grand Rapids Hilton. Check on line at lowellclassof1977@iserv.net.

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CITY OF LOWELL

PUBLIC NOTICE

LAST DATE TO FILE NOMINATING PETITIONS

MAY 15, 2007 4:00 P.M.

Persons interested in seeking election to the Lowell City Council to fill any of the three (3) two to four year term vacancies occurring, must obtain nominating petition forms for circulation and return no later than 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 15, 2007. Petition forms are available between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. from the Lowell City Clerk, Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell.

Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

The Lowell Ledger

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Planning commission, continued ... From Page 1

questioned whether he can build another duplex on the southeast corner of Elm and Amity streets.

After an extensive discussion, city manager Dave Pasquale said Sterly will need a variance for proper lot width. A lot width of 100 feet is required.

The planning commission reviewed a site plan request by Greg Canfield for the construction of a 4,800-square-foot warehouse on South Washington Street.

Canfield will also request the rezoning of the property to light industrial at the May 7 city council meeting.

CORRECTION

In the Wednesday, April 11 edition of the Lowell Ledger an article about Doctors Chiropractic referred to Anthony Trombly as a "former partner". According to Trombly they were never partners and he was only renting space from Paul Tuthill.

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ALL SPIDERMAN 3 tickets on sale now First showing - May 4, 12:31am

THE CONDEMNED (R) 2:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:40
NEXT (PG-13) 1:10, 3:15, 5:20, 7:25, 9:35
KICKIN' IT OLD SKOOL (PG-13) 2:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20
PATRYNIDER (R) 5:15, 7:20
REIGN OVER ME (R) 12:15, 2:45, 9:30
VACANCY (R) 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15

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First showing - May 4, 12:31am



Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold
Edward Jones
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HOW TO CHOOSE A FINANCIAL ADVISOR

If you're like most people, you have a variety of financial goals: college for your children, a comfortable retirement, a vacation home and so on. You might be able to achieve all these goals on your own — but you will likely find it a lot easier if you get a little help from a financial advisor.

But how do you choose the right one? For starters, ask your friends, relatives and co-workers whom they use. Then interview some of the people they recommend. What questions should you ask at such an interview? Consider these:

- What are your qualifications? Make sure you are talking to someone who, at a minimum, has all the required licenses for selling securities.

- What type of experience do you have? Find out how long someone has been a financial advisor, but don't rule out a person with only a limited amount of experience — a new financial advisor frequently brings a great deal of enthusiasm to his or her work. A financial advisor's longevity is less important than whether he or she has had experience working with someone like you — someone in your financial situation, with your goals and your investment preferences.

- What is your investment philosophy? Try to learn if someone favors a specific style of investing or a particular class of investments. These styles or classes may be well-suited for some investors but inappropriate for others. If you believe the person you're talking to has a "one size fits all" mentality, you might want to look elsewhere.

- How will you communicate with me? Financial advisors run their business in different ways, so there's no one "right" way of communicating with clients. However, you need to feel comfortable that someone will always be available to answer your questions, review your accounts, evaluate your situation and make appropriate recommendations. If you are interviewing someone who has a partner or an assistant, find

out whom you are likely to be communicating with, should you decide to become a client.

- What services do you provide? Find out just how a prospective financial advisor can help you. For example, some people sell investments only, while others offer investments and insurance. Keep in mind, though, that you don't need to be a "one-stop" shopper when it comes to obtaining a wide range of services. In fact, you might want to ask a prospective financial advisor if he or she has developed working relationships with legal and tax advisors. This "team" approach can be quite beneficial to you, especially when you get into the area of estate planning.

- How are you paid? Financial advisors get paid in several different ways: fees, commissions, salary or some combination of these methods. One way isn't necessarily any "better" than another, from your point of view, but you should have a clear understanding of what type of compensation is being used.

Your association with a financial advisor is one of the most important business relationships you'll ever have, so make sure it's a good one — right from the start.

Incumbents on the ballot for school board seats

Two incumbent candidates are running for two open seats on the Lowell Area School Board of Education in the May 8 election.

The candidates are current board president Nancy Hopkins and vice-president Mark Lessens, who are both seeking their third four-year terms on the board.

The main challenges facing the district will continue to be the on-going struggle for state funding, a potential \$14 million bond issue and the high school reform.

"There is still work to be done," said Lessens. Also on the ballot is a proposed .56 levy from Grand Rapids Community College for general operations. If approved the levy would generate \$11,222,000.

For polling locations go to www.accesskent.com.

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Business Matters

Bruce Langlois DVM successfully completes training for the Michigan Veterinary Corps.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture announced Bruce Langlois, of Lowell, successfully completed the Incident Command System 200 Level Training for the Michigan Veterinary Corps on March 29, 2007, and is certified as a member of the Michigan Emergency Veterinary Corps.

The Incident Command System class is the next level in advanced training for members of the State's Veterinary Corps, a team of highly trained emergency response "on call"

veterinarians and licensed veterinary technicians who volunteer to respond in crisis situations in their local or regional Michigan community.

"Michigan is fortunate to have private practice veterinarians and licensed veterinary technicians who are willing to join our forces when called upon," said State Veterinarian Steven Halstead. "In emergency situations, they are the people on the front line, and we will need to tap into their expertise."

Langlois participated in a two-day session by John Roberts, well known for managing emergency incidents like wildland

fires. Roberts has extensive experience with the Incident Command System in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service. Veterinary Corp members will be contacted to assist the State and Federal government in animal disease outbreak response.

Halstead stated, "We will be counting on our Veterinary Corps members to come to the aid of Michigan animal owners in animal disease response situations. This Incident

Command System (ICS) training, developed in the United States almost 30 years ago, is the system used by emergency response organizations around the world."

The Michigan Department of Agriculture has certified Langlois as a member of the Veterinary Corps as this training has provided advanced emergency management knowledge paired with previous foreign animal disease and biosecurity training.

Local UPS driver reaches milestone

Grand Rapids East Driver Jerry Sytsma achieved 25 years of safe driving joining a prestigious group in the Circle of Honor for United Parcel Service.

Sytsma has been with UPS for 33 years and credits his achievement with the safety training he received and believing in the methods. Grand Rapids East Business Manager Darrich Franklin said, "It's always about

safety with Jerry. Whether it's country or city driving he is always doing the right thing to be defensive."

Sytsma and his wife Cindy have lived in Lowell for 22 years and have two grown children, Jennifer and Eric. Jerry also has a granddaughter, Parker. In his spare time he likes to play guitar with his band 'The Crawlers' and also likes to fish.

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May 9, 2007 - 6:00 p.m.
Lowell Chamber of Commerce
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Lowell, MI
616-453-9000

May 10, 2007 - 6:00 p.m.
Monterey Grille
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Caledonia, MI
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Viewpoint

Outdoors

By Dave Stegehuis



GET ON BOARD

Radical changes have taken place in the community where I have resided for close to 40 years. Where there once were dirt roads and a few scattered houses there are now hundreds of homes along paved roads which carry an endless stream of fast moving vehicles. I have noticed that even with the huge increase in the local population I meet only a few people when out on daily walks. I realize that traveling on foot along these roads is risky, and maybe not such a great idea, but it would seem that considering the population density more people would be walking.

To The Editor

Dear Editor,

I want thank Eva Cain and all the seniors at the Lowell Senior Center for the wonderful letter and praise. I truly appreciate it. Thank you!

I'm writing this letter to let the community know that it's not just my efforts that make the Lowell Senior Center a home away from home, but all the seniors and volunteers that come and enjoy the Center.

Did you know the seniors in our community are very busy? The seniors volunteer their time helping Liz Baker at the Lowell Area Chamber Office, sharing their time and mentoring at our local schools, helping at the Lowell Area Arts Council, Flat River Outreach, and so much more.

