

Paths of old and new cross at 2009 Lowell Expo

by Thad Kraus

businesses in 1996 looking to grow in the community.

Harding Enterprises, a relatively new Lowell business at the time, chose to use the inaugural Lowell Community Expo as a vehicle to promote its asphalt, lawn and snowplowing business.

"We'll always remember that our first customer from that Expo was Dave Gerst Jr. (Roth-Gerst Funeral Home)," explained Kim Harding.

Fast forward 13 years to the 2009 Lowell Community Expo; one of this year's first-time exhibitors is Rothparticipating and being an active part of the Lowell Community," said Gerst. "The problem we've encountered over the years is we are not able to commit to Saturday. Last year we had three funerals on the day of the Expo."

This year, Roth-Gerst Funeral Home was represented by two pre-need counselors - Sandi Quinn and Ellissa Howard.

They provided interested patrons with helpful information about preparing for what Gerst calls "the inevitable."

Roth-Gerst Funeral Home participated in the Women's Expo and received a lot of interest about preneed counseling, according



to maintain and create an image in the community," Gerst explained.

Gerst now operates the funeral home for his father and has been a working member of the family business for 30 years.

Participating in its second year at the Expo was Ridgeline, a Lowell construction firm owned and operated by Matt Garrison.

"Lowell is a tightknit community and it is important to be a visible part," Garrison said. "People have to know who you are and that you are out there." Ridgeline made a couple slight changes for the 2009 event which included adding a computer slide show.

"It gives people a better visibility of what our work looks like," Garrison explained.

The Lowell business owner adds that business so far this year has looked fairly good.

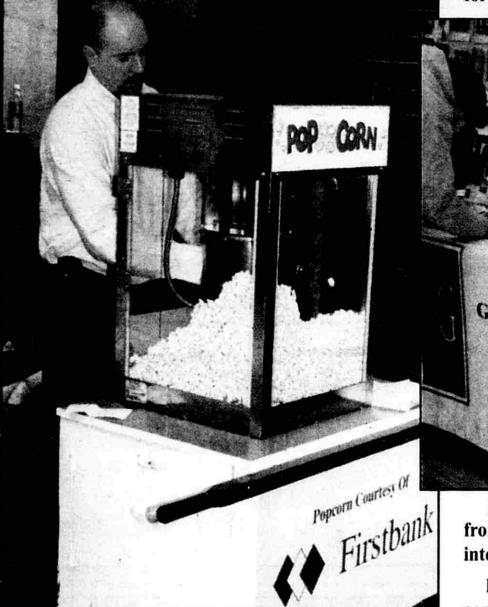
That's a change all Expo patrons could embrace during these tough economic times.

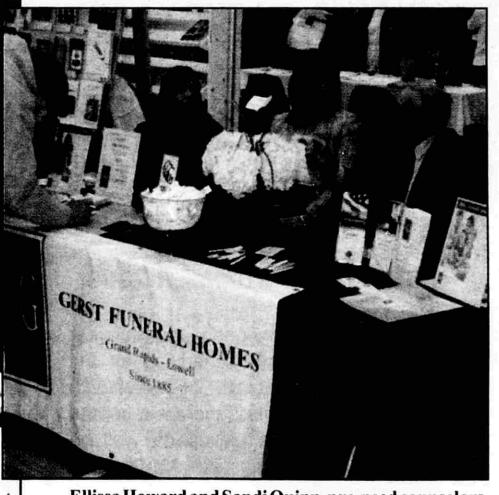
The 13th annual Lowell Community Expo hosted 150 booths while welcoming roughly 5,000 patrons.

Personal Training

Gerst Funeral Home. to Gerst. "We've always enjoyed "The Expo helps us

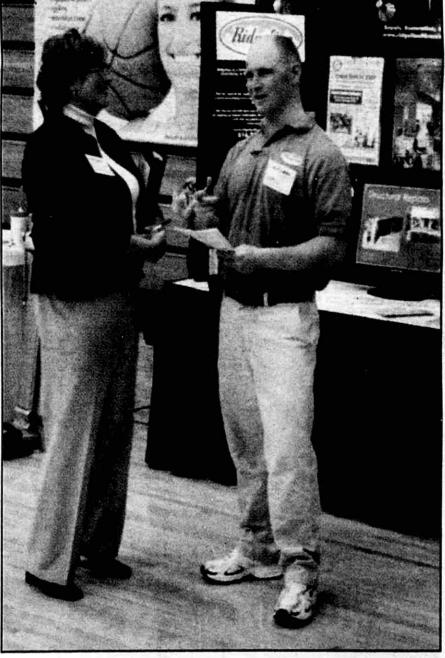
Harding Enterprises has been a fixture at the Expo for all 13 years.





Ellissa Howard and Sandi Quinn, pre-need counselors, from Gerst Funeral Homes, shared information with interested Expo patrons.

Kurt Lardie, left, of Firstbank, supplied the popcorn.



Matt Garrison, Ridgeline, discusses spring construction projects.

Computer repair service at reasonable prices

by Emma Palova

Wher of C o m p u t e r R e h a b , Michael Lezan has always enjoyed working on computers.Recently,Lezan opened up a computer repair business on Main Street in the former barber shop. Computer Rehab is a locally-run certified PC support center.

"I believe in a fair

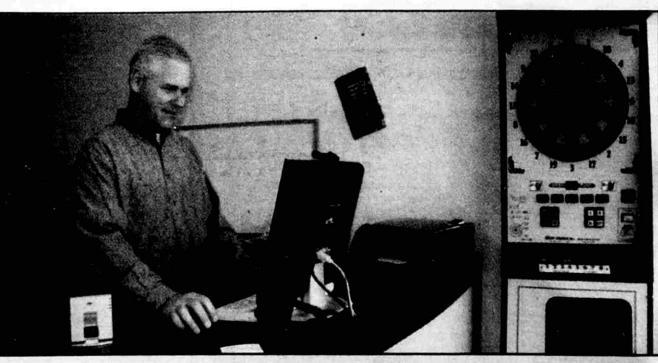
price for my services,"

he said. "I just go with the economy to have the right price range."

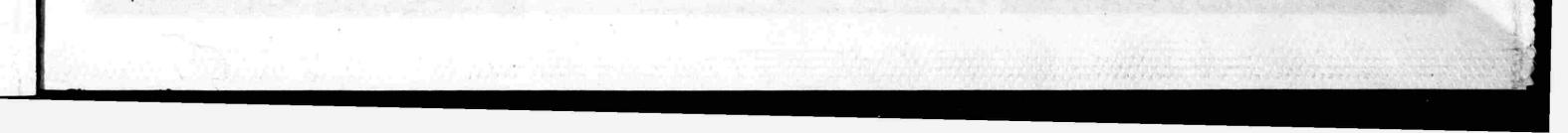
Unlike most computer repair firms or technicians, Lezan charges for all repairs \$45. He also offers a VOIP (voice over Internet protocol) phone service, where all communications are over the Internet with the help of an adapter box. There are no long distance charges and free calls to Europe, Asia and Puerto Rico.

Other services include hardware/software support, upgrades and repairs, troubleshooting, virus removal, custom Ethernet cables, spyware removal, data recovery and backups, and custom built computer systems.

> Computer repair, cont'd., pg. 4



Michael Lezan is the owner of Computer Rehab.



THE LOWELL LEDGER - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2009 - PAGE 2





KAUFFMAN

Rachel Kolb (Clemmer) Kauffman, aged 70, of Alto, went peacefully home to her Lord and Savior, Tuesday, March 24, 2009. She was preceded in death by her parents, Markley Miriam Clemmer: and sister, Ella Mae Clemmer; brothers, Charles Clemmer and James Clemmer. She is survived by her husband

of 48 years, Marlin; children, Karl Kauffman, Jeff Kauffman, Karen (Kirt) brother, John Stoltzfus: (Rachel) Clemmer; sisters, Carmel Congregational Beatrice (Bill) Swope, Ruby (Philip) Trimble, Janet MSU Extension and served (Robert) Tweed; sister-inlaw, Jannivieve Clemmer; As a young adult she was Keegan, Kole and Kelsey; at the VFW home. She several nieces, nephews, family and friends. Rachel enjoyed reading, singing, knitting, spending time with family, traveling and camping. Funeral services were held Saturday at Bowne Mennonite Church. Interment Bowne Mennonite Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Bowne Mennonite Church Benevolent Fund, 14076 76th Street, Clarksville, MI 48815.



Buy Now Pay Late

HALBEISEN Catherine W. Halbeisen,

93, of Charlotte, passed away Monday, March 30, 2009. Mrs. Halbeisen was born May 31, 1915 in Eaton Rapids, the daughter of Ellis and Flossie (Gillett-Turner) Henry. Mrs Halbeisen was a member of the West Church Ladies Circle and many years as a 4-H leader. grandchildren, Kyle, Kaleb, a Sunday school teacher enjoyed knitting hats for the Eaton/Siren Shelter. She is survived by her son, Stephen (Valli) Halbeisen; daughter, Mary Ann Halbeisen; daughter, Kathleen (Doug) Shumaker; son, Ian Halbeisen, all of Charlotte: son, Alan (Linda) Halbeisen of Ada; 13 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Donald Halbeisen; son, Dennis Halbeisen; daughter-inlaw, Bonnie Halbeisen and granddaughter, Bethany Rene Halbeisen. Funeral services will be 11 a.m. Friday, April 3, 2009 at Pray Funeral Home with Reverend Darwin Kuhl at West Carmel Cemetery, Charlotte. Visitation will be Thursday, April 2 from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. If desired, memorial Community Hospice Arrangements 49302. House. by Pray Funeral Home.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www. prayfuneral.com.



METTERNICK Gladys L. Metternick, aged 89. of Alto, went to be with her Lord, Monday, March 23, 2009. She was preceded death by her husband, Joseph. She is survived by her children, Connie (Tom) Vaughan, of Alto, Joyce (Charles) Martin, Clarksville, Sharell (Bob) Wolf, of Clarksville; grandchildren, Tom Vaughan, Robert (Wendy) Watrous, Mindy (Craig) Clarida, Ryan (Jamie) Watrous, Ramee (Tony) TenHave, Aaron (Tracey) Wolf; 12 greatgrandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren. Funeral service was held Friday at Roth-Gerst Funeral officiating. Interment will be Chapel. Interment Bowne Center Cemetery. Memorial Contributions may be made Flat River Outreach to Ministries, 11535 E. Fulton, contributions Lowell, MI 49331 or Alto may be made to the Eaton Fire Department, 6260 Bancroft Ave., Alto, MI

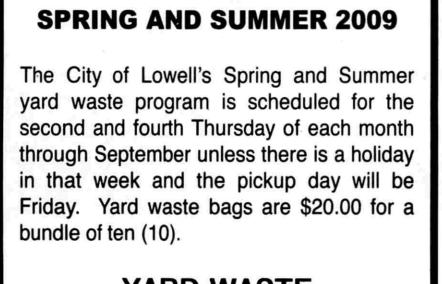


ASSE International Student Exchange is now accepting applications from host families for the 2009/10 academic year. By hosting a foreign exchange student from Europe, Asia, North and South America, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, you provide a rewarding opportunity to a special teenager. These personable and academically select exchange students are bright, curious and anxious to learn about this country through living as part of a family, attending high school and sharing their own culture and language with their newly adopted host family. All students are well screened, insured, speak English and come with their own spending money. The students arrive from their home country shortly before school begins and return at the end of the school year.

