

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 35 Issue 39

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, August 1, 2007

Showboat provides memorable backdrop for wedding proposal

By J. Boss



When she woke up Wednesday morning Casey McKinley, of Lowell, could tell it wasn't going to be an ordinary day. A video created by her boyfriend explained that she had a few errands to run. "I knew something was up when my car was all decorated," said McKinley. Her car was covered with decorations and a banner that read "I'm on my way to get engaged!"

As it turned out, Adam Clark, also of Lowell, had a well-thought-out plan to propose marriage. McKinley had instructions to make a total of five stops. First, she was told to go to Meijer where she picked up a bridal veil with a card directing her to wear the veil and proceed to Starbucks. Once there, she purchased a coffee and received another card telling her to head to Daisy Floral. A "huge" bouquet and another note awaited her. This note led her to Grand River Grocery in Ada. There she discovered a bottle of wine and the final note.

Back to Lowell she went. At the Showboat she found Clark waiting on bended knee with an engagement ring. Many hugs and kisses followed her affirmative reply as well as some applause from a few bystanders. The elated, future-groom's response - "She said I couldn't surprise her." No date has yet been set.



Fairground set for a flurry of activity beginning this weekend

By Emma Palova

It will be a beehive, people and animals all mingling together for six days in a row starting this weekend at the fairgrounds.

The Kent County Youth Fair kicks off Sunday night at 6 p.m. with the Parade of Clubs at the south end of fairgrounds. Opening

ceremonies start at 6:30 p.m. at the Stage Tent.

"We're all set to go," said fair manager Ron Wenger. Wenger and fair organizers are hoping to repeat or exceed last year's record attendance of 45,000 to 50,000 people.

Not only that, Wenger would also like the fair to hold on to last year's title

of "Rodeo of the Year." The grand finale of the fair will be presented by the Mid

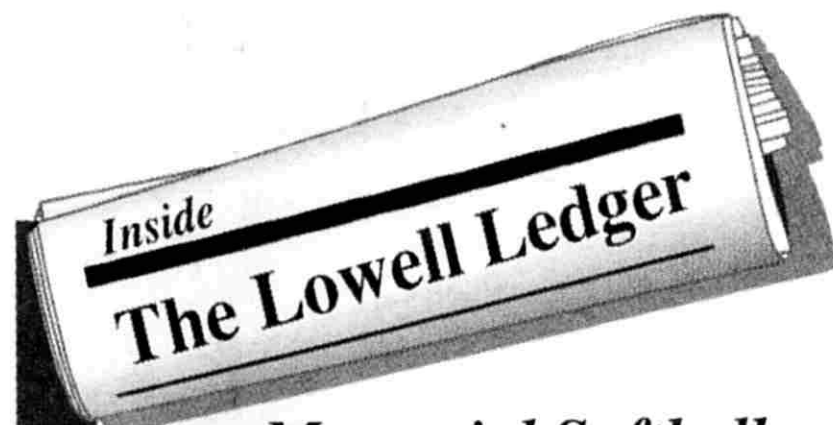
States Rodeo on Aug. 11 at 7 p.m.

"We're doing it again,

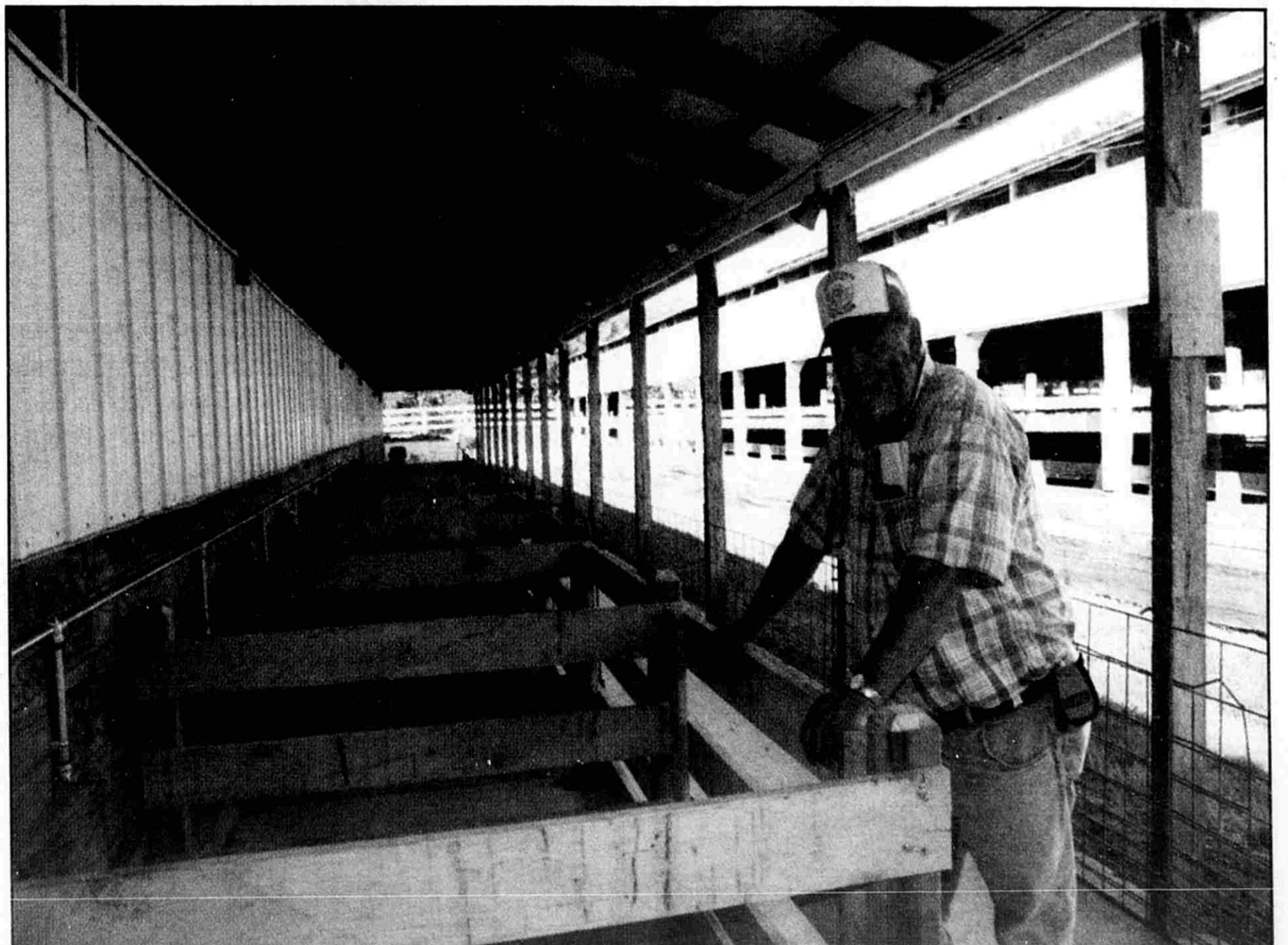
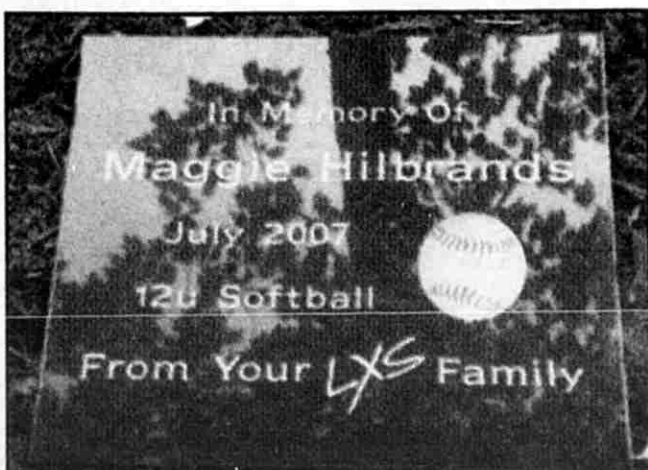
we're excited," said Wenger. "The rodeo is a definite highlight."

New this year is the mega ride pass for \$48 valid

Fairgrounds, cont'd., pg. 11



Memorial Softball Tournament ... Page 17



Fair manager Ron Wenger stands by new hog pens. He is hoping to repeat last year's record attendance.

Obituaries

FRANCISCO is survived by her daughter, Genevieve Francisco of Jenison, aged 90, our beloved mother, grandmother and great grandmother, went to be with her Lord on Saturday, July 21, 2007. She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Anna Brandsma; her husbands, Henry Vanduin and Charles Francisco. She

is survived by her daughter, Darla Mathis of Wyoming, daughter, Cheryl and Ronald Bruinsma of Jenison; her son, Charles and Taryn Francisco of Grand; and her brother, Henry and Angie Brandsma of Byron Center; her beloved grandchildren: Fred and Pat Bruinsma of Brohman, Lori and David Rash of Lowell, Wendy and Jeff Prather

church groups. Gen will be lovingly remembered and deeply missed by her family and friends who loved her, and she will live in our hearts forever. Memorial services were held July 25 at Burlingame Congregational United Church of Christ. In lieu of flowers and plants, you may make a donation to Burlingame Congregational United Church of Christ Missions Program or your local Hospice Chapter.

HADLEY

Mr. Gerald R. Hadley, age 80, passed away Saturday, July 28, 2007. He was preceded in death by his wife, Beverly, in 2001. Surviving are his children, James R. Hadley

and his partner, Mary E. Bueche of Grand Rapids, John K. Hadley of Ada, Alice L. Hadley and David Richardson of Williamstown, MA, Michelle J. and Scott Chatman of Allendale, Julie A. Hadley of Grand Rapids; ten grandchildren, Melinda, Justin, Rebecca, Sarah, Heather, Amelia, Stephanie, Christina, Wesley and Nicholas; and one great grandchild, Ethan. Also surviving is his

close companion, Charlene Wilkerson. Mr. Hadley was a retiree of AMI Rowe International. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Wednesday, at 11 a.m. at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 4351 Parnell Ave. NE, Parnell with interment in Resurrection Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Faith Hospice of Trillium Woods, 8214 Pfeiffer Farms Dr., Byron Center, 49315.

15-year-old driver injured in one-car accident

On Tuesday, July 24, a 15-year-old girl lost control of the car she was driving on 84th Street in Bowne Township. She struck a tree and the car landed on its roof. She was wearing a seat belt, however, she was knocked unconscious as a result of the crash. Alcohol was a factor. Her parents were unaware that she took the car keys and unaware why she decided to drive the car.

She was treated by Bowne Township Fire Department and Life Ambulance and transported to Butterworth Hospital. It appears she will make a full recovery. She stated she did not remember where she obtained the alcohol. Charges are pending for operating a vehicle while intoxicated and driving without a license. Names were not released.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate FILE NO. 07-183,673-DE

Estate of MARY THERESE SMITHE, deceased

Date of birth: 4/9/1943

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

Date: 7/27/2007

TO ALL CREDITORS: The decedent, MARY THERESE SMITHE, who lived at 6640 - 16 Mile Road, Cedar Springs, Michigan died 4/27/2007.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless

Craig Avery - P10311 3875 W. River Dr. PO Box 327 Comstock Park, MI 49321 616-784-5080

Julitta Rogers 17939 - 48th Avenue Conklin, MI 49403 616-837-9215

The Lowell Ledger

(USPS 453-830)

Published weekly for \$17⁹⁹ a year in Kent County, \$26⁹⁹ a year outside the county by the Lowell Ledger Publishing Company, 105 N. Broadway St., Lowell, MI 49331

ROGER K. BROWN.....PUBLISHER
JEANNE BOSS.....MANAGING EDITOR
JANE LALLY.....COPY EDITOR
EMMA PALOVA.....LEAD REPORTER
TAMMY JANOWIAK.....CLASSIFIED/ACCOUNTING
JAY VEZINO.....ADVERTISING SALES

(616) 897-9261

E-Mail: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com

Second Class Postage Paid at Lowell, MI

Published every Wednesday
POSTMASTER: Send address change to:
The Lowell Ledger
P.O. Box 128 • Lowell, MI 49331
www.lowellbuyersguide.com

Concerts this week on the Riverwalk



Country Sugar Creek Band performed on a cool night on the Riverwalk last week. The chill did not discourage regular crowds from attending the Sizzlin' Summer Concerts.

The next Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concert will feature Mary Rademacher and the Rad Pack on Thursday, Aug. 2 from 7-9 p.m. on the Riverwalk Plaza.

Mary Rademacher is an entertainment package. Like the performers of the 1930s and 1940s. Rademacher, with poise and finesse, has a great rapport with her audience - joking, sharing stories and not afraid to incorporate her dance training to enhance a song. Her vocals range from soulful to powerful, with a versatile range. She's joined by Kahny on the keys and Johnson on drums, lending a high level of professionalism to the group.

For more information about these concerts please go to www.lowellartscouncil.org or www.discoverlowell.org.

Red Cross to kick off "Back to School" campaign

American Red Cross blood donors across the state of Michigan will have a chance to win one of four laptop computers and one of four \$250 gift cards simply by presenting to donate blood or platelets during the month of August.

Starting on Wednesday, Aug. 1 and continuing through Friday, Aug. 31, all presenting donors at drives across the state will have the opportunity to enter into a drawing for a chance to win

one of the computers and gift cards. In all, eight lucky donors in the Red Cross' Great Lakes Region Blood Services will have their names selected as winners of either the computers or the gift cards. Four donors will win laptop computers and four donors will win the gift cards. Winning donors will be selected in early September.

Every two seconds, someone in the United States needs blood. Sick and

injured adults and children need red cells, platelets or plasma for scheduled and emergency surgeries, for cancer and leukemia treatments, trauma and burn care, and for the treatment of serious health conditions like anemia, Sickle Cell and heart disease. Blood donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in general good health.

For more information on a blood drive near you,

please call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or visit www.givelife.org.

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Sending or Receiving
\$1 for 1st sheet, 50¢ each additional sheet

LAMINATING
Next Day Service
50¢ for cards
\$1 for 8 1/2 x 11
\$3 for 11x17

The Lowell Ledger
105 N. Broadway
Lowell
616-897-9261

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO BIG CROOKED LAKE

TAKE NOTICE that the Big Crooked Lake Improvement Board will hold a public hearing on the practicability of a five-year aquatic plant control program for big Crooked Lake at the Grattan Township Hall located at 12050 Old Belding Road N.E., Belding, Michigan on Thursday, August 16, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

The aquatic plant control program for Big Crooked Lake is proposed to commence in 2008 and continue through 2012. The program will consist of herbicide treatments, mechanical harvesting, administration and inspections and contingency expenses. The total annual cost of the project is \$26,000.

