

# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 37 Issue 12

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

## School bus involved in morning accident on Alden Nash

by Molly Benningfield  
Editor

A school bus traveling on Alden Nash near Segwun St. crashed Monday morning after an oncoming SUV lost control and crossed the center line. The slippery road conditions led to the accident.

Lowell Area Schools superintendent Greg Pratt said there were eight students, all middle and high school-aged, on the bus and a few of them suffered "minor injuries - some cuts and bruises." None of the passengers on the bus were taken to the hospital, but the driver of the SUV was taken to one in Grand Rapids.

The students were taken to school by another school bus.

Pratt said the bus driver is a "tremendous young lady, and handled the bus extremely well. She was very professional."

The bus driver, whose name was not given, did a good job making sure the students were OK and comforting them, Pratt said.

Pratt said he wasn't sure whether the district would fix the bus. "What we'll do is have the insurance company check out the damages, and see if it's worth fixing."

He said the school buses were built strong to withstand a lot of pressure, but in an accident like this, it could've done a lot of damage.

The school district sent letters home to parents to inform them of the accident.



## Traveling exhibit and tour reveal area ghost towns

by Emma Palova

A driving tour and a traveling exhibit "Ghost Towns Around Lowell" reveal the ghost towns of the past in the greater Lowell area.

Organized by the Lowell Area Historical Museum, the exhibit was unveiled Monday at the city hall.

"The main purpose is to expose more people to the museum," said director Pat Allchin, "and to visit our other exhibits."

The exhibit showcases once thriving communities north and south of Lowell. However, with the diminishing importance of the railroads and the emergence of the almighty automobile, these towns sank into oblivion completely.

"It's a driving tour you can go back to each location," said Allchin, "but some towns aren't there."

When heading out south on Alden Nash to locate them, even an inquisitive tourist may not find once bustling Elmdale with a fancy hotel or serene Waterville with a sawmill. Just the tracks remain.

On the other hand,

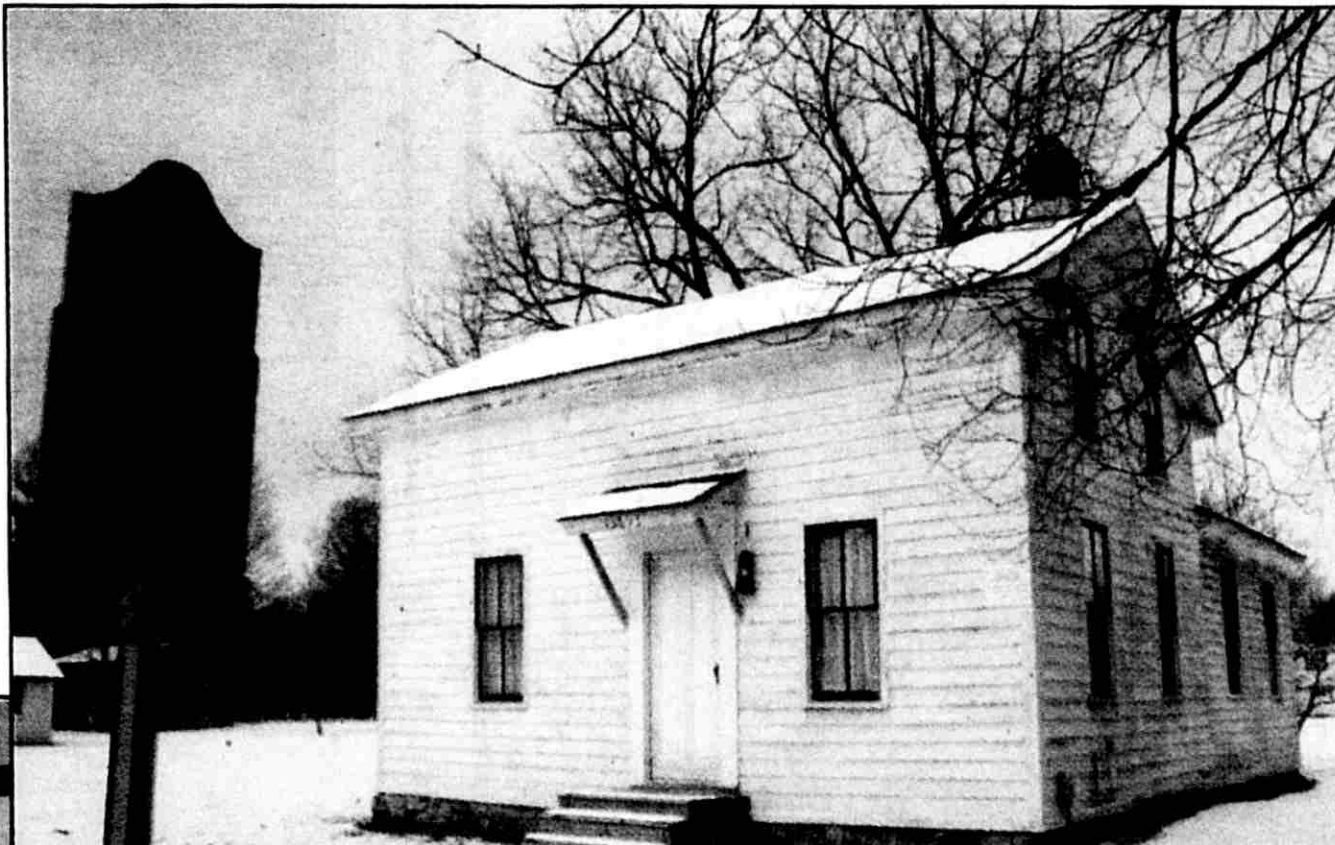
South Boston and Bowne Center still have a few structures standing sentinel to a bygone era of the turn-of-the-century.

Bowne Center boasts a school house, Ladies Aid Hall/Museum and a township hall. An iron wrought entrance to the cemetery designates the community of South Boston.

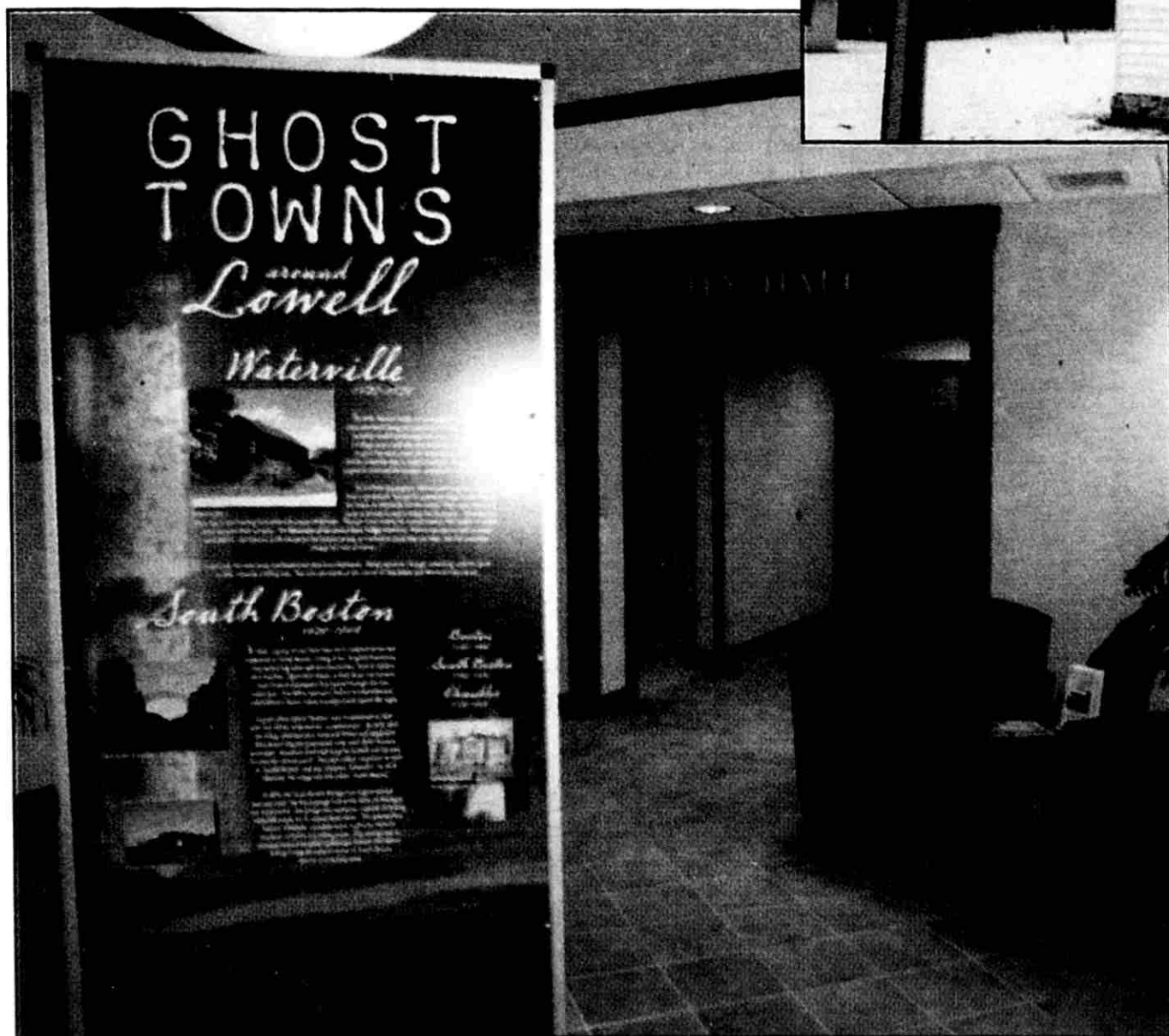
At one time, South Boston had the "finest grange hall in the state of Michigan" capable of hosting 500 people with stables for 128 horses.

On the north side of town, the well-known Fallasburg settlement once had a sawmill, a grist mill and a chair factory.

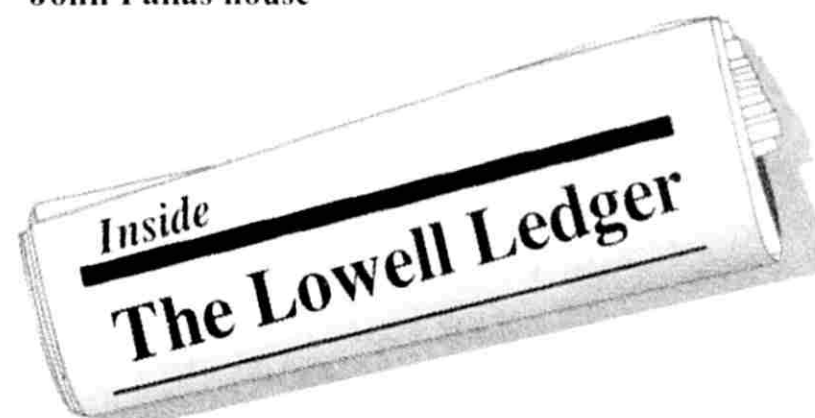
Ghost towns, cont'd., pg. 9



John Fallas house



"Ghost Towns Around Lowell" now on display at city hall.



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Radio Sports ... Page 13

*Obituaries*

**BISHOP**  
 Mabel Bishop aged 93 of Grand Rapids, formerly of Harrison, MI passed away Monday, January 21, 2008. She was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph. She is survived by her daughter, Judith A. (Bill Morgan) Harrington of St. Marys, GA; son, Ronald (Maryann) Bishop of Lowell; four grandchildren, Chuck (Bernice) Parker, James (Rhonda) Parker, Troy Bishop, Lisa (Shawn) Carlson; ten great-grandchildren. Graveside services will be held at Pleasant Plains Cemetery in Harrison, MI at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to: MapleCreek The Lodge, 1950 32nd St. SE GR, MI 49508.

**GILDEA**  
 Doris M. Gildea, of Kentwood, formerly of Kalamazoo, passed away on Monday, January 14, 2008. Mrs. Gildea was born in Oshemo on June 19, 1914. Daughter of Guy and Clara Dailey and sister of Wayne and Frank Dailey (deceased). She was preceded in death by her husband, Duane (Bud) Gildea. Surviving is her son, Richard (Dick) Gildea and his wife, Carol of Grand Rapids. Her grandchildren include Randy Gildea and his wife, Kim of Lowell, Lori and her husband, Shawn Lowry of Byron Center, and Kyle Gildea and his wife, Angie of Lowell. Her great grandchildren include the following: Kayla and Austin Gildea, Jessica and Kelsey Lowry, and Reese and Logan Gildea. Her nieces are Gail of Kalamazoo and Margaret Ann of Sun City, AZ. Memorial contributions may be made to Spectrum Health Hospice or to Carinth Reformed Church building fund, where she was a member. Cremation has already taken place by Memorial Alternatives cremation service. Memorial services were held Saturday at Corinth Reformed Church.



**HAINER**  
 Betty June Hainer aged 73 of Cascade Township passed away Thursday, January 17, 2008. She was preceded in death by her husband, Clare, brother, Gordon Sterzick. She is survived by her children, Karen Onufer of Cascade and David Hainer of Ada; brothers, William (Hilda) Sterzick and Amos Sterzick both of Alto; grandchildren, Katherine, Christine, Sara, Jenelle, Britney and Kaylee; and great grandsons, Austin and Garrett. Betty was a member of the Alto United Methodist Church. Funeral services were held Saturday at the Roth-Gerst Funeral Home. Interment Merriman Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Alto United Methodist Building Fund.

## This winter, stay warm – go online to pay bills, get info

by *Vonda VanTil, Social Security Public Affairs Specialist*  
 People are now paying their bills over the Internet to save the time of writing checks or withdrawing cash. Convenient, secure transactions can also be found in places people ordinarily do not think to look – for example, at Social Security! There is no need to fight the winter weather and drive to the local Social Security office to conduct business – numerous services can be done online.

Applying for benefits, obtaining information, planning for retirement, and requesting a replacement Medicare card can all be done at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov).

According to a recent survey, Social Security's online retirement benefit application once again ranked at the top of all Federal government websites in customer satisfaction. The "Application for Help with

Medicare Prescription Drug Costs" finished second, with several other Social Security website services making the top 10 of the survey.

- Visit [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) and find out what can be done:
- file for retirement, disability and spouse's benefits;
  - check the status of a benefit application;
  - change address and/or phone number, if receiving monthly benefits;
  - sign-up for direct deposit of Social Security benefits;
  - use agency benefit planners to help understand current Social Security protection to aid in planning for the financial future and then use convenient benefit calculators to figure monthly benefit amounts; and
  - request a replacement Medicare card.

Vonda VanTil is the public affairs specialist for West Michigan. You can write her c/o Social Security Administration, 50 College SE, Grand Rapids MI 49503 or via e-mail at [vonda.vantil@ssa.gov](mailto:vonda.vantil@ssa.gov).

## Michigan Volunteer River, Stream, and Creek Cleanup grants available

The Department of Environmental Quality and the Great Lakes Commission are pleased to announce the release of the 2008 Grant Application

Package for Michigan's Volunteer River, Stream, and Creek Cleanup Program (VRSCCP). A total of \$25,000 is available under the program for Fiscal Year 2008 and is provided by the DEQ from fees collected from the sale of the State's Water Quality Protection license plates.

The Michigan VRSCCP provides small grants to local units of government to help implement the cleanup and improvement of Michigan's rivers, streams, and creeks. Local units of government may partner with nonprofit organizations or other

volunteer groups to carry out the cleanups. There is a minimum local match requirement of 25 percent of the total project costs.

The application package is available online at the following Web site <http://www.glc.org/streamclean/app08>.

The application deadline for VRSCCP grants is Jan. 25, 2008. Applications will be reviewed and assessed by the DEQ and the GLC staff, with final decisions anticipated in March 2008.

For questions regarding the application process, please contact John Hummer, GLC, at (734) 971-9135 or [jhummer@glc.org](mailto:jhummer@glc.org); or John Wuycheck, DEQ, at (517) 335-4195 or [wuycheckj@Michigan.gov](mailto:wuycheckj@Michigan.gov).

## "Well-respected" and longtime Lowell car dealer remembered

by *Molly Benningfield, Editor*



As anyone who knew Stew Thomet, either professionally or personally (and in many cases, both), there was nothing but praise of his character. He is often described as gentle, quiet and wise, and one who would help a person in need.

I haven't been in Lowell for very long, and never got a chance to meet the man with so much admiration. But it kind of seems like I've gotten to understand who he was by talking to some of the people around town who knew him best.

That's why I've decided to let their words stand for themselves - these are the people who knew Stew best, and it only seems right that they give him the best send-off imagined.

"One of the best memories I used to have of him was when we worked on stuff together - he knew what I was thinking all the time," Stew's son Steve Thomet said. "If I needed a tool, he would know."

Steve said of his dad, "He was a very kind, just a nice gentleman. He never said anything bad about anyone."

Steve also said his father loved his children and his sister's so much. "He

loved when the grandkids would come over. He grew pumpkins for them, and they would sell them. They saved enough money to buy a pool."

One of Stew's hobbies was his farm. Steve said, "He loved to farm, he loved running a combine and planting corn."

"He was a tremendous neighbor - we moved out to the area back in the 70s," Bob Kinsey, one of Stew's neighbors in Alto, said. "It's kind of a close-knit community, but we were never considered outsiders."

Stew's participation in the community was a big part of his life, as well. "He was a tremendous member of the Lions' Club [in Alto]," Kinsey said. "He was one of the biggest supporters and inspirations for Christmas, helping support the Christmas programs in the

downtown of Alto, and even Lowell."

"Whatever he had that you might need, there was never a question in mind - he'd help you," Kinsey said. "Probably one of the legacies [of Stew] is the way he dealt with people in business. He was honest and forthright, and gave you the best deal he could. You never worried about the 'used-car salesman' type with him. He was very up front with you."

Roger Brown, the former publisher of the Lowell Ledger, said he knew Stew through years of doing business together. "As with anyone who knew Stew Thomet, I was saddened to hear of his passing. I got to know Stew through our business dealings over the many years we both worked in Lowell. For most of those years, Stew was the guy I dealt with at Thomet Chevrolet and Buick for their advertising and job printing needs. Stew made calling on Thomet's a real pleasure... one of the accounts I always looked forward to working with."

Brown said he got to know Stew well when they would go off-track from business. "Our discussions often strayed to various topics. Anything farm-related, like old barns, antique tractors, crop yields,

etc. always seemed close to Stew's heart. Even though I suspect he would rather have been riding a tractor than selling cars, he was knowledgeable and very good at his job."

