



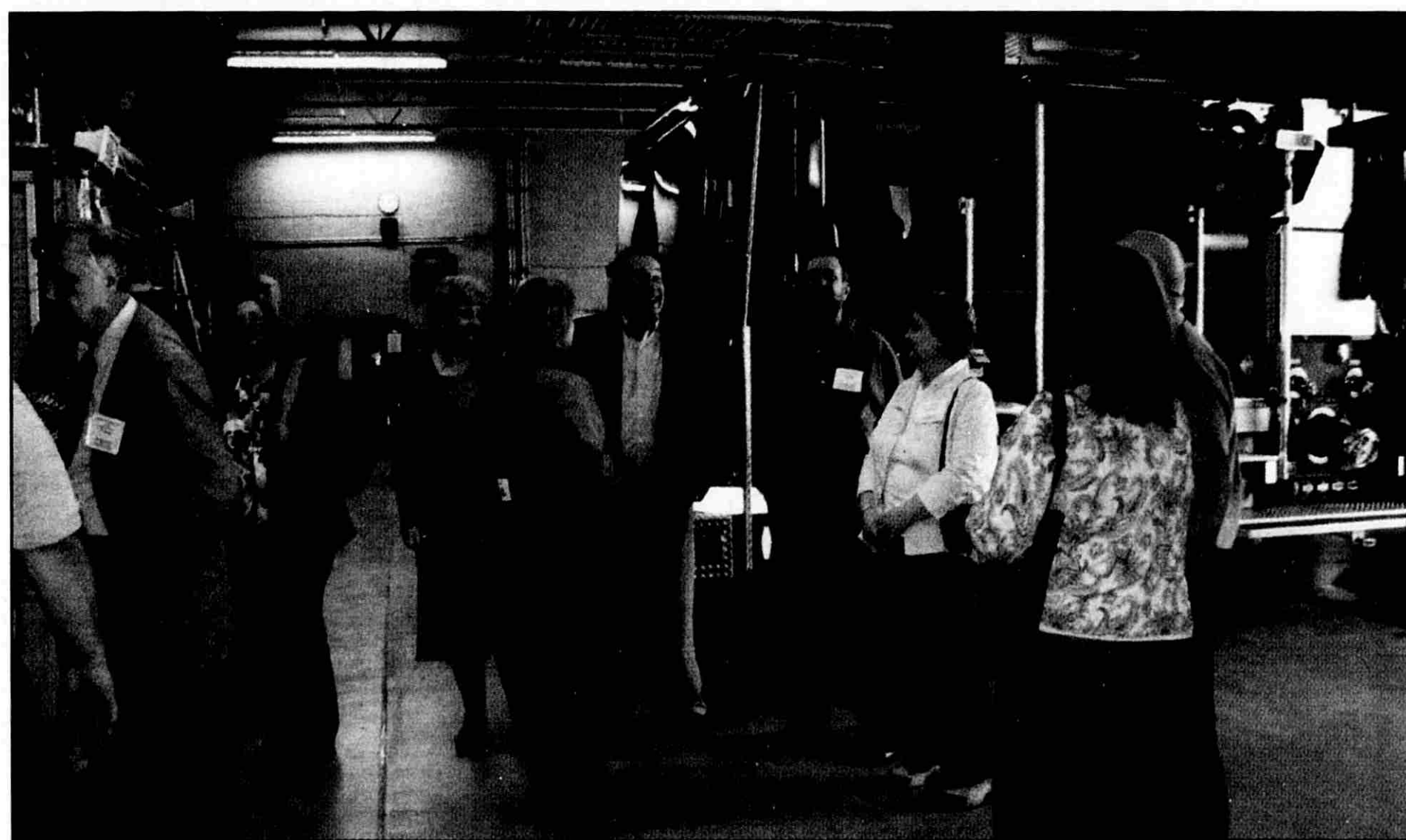
The Lowell Ledger

Volume 38 Issue 25

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, May 20, 2009

Lowell hosts mayor of Mason on 22nd mayor exchange day



For 22 years in a row the city has honored the tradition of mayor exchange days. This year, Lowell hosted a delegation from Mason located south of Lansing. Although Mason is larger both in population and square miles, the delegation was impressed by Lowell.

"It went really well," said city clerk Betty Morlock.

Members from both city councils and some city staff toured the main sites in the city. Some of the stops included Look Memorial Fire Station where lunch was served.

The day long tour had the following highlights: Chamber of Commerce, Englehardt Public Library, King Milling, Lowell Ambulance, water and waste water treatment plants, Lowell High School, airport, Wege property, city hall and police department.

Farmer's Market kicks off the season and plans for a busy summer in Lowell

by Emma Palova

Asparagus, rhubarb, baked goods and

mushrooms started off the season at the Lowell Area Farmer's Market last Thursday.

Vendors from all over flocked to the fairgrounds hauling their wares on colorful trucks. Eliska Bravata of Middleville, sporting a nice straw hat, unloaded her goods including wind chimes, jewelry and cut flowers.

"This is my first time here," she said. "I will have a lot of flowers."

Flowers and herbs were the name of the game at the market this early in the season.

Klasiena VanDenburg of Hastings came to Lowell because the town was making it too hard on vendors. VanDenburg was selling asparagus for \$2. Other

vendors with mushrooms and baked goods have been coming to Lowell since the inception of the market three years ago.

And the market has been growing steadily ever since, according to market master Ron Wenger. The goal is for the market to become self-sufficient. Currently, it is subsidized by funds from the Downtown Development Authority.

And the forecasts predict further growth of markets, partly due to the poor economy.

The market held at the fairgrounds is open Thursdays from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.



Klasiena VanDenburg sells asparagus.



Eliska Bravata peddles cut plants and jewelry on her colorful truck.

Best of 'Paint In Paint Out' on exhibit at Franciscan Life Process Center

by Emma Palova

Adogwood in the front or the nomadic yurts out back, all captured on a canvas during open studio 'Paint In Paint Out' workshops organized by the Franciscan Life Process Center.

Under the guidance of John Knight, a group of artists has been painting for the last three years. They have frequented with their brushes and palettes local sites such as the Riverwalk and McGee Bed & Breakfast.

Some have painted the colorful King Milling Flour Mills and the Fallsburg Covered Bridge.

And now the result of their work is on exhibit at the center for all to enjoy through July 11. The artwork varies from watercolors to pastels and oils at the Bonaventure Room.

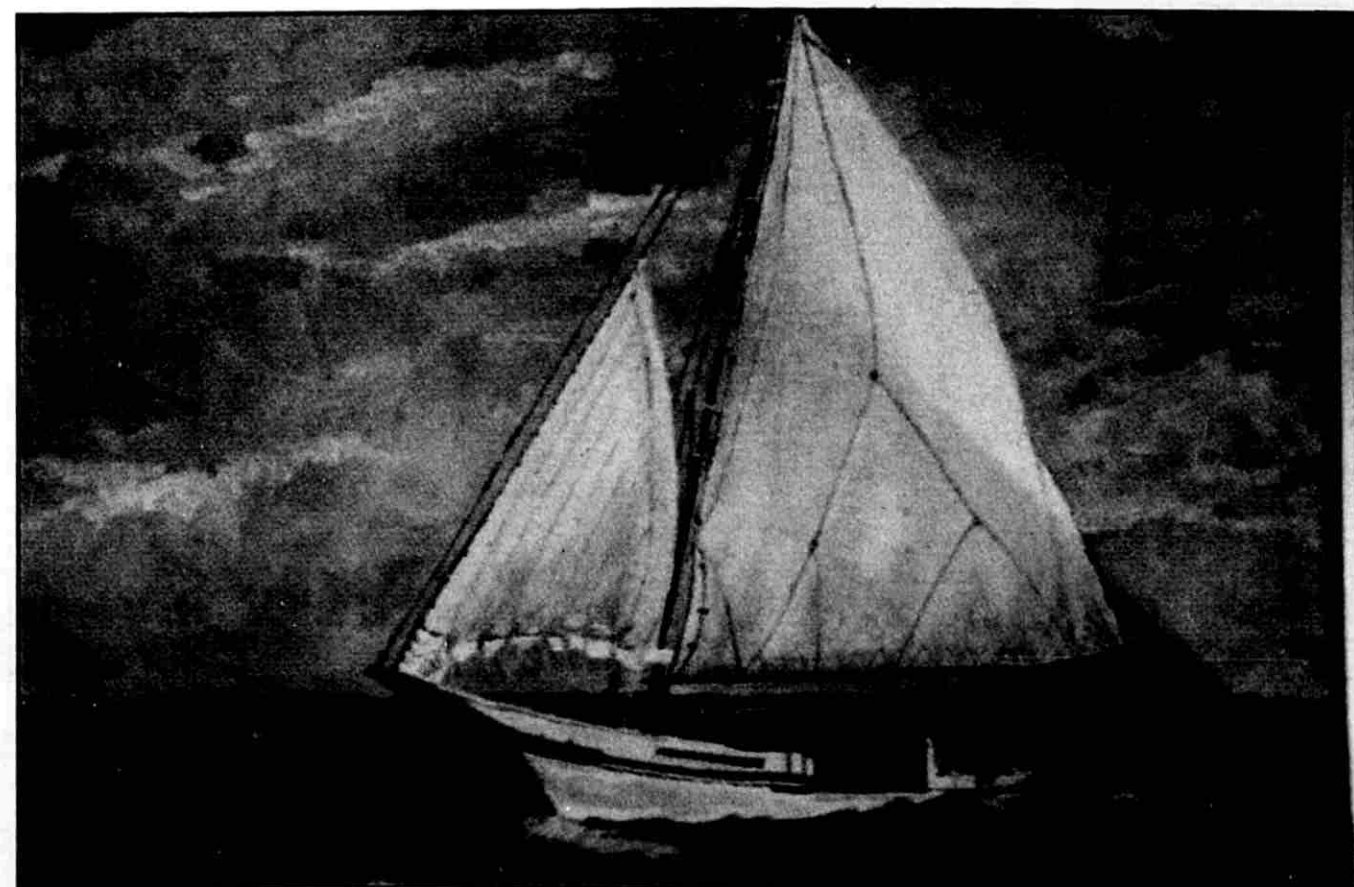
The pieces range from \$40 to \$400.

The popular workshop started by Knight wasn't easy to launch due to unpredictable weather conditions. It usually starts in mid April and runs through

mid August. It does not have a typical class setting, but a continuous work situation so people can grow together, according to Knight.

It is the love of art that bonds these individuals together. Most of them wouldn't have painted as much alone. But, now they have developed their own style.

When visiting the exhibit check out each artist's interpretation of the flour mills from Carol Cole's torn paper collage to her acrylic painting of the mills.



