

The Lowell Ledger

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Wednesday, May 30, 2007

Memorial Day ceremonies remember our war heroes

By Emma Palova

Memorial Day ceremonies on a beautiful Monday offered plenty of time to reflect on past and present war heroes and their contribution to freedom. Pastor Roger LaWarre of the First Congregational Church gently touched on the subject of freedom and peace during a speech at Oakwood Cemetery.

A large crowd gathered at the cemetery with some desecrated tombstones by hooligans two weeks ago. Most veterans marched 2.5 miles from the fairgrounds to the cemetery, while some rode in cars.

The parade stopped at the downtown Veterans Memorial by the Flat River to give honor to "those who perished at sea."

A cross section of the community was represented in the parade including the 4H Royal Court, Freedom Riders on bikes, and city council members.

Master of ceremonies Dave Thompson spoke about the number of veteran graves at the cemetery. Each veteran's grave is marked with a flag and a metal star flag holder. Veterans buried at the cemetery range from the Civil War, Spanish War, World War I, World War II, Vietnam, Korea to Desert Storm.

"We are all reminded that freedom is not free," said Thompson. "It does not come without cost. There is always a price to be paid and today we come together to remember those who have gone before us who have made this freedom possible."

Music was provided by the Lowell High School and Lowell Middle School bands. Also present were Boy Scouts, members of the American Legion Post 152 and VFW Post 8303.



War veterans gave a rifle salute at the downtown Veterans Memorial. More parade pictures continued on page 4.

Volunteers needed for summertime Showboat facelift



By Emma Palova

After four years of floating on the water, the withered Showboat needs a facelift for the upcoming summer activities.

The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce is looking for volunteers to scrape, prime and paint.

"We want it in pristine condition," said chamber director Liz Baker.

Although the Showboat was in worse condition four years ago, the project may need around 200 volunteer hours this time around.

A historical exhibit of the Lowell Showboat will be located inside and

the summer concerts will be held in the Showboat's direct proximity.

And of course, the Showboat Nostalgia Night is scheduled for Aug. 24 and 25

"We want it looking good because of the display and the concerts," said Baker. The Showboat will be restored from the top deck to bottom. Retirees are also encouraged to volunteer.

"We're looking for retired people who can work anytime," said Baker. Two big volunteer sessions are scheduled each day on May 29, 30, 31 and June 5, 6 and 7. Call Baker at 897-9161 or Ivan Blough at 897-9920

Patty Sellner and Liz Baker discuss the Showboat restoration project.

Lowell officer facing charges in Allegan Co.

Lowell Police officer Brandon Robinson was criminally charged in Allegan County with two counts of criminal sexual conduct, third degree, involving a 13-year-old family friend. The incident is reported to have occurred some time in 2002 prior to Robinson's employment with the Lowell Police Department.

Robinson came to command staff at the department in early February 2007 to report he was under criminal investigation by the Michigan State Police at the Wayland Post. Because of the shocking nature of the alleged crime, Robinson was immediately relieved of his duties and placed on paid administrative leave pending the results of the investigation.

On April 23, the department learned that Robinson had been criminally charged by the Allegan County Prosecutor's

office. Robinson was placed on unpaid leave pending the final court disposition.

The department delayed conducting an internal administrative investigation until the Michigan State Police finished its criminal investigation allowing that agency to conduct a completely impartial investigation free from outside or internal interference.

Officer Robinson was hired by the Lowell Police Department in December of 2002 as a part-time patrol officer. In March of 2004 he was placed into a full-time patrol officer position. Prior to his employment with the Lowell Police Department Robinson worked for the Allegan County Sheriff Department as a part-time deputy from April 2000 to May 2002.



Alto Barn Fire ... Page 4

Studio Remodeled ... Page 10

On Display ... Page 11

Possible equestrian park in Lowell Township



The rolling topography of land on the northeast corner of Cascade and Alden Nash roads lends itself to an ideal horseback park.

By Emma Palova

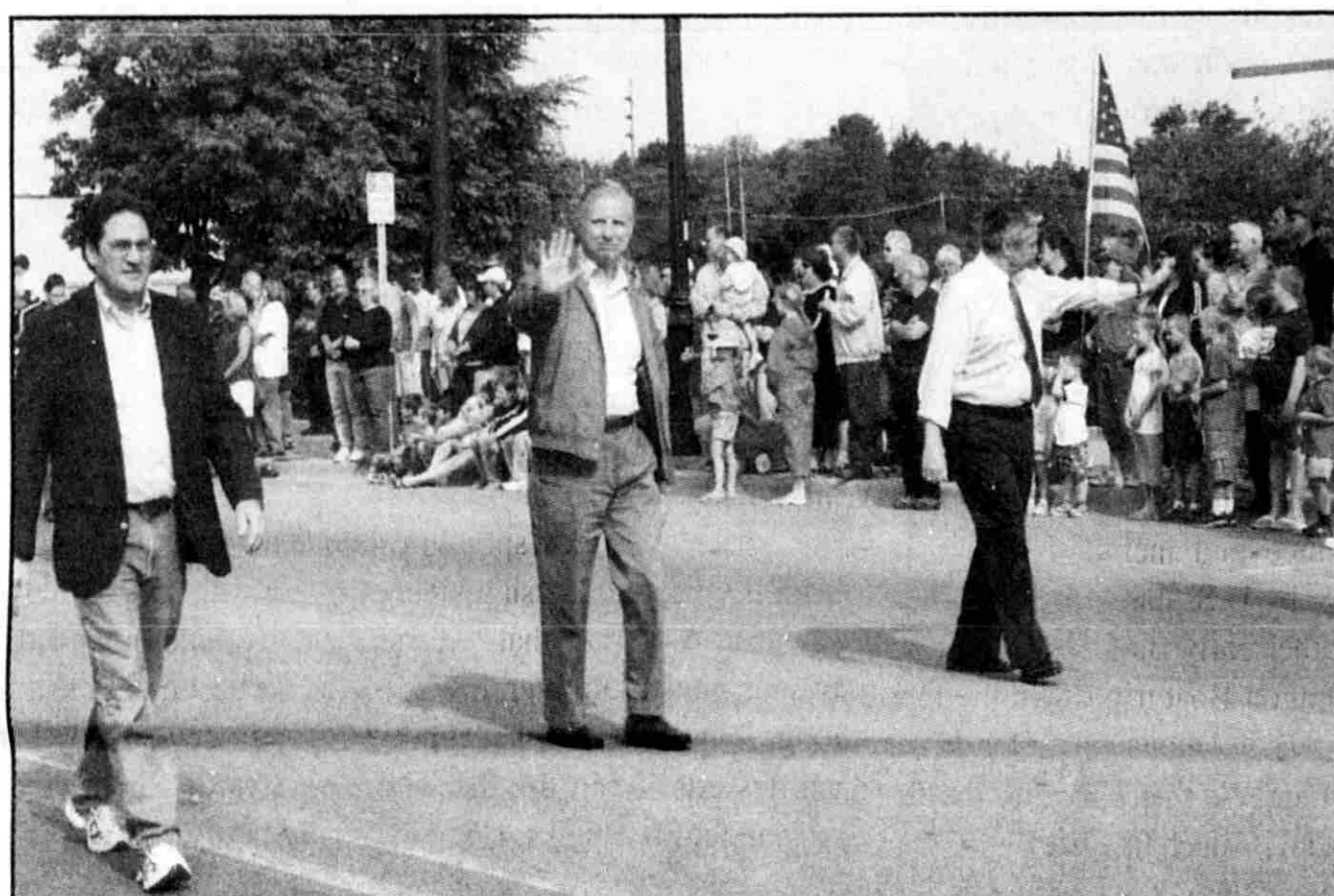
Lowell Township may have a new equestrian park on the northeast corner of Cascade and Alden Nash roads if the full Kent County Board of Commissioners approves the acquisition of 100 acres of land Thursday.

A longtime Lowell Township resident has decided to sell the land to be used as a public park rather than have it developed. The county has been acquiring land in Lowell Township for the purpose of creating a Lowell regional park since 1998. Once the acquisition is complete, the regional park would consist of 700 acres.

"We love the rolling topography of the area," said Kent County parks director Roger Sabine. "We've already bought the wooded section, there are some wetlands." The design of the horseback park will follow the typical county park look with picnic tables and equestrian trails.

According to Sabine, the county buys land as it becomes available for future parks development. Currently, there is no development schedule for the horseback park in Lowell Township, as the county talks to potential donors. The parks are usually developed as money becomes available.

Memorial Day parade, continued ... From Page 1



Walking in the parade were council member Jim Pfaller, city manager Dave Pasquale and mayor Chuck Myers.



The Color Guard led the Memorial Day parade all the way from the fairgrounds to the Oakwood Cemetery.



The 4-H Royal Court was also in the parade.

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2007-2008 BUDGET

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on Monday, June 11, 2007 at 6:30 o'clock p.m., at Runciman Administration Building Board Room located at 300 High Street, Lowell, Michigan, the Board of Education of Lowell Area Schools will hold a public hearing to consider the District's proposed 2007-2008 budget.

The Board may not adopt its proposed 2007-2008 budget until after the public hearing. A copy of the proposed 2007-2008 budget including the proposed property tax millage rate is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Runciman Administration Building, 300 High Street, Lowell, Michigan.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

This notice is given by order of the Board of Education.

Patrick Nugent, Secretary

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Viewpoint



by Roger Brown

cozy corner

As I closed out last week's column about our travels to Viet Nam visiting my daughter's family, I incorrectly stated that we had flown to Danang for a short sightseeing trip. We actually flew to Phu Bai Airport at Hue. That's the kind of whirlwind trip it was... didn't know where I was half the time.

Over the past 11 years my daughter has lived in Arizona, two cities in China and now Viet Nam. Whenever we visit her in one of these places, we seem to pack in a lot of sightseeing. Don't get me wrong, I'm not complaining, but I can't help wonder if my daughter should pursue a career as a travel agent. Whew!

My daughter Angie, my wife Terese and I left Thursday on a 6:00 a.m. flight to Hue. Air travel in Viet Nam seems to be pretty good, and cheap. Round trip tickets out of Saigon to most other cities go for less than \$100 US. We rode up on an Airbus 320 and returned on a Boeing 777. The flights were on time and not overly crowded. An interesting note is that the airports bear vestiges of the war. Old concrete hangars and revetments (bunkers to protect parked planes from mortar attack) are still there.

My daughter had booked a guide for our time in Central Viet Nam. He was waiting for us at the airport, bright and early. Along with a driver, we all piled into a Toyota minivan. The guide spoke very good English. He was informative and eager to please us. We motored north on Highway 1 toward the old DMZ.

The highway is two lanes, and like all of Viet Nam, crowded with motorbikes. Still, we made good time. The weather was fairly good and the scenery was rural with small towns along the way. After nearly two hours we reached our first stop, the bridge across the Ben Hai River. This river divided North and South Viet Nam. You can't cross on the old bridge, but it is still there. We took a few pictures and continued on to Vinh Moc.

Touring the wartime tunnels at Vinh Moc is incredible. The Viet Cong used the area to stage operations and move supplies along the Ho Chi Min trail. Locals were used to dig the 2.8 km tunnel system. Some levels go as deep as 60 feet below the surface. There are 12 entrances, seven of which open to the beautiful beach on the South China Sea. Whole families lived in the tunnel system over a period of five years. Seventeen babies were reportedly born in the underground labyrinth.

Back in the car we traveled south, re-crossing the Ben Hai to Highway 9. This route runs east to west, parallels the old DMZ and was the main supply line for many U.S. bases during the war. Our destination was Khe Sanh. The scenery was fantastic. The road winds through a mountainous region, follows various rivers and passes through areas inhabited by minorities living in tiny stilted thatch roof bungalows. In many respects it was a trip back in time.

Our visit to Khe Sanh was covered in a previous column. Let me simply reiterate that the battlefield provides a moving experience. In the car, we settled in for a fairly long ride back to Hue for the night.

Our hotel in Hue was situated on the beautiful Perfume River. The room was very nice and included breakfast. Again, it was very inexpensive by U.S. standards.

Our guide met us for another early start on a long day. First on the itinerary was a Dragon Boat trip down the Perfume River to the Tu Dam pagoda and monastery. Our driver met us there after a walking tour. We then drove to the famous Citadel at Hue. The Citadel is much like the Forbidden City in Beijing, China. Before we knew it, the morning was

gone. We had lunch at a wonderful little restaurant within the confines of the enormous walled area that comprises the Citadel. The Citadel is an important sight of ancient history, but it was also the scene of much fighting following the Tet offensive of 1968.

We all agreed that we would like to spend much more time in Hue. It is a beautiful little city. Unfortunately, it was time to spend another afternoon in the car. We traveled south on Highway 1 for our eventual destination of Hoi An. There, we were to meet up with our son-in-law and grandkids.

The first stop was Lang Co Beach where we stretched our legs and took some pictures. Back in the car we began our ascent up to Hai Van Pass. The scenery was spectacular. At the crest of the pass you are about 1,500 feet above sea level. You can see the South China Sea and are surrounded by mountains that reach up to 3,500 feet.

Descending from the pass, we skirted the big bay at Danang and motored on to a stop at China Beach. The resort town was a rest and relaxation spot for GIs during the war and made famous by a TV series of the same name. By the time we arrived at our hotel in Hoi An it had been another long, busy day. Grampa tried to put up a good front for the grandkids, but he was pretty pooped.

The next morning the grandkids helped groom the beach. A guy with a water buffalo pulling a big wooden rake had the beach cleaning concession. For a small tip he let them ride for a little while. Saturday morning we visited some nearby ancient Cham temples and ruins. The remainder of the afternoon was spent in the hotel pool, or swimming in the ocean.

