

# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 36 Issue 46

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, September 19, 2007

## Largest fire in two decades destroys Michigan Wire

by Emma Palova

**B**illed as the largest fire in two decades with columns of smoke that could be seen from Grand Rapids, flames destroyed the Michigan Wire Processing stage one plant on Alden Nash and M-21 Saturday.

"I can't remember a fire of this size," said fire chief Frank Martin.

There were actually two separate fires on each side of the building, according to assistant fire chief Ron Overbeek. So, the firefighters fought on both the north and the south sides of the building to contain the fire around 2:15 a.m. Sunday morning.

"We had guys fighting on both sides to stop it from spreading," said Martin.

However, the clean-up lasted well into Sunday afternoon with the water from the fire hoses still not soaked into the ground. The debris from the structure was hanging down over

the fence reminiscent of a haunted scene.

Due to the absolute burn, it will be hard to determine the cause of the fire, said Overbeek. However, insurance investigators along with Overbeek will walk the site and look it over to find the cause.

"I have no idea about the damage or what caused the fire," said Overbeek.

And the Lowell Fire Department received a lot of support from the surrounding fire departments and the community.

"People brought in supplies - even barbeque ribs," said Martin.

During the fire, Aeromed helicopter kept circling the area in case of casualties. Lowell firefighters were assisted by the following departments: Ada, Alto, Cannon, Grattan and EGR Public Safety.

*Fire, cont'd., pg. 4*



Firefighters douse the what remains of the smoldering Michigan Wire Processing plant.

## Liquor/dance entertainment permit granted to Grand Lux Ballrooms

by Emma Palova

**T**he Grand Lux Ballrooms facility is now on target for a March grand opening following the Vergennes township's

Monday approval of liquor/dance entertainment permit.

Owner Kent McKay called the action of the township only the first step in the process to receiving a similar permit from the

state. However, if the township had not approved McKay's request, the whole project would have been in jeopardy.

For the past year, McKay has been working

diligently to secure all the liquor license C permitting. This included getting the liquor serving amendment on the ballot in last year's election.

"I appreciate the township's cooperation and quick action," said McKay.

The license C request included a number of permits pertaining to liquor and entertainment, with the exception of topless activity.

McKay stated his license C request excluded topless activity.

"You can ask for different flavors of entertainment," he said. "For example if you want a comedian you need a permit from the state."

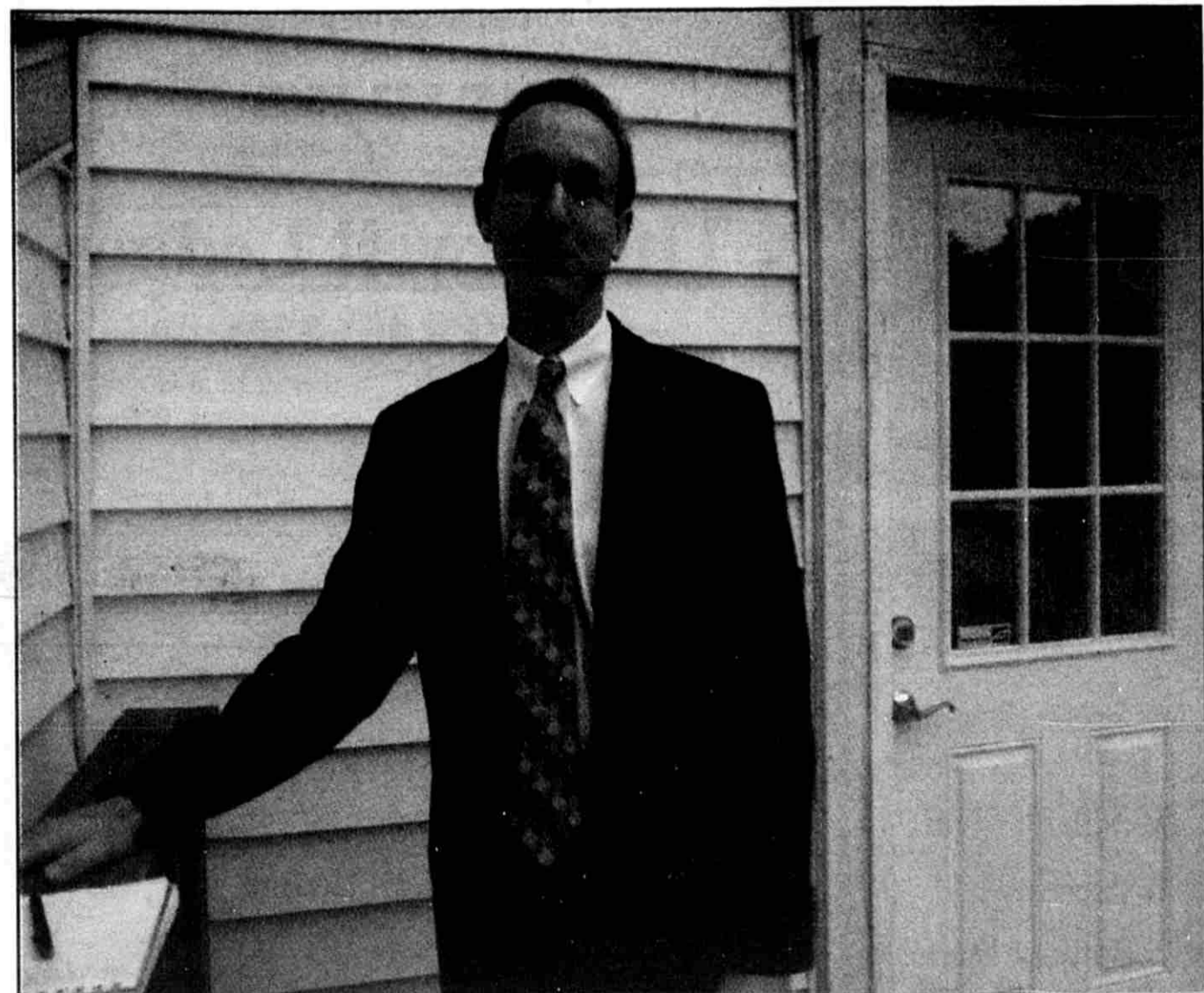
He also assured the township board that local enforcement will have to approve extended hours, while everything will be consumed inside.

The ballroom facility will be located between

Equine Medical and Grand River Veterinarian off Lincoln Lake. There have been some changes to the design and cost revenues, but nothing significant, according to McKay.

"I am absolutely optimistic," said McKay. "There is a need for Grand Lux Ballrooms."

McKay expects a groundbreaking this month, with a scheduled grand opening on March 23, 2008 at noon. Grand Lux Ballrooms will accommodate two parties of 250 people each in an elegant structure with a portico.



Kent McKay takes the first step on his road to constructing Grand Lux Ballrooms in Vergennes Township.



*Fall Bluegrass ... Page 3*

*Flat River Cottage Move ... Page 4*

*"Green" Farm in Alto ... Page 10*

*Alto Harvest Fest ... Page 11*

# Obituaries

**CALDWELL** and his brother, John Henry David Wayne Caldwell, Sr. aged 78 of Lowell passed away peacefully in his sleep September 12, 2007. He is survived by his loving wife of 58 years, Jean (Shier); children, Cathy (Kyran) Mulvihill and Clayton Caldwell; grandchildren, Brandi Mulvihill, Melissa Alexandria and Abigail Caldwell; sisters, Rose Solow, Jeanne Burns, Mary Darling; sister-in-law, Lorrie Caldwell. He leaves many nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his son, David II

Rapids, passed away on Sunday, September 9, 2007. Mr. Kuhlman served his country during WWII and was a recipient of the Purple Heart. He is survived by his daughters, Kathleen Chirco, Janet and Robert VanDyke, Bonnie and James Walters, Susan and Stanley Hart; 14 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren; brothers and sisters, Frand and Esther Kuhlman, Robert and Beverly Kuhlman, Mrs. Rita Hennesey, Delores and Joe Pressott, Bridget Hinkley, and Jerry and Theresa Kuhlman; nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife, Loretta M. Kuhlman on March 25, 2006, his parents, James and Katherine Kuhlman, sister, Rosemary, and brothers, Joseph, Harold, Bernard,

**KUHLMAN** Mr. Emmanuel Joseph Kuhlman, age 91, of Grand

James, and Dan Kuhlman. The Mass of Christian Burial was offered at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Parnell. Military honors were under the auspices of the Kent County Veterans Honor Guard with interment at St. Patrick's Cemetery. Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider The Education Fund at St. Patrick's School.

**MARTIN** James Thomas Martin aged 71 of Lowell passed away September 14, 2007. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Nancy in 1992 and sister, Jan Buroker. He is survived by his three daughters, Mary (Dave) Buckius, Missy (Dan) Rau and Jamie Martin; eight grandchildren, Ashleigh, Austin, Avery, Addison Buckius, Jacob, Kyleigh, Joshua Rau and Marissa Martin. Jim was a member of Lowell Moose Lodge #809 and volunteer Fire-fighter for Alto. Funeral service were held Monday at the Roth-Gerst Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to, The Jim Martin Family % Fifth Third Bank for funeral expenses or American Cancer Society.

**RIPLEY** Harold C. "Rip" Ripley, age 70, of Alto, passed away September 12, 2007 after battling back from a stroke following heart surgery in May 2006. Harold was preceded in death by his parents, Harold Truman Ripley and Dorothy Ripley (Grinwis), parents-in-law, Richard and Caroline Harvey and brother-in-law, Mark Harvey. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather and brother and a fun loving, loyal friend to many. He will be lovingly remembered an dgratly missed by his wife of 48 years, Dianne; his three daughters, Terri (Dale) O'Connor of Alto, Sandra (Scott) McCarty of Freepport and Beverly (Doug) Koetsier of Middleville; seven grandchildren, Rachel (Greg) Pillar, Andrew (Renee) O'Connor, Patrick O'Connor, Katie McCarty, Jacob McCarty, Audrey Koetsier and Alexander Koetsier; his brother, Robert (Judy) Ripley; an aunt in Canada, Jean Ripley; niece, Jodye (Scott) Dennis; nephews, Todd (Angie) Ripley and Scott "Skip" (melinda) Ripley; and more cousins and close friends that we can mention. Rip graduated from Central

High School in 9155 then went into the Navy and served on the USS Yosemite 1956-57. Upon return, he attended Grand Rapids Junior College and began his career at Lear Siegler Incorporated (LSI) in 1959. During his 35 years at LSI, Rip was a 20 year board member of the LSI Credit Union, and also served as the board President. After decades of car pooling with neighbor and good friend, Al Hackney, Rip moved from LSI and continued his career at Vickers Inc., finally retiring in 1999. Rip was an avid hunter and enjoyed spending time at his cabin on Possum Ridge with long-time friend, Tom Holton. He loved fishing and spent many happy times on the water with his brother and friends, bill Butts, Bob Gancarz, and Bob Schultz, as well as wonderful times with his Rice Lake buddies. He enjoyed bicycling, and shared many rides with dear friend, Don Andrews. An Irishman at heart - if not in truth - Rip like to spend St. Patrick's Day with his Irish friends. He was a master storyteller and could weave tall tales much to the delight of his grandchildren. Harold was a member of Peace Reformed Church, the American Legion Post #305, and the Michigan Steelhead and Salmon Fishermen's Association of Grand Rapids. The funeral service was held at the Metcalf & Jonkhoff Funeral Home. Interment in Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens. Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider Faith Hospice.

spite of freezing morning temperatures. Amateurs could be heard pickin' their strings on Sunday, Sept. 9 in at the fairgrounds along with professionals all night long. Starting with Thunder Cloggers Friday and ending with auditioning bands and a drawing Sunday, the weekend was filled with music and fun. "It was a very good festival," said chairman Dave Simmonds. "It was very successful." The headliner bands, The Wright Sisters and Wendy Smith drew a crowd of more than 200. "He's a good, accomplished musician," said Simmonds, "he did a fine job for us." Not only Smith, but also the Wright Sisters drew in a large crowd. The young sister band from Greenfield, Ind. performed traditional bluegrass music with tri-harmony vocals. "They put on a very good show," said Simmonds. "They're gifted musicians, they play and sing. Their mom plays the bass." And the love for bluegrass has spread like the rippling effect in a pond.



Heart to Heart band performed at the Bluegrass FallFest last weekend.

by Emma Palova A lot of great pickers and music lovers flocked to the Bluegrass Fallfest on Sunday, Sept. 9 in at the fairgrounds along

Simmonds noticed many new faces at the festival. "I attribute this to members spreading the word," said Simmonds. "Our hope is they experience the music and they will come back." Vendors like jewelry artist Jana Mapes enjoyed the festival while peddling their wares. "I like the bands," she said. "I listen good." Mapes offered jewelry such as a bracelet with Bostwana agates and a magnetic clasp at the festival. "I am very happy," said Simmonds. "We're looking forward to next year." Mike Butler from the String Collector Music Store was selling great bluegrass instruments from mandolins and violins to guitars. "I don't play but I listen," said Butler. Coming up are bands at TJ Sports Bar & Grill on Oct. 20 and Nov. 17.

