



# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 38 Issue 26

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, May 27, 2009

## Lowell honors the fallen with annual Memorial Day parade

**H**undreds of people lined up Main Street for the Memorial Day parade Monday, on a beautiful crisp morning. The city council marched in the parade behind the veterans. The parade briefly stopped at the Veterans' memorial on the east side of the bridge for a firing salute and a floral wreath was dropped into the Flat River to honor those who perished at sea. Both bands, middle and high school played patriotic music during the ceremonies. Dave Thompson, post commander of American Legion Post #152 moderated the ceremony at the Oakwood Cemetery. "Freedom is not free," he said. This year, the remembrance day had a different format. Due to the aging of veterans, no speaker was featured. However, Thompson explained the story behind decorative ribbons and medals of honor for army men. He was assisted by the Boy Scouts. Since last year, 21 veterans of World War II, Vietnam and Korea have passed. Thompson tolled the bell after each veteran's name and taps was played. Previously, a group of veterans placed 500 flags at the cemetery to honor all those who served in any of the branches of the army. Traditionally, the Kent County 4-H Youth Court laid flowers at the monument.

More images from the day, pg. 8



## Elementary students help to stock Flat River with fingerling salmon

**O**n May 6, Murray Lake Elementary students, parents, and teachers made a trip to the banks where the "two rivers meet." Thirty-seven young salmon (smolts) were released into the Flat River by the students. This was

the culmination of seven months of effort by Murray Lake teacher, Linda DeCator and several Murray Lake students.

In November 2008, the Wolf Lake State Fish Hatchery gave Murray Lake Elementary students the opportunity to participate in the

"Salmon in the Classroom" program. With help from the Steelheaders Association in Grand Rapids and the Murray Lake Family Links, the students were able to provide just the right habitat for our 200 "eyed" salmon eggs. The 55 gallon tank, chiller, gravel, lava rock, filters, test

strips, etc., were all very important components to this program. The students were able to monitor temperatures, water quality, feeding schedules, and population count on a daily basis.

This learning resource, which focuses on salmon, biology, and stewardship,

encourages an ecological approach. "Students learned about the meaning of stewardship: that we must make informed decisions and take appropriate actions to protect and conserve all plants and animals who share our planet," commented DeCator. "As one of our students put it: 'If all schools did this, we could have lots of salmon in our great lakes! We can make a difference!'"

David Guggenheim, vice president of the Ocean Conservancy said, "One of the most important vehicles we have for change on our planet is education. With the right teacher, learning about one's natural environment while 'experiencing' it can be a life-changing event that forever alters one's perspective and understanding. I suppose I am living proof."

The Murray Lake students, along with DeCator and a parent volunteer, Renee Davis, spent many hours caring for the salmon over the past several months. "Renee and Linda poured their heart and soul into this project. It truly had an impact on many of our students. I think it will have a lasting impact on our kids into their futures,"

said Murray Lake principal, Brent Noskey.

In order to participate in the releasing of the salmon, students needed to fill out an application that included why they were interested in the salmon project, and how it would affect them in their future. Fourth grader, Adam Korzen commented, "It was a great learning experience to see the salmon grow from just being eggs. I think this program taught me to take care of the nature around me. I may want to volunteer or work at a fish hatchery in the future."

"It was really interesting to see what the salmon did when we released them. They seemed a bit nervous when we let them into the river. They stayed right by us, but after they got used to it they swam off," added third grader, Eric Dimmick. "It was a great experience. It has made me want to learn more about salmon and how we can help take care of our great lakes," added Dimmick.

DeCator and Davis hope to team up again next year to raise another batch of salmon.



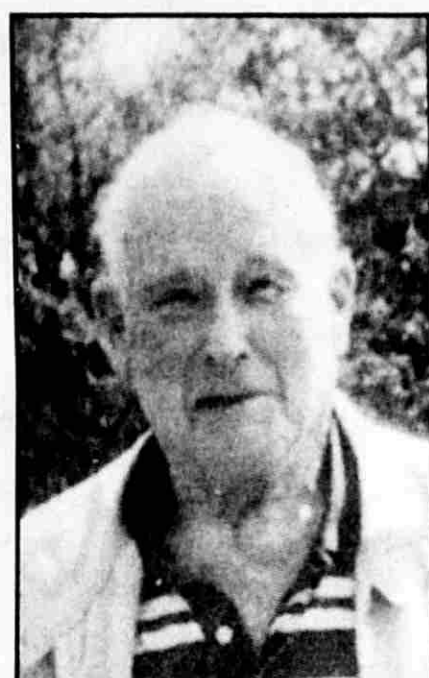
Murray Lake students dive into the job of releasing salmon into the Flat River.



# Obituaries

## BLOCHER

Flossie B. Blocher, aged 86, of Clarksville, and formerly of the Lowell area, passed away late Friday evening, May 15, 2009. Flossie was born in Williamston, on May 5, 1923 to George and Mildred (Mulholland) Tobias, and graduated from Lowell High School in 1941. She was united in marriage to Leo Blocher on June 7, 1944. Flossie had worked as a hairdresser, and for 40 years had owned and operated a hunting and fishing resort in Chapleau, Ontario with her husband. Flossie is survived by her sons, Wayne Blocher and Greg Blocher; four grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; Leo, her loving husband of 64 years; daughter-in-law, Lois Blocher; and all of her brothers and sisters. Funeral services were held at the Koops Funeral Chapel on Wednesday, May 20. Burial was in Merriman Cemetery. The family has suggested that memorial contributions may be made to The National Kidney Foundation. Flossie's family welcomes memories and messages in their guest book at [www.koopsfc.com](http://www.koopsfc.com).



## THUSTON

Charlie K. Thuston, aged 94, of Lowell, passed away Saturday, May 23, 2009. He will be sadly missed by his devoted family and friends. He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary, and daughters, Patsy and Judith Ann. He is survived by his wife, Letha; children, Kenneth (Joyce) Thuston, Carol (Brian) Hoag, Mary (Doug) Coverston, Larry (Char) Thuston, Linda Strathearn, Julie (Mike) Owen and Debbie (Steve) Higbee; 29 grandchildren and 52 great-grandchildren. Funeral services will be Wednesday, May 27 at 11:00 a.m. at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, with Rev. Rick Blunt of First United Methodist Church of Lowell, officiating. Using the NHIN, when

## New technologies improve disability process

In March, Social Security became the first government agency to use the Nationwide Health Information Network (NHIN). This initiative will cut the time it takes Social Security to get medical records — from weeks or months to only minutes — for people who apply for disability benefits. Initially, this will affect a small number of the people applying for disability benefits, but it will gradually expand.

This year, Social Security will handle almost three million disability claims a year and make over 15 million requests for medical records from over 900,000 medical providers. Providers have a number of options to respond to these requests, but all require manual intervention before evidence can be entered into Social Security's electronic disability folder.

Using the NHIN, when

an applicant lists certain medical facilities as treating sources, Social Security's system automatically sends an electronic message to the hospital's system requesting the medical record and providing the patient's authorization. The hospital's system automatically responds. Within minutes, the medical evidence is available for evaluation.

In addition, we've identified medical codes that match portions of 43 conditions in our medical listings. The agency's computer system analyzes the data for these codes after receiving hospital records and alerts the disability decision maker so the case can be processed more quickly.

You can also apply for disability benefits right online at [www.socialsecurity.gov/disability](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disability).

With innovative new technologies like the NHIN, medical codes, and the online

application, Social Security is working to reverse the growing disability backlog and reduce the time it takes to make a decision.

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

## Murray Lake's Darby Fuller earns a \$1,000 grant



Pictured from left to right, with Darby Fuller, are: Jeff and Kelly Fuller, Brent Noskey, Rachel Taber and Susan Day.

Murray Lake fourth grader, Darby Fuller, won a \$1,000 grant for her school from Priority Health. Susan Day, Fuller's writing teacher, had her students submit a letter to a Priority Health writing contest. The contest stated that the students had to share ways that they could help stay healthy in their childhood.

Fuller's essay was selected from hundreds submitted. A check presentation was made at Murray Lake on

Thursday, May 21. Rachel Taber, a Priority Health representative, presented the check to Fuller as fellow fourth graders looked on. Taber also spoke about the importance of staying healthy. A Priority Health sponsored cyclist also spoke to the students.

Fuller, Murray Lake principal Brent Noskey, and Murray Lake gym teacher, Missy Harrison will meet in the near future to decide how the grant will be spent.

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

File No. 09-186,804-DE

Estate of LUCILLE L. DROSKI. Date of birth: 2-5-1913

#### TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, LUCILLE L. DROSKI, who lived at 964 Lincoln St. NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan died March 4, 2009.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred

unless presented to EDITH M. RILEY, named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave. NW, Ste. 2500, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/ proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

May 11, 2009

John D. Mitus (P-31244) 410 Bridge St., NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 616-774-4001

Edith M. Riley 13224 - 8th Ave., NW Grand Rapids, MI 49534

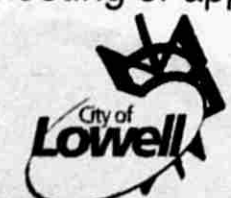
## CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council will conduct the second of two public hearings at their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, June 1, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lowell City Hall Council Chambers, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

City Operating Budget for 2009-2010. The document outlines proposed revenues and expenditures for the coming fiscal year. The General Fund has a total of \$2,521,040.90 in proposed expenditures.

Copies of the 2009-2010 Budget are available for inspection during normal business hours at City Hall, the Englehardt Public Library and the City web page ([www.ci.lowell.mi.us](http://www.ci.lowell.mi.us)).

Interested persons may submit comments to the Lowell City Hall, Attn: City Clerk prior to the meeting or appear in person.



Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

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## Local artists invited to submit covers for 2009 Pink Arrow Project

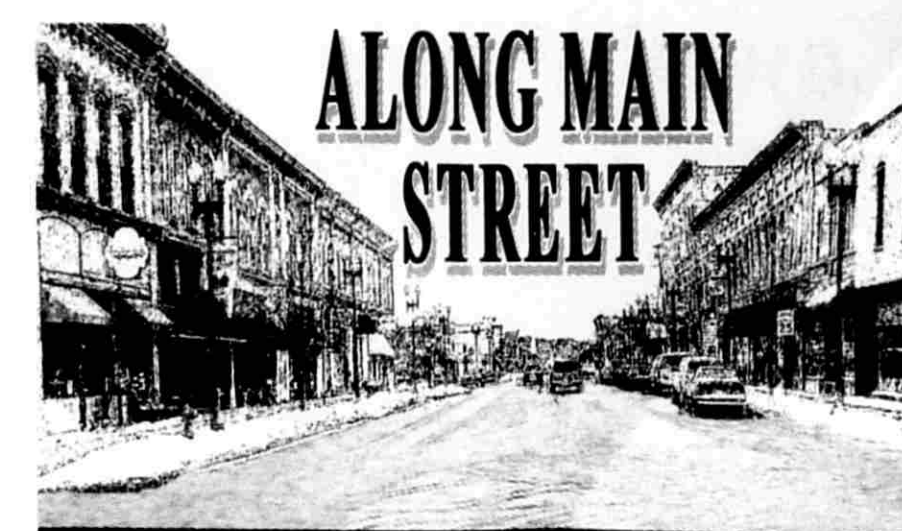
The Pink Arrow Project committee is inviting local artists and art students to create an artwork for the cover of the commemorative Pink Arrow Program.

These pieces of artwork will be judged with the winning piece being on the cover. It will also be raffled at the September 11 football game. Several other pieces will also be featured in the program. All entries will be featured throughout the community this summer with a silent auction for the artwork at the Lowell Area Arts Council on September 8. All proceeds will benefit the Pink Arrow Project.

The Pink Arrow Project experience not only raised the level of awareness about cancer and the devastating effect on families, but provided an opportunity for Lowell's varsity football team to demonstrate that life is not just about winning football games, but that there are more important values of family, kindness, honor and service. It was once said that "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." The community witnessed that expression with the 2008 Lowell Pink Arrow Project. The submitted artwork can

be from all mediums of art. The piece of artwork will be entirely up to the artist's interpretation of what the Pink Arrow Project means to them. The artwork will be on the program that will feature the participants of the nights activities, which will include the cross country team, volleyball team, football team, possible fireworks, entertainment, recognition of 911, cheerleaders, marching band and numerous other activities. All entries need to be submitted by June 30, to the

Lowell Area Arts Council, located at 149 S. Hudson St., Lowell. The Pink Arrow Project committee will determine the cover winner and the student winner to be featured in the program. All artwork will then start a road trip throughout the community with a silent auction held at the Lowell Area Arts Council on September 8 from 7-9 p.m. Any questions can be directed to Perry or Teresa Beachum, 897-7768.