That evening we sprung for a ride to town on the hotel's brightly painted Russian sidecar motorcycles (\$4 US). We found a restaurant that had been highly recommended by friends of my daughter. It was by far the best meal I had in a long, long time. Drinks, appetizers, main courses, outlandish desserts, a big tip, the whole nine yards for the six of us...about fifty bucks, US.

Cozy Corner, cont'd., pg. 9

To The Editor

Dear Editor,

At the Monday night city council meeting we were finally told the reasons our cable company was sold off. There were declining subscribers, increased costs of keeping up with advancing technology and antiquated equipment. I can understand these reasons, what I don't understand is why the public had to be kept in the dark about this for two years.

We were told at the meeting Comcast came to Lowell Cable with the offer, but it had to have a gag order on the negotiations. Why? If Lowell Cable was in such dire straits and no other company was even interested why couldn't we know? It feels like a slimy backroom kickback deal happened. I have no idea if it did or didn't, however, the seeds of doubt and mistrust have been planted. What other deals are being made in our "best interest."

The only one to speak from Lowell Cable was the administrator and he was defending Comcast. That seems odd because half his job was Lowell Cable. Will his salary reflect losing half his responsibility?

Concerned about the welfare of the citizens of Lowell,
Jeff Altoft

Monroe property, and now the sale of the Lowell Cable Company. Each time it seems that it is the determination of a few for a certain action, right or wrong, against the wishes of a majority.

For me, the council meeting on May 21 put the arsenic in the frosting. What a discouraging, or to be more blunt, what a disgusting, exhibition by our elected representatives. Why in the world was a meeting thrown open of public comment regarding the cable matter, when it was apparent from the start that council members were not interested in what the public said, but were simply waiting it out to vote as they had always intended? Well, three and a half million is a lot of money and would tempt the most honest and upright. I can't help but wonder how much of the three and a half million remains, as expenses incurred over the past two years and still to be incurred will have eaten into it. I would like to have asked how much those expenses have added up to at this time, but why bother? Questions asked that night were studiously ignored! The council must have been certain two years ago that they could find a way to sell something that was not theirs.

Thank goodness, the tree situation is simmering down as Dr. Reagan and his group have applied good common sense to the matter. Hopefully the same will be true for the North Monroe property as cooler heads are coming forward. But, it looks as though we have lost our cable company. When do we hear that the Light & Power has been sold?

Donna Jean Ford

To The Editor,

For the past 26 years the city of Lowell has been my home and I have found it to be a friendly place to live with almost always a "hello" and a smile from someone as we meet on the street or in a store. I feel safe and comfortable in my neighborhood, as we all know one another, look out for one another, and are there for one another should the need arise. In the meantime, we try to keep our nose out of one another's personal life.

However, within the past year there has been a change in the vibes around town. Not so friendly anymore, but anger bursting out in so many places...the tree situation, North

Dear Editor,

I am writing to say how proud I am of our Lacrosse program. It has grown in five short years from a handful of participants to over 100. With the dedication of coaches, parents and players, we are gaining recognition not just in skills and winning games, but in sportsmanship.

From day one Eric Bredin has coached our boys with integrity and character and it has become the foundation on which our program is building. While some teams trash talked and played to win at any cost, Eric taught our team to

play by the rules, train well, play hard but play fair.

Lacrosse is a very physical sport. I am amazed that our coaches are able to harness all this adrenaline and force that builds during these games. We are winning more games each season, but I am mostly proud of the image Lowell's Lacrosse team has established. Every year we receive comments and e-mails from opponents coaches commending us on our sportsmanship and fair play. I'm grateful to Eric Bredin, Kelly Bowers and Frank Breckbeil for not only teaching my son the game of Lacrosse but how to be a man of character. That will go beyond his Lacrosse years into the real world. Congratulations to all the seniors and varsity players. I will truly miss watching you play. I'm very proud of you.

Kris Gallagher

Dear Editor,

Headlines in the Lowell Ledger "Council unanimously supports cable television sale." I believe the caption should have read "Council says we're the deciders." Our council, like our president George W. Bush, has decided to ignore the facts by not listening to them and then being the decider. Again Ivan Blough was cut short in his attempt to question the council on the sale of Lowell cable TV. According to Mayor Myers, Comcast requested confidentiality during purchase negotiations and the sale has been in the works for the last two years. They also said Comcast was the only company that pursued the purchase. Was it ever opened up for bids? What I want to know is why the constituents of Lowell weren't notified about opening up the sale of Lowell cable TV for bids in the first place. Did it slip their minds? In a May 9 edition of the Lowell Ledger council member Jim Pfaller "suggested using the money for debt reduction" but then said in May 23 edition of the Lowell Ledger "I am not supportive of using the dollars toward the city budget." I believe the council knows exactly what there going to do with the money from the sale having two years to squabble over it. If the money from the sale is allowed to find its way in the city budget or city related projects, then what is next - the Lowell L.L.P and its assets will be put into the city budget?

Sincerely, Jim Howard

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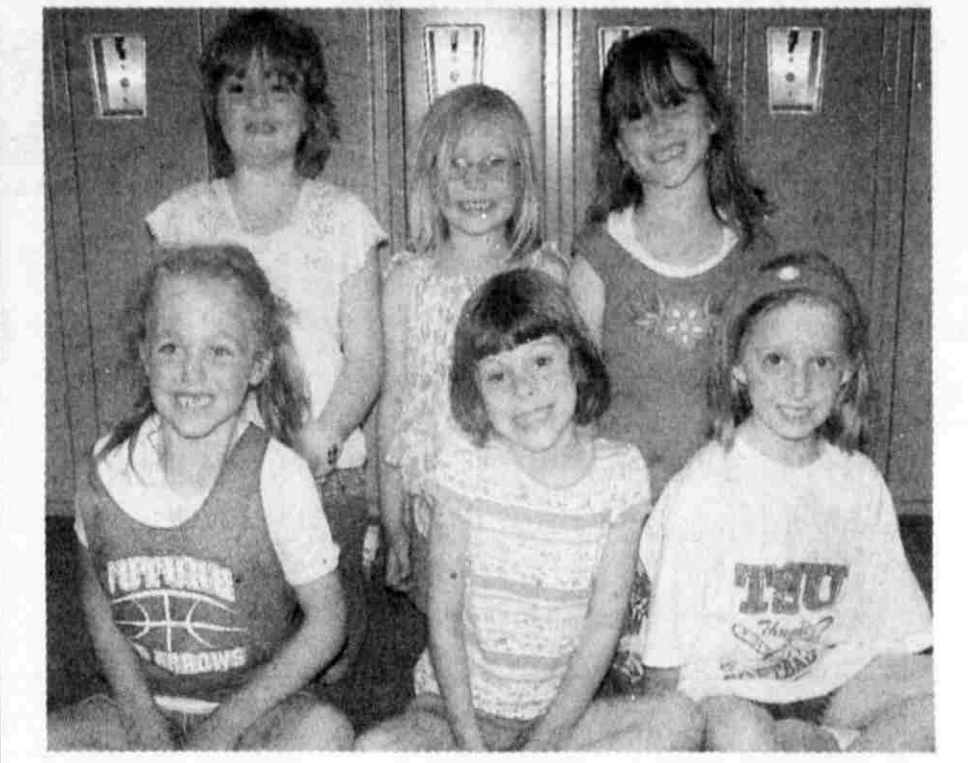
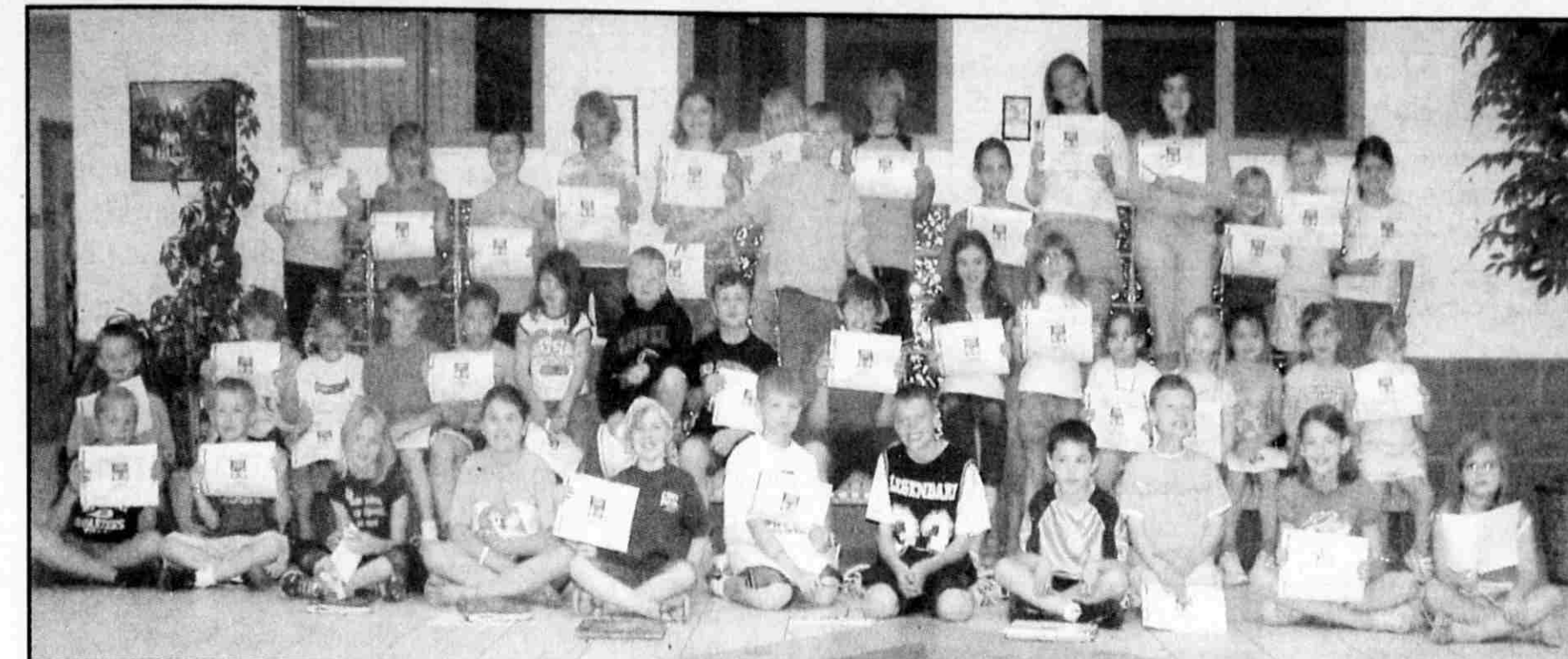
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Murray Lake Characters in Action



Pictured are Murray Lake Elementary's Character in Action Award winners for the month of April. These are students who were nominated by staff members for putting the character traits into action on a daily basis. Front row from left to right are: Avery Buckius, Calvin Warning, Bailey Stormzand, Katie Haefner, Anna Barnes, Alex Kaminski, Ryan Lubbers, Dan Stevens, Kenny Stump, Katie Bush, Kelsey Jurmo; middle row: Garrett Nauta, Adam Marks, Jake Nugent, Doug Weed, Jacob Sprague, Darby Dean, Robbie Dubisky, Max Dean, Zach Kaywood, Kortney Beachler, Emily Kropf, Nikki Nugent, Mackenzie Gould, Ember Fox, Olivia DeCator, Brianna Jonker; back row: Molly Hoseth, Lauren White, Brody Chapman, Addison Buckius, Paige Wilson, Allison Mooney, Derek Krajewski, Jonathon Roberts, Aubrieh Steed, Kiersten Ashenbrenner, Sydney Fox, Maria Briggs, Darby Fuller, Sara Walters.

Back row from left: Tristan Fogarty-Thomas, Megan Houghtaling, Mikayla Boersma; front row from left: Laine Fleszar, Emily Lothian, Sydney Riffle.

Cozy Corner, continued ... From Page 5

The next day was Sunday. We had breakfast, spent a little more time in the pool, checked out and met our guide for a walking tour of Hoi An. Hoi An is another ancient and beautiful little city that we all felt was worth a longer stay. Unfortunately, it was time to go. At the Danang Airport we parted ways with our guide and flew back to Saigon on an early evening flight.

Back at my daughter's house, we had just two days to get organized for our trip home. One of those days was spent doing the Saigon cyclo tour mentioned here last week. Whew!!!

The trip home was complicated by less than ideal connections. From my daughter's house to our place took 41 hours. Fortunately, I slept or dozed off about half that time. As I said at the beginning, my daughter is a pretty good travel agent and tour guide. Wore this old boy right on out!

Terese and I loved Viet Nam. The country is beautiful, the people are friendly, travel is easy, much English is spoken, prices are very inexpensive and like it said on a t-shirt I saw... "I got to Viet Nam before McDonald's".

