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# the lowell ledger

wednesday • april • 21 • 2010

vol. 39 issue 28

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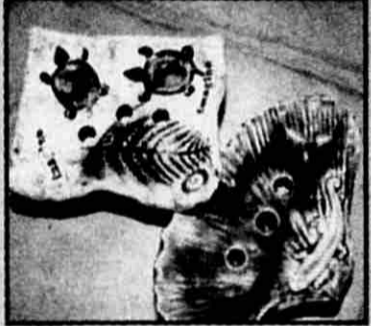
**Keep checking your local news source**

the lowell ledger for more bridge project updates.

Also stay informed by going to: [www.lowellbridge.blogspot.com](http://www.lowellbridge.blogspot.com)

tale of the lowell troll part II page 14

clay artist



page 8

student art show



page 2

50 CENTS

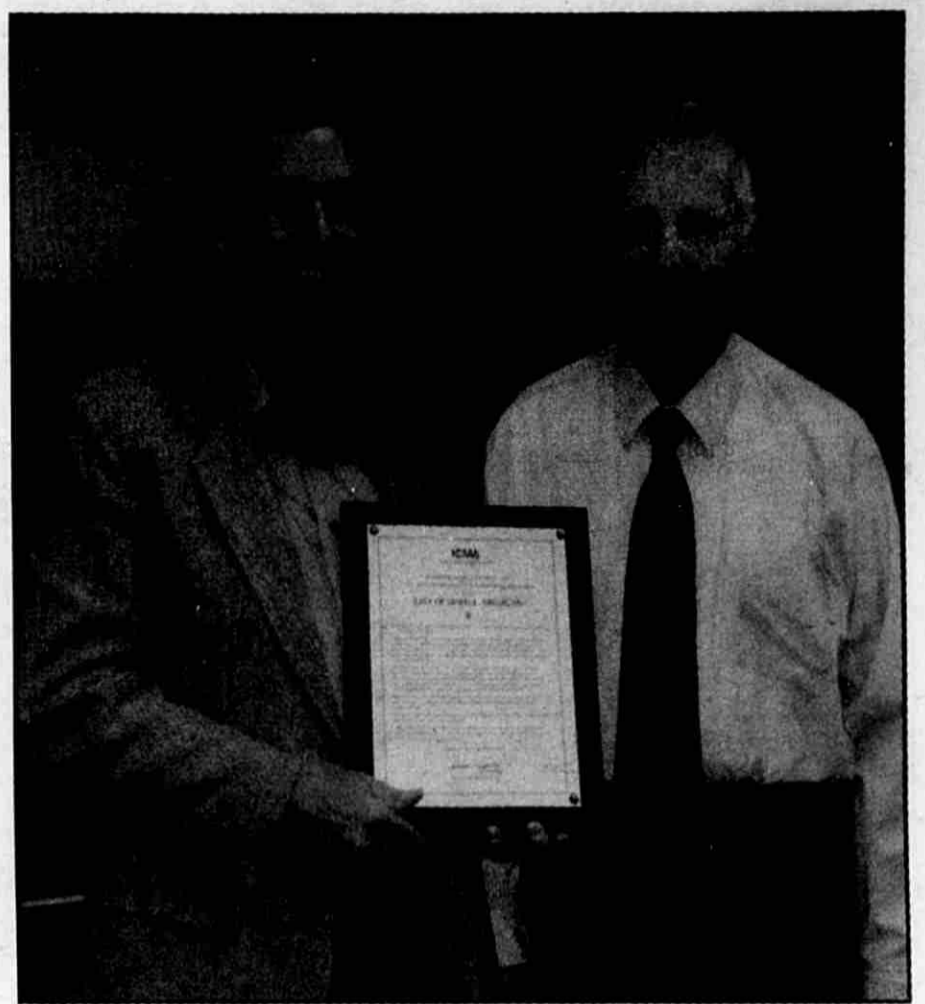


## Lowell celebrates 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a city

by Emma Palova  
Lowell is celebrating its 50th anniversary as a city established by a charter in March of 1960. Voters of the Village of Lowell passed a charter to become a city governed by a five-member city council. The city manager is appointed by the council, according to the charter.  
"It is the most widely used form of government," said city manager Dave Pasquale in a Monday night meeting.  
There are 268 municipi-

palities in Michigan that use this form of government. Two members of the original city council are still around. They are David Coons and Bob Reagan.  
In related business, the city council set a work session for April 27 at 7 p.m. to finalize the lease at 990 N. Washington Street and to review the 2010-2011 budget. Each item will take approximately one hour.  
The council approved an employment agreement with property tax assessors Jeffrey and Debra Rashid to

replace Jim Marfia. Marfia was in a serious automobile accident in the fall of 2009 and he will not be able to return to his position.  
The Rashids have since then been filling in to perform the tax assessor's duties, such as updating records and conducting board of reviews. They will be city employees on part-time basis until June 2012, paid annually \$36,000.  
"They've done a wonderful job of picking up  
50th anniversary, continued, page 3



Mayor Jim Hodges and city manager Dave Pasquale, with proclamation, celebrating 50th anniversary of Lowell.

## Troll project and construction boost Girls' Night Out participation

by Emma Palova  
Who would have thought that the mayor of Lowell would have his eyebrows waxed on Girls'

got his eyebrow wax at Eja Salon as a present from his wife Chris.  
"He's turning 60, so I want him to look nice," said

The fourth annual spring Girls' Night Out in downtown Lowell, amidst blossoming trees and an 80 degree temperature, enjoyed an average turnout of 1,000 in spite of a slow start to the evening.



Virginia Wierenga and Marylu Dykstra with troll Joy.

Night Out and walk the streets in a hard hat bragging about it?  
No kidding. Jim Hodges

Chris.  
O r i m a g i n e that the Flat River Cottage ran out of their famous Margarita's? Too many thirsty girls or what?  
"Yes, it's all gone," said owner Rita Reister, although she had some cake left.  
It was tidbits like these that made the evening fun.  
GNO, continued, page 9

## MDOT updates on bridge replacement progress

by Emma Palova  
The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and Anlaan contractors gave a regular update on the bridge replacement project last Wednesday. The striping on Hudson has been completed, as well as all the pre-stage work. The two left turn lanes in downtown will be closely monitored.

In spite of the barricades, with three road closed signs on the east side of town, people are still in violation by going through the one way road from the east end of town to the west end when no opposing traffic is present.

Beams and abutments have been removed and new abutments will be formed this Friday.

Police chief James Hinton said he will start writing citations for parking violations of construction workers who are parking in the two-hour parking zones rather than the designated spaces behind the city hall or on Front Street.

Next progress meeting is this Wednesday at 1 p.m. at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce.

## Robotics team has good showing at first championship event

by Thad Kraus  
In its first-ever appearance, the Lowell robotics team advanced to the quarterfinals of the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition championship before being eliminated.  
The championship was held at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta over the weekend.  
There were 344 teams who competed in the championship. The teams were divided into four equal divisions (86 teams per division).  
Lowell posted an 8-1-1 record (eighth out of 86 teams) in the qualifying round earning itself a spot in the quarterfinal.

Of the 86 teams in its division, 75 were veteran squads and Lowell was one of 11 rookie teams. However, it was the only rookie team in its division to qualify for the quarterfinal.  
"The team earned a trophy for being the highest seeded rookie team in its division," said Lowell robotics advisor Al Eckman.  
"Things went well. We are real pleased with what the students did in their first year."  
Lowell was eliminated from the competition after losing its opening two quarterfinal matches. "We had other veteran team



Robotics team members pictured are: front row, left to right: Mary Veltman, Marissa McGlamery, Caleb Pratt, Michael Schwarz, Scott Zalis, and David Crandall; back row, left to right: Nick Gibson, Derek Chopp, Ben Veltman, Josh Tozer and Josh Zalis. Photo submitted by Al Eckman

Robotics, continued, page 4



# Student art exhibit on display through May 5

by Thad Kraus  
An eclectic display of visual art can be found at the 2010 Lowell Area Schools' student art exhibit.

The art show opened Monday at the Lowell Area Arts Council. Selections were made from over 300 artisan pieces crafted by Lowell High School, Middle School and Unity High students.

The artwork is representative of traditional drawing, painting, sculpture, photography and ceramics.

"We've attempted to showcase the good artwork while giving a representation of what's being produced by students," said Lowell

Area Schools art department head, Sue Langford. "It was difficult. There are many outstanding artists."

This year's show features a higher number of sculptures than ever before.

Students used the art of sculpture to depict emotion and controversy.

A large selection of middle school art pieces focused on green as they recycled used parts, transforming them into art.

A number of photography pieces from Unity High are also part of the show.

"I am amazed by the talent of this year's seniors," said Lowell High School art

teacher Nicole Bosco.

Courtney Wierzbicki, Chris Bewell and Mike Underwood, in addition to having their work displayed locally, were also represented in the Regional Scholastic Art and Writing competition.

Bewell's work also went onto the National Scholastic Art competition in New York where it was considered for selection.

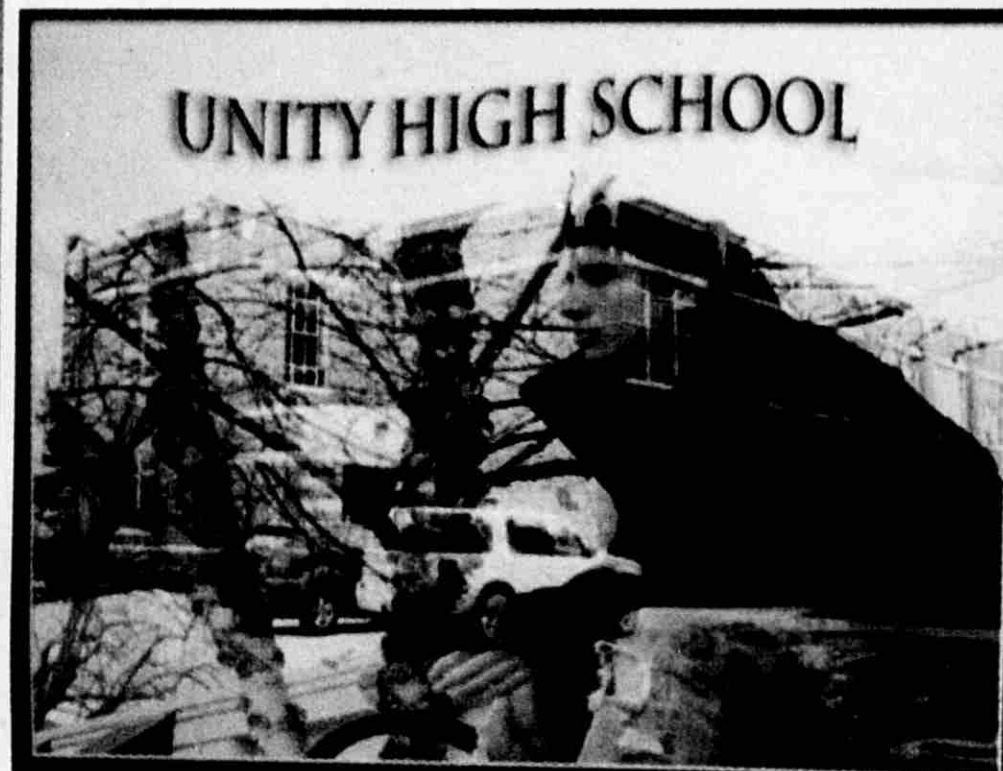
"We are lucky to have such an opportunity. This show gives the community an opportunity to understand the many things the art department is doing with students," said high school junior, Maggie Lancaster.



A multitude of Lowell Middle School students transformed trash into art.



Kayla Mullins' acrylic on canvas.



Nathan Russell's digital photography.



MacKenzie Roering's "What Do You Take For Granted?"

Amber Schneider's "World of Trash."

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## CITY OF LOWELL

### PUBLIC NOTICE ATTENTION CITY OF LOWELL AND TOWNSHIP WATER CUSTOMERS

Due to major maintenance the City of Lowell's Water Treatment Filtration Plant will not be softening nor fluoridating the water from April 13th through May 15, 2010. We are sorry for any inconvenience.

If you have any questions, please contact the Water Treatment Plant (897-5234).



Betty R. Morlock  
City Clerk



along  
main st.

#### K-12 STUDENT ART EXHIBITION

Lowell Area Schools' students will be holding an art exhibition at the Lowell Area Arts Council gallery, 149 S. Hudson St. High school and middle school art show runs through May 5. Elementary school art show is May 10-26; opening reception May 10 from 5:30-7 p.m. For more information call 897-8545.

#### TUPPERWARE FUNDRAISER

The Lowell Senior Center will be having a Tupperware Fundraiser on Wed., Apr. 21 at 7 p.m. All proceeds go to the Lowell Senior Center/Gilda's Club Building Fund. Bring a friend and join the fun.

#### THEBES PLAYERS

Thebes Players' theatre production of *Play On!* will be Thurs., Apr. 22 at 7:30 p.m.; tickets are \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door; Fri., Apr. 23, dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the show at 7:30 p.m., tickets are \$23 in advance only for dinner. Call 897-8545 or visit [www.lowellartscouncil.org](http://www.lowellartscouncil.org) for further information.

#### EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

Come out to the Wittenbach/Wege Center and help celebrate all Mother Nature has provided us on Sat., Apr. 24, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Give back to earth by removing invasive species from 9-11, join us for a guided hike, learn how to make your own bat house at 11 and learn what you can do at home to make our planet healthier. For more information call 987-1002.