### 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](http://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.

### FREE COMMODITIES

Commodities food order for low income families at the Moose Recreation building, 1320 E. Fulton, Thurs., June 4, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Bring proof of income and Social Security numbers for each member of household. Please bring bags. Questions, call David, 616-745-8520 or Virginia, 897-8754.

### CALL FOR ARTISTS

June 9 - July, The Franciscan Life Process Center and the Lowell Area Arts Council present Entwined Lines - the Art of Weaving: A Multi-Media Exhibition. For application and/or more details visit [www.lifeprocessingcenter.org](http://www.lifeprocessingcenter.org) or [www.lowellartscouncil.org](http://www.lowellartscouncil.org).

### 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.

### FOOD PANTRY

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



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Saturday, Oct 10, 10 am to 2 pm

## At Your Local Library



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## Antique appraisal event at Grattan Historical Society

The Grattan Township Historical Society is sponsoring an evening of antiques and collectibles appraisal.

Well-known local appraiser, Joan Bunn, will be present to offer appraisals of antiques, collectibles and heirlooms. Bunn is the owner of Joan & Associates, and she has been working with estates, collectibles and antiques for many years. She is also a descendant of one of Grattan's pioneer families. She is a very knowledgeable speaker, and will offer interesting commentary for all of the items as she appraises them.

The public is invited to attend this event on June 2 at the Grattan Township Hall. Appraisals will begin at 6:30 p.m. Attendees may bring a maximum of two items to be appraised or simply come to watch, listen and enjoy. There is no admission to watch, but there will be a donation charge of \$5 for each item appraised. All proceeds will benefit the Grattan Township Historical Society. To keep the event manageable, items must be small enough to be carried.

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- TERMINATOR SALVATION (PG-13) MON 11:20, 1:50, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
- TUE-TH 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
- NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM: BATTLE OF THE SMITHSONIAN (PG) MON 11:40, 2:00, 4:20, 6:50, 9:10
- TUE-TH 4:20, 6:50, 9:10
- DANCE FLICK (PG-13) MON 11:10, 1:10, 3:10, 5:10, 7:20, 9:20
- TUE-TH 5:10, 7:20, 9:20
- ANGELS AND DEMONS (PG-13) MON 12:30, 3:40, 6:40, 9:45
- TUE-TH 6:40, 9:45
- STAR TREK (PG-13) MON 11:00, 1:40, 4:25, 7:10, 9:55
- TUE-TH 4:25, 7:10, 9:55

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## Lowell Women's Club's new members and raffle winners

The Lowell Women's Club's 2009-10 year is coming to a close with the induction of three new members: Lori Hull, Jean Freund, and Nancy Wood. The long-awaited raffle

drawing of original art works of David Davis, Cathy Dykstra, and Karen Hale (David's students) and more, was done by Dr. Fritz and Sandy Esch, past superintendent of Lowell

Area Schools and his wife. They gave an outstanding presentation of their two weeks in Kenya, Africa. The winners were: Rachel Sprenger - David Davis watercolor; Betty Morlock

- Kathy Dykstra watercolor; Catherine Bek - Karen Hale watercolor; Jack Reedy - Flat River Grill chef's dinner; Pat Allchin - two Avon baskets; Matt Davidson - silver basket; Mary Ford - Karyn Moulton necklace set; and John Wierenga - \$25 BP gas card.

Photos courtesy of Barbara Brown, LWC member.



A total of ten new members have been inducted into Lowell Women's Club for 2009-10. The last three inductees included, from left to right: Lori Hull, Jean Freund, and Nancy Wood with Susan Stouffer, LWC board member.



Dr. Fritz and Sandy Esch gave a travelogue presentation to the luncheon meeting of the Lowell Women's Club relating to their two weeks in Kenya, Africa.

At left, Bonnie Baird, raffle chair, with Fritz drawing names for the 2009 raffle.

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## Summer Lunch Program

In light of current economic conditions, some community members are joining with

**FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES** to continue the free or reduced lunch program into the summer.

Anyone who is currently on the meal assistance program at a Lowell Area School or would like to receive free lunches throughout the summer can do so by signing up below. All contact information will be kept confidential. Families can receive a week's worth of lunch supplies for their school-age children once per week, per family.

We are also looking for anyone who would like to donate food items for this program. Distribution site will be at Flat River Outreach Ministries on Mondays and Tuesdays, from 2:00 to 4:30. If you have any questions, please call the Food Pantry at 897-8260.

Please return this form to F.R.O.M.  
(Attention Jody) at 11535 Fulton Street East,  
Lowell, MI 49331  
no later than June 4th.



I am interested in receiving food for \_\_\_\_\_ children.

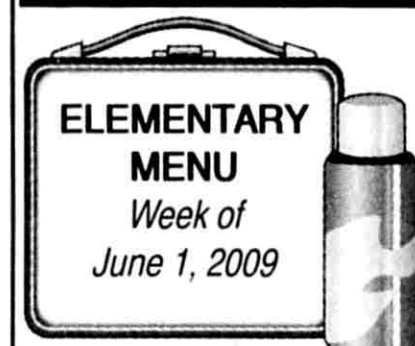
I am interested in donating food items \_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

## Construction complete

The construction of the Walgreens store on the west outskirts of town is proceeding with a projected opening in late summer. Approximately 25 to 30 jobs will be filled. The construction company is Sachse.

### LUNCH MENU



**MON:** Alto field day, Hamburger on bun, assorted vegetables, assorted fruit, milk.

**TUES:** Alto field day, Hotdog on bun, assorted vegetables, assorted fruit, milk.

**WED:** Taco (soft or hard shell), w/cheese & lettuce, assorted vegetables, assorted fruit, milk.

**THURS:** Pizza, assorted vegetables, assorted fruit, milk.

**FRI:** Summer Vacation begins.

*A smiling face is half the meal.*  
- Latvian Proverb

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# Viewpoint

## To The Editor

Dear Editor,

I am writing to thank Emma Palova for her coverage of the Benefit Concert that we held at St. Mary's Church for Blessing Okoli. On behalf of Father Eugene Okoli, Blessing and all of her family, our parish family, and myself, I just want to say that we greatly appreciate all that you did to publicize the concert.

Although the turnout was moderate, the outcome was magnificent! We raised \$7,513 in one night for Blessing's medical fund!! And since then we have had additional donations that have raised our total to just past \$11,500. Not bad for our little community! Folks here are just very generous, aren't they? We feel optimistic that we will be able to find surgery for Blessing, even though we still have a long way to go.

Thank you again for your willingness to publicize this worthy cause.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Laurie Garcia

Dear Editor,

This week, the Lowell Showboat Garden Club planted the Riverwalk flowers and Showboat flower baskets as it has for the past eight years.

Brenda Angelo is the dynamo of this yearly project, and so on Friday, May 15, she loaded her truck with flowers from Snow Avenue Greenhouse and brought them home to prepare for display. She and members of her committee are to be commended for their work and dedication to making the Riverwalk a prettier place to visit.

The Garden Club spends approximately 400 dollars on this project, having accepted a responsibility that the city cannot shoulder. This club also provides greens for the holiday season and is responsible for the clean up and watering of the plants.

The Lowell Showboat Garden Club celebrates 60 years as a Lowell service organization this summer.

Carol Foerch

Dear Editor,

Recently I wrote an article in the Viewpoint about three buildings that were being scheduled to be torn down.

My article brought forth some history of a one block area of Main St. and questioned the restructuring of several condemned buildings, and it was the only time I spoke out publicly on the subject. The only thing that I could find that might be wrong with the article is that it didn't please Greg Canfield. Greg, in an article about his attempt to get two of his buildings restructured, made this comment - "Public support has been very positive, with the exception of Jim Howard, which confirms that we are doing the right thing." That comment from a man of stature leaves me dumbfounded. There is more than one side to every story and we do not have to agree, but a little respect can go a long ways.

Sincerely,  
Jim Howard

Dear Editor,

The Lowell Wittenbach/Wege Center has a new building in the community garden that was built by the Lowell Boy Scouts of Troop 102 and requested by Meggan Johnson. The structure is visible when passing the WWC community garden on Vergennes. The project was designed to be Ben Carlson's Eagle Scout project.

The Wittenbach/Wege Agriscience and Environmental Center is an outdoor learning center nestled amongst 140 acres of lush forests, rolling prairies, abundant wetlands and open fields. They are dedicated to providing the tools, skills

and knowledge to develop environmentally-responsible, agriculturally-aware citizens who actively participate in practices that preserve the integrity and sustainability of the natural world.

The Vine Barn will be a destination for group leaders and families to gather to learn about the importance of gardening and agriculture as a whole. This summer, the Wittenbach staff will surround the Vine Barn with climbing vines and farm-themed plants that will turn the structure into a learning center. Kindergarten students will be able to use their senses to smell, feel and see the flowers. First grade students will be able to examine the plants in search of caterpillars, butterfly eggs and other insects. Second grade students will put their plant knowledge to use identifying the various parts of that plant. The learning opportunities will be endless.

An Eagle Scout Project is a required step in order for a scout to reach the rank of Eagle. Throughout the project the scout must demonstrate his leadership abilities to others while the project is being performed by the citizens of Lowell to benefit the community. Ben Carlson's Eagle Scout project is a 10 ft. tall 8 ft. by 10 ft. structure made of natural wood from Michigan woods. The Vine Barn is designed to have an ABC garden surrounding it and will be used to teach kids in the surrounding schools about the outdoors and nature. An ABC garden is a garden where there's a plant for every letter of the alphabet. Twenty-six volunteers helped out on this project, including people from Lowell High School and Troop 102. The WWC, residing across Vergennes street from Lowell High School, is always in need of help and the Community Garden is always open.

According to the Boy Scouts of America, one in four boys in America will join Scouting. Of one-hundred boys who join Scouting, only one will persevere, and attain the rank of Eagle Scout. The years of commitment and service projects, like the one completed at the WWC, attest to the difficulty of attaining the rank of Eagle Scout. Eagle Scouts have persevered on their path, leading their peers through winter campouts, rainy weekends, weeklong summer camps, and countless hours of community service projects. They have spent endless hours working on merit badges, planning events with youth and adults, and completing challenging requirements to attain this rank. Randy Jesberg, Scoutmaster of Troop 102, asks that you "take the time to thank your local Scout and/or Eagle Scout for taking time to become a better person, a better leader, for tomorrow." For interested boys age 12 to 18 years, Troop 102 of Lowell meets on Monday nights at the end of Washington St. at 7:00 p.m.

This project would have been much harder if it weren't for the great support of Bernard's Ace Hardware of Lowell. Ben Carlson said that "Bernard's Ace Hardware frequently gives back to the community and donated all the required hardware supplies needed to complete this community project." The WWC Vine Barn was completed on May 5, 2009.

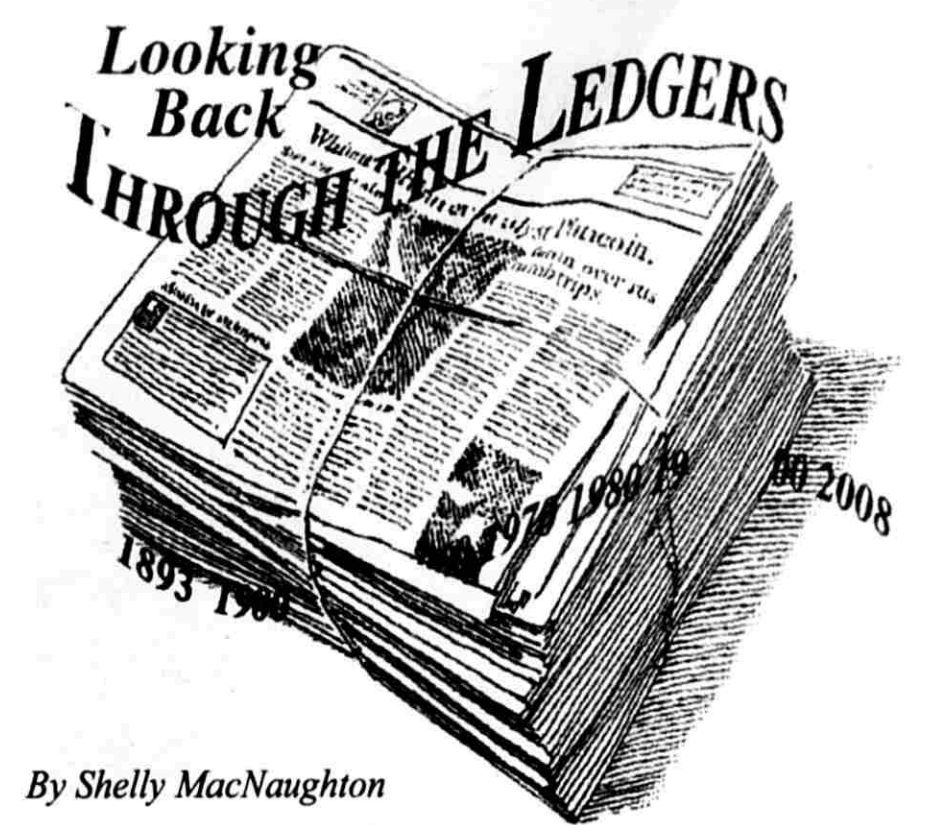
Ben Carlson

**WHEN SUBMITTING PHOTOS**

Please remember that we only keep photos on file for 6 months.

