



The Lowell Ledger

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Wednesday, August 19, 2009

Film creates positive impact on local businesses

by Emma Palova

Shooting a movie in the area is not just about the glamour and the glitz, but also about having a positive impact on the local businesses.

That is just one of the

many spin-offs of making 'Genesis Code' in Lowell.

For Joel Forrest, of Circle JF Saddlery, a custom made leather bag for the main actress, may mean a new product line.

Recently, the movie crew approached Forrest

about making a leather carryall bag for the main star, Kelsey Sanders.

"It looks like a messenger bag," said Forrest. "It has three separate colors."

Normally, a similar bag would cost around \$800, but Forrest made it for \$220 out of high quality leather. Forrest is planning to make the bag on a greater production scale depending on demand.

The bag is airport friendly without metals and the straps are laced together.

"You don't have to take the laptop out," he said.

Forrest would like to employ somebody full time to die cut the bags. Some members of the movie crew also bought hats and boots at Circle JF.

Mike Lezan, of Computer Rehab, sold cables to the movie company, and Jack Reedy, of Rookies, sold a classic comic book

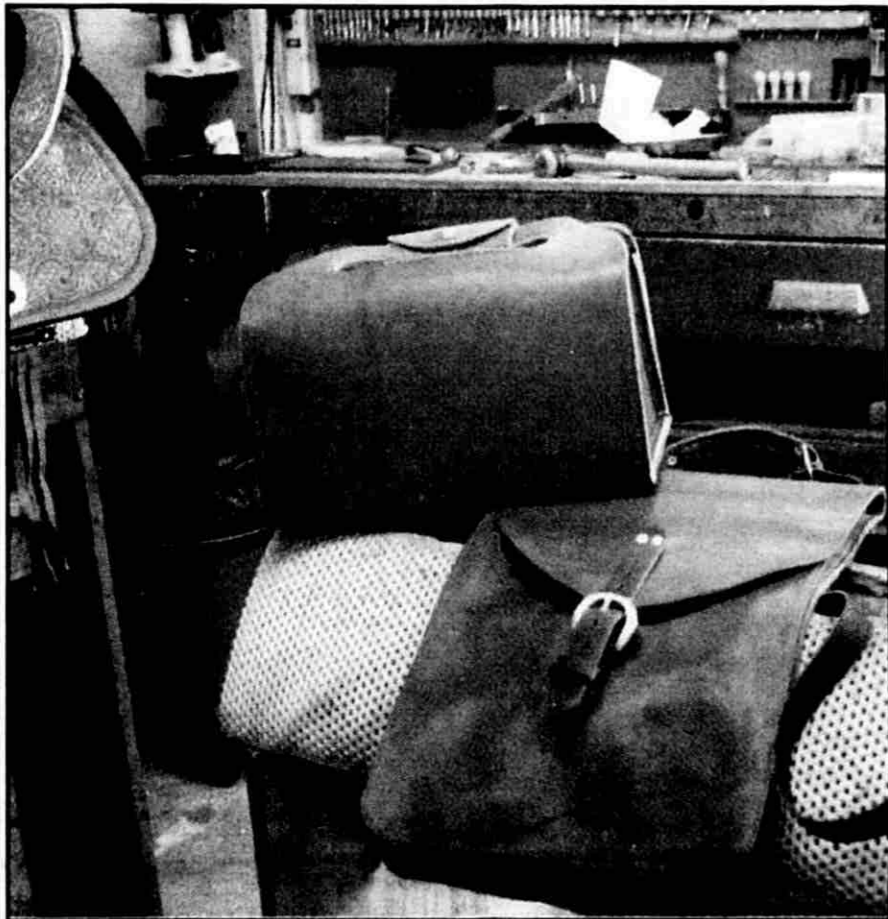
that will be used as a prop in the movie.

Marilyn McClure, of Eja Salon, said the main actress had her hair colored at the salon, and some workers got their hair cut at the shop. "It's been good," she said. "It's great."

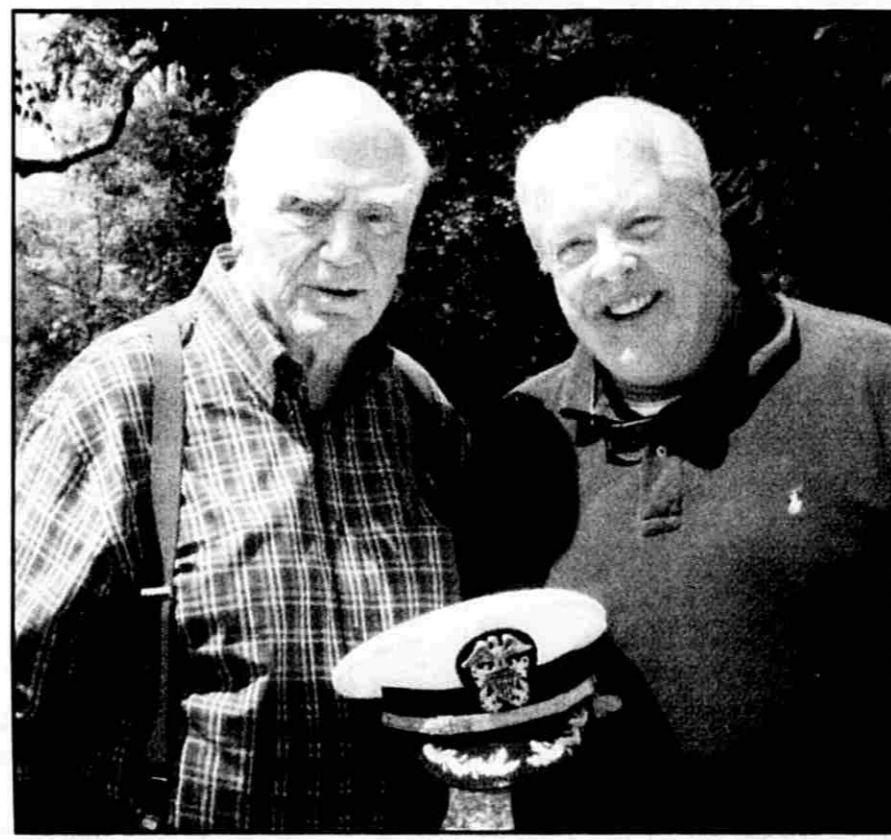
Judy Folsom, of L4 Alterations, took in coats, jackets and pants for the movie personnel. "I've had a month of good business," said Folsom.

Apart from good business, the movie making

may mean stardom for some local residents like Dave Thompson and Sharon Ellison, who are stand-ins for actors Ernest Borgnine and Louise Fletcher.



JF Saddlery has created this custom bag for the main actress in "Genesis Code."



Ernest Borgnine and Dave Thompson share Navy tales on the set. Thompson and Sharon Ellison, at right, worked as stand-ins for Ernest Borgnine and Louise Fletcher during the filming of "The Genesis Code" at Calvin College last week.



Music with "A Bit o' Irish"



The HARPfest 2009 'A Bit o' Irish' celebrated the Celtic tradition of harp playing Saturday evening with a performance by the Fenian Group. The concert featured harpist Dennis Rybicki on the lawn by the animal barn. The concert was preceded by a three day workshop for passionate harpists designed to develop their present skills in the retreat-like atmosphere of the Franciscan Life Process Center located on 230 acres of woods and farm land. The afternoons consisted of ensemble work in Irish style with professional harp instructors.

75th Kent County Youth Fair celebrated in style

by Emma Palova

The Kent County Youth Fair celebrated its 75th anniversary in style. In spite of the lack of funding for premiums, the still exhibits held their own.

"We had a very good fair," said fair manager Ron Wenger.

The Lowell Area Historical Museum put on a special exhibit in recognition of 75 years of the youth fair. Many 4-H clubs also created exhibits honoring the fair tradition.

And even though the animal sale on Thursday was down a bit, the attendance overall was good.

"The livestock sale didn't gross as much," said Wenger.

"But, the weather favored the event. The horse shows did well, as always," said Wenger.

The Children's Barnyard was a favorite among younger participants. Long standing tradition among the concessions featured onion rings of different sizes and raspberry lemonade.

Draft horses provided transportation from the parking lot to the fairgrounds.

"We had great community support," said Wenger.

Bluegrass music and clown judging took place at the free entertainment stage sponsored by the Lowell Ledger.



More images from the fair continued, on page 9

Obituaries



KAUFMAN

Beverly Ann Kaufman, age 81, of Lowell, passed away Friday, August 14, 2009. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ernest; infant daughter, Linette; and brother, Gary Daverman. Surviving are her children, Krista Miller and Mark Kaufman; caregivers, David (Wendy) Miller; grandchildren, Amanda Miller (Charlie Rose), Brandi Kaufman (J. J. Eickhoff) and Matthew Kaufman; great-grandchildren, Dawson, Delany Miller and Logan Kaufman. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m., Wednesday, August 19, at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson with Rev. Rick

Blunt of the First United Methodist Church of Lowell, officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Lowell Pink Arrow Project, c/o Lowell High School and/or the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Michigan Chapter, 1421 E. 12 Mile Rd., Madison Heights, MI 48071. "We are together again."

TAYLOR

Buddy D. Taylor, age 70, of Jenison, passed away at home and entered eternal life on Tuesday, August 11, 2009. He was preceded in death by his wife, Petra Taylor; his parents, Rufus and Evelena Taylor; in-laws, Alida and Arie Lindemans; and brother, George Taylor. He is survived by his children, Bradley (Carrie) Taylor of Dor, Peter (Shirley) Taylor of Hudsonville; brothers and sisters, Jim (Pat) Taylor of Rockford, Bill (Sandy) Taylor of Grandville, Lynda



(Marty) Reynolds of Grand Rapids, Rick (Connie) Taylor of Lowell, Brenda (Bob) Cilley of Lowell, Carol (Bill) Devereaux of Lowell; aunt, Ruth Duskey of Curran; special friend, Charlotte Suttrop, who lovingly provided comfort and care; lifelong friends, Jerry Comp, Larry Martin Sr., Jeff Motzer; many special nieces and nephews. A service to celebrate Bud's life was held Thursday at Mathtysse-Kuiper-DeGraaf with Rev. James Bowen officiating. Interment Grandville Cemetery. Those who wish, may make memorial contributions to Hospice of Michigan. Condolences may be sent online at www.mkdfuneralhome.com.

State offers summer pet vaccination reminder

The Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) is reminding residents to protect animals and humans from harmful diseases by vaccinating pets and livestock. By following some easy guidelines, owners can take significant steps toward providing a safe and healthy summer for their animals.

A standard vaccination program includes vaccinations required by law, along with vaccinations for diseases commonly found throughout the state. Licensed vaccines are also available for horses, cows, sheep and goats.

"Pet and livestock owners should always consider the animal's environment when deciding on vaccinations," said Dr. Steve Halstead, state veterinarian. "If animals will be attending fairs or exhibitions, for example,

they should receive additional vaccinations to protect against diseases they may be exposed to in group housing or stressful situations. Owners should consult their private veterinarian to develop an appropriate vaccination program specific for their animals."

In addition, an Equine Infectious Anemia test, also known as a Coggins test, to check for this blood borne disease of horses, is mandatory for all horses entered into exhibitions, expositions or fairs. MDA also suggests vaccinating all horses against rabies, Eastern/Western Equine Encephalitis, Tetanus, and West Nile Virus.

Along with the standard vaccinations, household pets must meet additional requirements. Michigan law requires owners to license their dogs. To be licensed, an

owner must show proof of up-to-date vaccinations for rabies. MDA recommends having dogs checked for heartworm and intestinal parasites, along with vaccinations against canine distemper, parvovirus, and adenovirus.

