



# The Lowell Ledger

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Wednesday, July 8, 2009

## Breast cancer patient takes one day at a time

Note: Following is a story about Janet Fisher, mother of five, who has been diagnosed with breast cancer. She has benefitted from the Pink Arrow Project with funds used for travel to treatments and housekeeping.

by Emma Palova

Holding tight onto her coffee mug, Janet Fisher, 48, talks about her experience with cancer. On the table in the family dining room, there is a sewing machine, some green blankets and pink doll clothes. Fisher is making crafts for Operation Santa Claus. She has always wanted to sew, but never got to it. Now, she can sew even when she is tired.

If it wasn't for cancer, Fisher probably would not be sewing or doing crafts like Christmas wreaths. And even though Fisher still, like most women, dreads the two words, breast cancer, she has found so many blessings throughout the entire whirlwind nightmare.

"It's almost been a good thing in my life," she said.

"It gives you a different outlook. It makes you stronger and more tolerant."

Fisher says she no longer sweats the small stuff like being overly particular about certain things at home.

"It changed my entire attitude to life," she said. "I am an optimist now, I used to be a pessimist."

After being diagnosed in December, going through chemotherapy and two minor surgeries, Fisher now faces radiology and mastectomy in August. She often wakes up in the middle of the night thinking about other people going through the same experience.

"What helped me was diverting focus to other people," she said.

Having no history of breast cancer in the family, the diagnosis hit her by surprise. The disease came after Fisher lost her job as a paralegal. With her husband, James, gone on the road as a truck driver, Fisher fights alone with her son Bradley, 12.

"My faith in God got



Janet Fisher has gained new experience through her fight against breast cancer.

me through this," she said. "I have to take care of this child."

And it's mutual, the two take care of each other. Bradley helped pick out a black wig for Fisher, shoveled the driveway, vacuumed and took care of the dog.

The twelve-year-old microwaves hot dogs and makes coffee for Fisher.

"He was upset about me losing hair," she said. "So he helped me pick out a wig."

Fisher takes it one day at a time and she is grateful for Amoco stations, since she

is too exhausted to shop the big stores for groceries. And unexpected things happen every day. Whether it's Keiser's letting Bradley use a check, or the Lowell Light and Power waving the turn on fee after the electricity had been shut down due to late payment.

Fisher keeps trying to get, at least, a part time job doing anything secretarial related because her unemployment is running out.

Little things tend to

*Cancer, cont'd., pg. 9*

## Friends pedal to Kentucky to get things off bucket list



Nancy Moore and Karen Myers.

by Emma Palova

For Nancy Moore and Karen Myers, the recent unsupported bicycle trip to Kentucky was just one thing off their bucket list. The two friends, who graduated in 1972 from Lowell High School, set out on a 460-mile-long journey from Lowell to Frankfort, KY on June 4.

"After several years of talking about riding from Karen's house to mine, we finally worked out the logistics with us living at the opposite ends of the trip," said Moore.

A decade ago, Moore did a similar unsupported bike trip.

"I wanted to do this trip for a long time, especially after hearing of Nancy's

adventure," said Myers. "This was also a personal challenge for me being my first self-supported tour."

Moore rented a car and drove to Lowell so the duo could head back down south. Each day they biked approximately 75 miles, 10 more miles than Moore had originally calculated. Moore admits that in the planning stages she forgot they would be carrying 10 pounds of gear each.

However, among the most prevailing challenges of the trip was the constant headwind that on day five meant getting a lift on a truck from a nice man.

Following is an entry from Moore's journal:

"We continued to fight the south wind on day

five. There was nothing to break up the wind, only flat cornfields as far as the eye could see. After 66 miles, we rode into North Vernon with about 30 miles yet to go. There was just no way I was going to make it 96 miles into the wind, so I found a nice guy at a gas station headed home to Madison in his pickup truck and we threw the bikes into the back. He dropped us off at the entrance to Clifty Falls State Park in Madison where we were staying at the park inn. We walked down to see the falls, then moaned and groaned back up the multiple flights of stairs on rubber legs. Four miles through the park to the

*Pedaling, cont'd., pg. 9*

# Obituaries

**MILLER**  
Wayne Miller, 70, of Grapeview, Washington, died Wednesday, June 17. He was born December 6, 1938 in Lowell and was a 1958 graduate of Lowell High School. He retired as a Master Gunnery Sergeant from the U.S. Marine Corps. Wayne was preceded in death by his parents, Jacob and Hazel (Peckham) Miller Nummer, both of Lowell; and a brother, Lester Miller, of Arcadia, FL. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Marianne (Moir) Miller, of Grapeview, WA; a daughter, Marie (Bob) Lindeen, of Grapeview, WA; a son, John (Jennifer) Miller, of Olympia, WA; brothers, Bill (Lionie) Miller, of North Port, FL, Larry (Pat) Miller, of Lakeland, FL, Roger Miller, of Saranac; a sister, Mary (Jerry) Strauss, of Lowell; six grandchildren; and lots of aunts, uncles, and cousins.

## A "Congratulations" card for new brides

Weddings are in season at this time of year. If you're planning to have one, or know someone who is, make sure you put Social Security on the to-do list — because we may need to send you a card. A new Social Security card, that is.

If you plan to exchange your maiden name for a married name — including hyphenated names such as Smith-Jones — be sure to let us know.

Telling us about your name change shortly after

your marriage will help us accurately keep track of your earnings and will ensure that you and your family get the Social Security retirement, disability or survivors benefits you're entitled to. Also, if the Internal Revenue Service and Social Security records do not show the same name and Social Security number, your federal income tax refund could be delayed.

There's no need to pay a third party to mail in the information for you.

Changing your name with Social Security is a quick, easy and free service. You're welcome to visit your local Social Security office or go online to [www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber) and click on "Print an Application Form SS-5." You also can call us at 1-800-772-1213 to obtain the form.

We will need the completed application along with a marriage certificate or divorce decree verifying your old and new names.

If you were born outside the United States, you also need proof of your U.S. citizenship or proof that you are lawfully living in the U.S. You can bring or mail these documents to us.

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 [vantil@ssa.gov](mailto:vantil@ssa.gov).

## Surge in older cancer survivors expected as boomers age

It's one of the downsides of an aging population. Concern for baby boomers looms over the coming decades as America's largest generation ages to a stage where cancer is most prevalent.

Currently, more than 60 percent of all malignant cancer diagnoses in America belong to people ages 65 or older — a segment of the population that continues to

grow. Indeed, the number of people age 65 and older — currently about 36.8 million — is expected to double by the year 2030.

Now more than ever, prevention, accurate screening and treatment of cancer are critical for baby boomers and their families.

"The coalescence of three factors has the potential to create one of the biggest public health problems our country has faced in decades," said Keith M. Bellizzi, a cancer survivorship researcher and assistant professor of human development and family studies at the University of

Connecticut. "These are: the aging of the baby boomers, the age sensitive nature of cancer, and the increased survival for those diagnosed with cancer."

According to recent research issued in the international journal "Cancer," there are several things to consider for aging boomers, their families and their doctors:

- **Screening:** Incomplete diagnoses are common for the elderly when it comes to cancer because there are so many sicknesses and factors to consider. Seniors should make sure

that their screening process is thorough and complete.

- **Prevention:** If prevention is possible, it should always precede treatment. Nonetheless, the medical community continues to rely on treatment more heavily, due to a lack of research solving problems with prevention.

- **Treatment:** A Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment (CGA) is recommended for determining which older cancer patients would not be harmed by treatment (for example, chemotherapy) and which patients would avoid complications more readily with palliative care.

The opinion of the family is paramount in these cases.

Within the medical community, Bellizzi said there is growing consensus between researchers and clinicians for the necessity of a multidisciplinary approach to fighting and treating cancer. Only then will all of the angles of this complex issue be able to be fully explored.

## Richardson's ability to adapt, a value the district will miss



Nancy Richardson

by Thad Kraus

In baseball terms, Nancy Richardson was a highly valuable and serviceable utility player.

Over a 28-year span, if the Lowell School District had a void, Richardson filled it.

In fact, in her first 14 years, Richardson delivered in nine different roles.

To quote Bob Seger, she was "A Traveling (Wo)Man."

The timeline played out like this: Cherry Creek Elementary

paraprofessional pro (1977-81); Honey Creek Christian Home paraprofessional pro, Runciman special education, Cherry Creek special education, high school special education; (1986-early 90's); Alto cafeteria aide (early 90's); High school SSC aide (early 90's); Cherry Creek Elementary special education paraprofessional pro (four weeks); and Unity High School Administrative Assistant (Oct. 1994-2009).