*If you would like your photo returned, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.*

**The Lowell Ledger**



By Shelly MacNaughton

### 125 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL JOURNAL MAY 28, 1884

Donaldson's circus is in Lowell today. Let us all pay tribute to the sleeping soldiers Friday. New sidewalks around Marshall Mitchell's premises on the South and East. Follow the Marshall's example.

In view of the fact that unlawful trout fishing has been done this season, it is proposed by some of our citizens to organize a fish protection club here to see that the laws are enforced. The trout planted in the streams around here three years ago should be protected.

### 100 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER MAY 27, 1909

Headline: BROTHERHOOD PICNIC June 4  
Friday June 4 is the date of the Methodist Brotherhood picnic at Island Park.

Undoubtedly it will interest the milk producers of this section to know the cheese factory at Lowell will open its doors for business June 1, 1909, at which time they will be in a position to receive whole milk or separated cream and be in a position to meet competition in either line.

### 75 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AND ALTO SOLO MAY 31, 1934

For the purpose of avoiding further costly litigation, the Michigan Bell Telephone Company will comply with the May 9th order of the Public Utilities Commission and reduce rural line rates 25 cents per month.

To Mr. and Mrs. Valda Chateron, at the Luz maternity hospital, on May 25, a six pound daughter, Phyllis Elaine, was born.

### 50 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER MAY 28, 1959

Lowell Officer William Richard spotted a walkaway from the Ionia Reformatory Monday evening at about 10:30 hitchhiking on East Main Street, and returned him to the reformatory.

The second Junior Wild West Rodeo will be held at Curly Howards Flat River Arena Sunday afternoon, May 31, at 2pm.

### 25 YEARS AGO THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER MAY 30, 1984

Cathryn M. Cridler is the valedictorian for the 1984 Lowell High School graduating class. Cathryn plans to attend Kalamazoo College in the fall where she will major in economics and political science.

Amy Lynn VanderGalien is the salutatorian for the Lowell High School class of 1984. Amy plans to attend Western Michigan University in the fall where she intends to major in accounting.



# Weddings

## Feussel/Duval



Brent and Kristina Feusse

The marriage of Kristina Duval and Brent Feusse was celebrated at St. Roberts of Westminster on December 27, 2008. Parents of the couple are Ralph and Nancy Duval, of Dewitt, David and Deb Feusse, of Clare, and Campbell and Lee Watterworth, of Lowell. Maid of Honor was Molly Cook. Bridesmaids were Michele Duval, Lindsay Karpinkas, and Kerry Sugrue. Flower girl was Nichole Chrisman.

Best man was Scott Clark. Groomsmen were Bill VanderKlok, Mike Eteo, and Dave Dolinshek. Ringbearer was Jacob Chrisman. Brent is a graduate of Grand Valley State University and is serving in the U.S. Army. Kristina is also a graduate of Grand Valley State University. A renewal of their vows with family and friends will occur July 25, 2009.

### MONEY DOESN'T GROW ON TREES!

But it may be hanging out in your garage, attic or basement! Cash that money in with a classified in the Lowell Ledger! Ph. 897-9261 • Fax 897-4809 email: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com

## Lend A Hand VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**HOST FAMILIES NEEDED**  
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 or 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.

## Happy Birthday

**JUNE 1:**  
Norma Raymor.

**JUNE 2:**  
Dave Thaler, Shad Propst, Tom Greenfield, Todd Dalga, Elaine Denton, Noah Burt.

**MAY 27:**  
Dakota McClure, Bertha Brown, David Christiansen, Tim Rittersdorf.

**MAY 28:**  
Casey Parker Gordon, Mary Beth Harwood.

**MAY 29:**  
Sue Lindhout, Mike Lindhout, Justin Doyle.

**MAY 30:**  
Kara Rasch, Allen McClure, Caroline Jane Blough, Ryan Barnes, Kevin Homrich.

**MAY 31:**  
Mark MacDonald, Arleen (Bryant) Irving, Tiffany Condon, Hannah Burt, Lauren Wiley.

Heather Witherell, Jacquelyn Landman, Tabora Karp.

## In The Service

Air Force Airman Christopher J. Meisenbach 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. Meisenbach is the son of Debra Smith of Clarksville.



Air Force Airman Christopher J. Meisenbach

## Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold  
Edward Jones  
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**SMART FINANCIAL MOVES FOR "EMPTY NESTERS"**  
It's graduation time at colleges across the country. If you have children graduating from college, you're probably excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for them. But once your last child leaves home, and you become an "empty nester," you may also find some good opportunities for yourself — opportunities to improve your financial situation.

In fact, your empty nester status may help you make progress toward what are likely your key financial goals at this stage of your life: Getting rid of debt and accelerating your savings for retirement. So, what steps should you consider? For starters, you could consider downsizing your home and moving into a smaller, less-expensive one. If you make a profit on the sale of your home, you could use it to invest for retirement and clear up debts. Of course, you may be emotionally attached to your home and neighborhood, but downsizing may be a good financial option to consider at some point. Here are a few other suggestions for taking advantage of your empty nest:

- "Max out" on your retirement plans. If you now have money no longer needed for your children's college education, use these funds to help save for retirement. Try to fully fund your traditional or Roth IRA, and put as

much as you can possibly afford into your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. If you still have money available after "maxing out" on these accounts, look for other retirement-savings vehicles.

- Increase your investments for other goals. Up until now, part of your investment strategy — perhaps a large part — was aimed at building enough resources to help your children pay for college. Since that need has now been met, you may be free to boost your investments toward other goals, such as travel, a vacation home, charitable giving, funding for a small business you hope to operate after you retire — the list could go on and on. And since you are probably entering your peak earning years, you may be able to add substantially to the investments designed to help you achieve these various objectives.
- Reduce your credit card debt. If you have more disposable income available now, try to pay off your high-rate credit cards. By freeing up this money, you can save and invest more.
- Evaluate your insurance needs. When you purchased your life insurance, you may have gotten enough coverage to pay off your mortgage, send your kids to college and provide some retirement funds for your spouse. But if your kids are through school, your mortgage is nearly paid off and your spouse has accumulated some money in an employer-sponsored retirement plan, you may not need the same amount of life and disability coverage. Any money you can save on insurance can be used to help fund your IRA, 401(k) or other investments.

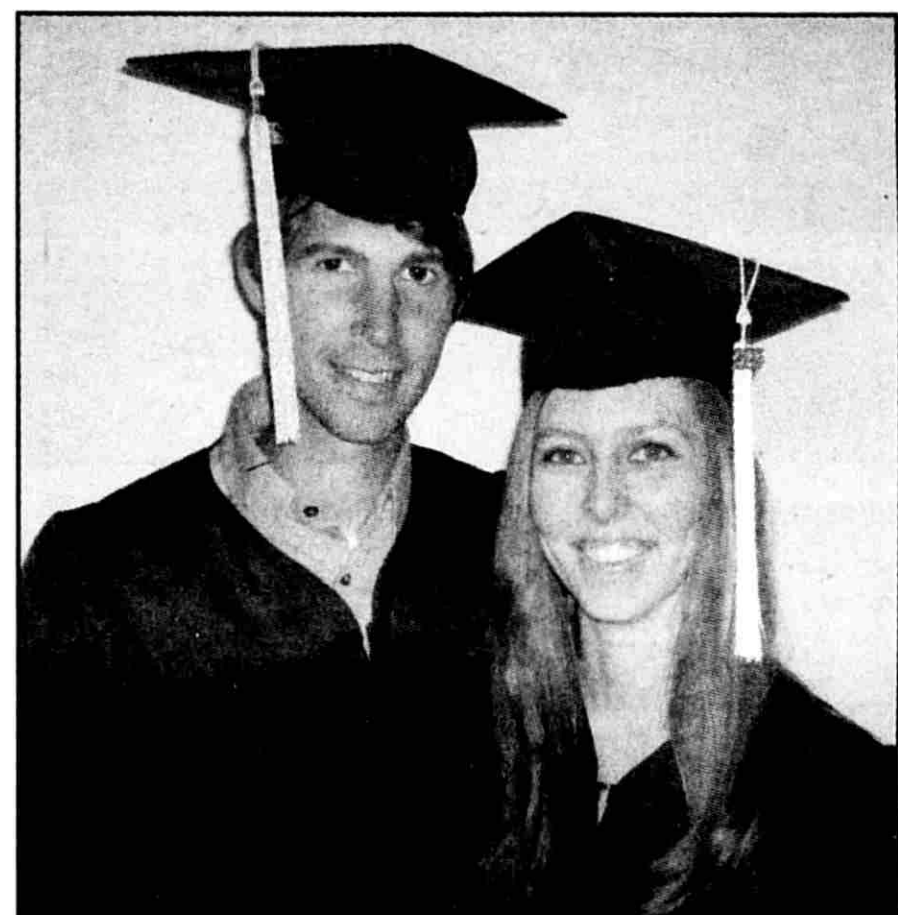
As an empty nester, you will miss your children, but you'll also find that you have greater freedom to pursue your hobbies or other interests. And by taking the steps described above, you can help yourself move closer to reaching your financial objectives as well.

## HEALTH

**HEART FAILURE**  
Heart failure develops when the heart, as a pump, malfunctions. Systolic heart failure is the inability of the heart to squeeze enough blood from the ventricles (heart chambers) to supply the body's needs. Diastolic heart failure results from the inability of the heart muscle to relax in between heartbeats, causing a backup of blood in the heart's chambers and in the blood vessels. Both systolic and diastolic heart failure can cause edema (fluid) to build up in the lungs and the rest of the body. The heart tries to make up for the malfunction by dilating or becoming hypertrophic (thickened). For individuals older than 65, heart failure is the most common cause of hospitalization. Signs and symptoms of heart failure include fatigue or weakness, shortness of breath during physical activity, difficulty breathing while lying in a flat position, waking at night feeling short of breath, swollen neck veins, abdominal swelling from excess fluid, lower leg or foot swelling and palpitations (sensation of fast or irregular heartbeat).

A detailed medical history and physical exam often reveals whether a person has heart failure. Testing may include a chest x-ray to look for an enlarged heart, pulmonary edema (fluid in the lungs), or pleural effusion (fluid around the lungs). Other tests commonly used include an electrocardiogram (tracing of the heart rhythm) and an echocardiogram (ultrasound of the heart showing the heart structures and valves). Treating heart failure depends on the reasons why heart failure developed. A low-sodium diet is prescribed to prevent fluid retention. Medications used to treat heart failure often include beta-blockers that allow the heart to work better, ACE inhibitors that lower blood pressure, making the heart pump against less pressure, and diuretics to remove excess fluid. Pacemakers and implantable defibrillators may be used to monitor the heart rhythm. Surgery may be recommended for heart valve disease or congenital heart diseases. Heart transplantation may be the final option considered when severe heart failure does not respond to the usual treatments.






## College News



Lance and Heather Jones

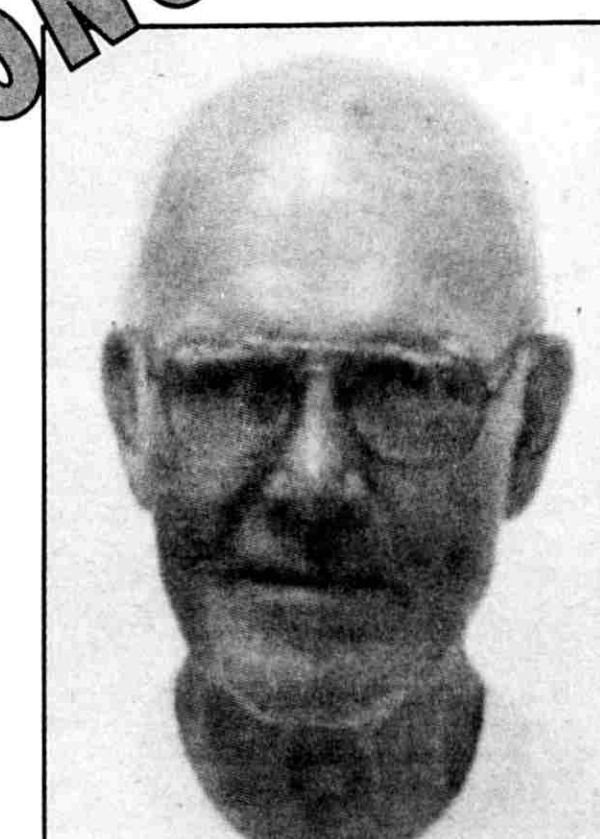
Lance and Heather Jones graduated from Wayne State University in December 2008. Lance graduated magna laude with a Bachelor Degree in Secondary Education with a major in social studies and a minor in health and math. He also won the Henry Award which is awarded to one graduating male and female student for having made the most outstanding contributions to the University in the areas of student activities, leadership and service. Heather received a Bachelor of Science Degree with a major in biological sciences and a minor in Spanish. Parents are Lee and Karen Jones and Doug and Tina Stranger, all of Saranac. The University of Northwestern Ohio is proud to acknowledge that Micah D. Soyka, of Lowell, has made the Dean's List for the March 2009 session in the College of Technologies. Full-time students must receive a grade point average of 3.5 or better to be named to the Dean's List. He is a 2008 Lowell High School graduate and the son of Mark and Vicki Soyka, of Lowell.

# AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

 <p><b>ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> Kirby and Harrison Alto • 616-691-8011 Worship.....9:30 A.M. Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.</p> <p><b>OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS</b> Pastor Dean Bailey</p>	<p><b>DAY BIBLE CHAPEL</b> 9305 Centerline, Saranac 897-6332</p> <p>Worship.....9:45 A.M. Sunday School.....11:00 A.M.</p> <p>Nursery &amp; Jr. Church Provided Rev. Frank Lattimore, Pastor "A Nondenominational Ministry With A Blended Word Centered Service!"</p>	<p><b>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL</b></p> <p>Rev. Randy Meyers - 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....11:20 A.M. Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.</p> <p>Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free</p>	
<p><b>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 www.lowellumc.com</p> <p>WORSHIP.....8:30 &amp; 10:15 a.m.</p> <p>Rev. Rick Blunt Barrier-free entrance</p>	 <p><b>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God)</b> 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, Lead Pastor John King, Youth Pastor</p> <p><b>SUNDAYS:</b> 10:00 a.m. - Worship &amp; Evening; LIFE Home Groups &amp; "The Source" Youth</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAYS:</b> Family Night: (for all ages) 7:00 p.m. "The Source" Youth: 7:00 p.m. Loving God... Loving People!</p>	<p><b>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> Fr. Eugene Okoli 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 &amp; 7 PM Saturday confessions: 4-4:45 PM Prayer &amp; adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETE WIGANS 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 49, ENTN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>	<p><b>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> (United Church of Christ) 865 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE • 897-5906</p> <p>Sunday Worship.....10:00 A.M. Church School.....10:15-11:15 A.M. Thursday Faith Alive Worship.....7:00 P.M.</p> <p>Rev. Terry Tesson.....Interim Pastor Shannon Hanley.....C.E. Director Barrier-free.....Nursery Provided</p> <p>Come Join Us For Praise &amp; Worship</p>
<p><b>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell &amp; Saranac on M-21 www.goodshepherdlowell.org</p> <p>Worship Service.....10:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p><b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbcloowell.org Rev. David O. Sims &amp; Rev. W. Lee Taylor</p> <p>Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. &amp; 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA/EXCITE - TEENS, Wed. 6:15 &amp; 6:30 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free</p>	<p><b>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Rev. 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 &amp; Children Worship Programs Provided</p> <p>A friend...a family...a mission!</p>	 

\*\*\*  
It is inaccurate to say that I hate everything. I am strongly in favor of common sense, common honesty, and common decency. This makes me forever ineligible for public office.  
- H. L. Mencken (1880 - 1956)

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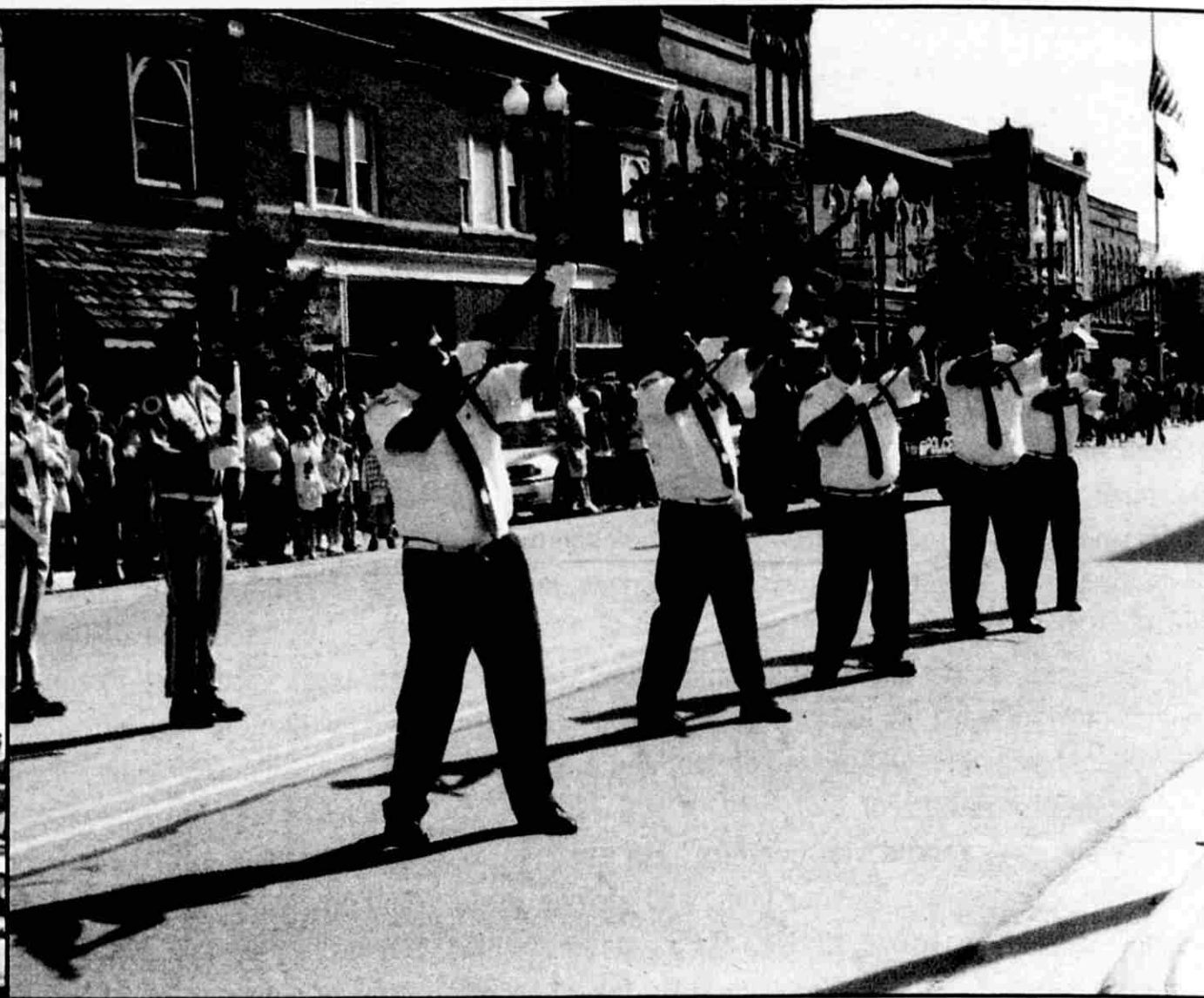
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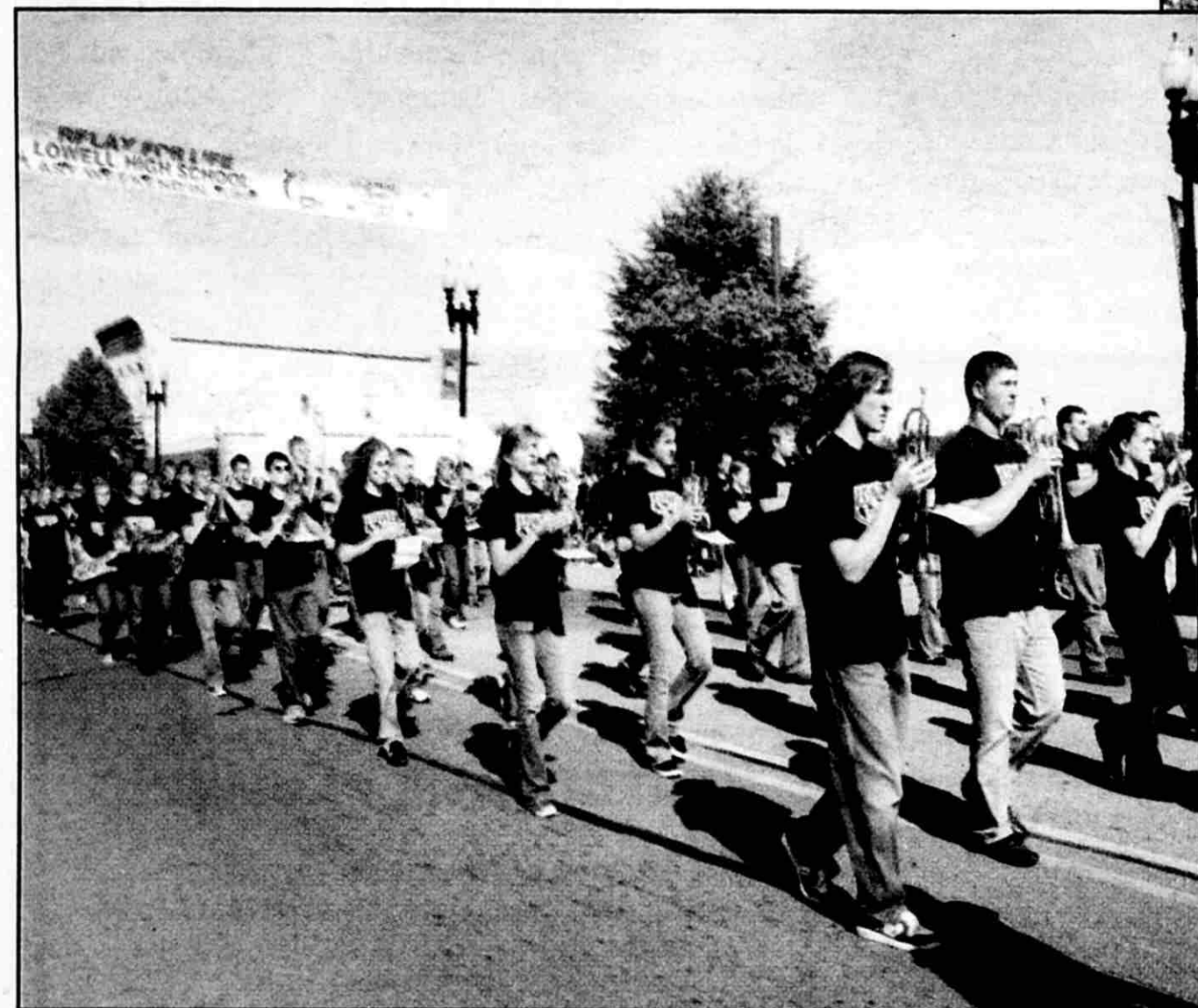
**1/2 OFF WHITENING MAY 1 - JUNE 30**



