

The Lowell Ledger

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Wednesday, August 8, 2007

2007 4-H Youth Fair evokes memories of bygone days

By Emma Palova

Come to the fair and experience the long-forgotten magic of bygone days. The Kent County 4-H Youth Fair evokes

memories of a simple era when animals were used as means of transportation and livelihood.

The importance of the 4-H experience was stressed at the opening ceremonies Sunday.

"Be leaders not followers," said master of ceremonies Dwayne Gill of Detroit. Gill, a police officer and stand-up comedian, entertained the large crowd with his lack of knowledge of agriculture.

His first assignment at the Ionia post was to find a missing John Deere tractor. "What color is it," he asked the farmer. "This doesn't happen a lot on 8-Mile Road."

The ceremonies started

with a traditional parade of the clubs on the fairgrounds as animals were still being unloaded, washed and groomed. In the riding arena, horses and their owners demonstrated riding skills including a girl, like a cowboy, who jumped on her horse without a saddle. Also in the horse barns, the horses backs standing side by side were reminiscent of the famous Edgar Degas painting of "Board of Directors." Some horses had their tails and manes braided; one horse wore Mardi Gras attire.

The fair carried an overall feeling of nostalgia due to the passing away of

E.L. Phelps who has been an integral part of the fair since 1934. Some speakers got emotional and cried as they delivered their message.

"There is a tremendous amount of ownership in this fair," said board president Jason Hofman. Then the 2006 Royal Court coronated the new 2007 court which includes Jessica Bouman, Lauren Smith, Jessica Walma, Sarah Crosby and Brandon Beukema.

"Discover your purpose," said Gill. "Being here is half the battle. It's about being positive, stay involved."

More pictures, pg. 8



A ferris wheel in the process of being erected last weekend is now in full swing for the fair.

Local businessman offers \$500 reward

Collector's Korner owner Rodger Ackerson is offering a \$500 reward for information leading to the return of a stolen coin collection.

The estimated value of the collection, according to detective Steven Bukala, is more than \$20,000. The

collection was stolen from an open safe during business hours between July 18 and 25. There was no forced entry.

Currently, the owner is examining a closed circuit video. There are two possibilities of how the incident happened, according to Bukala. Either the clerk was busy and somebody quickly walked into the safe and grabbed the coin boxes or the clerk was distracted by the thief's partner, while the thief walked into the safe. The collection includes a proof barber half, a proof seated dime, a proof silver 3-cent piece and three 20-dollar gold pieces. Ackerson said whoever stole the collection must know coins well, and could easily be a regular customer

"I can't stand that kind of a loss," he said. "I have invested in the coins, that person took about 15 years of work and I cannot afford to be ripped off in this manner."

Since March 2006, Ackerson had a 1932 S quarter valued at \$600 stolen and an 1877 Indian penny valued at \$850 stolen. The thieves were never apprehended.

The charges are retail fraud first degree which is a 5-

Reward, cont'd., pg. 3

Art Attack will raise funds for LAAC

By Emma Palova

In tune with this year's theme "Evening at the Fairgrounds," the annual Art Attack fundraiser will be held at the Foreman Building on Aug. 18.

"This is our main fundraiser," said Steve Samson, marketing director.

The Lowell Area Arts Council is celebrating 30 years of bringing arts to the community this year with a variety of activities.

The Art Attack will feature live and silent auctions of unique art and gift items. Among the two top items are one-week stays in timeshare condos

in St. Lucia and historic Williamsburg.

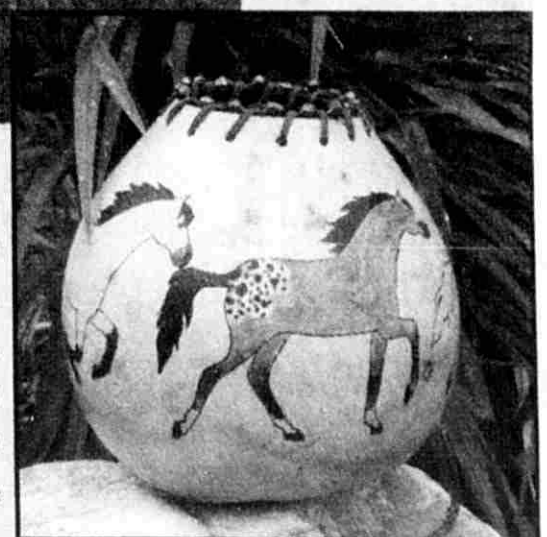
Artwork to be auctioned off includes Bonnie Osborne's pastel painting "Farm near Port Oneida," Zurina Ariffin's batik painting "Four Flower Fantasy," vintage jewelry by Karyn deKeiser Moulton and gourd vase by Lisa Wierenga, to name just a few.

La Lista Country Fair menu features pulled pork and turkey, German potato salad, harvest grilled veggies, cobblers and pies provided by the Tommy Fitzgerald Group.

A cash bar and music will liven up the event. The tickets are \$40 and are available at www.lowellartscouncil.org



A pastel painting by Bonnie Osborne and Lisa Wierenga's gourd vase are among the many items to be auctioned off at the Art Attack.



Party in the Park ... Page 3

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Gallery Art ... Page 9

Obituaries



BREGG

Gary Duane Bregg, aged 50, of Ada, died Saturday, July 28, 2007. He was preceded in death by his mother, Velma Bregg. He is survived by his wife, Jill; children, Melanie Bregg, Joe (Amanda) Shambau, Shannon (Christine) Shambau, Kristal (Adam) Andrus, Marissa Shambau, Christopher Loper, Myriah Loper, Michael Conner; parents, Guy (Lois) Bregg; sisters and brothers, Donna Gonzales, Timothy (Dorothy) Bregg, Suseann (Wayne) Roth, Audrey (David) Morgan, Carol Smith,

FITZPATRICK

Norma Exene (Cranson) Fitzpatrick, of Ada, found everlasting peace with Our Lord on July 31, 2007. Norma was born to Lester and Goldie (Sheeley) Cranson in Dowagiac, Michigan, on August 23, 1929. She is survived by her loving and devoted husband, Frank Fitzpatrick, her only daughter, Colleen, her seven sons; Danny (Jean), Michael

(Mary), Patrick (Martha), Timothy (Rhonda), Jamey (Nicole), Kerry (Tammy) and John, her 28 grandchildren; Casey, Justin, Brian, Kelly, Monica, Kyle, Molly, Sarah, Shannon, Corey, Valerie, Erin, Matthew, Angela, Brandon, Ellie, Ryan, Ross, Anne, Ethan, Mackenzie, Sean, Megan, Caitlin, Hannah, Maura, Connor and Aidan, her nephews; Douglas Fitzgerald and Richard Anthony, Jr., and her relatives, living and deceased, in Three Oaks, Michigan. She is preceded in death by her half-sisters, Ellie and Margaret, her half-brothers, Buddy and Malcolm, and her nephew, Michael Anthony. In 1954, Norma married Frank Fitzpatrick. She gave her family a love for music and nature. She was a gifted poet, singer and composer of music, a wonderful cook, an energetic gardener, and she enjoyed a variety of hobbies. Frank and Norma enjoyed the beaches and lighthouses of the Great Lakes, often walked the trails of P.J. Hoffmaster State Park and enjoyed visits to the campus of Notre Dame. Norma was a faithful and caring wife, mother and grandmother. She will be remembered for



PHELPS

Mr. E. L. Phelps, age 89, passed away on Saturday, August 4, 2007. For 89 plus years, E.L. lived and worked on the farm. He worked the farm with his parents and saw farming change from work horses (Doll and Rex) to modern-day farming. He met Wanneta on a blind date, and they continued dating for 3.5 years until their marriage on March 14, 1942. (They were married for 23,540 days). On the day after his marriage, he received his draft notice

and left nine days later to serve during WWII in the US Army. Before E. L. left for overseas, Wanneta and his mother, (with only \$100 each, a fare of \$86 each, which left \$14 for each for expenses) made the three-day train ride to Camp Roberts in California. E. L. was injured during WWII and received the Purple Heart. After the war he worked at W.W.W. and continued to farm and then later became a full-time farmer. In 1934 E. L. was involved with the very first 4-H Fair in Lowell and has been a part of that fair for 73 years. His name is very synonymous with the fair and very fitting that he died on August 4, 2007 with the opening of this year's fair. For 30 years E. L. served as president of the Lowell Fair Board, and on September 30, 2000 the directors honored E. L. with "Father of the Lowell Fair" award. E. L. served on the board of Courtland Township, the Election Committee, the Board of Review, the Farm Home Administration, and the Agriculture Stabilization Conservation Service. He also supported the Future Farmers of America in Cedar Springs, was chairman of the Benham School Board. Throughout the community it was a well-known fact that E. L. had a love for Black Angus cattle. When E. L.

was working on the land, Wanneta would pack a picnic for E.L. herself and the children, carry a blanket, and meet E. L. in the fields for lunch. E. L. enjoyed people and especially liked to square dance at the Ensley Grange Hall. All his life, E. L. was a true gentleman who devoted himself to his wife, his family, and his community. He is survived by his wife, Wanneta who provided a silent strength and was his life-long friend and caregiver; his sister, Mrs. Ruth Shaw of Rockford; daughters-in-law, Jan Phelps of Rockford, and Karen and Sal Russo of Grand Rapids; and many special nieces and nephews. E. L. was preceded in death by his son, James Phelps on April 19, 1993, daughter, Susan Kay Phelps on December 23, 2006, grandson, Matthew Phelps on December 27, 1996, and sister, Lola Eldred on March 24, 1998. The service for E. L. Phelps was Tuesday at Cedar Springs United Methodist Church with Pastor Brian Rafferty officiating. Interment in Courtland Township Cemetery. Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider Kent County Youth Fair, 225 South Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331.