Obituaries

BRIGHTON
Pauline "Freida" Brighton was called to Heaven by our Father and Lord on May 11, 2009. Pauline was a longtime resident of Colorado Springs, CO. Pauline was born June 2, 1918 to Edward and Elise Heim. Pauline grew up in Lowell where she married Robert Brighton on July 3, 1937. Robert and Freida had two children, Barbara Ann and John Robert. Pauline

is survived by her loving daughter, Barbara Cornett of Colorado Springs; and son, John and his wife Rosann of Colorado Springs; seven grandchildren; fifteen great-grandchildren; and two great-great grandchildren. Pauline was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Brighton; her sisters, Emma Hamm and Marie Shier; brothers, Carl Heim, Bill Heim, and Godfrey Heim; and a

HINES
Phyllis A. Hines, age 76, of Coldwater, died Monday, May 11, 2009 at Faith Hospice at Trillium Woods in Byron Center. Phyllis was born July 25, 1932 in Scottsdale, Pennsylvania to Lloyd and Matilda (Bentz) Uber. She married Joseph Hines April 25, 1953 in Scottsdale, PA. He preceded her in death on October 20, 2006. In addition to her husband Joseph, Phyllis was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Harry and Lloyd Uber and an infant brother. She is survived by her children, Michael (Beth) Hines, Melissa Carlson, all of Grand Rapids, and Mark (Sharon) Hines, of Lowell; her six grandchildren, Travis, Ashley, Curt, Kyle and Mallory Hines and Lauren Carlson. Phyllis

DRAFT SYNOPSIS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOWELL CITY COUNCIL MONDAY MAY 18, 2009

Motion to add item 8.5 Update of 115, 117 and 119 W. Main Street buildings by Greg Canfield.

Motion to approve the regular minutes of the May 4, 2009 meeting as corrected and the Closed Session meeting as submitted and the accounts payables were approved.

Motion to approve the resolution to approve contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation for the construction of the Gee Drive walking path.

Motion to award contract to Nelson Tank Engineering and Consulting, Inc. (Lansing) for inspection of the Shepard Drive and Gee Drive water storage tanks for \$4,500 with an \$800 deduct if both tanks are inspected at the same time.

Motion to adjourn at 8:24 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, June 1, 2009.

Complete minutes will be available after approved on June 1, 2009 on the City's web page at www.ci.lowell.mi.us or at City Hall.

Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

Canfield

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McKELLAR
Alma Jacqueline McKellar, aged 79, of Grand Rapids, went to be with her Lord on Sunday, May 17, 2009. She was preceded in death by her son, Timothy and grandson, Billy. She is survived by her loving husband of 62 years Harold; eight daughters, Pam (Hank) Ross, Nancy (Robert) Lyon, Lillian (John) Bryant, Cheryl (Jim) Lilley, Catherine (Gary) Acker, Elenora Lanier, Darlene (Harry) Chichester, Cori (Todd) Runnels; son, Dann (Jann) McKellar; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren; sister, Delores (Buster) Heft; brother, Jake (Linda) Berry; several nieces, nephews and cousins. She enjoyed making wedding cakes and was a regular at local craft shows. Alma was a wonderful and loving wife, mother and grandmother who will be missed by all who knew her. Memorial contributions are suggested to the Kidney Foundation. Funeral services will be held at Zion Lutheran Church, 582 Lamoreaux Dr., NW on Thursday, May 21 at 1 p.m. The family will greet friends from 12 until the start of the service.



PIPE
Daniel Mark Pipe, aged 58, of Lowell, passed away Wednesday, May 13, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Deborah; children, Daniel II and Ambre Pipe, of Grand Rapids, Rebecca and Andy Smith, of Lowell; grandchildren, Alex and Anna Smith, Rowan, Theron and Daniel III Pipe; mother, Jean Pipe of Grand Rapids; brothers, Tom and Wendy, Steve and Diane, Ed Pipe; sister, Micky Springer; many more family and friends. Dan retired, after 27 years, from Steelcase. He was a Lowell City Planning Commissioner, Historic District Commissioner and was a Lowell Area Historical Museum board member for 11 years. Funeral services were held at Roth-Gerst Funeral Chapel on Saturday, May 16. Interment Restlawn Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Lowell Historical Museum, P.O. Box 81, Lowell, MI 49331.

"A mother is she who can take the place of all others but whose place no one else can take."
- Cardinal Mermillod

The Lowell Ledger

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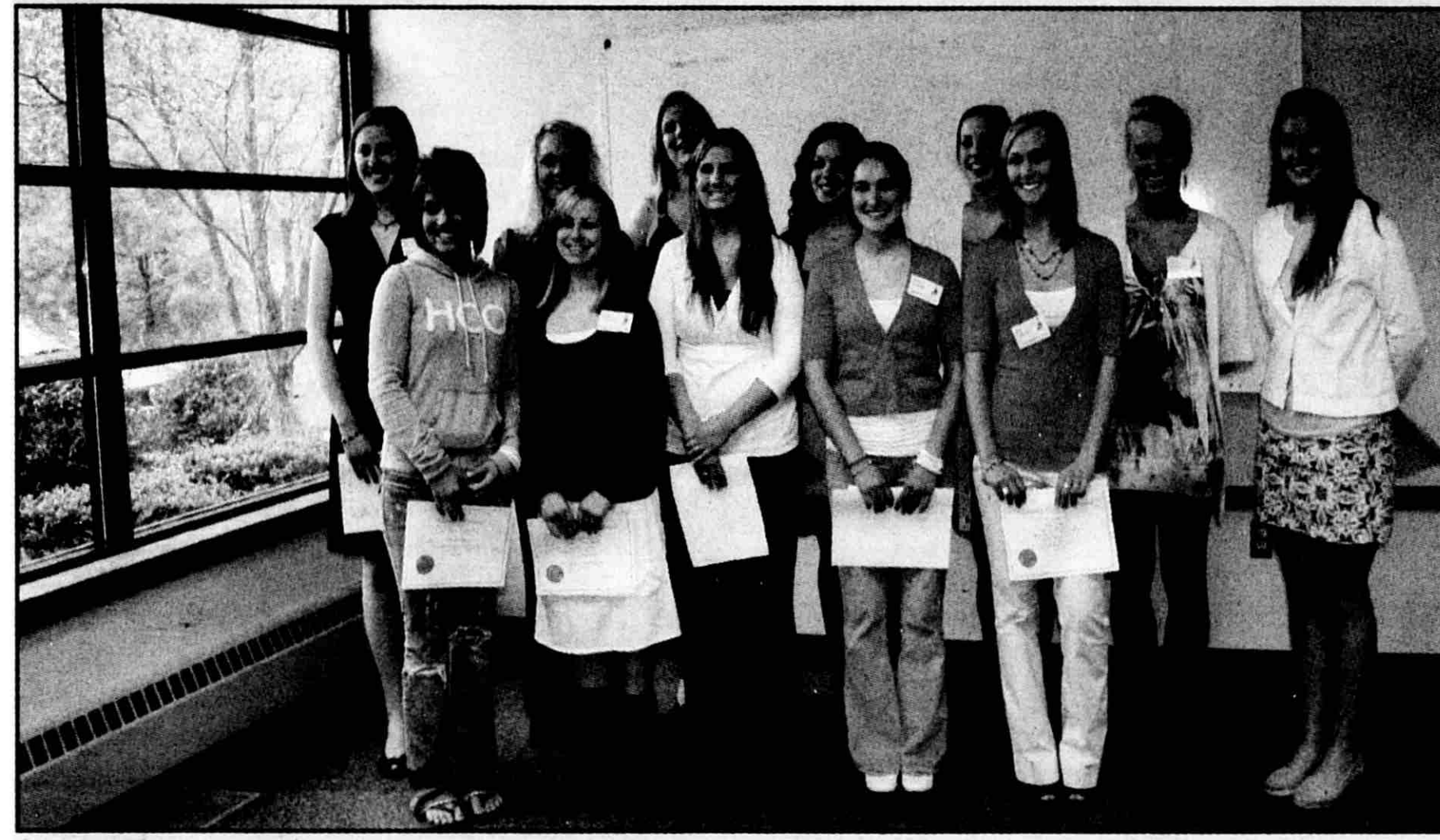
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Club honors Woman of the Year

The Lowell Women's Club honored Karyn deKeiser-Moulton as Woman of the Year 2009 last week. Moulton has served as vice-president, president and past president in the club. She has coordinated, along with Tory Parsons, a mentoring program at the middle school. Moulton has incorporated her time, effort and money into her lifetime passion for beads. Moulton, who is an LPN, has been the clinical liaison for Forest View Psychiatric Hospital for eight years. She is active with the Inter City Christian Federation. She is the mother of two girls, Porta and Bree.



Pictured below are the recipients of Women's Club scholarships: Phalesha Kyes, Ashley Whittington, Brittany Holst, Elena Brubaker, Ellie Timpson, Katie Krolewicz, Lauren Heemstra, Melissa Slater, Kandice Olthof, Samantha Grasman, Alex Herb and Hannah Oberlin.



Two men face charges of breaking and entering

On May 12, neighbors next to the Canfield warehouse on Washington Street called the police to report suspicious activity. Since there had been prior theft from the warehouse, Lowell Raymor walked to the warehouse and saw a man carrying electrical wire and loading it into a Chevy blazer. Two Lowell officers, Thomas Staciak and Gordy Lauren, arrived at the scene and took the two suspects into custody. They are facing charges of breaking and entering into a building with intent to steal, which is a five-year felony. The suspects are Daniel Smith, 20, from Ada and Kylie Schultz, 19, also of Ada. They were arraigned on May 13 and they will have a preliminary examination on May 27 at the 63rd District Court.

College News
Tyler Kent, of Lowell, has made the Dean's List for the 2008 Fall Semester at Grand Rapids Community College. He is a 2007 graduate of Lowell High School.

Sometime they'll give a war and nobody will come.
- Carl Sandburg (1878 - 1967)

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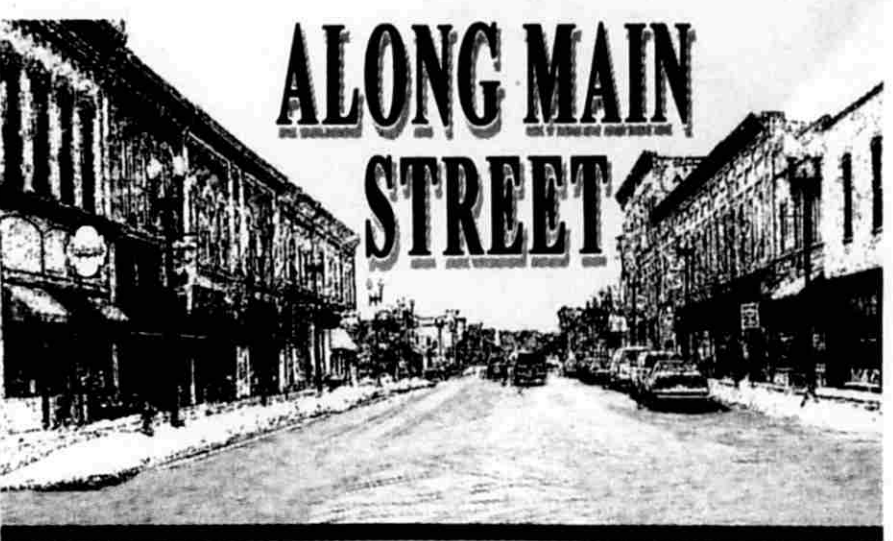
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Tuesday.....9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wednesday.....9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Thursday.....8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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SPRING CHOIR CONCERT
Paul Balaam will be conducting the Lowell High School Spring Choir Concert, Thurs., May 21 at 7 p.m. with the Concert Choir and Ladies Ensemble performing.