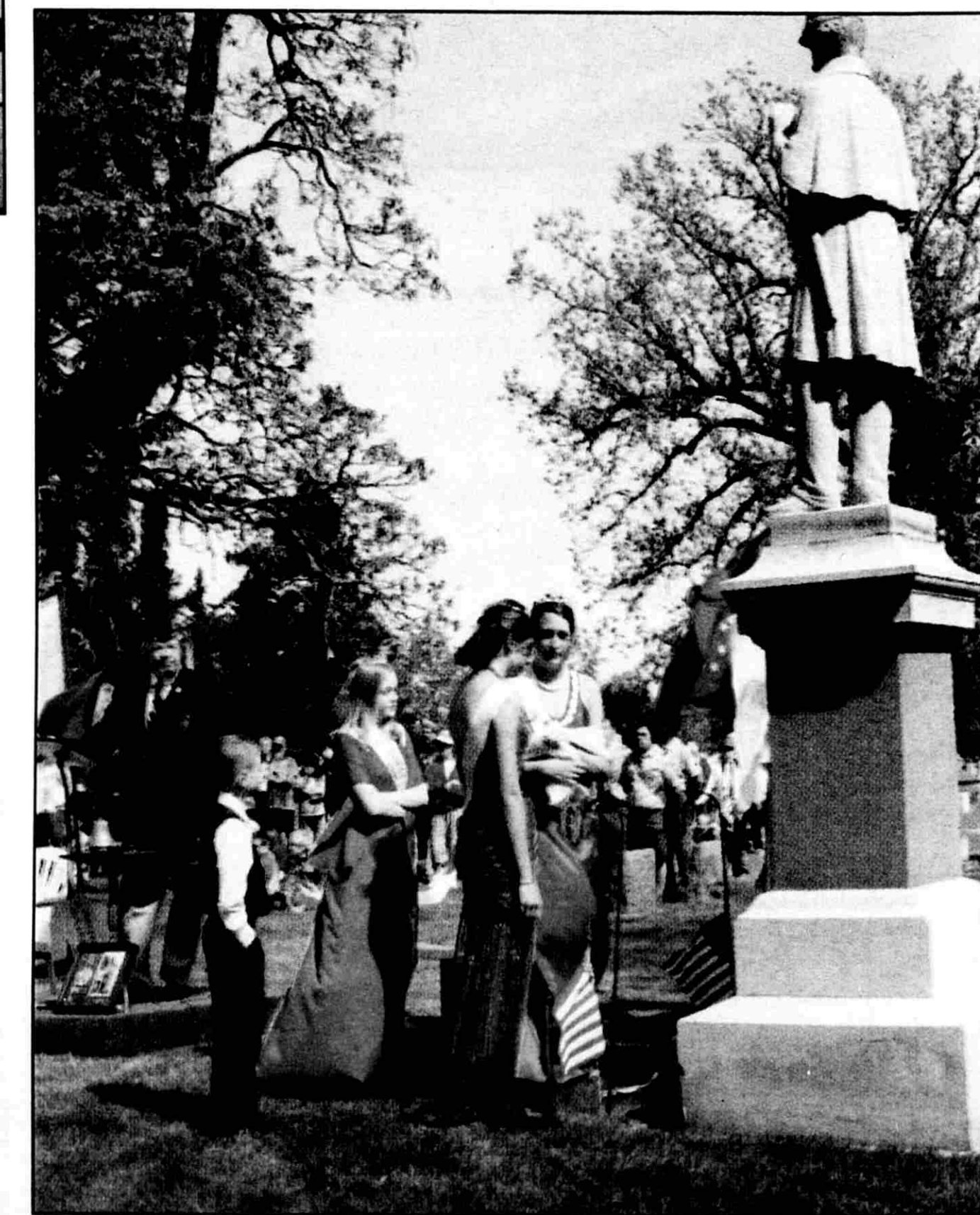
# Memorial Day 2009, continued ... From Page 1



The color guard led the band as they played along the parade route.



City manager Dave Pasquale marches along and Mayor Hodges waves to the crowd.



Dave Thompson looks on as the Kent County 4-H Youth Court places flowers at the monument.

# Local author pens fantasy book

by Emma Palova

In the 'T' Aragam' fantasy book, author Jack Regan, explores a world that is split between the good and the evil.

The main character, Max Ransome, is modeled after Regan as he envisioned himself in his dreams as a 13-year-old boy.

In the book, Max races against time to save T' Aragam, the world he loves, from a dark dominion. Young Max watched his father die, killed by marauding phantoms as they swept through T' Aragam at the bidding of the evil wizard Zadok.

Other supporting quirky characters include mercenary Captain Baggywrinkle, Lord Stench and the perpetually hungry sea serpent Bob.

"The characters are not stereotypical," he said.

Regan's real name is Craig Hart and you'll find him at the Engelhardt Library, when he's not writing. But, he prefers his pen name.

"I wanted something that sounded really cool," he said.

The pen name also has a practical purpose to distinguish between different genres, since Regan has also written Duke Dookums and Frontier Hero, a western for young boys, under his real name.

His focus now is on fantasy due to the complete ability to escape into a

different world. T' Aragam is a world totally made up. The characters are built around the name.

"It's a complete fabrication," said Regan.

It took Regan one year to write the book with five different rewrites. He says the breaking point for him is usually around 10,000 words, but this time it was more than that.

"The form was the most difficult," he said.

Regan started out writing the book in first person and with other characters. The original character was a modern boy who got transported into the fantasy world.

It took five rewrites to get to the final version.

Writing on a laptop on days off at other libraries, Regan hammered out the final version in six weeks.

"It's the hardest job I've ever done," said Regan, "and I've done a lot of different things."

The book, written in third person, is about young Max already growing up in T' Aragam.

When asked what kept Regan going during all the rewrites, he said he knew he had to push past that breaking point.

And then of course, there was the fear of failure, since a lot of people knew Regan was writing. But, the reward now, is the accomplishment of a published book.

"At first I was self-

shocked," he said. "It just didn't sink in. Now I am really excited about it."

Writing for Regan, like for many other authors and writers, is almost a paradox.

"Writing is hard, but I am not happy when I am not writing," he said. "I've taken a hiatus from it, but there is always something that draws me back to it. Like I get an idea."

With his lighthearted style, Regan mainly writes books for youth.

"It's my goal to get kids hooked on reading," he said. "It's a healthy addiction."

And Regan has big writing plans. T' Aragam is only the first book in the Max Ransome Chronicles, a fantasy series for kids. He plans to hold several book signings.

After all, he has writing in his blood. His mother was a writer, and an English teacher.

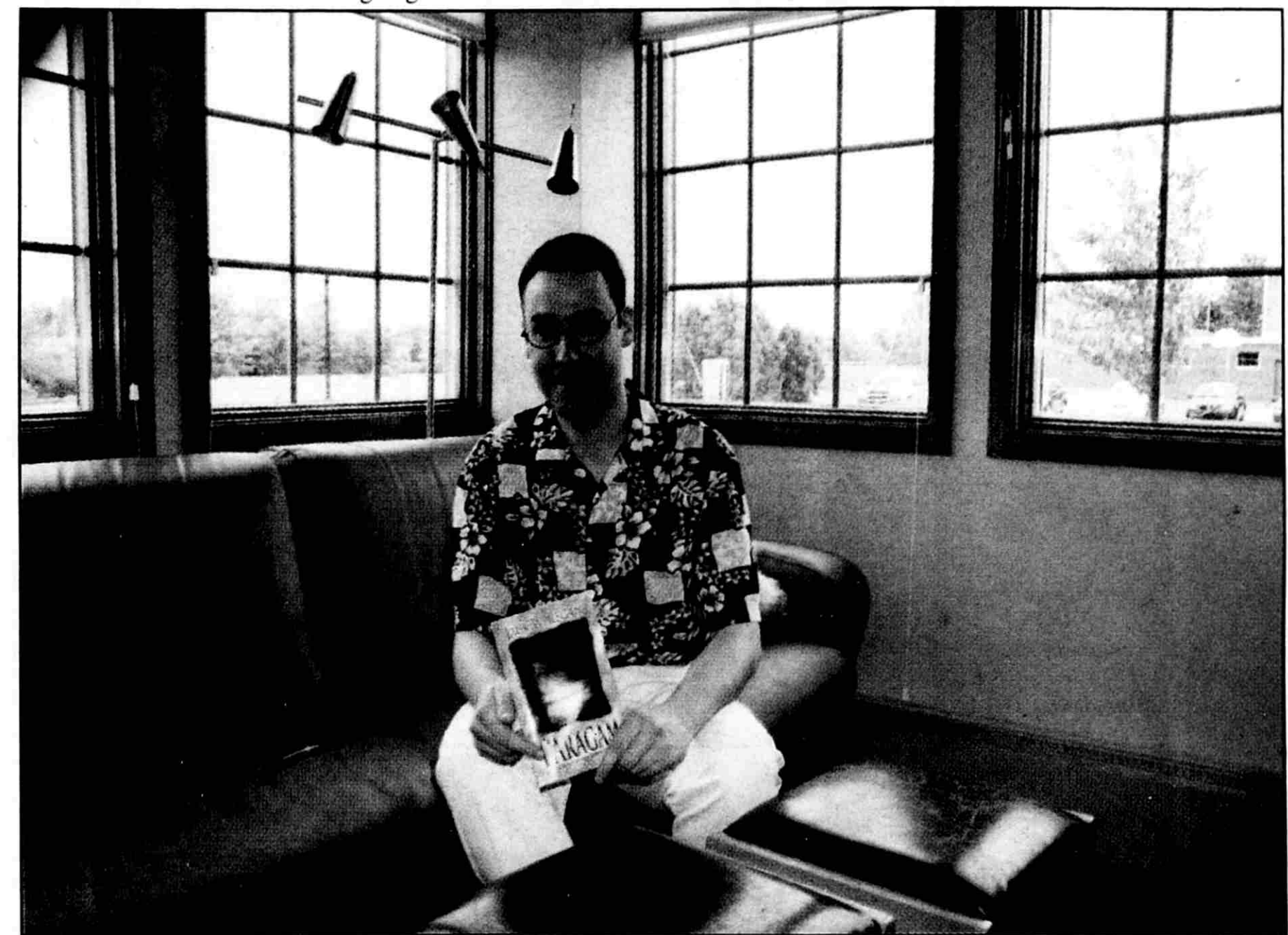
At 16, Regan won second place in a national essay contest and he was the editor of a high school newspaper.

Regan started a popular online book review service

in 2004. He is also an annual judge in Baker Tritt Press's Tweener Time International Chapter Book Competition.

An audiobook version is coming out shortly.

T' Aragam can be ordered from amazon.com and from book stores or go to www.taragam.com.



Jack Regan penned fantasy T' Aragam.

## At Your Local Library



### SUMMER READING CLUB RETURNS TO THE KENT DISTRICT LIBRARY

The Kent District Library invites children and teens to sign up for the Summer Reading Club and spend some time reading this summer. This year's Summer Reading Club runs from Monday, June 8 to Saturday, August 15. This summer, the library will encourage kids to Be Creative and teens to Express Yourself with lots of free programs. Enjoy arts and crafts, music, movies, theatre, carnivals and more.

When they sign up for the Summer Reading Club, children in grades five and under, both readers and pre-readers, can set and accomplish their own reading goals to win prizes

and enter a drawing for a brand new bicycle. Teens in grades six through twelve can participate for the chance to win great prizes, like a new iPod.

This summer will be full of fun for all ages. Programs will include carnivals, pet shows, magic shows, Ham It Up Theatre, puppet shows, creative cooking, lawn games, book discussions and so much more.

Sign up for the Summer Reading Club now at any of KDL's 18 branch locations.

For more information, contact your local Kent District Library branch or visit us online at www.kdl.org.

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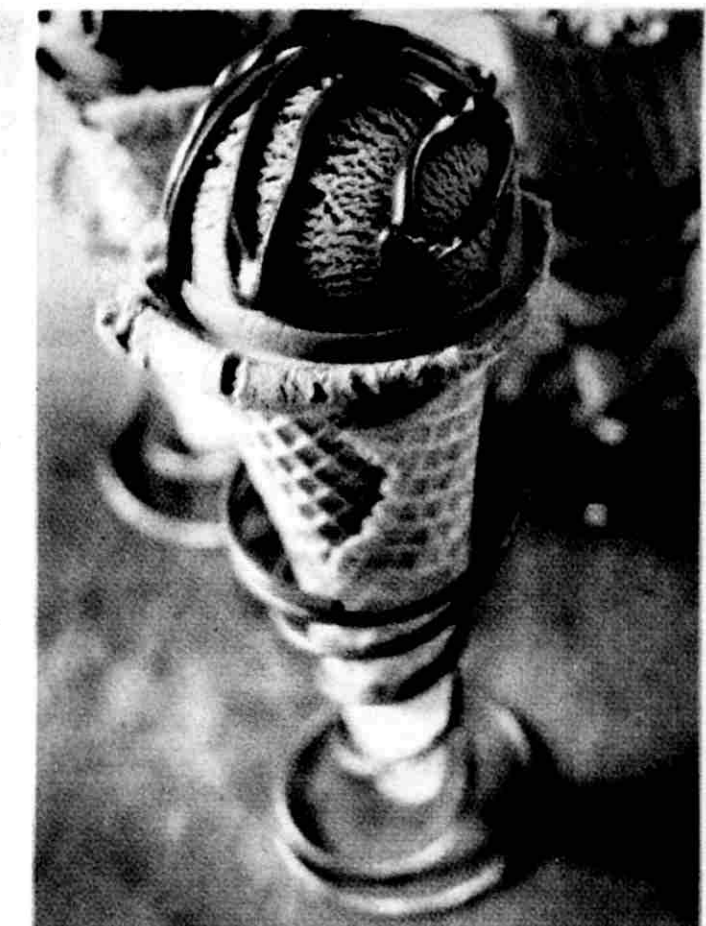
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A FEW NOTABLE EVENTS FROM MAY 21 - MAY 27 • 2009

- 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 earthquake 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](http://www.michigan.gov/recovery).
- President Barack Obama nominates federal appeals court judge Sonia Sotomayor to replace Justice David Souter on the Supreme Court. Sotomayor will become the first Hispanic justice.