Pet owners should also have cats checked for heartworm and internal parasites. Vaccinations for cats should include rabies, herpes virus, calicivirus, and panleukopenia. Ferrets must be vaccinated for rabies and cannot be sold without the Ferret Health Advisory Sheet. This advisory can be found at the following address, http://www.michigan.gov/documents/MDA_FerretHealthAdvisorySheet_31881_7.pdf.

For more information on pet and livestock vaccination requirements, please visit www.michigan.gov/mda.

Payton's Race for a Cure to be held in September

A day of fun and excitement is being planned as organizers are preparing for "Payton's Race for a Cure" on Saturday, September 12, 2009. The event will be held at the Cedar Springs Race Track in Cedar Springs. Billed as a family fun day, activities will include a dirt bike practice with a charity race, raffles, kid's activities, musical performances and much more. "Payton's Race for a Cure" begins with the registering of dirt bike riders at 9 a.m. Other activities will begin at noon.

"Payton's Race for a Cure" is being held in honor of four year old Payton DeWitt, of Lowell, who suffers from a mitochondrial

disease. Payton's mother, Michelle DeWitt, said her daughter was only three weeks old when she had her first seizure. "After eight months of constant seizures, we were sent to the University of Michigan to see a pediatric neurologist where we were told that Payton had atypical symptoms of infantile spasms. We opted to treat her symptoms with an intense dose of steroids. I assumed that once the seizures were under control, we could go on living the life we had planned, however, our neurologist informed us that we now needed to get to the root of the problem." Payton underwent a painful

muscle biopsy and a spinal tap. It was two months later that a neurologist diagnosed Payton with mitochondrial disease, for which there are no effective treatments or a cure.

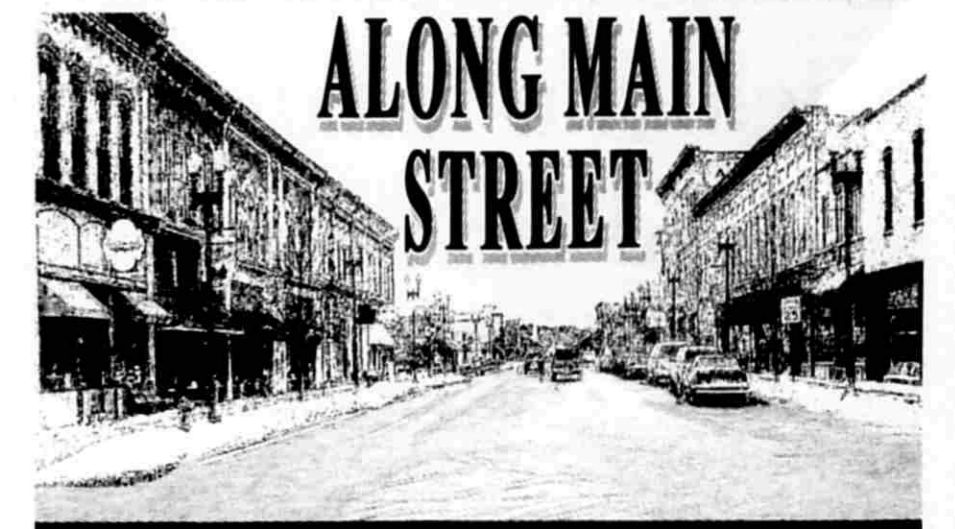
Payton is considered to be severely, multiply impaired. She cannot walk, she cannot speak, and she cannot chew her own food. "Every little thing we take for granted is a huge hurdle for Payton to overcome. We try to shield her already damaged immune system from illness and we press on with any education we can offer her. We pray that one day our little girl will walk, say 'Dada or Momma,' or just even hold her own bottle," said DeWitt.

Mitochondrial diseases result from the failure of the mitochondria, which is located in the cells of our bodies. Mitochondria are

responsible for creating more than 90 percent of the energy needed to sustain life and support growth. When mitochondria fail, less energy is produced causing cell injury or cell death. On a larger scale, organ systems begin to fail. The disease is often debilitating. Children with mitochondrial disease may not see their teenage years.

The DeWitts have created this event to raise money for the United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation (UMDF). Founded in 1996, the UMDF works to promote research and education for the diagnosis, treatment and cure of mitochondrial diseases and to provide support for affected individuals and families. Since its inception, the

Payton's Race, cont'd., pg. 10



CALL FOR AUDITIONS

The Thebes Players community theatre is seeking seven actors (ages 25-70) for "A Dickens' Christmas Carol - A Traveling Travesty in Two Tumultuous Acts." Auditions are Fri., Aug. 21 at 7 p.m. and Sat., Aug. 22 at 4 p.m. at the Lowell Area Arts Council, 149 S. Hudson. Dates of production are Oct. 16-25, 2009. For more information or to borrow a script for review, call or visit LAAC, 897-8545, www.lowellartscouncil.org.

QUIT SMOKING

Free smoking cessation classes begin Tues., Aug. 25, for 6 weeks on Tuesdays, from 6-8 p.m. at Lowell Family Medical Center, 2550 E. Main St. Registration encouraged, but not required. Call 616-975-0123 or go to www.tobaccofreepartners.org.

LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL RETURNING STUDENT ORIENTATIONS

Orientation for returning 10th-12th grade students will be held Aug. 25 and 26. Students may pick up their class schedules, textbooks, handbook, and have their pictures taken (this includes seniors for ID card purposes). Students may attend either 9-11 a.m. or 1-3 p.m. Upper classmen must have their student id to check out textbooks.

LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMAN SMART START

Orientation for incoming freshmen students will be held on Thurs., Aug. 27. Last names A-K from 9-11 a.m., L-Z 1-3 p.m. Students will be given important information to kick off the school year, will receive schedules and textbooks, and will have their pictures taken. Parents should be prepared to pick their students up after the full two hours.

LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

Orientation for 10th-12th grade students who are new to Lowell High School will be held on Thurs., Sept. 3, at 1 p.m. The orientation will be finished at 3 p.m.

PINK ARROW SHIRTS AVAILABLE AT ORIENTATION

This year's pink arrow shirts will be available for students and families to purchase at all orientation sessions at Lowell High School. Cost is \$15.

Lowell man killed while trying to help crash victims

A 43 year old Lowell man was killed as he tried to help at the scene of a crash near his home off Alden Nash SE.

Todd Bryant rushed to the scene of an accident to check on the drivers. The accident occurred around 1:30 a.m. near the intersection of Emery and Alden Nash.

Once there, Bryant checked to make sure the drivers of the two cars were okay. He then tried to slow down an oncoming northbound pickup, headed toward one of the damaged cars.

Bryant waved his white shirt to no avail as the truck swerved into Bryant's path.

Bryant died at Spectrum Health Butterworth Hospital. Police reported the pickup driver had been drinking and that alcohol appeared to be a factor in the initial head-on crash.

According to the State Police and Kent County Sheriff's records, authorities made three arrests in connection with the crash.

Daniel Sloma, 25, and Jeffrey Trent Dodds, 37, both

of Lowell, were arrested on misdemeanor charges of operating a vehicle while intoxicated.

Paul Douglas Flanagan, 44, of Ada, was arrested on two felony charges: of operating a vehicle while intoxicated, causing death; and with failure to stop at a scene of an accident when at fault, resulting in death.

Both charges are punishable by up to 15 years in prison.

Flanagan is out of jail on a \$5,000 bond. He will be arraigned in the 63rd District Court on Wednesday, Aug. 19.

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8/21/2008 • Gone Missing

I lay on my bed day and night thinking of you, I miss you, I miss you. The day you left all I did was cry. Life is harder than it was without you, I am nothing, nothing. The day you died, my eyes faded away and all I wanted to do was run away. You were my life and when you died, I died inside. My life was gone, my life was yours. When I think of you, I try to think of the good times. You were the person I looked up to. I look up in the sky and I see you.

You meant everything to me.
You were the best and I love you!

By Aili Marie Fisher

"Cancer cannot steal memories or the love that we have, may we keep fighting to find a cure."

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Sunday, July 12, 11 am to 5 pm and
Saturday, Oct 10, 10 am to 2 pm

Michigan farmers and specialty food companies wanted for Select Michigan farmers markets at state parks

The Michigan departments of Agriculture (MDA) and Natural Resources (DNR) are seeking Michigan food and agriculture companies to showcase their products at two Select Michigan "Market in the Park" events this fall. The farmer's market style events will be from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Saturday, September 19, at Sterling State Park in Monroe; and Saturday, September 26, at Van Buren State Park in South Haven.

"This is the first year the two departments have partnered on events that combine the promotion of food and agriculture businesses in Michigan with enjoyment of our state's natural treasures - its state parks," said Rebecca Humphries, DNR director.

"Michigan's second and third largest industries are agriculture and tourism, and combined they help create a stronger economy and a more enjoyable stay here in Michigan," said MDA

Director Don Koivisto. "Consumers are demanding locally grown and processed products to help support our farmers, local communities, and Michigan businesses, and these markets offer an opportunity to experience Michigan's bounty first-hand and in a spectacular setting."

The Select MichiganTM markets in the parks will feature fresh produce and specialty foods grown and processed across the state. Farmers and specialty food

companies will be on-hand to offer samples and sell their products. The markets will be held in conjunction with annual harvest festivals at the state parks, and with other special activities, including a wine tasting tent and an eco-friendly music festival. Please join to create a pure Michigan experience.

Deadline for reserving vendor space is Wednesday, September 9. Vendor space is open to any Michigan grower, specialty food

processor or non-food agricultural product producer (wool, herb or soy-based products, etc.). Cost per space is \$25 for each event. All products sold must be Michigan grown, processed or manufactured food and/or agriculture products. All processed foods sold must be prepared in a licensed commercial kitchen.

Food and agriculture vendors interested in participation should contact Jeanne Hausler, at 517-373-9790 or hauslerj@michigan.gov. Vendor application forms and information are also available at www.michigan.gov/agtourism.

Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold
Edward Jones
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REVIEW FINANCIAL STRATEGIES AFTER LIFE EVENTS

If nothing ever changed in your life, you could probably chart your financial and investment strategies and then forget about them. But your life is full of changes — and many of them will require you to take a new look at how you save, invest and protect your family.

Let's run through some of the most common milestones in life and see what sort of moves you might make in response:

- **Marriage** — It sounds obvious, but once you're married, you have to stop thinking in terms of "one" and start thinking of "two" in most aspects of your life — including your finances. For example, if you are an aggressive investor but your spouse is more conservative, you both may need to compromise and choose an investment strategy that's "down the middle." At the same time, you'll want to set some common goals, such as saving enough for a down payment on a home.

- **Children** — When you have children, you have to protect them today — and invest for their future. Your first step, then, might be to purchase life insurance. You can typically buy a term life policy at very reasonable rates. The exact amount of coverage you need depends on your individual situation, but you'll probably want at least enough to pay off your mortgage and send your children to

college should anything happen to you. And to protect your income, you might want to consider disability insurance. Finally, it's never too soon to start saving for college. You might want to consider opening a tax-advantaged account, such as a Section 529 college savings plan.

- **Job changes** — When you leave a job, you may well have an important decision to make about your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. If you don't need the money right away, you might want to avoid cashing out your plan, because you'll likely face an immediate tax bill — and you'll have fewer resources for retirement. Consequently, you may want to roll your 401(k) to an IRA or your new employer's plan, if it allows such transfers. Before taking action, consult with your tax advisor.

- **Remarriage** — If you ever remarry, you may need to change the beneficiary designations on your 401(k), IRA and other investment accounts. You also may need to work with your attorney to revise your will, living trust and other documents related to your estate plans.