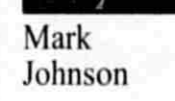
The special Assessment District for the big Crooked Lake Project includes all lakefront parcels and all back lots that have deeded or dedicated lake access. Contiguous lots in common ownership are being assessed as a single parcel provided only one house exists on the parcel. A special assessment roll has been prepared and is on file at the Grattan Township Hall located at 12050 Old Belding Road N.E., Belding, Michigan, for public examination during normal business hours.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Big Crooked Lake Improvement Board will meet at the Grattan Township Hall located at 12050 Old Belding Road N.E., Belding, Michigan immediately after the aforementioned hearing of practicability for the purpose of reviewing said special assessment roll and for hearing any objections thereto. An owner of or party in interest in real property to be assessed or his/her agent may appear in person to object to the special assessment or may protest such special assessment by letter filed with the Lake Board at or prior to the time of the hearing. Written objections may be filed with or mail to the big Crooked Lake Improvement board c/o Grattan Township Treasurer, 12050 Old Belding Road N.E., Belding, Michigan 48809-9367. Notice is also given that the owner of or party in interest in any real property within the Big Crooked Lake Special Assessment District who, having made an objection to said special assessment either in person or in writing, may, within thirty (30) days after the confirmation of the special assessment roll, appeal such special assessment to the Michigan Tax Tribunal or other court of competent jurisdiction.

Big Crooked Lake Improvement Board
12050 Old Belding Road
Belding, MI 48809

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Mark Johnson

6095 28th St., Ste. 4
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NOTICE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

Accuracy Test of Voting Equipment

A public accuracy test of the voting equipment to be used in the August 7, 2007 Election (regarding Grand Rapids Community College millage) will be held on Friday, August 3, 2007, at 2:00 p.m. at the Vergennes Township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr., Lowell, MI 49331.

Mari C. Stone
Vergennes Township Clerk

BOWNE TOWNSHIP CITY OF LOWELL LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP VERGENNES TOWNSHIP NOTICE

ABSENTEE VOTER INFORMATION

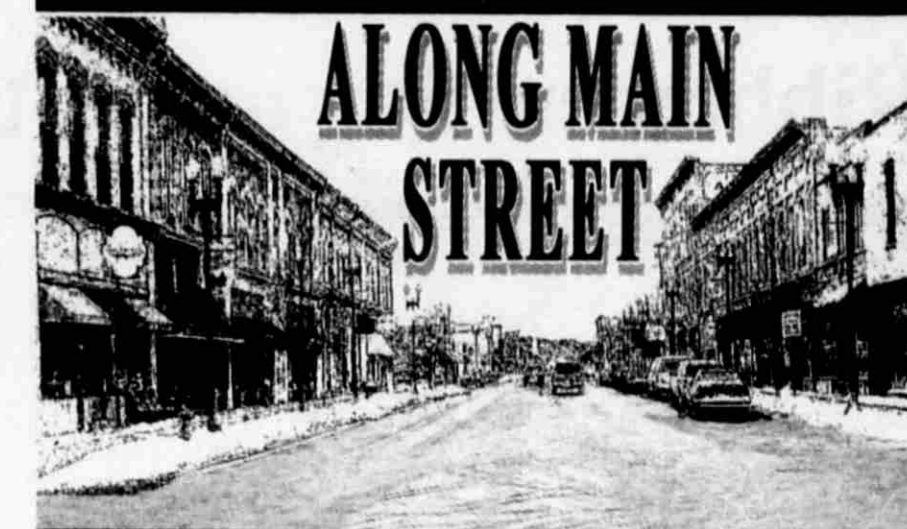
The City and Township Clerks will be available at the following locations on Saturday, August 4, 2007 for any registered voter who would like to apply for or return an absentee voters ballot for the August 7, 2007 General Election.

Sandra Kowalczyk
Bowne Township
11am - 2pm
8240 Alden Nash
Alto, MI 49302
(616) 868-6846

Betty Morlock
City of Lowell
8am - 2pm
301 East Main
Lowell, MI 49331
(616) 897-8457

Linda S. Regan
Lowell Charter Township
11am - 2pm
2910 Alden Nash SE
Lowell, MI 49331
(616) 897-7600

Mari Stone
Vergennes Township
11am - 2pm
10381 Bailey Dr
Lowell, MI 49331
(616) 897-5671



LOWELL AREA TRAILWAY

Lowell Area Recreation Authority (Lowell Area Trailway) guided hikes to the Cooper Woodland Preserve to discuss the trailway route and the proposed Wege Land donation. Come get your questions answered by Betsy Davidson (293-3206). The hike will take place from 2-3:30 p.m. on Sunday August 5. Meet at Wittenbach/Wege Nature Center Center.

BLUEGRASS CONCERT

Bluegrass music at the fair on Thursday, August 9 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the fairgrounds. Two bands. Free concert.

LHS CLASS OF 1997 REUNION

August 18 at the BOB in downtown Grand Rapids. For more information contact Heidi Barber at 616-642-0738 or email hbarber79@hotmail.com.

LHS CLASS OF 1982 REUNION

The Class of 1982 25th reunion, August 25 at Deer Run. Tropical Hawaiian Luau theme with a slide show (photos wanted) including memories from elementary to the 8th grade dance to beyond. Contact Tonia North at 897-8612; northtj@gmail.com or Jamey Fitz at JameyFitz@comcast.net. Please contact us to reserve your seats, express your regrets or help with planning.

F.R.O.M. IS IN NEED OF FOOD DONATIONS

Donations are down at the F.R.O.M Food Pantry. There is a need for cereals (hot and cold), canned fruit, fruit juice, hamburger and tuna helper and crackers.



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David Thaler
Lowell native, LHS graduate

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O THE SIMPSONS MOVIE (PG-13) 12:15, 2:40, 4:50, 7:00, 9:10
O LICENSE TO WED (PG-13) 12:40, 2:50, 5:00, 7:10, 9:25
O HAIRSPRAY (PG) 11:00, 1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 9:20
O I NOW PRODUCE YOU CHUCK AND LARRY (PG-13) 11:35, 2:10, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55
HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX (PG-13) 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30



50th Anniversary

Congratulations
on your
50th Wedding Anniversary

GARY & SHARON EICKHOFF
August 3, 1957 - August 3, 2007

Your loving sisters,
Betty (Kyser) Cash,
Mildred Mullen and families.

Ribbon cutting opens the door for senior services at Legacy Society



Seniors Treva Johnson, Larry Visser, Joyce VanDyke, Arlene Fansher and Phil Rice took part in a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Senior Neighbors Legacy Society at the senior center last Thursday. Senior Neighbors will be offering two free events for seniors in the community and their friends to help them develop important estate planning documents. A free estate planning seminar will be held on Aug. 14 from 10-11 a.m. at Mayflower Congregational Church located at 2345 Robinson Road. Jay Rosloniec, attorney with McShane and Bowie PLC, will give a talk on estate planning. A free estate planning clinic will be held on Aug. 30 from 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at the same place. Senior Neighbors offers senior and their families the opportunity to participate in a private 45-minute no-obligation sessions with volunteer attorneys specializing in estate planning. To schedule an appointment, call Senior Neighbors, Inc. at 459-6019. Senior Neighbors is a non-profit agency that works to enhance senior lives by providing essential services for independent living to adults 60 and over in Kent County. Some of these services include transportation, prescription assistance, housing repair and assistance, congregate and home-delivered meals, case management professionals, daily phone calls to homebound isolated seniors and center activities.

Business Matters

State Farm Insurance recently announced the appointment of **Deborah Wilks** as an agent in Lowell.

Wilks opened for business in Foz Plaza at 2050 W Main St., Suite C, in July. A Grand Opening will be held on Thursday, Aug. 2 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The public is invited to join Wilks to view the new office, have

some refreshments, and meet team members Beth Ciangi of Lowell, Kathy Harley of Saranac, and Scott Braun of Ionia. Kids will enjoy meeting the Good Neigh Bear® and prize drawings will be held throughout the day.

"Our office recently began offering the 24/7 Quote & Bind program to better service clients who



Deborah Wilks

make a vehicle purchase in the evenings and on

weekends", said Wilks. "When calling our regular number at 897-9237, if it is before or after our office hours, clients can choose the option to get a quote, make a payment, and get coverage. They will be able to drive away knowing they have the coverage needed and we will follow up with them the next business day."

Wilks most recently worked for State Farm as an agency intern for Kent, Ionia, and Barry counties.

Wilks has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Finance from Grand Valley State University, and earned her

Community Leadership Academy I and II designations in Muskegon. She is a member of Lowell Rotary Club, Lowell Chamber of Commerce, and recently volunteered on the Riverwalk Festival and committee. She is a classroom volunteer for Junior Achievement - a program designed to educate students in grades K-12 about entrepreneurship, work readiness, and financial literacy through hands-on programs.

Wilks said she is excited about working with the youth in the Lowell community.

"The Lowell community has reached out to welcome me from the start," she said. "I am very much enjoying getting to know people in this community, and I'm looking forward to getting to know everyone."



Joyce Thuston

Greenridge Realty announced that Joyce Thuston received Realtor of the month in July. This award recognizes Thuston for her outstanding success and achievements.



LOWELL AREA COMMUNITY FUND ACCEPTS GRANT PROPOSALS

All Proposals Must Be Submitted Online No Later Than August 17, 2007 to be considered. Visit www.grfoundation.org/lowell to submit your application.

The Lowell Area Community Fund, a fund of Grand Rapids Community Foundation, awards grants to tax-exempt, nonprofit charitable organizations that have an impact in the Lowell area. The LACF funds innovative projects or programs that encourage community cooperation.

Alpha Women's Center of Lowell Invites you to help support our local ministry thru

Life Walk

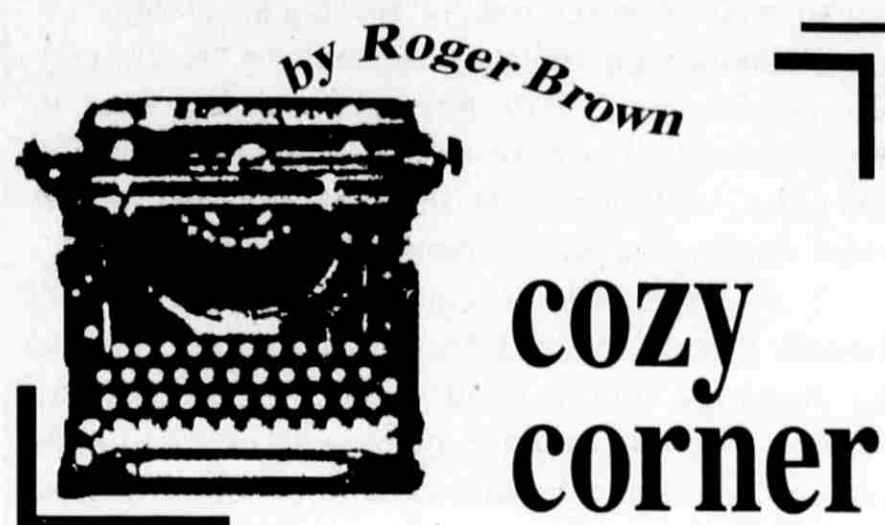
September 8, 2007

Registration begins at 8:00 am at Alpha Women's Center of Lowell 2251 West Main St.

616-987-9533

Parking at 1st Baptist Church of Lowell

Viewpoint



We all have dreams and wish lists for material things. For most of these dreams there is at least one magazine or catalog devoted to it. These wants of ours range all the way from luxury yachts and beach houses down to a new plasma TV or a remodeled bathroom. Stuff you have to win the lottery to afford, or at least budget for. Stuff you can't simply buy on a whim. Stuff you have to dream about for a while. You know, stuff on that mental wish list in the back of your mind.

Like a lot of guys, I own a boat, car, motorcycle, some tools and camping gear. I am on mailing lists for all types of catalogs associated with those items. My boat, car and motorcycle are all old. The newest thing on the list is a '92 motorcycle. The catalogs associated with these things are sent because they know I will always need parts. The tools are needed to install the parts. The camping gear comes in when I resort to living in a tent from trying to keep my stuff running.

Because of these mailing lists, I also receive all sorts of sales literature on shiny new boats, cars and motorcycles. They keep sending me the info to feed my dreams. Apparently, somebody out there thinks I'm going to win the lottery. Guess I should buy a ticket once in awhile.

These catalogs might get a quick "thumb through." They are then relegated to the circular file or a shelf in the back of my closet for when I need that new set of foot pegs, an alternator or a bilge pump.

There is one catalog that, try as I might, gets far more of my attention than a rational person should give it. The publication I'm referring to is that tabloid printed on yellow newsprint. It is the Bible for all pilots and aviation enthusiasts. It is "Trade-a-Plane."

When it shows up in the mail each month, my wife knows I'll be off in "La-la-Land" for a few days. Trade-a-Plane is actually printed three times a month, but I subscribe to a plan that gets me access to the website and a hard copy of the publication just once per month. Cost is one factor, but with three copies per month to digest, I'd never come back to reality.

