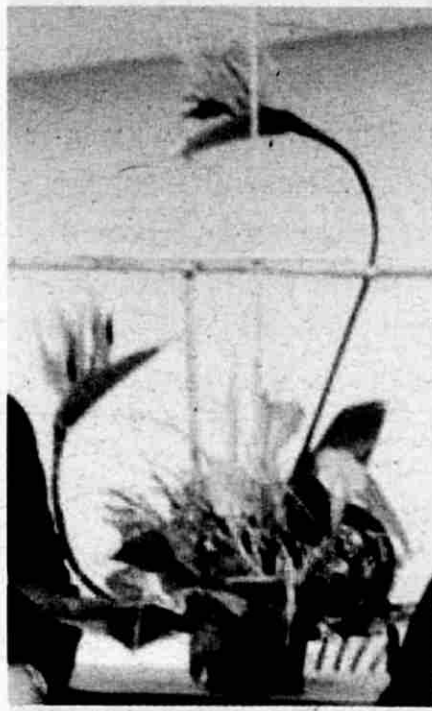


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**daisy floral
makes
comeback**



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murray lake**
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**posthumus
speaks at
rotary**



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**rick's
automotive
now open**



page 9

**50
CENTS**



Police chief Hinton resigns, new chief of police appointed

by Emma Palova

Police chief James Hinton has resigned after two years in office to pursue further educational opportunities effective April 15.

The council appointed new chief Barry Getzen of Lowell Township. Getzen will start on May 2. In the meantime, Sgt. Steve Bukala will serve as acting police chief.

"I will really miss the people, the officers and the community," said Hinton.

However, after spending 23 years in law enforcement, Hinton, 43, said he was ready for a change.

He has been pursuing a bachelor's degree in business administration since 2003 from Northwood University,

taking two classes a year. Hinton wants to work part-time in the area and finish his degree studying full-time in December.

"The position of chief of police requires a total commitment," he wrote in his resignation. "In that I am pursuing my education, I have decided to dedicate my time to that endeavor. I look forward to the enhanced opportunities that a formal education provides."

Police chief,
continued, page 16



Outgoing police chief James Hinton.

Council explores options for north side of chamber building, approves extension of DDA

by Emma Palova

The Lowell City Council discussed various options for the vacated north side of the chamber building, also known as the head end building, on Monday night.

The building has been vacant for more than

three years following the sale of Lowell Cable TV. According to city manager Dave Pasquale, there hasn't been much interest in the building until recently.

Brian Bangema and Jim Pfaller have considered splitting the space in half for kayak and bicycle rental

and firearms store, Firearms LLC and some retail. Space would still be left for the Department of Public Works' storage.

"I'd like to be out of there," said DPW director Dan DesJarden, "but give me space behind the city garage."

The property would remain the city property with options to buy. Bangema would lease the building for three to five years, or for a term of the original lease.

"There's a lot of work being done with the river," said Bangema.

But, since time is of the essence, Bangema requested someone from the council to act as proxy for negotiations.

However, Flat River Grill has also shown

Options,
continued, page 2

Tower Farm and barn get \$34,700 facelift

by Emma Palova

The Tower Farm and barn, which sit on the same property in the Fallasburg Historic Village, will be preserved from destruction with funding from the Lowell Area Community Fund.

The roof on the farmhouse has been replaced for \$4,700 by Preferred Roofing of Lowell.

"It has been leaking for years," said Ken Tamke, president of Fallasburg Historical Society. "It is watertight now."

The society plans to fix the house with the help of volunteers over the course of the next year. The building consists of actually two houses joined together in 1896, so that

two sisters, Mrs. Tower and Mrs. Steketee, could live together. The first house was built in 1859.

"That was a fairly common practice back then," said Tamke.

The estimated cost of the repair of the Tower Farm is \$60,000 to \$80,000. Tamke and the volunteers will work on the inside of the house tearing out all plaster walls.

"We'll chip away and do some elbow work," said Tamke.

The Tower barn on the property will be completely restored by Barn Cats Barn Restoration of Rockford. The owner is Randall

Tower Farm,
continued, page 3



The Tower Farm and barn undergo restoration.



At Your Local Library

Kent District Library programs at Englehardt Branch, 200 N. Monroe St. For additional information call 616-784-2007.

Going Green

How does your garden grow? Come share in crafts and activities full of gardening goodness. For the family. Thurs., April 21, 10:30 am.

Gardening Organically with Victoria Schreier

Get a jumpstart on your gardening plans in an earth-friendly way. Learn organic tips for growing, harvesting and using your favorite herbs and vegetables. For ages 10 to adult. Registration suggested. Tues., April 26, 7 pm.

Pajama Storytime

For families who can't come to the library during the day. Pajama Storytime offers an evening of stories and fun. Bring your teddy bear or other snuggly friend; pajamas optional. For children ages 6 and under with a caregiver. Wed., April 27, 6:30 pm.

Pokemon! Yu-Gi-Oh! Bakugan!

Calling all experienced Pokemon, Yu-Gi-Oh and Bakugan players join our gaming group to play, trade and meet other fans of these popular games. For ages 6 and up. Wed., April 20, 6:30 pm.

Reading equals animals at Murray Lake

It is not everyday that elementary students get to "pet" a 21 feet long python, but this is exactly what Murray Lake students did last Monday. The python was one of several visitors who came to Murray Lake as a March is Reading Month reward for the students.

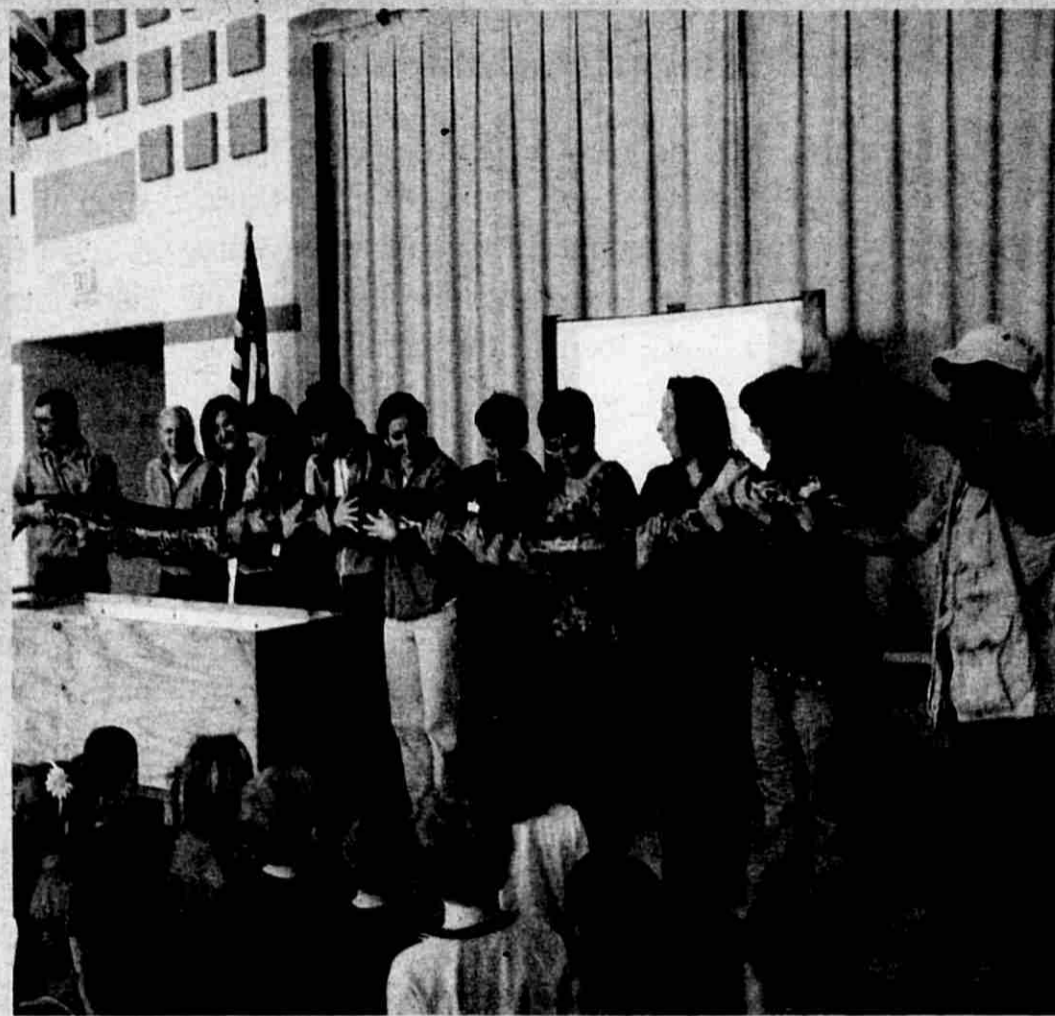
The Murray Lake students had a goal of 500 hours of at home reading each week. The students met the goal and then some. For the month the students combined to read over 3,400 hours. They also earned over 4,000 Accelerated Reader (AR) points for the month; this is double the amount of points earned in a "typical" month.

