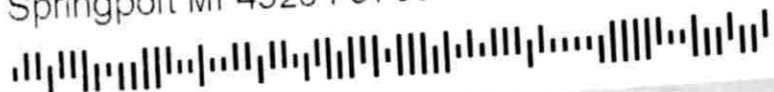


R001
Springport Book Bindery
127 Railroad St
Springport MI 49284-9769



the lowell ledger

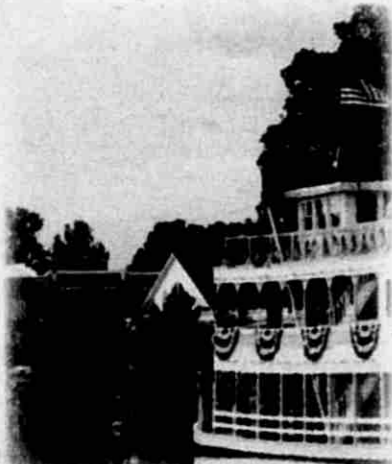
wednesday • june • 22 • 2011

vol. 40 issue 37

for over 116 years • today - tomorrow - your lowell area news source

www.thelowellledger.com

first sizzlin' concert



page 4

lowell Arts art attack



page 7

new florist



page 9

ms. burd retires



page 10

lhs honor roll



page 11

State Police investigate suspected embezzlement of sports booster funds

by Casey Cheney

Upon the request of the Lowell Area Schools Athletic Boosters Club, May 31, the Lowell police began investigating the suspected embezzlement of approximately \$90,000 from the Lowell sport booster's funds, according to Lowell police chief Barry Getzen.

Two months before, the

club requested an audit from school authorities after "realizing cash on hand was uncharacteristically low since the beginning of the school year," Doris Drain, president of the boosters club, said in an email statement.

Superintendent Greg Pratt said he could not confirm or deny an audit through

the schools because this is an active investigation.

She went on to write, "In the review of our boosters' financials, irregularities were discovered."

Though the police do have a suspect and filed a search warrant of the suspect's home June 9, they

cannot release a name because no charges have been filed. The suspect could not be reached for comment.

Several days after the police began their investigation, police chief Barry Getzen contacted the Michigan State Police Major Case Team.

"They have expertise in investigating alleged financial crimes," Getzen said.

Drain said the club is fully cooperating with the investigation.

Embezzlement,
continued, page 2

City manager bids farewell with last State of the City Address

by Emma Palova

In his final meeting, retiring city manager Dave Pasquale read an optimistic State of the City Address.

"As I close the 24th year of service as Lowell city manager, it is still important to identify issues and establish goals," he said.

Councilmember Andrew Schrauben said he met Pasquale while in grade school.

"You knew everything about the people," he said.

City manager,
continued, page 3

Fast-approaching Relay for Life shoots for \$75,000

by Casey Cheney

Relay for Life is aiming to boost their donations to \$75,000 this year, \$6,000 more than last year. New to the relay this year is the Pink Arrow Power Hour, where relay chairperson Paul Mundt said they would "join forces with the Pink Arrow Project."

From 5 to 6 pm on Friday, Relay for Life invites "the Pink Arrow nation" to come out in force and show their support.

"We're on the same team as far as objectives," Mundt said, adding that, "There was interest from the Pink Arrow Committee to form a team."

The June 24 to 25 event is themed "Come Play at Relay" and will feature several themed lap games for the walkers to play.

This year, 21 teams signed up, but Mundt said, "The more people we have the better."

In fact, Mundt said he expects a larger turnout this year — 2,000 over the 1,500 last year.

"We've really been pushing community involvement," he said.

A final goal, Mundt said, was to have 75 survivors come out to the relay. A few less than that came in 2010. Survivors that do show up get a free pancake breakfast Saturday morning.

New reporter will juggle coverage of several sports and community events

by Emma Palova

Casey Cheney, a 2011 graduate of Hillsdale College, has joined The Lowell Ledger team to cover the diverse sports in the Lowell Area School district.

Cheney interned with parent company J-Ad Graphics, based in Hastings, in 2009 and he is familiar with the company philosophy.

"I knew about J-Ad and wanted to get an internship," he said.

Originally, Cheney, who majored in history with a minor in politics, just wanted to learn how to write better. So, he started writing for the school paper, "The Collegiate."

"I fell in love with journalism," he said.