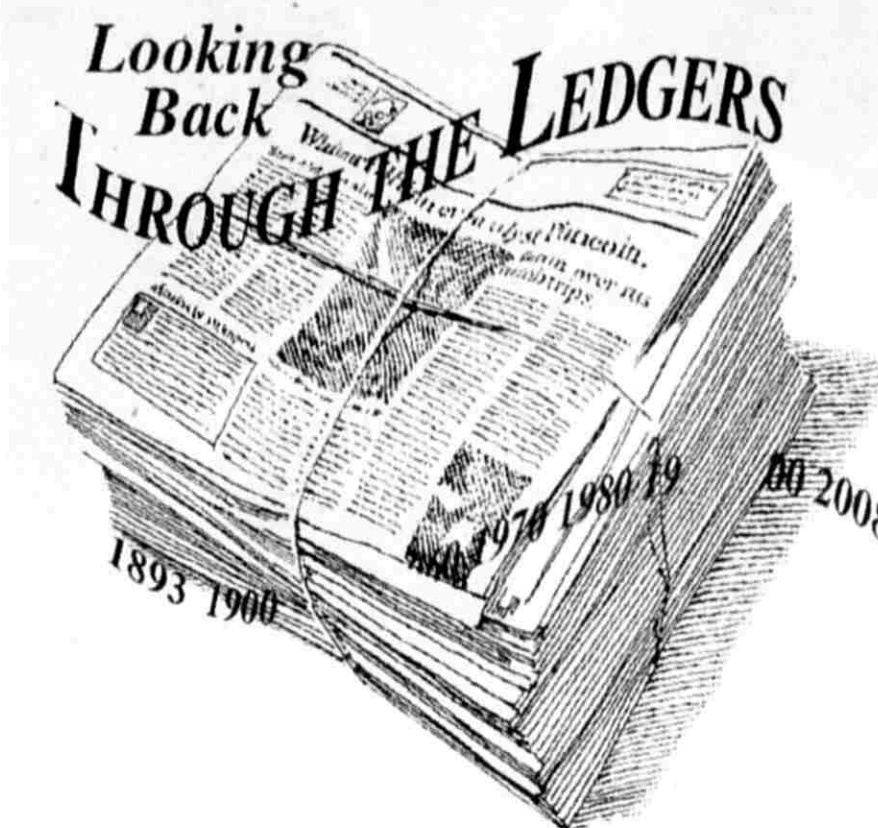
Trade-a-Plane has display ads for "everything aviation" in the front and back portions of each issue. The meat of the publication is comprised of hundreds and hundreds of classified ads pushing used airplanes, airplane parts, airplane projects, airplane equipment and airplane related real estate. I can't afford any of it, but I devour every issue.

My wife thinks I'm nuts. She ought to know... we've been married 35 years. Every month I sort the ads down to at least one plane or one piece of real estate that excites me to the point of getting more info on the internet or maybe even calling the seller. Dreamland!!!

Last month had me geeked about a log home, with attached hangar, on an airstrip located along the Montana/Idaho border near Jackson Hole. I even had Terese excited until she pulled up the area's weather demographics on the internet. Funny, none of the photos on the seller's website showed 10 feet of snow piled up against the house.

Last month's Trade-a-Plane also got me going on Lake amphibians... again. Lakes are marginal four-place airplanes with a boat-like fuselage and retractable landing gear. They can land at the lake or the airport. Just make sure you have the landing gear in the proper position. I've never even sat in the seat of a Lake and made motor noises. Still... I think I want one. Several websites got a hit from my computer.

Cozy Corner, cont'd., pg. 9



125 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL JOURNAL JULY 26, 1882

Splendid weather for farmers the last two weeks. The street sprinkler hasn't had much help from Providence lately.

100 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AUGUST 1, 1907

Work on Edwin Fallas' Lowell canning factory is nearing completion, the walls and roof being finished and already something is being done on the interior.

The HJ Heinz Company began taking in cucumbers at the Lowell salting station.

75 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AND ALTO SOLO JULY 28, 1932

To open a filling station is an easy way to go into business but also an easy and almost sure way to lose money.

The good ship "Showboat" which has been under construction at the Lowell yards of the Flat River Shipbuilding Company, made her trial trip last Monday evening before a large crowd of admiring spectators.

50 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AUGUST 1, 1957

A pen of White Leghorns from the Foreman Poultry farm in Lowell have hauled into a tie for the lead in the national standard egg laying tests now being conducted at various points over the United States.

Main Street parking was tied up for two blocks at various times Monday with wheat trucks for King Mill. The south side of the street, from Riverside to Hudson street, was lined solid with farmers and their wheat harvest.

Headline: Six year-old has hallucinations after biting wild cherry stems.

The Showboat makes its 114th trip down the Flat River; receipts down from '56.

25 YEARS AGO THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER JULY 28, 1982

Lowell schools to ask for 3.4 mills in September - an increase over the 28 mills currently levied.

Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block has appointed Dale M. Posthumus as agricultural officer on the staff of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow.

To The Editor

Dear Editor,

Recently there were articles in the Lowell Ledger and the Grand Rapids Press regarding our request to rezone 13 acres of our 80-acre parcel to Light Industrial so we can continue to operate our businesses, Timpson Orchards and Timpson Transport at the same location we have been at for over 80 years. We have had an overwhelming amount of support from friends, neighbors and businesses. We would like to thank all of you for the letters, words of encouragement, and for taking time out of your evenings to come to the Planning Commission meetings at Lowell Charter Township Hall. In light of some inaccurate information we feel we need to clarify a few things.

Timpson Orchards was hauling fruit for companies like Gerber Food Products, Belding Fruit Storage, Cherry Growers and many other fruit growers and processors since the 1960s. We have hauled lumber, Christmas trees, fertilizer, landscaping products and equipment for years. In 1992 we began trucking for Kerstra Precast, Inc. based in Grandville, MI. By 1994 we were hauling for King Milling Co. Both relationships have grown over the years to include more trucks to accommodate their needs. They are our primary contracts and the reason we employ 28 people. The Grand Rapids Press article stated that we have been trucking for "nearly a decade." This misconception could be very detrimental in our request for Conditional Zoning from Lowell Township.

We have requested rezoning to Light Industrial with a (Conditional) contract. This means that we can only use 13 of our 83 acres for trucking and storage. We cannot start another type of business. There will be no factories or shops, only what is currently being done with our trucking operation and our apple storage facility. We have also agreed to keep the remaining acreage, about 70 acres, undeveloped. If we should go out of business someday, the property would revert back to Ag 2 zoning.

When this problem first developed in January, it was a zoning compliance issue. It has somehow during the past months transformed into a traffic and road issue. At the public hearing on July 9, there were some neighbors with concerns about the traffic on Segun Ave. The vast majority of those complaints were because of the sand trucks that are using our sand pit. We were issued a Special Use Permit to mine sand in 2004. The pit is more than half way done. Depending on the demand for sand in the area, the pit could be closed in the next four to five years. We understand our neighbors concerns and have done several things to keep the truck traffic and noise down.

Our Conditional Rezoning request was tabled until the Sept. 10 planning commission meeting. They will vote on our request and make a recommendation to the board. The board will make the final decision. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us at 897-9032 or Lowell Township at 897-7600.

John and Colleen Timpson

Dear Editor,

I was saddened to learn last week that Judy Straub will be retiring from the position of Executive Director of the Lowell Area Historical Museum. Having been a volunteer with the Museum for almost two years, I have greatly enjoyed working with Judy. Her knowledge, passion, and friendliness are truly amazing. She has a wonderful gift of making people feel welcomed, appreciated, and cared about.

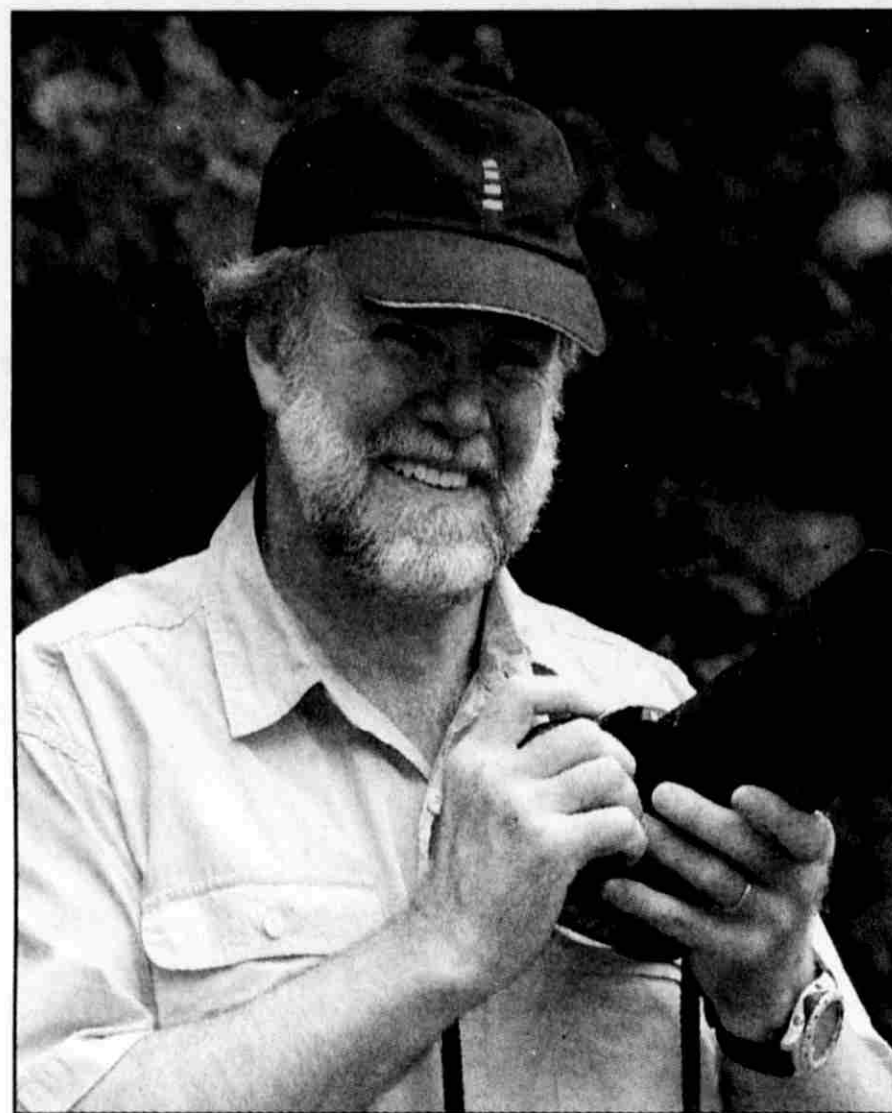
I wish Judy a wonderful retirement that she is able to enjoy greatly. I also hope that the Museum is able to find another excellent person to fill the position which she has handled so well. Judy Straub's hard work and dedication have helped make the Lowell Area Historical Museum one of Lowell's greatest community assets and she will be greatly missed.

Sincerely,

Kevin Gerard

Lowell Area Historical Museum Volunteer

LIFE fest expands to full weekend



International photographer, author and lecturer Steve Uzzell will be the spotlight speaker for the Franciscan Life Process Center's LIFE fest 2007. The "Weekend for the Heart & Soul" has been expanded to include an afternoon spiritual retreat Friday, Sept. 7 and a finale family picnic Sunday, Sept. 9. Uzzell will speak at a dinner and live auction Saturday evening, Sept. 8. Proceeds from the annual fund-raising event support the Center's program needs.

Uzzell's award-winning photography for National Geographic magazine and countless ad campaigns, plus his work as a motivational speaker, make him a dynamic orator. Starting out as assistant editor and photographer at National Geographic magazine, Uzzell is an award-winning photographer with an international client list in both advertising and fashion. He has also photographed two books, Maryland and The View from Sterling Bluff. His editorial work has appeared in over 80 worldwide publications including Newsweek, Time, Smithsonian and U.S. News. His lecture is entitled, "Open Roads, Open Minds."

Kicking off the three-day event is a half-day retreat Friday, Sept. 7. The retreat will set the stage for Saturday's program. The program runs from 1-4 p.m. Later that evening, those interested in photography will have a chance to meet Steve Uzzell at a reception Friday evening from 6:30-8 p.m. This gathering is free to the public although reservations are required.

Rounding out the weekend will be "A Country Sampler," a family-style picnic on Sunday, Sept. 9. Beginning with the Celebration of Mass at noon, guests can enjoy roast corn on the cob, brats, hot dogs, wagon rides, dancing, games and more.

The Center is located at 11650 Downes Street, Lowell. Retreat tickets (1-4 p.m.) are \$30 each. Tickets for Saturday dinner (6-10 p.m.) \$60 per person; Sunday (Noon-4 p.m.) \$25 per family or \$7.50 each person. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 897-7842.

Lend A Hand VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

LOCAL FAMILIES SOUGHT TO HOST FOREIGN-EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Pacific Intercultural Exchange, a California based not-for-profit international student exchange organization, is

looking for Michigan families to host 29 students in the coming academic year.

The group has already found Michigan families for 14 students, who are between the ages of 15 and 18 years of age, said Eliva Meza, director of operations for the exchange.

The deadline to match students with families is Aug. 31, she said. But she hopes families will apply by mid-August because it can take as long as three weeks to find a good match for the family, which includes a background check, and in-home interview, and for the school district to agree to take the student.

The students are English-speaking and have their own spending money. Prospective host families can review student applications to select a good match, she said.

Students spend either a semester or a full academic year attending local high schools.

Families who host PIE students are also eligible to claim a \$50 charitable contributions deduction on their itemized tax returns for each month they host a student. Students come from Germany, the former Soviet Union, Armenia, Pakistan, Kuwait, Brazil, China, Thailand, Ukraine, Japan, and many other countries. PIE has sponsored more than 25,000 in the past 32 years.

If you are interested in information on hosting one of these boys or girls, or have questions, please call your local PIE coordinator Pat Blundy at 616-527-0012 or 1-800-382-7438.

Reflections of faith

By Michael Conklin
Pastor, First United Methodist Church

A few years ago I was on a study leave where I was nestled in the grandeur of the Colorado Rockies, in the shadow of Meeker Peak, and surrounded by dozens of other hills and mountains. There is something wonderful and powerful about such a place, particularly as you consider the slow, inexorable tectonic power that is still building

those magnificent mountains. It is so easy to feel small in their presence. That is sometimes a good thing.