Host families provide room and board and guidance for their new son or daughter while experiencing the joy of watching a child grow academically and culturally. Each exchange student expects to bear his or her share of the household responsibilities as well as be included in normal family activities. When sharing your home with a student from another culture, your lives are enriched forever by your new lifelong friendship.

Couples, single parents and families without children are encouraged to apply. For additional information about hosting an ASSE exchange student call Susan Mead, 616-240-1536, in Lowell. Also, please visit our website at www. asse.com for additional opportunities through ASSE.





CITY OF LOWELL

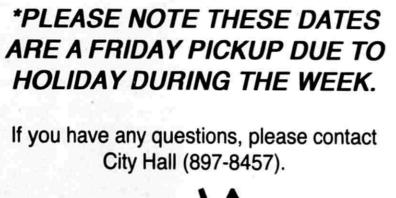
RESIDENTS ONLY

YARD WASTE PICKUP

SCHEDULE

FOR

YARD WASTE PICKUP SCHEDULE April 9th and 23rd May 14th and 29th* June 11th and 25th July 9th and 23rd August 13th and 27th September 11th* and 24th





VOLUNTEER **OPPORTUNITIES**

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

| ICS INC. | PUBLISHER |
|----------|-----------------------|
| | LEAD REPORTER |
| S | SPORTS/SALES |
| OWIAK | CLASSIFIED/ACCOUNTING |
| | ADVERTISING SALES |

Lowell Odyssey of the Mind teams advance to state finals

friendships.

laughter

building.

Cherry Creek Elementary only primary problem, The observed in both settings rehearsed at their final Candy Factory. The three include children involved in practice before the Region primary teams received blue creative thinking, learning, 13 Odyssey of the Mind tournament, the team members agreed that they did Bushnell Elementary, had families. I am so proud of not want to stop rehearsing this to say about the program, our children, grateful for because that would mean "What a delight to observe family support and look that Odyssey was almost children involved in Odyssey forward to another great over. The adventure ended of the Mind, at practice year next year." for some teams at the as well as at Saturday's Angela Baerwalde, a Region 13 Odyssey of the competition in Greenville. MurrayLakecoach, summed Mind tournament held on Saturday at Greenville Middle School.

Three Lowell Area Schools teams qualified for the state finals to be held April 18 at East Kentwood High School.

Murray Lake Elementary took home a first place finish in the Earth Trek vehicle problem; Cherry Creek Elementary placed second in the Earth Trek vehicle problem and Alto Elementary finished second in the Teach Yer Creature technical problem qualifying each for a spot at the state finals competition. Other teams competing at the regional tournament on Saturday included a Murray Lake team that placed third in the Superstition theatrical problem, and one team each from Bushnell. Cherry Creek and Murray

As the primary team from Lake in the performance The consistent factors up the day by saying, "We ribbons.

Karen Burd, principal of and involved supportive



The Teach Yer Creature team from Alto Elementary with their 2nd place medals, left to right: A.J. Brandt, Kelum McDonald, Steven Tripp, Carsen McDonald, Erin Smithee, Connor Smithee, and Lexie Bowen.

The Superstition team from Murray Lake Elementary with their 3rd place medals, left to right: Tim Baerwalde, Brianna Roest, Sam Mason, Isabelle Fleszar, Thomas Hubert, Alyssa Roest, and Angie Baerwalde.

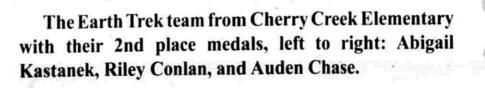
The Earth Trek team from Murray Lake Elementary with their first place medals, left to right, front row: Chloe Looman, Ben Noffke, and Ryan Noffke; back row: Maddie Burt, Eric Dimmick, Adam Korzen, and Christian Davis.



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had the BEST time!" As was heard from many Odyssey participants on Saturday, they were excited to do it all over again next year. New teams will be forming in the fall if you have a student that may be interested in participating. Watch for information at your school





SPRING BREAK WITH THE STARS

The Wittenbach/Wege Center invites you to come out Friday, April 3 beginning at dusk (approx. 7:30 p.m.) for telescopic observing of the moon, planets and constellations with members of the Grand Rapids Amateur Astronomical Association. Do you have a telescope but do not know how to use it? Bring it with you and have local astronomers show you how. Call 897-1002 for more information.

SPAY NEUTER EXPRESS

The Spay Neuter Express will be offering spays and neuters for cats at the West Michigan Pet Expo on April 4. The fee will be \$25 for the surgery. The Spay Neuter Express is a mobile veterinary surgical hospital that focuses on sterilization of pets for low income families, rescue groups, and barn and cat colonies. Call 616-897-8865 for information.

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES

Sign up at the Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington St., Fri., April 10, 6-8 p.m. or Sat., April 11, 10 a.m. - noon. Regular box is \$30 and will feed a family of four approximately one week. Everyone welcome. Any questions call Esther at 897-7395.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Lowell Moose 809 will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on Sat., April 11 at Creekside Park. 1-3 yr. - 11 a.m., 4-5 yr. - 11:45 a.m., 7-9 yr. - 12:30 p.m.

ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB

Due to spring break, the Lowell Area Schools athletic boosters will hold their regular business meeting in the high school staff lounge on Mon., April 13 at 7 p.m. Please come and help support our athelets.

COUNTDOWN TO KINDERGARTEN

Parents of children who will be five years old on or before Dec. 1, 2009 are invited to Countdown to Kindergarten. A parental informational meeting will be held April 16 at Alto Elementary, 987-2600; April 21 at Murray Lake Elementary, 987-2750; and April 22 at Bushnell Elementary, 987-2650. Please call the school district you reside in to have an enrollment packet mailed to you prior to the parental meeting, or for any questions.

HERBS AND FLOWERS

The Lowell Area Historical Museum and the Friends of the Library will present a delightful program on "Herbs and Flowers of Colonial America" with Connie Hanson. Please join us at the Lowell Township Hall on Tuesday, April 21 at 7 p.m. If you have questions please contact us at 897-7688.

F.R.O.M. FOOD PANTRY NEEDS The Food Pantry is presently in need of canned fruit, juice, boxed potatoes, hamburger and chicken helper and paper products. Please help if you are able.

NOTICE THE LOWELL **TOWNSHIP OFFICES** WILL BE CLOSED FROM **APRIL 1, 2009 UNTIL APRIL 13, 2009** FOR REMODELING.

Lowell students compete and place at BPA State; Halbeisen qualifies for national competition

Leadership Conference held at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids on March 20-22, five Lowell students placed at the state level in individual and team events. Over 2000 students arrived in Grand Rapids to compete in the many

At the 2009 State business skill competitions, attend a formal banquet, and the closing awards ceremony. The Lowell students who placed at the state competition were:

> Nicole Halbeisen second place in Graphic **Design Promotion**

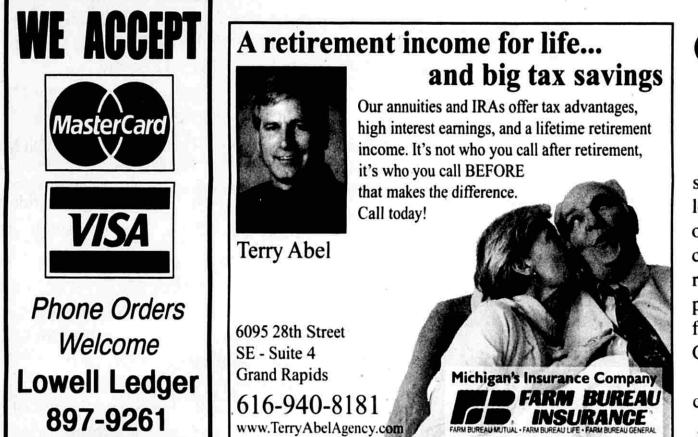
Blough seventh place Fundamental Spreadsheet Applications

Josh Wallner and Jerry Adams - eighth place in Financial Analyst Team Garrett Beaman

eleventh place in Graphic



The state competitors, from left to right: Jerry Adams, Josh Wallner, Garrett Beaman, and Paula Blough.



REMINDER NOTICE REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR THE SCHOOL ELECTION **TO BE HELD ON MAY 5, 2009**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT ANY QUALIFIED ELECTOR OF BOWNE TOWNSHIP, LOWELL TOWNSHIP, VERGENNES TOWNSHIP, AND THE CITY OF LOWELL, WHO IS NOT ALREADY REGISTERED, MAY REGISTER TO VOTE AT THE CITY OR TOWNSHIP OFFICES, AT ANY SECRETARY OF STATE BRANCH OFFICE, OR OTHER DESIGNATED PLACES FOR THE SCHOOL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2009.

THE LAST DAY FOR RECEIVING REGISTRATIONS WILL BE MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2009.

QUALIFICATIONS TO REGISTER TO VOTE: CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES AT LEAST 18 YEARS OF AGE ON OR BEFORE MAY 5, 2009

Sandra Kowalczyk **Bowne Township Clerk** (616) 868-6846 9am to 12pm

Betty Morlock Lowell City Clerk (616) 897-8457 8am to 5pm

Linda S. Regan Lowell Township Clerk (616) 897-7600 9am to 1pm

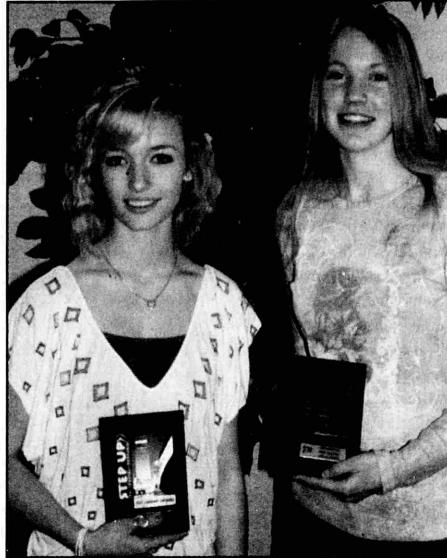
Mari Stone Vergennes Township (616) 897-5671 9am to 3pm Design Promotion. placing second in Bv

her competition, Nicole Halbeisen qualified for the national competition to be held in Dallas, Texas on May 6-10. Halbeisen's design and presentation beat out close to 50 other competitors from high schools throughout the state of Michigan, including the Upper Peninsula. Over 5,000 students from around the country will be arriving n Dallas to compete in over 60 different competitive events related to business and technology.

Business Professionals of America is a national career and technical student organization consisting of 23 state associations and more than 54,000 members. The organization serves students who are currently, or were previously enrolled, in a business education program at a secondary or postsecondary institution. Chapters are located in high career/technical schools, centers,

iunior and colleges, and colleges and universities

The mission of Business Professionals of America



postsecondary Conference.

Computer repair, continued ... From Page 1

stay on Main Street for a to fix it." long time. Lezan used to own the 4 Seasons Siding construction business. He board inside the shop received certification as a professional IT technician Rapids Grand from Community College. "I've always liked

And Lezan hopes to challenge figuring out how breaks the computers down

Sometimes it's so challenging that the dart comes in handy. Even the and chips. customers are encouraged to use it, while maybe waiting for their computer.

Getting a Social Security card if you're an immigrant or new U.S. citizen

Whether you are a new *Getting a Social Security* U.S. citizen or a noncitizen with authorization to work in this country, you need to apply for a Social Security card and number in order to work in the United States. Getting a Social Security card if you are a naturalized citizen

Even if you already have a Social Security number when you become a naturalized U.S. citizen, you should still contact Social Security to update your status.