The Murray Lake Family Links sponsors some special rewards for the students if they meet each week's goal. The students earned a spirit week after week one's goal was met. They earned a no homework night and an extra recess for week two's hours. Week three earned

them a visit from Nelson's Wildlife Safari, a hands-on zoo, that included many exotic animals. The kids saw and touched a kookaburra, a red tegu, a springhaas, an anteater, a python, and several other animals. Week four earned a family fun night and pizza dinner.

The Family Links also purchased over \$800 worth of prizes to give away to the students. Each time a student accumulated one hour of reading, they were able to fill out a ticket to put into the drawing for the prizes.

"I truly appreciate all the help our Family Links gives us during March is Reading Month. The incentives truly motivate our students to read much more during March. I was overwhelmed with



Murray Lake staff and parents hold up a 400 pound, 21 feet long python in front of the students.

the number of hours our students read," commented Murray Lake principal Brent Noskey.

Third grader Olivia DeCator said, "I love March is Reading Month. I really like to read, so I just try to read even more during March."

"I like all the things we can earn and I really like trying to earn a lot of AR points," said third grader Julia Pytlak.

Murray Lake students will have their fun night and pizza party after spring break.

viewpoint

to the editor

To the Editor,

Here we go again. In a Grand Rapids Press article dated March 22, 2011, and in this week's Ledger, it was reported that the Lowell City Council has once again begun discussing a sidewalk repair ordinance in which sidewalk repair is tied to the sale of the real property on which it is situated. Two years ago the council took up this idea and wisely abandoned it. What has changed since then? Have property values rebounded to the point where the council finds it acceptable to place yet another hurdle in

the path of potential home sellers in the city? If property values have rebounded to anywhere near 2006 levels, I must have missed that memo.

Mayor pro tem Ellison is quoted in the GR Press as referring to the proposed ordinance as a "catchup system." Perhaps the council should focus on helping property values "catch up" to where they used to be, instead of creating further regulation. Maybe the council should realize that the last thing many residents, who are in dire financial straits, need

is another, even relatively minor, encumbrance on their properties. Jim Harger reported in the GR Press on March 24 that nearly one out of twelve domiciles in Kent County is vacant. If I were the Lowell City Council, I would be much more worried about broken, vacant houses than broken sidewalks at this point. When the economy bounces back and Lowell property values begin to "catch up" with the debt that already encumbers many of them, then the council could consider taking some action. Until then, let's focus on solving the bigger problems.

Understand that I am a firm believer in law and order, as anyone who knows me could attest. I

understand that sidewalks are the responsibility of the homeowner. With that being said, the council has exercised its discretion in the past by placing a moratorium on enforcement of the existing ordinance. I would encourage the council to exercise its discretion once again, not by creating yet another burdensome city ordinance, but by extending the current moratorium for at least one year to allow for further economic recovery. There hopefully will be a time when such an ordinance may be appropriate, but now is not that time.

Sincerely,
Keith Valentine
Midland, Texas

ask kathryn



Kathryn Denhouer Ph.D.

This article will discuss the "inner rudder." This is a term that Daniel Goleman uses in his book, *Working with Emotional Intelligence*. Successful leaders have developed a sense of inner knowing that helps them make decisions that in large part are "right." As Goleman says, "When it comes to decisions - our deepest sense of what feels right and what is "off" - provide critical information that we must not ignore." The ability to activate this self-awareness requires the following skills:

- Emotional Awareness - we are aware how our emotions affect our performance and the awareness of how our values determine our decisions.
- An Accurate Self-assessment - knowing our personal strengths and weaknesses is essential so that we know what we need to improve and the ability to learn from experience.
- Self-Confidence - essentially it is the certainty with which we use our capabilities which incorporates our values and goals.

First of all, emotional awareness - what is it? We have inside of us a "stream of feelings." Our thoughts and feelings often run parallel to each other and it is from these ups and downs throughout our day that we make decisions and impact other workers. It is key that we become aware of our feelings and that takes time. We need to take time each day to do nothing but process our feelings. From this quietness we become aware of how we are feeling and this is essential for the success of our "inner rudder."

Secondly, we need to have an accurate self-assessment. People who have this ability know where they are strong and where they are weak. Most of all, they are "reflective." They are able to think about how they are thinking, so they can make the changes necessary to make themselves contenders in the world of business. Also, because they have a high personal esteem, they are able to take candid feedback. They welcome new perspectives so they can learn and grow continuously.

Finally, self-confidence is really an ability that comes from a strong, reality-based sense of self-worth. They have a presence and a strength that is noticed. Because they have this sense of self, they are unshakable when their values put them "out on a limb" for what is right. They are keenly decisive and reality based in their goals and actions.

In summary, leaders that have a well-defined inner rudder gain support and praise when dealing with tough business dealings. Next month, we will review what it means to have "political savvy." If you have any questions or concerns, please send an email to kathryndenhouer@gmail.com

The Lowell Ledger welcomes your Letters to the Editor. Letters are required to bear the author's signature, phonenumber 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

125 Years Ago
The Lowell Journal
April 9, 1886

Frank McKelvey is attending Business College at Ionia.

The Lowell prohibitionists decided not to place a village ticket in the field this time.

W.P. Perrin and family now occupy the P.J. Coppens' residence. The house has just been repainted and greatly improved in appearance.

An attempt to remove a young lady from this place, to another state, was made one day last week by a man from the east accompanied by Kent County's sheriff. The officer not being armed with the requisite authority meant the scheme was a failure.

50 Years Ago
The Lowell Ledger
April 13, 1961

The Gilbert Van Weelden home on 36th St. was badly damaged by fire Sunday afternoon while the family, including the dog, was visiting friends in Grand Haven. The home had just been remodeled and redecorated inside. The fire was discovered by the Donald Conrad family, who live nearby, when they saw smoke coming from the back of the house. When firemen arrived the house was full of smoke but being shut up tight, burned up through the floor. Lowell firemen ventilated the house and quickly brought the fire under control, in spite of a bad east wind. Damage to the home was estimated at \$1500 by fire chief Frank Baker and was covered by insurance, Van Weelden said. A gun collection valued at several hundred dollars was recovered unharmed.