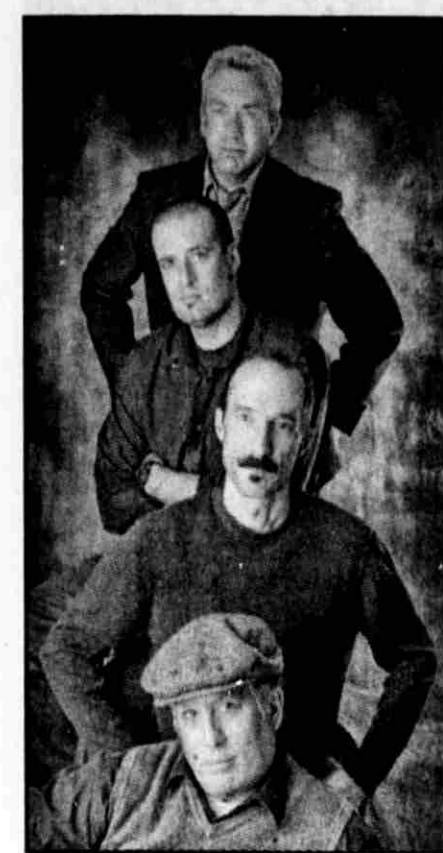
The apostle Paul, writing to a church leadership in Corinth that had grown arrogant, boastful and full of itself, wrote, "God chose what is foolish to shame the wise; God chose what is weak to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing the things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God." One thing that Paul is trying to say is that, at its root, the faith that he and the Corinthians shared, was a simple one, uncomplicated by the layers of wisdom and expertise we often use to puff ourselves up.

The lives most of us lead are complex and confusing. Our values get all boggled up by the world that encourages us to wallow in that complexity and confusion. It is easy for

us to blame the world and all of its intricacy for our problems and confusions. The truth is that much of our bewilderment is our own creation. We have a marvelous capacity to resist God's efforts to love us completely. I remember Pogo's comic strip declaration, "I have seen the enemy, and he is us!"

A good friend, who died a few years ago, had a simple, uncomplicated faith that was rooted in the basic assumption that God loved her unconditionally, and that she could thus spend her love without restraint wherever she needed to in her life. She was not wise by the world's standards, but she was steeped in God's love. That was enough. It is enough for us too.

MacNaughton group back on stage after short break



Expect to hear something old, something new, something borrowed, and something blue when "MacNaughton Boulevard" take the stage. The seasoned instrumental quartet, joined by vocalists Hollis Dobreff and Brian Adams, will perform standards and original tunes on Thursday, Aug. 9 from 7-8:30 p.m. at

Lowell native Roger MacNaughton with members of "MacNaughton Boulevard."

Mill Point Park in Spring Lake.

Providing musical direction is award-winning composer and pianist Roger MacNaughton (Composer of the Year 2000-UICA, Best Composition 2006-International Music Aid Awards, Best Instrumental Composition, January 2007-Song of the Year). Charlie Hoates, on fretless bass, is proud to have played or recorded with the likes

of Marcus Roberts and Michael Brecker while Steve Anzivino provides impeccable rhythmic support on drums. Carlos Melendez, "guitar monster," speaks fluent music having performed around the globe with Jose Feliciano, Sonny Fortune and Herbie Mann.

The MacNaughton Boulevard new Crosstown instrumental CD will be available for sale at the outdoor concert.

Burger King scholarships awarded

Quality Dining, Inc., local Burger King® franchise, announced that 21 of their employees will receive a \$1000 scholarship and four employees will receive a \$5,000 scholarship from the Burger King/McLamore Foundation.

Lowell recipients receiving \$1000 scholarships included Jordan Blanchard and Hannah Dalton.

Scholarships were awarded to qualified high school seniors and undergraduate students that maintain academic standards, have been a Burger King employee for at least one consecutive year, participate

in community service and/or school activities, maintain a good attitude in school and on the job and will enroll or are enrolled in a full or part-time course of study at an accredited two or four year college, university or vocational/technical school.

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Fluoride is a natural chemical that is added to water and toothpaste to help strengthen teeth. Fluoride helps build enamel, which is the hard outer coating on teeth. Healthy enamel helps prevent tooth decay. Using fluoride toothpaste is important for everyone over the age of three, because it can help repair damage done to existing teeth by tartar. However, because enamel production begins before teeth appear, drinking fluoridated water is also important for children with developing teeth.

The fluoride content of local water supplies varies. Typically city water contains fluoride, but well water may not. If you have children at home, it's important to know the fluoride content of your drinking water. If you live in town, check with the water department to find out the exact water-fluoride content. If you have a well, have it tested. Drinking water should contain at least six parts per million of fluoride. If not, your child may need to take a prescription fluoride supplement. Typically when needed, children are treated with fluoride supplements from age six months to age 16. Receiving adequate fluoride is important for healthy teeth, but too much can be harmful. Talk to your health care provider if you feel your child may need fluoride supplementation.

Happy Birthday

AUGUST 1:
Barbara Callihan, Baile Emelander.

Nick Tykocki, Thomas H. Mahalic, Joann Childs, Kayleigh VanKeulen.

AUGUST 2:
Carolynn Kline, Hayley Woolfenden.

AUGUST 5:
Robin Abel, Stephen Martin, Jr.

AUGUST 3:
Rebecca Heinicke, Becky Shindorf, Kelsey Brenk, Hillary Smith.

AUGUST 6:
Jessie King, Kim Foster, Steven Vickers.

AUGUST 4:
Irene Willmarth, Scott VanDyke, Cody Bieri.

AUGUST 7:
Barbara Wright, Don Grummet, Jaimi Smith, Steve Newell.

We all have dreams. But in order to make dreams come into reality, it takes an awful lot of determination, dedication, self-discipline, and effort.

- Jesse Owen

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<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR 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: 10-10:30 AM Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETE WIGANS 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 49, EFTN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>	<p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (United Church of Christ) 865 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE • 897-5906 Sunday Worship.....10:00 A.M. Church School.....10:15-11:15 A.M. Thursday Faith Alive Worship.....7:00 P.M. Dr. Roger LaWarre.....Pastor Shannon Hanley.....C.E. Director Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise & Worship</p>
<p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 www.goodshepherdlowell.org 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. 8:15 & 6:30 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided - Barrier Free</p>	<p>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Rev. 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 (at high school), 10:30 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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Cozy Corner, continued ... From Page 5

Many classifications besides Lake amphibians and real estate come under my monthly scrutiny. Each ad selling an old Stearman like mine is dissected. Must be I'm trying to place a value on mine, though I'd never sell it. My wife has orders to hire an excavator to dig a big hole when I'm gone. Following a short wake, everybody in attendance will help push my old Stearman in the hole... with me at the controls. The bulldozers cover me up and that's it.

The "antiques" section is usually my next stop. Here I find all the things I like about airplanes... conventional landing gear (taildraggers), round engines, wood and fabric wings, open cockpits, leaking oil, etc. No modern opposed engine, nose draggin' spam cans for me. Not unless they're on floats of course. That's my next category.

Thanks to a couple of "club" situations, I've been able to log about two hundred hours of "float time." All of my partners in the last floatplane club bailed out for a variety of reasons. Since I couldn't afford the plane on my own, it was sold. That was several years ago and I haven't flown off the water since. Float flying is just about the most fun you can have with your clothes on, and I really miss it. Dream on!

Following a complete appraisal of the "Float Equipped Aircraft" section, I move on to a few oddball airplanes I've always had an affinity for. One is the Cessna Skymaster. The Skymaster has a twin tail and twin boom configuration to accommodate a pulling engine and prop on the front of the fuselage and a pushing engine and prop at the rear of the cabin. Hence, nicknames like "Skymixer" and "Push-

me-Pull-you". Skymasters are criticized as maintenance nightmares and for using half again as much fuel to go slower and haul less than a big single engine. I still want one. And no, I've never even sat in one and made "Twin" engine noises.

There are other oddballs on my list of dream planes. I could go into detail, but simply listing a few of their names should give some idea. A short list includes "Breezy", "Seabee", "Staggerwing", "V-Tail", "Goose", "Beaver", etc. Oddball planes, for an oddball guy, living in an oddball dream world.

I'll wrap this up with one last plane on my wish list. By no means does the Cessna 195 complete my list, but it will be the last one in this column.

Built back in the late forties and early fifties, 195's easily qualify as antiques. As antiques, they are taildraggers with a big Jacobs round engine out front. These 195's are

somewhat modern in that they are aluminum construction and have room in the panel for modern avionics. They haul five people and go fairly fast. I could see me, Terese and Mick-the-Aussie living out of a 195 during the summer. No I haven't talked Terese into living in a tent at far flung airports. And no, I've never even sat in a 195 and made big old Jacobs round engine noises.

That's about it. I'll just add that it's a good thing my wife gets all those home decorating and clothing catalogs to keep her entertained while I'm engrossed with my Trade-A-Plane. Dream on everybody!!!

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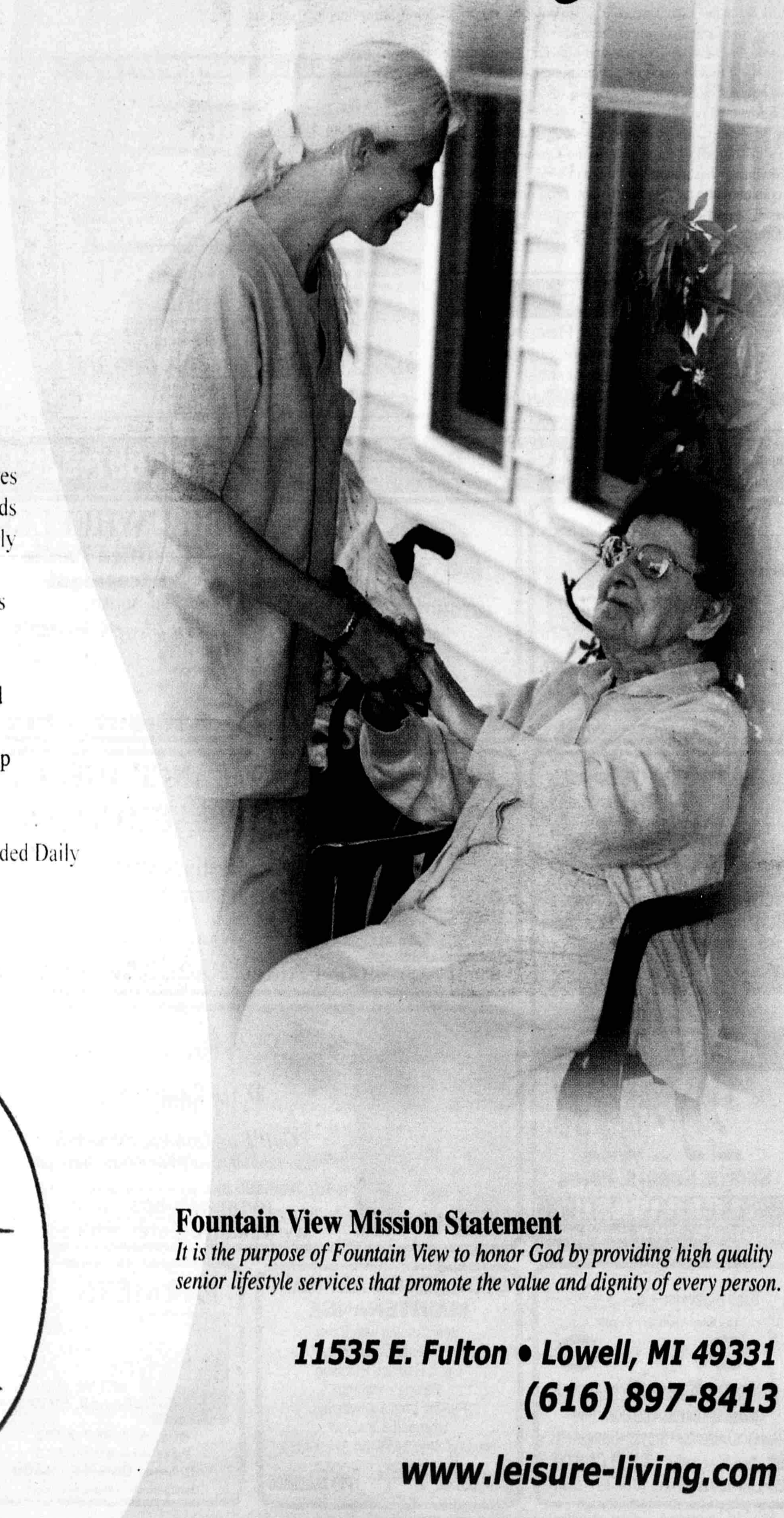
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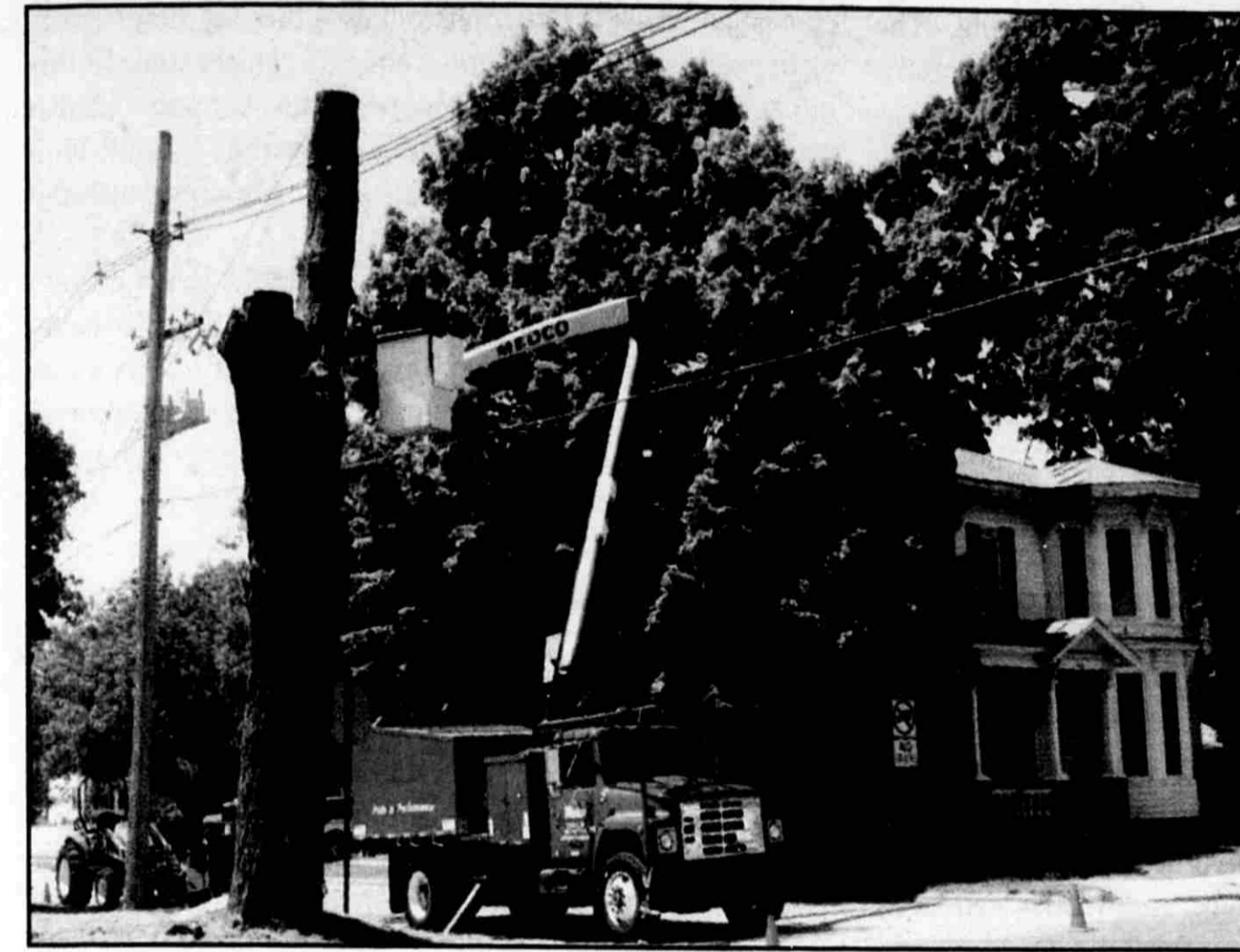
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Takin' them down

A large oak tree on the corner of Hudson and Ottawa streets was taken down by a Medco crew of Elwell. The crew first cut off the branches, and then took the tree down by four-foot large chunks. The tree cutting is part of the Lowell Light & Power program to adhere to industry standards of keeping a 10-foot clearance from the power lines.