## Do you have the right shoes for the Harvest Hustle?

Robyn Smith MSPT,SCS It's a common question for runners and walkers alike, what shoe is right for me? As you walk into a shoe store and gaze upon wall after wall of athletic shoes, it can be overwhelming. Do you tend to migrate toward the sale rack or your favorite color? Well, you're not alone. Two instinctive mistakes - vanity and bargains. There's no crime in either, unless you're buying a running shoe. There are two important things to know when shopping for the right shoe. One - is the last (or shape) similar to your foot type? Two - Does the shoe give you the correct support? If you have a wide, flat foot the shoe that will fit your foot the best tends to be wider and less sculpted through the middle or arch. If you have a higher arch and narrow foot typically a shoe that's more sculpted and narrower through the arch works better. Next, it's important to visit a store with trained staff to help place you in the correct amount of support. There are three (soon to be four) main shoe categories: Cushion, Stability, and Motion Control. A newer "tweener" shoe category nestled between a cushion and stability category is a cushioned-stability shoe. Determination of correct

Harvest Hustle, cont'd., pg. 4

## VERGENNES TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing before the Vergennes Township Planning Commission will be held on **Monday October 8, 2007 at 7:00 PM**, at the Vergennes Township Hall, located at 10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell, MI to consider proposed amendments to the Vergennes Township Zoning Ordinance. A summary follows for the proposed text amendments:

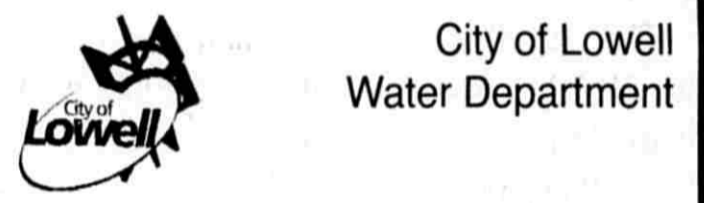
Amend Chapter 2 Definitions, to add definitions of boat slip, marina, key street segment, neighborhood local business, wind energy conversion system (wind turbine) and wind energy conversion systems, small (windmill, small). Amend Chapter 3 Zoning Districts, section 201.304 (C) (17), to add the neighborhood local business use and section 201.304 (H) Key Street Segments area description. Amend section 201.3075 (C) (2) (3) to add marina and neighborhood local business uses. Amend section 201.3075 "G" to add the key street segments area description. Amend Chapter 4 to add section 201.437 Marinas with regulations and standards for this use allowed in the Lake Residential and Rural Agricultural districts in the key street segment areas. Amend Chapter 4 to add section 201.438 Small Wind Energy Conversion Systems/Wind Turbines as a new use with regulations and standards. Amend Chapter 4 to add section 201.439 Neighborhood Local Business with description, regulations and standards. Amend Chapter 4 to add section 201.440 Key Street Segments with a description.

The complete text of the proposed ordinance amendments can be reviewed at the **Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Drive, PO Box 208, Lowell, MI 49331 - Phone: (616) 897-5671** [fax 897-5674] or on the website at [www.vergennestwp.org](http://www.vergennestwp.org). Written and oral comments will be received until the conclusion of the public hearing. Written comments may be addressed to the Planning Commission Chairman or the Planning Coordinator at the Township Offices. Comments may be emailed to the Planning Commission at: [zoning@vergennestwp.org](mailto:zoning@vergennestwp.org).

Vergennes Township Planning Commission

## CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE ATTENTION CITY OF LOWELL WATER CUSTOMERS

The Department of Public Works will conduct a hydrant-flushing program of the complete water system. Flushing will begin on Monday, September 24th through Friday, September 28, 2007.



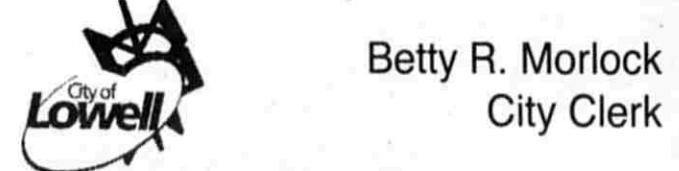
## CITY OF LOWELL PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

The City Planning Commission-Citizen Advisory Committee will conduct a public hearing at their regular scheduled meeting of Monday, September 24, 2007 at 7 p.m. at the City Council Chambers, Lowell City Hall, Second Floor, 301 East Main St., Lowell for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

An Ordinance to add Section 2.19A "Temporary Storage Unit" to Chapter 2, "Definitions," and Section 4.08A to Chapter 4, "General Provisions," of "Appendix A - Zoning Ordinance" of the Code or Ordinances of the City of Lowell.

Copies of the proposed Ordinance are available for public inspection during normal business hours at City Hall and the Englehardt Public Library.

Interested persons may submit written comments to City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331 prior to the meeting or appear in person.



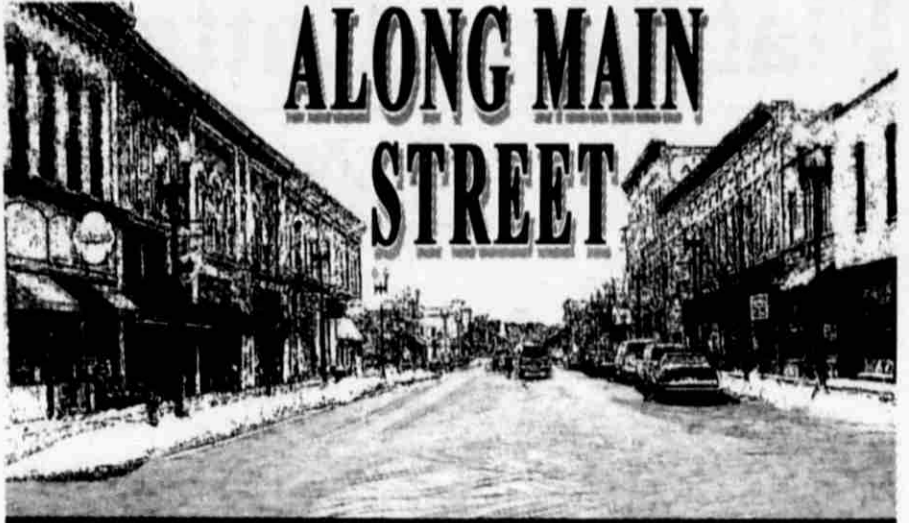
Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

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**LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM**  
The public is invited to a retirement open house for Judy Straub on Sept. 20 at the museum from 3 to 7 p.m.

**GHOST STORIES ARE COMING!**  
Deadline to submit your story is Thursday, Sept. 27. See [www.lowellartscouncil.org](http://www.lowellartscouncil.org) for entry information.

**4TH ANNUAL LHS ALUMNI GATHERING**  
Dinner and music at Deer Run Golf Course on Sat., Sept. 29. There will also be a celebration of the Lowell Schools' long and illustrious history. You are invited to bring items to display on the LHS memorabilia table. Reservation forms can be found at [www.lowellschools.com](http://www.lowellschools.com) - click on Alumni News. Call Marsha Wilcox for more information 897-8949.

**FLOWERS FOR FALLSBURG FESTIVAL**  
The Decorations Committee for Lowell's annual Fallsburg Fall Festival is looking for fresh-cut flowers to use at this year's event, being held Sept. 29 & 30. Please contact Carol Briggs 897-5501 by Friday, Sept. 21 if you have garden flowers that could be harvested for this event.

**F.R.O.M. FOOD PANTRY**  
Needs canned fruit and vegetables, canned tomatoes, pasta sauce, and pancake mix.

**LARKIN'S 6TH ANNUAL CHILI COOKOFF**  
Sat., Oct. 13 with tasting starting at 3 p.m. Entry fee is \$40. Tickets for tasting is 10 for \$5. Proceeds to benefit Lowell Senior Center.

**GLASS ART SHOW**  
Fire & Water Art Studio and Showroom through Oct. 31 is featuring glass art works by Kathleen Mooney in paintings, sculpture and jewelry. Hours are 1 to 6 p.m. Wed. - Sun., Fri. 1 to 7 p.m. 219 W. Main, Downtown Lowell. Call 890-1879 for more information.

**2007 LHS HOMECOMING PARADE**  
If you would like to participate in the parade, Friday Sept. 28, please call Parker Liu at 481-3151 by Friday, Sept. 21. We are also looking for any convertible vehicles to participate.

**2008 ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS**  
Lowell Women's Club is offering the books to raise funds for Senior High School girls scholarships and local projects. The books are only \$20 and are paced with 50% off and 2-for-1 offers. Books are good thru October 2008 and are available at Brenda's Hair Design, Huntington Bank, Lowell Area Arts Council and from club members or call Marj 897-8107.

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HAPPILY NEVER AFTER (PG)

# Flat River Cottage expands into new location

by Emma Palova

The Flat River Cottage has moved to a new location at 317 E. Main across the road from the Superior Furniture Co.

The flourishing business with several vendors has outgrown its space by the Flat River. "We have more space here," said proprietor Rita Reister, "you can actually see things."

And Reister expects to attract more business to the completely remodeled 1910 historical building on the east end of town. Reister wants to carry more antiques, as well as accent pieces.

The renovation of the former auto body shop started in January 2007. Deb Fenske donated the impressive antique doors approved by the Lowell Historical Commission. Also new are historically correct windows installed in the original openings upstairs and downstairs.

The original building was built by J.P. Draper, who operated a Veterinarian hospital, livery and a blacksmith shop. After Draper's death, the building became home to many businesses including pizza, dry cleaners and various auto body shops.

"The new home of the Flat River Cottage is the result of my vision to embrace the charm and historic value of an old building," said Reister.

Reister plans to renovate the first floor of the building. "Everybody participated," said Reister. "It was a great bunch." The renovations were performed by builder John May of Zeeland.

Pictured, at the grand opening are, front row, left to right: Philip Janowski, Leanna Krueger, Janet Krueger, Noelani Nichols, Josh Burns, and Daniel Ruland; back row, left to right: Karin Jelsma, Darlene Kaufman, Christine McHugh, Rita Reister (owner), Roxanne Knott, Ron Janowski, Karen Waid and Jeanne Laird.



# Harvest Hustle, continued ... From Page 3

placement into a particular category depends on the flexibility and dynamic motion of your foot. If you are a severe over-pronator (your foot rolls in much further than ideal) you may be a candidate for a motion control shoe. If you are a supinator (your foot doesn't roll in enough for proper shock absorption) you may need a cushion shoe. A trained professional can help properly identify the correct shoe for you.

Too often, injuries occur due to the improper selection of footwear. For some, it may be immediate while others may not feel the effects until they reach higher mileage. Whether excessive motion is

allowed at the foot or lack of motion, either can lead to injury. Plantar fasciitis, achilles tendonitis and shin splints can be partly due to poor shoe selection. Just because it's the "best shoe your neighbor has ever had" doesn't mean it's the right one for you. Take the time and money to get the right "ride" for your foot. Your body will thank you for it.

Remember, after 300-500 miles, it's time to hang up the shoe and buy a new one. They may look brand-new but the components have worn out. If you have a history of previous injuries or problems with running or walking, a more formalized gait evaluation with a health

care professional may be beneficial in the process of finding the proper shoe.

With the Harvest Hustle

5K approaching, start your training right - stay away from the "look" and go for the "ride."

Robyn Smith is a physical therapist at the Center for Physical Rehabilitations, she is

contributing this article in cooperation with Lowell Community Wellness.

# Fire, continued ... From Page 1

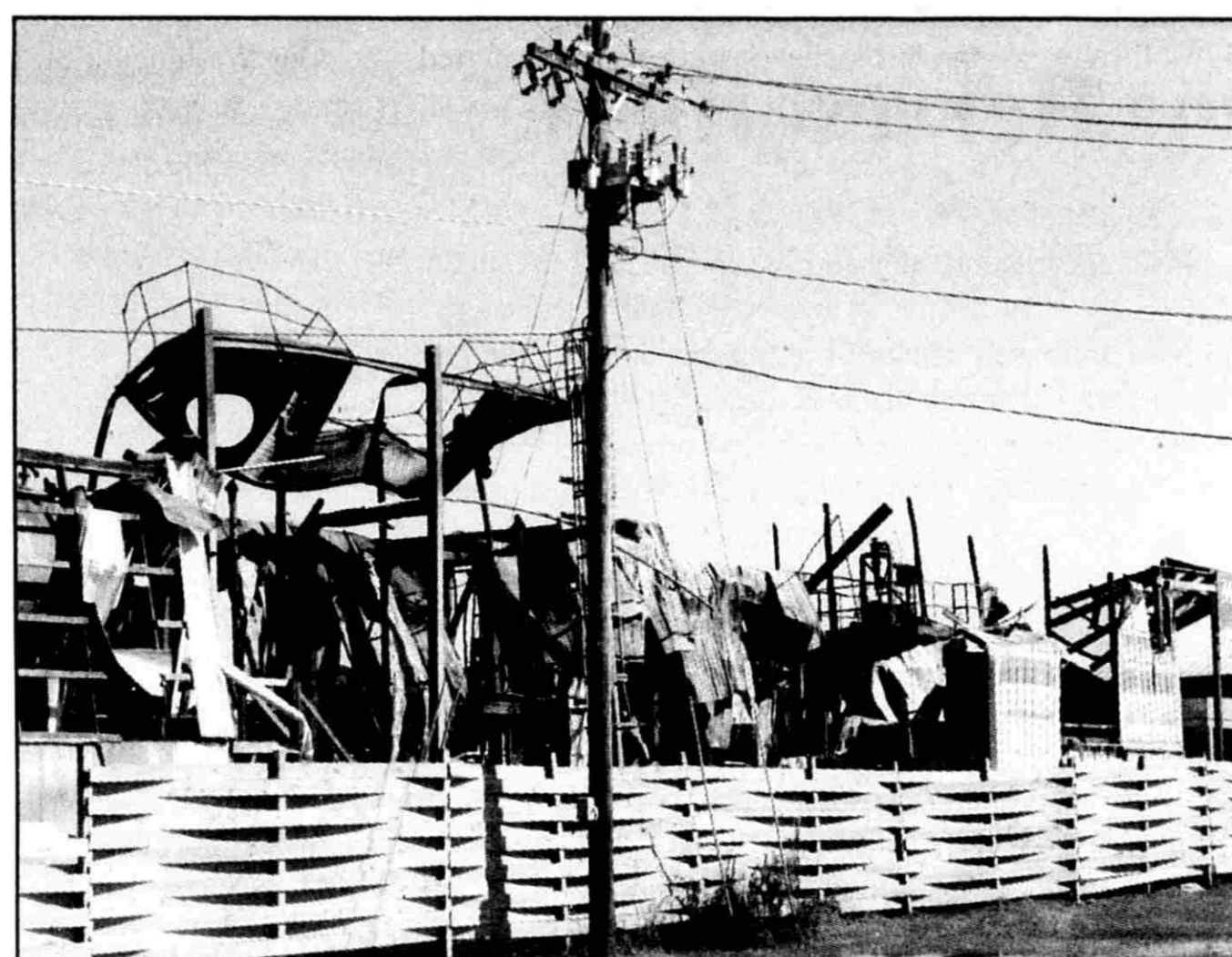
Michigan Wire marketing manager Jim Herb said the plans are to rebuild at the same site. Only about 40 percent of the plant was damaged and the rest of the plant is immediately operational once the power is back on. All production has been shifted to the other plant by King Milling with minimal impact on any of the customers.