PERENNIAL FUNDRAISER
Perennial fundraiser Memorial Day weekend at 520 N. Monroe St. Drop off plants anytime or call 897-7808. All proceeds go to Lowell area organizations.

100 MILES IN 100 DAYS
The 5th annual summer walking challenge begins May 25 and runs until Sept. 1. Register at Lowell City Hall or Lowell and Alto branches of the Kent District Library. Cost is \$20/person, join as a team or an individual. For more information go to www.lowellcommunitywellness.org or call 340-7781.

ATHLETIC BOOSTERS CLUB
The Lowell Area Schools Athletic Boosters will hold their regular business meeting in the high school staff lounge on Monday, June 1 at 7 p.m. Please come and support our athletes.

WEST MICHIGAN WOBBLE TRAP CHAMPIONSHIP
Mens', womens', and junior competition classes. June 20, beginning at 10 a.m. at Tri-Town Conservation Club, 5615 Dunn Road. \$25 cost includes line fees. Breakfast and lunch available. Pre-register, call 897-7218 or 616-443-6097.

Turkey Dinner

May 30th 5 - 7:00 PM

Atto United Methodist Church
at Bowne Center United Methodist Church
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SHOWTIMES 5:10 - 5:20
 ANGELS AND DEMONS (PG-13) 6:45, 9:45
 THE SOLDIER (PG-13) 4:45, 7:20, 9:50
 STAR TREK (PG-13) 4:25, 7:10, 9:55
 FIGHTING (PG-13) 9:40 PM
 X-MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE (PG-13) 4:35, 6:55, 9:20
 GHOSTS OF GIRLFRIENDS PAST (PG-13) 5:15, 7:30

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9-Hole Walking
4-Person Scramble

Benefiting the fund-raising efforts for the Lowell Area Trailway.

\$25 pp / \$100 Team

Registration 1pm



Includes Dinner

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All Proceeds will benefit the Trailway

Contact Rita Goggins (616)868-6751 for more information

Put on your walking shoes and get golfing.

Proceeds benefit the fundraising efforts for the Lowell Area Trailway.

9-Hole Walking 4-Person Scramble
June 5th, 1009
1 p.m. Registration
\$25 pp/ \$100 team

Team Sign-Up Form

Team Captain	Phone
Address	City, State, Zip
Email	Need a Walking Cart? Yes/No
Player 2	Phone
Address	City, State, Zip
Email	Need a Walking Cart? Yes/No
Player 3	Phone
Address	City, State, Zip
Email	Need a Walking Cart? Yes/No
Player 4	Phone
Address	City, State, Zip
Email	Need a Walking Cart? Yes/No

Mail form and payment in full by June 1st to: Tyler Creek Golf Course c/o Rita Goggins 13495 92nd Street, Alto, MI 49302

City targets increased fund balance for the 2009/2010 budget

by Emma Palova

The city council, Monday night, reviewed the 2009/2010 budget prior to holding the first public hearing.

With less projected revenue sharing from the state, the fund balance shrank to 5.67 percent, partly due to transfer of one mill to the local street fund.

"We can't keep going backwards," said council member Jeff Altoft. "We haven't done anything for years. We should get the fund balance closer to 10 percent."

The majority of the council agreed the fund balance should be increased to seven percent due to continued status quo of decreased revenue sharing from the state.

The general fund has a total of \$2.5 million in expenditures, which represents a 4.17 percent decrease from the 2008/2009 budget.

With the adoption of the Lowell Area Fire and Emergency Services Authority, a total of \$75,000 is allocated toward fire department operations out of \$258,000 budgeted.

The city will continue its refuse collection program where residents pay \$1.50 per bag. Residents pay \$2 per bag for yard waste disposal. The city will explore an exclusive trash pick-up contract as well as alternatives for yard waste collection.

A total of \$5,000 is being allocated from the Lee Fund for park maintenance. The Parks and Recreation Commission have set aside \$10,000 for future projects.

Agreements have been signed with the YMCA, Lowell Little League, Lowell Xtreme Softball, Kent County Youth Fair, Lowell Rugby and Lowell Lacrosse with \$5 per participant park user fee.

The airport fund has a current balance of \$15,622 on loan from the general fund, which was utilized to carry out improvements. With assistance from the state, the airport board is seeking to upgrade the facility to General Utility status enabling the airport to qualify for state grant funds.

A \$70,000 loan from the Michigan Aeronautics Commission has assisted in securing air easements enabling tree removals at the ends of the runway. During the past year, easements have been secured and trees cut, through a 95 percent grant from the state.

The Downtown Development Authority has set aside \$120,000 for downtown projects.

Under the Federal Stimulus Program (ARRA), Bowes Road from South Hudson to Valley Vista will be milled and repaved. The city has applied for small urban funding to reconstruct part of Bowes Road.

In related business, the council approved a contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation for the construction of the Gee Drive walking path.

In other business, Greg Canfield presented his proposal to repair two buildings located on the north side of the downtown bridge. He will approach the DDA for potential funding assistance. Canfield expects work on the buildings to be completed by September.

"It's looking very encouraging," he said.

The concrete foundations are in decent shape and not a lot of work needs to be done under water, according to Canfield.

Outdoors

By Dave Stegehuis



BIODIVERSITY

The wide assortment of animal species roaming around in the Michigan woods is a significant example of biodiversity. Along with the usual cast of characters such as deer, raccoons, and rabbits, relative newcomers are showing up around the state.

As gray wolves drifted back into Michigan after a long absence, they enjoyed protection under the endangered species act. This protection as well as suitable habitat and ample prey species enabled the wolf population to expand to an estimated 500 animals in the Upper Peninsula. While wandering about in the U.P., it is quite possible to encounter a wolf or hear a chorus of wolves howling in the distance.

Outdoors, cont'd., pg. 14

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Viewpoint

Why is our Memorial Day Parade so short?

It seems every year we get this question about our Memorial Day Parade: *Why is it so short?* To answer that question, allow me to give you a bit of background about Decoration Day/Memorial Day itself. *Decoration Day* was instigated in Waterloo, NY in 1866, the idea of two Union Generals, John Logan and John Murray, who lived in Waterloo. That's what it was called until the late 1880's when some people began calling it "Memorial Day." It was after WWII that the name became official but in both cases, it was celebrated on May 30, a date set aside to decorate the graves and to remember those valiant service men who died during the Civil War, WW I and WW II. It finally became an official federal holiday in 1967 when Congress moved it to a standard date, the last Monday in May.

Because of the reverence of the day, we do not have what many consider a traditional Lowell parade ... lots of noise and fun with fire trucks and police cars with sirens blaring, floats, clowns, a mass of kids on decorated bikes, politicians, animals, advertising and candy tossing and just about anyone who ever wanted to be part of a parade. While we all love those parades, we have kept our Memorial Day Parade as a time of serious remembrance, following its initial roots. It is a time when we pause to salute those individuals who

served to protect our country to keep our freedoms. This year, 2009, marks the 143rd year that some form of this celebration has taken place.

Lowell begins its celebration of Memorial Day on Monday, May 25 with a parade that steps off at 10 a.m. moving from South Broadway on to Main Street to the Veteran's Memorial. There, the parade will pause to pay our respects at the Memorial, including flowers that are placed in the river commemorating those sailors, Marines and Coast Guard personnel, who have been lost at sea. The parade continues to City Hall where it turns north on Monroe to the Oakwood Cemetery where the graves of veterans are decorated with flags. There, a moving 35 minute program salutes all veterans, including those from Lowell who have left us this past year.

This day provides a wonderful opportunity for parents to teach their children something about the sacrifices those individuals have made defending our great land. We encourage everyone to join Lowell's American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars next Monday as we all pause to remember.

David L. Thompson,
Post Commander #152 American Legion
Commander, US Navy Retired



By Shelly MacNaughton

125 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL JOURNAL MAY 21, 1884

Corn would like to see more warm weather. E. R. Caw is at Muir to show the millers there how to make good flour.

The owners expect to commence work on the new buildings on the bridge about the first of next month or as soon thereafter as practicable.

Marshall Mitchell gives due notice that horses, cattle and hogs will not be permitted to run at large in the streets of this village.

100 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER MAY 20, 1909

A buzz planning machine at the Lowell cutter factory went to smash in a jiffy yesterday and for a few seconds the air was full of nuts, bolts and bits of wreckage. One of the knives was afterward found in the basement having been hurled through the floor.

Fortunately, no one was hurt by the iron hail. John McCall, the machine's attendant, gave a narrow squeak.

75 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AND ALTO SOLO MAY 24, 1934

Next Tuesday afternoon at 4:30 Benny "Dare Devil" Mercer will be handcuffed to the wheel of a 1934 Chevrolet Sedan and will start off on a 100 hour drive. The drive will be made in the immediate vicinity of Lowell and for this four days, four nights and four hours he will neither sleep, eat nor stop the car until the following Saturday evening, June 2, at 8:30. His only nourishment during this grueling exhibition will consist of rich malted milks. Cash prizes will be given to the three people making the best guesses as to the total mileage, amount of gas consumed and quarts of oil used during this long grind.

50 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER MAY 21, 1959

At least 10 new teachers will be needed in Lowell schools next fall, Supt. Walter W. Gumsier reports.

Over one hundred seniors, the largest class in the history of Lowell High School, are expected to complete their high school courses within the next few days.

25 YEARS AGO THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER MAY 23, 1984

Rex Collins is congratulated by Lowell Postmaster Charlie Doyle. Collins retired from the post office last Friday with thirty-five years of carrying the mail behind him. Collins began his postal service on March 3, 1950 as a part-time carrier. He has been the rural route carrier for route two for the past several years.

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To The Editor

Dear Editor,

We would like to clarify some misinformation about funding requests that were made at the last council meeting.

We're asking the City to contribute 25 to 30 percent of what they would spend to take down the buildings, to save them. This saves the city 70 to 75 percent of a number that could have easily exceeded \$100,000.

In addition to the estimated initial savings of \$75,000, property tax revenues from the three buildings contribute to the city budget, jobs are generated by business's occupying those spaces, and spin off business at other downtown storefronts make this a good decision. In all reality, this is a loan that will be repaid in property tax revenue in five years.

These buildings have been here for 100 years and provide some continuity to a historic downtown that has made huge improvements in streetscapes, lighting and building restorations recently. Our other building, at 411 E. Main, was also requested for demolition, which was denied by the Historic Distict Commission. Now it's an attractive example of downtown Lowell's past. Let's keep what we have. Once these buildings are gone, there will never be another building there again.

We will be at the DDA meeting on June 4, with a proposal that could secure the future of all three buildings. If you look at the influence the Flat River Grill has had on downtown business, think of the possibilities for these

properties. With jobs leaving the area, are we going to spend \$100,000 plus to tear out part of the heart of downtown or consider spending \$30,000 to stimulate an investment that could run as high as \$1,000,000.

Public support has been very positive, with the exception of Jim Howard, which confirms that we are doing the right thing.