"No two days at Unity High School were ever the same," Richardson explained. The same quite possibly could be said about her 28-year tenure at Lowell.

Richardson is most fond of her time spent as a second-grade paraprofessional pro. "Second grade is when

the children begin to get their sense of humor," she says. "You can see a light go off when they get something. I always wanted to be a teacher. I just really enjoyed working with the kids."

Richardson detects a change in the children over the years.

"I think elementary children have more responsibilities because in most cases both parents have to work," she explains.

Richardson, while at Unity High School, worked under the leadership of Marge Rehl and then Marlene Heemstra. She says she saw many teachers come and go from the building. She also notes of changes coming.

Students at Unity will have to meet the same requirements as Lowell High School and with the change, will come the demands

for more highly qualified teachers.

A classroom setting will turn into more of a learning center type of learning.

"Unity will be going to a more computerized class setting for its core classes.

It will gear students toward GED prep, career readiness and back on track direction.

Richardson's retirement will help gear her in a new direction which will include traveling with her husband, John, and spending more time with her grandson.

In preparation for her travels east (New England states) this fall, Richardson underwent arch reconstruction on her left foot on June 24th.

"The foot should be good enough to go come fall," says Lowell's "Traveling (Wo)Man."

## City approves archery hunting

by Emma Palova

Regulated hunting with bow and arrow in the city limits will become a reality.

The city council, Monday night, approved an ordinance that will allow bow and arrow hunting to reduce deer population on a 3:1 vote. Opposing was council woman, Sharon Ellison.

"I still don't agree that we allow hunting in the city," said Ellison.

However, the majority of the council favored the ordinance that will be up for review in three years.

"It needs to happen," said mayor pro tem Jim Pfaffler. "We've had a lot of landscape and crop damage."

Although initially against the ordinance, council woman, Maryalene LaPonsie, said government should be less intrusive.

"As a citizen I would vote against it, but as a member of the council I am for it," said LaPonsie.

James Reagan spoke in favor of the ordinance.

"It will give us a healthier herd," said Reagan.

In related business, the council accepted a grant request for \$12,085 from the Lowell Cable Television Endowment Fund for roof repair on the cable TV building.

The repair and upgrade work will be let out for bids.

Teresa Beachum requested a waiver of fees for a temporary sign for the Pink Arrow Project. The sign

will be parked around the community for seven to 10 days leading up to the game.

The council also approved the proposed Capital Improvement Plan for 2009-2014 with highlights on the street repair program. The following streets are scheduled for repair with a combination of federal, state and local funding: Bowes Road, Grindle and Sibley roads.

The city will continue to review Grand Rapids' sidewalk upon house sale program that may mandate sidewalk inspections before a sale.

There will be a Safe Routes to School meeting at Cherry Creek Elementary Wednesday, July 8 at 6:30 p.m.

An ongoing contest to find the biggest tree is currently under way. The new tree would have to be more than 180 inches in circumference measured 4.5 feet from the ground.



**USED BOOK SALE**  
Fri., July 10, 6 to 9 p.m. and Sat., July 11, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. under the striped tent at Riverwalk Plaza. Sponsored by the Friends of Englishard Library. Proceeds to support library programming.

**COVERED BRIDGE BIKE TOUR**  
The Fallsburg Historical Society presents the 15th Annual Covered Bridge Bike Tour, Sun., July 12. Register in advance online at [www.fallsburg.org](http://www.fallsburg.org) or on site at the Schoolhouse Museum from 7-9 a.m. the day of the event. Registration fee is \$15 for individuals and \$25 for families registered before 7/6. All proceeds benefit the continued preservation of Historic Fallsburg Village. For more information or to volunteer call 897-7161 or email [fallsburg@yahoo.com](mailto:fallsburg@yahoo.com)

**WITTENBACH/WEGE CENTER**  
Anyone interested in volunteering to assist with trail and garden maintenance at the Wittenbach/Wege Agriscience and Environmental Education Center (WWC) should attend an information meeting Thurs., July 9 at 6:30 p.m. at the WWC, 11715 Vergeennes. Those interested but unable to attend, call Meggan Johnson at 987-1002.

**ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES**  
Sign up at the Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington St., Fri., July 10, 6-8 p.m. or Sat., July 11, 10 a.m. to noon. Everyone welcome. If you eat, you qualify. Any questions, call Esther at 897-7395.

**ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES**  
Order days at First Baptist Church, 2275 Main St., Fri., July 10, 4-6 p.m. and Sat., July 11, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Delivery, July 25, 8:30-9:30 a.m. For info call Jean, 897-6609, or visit [www.angelfoodministries.org](http://www.angelfoodministries.org).

**FOODMOBILE**  
The next foodmobile, distributed by F.R.O.M., will be July 18 at the Fairgrounds at 10 a.m.

**CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP**  
The Lowell Area Historical Museum along with Fallsburg Historical Society will be hosting a children's workshop in Fallsburg Village. It will be open to students ages 8-14; on Thurs., July 23, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Call the museum to register, 897-7688. Cost: \$12 per student.

**QUITTERS INFORMATION & SUPPORT MEETING**  
Tues., July 28, 6-8 p.m. at Lowell Family Medical Center, 2550 W. Main St. This meeting is designed to support those who have quit smoking or are thinking about it. Call 616-446-7058 with any questions.

**FOOD PANTRY**  
The F.R.O.M. Food Pantry is in need of canned fruit, juice, boxed potatoes, hamburger and chicken, butter, and cereals. Please help if you can.

**OPEN HOUSE**  
Alto/Bowne Township Fire Department Please join us at the Alto Fire Station to show appreciation for retired FIRE CHIEF JERRY POSTHUMUS and his forty-plus years of service to the fire department. Come meet the new Fire Chief Phil Dougherty and the other firefighters. Ice cream provided by Oesch's Soft Serve and cake provided by Pat Thomet SATURDAY, JULY 11 • 3 to 6 PM ALTO FIRE STATION • 6260 Bancroft Ave.

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## Richards Park gets a makeover

The Lowell Chapter of Rotary International is giving Richards Park a makeover on Saturday, August 15. The existing playground equipment at Richards Park, at Lincoln Lake and N. Hudson in the city of Lowell, is at least 50 years old. One end of the park will be designed for younger kids with a play structure and swings. The other end, which has an existing ice-skating rink, will be fitted with skateboarding equipment that is removable in the winter so the rink area will be usable year-round. Rotary is working with the City of Lowell's maintenance department and parks & recreation committee, as well as the 'Our Love Skate Park' group, so that area children and youth have a safe place to enjoy healthy outdoor play. The renovated park will provide recreational opportunities for all ages.

This project has been the main focus of the Lowell Rotary Club's fundraising and local community service efforts this year. No tax money or other public funds are being used for this renovation. Rotary has raised about \$50,000, and about \$18,000 in

in-kind donations from local businesses and volunteers so far, to meet the approximately \$78,000 cost. The project has received grants from the Look Foundation, the State Farm Community Foundation, and Rotary International District 6210 as well as partnering with the Our Love Skate Park group through the First Congregational Church, to provide matching funds towards their grant from the Lowell Area Community Fund. A grant proposal to the Lowell Area Cable TV Endowment Fund is pending.

Individuals and businesses in the Lowell Community are invited to help with the renovation of Richards Park by purchasing a paver and/or by volunteering labor on August 15. Rotary is selling granite pavers, which will be installed as a permanent border around the new playground area, for a donation of \$100 or more. The pavers are 6" x 12" granite with up to three lines of inscription, and 16 characters per line of engraving. Order forms are available at [www.lowellrotary.org](http://www.lowellrotary.org), from Scott McDowell at All Weather Seal (897-7300), or by asking any

Rotarian. Volunteers to help put together the equipment, under the professional supervision of Matt Garrison of Ridgeline Construction, are needed on Saturday, August 15. Anyone interested in arriving early will be welcomed at 7 a.m. Construction will officially begin at 8 a.m. and the project will be completed the same day. If you would like more information on volunteering, please call Flora at (616) 987-4245 or email her at [contact@ridge-lineREconstruction.com](mailto:contact@ridge-lineREconstruction.com).

Rotary is an international service organization made up of business and professional people. The Lowell Chapter was formed in 1932 and meets weekly for fellowship and to provide opportunities for service to its members. The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise. As well as local projects, Rotary supports international humanitarian projects such as the eradication of polio world-wide and distributes a simple filtration device that provides safe, clean water to families in third world countries. For more information about Rotary, ask any Rotarian or visit [www.lowellrotary.org](http://www.lowellrotary.org).