The company, that employs 55, with another

plant on South Water Street has been in business for three decades. Michigan Wire makes air bag components,

conveyor components, ball and needle bearings, train and engine components, fuel injectors, high grade

fasteners, roller bearings, suspension parts and track pins.



The debris from the destroyed Michigan Wire Processing plant hangs over the fence reminiscent of a haunted scene.

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# Viewpoint

## To The Editor

To The Editor,

I would like to thank Councilman Matthews and with my persistence in finally getting one of the streetlights on Pleasant Street to work - only took a month.

The Department of Public Works finally got paint so they could put yellow and white lines on Bowes Road from M-21 to Valley Vista. This took only 10 months.

If you keep at problems, they eventually get taken care of. The squeaky wheel gets the oil!

Thanks to all,

Phyllis Lessens

to have been involved in this program and have many wonderful memories we will hold dear forever; however, our children are grown and have not been in the program for five years now. There is a time for every season; for us this season of our lives is coming to a close. As we pursue other interests and allow someone else "take over the reins" we pause to say thank you for your support and allowing us to reminisce.

After a new president and secretary are chosen, we will be helping with the transition into the 2008 season to move smoothly, to help train, guide, and share what we have learned. Please take time to consider volunteering for these positions; it is truly a rewarding experience!

We would like to thank our children, Matt, Kyleigh, Josh and Tylor, as they have stapled, stuffed and sorted many papers, helped out at the field, and have had many late night dinners over the years. We are proud of their willingness to volunteer their time, right along with us.

We would also like to thank, Joe and Deb Karasiewicz, Sarah and Martin Canfield, Rick Helms, Jason Barber, Tony Dommer, Deb and Dana Drake, Dan and Kim Stephens.

Sincerely,  
Mike and Lois Meppelink

Dear Editor,

I offer greetings to the new owners of the Lowell Ledger and wish them and the new Editor an aspiring future. Now that the BS is out of the way I would like to say that I hope our new owners will maintain the freedom of expression that the Ledger has offered in the past and the excellent reporting. It is time for our community to be informed of the up and coming election for the position of three council members and this election is just around the corner. I'm hoping that the Ledger will bring to the forefront the constituents running for the council positions with photo's along with a history of the individual and why they are running for the position. This is not only news worthy but a necessity to the constituents of Lowell so every one has a chance to choose a preferred candidate. I would like to comment on the recent council meeting where they agreed to invest \$2.4 million from the proceeds of the sale of Lowell Cable TV in to the Grand Rapids Community Foundation. It is said that there will be a public hearing to further determine the authority and allocations. Question- Considering there was no set date for a public hearing will the constituents of Lowell once again be denied there rights which is the ultimate say on what to do with there proceeds from the sale of Lowell Cable TV.

Jim Howard

Dear Editor,

More to the puzzle:

Our Washington St. friends have been served lease papers with the terms of the lease making such outlandish demands that it will be impossible for them to stay.

Again, what is the rush?

What is the reward?

Who is to gain?

What can be done?

Jan Johnson

Dear Editor,

To The Parents of Lowell Youth Football Participants Past and Present:

We would like to thank each of you for the opportunity to serve as the League president and secretary for Lowell Youth Football for the past ten years. It has been both a fulfilling and rewarding experience to watch this league grow and develop into what it is today. Our greatest joy, however has been the kids we have watched move through this program and on to bring home two state high school football championships to Lowell!

When we accepted our positions in 1996, having four kids involved in Lowell Youth Football, we felt compelled to get involved in the program. There have been many improvements: planting grass, daily watering of the field, digging out the buried curbs, painting curbs and murals, installing a sprinkling system, new bleachers and picnic areas; yet, the satisfaction of knowing what this league has become and being part of this community is indescribable. The program has grown from 150 participants to a boasting 550 plus, with the addition of both flag football and 78er cheerleading. We have come to care very deeply about the league, as it has been such a significant part of our lives every year, all year.

After much debate, considerable thought, and even a few tears, we have concluded it is time to resign our positions at the end of the 2007 season. We feel honored

Sharon Ellison  
Co-Chairperson  
Lowell Area Conservation Association



## 125 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL JOURNAL SEPTEMBER 20, 1882

A new sidewalk has been laid on the south side of the bridge between Wisners Mill and the ax factory. Other new walks are being put down.

Several attempts at burglary have been made in town of late. The residences of Dr. Grant, Mrs. Richards and other people on the west side have been visited by some rascal or rascals who deserve to be shot.

## 100 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER SEPTEMBER 19, 1907

New 12-passenger carriage added to equipment of Lowell bus line.

S.A. Ware is painting his barn (in east Lowell). The ladies of the village Church of Christ in Cascade will hold their annual apron event at the town hall.

## 75 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AND ALTO SOLO SEPTEMBER 15, 1932

The Coons Clothing store has been established in Lowell just 40 years, and in celebration of this important anniversary, will inaugurate a store-wide sale beginning next Wednesday morning.

Foreman Poultry Farm scored heavily at the Michigan State Fair on winning nest display in both production white leghorns and production barred rocks.

## 50 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER SEPTEMBER 19, 1957

There will be a public showing of the new motion picture "It happened in Ionia" at the local Methodist church next Wednesday.

Beginning Sept. 12 and continuing through November, Rep. Gerald R. Ford, Jr. will make an annual tour of the 5th Congressional District, pinpointing all stops so that his "mobile (trailer) office" will be at one time or another during the two-month period be at least within six miles of the home of very resident in the district.

## 25 YEARS AGO THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER SEPTEMBER 15, 1982

Residents of the Lowell school district will vote Sept. 27 on a proposed 3.4 mill increase over the next three years to fund extra curricular activities.

The recycling station is open at the corner of the Lowell Lanes parking lot. There are receptacles for newspaper, brown paper bags, tin cans, aluminum, bottles and jars, and plastic milk and juice jugs.

## “Business Blitz” set for Thursday and Friday

The Lowell High School student council is planning a “Business Blitz” for Thursday and Friday this week to sell “Make a Wish” stars for the impending Homecoming week. Student council members will be going door-to-door from 3-6 p.m. in the downtown area. Stars cost \$1, with the proceeds benefiting a family’s wish. Every school in the Lowell district is participating in the

campaign, set to raise money for a terminally-ill child and her family. The proceeds of the campaign will go toward a Disney cruise.

Stars can also be purchased at any of the schools.

## Weddings

McClymont/Kreps

Justyn McClymont and Owen Kreps (expected in January) would like to announce the marriage of their parents Kathy McClymont and Alan Kreps on Wednesday, September 19, 2007.



Alan Kreps and Kathy McClymont

*Irrationally held truths may be more harmful than reasoned errors.*

- Thomas H. Huxley (1825 - 1895)

## Reflections of faith

by Roger LaWarre, Pastor  
First Congregational UCC of Lowell

When I go to church I expect that I will be entering a community of diverse human beings who extend a radical type of hospitality to me and everyone who is present. I

expect that the hospitality will not be based on anything other than the Gospel because it seems to me that hospitality is at the heart of the Gospel, the good news, of Jesus Christ. Now I know that the Christian community does not have a corner on hospitality. However, hospitality is certainly one perspective from which the writers of the Gospels, particularly the writer of Luke, view God’s activity in the world and understand God’s disposition toward the whole of creation, including humankind. You have to ask yourself the hospitality question: “What does God’s presence with us as individuals and as communities look like? How do we experience God’s hospitality? This is the question that an Australian writer, John Emmett, raises for us.

Luke’s Gospel brings us insight into how people experience hospitality from the church. In Luke 10:25-37, the writer gives witness to a type of hospitality from the priest and Levite that is not of God. In this example the doctrine and “laws” of one’s belief system becomes more

important that the need of a person. If we look at Luke 10:38-42 we can recognize that the church’s hospitality can be more like that of Martha’s; we too are frequently distracted by our own ends - adding people to the role of the saved or filling the pews and classrooms on a Sunday morning.

I would encourage your thoughts on this important aspect of Christ’s message to the world. Maybe, just maybe, like the despised alien (Samaritan) and Mary, it is the active practice of a listening and attentive discipleship that truly communicates the authentic Word of God. Christian ministry is less about fear and being in the right church or being damned to hell. Christian ministry is more about Luke 4:18-19 where “word and deed” come together in overwhelming hospitality to all people. It is imperative that the community of faith live as the welcoming community of God’s people...all God’s people, no exceptions.

**Jeff William Fisher and Carrie Ann Curtis were united in marriage on July 27, 2007 at a beautiful beach ceremony on North Shore Beach in Ferrysburg, Michigan. Officiating was Reverend Ben Jensen of Muskegon.**

The couple’s wedding party consisted of their six children; Amber, Brooke, Cassie, Ellie, Isabel, and Gavin. The couple honeymooned in the U.S. Virgin Islands. The couple owns and operates Kingdom Development, Inc. in Lowell and Carrie is the owner/accountant of Curtis Accounting & Tax Services, LLC. They will continue operating their businesses in Lowell and reside in Ada.

**Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University**

**DEBT**

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## AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p><b>ATTENTION: BIBLE BELIEVERS</b></p> <p>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</p> <p>Across the street from the Vermont Dodge dealership 897-6284 or 485-4195 10AM Sunday School; 11AM Morning Service; 6PM Evening Service; Wed., 7:30PM Prayer Meeting.</p>	<p><b>ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> Kirby and Harrison</p> <p>Alto • 616-691-8011</p> <p>Worship.....9:30 A.M. Children’s Church.....9:30 A.M.</p> <p><b>OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS</b> Pastor Qean Bailey</p>	<p><b>DAY BIBLE CHAPEL</b> 9305 Centerline, Saranac 897-6332</p> <p>Worship.....9:45 A.M. Sunday School.....11:00 A.M.</p> <p>Nursery &amp; Jr. Church Provided Rev. Frank Lattimore, Pastor “A Nondenominational Ministry With A Blended Word Centered Service!”</p>	<p><b>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL</b></p> <p>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><b>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH</b></p> <p>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</p> <p>Pastor Robert L. Hubbard Phone: (616) 897-1267 website: <a href="http://www.aplighthouse.com">www.aplighthouse.com</a></p>
<p><b>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b></p> <p>621 E. Main Street • 897-5936</p> <p>Summer Worship.....8:30 &amp; 10:00 a.m. DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR Barrier - Free Entrance</p>		<p><b>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God)</b> 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, Lead Pastor John King, Youth Pastor</p> <p><b>SUNDAYS:</b> 10:00 a.m. - Worship &amp; Evening; LIFE home Groups &amp; “The Source” Youth <b>WEDNESDAYS:</b> Family Night: (for all ages) 7:00 p.m. “The Source” Youth: 7:00 p.m. Loving God ... Loving People!</p>	<p><b>ST. MARY’S CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> Fr. George J. Fekete 402 Amity St. • 897-9820 <a href="http://www.stmary-lowell.com">www.stmary-lowell.com</a></p> <p>Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM Holy Day Masses: 9 AM &amp; 7 PM Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM Prayer &amp; adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETE WIGANS: 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 49, EFNW FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>	<p><b>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> (United Church of Christ) 865 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE • 897-5906</p> <p>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 &amp; Worship</p>
<p><b>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell &amp; Saranac on M-21 <a href="http://www.goodshepherdlowell.org">www.goodshepherdlowell.org</a></p> <p>Worship Service.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....9:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p><b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b></p> <p>2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: <a href="http://www.fbcloell.org">http://www.fbcloell.org</a> Rev. David O. Sims &amp; Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor</p> <p>Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. &amp; 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA CLUB J.C. Wed. 6:15 &amp; 6:30 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free</p>	<p><b>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Rev. Thurian Meredith</p> <p>9:45 A.M. ....Worship/Fellowship 11:15 A.M. ....Sunday School</p> <p>897-9863 or 897-9588 Nursery &amp; Children Worship Programs Provided</p> <p><i>A friend...a family...a mission!</i></p>		<p><b>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b></p> <p>Lowell High School Performing Arts Center Greeting &amp; Fellowship.....10:15 A.M. Sunday Morning Worship.....10:40 A.M. Wednesday Discipleship Ministries.....7:00 P.M.</p> <p>Meets at 201 N. Washington PASTOR MICHAEL RHODABARGER Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>