- **Retirement** — For many decades, you saved and invested for your retirement. Once you retire, however, you should move away somewhat from the "accumulation" phase and start thinking instead of how best to manage the money you have accumulated. That means you'll need to decide when to start taking Social Security and how much to withdraw each year from your various retirement accounts, such as your 401(k) and IRA. A professional financial advisor can help you develop a withdrawal rate that's suitable for your individual situation.

You'll encounter many important events on the road of life. By making the right financial moves along the way, you can help make the journey more pleasant.

Social Security statements for those who don't file a tax return

If you're age 25 or older, pay Social Security taxes and are not yet receiving monthly benefits, you should get an automatic Social Security statement in the mail each year about two to three months before your birthday. The statement is a valuable tool to keep track of your annual earnings, as well as to help you plan your financial future.

If your earnings don't meet the threshold for filing a federal tax return, you might not be receiving your annual Social Security statement. Social Security would like to make sure that you know you're entitled to one.

Everyone who has worked and paid Social Security tax is entitled to receive a statement. So, if you don't get one automatically in the mail, you can request one — and the easiest way to do that is online at www.socialsecurity.gov/mystatement.

Once you make your request, Social Security will mail you a statement, which you should receive within two to four weeks. Give it a careful look to make sure your earnings and information are reported correctly, and contact Social Security if you find anything amiss.

It's a good idea to keep the statement with your other important papers. If it prompts retirement questions, visit our online Retirement Estimator at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator, where you can get an instant estimate of your future benefits based on your earnings record and plug in various retirement age scenarios.

early August and have made only a few adjustments. Mr. Zielinski expressed appreciation to the entire business office team for their awesome work which, once again, resulted in a good audi. A formal report will be provided at a future Board meeting. □

Curriculum Update
Mr. Bearup distributed a professional development agenda for September 1 - 3 to be used with staff when they return. He added that the focus will be personalizing education one student at a time. Mr. Bearup informed the Board that Nick Shelton is working to compile data for the Board retreat. In a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Bearup shared a secondary summer school report for 2009.

Superintendent's Report
Superintendent Pratt distributed and reviewed a construction update and commented that work will be complete prior to the start of school. □ Superintendent Pratt welcomed Haley Sulisz and Dan Vander Meulen to Lowell Area Schools.

**Board of Education Regular Meeting
September 14, 2009
7:00 p.m.**

Viewpoint

To The Editor

Dear Editor,

Your criteria of "Letters that serve as criticisms of for-profit business will not be accepted" is not being followed very closely. When reading the letters to the Editor, it becomes apparent that there are those that would prefer not being "the next place to be."

How welcoming is a community that continues to bash the local plumber while he employs local people, does business locally and continually seeks to improve the historical landscape of our community? Now, we don't want the newby on the riverwalk to expand their business?

Hello? How many local people do they employ?

Not to mention how they have helped grow the summer concert series, or improved their piece of Main Street and brought tons of shoppers into town to lunch and browse downtown merchants. Who pays the bigger tax percentage with no homestead credit? Don't even get me started on the skateboard issue. Yes, they too deserve tax dollars.

Let's look at positive ways to improve our community without criticizing the hard work of others. Business owners work very hard to promote this community. Give them praise and respect for the hard work they do. They are the glue of the community. Spend your energy by contributing in a positive manner; we can all benefit from volunteers who help make "Lowell The Next Place To Be."

Thanks for listening,
Veronica Blough



By Shelly MacNaughton

125 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL JOURNAL AUGUST 20, 1884

There is a large number of village lots without fences now. What an opportunity for stray live-stock.

Miss Cray, of Chicago, will give a description of the Martha Washington Home at the W. C. T. U. meeting Friday afternoon.

We understand that Capt. J. M. Weatherwax, a former Lowell man, has invested largely in timbered land in Washington Territory and will manufacture lumber there on an extensive scale.

You can drive across our new bridge now.

100 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AUGUST 19, 1909

Harn Blosser had a horse take sick while hauling milk to the cheese factory Sunday evening.

The state ditchers are digging a ditch near Mrs. Peter Corrigan's.

Chris Krof's fowls are all dying off.

75 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AND ALTO SOLO AUGUST 23, 1934

Pa and Ma, Willie and Helen, Bobbie and Mary, Grandpa and Grandma, Aunt Lizzie and Uncle Charlie, and all of their aunts and uncles, cousins and nephews—in fact the whole darn town - is planning to go to Lowell's first annual picnic next Thursday afternoon, August 30, at Fallsburg Park. It will be the first picnic ever held in the state at which the whole town and community takes part. The affair will start at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and won't be over with till the cows come home.

50 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AUGUST 20, 1959

W. W. Gummer, superintendent of the Lowell schools, has been planning on retiring from his profession at the close of the school year 1959-60, when his contract expires. The termination of his services will mark the end of thirty four years as superintendent in Lowell.

25 YEARS AGO THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER AUGUST 29, 1984

August 31 would have been the 92nd birthday of the late Helen Look Daley. Her bequest to the City of Lowell and the Congregational Church of Lowell two years ago has been used to fund some worthy projects in the area. Daley left a sizeable portfolio of stocks and bonds to be divided evenly between the city and the church. When the portfolio was appraised, at the time it was first turned over, it was valued at nearly \$1.5 million.



New Justice Will Leave Bias Out of Her Rulings

With Senator Carl Levin

The Senate has once again fulfilled its constitutional duty and considered a nomination to the United States Supreme Court, confirming the newest member, Justice Sonia Sotomayor.

The Constitution provides that the president nominates, and the Senate confirms, Supreme Court Justices. But it offers no guide; each senator must determine what qualities he or she thinks a Supreme Court Justice should have, and how to determine whether a nominee has those qualities.

Justice Sotomayor is the 12th Supreme Court nominee on whom I have voted. Each time, I have reviewed the nominee's qualifications, temperament and background to determine if the nominee is likely to bring to the court an ideology that distorts his or her legal judgement or brings into question his or her open-mindedness. I believe Justice Sotomayor satisfies the essential requirements of open-mindedness and judicial temperament, and that her decisions as a judge will fall well within the mainstream of our jurisprudence.

Her background is well known and impressive: valedictorian of her New York City high school; summa cum

Levin, cont'd., pg. 7



Understanding Insurance

With Dave Emmette

ARE YOU IN A FLOOD ZONE - THE ANSWER IS "YES"

It is true, everyone lives in a flood zone, but the risk varies. Floods happen everywhere. Actually, twenty-five percent of all flood insurance claims happen in areas outside a designated flood zone. A designated flood zone is also known as a SFHA (Special Flood Hazard Areas) zone. This means that in a given 100-year period, these areas have a one percent or greater chance of flooding. Put in another way, if you own a home in one of these zones, you have a 26 percent or greater chance your home will be damaged from a flood within a 30-year mortgage.

Remember all the heavy rains we have witnessed in this area within the past year? In some areas the water levels rose several inches in a matter of minutes. Let's say you have

daylight windows in your basement, the rain kept coming down and soon you see water flowing in from the window, down the wall, into your finished basement. Will your home insurance policy pay for this? The answer is "no." This would fall into the description of a flood and in order to have coverage for the damages to your basement, you would have to have an actual flood policy. Flood insurance is something we should all consider even though we may not live in a designated flood zone. The costs for a policy in these areas are very economical.

It has only been a few weeks and the event of the B93 Birthday Bash at the Ionia fairgrounds is still fresh in our minds. Hundreds of vehicles were severely damaged by the flash flood and many questions have risen out of this disaster as to whether or not the vehicles are covered. Unlike homes, vehicles have flood coverage under the part called "other than collision" a.k.a. "Comprehensive coverage." So, the people that had comprehensive coverage on their vehicle would have coverage for this loss - those without it would not be covered.

For more information on flood and flood insurance visit www.fema.gov or www.floodsmart.gov.

LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS BOARD BRIEFS

Regular Meeting of August 10, 2009

Reports

- Mr. Noel Dean provided a Pink Arrow 2009 report.

Action Items

- The Board accepted the following gifts to the district:
 - Full color darkroom supplies, including enlarger & developing materials, valued at \$2,275.00, donated by Antosha Duczowski, to the Lowell Area Schools Photography Class to develop black and white, as well as color negatives and other photography use.
 - \$100 cash donation, donated by the Lowell Education Foundation, for the purchase of library books, in honor of former board members Kathryn Den Houter and Kim Young.
 - Saxophone, valued at \$200.00, to be used with the high school band program.
 - MASB (Michigan Association of School Boards) Certification of Delegates: Dan Brubaker, Jim Turner.

Consent Items Approved

- Minutes for the July 13, 2009 Organizational

Meeting, and July 13, 2009 Regular Meeting.

- The following payment of bills for July, 2009:

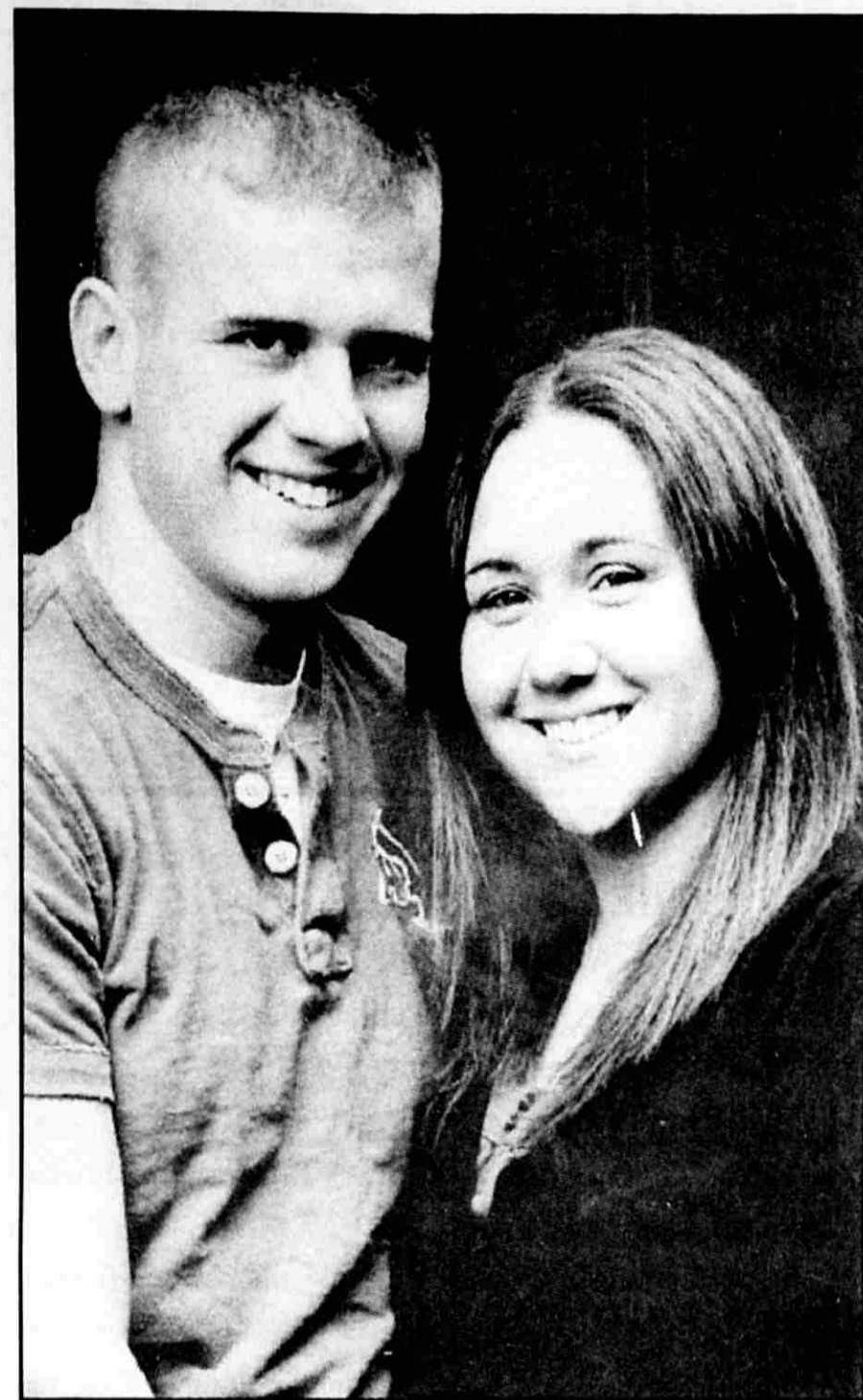
1. GENERAL FUND.....	\$1,551,852.70
2. SCHOOL SERVICES FUND	
A. Food Service Fund.....	\$19,257.40
B. Athletic Fund.....	\$228.00
C. Scholarship Fund.....	\$112,500.00
3. TRUST AND AGENCY FUND.....	\$28,469.85
4. 2007 CONSTRUCTION FUND.....	\$753,391.40
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:.....	\$2,465,974.35
• Hired Haley Sulisz as Vocal Music Instructor for Lowell Middle & High School	
• Approved Bus Driver Contract Modifications	