100 Years Ago
The Lowell Ledger
April 6, 1911

Fresh new stock garden seeds just received at the Nash seed store. No old seeds.

Willis Faulkner of Charlotte, nephew of Mrs. Ransom Vaughan, spent last week with friends here.

Dr. Draper, V.S., is now located in his new building on Bridge Street, with veterinary hospital, blacksmith shop and stand-in barn.

25 Years Ago
The Grand Valley Ledger
April 9, 1986

The front of Lowell Waterbeds was adorned with new awnings on Monday, adding them to the ever growing list of Main St. businesses that have spruced up their buildings with the aid of Community Development fund money. The building is owned by Tom and Pat Covell who reside in the upstairs apartment and lease the main floor to Lowell Waterbeds. Our Main Street looks a little nicer as each of these awnings goes up.

happy birthday!

- APRIL 6**
Brad Yonker, Connie Vaughn, Pearl Peckham, Malley Cahoon, Carol Hovinga, Fran Clouser, Cheryl Foster, Taylor Milstead, Jonathon Hoag.
- APRIL 7**
Corey Vollink, Rick Sauber, Lindsey Thaler, Mary Kimble, Kenneth Dalga, John Henderson, Brad Shoen.
- APRIL 8**
Jay Vezino, Sandy Converse.
- APRIL 9**
J.R. Guastavino.
- APRIL 10**
Julie Webb, Nicholas Comdure, Chelsea Comdure, Betsey Walker, Sarah Rusch-Hildenbrand, Tristan Lane Ellsworth-Bristol, Barbara Bechtel, Lois Wittenbach.
- APRIL 11**
Toni Blough, Delores Gabrion, Adaline Thaler, Al Roe, David Johnson.
- APRIL 12**
Sarah DeShane-Dalga, Jesse Lewis-Anes.

New look, continued

The state's Great Seal on the front viewable under black light.

- Tricolor image of a bridge on the front that appears and disappears when viewed from different angles.
- New two-dimensional bar code on the back with encoded information available for law enforcement use, in addition to the existing magnetic stripe and one-dimensional bar code.
- Cardholder's photo and date of birth also on the back viewable under black light.

The cost of a license and ID card will not change. A basic driver's license costs \$25 for an original standard license and \$18 to renew. A chauffeur's license costs \$35 for the original and to renew it. Drivers with motorcycle or Commercial Driver License group designation endorsements face additional fees. Personal ID cards cost \$10 for an original and to renew, unless the cardholder is eligible to have the fee waived.

The design of the license and ID card was last updated in 2003 when the smaller half-tone cardholder photo was added.

The new standard license and ID cards do not contain radio-frequency identification (RFID) chips.

For images of the new licenses or more information about how to obtain a driver's license, visit the Secretary of State website (www.Michigan.gov/sos). People also can follow the Secretary of State Twitter feed (www.twitter.com/MichSoS) or Facebook updates (www.facebook.com/MichiganSoS) to receive information.

Customers also may call the Department of State Information Center to speak to a customer-service representative at (888) SOS-MICH (767-6424).

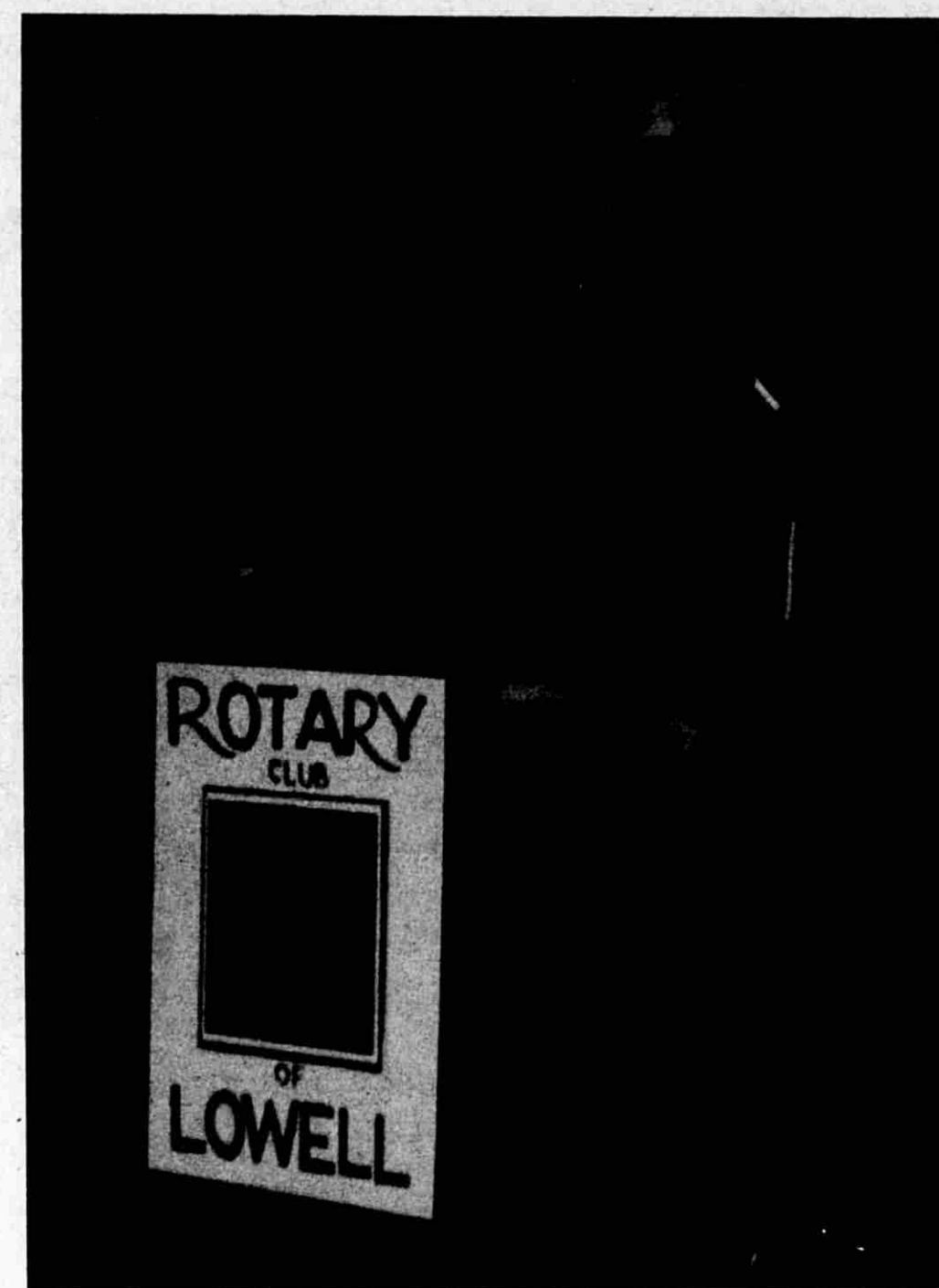
Dick Posthumus "comes home" to Lowell Rotary

The Honorable Dick Posthumus "came home" Wednesday and addressed the Lowell Rotary Club. The former lieutenant governor and senate majority leader had worked the last six years in the private sector, until joining newly elected Governor Snyder as his senior advisor. "I had to be convinced, after declining the offer initially, but I'm glad I joined the team," proclaimed Posthumus.

Posthumus is no stranger to Lowell, as he was raised in Alto and still resides on the family farm. "It's always good to come home and it's always good to visit my hometown rotary club," he said. "It's been a long time."