Upcoming Street Closing Notice

Gee Drive (from Alden Nash approximately 1/3 mile east) will be closed to through traffic from June 18 until August 3 for street improvements. Traffic will be limited to local access only. Through traffic will be detoured to Foreman Rd and Alden Nash. Creekside Park will be accessible from Lincoln Lake and Foreman.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience.
City of Lowell

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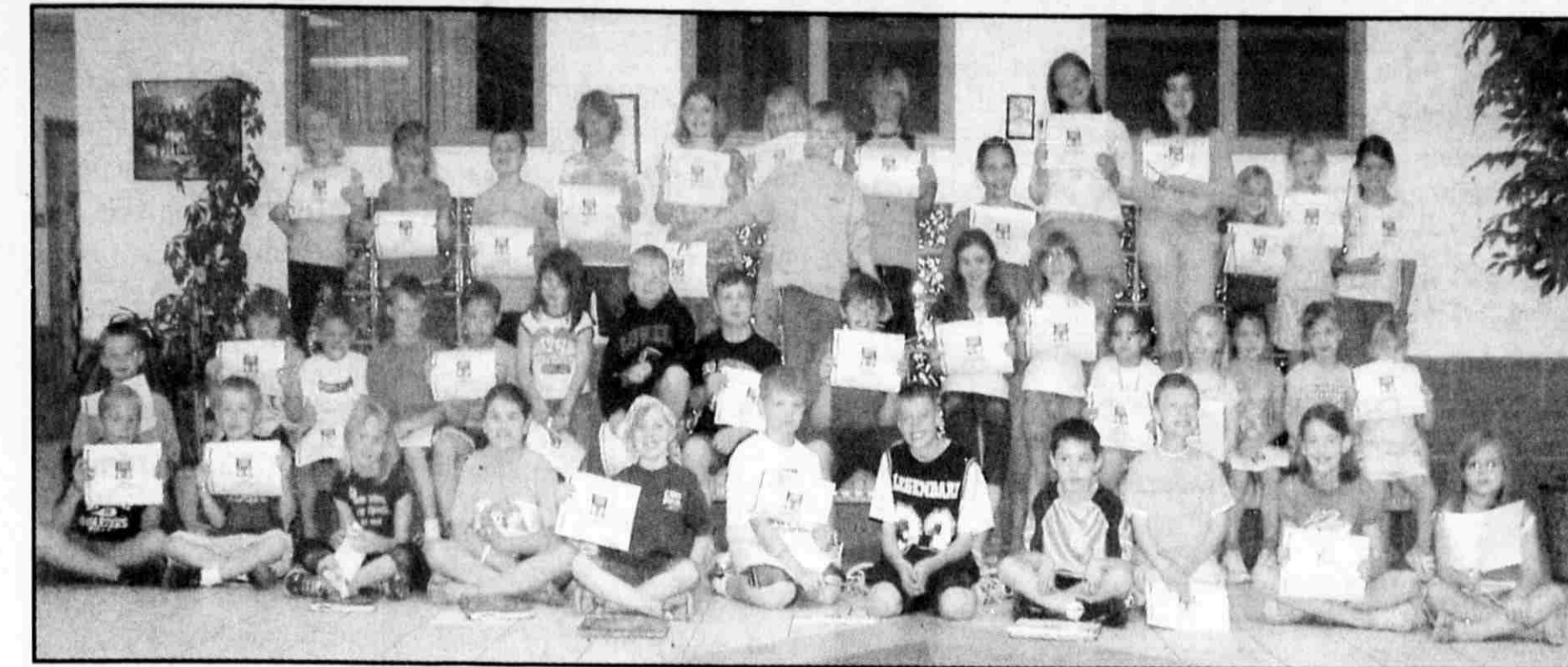
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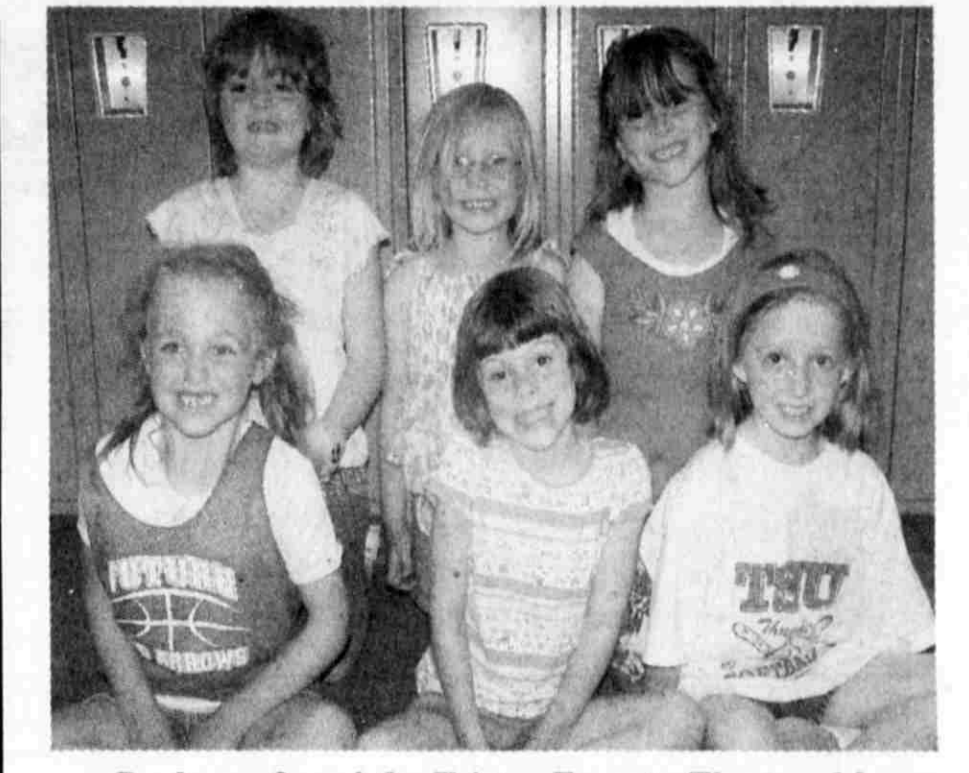
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Murray Lake Characters in Action



Pictured are Murray Lake Elementary's Character in Action Award winners for the month of April. These are students who were nominated by staff members for putting the character traits into action on a daily basis. Front row from left to right are: Avery Buckius, Calvin Warning, Bailey Stormzand, Katie Haefner, Anna Barnes, Alex Kaminski, Ryan Lubbers, Dan Stevens, Kenny Stump, Katie Bush, Kelsey Jurmo; middle row: Garrett Nauta, Adam Marks, Jake Nugent, Doug Weed, Jacob Sprague, Darby Dean, Robbie Dubisky, Max Dean, Zach Kaywood, Kortney Beachler, Emily Kropf, Nikki Nugent, Mackenzie Gould, Ember Fox, Olivia DeCator, Brianna Jonker; back row: Molly Hoseth, Lauren White, Brody Chapman, Addison Buckius, Paige Wilson, Allison Mooney, Derek Krajewski, Jonathon Roberts, Aubrieh Steed, Kiersten Ashenbrenner, Sydney Fox, Maria Briggs, Darby Fuller, Sara Walters.



Back row from left: Tristan Fogarty-Thomas, Megan Houghtaling, Mikayla Boersma; front row from left: Laine Fleszar, Emily Lothian, Sydney Riffle.

Cozy Corner, continued ... From Page 5

The next day was Sunday. We had breakfast, spent a little more time in the pool, checked out and met our guide for a walking tour of Hoi An. Hoi An is another ancient and beautiful little city that we all felt was worth a longer stay. Unfortunately, it was time to go. At the Danang Airport we parted ways with our guide and flew back to Saigon on an early evening flight.

Back at my daughter's house, we had just two days to get organized for our trip home. One of those days was spent doing the Saigon cyclo tour mentioned here last week. Whew!!!

The trip home was complicated by less than ideal connections. From my daughter's house to our place took 41 hours. Fortunately, I slept or dozed off about half that time. As I said at the beginning, my daughter is a pretty good travel agent and tour guide. Wore this old boy right on out!

Terese and I loved Viet Nam. The country is beautiful, the people are friendly, travel is easy, much English is spoken, prices are very inexpensive and like it said on a t-shirt I saw... "I got to Viet Nam before McDonald's".

Upcoming Street Closing Notice

Gee Drive (from Alden Nash approximately 1/3 mile east) will be closed to through traffic from June 18 until August 3 for street improvements. Traffic will be limited to local access only. Through traffic will be detoured to Foreman Rd and Alden Nash. Creekside Park will be accessible from Lincoln Lake and Foreman.



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City of Lowell

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BUSINESSES & SERVICES

Photographer's studio renovated, now part of historic district

By Emma Palova

Standing on a remodeled deck over the waters of the Flat River, Modern Photographics owner Brandon Mulnix watches a fisherman. Mulnix finds in the view and in the humming of King Milling, sort of a therapy.

He just finished an \$80,000 complete exterior and interior remodeling calling it a perfect project from start to end. With the best view in town on the Flat River, Modern Photographics now lives up to its modern image. The walls of the studio - some curved - are painted in eight different colors, from soft

yellow to bold red, in the waiting room. The rooms of the studio are closed off, so only two colors can be viewed at the same time. The red symbolizes the school colors of Lowell Area Schools and Saranac Community Schools.

The studio, with new windows, now meets the

standards of the Lowell Historical District, and as such, the project received an \$8,500 historical grant from the Enghardt Foundation.

At first the project was a necessity due to fractured structural beams almost sitting in the waters of the Flat River. Mulnix consulted Trade Network to find

the best contractor for the unique undertaking. Mulnix found not only a contractor, but also a friend in Matt Garrison of Ridgeline. "He was the perfect contractor to work with," said Mulnix.

The job involved a lot of ingenuity because of the water, and Department of Environmental (DEQ) restrictions.

"We enhanced the view in the back," said Garrison. "It is now more aesthetic."

Mulnix knows that taking portraits can be a stressful time for most people. So, the bathroom, with a marvelous view of the river, was turned into a dressing room with plenty of counter space for makeup.

"We wanted to keep the view of the river for the clients," said Mulnix.

The remodeled studio now provides an experience with a complete showroom of images, furniture emulating a home atmosphere, carpeting and a deck overlooking the river. Some people even take off their shoes as they walk into the studio.

In line with philosophy of promoting other businesses, the studio showcases floral arrangements in tall vases by Wildwood Wildflowers. "We like to promote our work, as well as other businesses," said Mulnix.

The waiting room, with red walls decorated with portrait photography, is lit 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The studio is located at 104 West Main Street. For more information go to www.modernphotographics.com



Brandon Mulnix in remodeled photography studio with Matt Garrison.

Featured Artist

Karen Hale

By Emma Palova

For Karen Hale, owner of Cousins and Riverhollow Hallmark, art is much like business and life.

"It's all about taking those chances," she said.

In unpredictable economic times Hale finds solace and peace in painting a lonely pine tree.

Whether painting a pine tree, a hydrangea or a sunflower, the calming effect of art descends on its creator.

"I get lost in it," said Hale. "It's a release. It's a way to let go of everything."

As a businesswoman, Hale struggles to find art time. She has been involved with David Davis' art studio off and on for the last seven years.

Now back in art again after a hiatus, Hale is nervous as her exhibit opens now at the Huntington Galleria.

However, as an artist Hale has gained confidence and she is eager to paint again.

"It's an adventure," said Hale about painting.

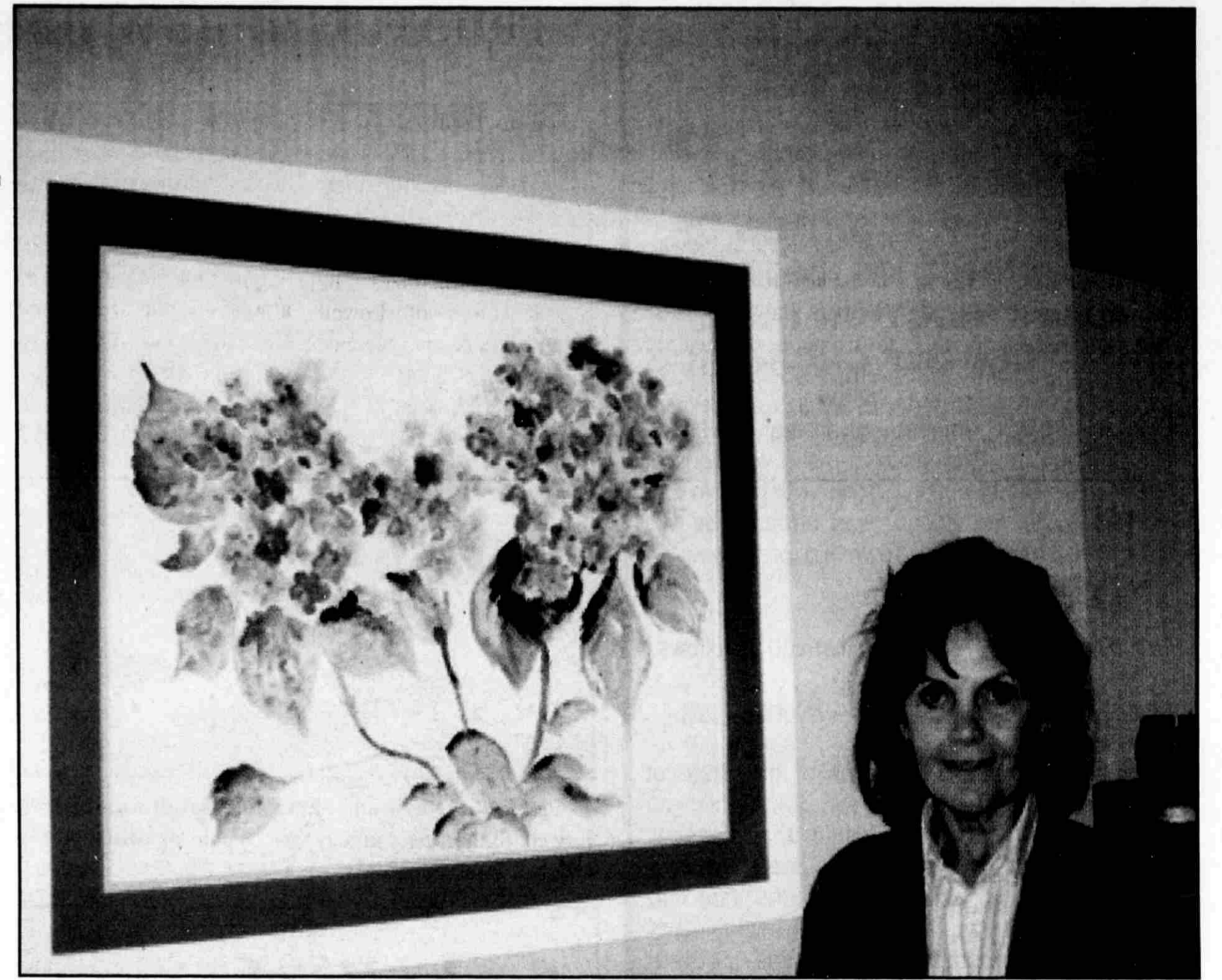
Her media of choice is watercolor. One of her first paintings was a study of her grandma's favorite flower, an Iris.