Budget Update

Mr. Zielinski summarized the budget status reports for the month of July. □ Mr. Zielinski affirmed that school districts do not receive the first school year state aid payment in August, therefore □ accruals for the month of July and first payroll of August are made and will be adjusted on the expenditure side when the payment is received. □ Mr. Zielinski announced that the annual para-educator bid meeting is scheduled for tomorrow. □ Mr. Zielinski stated that auditors were working in the district in

Engagements

Collins/McQueen



Andrew McQueen and Devon Collins

Devon Ashley Collins and Andrew John McQueen, both of Lowell, will be pronounced husband and wife on October 3. The future bride is a graduate of Lowell High School and Western Michigan University. Her parents are Deborah Collins, and Christopher and MaryAnn Collins of Ada. The future groom is a graduate of Lowell High School and Grand Rapids Community College. His parents are Dennis and Sharon McQueen of Lowell.

James/Stiver



Kathryn James and Alan Stiver

Neil and Kathy Stiver, of Lowell, are proud to announce the October wedding of their son, Alan Stiver, to Kathryn James, daughter of Tom and Marjorie James, of Canton, OH. The bride-to-be received her master's degree from Kent State University and teaches computer classes at the Akron City Library. The future groom is a Lowell High School and MSU graduate, and received his master's degree from University of Akron, OH. He works as the track and field and women's golf athletic trainer, along with teaching.

New Arrivals

Wilcox



Big sister Julia holds Andrew Carl Wilcox

Chris and Michele Wilcox, of Stevensville, are excited to announce the birth of their son, Andrew Carl, born July 3, 2009, weighing 9 lbs. 7 oz. and measuring 22 inches. Welcoming her brother home is sister Julia. Proud grandparents are Rick and Patricia Wilcox, of Lowell, and John and Elaine Emig, of Farmington.

Alto Elementary's class of 1980 holds reunion

Students from the Alto class of 1980 organized an elementary class reunion for their classmates, teachers and spouses. Over 60 people attended the event held at the Alto school on June 13. It was a time to celebrate the students 40th birthdays while remembering and reconnecting old friendships. Many memories were shared as all the classmates and teachers toured the building.



Pictured, front row, left to right: Darl DeCator, Jeanie Wernet (Dintaman), Katherine Kryger (Adamy), Tom Smith, Missy Evans (Schwacha), Becky Reagan (Dine), Laura Katsul (Gilbert), and teacher, Betty Yeiter; middle row, left to right: kindergarten teacher, Bob Titcombe; music teacher, Titcombe (Huyser); fourth grade teacher Tim Hawkins; third grade teacher, Barb Schneider; fourth grade teacher, Jane Gordon; third grade teacher, Amy Brown; Ron Bancroft, Shawn Dietz, Brian Hayward, Shannon Werner, Christy Seng (Mellon), and Don Grochowalski; back row, left to right: George Trowbridge, Ed Van Stee, Mary Bryant (Shaler), Lee Pullen, Chris Huver, Doug Kowalczyk, Jack Reedy, Michelle Rademacher (Poll), Carol Foster (Feasel), principal, Bill Kirby, and Brett Nelson.

Happy Birthday

AUGUST 19: Peggy Idema, Joseph Thaler, Lois Boonstra, Braydon Brown, Brian DeBold, Daryl Chamberlain, Charley Vankeulen, Betty Wierenga.






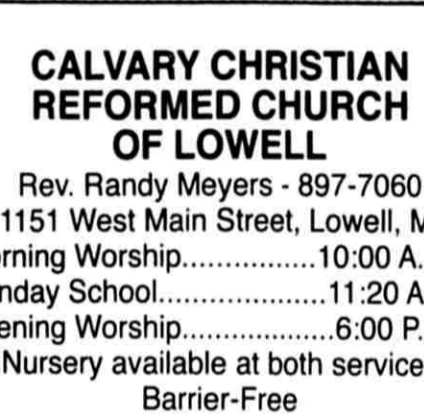
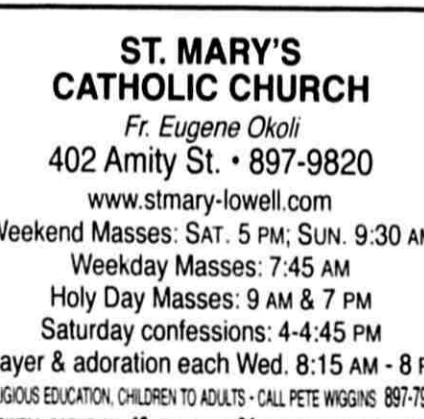
AUGUST 20: Mattie Dalziel, B.J. Rittersdorf, Alexis Holloway, Andrea Bryant, Katelyn Kaczanowski, Edwin Roth, DeShane-Dalga, Tim Aksamitowski, Joshua Hobrla, Tom Barnes, Ethan Shindorf, Katelyn Videto.

AUGUST 21: Madelyn Pfaller, Charlene Mike Blough, Shane Teelander.

AUGUST 23: Kacy Anderson, Rhea Bundy Anes, Stephen Rhodes, Brandon Taylor, Ron Kennedy, Jesse Carr, Katie Peterson, Chad Peterson, Don Geelhoed, Kelly Johnson, David Vankeulen, Nicholas Myers.

AUGUST 25: Patty Elzinga, Lindsey Trierweiler, Margaret Rozeboom, Misty McClure-Anderson.

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

 <p>ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Kirby and Harrison Alto • 616-691-8011 Worship.....9:30 A.M. Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.</p> <p>OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS Pastor Dean Bailey</p>	 <p>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL 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>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 www.lowellumc.com</p> <p>WORSHIP.....8:30 & 10:15 a.m.</p> <p>Rev. Rick Blunt Barrier-free entrance</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God) 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, Lead Pastor John King, Youth Pastor</p> <p>SUNDAYS: 10:00 a.m. - Worship & Evening; LIFE Home Groups & "The Source" Youth</p> <p>WEDNESDAYS: Family Night: (for all ages) 7:00 p.m. "The Source" Youth: 7:00 p.m. Loving God... Loving People!</p>
<p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 www.goodshepherdlowell.org</p> <p>Worship Service.....10:00 A.M. (Nursery available)</p> <p>Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	 <p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbcilowell.org</p> <p>Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Lee Taylor</p> <p>Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA/EXCITE-TEENS, Wed. 6:15 & 8:30 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free</p>
 <p>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 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 & 7 PM Saturday confessions: 4-4:45 PM Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETE WIGANS 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 49, EMTN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>	 <p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (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. Rev. Terry Tessari.....Interim Pastor Shannon Hartley.....C.E. Director Barrier-free.....Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise & Worship</p>
 <p>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Pastor Mike Conkin</p> <p>11:00 A.M.Worship/Fellowship 11:15 A.M.Sunday School 897-9863 or 897-9588 Nursery & Children Worship Programs Provided</p> <p>A friend...a family...a mission!</p>	 <p>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Pastor Mike Conkin</p> <p>11:00 A.M.Worship/Fellowship 11:15 A.M.Sunday School 897-9863 or 897-9588 Nursery & Children Worship Programs Provided</p> <p>A friend...a family...a mission!</p>

Levin, continued ... From Page 5

different person, almost, in your speeches and in some of the comments that you've made. So I guess part of what we need to do is to try to reconcile those."

Assume there is a difference between her views in the courtroom and those personal views she has expressed outside of the courtroom in speeches.

If so, aren't we looking for someone who can apply the law on the bench, even if he or she has a different

personal opinion? At the end of the day, we want our judges to leave their personal bias outside the courtroom. That is the essence of an impartial judiciary.

Justice Sotomayor has demonstrated precisely the trait that she is accused of lacking: the ability to leave her personal opinions at the courthouse door. That is the opposite of an activist jurist imposing her views despite the law.

We all have personal views and sympathies. Some judges, regrettably, can't lay those aside. Judge Sotomayor has proven over her judicial career that she can, while faithfully upholding the principles of the United States Constitution. For those reasons, I was pleased to vote to confirm her nomination to our nation's highest court.

College News

Minnesota West Community and Technical College is pleased to announce that Beau Heimer, of Lowell, will be attending college at the Canby Campus in the fall of 2009. He is the son of Peter and Julie Heimer, also of Lowell. Heimer is a 2009 graduate of Lowell High School and has been accepted into the Diesel Technology program on the Canby Campus of Minnesota West.

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- Orthodontic Care (Braces) • Wisdom Teeth Extraction
- Implants • TMJ (Jaw Pain Therapy)
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Carlson Craft
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Bob & Kathy Roush
have made it through
50 years of wedded bliss

Please come join them and their family in this joyous occasion.

Sunday, August 30
3-5 PM

FRIENDSHIP COUNTRY CHAPEL
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Doctor.

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Call 897-8484
11610 East Fallon Street • Lowell, Michigan

Lowell High School's class of 1940 reunites at Scneider Manor



Top row, left to right: King Doyle, Bill Lalley, John Jasperse, John Scripps and Jack Tornga; front row, left to right: Carroll Kyser, Barbara Dawson Schaeffer, Helen Clark Blow, Esther Kamp and Marjean Fonger Brillhart.

The Lowell High School Class of 1940 held its 69th class reunion at Scneider Manor on Thursday, Aug. 13 at noon.

Ten classmates were present along with eight spouses and guests. Two classmates died earlier this year and 19 of the class of 77 students remain. All of the classmates are looking forward to the 70th reunion to be held on August 12, 2010.

Got an Announcement to make?

Wedding, Engagement and Anniversary Announcements* are Free in the Ledger. Birth Announcements without a photo are free; with a photo are \$5.

* Anniversary announcements cannot contain an invitation to a celebration

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

File No. 09-187,238-DE

Estate of GREGORY BRENT JENSEN, Date of birth 7/30/64.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, GREGORY BRENT JENSEN, who lived at 12275 McPherson St. NE, Lowell, Michigan died July 23, 2009.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to KELLY GELDERSMA, named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave. NW, Suite 2500, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Mary L. Benedict - P45285 4519 Cascade Rd SE Suite 14 Grand Rapids, MI 49546 616-942-0020

Kelly Geldersma 12405 McPherson St. NE Lowell, MI 49331 616-897-9734

Aging is not 'lost youth' but a new stage of opportunity and strength.