#### HISTORY IN FASHION

*Somewhere In Time*, the Lowell Area Historical Museum's fundraising gala, will be held May 7 at 7 p.m. at the Lowell Performing Arts Center. Reserve your tickets now, \$25 each and \$30 at the door. To purchase tickets call 897-7688.

#### PERENNIAL PLANT FUNDRAISER

Perennial Plant Fundraiser Memorial Day weekend. All proceeds go to the music boosters. To donate plants, leave at 520 N. Monroe or call Karen at 897-7808.

# Lowell Odyssey of the Mind teams compete at regional tournament

What do Big Foot stepping on the Mackinac Bridge, sending rings of smoke across the gym and dressing up like spaghetti and meatballs have in common?

They are all parts of solutions to problems used by Lowell Odyssey of the Mind teams at Saturday's

regional competition in Greenville. Lowell was represented by ten teams made up of students from all four elementary schools.

Coach Jill Smith said, "I was impressed with the valuable skills the kids learned from participating in Odyssey of the Mind." The teams

competed by presenting their solutions to a problem they have been solving since early in the school year, as well as solving a problem that was unknown to them until one minute before they had to solve the problem. The teams are scored by how well their solutions solved

the problem, how creative their solutions were and how well they worked together as a team.

Leading the way for Lowell, by qualifying for the State Finals tournament, was the Division 1 "Return to the Gift of Flight" team from Murray Lake Elementary. Their problem required them to design and build a series of aircraft to complete a variety of flight plans, including fly straight, make a target spin, travel slowly, drop something into a target, touch down and take off, and mass launch multiple aircraft.

The "Food Court" team representing Cherry Creek and Murray Lake, as well as the "Discovered Treasure" team representing Murray Lake, pulled off first place finishes in the spontaneous portion of their competition. The complete list of scores can be found online at [www.miodyssey.com](http://www.miodyssey.com) under the region 13 competition page.

Coach Mark Looman said, "It was a great day of competition and I was impressed how every aspect



The primary team from Bushnell after performing their "Surprise Party" problem. Left to right: Evelyn Fleszar, Lauren Todd, Clara Rauch, Desirae Rauch, and Caydence Pawloski.

of the competition can be a teachable moment, from overcoming obstacles to knowing when to stand back and be proud."

The State Finals competition will be held April 17 at Davenport University in Caledonia. Teams that do well at the State competition will be invited to compete at the World Finals competition May 26-29 at Michigan State

University. The Odyssey of the Mind program fosters creative thinking and problem-solving skills among kindergarten through college level students from around the world. New teams will be forming in the fall if you have a student that may be interested in participating. Watch for information at your school building in the fall.



The Murray Lake primary team celebrating the catch of their first fish. Left to right: Olivia DeCator, Isaac DeCator, John Lothian, Phoebe Looman, Owen Carpenter, and Carter Peel. Missing: Abby Davis.

## 50th anniversary, continued

the pieces and moving on," said mayor Jim Hodges.

Councilmember Jeff Altoft said he has worked with both Debra and Jeffrey. "We've learned a lot," he said.

And there will be more construction in the city with additional detours. The Bowes Road project starts up May 3 and it will run through June 18. The Sibley Street project will follow. The schools will be notified to make appropriate changes to bus schedules.

For the third year in a row, the city has received the Tree City USA Growth award for demonstrating progress in its community forestry program. The prestigious Growth award honors environmental improvement and higher levels of tree care in Tree City USA communities.

The city council approved a temporary liquor license for Flat River Grill to serve alcoholic beverages during the Sizzlin' Summer Concert series and the Riverwalk Festival for the following dates: June 17, 24, July 1, 8, 9, 15, 22, 29 and August 5, 19, 26, 27. One of these dates will be

used by the Lowell Area Arts Council for its River Revelry fundraiser.

"It's a nice addition to the summer concert series," said chamber director Liz Baker. "It is a great asset at our convenience." Mayor Jim Hodges said it's a great amenity.

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DATE NIGHT (PG-13) 5:15, 7:20, 9:25  
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4:45, 7:10, 9:35  
THE LAST SONG YOUR DRAGON (PG)  
4:35, 6:50, 9:05  
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### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider amending the Township Zoning Ordinance. The proposed language would permit a vacant parcel in the AG-1 Zone which was of record on or before December 2, 2009 to be split to create a new parcel without public road frontage for the purpose of constructing a single family dwelling. Such a parcel would be required to be served by a 33 feet wide access easement and would need to be at least two acres in size. Creation of such a parcel would require approval by the Planning Commission with approval based on compliance with proposed standards designed to protect nearby farming and farmland.

The hearing will be held as follows:  
WHEN: MONDAY, MAY 10, 2010  
TIME: 7:00 P.M.  
WHERE: LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL  
2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE  
LOWELL, MI 49331

The proposed amendments are available for review at the Lowell Charter Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Lowell, Michigan, 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday or by calling 897-7600.

Tim Clements, Secretary  
Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission



## outdoors

Young Gardeners Dave Stegehuis

We can read historical accounts about the hunting and gathering period of human existence, which lasted for a very long time. Most of us were not around at the beginning of the agricultural revolution. An entire generation today missed the industrial revolution and find themselves smack in the middle of the information age. Many children have little, if any, connection with the land.

Fortunately, in this great country we have the freedom and opportunity to hunt, gather, and grow our own food. Growing produce in a garden plot is probably the most practical way for

Plants can be started from seed or purchased for transplanting to a garden plot. Kids can get involved with laying out the garden and choosing which plants to grow. Tilling and planting can be done using hand tools which will provide an opportunity to get needed exercise. Weeding and watering over the growing

season requires perseverance and a commitment to see the project through to harvest. The majority of planting takes place after Memorial Day when a hard frost is unlikely. Gardens can be located in backyards, fields, vacant lots in cities, or in pots or planters on apartment balconies. Nature centers and municipal parks

## Robotics, continued

mentors congratulate the kids on a good looking, nice working robot," Eckman said.

The FIRST Robotics Competition is an annual competition that helps students discover the excitement of science, engineering, and technology.

COMPETE, on a 27-by-54-foot field with bumps, attempting to earn points by kicking soccer balls in goals. Additional bonus points are earned for each robot suspended in air and not touching the field at the end of the match.

Members of this year's team were Derek Chopp,

Ben Veltman, Caleb Pratt, Nick Gibson, Matt Hess, Michael Schwarz, Calvin Warning, Josh Zalis, Scott Zalis, Jeff Odland, Marissa McGlamery, Foster Hovey, Josh Tozer, D.J. Mixon, Mary Veltman and Mike Brown. Al Eckman serves as the club advisor.

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# viewpoint

## to the editor

Dear Editor,

The city recently put forth a preliminary general fund budget for 2010-2011. It was stated in an article in the April 7 Lowell Ledger that the budget is tight due to continued loss of state revenue sharing and a decrease in taxable value in the city. The budget provides a salary freeze and a provision to include the elimination of seasonal employees in parks and cemetery. The city manager stated [We're keeping things as tight as possible.] It was noted in an April city council meeting that a preliminary general fund budget's purpose is to solicit comments for a final proposal. I would like to express my thoughts on this subject. The recent proposal by Lowell's police chief to save \$50,000 through the restructuring of the police department is a step in the right direction. But there's something else that is in dire need of restructuring and that is how our city government functions. The community can no longer afford two governing bodies. The Downtown Development Association (DDA) has the privilege of spending the greater share of their city taxes as they please and that should end. The community can no longer afford to have non-need projects on its agenda, like new lighting, new Amphitheater, or the securing of the west river bank of the Flat River while the general fund continues to scrape the bottom of the barrel and the community's true needs suffer. The general fund needs all of the city taxes and that includes the DDA's.

Sincerely,  
Jim Howard  
Lowell

Dear Editor,

I have been accused of making threats and innuendo towards the Flat River Grill because they have a soft sided outdoor dining area. Sadly, the people who believe this didn't get the real point of my letter to the editor last week. What I was trying to point out was, if an establishment as distinguished and popular as the Flat River Grill located in the beautiful historical downtown district, chooses to utilize a soft-sided structure, why can't the citizens of the city have the same opportunity? I was not threatening anybody or any business. I have no problem with the Flat River Grill's outdoor seating area. I'm just saying if you make laws that are so restrictive EVERYONE no matter how prestigious will have to abide by it.

Lowell has been known for having in place a good ole boys' club when it comes to creating and enforcing ordinances and laws. I believe this council is working hard to stop that perception. I am against any law that can be interpreted to give some people rights and take away from others.

Currently there is nothing on the books about soft sided garages/structures; the building inspector and the city lawyer recently interpreted that to mean nobody could have them. There are approximately 12-15 of them in the city right now. If we don't make an ordinance to allow them, the existing structures will have to be taken down. Most of these structures have been standing for more than a couple of years. I am not aware of complaints from neighbors. The most vocal opponents of soft sided structures don't have them in their neighborhoods.

The accusations that the soft sided garages bring down property values just aren't true. I sit on the property tax board and nowhere has that been evident. I believe Lowell is a wonderful place to live and do business. The beauty of Lowell is not just houses and garages, but the people that

and as late as Friday morning the agent at Saranac falsely informed us that the freight was not there. Agent Anderson and his assistants did their best to expedite matters and were in no way to blame for the negligence of others.

## 75 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo April 25, 1935

A citizen suggests that it would be a fine thing to have a free dance on the pavement one evening a week during the summer months, featuring quadrilles and other old-time dances and old time music. The suggestion is passed on to the Board of Trade for consideration.

## 50 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger April 21, 1960

Lowell police received reports of three thefts in the city, Friday night or early Saturday morning, when two stores and a parked car were broken into. Breaking the glass in the rear door of Pete Kerr's Tavern, entry was gained and an estimated \$15 was stolen from the till. A panel was broken out of the west side door of Wittenbach Sales and Service Co. and investigation so far revealed a portable TV stolen. Two wheels and tires were stolen from a new car parked in the rear of Azzarello Chevrolet & Buick.

## 25 Years Ago The Grand Valley Ledger April 23, 1985

This time of year there are numerous complaints and inquiries at city hall about large objects, excessive trash and debris being left at the curb and not picked up by the refuse company.

It should be noted that the city's contract with the refuse collector, currently D & H Rubbish, does not require them to remove any debris which is not properly bundled, bagged or in a 30 gallon or less container.

live here. It is the freedom to do what we want with what we have. I always welcome everyone's comments and invite everyone to the public hearing May 3 (my bad for getting it wrong last week). If you can't attend, call myself or any council member, or call City Hall.

Sincerely,  
Jeff Altoft  
Lowell

Dear Editor,

I recently had lunch with a friend and the conversation turned to the issue of soft sided garages. I have read about them in the letters to the editor and because I don't have a need for one, I really didn't have an opinion.

Nobody wants an unsightly thing next door to them, so I guess I would have been on the opposed side. However, after our conversation I have changed my mind. Did you know the City of Lowell already has an ordinance in place to protect its citizens from the unsightly issue? It's called the nuisance ordinance. So if a soft sided garage or any other building falls into disrepair, you just call the building inspector.

My friend then asked me how many soft sided garages I've noticed and how bad did they look? I couldn't really remember seeing very many, and the ones I've seen looked fine. In fact, I don't really see the difference between them and the little barn sheds that are all over.

After really giving this issue thought, what is concerning to me is, when we own property we should have the right to do what we like to do with it. Just because somebody in a different neighborhood or down the street perceives my soft sided garage as ugly that does not give them the right to limit my freedoms. What will be next? Only certain house colors? Flowers that match everybody? No parking in your own driveway? Lowell is not a gated community, we have lots of renters in town without garages. I'd rather see a soft sided garage than stuff all over the yard.

If we need an ordinance to keep our rights to do what we'd like with our own property, then I'm for it.