Cheney praised hometown reporting for its unique perspective and the ability to influence events in the community on a small scale.

"No one else offers that kind of information," he said. "Hometown news is pretty fantastic."

Publisher Jon Jacobs

said Cheney is an exceptionally good fit with the paper and the community.

"I think that Casey has a bright future in journalism and with the company as a whole," he said.

Cheney will become an integral part of the Ledger team, striving for quality, diversity, versatility and coverage of the many events the community has to offer.

"Lowell loves its sports and I look forward to covering more than we were able to in the past," said editor Jeanne Boss. "Casey seems well suited for our working environment. His enthusiasm and willingness to jump right in will serve him well at the Ledger."

With all the recent changes in the Ledger and Lowell Buyers Guide, along with the addition of Cheney, Jacobs is hoping to move forward to expanding the papers and more unique projects.

"We have a perfect team with adding a sports report-



Casey Cheney is prepared to juggle sports coverage for The Ledger.

er," he said. "I didn't want to make the same mistake as I made before by rushing into it. We took our time and

found the right candidate for us and the community."

New reporter,
continued, page 2

50
CENTS



8 04879 15383 2

Embezzlement, continued

Currently, Getzen said, the major case team is reviewing items retrieved from the suspect's home during the search. Once their review is completed, the team will submit their findings to the Kent County prosecutor, who will then review and issue all necessary warrants.

"We are still in the middle of the investigation," said detective Lieutenant Jaime Corona of the major case team. "We're trying to get the green light to do what we need to do."

Corona said the unit would be ready to submit their paperwork to the county prosecutor in approximately a week.

"We are unsure exactly what or how this investigation will impact the boosters until it is concluded. Until then, we will continue our best efforts to support the athletes of Lowell Area Schools as best as possible," Drain said in the email.

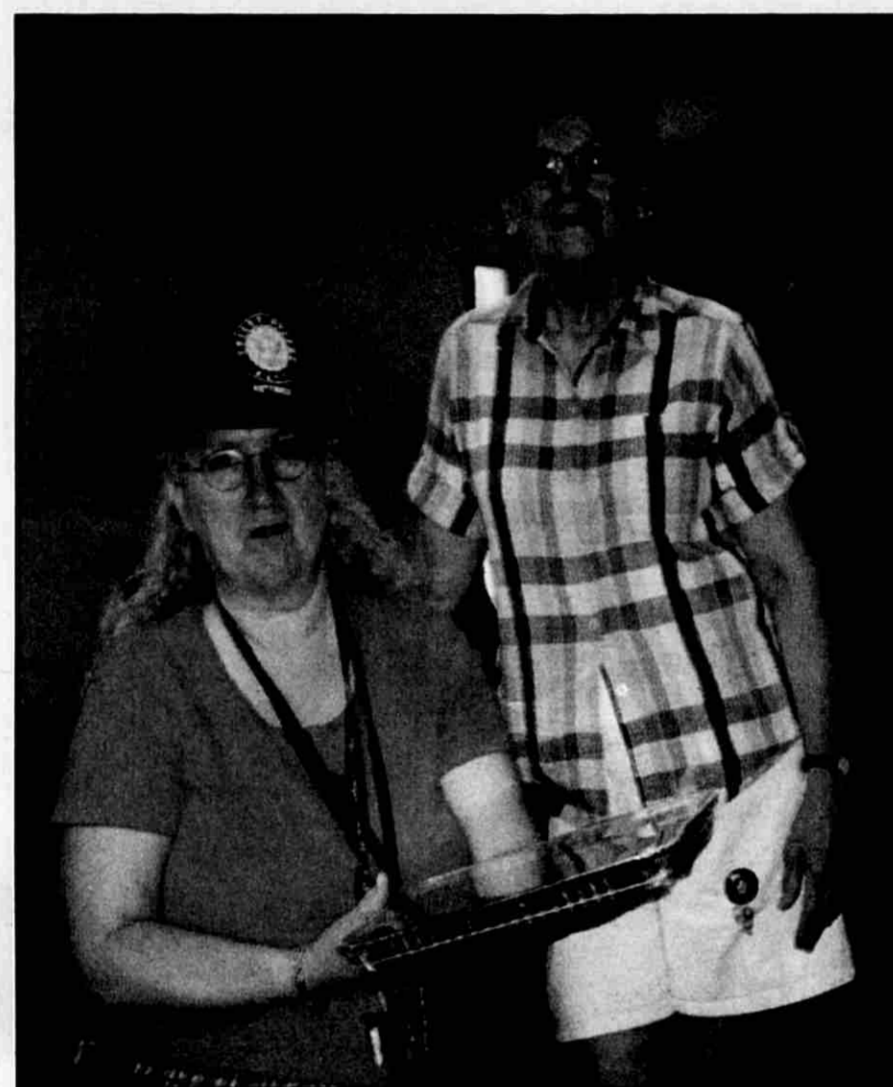
"We are disappointed the athletes of Lowell schools may have been denied some support, however, we continue to be dedicated to raising funds and supporting our student athletes."