See Buyers Guide for an order form to buy an engraved paver to support Richard's Park renovation.

## Lowell Lions name officers



The Lowell Lions Club named its officers for 2009-10. Pictured, front row, left to right: Keith Ferguson, chairman; Dennis Anchors, secretary; Jim Redd, president; Bob Reagan, second vice president; Frank Martin, first vice president; and Steve Doyle, second year director; back row, left to right: Dave Durkee, lion tamer; and Terry Conley, treasurer.

## Guitar Hero contest at Kent County Youth Fair

Are you a guitar hero? Well, you will have your chance to prove it this year at the 75th annual Kent County Youth Fair. The fair will host their second annual Guitar Hero contest on Saturday, August 15.

There are three age divisions: ages 10 and under, 11-14 and 15-18. There is a \$5 entry fee. The preliminaries will start at 10 a.m. at the Community Stage and run throughout the day. Scoring in the preliminaries is based on percentage of notes hit during the song play. Go to

[www.kcfg.org](http://www.kcfg.org) for complete rules and up to the minute information. You may also find the entry form on the website; just follow the instructions on the form.

The finals will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a concert by the great local band, Blue Star Pilot, who will also play during the breaks and at the end of the contest. The finals will feature the top 10 contestants from each of the three age divisions. Both Guitar Hero ability (50 percent) and stage presence (50 percent) will be combined to determine the contestant's final score.

A panel of celebrity judges will be used to determine the stage presence scores. Contestants are urged to dress, act the part and work the crowd. There will be cash prizes for first, second and third place in each age division as well as a grand prize for the overall winner.

"Guitar Center of Grand Rapids, Michigan is proud to be partnering with the Kent County Youth Fair for the second annual Guitar Hero contest. We are looking forward to this rockin' event!" says Aaron Arraut, manager of the Grand Rapids Guitar Center store.

\*\*\*\*\*

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# Viewpoint

## To The Editor

Dear Editor:

Thad, Thad, Thad. After reading your column this week, "Okay, Someone has to say it." I can say that I'm glad you finally have grown up and come to your senses. There is nothing wrong with a local sports writer being partial to their local home team. I've known you for a long time and I know that you're from a little town in Southwestern lower Michigan (won't mention the name, I'll let you do that) but there's nothing wrong with you placing your allegiance with the high school, in the town where you've grown to be an adult.

I've been working the press box at the "Home of the Lowell Red Arrows" for the last 18 years and I'm very proud to have the honor of being a Lowell announcer. You, my friend, have an ability that I do not have on a week to week basis. You have the "Power of the Ink." You can say what you feel to the world. I'm just the announcer. I can not be a cheerleader up there in the box. I do my work at the stadium, the gym and the softball diamond. I see that we have some great student athletes that are trained by some of the best coaches around. I know that, but I can't say that from where I sit. Be proud, Thad. Let other people know about the facts and "the goodness" that abounds in Lowell.

Tony Stencil



By Shelly MacNaughton

### 125 Years Ago The Lowell Journal July 9, 1884

July 5th, the Lowell National Bank declared a semi-annual dividend of five percent.

A wall-eyed pike weighing nearly eight pounds was picked out of the river here, Monday.

Census enumerator, R. W. Graham, made his returns for Lowell last week. The village of Lowell, including the village and Segwun (at the depot), now shows a population of 2016; the number strictly within the corporation limits being 1840. The township, including the village and Segwun, contains 3,276 souls. The village of Lowell shows a gain in population of 302 since the census of 1880.

### 100 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger July 8, 1909

The proposed new city hall, according to the plans and sketches of the architect as approved by the Council, will be a handsome two story brick building, 44 x 109 feet on the outside. The Pullen corner lot will be used with a fire wall next to the Pullen block with no opening or stairway on that side.

Photographs will be on exhibition at the post office where they may be examined by all interested.

### 75 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo July 12, 1934

A car belonging to Miss Nellie Sayles was stolen from Main St. during the day last Thursday while the owner stepped into a local store to do some shopping. The car was located in Ithaca the next day where it had been driven by Clinton Snyder, 18, a trusty at the Michigan Reformatory, Ionia. Snyder escaped from the prison farm, hitched a ride as far as Saranac, then came in to Lowell, by the old River Road. He was serving six months for larceny at Merrill. He said he left the reformatory because of homesickness. His 12 hour absence will probably add 18 months to his time at Ionia.

### 50 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger July 9, 1959

The State Savings Bank announced Wednesday that they have the Mrs. Julia Hosley residence, at 414 East Main Street, under option which they plan to take up as soon as approval of the site is given by federal and state banking authorities. Their approval is considered assured and plans are underway to start construction in about 60 days.

The Hosley property has 132 feet of frontage on Main Street and is across from the Eberhard Super Market.

### 25 Years Ago The Grand Valley Ledger July 11, 1984

A pair of young, enterprising veterinarians have purchased the Lowell Veterinary Clinic founded by Dr. James Main seven years ago. Bruce Langlois and Mark Teachman, both 25 years old and June graduates of Michigan State University's school of veterinary medicine, began practicing with Main on Monday, July 2. Main says he will stay on with the new doctors for six months before going back to school to pursue a specialty in veterinary medicine.

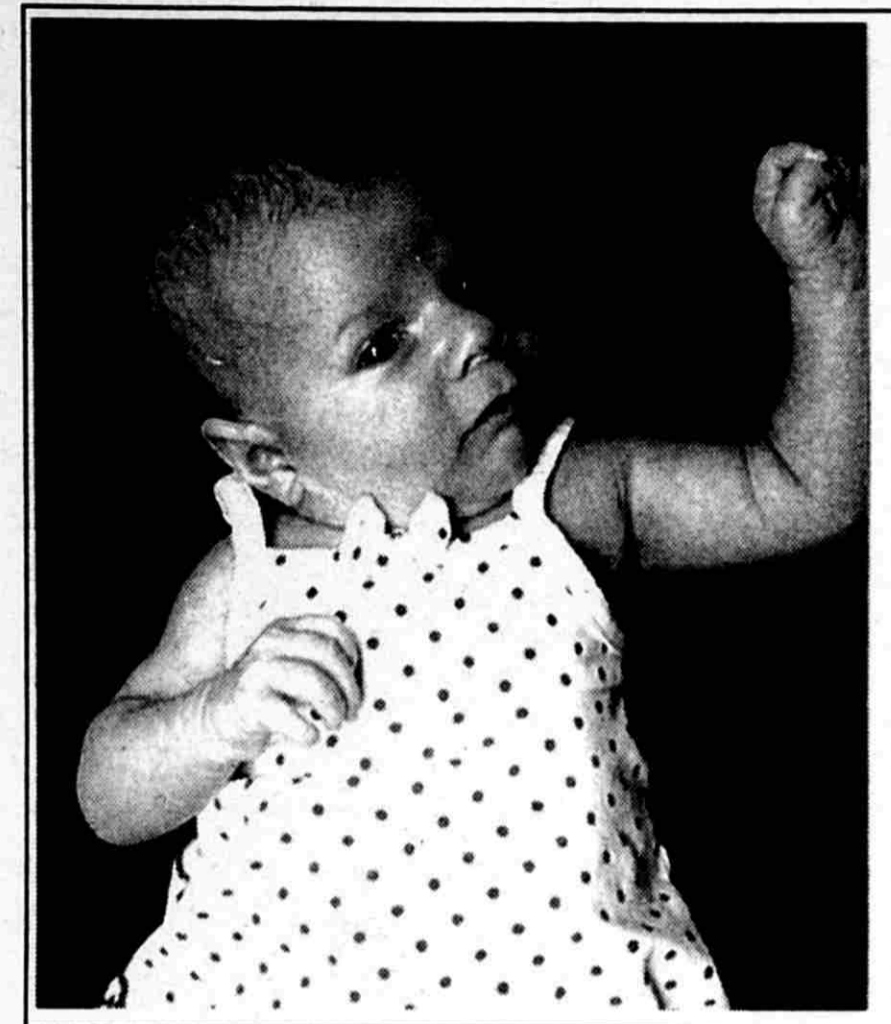
## Writing to the editor ...

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](mailto:ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com).