Posthumus gave some of his behind-the-scenes observations of the Governor. "Rick Snyder is great to work for; he has a very high IQ; relates well with people; doesn't care about politics and wants to do the right things and fair things," he said. "It's refreshing to be part of a leadership team that makes decisions based on what's best for Michigan, not formulated around politics and re-election popularity."

Posthumus went on to explain the administration's 180 day plan and making the tough decisions within the first six months of office. "Jobs are most important," explained Posthumus. "We eliminated the Michigan Business Tax and we are reviewing every department to find any rule or regulation that hinders job growth and bringing jobs to Michigan." Posthumus then emphasized the need to get the fiscal books in order. "We can't keep spending more than we are taking in. Private businesses can't and won't and neither can the public sector." Posthumus continued to layout plans



to restructure the government and concepts to reform education, all of which were pronounced as necessities to turn Michigan around. "We need to consolidate services and use best practices that have been proven to work; we also need the ability to renegotiate labor contract in a manner that will be fair to everyone," he said.

Posthumus reiterated several times that their decisions and fixes are coming from Governor Snyder's plan to run Michigan like a business. "No one on Rick Snyder's team cares about re-election, lobbyists or politics," he said. "Everyone will feel it and everyone needs to participate, if we want Michigan to get back on track for everyone's future. We are making tough and fair decisions, but knowing we are making changes for the right reasons."

Posthumus thanked rotary for the invitation and the opportunity to "come home" and speak to "old friends." "This is my hometown and I'm grateful to have so many friends around Lowell," he concluded.

Governor Rick Snyder's senior advisor Dick Posthumus speaks of changes at last week's Lowell Rotary Club.

When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left, and could say, 'I used everything you gave me'.
- Erma Bombeck

in the service

Navy Seaman Jason M. Fizer Rau, son of Deb J. Hill of Lowell and James D. Fizer of Rockford, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

During the eight-week program, Fizer Rau completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

The capstone event of boot camp is "Battle Stations." This exercise gives recruits the skills and confidence they need to succeed in the fleet. "Battle Stations" is designed to galvanize the basic warrior attributes of sacrifice, dedication, teamwork and endurance in each recruit through the practical application of basic Navy skills and the core values of Honor, Courage and Commitment. Its distinctly "Navy" flavor was designed to take into account what it means to be a Sailor.

Fizer Rau is a 1996 graduate of Lowell High School and a 2008 graduate of Calvin College, Grand Rapids, with a BA degree in philosophy.

financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

Sandwich generation needs "stress busters"

You may be too busy to realize it, but April is Stress Awareness Month. Sponsored by the Health Resource Network, a non-profit health education group, Stress Awareness Month is designed to promote awareness about ways to reduce stress in our lives. And if you're a member of the so-called "Sandwich Generation," you may well have plenty of stress to deal with — especially financial stress. And that's why you may want to look at this month as an opportunity to explore ways of "de-stressing" yourself.

To understand the scope of the problem facing people in your situation, consider this: One out of every eight Americans aged 40 to 60 is both raising a child and caring for an aging parent, according to the Pew Research Center. The definition of "caring" for an elderly parent can range from actually having the parent living in one's home to helping pay for the parent's stay in an assisted living or nursing home facility. When you consider the costs involved in this type of care, added to the expenses of raising your children, and possibly even providing some financial

support to them as young adults, it's easy to see that you could potentially face enormous strains, both emotionally and financially.

To help ease this burden, consider these suggestions:

- **Save.** As a Sandwich Generation member, you're probably within shouting distance of your own retirement — so you need to be saving for it. This may not be easy. You don't know how much financial support you may someday have to provide your elderly parents — and even after your children are grown, they may need some help from you. Unfortunately, in helping these "boomerang" children, many people have to disrupt their day-to-day cash flow and raid their savings. That's why it's important to try to "pay yourself first" by deferring

part of each paycheck into your 401(k) and by automatically moving money, each month, from your checking or savings account into your IRA.

- **Talk.** Many people in the "Greatest Generation" (over age 80) have not even prepared a will, so, if your parents are in that group, you may want to talk to them about taking action. Also, find out whom, if anyone, is handling their investments. And ask if your parents understand how Medicare works and if they need to add supplemental health insurance, such as Medigap. Plus, you need to find out if your parents have created a care directive. It's best to have these conversations sooner, rather than later.
- **Delegate.** You eventually may have to take some responsibility for your parents' care — but you don't have to do it alone. You could, for example, work with a financial services provider that offers *trust services*, which can be invaluable if your parents are incapacitated, but which are useful even if they aren't. A professional trust officer can, among other duties, help manage your parents' investments, pay their bills, keep their records and supervise distribution of their assets to beneficiaries. In short, a qualified trust officer can make life a lot easier for you.

Stress Awareness Month only lasts 30 days, but by taking the right steps, you can de-stress yourself for many years to come. After all, just because you're in the Sandwich Generation, it doesn't mean you have to be "squished."

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Not life, but good life, is to be chiefly valued.
-Socrates

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* Anniversary announcements cannot contain an invitation to a celebration

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<p>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God) 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Robert Holmes, Pastor SUNDAYS: Worship: 10 a.m.</p> <p>WEDNESDAYS: Family Night (for all ages): 7:00 p.m. "The Source" Youth: 7:00 p.m. <i>Loving God ... Loving People!</i></p>	<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org 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</p>	<p>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</p>
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HOST FAMILIES NEEDED! FOR 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR

Pacific Intercultural Exchange (PIE), a non-profit Government designated program is looking for host families to share their home with Foreign exchange students for the September 2011 to June 2012 High School year. Now is the time to select your student from many who are waiting for a host family. You will be able to communicate with your student by e-mail, telephone, and mail and know each other before their arrival in August. The students are 15 to 18 years of age and will attend the High School in your community.

The students will come from Germany, Venezuela, Hong Kong, Brazil, South Korea, Norway, Thailand, China, Denmark, Russia, Netherlands, Georgia and most countries in Europe, Asia, South America, and Mexico. The students are from 48 countries.

The host family is responsible for board, room and guidance. The students have their own medical insurance and spending money. There is no typical host family. Empty nesters, single parents, large families, retired parents may apply. Your local PIE representative will help you to match a student for your family. There are students that are into sports of all kinds, music, the arts, like animals, etc. They all want to learn about our culture and share their own with a host family.

If you are interested in being a host family or have questions please call your Regional Manager Trish Blundy at 616-527-0012 or 1-800-382-7439.

Patricia Blundy - Pacific Intercultural Exchange Regional Manager
3321 Copper Rd., Ionia, MI 48846
Tel. 1-800-382-7439 • Fax 616-527-1021 • E-mail - pblundy@iserv.net

Daisy Floral makes comeback with new designer

by Emma Palova

Daisy Floral owner Stephanie Heaton is back at the 505 W. Main location in the strip mall. Heaton started her business 10 years ago out of a garage in Saranac and moved the business to Lowell in 2001. She also owns Flower Garden Floral in Rockford.

"It has grown immensely," she said. She now has a floral designer, Scott Kuderik, who has 26 years of experience; a business partner, Jeff Barger; and employee, Sonya Baldwin. "Scott has traveled all over the world taking classes to bring new culture," said Heaton.

Kuderik has visited Spain, Mexico and Amsterdam. It takes a lot to be a successful florist in a small town. Topping the list are passion, dedication, a great designer, good employees, and education to keep up with trends. "It's more about creativity than floral now," she said. "It takes a lot of drive."