To change the status, you will need to prove citizenship with documentation from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (formerly Immigration and Naturalization Service) along with documentation proving your age and identity such as a current driver's license or state id.

card if you are a noncitizen All noncitizens needing a

Social Security number must prove their immigration status, and also show proof of age, identity and work authorization from Department of Homeland Security. To prove your age, vou must show your birth certificate if you have it or can easily get it. If not, we can ask for other documents. such as your passport.

As proof of immigration status and identity, Social Security will ask your unexpired passport and current immigration documents from Department of Homeland Security, including Permanent Residence Card or Form I-551; Arrival-Departure Record or Form I-94 with an unexpired passport; or a work permit

community

to contribute to the preparation of a worldclass workforce through the advancement of leadership. citizenship, academic, and technological skills.

Nicole Halbeisen, left, and Paula Blough. Both were awarded plaques for high placement at the State

plastics recycling company, a steel company and a recycler for mother boards He will also have printer

into parts and works with a

inks, as well as custom length Ethernet cables. For Lezan offers free more information go to computers," he said. "It's a computer recycling. He www.ComputerRehab.ws.

> card - Form I-766 or I-688b In both cases, you also must complete an application for a

> > Social Security card, which

you can find online at www.

socialsecurity.gov/online/

ss-5.pdf. You can bring your

completed application into

your local Social Security

office along with official

All documents must be

cannot be expired, and they

must be either originals

or copies certified by the

issuing agency. We cannot

meaning they

photocopies or

documents.

current,

accept

the

for the

notarized copies. Vonda VanTil is the public specialist for West affairs Michigan. You can write her c/o Social Security Administration, 50 College SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 or via email at vonda. antil@ssa.gov.

Viewpoint

To The Editor

To The Editor,

In a recent City Council meeting, budget constraints were part of a discussion on how many street sweeps Lowell could afford to keep its streets clean. That statement is almost laughable as it is sad, considering our city streets are twice the age of replacement and continue to deteriorate beyond repair. The city's answer to its street problem is to transfer \$96,000 from the general fund to the street fund

The problem is that our roads continue to disintegrate at a rapid pace and the cost of repairing continues to accelerate.

It's like taking one step forward and two steps back. The community needs to distinguish between its wants and its

The community's number one agenda should be replacing its city roads. Projected projects like the renovation of the now defunct Amphitheater and the building of an RV Park in the flood plains, which are on the drawing board of the DDA - Downtown Development Authority -should not come to

light before the community solves its road problem. Maybe if the community stopped spending on fruitless projects, it once again could afford its own street sweeper.

Sbaring The Vision With Gregory Pratt LHS Superintendent

PAY IT FORWARD

In mid March the Lowell Education Foundation held an event, Dinner with Friends. This event was designed to support the Lowell Education Foundation and was underwritten by Litehouse. All of the proceeds raised that evening will go toward grants for Lowell teachers and students. Dinner with Friends was hosted at seven special Lowell homes and an exciting theme-based gourmet dinner was provided to guests at each location. It was an evening filled with delicious food, rich conversation, and laughter, all for a worthy cause.

On the drive home, my wife, Liz, and I reminisced about the evening like many couples do after attending an event or party. In our conversation, we both sensed that this was different. It was different because we are experiencing a "different" recession than ever before. Given that, it was moving and even more meaningful to know that so many members of our community continue to pay it forward to support our children, even in times such as this.

The Lowell Education Foundation is comprised of selfless

APRIL 2, 1884 Kirk and Stark are in their new store. volunteers who generously work on behalf of kids. They Jud Crouch and An Holcomb were held for trial. invest in our children by providing academic grants that The high water has been rapidly receding and yesterday ultimately preserve programs and enhanced opportunities the way was open across the upper bridge. for creative and innovative learning with lasting educational The Keene post office has been discontinued and the mail impact. They roll up their sleeves as an independent notdirected to that office will here after be distributed at the for-profit organization whose purpose is to help Lowell Lowell post office. Area Schools' teachers and students excel in programs that are not funded by public tax. Their work is significant, **100 YEARS AGO** because they raise funds to initiate innovative learning and THE LOWELL LEDGER enhanced programs during times when the state has been **APRIL 1, 1909** forced to make difficult budget decisions.

In addition, there are those who say "yes" to supporting the foundation's work in these times of economic turmoil. It's a remarkable experience to connect with community members who believe that you cannot harvest anything if you never plant any seeds. Regardless of what it takes, our community continues to cultivate the next generation.

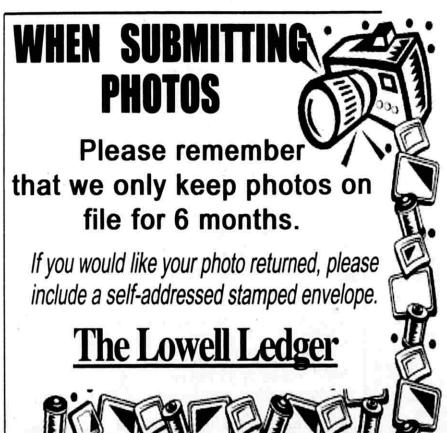
The Dinner with Friends event was a wonderful, successful evening. More important is to remind ourselves that, too often, we take for granted things that have enhanced our well-being and growth. The Lowell community values the notion of benefiting from one another's excellence; this is our way of life.

One thing I learned early in life was to pay it forward. It is a real privilege to continue to learn this lesson, see it in action, and know that by doing so you can change the world. Thank you, members of the Lowell Education Foundation, and to those who champion their work.

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, at times there may be 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.



Sincerely Jim Howard



125 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL JOURNAL

All kinds of garden seeds at McCarty Bros. Free sawdust. The Smith-Cornell Co. by the Grand Trunk depot.

Miss Hazel Hoag is learning the millinery trade with Mrs. R. D. Stocking

The L. H. S. Juniors were treated to a hayrack ride by Harry Andrews to his father's sugar camp in South Boston, Friday afternoon.

75 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AND ALTO SOLO **APRIL 5, 1934**

The screen play, "David Harum," starring Will Rogers, and coming to the Strand Theatre this Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, follows closely the typically American theme of the novel. It concerns itself with the life of a shrewd and ruthless horse trader.

Will Rogers' supporting cast includes, among many others, Louis Dresser, Erdyn Venable, Kent Taylor and Stepin Fechit.

50 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER **APRIL 2, 1959**

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Carl Shores, a girl, Nancy Jeanne, on March 24 at Blodgett hospital. The new arrival weighed 6 pounds and 12 ounces.

Sixteen eager young tennis hopefuls will carry the burden for Coach Art Berri's Lowell High School "racket squad" during the current campaign. Several boys gained a great deal of experience last season and are expected to fill the shoes of Bob White and Jack Hartley, a top-flight tandem, who were lost by graduation.

25 YEARS AGO THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER **APRIL 4, 1984**

Donald Kelly died suddenly from an apparent heart attack last Thursday at age 54. Kelly was a teacher, coach and administrator in the Lowell school district for nearly 30 years, prior to his retirement in February 1983. Kelly began his teaching career here in 1954 as an industrial arts teacher and assistant football coach. When Chris Burch retired in 1958, Kelly replaced him as athletic director.

Engagements

Ligman/Knapp

Jeff and Tracey Ligman. of Lowell, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Melanie Elizabeth to Montgomery Maxwell Knapp. Montgomery is the son of Karen Knapp, of Grand Rapids. The couple are 2002 graduates of Lowell High School. The bride is also a graduate of Grand **Rapids Community College** and is attending Ferris State University. The groom is attending Grand Valley State University. A June 26, 2009 wedding is being planned.

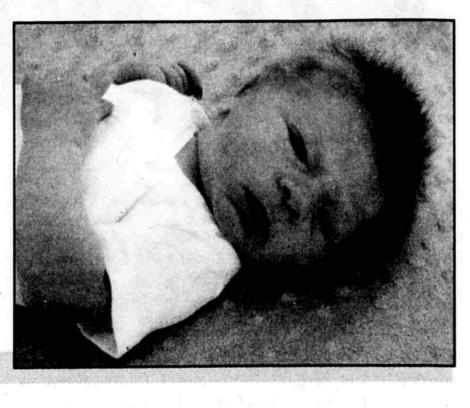




Montgomery Knapp and Melanie Ligman



Casey and Tammy Brown are proud to announce the arrival of their son, Eston David, born February 16, 2009. He weighed 6 lbs, 5 oz. and measured 20 inches. He was welcomed home by grandparents Roger and Terese Brown, of Port St. Lucie, Florida, and Sandy and the late David Stauffer. of Lowell.



Eston David Brown

Roudabush



Jenna Marie Roudabush



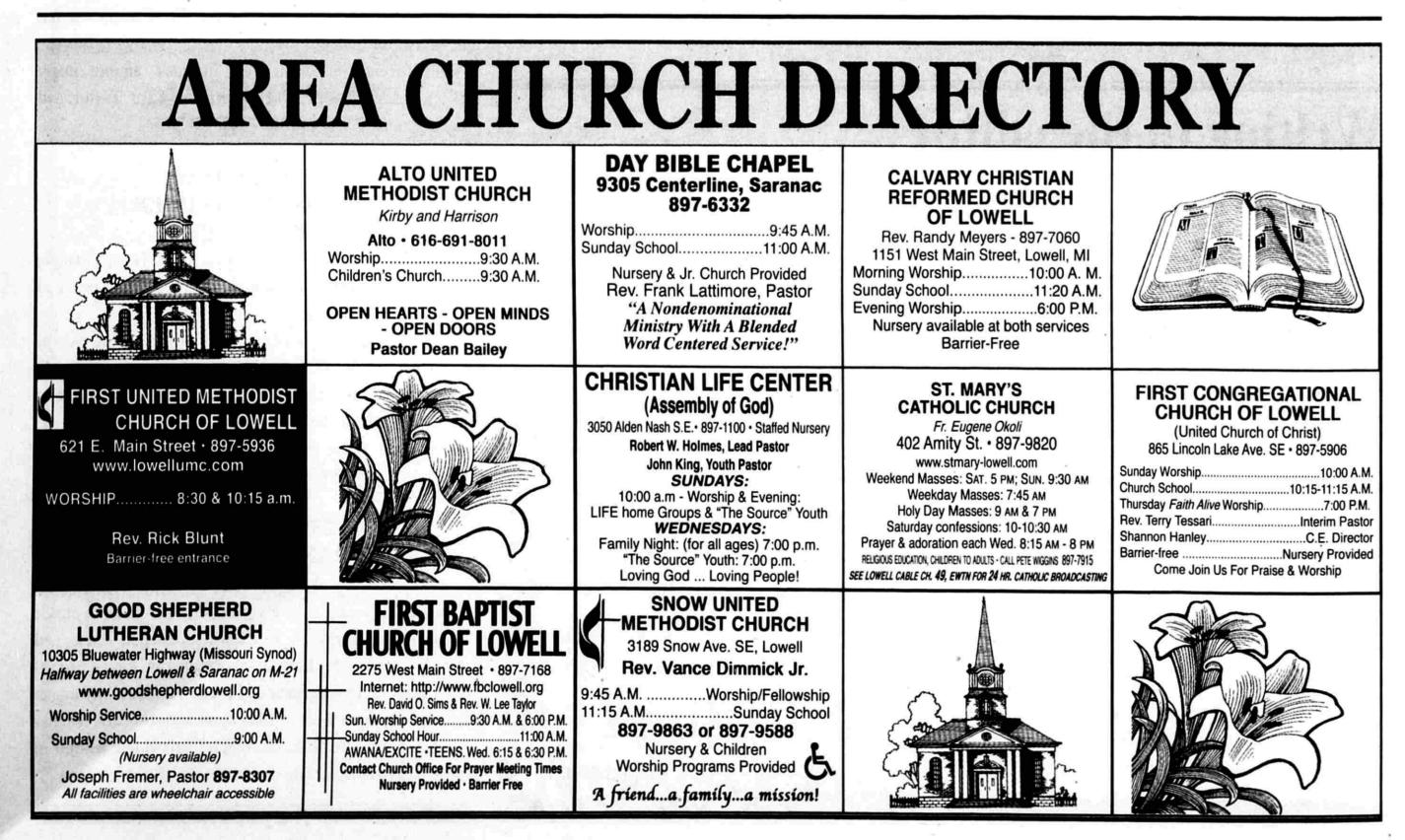
by Roger LaWarre

In the seventh chapter of Matthew we run across this statement: "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven (the realm of God), but only the Kings, and presidents and statesmen from all over the world. one who does the will of my Father in heaven." (vs21) We They were there in their crowns and jewels and silks. Mother read that passage and just keep on moving to the next verse, with little or no thought about how our life fits into that one little sentence. After all, it is the "other" person who has to the poor in Calcutta. He asked her if she didn't become disworry about being in the realm of God; we have our life in couraged because she saw so few successes in her ministry.

ity. We are not the bad guy. Matthew is speaking to others You see, God has not called me to a ministry of success. and just alerting us to some of the pitfalls "those" people are God has called me to a ministry of mercy." going to face. We may even read this passage as a warning to are the ones leading a successful life, accomplishing good minute! There is more to this passage. It is not about drawing a line between those "in" and those "out." It is about the to consider.