Always striving for perfection, Hale painted a second piece of a double Iris. Her accidental piece 'Sea Turtles' portrays turtles swimming through the ocean on Yupo paper.

Davis attributes Hale's nervousness to public exposure.

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Hale's work now stands and depth, according to Davis.



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"Having your own studio is very important," said Davis. "If you want to improve upon yourself and your work, you will paint every chance you get and you will make it happen."

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Mask art comes to Franciscan Life Process Center

By Emma Palova

Gaudy and dramatic masks created by Roy Brown, a former wig master for the Grand Rapids Opera, and art director Kacey Cornwell, are coming to Franciscan Life Process Center.

Although it's not Mardi Gras, New Year's or Halloween, the art is so unique, that Cornwell recently created masks for a prom pair matching their dresses.

And after all, life can be a melodramatic masquerade. Both Brown and Cornwell have a mutual love for masks creating masks for their friends' parties or for costume balls.

Brown made a theatrical white mask with real human hair. When creating masks, he uses all sorts of different materials. His favorite thing however is using exotic feathers and plumes.

"I like masks to be flamboyant, gaudy," he said. "Some are art pieces; some can be worn."

Both artists find inspiration in any junk they come across or in nature.

"You can create an art piece out of something you don't know what to do with," said Cornwell.

Cornwell has crafted a mask from copper pieces woven together on a leather backing, as well as a mask from birch bark. "You're creating showpieces," said Cornwell. "The hardest part is knowing when to stop."

When creating masks, the duo suggests using simple materials to get a dramatic effect, while using different techniques.

"I like glitter and glitz," said Brown. "We hope this is a unique idea."



Kacey Cornwell and Roy Brown share mutual love for masks.

The Workshop "Masks: Art & Illusion" will be held at the center later this fall.



Carrie Ann Curtis of Lowell and Jeff William Fisher of Fruitport are pleased to announce their engagement. The bride-to-be is the owner of Curtis Accounting & Tax Services, LLC in Lowell. The groom-to-be is the owner of Diamond Development, Inc. in Fruitport. Parents of the couple are Kevin & Christine Kennedy of Lowell and Dave & Kathy Fisher of Fruitport.

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Deer Run Golf Club hosted the event this year with great success. Thank you Deer Run!

The family is grateful to the following who sponsored a hole: Ken Thomet CPA & family, Lowell Lions Club, Gary Kemp Family, Lowell Athletic Boosters, James Reagan D.D.S., Rex Collins Family, grand kids & great-grand kids, Cleone McCormick Family, Ron Collins Family, Alliance Group, Freshmark Sugardale Meat Co., Datroneks, CN Food Sales, Duke Thomet - In memory of Marylynn Thomet, Keiser's Kitchen, Timpson Transport, The Garage, Good Chevrolet & Buick, Saranac Brand Foods & Lowell Area Schools Bus Drivers Assoc.

We appreciate the show of support we received again this year. We could not have done this without the support of this great community.

Thank you all!!!
Rex Collins Family

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The job involved a lot of ingenuity because of the water, and Department of Environmental (DEQ) restrictions.

"It's one of the projects I am really proud of," said Garrison. "The owner was really easy to work with."

The studio stayed open during the work, and Mulnix didn't have to worry about anything. That was up to Garrison, who always found the right subcontractors for jobs that were beyond his capacity. At one point, the entire building froze from front to back.

In line with philosophy of promoting other businesses, the studio showcases floral arrangements in tall vases by Wildwood Wildflowers. "We like to promote our work, as well as other businesses," said Mulnix.

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From the very beginning, the two worked with designer Carol Lee of Hearthstone Design. The scale of the task changed from structural repairs of the late 1800s building to creating a modern studio. The walls were stripped and gutted, ceilings opened up and old closets turned into offices. Eighty percent of the debris was recycled and used for hardwood floors to keep the building's historical attributes.

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BOWNE TOWNSHIP

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2007-01, CONSTRUCTION CODE ENFORCEMENT ORDINANCE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that Ordinance No. 2007-01, an Ordinance to make violations of the State Construction Code punishable as municipal civil infractions, was adopted by the Township Board of the Township of Bowne on May 21, 2007.

Ordinance No. 2007-01 is summarized as follows:

Section 1. Violations: Municipal Civil Infractions.

Section 1. A. makes violations of the State of Michigan Construction Code punishable as municipal civil infractions rather than criminal misdemeanors and authorizes the Township Building Official to issue municipal civil infraction citations for violations as defined in Section 23 of the Stille-Derossett-Hale Single State Construction Code Act (the "Act").

Section 1. B. provides that any person who commits a violation described in Section 23 of the Act, who commits a violation of the Ordinance, or who uses or permits the use of property for violations is responsible for a municipal civil infraction and is subject to payment of a municipal civil fine of not less than \$50 plus costs and other sanctions for each violation.

Section 1. C. provides that repeat offenses are subject to increased civil fines (not less than \$250 plus costs for the first repeat offense and not less than \$500 plus costs for the second or subsequent repeat offenses). A repeat offense is a second or subsequent violation within any six month period.

Section 1. D. provides that each day during which a violation continues is a separate offense.

Section 1. E. provides that the district court has equitable jurisdiction to enforce any judgment, writ, or order to enforce any Ordinance provision, including abatement of the violation.

Section 1. F. provides that for purposes of the Ordinance, the word "person" includes the owner(s) of property as well as tenants, possessors, lessees, or licensees. The word "owner" includes any owner or co-owner whether or not shown of record with the Kent County Register of Deeds and applies to both the record owner and purchaser where a land contract is involved. Further, anyone who assists another in committing a violation, or who aids or abets a violation, is deemed to commit a violation.

Section 2. Severability.

Section 2. provides that the provisions of the Ordinance are severable.

Section 3. Effective Date.

Section 3 provides that the Ordinance becomes effective thirty (30) days after publication of the Ordinance or summary thereof. As a result, the Ordinance becomes effective thirty (30) days after the date of publication of this Notice of Adoption of Ordinance No. 2007-01.

The publication of this Notice meets the requirements for publication pursuant to MCL 41.184. No further publication of Ordinance No. 2007-01 is required or contemplated by the Township. A copy of Ordinance No. 2007-01 may be inspected or obtained at the Township offices located at 8240 Alden Nash Avenue, Alto, Michigan, on Wednesdays and Thursdays, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and on Fridays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Date: May 30, 2007
Sandra L. Kowalczyk
Bowne Township Clerk

Siblings both bag turkeys



Pictured are Eric and Samantha Mundt with their turkeys they took earlier this month on private land south of Lowell. Samantha's turkey was 18 pounds with a 10 1/4-inch beard. Eric's turkey, his first in five years of hunting, weighed in at 15 pounds.

Lend A Hand



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

SHOWBOAT REPAIR

Volunteers are needed to help paint and clean the Lowell Showboat. Work sessions are May 29, 30 and 31 and June 5, 6 and 7. Work sessions will be all day during daylight hours and in the evening from 6-

9 p.m. Help us get our city icon ready for the summer celebrations. For more information call the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce at 897-9161 or Ivan Blough at 897-9920.

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS ADOPTION ORDINANCE No. 2007-1

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Vergennes Township Board has adopted Ordinance 2007-1, an ordinance to amend the zoning ordinance to comply with the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act and to clarify and update other sections as summarized below. The amendments were adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board on Monday, May 21, 2007 at 7:00 pm at the Vergennes Township Hall, located at 10381 Bailey Dr, Lowell, MI.

Amend Chapter 1 Title and Purpose, to change the old Rural Township Zoning Act name to the new Michigan Zoning Enabling Act name. Amend Chapter 2 Definitions, to change Act name, adding definition of where a front lot line is located on a back lot and change section number reference in the variance definition. Amend Chapter 4 General and Special Regulations, section 201.426 Subdivision of Property, to update, correct typos and add all of the Land Division Act requirements.

Amend Chapter 5 Special Exception Uses and Variances, to put in the new Michigan Zoning Enabling Act noticing and publishing requirements, clarify the approval time limit for a SEU permit and site plan and move the variance section to the Zoning Board of Appeals area (chapter 7). Amend Chapter 6 Administration and Enforcement, to specify the relevant duties and responsibilities of the zoning administrator and building inspector.

Amend Chapter 7 Zoning Board of Appeals, to move and add the variance section from chapter 5, add noticing and publishing requirements as required by the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, add membership details, describe the appeal process and time limit including Circuit Court and the Court of Appeals. Amend Private Roads Part 202.000, of the list of relevant State Act names to reflect the new Michigan Zoning Enabling Act name.

The complete text of the ordinance amendments can be reviewed at the Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Drive, PO Box 208, Lowell, MI 49331 - Phone: (616) 897-5671 [fax 897-5674]. This ordinance takes effect 8 days after publication.

Mari Stone
Vergennes Township Clerk

Burger King scholarship recipient

Lowell High School senior Kelly Walker received a \$1,000 continuing education scholarship from Burger King.

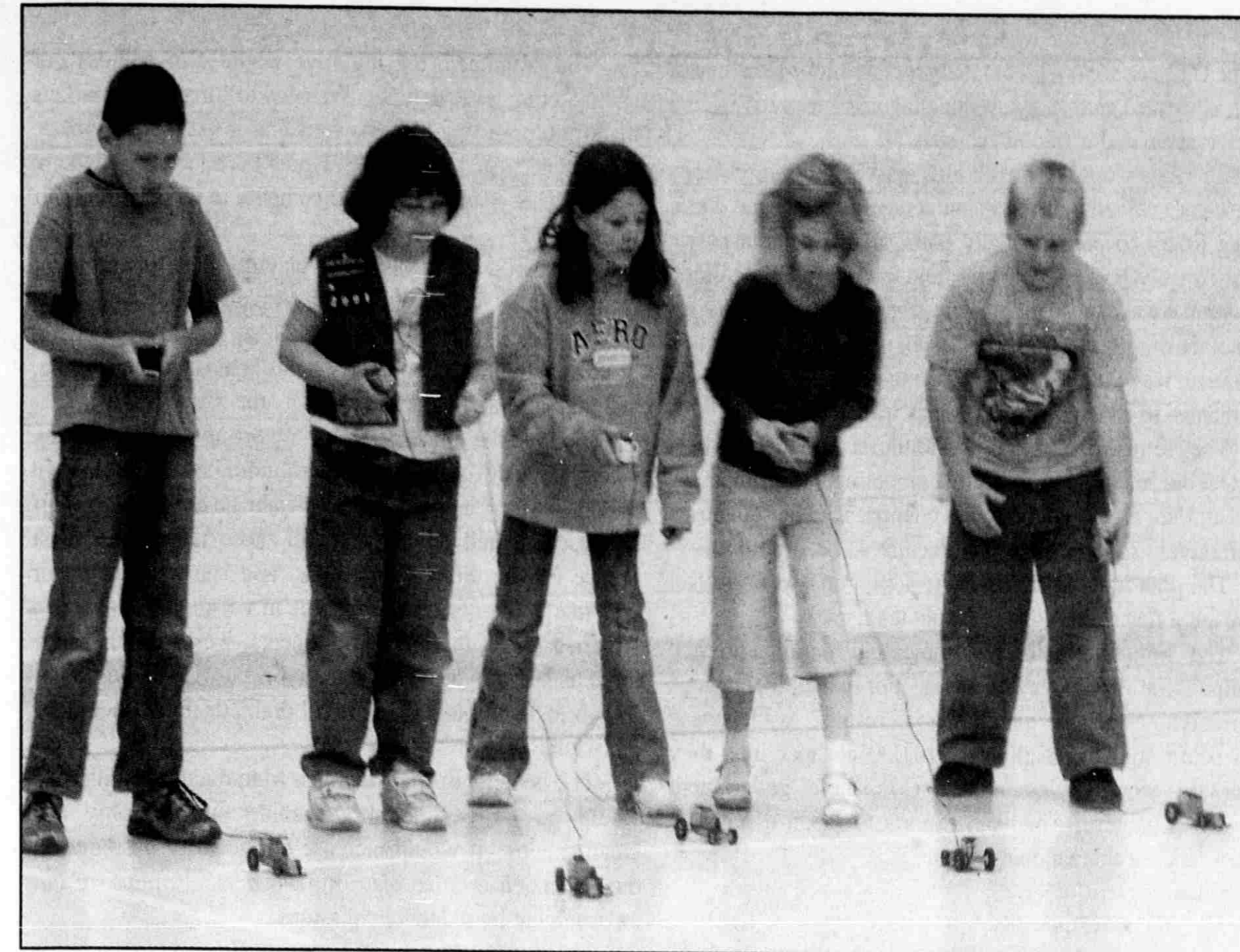
Walker was one of 46 recipients in the west Michigan area. Burger King awarded 121 scholarships in Michigan and Indiana.