In addition, the seniors have a lot of fun at the Center

and on numerous outings. Old friendships are renewed and new friendships blossom. The seniors enjoy each others company as well as watch out for each other. You couldn't ask for a better group of friends.

As well as a full calendar with a wide variety of activities for everyone, we do have a wealth of information and resources to tap into because we are a part of Senior Neighbors. Some of the services offered at the Center are tax, legal, prescription assistance. Health and Wellness such as blood pressure checks, hearing test, podiatry services and exercise programs. Transportation. Caseworkers who can help in crisis situations.

If you need or know anyone that needs a friend, or wants to renew a friendship, or need questions answered, stop by. We are here for you.

Senior Power - there isn't anything better!!

Marcia Roth

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Senior Power - there isn't anything better!!

few cars, and the un-posted woods, fields, and ponds were a place to hunt, trap, and explore. Today the open areas have been divided into small pieces of private property, so kids are often confined to driveways or malls, and are chauffeured around in a mini-van. It's a different world.

Walking is a natural activity that provides needed physical exercise as well as mental relaxation and a chance to connect with nature. Walking in proximity to high volume traffic, however, can be hazardous to your health. There are trail systems throughout the state, but not readily accessible to everyone. That is why it is important to have local public trails and walkways. These systems should be considered necessary for community health and not just a recreational luxury. The next time you have an opportunity to support the development or maintenance of a trail project, get on board.

HEALTH

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

TRAVELER'S DIARRHEA

Traveler's diarrhea can occur when you go to another country (usually a developing country). It can also happen shortly after you get home.

Anyone can get traveler's diarrhea. About one half of all people traveling from developed countries to developing countries will get it. Germs in food or water (from unclean conditions) cause this diarrhea.

You may be developing traveler's diarrhea if you have three loose stools in 24 hours. You will probably also have one or more of the following symptoms: fever, stomach cramps, vomiting, or bloody stools.

Traveler's diarrhea often is treated with antibiotics. You can also take Imodium but don't take it without an antibiotic if you have bloody diarrhea. Children, pregnant women, older adults and other people who get dehydrated easily should drink rehydration solutions. You can buy packets of rehydration solutions at camping/outdoor stores or drug stores. If your child has a fever higher than 102, is dehydrated, has blood in the stool or vomits several times, he or she should see a doctor right away.

To prevent traveler's diarrhea, use common sense. Don't drink tap water. Don't use ice unless you are sure it was made from purified water. Don't eat unsafe foods: salads, unpeeled fruits, raw or undercooked meats and seafood, and unpasteurized dairy products. If you do get traveler's diarrhea, antibiotics remain the cure.

Sharing The Vision

With Nancy Hopkins
Board of Education President

In 1984 the National PTA established Teacher Appreciation Week - the first full week in May - to honor the dedicated men and women who lend their passion and skills to educating our children. Teachers seem to agree that good teaching is its own reward, but Teacher Appreciation Week is a great time to let teachers know how they have truly touched our kids' lives.

At its April 16 meeting the Board of Education passed a resolution naming Michigan Teacher Day on Tuesday, May

Lend A Hand

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

Foreign high school students are scheduled to arrive in August 2007 to attend local high schools.

The sponsoring organization needs a few more local host families. The students are all between the ages of 15 and 18 years, are English speaking, have their own spending

money, carry accident and life insurance, and are anxious to have their cultural experiences with their new American families. The host families are responsible for board, room and guidance.

Pacific Intercultural Exchange area representatives match students with host families by finding common interest and lifestyles. PIE have students who want to be on a soccer or tennis team, be in the band, orchestra, gymnastics and many other interests. Prospective host families are able to review student applications and select the perfect match. There are no "typical" host families, PIE can fit a student into just about any situation, whether it be a single parent, a childless couple, a retired couple or a large family. Families who host for PIE are also eligible to claim a \$50.00 per month charitable contribution deduction on their itemized

tax returns for each month they host a sponsored student.

PIE has students from Germany, Former Soviet Union Republics, Brazil, the Middle East, Thailand, Ghana, Macedonia, Hong Kong, Poland, Mexico, Argentina, and many other countries.

PIE is a nonprofit designated organization by the United States Department of State.

Prospective host families are encouraged to contact the program immediately, as it will allow the proper time for the students and host families to get to know one another before they actually meet for the first time.

If you are interested in hosting one of these young ambassadors or have questions call Pat at 616-527-0012 or 1-800-382-7439.

Cahoons celebrate golden anniversary



James (Fred) and Jackie Cahoon of Lowell will celebrate their golden anniversary on May 11, 2007. The couple was married at the First United Methodist Church of Lowell on May 11, 1957. Their family will be celebrating the occasion with an open house.

Happy Birthday

- MAY 2:** Madison Briggs, Melinda D'Agostino, Glen Bryant, Jaclyn Batt, Tim Mastenbrook.
- MAY 3:** Wilma Roudabush, Melissa Merriman, Mimi Mitchell, Rich Bieri.
- MAY 4:** John Borton, David Rhodes, Jerre Sue Smith.
- MAY 5:** Kevin Vezino, Kerry Vezino, Brenda Erickson, Robert Dalziel, Scott Carpenter, Nora Bell Rash.
- MAY 7:** John Schalow, LeAnn VanDyke, Duane Rasch.
- MAY 8:** Rhoda Greenman-Batt, Rhonda Timmers, Mary Mooney, F.J. Johnson Jr., Emily Milstead.

Forsake not an old friend; for the new is not comparable to him: a new friend is as new wine; when it is old, thou shalt drink it with pleasure.

- Bible, Old Testament

College News



Natalie Kent

Senior Natalie Kent continued her successful career with the Aquinas College track team as she added two more school records to her extensive resume.

Kent, who has been named a NAIA All-American seven times, is currently the Aquinas record holder in three indoor events: 400 meters, 60 meters and 800 meters. All three of these school records were established in 2007.

Competing at the Spartan Invitational at Michigan State University recently, Kent established school records in the 100 meter hurdles (14.39) placing second and 400 meter hurdles (1:01.90) placing first.

Kent also is a member of the 400 meter relay team that set the school record in 2005.

Kent's accomplishments while at Aquinas also include school records in the 60 meter hurdles (8.66), indoor 400 meters (58.77), and indoor 800 meters (2:16.19).

Lowell High School graduate Chris Rittersdorf of Belding has graduated from Kettering University in December 2006.

Olivet College recognized the best of its student body at the annual Honors Convocation held Wednesday, April 4 in the college's Mott Auditorium.

Craig Carpenter, a senior from Lowell, received the Charles M. Trubac Outstanding Insurance Student Award. This award is presented to a student enrolled in the college's insurance concentration who exemplifies ethics, leadership and involvement in career preparation through

Gamma Iota Sigma and the community.