Township hosts "Party in the Park" this weekend

Lowell Charter Township will be hosting the second annual "Party in the Park" on Aug. 11 from noon - 4 p.m. at Grand River Riverfront Park, 12025 Grand River Drive.

"Last year's party in the park was a lot of fun," said township supervisor Paula Blumm. "We had quite a few people ask if we were going to do it again."

The main purpose of the party is to generate interest

in the park that has been improved in recent years. "We want to show it off," said Blumm. "We want more people to use it."

The township is providing hot dogs, chips, lemonade and iced tea. JKD is donating ice cream. Brian Adams and Dave Simmonds will be playing bluegrass and easy listening music.

The YMCA is bringing out a skateboard agility course consisting of portable

ramps and jumps. There will be demonstrations and a chance for kids to try it out. "This should be fun for older kids," said Blumm.

The Grand Rapids Astronomical Association will bring a portable telescope fitted with solar filters so that attendees can observe the sun. "It makes looking at the sun safe," said Blumm. "It takes your breath away."

The Wolverine Skyhawk Radio Controlled Airplane Club will give flight demonstrations. There will also be activities for younger children.

The park has been improved with the addition of a gazebo and benches since last year. A lacrosse field has also been added. A wetlands education area is being developed this summer with help from a grant from the Lowell Area Community Fund.

August 6-12 proclaimed "Farmers' Market Week"

To raise awareness about farmers markets and encourage Michigan residents to buy local food, Governor Jennifer Granholm has declared the week of August 6, 2007 to be "Farmers' Market Week" here in the state of Michigan. The celebration coincides with National Farmers Market Week as proclaimed by the United States Secretary of Agriculture, Mike Johanns.

"I encourage the people of the United States to celebrate the benefits of

farmers markets and the bountiful production of our Nation's farmers with appropriate observances and activities," Johanns stated.

During this week, farmers markets across the country are to be recognized as outlets for agricultural producers who act as the stewards of our land. Farmers markets offer consumers farm-fresh, healthy products; serve as a link among urban, suburban, and rural communities; and support local anti-hunger initiatives. Granholm specifically acknowledged farmers markets for their contribution to Michigan's economy and the overall health of Michigan's citizens.

"We're excited to get this kind of recognition by the state to bring farmers markets into the public eye," said Dru Montri, project manager for the Michigan Farmers Market Association (MIFMA).

MIFMA is a statewide organization developed to advance farmers markets to create a thriving marketplace for local food and farm products. It places farmers markets at the forefront of the local food movement and works to ensure all residents have access to healthy, locally grown food and that Michigan farmers markets receive policy support.

On behalf of Michigan farmers markets, MIFMA encourages the residents of Michigan to make it a priority to support Michigan's "Farmers' Market Week" by promoting local farmers

Market week, cont'd., pg. 8

Arbor day foundation offers free trees

Everyone who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation during August 2007 will receive 10 free Colorado blue spruce trees.

The free trees are part of the nonprofit foundation's Trees for America campaign, a program dedicated to environmental stewardship through the planting of trees.

"Colorado blue spruce

trees were selected for this campaign because of their many uses in home landscapes," said John Rosenow, president of the Arbor Day Foundation. "They lend beauty to their surroundings with their silver blue-green color and compact conical shape. They can be used as individual ornamentals, an energy-saving windbreak, a

privacy screen, or as living Christmas trees."

The trees will be shipped postpaid between Oct. 15 and Dec. 10, at the right time for planting. The 6-to-12-inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

Members of the Arbor Day Foundation will also receive The Tree Book,

which includes information about tree planting and care.

To receive the free trees, send a \$10 membership contribution to Ten Blue Spruces, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410, by Aug. 31, 2007, or join online at www.arborday.org.

Reward, continued ... From Page 1

The charges are retail fraud first degree which is a 5-year penalty, and a \$10,000 fine or a larceny over \$20,000 which is a 10-year felony and a \$15,000 fine.

The retail theft is fairly common for business owners, according to Bukala.

Contact Bukala with any information at the Lowell Police Department at 1-616-897-7123 or silent observer at 774-2345 case #2441-07.

While discussing the coin theft case, Bukala also warned against an ongoing Canadian sweepstakes scam involving a bogus check in the mail stating that the

recipient is winner of a lottery. The letter requests payment of \$4,000 for taxes sent via Western Union.

"Don't cash the check, just shred it and don't acknowledge the phone," said Bukala.

Notice of Public Hearing on Increasing Property Taxes

The Township Board of the BOWNE TOWNSHIP will hold a public hearing on a proposed increase of 0.0849 mills in the operating tax millage rate to be levied on property in 2007.

The hearing will be held on Monday, August 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Office, 8240 Alden Nash S.E.

The date and location of the meeting to take action on the proposed additional millage will be announced at this public meeting.

If adopted, the proposed additional millage will increase operating revenues from ad valorem property taxes 3.40% over such revenues generated by levies permitted without holding a hearing. If the proposed additional millage rate is not approved, the operating revenue will increase by 1.69% over the preceding year's operating revenue.

The taxing unit publishing this notice, and identified below, has complete authority to establish the number of mills to be levied from within its authorized millage rate.

This notice is published by:
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LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2007

at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash, SE.

Woods Builders have made application for a variance from the Table of General Bulk Regulations of the Lowell Township Zoning Ordinance to allow for an 8.6 foot side yard setback where 50 feet is required for property located at 10000 Fulton Street, Lowell, Permanent Parcel No. 41-20-07-200-004.

Linda S. Regan, Clerk

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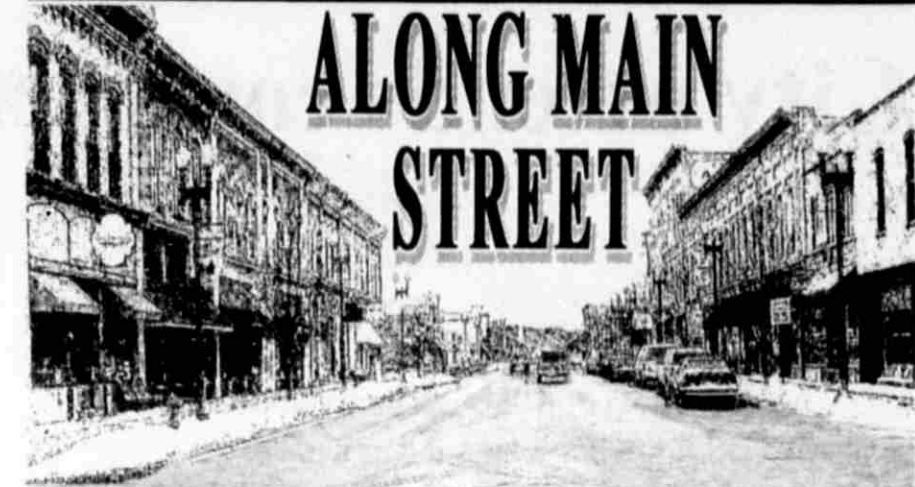
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BLUEGRASS CONCERT
Bluegrass music at the fair on Thursday, August 9 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the fairgrounds. Two bands. Free concert.

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES
Sign up at the Nazarene Church Friday, Aug. 10, 6 to 8 p.m. or Saturday, Aug. 11, 10 a.m. - 12 noon. Any questions call 897-7395.

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.

ST. MARY PREGNANCY CENTER
Donations are urgently needed for diapers, baby wipes, fruit and vegetables, and cash donations. A fundraiser will be held August 24 & 25, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., at the Lowell Showboat Nostalgia Night. If you can help sell popcorn and pop, even for one hour, please call Kathy Horsch at 897-2083.

LHS CLASS OF 1982 REUNION
The Class of 1982 is planning its 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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HOT ROD (PG-13) 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40
THE SIMPSONS MOVIE (PG-13) 12:15, 2:40, 4:50, 7:00, 9:10
HAIRSPRAY (PG) 11:00, 1:35, 6:50
I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU CHUCK AND LARRY (PG-13) 4:15, 9:30

COORON FREE 20oz DRINK with \$2.50 purchase of 46oz. bag of battery popcorn

City extends contract with SMAT

By Emma Palova

The Lowell City Council Monday extended a contract with the School of Missionary Aviation Technology (SMAT) by one year due to a possible move of the school to the Ionia County Airport. Currently, the two parties - SMAT and Ionia County Airport - are negotiating although no written agree-

ment has been reached. According to city manager Dave Pasquale and Lowell airport manager Jim Sowle, the move will not impact the city-owned airport.

The 10-year agreement between SMAT and the city expires this month.

"The airport is going to remain," said Pasquale. "The airport will run, but

we'd like to see the school there. At this point they're still discussing; they're in a fact finding mode."

Pasquale said the airport operates as an enterprising fund. Any revenues generated through hangar rentals go back into its operations, not to the city, much like the Lowell Light & Power utility.