The Burger King Scholarship was designed to recognize students who work part-time and experience success on the job as well as maintain at least a 2.5 grade point average in school and are also involved in co-curricular and/or community service activities. The recipient may be, but does not have to be, a Burger King employee.

"We thank our customers for their continued support of our scholarship program," says William Lee, Vice President of the Michigan Burger King Division at Quality Dining. "We extend our congratulations to the 2007 scholarship recipients and wish them the best in their future endeavors."

Young engineers

With grant money received from the Wilson H. Craig, Jr. Foundation, Alto Elementary was able to offer each classroom the opportunity to become "engineers" using LEGO® Educational Materials. Robert Mayo from All About Learning, brought in LEGO® kits for students to build a remote control vehicle. The course covered gears, levers, wheels, axles, structures, forces and simple machines integrating science and math classes. Teams of two students worked together to build and then race the vehicles. The children had so much fun, they didn't realize they were learning in the process. Matt Anibal, Katie Bodemann, Laurel Frederickson, Nova Neitling and Keegan Stoltzfus race their Lego creations.



At Your Local Library



"PIZZA TASTE-OFF FOR TEENS" AT KDL SUMMER READING CLUB

If you consider yourself a pizza connoisseur, then this event is for you. All teens are invited to Kent District Library branches to sample pizza from local pizzerias and vote for the best pizza in the city. This event is fun for all teens and stomachs too! Bring yourself, your friends, and a hungry tummy to a branch near you. Englehardt Branch, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell, 647-3920. Wednesday, June 13 at 4 p.m. Registration is required. For more information and registration, please visit www.kdl.org or contact the local branch.

Murray Lake's volunteer of the month

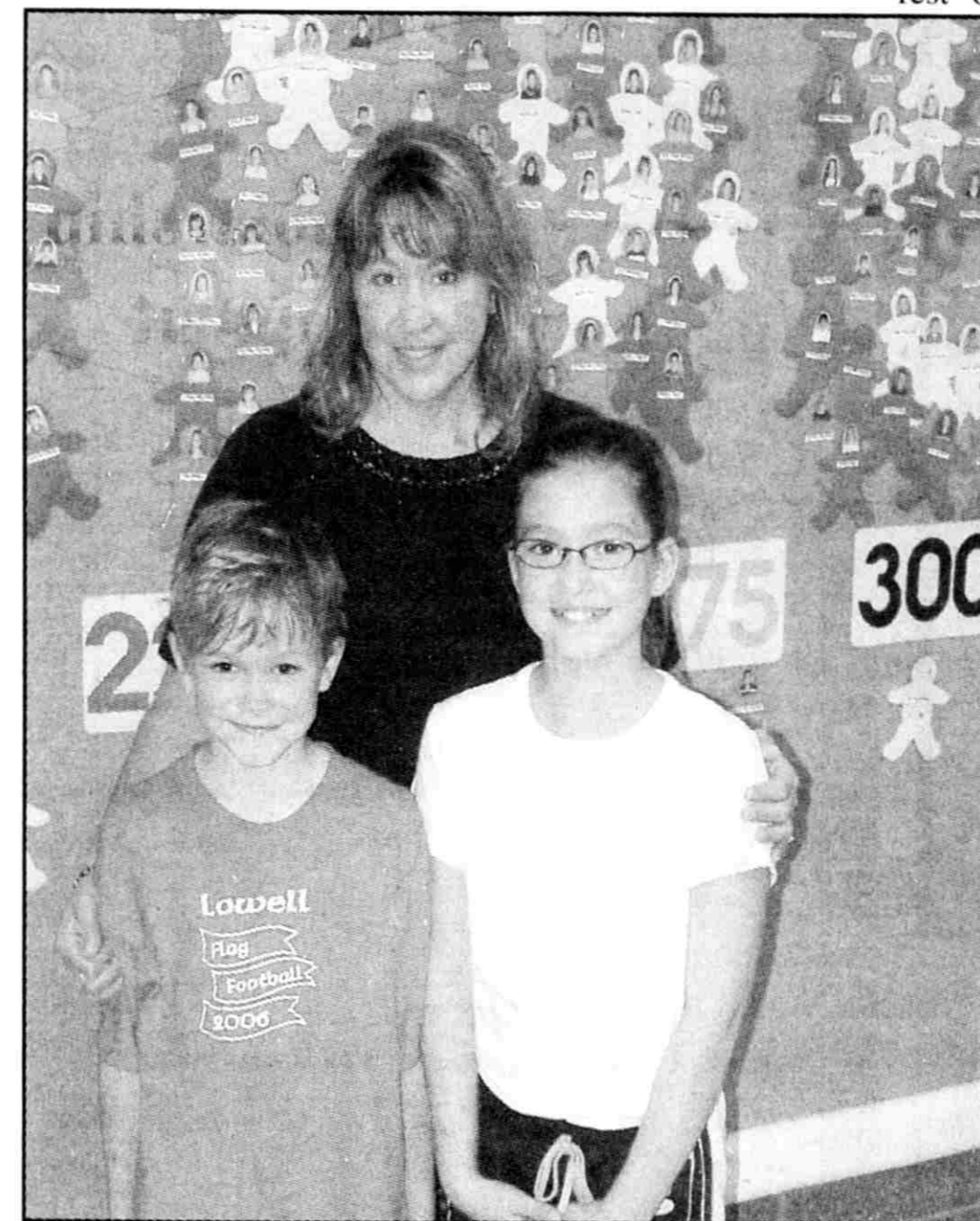
Alice Bush was named Murray Lake Elementary's Volunteer of the Month for April. Alice and her husband, Tom, have lived in Lowell for the past 12 years. Their two children,

Mackenzie (fourth grade) and Joshua (first grade) are both students at Murray Lake. Bush is also employed as a playground supervisor at the school. Several staff members nominated Bush

because of her willingness to do whatever need staff has around the building. Bush works less than two hours each day at Murray Lake, but is often there five or six hours each day. The rest of her time is spent volunteering in classrooms, in the office, maintaining the Accelerated Reading board and helping around the building.

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Alice Bush, Murray Lake Elementary's Volunteer of the Month.

THANK YOU

Thank you to the following businesses and families. Your donation to our Alto-Gathering Festival made our event a huge success.

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| AJ's Family Fun Park | Carl Blough Family | Gary Blough Family |
| Alto PTO | Bob's Auto body | Brenda's Hair Design |
| Arby's | Caboose Ice Cream | Canfield Plumbing |
| Ball's Softee Creme | Chimera Design | City Looks Salon |
| Blue Ribbon Feed | Cousins Hallmark | Crystal Flash |
| State Farm Insurance | Curves | D & D Trucking |
| Coldwell Banker | Deer Run Golf Club | Detroit Lions |
| Curtis Cleaners | Detroit Tigers | Durkee Lumber |
| Daisy's Floral | Elite Auto Body | Endurance Gym |
| Detroit Red Wings | Gary's Meats | GR Griffins |
| Edward Jones Investments | Great Clips | Harold Zeigler Ford |
| Frito-Lay | Jimmy's Grill | Keisers Kitchen |
| GR Rampage | Larkins | Litehouse |
| Hungry Howies Pizza | Lowell Lanes | McCauls Auto |
| King Milling | Lowell Ledger | Patterson Ice Arena |
| Lowell Granite co. | Modern Photography | Rookies |
| Meijer | Ronda Tire | Salon 206 |
| Pep Talk | Roll-Away | Silpada Designs, |
| Riverbed East | Skyline Electric | B. Charron |
| Showboat Auto | Springrove Variety | State Farm/Cascade |
| Sneakers | Whitecaps | |
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| Ada-Lowell 5 | Alto Marathon | |
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ANIMAL HOSPITAL OF LOWELL

BOWNE TOWNSHIP

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2007-01, CONSTRUCTION CODE ENFORCEMENT ORDINANCE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that Ordinance No. 2007-01, an Ordinance to make violations of the State Construction Code punishable as municipal civil infractions, was adopted by the Township Board of the Township of Bowne on May 21, 2007.

Ordinance No. 2007-01 is summarized as follows:

Section 1. Violations: Municipal Civil Infractions.

Section 1. A. makes violations of the State of Michigan Construction Code punishable as municipal civil infractions rather than criminal misdemeanors and authorizes the Township Building Official to issue municipal civil infraction citations for violations as defined in Section 23 of the Stille-Derossett-Hale Single State Construction Code Act (the "Act").

Section 1. B. provides that any person who commits a violation described in Section 23 of the Act, who uses or permits the use of property for violations is responsible for a municipal civil infraction and is subject to payment of a municipal civil fine of not less than \$50 plus costs and other sanctions for each violation.

Section 1. C. provides that repeat offenses are subject to increased civil fines (not less than \$250 plus costs for the first repeat offense and not less than \$500 plus costs for the second or subsequent repeat offenses). A repeat offense is a second or subsequent violation within any six month period.

Section 1. D. provides that each day during which a violation continues is a separate offense.

Section 1. E. provides that the district court has equitable jurisdiction to enforce any judgment, writ, or order to enforce any Ordinance provision, including abatement of the violation.

Section 1. F. provides that for purposes of the Ordinance, the word "person" includes the owner(s) of property as well as tenants, possessors, lessees, or licensees. The word "owner" includes any owner or co-owner whether or not shown of record with the Kent County Register of Deeds and applies to both the record owner and purchaser where a land contract is involved. Further, anyone who assists another in committing a violation, or who aids or abets a violation, is deemed to commit a violation.

Section 2. Severability.

Section 2. provides that the provisions of the Ordinance are severable.

Section 3. Effective Date.

Section 3 provides that the Ordinance becomes effective thirty (30) days after publication of the Ordinance or summary thereof. As a result, the Ordinance becomes effective thirty (30) days after the date of publication of this Notice of Adoption of Ordinance No. 2007-01.

The publication of this Notice meets the requirements for publication pursuant to MCL 41.184. No further publication of Ordinance No. 2007-01 is required or contemplated by the Township. A copy of Ordinance No. 2007-01 may be inspected or obtained at the Township offices located at 8240 Alden Nash Avenue, Alto, Michigan, on Wednesdays and Thursdays, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and on Fridays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Date: May 30, 2007
Sandra L. Kowalczyk
Bowne Township Clerk

Siblings both bag turkeys



Pictured are Eric and Samantha Mundt with their turkeys they took earlier this month on private land south of Lowell. Samantha's turkey was 18 pounds with a 10 1/4-inch beard. Eric's turkey, his first in five years of hunting, weighed in at 15 pounds.

Lend A Hand



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

SHOWBOAT REPAIR

Volunteers are needed to help paint and clean the Lowell Showboat. Work sessions are May 29, 30 and 31 and June 5, 6 and 7. Work sessions will be all day during daylight hours and in the evening from 6-

9 p.m. Help us get our city icon ready for the summer celebrations. For more information call the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce at 897-9161 or Ivan Blough at 897-9920.

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS ADOPTION ORDINANCE No. 2007-1

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Vergennes Township Board has adopted Ordinance 2007-1, an ordinance to amend the zoning ordinance to comply with the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act and to clarify and update other sections as summarized below. The amendments were adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board on Monday, May 21, 2007 at 7:00 pm at the Vergennes Township Hall, located at 10381 Bailey Dr, Lowell, MI.

Amend Chapter 1 Title and Purpose, to change the old Rural Township Zoning Act name to the new Michigan Zoning Enabling Act name. Amend Chapter 2 Definitions, to change Act name, adding definition of where a front lot line is located on a back lot and change section number reference in the variance definition. Amend Chapter 4 General and Special Regulations, section 201.426 Subdivision of Property, to update, correct typos and add all of the Land Division Act requirements.

Amend Chapter 5 Special Exception Uses and Variances, to put in the new Michigan Zoning Enabling Act noticing and publishing requirements, clarify the approval time limit for a SEU permit and site plan and move the variance section to the Zoning Board of Appeals area (chapter 7). Amend Chapter 6 Administration and Enforcement, to specify the relevant duties and responsibilities of the zoning administrator and building inspector.

Amend Chapter 7 Zoning Board of Appeals, to move and add the variance section from chapter 5, add noticing and publishing requirements as required by the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, add membership details, describe the appeal process and time limit including Circuit Court and the Court of Appeals. Amend Private Roads Part 202.000, of the list of relevant State Act names to reflect the new Michigan Zoning Enabling Act name.

The complete text of the ordinance amendments can be reviewed at the Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Drive, PO Box 208, Lowell, MI 49331 - Phone: (616) 897-5671 [fax 897-5674]. This ordinance takes effect 8 days after publication.