"I fondly remember a day back in the early '90s," Brown said. "Thomet's had just taken their first delivery of the totally restyled Chevy Suburban. Previously, Suburbans were very utilitarian. Most had rubber floor mats and school bus-like seats bolted to the floor. The new model was pushed out with interior trim, carpeting, cushy seats, stereo systems and lots of other goodies. Stew was so excited about the new Suburban that I got a half-hour demo, complete with a test drive. I wasn't even in the market. In fact, I was there to try and sell him something. Stew knew his product line and he knew his customer base. Throw in the fact he was a genuinely nice guy and Stew was a real asset to the community for many years."

Another neighbor, Bob Hess was also a member of the Alto Lions' Club with Stew. "He was a quiet man - never ruffled no feathers," Hess said of Stew. "He will be missed. He was a good man. He was a family man. He loved his children and wife and then some."

## ALONG MAIN STREET



### BAKE SALE

The Senior Parents will be having a bake sale to sponsor the senior trip, Thurs., Jan. 24, 3 - 7 p.m. at Lowell High School. Donations of baked goods accepted. Call 897-2596 for more information.

### MID-WINTER USED BOOK SALE

Friends of Englehardt Library will have used book sale for adults and children, Fri., Jan. 25, 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sat., Jan. 26, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and a Bag of Books sale on Mon., Jan. 28, 12 to 5 p.m. (Buy a bag for \$4 and fill it). All proceeds go to library programming.

### LOWELL/CALEDONIA HOCKEY STUDENT NIGHT

Come watch L/C take on West Catholic on Sat., Jan. 26 at 8 p.m. at Patterson Ice Center. All Lowell and Caledonia students get in free with a student ID.

### SPAGHETTI DINNER

The 5th grade classes at Murray Lake Elementary are holding a Spaghetti Dinner on Sat., Jan. 26, from 5 - 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$6 for adults, \$4 for children 6-12, free for children 5 and under. The dinner is a fundraiser to help offset the cost of 5th grade camp. The dinner will be held in the Murray Lake Elementary gym, 3275 Alden Nash Ave. NE.

### MAKE-AND-TAKE GOURD ART CLASS

Learn the basics of working with gourds. Each participant will choose a design or bring your own ideas. Class fee of \$48 includes one gourd. Classes are offered on Jan. 26, 31 and Feb. 2 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Lowell Area Arts Council. Reserve your spot by calling Lisa at 868-0451 or 616-560-0665.

### JUNIOR LIFESAVERS BLOOD DRIVE

Through the Michigan Community Blood Center's Junior Lifesavers Program, Murray Lake Elementary students are organizing a blood drive and recruiting blood donors. The blood drive will be held in the Murray Lake Elementary gym on Thurs., Jan. 31 from 2 - 8 p.m. Walk-ins are accepted or call 987-2750 to schedule an appointment.

### WINTER SOFTBALL CLINIC

Held by Lowell Xtreme Girls Softball Club for girls 10 years old and younger. Tues. 7 - 8:30 p.m. at Unity High School gym through March. Cost is \$30, which includes a t-shirt. Sign-up any Tues. in Jan. For more information go to [www.lowell-softball.org](http://www.lowell-softball.org) or call Bob Richardson at 616-914-6485.

### ART SHOW

Fire & Water Art Studio and Showroom will be featuring art works by Holli Dey for February. Hours are 1 to 6 p.m. Wed. - Sun., 1 to 7 p.m. Fri. 219 W. Main, downtown Lowell. Call 890-1879 for more information.

### MOON OVER BUFFALO TICKETS

This play is a hilarious story about two B movie stars who find themselves gracing the glittering stage of off-Broadway in Buffalo, NY. Thebes Players production. Tickets at the LAAC, 897-8545 or online [www.lowellartsCouncil.org](http://www.lowellartsCouncil.org).

### F.R.O.M.

The FROM Food Pantry is presently in need of canned fruit, crackers, juices, and hot and cold cereals. Please help if you are able.

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## LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing to consider a request from Timpson Transport for a Special Land Use Permit to establish a motor freight warehouse/trucking operation in the L1, Light Industrial Zoning District.

**LOCATION & ADDRESS:** The property is located at 11990 and 11998 Cascade Road SE, Lowell, Michigan (PP# 41-20-28-200-017 and 41-20-28-200-021) being south of Cascade Road and west of Alden Nash Avenue.

The hearing will be held as follows:

**WHEN:** MONDAY, February 11, 2008  
**TIME:** 7:00 P.M.  
**WHERE:** LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL  
 2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE  
 LOWELL, MI. 49331

A site plan and other information related to the request is available for review at the Lowell Charter Township Offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Lowell, MI. 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday or by calling 897-7600.

Tim Clements, Secretary  
 Lowell Charter Township  
 Planning Commission

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 Published weekly for \$17<sup>00</sup> a year in Kent County,  
 \$26<sup>00</sup> a year outside the county by the Lowell Ledger  
 105 N. Broadway St., Lowell, MI 49331  
**J-AD GRAPHICS INC. PUBLISHER**  
**MOLLY BENNINGFIELD EDITOR**  
**EMMA PALOVA LEAD REPORTER**  
**TAMMY JANOWIAK CLASSIFIED/ACCOUNTING**  
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 Second Class Postage Paid at Lowell, MI  
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## Make-a-Wish becomes reality on Disney cruise



During Lowell's Homecoming week in September last year, Lowell Area Schools engaged in a campaign with the Make-a-Wish foundation to raise money for a terminally-ill child to receive her wish of a family Disney vacation. At halftime of the Homecoming football game, Superintendent Greg Pratt presented a certificate representing a total amount raised of over \$6,000.

In a thank-you note from Kirsten and her family, they mention how much fun the Disney cruise was. "The cruise was more wonderful than we could have ever anticipated," the letter reads. "It was a time we did not think about doctors, tests and all the things that we worry about everyday. We are grateful to everyone who participated in putting all of this together for us."

# Rotary continues fight against polio

Although the first polio vaccine was discovered nearly 60 years ago by scientist Dr. Jonas Salk, the crippling virus still affects people in countries outside of the U.S. today.

Rotary International, a worldwide service organization, has been involved with the International Polio Eradication movement since 1985 and has helped defeat nearly 99 percent of polio cases throughout the world. One percent of polio cases still persist in four countries: Afghanistan, India, Nigeria and Pakistan.

Recently, Rotary International announced a partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Rotary received a \$100 million challenge grant from the Gates Foundation, which will be matched dollar-for-dollar over the next three years according to the Rotarian, the official magazine of Rotary.

The money will be put toward the Global Eradication Initiative, which is headed by Rotary International, the World Health Organization (WHO), the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). The initiative will begin using the \$100 million to support mass immunization in countries where the virus still exists, for community education and outreach, and for poliovirus surveillance.

Rotary International and other members of the Global Eradication Initiative said they are grateful and excited about the challenge grant. According to the Rotarian, WHO director-general Dr. Margaret Chan said, "This investment is precisely the catalyst we need as we intensify the push to finish polio." William Gates Sr. spoke to the Rotarian about the challenge grant and said, "We chose Rotary because we have absolute confidence that Rotary can do it."

The challenge grant is the largest ever received by Rotary in its 102-year existence and is one of the largest ever given by the Gates Foundation. Members of the Rotary clubs around

the world have been working hard fundraising for polio, as well as traveling to several countries to assist with immunizations. The Lowell Rotary Club has been involved with this particular project for years, said president Dave Thompson. "It's a long-going project," he said. In recent years, the club has switched its main focus to the clean water project, which they have raised nearly \$70,000 for.

"Atonepoint, we thought the problem was going to be eradicated," Thompson said of their switch. In fact, most of the clubs around the U.S. thought the problem was close to being solved, Thompson said.

In the few countries that polio still exists, some resistance has been met by vaccinators, Thompson said. He explained that some of the countries and their governments were wary of Westerners who might try to push Christianity.

"But the tide has turned again in these countries," Thompson said. "In India, for example, nearly millions of kids are eradicated a day."

Rotary as a whole is looking to be eradicated by 2010, Thompson said. Gates said of Rotary International and its members, "You are parents, basketball coaches and next-door neighbors. You are leaders. You are good people

who feel a responsibility to serve ... You understand that in our century, you are called to serve new neighbors. Your neighbors are people in poor countries that once seemed far away, people who once seemed so different from us. But like us, they have mothers who love them, children who need them, and friends who cherish them. And, as Rotarians, you know that we simply ought to help them."

With the help of this challenge grant received and with the worldwide support of Rotarians and other influential organizations, polio is one step closer to being completely eradicated.

# Viewpoint

## To The Editor

Dear Editor,

I'm writing in reference to an article in the Lowell Ledger's "Sound Off" on Jan. 16, 2008 which stated "Please give Jim Howard his own column. Oh, that's right, he already has one." Could it be I taste a little bit of sarcasm in the statement. If so, I'm a big boy and I can handle it. I write frequently because I believe there is a need to express my views on subjects that should concern the community of

Lowell. They're just my views with the understanding that there is two sides to every story, and that's why the Lowell Ledger has given everyone in the community the same opportunity to speak out. I believe that there are some in our community that would like to see people like me verbally silenced so they can continue a one-sided agenda. Hopefully the Lowell Ledger will continue freedom of speech through Speak Up as it has in the past.

Sincerely,  
Jim Howard



By Shelly MacNaughton

### 125 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL JOURNAL JANUARY 24, 1883

The Lowell Post office will be closed at 8 o'clock p.m. hereafter. Govern yourselves accordingly.

The mails were delayed several hours Monday on account of the cuts between Ada and Grand Rapids being filled with snow.

We understand the formation of a History class is being talked of by some of the Lowell ladies. Such talk sounds good and the assertion of the fact that such a thing has been done will sound better. We shall hear it, for our ladies only talk what they intend to and will do.

### 100 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER JANUARY 23, 1908

All ladies \$3.50 shoes \$2.98 at Smith's. Liggett's genuine Saturday candy, 50 cent quality, only 29 cents at Look's drug store.

### 75 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AND ALTO SOLO JANUARY 26, 1933

Representatives of the Kent County Health Department will visit the Lowell village schools next Monday for the purpose of administering toxoid for prevention of diphtheria.

The Junior Literary club enjoyed a chop suey supper at the home of Mrs. Harold Englehardt Tuesday evening in conjunction with their regular business and literary program.

Everybody is rejoicing over the fine weather and the contractor on M-66 is improving and getting in a lot of work.

### 50 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER JANUARY 23, 1958

A packed house was on hand Tuesday night at the City Hall, in spite of one of the season's worst snow storms, to hear the civic planning committee and village officials explain the advantages to the Lowell community in becoming a city.

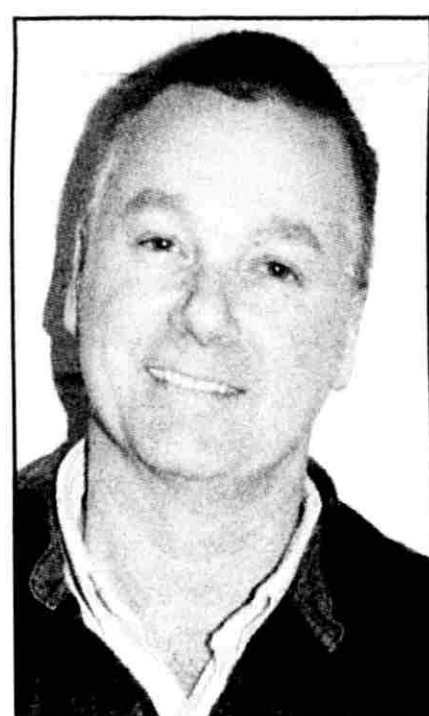
### 25 YEARS AGO THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER JANUARY 26, 1983

Headline: "Lowell School Board sets millage figures while parents question recent administrative shuffle"

About 100 area residents turned out for the special Board Meeting held Monday January 24. Though the meeting was called to set a millage proposal for the planned millage vote March 14, upset residents spent the better part of an hour questioning the board about the recent reassignment of administrators which took effect on Monday.

# What Do You Think?

Olympic medalist Marion Jones is headed to jail and baseball players are being called into congressional hearings. A father of a Grandville, Mich. boy has been sentenced for giving growth hormones to the teen. The steroid debate has heated up, and athletics as a whole is being called into question. Here's what a few area residents think of mixing steroids with sports.



It's just a shame that people have such a need to win, we're losing the whole idea of what sports is about.  
- Dick Teft, Lowell



It's so sad to see parents' unresolved issues playing out at such an extreme.  
- Lori Teft, Lowell



It's crossing the line.  
- Michelle Theisen, Lowell



It certainly is a controversy - it is a crime. The value system just gets out of whack - kids should be allowed to mature on their own. It's outweighed by harm later in life - it's terrible when parents are doing that to their kids.  
- Tom Ankney, Grand Rapids



I think there's obviously a large amount of abuse going on across all levels of athletics. With athletes, you have to ask whether it's them, or someone else playing. I think they should be banned across all athletics.  
- Brad Blair, Grand Rapids



I think that if they're using steroids, then they shouldn't be doing sports. If it's for medical reasons, then it's OK if they need it. I think [athletes] need to be honest - it sends the wrong message.  
- Tammy Coffey, Lowell

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## Financial Focus

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### WILL PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION YEAR AFFECT INVESTORS?

As you are no doubt aware, 2008 is a presidential election year. As a citizen, you may well have a great deal of interest in the election. But how about as an investor? How does an election year affect the investment climate? And — from the perspective of an investor — does it matter who wins?

To begin with, let's examine how the stock market reacted in the past to the selection of a president. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose in nine of the past 11 presidential election years, with an average gain of slightly over 9 percent. So it's clear that, for the most part, the market has done pretty well when America goes to the polls.

Does the election or re-election of a president make us more optimistic, leading us to invest more heavily and thereby drive up the markets? Probably not. In reality, many

factors — such as corporate profits, geopolitical concerns, interest rates and inflation — drive stock prices. And this is true in all years, whether an election is held or not. Consequently, stock returns from past presidential election years, while impressive, cannot serve as a reliable predictor of what the market might do in 2008.

Now, let's turn to the next question: As an investor, how will the outcome of the election affect you? There's not really a simple answer. In the past, the stock market has performed well — and performed poorly — under both Democrats and Republicans. Candidates of both parties will have different priorities and will try to enact different economic agendas, and these priorities may have some impact — although one that's notoriously hard to predict — on different market sectors. In short, no one can accurately forecast the effect of this November's election on the financial markets, and that won't change even after the nominees are known.

Instead of pondering the "what-ifs" involved in a presidential election, you're much better off following some tried-and-true investment strategies. Here are a few to consider:

- Keep on investing. World events may be good or bad, and the stock market may be up or down — but no matter what happens, the most successful investors stay

Financial Focus, cont'd., pg. 7

## Writing to the editor ...

- The requirements are:
- All letters must be signed by the writer, with address and phone number provided for verification. All that will be printed is the writer's name and community of residence.
  - Letters that contain statements that are libelous will not be published.
  - All letters are subject to editing for style, grammar and sense.
  - Letters that serve as testimonials for or criticisms of for-profit businesses will not be accepted.
  - Letters serving the function of "cards of thanks" will not be accepted unless there is a compelling public interest, which will be determined by the editor.
  - Letters that include attacks of a personal nature will not be published or will be edited heavily.
  - "Crossfire" letters between the same two people on one issue will be limited to one for each writer.
  - In an effort to keep opinions varied, there is a limit of one letter per person per week.
  - We prefer letters to be printed legibly or typed, double-spaced. For e-mailed letters, please copy letter as part of the e-mail body and send to ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com.

# Weddings

# New Arrivals

## Keim/Galperin

## Ford/Korthase



Julie and Robert Ford

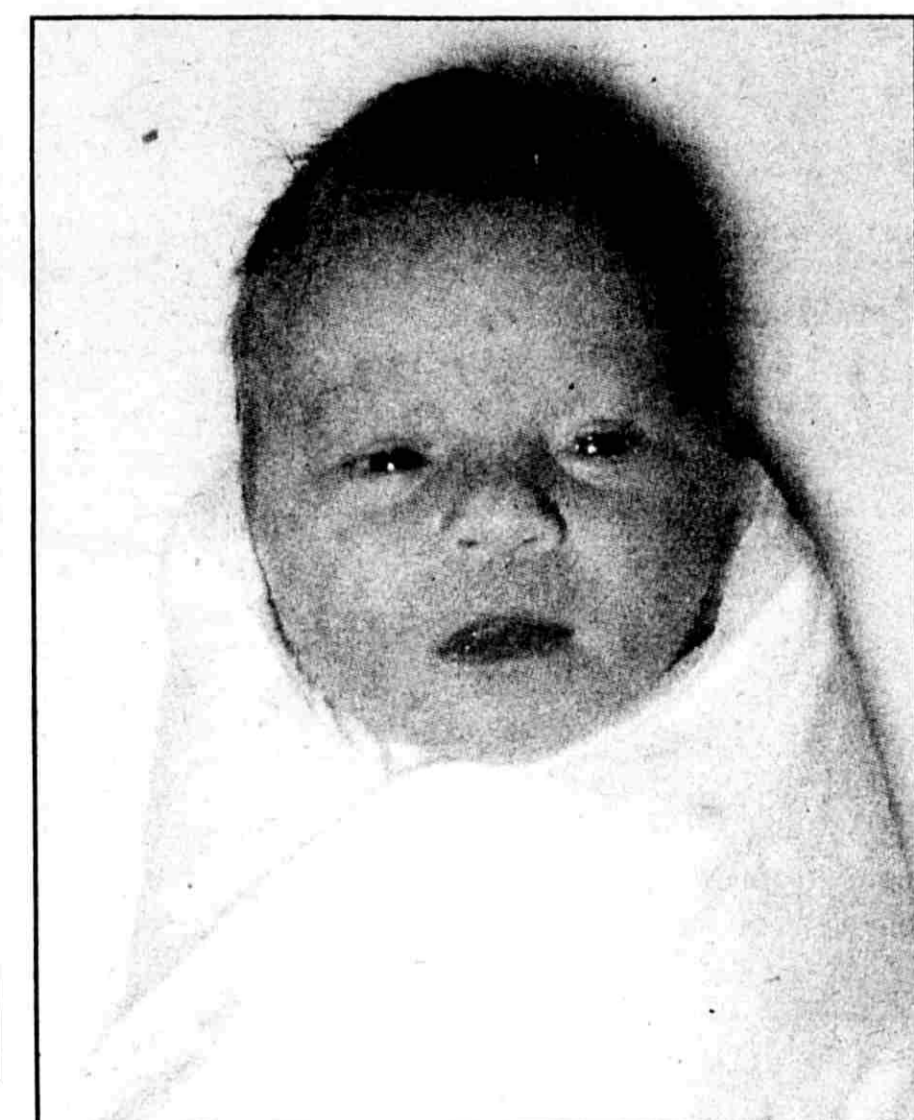
The marriage of Julie Ann Korthase and Robert Paul Ford was celebrated at the Old City Park in Boyne City on October 13, 2007. Parents of the couple are Doug and Karen Ford of Lowell and Dave and Betty Korthase of Boyne Falls. Maid of honor was Emily Ann Korthase. Bridesmaid was Jessica Hiler. Best man was Jason Coleman. Groomsman was Doug Ford. Ushers were Mike Hiler and John Gibbs. Ring Bearer was Brady Alexander. Flower girl was Haley Flynn. Bob and Julie reside in Lowell.