The late Mother Teresa had attended a gathering with Teresa wore her sari held together by a safety pin. One of order and do most of the right things in our day to day activ- Mother Teresa answered "No, I do not become discouraged.

Did you see why verse 21 should be a scripture verse that those of us who are in the inside group of God's people. We stops us in our tracks? You and I live our Christianity from a position of "privilege." We are into measuring the vitality of things and giving of our resources on a regular basis. Wait a churches by the success of getting members. We determine the strength of a person's commitment to God by their attendance record. We measure ourselves by "our goodness" motivation of our living. Let me share an illustrative story compared to someone else's "goodness." We are concerned about "success" and there is something about success that continues to encourage us. Isn't it something that Jesus, as we hear him through the words of Matthew's Gospel, isn't looking for success but wants to get to know us through our acts of mercy. It is the will of our God that our life reflect the Noblemen spoke to her of her work with the poorest of the mercy and love of God as we know it in Jesus. Think about this a little. It seems really important to me as I journev closer to Easter.



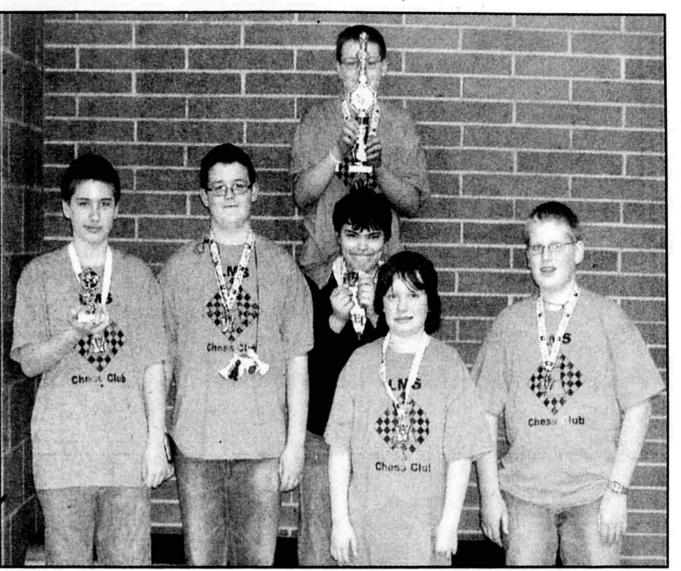
Sarah Roudabush is proud to announce the arrival of her baby sister, Jenna Marie. Jenna was born in Long Beach, CA on March 19, 2009. She weighed 8 lbs. 10 oz. and measured 22 inches. Her parents are Tom and Melissa (Peterson) Roudabush of Los Alaminos, CA. Proud grandparents are Sam and Bonnie Roudabush and Mike and Kay Oligney, and the late Robert Peterson, of Lowell. Greatgrandparents are Virgil and Carmen Roudabush, of Lowell, Robert and Ruth Peterson, of Lansing, the late Mary Peterson, Arlene Eskes and the late Steward Eskes, of Holt, and the late Bob and Marian Lee. of Lowell.

Chess players score at regional tourney

The Lowell Middle School Chess Team and a Lake scored two first place finishes and two runnerup finishes at the annual Thornapple -Kellogg Chess Tournament.

The tournament hosted scored by Phil Janowski over 100 players from (7th/8th grade) and Billy Lowell player from Murray kindergarten through eighth Dixon (5th grade); runnergrade representing eighteen up finishes were scored by schools. This is Lowell's Matt Lazar (7th/8th grade) of Rollaway Family Fun third trip to this tournament. and Steven Enders (6th First-place finishes were grade).

The Lowell Middle School Chess Club was started three years ago under the guidance of Bob Van Noller Center.



Team, left to right: Matt Lazar (runner-up), Jacob Petersen, Phil Janowski (top - first place), James Kendall, Joseph Ryder, and Kaelobb Decker.

In The Service

Army Reserve Pvt. Letrice rifle marksmanship, armed D. Reynolds has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

During the nine weeks of aid, foot marches, and field training, the soldier studied the Army mission, history, tradition and core values, physical fitness, and received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training, drill School. and ceremony marching,

and unarmed combat. map reading, field tactics, military courtesy, military justice system, basic first training exercises.

Reynolds is the daughter of Metternick, Alec Newhouse, Shannon Wells, of DeSoto, Texas, and Larry Reynolds, of Grand Rapids.

The private is a 2006 graduate of DeSoto High

APRIL 1:

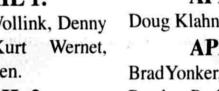
Christopher Vollink, Denny McClure, Kurt Wernet, Blanche Mullen.

APRIL 2: Kyle Geldersma, Ron Chris Rittersdorf, Blake Bergy, Nicole Wilcox, Alex Hazard.

APRIL 3: Hayleigh Borton, Jamie

Barnes, Darwin Lambert. APRIL 4:

Troy Pethers, Nick Corbeil.



APRIL 6: Brad Yonker, Connie Vaughn. Pearl Peckham, Malley Cahoon, Carol Hovinga, Fran Clouser, Cheryl Foster, Taylor Milstead.

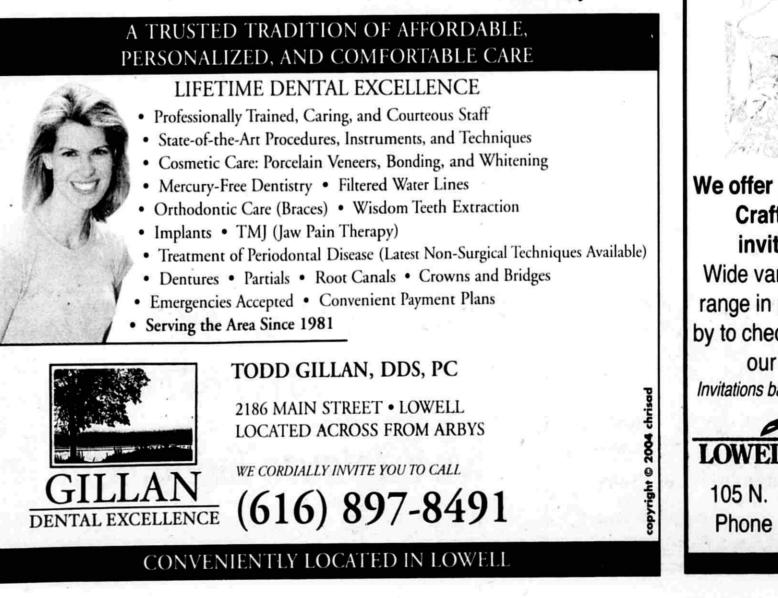
APRIL 7: Corey Vollink, Rick Sauber, Lindsey Thaler, Mary Kimble, Kenneth Dalga, John Henderson, Brad

Shoen,

WEDDING INVITATIONS A ... We offer the Carlson Craft line of invitations. Wide variety & wide range in prices. Stop by to check out one of our books Invitations back in 7-10 days. 50

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"That would be a good thing for them to cut on my tombstone: Wherever she went, including here, it was against her better judgment." - Dorothy Parker







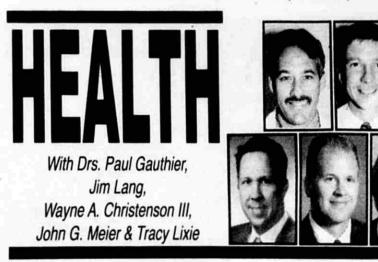




Sixth grader: Steven Enders (runner-up).



APRIL 5:



INSOMNIA

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Insomnia is a condition experienced by almost everyone at one time or another. Chronic insomnia is diagnosed when your sleeping problem lasts for more than four weeks. Some people with insomnia have difficulty getting to sleep while others wake up in the middle of the night and can't get back to sleep. Depression, stress and anxiety are other causes of chronic insomnia. Certain medications and excessive alcohol intake may also lead to sleeping difficulties.

Usually we need less sleep as we age. Some people do fine with four to six hours of sleep while others require seven or eight hours. The following suggestions may help you sleep better:

- Use the bedroom only for sleep or sex.
- Try to go to bed and get up at the same time every day.
- · Avoid naps during the day.
- Avoid caffeine, nicotine, and alcohol late in the evening. • Keep the bedroom temperature comfortable and the room
- · Avoid exercise less than two to three hours prior to bedtime. But, try to exercise for 30-50 minutes earlier in the day.
- · Don't use the bed for watching TV or reading.

• If you can't go to sleep within 20-30 minutes, go to a different room and only return to bed when you are tired.

Some people find it helpful to tighten and relax certain muscle groups from the feet then working your way up to the face muscles.

If these suggestions don't help you get a better sleep you can try the various over-the-counter sleep aids. Some people have been able to sleep better if they take melatonin about one hour before bedtime. This is a natural hormone produced deep in the brain that helps regulate our sleep/wake cycles.

Your doctor may prescribe prescription sleeping medication which is usually very effective and safe. However, we don't usually recommend chronic use of sleeping medications.



"When we walked into Fountain View of Lowell we just felt that this was the best place for my mom. Everyone is very special.

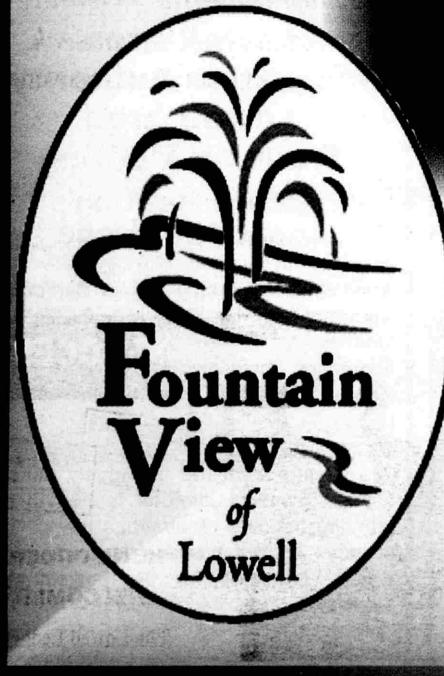
At Fountain View they not only take care of your loved one they also give families so much support.