Mari Stone
Vergennes Township Clerk

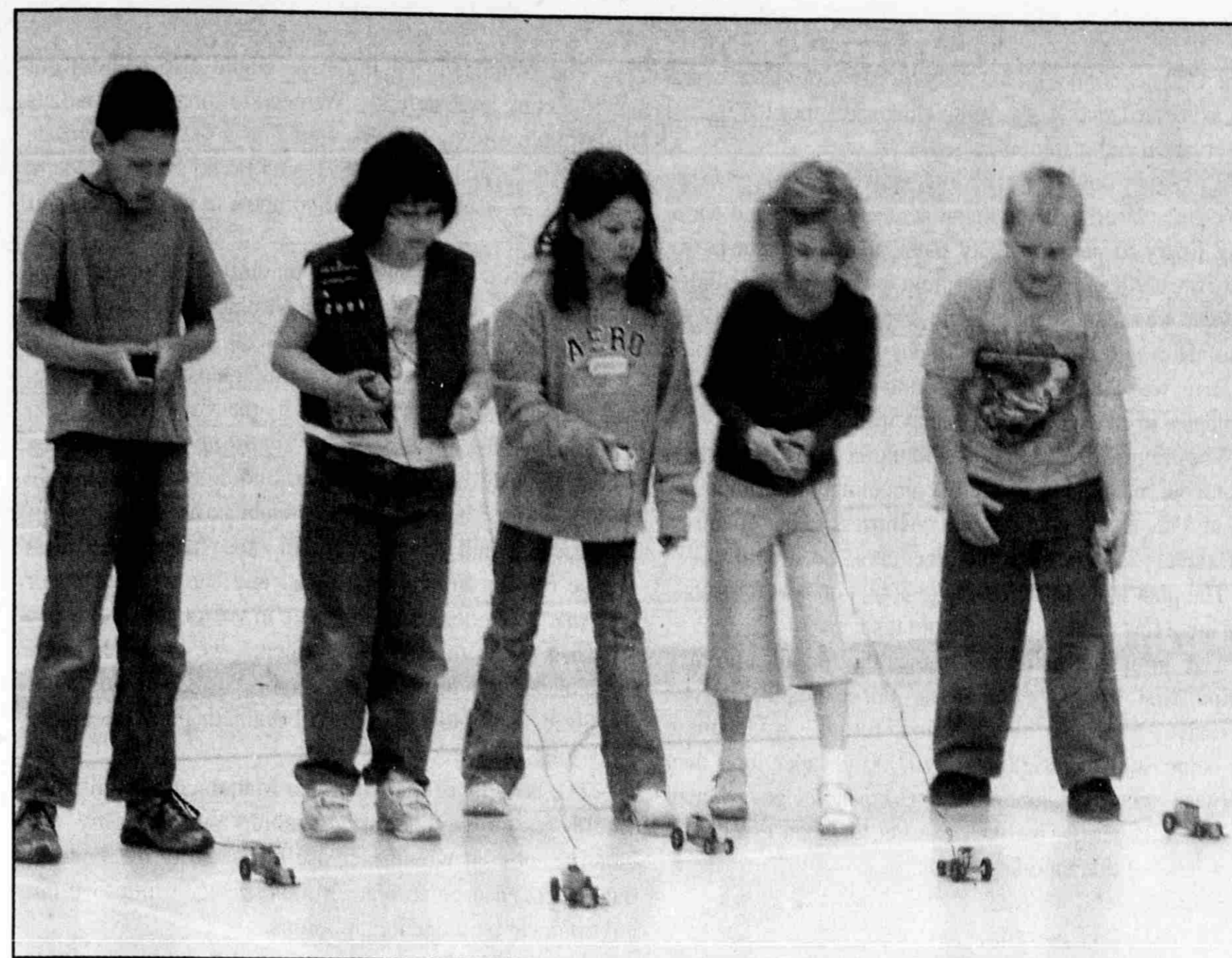
Burger King scholarship recipient

Lowell High School senior Kelly Walker received a \$1,000 continuing education scholarship from Burger King.

Walker was one of 46 recipients in the west Michigan area. Burger King awarded 121 scholarships in Michigan and Indiana.

The Burger King Scholarship was designed to recognize students who work part-time and experience success on the job as well as maintain at least a 2.5 grade point average in school and are also involved in co-curricular and/or community service activities. The recipient may be, but does not have to be, a Burger King employee.

"We thank our customers for their continued support of our scholarship program," says William Lee, Vice President of the Michigan Burger King Division at Quality Dining. "We extend our congratulations to the 2007 scholarship recipients and wish them the best in their future endeavors."



Young engineers

With grant money received from the Wilson H. Craig, Jr. Foundation, Alto Elementary was able to offer each classroom the opportunity to become "engineers" using LEGO® Educational Materials. Robert Mayo from All About Learning, brought in LEGO® kits for students to build a remote control vehicle. The course covered gears, levers, wheels, axles, structures, forces and simple machines integrating science and math classes. Teams of two students worked together to build and then race the vehicles. The children had so much fun, they didn't realize they were learning in the process. Matt Anibal, Katie Bodemann, Laurel Frederickson, Nova Neitling and Keegan Stoltzfus race their Lego creations.

At Your Local Library



"PIZZA TASTE-OFF FOR TEENS" AT KDL SUMMER READING CLUB

If you consider yourself a pizza connoisseur, then this event is for you. All teens are invited to Kent District Library branches to sample pizza from local pizzerias and vote for the best pizza in the city. This event is fun for all teens and stomachs too! Bring yourself, your friends, and a hungry tummy to a branch near you. Englehardt Branch, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell, 647-3920. Wednesday, June 13 at 4 p.m. Registration is required. For more information and registration, please visit www.kdl.org or contact the local branch.

Murray Lake's volunteer of the month

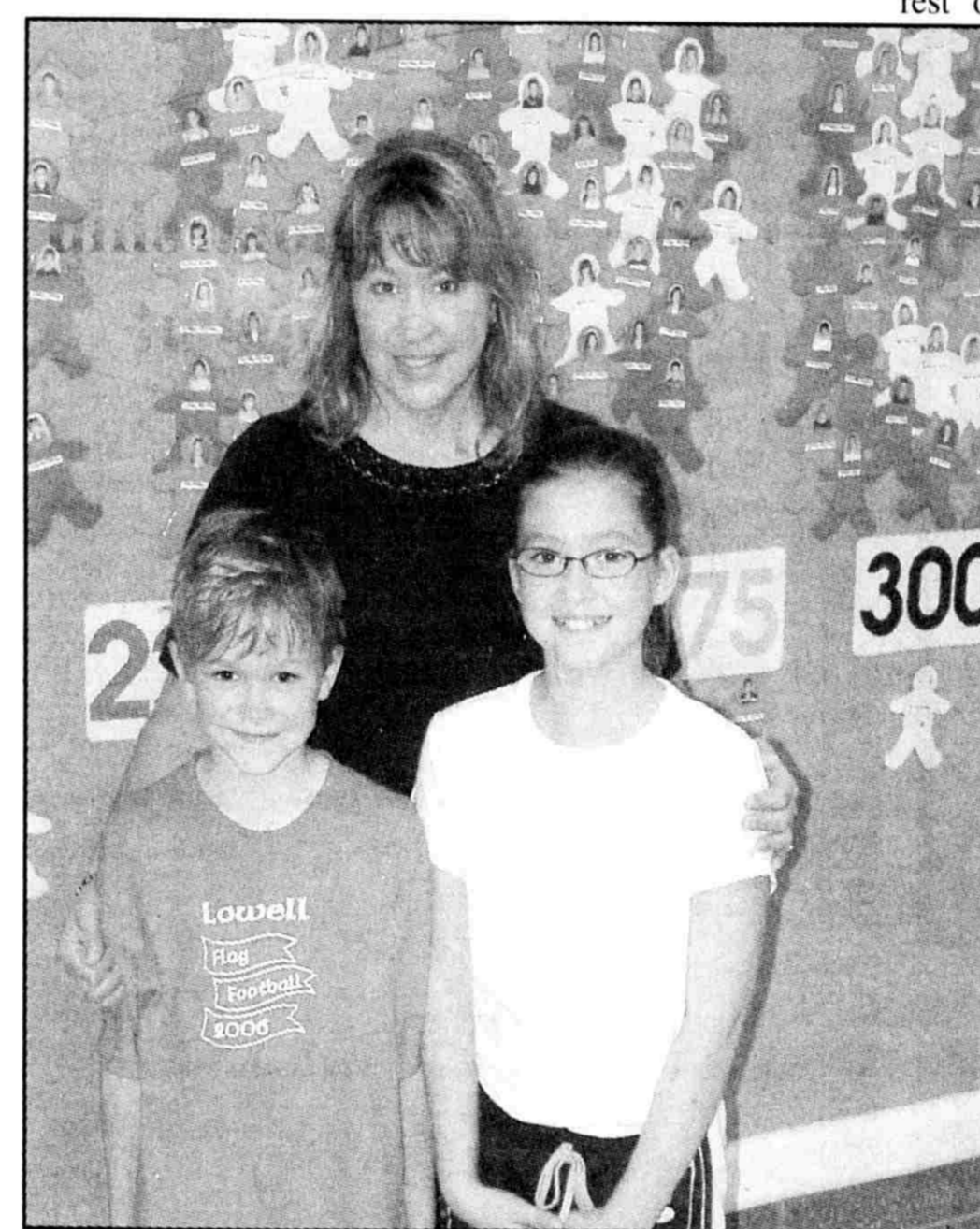
Alice Bush was named Murray Lake Elementary's Volunteer of the Month for April. Alice and her husband, Tom, have lived in Lowell for the past 12 years. Their two children,

Mackenzie (fourth grade) and Joshua (first grade) are both students at Murray Lake. Bush is also employed as a playground supervisor at the school. Several staff members nominated Bush

because of her willingness to do whatever need staff has around the building. Bush works less than two hours each day at Murray Lake, but is often there five or six hours each day. The rest of her time is spent volunteering in classrooms, in the office, maintaining the Accelerated Reading board and helping around the building.

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Alice Bush, Murray Lake Elementary's Volunteer of the Month.

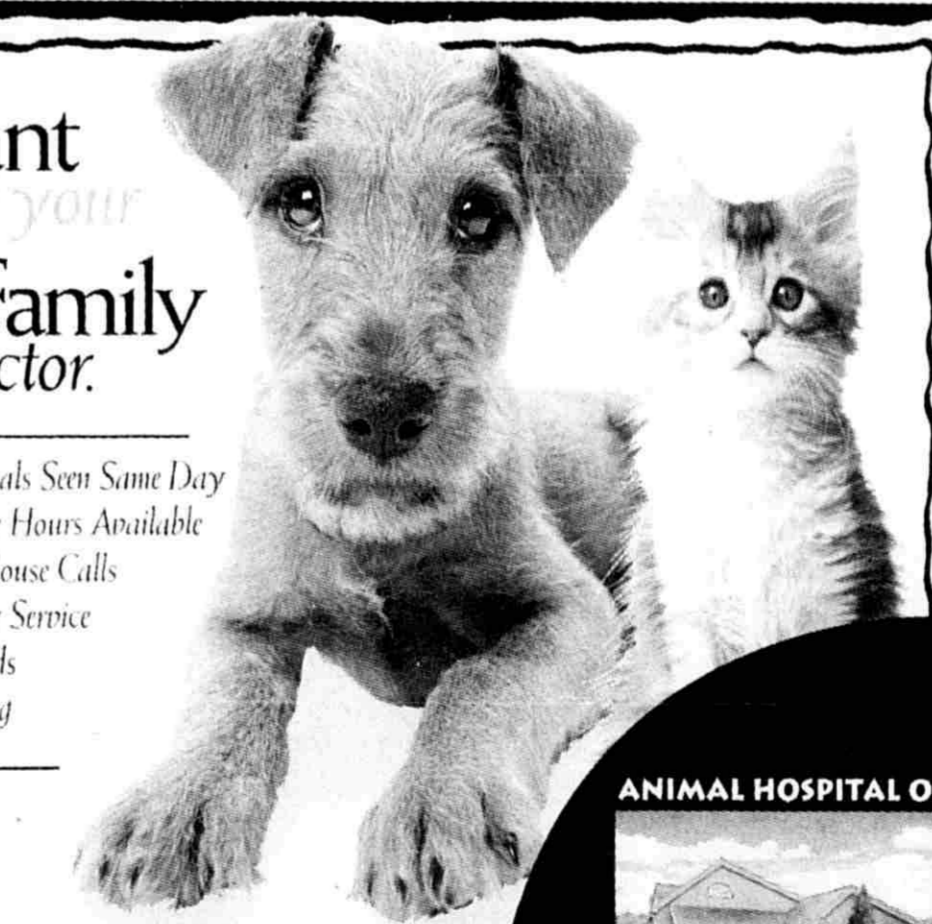
THANK YOU

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| Blue Ribbon Feed | Cousins Hallmark | Crystal Flash |
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| Frito-Lay | Jimmy's Grill | Keisers Kitchen |
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The American Manufacturing Initiative

With Senator Carl Levin

The Bush Administration has not lifted a finger to support manufacturing in America while we have lost three million manufacturing jobs on its watch. That neglect has hurt the people of Michigan and undermined our economic strength as a country, and it must change.

The Democratic members of the Michigan congressional delegation and Governor Granholm recently released a comprehensive American Manufacturing Initiative to lay the groundwork for the significant change in course we need on manufacturing policy. The plan would bring together government, private industry and academia in a robust partnership aimed at turning around the manufacturing sector

of the U.S. economy. It contains provisions on trade, health care, advanced technologies, manufacturing incentives, fuel conservation and many other issues.

The new Congress is more receptive than the previous one to the concerns of the manufacturing sector, and we're going to try to pass as many parts of this agenda as we can. To truly level the playing field for our manufacturers, however, we also need a President who actively supports our manufacturing sector. So we will not only fight to enact this initiative, we will make every effort to press the presidential candidates to take a position on it as well.

The premise of the American Manufacturing Initiative is simple: our manufacturers aren't competing with companies abroad; they are competing with countries. Other countries aggressively support their manufacturers. So should we.

The plan would take dramatic action on several fronts. Here are a few of the steps it would take.