Sincerely,  
Carol Baer  
Lowell

## Letters To The Editor:

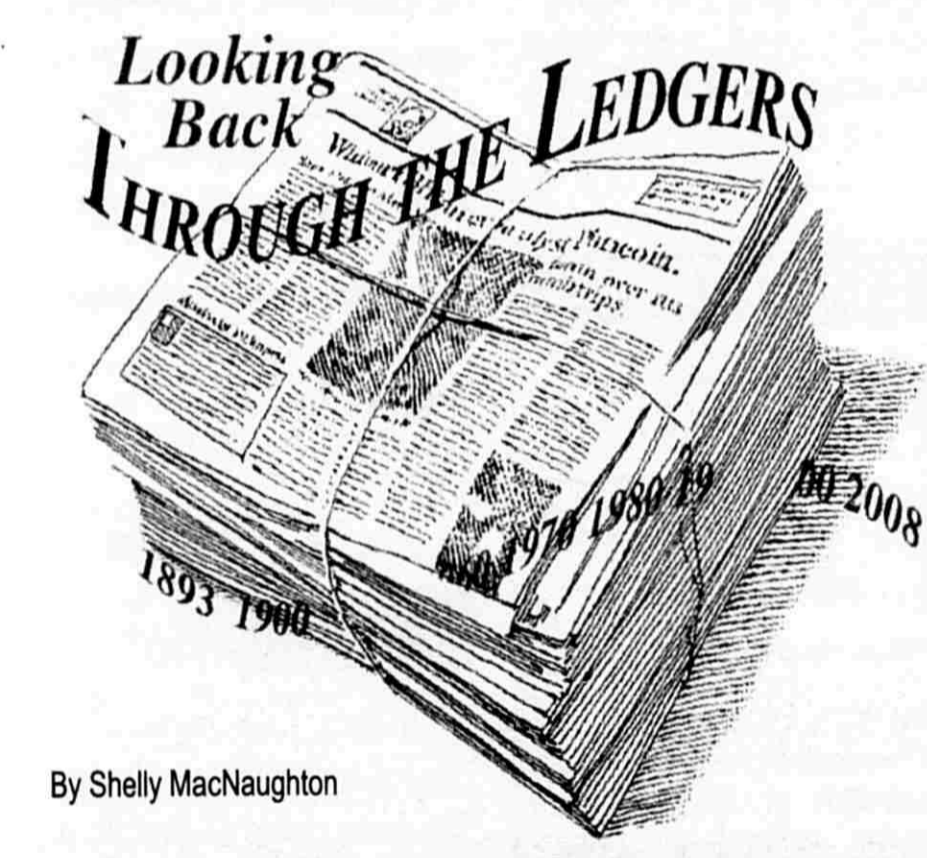
The Lowell Ledger welcomes your Letters to the Editor. Letters are required to bear the author's signature, phone number and address (for verification purposes only, not for publication). Letters will be published at the discretion of the publisher. All letters are subject to editing for length and grammar. Thank you letters, advertising or personal attacks will not be printed.

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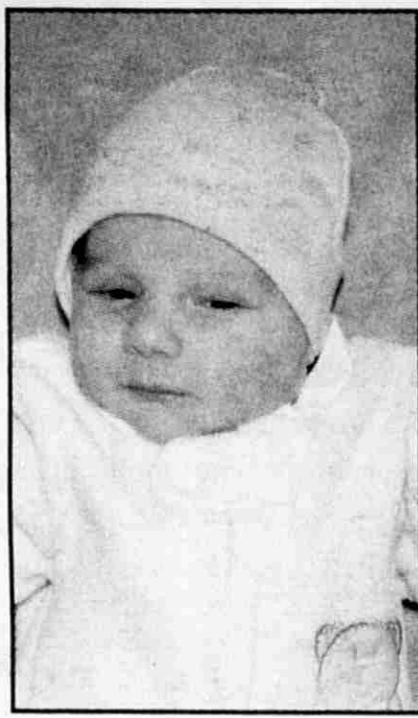
By Shelly MacNaughton



**area births**

**Rozema**

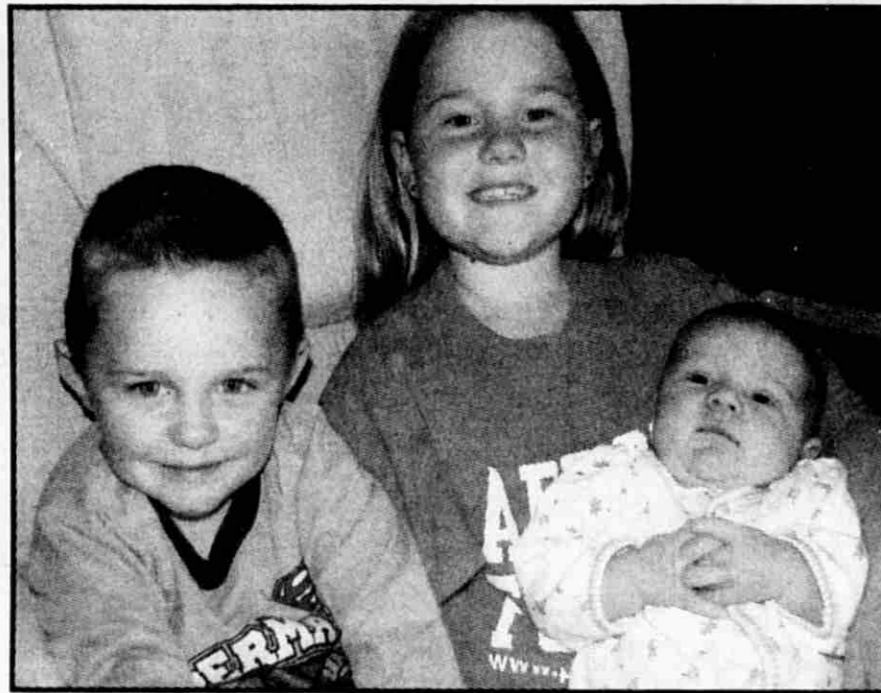
Preston Thomas Rozema was born March 14, 2010 weighing 7 lbs. 14 oz. and measuring 20 1/2 inches. Proud parents are Matt Rozema and Alecia Straub of Lowell. Grandparents are Michell Sturgeon, Marta Rozema, Tom Rozema, and Tony and Nancy Straub.



Preston Thomas Rozema

**Boersen**

Matthew Thomas Boersen was born March 22, 2010 to Thomas and Jennifer Boersen of Lowell. He was welcomed home by big sister Kayla and big brother Tyler.



Matthew Thomas Boersen with brother Tyler and sister Kayla.

**In The Service**

Coast Guard Seaman Kara A. Schloop, a 2007 graduate of Lowell High School, recently graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May, N.J.

During the eight-week training program, Schloop completed a vigorous training curriculum consisting of

academics and practical instruction on water safety and survival, military customs and courtesies, seamanship skills, first aid, fire fighting and marksmanship. A major emphasis is also placed on physical fitness, health and wellness.

Schloop and other recruits

also received instruction on the Coast Guard's core values - honor, respect and devotion to duty - and how to apply them in their military performance and personal conduct. Schloop will join 36,000 other men and women who comprise Coast Guard's force.

Men and women train together from the first day in the Coast Guard just as they do aboard ships and shore units throughout the world. To reinforce the team concept, Schloop and other recruits were trained in preventing sexual harassment, drug and alcohol awareness, civil rights training, and the basics of the work-life balance, as well as total quality management.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

★ Pvt. Mark Ford  
★ A 2009 LHS graduate  
★ completed and  
★ graduated basic  
★ training for the United  
★ States Marine Corp.



**area churches**

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL**  
(United Church of Christ)  
865 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE • 897-5906  
www.OurBigChurch.org  
Sunday Worship.....10:00 a.m.  
Church School.....10:15-11:15 a.m.  
Thursday Faith Alive  
Casual Worship.....6:30 P.M.  
Barrier-free.....Nursery Provided  
No matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

**ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
Kirby and Harrison  
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

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod)  
Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21  
www.goodshepherdlowell.org  
Sunday School & Adult Bible Class...9:00 A.M.  
Worship Service.....10:00 A.M.  
(Nursery available)  
Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307  
All facilities are wheelchair accessible

**CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God)**  
3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery  
Robert Holmes, Pastor  
**SUNDAYS:**  
Worship: 10 a.m.  
**WEDNESDAYS:**  
Family Night (for all ages): 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M.  
AWANA/EXCITE-TEENS.....Wed. 6:15 P.M.  
Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times  
Nursery Provided • Barrier Free

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
2275 West Main Street • 897-7168  
Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org  
Rev. David O. Sims, Rev. W. Lee Taylor & Pastor Phil Severn  
Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M.  
Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M.  
AWANA/EXCITE-TEENS.....Wed. 6:15 P.M.  
Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times  
Nursery Provided • Barrier Free

**CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
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

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
621 E. Main Street • 897-5936  
www.lowellumc.com  
WORSHIP.....8:30 & 10:30 a.m.  
SUNDAY SCHOOL.....9:30 a.m.  
Rev. Rick Blunt  
Barrier-free entrance

**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Fr. Eugene Okall  
402 Amity St. • 897-9820  
www.stmary-lowell.com  
Weekday 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  
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**SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell  
Pastor Dr. Mike Conklin  
9:45 A.M.....Sunday School  
10:30 A.M.....Fellowship  
11:00 A.M.....Worship  
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**health**

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



**Cardiac rehabilitation**

Cardiac rehabilitation is a program for patients with heart disease. Its goal is to limit (or reverse) damage to the heart and improve quality of life.

Cardiac rehab can help you get better after you have had a heart attack, heart surgery, or a procedure to open a clogged artery. It also could help you if

you have heart failure, an artificial heart valve, or if the blood vessels in your arms or legs are blocked. Cardiac rehab can make your heart stronger and improve your ability to exercise.

Cardiac rehab should help improve your overall health and wellness. Programs should include

exercise therapy and also help you quit smoking, reach or stay at a healthy weight and eat better. If you have high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or diabetes, a good program will help improve these conditions. Many patients are depressed after having a heart attack or heart surgery. A good program will also include ways to help improve depression and well-being. Your program should make sure your treatment plan considers any medicines you may be taking which may help to adjust your target heart rate for exercise. Cardiac rehab involves motivation and commitment, but promises excellent longterm results for the heart patient.

**LUNCH MENU**

**ELEMENTARY MENU**  
Week of  
April 26, 2010

**MON:** Pepperoni pizza (cheeseburger on bun also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), tater tots, assorted fruit, milk.

**TUES:** French toast sticks/syrup or cereal & scrambled eggs, fresh fruit, apple crisp, milk.

**WED:** Hot ham & cheese bagel (chicken patty on bun also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), oven baked beans, peaches, milk.

**THURS:** Pasta marinara w/cheese & bosco stick (stacked turkey, cheese on bun also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), green beans, pineapple chunks, milk.

**FRI:** Chicken mashed potato bowl w/gravy & roll (3 meat sub also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), mashed potatoes & gravy, assorted fruit, milk.

**happy birthday!**

- APRIL 21**  
Roxann Roth, Connie Phillips, Ian Newhouse, Daniel Titcombe.
- APRIL 22**  
Mallorie VanDerWarf, Tim Hill, Mackenzie Hacker, Sharon Potter.
- APRIL 23**  
Nathan Roudabush, Jonathan Dixon, Karen Merriman, Nicole Cummings, Brandon Short.
- APRIL 24**  
Gary Goff, Trevor Foss, Nichole Hoag, Don Shaffer, Logan Propst.
- APRIL 26**  
Marsha Ray, Casey Brown, Bonnie Baird, Audrey Bailey, Jonathan Christiansen, Brad Brzezniak.
- APRIL 27**  
Janice Ryder, Dennis Pretzel, Debbie Burrows, Ashlyn Karp.

**Heidi's expands with longer hours and events**

by Emma Palova

It came as a mid-summer surprise last year when the celebration of opening the new bakery at Heidi's attracted a crowd of 3,000.

The now-to-be annual event is just one of many new happenings at the farm market located at the intersection of Cascade and Alden Nash Roads.

To facilitate live entertainment and longer hours at Heidi's, the Lowell Township planning commission has expanded the special use permit granted to the growing farm market in 2007.

"You have a lot of things

happening," said chairman Dave Simmonds. "You have more and more school groups. You have a lot of activities."

The expanded permit will allow the market to stay open on Fridays and Saturdays until 8 p.m. for the whole season starting on May 1 and running through December 24.

"We want to see if there is a demand for produce later," said Aaron Kaeb, one of the twin brothers/owners. "The trick is how much to have in stock."

The market will be running specials after 5

p.m., mainly on Fridays and Saturdays, otherwise the prices will be based on high quality, homegrown produce.

"We have quality fresh produce at reasonable prices," said Ben Kaeb, co-owner.

Among the new things in the works are a 1,500-square-foot greenhouse northwest of the main building for plant sales, as well as U-pick strawberries next year.

"It's not outside the realm of a farm market," said commissioner Mark Batchelor. "Hopefully it does grow bigger next year."

However, secretary Tim Clements said the expanded special use permit is creeping way beyond the original one.

"I hate to see us expanding and expanding it," said Clements.

So, the planning commission has set the annual review, with a potential public hearing, for April of next year.

"We've been increasing this in little increments," said Simmonds.

But, in the meantime the twins Aaron and Ben are determined to make the best of the season. Currently, they are planting ever-berries, strawberries that bear fruit all summer long.



Co-owners of Heidi's Farm Market Aaron and Ben Kaeb.

"We were the first ones to have them in Kent County," said Aaron.

The bakery, run by Melissa Blough, will open on May 1 with pies, donuts and breads.

The Kaeb brothers attribute the great success of the farm market to the community support for local grown food.

"Everything is grown in Michigan," said Aaron. "We grow our own apples and vegetables."

So, by now the tomatoes, melons, zucchini, cucumbers,

cabbage and broccoli have already been planted.

And throughout the season, people will be able to buy asparagus, lettuce, strawberries, cherries, blueberries, raspberries, melons, sweet corn and all the previously mentioned vegetables, including garlic.

To kick-off the summer produce, Aaron and Ben are planning to do a summer fest with live entertainment this year on the fourth weekend in July.

Ben said everything they

do is to attract people to the market. "We will be offering great value for family entertainment," said Ben.

Whether that may be the fest, the greenhouse, the bakery, the fall corn maze, the U-pick pumpkin patch or the petting zoo, plus next year - the U-pick strawberries.

The regular farm market hours are from 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., the extended hours are to 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, closed on Sundays.

**exploring nature**



Meggan Johnson

Every year millions of people worldwide set aside Earth Day as a day to celebrate earth and all its splendor. Come on out to the Wittenbach/Wege Agriscience and Environmental Education Center this Saturday, April 24 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. to celebrate Earth Day.