## Taylor



Ava Jean Taylor

Luke and Jennifer Taylor, of Grandville, are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Ava Jean, on Jan. 3, 2008. She weighed 10 lbs. 2 oz and was 20 inches long. Proud grandparents are Bryan and Mary Kimble of Belding and Rick and Connie Taylor of Lowell. Great-grandparents are Fred and Marjorie Zerbe of Alto.



Isabella Grace

Linda Keim and Dimitri Galperin of Cary, Illinois are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Isabella Grace. She was born January 11, weighing 8 lbs. 1 oz. and measuring 21 inches. Proud grandparents are Walt and Marilyn Nickless of Lowell and Irina Beliaeva of Orel, Russia.

I've learned that you can't have everything and do everything at the same time.  
- Oprah Winfrey (1954 - )

# Reflections of faith

by Father George J. Fekete  
St. Mary Church  
Yesterday, Tuesday, Jan. 22, marked the 35th Anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court, Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion in the United States. I was touched with the flyer put out by the National Right to Life Committee. It made the point it is now 35 years since the Court's decision and 50 million missing persons later, stating how loss of life, on that scale, has affected our nation:

## College News

Grand Rapids Community College has announced that Jessica Wright and Kastanek, both of Lowell, have received recognition on the Dean's List for 2007 fall semester.

Fifty million children's parents not shopping for bottles, diapers, toys, booties, or school books. Fifty million fewer people in America's labor force who would have held jobs building, teaching and healing. Fifty million fewer taxpayers who would have contributed billions to Medicare and Social Security. Fifty million people to help care for the Baby Boom generation as it prepares for retirement. Fifty million fewer people not making the market larger, more efficient, and encouraging investment and innovation...and countless lives of the children of those taken by abortion all lost forever.  
God love you.

## "Back to the Basics for the Love of God" - parish mission coming to Lowell

St. Mary Catholic Church of Lowell will be presenting a parish mission entitled "Back to the Basics for the Love of God". The mission will be presented over five consecutive nights; from Feb. 10-14 at 7 p.m. St. Mary Church is located at 402 Amity Street. A "parish mission" is a special event for Catholics in which all parishioners, as well as members of neighboring communities, are invited to take part in several evenings of faith-enriching talks and prayer. A mission is conducted by guest speakers who provide inspirational presentations directed toward key aspects of faith applied to life issues. A parish mission often results in a new spiritual awakening for those who attend, bringing about a deeper love for God, and a revitalization of personal relationships.



## In The Service

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Cummings are proud to



Andrew N. Cummings

announce the selection of their son, Andrew N. Cummings, to Chief Petty Officer in the United States Navy. Andrew enlisted in 1996, and has served tours of duty in Japan, Turkey, the Persian Gulf, Saudi Arabia, and Afghanistan. His home base is N.A.S. Whidbey Island, Wash. He is currently deployed in Iraq, in support of the global war on terrorism. Andrew is a 1994 graduate of Lowell High School.

# HEALTH

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



**MEDICAL INFORMATION ON THE WEB**  
The World Wide Web is full of helpful information on medical topics. Some of it is relevant, realistic and from a reliable source, while some of it is not, you must use caution when searching for medical information to make sure it comes from a reputable, doctor recommended site. Information obtained from the Web can be useful to further understand a condition you may have been diagnosed with but it should never be used to self-diagnose your condition. The following is a list of physician recommended web sites with credible, patient-friendly information.  
The American Academy of Family Practice® has a web site at www.familydoctor.org which contains hundreds of general health-related topics. These topics apply to patients ranging from infants to the elderly.  
The American Academy of Pediatrics® has a web site at www.aap.org which contains information on several pediatric topics. Their site also has good information on pediatric development and milestones.  
Uptodate® is a web-based information service that many health care providers subscribe to for a fee. It provides health care providers with the latest medical information on how to treat conditions. They also have free, patient-oriented information at www.patients.update.com which applies to patients young and old.  
The Center for Disease Control is a government-sponsored organization which has a site at www.cdc.gov. This site has excellent information about many different contagious and non-contagious diseases and their prevention.  
Once you have researched your medical topic, you should discuss your concerns and questions with your healthcare provider to be sure it is treated properly.

## Financial Focus, continued ... From Page 5

the market. Look for quality investments and hold them until your needs change or the investments themselves undergo a transformation.  
• Know your risk tolerance. If you're losing sleep at night over your investments, you're probably taking on more risk than the amount with which you are comfortable. At the same time, if your investments are putting you to sleep, they may be too conservative, which could mean they're not providing the growth necessary to help you meet

your goals. Strive for a balance that fits your investment personality.  
• Think long-term. If you're constantly adjusting your investment mix in response to short-term events, you'll probably rack up big commissions and you almost certainly won't make the necessary progress toward your important objectives, such as a comfortable retirement. So, train yourself to ignore daily or weekly or monthly price fluctuations and keep your eyes on the far horizon. If you've chosen the right investments, they should help you work toward your goals in exchange for your patience.  
This November, don't forget to vote. But before and after Election Day, cast your ballot for solid investment techniques.

# Happy Birthday

- JANUARY 23:** Amanda Wingeier, Zach Stauffer.
- JANUARY 24:** Allan Baird, David Szymczak, Haleigh Timmers, Mackenzie Stiles.
- JANUARY 25:** Dave Harding, Molly Doyle, Dean Olin.
- JANUARY 26:** Victor Weeks, Steven Uzarski, Kitty Brenk, Andy Nowak, Alex Dommer.
- JANUARY 27:** Jacqueline (Bay) Saylor, Britanni Anderson, Dianna Rhodes, Lori Smith, Nancy Roth, Andrea Dewey.
- JANUARY 28:** Ryan White, Cher Mastenbrook, Amy Newhouse, Renee Peters, Bill Wierenga, Robert (Dr. Bob) Kyser, Kyle Washburn.
- JANUARY 29:** Brenda Traetz, Kim Call, Karen Potter.

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<b>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 Worship.....8:30 & 11:00 a.m. DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR Barrier - Free Entrance	 <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 <b>SUNDAYS:</b> 10:00 a.m. - Worship & Evening; LIFE home Groups & "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!	<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> 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 HIGGINS 897-7015 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 48, ENTN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING	<b>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> (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 LaWare.....Pastor Shannon Hanley.....C.E. Director Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise & Worship
<b>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 <a href="http://www.goodshepherdlowell.org">www.goodshepherdlowell.org</a> Worship Service.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....9:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremr, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible	<b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: <a href="http://www.fbclowell.org">http://www.fbclowell.org</a> Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA/CLUB J.C. Wed. 6:15 & 8:30 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free	 <b>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 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!	<b>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b> Lowell High School Performing Arts Center Greeting & Fellowship.....10:15 A.M. Sunday Morning Worship.....10:40 A.M. Wednesday Discipleship Ministries.....7:00 P.M. Meets at 201 N. Washington PASTOR MICHAEL RHODABARGER Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance

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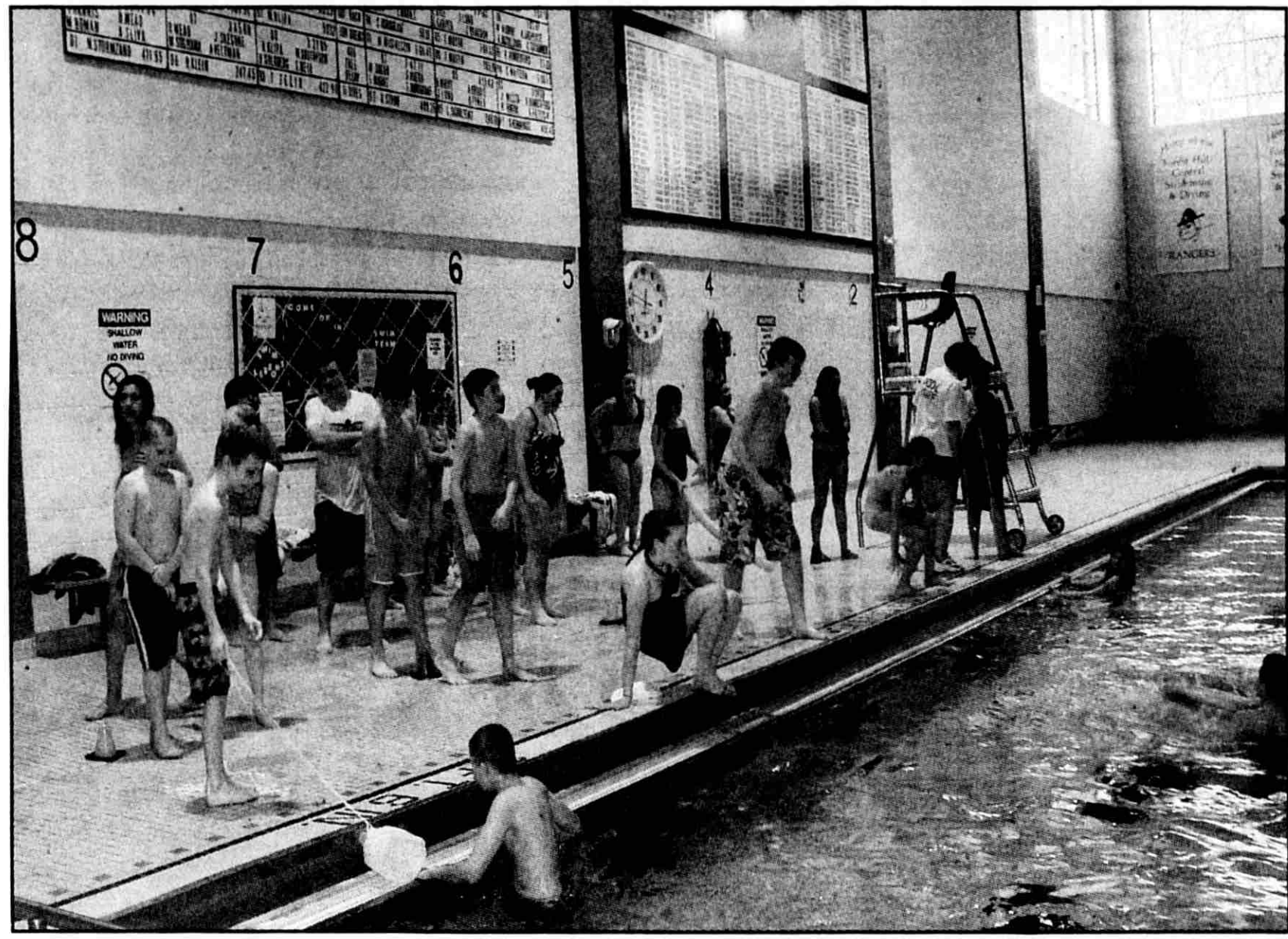
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## Students learn about water safety

St. Patrick fifth through eighth grade physical education classes are participating in the Water Safety Course at Forest Hills Aquatic Center. The class consists of movies, discussion and in-water activities. The four week class is designed to provide students with general water safety information.

## Ghosts towns, continued ... From Page 1

Today, the pioneer village with barns, a schoolhouse and John Fallas' house, are on the State Register of Historical sites.

Farther north, Alton began its demise in 1900 when the railroad from Lowell to Belding was constructed, but the promised depot was not built.

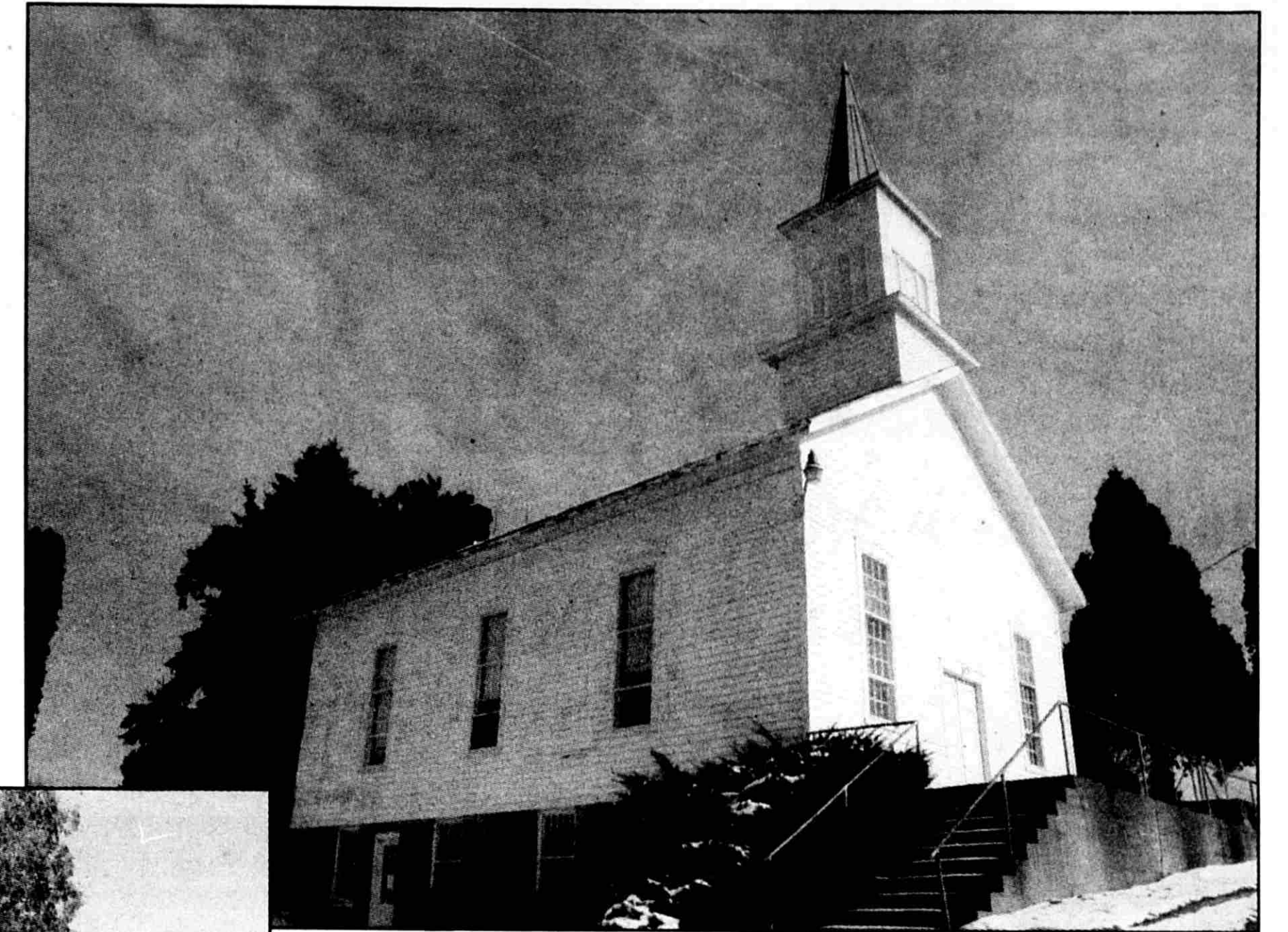
All that remains is a church and a cemetery.

Although the depot

was built in Moseley on 4 Mile Road, the town later met the same fate as Alton, disappearing from the face of the earth.

Maps of the driving tour will be available at the city hall and at the museum.

The four-panel exhibit will eventually travel to Lowell and Vergennes township halls, Englehardt Library and to the Lowell schools, and to the Senior Center.



Alton Church



South Boston Cemetery



Bowne Center Ladies Aid Hall/Museum

\*\*\*

*In the province of the mind, what one believes to be true either is true or becomes true.*

- John Lilly

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02 CLOVERFIELD (PG-13) 11:30, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30  
02 DRESSES (PG-13) 11:20, 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:20  
02 MAD MONEY (PG-13) 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:40  
JUNO (PG-13) 12:35, 2:50, 5:05, 7:20, 9:35  
P.S. I LOVE YOU (PG-13)  
1:20, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45  
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG)  
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- PHIL JONES



## Jones Farm Meats delivers quality for more than 50 years

by Emma Palova

Delivering quality natural meats for more than half a century, Phil and Janet Jones have been more than lifelong partners. They have firmly anchored

operation. On any given day, both can be found behind the meat counter in the shop, cutting, chopping and packaging, while sporting the white meatman's coat. "You have to have the

business from the inertia of mass production in large plants. The couple has found that competing in today's market and economy with super stores is easy, as Phil says.

themselves to the new trends. Jones slaughters animals from the surrounding local farmers ensuring the meat is drug- and steroid-free.

Phil guarantees that, unlike in the supermarket, his meats will never be injected with water, phosphate and acid solution to increase weight and enhance color.

"We'll never do that here," he said.

And according to Phil, trust is a big part of the meat processing business. That is why recent integration of satellite feed technology has become increasingly important.

"We have one of the best customer basis," said Phil, "loyal and honest."

Lab tests and reports are now transmitted every morning prior to

slaughtering to prevent recalls and bad meat getting to the customer.

In fact technology has sped up the entire process from the butcher's block to the festive Sunday dinner table.

The economy has also changed people's habits, as they go back to filling up their freezers with larger quantities of quality cuts, according to Janet.

Jones does wholesale, retail, custom and slaughter business with mainly beef and pork. Demand for lamb has also increased in the summer time.