- Betty Friedan (1921 - 2006)

CITY OF LOWELL NOTICE TO BIDDERS

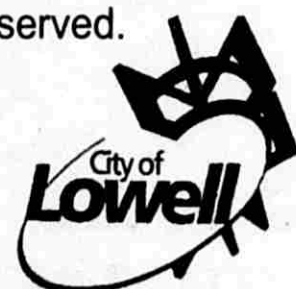
The City of Lowell, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331 will be accepting sealed bids for a Vermeer, FlowMaster 350 Series, Vacuum/Excavation System with Hydraulic Valve Exerciser, model FM 350 SDT, trailer mounted, until 2:00 p.m. on Monday, August 31, 2009 where they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Please mark envelope "FlowMaster Valve Exerciser Bid."

Model: FM 350 SDT (trailer mounted)

- 49 hp, water cooled diesel engine.
- 1000 - CFM vacuum pump.
- 300 - gallon debris tank with hydraulic lift dump.
- 33' of 3" industrial rated suction hose with wands.
- Hydraulic valve exercising unit.

Complete specifications are available by contacting the Water Distribution Supervisor, Robert Robinson at 616-897-5959 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday or by email at lowelldpw@att.net.

The City of Lowell reserves the right to reject any or all bids and also the right to waive any formal defects in bids when deemed in the best interest of the City. Further, the City reserves the right to accept a bid higher than the lowest bid, if the City's interest will be better served.



Betty R. Morlock City Clerk City of Lowell



PRESENTS:

A Free Elder Care Seminar At Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce September 9 • 7 - 8 pm

The Circle of Care Network is a consortium of West Michigan professional organizations dedicated to inform, educate, prepare, and assist families in life's transitions. Through free seminars and presentations we provide the necessary resources to make life's transitions go as smoothly as possible. Our presenters are experts in their perspective fields.

Topics include:

- Elder Law Solutions
- Medicaid and Medicare Planning
- Social Security-Disability and Retirement
- Estate Planning
- Caregiver Contracts
- Veteran Practice Group
- Disability Claims and Appeals
- Aid and Attendance Pension Benefits
- Pension Planning
- Long Term Care Solutions

These topics are a growing concern for many people. Please join us for an hour of delicious desserts, specialty coffees, and extremely important information.
ALL AT NO COST! LIMITED RESERVATIONS!



For Reservations Contact: **Jeremy Johnson • Phone: 616-458-3994** Email: jjohnson@pmalawpc.com



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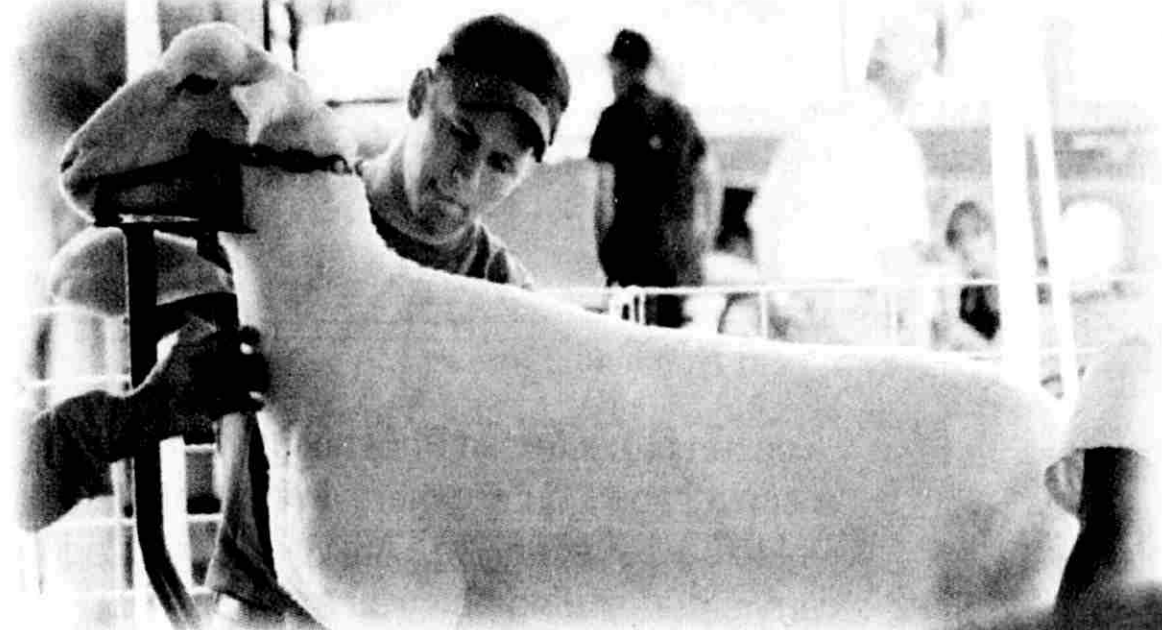


Coordinate with Ease.

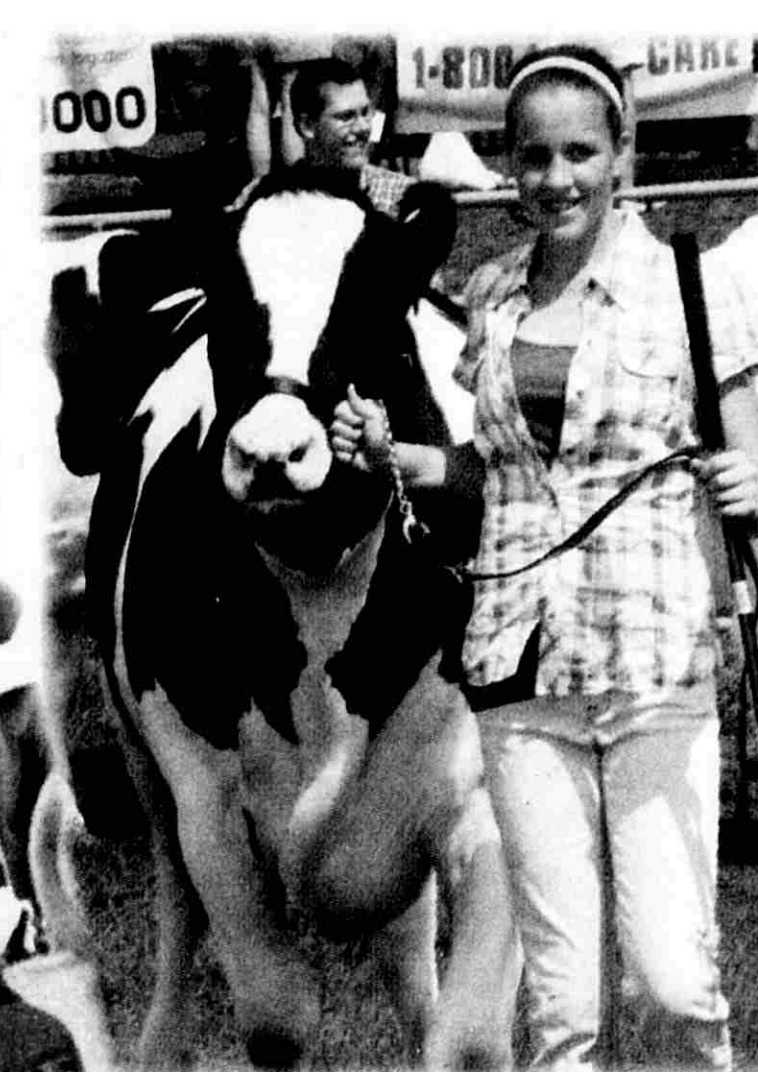
LOWELL LITHO 105 N. Broadway 897-9261



Images from the '09 youth fair



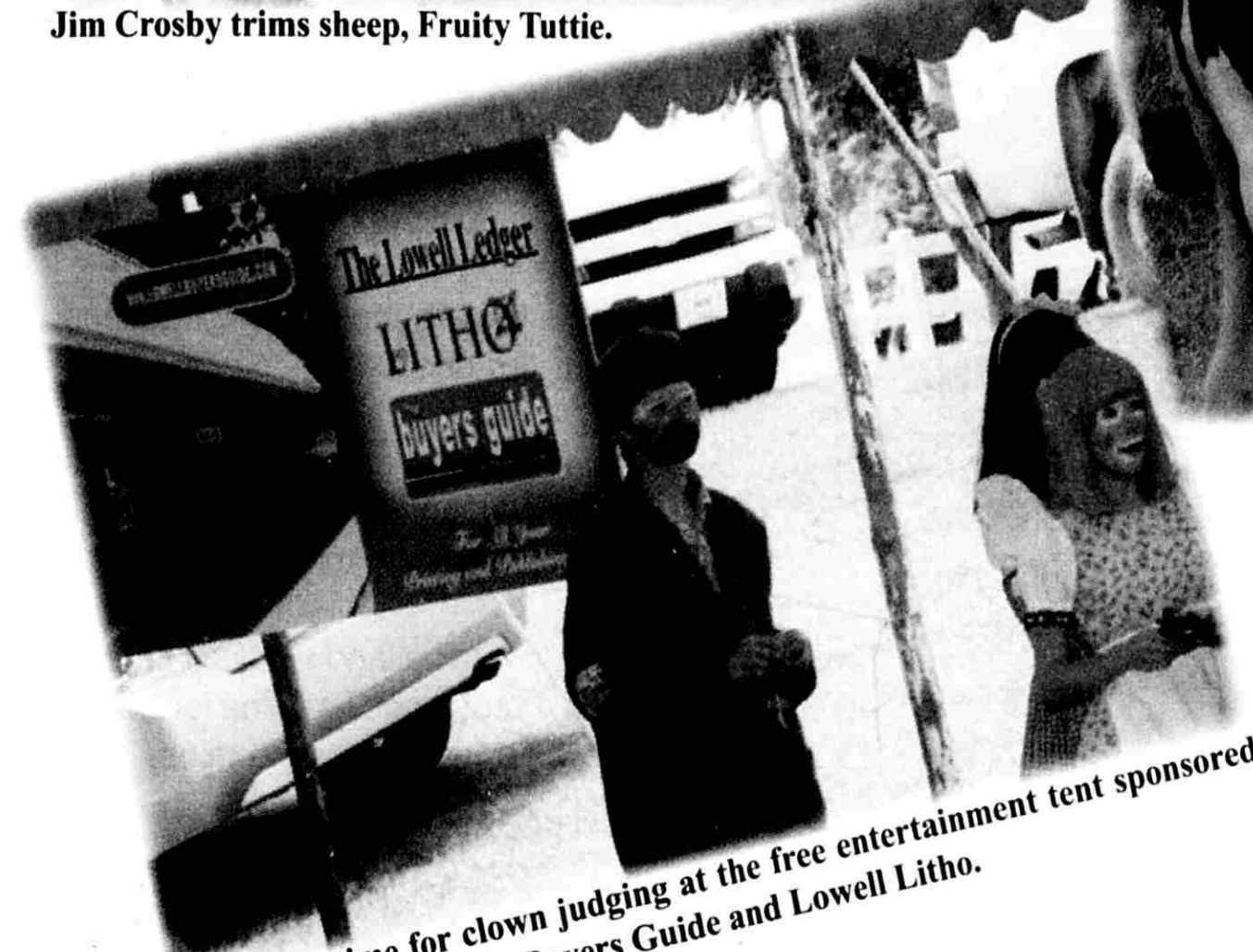
Jim Crosby trims sheep, Fruity Tuttie.