The trends nowadays are non-traditional, modern contemporary designing. Kuderik said floral should be more of an art form than just floral. "It's our passion," he said. Kuderik's favorite



Designer Scott Kuderik with Daisy Floral owner Stephanie Heaton and Bird of Paradise.

flower is Bird of Paradise, while Heaton likes gardenias and orchids.

Heaton named the floral business after her great-grandmother Daisy, who passed close to the time when she opened the store. Barger did the remodeling and the work on the cooler.

"I like the people; it's a happy environment," she said. "I also like the creativity. We are the florists you can trust and count on."

Daisy Floral does weddings, sympathies, corsages for proms, tuxedo rentals and works with Roth-Gerst.

And favorites usually depend on the season, they can range from bulb gardens, gift baskets, to cut flowers and planters.

"We offer friendly service," she said. "We are your original hometown florist."

Rick's Automotive brings full line of repair to Lowell

by Emma Palova

Conveniently located on M21 west, Rick's Automotive offers a full line of auto repair. Owner Rick Reynolds opened Automotive Technology in February. Prior to opening his own business, Reynolds worked for Scotty's Auto in Saranac for four years.

"This building was vacant," he said. "It's a good location."

So, Reynolds put together a business plan, checked the prices of equipment and he is leasing the building from Kirk Collins.

being in Lowell with his business for the next 20 years. His short-term money more than ever. There is no extra money for emergencies."

Currently, the shop is a one-man operation, but Reynolds plans on employing people in case of expansion. "Being your own business person is a little tougher and scarier," he said. "You don't know what tomorrow is going to bring."

Unlike a regular employee who works set extended hours. Reynolds works extended hours. "I like it that way," he said. He calculates a six-month period to grow. Reynolds, who lives in Saranac, grew up in Lansing and graduated in 1983 from Lansing Everett High School. He has a two-year degree in applied technology from Lansing Community College.

Reynolds also taught, at the community college, steering and suspension. Helikes Lowell because of the class A school district and downtown nostalgia. "I like the town," he said.

Reynolds will eventually support local athletics.



Rick Reynolds by an alignment machine.

The service includes alignments, brakes, electrical, front end suspension and tune-ups. "It's been good, a little slower after the ice storm," he said.

Reynolds likes meeting new faces every day. His long-term goals include

goals are offering quality auto repair at a fair price. Fair price means charging approximately \$60 per hour of labor. "People still have to get things done," he said, "but we all have to budget

Reynolds relies on advertising like in the Spring Car Care section and on word of mouth. He also does air conditioning service and exhaust repair.



Reynolds replaces a tire.

2011 LAS SPRING SPORTS SCHEDULE

BOYS & GIRLS TRACK

* Denotes a home meet at Red Arrow Stadium
All meets begin at 4:15 p.m., unless indicated

4/14 Creston*
4/21 at Grand Rapids Christian
4/23 at 9 a.m. Caledonia Relays
4/25 EGR*
4/28 at Northview
4/30 at 8:30 a.m. Lowell Invitational*
5/5 Greenville*
5/12 Conference at Greenville
5/26 time TBA, Jen. Bae. Meet
5/13 at 6 p.m. Conference at Greenville

BOYS VARSITY BASEBALL

* Denotes a home game at Cherry Creek Ball Field

4/7 at 2:30 p.m. at Detroit Western (Macomb Tournament)
4/7 at 4:45 p.m. at Cousino (Macomb Tournament)
4/9 time TBA Macomb Tournament
4/14 at 4 p.m. Ionia - double header
4/15 at 10 a.m. Lowell Invitational*
4/16 at 1:30 p.m. Creston* - double header
4/21 at 4:15 p.m. at Creston
4/28 at 1:15 p.m. GR Christian - double header
4/29 at 4:15 p.m. GR Christian*
4/30 at 4:30 p.m. EGR* - double header
5/5 at 4:15 p.m. at EGR
5/10 at 4:15 p.m. at Northview - double header
5/12 at 4:15 p.m. Northview*
5/14 time TBA Aquinas Tournament
5/17 at 4:30 p.m. Greenville* - double header
5/19 at 4:15 p.m. Greenville
5/21 at 11 a.m. Grand Ledge* - double header
5/23 at 4:15 p.m. Forest Hills Eastern* - double header
5/28 at 10 a.m. Oxford High School - double header

GIRLS VARSITY SOFTBALL

* Denotes a home game at Cherry Creek Ball Field

4/12 at 4:15 p.m. Unity Christian* - double header
4/14 at 4 p.m. Ionia - double header
4/16 at 10 a.m. East Kentwood Invitational
4/18 at 4:15 p.m. Byron Center
4/21 at 4:15 p.m. South Christian - double header
4/22 at 7:15 p.m. FHC at Leonard Field
4/27 at 4:30 p.m. Jenison* - double header
4/28 at 4:15 p.m. Creston*
4/30 at 9 a.m. Lake Orion Tournament
5/3 at 4:15 p.m. Grand Rapids Christian - double header
5/5 at 4:15 p.m. EGR*
5/10 at 4:15 p.m. Northview - double header
5/12 at 4:15 p.m. Creston
5/14 time TBA Traverse City West Invitational
5/16 at 4:30 p.m. Hudsonville* - double header
5/17 at 4:15 p.m. Greenville* - double header
5/19 at 4:15 p.m. EGR
5/25 at 4 p.m. Tichelaar Tournament*

GIRLS VARSITY TENNIS

* Denotes a home meet at H.S. Tennis Courts

4/13 at 4 p.m. Creston*
4/14 at 3:30 p.m. East Kentwood Quad
4/16 at 8:30 a.m. Lowell Invitational*
4/19 at 4 p.m. Cadillac at Ferris State University
4/20 at 4:15 p.m. at GR Christian
4/23 at 9:30 a.m. Caledonia Tournament
4/27 at 4 p.m. EGR*
4/28 at 4 p.m. Jenison
4/30 at 9 a.m. Northview Tournament
5/2 at 4:30 p.m. Mona Shores*
5/4 at 4 p.m. Northview
5/5 at 4 p.m. Portland
5/9 at 4 p.m. Greenville*
5/12 at 4 p.m. Hudsonville
5/14 at 9 a.m. Conference*

GIRLS VARSITY LACROSSE

* Denotes a home game. All times TBA

4/13 EGR
4/16 GR Christian*
4/18 Grand Haven
4/20 Catholic Central*
4/25 Caledonia
4/27 West Ottawa*
5/4 Northview*
5/9 GR Christian
5/11 Grand Haven*
5/16 Caledonia*
5/18 West Ottawa

GIRLS VARSITY SOCCER

* Denotes a home game at Red Arrow Stadium

4/12 at 6:45 p.m. Wyoming Park*
4/13 at 6:45 p.m. Forest Hills Central
4/16 at 6:45 p.m. Kenowa Hills*
4/20 at 6:45 p.m. Creston*
4/22 at 6:15 p.m. GR Christian
4/27 at 6:45 p.m. EGR*
4/29 at 6:45 p.m. Fruitport*
5/2 at 6:45 p.m. Northview*
5/4 at 6:45 p.m. Greenville
5/9 at 6:45 p.m. Reeths Puffer
5/11 at 6:45 p.m. Creston
5/13 at 6:45 p.m. Cedar Springs*
5/16 at 6:45 p.m. GR Christian*
5/18 at 7:15 p.m. EGR
5/23 at 7:15 p.m. Northview
5/25 at 6:45 p.m. Greenville*

BOYS VARSITY GOLF

* Denotes a home meet at Deer Run Golf Course

4/13 at 12:30 p.m. Kent County Classic
4/16 at 11 a.m. Lowell Invitational*
4/21 time TBA Pre-conference at Thornapple Point
4/25 at 3:30 p.m. Portland*
4/27 at 3:30 p.m. GR Christian/Creston*
5/2 at 3:30 p.m. EGR
5/4 at 3:30 p.m. Northview/Creston*
5/5 at 3:15 p.m. Kenowa Hills
5/9 at 3:30 p.m. EGR*
5/11 at 3:30 p.m. Greenville
5/16 at 3:30 p.m. Greenville/Northview*
5/18 at 3:30 p.m. GR Christian
5/20 at 3:30 p.m. Caledonia*
5/23 time TBA Conference at Thornapple Point

For More Information please visit www.lowellschools.com
Be sure to read the Lowell Ledger for coverage of the LAS Spring Sports.