Fairgrounds, continued

... From Page 1

for five days at an \$80 value. Also this year, the fair is up on exhibitors, mainly rabbits, swine and horses. Wenger estimated approximately 1,000 youth 4-H exhibitors.

"We're one of few youth

fairs around," he said. "That makes us unique."

Judging will take place on Monday followed by a youth fashion show at 6:30 p.m. and a youth talent contest at 7 p.m. at the Stage Tent.

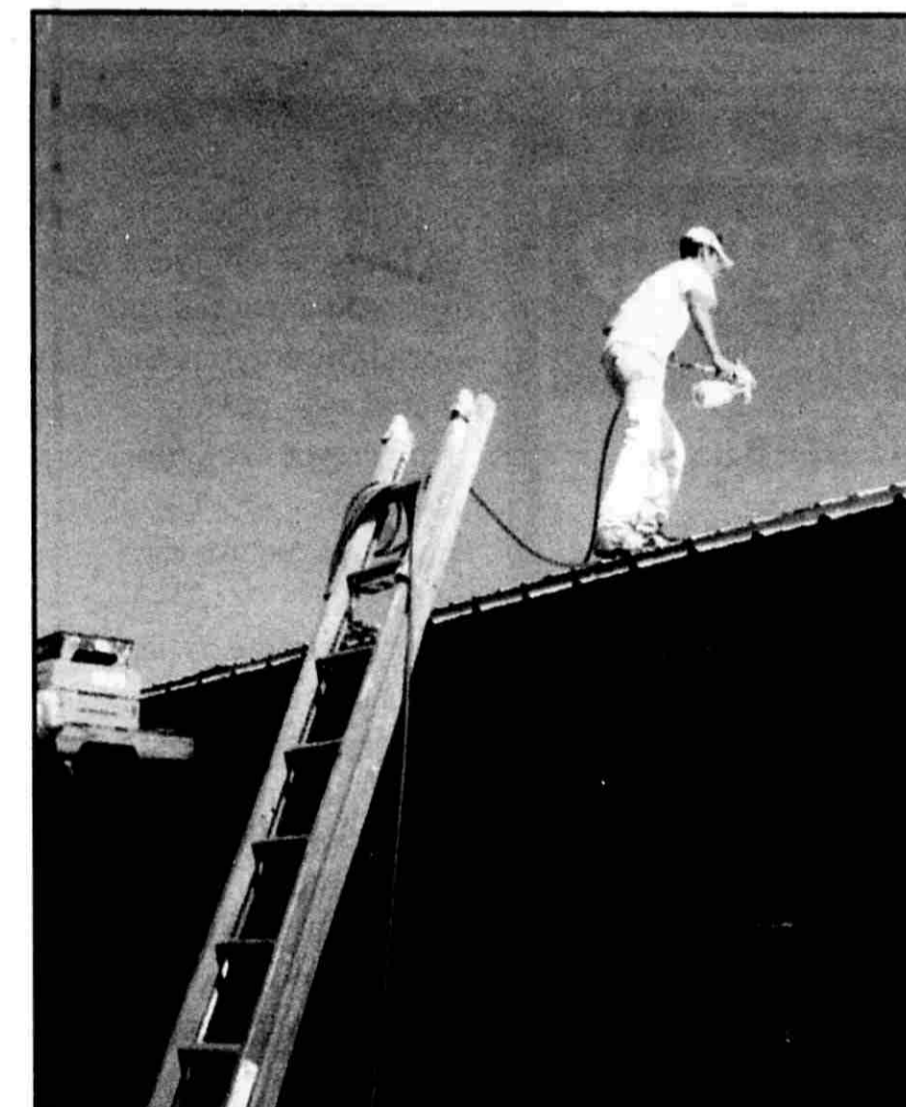
Several outstanding events will be held on Thursday a.k.a. Agricultural Day, including horse judging at the horse arena at 1:30 p.m. followed by the small animal livestock sale at the Reath Barn and livestock sale of swine, sheep, feeder calf, gallon of milk and beef.

The West Michigan Bluegrass Association will present Patchwork Band and Black Canyon Bluegrass Thursday night at 6:30 p.m.

Friday is Scout Day at the fair. Any scout in uniform can purchase a ride armband for \$8 which is half price.

Traditionally, Boy Scout Troop 102 has handled the parking for the fair. This year, scouts will provide help for special needs individuals.

"Over the past several years, the troop has done a terrific job of handling the parking for the Kent County Youth Fair," said Bruce Doll, cub master for the pack and fair board member.



Andrew Pfaller paints a horse barn roof for the Kent County Youth Fair.

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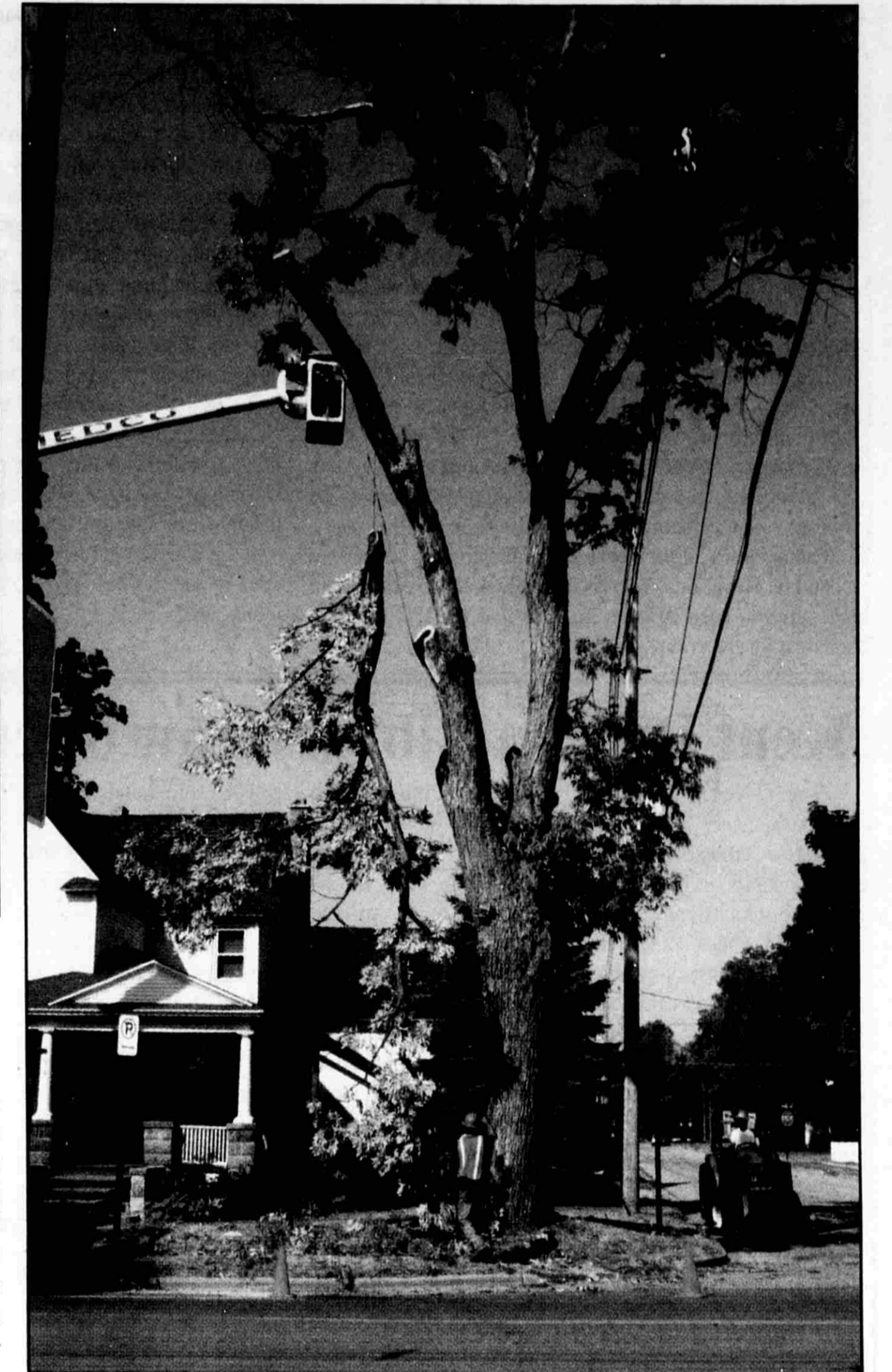
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He plants trees to benefit another generation.

- Caecilius Statius (220 BC - 168 BC)

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Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold
Edward Jones
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DOES "IPO" SPELL INVESTMENT SUCCESS?

If you've ever spent any time among investors, you're bound to have heard someone say: "If only I had gotten in on the ground floor of Company A (or Company B or Company C)." In investment terms, "getting in on the ground floor" means buying a company's shares when they first go on sale — an initial public offering (IPO), to use the official term. But is it really that desirable to invest in an IPO?

Before you can answer that question, you need to be familiar with the "nuts and bolts" of IPOs. In the first place, a company goes public because it wants to raise money to expand its operations. There's certainly nothing wrong with that, but you need to keep in mind that the IPO is being launched for the company's benefit — not yours.

Next, you need to be aware that it may not be as easy to "get in" on an IPO as you might imagine. Generally, it's not really possible for everyday investors to truly take part in the "initial" part of IPOs. That's because public offers typically fall into two classes: primary offerings and secondary offerings. Primary offerings are usually available only to institutional investors and individuals who buy big chunks of stock. About six months or so after the IPO, the initial purchasers start to sell their shares, via the stock markets, to individual investors; this is the secondary offering. (The well-publicized Google IPO of 2004 operated differently. Google sold shares via an online auction, which was designed to give individual investors the same opportunity to buy shares as institutional and ultra-wealthy investors.)

There's no denying the "wow" factor that exists for many people when they take part in an IPO, even if it's the secondary offering. After all, it can be exciting to be among the first investors in anything. And at first glance, IPOs sound great. You get in on that proverbial ground floor, and then, as the business grows, your stock is worth more and more, right?

Actually, it's not that simple. Initially, you might see a big spike in the stock price of a company that's just gone through an IPO. But over time, these companies are subject to the same economic and market forces as all other businesses. Consequently, their stock prices will go up and down, as is the case with all stocks.

So before you buy shares through an IPO, you'll want to evaluate the company thoroughly. Are its products or services competitive? Does it have a track record of consistent growth? Does it belong to a thriving industry? Is its management team experienced? You can get some of this information from a company's prospectus, but you will also want to do some outside reading, as well as consult with your financial advisor. Obviously, the more you know, the better off you will be.

In any case, if you do invest in an IPO, don't go into it thinking that you are going to make a "killing." Instead, look at an IPO as a long-term investment. If it's a stock that fits well into your overall portfolio, getting in on the ground floor may help you build a strong foundation for achieving your long-term goals.

Kent District Library now offers downloadable video

The Kent District Library recently extended its online collection with downloadable video at <http://ebooks.mlcnet.org/>. Users can check out and download videos, as well as audio books and eBooks, from the comfort of their own home. Digital titles can be enjoyed on a PC, laptop, or transfer to a wide range of portable devices.

"The addition of video to our digital collection has been greatly anticipated and we have high expectations of the popularity of the service among patrons," commented KDL Director Martha Smart.

Patrons have 24/7 access to a diverse collection of 500 video titles, including documentaries, popular concert films of stars such

as Cher and James Brown, IMAX movies, stand up comedy from Larry the Cable Guy, westerns, classic horror films, and more. The videos are available for unlimited, simultaneous checkouts, so there are no holds or waiting lists for users.

Patrons can download videos and digital books to their personal Windows-based PC or notebook. Downloadable video requires the same software platform which patrons are already familiar with for audio books, the OverDrive Media Console. Titles can also be

transferred to hundreds of compatible devices to enjoy anytime, anywhere, and some audio titles can even be burned to CD. At the end

of the lending period, the titles automatically expire and are returned to the library's collection. Check-out is worry-free for patrons

because there are no late fees or lost or damaged items.

Visit www.kdl.org for more information.

Keep your Social Security number safe

Did you ever think that your Social Security number may be the most valuable thing you have? Well, it certainly can be more valuable to an identity thief than a wallet full of cash and credit cards. That's why it is important that you keep

your Social Security card and number safe.

Remember to treat your Social Security number and personal information as confidential. Don't share it with just anyone. Shred important documents with your Social Security number

and personal information before throwing it away. Never carry your card with you unless you've been asked to show it to an employer or service provider.