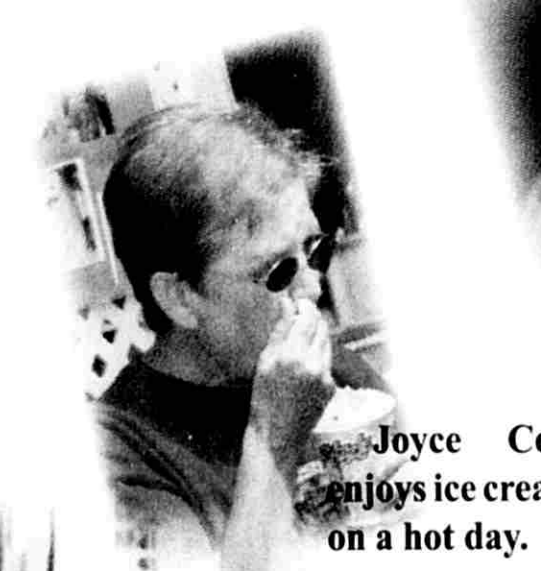
Breanna Oesch gets second place in overall showing.



Lindsay Stelma, of Cedar Springs, has been participating in the speed events at the fair for eleven years. This year, with her new horse Nifty, she won several ribbons for showmanship and English riding.



It was time for clown judging at the free entertainment tent sponsored by the Lowell Ledger, Buyers Guide and Lowell Litho.



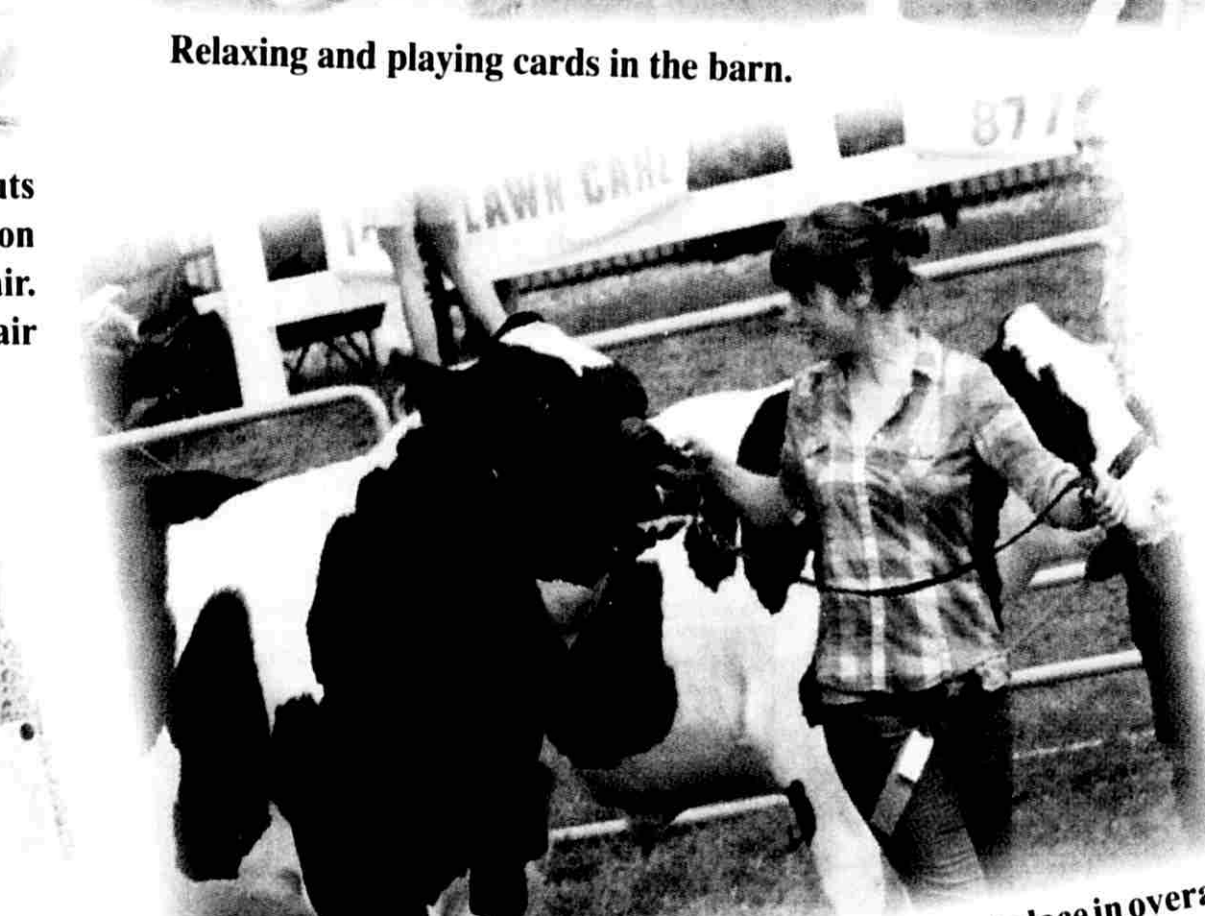
Joyce Coe enjoys ice cream on a hot day.



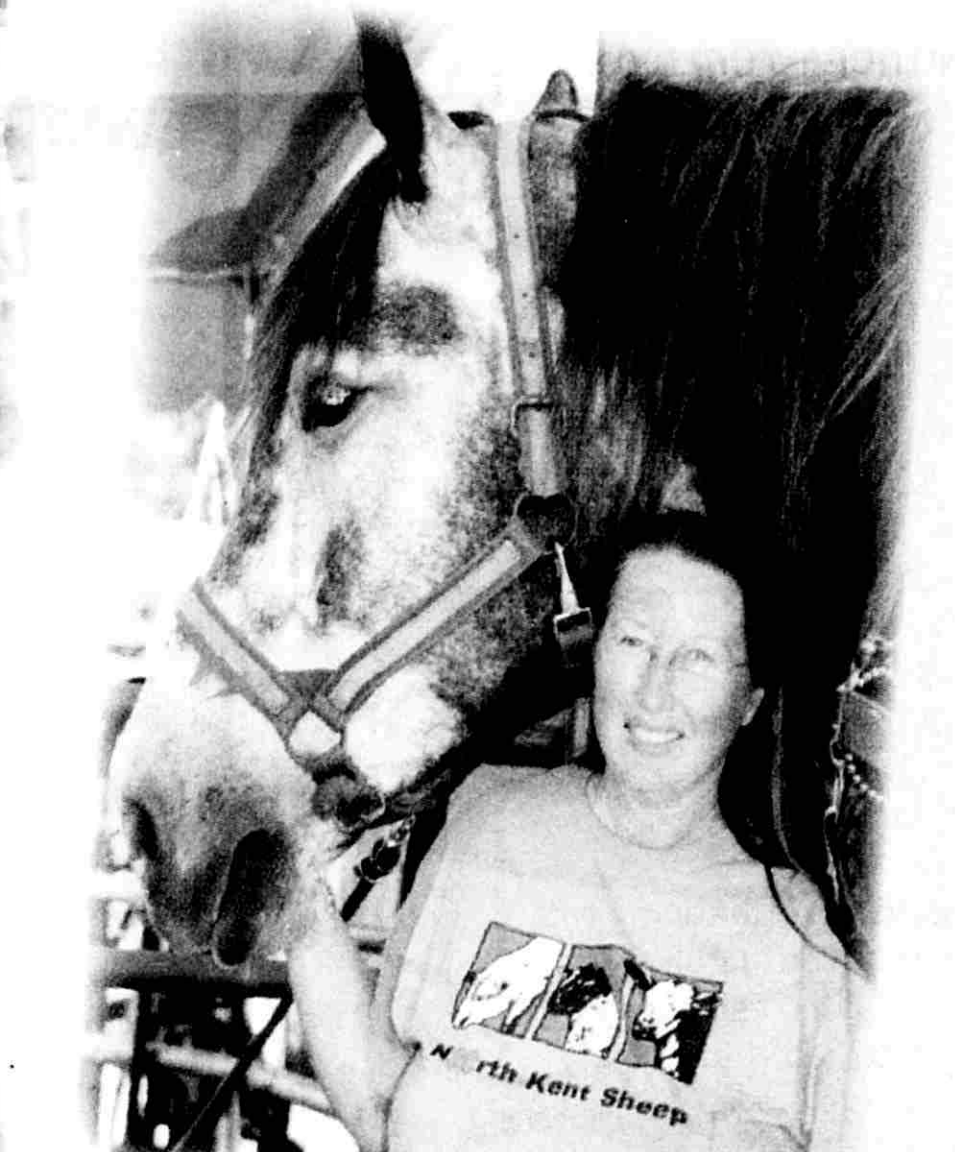
Amber Updyke, of City Looks, cuts Alexis Hickman's hair in the cut-thon fundraiser for Gilda's Club, at the fair. The salon was also selling pink hair pieces.



Relaxing and playing cards in the barn.



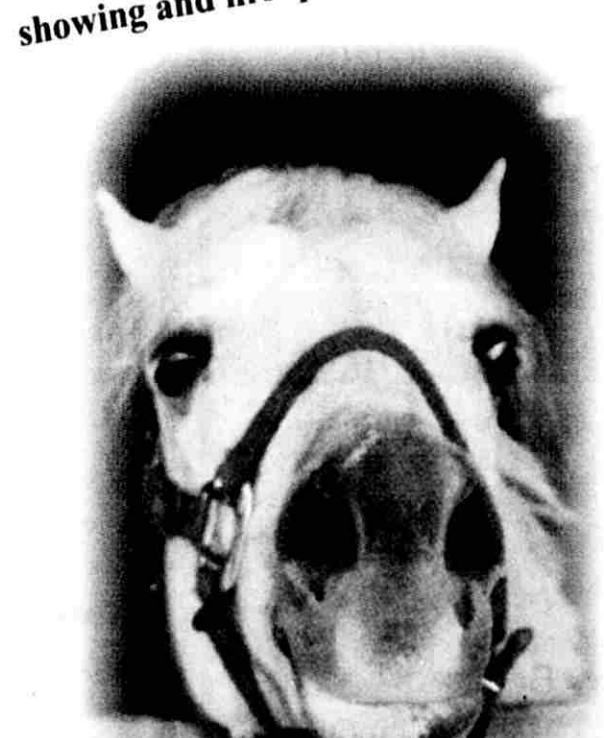
Allison Oesch gets first place in overall showing and first place in ultrasound.



June Rollins with five-year-old Boone, a country heirboone registered percheron. Bob and Boone pull the horse drawn shuttle at the fair. Boone is 19.2 hands tall and he weighs 2,000 pounds.



Royal Court (not all pictured): King Zachary Hutchinson; Queen Chrissy Frey; and the Court; Caitlyn Clorer, Katelyn Videto and Kyleigh Newman; Jr. King Justin Perry and Jr. Queen Mary Veltman.



Andrew Finch, of Fife Lake, mans the D&C Express Food Booth with broasted chicken and onion rings.

Payton's Race, continued ... From Page 3

UMDF has funded nearly \$7 million in research, making the organization the leading non-governmental contributor of grants focused

solely on mitochondrial disease. Based in Pittsburgh, PA., the UMDF is a national organization represented by 65 chapters, groups and ambassadors around the

United States. "The UMDF and its research grant program could not possibly exist without the hard work and dedication of people like the DeWitt family," said Charles A. Mohan, Jr.,

executive director and CEO of the UMDF. "Despite the fact that they have a sick child, they are out there working to raise awareness and research dollars. They

have chosen to become part of the cure, rather than part of the disease," Mohan added.

For more information about "Payton's Race for a Cure," to donate or to volunteer, visit www.umdf.org/paytonsrace.