"The funds have no effect on the city budget," said Pasquale. Sowle informed the council that easements on the east side of the airport have been paid and trees may be trimmed to standards even by owners themselves. Within four to six weeks, a complete acquisition of easements with

funding on the northeast corner of the airport is expected.

There will be no expansion of the airport and the grass runway will not be paved. "East end has been a challenge," said councilman Jim Pfaller. "Congratulations."

The 180-acre airport in

Ionia is owned by the county. It is home to Benz Aviation and a glider operation, with two runways 4,000 feet long. It can accommodate bigger business jets. Ionia County Airport board chairman Jack Shattuck confirmed that no written agreement has been reached yet with SMAT.

Camo Ball to raise funds for cystic fibrosis

By Emma Palova

Swallowing minnows to double the raffle tickets has become a trademark game at the annual Camouflage Ball organized by the Hunt for a Cure charity for cystic fibrosis.

"It's an unusual fundraiser," said founder Peter Odland. "It's our third year for the minnow-swallowing thing."

The event not only includes swallowing minnows, but also dressing up in a camouflage tuxedo or a gown to add pizzazz to the party.

This year's event, to be held on Aug. 11 at the Steelcase Learning Center on 44th Street, will be hosted by Tony Gates of WLAV.

A Detroit Piston suite for 12 people valued at over \$10,000, Nascar tickets for the Talladega Nextel Cup and a Gibson Les Paul guitar autographed by Ted Nugent top the live and silent auctions.

Odland is hoping to raise \$100,000 for research to cure cystic fibrosis. His 10-year-old son Dylan has the disease.

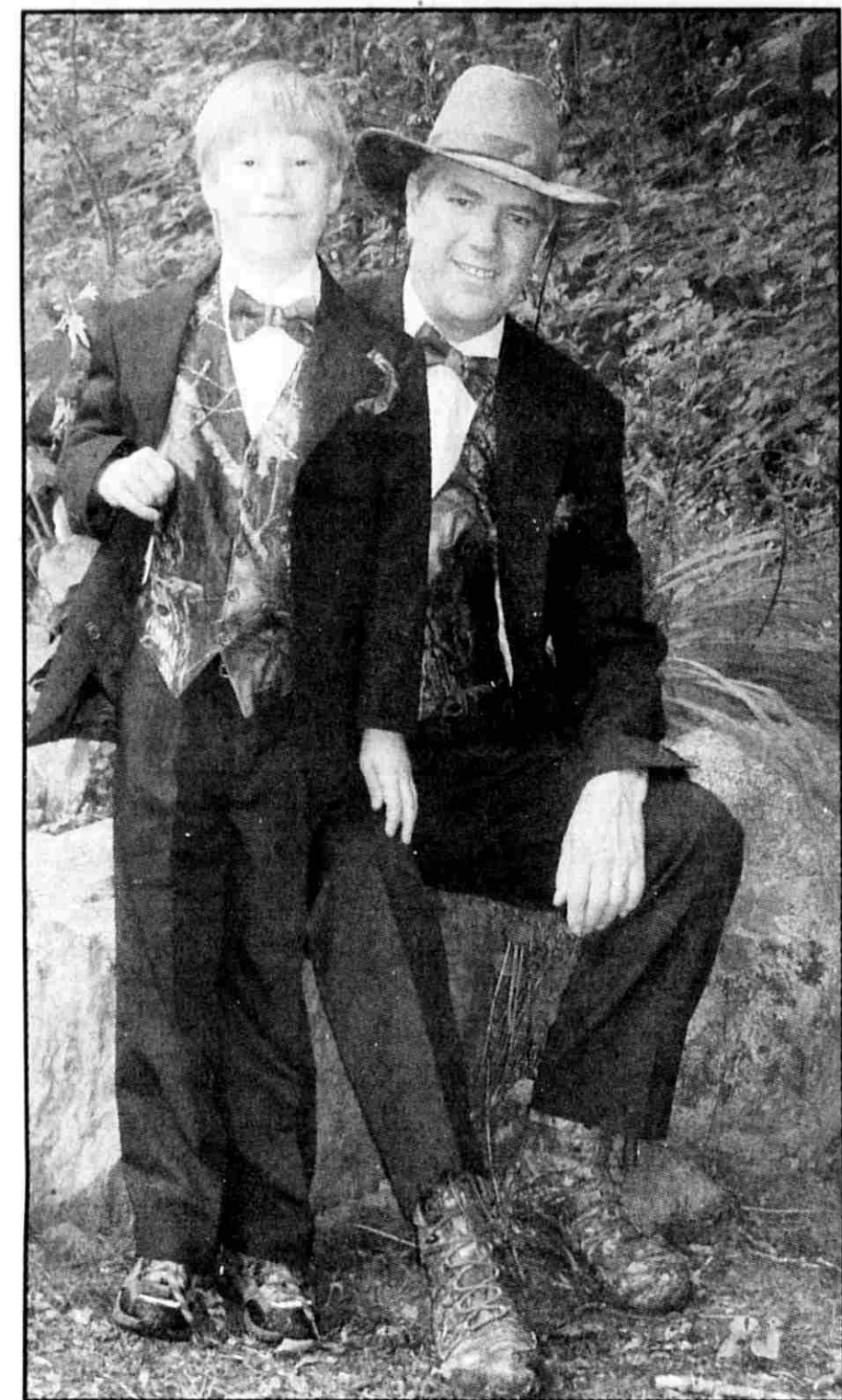
"I am very passionate about my family," said Odland. "I want to fight so he has a long life."

Odland, an avid outdoors person, started the charity seven years ago to make a difference. The fundraiser has grown over the years, as Odland's passionate outdoors friends gravitated to it.

By the time this year's fundraiser is over, Odland will have raised \$0.5 million in seven years. He hopes to raise \$1 million in the next four years.

This year, Odland is expecting 450 people. "We'd like to top last year," said Odland.

Tickets are \$50 each. For more information go to www.huntforacure.com.



Peter Odland with son dressed for the Camo Ball.

Words, once they are printed, have a life of their own.

- Carol Burnett (1936 -)



In The Ledger

Sharing The Vision, cont'd., pg. 7

LOCAL FAMILIES NEEDED TO HOST FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Pacific Intercultural Exchange, a nonprofit organization is looking for local families to host foreign exchange students. The host family is responsible for board, room and guidance. The student has their own medical insurance and spending money. PIE has 31 students who have host families with 11 students that are still waiting. The following student is one who is hoping for a family as soon as possible.

Anania - 15 year-old boy, from Armenia is waiting for a host family willing to share their home with him for the coming school year in the Lowell area. Anania is a scholarship student with excellent grades, likes playing soccer, watching movies, biking, swimming, running, tennis, video games and is very active and enjoys outdoor activities.

If you have questions or are interested in hosting Anania, or another student, call your local coordinator at 616-527-0012 or 1-800-382-7439

Viewpoint



by Roger Brown

cozy corner

There are a few experiences in life that you know aren't going to be much fun. A visit to the oral surgeon for a root canal would rank high on anyone's short list of "No Fun!" For guys, tagging along with the wife to the mall is never good. If she is shopping for a bathing suit, multiply the drudgery by a factor of at least ten. For you gals out there, dragging the husband along on these shopping trips can't be much fun either. The obvious question is, "Why do we subject each other to this misery?" Must have been in the fine print on that marriage license.

Right up there on these lists of dreaded duties would be a trip to the Secretary of State's office. The only time I can remember wanting to go there, was the very first time. Of course that was when I was 16 and getting my driver's license. Everybody wants to make that visit. Unfortunately, it's all down hill from there.

Recently, a small problem with the wording on a vehicle title necessitated a trip to the Secretary of State's office. Here in Lowell, we are about 15 miles from the nearest office. With gasoline selling at about three bucks a gallon, I figured it would be prudent to call ahead with a couple of questions. I'd be hard pressed to tell you the last time I had everything needed to complete my mission in one trip. We might have to go back to that first time with my birth certificate and driver training diploma in hand.

Calling ahead is not such a great idea. If you call a Secretary of State office listed in the phone book, you'll find that, "The number you have dialed is no longer in service." The new number is a toll free line to the state's information office. No doubt, some bureaucrat's brilliant idea to streamline the system and save our tax dollars. After dialing the toll free number you will be routed through a seemingly endless series of prompts on the menu.

When you finally realize that these recordings will answer only the most mundane questions, you will become frustrated and begin swearing at the recorded messages, mashing the "0" repeatedly and finally throwing the phone across the room.

Actually, I did manage to keep my cool long enough to

get a recording that said something like, "If you would like to speak to specialist (translation... real person) please wait on the line." After a short pause, the recording continues with, "Presently, the average wait is twenty minutes." That's when I swore at the recording and screamed, "I can drive to nearest office faster than that." And yes, I could have driven to an office in less time than I spent on that stupid phone menu.

At the Secretary of State's office I was pleasantly surprised to find that all four positions at the counter were staffed. My hopes for a quick in and out visit were dashed when, after pulling a number from the machine, I was into double digits before my turn would come up. I passed the time by reading a brochure on applying for a commercial driver's license. Why don't I ever think to bring a crossword puzzle...or two?

After memorizing the brochure, my turn did come up. A friendly staff member seemed genuinely eager to help me with my title problem. Unfortunately, she didn't have an answer. She consulted with the manager. They referred to their library of regulations in three ring binders. The verdict finally came back. As you have already guessed, I didn't have everything I needed to make the change in the title.