# New Arrivals

## Nauman



**Alexis Faith Nauman**

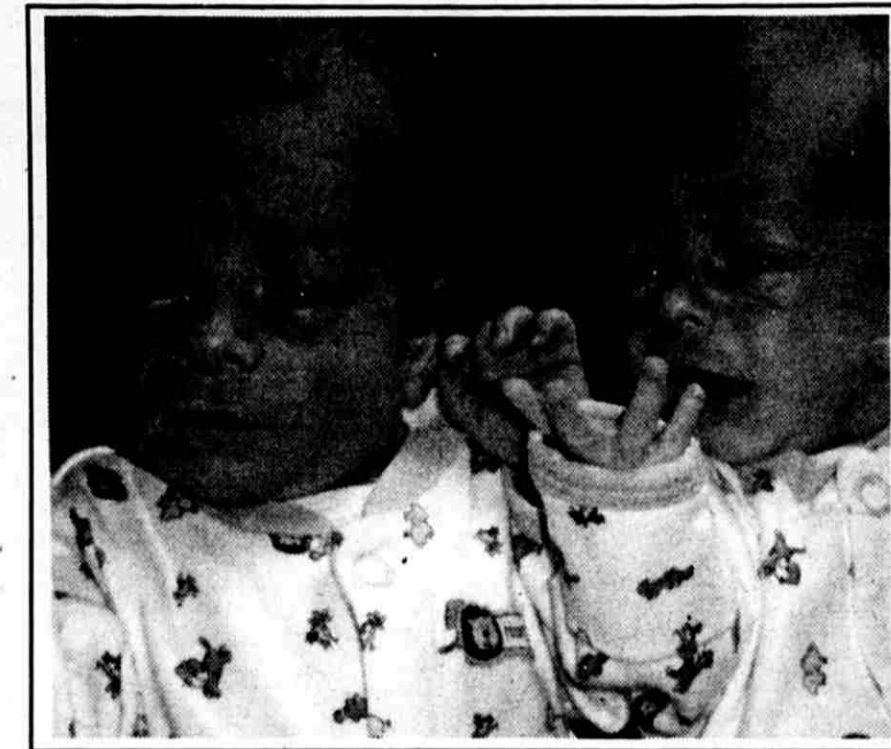
Alexis Faith Nauman was born on May 9, 2009 at 7:57 a.m. She weighed 6 lbs. 12 oz. and measured 18 1/2 inches. Proud parents are Don and Hannah Nauman, of Ionia. Proud grandparents are Rick and Valerie Bruse; and Ron and Jenipher, both of Saranac. Great-grandparents are Donald Sr. and Margaret Videan, of Saranac; Don and Carmen Nauman, of Kincheloe; and Mildred Earl, of Holland. Great great-grandmother is Florence Videan, of Ada.

## Business Matters



Greenridge Realty announced that Elaine Wingeier received Realtor of the Month in June. The award recognizes Wingeier for her outstanding success and achievements.

## Pollema



**Lincoln Michael Pollema and Izaiah Michael Pollema**

Mike and Amber (Metternick) Pollema, of Byron Center, along with big sister, Mattelyn, announce the birth of their identical twin boys, Lincoln Michael and Izaiah Michael. They were born May 14, 2009 with Lincoln weighing 4 lbs. 9 oz. and measuring 18 inches and Izaiah weighing 4 lbs. 1 oz. and measuring 16 inches. Also welcoming them home are grandparents, Ron and Carrie Metternick, Bob and Ruth Rusticus, and Cliff Pollema; and great-grandparents, Roger and Norma Raymor and Shirley Metternick.

# Happy Birthday

**JULY 8:**

Jason White, Tony Stencil, Ryan Vashaw, Jessica Tulppo, Marilyn Venneman.

**JULY 12:**

Cole Burdette, Samantha Bellah, Jill Taylor, Hayley Fritz, Georgan Watrous.

**JULY 9:**

Elaine Haines, Leo Pfaller.

**JULY 13:**

Travis Thomet, Cheryl Doyle, Justin Craig, Janet Burns, George Miles, Esther Newell, John Jones, Izzy Tackmann, Sharon Landman.

**JULY 10:**

Pete VanLaan, Austin Bieri, Carter Peel, Kelly Landman.

**JULY 14:**

Ernestine Bundy, Katie Stouffer, Richard Ellison, Mindy Tykocki, Bethany Kaczanowski, Joyce VanDyke.

**JULY 11:**

Dina DeCator, Jodi Hutchinson, Savannah Rice.

## College News

Lowell resident, Alice A. Blumm, was named to the spring 2009 Dean's List for the Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations at Seton Hall University.

Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Ind., named Caitlin Stevenson, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. John E. Stevenson, of Ada, to the Dean's List for the spring 2009 semester. A student must achieve a grade point average of at least 3.4 on a 4.0 scale to earn academic honors at Saint Mary's.

Calvin College has announced that the following students were named to the spring 2009 Dean's List. To

earn a spot on the Dean's List, Calvin requires that a student maintains at least a 3.5 grade point average for the semester and has at least a 3.3 cumulative grade point average.

Alexander Boelkins, Elisabeth DeVos, Meghan Eames, Alissa Goudswaard, Marielle Heule, Lukas Leisman, and Joel Meredith, all of Ada.

Katherine Baker, Matthew Draft, Lauren Rodvoets, and Rebecca Schmidt, all of Alto.

Kristin Befus, Elena Brubaker, Chad Drenth, Hannah Gerig, Carolyn Johnson, Kelly Malling, Matthew Scheider, Brook VanEck, and Kelise Vriesema, all of Lowell.

## Community Stage this year at the Fair

New this year at the Kent County Youth Fair is the Community Stage. The stage will be available in one-hour time slots from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday (August 10-14). If your organization, group, or an individual would like to showcase their talents, all you have to do is sign up either by filling out the online form at [www.kcfg.org](http://www.kcfg.org), or by printing the form on the website and either mailing

it or delivering it to the fair office no later than July 31. Time slots will be given on a first come, first served basis.

The Community Stage is sponsored by Redfrog Technologies, providers of reliable, professional computer and technology services, for both residential and business clients, at reasonable prices.

\*\*\*\*\*

*What we see depends mainly on what we look for.*

John Lubbock

## Parade to celebrate 75 years of the Kent County Youth Fair

This year, to mark the 75th anniversary, the Kent County Youth Fair has teamed up with the Lowell Chamber of Commerce to organize a Celebration Parade down Main Street in Lowell that ends at the opening ceremonies of the fair. The parade takes place Sunday, August 9 at 5:30 p.m. Organizations, clubs, bands, fair sponsors, and groups are all invited

to participate. There is no charge for entry and there will be a cash prize for the best entry in the parade. Entry forms are available at [www.kcfg.org](http://www.kcfg.org). Simply print out the form and follow the directions on the form.

All fair alumni are invited to participate in the parade, regardless of what year you participated in the fair. For more information

and also to pre-register, visit the website.

The Kent County Youth Fair is located at the Kent County fairgrounds in Lowell. Throughout the year, young men and women work hard preparing their projects for fair. There are still exhibits, agricultural and animal, and many other types of projects that they enter. They attend meetings and

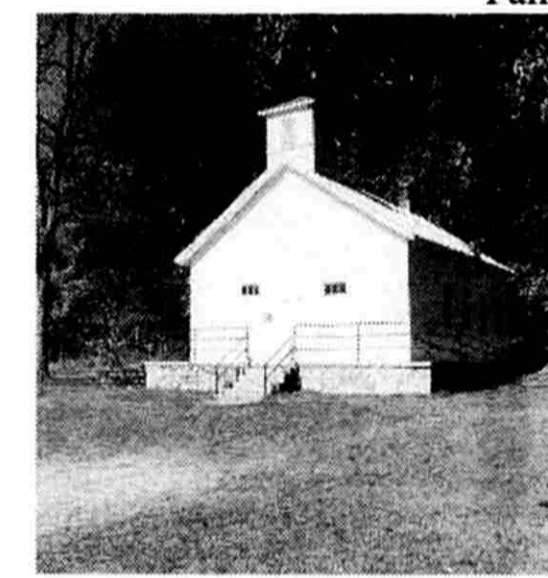
classes to learn more about agriculture and agricultural related subjects. Then, once a year in August, over 1,200 kids come together to show their projects at the fair. The week long fair provides West Michigan with great learning opportunities, free entertainment every day and night, games and rides, and lots of other great things to do.