A FEW NOTABLE EVENTS FROM AUGUST 13 - AUGUST 19 • 2009

- In Egypt, 34 fishermen are freed months after a Somalian hijacking.
- At least 615 children suffer lead poisoning in China.
- Les Paul, credited with creating the solid body electric guitar and many musical innovations, dies at the age of 94.
- Y.E. Yang shocks the golf world by beating Tiger Woods to win the PGA Championship.
- A USA Today/Gallup poll found that 57 percent of adults say that the stimulus package is having no impact on the economy nor making it worse. 60 percent doubt that the stimulus plan will help the economy in the years ahead.
- Huge wildfires are once again plaguing California.
- A dozen protesters in Phoenix carried guns to a convention center where President Barack Obama was speaking. Arizona is an "open carry state" and no one was arrested.
- Albert Gonzalez is being charged with stealing data from 130 million credit card accounts. At one point Gonzalez was an informant for the Secret Service helping to hunt down hackers.
- A couple in Italy were married with dozens of canines as invited guests.
- A dealership in Oklahoma used a monster truck to crush the "clunkers" they've collected, adding some amusement to the program.
- Veterinarians in Thailand have fitted an elephant with a prosthetic leg. The leg was lost when the cow stepped on a land mine.

- The FAA suspends two air traffic controllers because of the recent helicopter/plane crash over the Hudson River in New York.
- Olympic swimming champion, Michael Phelps, was unhurt after a Maryland car crash.
- The Philadelphia Eagles welcome back Michael Vick to the team after he spent nearly two years in jail for operating a dog fighting ring.

Lowell Arrowdynamics defend their crown

Lowell defended its 2008 crown with timely hitting and great pitching in an 8-5 win against Troy (Illinois).

Lowell advanced to the title game with a 5-1 win against the East Lansing Trojans.

Lowell's solid pitching staff got all the support it needed when the Dynamics plated seven runs in the third inning, on five singles a walk, a hit batsman and a wild pitch.

The Arrowdynamics (14 and under) struggled with hitting but were able to put up some big innings. The pitching staff shut down the opposition allowing just eight earned runs in six games.

The staff of Jon Fox, Garrett Stehley, Tim Antel and JP North carried a 1.75 era.

It combined to throw 28 consecutive innings without giving up an earned run, while racking up 37 strikeouts.

Ryan Schaeffer and Jeff Houston led the team with a .444 and .385 batting average respectively.

With the tourney win, the Lowell Arrow Dynamics now have nine consecutive first-or-second-place finishes covering a three year span, (six first places).

The Dynamics, comprised of all Lowell kids, finished a fun year with a record of 40-5 this summer.

Their five losses were by a combined total of seven runs.

"Credit goes to the players who put in off-season workouts as well as to their parents who get the athletes to all their commitments," said Dynamics coach Tim Antel. "Thanks goes out to

the Lowell baseball program for its support as well."

In game one, Lowell beat the host, Thornapple Flames 5-1.

In game two, the Dynamics defeated Around

the Horn Stampede in a five-inning mercy game 11-0.

In game three, Lowell upended Saline in a 15-5 mercy game. Garrett Stehley strikes out 13 in 9.2 innings.



Pictured, front row, left to right: Austin Gildea, JP North, Jason Malling, Jeff Houston, and Tim Antel; back row, left to right: Ryan Schaeffer, Garrett Stehley, Zach Huver, Jon Fox, and Austin Lemke. Not pictured: Zach Dawson, Luke Bigham and coach Rick Dawson.

Wallace wins Speedway's UMP Modified A

Nationwide racer and SPEED TV commentator, Kenny Wallace, made his return to I-96 Speedway a very successful one.

The St. Louis, Mo. native last visited I-96 in 2006.

Driving the JEGS automotive, UMP modified, Wallace held off Jacob Poel for the win Saturday night at I-96 Speedway.

During the UMP modified 50 lap feature in segment one, Wallace was forced low while trying to make a pass during the third lap, spinning out in turn one and restarting on the rear of the 20 car field.

"I was really upset when I got pushed down into the tires. But I am in victory lane and I am not going to

complain about that. I had tremendous forward bite. My car went straight really good," Wallace said, from the new P.A.T. landscape, victory lane.

Outside pole starter, Johnny Deyoung, was able to shoot out into the lead after the green flag flew during the first 25 lap segment.

Deyoung, fighting handling problems all night, was forced to run the high groove around the track, sometimes out of sight in turns three and four.

During the eighth lap, Poel took over the lead and set a very fast pace.

Meanwhile, Wallace was making his move from the rear. Passing an average of one car a lap, Wallace took over the lead from Poel

during the 23rd lap. Wallace was then able to put some distance between him and the rest of the field. Poel held on to second.

Make up feature winner and current point leader, Todd Feutz, was third; Billy Smith, from Bonnie Terre, MO., and the lead crew member of Wallace's mod, was fourth; Jared Guinn, Deyoung, James Kimmel, Tim Dalman, Tim Stemler and Justin Fleming rounded out the top 10.

"I just want to thank all the fans and all the great race car drivers. There are some really good race car drivers here. We knew we had our hands full. This is a new car; we had a car that was not handling good. We brought this new car out of

the truck and it was good tonight," Wallace explained. In the NESMITH Ultimate Champion late model feature, Kris Patterson, newly inducted into the National Dirt Hall of Fame, lined up on the pole for the 25 lap feature. Before the start, Kris was given a FORD motor racing jacket in honor of all his years of driving a Ford. "This is precious," said Patterson, of the award.

Patterson and Billy Trueblood brought the 19 car field to the green flag. The yellow flag flew during the third lap, bunching the field. Back under green flag racing, Patterson was able to put some distance between him and the rest of the field.

Laps 15-20 proved to

be interesting moments for Patterson when he was trying to lap Gary Bowerman (back racing after a 20 year retirement). Patterson tried high and low, thus allowing Trueblood to pull right up on Patterson's bumper. Once Patterson cleared Bowerman, he checked out again.

The 23rd lap saw Trueblood's night come to an end with front end problems while he was running second. Once back under green for the final two laps, no one had anything for Patterson. For Patterson, driving the KFC, Tom Benson Remax Rayburn, it was his 101st at I-96 and 522 overall in his career.

Mike Nugent, Rick Stout, Roger Wing, Scott Ehlert,

Trever Sloan, Jim Fairbanks Jr., John McClure, Bry Sloan and Gary Vandermark rounded out the top 10. Heat race winners were Nugent and Patterson.

"I want to thank all the fans, KB Carburetors and all my sponsors. It has been a great week for me. Being inducted into the Hall of Fame in Florence Kentucky, and then racing tonight on a fast track," Patterson said.

Road beater action on the 3/8 mile track found first time driver in a road beater, Tom Antcliff, take the win in one of John Primm's cars. "We had a bet with John that I could not drive his car. Well here I am in victory lane. Thanks John,

Wallace, cont'd., pg. 14

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OKAY - Someone Has To Say It ...

by Thad Kraus

It turns out the "average Joe" grew up in Jeju, South Korea. Who would have thunk it? He was the fourth of eight children. As a child he wanted to grow up to be a body builder. He served two years in the military and his childhood sports idol was Jack Nicklaus. He didn't start playing golf until the age of 19 through the encouragement of a friend. He is now married and has three sons. Not sure about you, but I always imagined the "average Joe" coming from Ottumwa, Iowa or maybe even Edwardsburg, MI. But no, Y.E. Yang, who always has described himself

as an "average Joe" and one of the "lower than average PGA Tour players," may have played himself right out of those roles in the eyes of the millions of golf fans who watched him go chest to chest with Tiger on Sunday. More impressively, Y.E. was the one left standing with a PGA Tournament Championship after 72 holes at Hazeltine. The "average Joe" doesn't eagle hole 14 to take a two-shot lead on the Sunday of a major with Tiger peering in. Am I right Phil? It's not the first time Yang fended off Tiger on a Sunday afternoon. He's held off a Woods challenge before, forcing the world's No. 1 into second place to win the 2006 HSBC Champions event. Come to think of it, how many "average Joes" do you know have a lifetime earnings of \$3.2 million? This makes Yang an "average Joe" pretender and for that deserves a lifetime ban from the club. According to studies, the overall average American (Joe), age 25 or older, makes roughly \$32,000 per year.

- Sorry Y.E., you just missed!
- As did Tiger in an attempt for his 15th major. So, do you think you're an "average Joe?" According to American Snapshot the "average" American:
- Eats peanut butter at least once a week
 - Prefers smooth peanut butter over chunky
 - Can name all Three Stooges
 - Lives within a 20-minute drive of a Wal-Mart
 - Eats at McDonald's at least once a year
 - Takes a shower for approximately 10.4 minutes a day
 - Never sings in the shower
 - Lives in a house, not an apartment or condominium
 - Has a home valued between \$100,000 and \$300,000
 - Has fired a gun
 - Is between 5 feet and 6 feet tall
 - Weighs 135 to 205 pounds
 - Is between the ages of 18 and 53
 - Believes gambling is an acceptable entertainment option
 - Grew up within 50 miles of current home

Lowell Area Arts Council's Thebes Players call for auditions

The Thebes Players community theatre is seeking seven actors (ages 25 - 70) for A Dickens' Christmas Carol - A Traveling Travesty in Two Tumultuous Acts, by Mark Landon Smith, directed by Casey Berg. Dates of the production are October 16 - 25, 2009. Auditions are on Friday, Aug. 21 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 22 at 4 p.m. at the Lowell Area Arts Council, 149 S. Hudson, Lowell.

For more information or to borrow a script (\$5 deposit fee) for review, call or visit the Lowell Area Arts Council at 149 S. Hudson, Lowell, phone 897-8545 or visit the website at www.lowellartscouncil.org.

Characters include:
 Sir Selsdon Piddock - A "Classical" actor in the truest sense of the word who will be playing Ebenezer Scrooge.
 Mrs. Cordelia Ffoliet-Ffolkes Ffortescue Woods - An actress who wishes her resume were as long as her name. She will be playing multiple roles.
 Dame Rowena Middleton-Lewis - An actress of some pretensions who plays multiple roles.
 Cynthia Imbry - A young actress who is the company understudy and is suddenly forced into the production and isn't prepared but anxious to make an impression.
 Mr. Elyot Crummels - A once-dashing leading man now playing character parts. He is very busy in this production.
 Teddy Shub - An over-anxious young actor who appears to be all teeth. He plays every scene as though it was Macbeth.
 Mrs. Bettina Salisbury - The company diva who was pretending to be ill for this performance, assured that the show would be canceled.

It hasn't been and she appears mid-way through the show determined to play her roles. The story: From the bonny shores of England comes the Styckes-Upon-Thump Repertory Theatre Company, a stuffy old traveling troupe embarking on their fifteenth annual farewell tour of the Dickens' tale. "Dickens" lives up to its subtitle: "A traveling travesty in two tumultuous acts." In the show, the seven characters play actors who play all the parts in "A Christmas Carol." However, these are no ordinary actors. With such names as Mr. Elyot Crummels and Mrs. Cordelia Ffoliet-Ffolkes Ffortescue Woods, it is hard to take anything about them seriously. It is a good thing this play is anything but serious. For example, one character continually mocks other characters behind their backs, and another has her lines obviously written on the props she brings onstage. Meanwhile, the actors backstage are causing a ruckus, while another actor constantly trips over set pieces. Mayhem ensues as this professional company scrambles to keep the show going and everything that could possibly go wrong does, to hilarious, ridiculous results! The play is a huge mess, but Smith wrote all these "mistakes" into the script.