Even though making jerkies started out as a joke, it has grown into the most demanded homemade product along with bacon. People drive from all over to

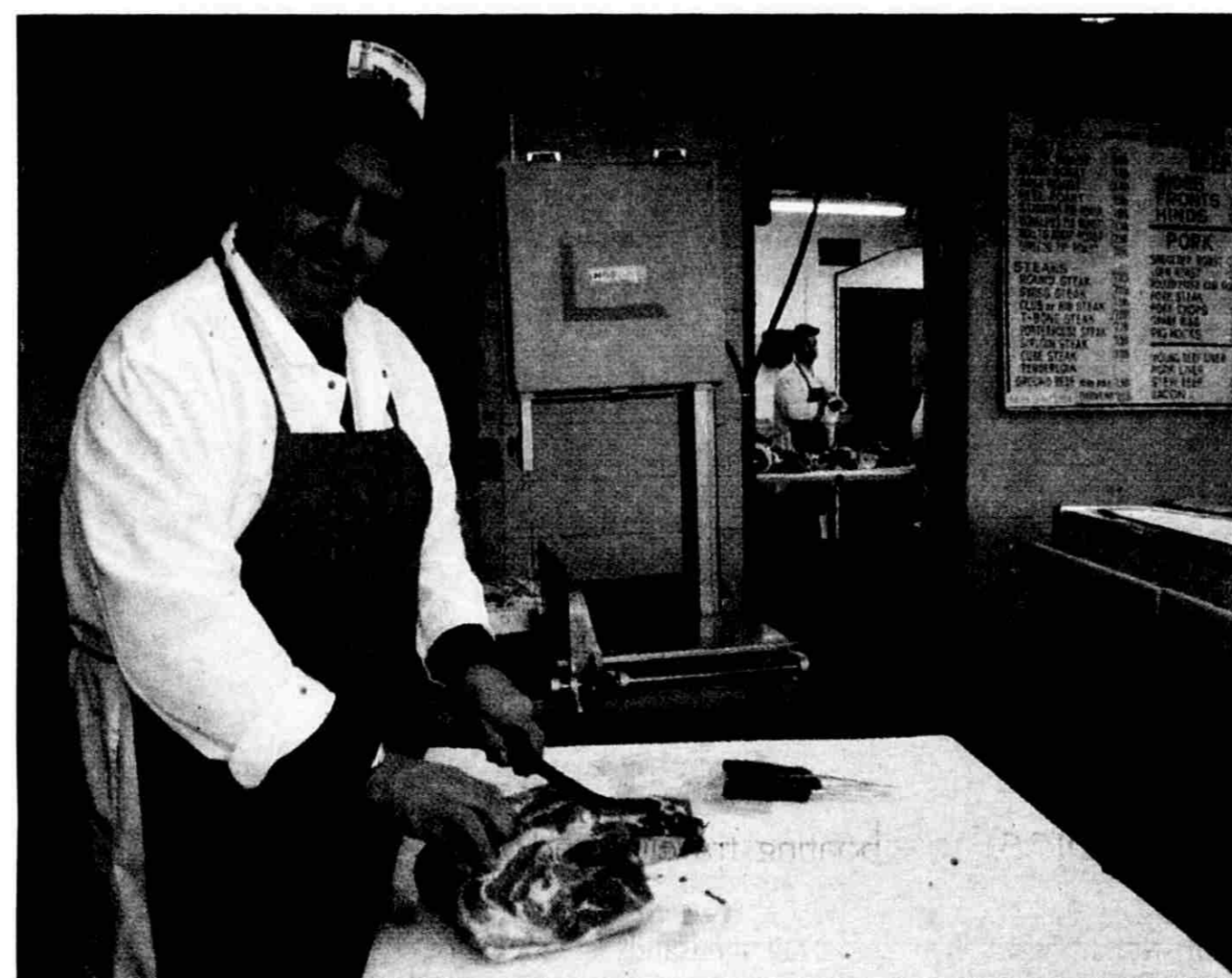
get the juicy strips and other quality natural meats at the market located in the middle of the fields, and close to farms.

In the early 80s, the facility received federal inspection status allowing the business to sell meat anywhere in the United States.

Diversification in the food business is the name of the game.

To increase business exposure, Jones does carcass shows at the area 4-H fairs in five counties, summer party catering, smoked meats and fall game.

In the spirit of passing the torch, Phil and Janet have handed the five-generation family business to sons with wives Lee and Karen Jones, Karl and Sarah Jones.



Although semi-retired, Phil Jones is the mainstay of the business. In the background is son Lee.

**Position:** partner in Jones Farm Meats  
**Residence:** Keene Township  
**Education:** bachelor's degree from Michigan State University  
**Experience:** 50 years in family meat business  
**Family:** wife and business partner Janet; sons Lee and Karl  
**Hobbies:** travel, woodworking, collecting Indian art

the family meat business in Keene Township into the future, passing the fifth generation business onto their children.

Although semi-retired, the couple remains very instrumental to the

work ethic of 12-hour days," said Janet. "This comes first. We like it and we're good at it. You can't do it in 40 hours."

It is that personal touch and smile, that distinguishes organic meats

"We cut to order," said Phil.

With the onset of recession and movement toward natural organic healthy lifestyle, Jones organic meats lend



- WENDELL CHRISTOFF



## Litehouse executive stresses teamwork in order to succeed

by Emma Palova

Creativity, innovations, acquisitions and staying ahead of the industry is what makes Litehouse/Chadalee dressing business successful, along with one of its top executives, vice-chairman Wendell Christoff.

"You got to stay ahead or you'll get buried," said

abreast of things happening on the production lines in hometown Lowell, far Thailand and Bellevue.

"I can see exactly what the line is doing," he said. "The computer tells me what it's down for and gives me the output."

So, as the production lines around the world roll

up the philosophy behind the success in the changing global marketplace.

"Any business is a sum of people running it," he said.

Although giving some credit to technology for the dressing business success world-wide Christoff says it's always the people mak-

**Position:** vice-chairman of Litehouse Inc.  
**Residence:** Grand Rapids, MI  
**Education:** bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University  
**Experience:** entire life in food industry except for seven years in air force  
**Family:** wife Helen, son Nathan  
**Hobbies:** boating, traveling and business

Christoff in a telephone interview.

From behind the scenes in Florida, Christoff stays

out thousands of bottles of delicious Blue Cheese or Roquefort dressings and horseradish, Christoff sums

ing the right decisions at the right time that make the business successful.

"You can always buy buildings, machines and computers," he said, "but the success of our company always depends on the quality of the people."

Christoff is a staunch proponent of teamwork and having a lot of fun while getting the job done. He even lists doing business as one his many hobbies.

"It's a lot of fun," he said. "It keeps life interesting."

To keep above the trend line, Litehouse has most recently launched a line of zesty vinaigrettes and organic dressings. The company has also co-branded with Hershey's to make chocolate and toffee caramels.

"We want to be viewed as leaders in the industry," said Christoff.

Since dressings and sauces are a food product or as Christoff calls it, a commodity to live by, the industry has not been impacted by

bad economy. People may not buy big ticket items, but they still want to enjoy their food. On top of that, Litehouse and Chadalee products offer value and natural ingredients.

"People will not give up good food," Christoff said. "We've done best in recession. People will reward themselves through food."

Due to recent growth in additional product lines through acquisition, Christoff expects the company sales to be \$200 million in five years. Other goals include converting the company completely to an ESOP Co., where 100 percent of the stock is owned by the employees.

It is those same core values of quality that started the company from the first day in 1951 standing at a linen-covered table with

a Hobart mixer at home, that Christoff applies today. Good ingredients and flavor, plenty of spices, and value.

"I've always worked in the food business," said Christoff, "I just have a love for it."

In spite of the challenges along the way with name changes from C.J. Christoff and Chadalee to mergers with Litehouse, Christoff says he would do it all over again.

"It's been a great ride," he said. "We have a strong presence in supermarkets and we're a balanced company."

The \$120 million company services every segment of the food industry except for fast food in United States, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean.

Christoff is involved in Rotary International, United Way, Spectrum Health, Junior Achievement, YMCA and church.



Wendell Christoff credits the success of the company to its people.

## Nominate someone for "Behind the Scenes"

They're everyday people who make things happen with their persistence and determination. They know their job inside and out making their companies or businesses hum like a well-oiled machine.

They have a passion for what they do, no matter what it is or where it is.

You run into them at the downtown merchant stores, industry plants, at the local meat markets or behind the

counter at local banks. And they go above and beyond their duties as they get involved in community projects.

We encourage our readers to nominate these people for our "Behind the Scenes" series.

Email your suggestions to [ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com](mailto:ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com) (in the subject line put "Behind the Scenes"), phone in your suggestion at (616)

897-9261 or write to us at: The Lowell Ledger, P.O. Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331.

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*The happiness of a man in this life does not consist in the absence but in the mastery of his passions.*

- Alfred Lord Tennyson (1809 - 1892)

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## Good News!

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## Digging out from the latest snowfall

A flock of ducks were enjoying the fresh snow on the Flat River by King Milling. Joel Forrest of the Saddle Shop has been feeding them delighted with the view from his shop. Below, John Sterly clears the sidewalk in front of home and rental properties Tuesday morning after the area was blanketed with fresh snow. In spite of the snowfall temperatures remained unusually cold.



## DNR partnership with local groomers keeps trails smooth for snowmobilers

They are the one segment of our state's population that is most likely to stand at the window cheering snowfall as if they were at a football game.

They are the die-hard snowmobilers who thirst for the open trail, riding the winding white highways that course through Michigan's forests and fields, over rivers and along the shores of ice-covered lakes.

In fact, riders from all over the country converge here each winter to celebrate the white gold we call snow.

Michigan ranks first in the nation with over 380,000 registered snowmobiles and, in a good year, more than 100,000 snowmobile enthusiasts from out-of-state will bring their machines to our northern forest playground for a chance to ride and ride and ride.

Michigan is known nationwide for its unique combination of abundant and dependable snow, exciting terrain and extensive trail network. More than 6,500 miles of designated snowmobile trails are located throughout the state on state- and federally-owned forests and many acres of private lands. Michigan is one of only three states that offer such a large system of interconnected signed and groomed snowmobile trails, and each year more miles are added to the system.

Such a big program requires a huge coordinated effort to support and operate. Many of those riders who

appreciate what Michigan has to offer them do not know how things work behind the scenes. It's a complex and highly organized program that assures the trails are maintained and snowmobilers can always find riding conditions that are hard to beat anywhere else in the country.

"The trail grooming program in Michigan is completed through the issuance of grants funded through the DNR and carried out by locally based snowmobile organizations," said Steve DeBrabander, state trails operations and construction manager. "The DNR no longer does any trail grooming, so all of the on-the-ground work is being done by the local clubs and nonprofit groups who apply for and are awarded the grants."

Snowmobiling is very big business for Michigan. According to industry estimates, it has a \$1 billion economic impact on our state and creates more than 6,400 jobs. More than 150 groomers and tractors, operated under grant agreements with 69 program sponsors groom the trail system. These trail sponsors also brush out the trails and post signs and confidence markers.

*Trails, cont'd., pg. 13*

### There will be 127,000 births and 85,000 deaths in Michigan this year...

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## WHLS AV Club covers many events for public access channel

by Molly Benningfield  
Editor

If you didn't get a chance to catch the basketball game last week at the high school, or wanted to see an awe-inspiring three-pointer just one more time, don't worry - the school's AV club has your back.

A school-sponsored club made up of 23 members (18 high schoolers and 5 middle schoolers) broadcasts from many events, including sports and concerts.

The club has its roots in Internet radio, at www.whlsradio.org, but recently started to televise events on the public access channel in Lowell with equipment

purchased from a grant through the Lowell Area Community Fund. There are currently around 1800 subscribers in Lowell and Lowell Township.

The members started filming in December and cover every home game for all sports.

If this sound familiar to you, it should - they've covered all the Lowell football games on the radio. Lowell Cable TV ran the audio of those games this year.

The club is basically student-run, advisor Al Eckman said, although adults are used when broadcasting various sporting events. And there are a variety of students, ranging from high

school- to middle school-aged, and some home-schooled. WHLS is made up of volunteers, and has been around for about a year and a half, Eckman said. He said that much of the knowledge of the equipment was self-taught, although they've had

help from various friends. Students can choose from four different jobs in the program, from DJ to equipment engineer, webmaster or video technician.

On their radio program, music is played during all

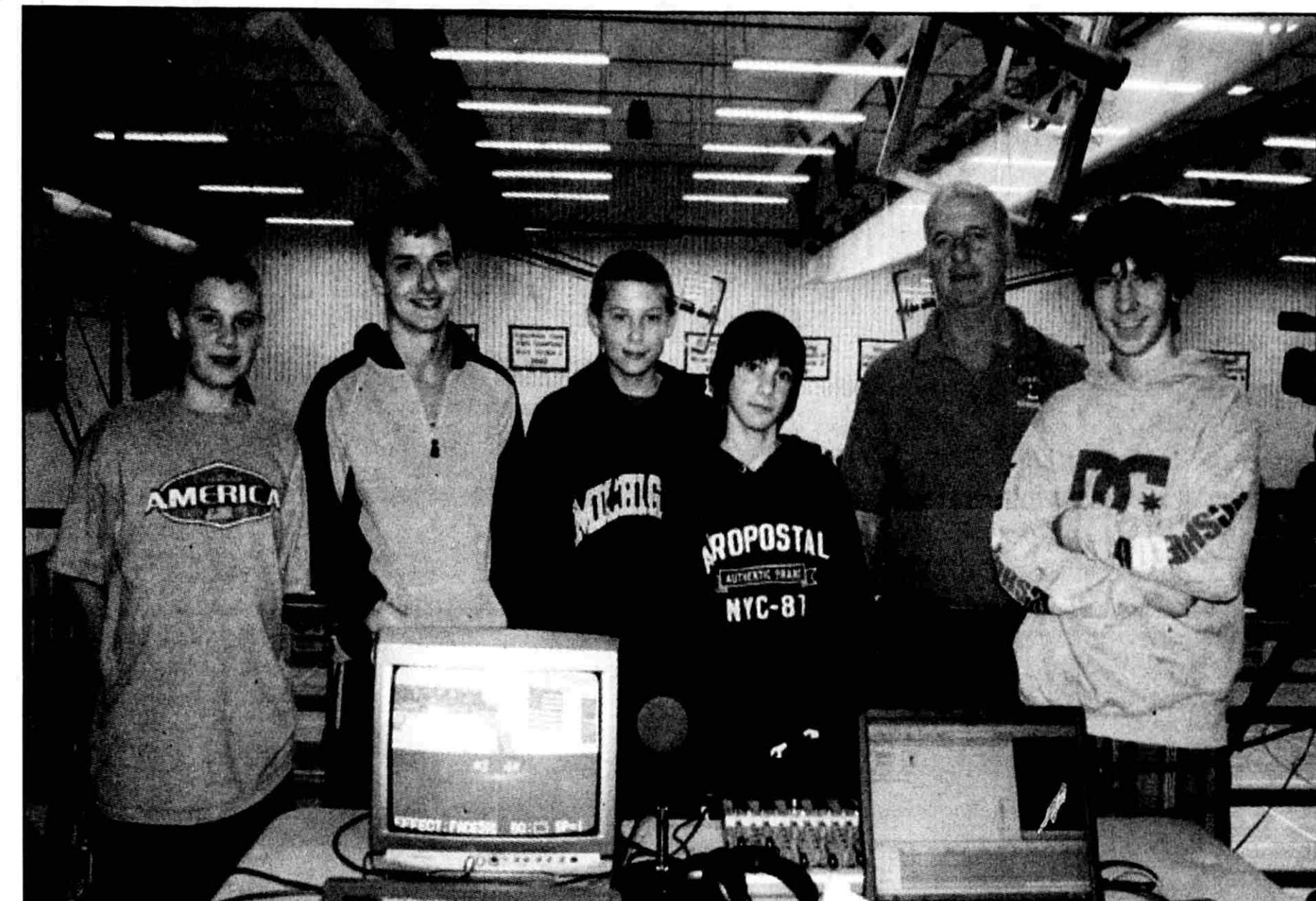
hours, except for during games. In their music media library, WHLS has 11,500 songs on 965 CDs, as well as 800 vinyl records. Their radio station is located at Lowell High School, along with the Comcast 'local' public access studio.

Eckman said the LAS technology department was "instrumental in getting the Internet radio station 'up and running'."

The students set up in the balcony overlooking the main gym to tape games.



Bob Schreur, a 9th grader, works one of the cameras.



Pictured are some of the members of WHLS during Thursday night's coverage of the boys' basketball game against EGR. (L-R) Cody Gerke (9th grade), Josh Gerard (8th grade), Bob Schreur (9th), Martin Brubaker (8th), advisor Al Eckman and Steve Trierweiler (10th grade).

## Trails, continued ... From Page 12

This year, the clubs and other grant recipients will receive more than \$7 million from the DNR to keep Michigan's snowmobile trails in tip-top shape. This huge chunk of money covers the club's costs from grooming equipment and repair, trail brushing, signing, grooming, parking lot plowing, insurance, land leases, portable toilets and even the utility costs incurred to keep the grooming equipment in heated storage when not out on the trails.

"A portion of that money comes from the \$25 trail permit required of all riders on the state's trail system, but some of the money also comes from the state's gas tax," DeBrabander said. "The percentage is relatively small, but every time you fill up your vehicle with gas, a small amount of that gas tax money you pay at the pump goes into the snowmobile program to help pay for maintaining the trails."

Another contributor to the snowmobile trail improvement fund comes from a portion of the mandatory Michigan snowmobile registration fee which currently is \$22 for a three-year registration.

"Not many snowmobilers are aware that the DNR pays for the equipment that the clubs use to groom the trails,"

DeBrabander said. "In the past, we required the clubs to pay a portion of the equipment costs, but starting last year that provision was eliminated."

Another recent change to the program, he said, is that clubs now are being reimbursed for their initial contribution for equipment when that used equipment is sold or traded in.

The participating clubs get the machines they need from the DNR and then assume responsibility for a portion of the trail system. In all, the Upper Peninsula clubs will be granted \$4,549,403 to maintain the 3,100 miles of trail north of the Mackinac Bridge and the Lower Peninsula clubs will receive \$2,579,392 to take care of the rest.

The larger portion of money being given to the U.P. is because that region gets more snow and the trails need more grooming. A list of the trail sponsors and their grant totals is available on the DNR Web site at www.michigan.gov/dnr. Click on the Recreation and Camping link and then go to the Snowmobiling page.

Last year, the state handed over \$7.3 million to trail grooming groups, and another \$1.1 million in snowmobile law enforcement grants, which are awarded to local law enforcement agencies

to help them purchase equipment and assist DNR Conservation Officers in patrolling the state's trail system.

DeBrabander said that if the clubs exceed their specified grant amount, they can request more money. All in all, it's a big business that requires a lot of coordination.