This Page Brought To You By
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RETURNABLE BOTTLE/CAN FUNDRAISER

Cherry Creek Elementary - 12675 Foreman
Bushnell Elementary - 700 Elizabeth
will be having a bottle/can fundraiser between April 11 thru April 30.
Funds raised will support education materials. Drop off times 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. either school.
Thanks for your support.

CITY OF LOWELL KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF ADOPTION AND SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 11-04 APPROVING THIRD AMENDMENT TO LOWELL DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY DEVELOPMENT AND TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLANS FOR DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENTS

The Lowell City Council adopted Ordinance No. 11-04 approving the Third Amendment to Lowell Downtown Development Authority Development and Tax Increment Financing Plans for Downtown Improvements. Ordinance No. 11-04 extends the period of the completion of projects included in the Plans, as may in the future be further amended to include additional projects, to June 30, 2033, and extends the period in which tax increment revenues are captured and used for such projects to December 31, 2033. A copy of Ordinance No. 11-04 is available from the City Clerk at City Hall, 301 East Main Street in the City during regular business hours.

Ordinance No. 11-04 is effective 10 days after this publication.



Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

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LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 11-190039-DE

Estate of DONALD HOLMES, deceased.
Date of birth: 01/26/1930.

TO ALL CREDITORS: 03/29/2011

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: R. John Stephan (P71686)
The decedent, DONALD HOLMES, who lived at Twin Oaks Assisted Living, 14190 - 19 Mile Road, Gowen Michigan, died 03/07/2011.

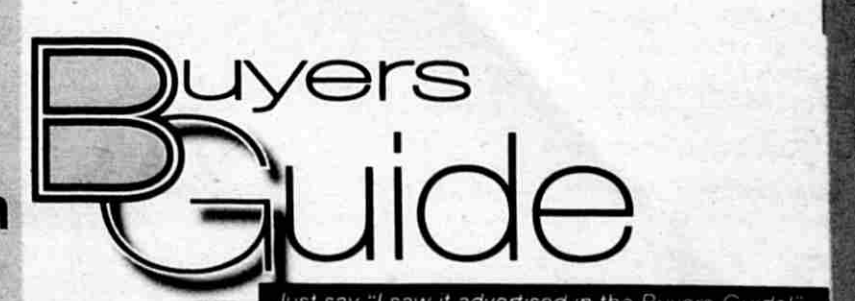
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred

Doreen Still
6862 Terra Cotta
Caledonia, MI 49316
616-915-2470



AND Advertise in our 2011 101 Things To Do Guide
This piece will be distributed May 14 in the The Ionia County Shoppers Guide & the Lowell Buyers Guide. Reaching over 30,000 homes & businesses in Eastern Kent County & all of Ionia County. This guide will contain Summer & Fall activities in the area.

Call our office for more information or to place an ad.
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105 N. Broadway, Lowell



Earth talk, continued

Corporation, was still promoting the expansion of livestock herds, soybean fields and palm oil plantations—all which accelerated deforestation in the tropics, hastening the pace of climate change for the rest of us.

"They need to begin to see the inextricable link between sustaining environment and reducing poverty," said Vinod Thomas, director of the World Bank group that performed the review. "It is clear now from the Amazon to India that if environmental sustainability is not raised as a priority, then all bets are off."

The World Bank tried to address many of these concerns with the release of a beefed up Environment Strategy in 2001, but analysts remain critical of the organization's performance and general commitment to sustainability. In June 2011 the World Bank will release a new Environment Strategy which it will use as a sustainability roadmap for its projects over the coming decade. The focus of the Bank's sustainability work will be mitigating climate change through the promotion of clean energy technologies.

CONTACTS: World Bank, www.worldbank.org; Institute for Policy Studies, www.ips-dc.org.

Dear EarthTalk™: Instances of people with thyroid problems seems to be on the rise. Is there an environmental connection?

-- Dora Light, Waukesha, WI

The American Cancer Society reports that thyroid cancer is one of the few cancers that have been on the rise in recent decades, with cases increasing six percent annually since 1997. Many researchers, however, attribute these increases to our having simply gotten better at detection. Regardless, exposures to stress, radiation and pollutants have been known to increase a person's risk of developing thyroid problems.

Thyroid disease takes two primary forms. Hyperthyroidism occurs when the thyroid produces too much of the T3 and T4 hormones that regulate metabolism. This can cause a racing heart, weight loss, insomnia and other problems. In cases of

hypothyroidism, the body produces too few hormones, so we feel fatigued and may gain weight, among other symptoms. According to the American Thyroid Association (ATA), many people with thyroid problems don't realize it, as symptoms can be mistaken for other problems or attributed to lack of

sleep. Thyroid problems in children can delay or impair neurological development.

Doctors are not sure why some people are prone to thyroid disease while others aren't, but genetics has much to do with it. One recent UCLA study found that genetic background accounts for about 70 percent of the risk.