There is no way to simply state the nature of my title problem. It seems like a simple correction, but as with all things legal and or governmental, there is no such thing as "simple." It is experiences like this that make me cringe at the thought of socialized medicine. Going to the doctor isn't much fun in the first place. Combine that with the Secretary of State's office and think of how much more fun it will be.

Back at the ranch, I went to work on obtaining my missing document. In layman's terms I need an official "Okie Dokie" from the lien holder on the title. You know I'd be lying if I told you I called the lender's customer service number, a real person answered the phone, understood my problem and promised to send me the "Okie Dokie".

A real person did answer the phone. Unfortunately, I had to talk to three other real people before we came up with a solution to my simple little problem. They are faxing me a form that I have to fill out, sign and have notarized. After some FedEx badminton with the form, I'll hopefully have what I need for a return trip to the Secretary of State's office. I now have the better part of a day wrapped up in this, and still don't have the end in sight.

So, where do visits to the Secretary of State's office rank on my list of things I dread? I'd put it at just slightly less enjoyable than a root canal. (At least they give me nitrous oxide while I'm there.) Still, I'd rather sort out a vehicle title problem than tag along on a swimsuit buying trip to the mall.



125 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL JOURNAL AUGUST 9, 1882

The late storm made sad havoc with the roads. Mrs. Jesse James has just sent back to John J. Dovey of Philadelphia a gold watch of which he was robbed at a Kentucky coal mine office in 1880.

100 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AUGUST 8, 1907

Many expressions of pleasure and surprise were heard on all sides regarding the electrical display and generous decorations made by Lowell businessmen for the Homecoming.

Forty different Lowell views on post cards at Henry's Drug Store.

75 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AND ALTO SOLO AUGUST 4, 1932

A method of supplying water to crops on large or small areas at a cost which gives the farmer a good profit from the increased production per acre will be shown at the Dan Van Ree farm.

Headline: "All ready for Showboat Days" Subheadline: "Replica of Mississippi Stern Wheeler Tugging at Her Moorings, Impatient for the Maiden Trip"

50 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AUGUST 8, 1957

William Jones Jr. has been elected chairman of the newly-organized Lowell and 4-H Park Board.

The steam shovel which had sidewalk superintendents busy Tuesday of this week at Ron's Shell Service Station was digging an excavation for an additional 4,000 gallon storage tank.

Construction is to start in a week on a \$13,284 sewer and water main extension to serve Washington and Jefferson street residents on the east side of town and an area on Vergennes Road on the west side of town.

The Lowell Public Schools book store opens Monday, Aug. 19, according to Charles Snay, who operates the text sales room in the basement of the main school building.

25 YEARS AGO THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER AUGUST 4, 1982

The annual sidewalk sale on Main Street has several stores participating including Anderson's, Pfaller's, Wests, Lipperts, Riverside Fireplace Shop and Lamberts Variety.

There will be a bridal show at Rivertown Mall on Saturday.

Primary election is August 10.

To The Editor

Dear Editor,

I would like to congratulate the Boy Scouts of America and their 100-year anniversary and to Lowell Scout Troop 102 for their service to the community since 1942. Scouting has helped form the lives of many of our young men and has

served our community with dignity and in doing so I believe it would be the appropriate time and the right thing to do in honoring scouting and troop 102 with the deeding of the property on North Washington Street to scout troop 102 for services rendered.

Jim Howard

Letters, Letters, Letters, Letters...

We love to hear from you!

The Lowell Ledger - welcomes all "Letters to the Editor" for publication on its "Viewpoint" page. Letters can be typed or written. However, we ask that they not exceed 250 words and not be strictly thank you letters. "Letters to the Editor" should be sent to the Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, P.O. Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or emailed to: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com. Letters must be signed and please include a phone number. Editing may be necessary for space, clarity and to avoid obscenity, libel or invasion of privacy. The Lowell Ledger thanks you in advance for your cooperation.

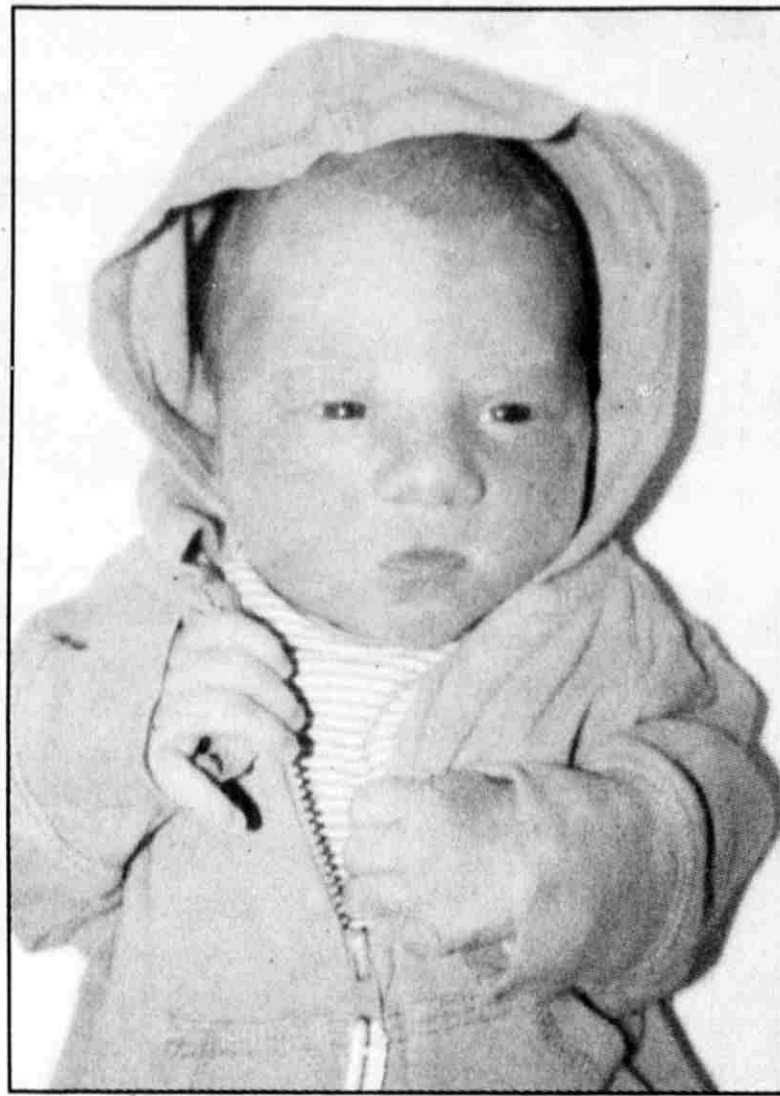


New Arrivals *Barron*

Rachelle Becker and Matt Barron are happy to announce the birth of their son, Rocco Von Barron. He was born June 12, 2007, weighing 8 lbs. 13 oz.

Proud grandparents are Bob and Laura Becker of Lowell and Carol Baker of Jonesville. Great-grandparents are Dick and Delphine Stanisz of Livonia and Loretta and Don Baker of Jonesville.

Also welcoming him home are Aunt Heather and Uncle Robert of Lowell.



Rocco Von Barron

Social Security may pay benefits to grandchildren

More and more parents are finding themselves raising grandchildren. Social Security will pay benefits to grandchildren if benefits are not payable on the work record of a parent.

If a child is not receiving benefits from a parent when the grandparent retires, becomes disabled, or dies, the grandchild may then be able to qualify for benefits if certain conditions are met. Generally, the biological parents of the child must be deceased or disabled, or the grandchild must be legally adopted by the grandparent.

In addition, the grandchild must have begun living with the grandparent before age 18 and received at least one half of his or her support from the grand-

parent for the year before the month the grandparent became entitled to retirement or disability insurance benefits, or died. Also, the natural parent(s) of the child must not be making regular contributions to his or her support.

If the grandchild was born during the one-year period, the grandparent must have lived with and provided at least one-half of the child's support for sub-

stantially all of the period from the date of birth to the month the grandparent became entitled to benefits.

The grandchild may qualify for benefits under these circumstances, even if he or she is a step-grandchild. However, if the grandparents are already receiving benefits, they would need to adopt the child for it to qualify for benefits.

So much of what we call management consists in making it difficult for people to work.

- Peter Drucker (1909 - 2005)

Reflections of faith

By Bob Roush
Pastor, Friendship Country Chapel

I became acquainted with the pawn shop while serving in the Navy. The pawn shop was the place I would go if I needed some quick cash. I would take something of value, such as a watch or ring, and receive cash for it. The routine would go like this, if the item was worth \$50, the pawn broker would give me about \$15 cash and a ticket which I could present to redeem the item when things got better financially. In doing this the item was said to be "in hock." Getting it out of hock was called redemption and if I came into that shop with the redeeming ticket and the redemption price I could buy back the item.

When I reflect on this thought, I think of what God did for the human race through His Son, Jesus Christ. The Bible says that man became separated from God through the disobedience of Adam and Eve and through that single act all became sinners, that is separated from God. In the

original creation God gave Adam and Eve dominion over all His creation. But when they sinned they put, not only their own relationship towards God in jeopardy, but the whole creation went into "hock" so to speak.

That explains the reason for so much sickness, hatred and death in the world today. For about 4,000 years the world laid on the dusty shelves of sin in the pawn shop with a price tag higher than anyone could pay, that is until Jesus came. His death on the cross paid the ransom price demanded by God, which was death.