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www.redarrowRAYG.org

Sleep medicine specialist urges preparation for back to school sleep routines

Good sleep habits often take a summer vacation when school is out. Now is the time to resume a normal routine according to pediatric sleep medicine experts at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital.

"It's natural to be flexible with bedtimes in the summer," said John Schuen, MD, division chief, pulmonary and sleep medicine, Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. "While appropriate for summer months, children should transition to a more normal

sleep pattern as the first day of school approaches. Going to bed early the day before school starts is not the time to start a new routine."

"Steadily adjust to earlier sleep and wake schedules 10 days to two weeks before school starts. This will adjust biological clocks to the new schedule.

"Establish a relaxing bedtime routine. Reading before bed is a good choice for kids of all ages.

"Keep a regular sleep schedule and avoid extremes on weekends. Having a

regular bedtime increases the likelihood that kids, including teens, will get optimal sleep.

"Create a sleep environment that is cool, quiet, dimly lit and comfortable.

"Keep television, video games and other electronics out of the bedroom. Avoid using them within one hour of bedtime.

"Eliminate or reduce caffeine

"Eat well and be active. "Sleep is such an important element in a

child's success in school," added Schuen. "Lack of sleep can affect a child's ability to concentrate, their mood and overall attitude. Children aged five to 12 need at least 10 hours of sleep a night. Making sleep a priority may be challenging but is well worth the effort for parents and children alike."

Watch Jim Chamness, MD, sleep medicine specialist, speak about children's sleep habits on Spectrum Health TV.

Helen DeVos Children's Hospital is a Grand Rapids-based hospital serving

children throughout Michigan. A teaching hospital, it includes more than 150 pediatric specialty physicians with specialized training in providing medical and surgical care to children in more than 40 pediatric specialties. We care for 7,600 children on an inpatient basis and 190,000 children at outpatient sites annually. The staff at Helen DeVos

Children's Hospital is committed to caring for children and families with compassion, excellence and innovation. The children's hospital is one of seven hospitals in the Spectrum Health system. Visit devoschildrens.org to learn more or devoschildrens.org/2011 to learn about the new hospital opening in 2011.

An idealist is a person who helps other people to be prosperous.

- Henry Ford (1863 - 1947)

Wallace, continued ... From Page 11

John, for the chance," said Anteliff. Scott Rumsey, Jason Feutz, Primm, Terry Henderson, Rob Nieman, Steve Wawiernia, Colee Ruesink, Ben Fust and Jennifer Phillip were the top 10 finishers.

Nieman and Feutz were heat race winners. Mini sprint action, also

on the 3/8 track, saw Nick Nelson win his third feature in a row at I-96.

Jay Steinebach, Derek Donaldson, Al Halbert and Jason Holibaugh chased the Michigan Center driver. Donaldson took the heat win.

Next week, August 22, will see the regular five

in one show, NESMITH ultimate late models and UMP mods, and the street stocks, road beaters and mini sprints on the 3/8 track.

Fans are invited to bring their cars out and sign up for the always popular spectator drags.

Sound Off



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- **NO - I think it is important to have that data.....9%**
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BACK TO SCHOOL GARAGE SALE 328 N. Jefferson, Thurs., Aug. 20 & Fri., Aug. 21, 8-6 p.m. & Sat., Aug. 22, 8-3 p.m. Brand name clothing - .25c up to \$4, girls 7-12, Jr. girls, womens 0 thru 8, baby boys 0-3T, boys 8/10 - 14/16, mens M-XL, many shoes, coats & purses, lots of tools, household items, furniture, children's books & Barbies.

MOVING SALE 3000 Natures Place Drive SE, Friday only, Aug. 21, 9-5. Furniture to sporting goods. A decorators dream. Don't miss it. Everything must go!

GARAGE SALE Thurs. & Fri., Aug. 20 & 21, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., 64th St. East to 11640 Drew Rd. Wood lathe, bicycle, air conditioners, word processor w/floppy disc & screen, microwave, set of china, scrapbooking, crafts, canning jar, bedding, household, etc.

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LOWELL AREA JUGGLING CLUB - first Monday of the month at Englehardt Library Community Rm. 6:30-8:30 p.m. 12/older. 897-9879. www.freewebs.com/lowelljugglingclub.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY TOPS MI #372 - every Tuesday at Key Heights Mobile Home Park Community Building. Weigh-ins at 5:45 p.m.

CUB SCOUT PACK 3188 - meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main.

FREE SMOKING CESSATION CLASSES - begin Tues., Aug. 25. The class meets for 6 weeks on Tuesdays from 6-8 p.m. at Lowell Family Medical Center, 2550 W. Main, Lowell. Registration encouraged, but not required. Call 616-975-0123 or go to www.tobaccofreepartners.org

COUNTRY MUSIC AT THE SARANAC DEPOT - Dan Miller is playing on Aug. 22 at 1 p.m. under the shelter. Saranac Bridge Fest.

LHS STUDENT ORIENTATIONS - Orientation for returning 10th-12th grade students will be held on Aug. 25 & 26. Students may pick up their class schedules, textbooks, handbook & have their pictures taken (this includes seniors for ID card purposes). Students may attend either 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. or 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Upper classmen MUST have their student ID to check out textbooks.

LHS FRESHMAN SMART START - Orientation for incoming freshmen students will be held on Thurs., Aug. 27. Last names A-K from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m., L-Z from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Students will be given important information to kick off the school year, will receive schedules & textbooks & will have their pictures taken. Parents should be prepared to pick their students up after the full 2 hours.

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION - Orientation for 10th-12th grade students who are new to LHS will be held on Thurs., Sept. 3 from 1-3 p.m.

PINK ARROW T-SHIRT SALES AT LHS - this year's Pink Arrow shirts will be available for students & families to purchase at all orientation sessions. Cost is \$15.

LA LECHE LEAGUE OF ADA, CASCADE, LOWELL - 2nd Thurs. 7 p.m. meeting. Support for pregnant/breast-feeding women. Church in Ada. 752-8300.

HELP WANTED SERVICES

CHILDCARE - Part-time eves & some overnight hours for 2 children, ages 11 & 13. Own transportation (Lowell). References. Call 616-450-4522.

LOST

LOST DOG - Alto area, \$Reward! Black Lab female, w/collar. Lost 64th St. bet. Alden Nash & Wingeier. Family pet, dearly missed by kids. Sadie, \$50 reward. 868-2023, leave message.

LOST DOG - Missing since Aug. 13, Ivan Rd., Saranac. Black & brown, about 60 lbs., his name is Casey. 642-9836 or 902-2958.

SERVICES

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

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

FREE WINDSHIELD REPAIR - with approved insurance. No out-of-pocket cost. Precision Windshield Repair, 269-838-2474, www.pwrepair.com.

PET INVOLVED IN PINK ARROW PROJECT - We are donating the following services w/the proceeds to go to the Pink Arrow Project! Toenail trims, brush & blow-out, pet massage, or have your dog colored School colors or pink. Donations suggested \$10 per service. Dates: Aug. 19 & 26, Sept. 2 & 9, from 6-8 p.m. Hair-Do Pet Spa (Lowell Animal Hospital), 897-8484 for appointments. Mention the Pink Arrow Project. See you there!

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 Dianne at 897-8398.

FREE - We will remove any appliance, cars, trucks, etc. Almost anything but household trash. If interested please call 897-7803, J&J Recycling.

PROFESSIONAL TREE CLIMBER NEEDS WORK - Fully insured. Removals, trims, chipping, stump grinding. Call Dan for free estimate at 616-970-3832.

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

PAINTING SERVICES - murals, specialty finishes, general painting and color consulting. Call Lisa for professional, affordable and quality painting. 616-868-0451.

IS YOUR PRESCHOOL PROGRAM IN JEOPARDY? - Our State Senate recently voted to eliminate almost all preschool funding. Don't let your preschool plans be interrupted! St. Patrick Preschool combines personalized academic instruction with tons of FUN for your 3, 4 or 5 year old! To learn more, call 691-8833.

DAYCARE OPEN HOUSE - 8/23/09, open 1-3 at 12935 Vergennes. Anyone who signs up for child care on this day gets 20 off first week. Have openings for infants & toddlers. 616-889-8384, see you Sunday.

DO YOU NEED \$\$? - Buck's Auction & Sales now accepting quality consignments for local auction... Call Terry for details, 616-897-5200.

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

CPR/FIRST AID CLASS - Mon., Aug. 31, 6-9 p.m. at The Hammock LLC (Lowell). Cost \$35 per person. Call 616-893-5661 to register or www.hammocklearning.com

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

HOME REPAIR - Repair, redo, or remodel - doors, woodwork, dry-wall, laminate counter tops, cabinet work, tile work, siding, exterior spray painting, power washing, chain saw work. Ron Anderson Wood Working & Construction. Call 430-8511.

PROFESSIONAL TREE CLIMBER NEEDS WORK - Fully insured. Removals, trims, chipping, stump grinding. Call Dan for free estimate at 616-970-3832.

Sandy Foot runners prepare for LHS cross country teams

A host of 21 Lowell high school and middle school cross country runners and members of the local running community spent the final week of July logging miles on the trails and dunes of Ludington State Park as part of the Sandy Foot Running Camp.

The week included two workouts per day including special events such as a 30 minute Dune Challenge, the Mojave dune and trail race, and a 1.5 mile "class warfare" race. Combined with the running were "ab" workouts, "core" strengthening workouts, stretching, and water workouts. The entire group experienced great workouts, great weather and plenty of beach time.

Josh Corteville started the week off as he led the way on the 30 minute Dune Challenge by completing 55.5 circuits on the dune which was the fourth best all time performance. Freshman Rebekah Betts was not to be outdone as she completed 45 circuits and showed promise for the future as her effort was the girl's seventh best all-time performance.

Wednesday morning provided cooler temps and

allowed Taylor Marchido and Zach Robinson to set impressive marks for the 9.75 mile Mojave dune/trail race. Marchido cruised the majority alone coming in at 1:38:00 while Robinson and senior Tom Mark ran together finishing with times of 1:15:37 and 1:15:42 respectively. Betts again showed some game as she set the all-time freshman record finishing in a time of 1:46:31.

The 1.5 mile class race saw the senior/fresh team beat the team of juniors and sophomores with an average finish time of 10:36. Leading the way for the winning team were seniors Zach Robinson and Taylor Marchido, while sophomore Ben Partridge and junior Emily Jelsma led the other team. The team of counselors, guests, and middle school runners took third place and were led by coach Ellis and Eric Judd.

The camp was the final week of preparation as both cross country teams prepare for practices to start on August 12.

Major awards were as follows: MVP-boy, Zach Robinson; Most Improved-boy, Josh Corteville; and Rookie Camper, John Mark.

MVP-girl, Taylor Marchido; Most Improved-girl, Emily Jelsma; and Rookie Camper, Rebecca Betts.

The tentative date for the 2010 Sandy Foot Camp is July 25 to 31.



First row, left to right: Nicole Everitt, Rebekah Betts, Carrisa Paiz, Emily Judd, Kelsey Mankel, Jessica Lewis, Emily Jelsma, Taylor Marchido, and Colin Vanderwarf; second row, left to right: John Mark and Chelsea Montgomery; third row, left to right: Scott VanOosten, Ben Partridge, Josh Corteville, Caleb Hershberger, Tom Mark, Zach Robinson, Pauline Harrington, Katie Jousma, Lexi Wabeke, and Annie Vescolani.



If you missed the "Extreme Cowboy" race on Friday evening at the Kent County Youth Fair, then you missed the special performance by our own "Kid Rock" a.k.a. John Fransens! Yes ... that is a purple velvet pants suit!

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- John Grogan

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