The center will have activities for the whole family including removing invasive species and learning how to make your own bat house. Check out the schedule below for more information.

- Lend a hand from 9-10:30 a.m. for invasive species removal. Help in removing spotted knapweed from encroaching on the prairie. Participants are encouraged to wear gloves and bring along garden trowels. Great way for Connecting Families with Nature passport holders to earn a stewardship stamp.
- From 10:30-11 a.m. join in a short, guided hike through the forest to look for signs of spring. Binoculars welcomed.
- At 11 a.m. learn how to build bat and birdhouses

with master naturalist and craftsmen John Guertin. He will share his passion for making bat and birdhouses from barns scheduled for demolition. This program will inspire participants to create their own works of art out of salvaged materials.

• A solar panel presentation will be held at 12 p.m. Interested in renewable energy? If so, join Mike Linsea, founder and project manager of Solar Winds Power Systems, LLC., to learn how to harness solar energy. Participants will tour the WWC barn to see solar panels at work. Make sure to bring along renewable energy questions.

• All day long Safari Club International Sensory Trailer Members, of Safari Club International, will provide a hands-on opportunity to learn about animals from all over the world. The sensory trailer will put participants' senses to the test.

For more information call 616-987-1002 or email Meggan Johnson at mjohnson@lowellschools.com

**college news**

Ashley Cunningham of Lowell will graduate during The University of Findlay's spring commencement May 1 in the Koehler Complex on campus. Cunningham is expected to receive a master's degree in occupational therapy. Cunningham is a 2001 graduate of Lowell High School.

Erik R. Mateus of Ada, Sarah M. Niemeyer of Alto, and Brandon S. Postema of Alto have been named to the Dean's List for winter term at Northwood University. The announcement was made by Dr. Lance B. Lewis, academic dean of the university. To achieve Dean's List recognition, students must earn a 3.25 grade point on a 4.0 scale.

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**Hunt for a Cure's Lowell Hike**  
May 15th at 9:00 am at the Lowell Wittenbach Center (across from Lowell High School)  
How to get involved  
It's simple! Just collect donations from friends, family, business, etc and show up at the Hike! If you raise \$100 or more you get a free Hunt for a Cure Tee shirt! You could win a trophy for the most money raised! We'll be hiking through the beautiful forest at the Wittenbach Center!

**Win Prizes!**

**One Step Closer**

Help us find a cure to the #1 genetic killer of children in the U.S. today

For more info visit [www.huntforacure.com](http://www.huntforacure.com)



# Local artist loves functionality of clay

by Emma Palova  
When artist Janet Krueger fell in love with clay 10 years ago, while taking ceramic classes at Aquinas College, she realized its functionality.

As a watercolor artist, Krueger has painted hundreds of small intimate landscapes that have landed her a permanent spot at La Petite Galleria inside the Fire and Water Art Gallery.

"I have a million paintings in my head," she said. "I am primarily inspired by nature."

But clay gives Krueger's work a totally new dimension, call it a 3-D dimension. She molds different types of clay into switch plate covers, soap dishes, knobs or drawer pulls, mirrors, pendants, buttons and even wall clocks.

"I love to make functional things," she said.

Krueger uses three different types of clay: white stoneware porcelain mix, terra cotta and peach stoneware. She rolls out slabs of clay and presses patterns into them.

The patterns may be cut out shapes or hand built unique rubber stamps made from real leaves. These patterns get rolled out into the clay to get the right texture. Then Krueger smooths the edges and the piece dries out for one to two weeks. Then it gets fired in a kiln at 1,800 degrees. The first firing renders a matte bisque piece.

"I go back and glaze them with velvet under glazes and paint over them," Krueger said.

She wipes the paint off and glazes the piece again with a shiny glaze. Then the piece goes back into the kiln to be fired at 2,200 degrees for 10 hours. It takes 20 hours to cool it down.

"You always fire twice," she said. "You fire it the second time and it gets shiny. It makes the glazes look translucent like a watercolor."

Krueger always wants the clay body to show through like on a soap dish. Since opaque is boring, Krueger uses different colored glazes and a clear glaze on the top.

"I like to make beautiful things for people to enjoy," she said.

Krueger also sells her wares at www.etsy.com apart from galleries in Elk Rapids, Frankfort, Benzonia and Beulah.

Krueger says she would do art even if she was rich, so people can slow down and take a moment to realize that life is not all about rushing around. "I wake with all these ideas that keep me going," she said.

The artist is also an avid runner. She plans on running in the Fifth Third Bank run in May, which she finished last year as well.

Krueger is the featured artist for April at the Fire and Water Art Gallery in downtown Lowell.



Artist Janet Krueger glazes her clay pieces with different colors.

# Alto artist finds niche in decorating gourds

by Emma Palova  
Lisa Wierenga, an accomplished artist with a degree in graphic design, has found her niche in painting gourds.

After a 10-year hiatus as a full-time mom, the Alto artist returned to the art scene in 2001 painting a portrait for her new husband of his dogs.

"I was in a different frame of mind," Wierenga said. "I realized how much I missed art. It just propelled me back into painting."

Wierenga is now the featured artist at the Riverwalk Gallery inside the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce from April 17 through June 11. The artist reception will be held on April 24 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

She discovered gourd art in a magazine. Wierenga got some gourds at a farm market and started decorating them. In 2002, while doing an art show with two-dimensional work, Wierenga brought along also a few gourds.

"They completely sold out," she said.

So, her art took a complete twist to a point where Wierenga brings only her gourds to some shows like the Reeds Lake Show in East Grand Rapids.

The process of making the beautiful, natural, decorated gourds may seem lengthy, but it is a lot like working with wood.

"You can do with them



Shape and size determine what artwork goes into a particular piece.

anything you would do with wood," said Wierenga. It takes six months to dry them over the winter. The gourds mold as they dry. When all the water evaporates, Wierenga soaks and scrubs the mold spots off or uses sand paper to get a smooth surface.

"You can paint, stain and carve them like wood," she said.

You can use wood tools like a band saw, a drill, saber saw or rotary tool to carve gourds. Using the saber saw, Wierenga cuts off the top of the gourd. She uses the shape of the gourd to determine what to do with it.

"The shape and size of the gourd determine how I cut it and what kind of artwork I might put on it," she said.

To create an inlay, Wierenga carves out a recessed area and pours in an epoxy resin product. Once it has hardened, she sands down the surface to the level of the gourd and finishes it with a wood finish to protect the surface.

"It warms up the colors and the grain comes out," she said.

No matter what Wierenga does with the gourd, in the end she still wants it to look like a gourd. Most recently, she started pouring acrylic resin in a liquid state on the bottom of gourds to make the bottom look like it is filled with water. Wierenga puts on the bottom stones, shells, driftwood and pours resin over it letting it harden for 24 hours. She places antlers on top of the gourd.

"It adds another interesting element," she said. "It looks like water."

Wierenga uses sea grass, rope or hemp stitched in a coil pattern around the top. With a rotary tool she carves out a recess that fits semi-precious stones and glues them in.

To give the gourd a faux

Gourd artist, continued, page 16



Janet Krueger's most recent products are clay stoneware buttons, soap dishes and switch plate covers.

**MPA**  
Michigan Public Access Association

## What do all those public notices cost us? Can't they just be posted on a Web site?

State law requires that citizens be informed of certain governmental activity through paid public notices like the ones in this newspaper.

It's one way to make government accountable to the people.

More than two-thirds of active Michigan voters\* would be concerned if government placed these notices on Web sites because important information could be concealed from the public.

So, what's it worth to you to be able to pick up this newspaper and find out what's going on in your town, your county, or your local schools?

\*EPIC-MRA November 2007

the lowell ledger

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Friday: 8 am - 2 pm  
Closed Sat. & Sun.

# GNO, continued

Check out our GNO podcast Part I at [www.thelowellledger.com](http://www.thelowellledger.com)

People were all over the place wearing yellow hard hats, some donning safety vests with bright psychedelic orange and green colors, and the construction theme was well received.

Actually, the construction and one-way traffic enabled easy flow of pedestrian traffic between the south and north sides of the bridge on its fringes.

Also, the troll project boosted the participation because any project participant got to be included in both Girls' Night Outs, that is in spring and in the fall held in October.

Merchants like Charlie Bernard of Bernard's Ace Hardware and Aaron Laux of Gary's Country Meats joined in to show community support behind the bridge construction.

It was a first time for both merchants and they would most definitely do it again.

"I would do spring again," said Laux. "October is just too busy for me."

Bernard's raffled off a gas grill for the lucky winner, while Gary's had jerky and cheese samples.

How about the icing on the Girls' Night Out cake? Well, Pep Talk had a bright yellow and orange cake with words stating, "Caution."

But, perhaps the most intriguing were the individual trolls that the businesses decorated. Each troll has a story to tell.

At Eja Salon, there is a new hairdresser troll, Minnie Mimi, with hair extensions and a hair dryer in her hand. Apparently, Minnie Mimi

will tell customers how to get their hair done.

"She's very bossy," said owner April McClure.

But, Minnie Mimi has no idea that she will be sent back under the bridge once the project is done in October.

"We will send her home," said McClure.

Another troll representing the good spirit of the construction was troll artist Joy, at the Fire and Water Art Gallery, created by Virginia Wierenga. Joy looks like an African doll. Pep Talk had a cheerleader troll decked out in red and black, the Red Arrow colors.

For girls, like Mary Donaldson and Suzanne Parker of Hastings, checking the local art venues like the Glass House Designs and Fire and Water Art was a real treat.

"It's a great night to get out," said Parker, who attended GNO in Lowell for the first time.

The message from most vendors is to come back out in October in a different frame of mind.

"It's busier than spring GNOs; there are more ladies shopping," said Baker.

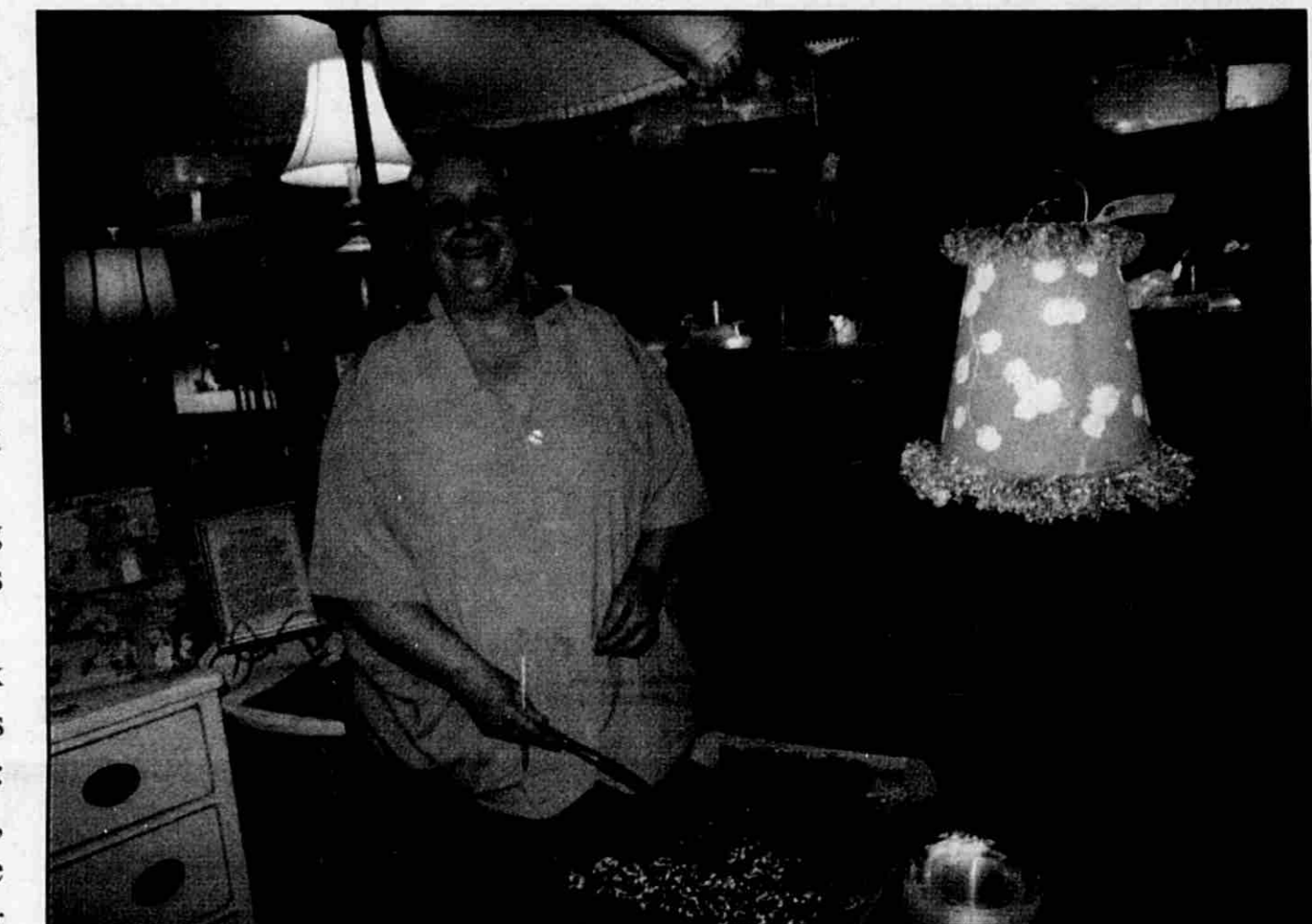
The Bridge Buck winners were: Karen Perkins (\$50); \$20 winners were: Tom Field, Teresa Kenyn, Carol Johnson, Michelle Oesch and Regina Vander Klok; and the \$10 winners were: Denise Kroph, Mary Castro, Tamara Brubaker, Peggy Covert and Molly Johnson.