Two Lowell students graduated from Alma College April 21. Katelyn Bush received a B.A. in Political Science and History. Cori Drenth received a B.A. in communication/sociology and anthropology

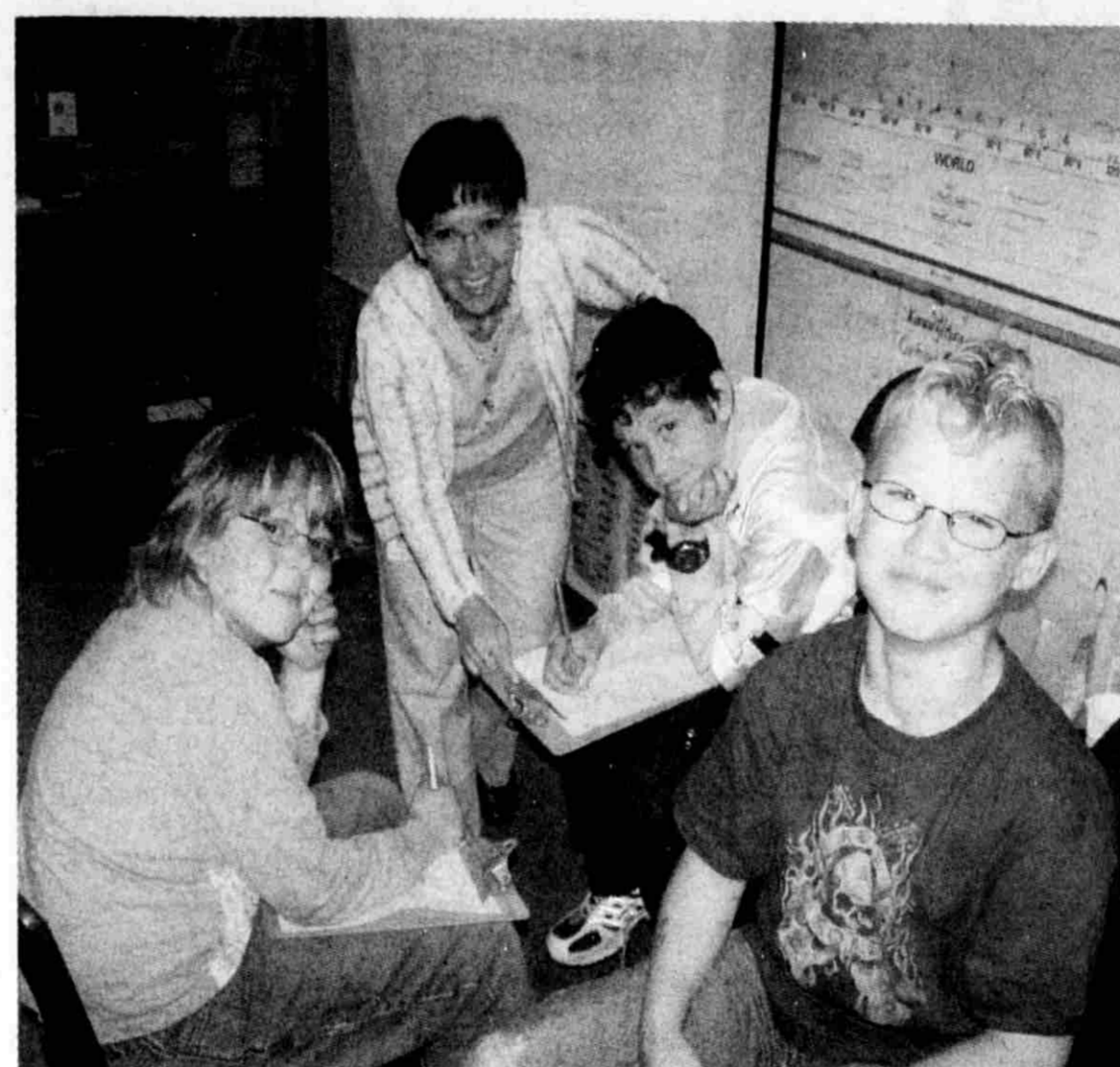
K-12 art exhibit

The Lowell Area Arts Council gallery will feature artworks by selected K-12 students from Lowell Area Schools May 7-24.

Gallery hours are Tuesday-Friday noon- 6:00 p.m. and Saturday 1-4 p.m. Monday hours are by appointment only.

For more information, contact the Lowell Area Arts Council: (616) 897- 8545, e-mail info@lowellartscouncil.org or go to www.lowellartscouncil.org.

Murray Lake staff member of the month



Murray Lake fifth grade teacher, Diane Titcher, was named staff member of the month for March. She is a second year teacher at Murray Lake and resides in Ada with her husband of 23 years, Wayne, and her two daughters Rachel and Jennifer.

Titcher has a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University, and a Masters in Education from Aquinas College. She was nominated by several staff members for her dedication and passion for teaching.

"Diane is extremely dedicated and goes above and

beyond to reach out to her students and see that they are succeeding," said music teacher Jacquie Dimmick. "She constantly re-evaluates herself to be the best she can be."

"Diane is willing and able to share all her wonderful writing ideas with anyone," said fourth grade teacher Glenna Blanding. "She has a passion for teaching."

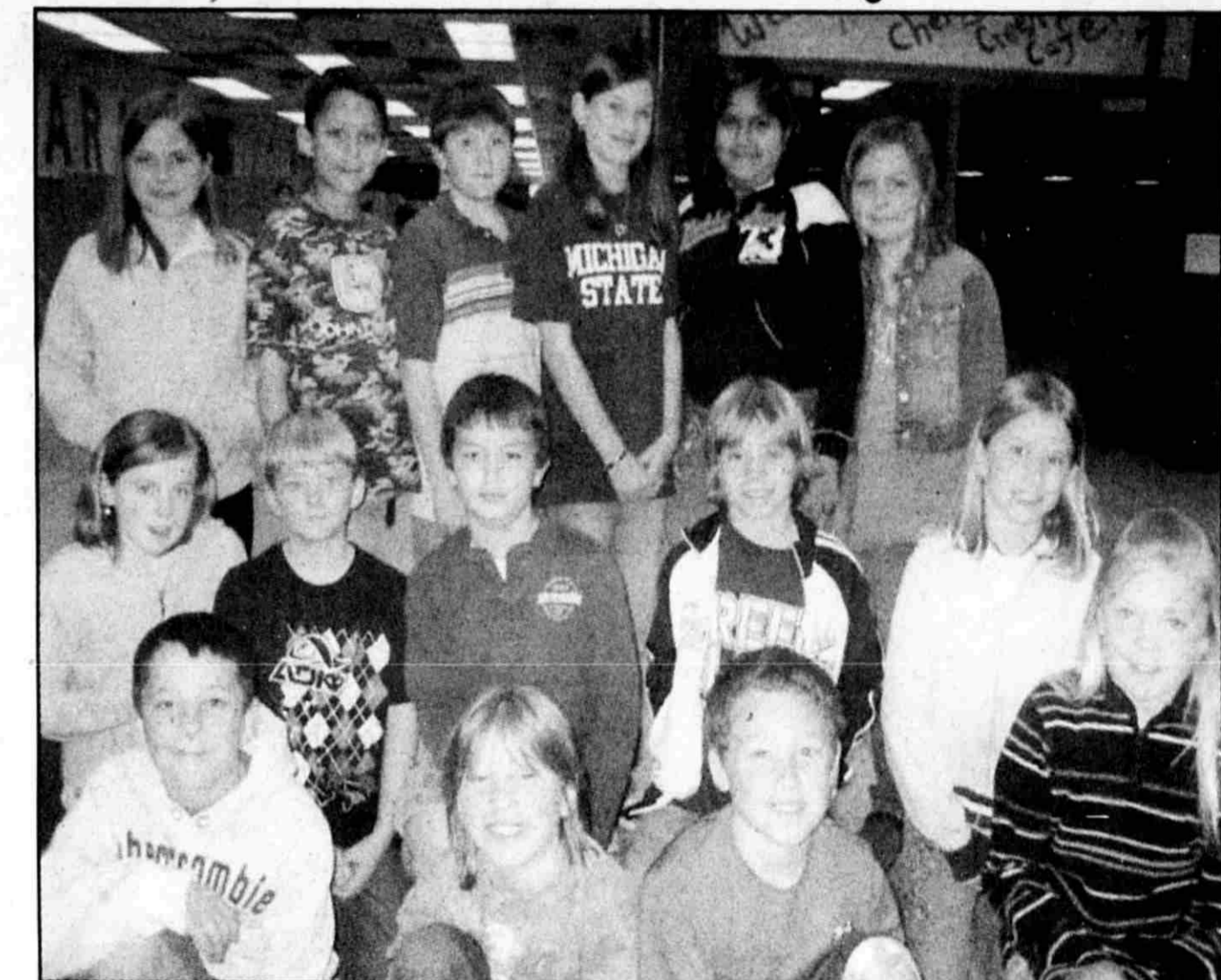
"I love teaching because rarely is there a day when I am not challenged to do more than I ever thought I was capable of doing, and rewarded with more joy than

I ever thought I could get from a job," said Titcher. "So many times we read about kids who were inspired by teachers, but in my case, it's the kids who inspire me.