Greg and Deb Canfield

Dear Editor,

It amazes me, the new things I hear everyday in my line of work. This upset me so much I felt I needed to take action. In our current economy, owning a business in a small town can be tough. Therefore, when I heard a new business was opening up in the old Erb Lumber building, I was excited, being a business owner myself, along with holding a seat on the Chamber board. This was great news for the community. But how do our officials welcome this new business into this town? By the cops paying him a visit to tell him to mow his lawn. This person decided to come into our town and open a business and this is how we welcome him..... Do our police officers and city board members have nothing else better to do?

I can think of a few better things, for starters, how about the ongoing problem with cars parked along Main Street for most of the day, taking away customer parking.

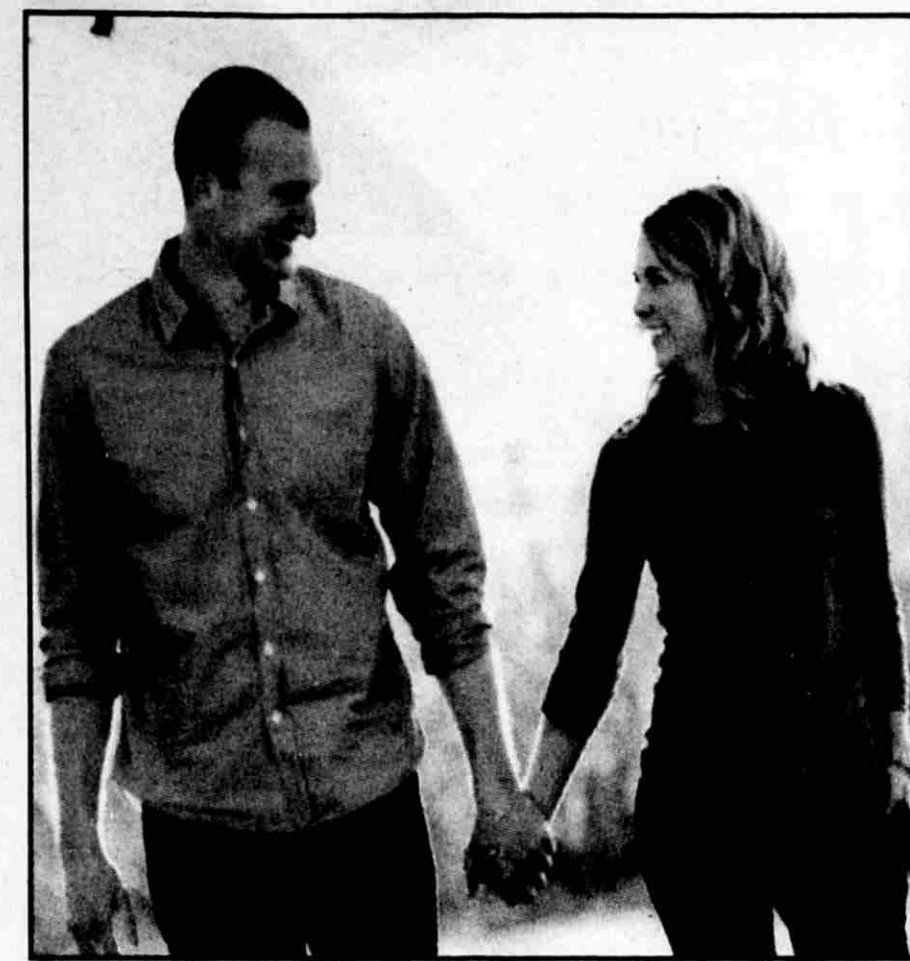
Maybe it's time to put together a Welcome Wagon committee and stop harassing new businesses.

Thank you,
April McClure

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.

Engagements



Megan Nyson and William Loeks

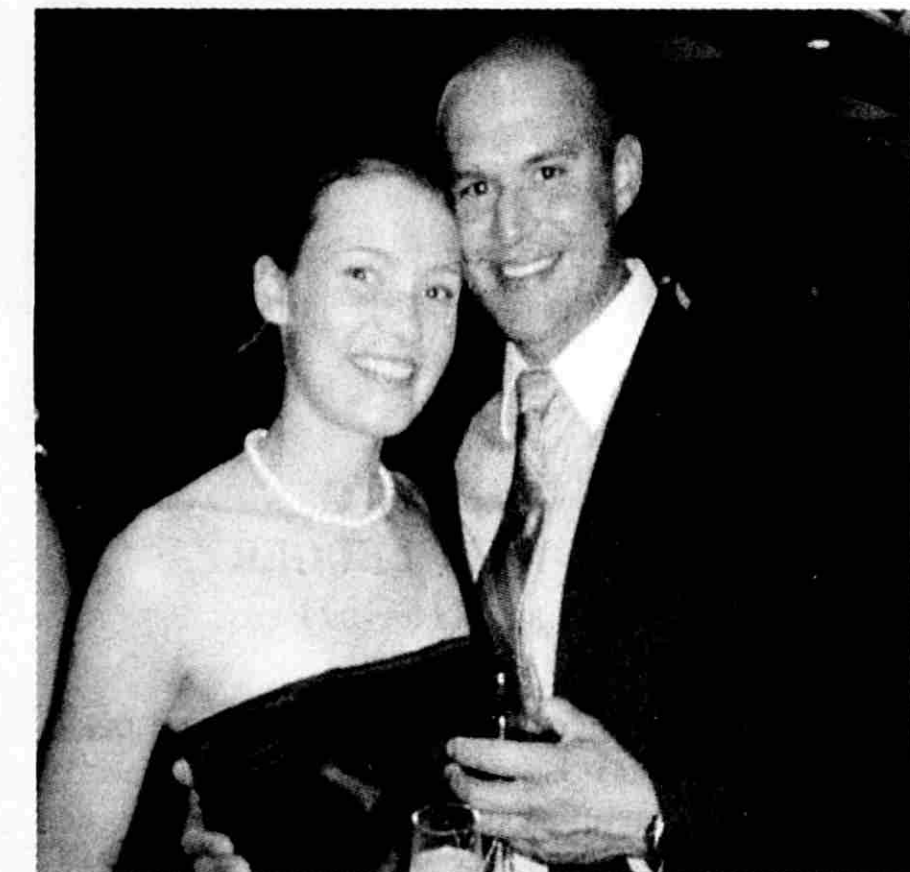
Nyson/Loeks

Wedding vows will be exchanged on September 5, 2009 by Megan Nicole Nyson and William Glen Loeks. The bride-to-be is the daughter of Tod and Kim Nyson, of Lowell. She is a graduate of Lowell High School and Grand Valley State University. The future groom, of Kingsford, is the son of Tim and Gail Loeks, of Tustin. He is a graduate of Kingsford High School and Grand Valley State University.

Staal/Finkle

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth A. Staal, of Lowell, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Shelly Rae Staal to Tyler John Finkle, son of Mr. & Mrs. Donald B. Finkle Jr. of Youngstown, New York. The bride-to-be is a 1997 graduate of Lowell High School and a

2002 graduate of Western Michigan University. The future groom is a 1998 graduate of The Gunnery School in Washington Depot, Connecticut and a 2002 graduate of Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. A June 2009 wedding is planned in Newport, Rhode Island.



Shelly Staal and Tyler Finkle

Meir/Meyers



Amanda Meir and Chad Meyers

Miss Teresa Meir, of Saranac, and Mr. Charles Kimbrell, of West Branch, announce the engagement of their daughter, Amanda Kay Meir to Chad Ryan Meyers, of Saranac. He is the son of Gary Meyers Sr. and the late Elizabeth Meyers. A July wedding is planned. The bride-to-be is a 2002 graduate of Ogemaw Heights High School and is currently employed by Spectrum Health of East Grand Rapids. The future groom is a 1998 graduate of Saranac High School and is employed by Spectrum Health.



In The Service

Air Force Airman Benjamin J. Baughman graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

He is the son of Anne Baughman of Lowell.

The airman is a 2005 graduate of Lowell High School.



Benjamin J. Baughman

Air Force Airman Samuel H. Patton graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

He is the son of William Patton of Saranac.

Patton is a 2007 graduate of Saranac High School.



Samuel H. Patton

Wit makes its own welcome, and levels all distinctions. No dignity, no learning, no force of character, can make any stand against good wit.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1882)



Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold
Edward Jones
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ARE YOU NEGLECTING YOUR 403(B) PLAN?

Are you a teacher? Or are you employed by a nonprofit organization? In either case, you may have a 403(b) retirement plan available to you. Your 403(b) is similar to 401(k) plans offered by companies, yet some evidence suggests that participation in 403(b) plans is lower than that found in 401(k)s. If you're not taking advantage of your 403(b), you may want to reconsider — because your plan can provide a big boost to your retirement savings.

If you're not familiar with a 403(b), you'll want to understand the key benefits:

- Tax-deferred earnings — Your money grows on a tax-deferred basis, which means it can accumulate faster than if it were placed in an investment on which you paid taxes every year.
- Pretax contributions — Typically, you fund your 403(b) with pretax dollars, so the more you put in, the lower your annual taxable income. (Some 403(b) plans may allow a Roth option, which allows your earnings to grow tax-free, provided you meet certain conditions. However, your contributions are made with after-tax dollars.)

Variety of investment options — You should have a variety of investment choices with which to fund your 403(b), so you can build a portfolio that is appropriate for your risk tolerance and time horizon.

Given these features, why aren't more people participating in their 403(b) plans? One key reason seems to be that many eligible employees, especially teachers, also are covered by a pension plan — and they think a pension, combined with Social Security, may be enough to meet their retirement income goals.

But that's probably not true. You'll likely need at least 80 percent of your working income during retirement — and that figure could easily rise, depending on your retirement lifestyle. Consequently, you will need to exploit every single avenue of retirement savings — including your 403(b) plan.

In 2009, you can defer up to \$16,500 of your salary to a 403(b), plus an additional \$5,500 if you're 50 or older. You can put in another \$3,000 if you have 15 or more years of service with a qualified organization and you contributed, on average, less than \$5,000 a year to your 403(b) plan.

Of course, you may not be able to put in the maximum annual amount to your 403(b) plan. But if your employer matches part of your contributions, you should at least consider contributing enough to earn the match — otherwise, you're walking away from "free money."

While it's often a good idea to contribute to your 403(b), you may find some extra challenges in 2009, because the rules governing 403(b) plans have changed.

Financial Focus, cont'd., pg. 10

Kite flying safety tips

Consumers Energy offers safety tips for those who take advantage of Michigan's breezes by launching a kite.

"We urge everyone to follow a few important safety rules when flying kites," said Wayne Lynn, executive manager of energy services east. "When it comes to outdoor fun, look up to identify hazards

and obstacles, stay away from overhead electric lines, and stay safe."

Kites should never be flown near electric power lines. If a kite gets tangled on an overhead wire, don't try to get it — let it go. Adults should caution children to never climb a utility pole, a tree located near a power line or an antenna tower to

retrieve a kite. Buying a new kite is the safest course of action.

Here are more basic rules to help kite flyers have fun and avoid trouble:

- Keep away from all overhead wires, especially electric lines.
- When buying or making a kite, make sure it is

constructed of wood, plastic or paper. Never use anything metallic such as aluminum foil or Mylar polyester film; they conduct electricity.