Father's Day desserts for God's Kitchen

Last Saturday, 26 volunteers from Lowell sent nearly 500 servings of homemade desserts to God's Kitchen for Father's Day.

This is the third year for this project and it included the largest number of desserts so far. Women from the American Legion and VFW were joined by other women from Lowell. Jan Thompson, who organized the project again this year said, "The staff at God's Kitchen was pleased beyond words for the desserts they were able to serve on Sunday. They never have homemade items, especially desserts."

A large number of those who depend on God's Kitchen for one meal a day are both Veterans and fathers and they were very touched by the gesture from Lowell. We pass along a big thank you to all who took the time to prepare pies, cakes, cookies or brownies.



Vikisu Condon-Sharrock, seated, and Arlene Newell helped serve desserts.



COFFEE WITH COUNCIL

Come meet and have a cup of coffee with your city councilmembers on the first Saturday of the month at 10 am at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce office, 113 Riverwalk Plaza.

ART & NATURE EXHIBITION

Sustainability in art - recycling, nature, ecosystem, energy crisis - see how artists ages teen through adult find inspiration in nature and use their art to help educate the viewer on environmental issues. Lowell Area Arts Council, 149 S. Hudson St., June 7 - July 14. Gallery hours: Tues.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm or Sat., 1 pm-4 pm. For more information, call 897-8545 or visit www.lowellartscouncil.org

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES

Sign up at the Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington St., Sat., July 23, 10 am - noon. You may also order online using your debit or credit card. Go to www.angelfoodministries.com. Any questions, call Esther, 897-7395.

Feel free to send your event information to the Ledger for Along Main St. All submission requests for Along Main St. are subject to space limitations. The Ledger makes no assurances that they will appear in print. To ensure that an event notification will appear in the Ledger, it is best to place a paid advertisement. All efforts will be made to place suitable items in the Along Main St. column but they are printed at the discretion of the publisher. For profit events, church services, yard sales and the like, will not appear in this column.

DOES YOUR DENTIST MAKE YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE?

At the Family Dentistry of Lowell you're more than a patient. You're part of my family.

That's why I want you to be comfortable.

Heated neck pillows.
Natural lighting.
The music you like.

I've been serving families like yours since 1991.

Aren't you ready for a better dental experience?

Family Dentistry of Lowell
ANN WILSON, D.D.S. | JENNIFER BYRD, D.D.S.
NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS - CALL: 616-897-4835
147 NORTH CENTER STREET, LOWELL
WWW.FAMILYDENTISTRYOFLOWELL.COM

ADA LOWELL 5

616-897-3456
On M-21, 5 Minutes East of Amway H.Q.
www.GOTTI.com

\$4.50 BARGAIN TWILIGHT
DAILY 4:00-6:00 PM

SHOWTIMES 6:22-6:23 No passes

- GREEN LANTERN (PG-13) 4:40, 7:10, 9:35
- MR. POPPER'S PENGUINS (PG) 4:55, 7:00, 9:10
- SUPER 8 (PG-13) 4:50, 7:20, 9:50
- X-MEN: FIRST CLASS (PG-13) 4:00, 6:50, 9:45
- THE HANGOVER PART II (R) 9:00
- KUNG FU PANDA 2 (PG) 4:35, 6:40

Hall for rent with kitchen
SEATS 150 Located at the fairgrounds
www.kcfcg.org
Call 897-6050

Pratt emphasized that the boosters club is an independent, nonprofit organization and expressed his respect and appreciation for the work its members do. Perry Beachum of the Pink Arrow Project said that Pink Arrow is separate from the boosters club. "It's under the Lowell Community Wellness umbrella," he said.