To assist snowmobilers even further, the DNR has placed Global Positioning System snowmobile trail maps online. The DNR intends to make these maps available in a format that can be downloaded on to handheld GPS units. These maps will accurately represent the current status of the trails system.

"As we move forward with this vital program, it is important to meet the needs of the snowmobiling community," DeBrabander said. "The goal of the DNR, with the cooperation of the clubs and other groups maintaining the trails, is to continue to position Michigan as a premiere destination for snowmobiling. This will take continued effort, coordination and a lot of money, but we feel our program is very capable of meeting that challenge and it all pays off when we hear from riders who tell us that they love our trails and just can't get enough of a Michigan winter."

\*\*\*

*Sport is imposing order on what was chaos.*

- Anthony Starr

### LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing to consider a request from Timpson Transport for a Special Land Use Permit to operate a specialized collection and storage facilitate for agricultural products in the AG-2, Rural Agricultural, Zoning District.

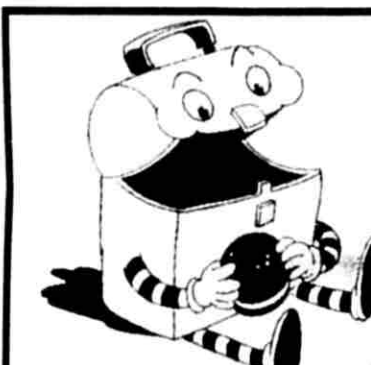
**LOCATION & ADDRESS:** The property is located at 3175 Segwun Avenue SE Avenue Lowell Michigan (Part of PP# 41-20-14-100-036).

The hearing will be held as follows:

**WHEN:** MONDAY, February 11, 2008  
**TIME:** 7:00 P.M.  
**WHERE:** LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL  
2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE  
LOWELL, MI. 49331

A site plan and other information related to the request is available for review at the Lowell Charter Township Offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Lowell, MI. 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday or by calling 897-7600.

Tim Clements, Secretary  
Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission



### LUNCH MENU

ELEMENTARY MENU  
Week of Jan. 28, 2007

**MON:** BBQ ribbette on bun (cheese quesadilla w/salsa offered at Alto & Murray Lake), coleslaw, green beans, applesauce, milk.

**TUES:** Taco (soft or hard shell) w/cheese & lettuce (ham & cheese sub w/lettuce offered at Alto & Murray Lake), fresh fruit, apple juice, animal crackers, milk.

**WED:** Cheese pizza (stacked turkey & cheese on bun offered at Alto & Murray Lake), seasoned corn, fresh fruit, graham crackers, milk.

**THURS:** Hot dog on bun (3 meat sub offered at Alto & Murray Lake), fresh mini carrots, fruited gelatin salad, milk.

**FRI:** Baked chicken Fryzys (strips) (beef burrito w/sauce offered at Alto & Murray Lake), mashed potatoes & gravy, assorted fruit, milk.

# Whiplash

## Definition

An injury to the soft tissues of the neck that occurs from a sudden jerking or "whipping" of the head. This type of motion strains the muscles and the ligaments of the neck beyond their normal range of motion. Whiplash often occurs when a vehicle stops suddenly in a car crash or is struck from behind. Either of these two actions causes things in the vehicle to be thrown forward - including passengers. A seat belt will keep a person's body from being thrown forward, but the head may snap forward, then backward, causing a whiplash injury in the neck. In addition to car accidents, whiplash can also be caused from a fall or as a result of a sports injury.

## TREATMENT

Chiropractic care works on correcting complications and relieving pain associated with whiplash injuries. To see if chiropractic may be able to help you call (616) 897-8284 today for a complimentary consultation.

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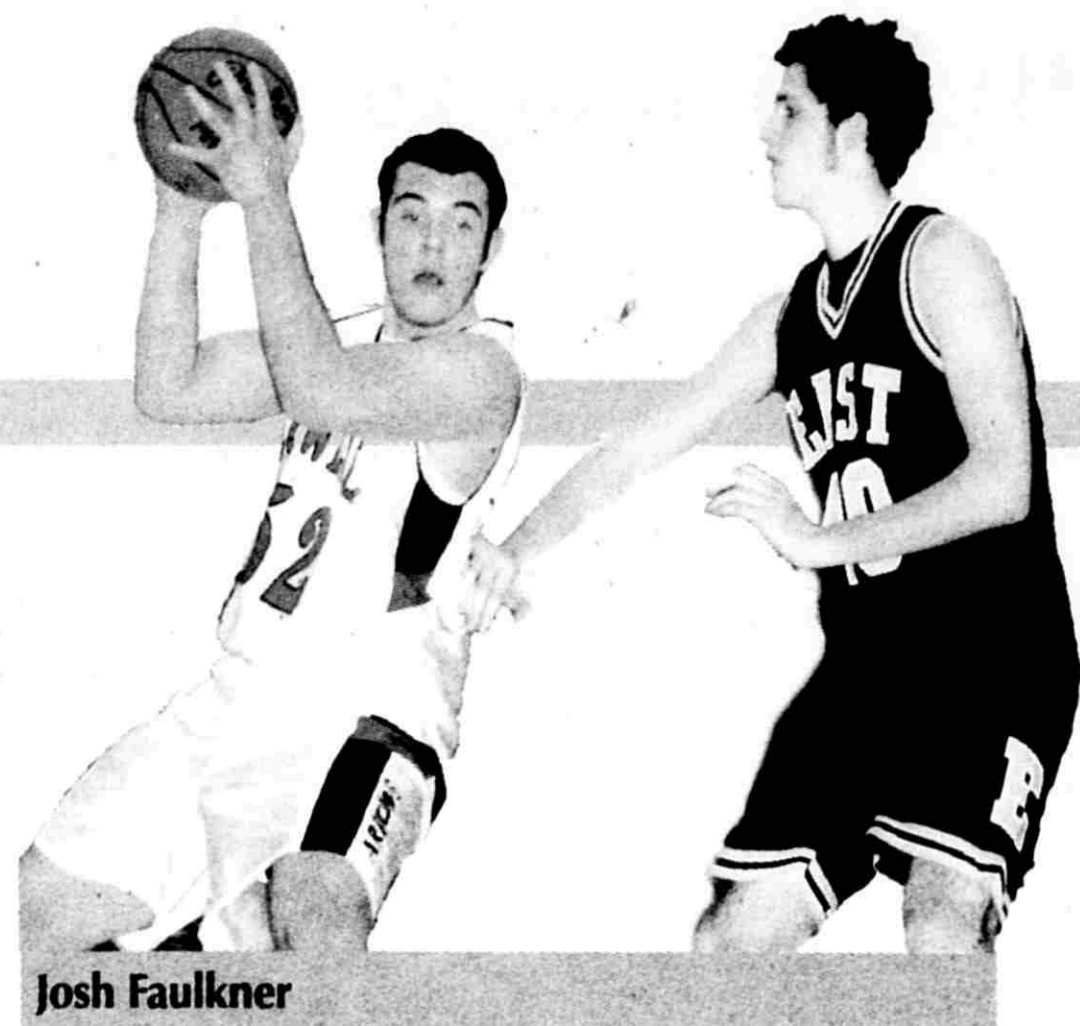
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### SYMPTOMS:

- NECK PAIN
- HEADACHES
- DIZZINESS
- TENDRONS OF THE SHOULDER
- TENDRONS OF THE ARMS OR LEGS
- NOISE OR BINGING IN THE EARS
- VERTIGO

# Red Arrow SPORTS



Josh Faulkner

## Boys' basketball gets complete win against foe East Grand Rapids

by Molly Benningfield  
Editor

All the elements were there Thursday night when the Arrows defeated the Pioneers 70-49 to improve their standings in the tough OK-White conference.

Matt Kurtz was on fire in the first quarter, scoring the Arrows' first seven points in a minute-and-a-half, and rounding out the quarter with 12 of his 20 points for the night.

"We got off to a great start and that momentum carried over the rest of the game," said coach Jeff McDonald. "I was proud that we had no letdown in the second half. In fact, we actually picked up the energy in the second half. We showed some killer instinct."

Lowell increased their offensive drive to shut out East in each of the next three quarters.

"Offensively, I thought we were very unselfish with the ball as we had 12 assists on our 19 baskets," McDonald said. "We really reversed the ball well which spreads the defense and opens driving lanes to the basket."

The team scored in a variety of ways, too, most notably in what seemed to be a downpour of threes, with Tim Hettinga sinking

four, Kurtz drowning two and Michael Schumm adding one.

The Arrows were tough on D, as well, holding EGR to 13 points or less per quarter.

"We rotated well defensively and really covered ground in our defense," McDonald said. "That's because of the energy we played with. We also out-rebounded them, which is one of our game goals."

The scoring duo of Hettinga and Kurtz added 21 and 20 points, respectively, but seven other Arrows were on the board for scoring.

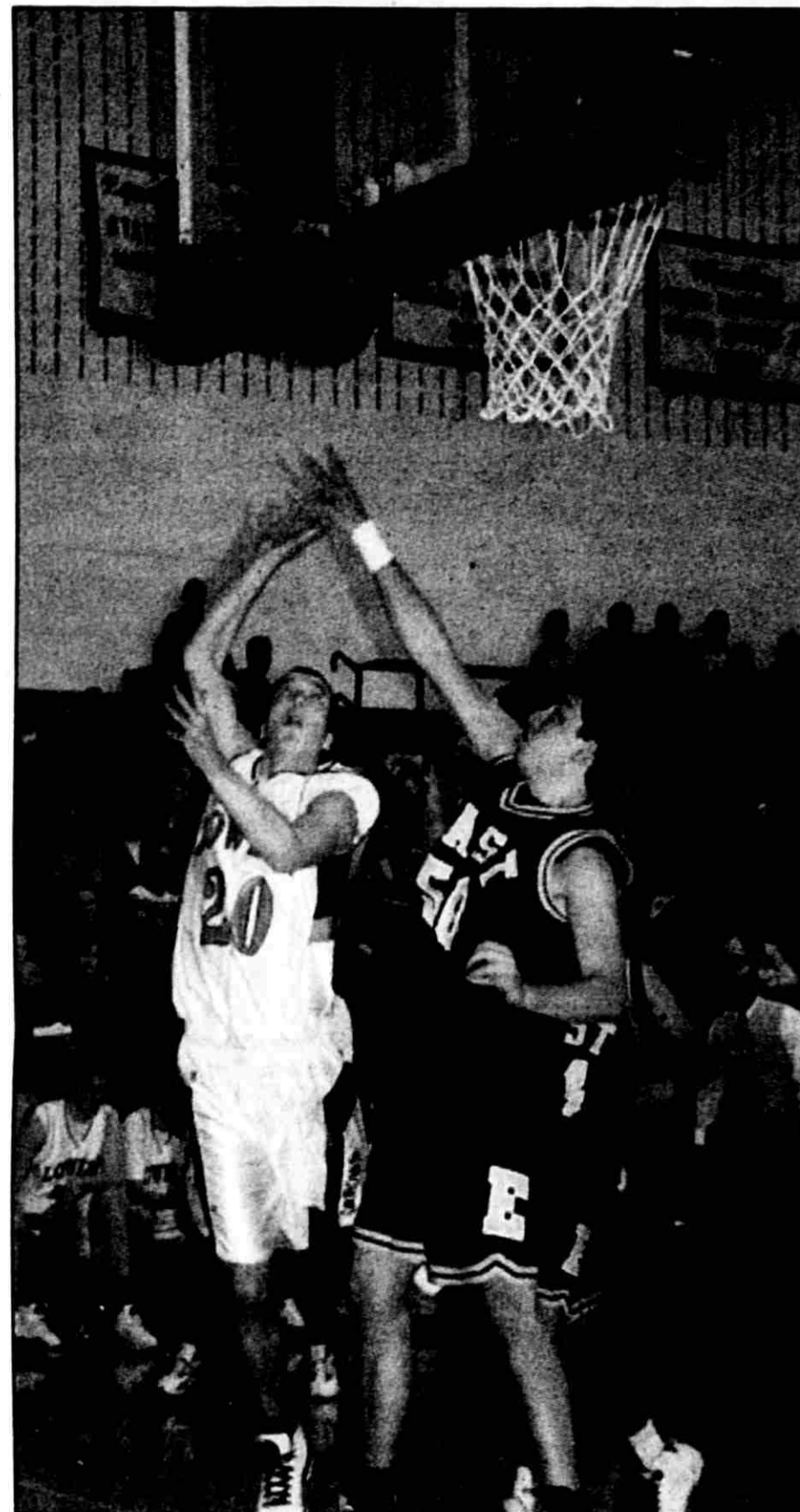
Schumm added 8, Eric Saenz had 6, Josh Faulkner took in 5, Brett McMahon had 4, and Daniel Lane, Spencer Sellner and Bob Wernet all added 2.

"It was a great night for our program," McDonald said. "Our kids put two quality halves together."

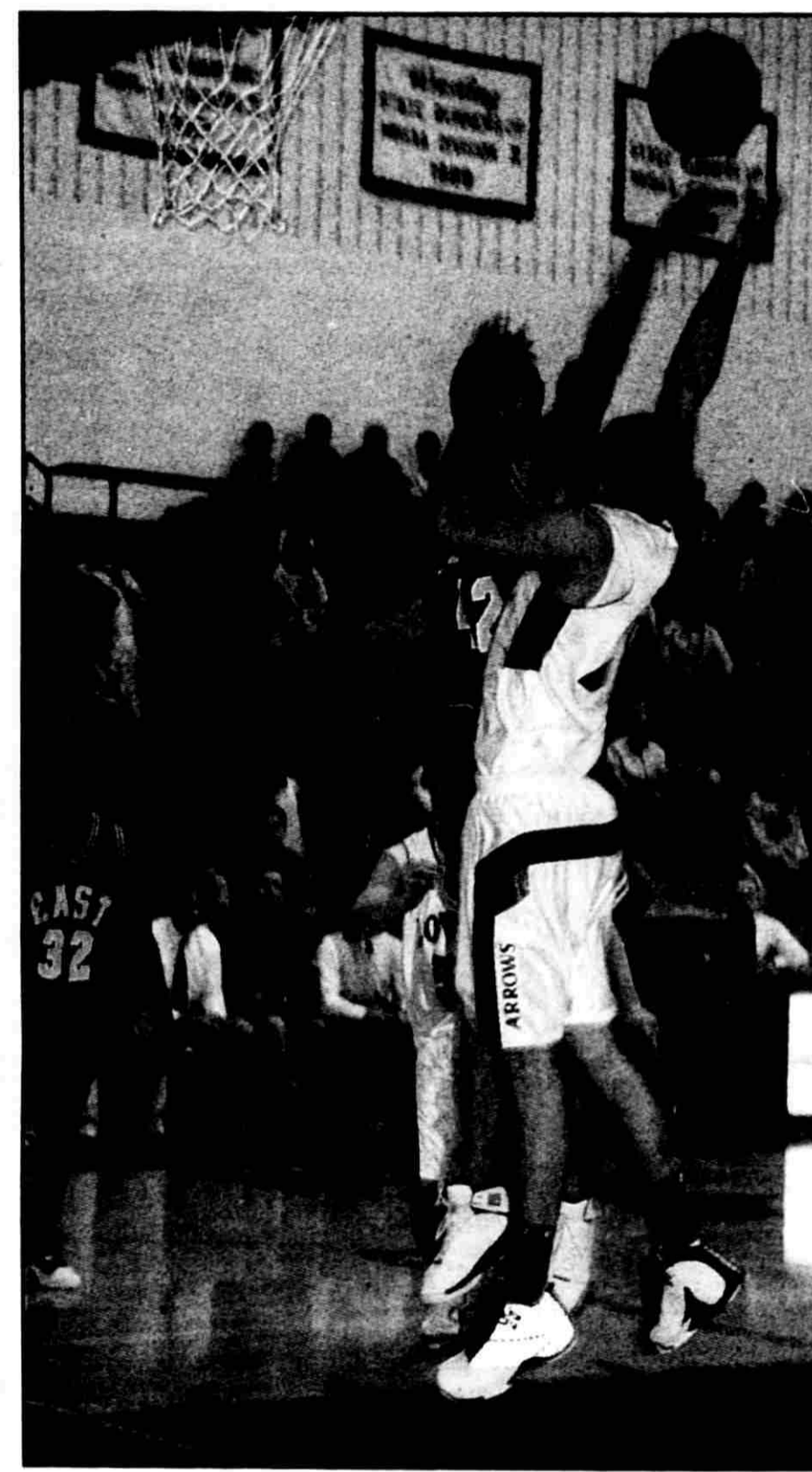
The Arrows are looking to continue their winning streak with games at Forest Hills Northern this Friday, and home matches against Creston on Monday and Caledonia on Thursday.

McDonald said he can see the improvement in the team.