The GNO winner was Lori Depuydt, of Ada.

**NOTE:**  
Future Bridge Buck winners will be listed each week at the end of each new Troll Tale.



Ella Bolan, of soon to come Ella's coffee shop, served up some Ted Nugent coffee and cookies inside Chimera Design.



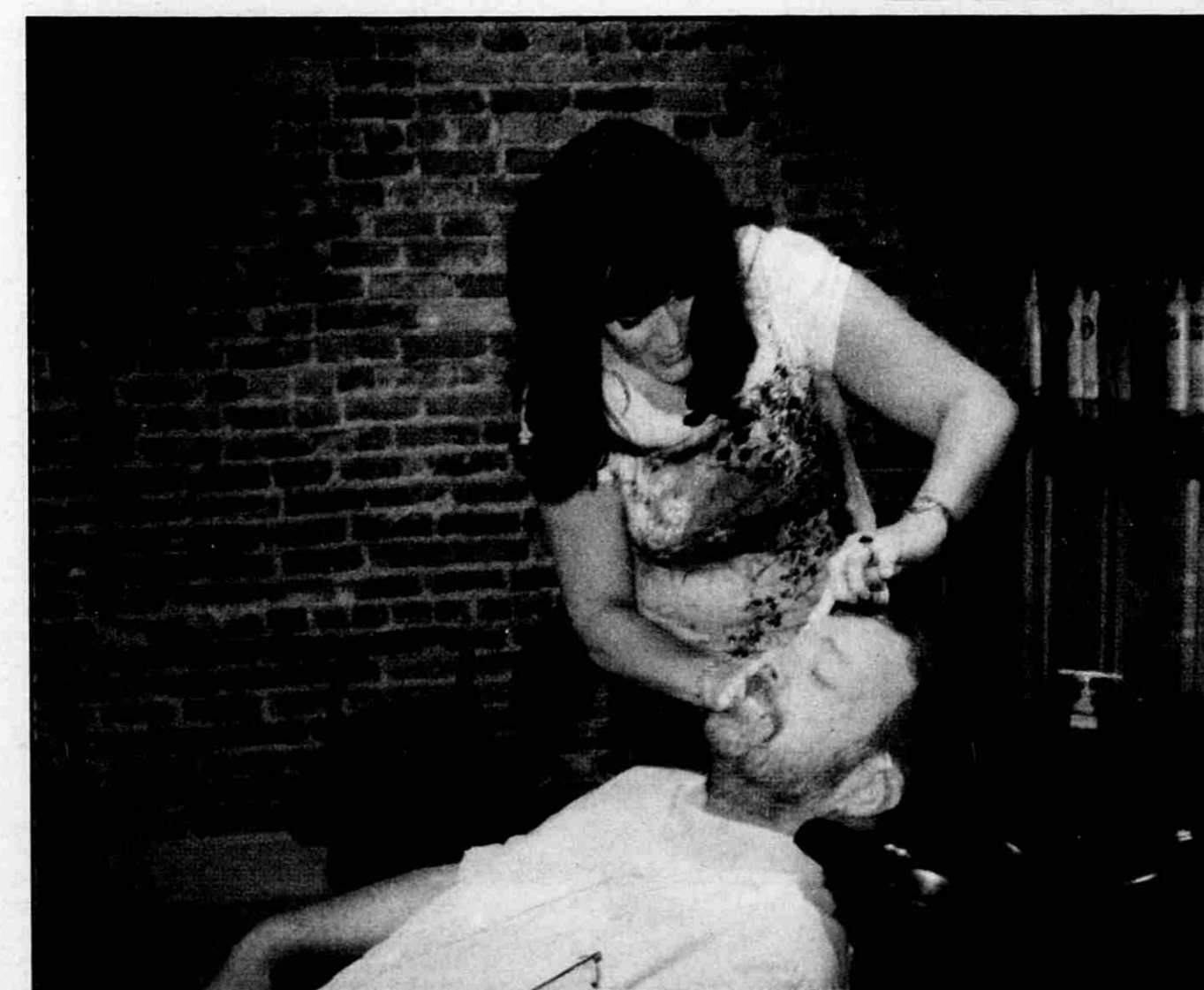
Rita Reister with cake at Flat River Cottage.



Mary Donaldson shopping at Glass House Designs.



Hairdresser Mickey Cerajewski introduced herself at Salon 206.



April McClure, of Eja Salon, waxing the eyebrows of Mayor Jim Hodges during Girls' Night Out.



Construction cake at Pep Talk.



# Red Arrow SPORTS

## Vietzke's big day leads Lowell to win over Ionia

by Thad Kraus  
M.J. Vietzke's bat at the plate and her arm on the mound helped Lowell battle back from a two-run deficit to defeat Ionia 6-5 in the second game of a doubleheader.

Vietzke went 3-for-3 at the plate including a game-winning two-run double in the fifth inning.

"I was just looking for something down the middle. I'd been hitting the ball pretty good," explained.

Vietzke came into the game in the third inning, relieving starter Morgan Groom.

The Red Arrow worked Lowell out of a bases loaded situation, keeping the deficit at four (5-1).

"You just can't panic. I felt comfortable and more confident as I went along," Vietzke said.

It showed in her numbers. The Red Arrows allowed Ionia just three hits while walking just one and striking out nine.

"It was MJ's day. She was great on the mound and had three hits at the plate," Lowell softball coach Bob Rodenhouse said.

Other Red Arrows to come up with big hits were

Kelly Wyckoff (2), Leigha Frisbee (two RBI) and Sarah Mogor (triple).

The Red Arrows lost the opener to Ionia (7-1), 1-0 behind the no-hit performance of senior Anna Conrad.

"She did a good job of locating her pitches and had a good fast ball," said Ionia coach Andy Barr.

**Lowell 12, FHC 2**  
A seven-run fourth inning was plenty of support for Kaylie Petroelie's three-hit pitching performance.

The Red Arrows rapped out 11 hits against Ranger pitching.

Frisbee led all Arrows at the plate with two hits and four runs batted in.

Vietzke and Lindsey Crawford each had two hits and Petroelie added two RBI.

**East Kentwood Invitational**

Kaylie Petroelie shut out Traverse City West 1-0 on four hits while walking four and striking out 14 batters.

She has allowed just three runs over 19 innings. During that stretch she has walked seven and struck out 30.

Lowell also managed just four hits. Two of those hits

came off the bat of Leigha Frisbee.

The Red Arrows' first-inning run did not involve a hit.

Kaylyn DeWaard got on base via a hit by pitch, advanced to second on a sacrifice and then scored on a wild pitch.

In game two against East Kentwood, Lowell struggled to field the bunt and the Falcons provided them more than ample opportunity to do just that.

"We just couldn't field the bunt and Kentwood bunted a lot," Rodenhouse explained.

In its final game of the tournament, Lowell lost a 3-2 decision to Caledonia.

The difference was a Fighting Scot fifth-inning home run. Caledonia scored two runs in the first off of Morgan Groom to take a 2-0 lead.

Lowell battled back with single runs in the third and fourth innings to tie the score at 2-2.

"We had plenty of opportunities to score more runs but just couldn't come up with a big two-out hit," Rodenhouse said.

Lowell finished the week at 4-4.



Lowell slides in for a homerun.

## Lowell baseball team rallies for dramatic win

by Thad Kraus

A four-run seventh inning sparked Lowell's baseball team to a dramatic 6-5 win over Livonia Stevenson.

Elliott Drain's two-run double highlighted the four-run rally.

The winning run was plated when Will Plummer drew a bases-loaded hit by a pitch plating the sixth and winning run.

Jordan Drake pitched a complete game allowing five runs on nine hits while striking out six. He did not give up a walk.

"That was huge. Walks have been our Achilles' heel. That will improve as our pitchers get more comfortable," Lowell baseball coach Justin Miller explained.

At the Lowell Invitational on Saturday, Lowell lost a 14-13 slugfest to Williamston in game one and then defeated St. John's in the consolation game 10-0 behind the one-hit pitching of Will Plummer.

"Will showed the ability to throw strikes and hit the outside corner," Miller said. "They tried to pull him and thus hit a lot of ground balls."

Plummer faced one batter over the minimum.

Lowell bats pounded out 17 hits against St. John's pitching.

Shane Ryan led the hitting brigade with a 4-for-4 day at the plate. He knocked in four runs and scored two.

Sam Steed, Plummer,

Jake Gould and Kaleb Ort all contributed with two hits each.

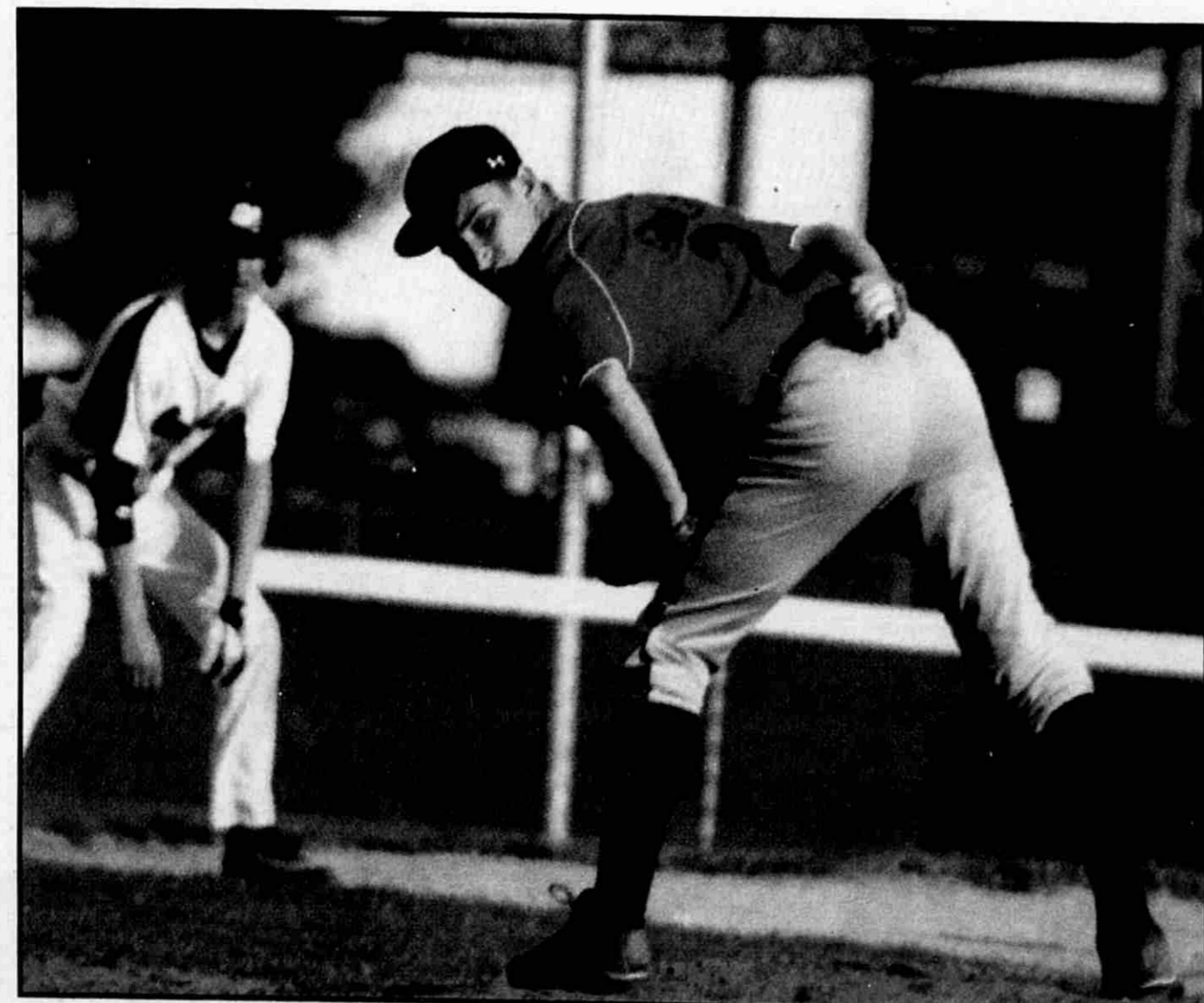
**Ionia 13 Lowell 6**

Seven errors and a lot of walks spelled defeat in a nonconference tussle with the Bulldogs.

"It's hard to win baseball games when you're handing out free base runners to the opponent," Miller said. "You can't give a team 28 outs in a 21 out game."

The Lowell coach was pleased with the way his club is swinging the bat and driving the ball. "We're also bunting the ball well," he adds.

Lowell finished the week at 3-3.



Jake Gould winds up for the pitch.

# Red Arrow SPORTS

## Highlights found in young Arrows' loss to Greenville

by Thad Kraus

It wasn't the start they'd hoped for, but it seldom is when new faces make up more than half the team.

Lowell girls' track team lost its league opening meet at Greenville 77-60.

The loss showcased strengths and areas where work is needed.