## Pioneer life workshop at Fallasburg

Discover what life was like in the historic village of Fallasburg 100 to 150 years ago. Fallasburg was a thriving village along the Flat River, with a covered bridge, sawmill with chair factory, gristmill, stagecoach inn, loggers hotel, general store, post office, school, and surrounded by farms. John Wesley Fallas, the founder, came to the area as a young man, and together with his uncle and brother, built the bridge, sawmill and gristmill. He then returned to New York State to marry and

to convince his family and his bride's family to come and settle in Fallasburg. Many of them did come and became pioneers in the 1840's.

The Lowell Area Historical Museum and Fallasburg Historical Society will be hosting a workshop on July 23 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. in Fallasburg.



Fallasburg school house.

The workshop is open to children age 8 to 14, and will focus on how the pioneers lived. Events included are canoeing on the river, learning

about the sawmill and gristmill, wash day and a one-time lesson in the one-room schoolhouse.

If you have questions regarding the history of the pioneers that once settled in Fallasburg or in the Lowell area, contact the Lowell Area Historical Museum or the Fallasburg Historical Society. To register for the workshop, call the Lowell Area Historical Museum at 897-7688.

# HEALTH

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



## TESTOSTERONE REPLACEMENT THERAPY

Testosterone is a hormone found in men and women. Men have much higher levels than women. Testosterone in men is responsible for masculine traits - hair growth, deep voice, and strong muscles. Having the right amount of this hormone is also important for sex drive and sexual functioning.

Men who have low testosterone levels often feel fatigued and have a low sex drive. Women who are menopausal also have a low sex drive, sometimes due to low testosterone levels.



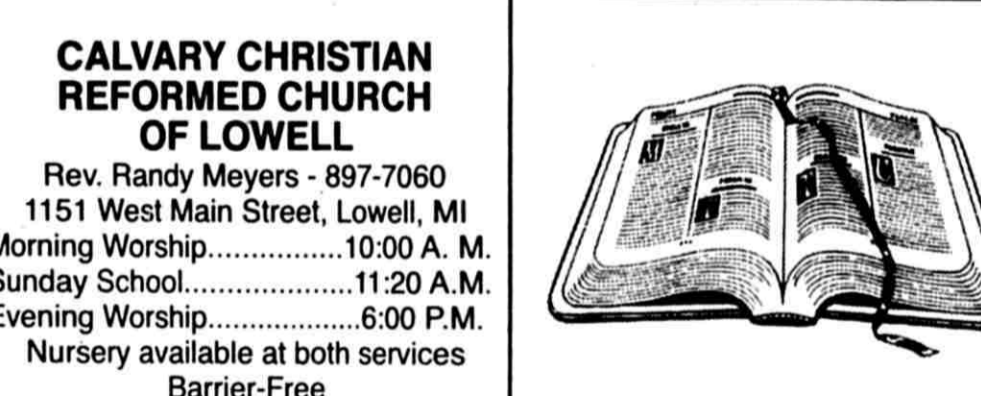





If testosterone levels are low in the blood, in men, replacement therapy may be indicated. No one knows if taking testosterone long term will have any adverse effects because this has never been adequately studied. Some researchers believe that testosterone therapy might cause prostate or breast cancer. Very high doses can hurt the liver, blood, or even the heart. Side effects may be acne in men and women, and unwanted hair growth in women.

If indicated, men can take testosterone as a patch, cream, gel, or a shot. Women can take testosterone as a pill or a shot.

*When the path ahead of you is uphill, surrounded by rough spots, hazards and obstacles: Use a pitching wedge.*


Lee Bracken, former president, U.S. Diary

# AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

 <p><b>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 <a href="http://www.lowellumc.com">www.lowellumc.com</a> WORSHIP..... 8:30 &amp; 10:15 a.m.  Rev. Rick Blunt Barrier-free entrance</p>	<p><b>ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> <i>Kirby and Harrison</i> Alto • 616-691-8011 Worship.....9:30 A.M. Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.  OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS Pastor Dean Bailey</p>	 <p><b>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> Rev. Randy Meyers - 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....11:20 A.M. Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M. Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free</p>	 <p><b>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> <i>Fr. Eugene Okoli</i> 402 Amity St. • 897-9820 <a href="http://www.stmary-lowell.com">www.stmary-lowell.com</a> Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM Holy Day Masses: 9 AM &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 WOODS: 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 49, EWTN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>
<p><b>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 <a href="http://www.lowellumc.com">www.lowellumc.com</a> WORSHIP..... 8:30 &amp; 10:15 a.m.  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 <b>SUNDAYS:</b> 10:00 a.m. - Worship &amp; Evening; LIFE Home Groups &amp; "The Source" Youth <b>WEDNESDAYS:</b> Family Night: (for all ages) 7:00 p.m. "The Source" Youth: 7:00 p.m. Loving God... Loving People!</p>	 <p><b>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> <i>Fr. Eugene Okoli</i> 402 Amity St. • 897-9820 <a href="http://www.stmary-lowell.com">www.stmary-lowell.com</a> Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM Holy Day Masses: 9 AM &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 WOODS: 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 49, EWTN 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 Sunday Worship.....10:00 A.M. Church School.....10:15-11:15 A.M. Thursday Faith Alive Worship.....7:00 P.M. Rev. Terry Tessari.....Interim Pastor Shannon Hanley.....C.E. Director Barrier-free.....Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise &amp; Worship</p>
<p><b>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell &amp; Saranac on M-21 <a href="http://www.goodshepherdlowell.org">www.goodshepherdlowell.org</a> 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: <a href="http://www.fbclowell.org">http://www.fbclowell.org</a> Rev. David O. Sims &amp; Rev. W. Lee Taylor 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. 9:45 A.M. ....Worship/Fellowship 11:15 A.M. ....Sunday School 897-9863 or 897-9588 Nursery &amp; Children Worship Programs Provided  A friend...a family...a mission!</p>	<p><b>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Rev. Vance Dimmick Jr. 9:45 A.M. ....Worship/Fellowship 11:15 A.M. ....Sunday School 897-9863 or 897-9588 Nursery &amp; Children Worship Programs Provided  A friend...a family...a mission!</p>

**WE ACCEPT**



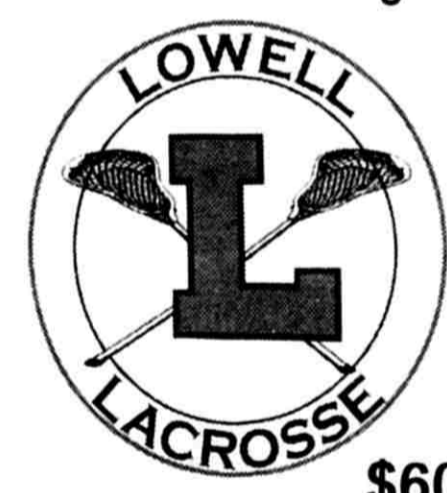


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Golfer	Amount
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Director of Fundraising  
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Susan Stanek is the featured artist at the Riverwalk Gallery.

## Featured Artist

Susan Stanek

by Emma Palova

Being in the same room with artist Susan Stanek is like watching fireworks explode on a sunny afternoon. Looking at her oversized painting titled 'Floral Graffiti,' inspired by her garden elicits that same feeling.

Beautiful yellows, reds and greens make you want to shout, "vow!"

And that is exactly what the artist is aiming for in her multi-genre work.

"I want people to say vow," she said. "I want people to remember my art and I want to make them happy."

Her solo exhibit will be on display at the Riverwalk Gallery from July 14 through Sept. 3. The reception for the artist will take place July 19 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Stanek's art appeals to all generations from her depictions of animals and birds like the morning dove in her ambient glow. In that piece Stanek explores the whiteness of light. Her picture of a Longhorn sunlit on the skin of the bull and in its eyes. It is on display at JW's Coffee Shop on Cascade and Forest Hills roads.

Even when she started drawing animals as a child, Stanek never drew stick figures.

"I always had the proportions right," she said. "I started drawing before I was six."

Stanek has a bachelor of fine arts degree from Aquinas College where she was on the Dean's List throughout her studies. She headlined an art show in 2007, and her work was accepted into the Grand Rapids Art Festival last year.

"It was an honor to get accepted," she said.

She has designed a flag for the Grand Rapids Rotary Club. Stanek creates art of all types, from sculpture to paintings, contemporary, traditional and AvantGarde, including fine and commercial art, as well as the design of logos and family portraits.

Even though she is always experimenting,

Stanek adores classic artists like Monet and Rembrandt.

"I often sneak in references to the masters," she said.

Her work has gone through various phases from photo-accuracy to more experimental art that has a whimsical quality.