- North Korea tests two more short-range missiles a day after detonating an underground nuclear bomb.
- Mike Tyson's four-year-old daughter, Exodus, is on life support after an accident at her home.
- California supreme court upholds ban on gay marriage (proposition 8) in a 6-1 decision.

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**The Lowell Ledger**  
 105 N. Broadway, Lowell



**Freedom from credit card abuse**

With Senator Carl Levin

A landmark bill to protect consumers from abusive credit card practices – the Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights Act – has now passed the Senate and been signed into law. After years of investigation and attempts to pass similar legislation to crack down on abuses of credit card companies, this bill promises to finally provide much-needed regulation of the credit card industry.

With the country experiencing the worst economic conditions since the Great Depression, people are getting hit with a double whammy – economic hardship and unfair credit card treatment. When unemployment is up and salaries stagnate, people are forced to rely on credit cards more and more just to get by. The average American household now has five credit cards, using them to pay for groceries, car loans, and even mortgage payments.

The current lack of credit card regulation means that companies can take advantage of responsible citizens trying to pay off bills and debts. These companies take advantage of young people and working families struggling to meet their obligations who are vulnerable to penalty fees and interest hikes. They use deceptive tactics and squeeze consumers with sky-high interest charges and excessive fees.

As chairman of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, I have worked to expose industry-wide credit card abuses. In 2007, my subcommittee held hearings which brought before the Senate not only consumers victimized by unfair practices, but also the credit card CEOs who approved those practices.

Those hearings and thousands of letters sent to my subcommittee by angry Americans help lay the groundwork for credit card reform in Congress. Our investigation made it clear that too many people have been victims for too long.

In March, Senator Chris Dodd of Connecticut and I introduced the strongest credit card reform bill in Congress. Many of the measures we proposed were then included in the Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights Act passed by Congress.

The bill cuts to the center of the credit card problem in America today. It prevents credit card companies from retroactively raising interest rates on people who play by

the rules, forces banks to restore a lower interest rate for late-payers who make six months of on-time payments, and prohibits the charging of interest on debt that is paid on time.

The Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights Act forces banks to apply credit card payments to the balances with the highest interest rates, restricts unfair penalties, and creates new protections for young people by limiting credit card offers in the mail, ensuring accounts are opened only for those who can afford to pay, and requires universities to disclose agreements to market credit cards to students.

The bill doesn't enact all the protections I wanted. For example, it doesn't stop credit card companies from charging interest on fees. But the bill makes significant progress toward the strong consumer protections I have been advocating for years.

President Obama called for Congress to send a credit card reform bill to his desk to be signed by Memorial Day. Congress responded and met that deadline. With the Credit Cardholder's Bill of Rights enacted into law, citizens in Michigan and across the country will finally have access to credit cards without having to fear abuse, exploitation and victimization from an unbridled credit card industry.



**OKAY -**

Someone Has To Say It ...

by Thad Kraus

After his club's three-game series with Grand Rapids Christian, East Grand Rapids coach Chris LaMange said he was tired.

The two teams split the first two games with the Pioneers surviving game three.

Lowell lost its first game to Grand Rapids Christian before rallying to win games two and three.

The Red Arrows followed that up with a repeat performance against EGR, losing game one of the three-game series before winning games two and three.

The game three win clinched a second consecutive O-K White conference championship.

It was a divisional playoff series to end the O-K White season and to determine its champion.

October baseball in May.

Build drama and fans will come, as was the case in Lowell's series-clinching win.

The O-K White's decision to go to a series format in league play is a grand slam.

As if it was meant to be, in its first year the league came down to its final game of a series to determine the conference championship.

At a high school level it was the Cardinals and the Cubs, the Tigers and the White Sox, the Yankees and the Red Sox. It was good. It was riveting and it was fun.

If I were commissioner for a day, series play would envelop all conferences state wide.

I'm not and it probably won't.

What series play does is, it prevents a team with one dominating pitcher from ruling.

No more manipulating rain make-up dates and pushing back start times so that darkness prevents a game from being finished and thus saving an ace's arm for another day.

It forces teams to build pitching depth.

"This is how baseball was meant to be played," said

Lowell coach Justin Miller.

The rest of the O-K White coaches agree with Miller. Now lets spread the word to the rest of the O-K conferences.

Come on Green! Come on Red! Come on Blue! Come on Gold, you can do it too!

For the good of the game you MUST do it!

**What to Watch!**

I don't know what your Saturday looks like, but I do know that the Division I state track meet is being held at East Kentwood.

I also know, Richelle Kimble, who finished second in the state in pole vault last year, will try to claim a state championship in this, her senior year.

It's worth a watch!

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<b>JULY 21</b> 6:00 - 8:00 PM at LHS Field House	<b>AUGUST 15</b> 8:00 AM - NOON at LHS Field House

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# Red Arrow SPORTS

## Lowell softball finishes strong in time for districts

by Thad Kraus

The good news is Lowell's softball team ended its regular season winning six of its last seven games.

The bad news is its opening district game is against Caledonia, a club which beat the Red Arrows three times this season.

"We played two close games with them and got blown out in the other," said Lowell softball coach Bob Rodenhouse. "It will come down to pitching and if we can get some timely hits."

Case-in-point, Lowell delivered three, run-scoring two-out hits against Creston

in a 14-3 consolation win at the Mandy Tichelaar Memorial Softball Tournament.

Jourdan Westdorp rapped a two-out, two run single in Lowell's first at-bat.

Beth Wyckoff knocked in two runs with two out in the third inning and Lauren Dood plated two more runs in the fourth with a two out hit.

Morgan Groom pitched and recorded her first varsity win.

The Red Arrows were shut out in its opener 11-0 against Rockford, the defending tournament champions.

The Rams led 4-0 going into the seventh inning when they scored seven times.

"They just hit the ball in that final inning," Rodenhouse said.

Westdorp and Jenna Smith recorded Lowell's only two hits against Ram pitching.

Rockford won the title game against Grandville 5-4.

### Lowell 10-14 EGR 0-3

In the opener, Lowell's Becky Allen pitched five shutout innings, allowing just one hit while walking three and striking out six.

The Red Arrows dominated from the start, scoring three runs in the first inning, two in the second, one in the third, one in the fourth and three more in the fifth inning.

Ellie Timpson led all Arrows with three hits. She also drove in a run.

Jourdan Westdorp collected two hits and plated two runs.

Leigha Frisbee rapped a two-run double in the fifth.

Both Kelly Wyckoff and Shelby Roberts also added doubles.

The Pioneers jumped out in front in game two, scoring three runs in the first inning. Their first five batters reached base.

Morgan Groom came on in relief of Lauren Dood.

Groom went five innings allowing no runs on two hits while walking two and striking out seven.

Lowell battled back with four in the first inning, four more in the second and six runs in the fourth.

Frisbee rapped a two-run double in the second inning and Kelly Wyckoff added a two-run single.

Brianna Richardson contributed with a two-run single in Lowell's six-run fourth inning.

Jenna Smith added to the scoreboards crooked numbers with an RBI double. Groom also doubled.

### Lowell 13 Creston 4

In a conference battle, the Red Arrows beat up on the Polar Bears.

The offensive highlight came early when Kelly Wyckoff blasted a two-run home run in Lowell's six-run first inning.

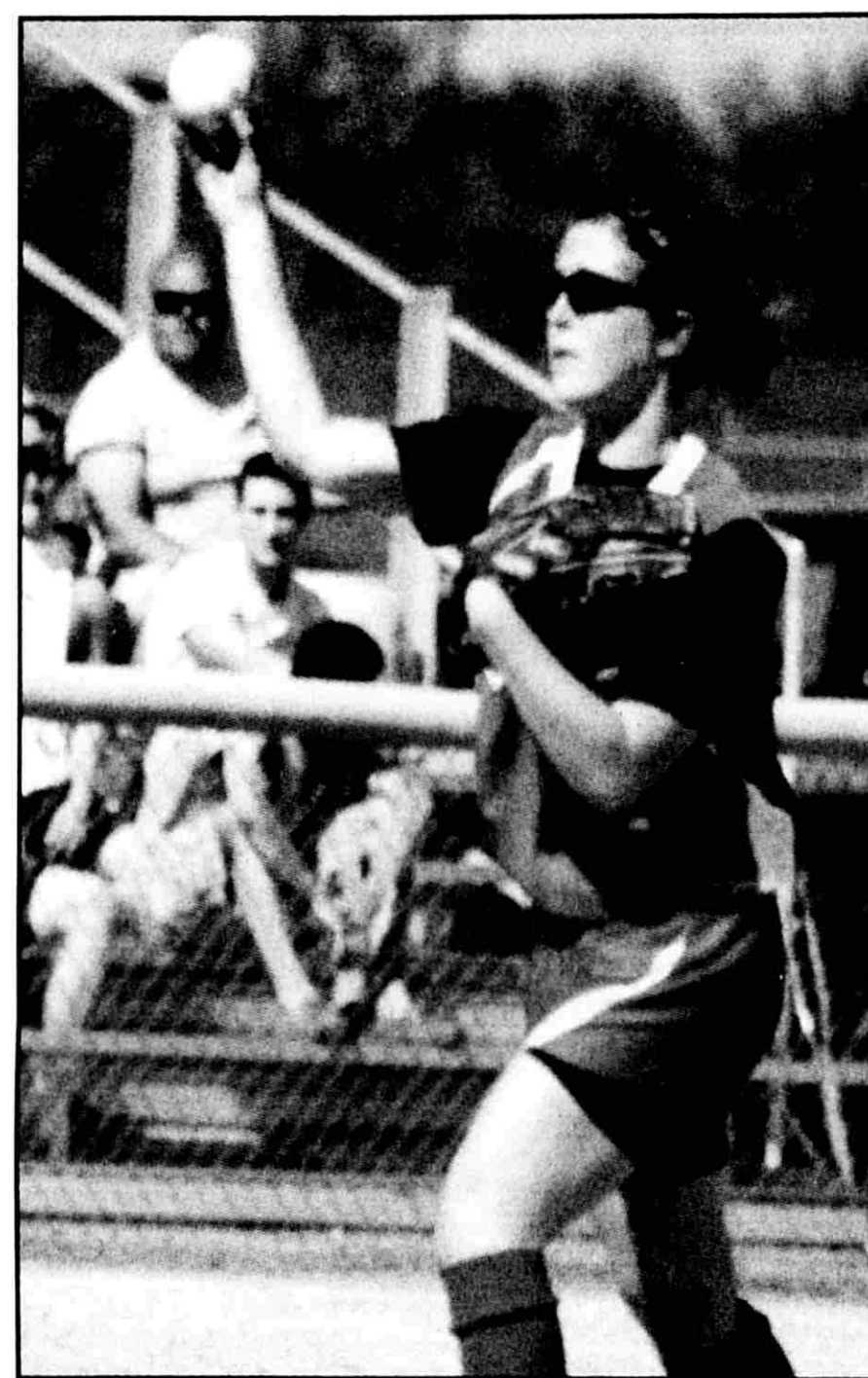
Lowell added two in the second, one in the third, two in the fifth and two more in the sixth.

Creston scored three runs

in the fifth inning and one in the sixth.

"My only disappointment is the girls didn't shut Creston down in the fifth inning and we had to play seven innings," Rodenhouse said.

Lowell finished its regular season at 11-20-1 and 8-7 (third place) in the O-K White.



Morgan Groom throws out a Ram hitter at first.



Kelly Wyckoff makes the play to first in early inning action against Rockford.

## Linksters close out season at district

by Thad Kraus

Lowell boys' golf team fired a 382 at the L.E. Kaufman Golf Course in Division I district golf.

The Red Arrows finished 12th in a 15-team field.

"Based on our averages,

the boys didn't play badly," said Lowell golf coach Gary Fredline. "We have been playing better golf the second half of the season."

Mona Shores carded top honors with a 310. Forest Hills Central was second

at 318. Grandville finished third with a 330 and Reeths-Puffer (339) and Holland West (341) were fourth and fifth respectively.

Six through 13 were: Rockford 342, Hudsonville 349, Jenison 349, Greenville

350, Grand Haven 352, Holland 380, Lowell 382 and Muskegon 484.

Carding Lowell's top five scores were Keith Neubecker 93, Tom Alberts 94, Zach Fizer 96, Evan Wilterink 99 and Mark Ford 104.

## Youth gymnasts compete in Brighton

Lowell's youth gymnastics program participated in its first meet on Saturday.

There were 12 gymnasts who traveled to High Flyers Gymnastics in Brighton.

Lowell's youth gymnastics program changed to RAYG (Red Arrow Youth Gymnastics). It competes in the AAU (Amateur Athletic Union).