If one was looking for a silver lining in defeat, it would be the performance of Kallie Holzhueter.

The junior, back after rehabbing from knee surgery, had a winning leg in the 3200-meter relay and won the 800-meter run.

"Kallie did really well. She has a strong competitive

spirit. It's just a blessing that she is even able to run," said Lowell track coach Robin Briggs.

Holzhueter won the 800 in a time of 2:38.57.

She teamed up with Lauren Trasky, Kendall Hewitt and Rebekah Betts to bring the baton home in a winning time of 10:50.68 in

the 3200-meter relay.

Betts also handed in a pleasant surprise in the 3200 run as she finished second with a time of 13:54.

Haleigh Timmers earned top honors in the mile as she came home in 6:03.

Mia Jackson raced home in a winning time of 13.66 in the 100 dash. Jessica White

was third, stopping the clock in 14.46.

Nicole Everitt anchored the discus and shot put. The Red Arrow won the discus with a throw of 68-2. Alli Oesch was second with a distance of 63-6.

Everitt was third in the shot put at 25-7 1/4. Teammate Mattie Newman

won the event with a mark of 26-1/4.

Senior Kelsey Teft won the pole vault with a height of 9-0.

Teft also had a winning leg in the 400-meter relay. She partnered with Crystal Vosburg, Jackson and Anna Scudder in posting a time of 54.35.

## Lowell's Trapp unleashes surprise on Huskie's Aleck

by Thad Kraus

Outstanding tennis play, with assists to a supreme effort and character, enabled Lowell's Kelly Trapp to post her biggest tennis win of the year.

The Red Arrow, playing the best player on the state's best team in Division 2, showcased her talent with a surprising 6-4, 7-6 (7) win over Forest Hills Northern's Caroline Aleck.

"It was a wonderful win for Kelly and a great match," said Lowell tennis coach Bonnie Wall. "Kelly had to battle leg cramps in the second set, but showed a lot of character and battled through it."

The Huskies won the match 7-11.

Lowell's June Ramsay, third singles, also played well in defeat. She lost 6-4, 6-2.

The Red Arrows were convincing in their first league match of the year as they bounced Greenville 6-2.

Lowell won all four of its singles matches.

Trapp defeated Dawn March, 6-0, 6-0.

Taylor Mankel, second singles, dropped just one game in winning 6-1, 6-0.

Ramsay did the same as she defeated Paige Most 6-1, 6-0.

Morgan Rogalke, fourth singles, dismissed Kaitlin Janzen in quick fashion, 6-0, 6-0.

"The girls played well and didn't let down. Sometimes it's hard to keep your focus when you're playing against inexperienced players," Wall explained.

Lowell split its doubles matches winning at one and four and losing at flights two and three.

Caitlin Baker and Kelsey Wittenbach defeated Brook Tomzik and Hannah Schoenborn 6-1, 6-2. In fourth singles, Abby Rogalke and Jessica Lewis were 6-1, 6-2 winners

against Alex Wagner and Rebecca Dakin.

"We still have some work to do in doubles play. We're a work in progress," Wall said.

In a nonconference match against East Kentwood, Lowell tied the Falcons 4-4.

Posting the only win in singles action was Trapp.

Forest Hills Eastern was first with 33 points followed by Potoskey 29, Grand Rapids Catholic Central 24, West Ottawa 17.5, Lowell 16.5, Unity Christian 13, South

## Late goal lifts Lowell past Northview

by Thad Kraus

When Kolin Morgan went down with a knee injury at the start of the lacrosse season it was apparent someone would have to step up and help fill the scoring void.

It appears Alec Downing heard his coaches' cry. The Red Arrow, playing at attack, netted seven goals in Lowell's games against Northview and Catholic Central.

Lowell defeated Northview 7-6 while losing to Catholic Central 13-12.

Downing's third and final goal against Northview was a game winner with 2:53 to play.

The Red Arrow, out on the right wing, creased the top right corner of the net giving Lowell a 7-6 lead and eventual victory.

Lowell's win against Northview, a league foe, was slated as a nonconference game.

"We've played three games against league competition and the two we won were scheduled as nonconference games," said Lowell lacrosse coach Eric Bredin.

Other offensive highlights included Gerrid Ball's goal and two assists; Tyler

Beloncis (third doubles) won in straight sets 6-2, 7-5.

Molly Willemstein and Katy Mork were 7-6 (7), 2-6, 10-7 winners in fourth doubles.

Lowell was fifth at its own invitational over the weekend.

Forest Hills Eastern was first with 33 points followed by Potoskey 29, Grand Rapids Catholic Central 24, West Ottawa 17.5, Lowell 16.5, Unity Christian 13, South

Christian 12 and Muskegon Catholic Central 2.

Trapp was third at first singles losing to the USTA midwest section champion from Catholic Central.

Morgan Rogalke claimed a second in fourth singles while Willemstein and Mork were third in fourth doubles.

"We were tested. There were a number of good tennis teams in the invitational," Wall concluded.

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## Soccer team dominates in victory over Holland

by Thad Kraus

Lowell girls' soccer team looked like a club that had been training for a week coming out of spring break.

The Red Arrow play was dominating in their wins over Holland (6-0) and Wyoming Park (5-1).

"The girls looked good against Park and great against Holland," said Lowell soccer coach Paul Legge. "Our early season offensive production has been good."

Lowell got goals out of all of its forwards in its 6-0 win over the Dutch.

Those goals were netted by Kaitlin Fitzpatrick, Stephanie Stevens and freshman, Michelle Foote.

"We controlled the ball and our defense was solid," Legge said.

Other Red Arrows to crease the net were Brooke Curtis, Jordan Timmer and Alyssa Kargl.

In Lowell's win over the Vikings, Stevens, Foote, Fitzpatrick, Lauren Ferguson and Claire Hopkins all recorded goals.

"So far so good," Legge said. "I like what I'm seeing thus far from this group."

Lowell moves onto league play with a game in Greenville and then against league rival Grand Rapids Christian.

Lowell finished the week at 3-1.

## Let us pay the bill for roadside assistance!

Here's a special benefit only for Michigan drivers - roadside assistance from Farm Bureau Insurance, anywhere in the continental U.S. Call a toll-free number, sign the service provider's invoice, and be on your way. Call your local agent for details.



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CHECK OUT OUR SPORTS  
thelowellledger.com

FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES  
Spring into Savings at the FROM Thrift Shop!  
FROM has moved from snow pants to shorts and capris, and from sleds to bicycles.

The Boutique is featuring lovely formals - just in time for prom and you won't believe the low prices!  
And if you have a wedding coming up, we have beautiful bridal gowns!  
Have you visited lately?  
The Shop is located at 11535 E. Fulton Street • Lowell  
Shop hours are: Wed., Thurs., Fri.: 10:00 AM - 6 PM  
Saturday: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
PHONE NUMBER FOR ALL SERVICES:  
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Call if you need furniture pickup.  
www.fromlowell.org

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obituaries

BLOUGH

Marguerite (Kropf) Blough, age 86, of Lowell, went peacefully to be with her Lord and Saviour, Thursday, April 15, 2010, while surrounded by her family. She was born February 9, 1924, in Lowell, and baptized at the Alto Apostolic Christian Church in 1954. She has walked faithfully with the Lord and remained a true and constant example of Christ. She was preceded in death by her husband of 57 years, Noah and her brothers, Marcel (Marjorie) and Philip Kropf. She is survived by her children, Luanne (Curt) Kaeb, Gary (Laurie) Blough, Joyleen (Edward) Zaagman, Carlton (Brenda) Blough, and Martin (Michelle) Blough; 18 grandchildren, Melanie Tomic, Heidi Stoller, Loren, Aaron and Benjamin Kaeb, Noah and Emmalee Blough, Steven, Lisa, Ronald, Kenneth and Michael Zaagman, Paula, Michaela and Maria Blough, Gina, Heather and Melissa Blough; also, ten great-grandchildren, Christopher, Brian, Jonathan and Matthew Tomic, Ellie, Ivy, Lena, Josie Lowell and Oliver Stoller. Also surviving are her brother-in-law and sisters-in-law, Lloyd and Elouise Blough, Eleanor Noon, Beulah Blough, Dillie Blough, and Marilyn Kropf; cousins, Marian (James) Lewis and Paul (Lois) Fuss; her life-long friend Betty Yeiter; and many nieces and

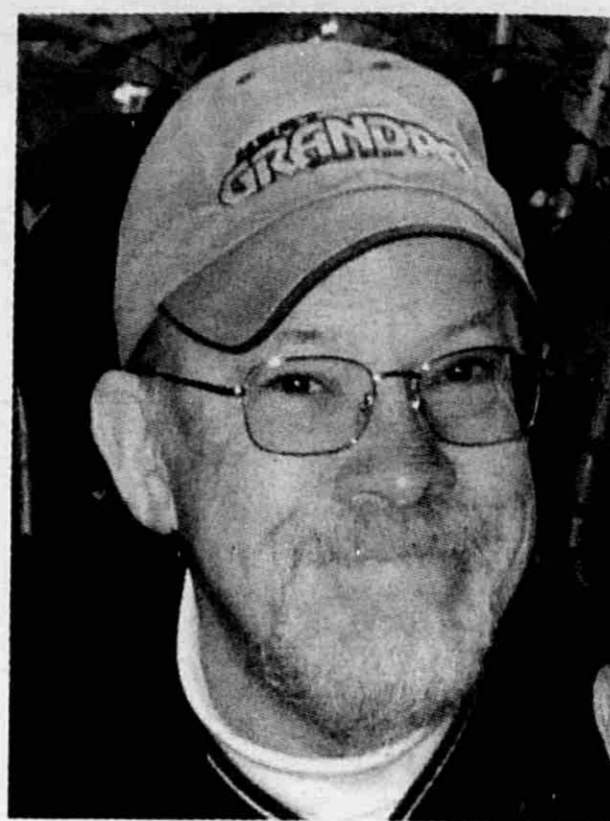
nephews. Funeral services will be held Wednesday, at 11 a.m. at the Apostolic Christian Church, 7159 Wingeier, with Mr. Ted Steffen officiating. Interment will be in the Apostolic Church Cemetery, Alto. Memorial contributions may be made to the Apostolic Christian World Relief-Local Food Projects; Gateway Woods Children's Home; or the Lowell Area Historical Museum.

DEAL

Timothy William Deal, age 51, of Lowell, passed away unexpectedly Friday, April 2, 2010. He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert J. and Helen Deal. He is survived by his son, Kenneth Deal of Belding; brothers and sisters, Robert Jr. and Elaine Deal of Lisbon, Ohio, Terry Deal of Grand Rapids, Tom and Dawn Deal of Blanchard, Ed and Patty Degrave of Muskegon, Dave and Candy Outman of Sheridan, Gary and Susan Deal of Greenville; many nieces, nephews and cousins. Tim enjoyed his sports and watching football. He graduated in 1976 from Greenville High School. A memorial service will be April 24, at 11 a.m. at the First Congregational Church of Greenville with Pastor Jerry Jones officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to First Congregational Church of Greenville, 126 East Cass St., Greenville, MI 48838.

SULLIVAN

Kevin B. Sullivan, age 55, of Lowell, passed away Sunday, April 18, 2010, after a long battle with cancer. He is preceded in death by his daughter, A n d r e a S u l l i v a n; parents, Harry Sullivan and Geraldine Howell. He is survived by his wife of 17 years, Cindy; children, Jody Sullivan, Todd Sullivan, Jason ( T a m a r a ) A s h l e y -



Oswalt, Sara (Jeremiah) Alcalá; brothers, Mark (Angel) Howell, Rob (Kathleen) Howell; sisters, Sherri (Clancy) Gibbs, Colleen (Joe) Bristol; grandchildren, Jack, Maya, Isaac; several nieces and nephews; and very close friend, Dave Oswalt. Funeral services will be Saturday, April 24 at 11 a.m. at Calvary Christian Reformed Church of Lowell, 1151 W. Main St. with Rev. Paul M'Pindi officiating. Visitation will be one hour prior to service. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Spectrum Hospice or American Cancer Society.

Think enthusiastically about everything; but especially about your job. If you do, you'll put a touch of glory in your life. If you love your job with enthusiasm, you'll shake it to pieces. You'll love it into greatness.

- Norman Vincent Peale (1898 - 1993)

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

File No. 10-188-371-DE

Estate of DONNA MARIE BERGAGNINI, date of birth: 7/17/1930

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, DONNA MARIE BERGAGNINI, who lived at 144 Rexford Dr. SE, East Grand Rapids, Michigan died 1/26/2010. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to AMY M. BERGAGNINI, 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.

Thomas E. Lane (P36477) 688 Cascade West Parkway Grand Rapids, MI 49546 616-285-6050

Amy M. Bergagnini 141 Arthur NE Grand Rapids, MI 49503 616-856-1885

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

File No. 10-188-343-DE

Estate of NORMA L. SPRITE, aka NORMA L. OVIATT, deceased. Date of birth: 7/27/1920.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, NORMA L. SPRITE aka NORMA L. OVIATT, who lived at 6819 Ellis Ct., Alto, MI 49302 died 3/23/2010. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to CHARL OVIATT, named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Craig A. Bruggink (P29358) 429 Turner Ave NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 616-456-5048

Charl Oviatt 4619 Burton St. SE Grand Rapids, MI 49546 616-942-2259

DRAFT SYNOPSIS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOWELL CITY COUNCIL MONDAY, APRIL 19, 2010

Motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2010 meeting as written and the accounts payables were approved.