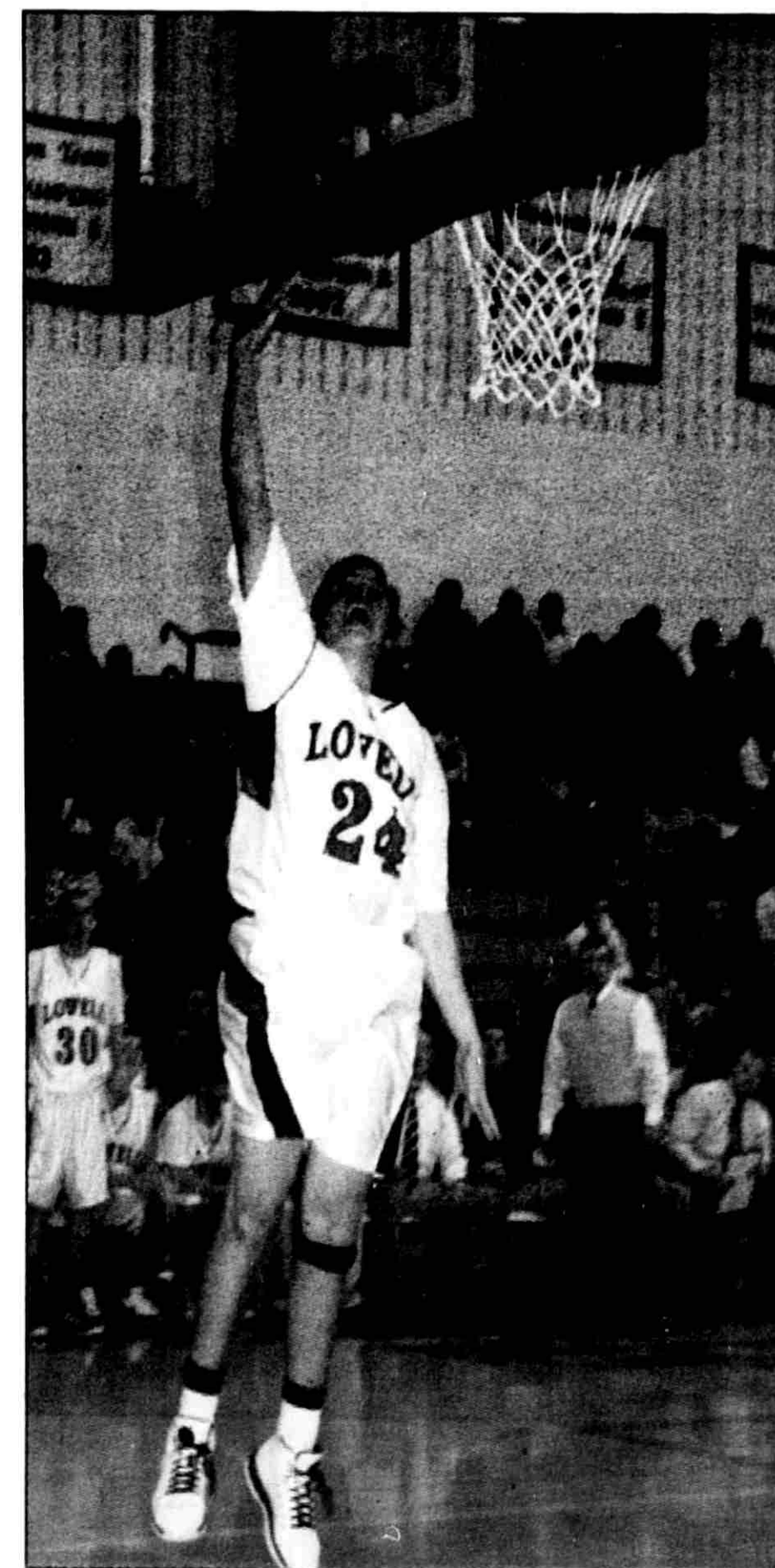
"We are starting to become the type of team that I know we're capable of."



(Top left): Tim Hettinga (20) goes up for a basket Thursday night.



(Top right): Matt Kurtz reaches high against an EGR defender.



(Right): Michael Schumm (24) takes a solo trip to the net Friday night.

### A Special Thanks to our Residents, Families, and Staff for making our 2007 Holiday Brunch successful.

Families enjoyed gathering together to reminisce, laugh, and talk while being served a delicious brunch at The Laurels of Kent on December 19, 2007.



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**WE ARE STARTING TO BECOME THE TYPE OF TEAM THAT I KNOW WE'RE CAPABLE OF.**

- Coach Jeff McDonald

# Red Arrow SPORTS

**[BEING AT THE TOP OF THE OK-WHITE] IS FEELING REALLY GOOD, IT'S A LITTLE NERVE-WRACKING, BUT IT'S GOOD FOR THE TEAM - IT GIVES THEM A LITTLE CONFIDENCE BOOST.**

-Coach Danielle Gallert

## Girls' basketball continues dominance against area teams

by Molly Benningfield  
Editor

The Arrows can add two more wins against area teams to their record, as the girls' basketball team defeated Forest Hills Northern 42-33 Friday night and Greenville 42-35 on Tuesday.

**Lowell vs. FHN**

The Arrows were tied at halftime, but broke free from the Huskies to win by nine. Chelsea Harrison was the top scorer for Lowell,

taking in 17 points. Kara Rasch also saw double figures, with 11 points, while Hannah Oberlin had 8.

**Lowell vs. Greenville**

Lowell led against Greenville 17-12 going into the third quarter, and continued to dominate the Yellow Jackets with their strong defense. But Greenville came close to Lowell's lead in the fourth quarter, coming within three points before a string of free

throws made by Oberlin and Harrison made it a three-possession game.

Coach Danielle Gallert said she was happy with the game. "We played much better D this time - that's one of our biggest focuses," she said. "Offensively, we attacked the basket much better."

She said the close calls in the fourth quarter are what the team needs to give attention to. "Hanging on

to the ball in the end is our focus."

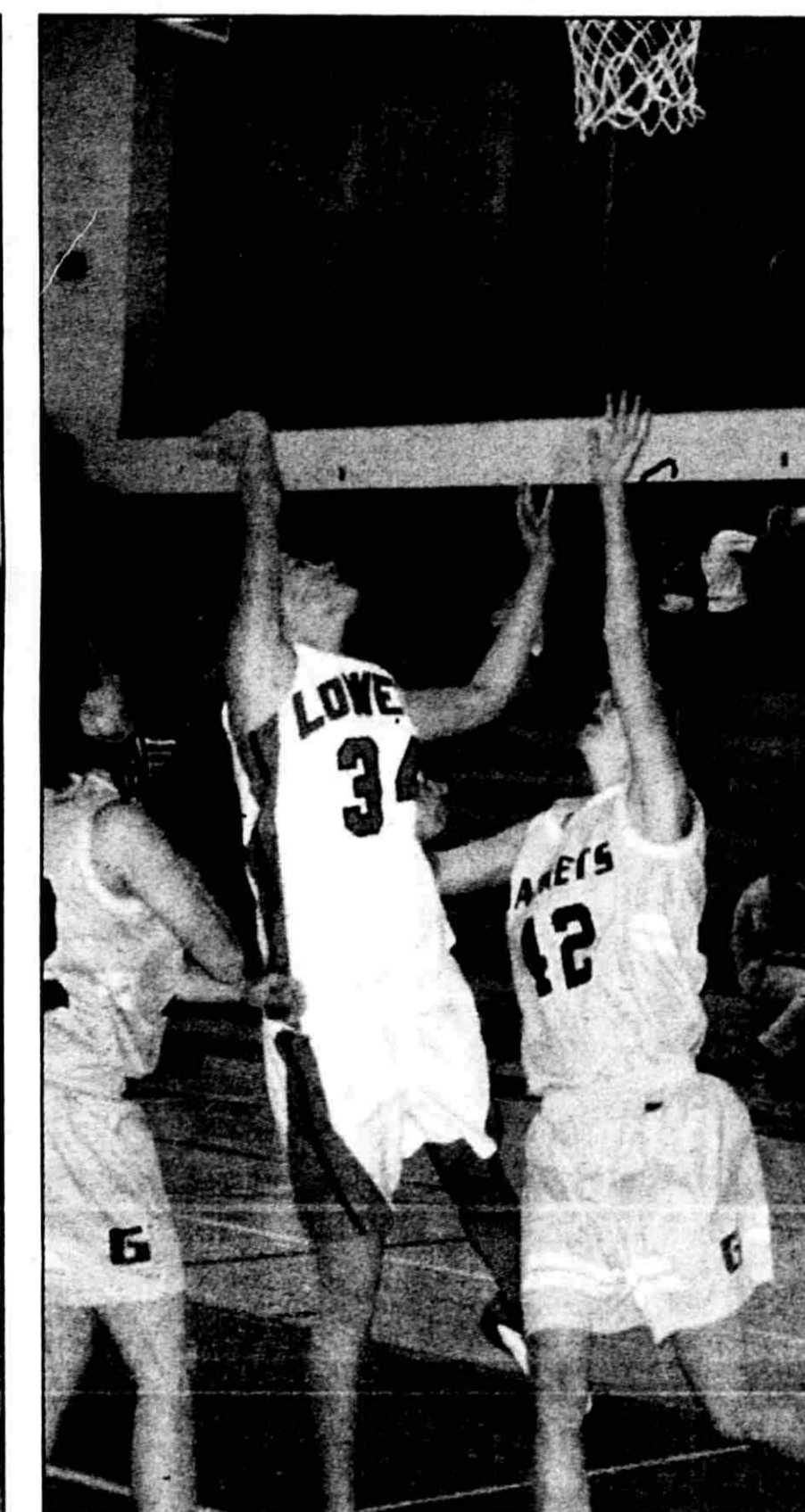
The Arrows are sitting at the top of the OK-White with Forest Hills Central, and Gallert said "it's feeling really good, it's a little nerve-wracking, but it's good for the team - it gives them a little confidence boost."

They will play at Caledonia on Thursday night and return home on Monday, Feb. 4 to face off against East Kentwood.



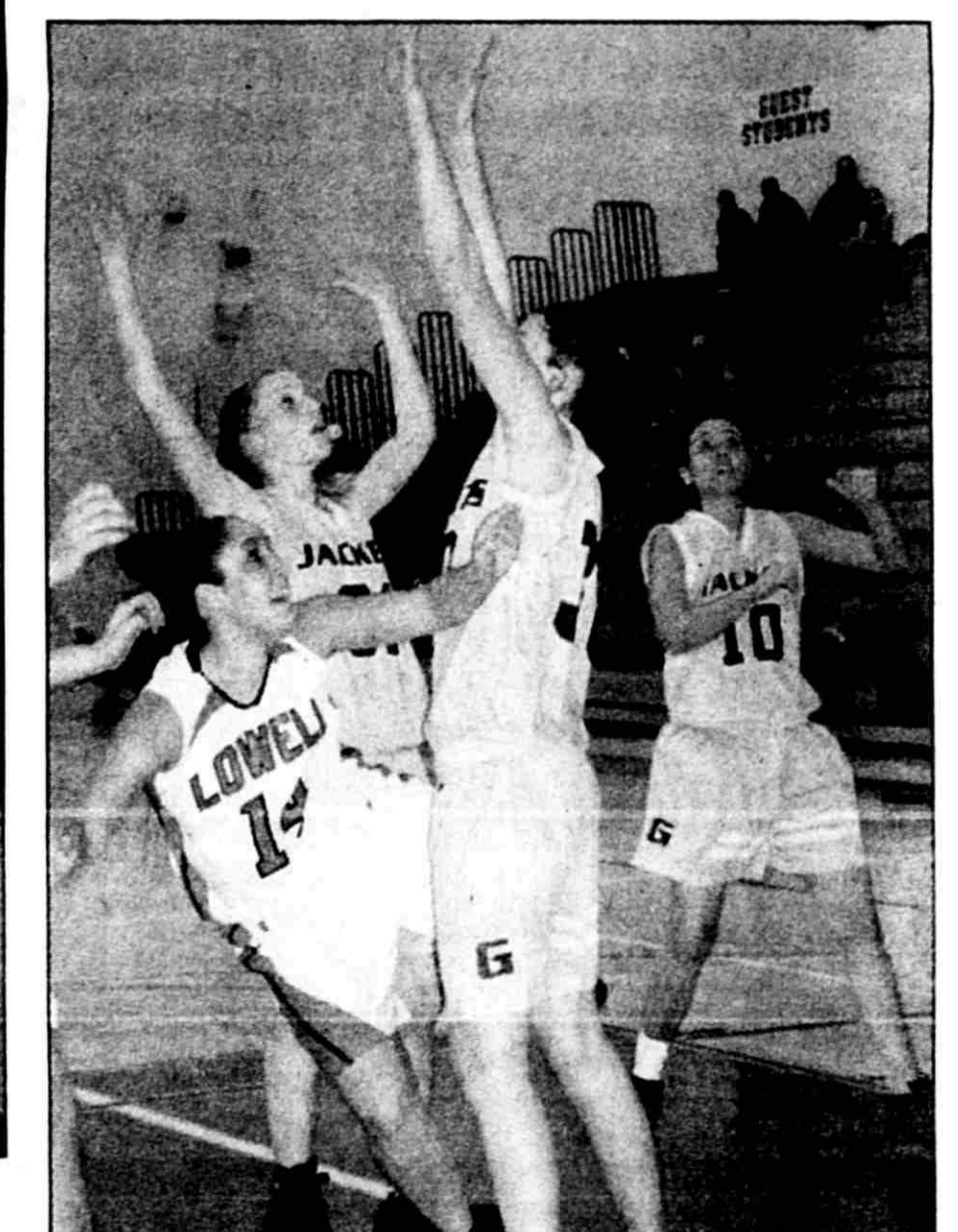
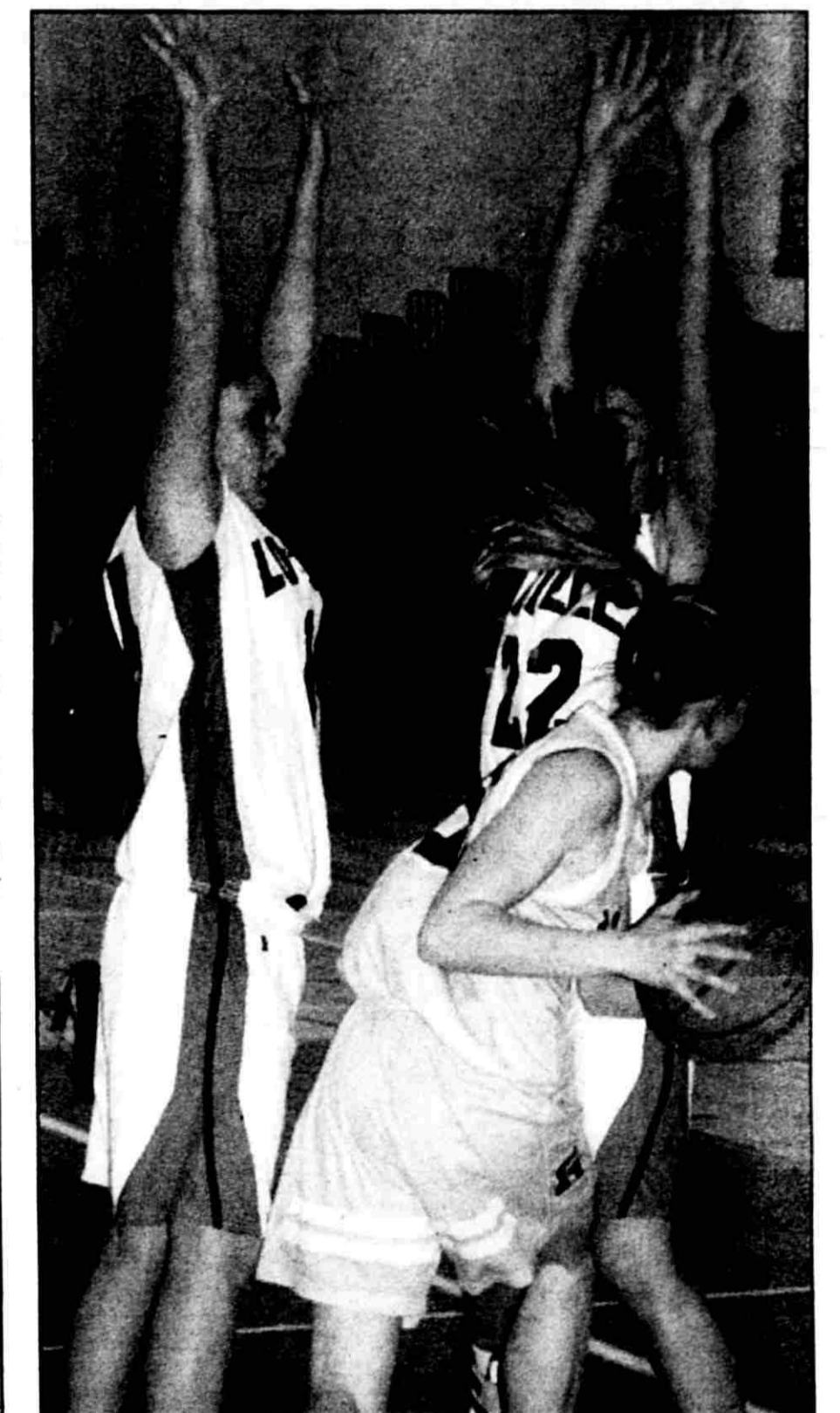
(Top Left): Mary VanderLaan (22) breaks from the pack for an open basket.

(Top Right): Kara Rasch (34) gets a basket between two defenders.



(Upper right): Chelsea Harrison (14) and VanderLaan (22) use tough D.

(Lower right): Harrison (14) falls as a basket goes in.



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# Red Arrow SPORTS

## Red Arrow gymnastics takes second place at home

by Molly Benningfield  
Editor

The gymnastics team took second with a score of 125.175 in its home triangular meet, with the gymnasts from Portage coming in first with 132.2 points, and St. John's taking third with 114 points.

Andrea Coffey, a junior, was the high scorer for the Arrows, with an 8.4 in an inspired floor routine. She took second overall on floor.

Coach Skye Fisher said the team "had a good vault day."

Sara Tarchala, a junior, and Richelle Kimble, a sophomore, took fourth and fifth place respectively for the team on vault.

Fisher said overall she was happy with the turnout for their first home meet, but that they've "had some issues with beam. We need to improve our bars and beams scores."

The Arrows will be in East Kentwood tonight, and will return for a home match next Wednesday versus Mona Shores at 7 p.m.

(Right): Andrea Coffey received an 8.4 score on the floor Monday night.

## Lowell wrestling takes another win in conference match

Lowell defeated Northview last Wednesday 44-21 in a return to conference play. The Arrows had 10 wins, including one pin against the Wildcats.

103 - Freshman Zach Jeffries improved his record by defeating Zach Keur of Northview.

112 - Matt Griffioen, a sophomore, defeated Travis Krauss of Northview.

119 - Junior Tyler Jack defeated Nick Sawinski.

125 - Sophomore Jake Fillingham was defeated by Northview's Dylan Churchard.

130 - Ryan Dean, a junior, defeated Jake Burns.

135 - Senior Zach Baum defeated Dan DeWitt of Northview.

140 - Dan Fleet, a

freshman, won by default. 145 - Jackson Morse, a sophomore, improved his record by pinning Luke Preston of Northview.

152 - Senior Justin Boss defeated Issac Mills of Northview.