The Bible says the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ. The result of this act of love from God to us is spiritual freedom. Jesus said "you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free. If the son shall make you free you shall be free indeed." This is the story of God's love to a fallen creation and His act of freely giving us that which we could never purchase ourselves.

Every day I thank Him for his liberating love and I make it my goal to share it with as many people as possible through my life and ministry. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."

Lend A Hand



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

D.A. BLODGETT FOR CHILDREN NEEDS FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE FAMILIES

D.A. Blodgett for Children is in need of individuals to foster or adopt children. They are school age children, teens and sibling groups. If you are interested and can provide a safe, stable and loving home, please attend the next foster/adoptive monthly orientation. Call to get a date and time of our next orientation. You can also visit our website at www.dablodgett.org if you are interested in waiting children or to view our other programs. Contact Linda Johnson, Recruitment Specialist at 774-0662 with any questions.

ST. MARY PREGNANCY CENTER

Donations are urgently needed for diapers, baby wipes, fruit and vegetables, and cash donations. A fundraiser will be held Aug. 24 and 25, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., at the Lowell Showboat Nostalgia Night. If you can help sell popcorn and pop, even for one hour, please call Kathy Horsch at 897-2083.

INTERESTED IN BEING A TUTOR? SPECIALIZED LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT (SLD) CENTER SEEKING HELP

The Specialized Language Development (SLD) Center, a West Michigan non-profit community resource center, is committed to bringing the power of reading, writing and spelling to all individuals with dyslexia or other unique

learning styles enabling them to achieve their full potential. The SLD Center in Grand Rapids is seeking volunteer tutors who are willing to be trained and work part-time, flexible hours with lower elementary children throughout the Grand Rapids Public Schools.

For more information about the SLD Center and tutoring opportunities, visit www.sldread.org or call (616) 361-1182. The next training class is scheduled for Sept. 17-21.

Happy Birthday

AUGUST 8:
Jennifer Kimble, Chris Goggins, John Rasch, Allen Hoekstra, Sharell Wolf, Debra Lenneman.

AUGUST 12:
Robin Briggs, Linda Uzarski, Betty Powell, Steve Martin, Sr., Gaylord Heaston, Alex Richmond.

AUGUST 9:
Pamela Esparza, Steven Burrows, Busha Wilson.

AUGUST 13:
Robert Hewitt, Ryan Christenson, Ryan Roe, Mike Roth.

AUGUST 10:
Madeline Scott, Arnie DeLoof.

AUGUST 11:
Mike Wilczewski, Jordan Warren, Nicholas Brzezniak.

AUGUST 14:
Adam Billingsley, Aaron Christenson, Betsey Brenk, Bob Wilczewski.

HEALTH

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



TESTICULAR CANCER SCREENING

Testicular cancer affects males of all ages, but is most prevalent in young men. It is one of the most common malignant tumors found in males age 15 to 34. Some risk factors for testicular cancer include:

- being caucasian,
 - having a brother or father with testicular cancer,
 - having an undescended testicle (one that did not come down into the scrotum) even if it was surgically corrected,
 - having small or irregularly shaped testicles,
 - having Klinefelter's syndrome (a genetic condition).
- Some signs of testicular cancer include:
- a hard, painless lump in the testicle (most common),
 - a dull ache in the scrotum (less common),
 - a scrotum that feels heavy or swollen.

Testicular cancer has good cure rates if found early and treated. All men should perform monthly testicular self-exams. If a lump, swelling, tenderness or any other change in the testicle is discovered, see your healthcare provider right away.

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AUGUST 16
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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!



AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p>ATTENTION: BIBLE BELIEVERS If you would like to attend a church where the King James Bible is held up as the perfect, preserved word of God with all the words of God for all English speaking people, then give us a visit at: 901 W. Main, Lowell 897-6284 or 485-4195 10AM Sunday School; 11AM Morning Service; 6PM Evening Service; Wed., 7:30PM Prayer Meeting.</p>	<p>ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Kirby and Harrison Alto • 616-691-8011 Worship.....9:30 A.M. Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.</p> <p>OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS Pastor Dean Bailey</p>	<p>DAY BIBLE CHAPEL 9305 Centerline, Saranac 897-6332 Worship.....9:45 A.M. Sunday School.....11:00 A.M.</p> <p>Nursery & Jr. Church Provided Rev. Frank Lattimore, Pastor "A Nondenominational Ministry With A Blended Word Centered Service!"</p>	<p>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL Rev. Randy Meyers • 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....11:20 A.M. Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M. Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free</p>	<p>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES 6:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 P.M. 119 Lincoln Lake, Lowell CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES Pastor Robert L. Hubbard Phone: (616) 897-1267 website www.aplighthouse.com</p>
<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 Summer Worship.....8:30 & 10:00 a.m. 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 PETER WIGGINS 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 49, EWTN 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 Fremmer, 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 Hanes, Youth Pastor Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA CLUB J.C.Wed. 6:15 & 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>	

Youth fair pictures, continued ... From Page 1



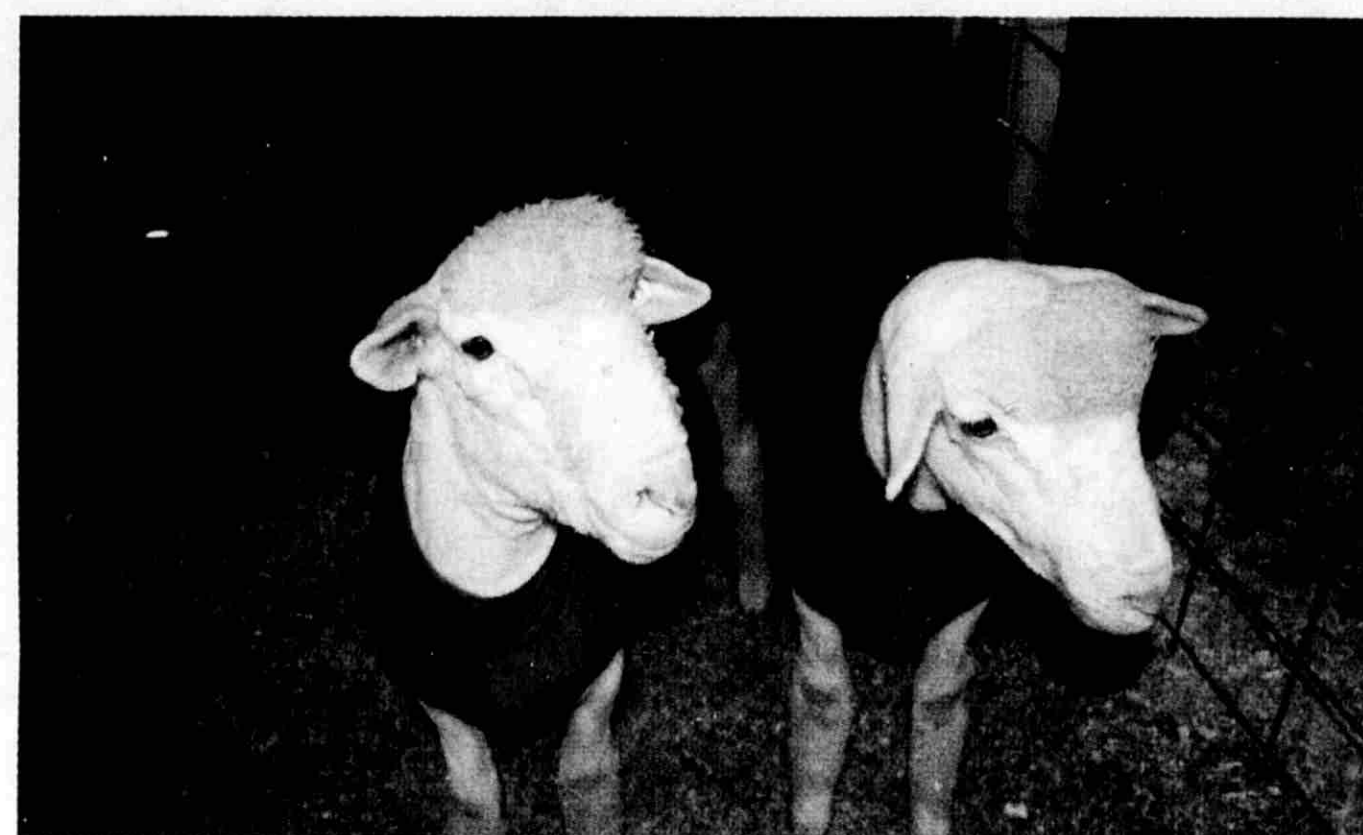
A small parade of the clubs around the fairgrounds started the opening ceremonies Sunday.



The coronation of the 2007 Royal Court with Jessica Bouman, Lauren Smith, Jessica Walma, Sarah Crosby and Brandon Beukema.



Lauren Anderson of Ada grooms her Scottish Highlander "Toast".



Lambs wait for their chance at a blue ribbon.

Farmers' Market week, continued ... From Page 3

markets and spreading the exciting news about local food. With more than 160 farmers markets in operation around the state, this should be easy to do.

Residents can also consider joining MIFMA to participate in the statewide effort of advancing Michigan farmers markets.

Membership information can be found at www.farmersmarkets.msu.edu by clicking on the "Join MIFMA!" tab.