I am so grateful to be working at Murray Lake, where the staff is fully committed to the best interest of every child, where parents are

active members of our learning community, and where the students are excited to learn and share their learning with others."

Character at Cherry Creek



Students at Cherry Creek Elementary were chosen to receive awards for modeling the character trait of trustworthiness. Front row left to right: Coty Curtis, Dylan Odland, Jake VanOss, Hannah Draigh; second row: Caitlan Doyle, David Rose, Trevor Shurlow, Christopher Poland, Rachel Bazen; third row: Rebecca Schreuer, Zack Ritchie, Max Barber, Jillian Meade, Natalie Tejada, MacKenzie Stiles. Missing are Kristen Nolan, Bailey Cummings and Megan Gee.

Writing festival winners

Brendan McCoy, Caitlin Fitzpatrick and Molly Doyle from St. Patrick School participated in the Youth Writing Festival at Calvin College. They attended sessions and workshops presented by published authors

including Raymond Singer who wrote the screenplay Mulan, and Ann Turner who has written many historical fictions including Maia of Thebes. Over 500 area middle school students attended this event.

These students also submitted pieces of their own writing to be considered for the Golden Pen Contest judged by

professional writers in the Peninsula Club.

McCoy, a sixth grade student, was honored with a first place finish in the journalism category for his piece, "Execution of a President." Along with a certificate, McCoy received a personalized signed copy of an Ann Turner book and a \$35 gift certificate to Schuler Books.

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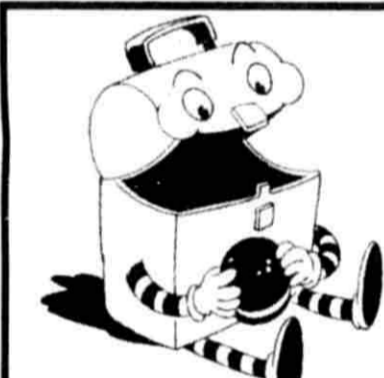
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Proverbs 22:6

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LUNCH MENU

ELEMENTARY MENU

Week of May 7, 2007

MON: Hamburger on bun (chili & crackers also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), whole kernel corn, assorted fruit, milk.

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

WED: Turkey & cheese sub (cheesy ravioli also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), vegetable pasta salad, pears, milk.

THURS: Pancakes w/ syrup or cereal/ Graham cracker w/ scrambled eggs, fresh fruit, applesauce, milk.

FRI: Footlong hot dog on bun (Danimals yogurt & string cheese & wheat pretzel twists also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), oven baked beans, assorted fruit, milk.

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p>ATTENTION: BIBLE BELIEVERS If you would like to attend a church where the King James Bible is held up as the perfect, preserved word of God with all the words of God for all English speaking people, then give us a visit at: 901 W. Main, Lowell 897-6284 or 485-4195 10AM Sunday School, 11AM Morning Service, 6PM Evening Service, Wed., 7:30PM Prayer Meeting.</p>	<p>ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Kirby and Harrison Alto • 616-691-8011 Worship.....9:30 A.M. Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.</p> <p>OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS Pastor Dean Bailey</p>	<p>DAY BIBLE CHAPEL 9305 Centerline, Saranac 897-6332 Worship.....9:45 A.M. Sunday School.....11:00 A.M.</p> <p>Nursery & Jr. Church Provided Rev. Frank Lattimore, Pastor "A Nondenominational Ministry With A Blended Word Centered Service!"</p>	<p>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL Rev. Randy Meyers - 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....11:20 A.M. Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M. Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free</p>	<p>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES 6:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 P.M. 119 Lincoln Lake, Lowell CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES Pastor Robert L. Hubbard Phone: (616) 897-1267 website: www.aplighthouse.com</p>
<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 Worship Services.....8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR Nursery & child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648 Sunday School.....10:00 A.M. Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M. Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M. (Sept. - April) Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M. Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418 YOU ARE WELCOME!</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God) 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, 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: 10:10-10:30 AM Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETER WAGNER 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 48, ENTH 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 LaWarte.....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.fbclowell.org Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA CLUB J.C. Wed. 6:15 & 8:30 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free</p>	<p>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Rev. Thurian Meredith 9:45 A.M.Worship/Fellowship 11:15 A.M.Sunday School 897-9863 or 897-9588 Nursery & Children Worship Programs Provided A friend...a family...a mission!</p>		<p>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 201 N. Washington • 897-8800 Sunday School.....9:30 A.M. Morning Worship.....10:40 A.M. Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M. PASTOR MICHAEL RHODABARGER Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>

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Alto students learn to knit - spread warmth

Thirty-six Alto fourth and fifth grade students are giving up their recess to knit. Teachers Rachel Millhisler and Barb Schneider are heading up a service learning project for Warm Up America! Warm Up America was started in 1991 by Evie Rosen, owner of the Knitting Nook in Warsaw, Wisconsin. The program invites people to contribute knitted or crocheted sections which will be joined together to create warm afghans and distributed to needy families through the American Red Cross. Each student will follow a simple pattern to complete a knitted square. It takes 49 squares measuring seven by nine inches each to complete an afghan. Many volunteers came to teach students how to "cast on" and begin knitting. Some will come back regularly to help as the project continues. The teachers hope to knit enough squares to make a complete afghan.

Tasty geography



Alto students in of second through fifth Brooke Straayer's graders) made edible maps classroom (comprised of Brazil. The students are

studying various regions of the world in different and unique ways. Edible dough, M&M's, and frosting were used to create geographical points, in particular the Amazon River that flows through the country. After building the relief maps, the kids were allowed to eat their creations.

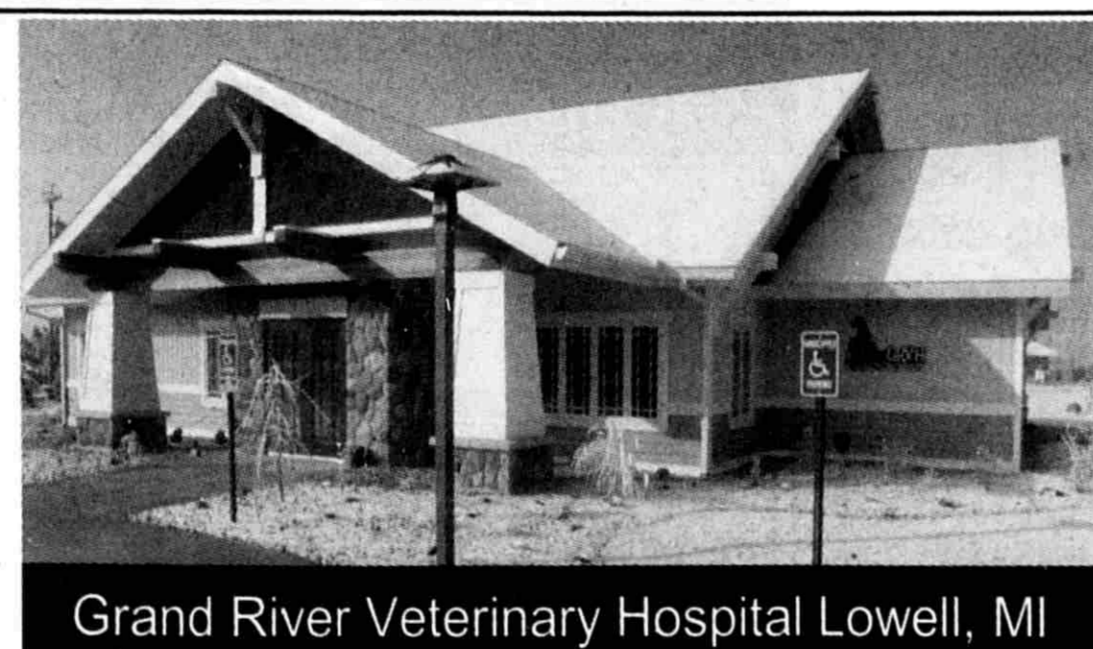
You can fool some of the people all of the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you can not fool all of the people all of the time.