"The school helped me get more professionalized," she said.

Stanek enjoys creating art fluidly with effortless ease that is reflected in all her work and paintings. Her 'Whispering Fern' surrounded by a spiral poem has sold to a private home in New York. She has patrons from New York to California, as well as England.

Stanek has also contributed art to the movie 'Broken' by Miramax with Matt Damon and Ben Affleck. The main character, Christian, who is an artist, uses her work as his in the award winning film.

"I am very happy to share the joy of art with others," she said. "The Lowell community has always been supportive of the arts, and has always been welcoming of local talent like myself."

A sense of color and the love for nature ties all her work together. Stanek also does watercolors of local landmarks like the Fallasburg Covered Bridge and the Showboat. Even though she takes a picture to capture details, Stanek paints from memory.

"I am honored to have my stuff out there for people to interact with my work," she said.

Typically, Stanek uses two approaches in creating her artwork. The first approach is finishing everything in her head, the second approach means getting halfway through the piece, then stepping back, waiting and working something new into the painting.

"I always embrace a sense of chance," she said. "I don't want people to get sick of my paintings, so I put little things in them. I want people to walk away from a painting and still think about it."

## Sweet strawberries



Audrey Rasch arranges strawberries at the Rasch Farm Market on Lincoln Road. Rasch said this year's crop was excellent. Also available at the market are cherries. Last year, due to hail, no cherries were available.

## Cancer, continued ... From Page 1

happen to Fisher, like the other day when a strange lady showed up to clean up the dog poop, or when the Baptist Church prayed for her.

She appreciates the Pink Arrow Project and the upcoming Gilda's Club programming.

"Sometimes I have no

energy or money to make an extra trip to Grand Rapids," she said. "I am anxious to see what kind of speakers they will have."

Fisher praised the Pink Arrow Project for raising awareness, even though last year Fisher didn't pay much attention to it.

"Now I realize the

importance of projects like Pink Arrow, whether it affects you or not, you pay attention," she said.

As she gazes through the patio door at her hanging tomato plant, Fisher tries not to get overwhelmed.

"I am not giving up," she said. "I never will."

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## Pedaling, continued ... From Page 1

inn made 71 miles total."

So, what kept the two going like Energizer batteries? "We took turns leading and drafting," said Myers. "I tried to focus on the task at hand, getting to the next town or stop. I wondered if there is a patron saint of winds I should have been praying to that I missed."

One of the highlights of the trip was staying in a Bed & Breakfast mansion in Peru, IN. Moore enjoyed seeing and photographing the old courthouses in the county seats. Both also explored the Amish country around Shipshewana.

"The biggest highlight for me was safely completing the ride," said Myers. "The mansion was delightful and a great find. The swimming hole kept me focused on the final day."

But throughout the entire six day trip, Moore and Myers never got rained on and they had no flat tires. Although, after finishing the trip, it rained for three days, which prevented a planned kayak trip.

There was not much down time left after biking all day. The two had a sit-down lunch in a restaurant or cafe every day.

"By the time we got into our lodging, showered, walked to supper, arranged the next day's maps and phoned home, it was bedtime," said Moore. "This is why we will do less miles in the future."

After a layover day in Kentucky, Myers rented a car and drove back home to Lowell.

A question lingered: "Would they do it again?"

"Not this trip," said Moore. "Indiana just isn't very interesting compared to our previous group trips along the shores of Lake Michigan, Huron and Superior."

Myers agreed that their next trip will not be through Indiana.

"I read about a ride from Hell, MI to Paradise, MI - that sounds great too," said Myers.

In the end, it was the sense of accomplishment and time spent with each other that put a staple on the memorable trip.

"I know I am capable of another self-supported bike ride," said Myers. "I am happy to cross this off my bucket list now. All the time spent in training paid off."

## BIRD BERRY FARM STRAWBERRIES

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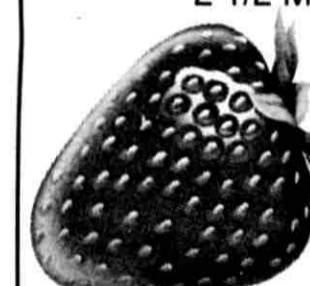
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### Why do we need to have public notices?

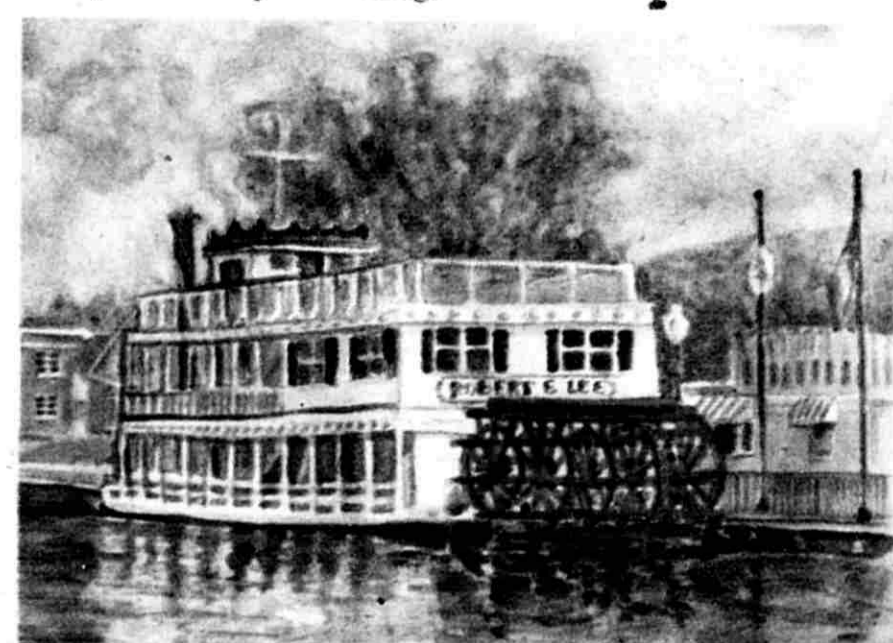
Public notices tell you, as a citizen, what is being done by your government. State law requires actions of interest to you be published in these notifications. It keeps you up to date about what's happening with your city, county and school board, as well as other governmental bodies.

More than two-thirds of active Michigan voters think legal notices should continue to be placed in your local newspaper.\*

Reading the public notices helps you become a more informed citizen. \*EPIC-MRA November 2007



This newspaper supports your right to know.





A FEW NOTABLE EVENTS FROM JULY 2-JULY 8, 2009

- Broad unemployment rate hit 9.5 percent in June, larger than expected with a total of 467,000 jobs lost.
- California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger declares a state of emergency with a state budget shortfall of 27 billion.
- Investigators: Air France jet did not break up in flight, but fell "straight down, almost vertically."

- According to the New Yorker magazine, Osama Bin Laden visited the U.S. for two weeks in 1979. It seems he traveled to Indiana and Los Angeles, according to his first wife, Najwa Bin Laden.
- With something for everyone, the climate bill, 1,400 pages, passed the senate last week.
- Alaska Gov., Sarah Palin, announced her decision to step down with 18 months left in her term.
- Former Defense Secretary, Robert McNamara, architect of the U.S. war in Vietnam, has died at the age of 93.
- Two monorail trains at Walt Disney World collided early Sunday, killing the 21-year-old driver. A witness said one of the trains rammed into the back of a stationary train.
- Ex-NFL star, Steve McNair, at the age of 36,

was found fatally shot in a condominium in downtown Nashville, Tennessee.

- Over 140 killed and more than 800 injured in ethnic unrest in China's far west Xinjiang region.
- D.C.'s Marion Barry arrested again. U.S. park police arrested Barry and charged him with misdemeanor stalking.
- U.S.-Russia nuke deal seen. Official says Obama and Medvedev are prepared to sign a deal reducing the number of war heads and delivery vehicles.
- Former President George W. Bush has long prized the gun seized when Saddam Hussein was captured, hiding in a hole in the ground, in Iraq, in 2003. The 9 millimeter Glock 18c will most likely appear in President Bush's presidential library when it opens in 2013 on the campus of the Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

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**The Lowell Ledger**

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*Solutions are not the answer.*

Richard Nixon

**Summer wrestling sizzles in Lowell**

There's never a dull moment in the life of the typical Lowell wrestling family.

Lowell wrestling head coach, Dave Dean, keeps the 2009 State Champions busy with plenty of off season opportunities. From the time the high school and youth seasons end,

to recently include 2009 NCAA Champion Franklin Gomez from Michigan State University.