For additional information about Michigan farmers markets, including a directory of market locations, visit www.farmersmarkets.msu.edu.

The Michigan Farmers Market Association is supported by a grant from Project for Public Spaces, Inc., with funding provided by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

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River Series art astonishes the eye

By Emma Palova

Astonishing art left up to individual interpretation can now be found at the Fire and Water Art gallery on Main Street.

The "River Series-Maps of Memory" by gallery owner and multi-media artist Kathleen Mooney is a product of a stay at the international Kanuga Watercolor Workshop in North Carolina.

Mooney studied abstraction techniques with nationally known art instructor Danie Janov. Janov, a working artist and a geologist, uses a technique of developing layers of simplification and subsequent enhancement that leads to a well-planned composition.

The breakthrough in the technique came for Mooney at four in the morning when she uncovered the missing focal point in her series. That focal point, maybe a mystic object, is located toward the right upper side of the painting surrounded by glowing gold. It can be interpreted as many different things, a shell, a flower, a Chihuahua or a femur thighbone depending on the viewer's associations. The painting is rich in ancient symbols as well.

"It was a breakthrough for me," said Mooney.

Immersed in ochre, amber, turquoise and crimson colors, the painting series



Kathleen Mooney will be working on a panel series to show an abstraction technique of layering.

explores the interaction of earth and water. Lines map out rivers, waterfalls and trails. Maps drawn from memory and impressions constantly change in the river series. All the paintings in the series show deep understanding of the technique,

consistency, yet uniqueness. "The paintings remind us of our present day relationship with our environment and nature," said Mooney who enjoys kayaking on the Flat River and Stoney Lake.

Throughout the month of August, visitors to the gallery

at 219 W. Main St. will have an opportunity to observe the process of creating the "River Series." Three large panels with layers of paint applied with free-hand cut block stamps will be the focus of the series. Mooney's stamps use signs and symbols of prehistoric past and world cultures. During the process, the panels will de-

velop textures, colors and meaning.

Carving print block stamps is one of the most popular classes at Fire and Water Art. The gallery won the Best New Business Townie Award for 2007 by On-The-Town Magazine. Mooney is also donating art-

work for the Art Attack fund raiser. Along with David Davis, Mooney is co-chair for 300 High Show exhibit at the Lowell Area Schools administration office.

For more information go to www.fire-and-water-art.blogspot.com. The gallery's blog is <http://www.fireandwater-art.blogspot.com>

MacNaughton to perform original composition about growing up in Lowell

In the 18th century, compositions of Johann Sebastian Bach were the "new music." On Tuesday, Aug. 14, Roger MacNaughton brings his own 21st century music to the name-sake series when he performs solo piano compositions for the St. Cecilia Bach's Lunch Series from noon - 1 p.m.

In addition to performing the award-winning composition "Charlevoix Keepsake" (2006 International Music Aid Award - USA Best Composition, January 2007 Song of the Year Award - 1st Place), MacNaughton will debut a new piece for solo piano titled "Wistful Memory." According to MacNaughton, "Life experiences are fantastic inspiration. Early morning, solitary walks inspired the tune which takes me right back to my childhood hometown, Lowell, Michigan."

Audience members are invited to bring a brown bag lunch to the free concert in Dexter Ballroom of the St. Cecilia Music Center located at 24 Ransom NE.

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Clearing the Way for Great Lakes Shipping
With Senator Carl Levin

The Great Lakes have a problem. Freighters are getting stuck in Great Lakes shipping channels, and they need tugboats to turn them around. Many boats can't reach their docking sites, other ships are carrying reduced loads, and some shipments have simply ceased altogether.

For example, one freighter ran aground in the Saginaw River last year and its rudder was torn off and never found. And shipping at the Wirt Stone Dock in Buena Vista Township has dropped by a whopping 25 percent.

What's behind this problem, which is hurting Michigan's economy? There is an enormous backlog in dredging the lakes. Dredging is the process of removing sediment that builds up in shipping channels and prevents ships from getting through. It is a routine and necessary practice but requires constant vigilance.

In recent years, Great Lakes dredging has not been adequately funded, and according to the Army Corps of Engineers, there is currently a backlog of 16 million cubic yards that needs to be dredged.

This dredging backlog has been made much worse by historically low water levels in the Great Lakes. Lake Superior, for example, has dropped to its lowest level in 81 years.

This situation is simply not sustainable. Every year, hundreds of millions of tons of goods are transported through the Great Lakes waterways. Freighters carry steel for our automobiles, limestone for the construction industry, and coal to provide electricity for homes and manufacturing plants, among many other products and resources needed nationwide.

Recently, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reported that the Great Lakes system needs about \$200 million for dredging each year. But the Great Lakes are being short-changed by about half that amount every year.

Part of the problem is that the Corps' budget nationwide has not been sufficiently funded, but the shortfall for the Great Lakes is also due to how that money is prioritized. In recent years, the Army Corps has prioritized dredging projects based primarily on the amount of tonnage a harbor processes, shortchanging ports that handle less than one million tons of cargo per year.

That is simply unfair. Almost half of the commercial harbors in the Great Lakes handle less than one million tons of cargo each year, and two-thirds of all shipping in the United States either starts or finishes at small harbors like these. Many of the communities surrounding smaller ports depend on shipping activity much more than at larger ports.

Manistee Harbor on Lake Michigan, for example, is classified as a small harbor because it handles "only" 940,000 tons of cargo. Yet multiple companies rely on this harbor, including Morton Salt, and fully 10 percent of the local population is economically dependent on the port.

I'm working on a number of fronts to secure the resources for the dredging we need. I am working closely with the Senate Appropriations Committee to obtain the necessary funding. The appropriations bill passed by the Committee in June includes \$53 million for operation and maintenance of Great Lakes shipping channels, including dredging. That's \$15.6 million more than last year and \$13.5 million more than the President requested. As the bill continues to make its way through Congress, I will continue to fight hard for this funding.

Working with my colleagues, I also added a provision to the Water Resources Development Act that would direct the Secretary of the Army to expedite the maintenance and dredging of important navigational channels within the Great Lakes. That bill has been passed by the Senate and is very close to becoming law. I have also personally urged the Army Corps of Engineers to dredge Great Lakes harbors and channels.

It will be slow and difficult work to get the Great Lakes navigation infrastructure rehabilitated, but it needs to be done. Right now, the biggest ships are each leaving more than 8,000 tons of cargo behind on the docks so they won't get stuck in shipping channels that haven't been dredged. Eight thousand tons is enough coal to provide three hours of electricity in Detroit or enough steel for 6,000 cars. With Michigan's economy already suffering from the loss of manufacturing jobs, we can't afford to lose the economic activity from shipping on the Great Lakes. Adequate funding for dredging and more equitable treatment of smaller ports can make the difference.

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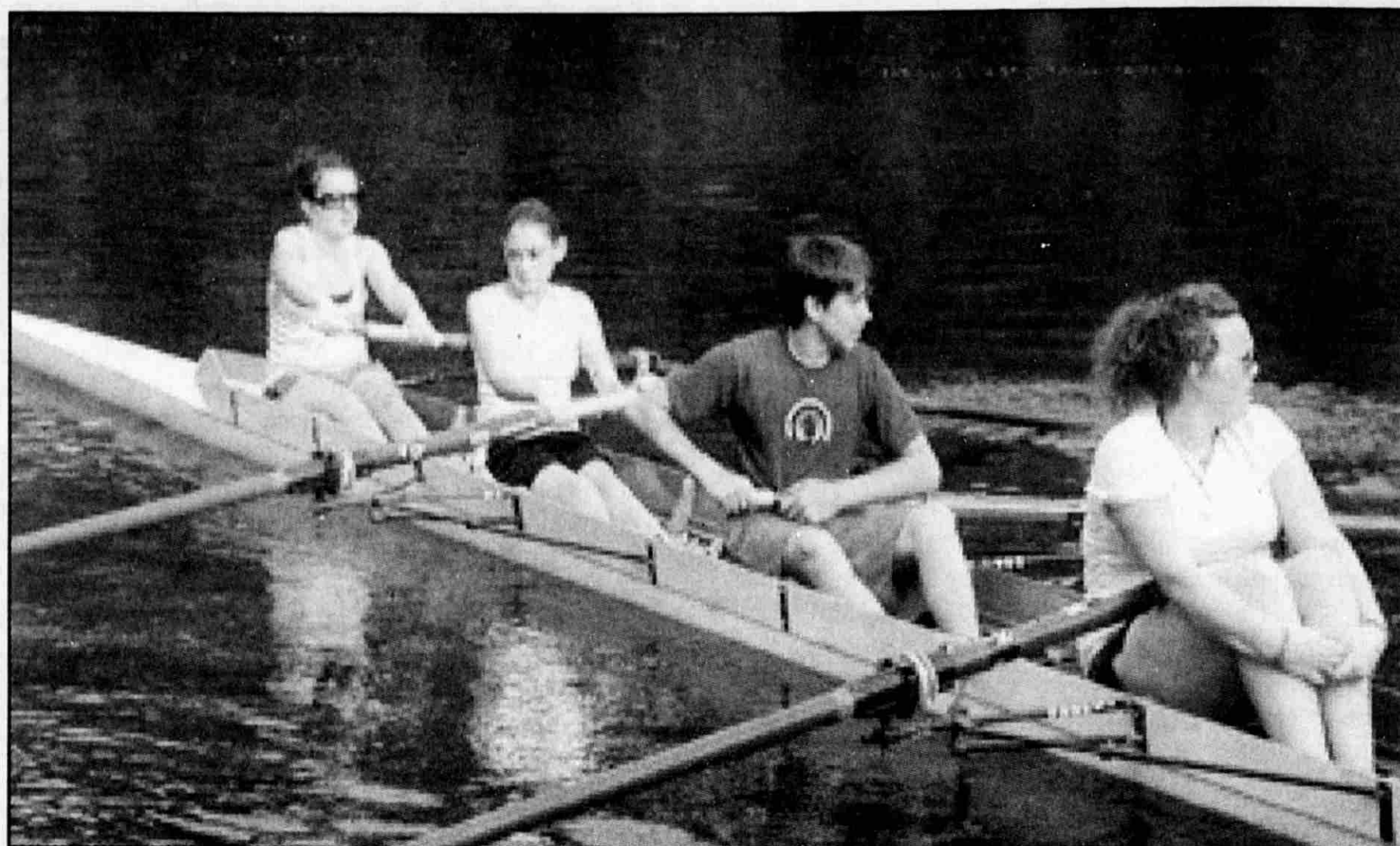
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2 years	\$30.00	2 years	\$48.00