Use dry kite string when flying your kite and never use wire.

Fly your kite in open areas in dry weather. Avoid streets and highways and keep away from television and radio antennas.

Consumers Energy, the principal subsidiary of CMS Energy, provides natural gas and electricity to nearly 6.5 million of Michigan's 10 million residents in all 68 Lower Peninsula counties.

HEALTH

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



INGROWN TOENAILS

An ingrown toenail is when the edge of the toenail curves down and pokes into the skin. Anyone can get an ingrown toenail, but teenagers and older people get them more often.

Teenagers get them because their feet sweat more, which can cause the skin and nails to become soft. Soft nails split easier. Pieces that split can easily puncture the skin. Older people get them because they have trouble caring for their feet. Ingrown toenails can also happen to people who try to round off the corners of their toenails with a nail file. Trauma (stubbing your toe, running, or kicking objects) can cause them. Ingrown toenails sometimes run in families.

People often will experience pain and swelling with an ingrown toenail. The skin around the nail can also get red. As the ingrown toenail gets worse, the pain and redness get worse. Sometimes, it can become infected. It may bleed or drain pus. An ingrown toenail may also limit the activities you do every day, like sports or walking.

Most ingrown toenails can be treated by soaking the foot in warm, soapy water and applying a topical antibiotic ointment, such as Neosporin. Your doctor can also put cotton wisps or splints under the edge of the ingrown toenail and the skin. You should not try to cut or remove the ingrown part of the nail yourself.

If pain or infection continues, then surgery to remove the ingrown part of the nail or the whole nail may be needed. The nailbed may also be destroyed so that the ingrown toenail does not grow back. After having the toenail removed, you should rest and elevate the foot for the first 12 to 24 hours. If the toe is sore, taking over-the-counter pain relievers may help. Two days after surgery, you should begin soaking your toe in warm, soapy water three or four times daily. The toe should then be covered with antibiotic ointment and a bandage. To prevent ingrown toenails, cut the nail in a straight line when cutting your toenails. Do not round off the corners, and be sure to wear shoes that fit correctly.

Consumers Energy, the principal subsidiary of CMS Energy, provides natural gas and electricity to nearly 6.5 million of Michigan's 10 million residents in all 68 Lower Peninsula counties.

Happy Birthday

- MAY 20:** Christine Baird, Shanda Weed, Julie Beaton, Bryan Borton, Laura Brower.
- MAY 21:** Pat Erickson, Eric Ellis, Kayla Mohr, Katelyn Bush.
- MAY 22:** Tim Shurwood, Meghan Beachum, Mark Anderson.
- MAY 23:** Wesley Patnode, Tory DeBold, Patrick Ortiz, Anna Richmond.
- MAY 24:** Matt McClure, Josh Buechler, Harry Tichelaar, Summer Bevan, Dylan Bevan.
- MAY 25:** Rick Wernet, Phyllis Bieri.
- MAY 26:** Janet McIntyre, Guy Watrous, Joshua Bryant.

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p>ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Kirby and Harrison Alto • 616-691-8011 Worship.....9:30 A.M. Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.</p> <p>OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS Pastor Dean Bailey</p>	<p>DAY BIBLE CHAPEL 9305 Centerline, Saranac 897-6332</p> <p>Worship.....9:45 A.M. Sunday School.....11:00 A.M.</p> <p>Nursery & Jr. Church Provided Rev. Frank Lattimore, Pastor "A Nondenominational Ministry With A Blended Word Centered Service!"</p>	<p>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL Rev. Randy Meyers - 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI</p> <p>Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....11:20 A.M. Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.</p> <p>Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free</p>	
<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 www.lowellumc.com</p> <p>WORSHIP.....8:30 & 10:15 a.m.</p> <p>Rev. Rick Blunt Barrier-free entrance</p>		<p>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God) 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, Lead Pastor John King, Youth Pastor</p> <p>SUNDAYS: 10:00 a.m. - Worship & Evening: LIFE Home Groups & "The Source" Youth</p> <p>WEDNESDAYS: Family Night: (for all ages) 7:00 p.m. "The Source" Youth: 7:00 p.m. Loving God... Loving People!</p>	<p>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Fr. Eugene Okall 402 Amity St. • 897-9820 www.stmary-lowell.com</p> <p>Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM Saturday confessions: 4-4:45 PM</p> <p>Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETER WIGANS 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 48, ENTRY FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>
<p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 www.goodshepherdlowell.org</p> <p>Worship Service.....10:00 A.M. (Nursery available)</p> <p>Joseph Fremmer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Lee Taylor</p> <p>Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M.</p> <p>AWANA/EXCITE • TEENS, Wed. 6:15 & 6:30 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free</p>	<p>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Rev. Vance Dimmick Jr.</p> <p>9:45 A.M.Worship/Fellowship 11:15 A.M.Sunday School</p> <p>897-9863 or 897-9588 Nursery & Children Worship Programs Provided</p> <p>A friend...a family...a mission!</p>	

LOOK AT ME NOW!!!

Eugene Kolodziej smiles as he takes a photo with Nurse Manager Pam (pictured left) and Therapist Cathy (pictured left).

Eugene met his therapeutic goals at The Laurels of Kent returning him home. When asked what he enjoyed at The Laurels of Kent during his stay he replied "The Therapy. They worked me hard and did a great job with balance training."

Congratulations Eugene!!!



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FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES

School will be out soon. What better time to shop at the F.R.O.M. Thrift Shop for play clothes for the kids. We have tons of shorts and T-shirts at low, low prices!

The Boutique is full of summer wear for ladies. We have lovely sundresses and separates.

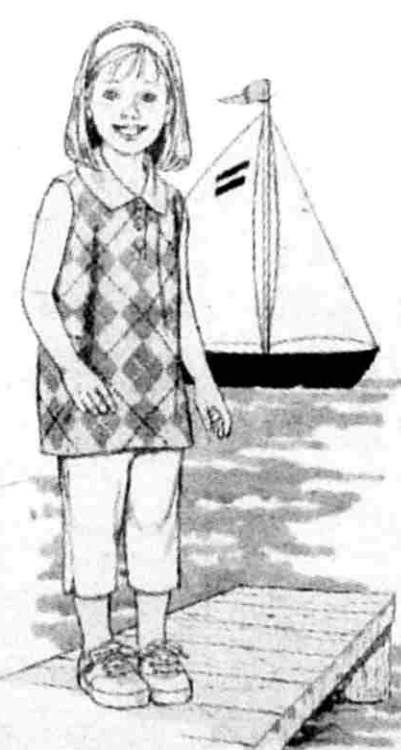
The Thrift Shop is packed with tops, polo shirts and T's for the guys and gals, as well as shorts, capris, jeans, slacks and shoes.

What are you waiting for? Summer is just around the corner and you want to be ready for all that sunshine and warm weather!

Remember: We are staffed entirely by volunteers and the money you spend will help people in the community.

STORE HOURS:
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DAY TO REMEMBER

Schedule of

LOWELL

American Legion Post #152 and The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8303 and invite all Veterans, Civic Organizations, Scouts & other participants to take part in the annual Memorial Day Ceremonies & salute our deceased & living Veterans.

Monday, May 25, 2009 - The parade forms at Kent County Youth Fairgrounds on S. Broadway St. at 9:00 a.m. with departure promptly at 10:00 a.m.

The parade will proceed North on Broadway St., East on Main St. stopping at the Veterans memorials on the east side of the Flat River for rendering of honors to Those Who Have Perished at Sea.

The parade continues East on Main St., North on Monroe to Oakwood Cemetery for a short ceremony.

Any wishing to participate should please contact Parade Marshal Herman Weststrate at 897-9479.

Patriotic themes shall be permitted. Commercial and political advertising is prohibited. Tossing of candy from floats or passing out of literature along the parade route is strictly prohibited. Memorial Day is a day to remember and honor those who have served our nation and have passed on.

Area Memorial Day Events

SOUTH BOSTON CEMETERY

The 112th meeting of the South Boston Cemetery Association will be held on Monday, May 25, 2009 at noon at South Boston Bible Church, 6958 Kyser Road, Lowell. Rev. Robert Roush, Pastor of Friendship Country Chapel, will be the speaker. Service will be followed by a potluck dinner at the Fellowship Building.

All are invited to attend.

SARANAC

10:00 a.m. - Parade starts at Erv Taylor Avenue at the rear of business district and ends at the cemetery. All entries welcome. There will be a program at the cemetery. Speaker: Judy Emmons, Former State Representative, current Secretary of State candidate

BOWNE CENTER

Monday, May 25, 8:00 p.m. - Meet at the Bowne Cemetery, corner of Alden Nash (M-50) & 84th St. Service will be held followed by a 21-gun salute and taps.

GRATTAN TOWNSHIP

The 21st Annual Grattan Township Memorial Day Celebration and Bridge Walk will be Monday, May 25, 2009. The day will start at 7:00 with the Fireman's Pancake Breakfast. A memorial service at Grattan Center Cemetery at 11:00. Following the service is a foot parade across the Seeley Creek Bridge and back to the Township Hall. A Flag Retirement Ceremony conducted by Boy Scout Troop 228 will take place at 12:00. Activities for the family all day. 2nd Annual Veteran's Memorial Golf Tournament Saturday, May 30 at Arrowhead Golf Course. All proceeds used for Veteran's Memorial at Grattan Center Cemetery. For more information on any of these events contact Dianna at 826-1872 or Vivian at 691-7105.

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897-9281

Lowell Vision Center
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897-2020

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A FEW NOTABLE EVENTS FROM MAY 14 - MAY 20 • 2009

- An assistant principal died in New York from swine flu Sunday evening.
- Jon Gruden will replace Tony Kornheiser for Monday night football.
- Kid earns degree, returns to 9th grade.

- 4.7 magnitude earth-quake hits Los Angeles.
- U.S. to require new cars get 42 mpg starting in 2016.
- Spacewalkers give hubble its last hug.
- Google CEO urges grads to turn off computers to take time to discover humanity, says Eric Schmidt at commencement at University of Penn.
- An Ohio man who argued with grown son over a messy bedroom says he overreacted when he called 911.
- Michigan web site tracks stimulus spending. Want to know where all that federal money is spent in Michigan? Go to www.michigan.gov/recovery.

President Obama gives the commencement address at Notre Dame in spite of protests over his stand on women's reproductive rights.

Financial Focus, continued ... From Page 7

Previously, your plan may have allowed you to invest with several 403(b) providers, or "vendors," and you could make tax-free transfers between them. Under new IRS rules, however, you can now move assets from one vendor to another only if both vendors are on your plan's "approved" list. Consequently, many employers will likely reduce the number of 403(b) vendors and investment options, so you'll have to evaluate the new "approved vendor" list to see which vendors would be most fitting for your financial goals.

In any case, if you aren't already contributing to your 403(b), start now. And if you already are participating in your plan, make sure you're getting the most out of it — someday, you'll be glad you did.