The initiative calls for combating unfair currency manipulation by other countries. For example, Japan's aggressive currency manipulation results in Japanese cars being sold for \$3,000 to \$10,000 cheaper than they otherwise would - essentially a Japanese government subsidy. Likewise, American exports to Japan essentially face a "tax" of that amount.

The manufacturing initiative would also address our skyrocketing trade deficits. We need to force open markets that are blocked by trade barriers and insist that new trade agreements - such as the U.S. Korea Free Trade Agreement - allow U.S. manufacturers to compete in an open and fair market.

We also need to level the playing field for domestic manufacturers by reducing catastrophic health care costs to businesses, making the R & D tax credit permanent, protecting intellectual property rights against counterfeiting, and making trading partners play by the rules.

Finally, the plan calls for investing heavily in tax incentives to develop leap ahead technologies and alternative energy sources, and to give far greater government support for research and development in those areas. We must reduce carbon dioxide emissions, and can do it in a fair way that unleashes great advances in vehicle technology in America. With the right investments, we can make huge leaps ahead in hydrogen use; in hybrid use, including plug-in hybrids; and biofuels that will dramatically reduce CO2 emissions.

The benefits of the American Manufacturing Initiative would go far beyond strengthening our economy and creating jobs. It would increase our security by reducing our dependence on foreign oil, and it would improve our environment by reducing emissions.

The bottom line is that we need a government that fights as hard for our manufacturing industries and jobs as other governments are fighting for theirs, and the American Manufacturing Initiative would take the dramatic action we need. You can read the full details of the plan on my website at levin.senate.gov.

As we work to enact pieces of the initiative this year, we also need to make clear to the presidential candidates that this is an issue of great concern to Michigan and that it should be a concern of theirs as well.

RED ARROW SPORTS



Lowell's baseball team hits its 20-game winning mark

By Ellen Mork

The Lowell varsity baseball team achieved its goal of winning 20 games this season splitting a doubleheader against Caledonia May 23.

The Red Arrows lost the first game 10-5 and reached deep to pull off the victory 5-2 in game two. Lowell's record heading into the district playoffs is 20-10.

Right-hander Zach Stephens started for Lowell in the first game. Lowell scored their first run of the night in the first inning. With the Arrows' outfield lagging, Caledonia scored three runs in the top of the second. The

Arrows attempted to answer with Torsten Boss making a run in the third inning. Two thirds of the way into the top of the fourth inning, sophomore Nick Trasky was brought in to pitch the rest of the game. Caledonia had no problems scoring three runs in the fourth inning. Lowell trailed 9-2 at the end of the fourth.

In the fifth, Nick Boelens scored the Arrows' third run with two outs on the board. In the seventh inning, Caledonia scored one more run for the game and the Arrows' Anthony Herrera, in for Trasky, and Torsten Boss each got a run.

After the shaky first

game, Coach Miller sensed a lack of focus in his team. "I couldn't tell if they were more concerned with the outcome of American Idol or the outcome of the nights' games."

The second game was much closer. It was an interesting game to watch as Miller used one junior and four sophomore pitchers. The strategy was to get experience for the young pitchers and prepare them so they could pitch for districts. The plan worked to perfection as the young pitchers excelled.

Lowell junior Taylor Sprague started pitching the

second game. Boss scored the team's first run. In the top of the second, Caledonia had no outs with the bases loaded. Miller brought in Boss due to Sprague's illness. Boss struck out the side to end the second inning. Again, Miller switched pitchers from Boss to Jesse Vandebosch.

In the fourth inning Josh Drake scored a run and the Arrow added another later in the inning. In the fifth inning, Caledonia scored their only two runs of the game. In the bottom half of the fifth, the Arrows scored twice more with two outs bringing the score to 5-2.

The game was delayed

as umpires discussed a line drive that hit the second base umpire. Eventually the game continued and no further runs were scored. Trasky held Caledonia scoreless in the sixth. The game was called due to darkness. In the end, the extended discussion from the earlier line drive contributed to the Lowell win.

Miller said his team "was heading into the game playing Caledonia knowing that Caledonia had a good season. We were excited for the challenge. They allowed us to gauge how well prepared we were.

These games allowed us to get ready and experiment for the districts."

Boss now holds Lowell's home run, runs scored, single season hit, and single season extra hit records.

Senior Tylor Meppelink and sophomore Boss were both selected to be in the OK White all conference team. Junior Pete Scudder and sophomore Zach Stephens were both named to the Honorable Mention all conference team.

The District games are slated for 10 a.m. this Saturday at Rockford.

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council will conduct a public hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting of Monday, June 4, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. at the City Council Chamber, Lowell City Hall, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

City Operating Budget for 2007-2008. The document outlines proposed revenues and expenditures for the coming fiscal year. The General Fund has a total of \$2,485,076.42 in proposed expenditures. After the hearing, the Council will consider adoption.

Copies of the proposed 2007-2008 Budget are available for public inspection during normal business hours at City Hall and the Englehardt Public Library and the City web page (www.ci.lowell.mi.us).

Interested persons may submit comments to Lowell City Hall prior to the meeting or appear in person.



Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

CITY OF LOWELL KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF ADOPTION AND SUMMARY OF AN ORDINANCE ADDING ARTICLE IV, "CITY ARBOR BOARD," TO CHAPTER 23, "VEGETATION," OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LOWELL

The Lowell City Council adopted Ordinance No. 07-06 adding Article IV, "City Arbor Board," of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell on May 21, 2007. Ordinance No. 07-06 creates a City Arbor Board, describes its duties and responsibilities related to trees and shrubs in public areas within the City and describes Board procedures.

Ordinance No. 07-06 is effective 10 days after this publication.



Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

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This offer will be serviced on a first come, first serve basis.

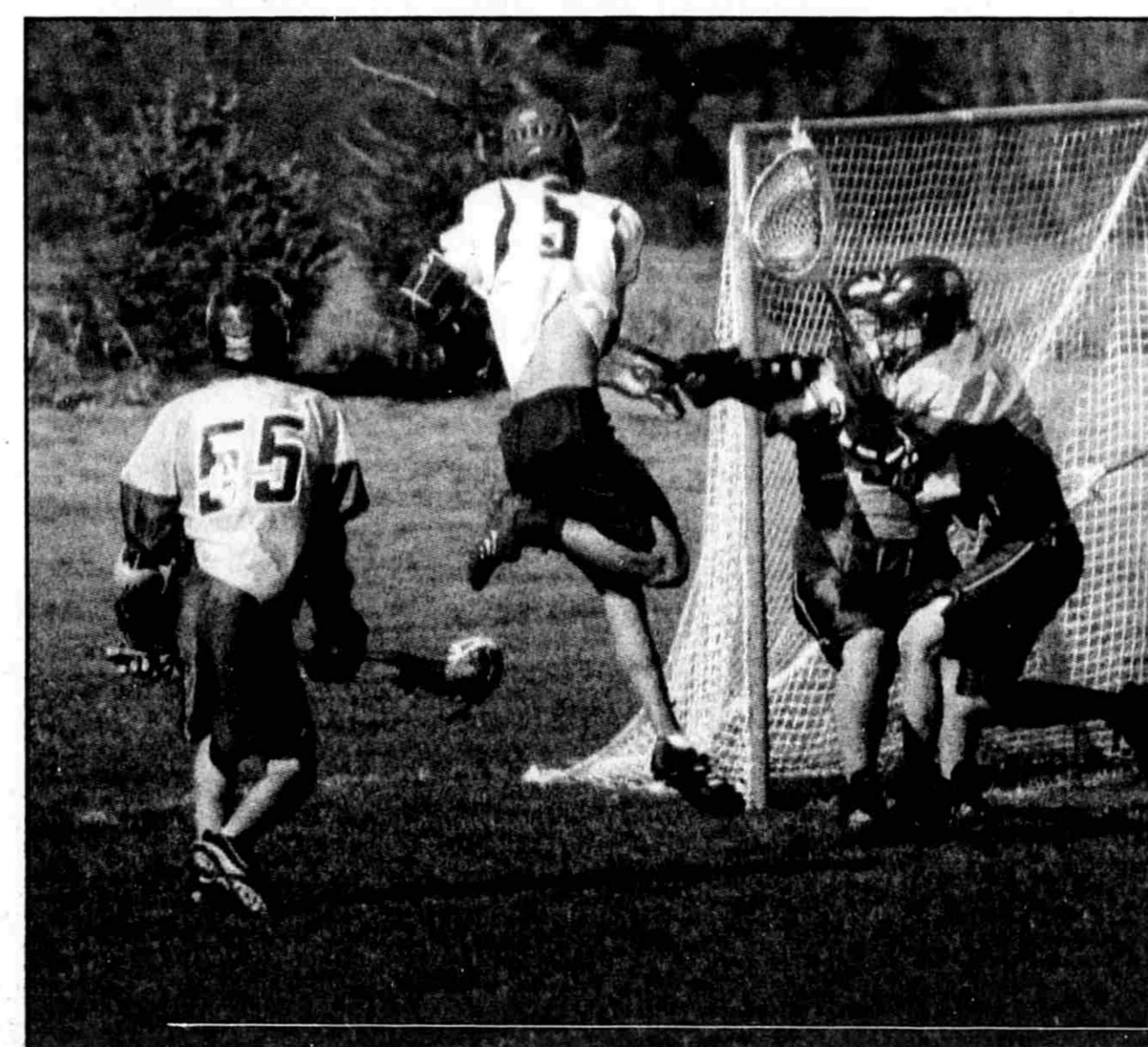
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Lacrosse team wins on the road



Above Lowell varsity lacrosse team members are shown getting pumped up for their game against Davidson High in Flint last Tuesday. Lowell won the game 10-7. At right, David Gallagher scored six points (a double hat trick) at the game. The team plays its final game against East Grand Rapids this week.



NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that at the regular meeting of the Lowell Charter Township Board held on May 21, 2007, the Board adopted the following ordinances, summaries of which follow:

Ordinance 02-2007 is an amendment to the Township construction codes (Building, Mechanical, Plumbing and Electrical) to comply with the State Construction Code Act (Public Act 230 of 1972). For purposes of clarity and consistency with the Act, the Ordinance revision consolidates all of the Township construction code ordinances into one.

Ordinance 03-2007 is an amendment to the Lowell Township Zoning Ordinance

- Section 4.2.4.F Accessory Buildings and Structures to amend regulations for accessory buildings pertaining to required set backs and to prohibit placement of an accessory building on a lot before construction of a house except for a farm building.
- Section 2, Definitions, to amend the definition of front, side, and rear yard; to add definitions for yard, required yard, farm building, and setback.

Ordinance 04-2007 - to regulate the operations of outdoor vendors within the Charter Township of Lowell. This ordinance defines outdoor vendor, allows outdoor vendor operations in all zoning districts except R2, R3, and Mobile Home, requires a vendors license, describes the procedures for obtaining a license, and provides for enforcement and penalties.

The ordinances shall become effective June 6, 2007. A copy of the complete text of the amending ordinances can be obtained at the Lowell Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash SE, during regular office hours or by calling 897-7600.

Linda S. Regan, Clerk

A CROWN IN ONE VISIT ...SIMPLE!

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



Family Dentistry of Lowell
- ANN WILSON, D.D.S. -

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NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS 897-4835

LASSO teams to compete this Monday

The Lowell Area Select Soccer Organization will host a LASSO night on June 4. The U14 girls and U15 boys will play teams from Kentwood starting at 5:30 p.m. Both of these teams have played for the LASSO organization for the past six years starting at the age of eight. The U14 girls team is currently 7-0 and clinched first place in the U14 blue division of the GVSA. The boys team is 2-2-1 playing up an age group. Both teams have worked hard over the past six years playing over 100 games, practicing over 500 hours and going to camps representing Lowell. Most of the players on these two teams are in the eighth grade and will play for Lowell High School. LASSO soccer is an organization of select soccer players and parents based in Lowell and open to surrounding areas, with the goal of fielding competitive teams and developing players to their highest potential. LASSO tryouts for fall of 2007 will be on June 18 and 25 at Lowell High School starting at 6:30 p.m. for kids under age 11 by July 31 and at 7:45 p.m. for kids over age 11 by July 31.



CITY OF LOWELL KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN

ORDINANCE NO. 07- 06

AN ORDINANCE TO ADD ARTICLE IV, "CITY ARBOR BOARD," TO CHAPTER 23, "VEGETATION," OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LOWELL

Councilmember Hodges, supported by Councilmember Shores, moved the adoption of the following ordinance:

THE CITY OF LOWELL ORDAINS:

Section 1. Addition of Article IV to Chapter 23. The following Article IV, "City Arbor Board," is added to Chapter 23, "Vegetation," of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell:

ARTICLE IV. CITY ARBOR BOARD

Sec. 23-50. Creation.

There is hereby created a board of the city to be known as the city arbor board to accomplish the public purposes and who shall have such powers, duties and responsibilities as hereinafter set forth.

Sec. 23-51. Duties and responsibilities.

The city arbor board shall study, investigate, counsel, and develop, annually update and administer a written plan for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal or disposition of trees and shrubs in public parks, along public streets and roads, within public right-of-ways and within other public areas. Such plan as annually updated shall be for the immediately succeeding fiscal year of the city and shall be presented to the city council in April of each year. Upon review, acceptance and approval by the city council it shall constitute the official comprehensive tree plan of the city. In addition, the city arbor board shall, at the request of the city council, consider, investigate, make findings, report and make recommendations to the city council on any matter or question within the scope of its work as set forth in this section.

Sec. 23-52. Composition.