Scores are as follows:  
**Compulsory level 3 Age 8 & 9 group:**  
vault: 1st Megan Mowry -

High Flyers 9.7  
bars: 1st Megan Melle - RAYG 8.55

beam: 1st Megan Mowry - High Flyers 9.4

floor: 1st tie Mowry - High Flyers and Tiana Petricevic - RAYG 9.0

all around: 1st tie Mowry - High Flyers and Melle - RAYG 35.95

**Compulsory level 3 age 10 & 11 group**  
vault: 1st Brianna Whitehouse - High Flyers 9.7

bars: 1st Paige DeHaan - RAYG 9.3

beam: 1st Paige DeHaan - RAYG 9.35

floor: 1st Brianna Whitehouse - High Flyers 9.2

all around: 1st Paige DeHaan - RAYG 37.4

**Compulsory level 4 age 8 & 9 group**  
vault: 1st Sela Bauman - RAYG 9.65

bars: 1st Maura Fitzpatrick - RAYG 9.0

beam: 1st Sela Bauman -

RAYG 9.1

floor: 1st Darby Dean - RAYG 9.2

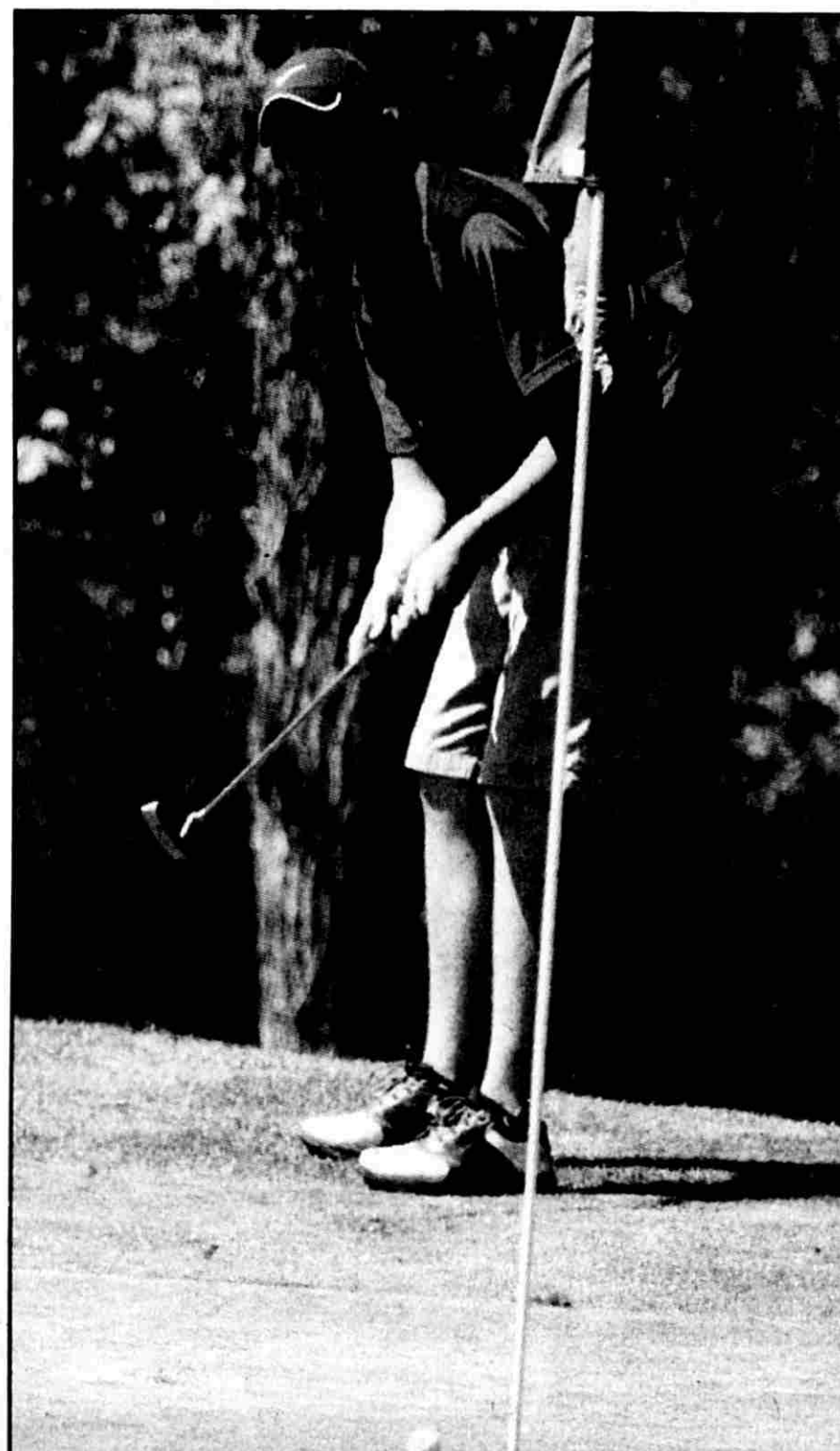
all around: 1st Sela Bauman - RAYG 36.35

**Compulsory level 4 age 10 group**  
vault: 1st tie Megan Ritchie and Sarena Wilterdink - RAYG 9.6

bars: 1st Megan Ritchie - RAYG 8.9

beam: 1st Sarena Wilterdink - RAYG 9.2

**Youth gymnasts, cont'd., pg. 13**



# Red Arrow SPORTS

## Pitching depth delivers Lowell Red Arrow baseball to top of O-K White



Lowell won its second consecutive conference championship at East Grand Rapids with a 14-0 victory in the final league game of the season.

by Thad Kraus

To have three solid starting high school pitchers is a luxury.

When your third starter delivers a two-hit shutout to win a conference championship, that's depth.

Lowell, for a second consecutive year, reigns as boss of the O-K White.

Fitting, in that it was Torsten Boss, who hurled the gem in leading Lowell to a 14-0 win over East Grand Rapids.

"Depth showed itself today. Lowell has a better third starter than ours. It's a luxury to have a third starter that good," said East Grand Rapids baseball coach Chris LaMange. "Our boys gave

themselves a chance to win the league, but Lowell was just better than us today."

The Pioneers (23-6) took game one (4-1) of the three-game set on Monday. Lowell battled back in the second game of the doubleheader to win 6-1, setting up the decisive conference championship game on Wednesday.

Boss, Josh Drake and Zach Stephens held the Pioneers' two best hitters (Chris Blair and Ryan Elble) without a hit over the three-game stretch.

"Lowell's pitching just took over. We didn't hit the ball, not even in our win," LaMange said.

The Red Arrows (22-6)

crushed the ball against Pioneer starter Miles Dankovich and the three relievers that followed him out to the mound in game three. Lowell pounded out 16 hits.

Dankovich lasted two-thirds of an inning, allowing three runs on four hits while walking one and striking out one.

The big hits in the inning were a two-out RBI single by Drake followed by a two-run blast into right-center off the bat of Stephens.

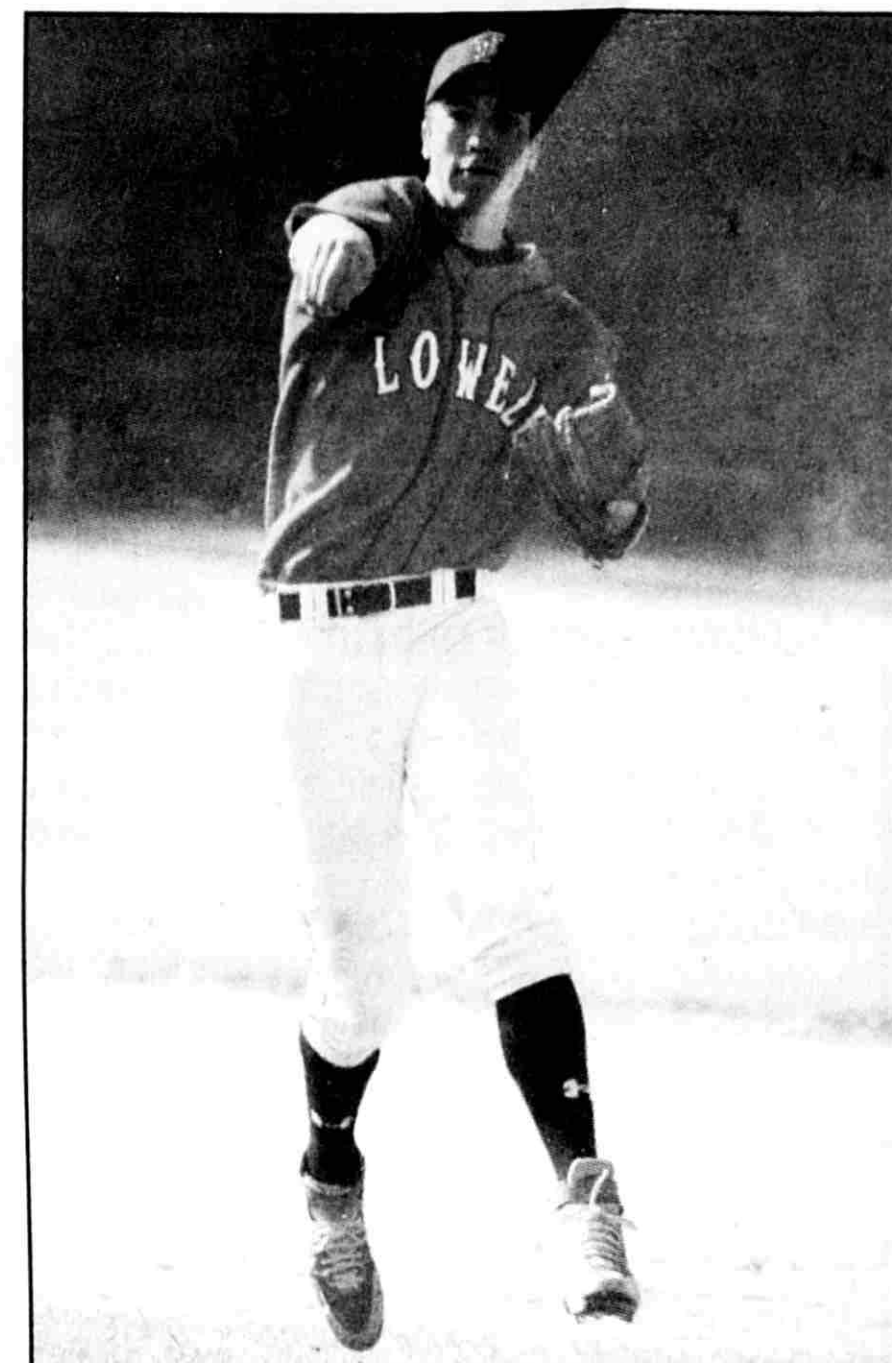
Lowell added four runs in the second inning behind a bases-clearing three-run double by Drake and an RBI double by Stephens.

"We came out swinging. We were motivated to win the conference," Stephens explained. The senior was 3-for-3 with a double, triple and home run. He scored two runs and plated two runs.

It remained 7-0 until the fourth inning when the Red Arrows put the finishing touches on their second straight O-K White Championship.

"We bounced back from that loss," Drake said. "Being a senior, I think the second league title may mean a little bit more," Drake explained.

The senior was a perfect 4-for-4 with a double, triple, three runs scored, four RBI and a stolen base.



Tim Hettinga and the rest of the Red Arrows were near perfect in their league clinching 14-0 win over East Grand Rapids.

The fourth inning was highlighted by a Stephens two-run triple and a three-run double by #14.

Lowell tallied seven runs on six hits and four EGR walks.

The Pioneers' only hits (singles) came in the fourth and fifth innings.

"I felt good out there. My velocity was good and I felt like I could get ahead of the hitters," Boss said. "I also had a pretty good tight curve ball."

Lowell finished league play

at 13-2, one game ahead of the Pioneers (12-3).

Lowell continued to get good production from sophomore Elliot Drain. He was 3-for-4 with a double, three runs scored and three RBI.

"That first game of this series was ugly. The boys got back to the fundamentals and jumped right back at it in game two and had a great showing today," said Lowell baseball coach Justin Miller.

## Mattawan knocks lacrosse team out of playoffs

by Thad Kraus

Lowell's 12-5 lacrosse win against Zeeland was a postcard for how to start the Michigan High School Athletic Association tournament.

The Red Arrows played a complete game. They controlled the ball, played solid defense, transitioned well and caught and passed with great effectiveness.

"The boys came out and played with confidence," said Lowell lacrosse coach Eric Bredin.

Some of that confidence may have come from its two victories over Zeeland during the regular season.

Each of Lowell's 12 goals came with an assist. Isaac Tawney, Joel Morgan and Abe McIntire all netted a team-leading three goals.

Jimmy McCormick added a goal and two assists.

"We played a full four quarters and thus were able to secure the lead," Bredin said. "Our midfielders did a good job of getting back on defense and our transition games were really good."

### Mattawan 14 Lowell 4

The district title game at Mattawan was a nightmare. Mattawan raced out to a 10-0 first half advantage and never looked back.