It's time for 100 Miles in 100 Days

by Patty Sellner

Lowell Community Wellness is preparing to launch the fifth annual "100 Miles in 100 Days" community walking challenge. This project is a follow-up to the very successful "Lowell Takes it Off vs. Greenville" which took place in January - March. During that event 125 participants lost a total of 2173 pounds to surpass the teams in Greenville by more than a pound lost per person. This was the third annual battle of the bulge between these two communities. In Lowell the A-team, a family team comprised of Jenny, Bob, Rob and Sue Anderson, lost 171 pounds during this ten week program.

The 100 Miles in 100 Days

challenge program is a great follow-up to the winter event and has become a popular annual event which challenges participants to become physically active during the summer of 2009. The event is open to everyone. In the past, participants have formed teams of four individuals and walked, motivated and supported each other to reach their 100 mile goal. Many participants have set much higher 100 day goals such as 200 or 300 miles. Some have even worked to reach 1,000 miles. Teams are comprised of family groups, workplace teams, groups of friends and neighbors. There have been many neighborhood

groups who have become an inspiration to others who live near them to become more active.

In previous years, the staff and friends of the Alto branch of the Kent District Library have worked together and inspired each other to become more active and set new fitness goals throughout the year. They now are working together to train and compete in competitive fitness events. For many participants, the 100 miles challenge helps them achieve their weight loss goals. Elisabeth Tarchala participated in 2008. She lost 20 pounds while participating last year walking with her daughter and hopes to continue and lose another 20 pounds during the summer of 2009. Tarchala has motivated over 25 members of her church to take the 100 Mile in 100 Days challenge this year. The 2009 event will begin on May 25 and run through September 1. It has been designed to get Lowell residents of all ages moving this summer. Walking is a simple way to get exercise daily and help individuals achieve their health and fitness goals. This project continues to promote the mission of Lowell Community Wellness which is: to inspire and educate the greater Lowell Community to attain a healthier lifestyle. "That is what the 100 Miles in 100 Days project does in a wonderful way and

the commitment shown by participants is amazing to me every year," states Patty Sellner, director of Lowell Community Wellness.

This project has inspired over 500 people during the previous four years to get moving during this 100 days challenge. Registrants in this program will be given the informational log booklet that includes local resources, popular walking routes that participants walk, an activity conversion chart. This event is again being presented in partnership with a group of hometown heroes, local merchants who are helping to support this year's project. Look for the yellow oval window decals and support these merchants as they

support health and wellness in the Lowell community.

You can register now at Lowell City Hall, Lowell Senior Neighbors, Englehardt and Alto Branches of the Kent District Library. The \$20 registration fee includes a 100 Miles in 100 Days t-shirt, pedometer, and log book. Proceeds from this event will be used to fund future health and wellness events in the greater Lowell community. This can be an individual or team effort. For more information go to the event calendar on our website at www.lowellcommunitywellness.org, or call Patty Sellner, director at 616-340-7781.

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OKAY -
Someone Has To Say It ...
by Thad Kraus

It wasn't that long ago that East Grand Rapids' coaches conceded that when Lowell's Natalie Kent swaggered onto a track, any hopes in the hurdles and sprint events ended. Kent, with a smile as soft and as sweet as the warm glaze on a cinnamon roll, used her focus, drive and long, toned legs, to deliver many a fine sweet results at Red Arrow Stadium.

In 1999, Kent set the Lowell and O-K White record in the 400-meter with a time of 58.1. In 2002, Kent set the school record in the 100 hurdles with a time of 15.3. The Red Arrow also owns the Kathy Talus Invitational record in the 100 hurdles (15.1). The Red Arrow also had a winning leg in a record-setting (14:06.08) 1600-meter relay back in 2003. Kent swaggered back into Red Arrow Stadium for the Lowell/East Grand Rapids girls' track dual meet.

This time not to compete, but as a coach, an assistant coach of the Pioneers. Kent looked every bit the athlete. She looked as though she still could win a sprint or hurdle. The coach's interaction with the athletes, her girls, revealed that same sweet demeanor. The difference, this time, was she was sharing her knowledge and enthusiasm for the sport, helping East's young athletes find and keep their focus for the task that lie ahead. "Robin (Briggs) and Kathy (Talus) were such good coaches for me," Kent explained. "They taught me how to focus on what I needed to do in the next race." These days Kent's next race is medical school this summer at Michigan State University.

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LUNCH MENU

ELEMENTARY MENU
Week of
May 25, 2009

MON: Memorial Day

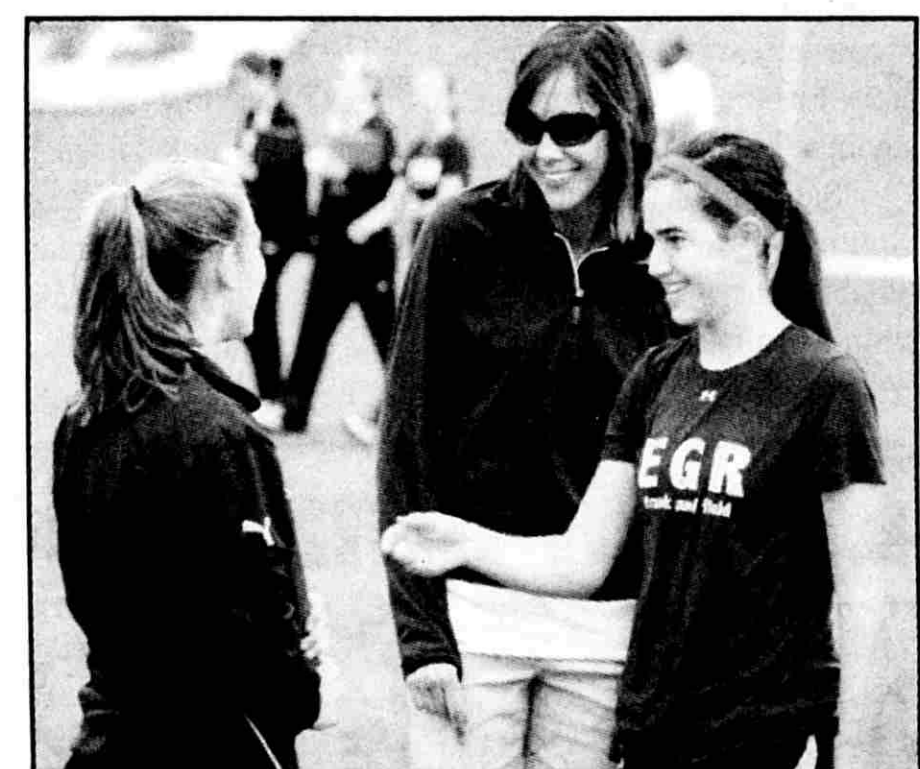
TUES: Tony's cheese pizza (chili w/crackers also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), broccoli, warm baked apple slices, milk.

WED: Baked chicken nuggets & dinner roll (ham & cheese on bun also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), mashed potatoes, peaches, milk. Cherry Creek Field Day at Creekside Park: grilled hotdog on bun, apple slices, mini carrots, pretzels, milk.

THURS: Belgian waffles sticks w/syrup or cereal w/ Graham crackers & scrambled eggs, strawberries/applesauce, milk.

FRI: Chicken patty on bun (bagel w/yoqurt & peanut butter also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), mini carrots/dip, fresh apple slices, milk.

Natalie's case, she's always looked good, now she's just more stylish." Beneath Kent's "stylish" gear, however, remains a heart with a Red Arrow running through it.



East Grand Rapids' assistant girls' track coach and former Red Arrow hurdler and sprinter, Natalie Kent, talks to a few of her Pioneer pupils during the dual meet with Lowell.

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Red Arrow SPORTS

Softball team finds a win in Greenville and heartache at Christian

by Thad Kraus

Leigha Frisbee rapped out three hits and knocked in three runs in leading Lowell to a 10-9 O-K White Conference softball win over Greenville.

Bailey Allen pitched and earned her fourth league victory. The Red Arrow did not walk a batter while striking out three.

In its last six games Lowell pitchers have given up just nine walks.

"We're making batters hit their way on," Rodenhouse said. "Our girls also hit the ball decently against Greenville."

Sam Braman and Jenna Smith each doubled, joining Frisbee as Red Arrows with extra base hits against Yellow Jacket pitchers.

G.R. Christian 11-5

Lowell 1-4

It's the sort of game that can have a haunting effect on a club.

The Red Arrows led Grand Rapids Christian throughout, that is, until the very end.

Tied at 3-3 going into the eighth inning, Lowell got a leadoff double from Jenna Smith, followed by a Kelly Wyckoff sacrifice bunt and then Jourdan Westdorp singled her home to give Lowell a 4-3 lead.

The Eagles are not first in the O-K White because they go away quietly when behind.

Lowell's Morgan Groom got the first out in the Eagle eighth inning.

The Eagles followed

with back-to-back singles; the second one was of infield hit variety.

With one out, Christian attempted a double steal. On the throw to third, Lowell shortstop Beth Wyckoff got taken out of the play by the runner. The ball went into left field allowing the lead runner to come home. The throw home was wide of the plate allowing the lead runner to score and the runner at second to come all the way around to score the fifth and winning run.

"Oh, that hurt," said Lowell coach Bob Rodenhouse. "After not showing up in that first game, the girls came out and played well in game two."

Lowell got a wonderful pitching performance from

Groom. She allowed five runs on 10 hits while striking out four Eagle hitters and not allowing a walk.

Hudsonville 7-12

Lowell 1-2

Against what Bob Rodenhouse called the best softball team his club has faced all year, the Red Arrows were doubled up by Hudsonville in relatively easy fashion.

Lowell had just four hits in the opener and managed five in the nightcap.

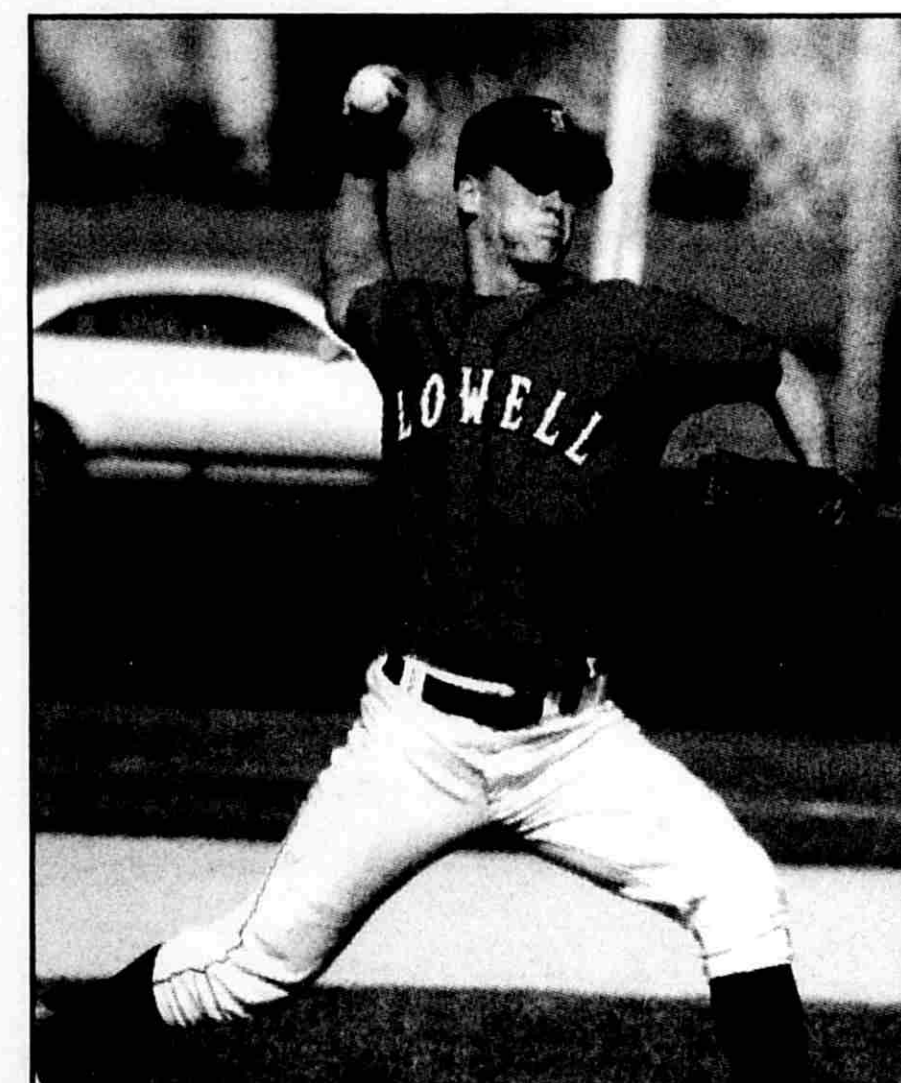
The Eagles scored four runs in the second inning and three in the fifth to win the opener.