- Abraham Lincoln (1809 - 1865)

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP ACCURACY TEST OF VOTING EQUIPMENT

A public accuracy test of the voting equipment to be used in the May 8, 2007 Election (regarding Lowell Area Schools and Grand Rapids Community College issues) will be held on Friday, May 4, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. at the Vergennes Township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr., Lowell, MI 49331.

Mari C. Stone
Vergennes Township Clerk



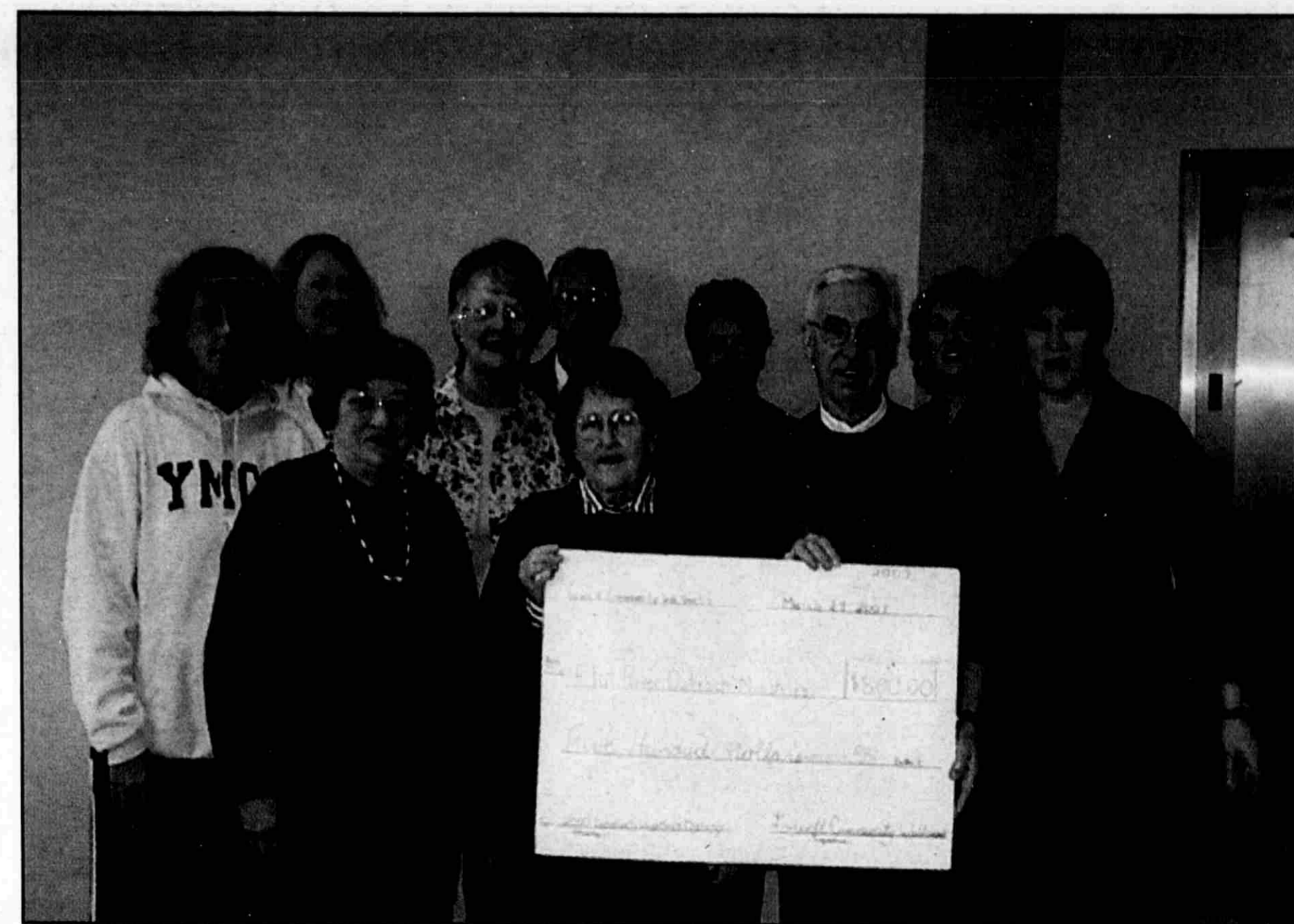
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Flat River Outreach Ministries receives monies from weight loss events

The Lowell Community Wellness Board presented a check for \$500 to Flat River Outreach Ministries represented by Reverend Roger LaWarre. The money comes from a portion of entrance fees charged to teams that participated in weight loss challenge events sponsored by Lowell Community Wellness. LaWarre said that 100 percent of the donation will be used to fund emergency needs in the Lowell area. The Flat River Outreach Ministries is now located at 11535 East Fulton St. Pictured in the photo are: front row from left to right Ann Mulder, Barbara Schmaltz, Roger LaWarre and Patty Sellner. Back row from left to right: Staci Messersmith, Heather Sprague, Ethel Stears, Dr. Don Gerard, Jeanne Shores and Teresa Beachum. Missing are Liz Baker and Greg Pratt.



Cherry Creek students help rid the woodland of garlic mustard

A group of volunteers along with Cherry Creek Elementary students from Wendy Kupolka's class last week cleared garlic mustard at the Cooper Woodland Preserve on Foreman Road.

"We've completely cleared it so it will prevent from further infesting the area," said community volunteer Peggy Covert.

The group has also been clearing large patches on the Boy Scout cabin property and at Stoney Lakeside Park. Covert said the pulls prevent garlic mustard from spreading while allowing native plants and wild flowers to move back in.

More than 50 volunteers, including Girl Scouts and church groups, put in 75 hours of service. Financial donations enabled the

purchase of herbicides. The city of Lowell is providing the disposal of the garlic mustard. "We're hoping

to see the entire project to grow in upcoming years," said Covert. "We appreciate all the interest and support we've received from the community."



The invasive garlic mustard plant is a common sight in many areas.