## Gaspers selected as MMPA’s outstanding young dairy cooperators

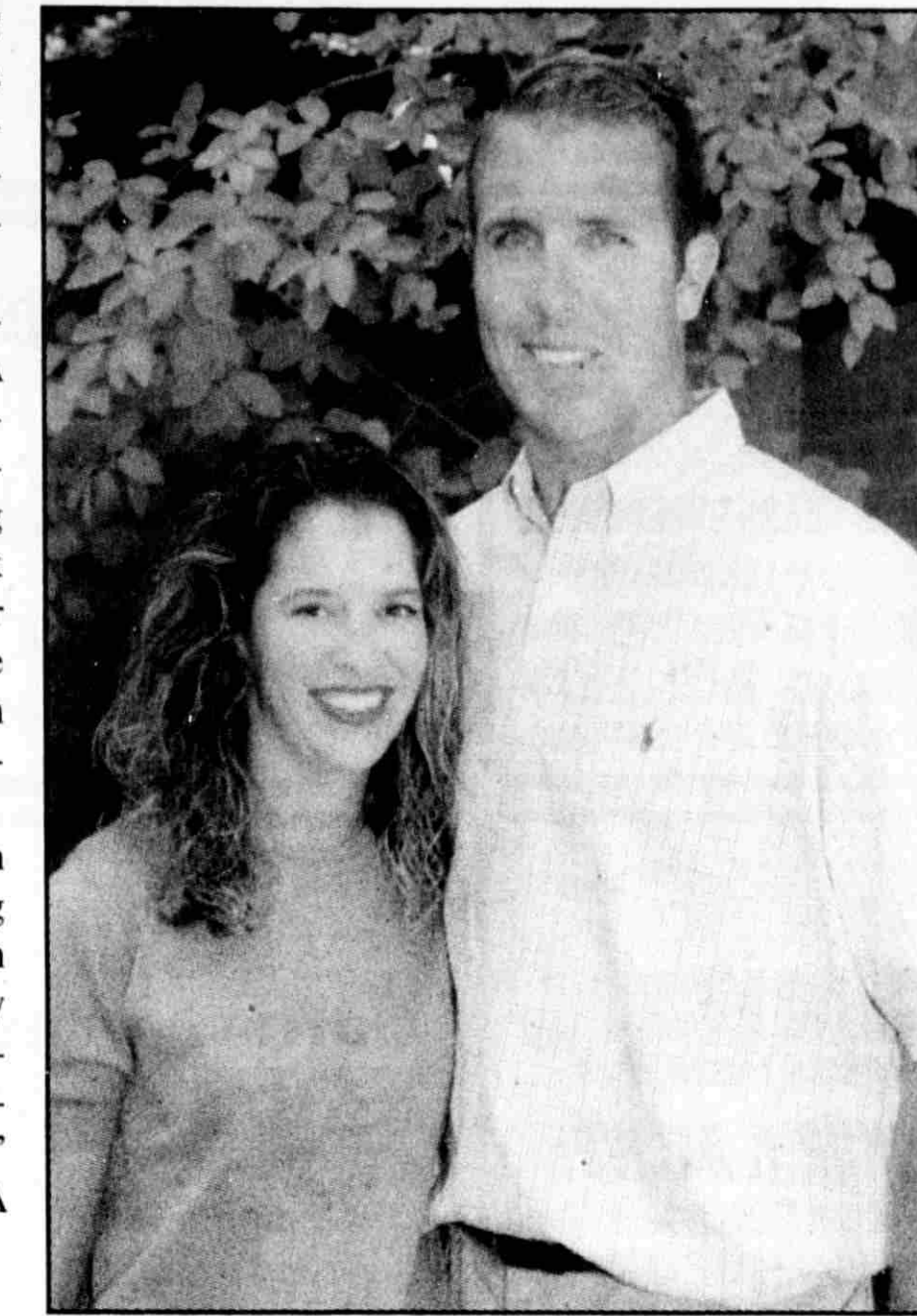
Aaron and Andrea Gasper of Lowell, were selected as the state winning 2007 Outstanding Young Dairy Cooperators (OYDC). They represented Michigan Milk Producers Association’s (MMPA) District 6 and the Saranac Local in the annual OYDC conference held Aug. 15-17. The Gaspers were selected to participate in the program earlier this year by fellow dairy farmers in their district.

Aaron farms with his father, Ken, at Lew-Max Holsteins LLC, where they milk 390 cows and farm 1,000 acres. Aaron is the main herdsman for the dairy. Andrea owns and operates her own greenhouse business, Contained Gardens. Aaron also serves as a MMPA delegate and is a member of the MMPA State Resolutions Committee. The Gaspers have two children: Quinn and Grant.

As the state-winning cooperators, Aaron and Andrea will represent MMPA at various industry and Association activities. Brad and Monica Crandall of Battle Creek, were selected as the runner-up cooperators. Selection of the OYDC is based on the applicant’s farming operations, farm-related and community activities and demonstrated leadership abilities.

All the MMPA District OYDC’s will be officially recognized at MMPA’s 2008 Annual Meeting to be held next March in Lansing.

MMPA is a member-



Andrea and Aaron Gasper.

## Happy Birthday

**SEPTEMBER 19:**  
Abbey Goff, Megan Claypool, Brian Ryder, Renae Heinicke, Griff Brenk, Julie Kline.

**SEPTEMBER 24:**  
Kenneth Gregersen II, David Powell, Clara King, Stephanie Vickers, Jake Baker, Samantha Clouser.

**SEPTEMBER 25:**  
Carolyn Thaler, Sara Swift, Carol Wingeier.

**SEPTEMBER 20:**  
Donald Rittersdorf Jr., Patrick Parish, Mitchell Walling, Phillip Wilson, Marilyn Wilson.

**SEPTEMBER 21:**  
Deanna Anchors, Renee Fox, Rich Briseno, Joseph Scott, Megan Racine.

**SEPTEMBER 22:**  
Rosie Fonger, Jennifer Haan, Tara Thornton, Linda Barnes, Grandma Modlin.

**SEPTEMBER 23:**  
Steve VanLaan, Mike Racine.

**THANK YOU**

To the pilots, our friends and neighbors who helped us celebrate our 3rd annual Fly-In Pancake Breakfast at Wingeier Field in Alto.

- The Wingeier Families

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Week of Sept. 24, 2007

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**TUES:** Cheeseburger on bun (or chili & crackers also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), whole kernel corn, assorted fruit, chocolate chip cookie, milk.

**WED:** Grilled cheese sandwich (or turkey & cheese on bun also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), vegetable pasta salad, pears, milk.

**THURS:** Waffles w/ syrup or cereal w/ graham crackers w/ scrambled eggs, fresh fruit, applesauce, milk.

**FRI:** Hot dog on bun (or bagel w/yogurt & peanut butter also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), mini carrots/dip, fresh orange, milk.

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## HEALTH

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



### RICKETS

Rickets is a bone problem that affects children. It happens when your child’s bones do not form correctly. Rickets can make your child’s bones hurt, and the bones can bend and break easily.

Children can inherit rickets from a parent. Sometimes it relates to what your child eats, called nutritional rickets. It can happen when your child doesn’t get enough vitamin D and calcium to make strong bones. The body also needs sunlight to make vitamin D. If your child has dark skin and does not spend much time in the sun, he or she could get rickets. If your child was born prematurely or has certain illnesses, such as kidney or intestinal disease, he or she also has a higher risk of developing rickets. Young babies with rickets can be fussy and have soft skulls. Infant and toddlers may not develop, walk, or grow well. Older children may have bone pain and bowed legs, or their wrists and knees may get wider.

To diagnose rickets, your doctor will ask about family history and your child’s health and diet. A full physical exam should be performed. Blood tests and x-rays of the arms and legs can help tell if the child has rickets.

Treatment depends on the type of rickets the child has. Nutritional rickets is treated with vitamin D and calcium. If your child has inherited rickets or has an illness causing the problem, a specialist may need to be involved.

To avoid nutritional rickets, be sure your child gets enough vitamin D and calcium. If you have a young baby who is only receiving breast milk, supplement with vitamin D. For older children, be sure to feed them foods that are high in calcium, such as milk, cheese and salad greens. Discuss sun exposure with your doctor.

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**Sharing The Vision**  
With Gregory Pratt  
LHS Superintendent

Education is a wonderful profession. Those who are in the education business have the opportunity and privilege every fall for a new beginning. Change in practices may occur in order to best ensure that every child learns to their maximum potential and has the best opportunity for the future.

Each year, Lowell Area Schools starts the year with new students, some new teachers, and occasionally some new administrators. Staff and students returned to revitalized buildings as much of our staff worked throughout the summer to prepare for the opening of schools. Not only

have our students faced some changes, parents will also see some new changes in viewing their students' grades and academic performance. The previous parent online access to their students' information "K-12 Planet" is being replaced with a new product called "Infinite Campus". Parents with students in 6th through 12th grades will soon be receiving a letter describing this new product and the steps that they will take to log in to this online service.

As we strive to provide the best possible programs in education here at Lowell Area Schools we certainly face great challenges. By law, the school district has to establish a budget no later than June 30. The budget we put in place was based on many unknowns since the State of Michigan is still without a budget even with schools being in session for nearly three weeks. As we move forward into the school year with plans of providing the best possible education for our youth, our lawmakers have created an atmosphere of uncertainty which jeopardizes the services and programs

that currently serve our student population. We are seeking support from our state legislators to make sure an equitable long-term solution to the state's budget crisis occurs and that our students' education is not put in jeopardy.

As our new school year is under way, the successful start was due to the tremendous staff and personnel that have dedicated their time to Lowell area students. We know that the world is changing and that the demands on our students are greater than ever before. With the highest expectations, Lowell Area Schools continues to change and adapt the educational experience for our young people in order to meet the challenges and expectations they face.

Your comments about this matter or any issue would be greatly appreciated. Send to Superintendent Gregory Pratt, Lowell Area Schools, 300 High St., Lowell, MI 49331 or [gpratt@lowellschools.com](mailto:gpratt@lowellschools.com) (check out our Web page at [www.lowellschools.com](http://www.lowellschools.com) or make comments to the Board of Education at [boardofed@lowellschools.com](mailto:boardofed@lowellschools.com)).

**Financial Focus**  
With Christopher C. Godbold  
Edward Jones  
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**LONG-TERM FINANCIAL MOVES IN A SHORT-TERM WORLD**

As a society, we have grown accustomed to instant gratification. You can lose 20 pounds in two months, learn a language in six weeks and download your favorite songs in seconds. The idea of waiting for what we want seems to have become a quaint relic of bygone days. Of course, in many walks of life, there's probably nothing wrong with having your desires fulfilled quickly — but the "get it now" attitude can actually have some negative consequences when it comes to spending, saving and investing.

Want proof? Consider the following:

- In the fourth quarter of 2006, families spent 14.5 percent of their disposable income to service their debt — the largest share since 1980, according to the Center for American Progress.
- The first quarter of 2007 marked the eighth quarter in a row with a negative personal savings rate, according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis.

• Almost half of workers who are saving for retirement say their savings and investments (excluding the value of their primary residence and any pension plan) total less than \$25,000, according to the Employee Benefit Research Institute's 2007 Retirement Confidence Survey.

What can you do to avoid some of the financial problems that may arise from short-term behavior? Here are a few suggestions:

- Delay purchases. Try to think about all purchases overnight and calculate how long you'd have to work to pay for them. You might be surprised at how many items you can actually do without.
- Limit your borrowing. It's easier said than done, of course, but the fewer debts you have, the more you'll have available to save and invest. While it may not be possible for you to pay upfront for everything you buy, it's nonetheless a worthy goal, and the closer you can come to achieving it, the better off you'll be.
- Pay yourself first. If you wait until you've paid all your bills and other expenses each month before you save and invest for the future, you're probably going to make very slow progress toward your goals. If you can "pay yourself first" by putting money in a savings or investment account every time you get paid — even if it's just a nominal amount at first — you'll help yourself greatly over time.
- Be patient — and buy quality. From 1926 through 2006, large company stocks provided an average annual return of more than 10 percent, while small-company stocks returned, on average, more than 12 percent, according to

Ibbotson Associates, an investment research firm. Of course, you can't assume that, for a given year, your stocks or other growth-oriented investments will return 10 percent, 12 percent — or anything at all. In the short term, all growth vehicles go down as well as up, so you shouldn't be shocked at losing principal over a single year, or perhaps a couple of years in a row. But if you buy an array of quality investments and hold them for the long term — at least five to 10 years — you can help increase your chances to achieve some growth.

In all likelihood, our tendency to want things quicker is only going to accelerate. But when it comes to making smart financial moves, you'll want to take a "slow and steady" approach.

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*Just because your voice reaches halfway around the world doesn't mean you are wiser than when it reached only to the end of the bar.*

- Edward R. Murrow (1908 - 1965)

**NOTICE**  
**BOWNE TOWNSHIP IS SEEKING BIDS FOR THE FOLLOWING**

Snowplowing bids - to plow township office parking lot, to plow fire station area front, side, and rear, to plow area behind and in front of library (parking area) and to shovel sidewalks at the township office building and library for the entire 2007-08 winter season.