A six-run first was more than enough for Hudsonville in game two.



Morgan Groom pitched a complete game in Lowell's 4-3 eight-inning loss to Grand Rapids Christian.

Lowell nine rallies from one down to take series



Torsten Boss pitches in relief against Grand Rapids Christian.

by Thad Kraus

Pitching and timely two-out hitting sparked Lowell to a series-winning 7-0 victory over Grand Rapids Christian Thursday.

The two clubs split a pair of games on Tuesday with the Eagles rallying for four runs in the bottom of the seventh inning off of Torsten Boss to win 4-3.

The Red Arrows battled back in the nightcap for a 10-6 decision.

Winning two-of-three from the Eagles kept Lowell atop the O-K White at 11-1 tied with East Grand Rapids.

The Pioneers and Red Arrows will settle the conference championship this week with a

league-ending, three-game series which starts with a doubleheader at Lowell and finishes with a single game at East Grand Rapids.

"The boys battled back from a tough loss," said Lowell baseball coach Juston Miller.

Josh Drake and Zach Stephens called on to share the pitching duties in game three, combined on a one-hit shutout.

Drake pitched the opening three innings and Stephens closed the door over the final four.

"Because of the maximum inning rule, the seniors were asked to do something out of the ordinary and they came through for the team," Miller

explained. Grand Rapids Christian coach Brent Gates was not pleased with his club's effort.

"We had a prime opportunity. The boys came out flat and didn't put any pressure on Lowell," Gates explained. "Actually, they made it easy for them. If you're going to win, you must show up ready to play everyday." Lowell jumped on Eagle pitching for three runs in the first inning. The Red Arrows scored on an RBI double from Josh Drake and a two-run single off the bat of Shane Ryan.

Lowell added a fourth run in the second when Elliot Drain opened the inning with single to center, stole second, advanced to third on a wild pitch and then scored on a second wild pitch.

Lowell tallied another run in third on singles by Zach Stephens and Shane Ryan, followed by an RBI infield hit by Tim Hettinga.

The Red Arrows tallied run number six in the fourth inning on a two-out, RBI single from Boss, scoring Jesse VandenBosch, who got aboard on a one-out single.

Lowell's final run of the game came in the sixth when Drain singled and later scored on an error on a ground ball to first base.

Lowell's Kimble and Teft headed to state; Arrows seventh at regionals

by Thad Kraus

Lowell girls' track team vaulted itself into the Class A state finals on Friday at Caledonia High School.

Both Richelle Kimble and Kelsey Teft qualified in the pole vault for the state meet on May 30.

Kimble finished second at the Division I Regional, clearing a height of 10-8.

Her friend and competitor, Rockford's Sarah Birkmeier, won the regional with a height of 11-2.

Teft qualified by clearing a height of 9-8.

The Red Arrows finished seventh in a field of 15.

Rockford was first with 192 points followed by Grand Ledge 82, Jackson 77, Okemos 76, Holt 44, and Lansing Everitt 40.

Greenville tied Lowell with 34 points followed by Kenowa Hills 25, Caledonia 22, Forest Hills Central 15, Lansing Eastern 13, Creston 3, Union 3, and Ottawa Hills 3.

Top six performances by Red Arrows came in the 3200 meter relay teams, Miah Jackson in the long jump and Haleigh Timmers in the 1600 and 3200 meter runs.

6th, 28.47; and 1600 relay, 5th, 4:25.18.

"We had a respectable day," said Lowell girls track coach Robin Briggs. "The girls handed in a number of PR's (personal records)."

Lowell had five girls qualify for the John Bos Invitational on Tuesday (May 26).

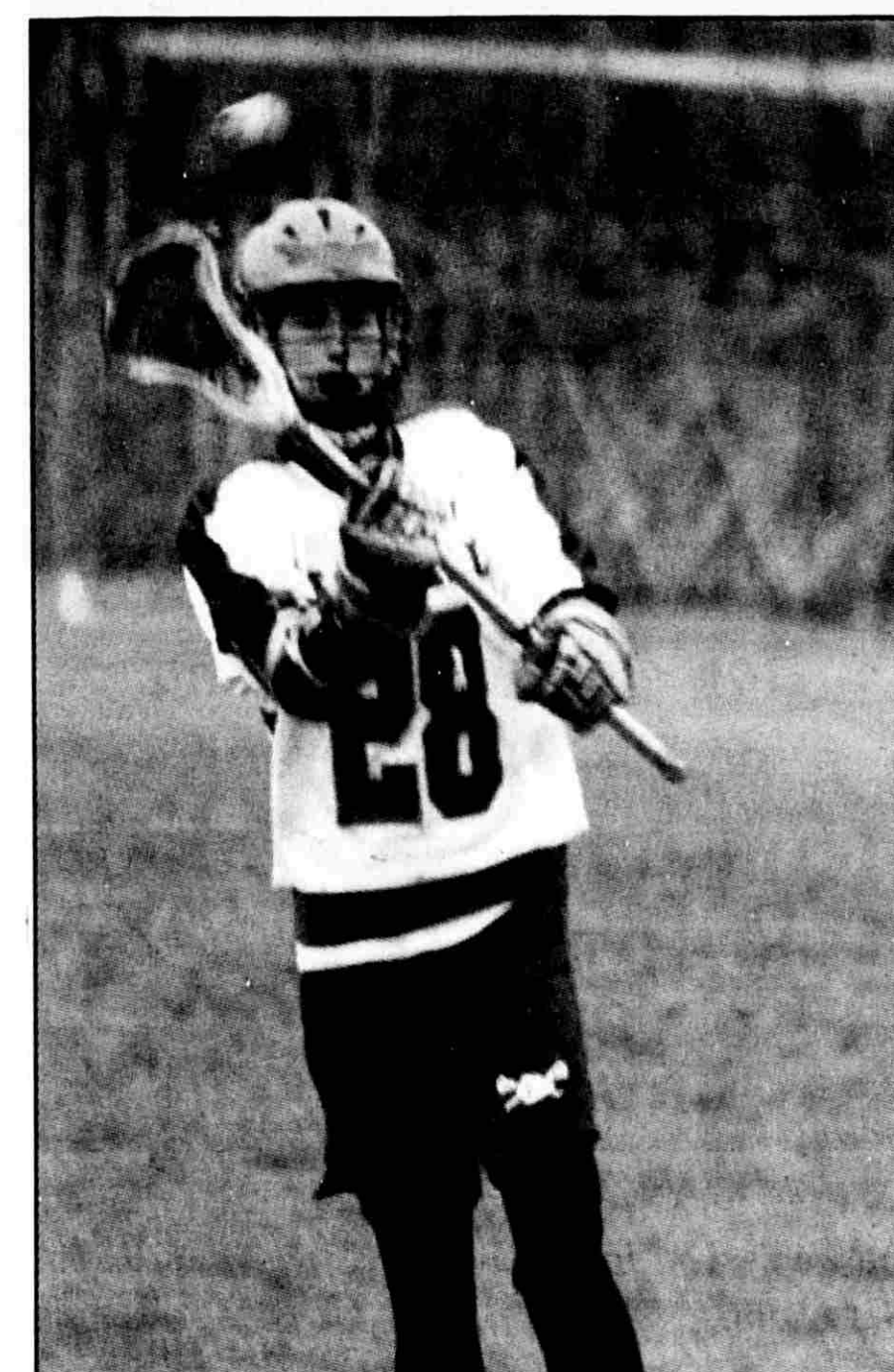
Recording personal bests for Lowell were the 400 and 3200 meter relay teams, Miah Jackson in the long jump and Haleigh Timmers in the 1600 and 3200 meter runs.



Kelsey Teft clears a hurdle in the 110 prelims.

Red Arrow SPORTS

Lacrosse team looks to take winning ways into playoffs



Lowell midfielder Jon Woods looks to make a pass into the Lowell offensive zone.

by Thad Kraus

For the first time in its five-year history, the Lowell boys' lacrosse program will finish the regular season with a winning record.

The Red Arrows finished their season at 10-5 overall and 7-5 in the O-K White, placing Lowell third.

"This is a big step for Lowell lacrosse," said Lowell lacrosse coach Eric Bredin. "I believe this season will mark the beginning of a winning tradition."

Despite finishing the regular season with a disappointing loss at Holland Christian, Lowell did manage to complete its league action with an exciting 10-9 come-from-behind effort against Grand Haven.

"The boys played smart and were solid on defense," Bredin explained.

Lowell trailed throughout most of the game including 5-2 early on before tying the game at nine.

Red Arrow Kolin Morgan made the comeback complete when he scored a goal with less than two minutes to play giving Lowell the lead.

Joel Morgan led all Lowell scorers with three goals.

Kolin Morgan and Abe McIntire both netted two goals while Alec Downing, Isaac Tawney and Jimmy McCormick each tallied a goal apiece.

In its 7-6 loss to Holland Christian, Lowell led 6-5 before the home team tied

the game and then scored the winning goal in the waning seconds for the victory.

McIntire led all Arrows in scoring with two goals. Single goals were netted by Joel Morgan, Isaac Tawney, Alex Vera, and Jon Woods.

"We're in a position now to make a run in the state playoffs. If we can get everyone healthy and on the field playing together, I like our chances," Bredin said.

Results missing in Lowell's soccer loss

by Thad Kraus

Both Grand Rapids Christian and Lowell girls' soccer teams were looking for results against a quality opponent Monday night at Bob Perry Field.

The Red Arrows (10-3-3) had scoring opportunities early, but the season-long nemesis of putting the ball away continued as Lowell came up empty.

"As I told the girls, when you miss opportunities early, they usually come back and get ya," said Lowell soccer coach Paul Legge.