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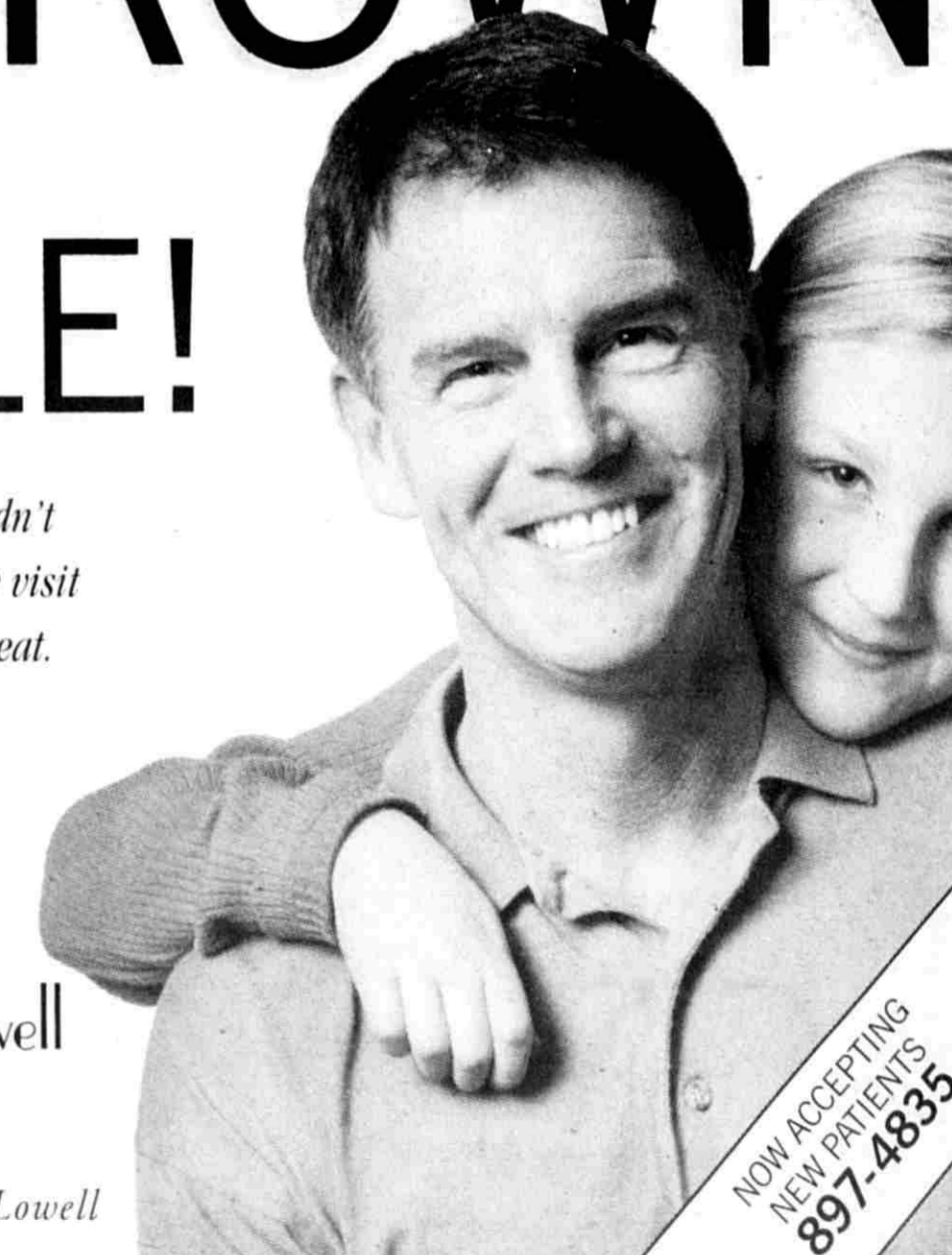
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- Scandinavian Proverb

ATTENTION CITY OF LOWELL VOTERS

City of Lowell voters who previously voted at either the Englehardt Public Library or the Look Memorial Fire Station, will now need to go to the Lowell City Hall, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street to vote in all elections, including the May 8, 2007 School election.

If you have any questions, please contact the Lowell City Hall at 897-8457.



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Former Lowell residents compete in Tournament of Champions

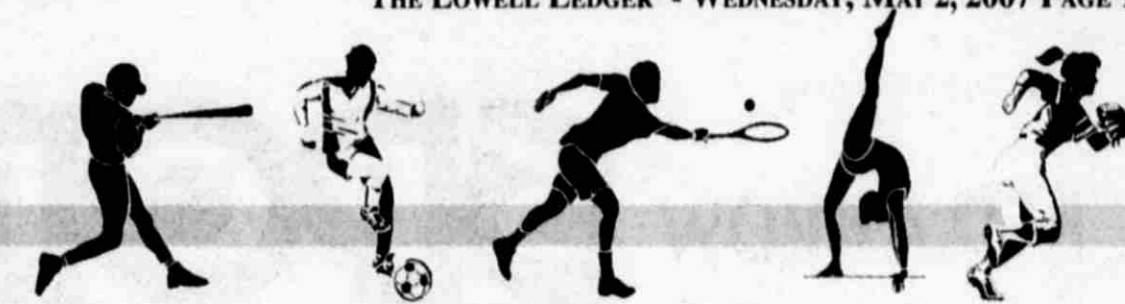


Softball soared to new heights in Lakeland, Florida for the first Tournament of Champions which brought together the best 97 senior teams in the world. Only the winning teams from SSUSA's 11 major championships were invited to play, making the tournament the most elite competition in softball in the world.

Former Lowell resident William Potter had an outstanding tournament getting 22 hits in 28 times at bat including two home runs, three triples, and four doubles and scoring 21 runs and 15 RBIs. Potter played for Chris Burchs 1948-50 helping win two Grand Valley League championships. Potter was playing on the Sun Shade Boys of Florida who took second place after losing in the championship game to Pennsylvania's Mitchell's Construction. There were teams from Michigan, Texas, Colorado, Illinois, California, Florida and Pennsylvania in Potters 75 age bracket.

Potter resides in Iron Mountain, Michigan during the summer and in Dunedin, Florida during the winter months. His parents were Byron and Euzefa Potter. He plays league softball in Florida three days a week and travels throughout the country for major softball tournaments. He will be playing in the Senior Softball World Series in Mankato, Minnesota in late August.

RED ARROW SPORTS



Track teams have tough road against Forest Hills Northern

By Aly DeYoung

The Lowell boys' track team lost to Forest Hills Northern at home last week 81-56.

"We are looking forward to a strong season," said Lowell coach Russ Stevens. "Both Coach Vander Warf and I are greatly pleased with the new recruits, especially the large turnout of distance runners."

The Red Arrows also lost to Greenville 96.1-45.4, Caledonia 102.34 and Forest Hills Central, 76-61.

In the meet against

Forest Hills, Lowell's Eric Dean (12'6") placed first in the pole vault and Allen Messing (12'0") second. Ryan Magnuson (5'10") placed second in the high jump, and first in the long jump (20'6"). Adrian McEveven (19'1") placed third in the long jump. Messing (9'10 1/2") took third place in the discus. In the 100 meter hurdles, second and third place went to Grady Drown (17.15) and Mike Ford, (18.24) respectively. In the 100 meter dash, McEveven (11.23) took first and Justin VanAcker (11.62) took third.

In the 1600 meter run, Andy Mark (4:43.7) finished first, and Keaton Dilly (4:45.68) came in second. Dominic Doyle (44.28) placed second in the 300 meter hurdles, and Eric Saenz (2:15.09) was second in the 800 meter run.

The Red Arrows cleaned up in the 3200 meter run as Dilly (10:22.93) took first place, followed by Mark (10:25.54) and Geldersma (11:02.62). The Red Arrows meet Kenowa Hills on May 3. Lowell's next home meet will be an invitational on May 5.

The Lowell girls track team lost to Forest Hills Northern 106-31 on April 24.

The lone first place for Lowell came from Amy VanEns in the high jump (5'2"). VanEns also took second in the shot put (24'6").

Also placing in the high jump for Lowell were Meaghan Gallup in second (4' 10"), and Carlee Nikodemski (4' 10") third. Nikodemski (13.14) also finished third in the 100

meter dash. Tricia VanGessel (24' 4 1/2") placed third in the shot put.

Lowell's Richelle Kimble and Alyssa Buikema tied for second in the pole vault (9' 6"). Kimble (16.65) also took second in the 100 meter hurdles. Morgan Olin (15' 0") finished second in

the long jump and Megan Majestic (1:01.77) took second in the 400 meter dash.

Stacey Janeschek (53.32) took third place in the 300 meter hurdles and Karen Judd finished second in the 3200 meter run.

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RED ARROW SPORTS

Lacrosse team working to strengthen middle game

By Aly DeYoung

After a strong start to the season, Lowell's lacrosse team suffered a couple of setbacks on the field.

The Red Arrows lost last Thursday to Forest Hills Northern/Eastern 11-4 and to Holland Christian 13-6 on April 24

"Our players came out

strong," said coach Eric Bredin. "They scored three goals early. We've been focusing on the way we play the second half."

Bredin said it was a

matter of Lowell's green team going up against one with more experience.