New challenges await the Red Arrow Grapplers for the 09-10 winter season, as they will compete in the MHSAA (largest) Division 1, facing schools such as Rockford, Grandville, Holt and Detroit Catholic in

Grand River Rumble will attract 30 teams from New Jersey to Iowa on Saturday, August 1 with the action starting at 9:30 a.m. in the high school. Information on the summer action is available at: www.redarrowwrestling.com and www.grandriverumble.com.

**South rises above North as food fight nears finish**

Rumors of the South's demise were highly exaggerated.

Powered by a surprise teaming between Schneider Manor and the Lowell Senior Neighbors, the South team rose above the agony of last week's defeat to outscore the North 1175-384 this week and take a 2,236-1,229 lead.

Top food producers for the South team included GOOD Chevrolet and Buick and Greenridge Realty.

North's big food producer this week was, once again, Curves. There will be one more food

fight this Friday and the final count will be at the conclusion of the F.R.O.M. the Heart Riverwalk parade this Saturday, which begins at noon.

"Don't count the North Team out quite yet," said FROM board member, Rick Seese. "I have a feeling this is going to be a close finish."

Flat River Outreach Ministries urges those attending the parade to bring nonperishable food

items and deposit them in the labeled containers along both the north and south sides of Main St. during the parade.

There will be clowns collecting food and Lowell dealership trucks in the parade will also help with the food collection.

Canfield Heating and Plumbing's Deb Canfield fired off a final rallying cry for her North teammates.

"North, where is your spirit? This is our last chance to take the South."



**OUR DEADLINE IS FRIDAY AT 2 P.M. If you are running short on time & can't get your ad here until Monday, give us a call we will try our best to get your ad in. Lowell Ledger 105 N. Broadway 897-9261**

**DRAFT SYNOPSIS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOWELL CITY COUNCIL MONDAY, JULY 6, 2009**

- Motion to approve the agenda as submitted.
- Motion to approve the regular minutes of the June 15, 2009 meeting as corrected and the Closed Session meeting minutes as presented and the accounts payable were approved.

- Motion to approve the setback variance request at 430 N. Monroe to accommodate an enclosed porch. Yea: 3. (Ellison, LaPonsie and Hodges) Nay: 1. (Pfaller) Absent: 1. (Altoft) Motion Carried.

- Motion to approve the sign variance at 925 West Main from Self Serve Lumber.

- Motion to approve the request from Friends of the Englehardt Public Library to install a second bike rack southwest of the main entrance to the Englehardt Public Library.

- Motion to waive fees and time allowance for temporary sign permits at various business locations throughout the City of Lowell for the Pink Arrow Project.

- Motion of adopt the Bow and Arrow Hunting Ordinance as presented. Yea: 3. (Pfaller, LaPonsie and Hodges) Nay: 1. (Ellison) Absent: 1. (Altoft) Motion Carried.

- Motion to adopt the Capital Improvements Plan 2009-2014.

- Motion to adjourn at 8:23 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, July 20, 2009.

Complete minutes will be available after approved on July 20, 2009 on the City's web page at <http://www.ci.lowell.mi.us> or at City Hall.

Betty Morlock City Clerk

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most of the team makeup the ever growing popular Flat River Wrestling Club based in Lowell that provides many of the West Michigan wrestlers the training and travel events they are looking for. Flat River WC has hosted many of the nations best college coaches and elite clinicians

a quest for another State Championship run.

Important dates approaching fast for Red Arrow wrestlers include RAW Youth Camp, Father/Son Night, All-American Camp, Grand River Rumble Team Tournament, and the Border Wars Lowell Fair Tournament.

*Character is not made in a crisis - it is only exhibited.*

Robert Freeman

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MAY 14 THROUGH OCTOBER 8  
Mark your calendar for two special added market dates:  
Sunday, July 12, 11 am to 5 pm and  
Saturday, Oct 10, 10 am to 2 pm

**CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Lowell City Planning Commission-Citizen Advisory Committee will conduct the following public hearings on Monday, July 27, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at Lowell City Hall Council Chambers, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

To consider a Special Use Permit request from Gilda's Club, who wishes to be located at 314 South Hudson along with current occupant Senior Neighbors. The property is zoned R-3 Multiple Family Residential, a special land use designation under Section 8.03 B provides for community center buildings. Thus, a Special Use Permit is required.

An Ordinance to add Section 4.25, "Temporary Garages in Residential Districts," to Chapter 4, "General Provisions" of "Appendix A - Zoning Ordinance" of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell.

Copies of the ordinance is available for inspection during normal business hours at City Hall and the Englehardt Public Library or on the City of Lowell web page at [www.ci.lowell.mi.us](http://www.ci.lowell.mi.us)

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

Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

# OKAY - Someone Has To Say It ...

by Thad Kraus

From its 11,000 crystal clear lakes, to its 800 golf courses, to its 3,200 miles of shoreline, it's all pure Michigan.

Tourism is an \$18.8 billion industry which generates over 200,000 jobs.

From Ann Arbor to Ludington, from Frankenmuth to Grand Rapids and all parts in between, a person is only 85 miles from a great lake no matter where they stand.

All of these facts, and some I haven't written, help one to forget the cold, dreary, gray, dark wintery days and nights.

FYI - those aforementioned days and nights are roughly 150 days away. Sooner if you're a pessimist!

And now back to my originally scheduled column.

dollars used to fund the removal of the dead deer and other animals and rodents from summer's simmering asphalt on our highways. Imagine you're driving a family friend or relative, visiting for a weekend or week, to one of those great Michigan destinations.

"Oh yeah, this is the wonderful Grand Rapids skyline. This is the home to the much ballyhooed Miracle Mile. And over here to your left is the rib cage to a 165-pound doe that was smucked by a bread truck a few weeks back."

"The birds of prey have been pulling meat off its rack for weeks now."

"If you roll down your windows, you will smell a Pure Michigan odor to go with the lovely scene."

To any legislator in Lansing listening or reading this - if you want to help Michigan's Tourism Industry - take a lunch hour and go out and clean a decaying carcass off the side of a highway and when

Nowhere in all the pamphlets about the wonderful lakes, golf courses, shorelines, beaches and fall color tours that Michigan has to offer, does I mention the nauseous decaying carcass smell that dots the highways of Pure Michigan.

A little over a month ago, while moving from Grand Rapids to Potterville, I counted 10 dead deer carcasses along the I-96 berms and medians. As chance would have it, I believe there were five on the east side and five on the west side.

Tourism in the state is down, I think I read, four to five percent. The economy is blamed for the decline. I disagree! I think it's the smell of all the dead carcasses on the road sides. The economy is the reason the state has cut the

## Fisher fit for fourth in Junior Nationals

Lowell's Skye Fisher placed fourth in the Junior National Bodybuilding Championships in Rosemont, Ill.