BUSINESSES SERVICES

Rowing camp introduces basic crewing skills

The Lowell Crew Club just finished the first session of "Learn 2 Row." Students and adults learned to row an oared shell and experienced the teamwork and physical challenges of the country's oldest intercollegiate sport. The camp focused on teaching the basic skills required to row competitively on a high school crew and is open to students who will be in grades 8 - 12 this fall as well as adults who just want a good healthy workout and enjoy the competitive spirit of rowing. This is the fourth year that Lowell has had a crew team. The club is one of only 22 in the state. "This is a terrific opportunity for students to get a taste of what crewing is all about and hopefully they will become interested in becoming a member of the club for our spring season," coach Pete Chittenden said. The crew club has a second session scheduled for Aug. 13, 15, 20, and 22 for students and another session for adults on Aug. 14, 16, 21 and 23. Visit <http://www.lowellcrew.com> for information and registration form and to check out the highlights of the 2007 season.



Rowing from left to right are: Alexis Strauss and Sara Cadwallar and from the Lowell crew team, Robert Becker and Brittani Hibbits.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
JUDICIAL DISTRICT
17TH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT COURT
COUNTY OF KENT
180 Ottawa Ave. NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

TO: BILL WAYNE CURTIS JR.

IT IS ORDERED:
You are being sued by plaintiff in this court to obtain a divorce. You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in this court at the court address above on or before September 15, 2007. If you fail to do so, a default judgement may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint filed in this case.

consecutive weeks, and proof of publication shall be filed in this court.

A copy of this order shall be sent to BILL CURTIS at the last known address by registered mail, return receipt requested, before the date of the last publication, and the affidavit of mailing shall be filed with this court.

Date: 7/30/2007

Judge Steven M. Pestka

Plaintiff's Attorney
Mary L. Benedict PC
(P45285)
4519 Cascade Road SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
616-942-0020

A copy of this order shall be published once each week in The Lowell Ledger for three

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION, POSTING AND NOTICE OF ACTION

CASE NO. 07-05507-DO

Plaintiff
CARISSA CURTIS
350 North Center St.
Lowell, MI 49331

Defendant
BILL WAYNE CURTIS JR.

Show Us Your Smile!

JULY SMILES OF THE MONTH:

"No Cavities" Club Members

Nathan Blewett	Ron Boeve
Christy Lyon	Mark Boeve
Olivia Nurmikko	Quinn Summerfield
Alyssa McIntire	Kesie Shaw
Katie Taylor	Matt Schuitema
Cynthia Smoes	Ben Peterson
Rachel Lezan	Zach Diamond
Jared Lezan	Justin Everitt

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McElroy named to top 100

Katie McElroy, a three-year varsity starter for the Lowell High School softball team and a member of the Grand Rapids Blaze 18U summer team, has been selected as a top 100 national recruit by Adidas. She will be in St. George, Utah Aug. 24-26 to participate in drills and games against other Adidas Top 100 players from around the country. McElroy was selected after competing in a recent regional event hosted by



Katie McElroy

Adidas in Chicago. Adidas selected the players from regional events hosted in Illinois, Georgia, Virginia, California and Pennsylvania.

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.



Call 897-9261

The Sweet family would like to thank the following Lowell area businesses & groups for supporting the first annual *Swingin' with the Sweets Golf Outing* for Jared Sweet and Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy:

Ada Bible Church	Meijer
Alto LP Gas, Inc.	Pep Talk
Blue Ribbon Feed Company	Red Arrow Wrestling Club
Brenda's Hair Design	Skyline Electric
Cousin's Hallmark	Peter Smith of ReMax
Elle Boutique	SunQuest
Family Dentistry of Lowell	Jon Smith and
4 Health Family	Harold Zeigler Ford
Resource Center	AND ... Steve Saunders &
LASSO	Orchard Hills Golf Club

Thank You

And see you next year - August 2, 2008!

Lacrosse players hone skills for future team play

Ante-Up, a company out of Chicago that specializes in lacrosse youth camps and preparation camps for kids trying to get into either college or professional lacrosse, put on a three-day camp in Lowell. Director Tim Duffy, who also played college and professional lacrosse, personally attends every camp because he feels it is necessary for him to be there. Through Duffy's travels and knowing other professional players, Ante-Up is able to pull talent from the professional sport. Depending on where and when, there are literally dozens of professional players all over the country who give back to the sport. Ante-Up brings enough coaches to do the camp and welcomes local school coaches to attend, learn and participate.



Close to 40 players were involved in the Ante-Up youth lacrosse camp.

Ante-Up Lacrosse, consisting of camps, strength and conditioning training, clinics, and private

lessons, was developed for lacrosse players by lacrosse coach Eric Bredin

was very impressed with the coaching, and especially how the coaches interacted

with the kids. The majority of kids that participated were from Lowell, however, kids came from as far away

as Detroit. Thirty-seven kids participated ranging in ages from 12 - 17 years old. There was a lot of support from the local merchants

who either volunteered their services and/or made donations. L&A Rentals loaned a tent for shade. Jets Pizza fed all of the kids and coaches one day. Tommy Fitzgerald, owner/operator of Jimmy's Grill, fed everyone at cost for two days. Kerkstra Plumbing brought in portable bathrooms. Pep

Lacrosse, currently a club sport at Lowell, is the fastest growing sport in the nation. Participants hope to see it grow into a school sport. Some big events are planned for next season. Team members and coaches are very excited about getting more support from the community.

Outdoors

By Dave Stegehuis



RESPONSIBLE FISHING

As time passes, more invasive species show up in the Great Lakes ecosystem. This is particularly true of our lakes and streams. It is suspected that most of these invaders enter the Great Lakes via ballast discharges from saltwater cargo ships.

In northern Lake Michigan I have encountered zebra mussels which foul and cut lines and caught round gobies on walleye jigs. This spring we came across a new one for us and a little research revealed it was an Eurasian ruffe.

A new threat with possible dire consequences for fresh water game fish is Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia virus or VHSv. A number of fish in lakes Erie, Huron, and Ontario have died from this disease which causes various organs to hemorrhage. In an effort to slow the spread of this disease, new fishing orders went into effect June 28, 2007. The orders address the problem of spreading the virus by releasing infected fish or roe into lakes and streams

and transporting contaminated bilge and live-well water to new locations. Also, the stocking of walleye, northern pike, and muskellunge has been suspended for one year. The new orders are posted on the DNR website at www.michigan.gov/dnrfishing. I found a copy at a license dealer.

There are some immediate actions fishermen can take to help control the spread of invasive species and viruses. Always flush live-wells and bilges, and wash boats and trailers before launching in another body of water. Use only baitfish purchased from licensed dealers, do not release baitfish into a lake or stream, and release game fish only into water where caught.

Enforcement of the added regulations is difficult given the number of officers in the field. Restricting the transportation of firewood to limit the spread of the emerald ash-bore presented the same difficulty. Someone cheated or didn't pay attention and the disease spread. It is the responsibility of everyone who shares the natural resources of Michigan to follow the rules. If we don't all cooperate, these problems will only get bigger and will reduce our opportunity for enjoying Michigan's outdoors.

There are currently a lot of unknowns regarding VHSv. It is not clear how big this problem will get. Take time to know the regulations, and do your part to protect the great fishing we have in this state. Be a responsible steward of our precious natural resources that we all enjoy here in Michigan.

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LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2007

at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash, SE.

Greg Smit has made application for a variance from the Table of General Bulk Regulations of the Lowell Township Zoning Ordinance to allow a home to be built on 3.39 acres of property where 4 acres is required for property located at 10901 36th Street, Lowell, Permanent Parcel No. 41-20-17-400-034

Linda S. Regan, Clerk

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MULTI-FAMILY SALE
Aug. 9, 10 & 11, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. 7230 Snow Ridge Ct. (68th St. to Snow Ave. S. to Snow Ridge Estates). Toys, Spiderman Bounce House, books, youth bed, boys/adult clothes, party dresses, household, computer desk, electronics, LP records, Toro mower, snowblower, wood remnants, chrome wheels, name brand, tons of items. Please stop.