We feel like Fountain View of Lowell and everyone are part of one big family.

Thank God we have Fountain View of Lowell."

- Kay Barnes

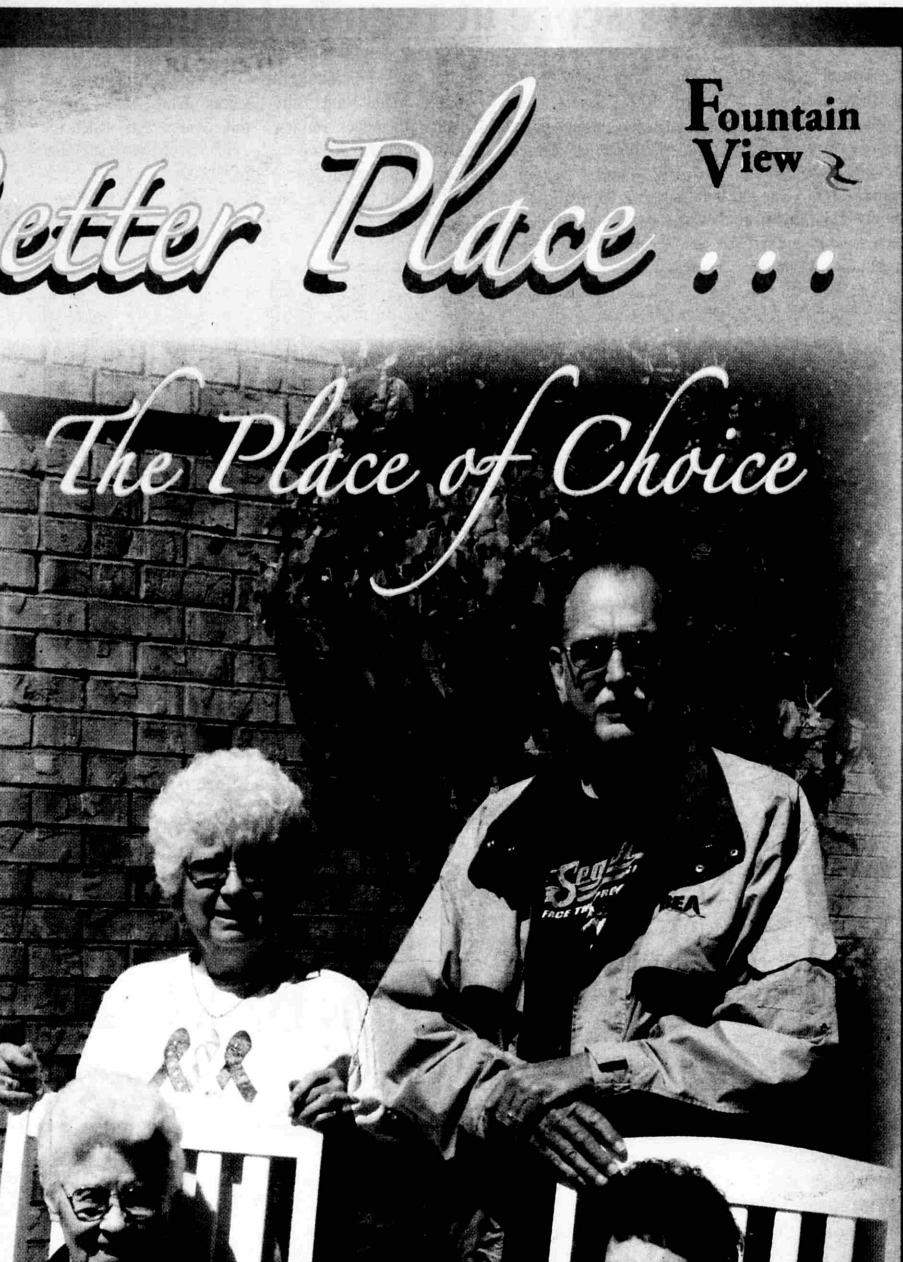
Resident A. McQueen and friend with daughter and son-in-law.



Fountain View Mission Statement

It is the purpose of Fountain View to honor God by providing high quality senior lifestyle services that promote the value and dignity of every person.

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by Emma Palova

used the 'Camelot' story to well as her fish. Dykstra depict her koi fish named expresses some of her pain Merlin, after the famous in her 'Reaching Tree' and magician in the Arthurian 'Maman's Orchid.' legend. The orange and blue dotted Merlin is surrounded autobiographical," by concentric circles.

In her first solo art show story." 'Points of Light,' now on exhibit at the Riverwalk document the fanciful Gallery, Dykstra showcases play of molecules in the her layered pointillism ink negative space created by. drawings from flowers, trees, solid structures or natural to the Silver Angel Fish done elements. with iridescent inks.

in total concentration," she landscapes in the petals of said. "It's a very Zen thing." the flower. Painting brings

her positive and negative experiences in her artwork got to experience," she said. while creating visual "It makes me feel like a representations of the visible three-dimensional person." and the invisible.

make it beautiful from a except for one class at different perspective," she Aquinas College. Local last summer, and encouraged said.

a form of therapy after Artist Marylu Dykstra having lost four babies, as

Featured Artist

Marylu Dykstra

very she said. "I always like to tell a

The intricate paintings

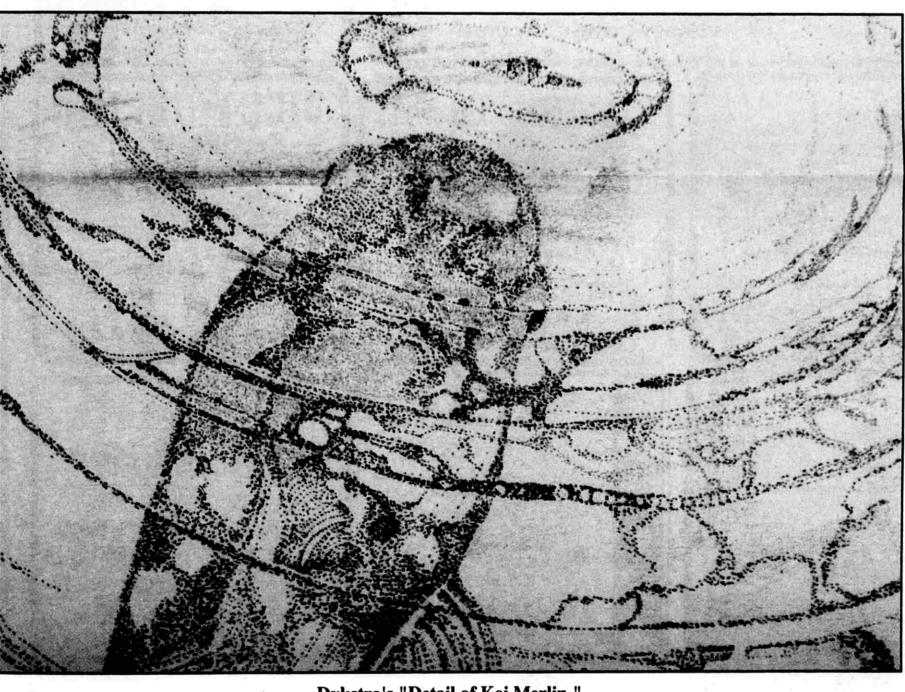
In her 'Thumbelina' "I dipped and dotted drawing, she creates tiny Dykstra draws on balance into Dykstra's life.

"It's a side of me I never

Dykstra, for the most "I take the negative and part, is a self-taught artist artist Kathleen Mooney her to exhibit at the Fire and She considers art as discovered Dykstra's talent Water Art Gallery.



Artist Marylu Dykstra tells stories in her pictures using mainly layered pointillism.



Dykstra's "Detail of Koi Merlin."

Local student named essay contest winner

Mattie Newman, an eighth Lowell Middle School, has state level competition, been named a local winner from which the top ten in the 40th annual America essays in Michigan will & Me Essay Contest, be selected. The top ten sponsored by Farm Bureau statewide winners, who Insurance.

an award certificate for the a \$500 U.S. savings bond achievement and her name and a \$500 cash award. In will be engraved on a plaque addition, the top ten essayists for permanent display in the will be honored at a banquet school.

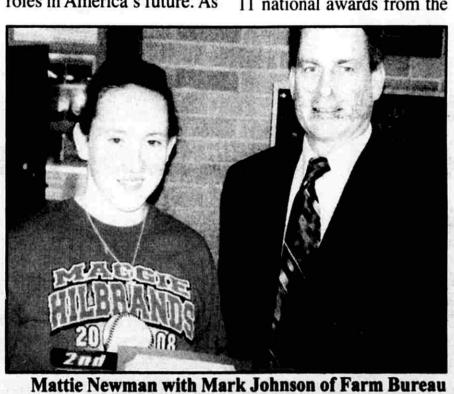
participation in the America leaders, and be the featured & Me Essay Contest was guests at a Lansing Lugnuts sponsored by Farm Bureau minor league baseball game Insurance agent Mark dedicated in their honor. Johnson, of Grand Rapids.

Newman's first place grade student at essay now advances to the will be announced in April, Newman will receive will each receive a plaque, in Lansing, meet with Lowell Middle School's Michigan's top governmental

A team of finalist judges encourages sponsoring teachers of last year's top two statewide winners will determine the ranking of the top ten statewide winners this year. Several thousand eighth

grade students from nearly 500 Michigan schools participated in the America & Me Essay Contest. The topic of the 2008-09 contest was "My Personal Michigan Hero.

Started in 1968 and open to all Michigan eighth grade students, the contest



Insurance.

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"I never considered be a part of the collection at her 'Starry Sail;' created a "It's a humbling feeling to a good company."

> Dykstra's life. She used to into something brand new. have a pond with koi fish Guinevere and Arthur. and to learn something new," make it during a transfer.

"I love water and fish in the water," she said. "I want to do a jelly fish."

And she likes the task ncorporating mistakes into drawings.

"I like to show how you can use them successfully," she said. "I like to draw make believe constellations."

That is what she did in

myself an artist," she said. Fire and Water; to be in such background of imaginary constellations. Sometimes Water has always her paintings start as blobs been an important part of of ink or a mistake turned

> "I view every piece as named Merlin, Lancelot, an opportunity to practice Unfortunately they didn't she said. "I try to find a better image within the image. You can always find a blessing in something that may not appear to be positive."

She hopes people will making dots, while like her work and see the stories in each picture. In 'Dorothy's Poppies,'Dykstra wants people to be able to see the scent of a poppy.

> An artist's reception will be held on May 16.