Motion to approve the application for temporary authorization to the Liquor Control Commission for Flat River Grill on the Showboat during the Summer Concert Series, Riverwalk Festival and the River Revelry.

Motion to approve the request from Dorla West to use City owned property located at the southwest corner of Front and South Jackson for a plant swap on Saturday, May 8, 2010.

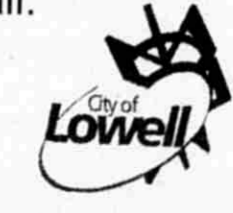
Motion to approve the resolution approving and authorizing the execution of a property tax assessor employment agreement between the City and Jeffrey and Debra Rashid.

Motion to establish a work session for Tuesday, April 27, 2010 at 7 p.m. to finalize 900 N. Washington Lease and review the 2010-2011 budget.

Motion to approve the appointment of Gary Goff as the Community Member-at-Large for the Lowell Area Recreation Authority.

Motion to adjourn at 8:01 p.m. The next regular scheduled meeting will be Monday, May 3, 2010.

Complete minutes will be available after approved on May 3, 2010 on the City's web page at www.ci.lowell.mi.us or at City Hall.



Betty R. Morlock, City Clerk

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE CEMETERY SPRING CLEAN-UP

The annual spring clean-up of Oakwood Cemetery in Lowell, Michigan will be the week of:

APRIL 26 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2010

Please remove all arrangements, baskets, etc., you wish to keep by:

SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 2010

Please be sure your gravesites are in conformance with the Rules and Regulations that are posted on the cemetery building. Any items not allowed will be discarded.



Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

CITY OF LOWELL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST OF THE OPTICAL SCAN TABULATING EQUIPMENT FOR THE MAY 4, 2010 LOWELL AREA SCHOOL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the public accuracy test of the Optical Scan Tabulating Equipment for the May 4, 2010 Lowell Area School Election will be conducted on Tuesday, April 27, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at Lowell City Hall, Second Floor Conference Room, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan.



Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

classifieds

office hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Fri. 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. closed Sat. & Sun.

for sale

SEALY MATTRESS SALE - Any size pair, including frame, \$99 complete. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600.

APPLIANCES - Over 200 reconditioned washers, dryers & stoves. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600.

QUEEN AMISH LOG BED - Includes pillowtop mattress set, sell \$225. Call 616-232-3282.

for rent

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

FOR RENT - Lowell 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Trash, carport, sewer & water included. Laundry on site. \$550 mo. \$300 deposit. No pets. No smoking. 897-4829.

TENT RENTAL - 18x40 & 20x20. Great for graduations & outdoor events. Set up & delivery included. Call 446-2048.

MEMORY FOAM MATTRESS - All sizes. Enjoy the benefits of a Tempurpedic mattress at 1/2 the price. T-\$349; F-\$449; Q-\$495; K-\$695. All new. Call 616-293-1179.

CHIUAHUAPUPPIES - 1 male, long coat, 1 female, short coat, Ready 4/18/10. \$300 firm each. Call 616-889-8384.

MATTRESSES - Twin, \$100; full, \$125; queen, \$150; king, \$175. Pillowtop sets, Queen, \$275; King, \$325. All new. 616-293-1179. Waterbed mattresses, \$60 up.

ROCKWOOD CAMPER - 1986 Rockwood Popup Camper, good condition. Lots of Storage, \$700. Call 616-901-8519.

BLUEBIRD SCOUTS ARE ON THE WAY! - Welcome them back to a fresh new bluebird house. Also easy hang wren houses, bat houses, squirrel feeders & bird feeders. Get them before they're gone at Bob's 12th Annual Spring Birdhouse Sale, 12279 60th St., Alto, 868-6633.

BUNKBED - Twin/twin, new, \$200; queen Euro pillowtop mattress set, \$275; futon, wood w/9" innerspring pod, \$425. Call 616-293-1179.

personals

GET WELL CARD SHOWER for Arnie DeLoof. Please send cards to Arnie DeLoof, c/o Laurels of Kent, 350 N. Center St., Room 510B, Lowell, MI 49331.

lost

SEARCH CONTINUES!!!! - Missing since 10/28/09!!! An ALL BLACK long-haired, male 2 year old cat w/ BRIGHT yellow eyes. My name is Blackie. I live on Ryan Ridge & Alden Nash, near the Lowell Twp. office. Can you help me? ANY info please call 897-8385. REWARD!!

Erin Tabaczka

help wanted

SALES - Manufacturer & distributor in the powersports industry is seeking a part-time inside salesperson to prospect business-to-business sales, as well as service existing customers. Qualified candidate must have knowledge in Excel & have experience in sales. 18-30 hours. Base pay plus commission. Lowell, MI. Email resume to: patrickv@tamarackatv.com.

OPTICIAN/FULL-TIME IN LOWELL - Excellent opportunity available for motivated, detail oriented, self-starter with Advanced Eyecare Professionals, a well established, growing ophthalmic practice. Candidates need to have optical experience and/or be ABO certified, computer knowledge, be efficient, personable, and a team player. We offer competitive wages, paid vacation, insurance and 401k retirement plan. Send resume to: Attn: Practice Administrator, 1335 West Main St., Suite A, Lowell, MI 49331. Fax 616-897-5604. No phone calls please.

misc.

KEISER'S KITCHEN - Love the family atmosphere and your sour cream pie. Thanks, Joice Smith.

sales

GARAGE SALE PAGE WILL BEGIN ON APRIL 24 - Prices remain the same as last year: 20 words for \$13 & each additional word is 25c. To place your ad you may call us at 897-9555, fax it to 897-4809, email it to us classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com or stop in 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

RUMMAGESALE - Saranac Community Church, 125 Bridge St. Thurs., April 22, 3-7 p.m., Fri., 9-5 & Sat., 9-3 p.m. Lots of infant & children's clothes, knick knacks, 2 compound bows, microwave, toys, books & much more.

ALLEGAN ANTIQUE MARKET - Sun., April 25, 400 Exhibitors. Rain or Shine. 8 a.m.-4 p.m., located at the fairgrounds, right in Allegan. \$4 admission.

MULTI-FAMILY SALE - Thurs., April 22 & Fri., April 23, 9-? Vergennes between Cumberland & Parnell. Name brand clothes, boys & girls infant to teen, women's to XL, mens to XXL, bedding, household, home decor, holiday, football equipment, golf clubs, stroller, new pack & play, high chair, changing table, car seat, toys & books, Barbie castle, hutch, oak entertainment center, computer desk, rocking chair w/ottoman, garden bench, Premier Jewelry, 1994 Yamaha Timber Wolf 250, \$850.

card of thanks

JOYCE SMITH Thanks for your service to our community and for finding us such a wonderful place to live! Erin Tabaczka

sales

RECLAIMING THE BASEMENT - 11389 Kirby, Alto, April 23 & 24, water trampoline (new), motorized kids car, antique wheelchair, Red Wing crock, aluminum camping cot/mattress, antique glassware, wicker baskets, coched dish cloths, waayay more!

CLEANING OUT GRANDMAS HOUSE & ATTIC - 12108 Grand River Dr. Thurs. & Fri., April 22 & 23, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Furniture, 2 woodstoves, lots of odds and ends, Hot Wheel and Match Box cars.

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE - Antiques, kids clothes, toys, teaching materials, air hockey, bedroom furniture, household. Fri. 8:30 - 5, Sat. 9-5, April 23 & 24. 12605 60th St., Alto. Also visit Alto Neighborhood Sale.

GARAGE SALE - Super large Eastgate Grand Slam! Boy/girl clothes, antiques, toys, TY, fabrics, ceramics, buttons, bells & tons more! 1631 Stonewood. Fri., April 30 & Sat., May 1, 8 a.m.

COMMUNITY GARDEN EXCHANGE - Sat., April 24, 9-11 a.m., Alto Baptist Church, 6010 Bancroft. Door Prizes, Refreshments. Bring some - Take some. 868-6403.

services

LAMINATING SERVICE AVAILABLE - Next day service. Drop off & pieces will be available by 9 a.m. the next day. Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

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

services

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

STEVEN R. SIMKINS, ATTORNEY AT LAW - I am a lifelong resident of the Lowell community offering superior legal representation at affordable rates. Call 350-0909 for your free consultation.

COMPUTER REHAB - \$55 all repairs - Virus & Spyware removal. No diagnostic fees! Mon. - Sat., 505-B West Main St., Lowell. 616-828-5346, www.computerRehab.ws

LAID OFF MECHANIC/ELECTRICIAN - If it runs on gas/electric, I can fix it. No repair job too small. Senior discounts. Call 262-6603, Paul.

HORSE BOARDING - Self serve, N. of Lowell. Prices negotiable. Please call 897-5807.

PIANO INSTRUCTION - Build your child's confidence this summer! Vergennes Township area - MMTA Member. Ph. 897-9485. Website: www.myspace.com/deborahkaypianist keyboardistvocalist

DOC'S - Pig & walcog's. Insured & bonded. In business over 30 years. No job too small or large. Free estimates. 616-570-2296.

AFFORDABLE CLEANING CO. - \$15 off thru 5/1. Home or office. Experienced. SAVE MONEY. We also do Construction cleanup, painting. LLC 616-717-2651.

HOME & OFFICE CLEANING - 27 years experience in home & office cleaning. If you need to cut back on expenses at the office or home & you have hired the Big Cleaning companies chances are I will be less money & do the same quality job. 897-1788.

services

LAWN MOWING - one time or weekly. My mower or yours. Help me pay for college. Free estimate! References. Craig at 616-868-0681.

LILLIE DIGGING & DOZING, LLC - septic systems, driveways, grading, bulldozing, additions & basements. Trucking - road gravel, top soil, sand, crushed concrete & crushed asphalt. 691-7540 or 691-7064.

FOOT LAWN SERVICE - Residential, \$25. Ask for Steven, 616-299-0300.

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

SPRING CLEAN-UP/LANDSCAPING - Let us help freshen up your yard for the spring & summer. Cleanup leaves, edge to define beds, mulch, prune shrubs, plant flowers, trees & shrubs, install lawns, patios, etc. Scenic Expressions LLC, 240-6215.

FREE ESTIMATES - All of your lawn sprinkling needs, service, installations, spring turn-ons, etc. Group discounts and yearly contracts available. Call Thornapple River Nursery at 616-676-0102.

BUSINESS CARDS - Before you order your cards from somewhere else - check our rates! Call Lowell Litho, 897-9261.

GRADUATION OPEN HOUSE CARDS - Envelope included. Quick turn around. Full color. Prices as low as \$30 for 251 Envelopes included. Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, 897-9261.

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

Community Calendar

PLEASE NOTE - Coming Events are for non-profit organizations. If you are charging admission for an event - it is considered an advertisement. Coming events are run on a space available basis & are not guaranteed to run. If you would like to make sure your event is placed in the paper, please call our office & place it as a classified ad. All Coming Events or changes to coming events should be submitted by fax: 897-4809, email: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com, by mail: PO Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or in person: 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

MASONIC LODGE #355 - serving the Belding, Ionia, Lowell & Saranac areas will hold its regular communication, at 7:30 p.m. Mon., May 3 at the Masonic Temple, 211 E. Main St., Belding. Dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. All Masons may attend.

WOMEN FOR SOBRIETY - meets every Monday, 7-8 p.m. at Bowne Center United Methodist Church, fellowship hall, 12051 84th St., corner of Alden Nash. Call Sue at 868-6219 or www.womenforsobriety.org.

DOIC CHAPTER #75 - Order of the Eastern Star, will hold its regular communication at 7:30 p.m. on Tues., May 11 at the Masonic Temple, 211 E. Main St., Belding. Dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. All Stars may attend.

NICOTINE ANONYMOUS - Every Monday 7-9 p.m. at Englehardt Public Library, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell. For info call Thomas at 691-1147. Nicotine Anonymous is a fellowship of men & women helping each other to live free of nicotine. No dues or fees.

NEEDLERS - Second & fourth Monday evenings, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Schneider Manor Community Room.

WOMEN OF THE MOOSE - third Monday at 7:30 p.m. for business meeting.



# The Tale of the Lowell Troll: Part II

Last week we met a very fine, happy troll who moved to Lowell, Michigan, and built a wonderful home under our very own bridge on Main Street. The troll enjoyed many, many fine years under his bridge in Lowell.

The troll met a very fine and lovely lady troll and they were soon married. Together, they enjoyed years of Riverwalk Festivals, football games, parade after parade, visits from Santa and Mrs. Claus, and all the wonderful magic that goes along with living in a small town.

Their family grew and grew over the years. Life was the best! The troll was heard laughing and he was seen smiling. His whistling was so very constant that it bordered on annoying to the townspeople, but no one complained because the troll and his family were loved by all!

This went on for years and

years and the troll thrived. But, word slowly got out that the troll was blissfully happy and a very odd thing started to happen. Daily the troll family was "surprised" by friends and distant family members "stopping by" for a visit. These visits grew more frequent and they lasted longer and longer each time.

Nine out of ten times these troll visitors agreed that Lowell was indeed the next place to be and they decided to stay in Lowell. They all - yes all, moved in with the troll under the bridge.