GARAGE SALE
Tools & misc. household. Thurs. & Fri., Aug. 9 & 10, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. 950 Riverside Drive.

INSIDE GARAGE SALE
Saranac Housing, 203 Parsonage, Saranac. Aug. 9, 10 & 11, 9 - 5 p.m. Multi-family. Household, fishing & collectibles.

GARAGE SALE
195 Valley Vista, Aug. 9 & 10, 9-5 p.m. Lots of Thomas the Train stuff.

SUPER SUMMER SALE
1033 Lincoln Lake, Lowell. Wed. - Sat., Aug. 8, 9, 10 & 11, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Three families with so many good things for sale we're having the sale for 4 days.

GARAGE SALE
Aug. 9, 10 & 11, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 1490 Baywicke - Eastgate. Items include: kitchenware, glass dishes, bedroom, electrical & plumbing supplies. Also a 24 ft. Jaco 5th wheel.

YARD SALE
Aug. 9, 10, & 11, 9-5 p.m. 10291 Grand River Ave. 1/4 mi. E of Jimmy's Grill. Several families. Antique crock with lid, plus size clothes, Little Tikes toys, lg. chest freezer, misc. furniture. Ph. 897-5357.

GARAGE SALE
Alto, 11370 60th St., Aug. 10, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Aug. 11, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dishes, books, magazines, ladies clothing, stamps, toolbox for truck bed, lots of miscellaneous, some antiques, and craft supplies.

GARAGE SALE
Aug. 10-26, 9-5, 700 Cumberland, Lowell, 1 1/2 miles N off M-21, W-Alden Nash. Handmade video cabinet, electronics, tools, toys, exercise, knives, sporting, household, Christmas, gift items, 1000's of books, 400 Precious Moments, many new and collectible items.

YARD SALE
Thurs., Fri. & Sat. Aug. 9-11, 9-5 p.m. TV/DVD Player, clothes, etc. 11515 Boulder Dr., Garage #65. Behind Goodwill.

AUG. 10 & 11
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. 13416 Grand River Dr. Doll house, ceramics, Platy tropical fish babies, crochet slippers, jewelry, Apollo drinking glasses, candle holders, dolls and doll clothes and more.

GARAGE SALE
Fri. & Sat., Aug. 10 - 11. East of Freeport on Eckert Rd. Alden Nash South to 100th, East on 100th to Baker Rd., South to Eckert, left on Eckert to sales, 3033, 3031 & 2990 Eckert. Come and get it, LOTS of treasures.

GARAGE SALE
Aug. 10, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. & Aug. 11, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 1619 Stonewood Dr. in Eastgate. Bunkbeds, pine bedroom set, Weider weight system, paintball supplies, washer, refrigerator & much more.

MULTI-FAMILY SALE
August 9-10, Thursday 12-7, Friday 9-6. 1898 McCabe between 2 Mile and Bailey. Tons of name brand clothes (infant, boys, girls, teen, men, and women, some new), toys some new, shoes, household items, Christmas, books, new Gameboy Advances.

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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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".

Legal or not, it seems like if you were going to give a child a ride on a motorcycle, the safest spot would be in the front. Get over it!

People in Lowell love to read. Hard to find a parking spot when the library is open. A great way to spend the summer.

For those complaining about not driving John Deere's to school, I was the only one who drove one.

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Also tree huggers,
I farm so you can eat. - Michael Clover
What's wrong with celebrating the 4th of July every day? We should have more fireworks. They should make them legal in Michigan again.
The farmer's market needs mish foods, like shoo fly pie and apple pie.
Yes, it's a wonderful life. The citizens of Lowell are George Bailey and the cable company is Mr. Potter. Why not take some of that \$3million and pay our one-time fees for Comcast.

Roger, be careful! The Ledger makes it all the way down here to The Florida Keys. The real estate brokers might read what you're saying.

The small business owners of Lowell, do alot to support not only children, but many good causes. Do you support them by shopping at their place of business?

Finally! The "Lowell Next Place To Be" billboard is in the right spot on eastbound 96. Just before the exit. Nice Job!

Pulling off of Monroe St. has turned into Mission Impossible. Cars are always parked by City Hall and on the other side blocking your view.

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

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

CHEAP VACATION - Apache tent camper w/canopy. Sleeps 5. New carpet, cushions, wood table, camp stove. Call 897-2111.

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.

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

OPEN HOUSE - 11470 W. Bluewater, Lowell, Sunday, August 12, 1-3 p.m. Wonderful retirement or starter home. 2 fireplaces, 2 stall attached garage, main floor laundry, \$119,900. Call Nancy Badder at 989-637-4228 or Carr Real Estate at 616-527-0010.

AIR BEDS! **STORE CLOSING** - All inventory will be sold at 50% less than Select Comfort mall prices. Air Bed Store. 401 Ann NE @ Plainfield. 682-4767 or 293-6160.

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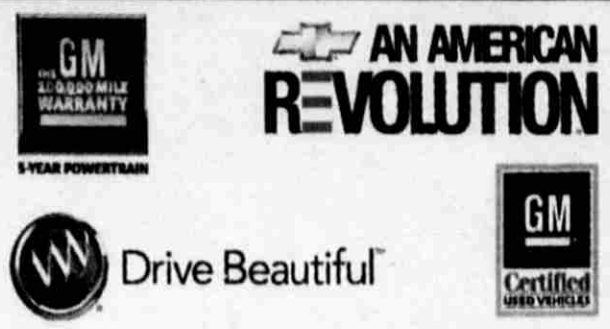
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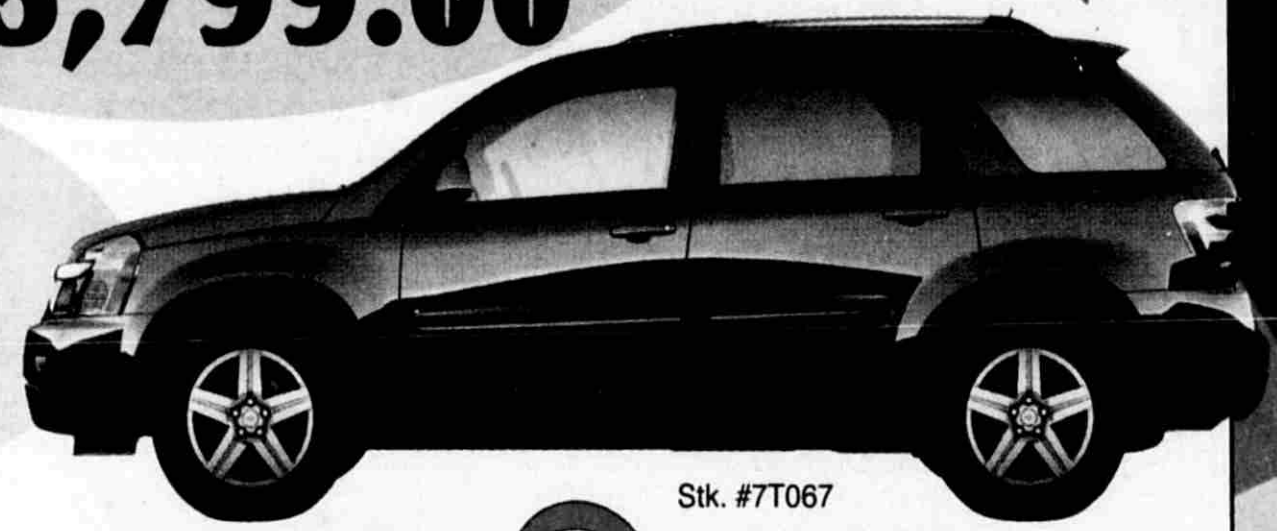
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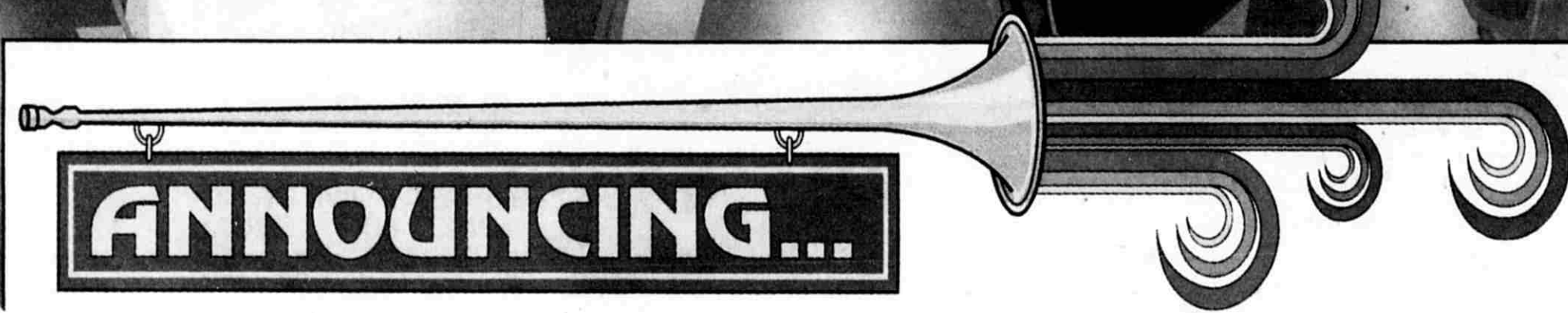
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