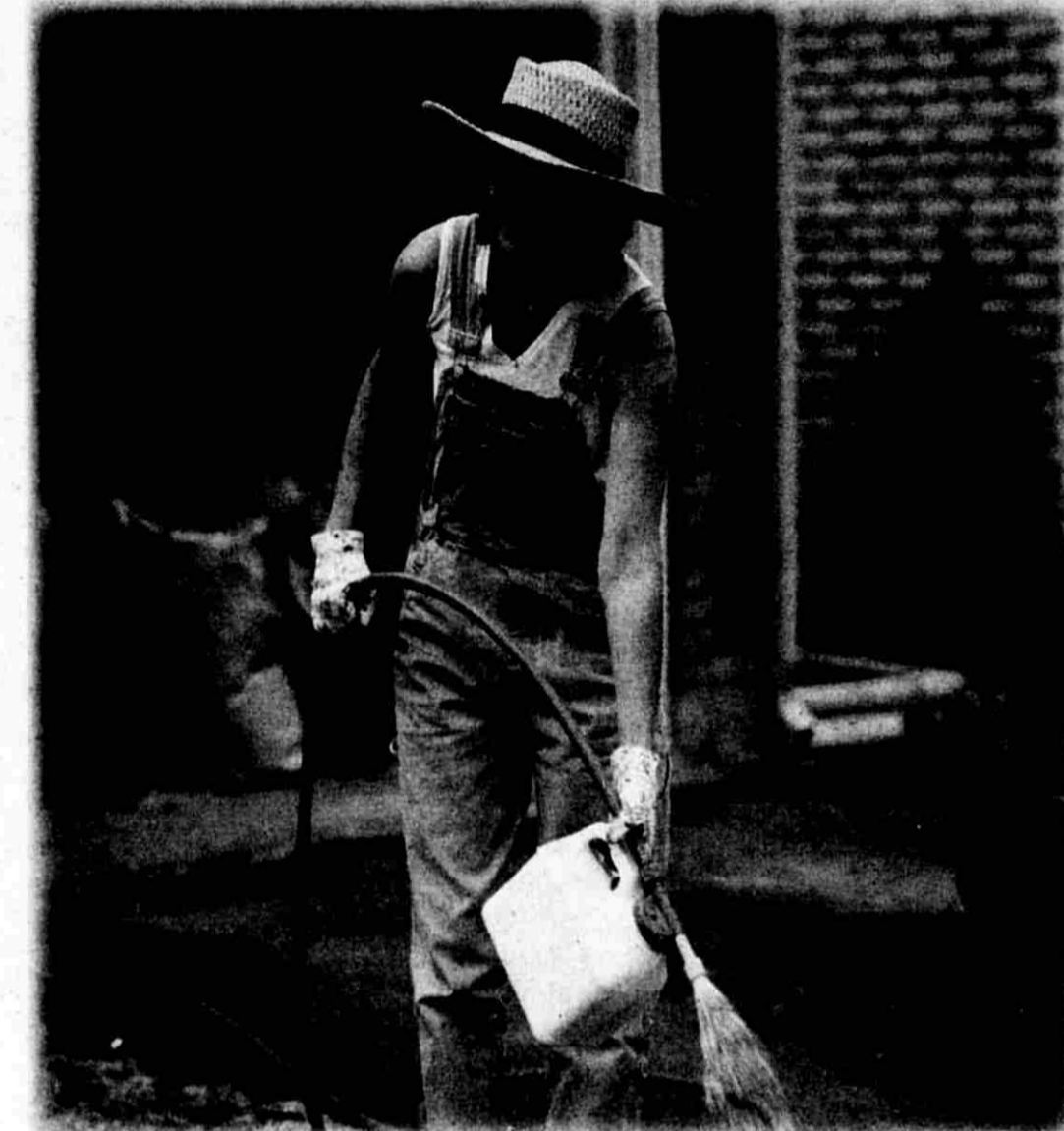
However, researchers have begun to find links between increased risk of thyroid disease and exposure to certain chemicals, especially among women. "Pesticide Use and Thyroid Disease among Women in the Agricultural Health Study," published in the American Journal of Epidemiology in 2002, found that Iowa and

North Carolina women married to men using such pesticides as aldrin, DDT and lindane were at much higher risk of developing thyroid disease than women in non-agricultural areas. According to Dr. Whitney S. Goldner, lead researcher on the study, 12.5 percent of the 16,500 wives evaluated developed thyroid disease compared to between one

and eight percent in the general population. It's not just farm women who should worry. Trace amounts of chemical pesticides and fertilizers most certainly end up in some of the food we eat. The nonprofit group Beyond Pesticides warns that some 60 percent of pesticides used today have been shown

to affect the thyroid gland's production of T3 and T4 hormones. Commercially available insecticides and fungicides have also been implicated. Likewise, some chemicals used in plastics and flame retardants contain toxins shown to trigger thyroid problems in those genetically predisposed. And a 2007 study at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center at San Antonio found that trichloroethylene, an anti-bacterial agent found in everything from hand soaps to facial tissues to toys - it's present in the bloodstreams of three out of every four Americans - could be causing some mothers' thyroid glands to send signals to fetuses that may in turn contribute to autism.

An increasing number of doctors now believe that hypothyroidism could be precipitated by a dietary deficiency in iodine, a trace element found in the thyroid's T3 and T4 hormones and essential in small amounts for good health. Besides eating more seafood, switching to iodized salt and/or taking iodine supplements can boost iodine intake without the need for medications. But too much iodine is not healthy, so always consult with your doctor before embarking on any new health or diet regimen.



The nonprofit group Beyond Pesticides warns that some 60 percent of pesticides used today have been shown to affect the thyroid gland's production of T3 and T4 hormones. Commercially available insecticides and fungicides have also been implicated. Women are most at risk.

EarthTalk™ is written and edited by Roddy Scheer and Doug Moss and is a registered trademark of E - The Environmental Magazine (www.emagazine.com). Send questions to: earthtalk@emagazine.com. Subscribe: www.emagazine.com/subscribe; Free Trial Issue: www.emagazine.com/trial.

INSECTS

ACROSS

- Criss-crossed to form latticework
- *Jerry Seinfeld's 2007 role
- Octagonal traffic sign
- Moral principle
- Under the weather
- Modern-day aqualung
- Back of the body, pl.
- Swedish shag rug
- It gets wider in the dark
- Offensively malodorous
- *Wood-eating house hazard
- *When dropped, causes infestation
- Eagle's nest
- Bow shape
- Tie up
- Close, but not quite
- Cowboy's necktie
- Cataclysmic nuclear explosion
- Wasted on the young?
- Black cat, e.g.
- Famous Spanish Renaissance painter
- Nicholas I or Nicholas II, e.g.
- Veal and pork, e.g.
- Coat of _____
- Town on SE coast of England, west of Brighton
- Tiny tree
- Navy specialist
- Make out of cloth
- Wry face
- *"_____ Milk?"
- *Insect with manners, so to speak
- Fraudulence
- Throat lobe
- Charlotte of "Facts of Life" fame
- Not yet payable
- "The _____, they are a-changin'," sang Dylan
- Rapscallion
- "Do-reh-mi-fa-so-la-ti"

CROSSWORD													
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69						70				71			
72						73				74			

- Dutch cheese
- *Host to fleas and ticks
- *Chocolate-covered grasshoppers to some
- Adverb derived from spry
- Geological period
- Contrary to one's interests
- Goal of Manhattan Project
- Young Montague
- "_____ as a whistle"
- Novelist Roberts
- *"Like a _____ to a flame"
- Anise-flavored Greek liquor, pl.
- On which musical notes are written
- Tossed or passed
- *Known to march one-by-one
- Pinnacle
- Tributary of Missouri River
- Brazilian ballroom dance, pl.
- Debt acknowledgement
- *Nathaniel West's novel "The Day of the _____"
- Finn-_____ family of languages
- Luciano Pavarotti, e.g.
- Plucked string instrument
- Fan quality
- Russian governmental agency
- Big bang theory's original matter
- A division, especially in government, abbr.
- Opposite of busy
- Variety of limestone
- American Medical Association
- Elizabeth Gilbert's novel "____ Pray, Love"

Solution on page 11



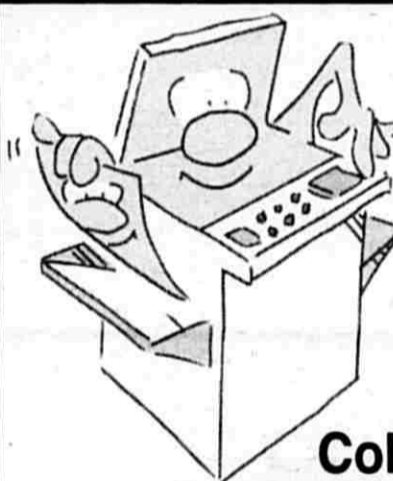
616-897-0787

Good to see the new Main Street Inn with a No Vacancy sign out today - I wish them the best!

Arum Cornutum - a bulb being sold locally as a house or garden plant is poisonous. Every part of it is toxic - bulb, leaves, stem, roots. If you have small children or pets, please be aware.

Don't forget to treat your ash trees this spring against the Emerald Ash Borer.*

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The Lowell Ledger

105 N. Broadway, Lowell
Phone 897-9261

Annual Alto Firemen's PANCAKE SUPPER
Sat., April 16 • 5 pm-8 pm
ALTO FIRE STATION
PANCAKES, EGGS, SAUSAGE, COFFEE & MILK
COST: Donations at the Door

LUNCH MENU
ELEMENTARY MENU
Week of April 11, 2011

MON: Cheeseburger on wheat bun (Danimals yogurt w/American cheese & saltine crackers also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), tossed salad w/romaine, fresh orange slices, milk.