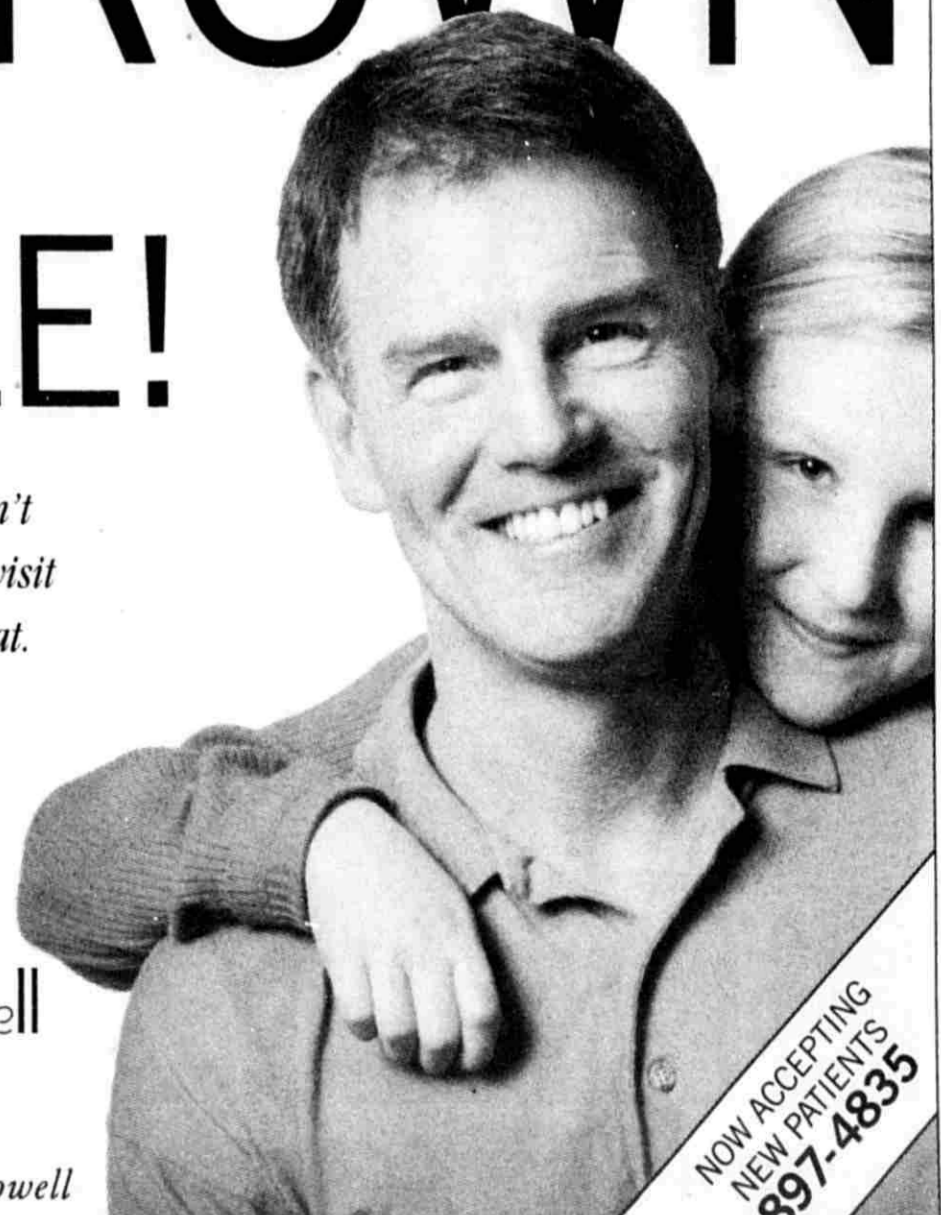
Bids should be submitted by October 12, 2007

Contact the Township Office - (616) 868-6846 for further details.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk  
Clerk

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# Swisslane Farms becomes environmentally-verified

by Molly Benningfield  
Editor

the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP), after a four-year process of updating the area. The changes to the farm, which is run by the

Oesch family, cost around \$2 million. Annie Link, a fourth-generation Oesch, said it was a necessary change for the farm. "To continue being a family farm, we had

to become a CAFO program through the Department of Agriculture. With the recent turn toward becoming environmentally-friendly, Tom Oesch Jr. said it seemed necessary, since the farm relies so heavily on its surroundings. "We feel like we're taking on a responsibility for the entire industry," Oesch said.

Because the family has owned the farm since the early 1900s, it was harder to get insured, since the farm was so rooted in old ways, Jan Wilford, the MAEAP manager said.

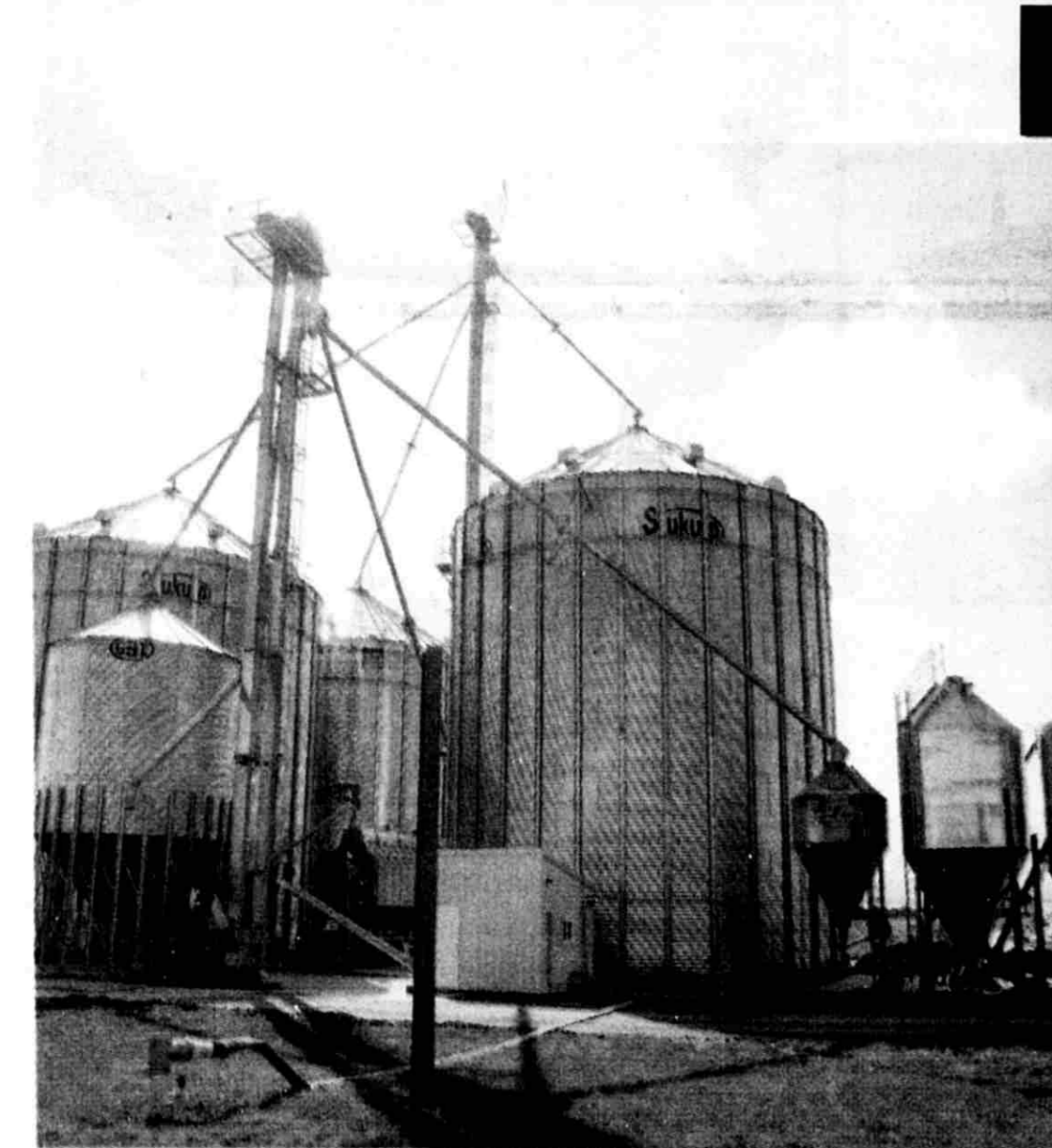
Swisslane Farms milks 1150 cows and has a herd of 2600 cattle. On average, a cow will produce 90 pounds of milk each day. The farm also grows corn, soybeans, hay and wheat on 3500 acres.

The farm also runs a program called "Dairy Discovery", which hosts school tours, family days, birthday parties and special events.

Swisslane Farms is located on 84th St. in Alto.



The Oesch family unveils its new "environmentally-verified" sign at Swisslane Farms.



Part of the Oesch farm is grain production.



A view inside of one of the barns.

Swisslane Farms covers 3500 acres of land in Alto.



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# Alto Harvest Festival draws record crowds

by Emma Palova

The community of Alto celebrated the season with the annual Harvest Festival last weekend in the downtown area drawing in record crowds of 3,000.

New this year was the antique car show that featured 41 hot rods, as well as the talent show on the stage.

"The car show was a huge hit," said master of ceremonies Bernie Boelesa. "It was a definite highlight."

Ryder Jones delivered a great concert, while the Lowell High School marching band played music in the parade. Arts, crafts and food booths offered everything from tacos to pizza, and free painting classes were given by the Ladies Craft Tent.

"We were busier than usual," said Boelesa.

Dale Brower built the stage, while many volunteers like Angela VanderLaan helped out.

"We want to get more people involved," said VanderLaan. "We're looking for more volunteers."

And the weather provided a beautiful backdrop for the festival.

"It was a great day for a festival," said Brower. "It was a beautiful day. It brought people out."

Jim Hull, owner of Kountry Korner, said the festival was pretty good, although he did the usual amount of business.



Bernie Boelesa, Dale Brower and Angela VanderLaan were just a few of the many volunteers who made the festival happen by constructing a new stage.

## Featured Artist

Jeanne Laird

by Emma Palova

Large swirls and curls decorate the letter J in Jeanne's bookmark created by calligraphy artist Jeanne Laird at the Flat River Cottage.

Penmanship comes easy to self-taught Laird who is enticed by the classical calligraphy ink pen with different size nibs. Wider nibs are used for bigger brush lettering.

For those who do not know what calligraphy stands for, Laird readily

recites its definition: "Calligraphy is the art of beautiful handwriting."

Laird studied commercial art in Pittsburg at the Ad Art Studio School. In the 50s and 60s, she worked in the advertising department for Wurzburg's in Grand Rapids.

Her love for arts grew stronger while creating pen and ink drawings for the Grand Ledge Arts and Crafts in the 70s. Laird has also drawn a rendering of the Flat River Cottage's

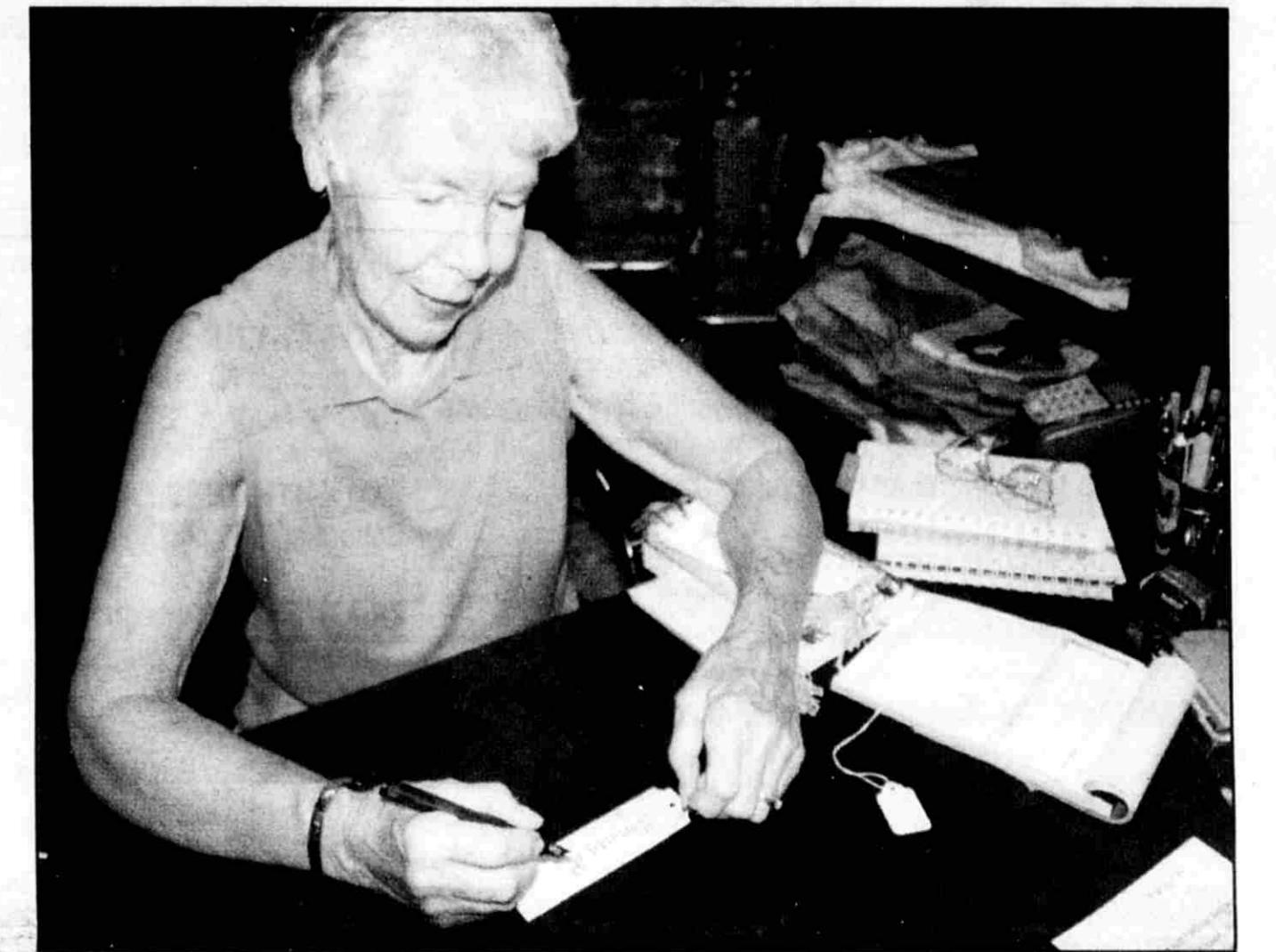
new home at 117 E. Main Street.