"We spent the whole first half trying to get our legs," Lowell lacrosse coach Eric Bredin explained. "Mattawan is as athletic a team as we've faced all year and they just simply ran

circles around us in that first half."

As disappointing a first half as it was, Lowell righted itself at half and played to a 4-4 tie in the second half.

"The boys pulled together and looked like a different club in that second half," Bredin said.

Joel Morgan led all Lowell

scorers with two goals. Abe McIntire and Isaac Tawney each scored a goal. McIntire also recorded two assists.

Lowell finished its season at 11-6.

"I think this year, our first winning season will be the beginning of a winning tradition in Lowell lacrosse," Bredin said.

## Youth gymnasts, continued ... From Page 12

floor: 1st Sarena Wilterdink - RAYG 9.0

all around: 1st Sarena Wilterdink - RAYG 36.3

**Compulsory level 4 age 11, 12, 13 group**  
vault: 1st tie Morgan Taylor and Lauren DeHaan - RAYG 9.8

bars: 1st Lauren DeHaan - RAYG 9.25

beam: 1st Lauren DeHaan - RAYG 9.4

floor: 1st Meghan Plutschow - RAYG 9.4

all around: 1st Lauren DeHaan - RAYG 37.7.

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HOUSE FOR RENT IN COUNTRY - 3 miles from Murray Lake. Cute, recently remodeled ranch w/garage, 2 carpeted bedrooms w/ large closets, hardwood floor in living room, full basement w/laundry facilities, appliances included. Available in May. For more details call 897-9798.

COTTAGES ON THE WATER - With air. Canoe, paddle & rowboat included. Pontoon rental available. Martiny Lake chain, Barryton, MI. Ron, 897-5062.

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.

ROOM FOR RENT - Central air, wireless internet, all utilities included. \$450/mo Lowell area. Call 897-7794.

FOR RENT ON MORRISONLAKE - 444 Lenhards Landing, off Goodemote Rd. Furnished 2 bedroom cottage w/lakefront view & access. \$500/mo. + \$500 security deposit, no smoking, no pets. Call 616-642-6870.

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

ALTO - Near 196. Nice newly remodeled, spacious, 3 bedroom apartment. \$650/month, \$500 deposit, includes trash removal, sewer pickup, washer/dryer hookup. Ask about discount for early payment. 868-6411.

3 BEDROOM/2 BATH - newer built home close to downtown Lowell. Approx. 1,400 sq. ft. \$1,550 per month 616-581-2269.

HALL FOR RENT - Lowell Veteran's Center, 3100 Alden Nash. Newly remodeled, smoke-free, private, great location & great rate! www.vfw8303.org. Call John at 299-0486 or 897-8303.

WANTED

SEEKING CONTRACTORS FOR INDUSTRIAL REMODEL - We are seeking bids from licensed contractors, electricians, landscaping firms, drywallers & cleaners of industrial space, office remodel, interior power washing, etc. Local company has bought commercial industrial building in Ionia & is looking for professionals for short time frame, high quality work, competitive work. Time frame is June 15 - July 1 to complete the work. Contact rpawloski@cccsolution.com to schedule a time to review onsite. Also, provide the work you specialize in. We want to keep this work local. Thank you. Custom Components Corp.

The Lowell Ledger CLASSIFIEDS

TO PLACE AN AD In Person: 105 N. Broadway, Lowell By Mail: PO BOX 128, Lowell, MI 49331 By Phone: 616-897-9261

Classified ad rates: 20 words...\$4 each additional word 10¢ Bold \$1 each or Box \$2 each

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CLASSIFIEDS NOW POSTED ONLINE! www.lowellbuyersguide.com

EVENTS HELP WANTED

FREE COMMODITIES FOOD ORDER - for low income families, Thurs., June 4, 9-4 p.m. at Moose Recreation Building, 1320 E. Fulton, Lowell. Bring proof of income & Social Security numbers for each member of household. Please bring bags. Questions? Call David, 616-745-8520 or Virginia, 897-8754.

EAST KENT COUNTY REPUBLICANS - Meet 2nd Saturday of each month. Time 8:30 to 10 a.m. at Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, 113 Riverwalk Plaza. Local, state and national issues and speakers. www.ekcrepublicans@gmail.com. Info 897-6380 & 644-0759.

HUNTERS SAFETY COURSE - Qua-Ke-Zik Sportsman's Club will offer a free Hunters Safety Course beginning June 8, continuing on June 10 & 11. The class will run from 6-9 p.m. There is no age requirement & you must attend all 3 sessions to earn a certificate. The class size is limited to 50 & will be first come-first serve. No pre-registration. The class will be held at 8731 West Riverside Dr. Our website is www.Qua-Ke-Zik.org if you need any additional information.

QUARTER BINGO - 2nd Thurs. of each month, 1-5 p.m. 2 cards for a quarter. 50% payback w/100% pay-back hourly specials. Open to the public. The Moose Rec Hall, 1320 E. Main St. Sponsored by W.O.T.M. Chapter #1388.

COMMERCIAL CLEANING POSITIONS - General maintenance, part-time days, Monday - Friday, Lowell area. Mechanical ability & flexible conditions are required along with reliable transportation & valid drivers license. Stop in soon & fill out an application: Metropolitan Building Maintenance, 868 Barnum SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49509.

INSERTING CREW WANTED - Part-time. Hours are Thursday & Friday nights (approx. 10 hours/week). Duties include stuffing inserts into the Buyers Guide, overseeing a small crew of inserters & deliver papers to gas stations in town. Position includes standing for a long period of time & heavy lifting. Applicants must be 18 & have a valid drivers license, with an excellent driving record. Must be responsible & dependable. Apply in person, NO PHONE CALLS ACCEPTED! Buyers Guide, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

SUMMER STAFFING - \$470 week & up. 1,000 scholarship. Local company looking for dependable & energetic workers to start now, no experience needed. Company offers: complete training, no layoffs, rapid advancement, paid vacation, scholarship bonuses. Call Now! 616-243-1250.

HELP WANTED SERVICES

INSERTING CREW WANTED - Part-time. Hours are Thursday & Friday nights (approx. 10 hours/week). Duties include stuffing inserts into the Buyers Guide. Position includes standing for a long period of time & heavy lifting. Must be responsible & dependable. Apply in person, NO PHONE CALLS ACCEPTED! Buyers Guide, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

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

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

SERVICES

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

LICENSED DAYCARE - in Eastgate for over 15 years. Program includes arts & crafts, pre-reading & pre-math skills. First aid & CPR certified. Fenced-in backyard, reasonable rates. First shift. Call Diane at 897-8398.

HOUSENEED PAINTING? - Experienced area painter seeking work this summer. Smaller jobs to light industrial. Reasonable rates, free estimates, references. Call Jeff at 676-2525 or email Jbrower7@gmail.com.

FIREWOOD - 10 cord semi load, 8 ft. length. Premium oak, delivered. 231-846-0346 (anytime). See pictures at coxx.com

ANGELA'S DAYCARE - Has immediate full-time openings for infants to toddlers. Licensed, food program, fenced play yard, 14 years experience. Call Angela 616-826-1192.

COMPUTER REHAB - \$45 all repairs - Virus & Spyware removal. No diagnostic fees! Mon. - Sat., 100 W. Main St., Lowell. 616-828-5346, www.computerRehab.ws

PIANO LESSONS - Piano teacher has openings available for piano lessons. For more information, call 897-7994 and ask for Ruth.

ALTO DAYCARE - has 3 openings. Weekly art activity, just lowered prices \$85 per week, accepting FIA, Food Program, if you have an infant, we will pay for formula & jarred foods, also accepting 3rd shift, Sun. - Thurs. I have a website, which has pictures of my house & more info on daycare available to you www.amyskidsdaycare.com 868-0752.

DOYUOR YOUR LOVED ONES NEED A BREAK? - I can offer companionship and general assistance in your Lowell or Ada residence. Call for credentials and additional information. Principals only please. 897-7978 ask for Kathleen or leave a message and I will return it in a timely manner.

NEED A DUMPSTER? - Dudley's Dumpsters. Dumpsters priced to get rid of your trash & save you cash! Garage, attic, household clean-up, roofing, trash, junk etc. 14 to 20 yards available. Call for free estimates. Contact Doug 616-295-6640.

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

UPHOLSTERY - Furniture, RV cushions, boat seats, dinette chairs, 50 years exp. Low prices, 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. Richard Kuyt Sr. 531-3309.

GOLF LESSONS/LEAGUE - Learn w/family & friends. Great for beginners or for those who need a refresher. Enjoy the group lessons & league in a no pressure atmosphere. Instruction provided by Doug Anderson, PGA Professional. Further instruction given during the 12 week league. Wednesday evenings, starting June 10. Call for more information & to sign up. Ridgeview Golf Club, 5200 Flat River Trail, Belding. 616-794-1860.

JUST THE FAX PLEASE - We send or receive a fax for you! Great Rate - \$1 for the first page & 50¢ for each additional page. Buyers Guide, 105 N. Broadway, 897-9555.

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9C043

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<p><b>2007 CHEVROLET IMPALA LT</b></p>  <p>IP1034 - Like new, only 5,600 miles</p> <p><b>\$15,975<sup>00</sup></b></p>	<p><b>2006 CHEVROLET 3500 CREW</b></p>  <p>IP1031, Dura-Max, sunroof, DVD leather, loaded</p> <p><b>\$33,995<sup>00</sup></b></p>	<p><b>2006 BUICK LUCERNE CXL</b></p>  <p>IP1029 - 6 passenger, North Star, loaded</p> <p><b>\$17,370<sup>00</sup></b></p>	<p><b>2009 CHEVROLET MALIBU LT</b></p>  <p>UP1022 - 33 mpg, remote start, Save Thousands</p> <p><b>\$18,975<sup>00</sup></b></p>	<p><b>2009 CHEVROLET MALIBU LT</b></p>  <p>IP1021 - 4 cyl., 6 speed auto., full power</p> <p><b>\$18,475<sup>00</sup></b></p>
<p><b>2009 PONTIAC G6 GT</b></p>  <p>UP1023 - Yes it really is priced this low!</p> <p><b>\$14,900<sup>00</sup></b></p>	<p><b>2009 CHEVROLET TRAVERSE LTZ</b></p>  <p>IP990 - Loaded, NAV, leather, quad seats</p> <p><b>\$32,970<sup>00</sup></b></p>	<p><b>2006 BUICK RENDEZVOUS CX</b></p>  <p>IP1011 - 3rd seat, luxury package, two to choose from</p> <p>from <b>\$13,995<sup>00</sup></b></p>	<p><b>2008 GMC ACADIA SLT</b></p>  <p>IP1040 - leather, DVD, sunroof, loaded</p> <p><b>\$30,975<sup>00</sup></b></p>	<p><b>2007 CHEVROLET SILVERADO EXT CAB</b></p>  <p>9T080A, LT1, one owner, local trade, 4x4</p> <p><b>\$22,900<sup>00</sup></b></p>
<p><b>2003 CHEVROLET VENTURE LS</b></p>  <p>9T066A, Extended, one owner, local trade, only...</p> <p><b>\$5,900<sup>00</sup></b></p>	<p><b>2005 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER 4x4</b></p>  <p>IP1026, Trailer tow, full power, great price</p> <p><b>\$9,400<sup>00</sup></b></p>	<p><b>2005 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER EXT.</b></p>  <p>IP1019 - trailer tow, leather, rear DVD</p> <p><b>\$12,900<sup>00</sup></b></p>	<p><b>2006 CHEVROLET COBALT LS</b></p>  <p>IP1018 - Great MPG, new tires, only...</p> <p><b>\$7,400<sup>00</sup></b></p>	<p><b>2005 BUICK TERRAZA CXL</b></p>  <p>IP1010 - Very nice, leather, loaded, DVD</p> <p><b>\$14,400<sup>00</sup></b></p>
<p><b>2008 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER LS</b></p>  <p>UP1014 - Sunroof, XM, 4x4, great price</p> <p><b>\$10,900<sup>00</sup></b></p>	<p><b>2008 NISSAN SENTRA</b></p>  <p>UP933 - Price reduced, great MPG</p> <p><b>\$11,900<sup>00</sup></b></p>	<p><b>2008 MAZDA 3</b></p>  <p>UP904 - Zoom, Zoom, Zoom for Less!</p> <p><b>\$12,000<sup>00</sup></b></p>	<p><b>2005 BUICK PARK AVENUE</b></p>  <p>IP929 - Full size luxury, small car MPG. Reduced...</p> <p><b>\$12,900<sup>00</sup></b></p>	<p><b>2008 MALIBU CLASSIC LS</b></p>  <p>IP1035A - V6, full power, local trade</p> <p><b>\$11,900<sup>00</sup></b></p>

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