New reporter, continued

Cheney wants to learn as much as possible and connect with the community to become a better writer and reporter.

"I want the people of Lowell to know that I am looking forward to working with them," he said. "They have great things going for them."

Cheney's dream goal is to write for Saturday Night Live. However, in the meantime, he wants to practice comedy writing skills inspired by the Lowell community tapestry filled with colorful characters.

His hobbies and interests include history, politics, basketball, reading fiction and biographies.

Cheney is engaged to Amanda Bigney from Cedar Springs.

"I want to be a husband and a provider," he said.

In going forward, Jacobs is confident the community and the readership will agree with his choice of the perfect candidate for sports' coverage.

Now Featuring
ROOF & GUTTER CLEANING

Guilford's
SEAMLESS GUTTERS
GUTTER PROTECTION
METAL ROOFS • SIDING

517-649-2344

Mention this ad and receive **10% off gutter**

the lowell **ledger**
(USPS 453-830)

Published weekly for \$22⁰⁰ a year for zip codes beginning with 493 or 495 \$32⁰⁰ a year any other zip code.

JON JACOBS PUBLISHER
JEANNE BOSS EDITOR
EMMA PALOVA LEAD REPORTER
CASEY CHENEY SPORTS
TAMMY JANOWIAK CLASSIFIED/ACCOUNTING
JON JACOBS ADVERTISING SALES

(616) 897-9261
E-Mail: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com
Second Class Postage Paid at Lowell, MI
Published every Wednesday
POSTMASTER: Send address change to:
The Lowell Ledger
P.O. Box 128 • Lowell, MI 49331
www.lowellbuyersguide.com

City manager, continued

"It's amazing what must be in your head."

Mayor pro tem Sharon Ellison praised Pasquale for his proverbial patience.

"You never flinched," she said. "I enjoyed getting to know you."

Pasquale will pursue new opportunities which may include consulting or teaching.

"I will continue to be very busy," he said. "Anne and I care about the Lowell community."

Pasquale's wife Anne attended the meeting. And the first thing the couple will get to do together is watching their grandchildren for 12 days.

"We're not going anywhere," said Pasquale.

The city is inviting residents to stop and say goodbye to Pasquale next Wednesday on June 29 from 4 pm to 6 pm at the city hall.



Dave Pasquale receives a standing ovation from the city council.

South takes the lead in Food Fight

It's the two-minute warning at Flat River Outreach Ministries. Time is running out in the first half. The South Lowell team leads the North Lowell team, 7,550 to 7,443. The North team calls a timeout, as the suspense builds. By the time readers are reading this update, the first half, which ended Monday evening, will have come and gone. "You'll just have to log onto www.FROMfoodfight.org to find out what happened and what the current score is," proclaimed Kurt Lardie, FROM board member.

The contest is FROM's annual food and fund drive which very much resembles a football game. It's a friendly community-wide competition, pitting all residents and businesses south of Main St. in the greater Lowell area, against everyone north of Main St., trying to collect the most non-perishable food items and dollars to benefit the FROM Food Pantry. Last year, the

The empty chair in the chambers will soon be filled by Pasquale's successor Mark Howe.