Well of course the inevitable happened. The troll outgrew his home under the bridge. Try as he might, he just could no longer squeeze his own children, his friends, aunts, uncles and even his in-laws into his little home under the bridge. So what was a troll to do?

Well, the troll did what any fine homeowner would

do in such a dilemma. He decided to remodel. The townspeople tried talking the troll into not tearing up Main Street. The troll had no other options.

Alas, that brings us to our present day situation. And like any good townspeople, the good people of Lowell stand behind their troll and support him as the work gets underway for "remodeling" the beloved troll's home at 000 Main Street - the bridge.

Immediately, Mrs. Troll rushed to enlist the aid of Liz Baker at the Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Troll needed help in temporarily finding homes for all of her children and for all of her house guests.

Anyone who knows Lowell's Chamber of Commerce knows that Mrs. Troll was going to be in very good hands and Mrs. Liz was going to be most helpful.

After a brief meeting at the Chamber of Commerce, all of the merchants wholeheartedly agreed to pitch in and temporarily adopt a troll while the troll's home was being remodeled.

The merchants left the meeting all smiles. They were feeling pretty darn good about themselves for being so helpful, noble, and generous by helping out the 45 or so trolls needing a new home. And this is where it all gets a little goofy, a little dicey, and somewhat crazy. Maybe no one really told the merchants what living with a troll could be like. Maybe no one really reminded the merchants how much mischief a troll could cause. Maybe, well there is no use pointing fingers. Keep reading the Lowell Ledger to learn how these trolls adapt to their new homes. You just won't believe some of the stories.



### Sound Off!

The Ledger's "Almost" anything goes column!

### last week's Sound Off poll result:

How do you feel about the new smoking bans being put into effect?

- It's about time! .....58%
- I should be able to smoke where I want to .....25%
- Doesn't affect me .....17%
- No opinion .....0%

### This week's online question -

Now that Toyota is paying huge fines, would you now feel safe in buying one of their vehicles?

To vote on the current poll question go to: [thelowellledger.com](http://thelowellledger.com)

Love the left turn signal on Hudson and Main Streets. It would be great to have a permanent left turn signal on both.

On the subject of portable soft-sided garages the Lowell City Council seems to be confused. Instead of trying to lower our property taxes, they seem to be intent on lowering our property values.

Why isn't something being done about the speeding trucks and cars on Jefferson Street that are going to and from Attwood? They need to slow down before someone gets hit.

Did anyone see the troll at the ice cream shop? He liked seeing all the people but he has to find a new home because it turns out he's lactose intolerant.

- K. Waid



APRIL 14 - APRIL 20

- An Icelandic volcano eruption caused thousands of flights to be delayed from Europe because of the resulting ash cloud covering most of the continent. The volcano, named Eyjafjallajökull, has been dormant for over 200 years. The aviation industry faces over \$1 billion in losses.
- Dorothy Height, the leading female voice of the 1960s civil rights movement, dies at 98.

## LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

NOTICE FOR TESTING OF ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT FOR THE MAY SCHOOL ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Public Accuracy Test for the May 4, 2010 School Election will be conducted Monday, April 26, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash S.E., Lowell, MI 49331.

Linda S. Regan, Clerk  
Lowell Charter Township

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105 N. Broadway, Lowell

# Kid Scoop

For puzzle answers, games, opinion polls and much more go to: [www.thelowellledger.com](http://www.thelowellledger.com) AND CLICK ON KIDS SCOOP BUTTON

### Kid Scoop Together: Proof It!

Are you an eagle-eyed reader? Read the article below and correct the ten spelling and grammar errors you find. The first one is done for you.

**tennis**  
In 1973, tennes champion Bobby Riggs, aged 55, challenged femail world tennis champion, Billie Jean King, aged 29, to a tennis match. The televised match became nown as **The Battel of the Sexes**. At the time, woman tennis players were payed much less than men.

Riggs had been World No 1 in the 1940s and was a great showman. Billie Jean King was one of the world's greatest female players. Riggs boasted that he was a much superior player and that women were simply too week and inferior.

The game was played at the Astrodome in Houston, Texas. It was clere when the game began that Billie Jean had done her homework. Instead of playing her usual game, she positioned herself to make her opponent run all over the court. She one the game 6-4, 6-3, 6-3.

The legacy of that game led to an increase in prize amounts for women but not until 2007 were women awarded prize money equal to men in major tournaments.

Standards Link: Writing Applications: Edit text to check for correct spelling and grammar.

### Kid Scoop - Joku

Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word COURT in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you.

C	O	U	R	T
T				
		O	C	

### Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **FAVORED**  
The verb to favor means to prefer one thing over another.

The teacher favored cursive writing over printing.

Try to use the word favored in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

### Write On!

**Sports Report**  
What is your favorite sport or exercise? Write a paragraph describing it and why you like it.

# Tennis, anyone?



Find the two identical tennis players.

Replace the missing words.

**NARROW WALLS EITHER MODERN GREEK**

History of the Tennis Court  
Early tennis courts, built in the 1600s, were \_\_\_\_\_ indoor courts where the ball could be played off the \_\_\_\_\_ and the net was three feet high in the middle and five feet high at \_\_\_\_\_ end.

One of the early names for the game of tennis was **Sphairistike**, which is a \_\_\_\_\_ word meaning "the art of playing ball." The inventor of the \_\_\_\_\_ game of tennis, Major Walter Wingfield, favored this name.

## Tennis Racquet Crossword

Complete this crossword puzzle to learn the parts of a tennis racquet.

**ACROSS**  
2. The part of the racquet with strings, or where your eyes, nose and mouth can be found.  
4. The V-shaped part of the racquet, or what's inside your neck.

**DOWN**  
1. The top part of the racquet, or what's above your neck.  
2. The metal or wooden structure, or where you might place a picture.  
3. The racquet's handle, another word for *grasp*.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Students understand grade-level appropriate reading vocabulary and multiple-meaning words.

### More Bounce to the Ounce

Before the invention of vulcanized rubber, an early form of tennis was played by hitting a little ball around an indoor court with walls.

With the invention of vulcanized rubber—rubber that could bounce—tennis could be played outdoors. Over the years, racquets, rules and outdoor courts were added to create the game we know today as tennis.

It is not logical to think I invented vulcanization.

The inventor of vulcanized rubber was: **CHARLES**

**SECRET CODE**  

▲	=	A	■	=	O
◻	=	D	◻	=	R
◼	=	E	◼	=	S
◻	=	G	◻	=	Y

What French tennis player started a clothing line with the crocodile as its logo?  
A. René Lacoste  
B. Andre Agassi  
C. Ralph Lauren

ANSWER: René Lacoste

### The Top Tennis Tournaments

Do the math to discover the names of the four major tennis tournaments in the world. Even-numbered answers reveal the correct tournament names.

**11 + 9 = FRENCH OPEN**    **14 + 9 = INDIANAPOLIS 500**  
**13 + 6 = STANLEY CUP**    **12 + 6 = WIMBLEDON**  
**17 + 7 = U.S. OPEN**    **13 + 4 = BRITISH OPEN**  
**24 - 5 = FINAL FOUR**    **15 + 3 = AUSTRALIAN OPEN**

Standards Link: Number Sense: Calculate sums and differences.

### Kid Scoop Puzzler

Find your way through this group of tennis balls by making a path using only the even-numbered balls.

START

2	4	6	5	4	4	6	2	9	7	5	5	1
4	9	7	1	8	9	7	6	5	8	4	2	6
2	8	6	3	2	6	1	8	9	6	5	9	8
3	9	2	9	7	4	3	6	2	4	1	5	9
5	1	4	8	6	7	9	9	7	6	4	2	6
9	7	9	5	7	9	5	1	5	9	7	9	8

FINISH

Standards Link: Number Sense: Identify odd and even numbers.

### Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. Then look for each word in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

TENNIS COURT RACQUET RUBBER GREEK ATHLETE GAME SERVE MATCH RULES HISTORY BOUNCE BALL NET WEAR

T A G K S I D S C O  
E L T A S E L U R O  
U B L H M I R P G S  
Q E O A L E N V R R  
C V E U B E S N E M  
A O F B N E T O E A  
R R U T H C E K T  
M R A R T W E A R C  
C Y R O T S I H H

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

### FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

**Poetry in Motion**  
It has been said that an athlete is "poetry in motion." Select from the newspaper a photograph of an athlete in motion. Write a poem that describes what you see in the photograph.

Standards Link: Writing Applications: Write in a variety of forms and genres including poetry.

**Why are fish so bad at tennis?**  
ANSWER: They don't like to play near the net.



# Red Arrow SPORTS

## Robinson runs strong in loss to Greenville

by Thad Kraus

The number of points scored were limited but concentrated in Lowell boys' track team's 116-21 loss to Greenville.

Zach Robinson, who it appears will be a constant point contributor throughout the season, won both the mile and two-mile races.

The senior tallied 10 of the team's 21 points.

The senior stopped the clock in 4:55.80 to win the mile. He then won the 3200-meter run coming home in 10:58.38.

"Those are good times, especially since no one was pushing him," said Lowell track coach Russ Stevens.

Austin Tackmann contributed with a second in the 100-meter dash and a third in the 200-meter dash.

The Red Arrow sprinter came home in 11.71 in the 100 while stopping the clock in 24.14 in the 200.

"I was happy with both of Austin's times. By the end of the year we'd like his 200 times in the high 23's," Stevens said.

Lowell's Brent Cone cleared 5-11 in the high jump earning him a second-place finish.

Matt Kyllonen finished second as he stopped the clock in 56:01 in the 400-meter.

Robert Becker's throw of 101-1 placed him third in the discus field.

"I was really impressed with Robert's performance," Stevens said.

Problems with exchanges late in the 400 and 800-meter

relays cost Lowell a shot at top honors.

"That's going to happen.

Those are the growing pains that come with being young,"

Stevens explained.

Lowell travels to Houseman Field on

Thursday to battle Creston.

## A different perspective



Joey Thompson, a junior at Unity High School, took this photograph of Lowell's bridge construction from a unique perspective. The photo was for his yearbook class.

## Lacrosse, continued

was also pleased with the way his long poles got on Northview's sticks, thus making it difficult for the Wildcats to find a groove offensively.

In its loss to Catholic Central, Lowell fell behind early and played catch-up throughout the game.

Trailing by as many as three goals, the Red Arrows made it all the way back with a game-tying goal with two minutes to play in the fourth quarter.

Catholic Central responded a minute later with a game-winning goal with 60 seconds on the clock.

"I thought we looked flat-footed. We were missing hustle and heart," Bredin said.

Downing netted four goals and Jim Collins added a pair to lead the Red Arrows.

Lowell finished the week at 3-1 overall and 0-1 in the league.

# DEMOCRACY

## In Action!

THURSDAY ★ APRIL 22

**6:30pm** – The Law Office of Shawn Weera will explain Veteran Assistance Benefits and the application process

**7:00pm** – Justin Amash, Representative from Michigan's District #72, will update constituents on new issues affecting seniors. Bring your questions, and Representative Amash will answer!

Hosted by Emerald Meadows — call for more information: 616.954.2366



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## Gourd artist, continued

basket look, she makes a groove into the gourd with a rotary tool, sands it out and adds wood burn lines to make the gourd look like a basket. She uses acrylic paints to paint subjects from nature, most often birds and butterflies.

Wierenga has also started using ammonite fossils sliced in half to decorate gourds. She makes egg gourds out of small gourds, and buttons out of gourd shards for specialty handbags or scarves.

And anyone can start out cheap with a wood burner and different dyes. Wierenga teaches power carving classes, inlays and multiple techniques. She also teaches art at Plymouth Christian

School in Grand Rapids. Her exhibits are at Fire and Water Art and at Twisted Fish in Elk Rapids. She also is an artist at Heatherlane Pottery in Ada.

Wierenga does work on commission, but, sometimes it is a struggle to determine the price of a gourd, in other words what the market will bear. Wierenga takes into account: material cost, time, uniqueness of the product and the market.

"I want to continue to expand my gourd art," she said, "teach more classes and increase exposure."

And people are fascinated with the gourds.

"They find the gourds interesting," Wierenga said.

"They want to know more. It's a great hobby."

Actually, it's a subculture with its own American Gourd Society competitions and festivals. There is a Michigan Festival of Gourds held in Imlay City near Flint on Sept. 17 through Sept. 19 complete with classes, vendors with supplies and activities. Gourds will be the center of attention at the Reeds Lake Show on June 19 in East Grand Rapids and on Aug. 7 at the Irish Music Festival held at the Fifth Third Ballpark. There is a well-known gourd artist Bonnie Gibson who lives in Arizona.

### SAVE THESE DATES...

Join the community for FREE Seminars presented by specialists on behalf of Saint Mary's Health Care and Lowell Community Wellness.

**Time: 7:00 p.m.**

**Location: Lowell Gilda's Club/Senior Neighbors  
314 S. Hudson, Lowell**

**APRIL 22:** Craig Houchen, OMD, acupuncturist for The Wege Institute: Mind, Body and Spirit

**APRIL 29:** Muhammad Farooq, MD, cardiovascular neurologist at Saint Mary's Health Care

**MAY 6:** Joseph Krainin, MD, neurologist, specializing in sleep disorders at Saint Mary's

**MAY 13:** Karen Meyerson, MSN, RN, manager of Asthma Network of West Michigan

Great exchange of information. Talk one-on-one with these experts.

Call Teresa Beachum at 581-6199 if more information needed