The Eagles did just that as Grand Rapids Christian (12-2-2) tallied a single goal in the first half and tacked on three more in the second half for a 4-0 win.

"When the ball goes in the net, the game looks a lot easier," said Grand Rapids Christian coach Larry Klassen. "We won some scrambles in front of the net and that's a good sign when your club does that against a quality soccer program like Lowell."

Klassen noted that his club had been playing well but has had a difficult time scoring against the better teams.

The Eagles suffered

shutouts recently at the hands of East Grand Rapids (2-0) and Holland Christian (3-0).

"The first goal of any game is huge," Klassen explained. "When a team doesn't score early, it usually comes back and works against them."

Lowell's opportunities came early in the first half. After that the Red Arrow attack was stifled by the Eagles.

Christian controlled the entire second half, scoring its second goal of the game early in the second 40 minutes.

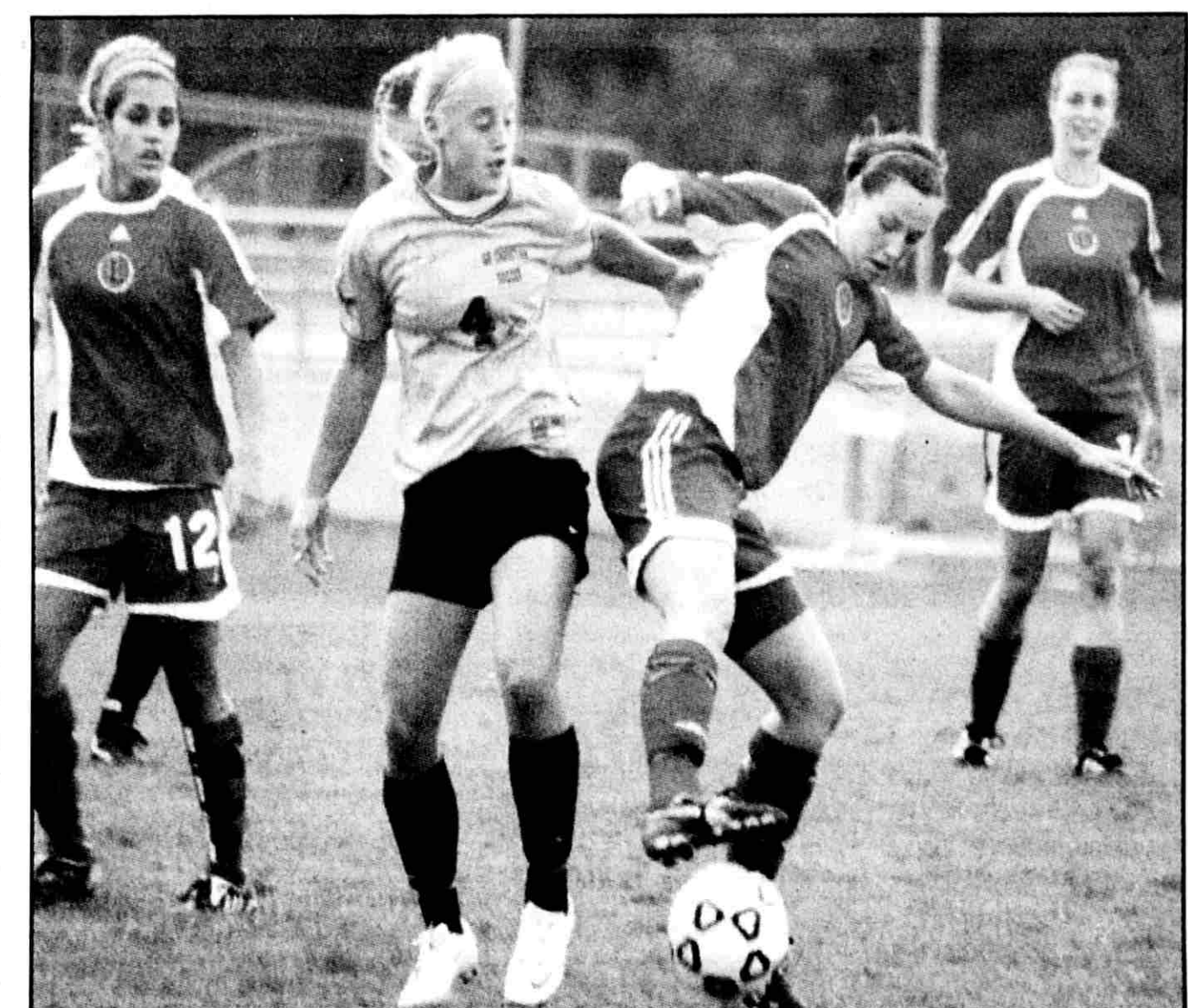
"That second goal kind of shell shocked our girls and they were really never in it after that," Legge said. "Soccer is a game of momentum and you hope you can ride out the waves. We had our shots early but didn't get the results."

Lowell 5

Cedar Springs 0

The Red Arrows got the results they were looking for in a 5-0 nonconference win over Cedar Springs on Friday.

"It was a great effort. The girls finished everything against a club that had only lost one game," Lowell girls' soccer coach Paul Legge said.



Lowell's Hannah Oberlin works for control against her Grand Rapids Christian counterpart.

Lowell crew rows strong at Reeds Lake

As rain and hail pelted the area at 5 a.m. rowers for Lowell crew wondered how many layers of clothes to put on for that day's East Grand Rapids regatta. The answer was plenty.

The rain had tapered to a steady drizzle as six area crew teams, Forest Hills Northern, Forest Hills Eastern, East Grand Rapids, Northview, Grand Rapids, and Lowell gathered at Reeds Lake for a day of racing.

Lowell finished its season at 2-3 in the O-K White and 6-6 overall.

their women's junior 8 finishing second, less than a half boat length behind FHN in a field of six boats.

"Their stroke rate was right where we wanted it. I am very pleased with our row," commented coach David Cadwallader.

Two of the girls including the boat's critical 'stroke seat' were 'hot seated' into the eight boat at the dock immediately after finishing third in a double sculls race.

"I was soaked to the bone and tired, but once we got

back to the start I felt fine," said junior stroke Samantha Hagerman.

Lowell also fared well with a third place finish in the women's novice 4 heat and a respectable fourth of six boats in the men's novice 4 heat despite the last minute addition of a Northview novice rower.

Rounding out the day was Lowell's women's junior 4 with third place medals. "It was great to see our rowers rewarded for all their hard

work. Not only does our coaching staff work well together but our student manager Jessica Mankel puts in a lot of time fine tuning our boat lineups," said crew coach Pete Chittenden.

The Learn to Row summer rowing program begins June 15 every Monday and Wednesday night from 6-7:30 p.m. Visit the website for highlights of the season and further information about the Learn To Row program.



FIND THEM ALL - RIGHT HERE ON THE GARAGE SALE PAGE!

MULTI - HUGE SALE
May 22, 23 & 25 - 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. 4530 Honey Creek NE (Cannonsburg). Huge variety, furniture, printer, household, kids, man stuff.

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE
Thurs.-Sat., May 21 - 23. Baby furniture, hot tub, plants, animals, clawfoot bath tub, bed, brooder, horse tack, ceramic floor tiles, antique drill press, air compressor, table saw, antique kitchen stove, new quad tires & much more. 10318 Keim Rd., Clarksville.

GARAGE & CARPORT SALES
May 22 & 23, 9-6 p.m. Pebble Beach Apts. on Bowes Rd., Lowell. Puzzles, clothes, furniture, wedding dress (size 14), movies, CD's, lots of stuff, several families. Rain date: May 29 & 30.

LIL' RED BARN SALE
Antiques, shabby chic, fun things to decorate your home & garden. Fri. & Sat., May 22 & 23, 9-6 p.m. 12795 Burroughs NE, 2 miles North of Lowell, off Lincoln Lake Rd.

YARD SALE
May 21, 22 & 23, 8:30 - 4 families. Guns, women's plus size, kids thru men's, lots of misc. all marked to sell. 11326 Denise, lot 120, Key Heights.

PLANT SALE
Saturday, May 23, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. 292 Jane Ellen.

HUGE SALE AT PERRY'S
8-5, Fri. & Sat., May 22 & 23, 6939 Alden Nash (M-50). Household items, dressers, lamps, lawnmowers, bikes, toys, books, misc & lots of name brand clothing. Something for everyone.

GARAGE SALE
Thurs., Fri., & Sat. May 21, 22 & 23, 9 - 5. Some furniture, blonde bedroom suit, lots of odds and ends. 5500 Pratt Lake.

PERENNIAL SALE FUNDRAISER
Hundreds of hearty plants. \$5 to \$3. Sat. 8-5, Sun. 10 - 4 & Mon. 8-2, 520 Monroe. All proceeds go to LAS Color Guard.

HUGE GARAGE SALE IN ADA
May 21 - 22, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Eddie Bauer double stroller, boys crib bedding set, Graco swing & much more! LOTS of brand name clothing! girls 0-12 months, boys 0 months - 5T. 2062 Grand River Dr. NE Ada.

2 FAMILY GARAGE SALE
May 21, 6-8 p.m., May 22 - 23, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m., 8333 Pratt Lake Alto. Childrens clothing, girls size 2-5, boys size 5-6, Fisher Price toys, Leapster, V-Smile w/games, Power Wheels 12V, 2 Gameboy colors w/games, household items, cast iron clawfoot tub, air compressor, Guitar Hero for XBOX, lots more.

CARRIAGE HOUSE SALE
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11404 FOREMAN FARMS CT
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MOVING SALE
1490 Baywicke, Eastgate, furniture, yard equipment, air compressor and so forth, 8 to 5. Saturday, May 23.

Outdoors, continued ... From Page 4

Black bears seem to be traveling south from their historical northern range more often. Bear populations have increased in response to wildlife management strategies such as adjusting hunting license quotas to reflect current bear numbers in a particular area.

Feral pigs are beginning to establish a noticeable presence around the state. Russian boars have been a popular trophy at game farms and escapees have turned up in a number of locations and have mixed in with wild domestic pigs. The result has been a proliferation of feral animals which can damage crops as well as wildlife habitat. From what I have learned about wild hogs, I think I am more comfortable sharing the outback with wolves and bears than a 300-pound boar.

It is now common to see coyotes in southern Michigan where they were once rare or nonexistent. But more surprising, a wolverine was photographed on the east side of the state. I wonder if it is still around.

Reported sightings and physical evidence indicate that cougars, also called mountain lions, have at least visited Michigan. It is something I try not to dwell on when walking through the woods before daylight. Just in case you come across one, keep in mind they are on the state endangered species list.

A few species have been deliberately reintroduced. The wild turkey is probably the most remarkable addition to the Michigan wildlife family. These unique creatures are now commonly observed and challenging to hunt. They seem to be doing well, even under sometimes harsh winter conditions. Moose and elk have also returned to the forests and meadows, and along with longtime residents and the other newcomers, provide opportunities to encounter a great variety of wildlife in Michigan.

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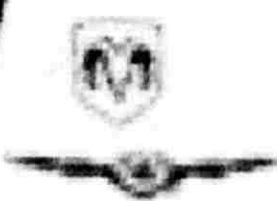
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