When it comes to service providers and businesses, you should be cautious about sharing your Social Security number. Many companies will ask for your number, but they may not need it to do business with you. Any time you are asked for your Social Security number you should ask: Why do you need my number? How will you use my number? What if I refuse to provide my number? What law requires me to give my number?

If you want to do business with the person asking for your number, the answers to these questions can help you decide whether you feel safe entrusting your information to them.

People who have what they want are fond of telling people who haven't what they want that they really don't want it.

- Ogden Nash (1902 - 1971)

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ANIMAL HOSPITAL OF LOWELL

FFA keeps busy during the summer months

Even though school has been out for several weeks, the Lowell FFA Chapter has been busy with conferences and contests.

During the month of June, four Lowell FFA members were selected to attend the Washington Leadership Conference in the nation's capitol. Logan Brenk, Briana Buck, Leara Glinzak and April Wolf were able to spend a week in Washington D.C. Along with other FFA members from across the nation, they were able to see the sights around the capitol and visit with elected officials. The main focus of the conference is to help the members to develop their personal leadership skills so they can be better leaders in their FFA chapters and in their school and community.

The chapter officers from Lowell went to Michigan State University July 12-13 in order to attend the State Leadership Conference for Chapter Officers. At this conference attended by chapters throughout the state, the State FFA Officers help the other members from the chapter involved. The 2007-2008 Lowell FFA Officer team consists of Leara Glinzak, President; Ian Blodger, Vice President; Sheryl Huber, PALS Vice President; April Wolf, Secretary; Briana Buck, Treasurer; Blake Zigmont, Reporter; and Jim Crosby, Sentinel.

On July 17, four FFA Members competed in the State Tractor Driving contest. The students had to take a tractor safety test and then maneuver a

tractor and trailer through a set course. Jim Crosby and Blake Zigmont competed in the senior division where they had to back a four-wheel wagon into a parking space. In the junior division, Mike Clover and Matt Roth had to back a two-wheel trailer through a course and successfully park it in a parking space. After only missing three questions on the test and finishing the course with one of the top scores, Mike Clover was named the State Winner in the Junior Division.

As the summer winds down, the FFA is busy preparing for the Kent county Youth Fair and coming school year. The Lowell chapter will exhibit sheep and pigs at the fair, raised by members Briana Buck and Sheryl Huber.

The sale of these animals is a major fundraiser for the chapter.

FFA is a national youth organization with nearly 500,000 student members preparing for leadership

careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture. The Lowell FFA chapter is one of the largest chapters in Michigan with over 130 members. FFA strives to make a positive

difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.



The 2007-2008 Lowell FFA Officers Team consists of, front row left to right: Leara Glinzak, Sheryl Huber, Briana Buck; back row left to right: Ian Blodger, Blake Zigmont, Jim Crosby. Missing is April Wolf.



Competing in the State FFA Tractor Driving contest from Lowell were Matt Roth, Jim Crosby, Blake Zigmont and Mike Clover. Clover was named the state winner in the junior division.

College News

Johnson & Wales University, America's Career University held May commencement ceremonies across the country. Mark Wynsma, of Alto received a bachelor of science in Culinary Arts from the College of Culinary Arts at the Providence Campus ceremony.

Jacob D. Rickert, son of Jeffery and Julie Rickert of Lowell, recently received a four-year bachelor of business administration degree from Northwood University

Competence, like truth, beauty and contact lenses, is in the eye of the beholder.

Laurence J. Peter (1919 - 1988),
The Peter Principle (1969), chapter 1

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COMING EVENTS

THE LOWELL LEDGER - WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2007 PAGE 15
 Notices in the "Coming Events" are free to any nonprofit organization in the Lowell, Ada, Alto & Saranac areas. Keep notices brief; may submit by mail, phone - 897-9261, fax - 897-4809 or email - ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com. All submissions are subject to available space.

AUGUST

THURS., AUG. 2: Vergennes Co-Operative Club, 1 p.m. at Schneider Manor. Garden Trip. Hostesses Jan Bieri and Treva Johnson.

MON., AUG. 6: Masonic Lodge #355, serving Belding, Lowell and Ionia, will hold its regular communication, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the lodge room of the Masonic Temple, 211 E. Main St., Belding.

WED., AUG. 8: Hooker Chapter #73 will exemplify the Past Master and Most Excellent Master Degrees in the lodge room beginning at 5:30 p.m. Dinner in the dining room at 6:30 p.m. The stated convocation will be held in the lodge room at 7:30 p.m. Masonic Temple, 211 E. Main St., Belding. All Royal Arch Masons may attend.

FRI., AUG. 10: All Senior Neighbor picnic at Grandville High School at 9 a.m. Sponsored by Lowell Senior Neighbors.

SAT., AUG. 11: Donation-priced car wash and dog wash at Arby's on Main Street of Lowell, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. All proceeds go to the Humane Society of Kent County. Donations such as pet treats, pet toys, and blankets are greatly appreciated. Dog washing supplies provided by Grand River Veterinary Hospital.

TUES., AUG. 14: Doric Chapter #75, Order of Eastern Star will hold its regular communication in the chapter room of the Masonic Temple, 211 E. Main St., Belding, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Dinner will precede the meeting in the dining room beginning at 6:30 p.m.

MONDAYS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2ND MON.: Bowne Township Historical Society meets Oct. thru March 10 a.m. & April thru Sept. 7 p.m. at historic museum, 84th/Alden Nash.

3RD MON.: Women of the Moose meetings held 7:30 p.m.

3RD MON.: Lowell Showboat Garden Club, Fellowship Hall at Church of the Nazarene, N. Washington St. at 7 p.m.

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

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

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

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

TUESDAYS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2ND TUES.: Peripheral Neuropathy support group, 4 p.m. at St. Paul's Anglican Church, 2560 Lake Michigan Dr.

TUESDAYS

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

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

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

2ND & 4TH TUES.: MOPS - Mothers of Preschoolers Summer Play Groups, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. at TOTS Playground, 300 High St. 897-8304, ext 311.

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

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

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

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

WEDNESDAYS

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

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

8 p.m. ALANON new location: Lowell First United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main St. (Use west entrance off Jackson St.) 897-5936.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THURSDAYS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES THRIFT SHOP Wed.-Fri. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. 11535 Fulton St. E. Call 897-8567. Pantry 897-8260.

THURSDAYS

Pottery classes at Franciscan Life Process Center, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Call 897-7842.

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

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

1ST THURS.: Michigan Hepatitis C Foundation support meetings, 7-8:30 p.m. 250 Cherry, Lacks Cancer Center, Grand Rapids.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MHSAA offers some hot weather team practice tips

With the beginning of pre-season practices less than two weeks away for high school sports teams in Michigan, concerns about physical activity in hot and humid conditions rise, and the Michigan High School Athletic Association continues its role in providing its member schools educational information to assist them in minimizing the possibility of heat-related catastrophic injuries to student-athletes.

Thetopicofheat-related injuries receives a lot of attention at this time of year, especially when deaths at the professional, collegiate and interscholastic levels of sport occur. In football, data from the National Federation of State High School Associations shows that 19 high school football players have died from heat stroke from 1995 to 2005.

Each spring, the

MHSAA has provided information to its member schools to help them prepare for hot weather practice and game conditions in the late summer and early fall. Football practice begins at MHSAA member schools on Aug. 6, followed by boys' golf on Aug. 9 and all other fall sports on Aug. 13.

"Heat Stress & Athletic Participation" is information from the National Federation of State High School Associations which the MHSAA makes available on its web site for use by all fall sports teams. The information points out that student-athletes are subject to a variety of maladies from heat cramps to heat strokes at this time of year. Preventative steps are outlined, including hydration guidelines about what to drink and what not to drink. A copy of the information is available

on the MHSAA web site - <http://www.mhsaa.com/resources/conditioning.pdf>.

"If schools and their student-athletes follow these guidelines, then we minimize the risk for heat-related problems," said John R. Johnson, communications director for the MHSAA. "The hydration of athletes is essential. It is an absolute necessity that water be available in unlimited quantities at all times during practices. At the same time, coaching staffs need to be tuned into their student-athletes and be sure they are partaking of water. There is no excuse for any number of heat stroke deaths since they are all preventable with the proper precautions."

Johnson added that as student-athletes work out on their own individually or with a group of teammates in

informal settings during the summer, they also need to be aware of their hydration.

The MHSAA is a private, not-for-profit corporation of voluntary membership by over 1,600 public and private senior high schools and junior high/middle schools which exists to develop common rules for athletic eligibility and competition. No

government funds or tax dollars support the MHSAA, which was the first such association nationally to not accept membership dues or tournament entry fees from schools. Member schools which enforce these rules are permitted to participate in MHSAA tournaments, which attract approximately 1.6 million spectators each year.

information are welcome to call Lee at 616-678-5836 or toll free at 800-930-3738, or the SHARE! National Office toll-free at 800-321-3738, e-mail info@erdshare.org or visit www.erdshare.org.

found families in various areas of Michigan to be particularly welcoming to exchange students," said Lee Mast, Area Coordinator for Michigan and Indiana. Families interested in hosting or obtaining more

information are welcome to call Lee at 616-678-5836 or toll free at 800-930-3738, or the SHARE! National Office toll-free at 800-321-3738, e-mail info@erdshare.org or visit www.erdshare.org.

Lend A Hand



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

THE SHARE! HIGH SCHOOL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Bonjour! Guten Tag! Ciao! Hola!

Just a few ways to say "Hello" to international high school students, arriving in the United States in August for the school year or fall semester. The students speak English, are covered by medical insurance and have spending money for their personal expenses. The SHARE! High School Exchange Program

is looking for HOST FAMILIES for these teens. Host families provide a bed, meals, as well as friendship, understanding, and a genuine desire to share the American way of life.

Traditional two-parent families (with or without children), single parents or adults, and retired couples have enjoyed hosting our bright students. "The SHARE! program has

profit, United Way agency devoted to reducing illiteracy in our community. Based on 1990 census figures, at least 19,000 adults in Kent County cannot read at a functional level. At least 6,000 adults cannot speak or understand English well. By training people to be tutors, the Council can offer one-on-one reading help to adults asking for assistance in reading or English as a Second Language (ESL). Volunteers do not need to speak another language to tutor ESL.

VOLUNTEER TUTORS

The Kent County Literacy Council has scheduled a one-hour information session on Wednesday, Aug. 1 at 6:30 p.m. for prospective volunteer tutors.

At the end of the session, there will be an opportunity to sign up for tutor training.

The Kent County Literacy Council is a non-

profit, United Way agency devoted to reducing illiteracy in our community. Based on 1990 census figures, at least 19,000 adults in Kent County cannot read at a functional level. At least 6,000 adults cannot speak or understand English well. By training people to be tutors, the Council can offer one-on-one reading help to adults asking for assistance in reading or English as a Second Language (ESL). Volunteers do not need to speak another language to tutor ESL.

The information session will be held at the Grand Rapids Public Library located at 111 Library St., NE, Grand Rapids, 4th Floor, VanderVeen Center. Call 459-5151 to register.

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Advanced Eyecare Professionals accept many insurance carriers. To help care for more people we have added some new ones. For your convenience, here's a list of the ones we accept.

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- EyeMed
- Spectera
- Vision Service Plan (V.S.P.)

MEDICAL PLANS:

- Advantra Freedom (MFFS/PFFS)

- Aetna
- Aetna US Healthcare
- Blue Care Network
- Blue Choice
- Blue Cross, Blue Shield MESSA
- Blue Cross, Blue Shield MI
- Blue Cross, Blue Shield PPO
- Care Choices
- Champva
- Federal Blue Cross, Blue Shield
- GMP Employers Retiree Trust (U/W Aetna)
- Health Plan of Michigan Medicaid
- Humana Gold Choice
- IBA Health Plan
- IBA Self Funded
- Medicare
- Medicare PLUS Blue
- Michigan Medicaid
- Physician's Care Plan
- PPOM
- Preferred Choices
- Priority Health
- Railroad Medicare
- Secure Horizons Direct (MFFS/PFFS)
- Today's Options-Premier Plus (MFFS/PFFS)
- Tricare
- Tricare for Life
- United Health Care
- WellCare (MFFS/PFFS)

- All Medicare private fee for service companies (PFFS)

* DOCTOR AUTHORIZATION REQUIRED:

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- * Lions Club

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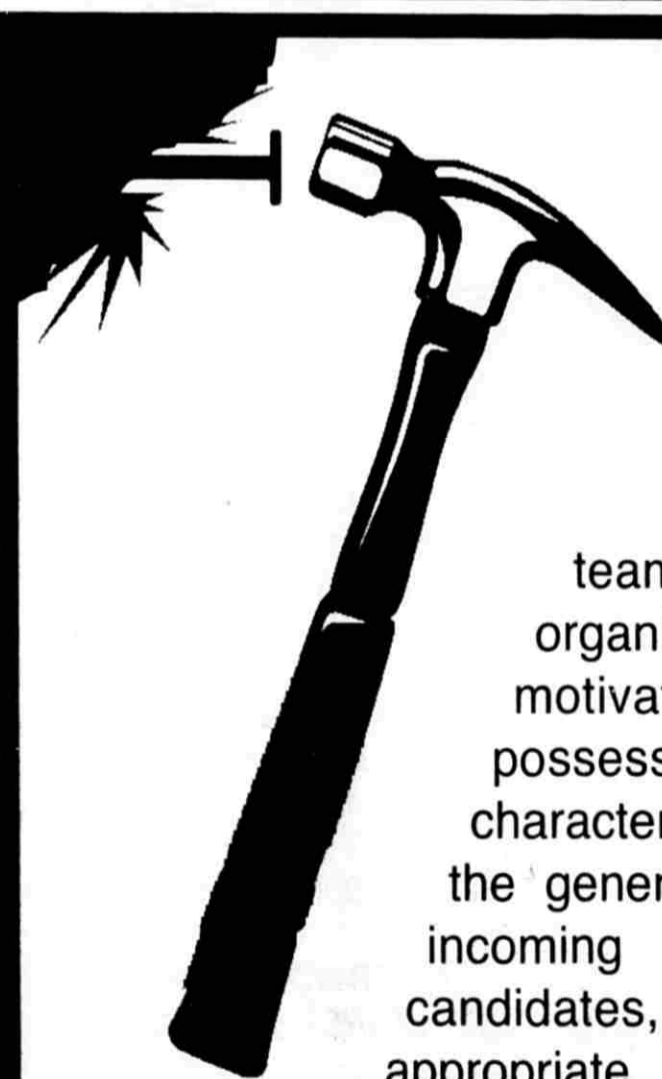
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Tournament honors young softball accident victim

By Emma Palova

Over a thousand spectators and 26 girls' softball teams gathered for the Lowell Xtreme tournament last Saturday dedicated to a victim of a softball accident.