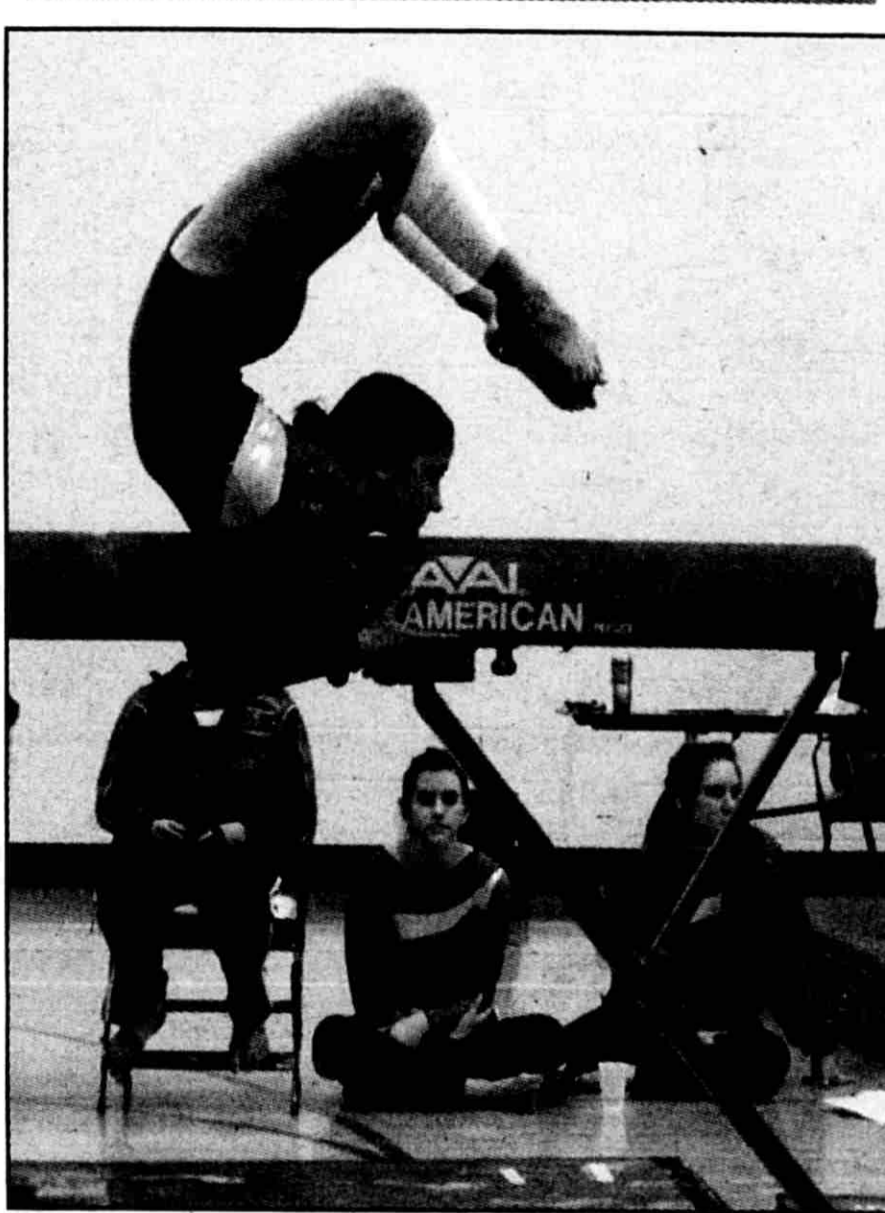
160 - Sophomore Dylan Olin was pinned by Sam Inglot of Northview.

171 - Ryan Olep, a sophomore, defeated DeAndre Harrell.

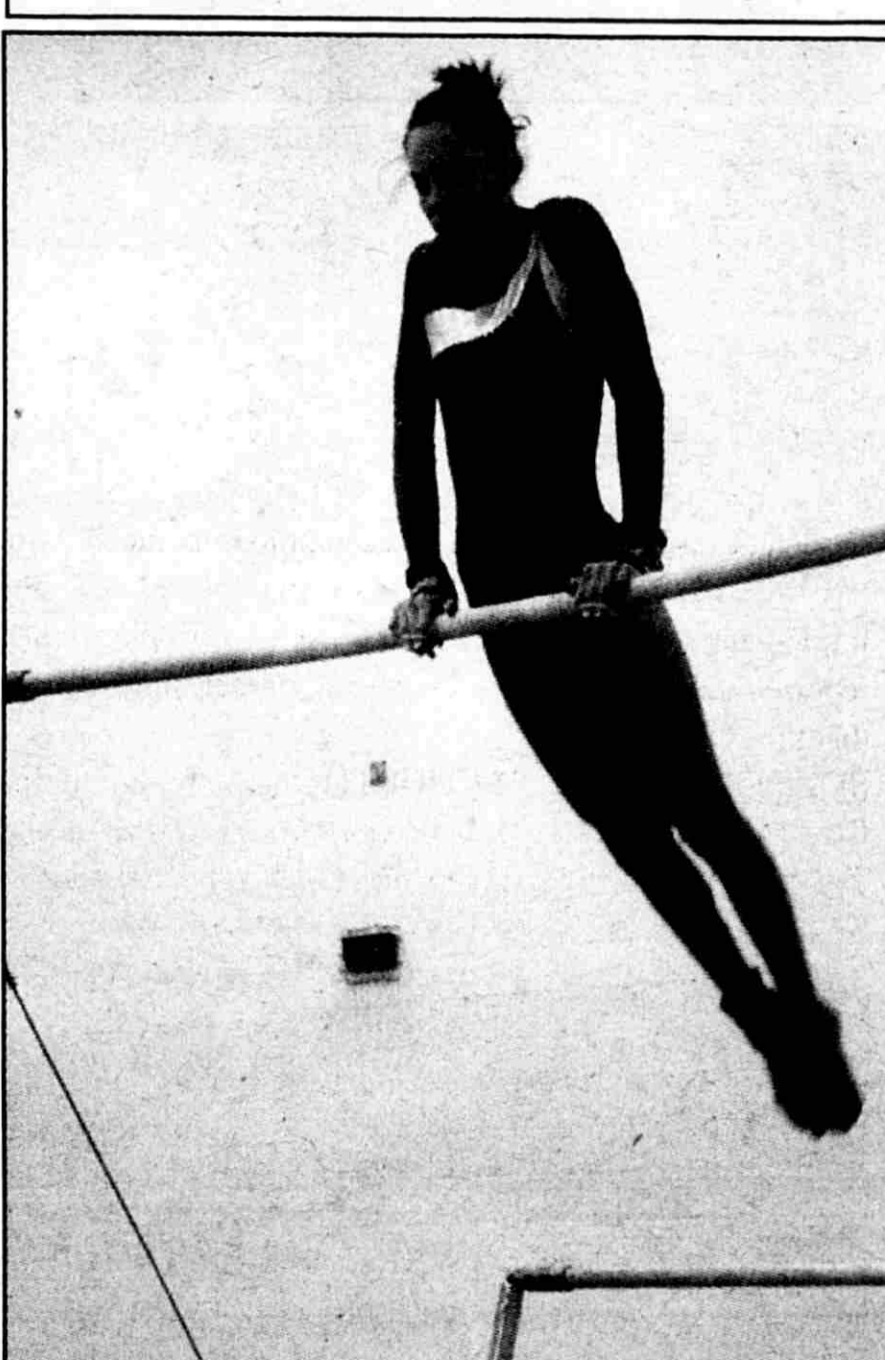
189 - Zach White, a sophomore, was pinned by Rob Schoonmaker of Northview.

215 - Thomas Fleet, a junior, defeated Jay Whitley of Northview.

285 - Jake Lynema, a freshman, was pinned by Kyle Kammermeier of Northview.



(Top): Sara Tarchala on the beam.  
(Below): Richelle Kimble on the bars.



**WE HAD A GOOD VAULT DAY.**  
- Coach Skye Fisher

### Bowling teams have good run in conference match-ups

The boys' and girls' bowling teams continue to outscore conference opponents, winning three and tying one in games between the two teams.

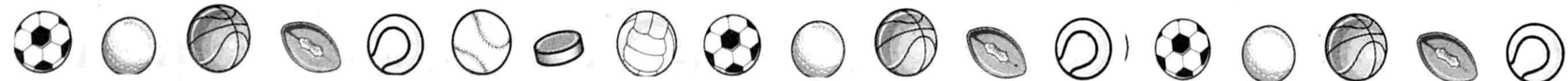
At Northview on Monday, the girls' team defeated the Wildcats 22-8 to improve their record. The boys' team tied with Northview at 15 apiece.

At Caledonia last Wednesday, both teams came out victorious, with the girls defeating the Fighting Scots 19-11 and the boys winning 22-8.

Their next match is a home one this afternoon against another conference team, Forest Hills Central.

# What's Your Sport?

## Keep Caught Up On All The Lowell High School's Sports Action In The Lowell Ledger



# Red Arrow SPORTS

**THOUGH L/C OUTSHOT HUDSONVILLE 43-22, THEY COULD NOT GET ANY PUCKS PAST GOALTENDER PETE HERMAN.**

- Coach Mike Ballard

## Elementary and middle school wrestlers place first at Regionals

The Lowell Elementary and Middle School wrestling teams both placed first at the 2008 Michigan Youth Wrestling Association (MYWA) Duals at Ionia on Sunday, Jan. 19. There were six teams in the elementary division and three teams in the middle school division.

The elementary team moved into the championship round after defeating Lawton 55-27, Sparta 52-22 and Belding 52-28.

In the finals against Hesperia, Lowell was down 27-40 with three matches to go. Max Dean won his match by a void and brought the score to 33-40. Jacob Sweet then pinned his opponent in

the second period for a score of 39-40. The last match featured Garret Stehley, who also won by a void, bringing the final score to 45-40.

The middle school also placed first after defeating Holt 42-30 and Hesperia 40-32, after giving up 18 points at the lowest weights of 75 lbs, 80 lbs and 90 lbs because of voids.

The middle school dual team will wrestle again this weekend, Jan. 25 and 26 at Michigan State University, and the elementary team will wrestle on Saturday, Feb. 2 at the Laingsburg First Annual Dave Dean Invitational.



(Top): The middle school team is (First row, L-R): Jake Mitchell, Andrew Morse and Kanon Dean. (Second row, L-R): Zach Dawson, Zac Grades and Matt Hogenboom. (Third row, L-R): Chris Frisbee, Joe Sweet, Luke Stephens, Gabe Dean, Garret Stehley, Gabe Morse and Jake Stehley. Not pictured, coaches Dean and Frisbee.



(Left): The elementary team is (First row, L-R): Nate Stephens, Chris Poland, Avery Mutschler, Zeth Dean, John-Luke Richmond, Jacob Stephens, Derek Krawjewski, Baily Jack, and Isaac Brenner. (Second row, L-R): Garret Taylor, Max Dean, Zach Kaywood, Garret Stehley, Andrew Metternick, Jacob Sweet, Nate Limmex. (Third row, L-R): Coach Kevin Taylor and Coach Jeff Sweet.

### L/C Hockey splits games, keeps lead in league

Lowell/Caledonia hockey continues its impressive league run, sailing to victory 4-1 against Grand Rapids Christian on Friday. The win keeps the Arrows at the top of Tier 3, with an impressive 4-0 record.

L/C was led by the line of Jordan Steger, who had two goals and two assists, Jon Kuzava, with two goals and one assist, and Bo Adams, who "tallied the playmaker with three assists," Coach Mike Ballard said.

Corey Phillips stopped 14 of 15 shots, and Lowell/Caledonia out shot the Sailors 34 - 15.

The Arrows weren't as successful in a tough match against Tier 2 powerhouse Hudsonville, losing 4-0.

Ballard said, "Though L/C out shot Hudsonville 43-22, they could not get any pucks past Hudsonville goaltender Pete Herman."

Their place at the top of Tier 3 will be challenged this Friday, at 5 p.m. when they face off against West Ottawa, who trails Lowell/Caledonia with a 3-0 record in the league.

**The hockey game on Friday at Patterson Arena has been changed to 5 p.m.**

**GO, TEAM, GO!**  
Support Your Red Arrow Teams!

## LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS BOARD BRIEFS

Lowell Area Schools Board of Education Regular Meeting of January 14, 2008

### STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Brittany Clark, Student Council Representative, filled in for Tyler Barkacs in his absence. Brittany shared that the Student Council is not able to accomplish as much as in past years due to the lack of a seminar period with the implementation of the new trimester schedule. She reported that students are having a harder time getting together.

**SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION** - To honor the Board members for their dedication in serving the Lowell Area Schools, Greg Pratt announced the years of service as follows: Dan Brubaker - 3½ years, Maureen Fleet - 3½ years, Peter Haefner - 5½ years, Nancy Hopkins - 8½ years, Mark Lessens - 8½ years, Patrick Nugent - 9½ years, and Jim Turner - 2½ years.

### REPORTS

#### Audit Report

Phil Saurman and Adriane Schrauben, from the district's audit firm of Hungerford, Aldrin, Nichols & Carter, P.C., presented the 2006-2007 audit, and it was accepted by the Board.

**All State Orchestra Students Recognition** - Orchestra Director, Wendy Tenney, introduced the following students who auditioned for the All State Bands and Orchestras and were chosen to perform at the Michigan Music Conference to be held at DeVos Performance Hall on Saturday, January 26, at 2:00 p.m.: Kendra Belile (8th grade - cello), Jim Collins (8th grade - bass), Drew Mayhew (8th grade - bass), and Kyle Mayhew (10th grade - viola).

### ACTION ITEMS

The Board accepted the following gifts:

- Lowell Rotary Club donation of a \$500 grant to be used for TOTS tuition for families in need.
- Altacor donation of 28 computers valued at \$4984 to be used by the Tech Department.

Following a review of the bonds construction bid package

#1, the board approved the construction package that will go out for bid.

### CONSENT ITEMS

Approved/adopted were: Minutes for the December 10, 2007 Special Board Meeting and Closed Session, the December 10, 2007 Regular Board meeting, and the December 17, 2007 Special Board meeting

The following payment of bills for December 2008:

GENERAL FUND.....	\$1,148,642.40
SCHOOL SERVICES FUND	
A. Food Service Fund.....	\$79,650.02
B. Athletic Fund.....	\$3,552.48
TRUST AND AGENCY FUND.....	\$28,377.96
1990 Debt Fund.....	\$114.68
2000 Debt Fund.....	\$11.27
2004 Debt Fund.....	\$2.05
2005 Debt Fund.....	\$15.36
2004 Construction Fund.....	\$14,942.00

Board Policy - #5175 "Criminal History & Background Checks"

Board Policy - #7215 "Performance-Enhancing Substances"

Amendment to Board Policy - #8440 "Early Graduation"

2007-2008 School Readiness Resolution

### BUDGET UPDATE

John Zielinski reported that currently the district has received 32% of projected revenue and spent 45% of expenditures which is right in line with last year. Bonds sold at the end of December and the district received \$10.9 million dollars. These dollars have been invested in CD's with a return of about 5% until such time as construction projects begin and the monies must be paid out. The interest earned from the bonds will be used to make further improvements. The State conducted a consensus revenue conference last week and the prognosis is good in that due to a drop of students (lower birthrate), there will not be a need to reduce state aid. However, there are still no answers for the uncertain budget future for school districts in the State of Michigan

**CURRICULUM UPDATE** - Roger Bearup thanked Wendy Tenney for her efforts in helping to create an outstanding Orchestra Program and also thanked the other performing arts instructors at Lowell. Roger distributed a document regarding MEAP and the changes that will take place in the test administration and the testing schedule. The Science Ad Hoc team is working on grade level expectation alignment K-7. The elementary schools are already aligned due to using Battle Creek science kits. Another curriculum area being reviewed is social studies at the high school.

**DISCUSSION** - The Board discussed a resolution urging local State Representatives to support H.R. 648 by becoming a co-sponsor of the bill and to reauthorize the No Child Left Behind bill. The Board discussed this item briefly and will bring this back for further discussions at upcoming meetings.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** - Greg Pratt again thanked the Board members for their time and dedication to the students at Lowell Area Schools. He reported that the administration team is working with the KISD Change Network, a collaborative effort for improvement, and that this year the team now includes teachers. The special education department is beginning year one of the CIMS (Continuing Improvement Monitoring System) to determine special education student progress.

### UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Board Workshop - Monday, January 28, 2008 - 6:00 p.m.  
Runciman Administration Building - Board Room  
300 High St., Lowell, MI

Regular Board Meeting - Monday, February 11, 2008 - 7:00 p.m.  
Runciman Administration Building - Board Room  
300 High St., Lowell, MI

Please visit our webpage at [www.lowellschools.com](http://www.lowellschools.com)

We Value:

- Responsibility • Respect • Caring
- Trustworthiness • Fairness • Citizenship

# Exhibiting character at Cherry Creek Elementary



The Cherry Creek students who are pictured, received an award for exhibiting December's character trait of "Caring". They modeled how they care by being kind, compassionate, expressing gratitude, forgiving others, and helping people in need.

(First row, L-R): Bailey Nellis, Jenna Harper, Abigail Kastanek, Megan Summerfield, Emily Brown, Elyssa Whittum.

(Second row L-R): Mikayla Brooks, Kami Holdridge, Logan Regenold, Brice Warner, Mallori MacPherson, Sydney Dodde.

(Third row L-R): Zach Diamond, Skielynne Roberts, Joseph Kline, Talitha Hull, Emily DeGarmo, Parker Travis.

Not pictured are Nicole McCaul and Ben Smith.

## ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

### BID PROPOSAL

Sealed bids, in triplicate, for Lowell Area Schools Middle School Renovations, will be received at Lowell Area Schools Administration Building, 300 High Street, Lowell, Michigan on Thursday, February 14, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.

All proposals received (mailed and delivered) will be opened and read publicly shortly after 2:00 p.m. local time in Lowell Area Schools Administration Building Board Conference Room 300 High Street, Lowell, MI.

Bids may be mailed to Lowell Area Schools, 300 High Street, Lowell, Michigan 49331. Mailed bids must be received prior to the bid due time and date stated above. **FAXED BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

### SITE INSPECTION

A construction pre-bid meeting will be held at Lowell Middle School, 750 Foreman Road, Lowell, MI on Thursday, January 31, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. local time. All bidders are encouraged to attend.

### BID DOCUMENTS

The Bidding Documents may be obtained at Owen-Ames-Kimball Co., 300 Ionia N.W., Grand Rapids, MI. A deposit of \$100.00 is required. The deposit will be refunded if documents are returned within 60 days after bid opening. A non-refundable charge of \$20.00 will be required for mailing documents.

### BIDDER QUALIFICATIONS

Bidder submitting a Bid for this Project shall have qualifications as follows:

- Shall be a reputable, recognized organization, with at least five (5) years successful experience on work of this type and scope of this project.
- Shall have a license where required by public authorities having jurisdiction.
- Shall have ample financial resources for work of this magnitude.

### BID SECURITY - PERFORMANCE BONDS

Each bid shall be accompanied by good and sufficient bid security or bid bond in an amount not less than 5% of the Bid amount and shall secure the Owner from loss or damage by reason of the withdrawal of the Bid by a Bidder or by failure of the successful Bidder to enter into a Contract with the Owner if his Bid is accepted by the Owner.