The city arbor board shall consist of five (5) voting members, all of whom shall be registered electors of the city. All such members shall be appointed by the mayor and confirmed by a majority of the members then serving on the city council. In addition, there shall be one (1) ex-officio nonvoting member who shall be a certified tree arborist who need not be a registered elector of the city, shall be identified by the city manager and who shall agree to serve in such capacity.

Sec. 23-53. Term of office.

The term of office for city arbor board voting members shall be for three (3) years, provided, that for the first members appointed, two (2) members shall be appointed for a three (3) year term, two (2) members shall be appointed for a two (2) year term, and one (1) member shall be appointed for a one (1) year term. Except for the initial appointment of board members where a member's term shall commence upon appointment, all terms shall commence on July 1. If a board member's term has expired, and a successor has not been appointed, the board member shall continue to serve until a successor is appointed.

Sec. 23-54. Vacancies.

Vacancies on the city arbor board shall be filled in the same manner as regular appointments for the remainder of the unexpired term of the appointment vacated.

Sec. 23-55. Removal from office.

A board member may be removed from the city arbor board by the city council at any time for cause as determined solely by the city council upon receiving a recommendation for removal by the city arbor board.

Sec. 23-56. Compensation.

Members of the city arbor board shall receive no compensation, but shall be entitled to their actual and necessary reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as approved by the city council.

Sec. 23-57. Rules of procedure.

The city arbor board may adopt such rules of procedure for carrying out its powers, duties and responsibilities that are not inconsistent with the provisions of this article.

Sec. 23-58. Meetings.

All meetings of the city arbor board shall, except as otherwise permitted by law, be open to the public and held in compliance with the Michigan Open Meetings Act, Act 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1976, as amended (MCL 15.261 et seq.). Meetings of the city arbor board may be called by the board chairperson or by any two (2) of its board members.

Sec. 23-59. Quorum.

A majority of the voting board members then serving on the city arbor board shall constitute a quorum for the conducting of the business of the board.

Sec. 23-60. Chairperson.

The members of the city arbor board shall annually elect one (1) of its members as chairperson. The chairperson shall be responsible for conducting all meetings of the board. Another member of the board, selected by board members present at the meeting, may serve as temporary chairperson for a meeting at which the chairperson is absent.

Sec. 23-61. Execution of contracts and commitment of funds.

The city arbor board may advise and make recommendations to the city council regarding the entering into contracts or the expenditure of city funds in connection with its duties and responsibilities, but may not itself enter into contracts or commit city funds.

Section 2. Publication. After its adoption, the City Clerk shall publish this ordinance, or a summary thereof, as permitted by law, along with the date of its adoption in the Lowell Ledger, a newspaper of general circulation in the City at least ten (10) days before its effective date.

Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect ten (10) days after it or a summary thereof, as permitted by law, along with the date of its adoption is published as provided in Section 2 above.

YEAS: Councilmembers Hodges, Pfaller, Shores, Mayor Pro Tem Mathews and

Mayor Myers.

NAYS: Councilmembers none.

ABSTAIN: Councilmembers none.

ABSENT: Councilmembers none.

ORDINANCE DECLARED ADOPTED.

Dated: May 21, 2007

Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned City Clerk of the City of Lowell, Michigan, certify that the above ordinance is a true and complete copy of an ordinance adopted at a regular meeting of the Lowell City Council held May 21, 2007, pursuant to notice given in compliance with Act 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1976, as amended, and notice of its adoption, including a summary of its contents, was published in *The Lowell Ledger* on May 30, 2007. I further certify that the above ordinance was entered into the Ordinance Book of the City on May 21, 2007, and was effective June 9, 2007, ten (10) days after publication.

Dated: May 21, 2007

Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

RED ARROW SPORTS



Softball team loads up on some big wins on the way to districts

The Red Arrow girls' varsity softball team extended its winning streak to nine games last week with wins over OK Red Conference teams West Ottawa, Rockford, Grandville and Hudsonville.

Lowell hosted the 12th Annual Mandy Tichelaar Memorial Softball Tournament on May 22. The tournament is played in memory of Tichelaar who was killed in a car accident as a freshman on the varsity team. "The girls always want to play well in the tourney and this year we played great and beat some good teams" said a happy coach Bob Rodenhouse after the Red Arrows became the second Lowell team ever to win the tournament.

In the semifinals, Lowell defeated Rockford 7-6 and Grandville beat Kenowa Hills 12-0. In the finals, Lowell hung on to nip Grandville 7-6 while Rockford won 13-2.

Against Rockford, Lowell jumped out to a 4-1 lead after two innings. Katie McElroy and Brittany Bueche both doubled. McElroy drove home Sam Mundt who singled and Bueche knocked home Cassie DeCator and McElroy. Rockford cut the lead to 5-4 after five. But in the sixth, three consecutive hits by Monica Vigil, Bueche and Terrah Tawney gave the Arrows a 7-4 lead.

In the bottom of the seventh, Rockford loaded the bases with no outs and scored two runs to cut the lead to 7-6. Tawney then settled down as third base person Ashleigh Smit threw out a runner at home trying to score from third for the first out of the

inning. Tawney then got the next two hitters to fly out and ground out to end the game.

"It was an exciting game but I do not need that much excitement," stated Rodenhouse. "Give our kids credit we made the plays when we had to."

In the championship game Lowell jumped out to a 4-0 lead after one. RBIs by Karri Ort and Ashley Nawrocki helped the Arrows in the inning. Lowell scored four more in the fourth as Smit and McElroy singled. Mundt and Tawney walked and Bueche doubled for the Arrows. Grandville did not go away as they scored a run in the fourth and two in the fifth and sixth making the score 8-7. Tawney picked up both wins upping her record to 15-5.

"It is a pleasure to win this tournament for the Tichelaar's," said Rodenhouse. "They have been great supporters of Lowell softball and finally we brought one home for the team." Ort was the 2007 scholarship winner.

In other action, Lowell defeated West Ottawa 5-0 on May 21. Tawney allowed only three hits striking out six and walking five. Bueche singled, doubled and tripled for the Arrows. Lowell scored four runs in the third and one in the fifth. Tawney drove in two runs.

On May 23, the Red Arrows hosted Hudsonville and swept a doubleheader winning 7-2 and 9-5. The Arrows trailed 2-1 after four, but a five-run fifth gave Lowell a 6-2 lead. Bueche drove home one with a fielder's choice. Tawney knocked home two with a



The Lowell Red Arrow softball team after winning the Mandy Tichelaar Memorial Softball Tournament May 22.

double to center. Ort and Mundt also had RBIs in the inning.

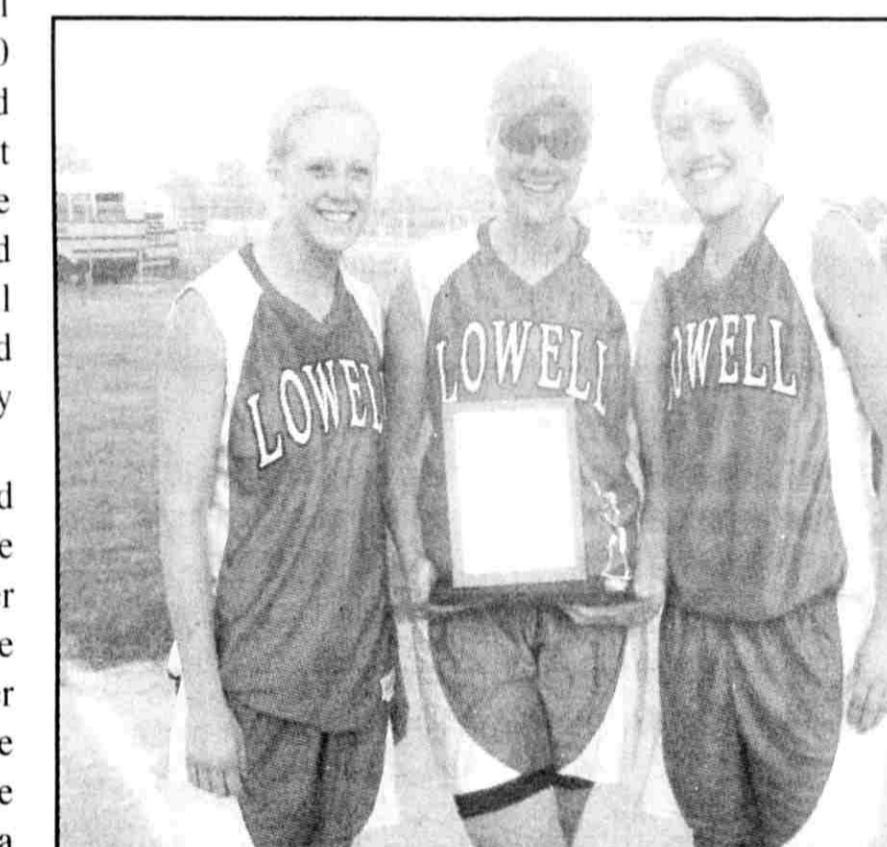
In the night cap, an eight-run sixth inning erased a 2-1 deficit as the Red Arrows won 9-5. Lowell sent 13 hitters to the plate in the inning. Mundt had two hits

in the inning, Kristin Nagy doubled as Alex Gibbs, Nagy, DeCator and Tawney drove home Red Arrows. A fine defensive play was turned in by Nawrocki in the sixth as she gunned down a base runner trying to score on a fly ball to right center.

"It was the first time that we have beaten Hudsonville in a long time, and to do it in a doubleheader says a lot about our kids," said Rodenhouse. "I am so proud of the girls; we played 12 games in nine days - they played hard and never gave up. We talk about quality at bats and they gave it to me this week. To beat four teams in the top half of the

Red Division in three days is something."

The Red Arrows stand at 25-8 on the year. They will host Grand Rapids Christian on Thursday and play at Northview on June 2 against Rockford in the districts. Game time is 12:15 p.m., but could be moved up depending on the game between Northview and Greenville.



Karri Ort with team captains Brittany Bueche and Katie McElroy.

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100% SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

Jessica Lowry
graduated as valedictorian
of Byron Center High School

We are very proud & wish her all the best!

Jessica will be attending MSU in the fall in the pre-med department. She is the daughter of Shawn and Lori Lowry and granddaughter of Margie Lowry, of Lowell and Dick and Carol Gildea, formerly of Lowell.

**SYNOPSIS
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LOWELL CITY COUNCIL
MAY 7, 2007**

Minutes of the April 16, 2007 meeting were approved as submitted and the accounts payables were approved.

The following action was taken:

- Motion to pass a resolution proclaiming May 20-26, 2007 as Emergency Medical Services Week.
 - Motion to pass a resolution proclaiming May 23, 2007 as National Emergency Medical Services for Children's Day.
 - Motion to grant the request for a liquor license for the 5th Annual Art Attack sponsored by the Lowell Area Arts Council scheduled for Saturday, August 18, 2007 running from 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.
 - Motion to rezone 211-225 and 330 S. Washington from R-3 (Multiple Family Residential) to LI (Light Industrial).
 - Motion to adopt the ordinance requiring completion of exterior features of structures.
 - Motion to set a public hearing for June 4, 2007 regarding a proposed ordinance amending the keeping of fowl, rabbits and similar animals.
 - Motion to set a public hearing for June 4, 2007 to consider a lot width variance for the construction of a duplex located at 221 Amity as petitioned by John Sterly.
 - Motion to set a public hearing for June 4, 2007 to consider a variance to allow the construction of a housing addition in an Industrial District regarding 204 S. Washington as petitioned by Cherry Wheat.
 - Motion to set a public hearing dated for May 21, 2007 regarding the repeal of the Cable Television Ordinance.
 - Motion to set a public hearing for May 21, 2007 regarding establishing a City Arbor Ordinance.
 - Motion to award contract to Shaler Excavating for the High Street Slope Improvement Project in the amount of \$19,805.
 - Motion to approve the low bid from Van Strien Heating and Plumbing in the amount of \$2,525 for the Water Treatment Plan water heating system.
- Yea: 2.
(Councilmembers Hodges and Shores)
Nay: 3. (Councilmember Pfaller, Mayor Pro Tem Mathews and Mayor Myers). Motion Denied.
- Motion to approve the bid from Canfield Plumbing and Heating in the amount of \$2,795 for the Water Treatment Plant water heating system.
- Yea: 4. (Councilmembers Hodges, Pfaller, Mayor Pro Tem Mathews and Mayor Myers).
Nay: 1. (Councilmember Shores)
Motion Carried.
- Motion to set public hearings for May 21, 2007 and June 4, 2007 regarding the 2007-2008 budget.
 - Motion to adjourn at 8:56 p.m. The next regular scheduled meeting will be Monday, May 21, 2007.

Complete minutes are available on the City's web page at www.ci.lowell.mi.us or at Lowell City Hall, 301 E. Main St., or by email to bmorlock@ci.lowell.mi.us



Betty R. Morlock, City Clerk
City of Lowell

Alto students show they have character



Alto Elementary gave out its May character award last week for perseverance. Students recommended for this award always show perseverance. They stick with something until it is finished and do not give up

when a task is difficult. Award winners are: Will Schoon, Annelise Kolp, Conner Nugent, Tyler Crowley, Kelum McDonald, Jeffery Oesch, Claire Eickhoff, Devin Cupp, Lalo Reyes, Hayden Barry, Kyle Cater, Peyton Dumas, Emily Grochawolski, Garrett VandenHout, Austin Branagan, Faith Blakely, Brooke Steffen, Cody Harden, Zac Canfield, Mary Johnson, Anna Thompson, Mary Leasure, HeavenLeigh Mokma, Anna Peterson, Makenzie Frederickson, Randy Brinks, Mallory Paiz, Forrest Stoffers, Brooke Pitt.

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