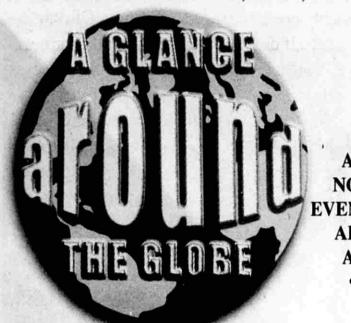
The most beautiful adventures are not those we go to seek. - Robert Louis Stevenson

that includes a top Michigan youngsters to explore their Bureau Insurance has earned Valley Forge. Government official and the roles in America's future. As 11 national awards from the

Michigan sponsor of the contest, Farm Freedoms Foundation at

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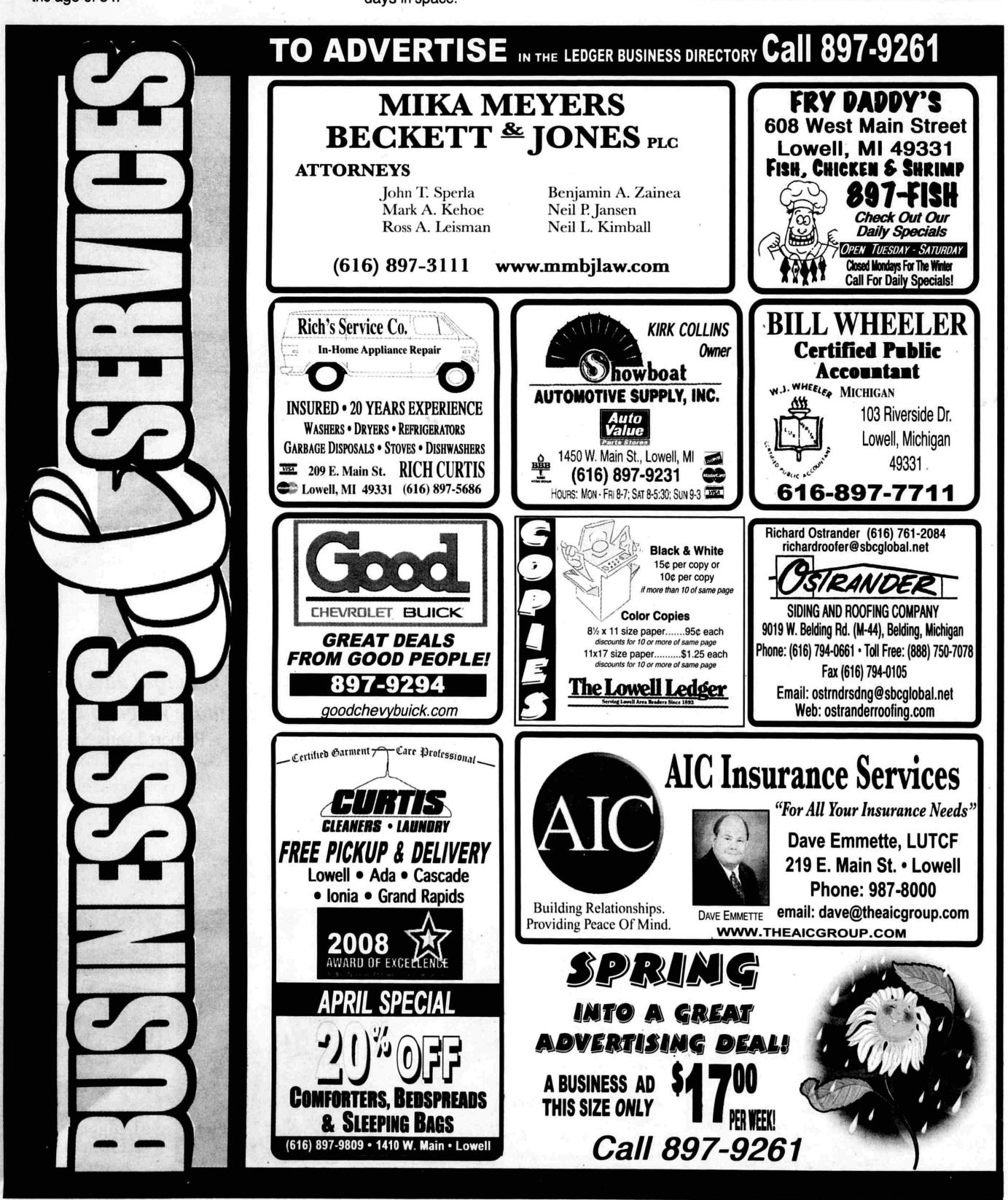
A FEW NOTABLE **ENTS FROM** APRIL 2 -**APRIL 8** · 2009

- · The White House gives Chrysler 30 days to complete Fiat partnership.
- Government forces GM CEO Rick Wagner to resign.
- · The Obama's have chosen to decorate the White House using their own funds.
- Dr. Zhivago composer, Maurice Jarre, dies at the age of 84.

- The late Aaron Spelling's 150 million dollar mansion is for sale.
- Tiger Woods birdies the 18th hole of Bay Hill for a dramatic win.
- Michigan State beats first-seed Louisville to make it to the final four in Detroit. This will be the fifth time Tom Izzo's team has made the trip.
- The Red River flood waters begin to ease in North Dakota but there are blizzard warnings ahead for Fargo.
- · The long-running television series ER will air its finale this Thursday.
- A 45-year-old gunman kills eight during a shooting rampage in a North Carolina nursing home.
- NASA's Discovery returns to earth after 13 days in space.

FFA wants bird strike records to be kept confidential.

- prison.
- 8:30 to 9:30 p.m.



Global War on Terror now referred to as "Overseas Contingency Operation."

The 1,776 foot skyscraper, Freedom Tower, that replaces the "Twin Towers" destroyed on 911, is renamed to "One World Trade Center."

Three boys in southwest Michigan's Baroda Township have unearthed a mammoth bone.

 A U. S. soldier is convicted of murdering four Iraqi people and sentenced to 35 years in

Earth Hour was deemed a big success by environmentalists. The event began in Australia in 2007. Nearly 4,000 cities and towns in 88 countries dimmed nonessential lights from



Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold Edward Jones Serving Individuals Investors Since 1871

HOW TO INVEST DURING A RECESSION

We are now finishing the 16th month of the recession, which began in December 2007, according to the National Bureau of Economic Research. Not only is this a long recession, but it's also a severe one, marked by painfully it's not a good idea to tie up more than five percent of your high levels of job losses, a sharply reduced credit flow and a drop in the value of many investments. Still, despite dollars among a wide range of stocks, bonds, certificates of all the bad news, there are valid reasons to believe that deposit and other securities. For a rough idea on how well financial future.

Here are some actions to consider:

Don't cut back on your 401(k). During difficult economic times, it's hard for many people to assume diversification by itself cannot guarantee a profit or protect their jobs are safe. But if you are fairly confident your employment situation is secure, continue investing in your and reduce the effects of volatility on your portfolio. 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. The tax advantages of these types of plans - not to mention the employer's match, if one is offered - make them ideal savings vehicles for retirement. Of course, your plan Yet quality investments often need much longer periods probably has taken a hit over the past year, but that's the to show significant growth. So while it can be painful case for many investments. If you've chosen a good mix to endure short-term losses, you need to develop the of investments, your plan should recover at some point.

Diversify, diversify, diversify. Generally speaking, Don't reach for high yields. When the stock market is down, many investors turn to bonds that offer portfolio in a single investment. Spread your investment high yields, reasoning that bonds are always safer than stocks. Don't be fooled into this line of thinking; highyield bonds mean high-risk bonds. If the issuer defaults, brighter days lie ahead. But you don't have to wait for you've diversified, ask yourself: "If the value of a few of you could lose your principal. Stick with investment-grade things to turn around before taking steps to help your own my stocks and bonds declined and didn't recover, would it bonds. be extremely painful for me financially?" If the answer is

Students take on recycling challenge



Bushnell children entered by 1's, 2's, 5's, 10's, 100' the Kent County 2009 Earth Day Recycle Challenge. Children grew in their understanding of their part in taking care of our world children and their families by collecting plastic grocery

During the past several weeks, families teachers provided and ongoing experiences and conversations regarding the importance of recycling. Before delivery for recycling, the bags were used to provide young children numerous math experiences as they practiced counting

ADA LOWELL 5

HORTEN HEARS & MHD 11

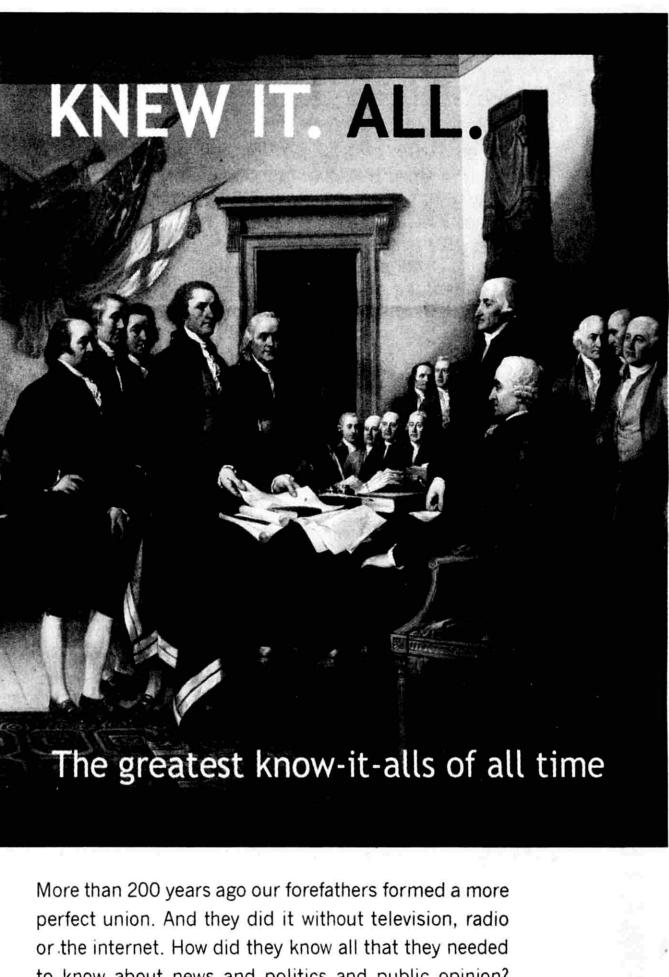
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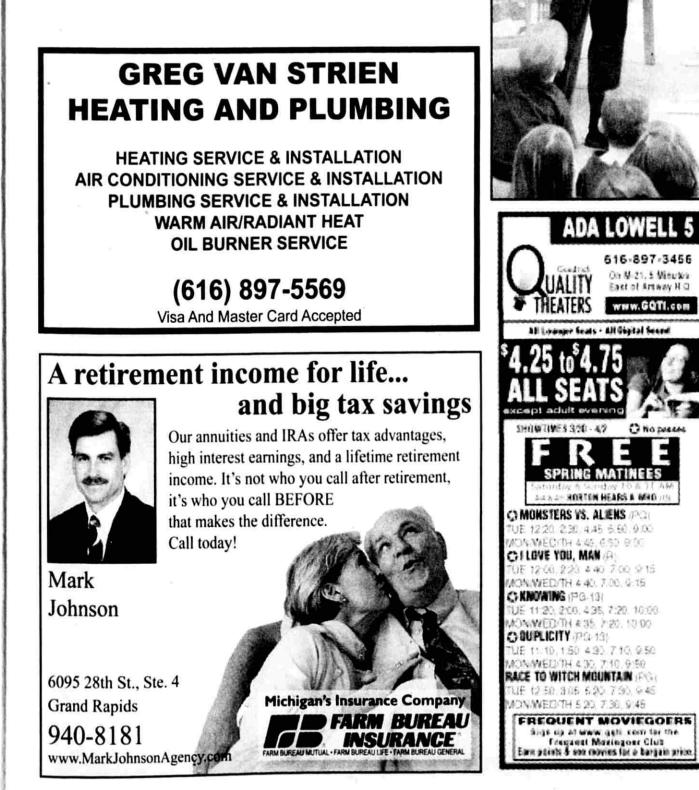
and 1000's.

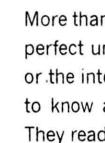
Bushnell soared past their numerical goal, but more importantly learned how make a difference.