"Most of their players have five or more years of experience," said Bredin. "I

thought we gave (FHNE) a good game and, in spite of the final score, I think it was a competitive contest."

The game started out well for Lowell as the team immediately gained three points on Forest Hills. But Forest Hills tied it at 3-3 by the end of the first quarter. The second quarter was a daunting one as Forest Hills shot past Lowell, gaining another four points. In the third quarter, Lowell held Forest Hills to one goal in the third quarter, but couldn't stop their opponents in the fourth.

Adam Bowers scored the first three goals and David Gallagher the fourth. Gallagher also made an assist as did Austin DeClercq.

Bowers made four goals, and Andrew Kuhn and David Gallagher made one each in the Red Arrows loss to Holland Christian.

"We played a good first quarter, and a good second half, but fell apart in the second quarter, giving up eight unanswered goals," Bredin said. "To be successful in our conference, we need to put four good quarters together."

Lowell did beat Caledonia in overtime 6-5 on April 20. And most recently, Lowell defeated Portage Northern 12-4 April 28. The Red Arrows were to play Zealand West on Monday and will play Grand Haven at home on May 3.



Lowell's Lacrosse teams battles it out on the home field.

RED ARROW SPORTS

Softball team digging in and doing well so far this season

The Wyoming Park Vikings showed why they are a state-ranked team by beating the Lowell Red Arrow girls softball team April 23 10-0 in six innings.

The Red Arrows could only gather two hits as Katie McElroy and Brittany Bueche both singled in the first for the Red Arrows' only threat of the game. Wyoming Park sent three pitchers to the hill and shut

down the Red Arrow attack. Park scored single runs in the first and second and two more in the third all after two outs. They broke the game open in the fifth with four more runs and two more in the sixth. Terrah Tawney suffered the loss. "They are a very nice team with good hitting and pitching," said coach Bob Rodenhouse.

Last Friday, Lowell traveled to Forest Hills

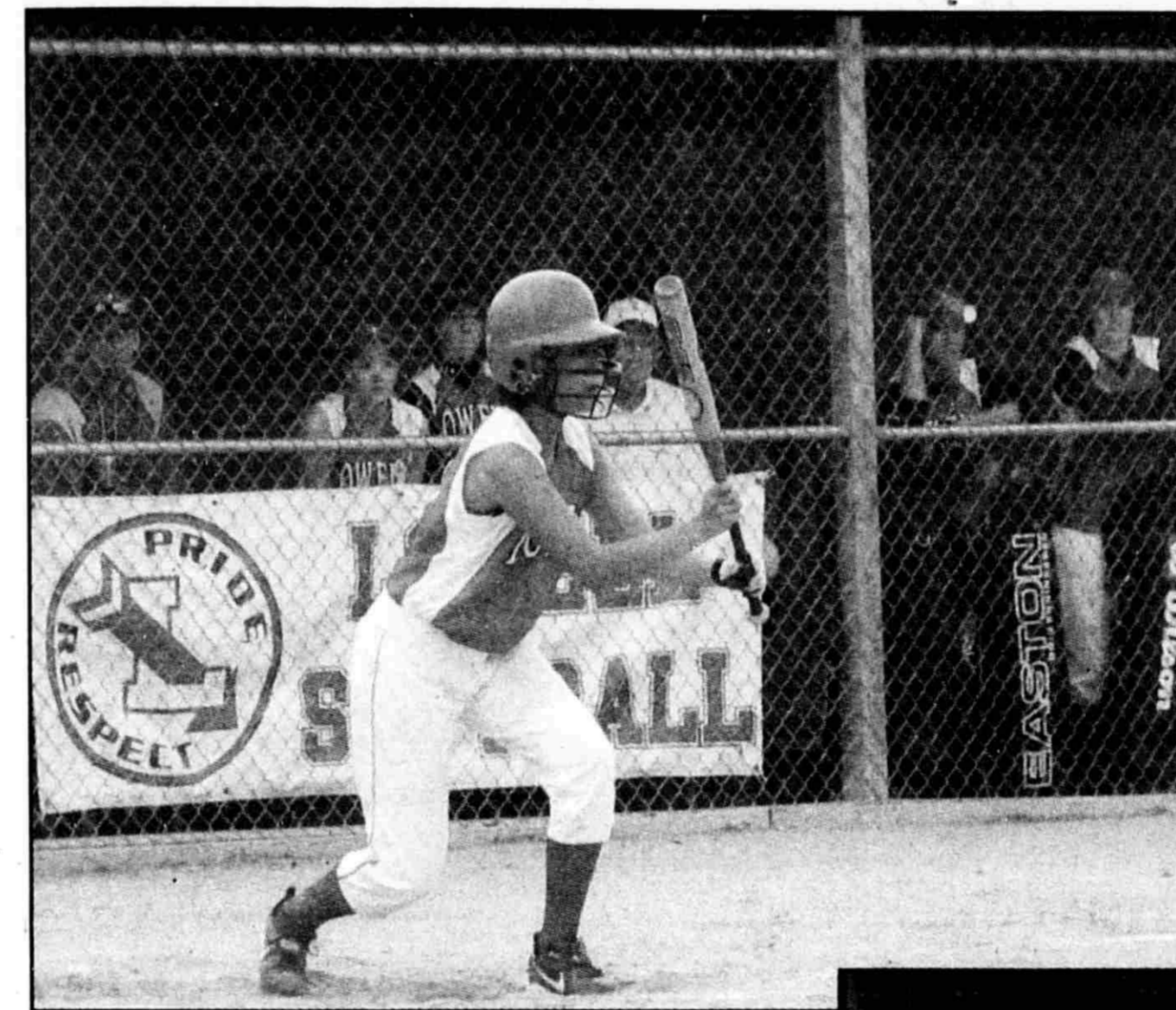
Central and upped its league record to 3-0 with a sweep of the Rangers 16-4 in six and 4-0. The Arrows' bats were booming in the opener as nine Arrows collected hits. McElroy, Monica Vigil and Ashley Nawrocki smashed three apiece. Nawrocki and Karri Ort tripled. McElroy doubled twice and tripled while knocking in five Red Arrows. She also picked up the victory on the mound,

improving her record to 4-3. Forest Hills Central sent the game into the sixth scoring three runs on a walk, two Red Arrow errors and a wild pitch.

In game two, Lowell jumped out to a 2-0 lead after one inning, but Forest Hills Central pitcher Kari Nierkerk got tough and allowed only two more runs the rest of the game. McElroy scored as Ort sent a sacrifice fly to center.

Nawrocki continued her fine hitting on the day smashing her first of two doubles in the game, plating Vigil. Nawrocki went six for six on the day with two doubles, a triple, four runs scored and two runs batted in. Ashleigh Smit drove home Ort, who had singled in the third, for the Red Arrows' third run. In the fifth, Smit collected her second RBI sending home Nawrocki who had doubled. Tawney fired a three hitter

and moved her record to 5-2. She struck out nine and walked four. "We hit the ball well in game one and the bats went to sleep in the second game," stated Rodenhouse. "Give Nierkerk credit, she figured out how to get us out in the night cap." Lowell played at Greenville on Monday and Grand Rapids Christian on Tuesday. The Red Arrows take on Forest Hills Northern on Thursday.



Monica Vigil waits for the ball.



Karri Ort readies for the run.

Red Arrows defeat EGR 9-2

By Aly DeYoung

The Lowell Red Arrow girls' softball team defeated East Grand Rapids 9-2 last Wednesday.

"We're doing fine," said Lowell coach Bob Rodenhouse on how the Red Arrows are progressing this season. "The good teams we need to play well against. We're decent."

Lowell got three home runs in the second inning, one in the third, fourth and fifth respectively, and three more in the sixth.

"We only have a varsity squad," said East Grand Rapids coach Janet Kuiper. "Quite a few girls on the team are new to the game, so there's a lack of experience."