Maggie Hilbrands, 12, of Grand Rapids, who played for the Xtreme team, died last week due to fatal injuries sustained after getting hit in the head with a softball during a routine practice for the tournament.

No safety device could have prevented the tragic accident, according to Lowell Xtreme Softball board president Bob Richardson.

"Softball itself didn't cause the accident," said Richardson. "It was a freak accident that couldn't have been prevented."

Lowell police chief Jim Valentine called the accident unheard of. The only closest such incident happened on Sunday prior to the accident in Lowell. A minor league baseball coach was struck by a line drive in Oklahoma, and died. "It was an absolute freak accident," said Valentine.

Organizers, who renamed the tournament in memory of Hilbrands, decided to go ahead and play at the family's request. T-shirts were sold during the tournament to raise funds for the

Hilbrands family who will donate the money to a selected charity. Some people bought a shirt for \$100 to give back to the family.

The three champion teams in the tournament were the Moline Mustangs, the Muskegon Shoreline and the Southwest Michigan Stingrays.

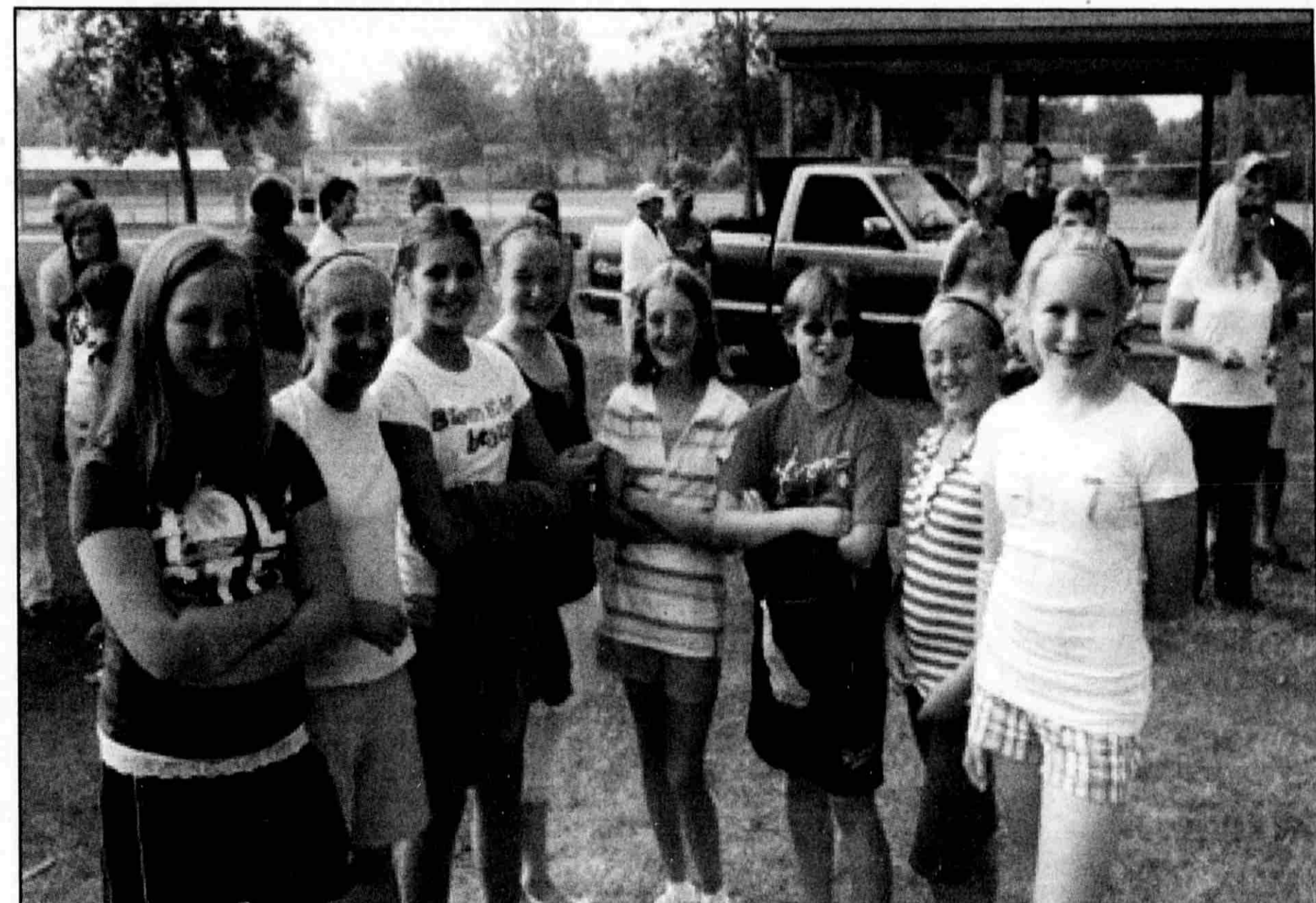
Richardson said he does not expect the accident to have much impact on the future of softball, even though some players may choose to wear more safety devices.

Xtreme softball, in its fourth year in Lowell, is a competitive travel league that will play in Jackson this weekend. The tournament

has grown over the years in Lowell from 12 teams to 26 playing last weekend at Creekside, Cherry Creek, Lowell High School and Recreation Park ball fields. Before playing in Lowell this season, the teams held tournaments in Howell, Frankenmuth, Morley-Stanwood and Byron Center.

The season starts in January with winter conditioning and ends the first week in August.

"Our Lowell Xtreme board of directors wants to thank the community and the merchants for the support," said Richardson.



Pictured are some of Maggie Hilbrands' Xtreme softball teammates at the tree planting ceremony during the softball tournament at the Creekside Park. They are Nicole Lange, Mallory Blysm, Julie Smith, Kyra Marks, Allie Hinton, Mallory Paiz and Kelsey Wold.



A crew from the Thornapple River Nursery planted a tree in memory of Maggie Hilbrands while parents Jan and Marty watched in the background.

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Jazz

AUGUST 9
4-H FAIR WEEK
Concert At Lowell Fairgrounds
BLACK CANYON & PATCHWORK
Bluegrass (Starting At 6:30 P.M.)

The Sizzlin' Summer Concerts are located on the Riverwalk Plaza directly in front of the Lowell Showboat in Historic Downtown Lowell. Grandstand seating is available or bring your lawn chair or blanket and sit on the Green. Concessions are available and Admission & Parking are always FREE!

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GARAGE & YARD SALE FINDER

MOVING SALE

Aug. 2 & 3, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Aug. 4, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. 1377 Shagawa Trail (off Sayles E. of Whites Bridge). Bells, mugs, baskets, baseball caps, sports cards, dishes, Christmas, Indian decor.

GARAGE SALE

Aug. 2, 3 & 4, Thurs., Fri., & Sat, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. 323 N. Jackson St. Tablesaw, jig saw, electric sanders, plumbing & heating hand tool, ladders & more. Some household items: vases, frames, books, Christmas cards, bows & ribbons, misc.

3-FAMILY YARD SALE

Aug. 3 & 4, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. 126 N. Hudson. Entertainment unit, TV, computer accessories, baby/toddler clothes, adult clothing, many misc. items, too many to list.

BARN SALE

8181 - 3 Mile, Ada, east off Honeycreek. Fri. & Sat., Aug. 3 & 4, 9 to 5 p.m. Furniture, bathroom fixtures, clothes, household items, Christmas, Avon, & much more.

FIRST TIME SALE AT OUR NEW HOME

Thurs. & Fri., Aug. 2 & 3, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. 11198 W. Bluewater Hwy. 2 miles E. of Lowell on N. side of road, watch for signs. We've got a wide variety of good stuff! Tools, housewares, old steel wheels, stuff for painting, fishing poles, yard tools, collectibles & more, more, more!

HUGE SALE

Aug. 1, 2 & 3, 8 to 5 p.m. Tons of kids clothes size 3 to teen, gently used Tupperware, Southern Living, Avon, men & women's bikes, sofa sleeper & loveseat set. 1297 Whites Bridge, Sayles to Whites Bridge left, first house on right.

GARAGE SALE

Multi-family, Aug. 2, 3 & 4, 9-5:30, 10772 Nash Hwy., Clarksville. Lots of DVD's & VHS, Home Interior pictures, tools, books, name brand clothes and too much other to list.

CLARKSVILLE HUGE MULTI-FAMILY SALE

Corner of Nash Hwy. & Portland Rd., Aug. 2 & 3, 9-6 p.m., Aug. 4, 9-12 p.m. Many items including: table saw, tree stand, 27" TV, clothing, antiques, baby items, much more!

ADA

Huge neighborhood garage sales. West Woodmeade Court. (Cascade Rd. or Fulton to Spauling to Woodmeade Ct.) Living room furniture, bedroom furniture, Little Tikes, bikes, brand-name clothing & MUCH more. Thurs. & Fri., Aug. 2 & 3, 8 - 4 p.m.



We recommend you place your ad a week before the sale, not the weekend of your sale. Some people do not receive the Buyers Guide until late Sunday. It is also a good idea to put in directions.

DEADLINE MONDAY AT 5 P.M.

Price is 20 words for \$9, each extra word is 25c. Your ad can be called in: 897-9555 or 897-9261

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Emailed to: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com
Please include name, billing address & phone number

We assume no financial responsibility for typos in ads taken over the phone or for emailed or faxed ads not received. All care & diligence are used to prevent omission or error in any ad or any part of an ad. If your ad is phoned in, please make sure it is repeated back to you.

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

The Sunny Day Golf Outing was wonderful. May Sunny Moyer's spirit of honesty and giving rub off on all those in attendance.



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Thanks for helping me with my outside shot Mr. McDonald. - Kory Stevens

Local Businesses: Don't forget that the 4H livestock auction is Thursday, August 9. What a chance to support these kids!

Thank you to all the coaches at the Lowell Tennis Camp. It was very well run, and I had a blast every day!

I would like to see some good ol' John Deere tractors driven to the high school. Who will join me?!

Thanks to the Brubaker family for including me on your vacation. I had so much fun! - NH

Round of applause to all the soccer players. You work so hard!

Isn't it illegal to drive a motorcycle with a small child sitting in front of you?

All garage sale signs should have addresses on them. Then if you don't take them down you should be fined. This way we all win. Put them up you must take them down.

I'm glad the cops got the person last week on the minibike driving very fast down Main Street w/no lights on it. The boys in blue are out there when you need them. Thanks.

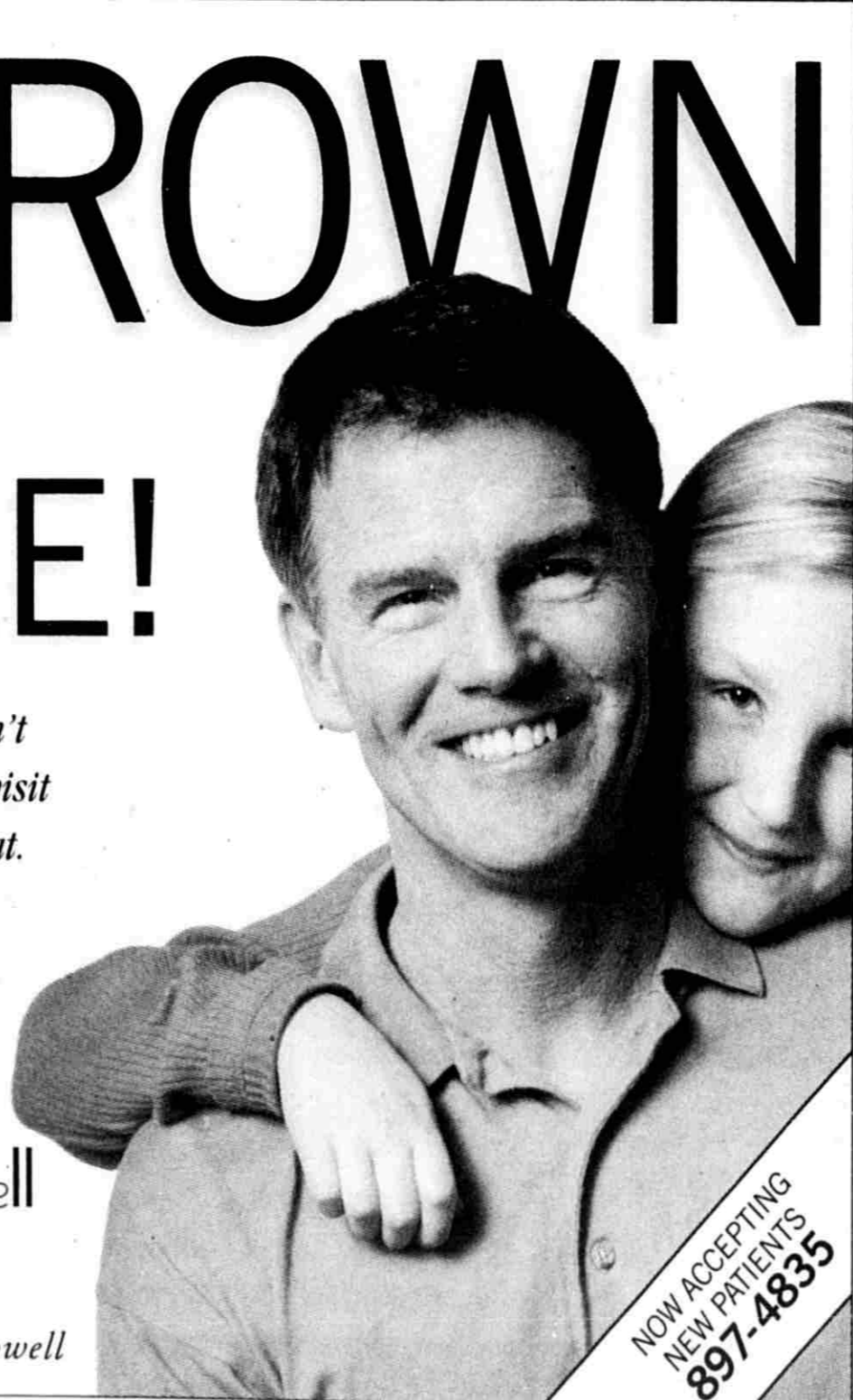
Everyone complains about kids who skateboard all over Lowell, so how about building a skate park instead of a dog park. - A.M.