"It's very relaxing," she said. "I never have a radio or TV on. I work completely quiet."

Laird likes to design a variety of cards including monogram notes, poems, bible verses and special projects. She is mostly inspired by the people who ask her to do a project for them.

However, watercolor is more of a challenge for Laird, so she likes to paint with a buddy.

The artist is in on Fridays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and on Saturdays from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.



Jeanne Laird is a skilled calligraphy artist at the Flat River Cottage.

# DNR Fall Hunting Seasons Preview - Part I

If the weather cooperates, hunting seasons should be productive throughout Michigan this fall. Most game species are on an upward trend or stable on a statewide basis. That's the word from wildlife biologists with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

Part one of this exclusive small-game preview by the DNR Wildlife Division covers upland game birds. In

Part two, coming next week, biologists will preview rabbits, squirrels, ducks and geese.

For the 2007 hunting seasons, turkey hunting should be excellent and ruffed grouse are continuing their upward slope in their population cycle. Prospects for successful woodcock and pheasant hunts also are high for those who know where to hunt.

The DNR encourages

parents, guardians and other adult hunters to take a youngster hunting this year. Squirrels and cottontail rabbits often provide youngsters with their first hunting experience, and, as a result of a new law in 2006, the minimum hunting age has been lowered to age 10. See the 2007 Michigan Hunting and Trapping Guide for the special rules that apply to young hunters 10-16 years of age.

The guide also includes information about the new apprentice hunter program, which allows individuals to hunt without the required hunter education course for two years if accompanied and closely monitored by a licensed hunter 21 and older who is mentoring them in the sport.

These new laws now let parents determine whether or not their children are

ready to hunt. The apprentice program also gives adults who have not hunted before a chance to be mentored by an experienced hunter, so they can try the sport first before making a substantial commitment.

All in all, the stage is set for a very good hunting season. Please make it a safe one. The breathtaking fall scenery and crisp, clean air

of outdoor Michigan are just an added bonus.

Ruffed Grouse - Season: Sept. 15-Nov. 14. After the firearm deer season ends, the grouse season reopens from Dec. 1-Jan. 1 in the Lower Peninsula. The bag limit for grouse is five per day/10 in possession in Zones 1 and 2, and three per day/six in possession in Zone 3.

Hunting preview, cont'd., pg. 13

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# COMING EVENTS

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.

## SEPTEMBER

**THURS., SEPT. 20:** The public is invited to a retirement open house for Judy Straub at the Lowell Area Historical Museum from 3 to 7 p.m.

**THURS., SEPT. 20:** Dance Westside Complex 12:45 p.m. Sponsored by Lowell Senior Neighbors.

**FRI., SEPT. 21:** Shop Greenville & lunch at KFC, 11:30 a.m. Sponsored by Lowell Senior Neighbors.

**MON., SEPT. 24:** Lowell Area Conservation Association, open public meeting at 7:30 p.m. at Lowell Chamber of Commerce building. Topic: N. Washington St. property. More information call Sharon 897-5314 or Peggy 897-7948.

**MON., SEPT. 24:** Food pantry 12:45 p.m. Sponsored by Lowell Senior Neighbors.

**THURS., SEPT. 27:** Dinner at Lamplight Grill at 4:30 p.m. Sponsored by Lowell Senior Neighbors.

**THURS., SEPT. 27:** Deadline to submit your ghost stories. See www.lowellartscouncil.org for entry information.

**SUN., SEPT. 30:** Champion Tree Contest entry deadline. Enter you big trees - all species. Entry forms available at www.vergenestwp.org or at the township hall.

**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.

### 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. - March 10 a.m. & April - 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.

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.:** 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.

### TUESDAYS

**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 (conception through Kindergarten) 9:15-11:30 a.m. at Impact Church, 1070 N. Hudson. 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.

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

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

**1ST WED.:** Free blood pressure screenings at Lowell Senior Neighbors provided by The Laurels of Kent.

**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.

### 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.

### 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 Kormer 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.:** 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.

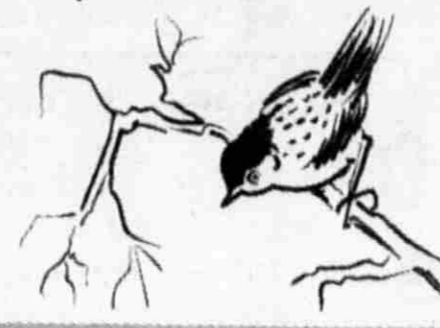
**2ND SAT.:** Lowell Amateur Radio Club, held at 11535 E. Fulton, Flat River Outreach Ministries. 9 a.m. social time; 10 a.m. meeting. LARC sponsors 145.27 MHz area radio repeater system.

**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.

## Outdoors

By Dave Stegehuis



### PRACTICE - PRACTICE

Opening day of the '07 archery deer season begins statewide on Oct. 1. Hopefully, everyone planning to hunt has begun practicing with his or her bow and ideally has been shooting all year. The need to practice does not end with the start of hunting season. Shooting a bow requires precise coordination with the eyes, muscles, and mind. Hitting a golf ball requires the same kind of coordination and those who excel at it spend hours practicing with different clubs in a variety of shot situations. Becoming

competent with archery equipment demands the same kind of dedication, whether the objective is target shooting or hunting.

Before any practice can be productive, the bow must be properly tuned so that arrows will fly straight and true. Shooting a few arrows with broad-heads will determine hunting arrow flight which may be different than field points. Some problems can be fixed easily by moving the arrow rest or sight pin. Other remedies may require special equipment and the assistance of an expert at your local archery shop.

Early practice should be at shorter distances so that one can focus on proper form without concern about where the arrows are hitting, as most shooting problems are the result of improper form. Move out to longer ranges when consistent accuracy is achieved. Repeat this procedure whenever your shooting becomes erratic.

Shooting at a paper plate at a known distance in the

backyard at high noon in a t-shirt is not how it will be in the woods. Therefore, the next step for hunting preparation is to practice under realistic conditions. This means tree-stand hunters need to shoot from elevated positions. Another scenario would be shooting from a kneeling or sitting position and from a ground blind. Drawing a bow from a sitting position is much more difficult than when standing. Because deer movement peaks early and late in the day, practice during low light times will provide more realistic conditions.

Hunting clothing such as hats, gloves, and facemasks should be worn during some of the practice sessions. Cooler fall temperatures require heavier clothing which tends to restrict movement.

Responsible hunting demands taking only high percentage shots and the ability to make those shots count. Practice should continue throughout the season so one will be ready if and when opportunity presents itself.

## Hunting preview, continued ... From Page 11

**Outlook:** The ruffed grouse population is most likely nearing the middle of the upward slope of the population cycle. Thus, we expect slightly more grouse to be harvested this fall. The population was at the low end of its cycle in 2005 with previous peak years in 1975, 1981, 1989 and 1999. Areas of good habitat will continue to provide the best grouse hunting opportunities. Grouse are most abundant in the Upper Peninsula, followed by the northern and southern Lower Peninsula. Young, dense aspen stands with an understory of fruit bearing shrubs provide some of the best habitat for ruffed grouse. Grouse and woodcock hunters are reminded to assist the DNR in monitoring grouse and woodcock populations by providing information about their hunts. The cooperater form can be found on the DNR Web site at www.michigan/dnr.

**Woodcock - Season:** Oct. 10-31 in the Upper Peninsula. The Lower Peninsula runs from Oct. 20-Nov. 14. The bag limit is two male pheasants per day/four in possession. The late pheasant season in part of Zone 3 will be open from Dec. 1-Jan. 1 with a bag limit of two male pheasants/four in possession.

**Outlook:** Woodcock hunters may expect a season similar to last year. The early spring rains and late

**Outlook:** The pheasant population is expected to be similar to or slightly higher than last year. Birds came through the winter in good shape due to mild winter conditions. Most of the best pheasant habitat is located on private lands. Hunters are encouraged to contact private landowners prior to the fall hunting season to gain access to these areas. Counties with some of the highest pheasant numbers include Ingham, Ionia, Hilldale, Huron, Lenawee, Livingston, Montcalm and Tuscola. Idle fields and warm season grasses adjacent to agriculture lands are prime areas to look for pheasants. Late season hunters should concentrate their efforts in cattail and shrub wetlands near picked corn and bean fields.

**Pheasant and quail hunters are encouraged to help the DNR in monitoring pheasant and quail populations by providing information about their hunts. The cooperation form can be found on the DNR Web site at www.michigan.gov/dnr.**

**Quail - Season:** Oct. 20-Nov. 14. Quail can be hunted only in Branch, Calhoun, Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Gratiot, Hillsdale, Huron,

Ingham, Ionia, Jackson, Kent, Lapeer, Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Montcalm, Oakland, Saginaw, St. Clair, St. Joseph, Sanilac, Shiawassee, Tuscola, Washtenaw and Wayne counties. All other counties are closed to quail hunting. The bag limit is five per day/10 in possession.

**Outlook:** Although patchy in distribution and abundance, quail can be found throughout southern Michigan. Expect to find an improved quail population from last year due to mild winter conditions, lack of severe ice storms and excellent spring nesting conditions. It is projected that hunters could take an estimated 3,000 quail this fall.

**Wild Turkey - Season:** Oct. 8-Nov. 14 in 11 hunt units in portions of the Lower Peninsula and one hunt unit in the Upper Peninsula. Some units will be open for fall turkey hunting only on private lands. The bag limit is one bird (either sex). Any licenses that remain as of Sept. 17 at 10 a.m. (EDT) will be available for purchase over the counter by individuals who did not apply for a fall turkey license.

**Outlook:** Turkey numbers should be excellent in

areas open for fall hunting. Mild winter weather resulted in good survival and spring nesting conditions should produce a good crop of young birds. Approximately 40,000 leftover fall turkey licenses are available to people who did not participate in the lottery drawing. Interested turkey hunters may purchase these licenses over the counter until the quota is met. The leftover licenses will go on sale Sept. 17. Visit the DNR Web site for details.

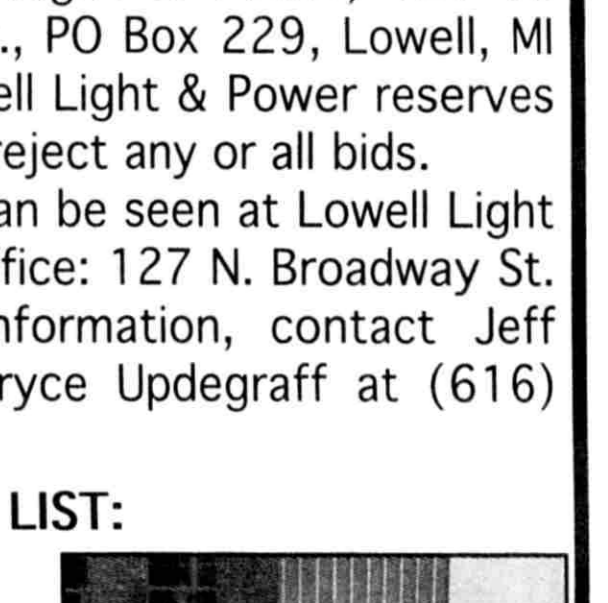
Equipment For Sale: Lowell Light & Power is offering the below listed equipment for sale to the highest bidder. Sealed Bids must be received by 12:00 Noon, Wednesday, September 26, 2007. Bids will be opened and publicly read at that time. Submit sealed bids to "EQUIPMENT BID" Lowell Light & Power, 127 N. Broadway St., PO Box 229, Lowell, MI 49331. Lowell Light & Power reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Equipment can be seen at Lowell Light & Power's office: 127 N. Broadway St. For more information, contact Jeff Mullins or Bryce Updegraff at (616) 897-8402.