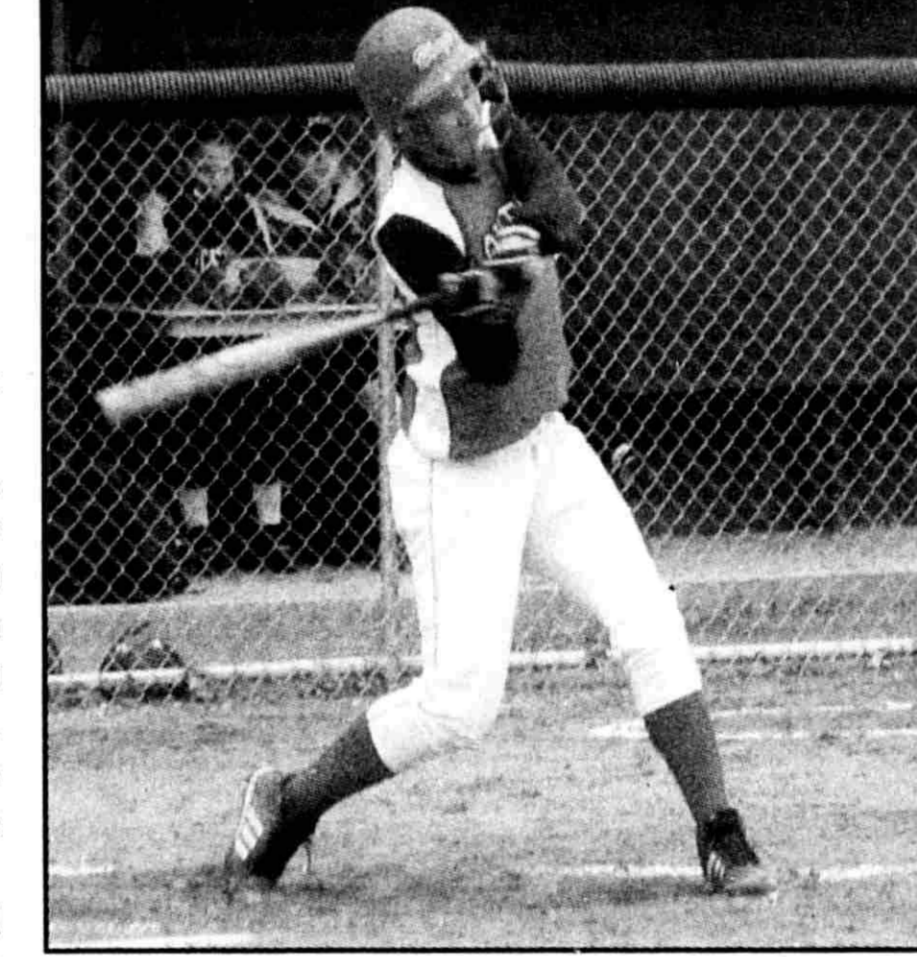
In the second inning, Lowell's Kerri Ort hit a double, and Terrah Tawney and Ashley Nawrocki made base hits. In the fourth inning, Ashleigh Smit made a base hit and stole second base. In the fifth, Katie McElroy was safe on an error when she stole second

base. Monica Vigil made it home on a ground out.

In the sixth inning, Smit took the lead. She drove Nawrocki home, hit a double, and scored on a passed ball. Sam Mundt hit a base hit and stole second. Kristin Nagy then drove Mundt home with a base hit.

"Both teams played very well," Kuiper said. "It was a great game."

The next home game for Lowell is May 11 against Northview.



Lowell's Brittany Bueche at bat against East Grand Rapids.

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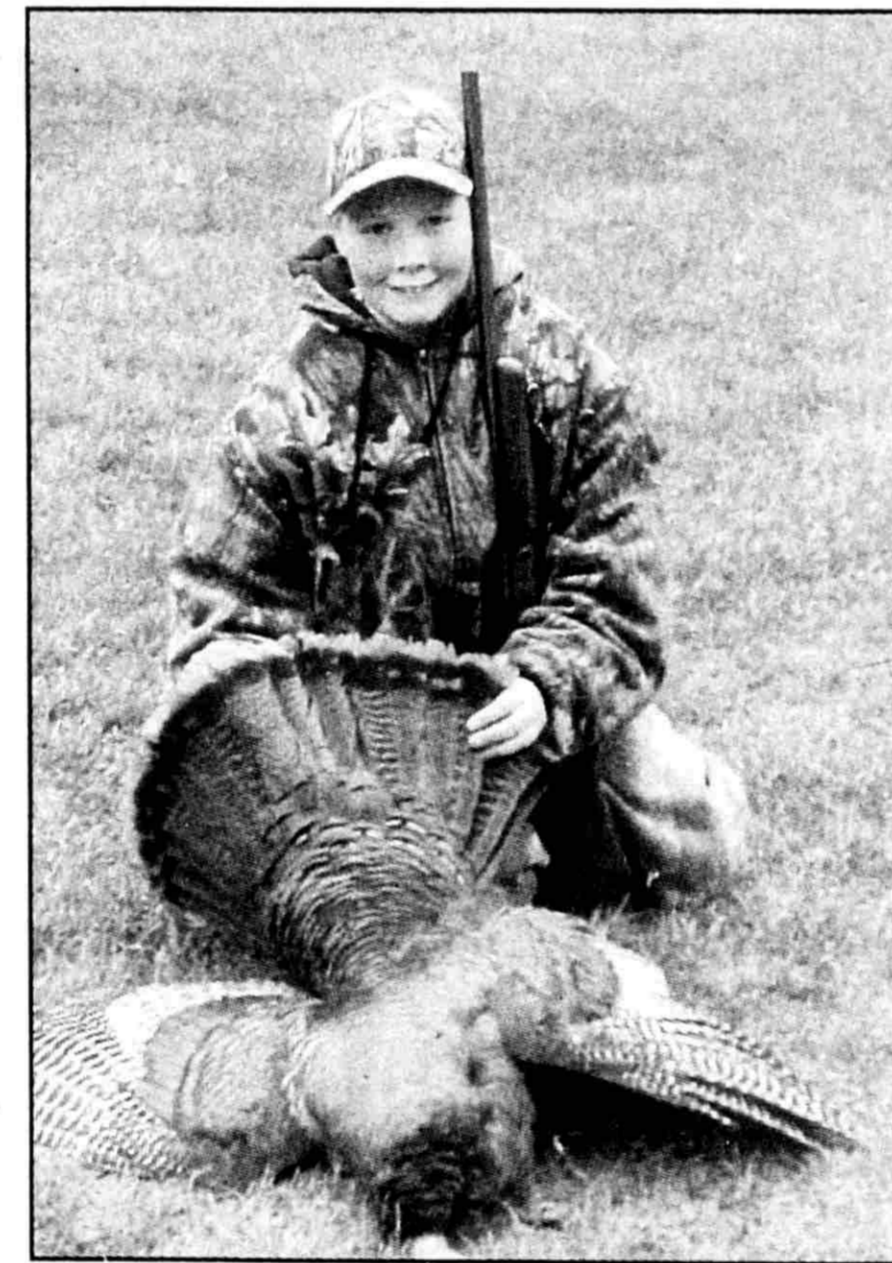
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Young hunter bags first turkey

Brendan Spencer, age 10, of Lowell, bagged his first turkey on April 25, 2007 at his Grandpa and Grandma, Mike and Sue Shinabarger's house. It had a 6 inch beard and weighed in at 13 pounds. Thanks to the DNR for the law changes that allow a 10-year-old to hunt with a mentor.



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(616) 868-6846
- Betty Morlock**
City of Lowell
8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
201 East Main
Lowell, MI 49331
(616) 897-8457
- Linda S. Regan**
Lowell Charter Township
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
2910 Alden Nash SE
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