TUES: Egg, cheese & sausage on wheat English muffin (sloppy jo scoops also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), coleslaw, pineapple, milk.

WED: Baked chicken nuggets w/wheat dinner roll (Jr. turkey & cheese sub also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), mashed potatoes/butter, peaches, milk.

THURS: French toast sticks or cereal w/Graham crackers, each with scrambled eggs, banana, 100% apple juice, milk.

FRI: Grilled cheese sandwich (3 meat sub also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), tomato soup w/crackers, fresh mini carrots, applesauce, milk.

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FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES
Last Week Coming Up!
SITE FOR FREE TAX PREPARATION ASSISTANCE
United Way's Kent County Tax Credit Coalition is providing free tax preparations and the F.R.O.M. Building located at 11535 Fulton Street East, Lowell, is one of the sites offering this service. (The F.R.O.M. Building is located between Goodwill and Key Heights Trailer Park.)
The service is being offered on Tuesdays from 2 to 8 p.m. and is available by appointment only. To register, or to see if your family is eligible, please call 897-8260. www.fromlowell.org

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Police chief, continued

He would like to work for a multinational company in sales because Hinton loves the business world.

"I am looking for new challenges," he said. "I love the business world. It's a passion for me."

Hinton likes to read the Wall Street Journal to see how businesses are doing. Eventually, Hinton wants to move to a warmer climate. He has coached softball for six years.

"I like to work around the home and I love being a dad," he said.

His accomplishments include dispatching consolidation to the Kent County Sheriff's Department, securing new electronics in patrol cars, e-tickets and e-crash electronic accident reporting on the scene, re-evaluating old procedures, eliminating unnecessary paperwork, providing teasers for the officers, reconstructing work schedules to reduce budgetary costs, fleet management scheduling, balancing miles on patrol cars and updating policies and procedures for the department.

Following Hinton's resignation, the council has approved the appointment of the new police chief, Barry Getzen, 54. Getzen has lived in Lowell Township for 16 years.

His various capacities included the rank of major, West region commander, Field Services Bureau, and Deputy Director, Office of Specialized Services.



Incoming police chief Barry Getzen.

He has completed a career with the Michigan State Police retiring last September after 31 years. Getzen had worked for the Michigan State Police headquarters in East Lansing since 2004.

"It's a good way to give back to the community," he said.

Getzen said he would like to take some time to learn the role that is expected from the police chief and the police department.

"I want to see how the department operates," he said. "It will be different than the state police. The Lowell Police Department has a good reputation."

Getzen hopes to continue to provide public safety to the community that is courteous, professional and to make sure that Lowell is a welcoming community. And if it is needed, he may modify some things.

"He has an extensive amount of experience and Barry

will fit in well with the community," said city manager Dave Pasquale. "He will do an excellent job."

Getzen had interviewed for the position of the police chief a few years ago.

"He's been well-known," said Pasquale.

Getzen was present at the Monday night meeting with wife Jean.

ArtPrize sculpture donated to Wittenbach/Wege Center

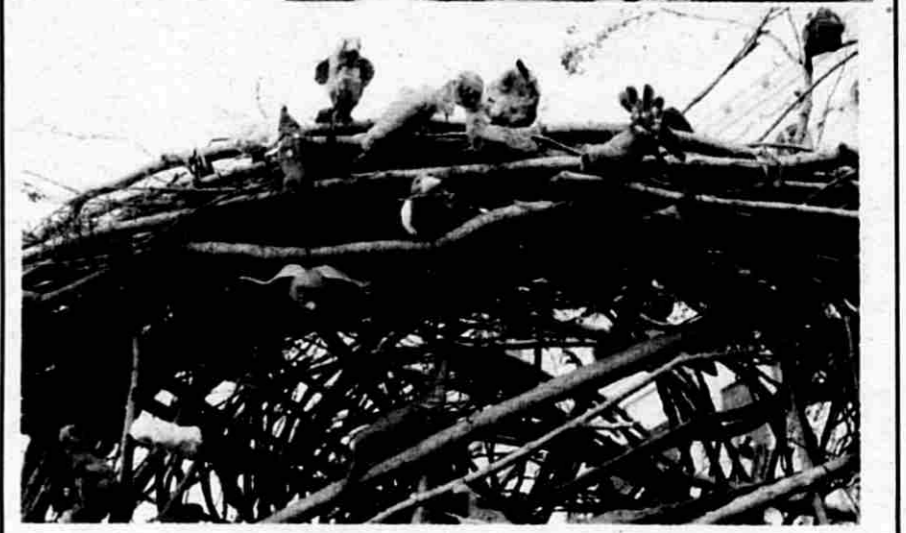
A 2010 ArtPrize sculpture entitled "Birds of a Feather" is being donated to the Wittenbach/Wege Agriscience and Environmental Education Center (WEC) by the artist Brenda Sipe-Donahue.

The large cage was constructed from over 200 willow trees and contained 170 clay birds created by children. Lowell area residents will soon have the opportunity to add their own creations to the artwork.

Parents are encouraged to attend one of four workshops

together with their child on Sat., April 16, 11 am or 1 pm at the WWC or on Sat., April 30, 11 am or 1 pm, at the Lowell Area Arts Council.

The fee to make two birds, one for the cage and one to take home, is \$5 and preregistration is recommended by calling 897-8545 or by e-mail to info@lowellartscouncil.org



SENIORS AND HEALTH

ADVERTISEMENT

Springing into Wellness

Popular wellness series continues at Emerald Meadows

GRAND RAPIDS "We had such a great response to the January-February-March series," says Kathy Higgins, Community Manager at Emerald Meadows, "we decided to offer another installment." The Assisted Living community in Grand Rapids has been hosting monthly wellness sessions designed particularly for seniors and the family members who care for them.

The Spring installment of the series begins on Thursday, April 14, with a presentation on "Chronic Disease Management." Experts from Great Lakes Home Health and Hospice will share tips on how to recognize triggers, make good choices, manage medication, reach out to others, and keep a positive attitude.

The Spring Wellness Series will continue on May 12 with a session on "Muscle, Bone, and Joint Health," and a June 2 presentation on "Fall Prevention."

Free refreshments and giveaways will be available at all sessions.



THIS MONTH'S EVENT

Spring Wellness Series

Thursday, April 14, 2:00pm — "Chronic Disease Management" (RSVP to Emerald Meadows)

Emerald Meadows is located at 6117 Charlevoix Woods Court in Grand Rapids.

Call (616) 954-2366 for more information or to RSVP.

www.providenceliveservices.com

Spring LAWN & GARDEN



Advertising Prices

- 2 x 2 - \$22.07
- 2 x 4 - \$44.14
- 3 x 4 - \$65.02
- 1/4 page - \$125.72
- 1/2 Page - \$240.63
- Full Page - \$459.65
- Color Available
- 1 color \$50 • 4 color \$90

It's Time To Get Your Lawn & Garden Ready For The Summer!

THE LAWN & GARDEN SECTION WILL RUN IN THE BUYERS GUIDE ON MAY 1, 2011

If you offer a Lawn or Garden service & would like to advertise - please call to reserve your spot or place an ad. Deadline is 5 p.m. Thurs., April 28

To Advertise in this section call

Buyers Guide

Just say "I saw it advertised in the Buyers Guide!"

897-9555

email: displayads@lowellbuyersguide.com



The Hastings Reminder will also be running a Lawn & Garden section. Call for Rates.



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