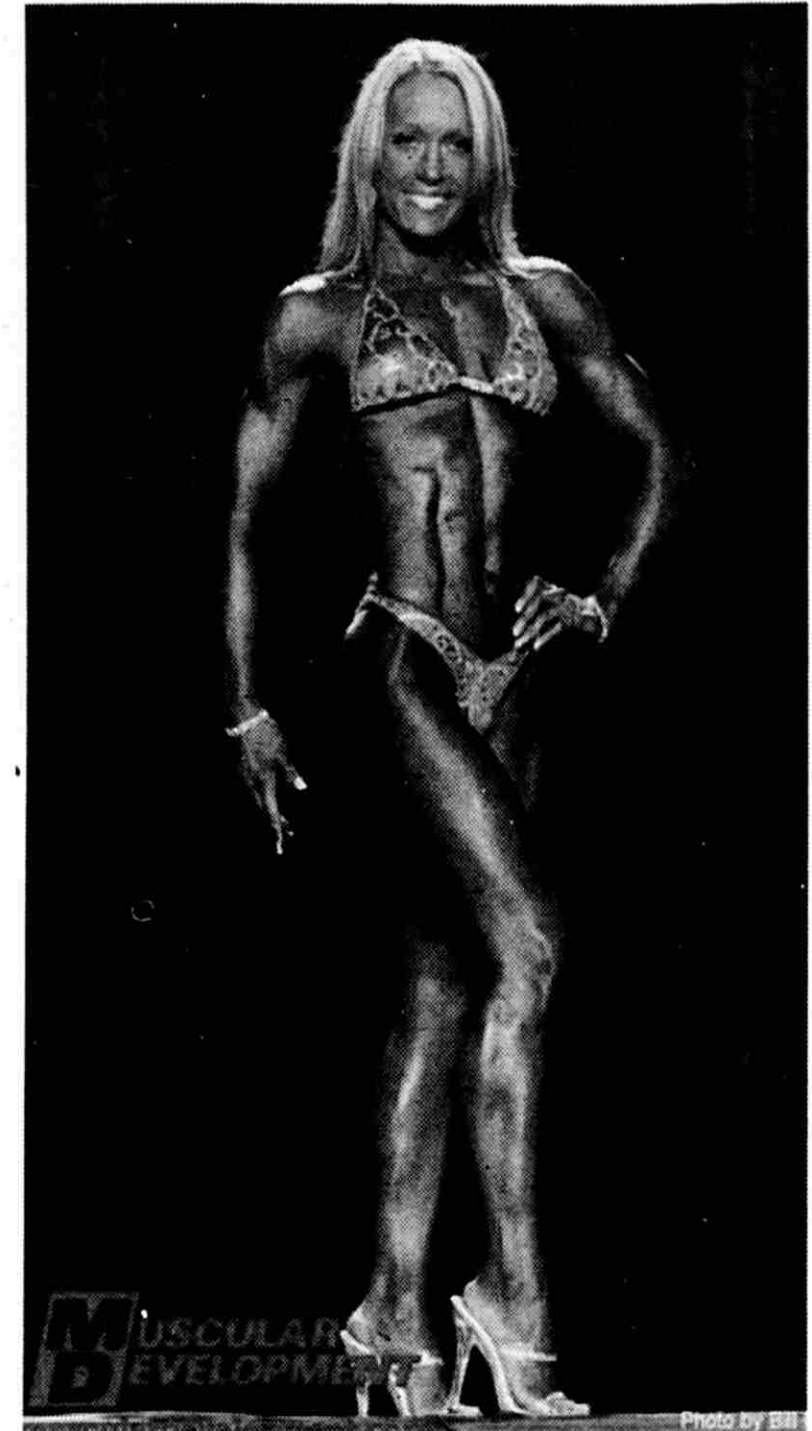
The fourth-place finish in the Class A division qualifies Fisher for the National Body Building Championship for the next three years.

A year ago, Fisher finished sixth. "My physique was much better this year and I had a much stronger routine," she said.

Fisher, off the momentum from the Junior National fitness competition, is now busy preparing for the September Team Universe competition in New York.

A top two finish will earn her a pro card.

"What that would mean is I then could compete in pro shows and earn money from it," Fisher explains. "I wasn't going to compete but I got persuaded by friends. So now I have to diet for another seven weeks."



Skye Fisher, off her fourth-place finish in the Junior National competition, will now compete in the Team Universe show in New York.

## I-96 SPEEDWAY DRIVER TRACKS

# Smith springs onto local racing circuit

by Thad Kraus

Hillary Smith sprung onto the local racing circuit much the way the opportunity presented itself 10 years ago.

"There was a spare car sitting around and a family friend (who raced) told me to get in," Smith explains. "I didn't know how to drive stick. I learned as I went (five minutes later I was on the track for test and time)."

The surprise brought enjoyment and fun which is also what has kept Smith on the dirt track since the age of 15.

Smith is the only girl

out there these days that also provides a sense of rush. "Guys don't like to get beat by a girl," Smith explains.

Up until this year, Smith had raced mini stock, with victories at the I-96 Speedway and the Mid Michigan Raceway to show for it.

This year is Smith's first year driving in the street stock and larger, heavier car.

Smith's best finish so far has been fifth place.

"I'm still learning and improving on the skills such as judging the track and going

into the turns and knowing when to let off the accelerator," Smith said. "It is also important to be able to look past the front of your car and see the field, which helps you avoid major wrecks."

Smith, dubbed the "Teal Terror," was the victim of a spin out just a couple weeks ago.

"The cars in front of me spun out and I hit my brakes and then spun myself. With my front end pointing the wrong direction, the last-place car pile-drove (full throttle) my front," Smith said.

Still out there to learn and improve from week to week, Smith gets advice from her boyfriend and modified racer, Ryan Fisk.

Smith's fondest racing memory is winning her first heat (second year) at the Mid Michigan Raceway Park.

Smith's pit crew consists of her father (Rudy Smith), Ryan Fisk, Shannon Fisk, Andy Eastridge and Scott Fisk.

She is sponsored by A-1 Laser, Lucky Brand Race Cars, S.O.P. Custom Race Engines, Three Brothers Pizza, Showboat Automotive, Ball's Softee Creme, Dermody Truck Sales, Grandma and Grandpa S. and Grandpa B.

Smith is slated for 19 races this season.



Hillary Smith will race in the street stock class Saturday at I-96 Speedway.

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<b>2003 Pontiac Grand Am</b> 6 cyl., sunroof, CD, chrome wheels <b>\$5,700</b>	<b>1996 Chevy Monte Carlo</b> Auto, air, full power <b>\$2,400</b>		

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**News Release**  
**Riverside Fellowship Seventh-day Adventist Church** invites you to bring your children to a royal adventure on **July 27 - 31** at **6:00 - 8:00 PM** **10300 Vergennes NE, Lowell**  
 Our adventure includes games, crafts, skits, snacks, good music, and loads of fun!  
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Contact **Karen Jesse**  
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**KNOW IT. ALL.**







## Sizzlin' Summer concert series rocks the Riverwalk, paves way for festival

The Sizzlin' Summer Concert Series continues to rock the young and the old on the banks of the Flat River. Last week's concert was in the spirit of the Independence Day holiday with a patriotic Americana program. It started out with the music of Hark Up Rapid City Swing Band. The band is a group of top notch local musicians who present an entertaining program of music from the 30s to the current musical covers in a modified big band style. They were followed by

Voices of Freedom, a semi-professional vocal ensemble specializing in performing patriotic and Americana music. The group has been in existence for more than seven years. The Blue Water Ramblers played a tapestry of sounds, while getting everybody singing together.

And get ready for the Riverwalk featuring the band Stolen Horses, a high-energy country rock band, on July 9. Local food vendors and the Showboat Cash Bar will be open for business along the Riverwalk.

# Ice in July

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JULY 16 - 18

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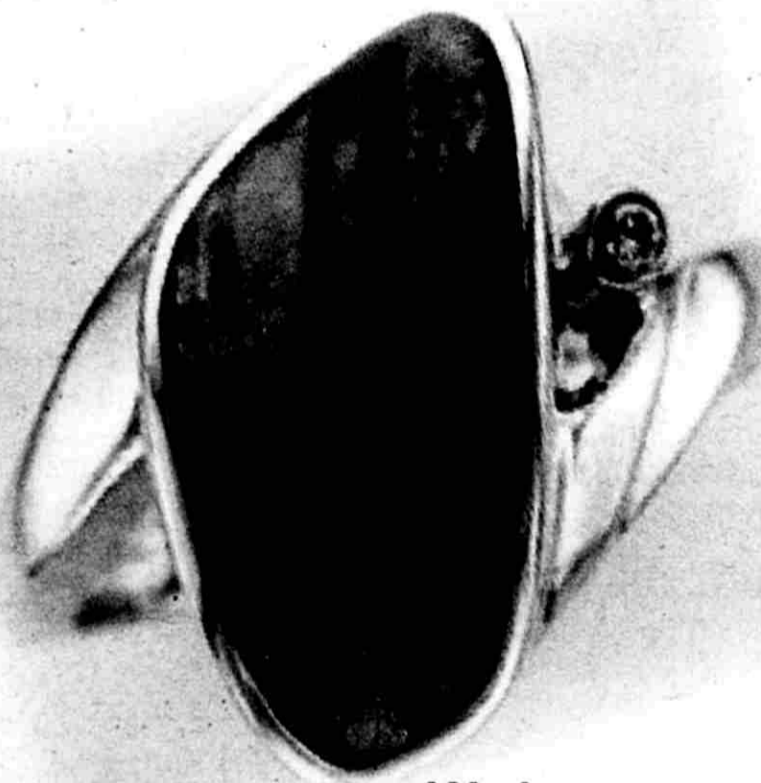
The silent auction takes place at our store:

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We will be closed on

Wednesday, July 15 to get set up.

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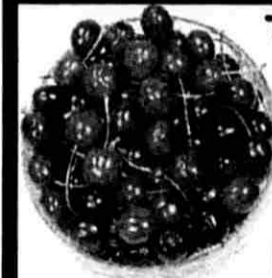
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