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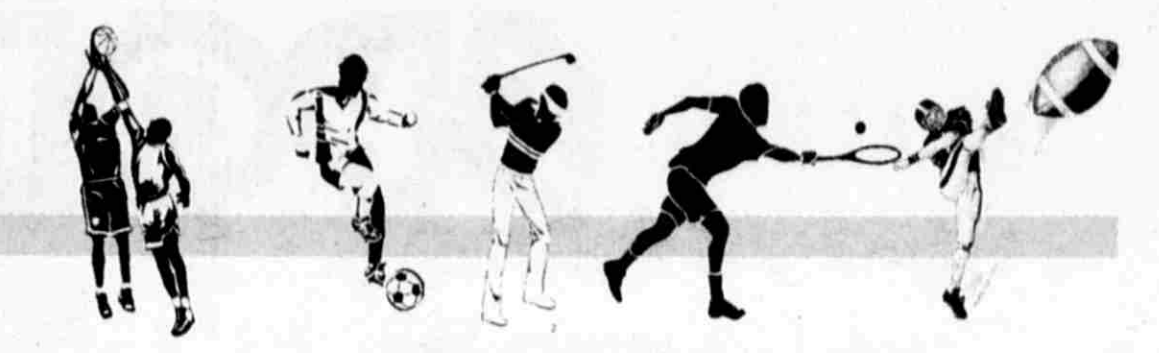
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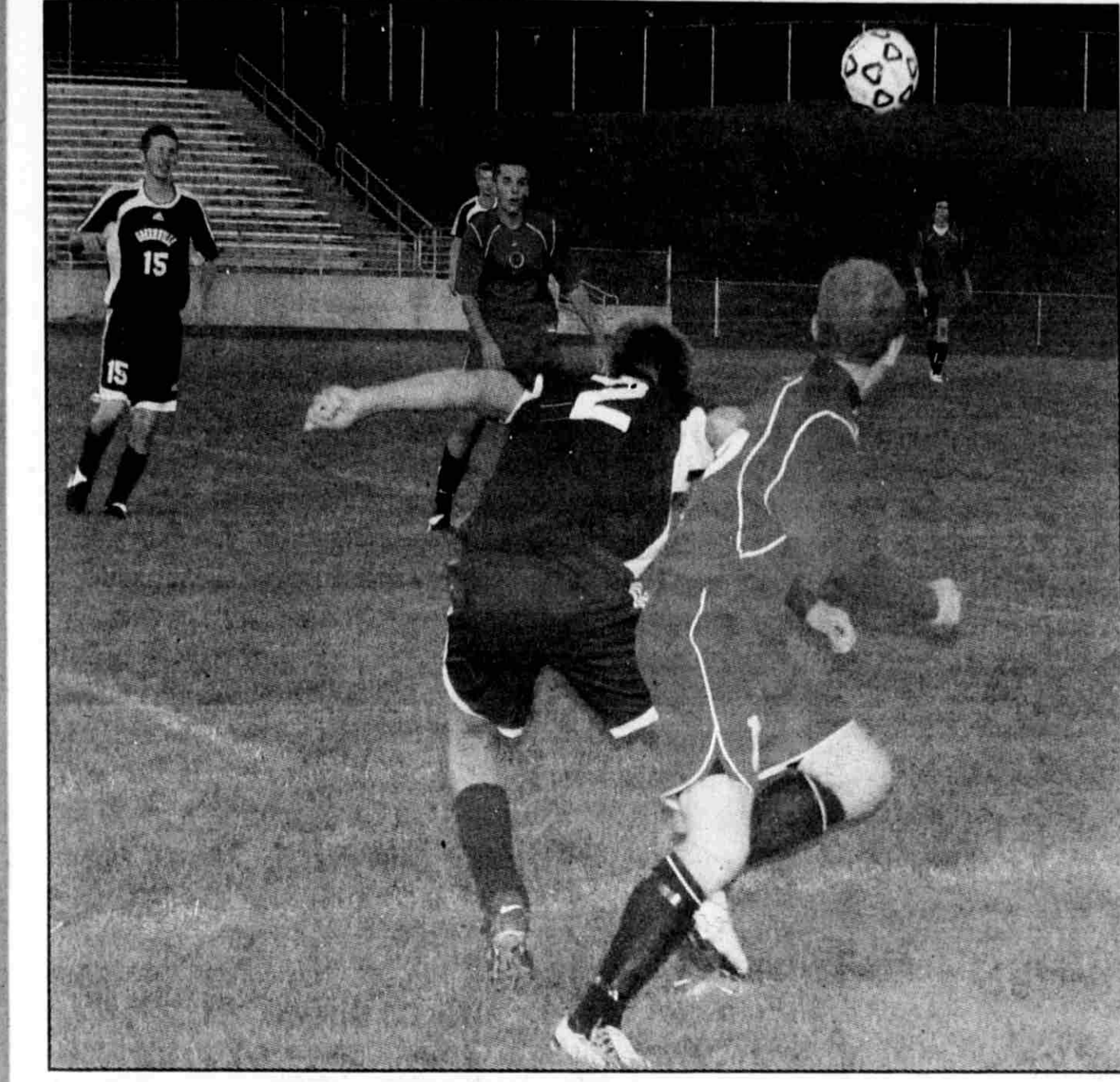
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# RED ARROW SPORTS



## Lowell High School soccer team splits two games



Jerry Adams (17) fights off a Greenville opponent at Tuesday's game.

by Molly Benningfield  
Editor

The Lowell soccer team split a pair of games last week, winning a Tuesday match-up against Greenville 5-1, and losing a close game to Reeths-Puffer Thursday 3-4.

At Tuesday's match, the first half saw a lone goal by Lowell's Greg Harrel, with an assist by Matt Schloop. The team kept the ball mostly on Greenville's end and saw Jerry Adams

receive a yellow card with five minutes of play left in the half.

But the second half proved much more interesting. Lowell would score four more times, with a stellar performance by Nick Abdo and Jerry Adams.

Abdo scored twice and assisted once, while Adams did the same. Abe McIntire also had an assist. Greenville also recorded a yellow card for Al Calvi.

Lowell recorded 17 shots at goal, while Greenville

had seven. Goalkeeper Phil Bieri had six saves.

Thursday's game was less victorious for the Arrows, as Reeths-Puffer squeezed out a victory. A few missed opportunities cost Lowell the win.

Abdo, Harrel and Jacob Karasiewicz scored for Lowell.

The team next plays Thursday night against Forest Hills Central at home and Saturday morning at the East Lansing Tournament.



Nick Abdo (23) races down the line with a Spartan defender closing in.

**The Benning-Fielder**  
by Molly Benningfield  
Sports editor

**Bestow it, Brand it, Blast it – what to do with No. 756?**

What would you do with the ball that launched a thousand complaints and thrills? The ball that was laced with controversy? The No. 756 ball, Barry Bond's homer that surpassed Hank Aaron's record in early August this year, is making headlines once again.

Marc Ecco, a man best known for his hip-hop fashion empire, recently bought the ball for a reported \$752,467 in the Sotheby's/SCP bidding auction. And now, he's letting the public decide what to do with it. That's right – someone spent almost a million dollars, and now he wants sports fans around the country to choose where it goes.

On the website [www.vote756.com](http://www.vote756.com), Ecco writes, "We all have an opinion about Barry Bonds' ball that broke Hank Aaron's home run record. Some feel it is a piece of history that belongs in the Hall of Fame. Others believe it is the embodiment of a cheating culture – not just in baseball, but in professional sports overall."

Ecco said he bought the baseball to "democratize the debate over what to do with it. The idea that some of the best athletes in the country are forced to decide between being competitive and staying natural is troubling."

Voting started Monday, Sept. 17 and will last for a week. There are three options to choose: bestow it, brand it and blast it. The first is the most likely to actually occur, since it includes sending the ball to Cooperstown for the Hall of Fame. The second, to "brand it", is more controversial, sending the ball to Cooperstown with an asterisk (\*) burned into the leather with a branding iron. The third is the goofiest: blast the ball into outer space. It's also the most expensive, unless a branding iron has really gone up in price since I last checked.

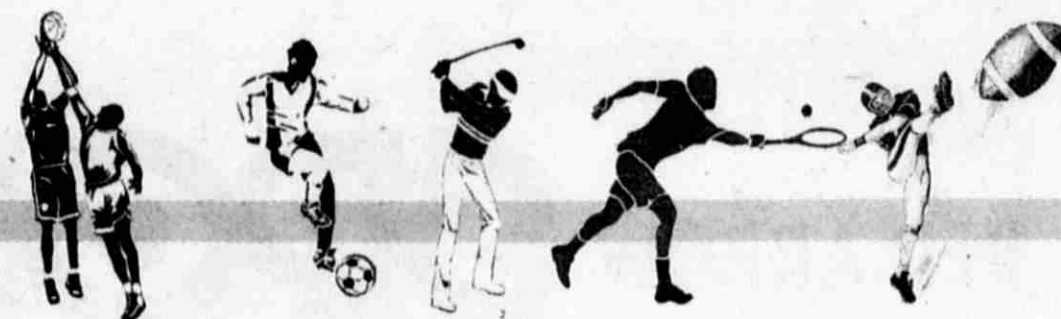
Ecco is allowing the American public to be a part of the process, saying that he wants to democratize it. According to Ecco, he's giving the system a big kick. I'm all for it. I've already made my decision – what's yours?



Ian Beddows jumps for a ball against a Spartan defender at Thursday's game.



# RED ARROW SPORTS



## Lowell football continues winning streak against Sparta

by Molly Benningfield  
Editor

Another game, another star emerging for Lowell's

varsity football team. The Arrows have already seen stellar performances this season from Torsten Boss,

Kyle Nichol and Jordan Boon, to only name a few, and Friday's game against Sparta was no different.

Nate Vaught, a fullback, hit the ground running and rarely stopped for a break. Vaught carried the ball

31 times, resulting in 183 yards for the Arrows. In comparison, the Spartans had 181 total yards - two less than Vaught's total.

The Red Arrows won Friday's game 28-14 against the Spartans with a touchdown in each quarter. Nichol scored in the first quarter with a 1-yard run, had a 22-yard pass in the third to Jacob Swift and ran in two yards in the fourth quarter. Ryan Olep ran the ball for four yards in the second quarter.

Sparta scored only in the second half, with a 14-yard pass from Corey Cooper to Mark Bond in the third

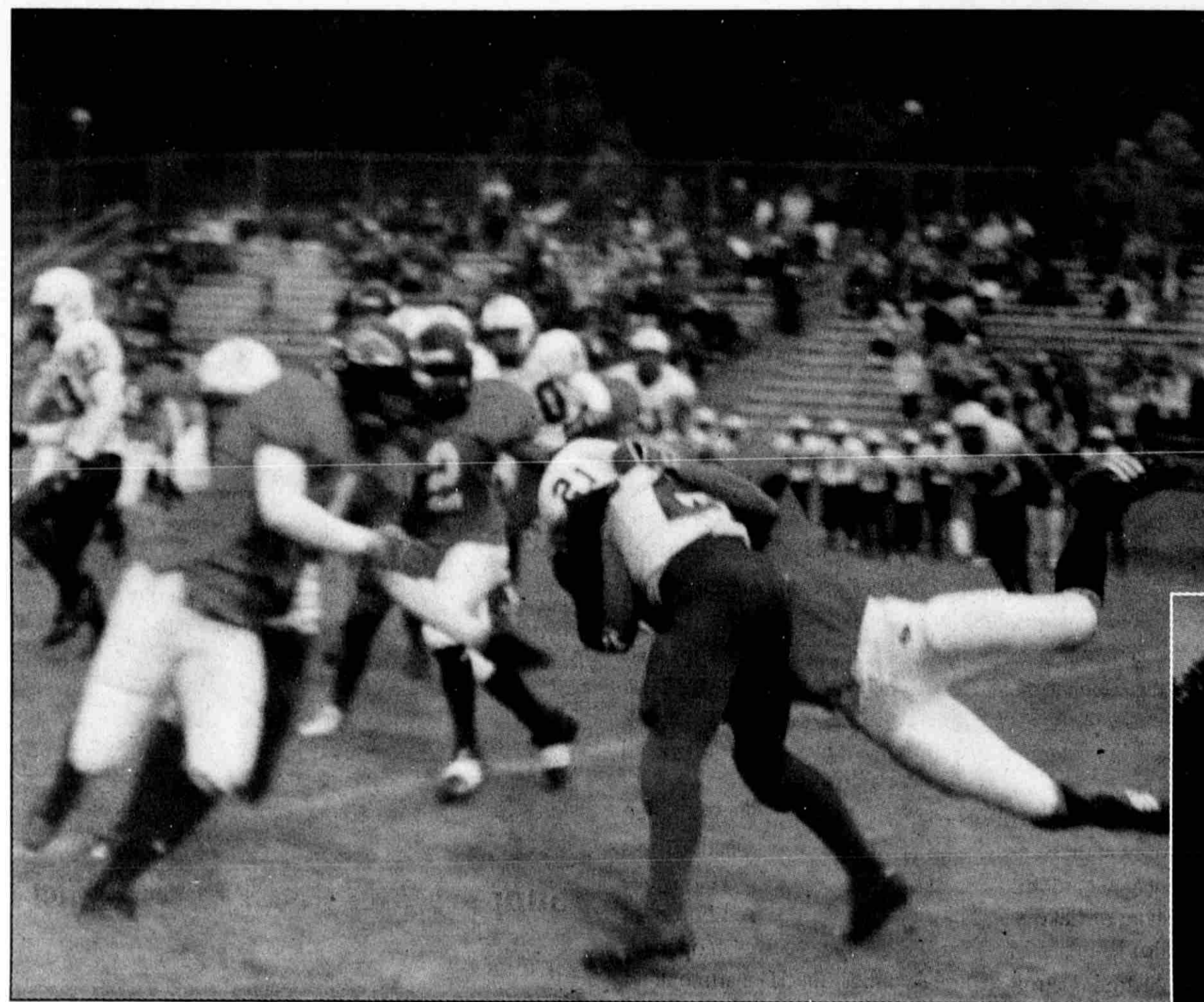
quarter and a 1-yard run by Cooper in the fourth.