The successful Bidder will be required to secure Performance Labor and Material bonds for all contracts exceeding \$50,000, from a surety company having a rating of A- or better, for the full amount of the Contract.

# Sound Off

The Ledger  
"Almost"  
Anything  
Goes Column



www.lowellbuyersguide.com  
Or CALL...897-0787

and last names). Please check Page 5 of this week's paper for the complete guidelines.

All comments are submitted by the public and do not necessarily represent the views of the Ledger.

*If only Michael Savage were running for President, oh how happy I would be!*

- John

*F.Y.I. the speed limit on N. Jackson Street is 25mph...or are you "pretending to qualify"*

*Lowell Meijer pharmacy - thank you very much for helping the high school wrestling team Thursday!*

*Thanks also for having free antibiotics! Wrestlers had a special line for service!*

*Please be a voice for the animals in these cold winter months. If your neighbor has*

*an outdoor pet, urge them to bring the animal indoors.*

*If you see an animal suffering or a neglected dog chained to a dog house. Call the human society. Don't turn a blind eye. Speak out for the animals - they cannot voice their suffering.*

*Thanks to Judy for a great C. S. I. at Lowell Middle School.*

*She did a great math night.*

*Denny Ryder should be the first Fan of the Week. He shows shows so much Arrow pride.*

The Lowell Ledger welcomes all "Sound Off" comments, but would like to remind readers of the nature of the column. "Sound Off" is meant to be a community notice board, a means for comments that can be regarded as helpful, congratulatory, thankful and informational.

We will not print any comments that are offensive or libelous. Direct aims at individuals, political figures and businesses will not be printed. For direct opinions on a subject (including, but not limited to, politics, businesses, city government and Ledger criticisms), please send a letter "To the Editor". All letters must be signed (first

and last names). Please check Page 5 of this week's paper for the complete guidelines.

All comments are submitted by the public and do not necessarily represent the views of the Ledger.

*It's 95 degrees and snowing according to a local bank in Lowell.*

*Is it just me or for the past 10 years we've been paying taxes to G.R.C.C. Then I read in the G.R. Press that the G.R. faculty are some of the highest paid in the state. Isn't there something wrong with this picture.*

- Larry Wallace

*I'm so glad we're getting more programs to help our farmers and to protect our land. Otherwise, look for dependence on others for our food as well as oil - yuk!*

## SPIELMAKER ACCOUNTING, INC.

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Lowell, MI 49331

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**616-885-0432**

Licensed To Practice With  
The Internal Revenue Service.

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- Electronic filing of all Tax Returns
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Call for an Appointment

# CLASSIFIEDS

small ads BIG deals

### FOR SALE

**KEY CARDS AVAILABLE AT THE LEDGER OFFICE!** THEY MAKE GREAT GIFTS! - Help support the LHS Academic Boosters & save a bunch of money too! Key Cards are good at various places in Lowell & GR! \$15, cash only. 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

**MATTRESSES**-All new. All sizes starting at \$49. Large selection. Low overhead = lower prices. Shop & compare before you buy! R.C.D. Wholesale, G.R. 682-4767 or 293-5188.

**LOWELL** - \$99,400! Nice home great price! Hardwood, ceramic, fireplace, large yard, new paint, walking distance to schools! patschaefer.com, 581-7580, Five Star Real Estate, 616-897-9027.

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

**BIRDS FOR SALE** - Young Cockeratiel & parakeet. Both are lovely birds & cockatiel is anxious to learn more words. Kids don't spend enough time with them. Would like to keep both together. Call for details. 897-0261.

**FOR SALE** - Solid oak bunk beds w/mattress. Excellent condition, \$200; glasstop rectangle dining table w/wrought iron frame, 4 matching chairs w/cushion. Purchased from Pier 1. Excellent condition, \$300. Ph. 822-6751 (Lowell).

**RED** - Queen pillowtop mattress set. Brand new, in plastic, warranty, \$100. Can deliver. Call 616-318-6998.

**NEWSPAPER ENDS ROLLS AVAILABLE AT THE BUYERS GUIDE OFFICE** - Many uses! Stop by & grab one today! 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

**AIR BEDS** - Selecta comfort firmness for each of you. Dual chambers. Digital remote, never used. Perfect for couples with different firmness needs. Queen \$795, king \$995. Air Bed Store, G.R., 682-4767 or 293-5188.

**1998 PONTIAC GRAND AM** - \$2,995; **1995 Pontiac Sunfire**, \$2,299; **1994 Pontiac Grand Prix**, \$2,450; **1994 Ford Taurus**, \$1,699; **1996 Olds Cutlass Supreme LS**, \$2,499; **1996 Olds 88 LSS**, \$1,995; **1995 Chrysler Concord**, \$2,495; **1998 Ford Windstar Limited**, \$4,500; **2002 Chevy Venture van**, Warner Brothers Edition, \$5,895. Call Dave 616-889-6057.

**BUSHNELL SPOTTING SCOPE** - w/tripod, 35 power, \$65; Crosley record player, many records, \$40; Chinese Star checkerboard (1928); mounted deer antlers (8); pair of round, knobby glass lamps; Audubon Society encyclopedia of North American birds. 942-2685.

### FOR SALE

**LOWELL - REDUCED!** NICE brick ranch on 1.3 wooded acres! 4 beds, 2.5 baths, open kitchen, fireplace, Andersen windows, finished lower! \$214,900, patschaefer.com 581-7580, Five Star Real Estate 616-897-9027.

**FIREWOOD** - Dry walnut and mixed hardwood, \$50 per face cord. Delivery available. Call 616-293-3575 or 616-868-7069.

**MEMORY FOAM MATTRESS** - Relieves back pain! Temperpedic queen, \$1,899; Theratouch queen "something", \$899. Is the name worth that much? Brand new. Also twin, full & kings. Try them at RCD Wholesale, G.R. 682-4767 or 293-5188.

**POLE BARN FOR SALE** - Best offer. Removal and cleanup takes a 24' X 40' pole barn. Barn includes two horse stalls and newly shingled plywood roof. Call 616-897-7254.

**BEDROOM SET** - 7 pc. Cherry bedroom set, includes sleigh bed! Brand new. Must sell. \$500. Can deliver. 616-949-6525.

**AKO PEMBROKE WELSH CORGI PUPPIES** - Ready to go. Family raised. Champion bloodlines. Many colors. \$400 + up. 868-6957 or 616-581-4424.

**ROLL TICKETS AVAILABLE AT LOWELL LITHO** - Single & double rolls, variety of colors. Single roll, \$5 ea. + tax & double rolls \$7.50 + tax ea. Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell. Ph. 897-9261.

**FOR RENT** - Solid oak bunk beds w/mattress. Excellent condition, \$200; glasstop rectangle dining table w/wrought iron frame, 4 matching chairs w/cushion. Purchased from Pier 1. Excellent condition, \$300. Ph. 822-6751 (Lowell).

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### WANTED

**GOOD HOMES WANTED** - for orphaned ducks, geese and chickens from animal rescue centers in area. Must have safe pens and kept as pets only. Call Linda 897-9202.

### SALES

**4H TACK SALE** - for Ionia County. New & used equipment, clothing & supplies. Mar. 15, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Saranac High School. Open to public, \$1 door charge. Booth rental call 616-868-6042 or email crclrlfctn@aol.com.

### FOR RENT

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

**HOT RENTAL SPECIAL** - 2 bedroom \$499, 3 bedroom \$649 with swimming pool & playground. Pets welcomed. 616-897-8427.

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

**FOR RENT** - Nice 2 bedroom home in great Lowell neighborhood \$700 per month plus deposit. Pets OK on approval. Call 897-2033, leave message.

**1 BEDROOM DUPLEX FOR RENT** - Country setting, 1 mile outside Lowell, \$475/month. Call 616-450-5300.

**MURRAY LAKE HOME FOR RENT** - Lakefront, one bedroom, one bath and walk out basement, \$615 per month. Available January 15, no pets please. Call 616-897-8848.

**FOR RENT** - Newly remodeled and insulated 2 bedroom, 1 bath ranch. 3 miles from Murray Lake and elementary school. Laundry and garage. Call 897-9798.

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

**LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO WRITE ON?** - We have scratch pads available! \$1.25 per pound. Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

**NEW LISTING!** - Newer 4 bedroom, 2 bath home with many upgrades like whirlpool tub, tile floors, hardwood floors, surround sound, 3 tiered deck and more! 340 Riverwood Dr., Middleville. Call Melinda Robison at 616-648-0151 or visit www.GoMelinda.com Five Star Real Estate, 791-1500.

**TWO FREE KITTENS TO GOOD HOME.** Call after 6 p.m. 642-6979.

### LOST

**LOST CAT** - Small dark tortoise. Lily. N. Washington/Oakwood Cemetery. Call 897-6465.

### EVENTS

**OPEN HOUSE & OPEN REGISTRATION** - Thurs., Jan. 24, 5 - 6:30 p.m. **Preschool openings!** Franciscan Life Process Center Preschool, your 3 to 5-year-old child will experience: school readiness skills, including phonics; nature & science; music; gardening; supervised cooking & play. 3 & 4 yr. olds, Mon. - Thurs., 9 a.m. - 12 noon OR 4 & 5 yrs. old, Mon. - Wed., 1 - 4 p.m. Call for a registration packet or more information 897-7842 ext. 306. Scholarships available.

**SOUND OFF PHONE LINE 897-0787**

### HELP WANTED

**FRAMING CARPENTER NEEDED** - up to \$12/hour based on experience. 616-299-7160.

**ATTENTION: NURSE/ RESIDENT AIDES** - Kind, caring and compassionate individuals. Resident Aide/CNA positions, full and part time, 2nd and 3rd shift at Emerald Meadows Assisted Living. Apply in person. 616-954-2366.

**EARN \$800-\$3200 monthly** to drive brand new cars with ads placed on them. www.FreeAutoKey.com

**OCCASIONAL DRIVER WANTED** - also bird cage clean up, vacuuming and typist. Occasional only. 2 hrs \$30. Call Linda at 897-9202.

**UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS BEEN DENIED?** - Employer fighting? Need help protesting? For information & experienced representation call now for free consultation! 1-800-305-2899.

**SPECTRUM COMMUNITY SERVICES ARE HIRING FOR DIRECT SUPPORT STAFF** - positions in Lowell area, PT, all shifts for a behavioral group home. \$8.35 to start, more w/experience. Minimum requirements include: high school diploma or GED, clear criminal record, valid Michigan drivers license w/ acceptable driving record. Paid training provided; must be available every other weekend. Spectrum Community Services is not affiliated with Spectrum Health. We are a non-profit organization dedicated to providing the best possible supports for persons with developmental disabilities by developing the highest quality workforce. Call Jeremy at 616-437-8371 for an interview. EEO/AA/H.

**GUITAR LESSONS** - Matt Cosgrove MM, FSU in guitar performance, accepting students of all ages. www.cgstudio.us. 350-6000.

**PAINTING** - Exp. painter for 25 years, fast, neat & clean professional. From drywall hanging to finish paint, 1 room to whole house. 616-340-6221.

**CHILDCARE** - licensed home is looking for new friends to join our daycare family. Located near Foreman & Cumberland intersection. Please call 897-5068 for more information.

**WATSON'S HANDYMAN SERVICES** - Decks, doors, drywall & misc. repairs. Basement remodels. Small jobs welcome. 897-6906.

**HORSE BARN WORK** - (small private farm), Tue., Thurs., Fri., 7:30 a.m. - 1ish p.m. Dressing horses, turnout, cleaning heated barn, general barn maintenance. Horse experience required. Near Alden Nash/Cascade Rd., Lowell. 897-5139.

**RIDGELINE** - is currently seeking reliable, quality subs and employees for the repair, restoration and remodeling of homes and businesses in the Grand Rapids area. Office 616-987-4245 or fax 616-987-4246.

**COPY SERVICE, FAX SERVICE, LAMINATING, UPS SHIPPING & MORE! AVAILABLE AT THE LOWELL LEDGER 105 N. BROADWAY HOURS M-Th. 8-5 p.m. Fri. 8-4 p.m. Closed Sat. & Sun. Ph. 897-9261**

### SERVICES

**JOHN DEBIAK** - certified farrier. Horseshoeing & hoof trimming with twenty years of professional, full-time experience. Call 897-4290.

**PAYROLL & BOOKKEEPING SERVICE** - by certified Quickbooks advisor. Call Kathy 897-6351.

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

**HANDY REPAIR SERVICE** - Bob Ford formally of Hahn Hardware is now doing all kinds of service work at your home or business. Free estimates. Call 299-3198.

**HORSE BOARDING** - Inside/outside. For info call Peggy 897-5807 or 616-915-4200.

**START THE NEW YEAR OUT RIGHT** - at Brenda B's Daycare. We have lots of fun in our loving Christian home. Call Brenda, 987-9351.

**GUITAR LESSONS** - Matt Cosgrove MM, FSU in guitar performance, accepting students of all ages. www.cgstudio.us. 350-6000.

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**MAILBOX REPLACEMENTS BY HONEY, DO** - Your complete Handyman! Special rates for seniors. Call Rog at 676-3313 today!

**BUCKS AUCTION & ESTATES** - Now booking for Spring. Offering full liquidation services, buyouts, appraisals, internet sales & cleaning. Call Terry (616) 897-5200 for free consultation through Feb. (\$60 value). www.bucksauktionandsales.com

**CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRY ONE TODAY!** 20 Words for \$2, each additional word is 10c. CALL 897-9261 FAX 897-4809. DEADLINE MONDAY AT 5 p.m. for Wednesday Publication. Email address: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com

### SERVICES

**LOSE WEIGHT LIKE CRAZY** - burn fat, block cravings, boost energy. All Natural! Super Easy! Call 616-292-6581 or visit www.losealot.org.

**ALTERATIONS - Experienced professional men's, women's, leather coats, all fabrics, zippers replaced, wedding & prom dresses altered.** Call Helen 897-6071.

**BUSINESS CARDS** - For as little as \$26 for 250. (white card, black ink). Before you order your cards from somewhere else - check our rates! Call Lowell Litho, 897-9261.

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

**PLUMBER - Licensed, 17 yrs. experience. Residential service or new construction, reasonable rates. No emergency or after hours fee. Call Platinum Plumbing, 897-2575.**

**SHIP UPS AT THE LEDGER OFFICE** - Daily pickup at 3 p.m. We cannot accept hazardous materials or firearms. Compare our prices! Call for a price quote! We will need weight, zip code & dimensions for a price quote over the phone. 105 N. Broadway. 897-9261.

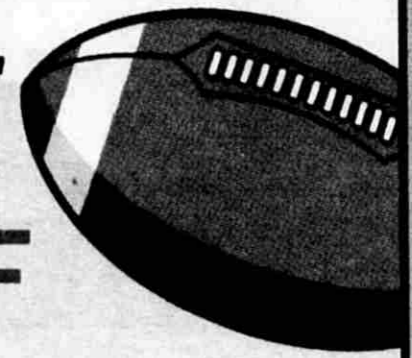
**MAILBOX REPLACEMENTS BY HONEY, DO** - Your complete Handyman! Special rates for seniors. Call Rog at 676-3313 today!

**CARD OF THANKS** The Rex Collins family would like to thank many family members, the community of Lowell, and Lowell High School athletics for their support and participation in the past REX COLLINS MEMORIAL GOLF outings. As a result of your efforts and donations we were able to present to Lowell High School Athletic Boosters the funds to obtain new electronic scoreboards for the gymnasium in Rex's honor. Sincerely, Dode Collins, Steve & Kay Collins, Jody & Mitch McMahon, Chris & Maryann Collins, Tina Collins

# Good

CHEVROLET BUICK

# PRO PLAY-OFF SPECIALS



Drive Beautiful



AN AMERICAN REVOLUTION

**GM Owner Loyalty Bonus \$1,000**



**GM Credit Card Bonus**

**GM Lease Pull Ahead 2 months paid**



**HD Bonus Cash \$1,750**

\*Bonus earning may vary with card holders



'08 Cobalt	'08 Impala	'08 Trailblazer	'08 Silverado HD
\$1,000 Rebate	\$2,000 Rebate	\$3,000 Rebate	\$1,500 Rebate
\$1,000 Loyalty	\$1,000 Loyalty	\$1,000 Loyalty	\$1,000 Loyalty
\$2,000 GM Card Bonus*	\$2,000 GM Card Bonus*	\$3,000 GM Card Bonus*	\$1,750 Bonus Cash
<b>\$4,000</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$7,000</b>	<b>\$6,250</b>
Total Available Cash Back	Total Available Cash Back	Total Available Cash Back	Total Available Cash Back



## GM CERTIFIED



Financing as low as **2.9%**

**2006 Impala LS**

8 to choose from

**\$12,995 with 2.9%\***



**2006 Malibu Sedan**

Stock #IP745

**\$11,375 with 2.9%\***



**2006 Malibu Maxx**

Stock #UP750

**\$11,495 with 2.9%\***



**2006 Malibu LT**

Stock #IP726A

**\$12,995 with 2.9%\***



**2006 Trailblazer LS**

Stock #UP753

**\$16,495 with 2.9%\***



**2005 Suburban Z71**

Stock #IP720

**\$24,995 with 4.9%\***



**2006 Trailblazer Ext.**

Stock #IP710

**\$19,475 with 4.9%\***



**OTHER PRE-OWNED SPECIALS**

Free Remote Starter with every used car purchased by 1-31-08. Must present coupon.



**2003 Astro Conversion Van**

Stock #LP770A

Low miles, local trade

**\$8,995**



**2006 Silverado 2500 4x4**

Stock #8T0264

LS, reg. cab, local trade, nice

**\$16,995**



**2007 Subaru Forester Wagon**

Stock #IP769

AWD, great MPG, full power

**\$17,995**



**2007 Nissan Altima S**

Stock #UP764

Full power, keyless start, nice

**\$16,995**



**2007 GMC Acadia**

Stock #UP771. SLT, loaded, AWD, leather, 7 pass. Save from New!

**\$31,475**



**2008 Grand Prix**

Stock #UP772. Wing, alum. wheels. Save Thousands!

**\$16,475**



**2007 Grand Caravan SXT**

Stock #UP773. Power sliders, Stow 'N Go seating.

Only... **\$14,995**



**2005 Nissan Altima SE**

Stock #7T078A. One owner, local trade, leather, moonroof, Navigation radio.

"Nice!" **\$16,995**

\*W.A.C. Plus tax, title, doc & plate fees

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