Nutrition is important at Bushnell

To celebrate "March is Nutrition Month," Kay Hahn, Director of Dining Services for Chartwells, visited many Bushnell first graders. By reading a story with healthy eating and lifestyle messages, children learned about differences in foods in various parts of the world. Children presented Hahn a 5-2-1 necklace from their gym class experience. They have learned to have five fruits or vegetables, not "two" much television, and one hour of exercise daily.





In fact, it was so important to them, that they guaranteed a free press in the Constitution.

This election season, make it your civic duty to become an informed voter in national, state and local elections. Become a know-it-all about your government and watch great things happen.

Read a newspaper everyday. Know It. All.



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"yes," you probably need more diversification. Of course, against loss, but it can give you more chances for success

Think long term. Your investments may have lost 30 percent to 40 percent of their value from October 2007 to the present - which may seem like a long time. discipline to hold your investments for many years.

Look for opportunities. Instead of avoiding the financial markets, look for good investment opportunities. Because investment prices have fallen so much, your dollars can now buy more shares. Historically, buying shares at lower prices has often led to higher returns over the long term. If you're receiving dividends, now is an especially good time to reinvest them.

You probably can't avoid all the negative effects of the recession. But by following the above suggestions, you can help avoid getting thrown off track on your journey toward your financial goals.

to know about news and politics and public opinion? They read the newspaper.

The Lowell Ledger

KNOW IT. ALL.

-

-



4/19 time TBA FHC Inv. Regatta at Riverside Park 4/25 time TBA Lowell Inv. at Murray Lake 5/2 time TBA WyHi Regatta at Wyndotte 5/9 time TBA EGR Mini-Regatta at Reeds Lake 5/16 time TBA SRA State Rowing Champ. at Milford

GIRLS VARSITY TENNIS

* Indicates a home game at LHS Tennis Courts Games begin at 4 p.m. unless indicated. 4/1 at 4 p.m. at Grandville/Mona Shores 4/15 at Northview 4/16 at 3 p.m. E. Kentwood Quad 4/18 at 8:30 a.m. Lowell Invitational* 4/20 Greenville* 4/22 Creston* 4/24 at 12:30 p.m. Caledonia Invitational 4/29 at G.R. Christian 4/30 Forest Hills Eastern* 5/2 at 9 a.m. Northview Invitational 5/4 East Grand Rapids* 5/6 at Jenison 5/9 at 9 a.m. Conference* 5/12 at NorthPointe Christian 5/13 Lakewood'

4/16 at 7:45 p.m. Grand Haven at Lakeshore MS 4/18 at 5 p.m. G.R. Christian (at Red Arrow Stadium) 4/18 at 7:30 p.m. Davenport v. Ferris State (at Red Arrow Stadium) 4/21 Holland Christian* 4/23 at 5:30 at Catholic Central 4/25 at 1 p.m. Portage Northern* 4/28 Caledonia* 4/30 Zeeland* 5/5 time TBA at Northview 5/8 Catholic Central (at Red Arrow Stadium) 5/12 Grand Haven¹ 5/14 time & place TBA Start of Regionals 5/14 at 7:30 p.m. at Holland Christian

BOYS & GIRLS VARSITY TRACK

* Indicates a home game at Red Arrow Memorial Stadium Meets begin at 4:15 p.m. unless indicated. 4/16 at Northview 4/18 at 10 a.m. Hastings Relays 4/21 Greenville 4/23 Creston 4/28 at G.R. Christian 4/30 East Grand Rapids* 5/2 at 8:30 a.m. Kathy Talus Memorial Invitational 5/5 Forest Hills Central* 5/7 & 5/8 time TBA Conference at GR Christian 5/15 (or 5/16) time TBA Regionals at Caledonia 5/26 time TBA John Bos/Champ meet

LHS students heighten their art savvy at **Detroit Institute of Art**

Last Friday, a group of 32 everyone. I don't know what students from Lowell High other people think about School attended the Detroit the trip but I thought it was Institute of Arts on a field amazing and I hope I can do trip to review the works of it again sometime." famous Spanishartists, Diego Rivera, Salvador Dali and "Upon arriving at the Pablo Picasso. The group, museum we went to the from Sarah Ellis's Spanish Diego Rivera portion and language and culture class, when I entered there I could was studying Spanish and feel and see all of Rivera's Mexican art and artists the hard work and inspiration in previous two weeks. This is the mural that was all over a new class that just started the room. Rivera got his this trimester. Ellis received inspiration from his people a field trip grant from Target and the things they did. to cover the cost of most of The ability to capture such the trip.

students' comments about was absolutely beautiful." what they learned on the Sara Tarchala said, "It field trip:

the field trip was very amazing. I never knew you put into it." could make art out of so many different things! I had a lot of fun - and I felt would love to go on the trip so proud of myself that I again or at least help out or went alone." something. I think every year or trimester they should "Minus the three hour bus go on this trip. It would be ride I enjoyed myself. It was a very good and fun trip for like my eyes couldn't take

Our Prices

The Lowell Ledger

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Can't Be Beat?

Khyleigh Decker said. precise moments in time The following are some and capture so much detail

really seemed to bring the Tory Abel said, "I thought art to life and I realized how much work must have been

Allie Cowden said, "We

Jessie Vincent said.

in all of the wonderful things the patience that the artists inspiring as well."

Nathan Stockbridge said, my first field trip at Lowell Spanish teachers Sarah Ellis, put into their pieces were perceived through the artist's learning." perspective. This being

Spring fishing on the Flat River





Directions: 2 Miles North of Main & Hudson Intersection in Lowell. Hudson Turns into Lincoln Lake Ave. 287 Lincoln Lake Ave Just North of Vergennes. Highlights include: 1949 Ford 8N Tractor (Engine Overhauled) 3 pt attachments; Stock Trailer; Snowmobile Trailer; Firearms including Marlin Mod 60, 22 cal; New England 243; Rem Mod 7; 303 British. (Note: Firearms NOT kept on auction site. Will be available auction morning for inspection) Large Quantity of Fishing Tackle including: Helin Tackle, Producer Lures (100's) and many others. Nick Perdue Duck Decoys. Ice Fishing Rods: Higley, Rodman's & Patriot. Action-Rod Steel Rod in Case, Detroit, Michigan. Tack Store Liquidation including Jeans, Hats, Boots, Clothing, Jewelry & More! Glass, Old Toys, Collectibles, Lots of Primitives, Furniture, Tools, Yard Equipment & Much More!

2 Auction Rings. Quality Box Lots! Terms: 6% Sales Tax. Payment in Full Auction Day within One Hour of the completion of the Auction by Cash or Verified Check. Proper ID required. All Items sold as is, where is. Announcements Auction day take precedence. Registered Auctioneer #2801000036.



Auctioneers See Website for Photos and Complete Listing!

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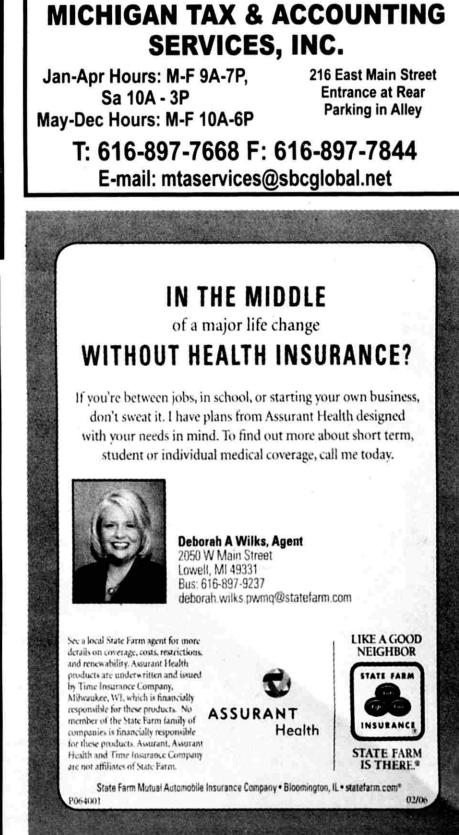
Chaperoning the group,

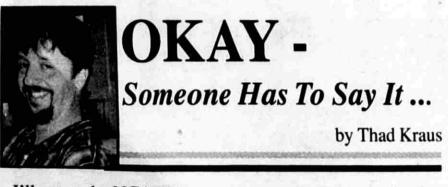
around me. The detail and "Art. It is the physical High School, has given me Chaye Klomparens and symbolism of emotion a broader perspective on Ainat Rodriguez, found the trip to be a success.



Long Chang, of Lansing, is fishing for suckers by the Covered Bridge in the Fallasburg Park. Annually, the park with its mellow Flat River attracts fishermen from all over. The Flat River, a tributary of the Grand River, is known for small mouth bass and pan fish. The Flat River is also a favorite spot for canoeing and kavaking. Two covered bridges cross the picturesque Flat River, one in Fallasburg and the Whites Bridge near Smyrna.

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Payroll Services





I'll get to the NCAA Tournament numbers shortly, but first I'd like to spew about a few odds and ends - not all sports related.

Drop the Lexus Line

-d

Have you heard the recent Lexus radio advertisement? It talks about what a wonderful auto it is (and it is) and then it goes into that everything the driver needs is on the steering wheel. Sounds good, but then they add "making multitasking" easier.

Should making multitasking easier, while driving, be a selling point?

Do we really want drivers fiddling with the radio, adjusting mirrors, and playing with the cruise control all while eating their breakfast on the way to work?

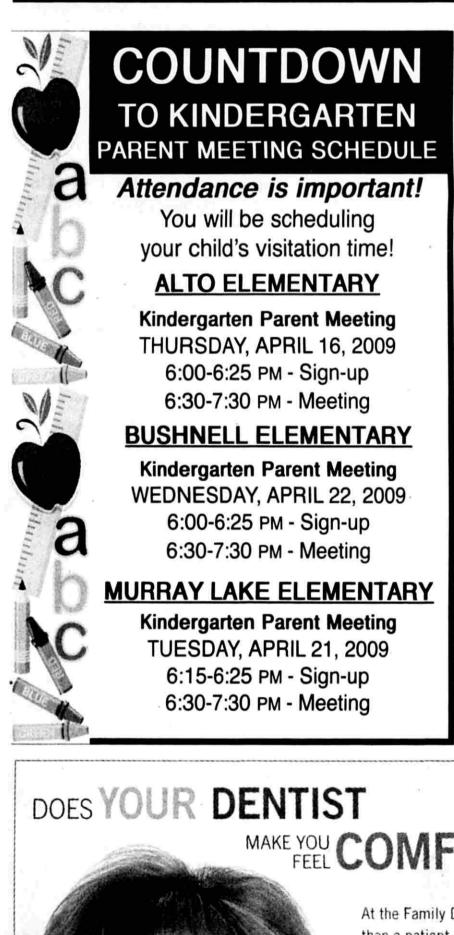
I've left out smoking and reading (newspaper, letters, notes).

There are enough bad drivers without all the distractions. To borrow a line from Keith Olbermann, that would put Lexus in the running for the "Worst Person in the World."

Dead at the Desk for Five Days

I will just reprint this word for word from the New York Times. It's too odd and funny (in a strange way) not to be true.

Bosses of a publishing firm are trying to work out why no one noticed that one of their employees had been sitting dead at his desk for five days before anyone asked if he was feeling okay.



proofreader at the New York firm for 30 years, had a heart attack in the open-plan office he shared with 23 other workers. He quietly passed away on Monday, but nobody noticed

George Turklebaum, 51, who had been employed as a

until Saturday morning when an office cleaner asked why he was working during the weekend.