On the receiving end, Boon had three catches for 76 yards, while Nick Arends of Sparta had five catches for 52 yards. The Arrows ended with 355 yards in total offense.

Although the numbers show good play for Lowell's offense, four fumbles and an interception show the team is still growing.

On the defense side, Randy Hogan had 10 tackles while Kyle Little had six.

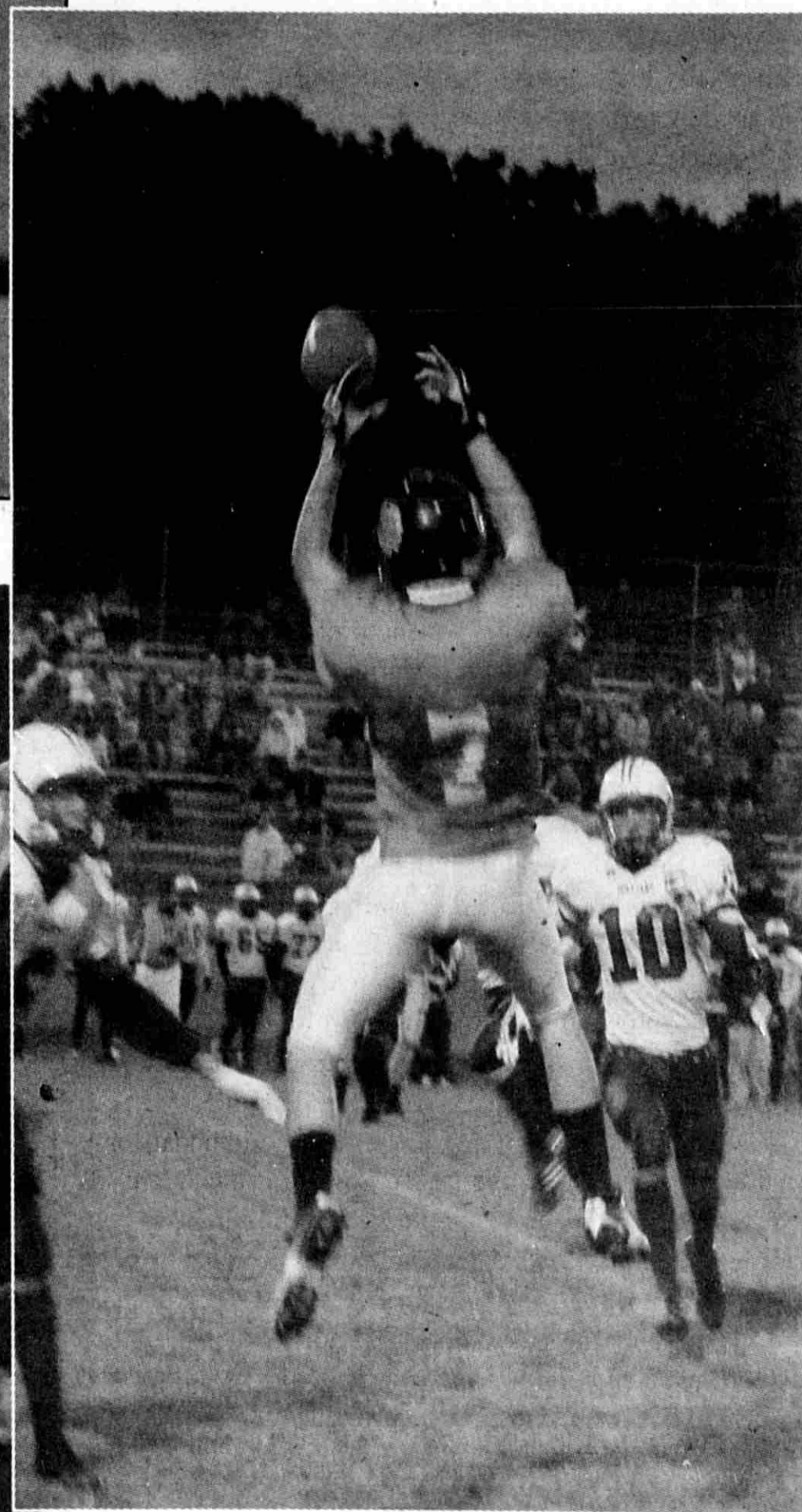
The Arrows will next play in Caledonia Friday night at 7 p.m.



A Lowell defender tackles a Spartan at Friday's game.



Friday was youth night, as football players and cheerleaders stormed the field.



Jordan Boon (7) catches a pass Friday night.

# RED ARROW SPORTS



## LHS Cross Country teams compete at TK, Sparta

The Lowell cross country teams competed in two invitationals last week, at Thornapple-Kellogg Monday, Sept. 10 and Sparta on Saturday, Sept. 15.

### Thornapple-Kellogg Invitational

The boys' team top finisher was Corey Fitzpatrick, who placed 15th with a time of 17:04.

Also placing were Justin Boss at 20th (17:46), Kirk Geldersma at 22nd (17:52), Zach Robinson at 23rd (17:57), Jon Woods at 25th (18:01), Tom Mark at 41st

(19:02), Josh Corteville at 57th (19:50), Tim Gingerich at 66th (20:17), Cam Schoemaker at 68th (20:24) and Eric Peterson at 91st (21:17).

The girls' team top finisher was Haleigh Timmers at 45th with a time of 22:46. Also placing were Taylor Marchido at 51st (23:11), Page Senters at 54th (23:19), Morgan Marchido at 76th (22:16), Emily Jelsma at 94th (26:30) and Kiley Six at 112 (29:09). The girls finished ninth of nine teams, with a score of 248. East Grand Rapids was the top team, with a score of 37.

Jon Woods at 40th (18:36), Tom Gingerich at 53rd (19:33), Josh Corteville at 60th (20:23) and Tom Mark at 62nd (20:25).

The girl's team took eighth of nine teams Saturday, with a score of 257. West Ottawa won the meet with a score of 57. The top finisher for Lowell was Taylor Marchido at 40th place with a time of 22:20. Also placing were Paige Senters at 50th (23:29), Haleigh Timmers at 55th (24:10), Morgan Marchido at 57th (24:47), Emily Jelsma at 58th (26:04) and Kiley Six at 60th (27:04).

The teams next compete today at Caledonia for the OK-White Jamboree and on Saturday morning for the Bob Perry Memorial Invitational.

## Arrow varsity volleyball team loses in three

The Lowell varsity volleyball team lost three straight matches Thursday night to Northview, 17-25, 18-25, 23-25.

Hannah Geelhoed had 3 aces, while Anne Sutton of Northview also had 3. Amy VanEns had 7 kills, and Madelyn

Brower had 6. Sutton of Northview had 9. Heather Burger had 16 assists, while Kaleigh Amato of Northview had 26.

The team next plays East Grand Rapids Thursday night at home.

### Sparta Invitational

The boys' team took sixth of 10 teams at Sparta Saturday, with a score of 142. Hudsonville won the meet with a score of 47. The top finisher for the Arrows was Cory Fitzpatrick at 5th place with a time of 17:11. Also placing were Justin Boss at 21st (17:50), Zach Robinson at 23rd (17:57),

## Meet one of the real students of AST class 55-06

United States Coast Guard - Aviation Survival Technician / Rescue Swimmer School in Elizabeth City, NC, is proud to announce the graduation of Joshua E. Baker; Lowell High School graduate of 2003. Petty Officer Joshua E. Baker successfully completed the training program, class 55-06.

The AST Training Program is a very intense and demanding program. It begins with the Airman Program, which is a four month training program at an operational air station. The trainee, designated as an Airman, has a course and training syllabus to complete and must receive the unit commanding officer's recommendation to proceed to the AST A-School. There is also a physically - demanding training program with a requirement to pass a fitness test.

Candidates for AST must be in superior physical shape with no chronic orthopedic problems such as trick knees, back problems, or

shoulder problems. Training is extremely stressful and is designed to identify those candidates who possess the physical and mental skills to handle the rigors of being an operational helicopter rescue swimmer. Members of the AST Rating must be able to obtain and hold a Secret Security Clearance.

The USCG's Rescue Swimmers are trained at its Aviation Survival Technician / Rescue Swimmer School in Elizabeth City, NC. The course is 18 weeks long; more than three times the length of the US Navy and Marine Corps schools. The course includes rescue and helicopter deployment techniques. Successful completion of this course results in being awarded the Helicopter Rescue Swimmer rating. This course is then followed by three weeks of EMT training at Training Center Petaluma, CA along with additional on-going training and exercise requirements.

As an AST's Helicopter Rescue Swimmers and

Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) Basic, AST's may find themselves being deployed into a myriad of challenging rescues ranging from hurricanes and cliff rescues, to emergency medical evacuations from ships at sea.

Petty Officer Baker is stationed at the Selfridge Air National Guard Base - off the shore of Lake St. Claire. He also has been appointed Air Station Detroit, which conducts approximately 250 search and rescue (SAR) cases per year and is responsible for having saved over 1,000 people during its 30 year history. In addition to its SAR mission, Air Station Detroit conducts reconnaissance flights

in support of domestic icebreaking operations to ensure extended navigability during the winter season. Also, the unit conducts Marine Environmental Response (MER) flights, providing pollution spill reconnaissance.

The United States Coast Guard, headquarters in Washington, D.C., is one of the five Armed Forces of the United States. It operates under the Department of Transportation during peacetime and as an arm of the U.S. Navy during war.

Teresa (Owner of The Backyard Boutique at 219 E. Main St. Lowell) and John Baker are the very proud parents of Petty Officer Joshua Baker.

### How To Change Your Life In September



Mark Johnson

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\*\*\*  
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- Woody Allen (1935 -)

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## GO, TEAM, GO!

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## CITY OF LOWELL

### SALE OF CITY VEHICLES ADVERTISEMENT OF BIDS

The City of Lowell will be accepting sealed bids until Thursday, October 4, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. where they will publicly opened and read aloud for the sale of the following:

- 1989 Elgin Whirlwind Ford Chassis Street Sweeper
- 1993 Chevrolet 3500 HD 2 WD Chassis with Crysteel 2.5 yard dump body
- 1992 Chevrolet 2500 2 WD Chassis with an Alum-Line Service Body

All maintenance records can be reviewed and the vehicles can be seen at the Department of Public Works, 217 South Hudson, Lowell, Michigan. Contact City Mechanic Ralph Brecken at 616-897-5929 with any questions.

Send to City Manager, Lowell City Hall, 301 E. Main St., Lowell, MI 49331 and marked "VEHICLE BID" outside of envelope.

The City of Lowell reserves the right to reject any or all bids and also the right to waive any formal defects in bids when deemed in the best interest of the City. Further, the City reserves the right to accept a bid higher than the lowest bid, if the City's interest will be better served.

Betty R. Morlock  
City Clerk

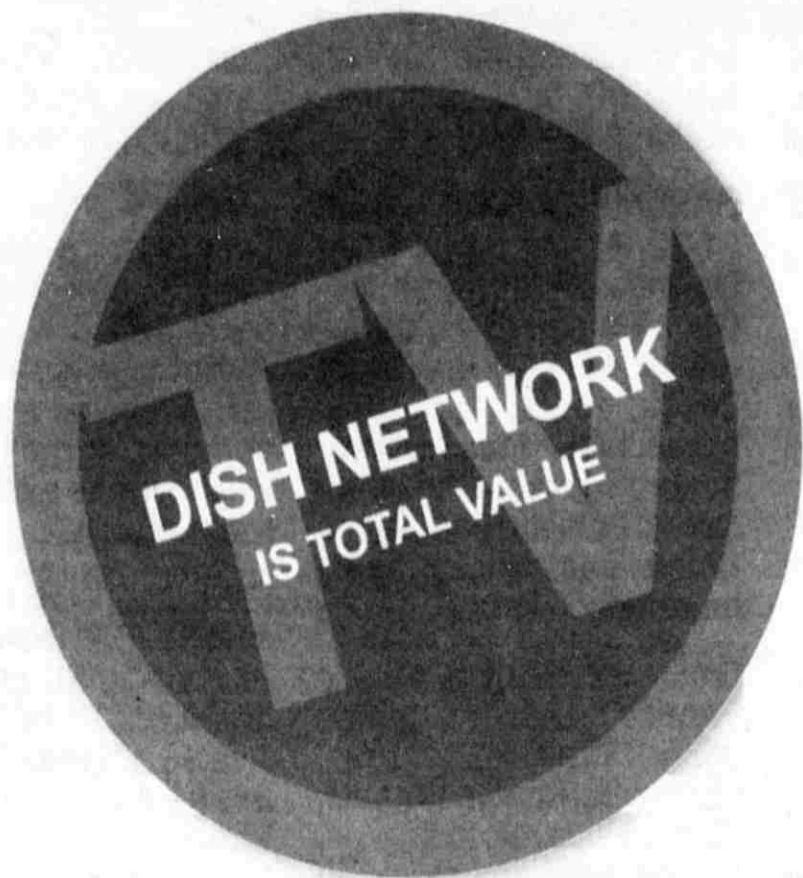
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