Someone needs to slow the traffic down on Jane Ellen (or the residents will).
- The Parents of Young Children on Jane Ellen

The Fourth of July is over! Please stop the loud fireworks from Creekside Park. Your freaking my kids (and dog) out.

Bravo Grattan Raceway! Thanks for an awesome weekend of Motocross racing. You guys rock!!
- Cathy (MX Mom)

CATHOLIC INQUIRY
Are you looking for a church to join? Do you have a bit of a nagging voice inside for you to check into the possibility of becoming a Catholic? Were you baptized Catholic, but have never practiced the faith into which you were baptized? Are you curious about what the Catholic Church actually teaches?
Catholic Inquiry is where you will find the answers to these questions and more. Catholic Inquiry will meet beginning on Monday, August 6 at 7:00 P.M. in Saint Mary's Church, 402 Amity, Lowell. For more information please contact the Office of Religious Education - 897-7915.



NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS 897-4835

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE
OPEN HOUSE - Sunday, August 5, 1 to 4 p.m. 6561 Gould Rd., Saranac (west of Nash Hwy off Grand River Ave.) Beautiful country home, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 30 x 40 pole barn, outdoor bar & grill area with 3 oven brick grills, game room inside pole barn with inside bar, all sitting on over 3 acres. All appliances stay including washer & dryer. Price reduced to \$126,900.

FOR SALE
OLDSMOBILE - 1999 Silhouette Premier van, loaded, video player, 115,000 miles, very clean, great family vehicle. \$5,900. Call 676-4199.

1995 MITSUBISHI GALANT - 4 cyl., 25 mpg, 4 door, runs & drives good. \$1,500 obo. Call 560-1038.

1986 FORD BRONCO II - 4x4 works good, \$600 obo. Call 560-1038.

FOR SALE
HOUSE FOR SALE/RENT/RENT TO OWN - 821 Bows Rd, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, completely remodeled inside, new windows, new roof, 2 stall garage. Ph. 616-262-6288.

GARAGE DOOR - 16'x7', complete, white aluminum, excellent condition, \$200. Call 897-4986.

FOR SALE
RATIGAN LAKE! - Charming cottage w/stone fireplace, cathedral ceilings & 80' of private frontage on all-sports, 56 acre, Ratigan Lake! \$149,500. patschaefer.com, 581-7580, Five Star Real Estate, 616-977-7790.

FOR SALE
BED - Queen pillowtop mattress set. Brand new, in plastic, warranty, \$110. Can deliver. Call 616-318-6998.

ELECTRIC HOT WATER HEATER - \$100; Counter w/shelf, 8 ft. x 26 in.; cabinet w/small sink, 5 ft. x 26 in., \$50 each; small commercial microwave, \$75; Hot tub, \$400. OBO on all. Call 897-7784.

FOR SALE
MEMORY FOAM MATTRESS - Relieves back pain. Never used, all sizes. Starting at \$200. RCD Wholesale GR. 682-4767 or 293-6160.

FOR SALE
BED - A new king pillowtop mattress set, in plastic, warranty. Can deliver, \$180. Also full size, only \$95. Call 949-2683.

FOR SALE
VALLEY VISTA COMMUNITY - 2 & 3 bedroom homes for sale & rent. Awesom lower fixed interest rates. Sites available. Call Claudia at 897-8427.

FOR SALE
BOAT MOTORS - 3 HP thru 20 hp, will guarantee, \$225 to \$500. Call 616-540-0540.

1972 DODGE - 2wd, 1/2 ton pickup, Arizona truck, rust free with AC, 400 CID, auto, less than 60k on rebuild. \$1,500. 616-550-9643.

CAR TRAILER - 20 ft. bed. \$850. Good hauler! 616-550-9643.

HAY BALER - International #47, needs work, \$400 obo. 691-7944.

FOR SALE
BEDROOM SET - 7 pc. Cherry bedroom set, includes sleigh bed! Brand new. Must sell. \$550. Can deliver. 616-949-6525.

FOR SALE
LOWELL - Nice home great price! Hardwood, ceramic, fireplace, large yard, new paint, walking distance to schools, town & parks! \$99,900. patschaefer.com, 581-7580, Five Star Real Estate, 616-977-7790.

FOR SALE
GOLF BALLS FOR SALE - All in perfect condition with no scuff marks. Assorted brands, only 25c each. Practice balls, \$12 per 100. Call 897-1355.

FOR SALE
MATTRESSES - Half the cost of the retailers. Twins, \$100, fulls, \$120, queens, \$140, kings \$180 & up. All new. Large selection. No \$100 bait & switch fake pillowtop junk. 682-4767 or 293-6160.

FOR RENT
SOUND OFF PHONE LINE 897-0787

FOR RENT
1 BEDROOM APARTMENT FOR RENT - fresh paint, new carpet, A/C, all utilities included. \$150/wk. Includes basic cable, coin washer & dryer. 299-3198.

SENIORS!! - Rent could be as low as \$70 per month! 1 bedroom HUD subsidized apartments for rent! Rent based on income for those who qualify! BEAUTIFUL 6 acre country setting! Pets welcome! Conveniently located 20 minutes East of Grand Rapids. Call today to join our small waiting list. Equal Housing Opportunity. 616-693-2271, hearing impaired dial 711.

MARTINY LAKES COTTAGES FOR RENT - Barryton 49305. Completely furnished including air, gas grill, canoe, paddle & rowboat. Pontoon rental available. Newly remodeled in knotty pine. 897-5062.

LOWELL MOBILE HOME PARK - Under new management. Nice 1, 2 & 3 bedroom trailers for rent. For info call Stacey at 616-754-0276 or 616-890-1610.

DUPLEX - Clarksville, small town setting, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, appliances, washer/dryer hookup, central air, 2 car attached garage. \$800 plus utilities & deposit. 616-374-5381.

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

HOUSE FOR RENT - Completely remodeled 3 bedroom, 2 bath house on 5 acres just E. of Clarksville. Easy access to highway. Will need your own stove & refrigerator, have washer & dryer hookup, \$950 per mo. plus utilities. Available 8/1. Call 616-366-8535 or 616-437-6657.

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

FREE
FREE AKC YELLOW LAB - 4 years old, done breeding him, good dog. Call 897-5874.

1991 CADILLAC DEVILLE - Good transportation, \$800. Call 897-0134 after 5 p.m.

HELP WANTED
HELP WANTED - Packaging, 9-5 Mon. - Fri., seasonal. \$7.25/hr. Send resume or work experience to: GLP, 615 Chatham, Suite 2, Lowell, MI 49331. 987-4444.

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ENROLL YOUR CHILD - by Aug. 14, 2007 & receive a free registration fee! (a \$50 value). AppleTree Learning Centers, 11770 Fulton St. SE, Lowell. 897-3057.

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EVENTS
CALEDONIA HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI REUNION - is set for Sat., Aug. 18, at the High School cafeteria, 9050 Kraft Ave., Caledonia. All Alumni through the class of 1965 are invited. The keynote speaker is Caledonia's own Ret. Lt. Col. Richard M. Doezema of the United States Marine Corp. For more information please call John Linton at 616-554-5867.

LOWELL YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE SUMMER SIGN-UPS - Aug. 2, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. at Burch Field. NO LATE SIGNUPS! All new players must bring a copy of your birth certificate (that LYFL can keep). Flag Football - ages 4-7; Youth football & 78ers; 78er cheerleading. Phone 897-7896, visit www.eTEAMZ.com/lyfl or email lyfl99@aol.com for more information.

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

I NEED FIREWOOD TO CUT - 1 or 100 trees, will pay for the good stuff. 616-706-3830.

FOUND
FOUND - Set of golf clubs early AM on 7/23, near Lowell High School on Vergennes. Call to identify 204-2264.

SERVICES
CAN'T AFFORD HEALTH INSURANCE? - Now you can! Call Tom NOW at 616-421-4366.

ALTO DAYCARE - Has 2 openings for summer or fall. Fenced in backyard, 4C Food Program, CPR trained, planned activities. 868-0752 or 893-2676.

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

TK'S HEART PET SITTING - Loving & expert care for your pet(s) while you work or vacation! References available. Call Tera, 897-7347 or cell 616-328-2445.

SERVICES
HORSE BOARDING - N. of Lowell, inside/outside, inside arena. Call Peggy at 616-897-5807 or 616-915-4200.

ZOOLAND DAYCARE - Full-time & part-time openings for 1st & 2nd shifts. Licensed. Special needs children accepted. FIA accepted. Food Program. Weekends available. Drop in's. 308-0195 or 897-8386.

GALLERY & CUSTOM FRAMING - Fire and Water Art! 219 W. Main in Lowell. OPEN Wed. - Sun. 1-6 p.m. Have your GRADUATION & WEDDING photos framed by the "Framing Artist." ART, artist created GIFTS, art CLASSES & MORE. www.fire-and-water-art.com or 890-1879.

NEED A DUMPSTER? - Dudley's Dumpsters. Dumpsters priced to get rid of your trash & save you cash! Garage, attic, household cleanup, roofing, trash, junk etc. 14 to 20 yards available. Call for free estimates. Contact Doug 616-295-6640.

PERSONALIZED PARTY INVITATIONS WITH YOUR COLOR PHOTO! - Birthdays or anniversaries...any party! Invitations are post card size & include an envelope. Quick turn around (usually 2 days). Call for details. Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, 897-9261.

PICK YOUR PACKAGE, PICK YOUR PRICE! - Dish Network gives you more choices & more ways to save. See our ad in this issue! Great Lakes Communications, 4970 West River Dr. NE, Comstock Park, 616-647-9990.

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

2007 KENT COUNTY YOUTH FAIR

"HOME GROWN FUN!!"

KENT COUNTY YOUTH FAIR

MONDAY, AUGUST 6
VETERAN'S RECOGNITION DAY

9:00 am - 2:00 pm
 Boating Safety Class
 5:00 pm - close
 Carnival Rides & Midway
 (MEGA PASS \$48 for 5 days)
 5:30 - 6:00 pm
 Blue Devils Horse Platoon
 6:30 pm
 Youth Fashion Show
 7:00 pm
 Antique Tractor Pull
 Youth Talent Contest

KENT COUNTY YOUTH FAIR


TUESDAY, AUGUST 7
GRANDPARENT'S DAY

10:00 - 11:00 am
 Free Grandparents Refreshments
 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
 ORV Safety Class
 Noon - Close
 Carnival Rides & Midway
 (\$2 Coupon Armband Special \$16)
 2:00 - 3:00 pm
 Free Grandparents Refreshments
 7:00 & 8:15 pm
 D.J. The Clown
 7:15 & 8:45 pm
 Family Tradition
www.kcfg.org

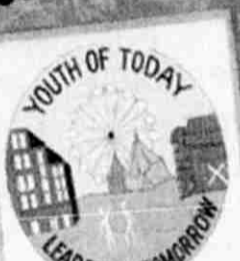
Wednesday, August 8

Noon - Close
 Carnival Rides & Midway
 (\$2 Coupon Armband Special \$16)
 7:00 pm
 Draft Horse Pull
 Molly Svrčina
 - A "Little Girl with a
 Gigantic Voice"
 Cook & Belle
 - Energetic Musical
 Entertainment Duo


World Community Day
HOME GROWN FUN!

WWW.KCFG.ORG
KENT COUNTY YOUTH FAIR

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9
AGRICULTURE DAY

Noon - Close
 Carnival Rides & Midway
 (Armband Ride Special \$16)
 2:00 pm
 Small Animal Livestock Sale
 2:30 pm
 Livestock Sale
 6:00 pm
 Open Garden Tractor Pull
 6:30 pm
 West Michigan Bluegrass Assoc.
 Patchwork Band & Black Canyon Bluegrass
 7:00 pm
 Ice Cream Social
 Extrication Demo

KENT COUNTY YOUTH FAIR

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10
HANDI-CAPABLE DAY


10:00 am - Noon
 Free Carnival Rides for
 Special Needs Individuals
 Noon - Close
 Carnival Rides & Midway
 Armband Ride Special \$16.00
 6:30 - 10:30 pm
 Country Karaoke with B93
 8:00 - 11:00 pm
 Family Line Dancing
 Learn to dance to Country
 and popular music hits.

KENT COUNTY YOUTH FAIR

MEIJER
SATURDAY, AUGUST 11
KID'S & FAMILY DAY

Noon - Close
 Carnival Rides & Midway
 (Armband Special \$16)
 3:00 pm
 Puff the Dragon Pedal Pull
 5:00 pm
 The Thunder Floor Cloggers
 7:00 pm
 Mid States Rodeo - Kent County
 Youth Fair Rodeo awarded 2006
 Rodeo of the Year!
www.kcfg.org

Youth of Today
Leaders of Tomorrow
DAILY ACTIVITIES

Youth Exhibits
 Horse Drawn Wagon Rides
 Children's Barnyard
 Chainsaw Carving
 (Tuesday-Friday)
 Silent Auction for Chainsaw
 Sculptures
 (Tuesday-Saturday)
 Thanks for visiting the Fair!
HOME GROWN FUN!

WWW.KCFG.ORG
KENT COUNTY YOUTH FAIR

RODEO

Saturday, August 11, 2007
Kent County Fair Grounds
7:00 PM Rain or Shine

Advance Sale Adult Tickets \$10
 Adult Tickets Day of Event \$15
 Children 5-12 Always \$5
 Children Under 5 Free

Sponsored by:
 Backwater Cafe, Clarksville Elevator,
 Equine Medical, Timpson Transport

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Midway Amusements
 Entertainment & Stage Tent
 ICNB
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 Track
 TRACTOR SUPPLY CO.
 Big God + Big Free
 Reading for Rides
 Ridgeview Industries
 Canfield Plumbing & Heating
 L. A. Rent-All

Check WWW.KCFG.ORG for the full schedule, brochure
 and up-to-the-minute changes
 225 South Hudson St, Lowell 49331 616-897-6050