His boss said: "George was always the first guy in each morning and the last to leave at night, so no one found it unusual that he was in the same position all that time and didn't say anything. He was always absorbed in his work and kept much to himself."

A post mortem examination revealed that he had been dead for five days after suffering a coronary. Turklebaum was proofreading manuscripts of medical textbooks when he died.

You may want to give your coworkers a nudge occasionally. The moral of the story: Don't work too hard. Nobody notices

Assuming this is true, after a body sits for five days, doesn't an odor begin to permeate? I don't know, I'm not a mortician

If I see someone in the same clothes for five days, I think I might begin to ask questions.

In an office of 23 people, don't you think someone would have said good morning or good night to George once or twice during this time?

The part about don't work too hard, I learned that in high school!

No Dunk for Tyler!

I got more enjoyment than I probably should have when North Carolina's Tyler Hansbrough attempted one of those poster child dunks against Oklahoma on Sunday.

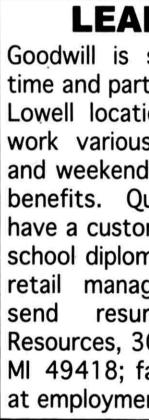
Actually, I think he was trying to show people that anything Blake Griffen can do, I can do better.

One big problem, he does not have the talent or athletic ability of Griffen, which is why he came up short of the rim and lost control of the basketball on his descent.

Furthermore, his college success assures him of nothing at the next level. Okay, it does assure him of something; he will be a nobody, a practice player in the NBA. Possibly not even that.

Network talking heads at ESPN and CBS moan on about







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at North Carolina for four years. NBA wants him!

Results Through the Elite Eight

remain the same. Mary Jo Buechler, 56.

That makes 69 the "Mendoza Line."

know nothing about NASCAR.

what a wonderful thing it is that Hansbrough stuck around

What they don't tell you is he did so because no one in the

The further along we go in the tournament, the more things

My numbers have not gotten better, actually they could get worse. How's that possible? Let me explain.

Here are the point standings through the Elite Eight: Denese Crouch, 92; Andy Buechler, 91; Acker Family, 88; David DeHaan, 87; Craig Wittenbach, 86; Kevin Klutman, 84; Zach Crouch and Jeanne Boss, 80; Josh Buechler, 76; Jon Jacobs, 75; Cristina Buechler, 72; Keith Valentine, 71; Tim Buechler, 70; Josh Buechler and Thad Kraus, 69; and

My position has not changed and all my teams are out.

It also means if Michigan State defeats Connecticut, I will finish at the bottom, dead last (sorry George). Mary Jo has Michigan State winning the whole thing.

I think the next Ledger contest will involve NASCAR. I

I know, by the results it looks as though I know nothing about college basketball either!

ONLINE POLL RESULTS What is your favorite sporting event?

| The Masters | 0% |
|--------------------|-----|
| NCAA March Madness | 33% |
| Superbowl | 33% |
| World Series | 17% |
| Kentucky Derby | 17% |
| Daytona 500 | 00% |

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LEAD CASHIERS

Goodwill is seeking experienced fulltime and part-time lead cashiers for our Lowell location. Must be available to work various shifts, including nights and weekends. Competitive wages and benefits. Qualified applicants must have a customer focused attitude, high school diploma or equivalent and some retail managerial experience. Please resume attention. Human Resources, 3035 Prairie SW, Grandville, MI 49418; fax to 532-3044 or e-mail at employment@goodwillgr.org

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available, trolling motor & 4 hp outboard. 616-421-8163.

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AIR BEDS - Final close out of 2008 models. Select a comfort firmness for each of you. All new. Why pay double at the mall??Air Bed Store, 616-682-4767 or 293-5188.TFN

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FOR SALE - Remington SPR 310 double barrel 12 ga. 2 3/4" or 3" four choke tubes, \$450 obo; 2 place snowmobile/quad trailer, \$550 obo. Call 616-340-5549.

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ads

SALES - Need self motivated, confident, outside sales rep. Earn 60K first year. Highest commissions in the ndustry. Email resume to scott@awswest.com



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FOR RENT - Upper large 2 bedroom apartment in downtown Lowell. Central air and dishwasher included. Deposit \$350. Rent \$575 a month. You pay utilities. No pets or smoking. Please call 897-1140. Must have good references and be gainfully employed.

LOWELL MOBILE HOME PARK - Under new management. Nice 1, 2 & 3 bedroom trailers for rent. Rent from \$350 - \$550. For info call George at 616-754-0276 or 616-813-8041.TEN

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

DUPLEX - Very clean 2 bedroom, one bath with washer & dryer in basement. No smoking, no pets. \$575 plus deposit and utilities. 957 Lincoln Lake Ave. 897-8504 or 540-7788.

CENTER COURT APT - first month rent free! (w/12 month lease.) 2 bedrooms, \$600; 1 bedroom, \$500; on-site laundry & cats allowed. Center Court Apt., 201 N. Center St., Lowell. Call CB Richard Ellis/Grand Rapids, 877-780-2200.TEN

APARTMENT FOR RENT - in Lowell, 1 bedroom, \$150/week includes utilities & basic cable. Call Bob at 299-3198.

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.TEN



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EVENTS

PLEASE NOTE - Coming Events are for non-profit organizations. They are ran on a space available basis & are not guaranteed to run. If you would like to make sure your event is placed in the paper, please call our office & place it as a classified ad.

F.R.O.M. FOOD PANTRY NEED - The Food Pantry (11535 E. Fulton, Lowell), is presently in need of canned fruit, juice, boxed potatoes, hamburger & chicken helper & paper products. Please help if you are able.

COUNTDOWN TO KIN-**DERGARTEN - Parents** of children who will be five year s old on or before Dec. 1, 2009, are invited to Countdown to Kindergarten. A parent informational meeting will be held April 21 at Murray Lake Elementary (987-2750), April 22 at **Bushnell Elementary (987-**2650) and April 16 at Alto Elementary (987-2600). A kindergarten information packet should be requ ested prior to the parent meeting. Please call the school in which you reside to have an enrollment packet mailed to you, or for any questions.

LOWELL MUSIC BOOST-ERS MEETING DATES - All meetings are on Tuesdays in the Lowell Middle School Band Room & begin at 3 p.m. April 21& May 19.

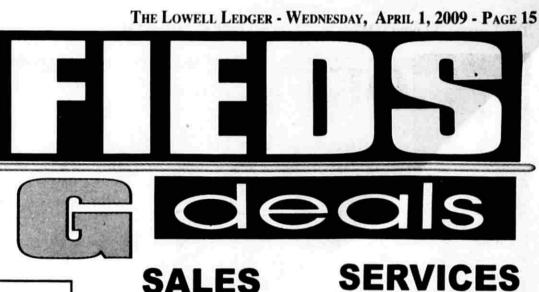
FREE VEGETARIAN **COOK & EAT CLASSES** Sun., April 19, 4-6 p.m. Riverside Fellowship, 10300 Vergennes. Call 897-7930 to register.

COMMUNITY GARDEN EXCHANGE - Sat., April 25, 9-11 a.m. First Baptist Church, 6015 Bancroft Ave., Alto. Share plants vou have, take home others. Flowers, grasses, fruit bushes, shrubs, bulbs, hereby, ground cover & house plants. Door prizes, refreshments & garden help. Rain or shine. No charge.

ANGEL FOOD MINIS-TRIES - Sign up at the Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington St., Fri., April 10, 6-8 p.m. or Sat., April 11, 10 a.m. - noon. Everyone welcome. Any questions, call Esther, 897-7395.

EASTER SERVICES -Maudy Thursday, April 9, soup & salad, 6:30 p.m. Tenebrae service, 7:30 p.m.; April 12, Easter prayer Labyrinth, 6:30 a.m. - noon, come anvtime; Easter breakfast, 8 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.: Easter Resurrection service, 10 a.m.

SNOW UNIT ED METHODIST CHURCH - at 3189 Snow Ave SE, will serve a family style turkey & dressing dinner on Wed., April 8, starting at 5:30 p.m. Adults are \$9, children 6-12 are \$3 & children under 5 are free. Take out dinners also available.





EVENTS

SALES

BOB'S 11TH ANNUAL SPRING BIRDHOUSE SALE - Bluebird scouts are on their way! Good selection of Bluebird, Wren & bat houses also feeders. Top quality materials & construction, excellent prices. Bob's Birdhouses, 12279 60th St., Alto, 868-6633



TREE WORK NEEDED CHEAP! Removals, storm damage & chipping. Licensed & insured. Call Dan for estimate at 616-970-3832.

HANDY REPAIR SERVICE - All kinds of service work: locks rekeyed, deadbolts installed, plumbing, electrical. screen & window repair. Call Bob Ford, 299-3198.TEN



SPRING IS COMING ... Need help catching up on cleaning up - let us do it for you. Residential & office cleaning. Experienced, reliable, reasonable rates. Call Kathy 616-260-2673 or Kris 616-642-0395.

ART GALLERY and CUS-TOM FRAMING - Fire and Water Art! 219 W. Main St. Lowell. Open Wed. thru Sat. 890-1879.TEN

MARCH SPECIAL LOCKS REKEYED AT YOUR BUSINESS OR HOME - \$50 for up to 4 locks (\$5 each additional lock) Do you know who has vour keys? Call Bob Ford, 299-3198 or 897-7176.

TAXES, PAYROLL, QUICKBOOKS, & AC-COUNTING SERVICE - by certified Quickbooks advisor. Call Kathy 897-6351.TEN

THINK SPRING! - J&J Recycling. Free appliance removal. All metal, batteries, etc. Call 897-7803.

WOODSTOVE, PELLET STOVE - Gas installed. Licensed & insured. 20 years experience. 292-6304. M.E.O. Fireplaces Ltd.

ST. PATRICK SCHOOL Christ-centered education for 115 years. Come see all we have to offer! Spanish (K-8), Accelerated Reader, Science Olympiad, Odys-sey of the Mind, Writers Workshop, 3 or 5 day kindergarten, Young 5s, preschool, tuition assistance available. Call 691-8833 to schedule a tour!

COMPUTER REHAB - Virus & Spyware removal & prevention, \$45; upgrades & repairs, \$45. Pickup & drop off \$10 extra. Lowell area. 616-828-5346, 100 W. Main St. www.computer-Rehab.ws

ZOOLAND DAYCARE HAS OPENINGS - on 1st & 2nd shifts. Call 897-8386 or 308-0195.

HELP IS ON THE WAY -Residential cleaning. Many years experience. Call for in-home quote. Stephanie 16-835-3392.

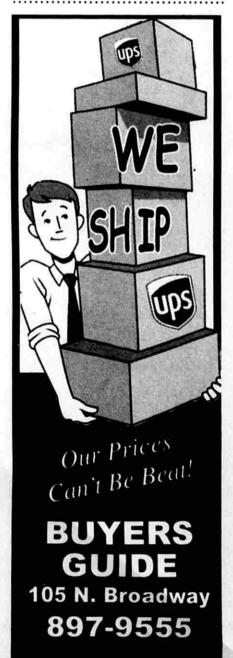
?? PARTY ?? - Graduation, wedding, birthdays, catering for any occasion, full menu available including pig roast. For more info, call erry at 897-4932.

HOT TUB SERVICE - Every make & model, covers, supplies, maintenance. Call the HotwaterDr. 616-874-3385 or contact hotwaterdr.com.TEN

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