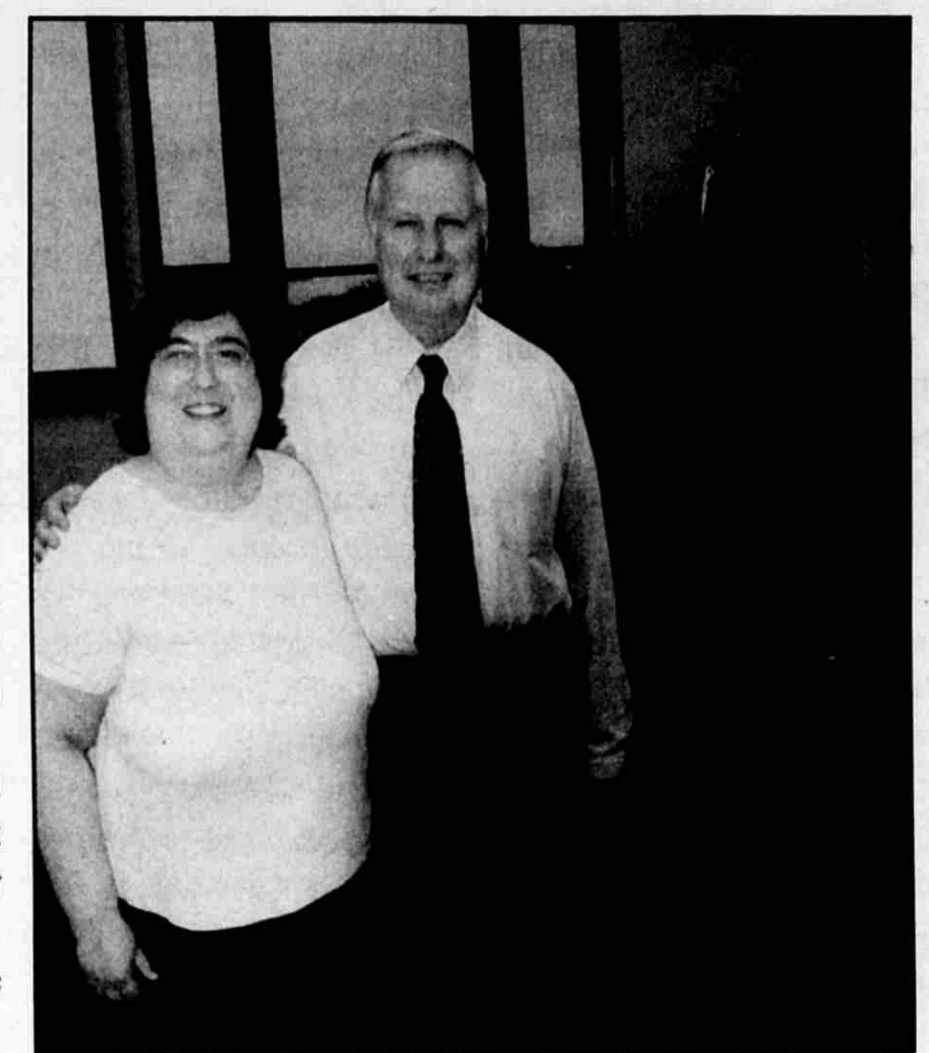
In other business, the renewal of the operating millage for the Lowell Area Museum will be up for vote in the November 8 general election.

The museum is asking for the renewal of 0.25 mills approved by the voters in 2002.

The council approved updated fees for transient merchants, peddlers and for impounding dogs and cats. The last time the fees were updated was in 1991.

More trees will be removed near the Vergennes and Lincoln Lake roads intersection. The council approved \$3,000 from the airport fund for the tree removal.

The Moose will be using the parking lot by King Milling for the July 4 celebration.



Anne and Dave Pasquale

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

After 24 years of service to the City of Lowell, City Manager David Pasquale is retiring. Please come and wish him farewell **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2011 4 P.M. TO 6 P.M.** AT **LOWELL CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS** Second Floor 301 East Main Street
Coffee and cake will be served

It is absurd to divide people into good and bad. People are either charming or tedious. - Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)

WE SHIP UPS!

Our Prices Can't Be Beat!
Call Us for a Price Quote!
Weight & Zip Code Required for a Quote

The Lowell Ledger
105 N. Broadway, 897-9261

Here We Go Again!

The Lowell Moose Lodge #809 is Proud To Sponsor Our Annual **KIDS FISHING DERBY**

SATURDAY, JUNE 25
at **Stoney Creek**
9:00 a.m. - 12 noon

3 GROUPS:
3-6 yrs; 7-9 yrs; 10-13 yrs.

FREE HOTDOGS/ SODA/PRIZES & FUN!

Just bring your pole and we will supply the bait!
No Boats Please!
Open To The Public

Sponsored by the Lowell Moose Lodge

COOKING CLASSES at the FROM Food Pantry

11535 FULTON ST., LOWELL 897-8260

Learn to cook with the items available in the food pantry **JUNE 15, 22 & 29**

Held in the room next to the Food Pantry

You're Invited!

June 15 - Breakfast and snacks
June 22 - Summer dinners
June 29 - Winter dinners **5:00-6:00 PM**

Recipes and samples will be provided along with teaching how to prepare the recipe and work with spices and herbs to enhance flavor!

www.fromlowell.org

Sizzlin' Summer kicks off with patriotic theme

by Emma Palova

The Sizzlin' Summer concert series kicked-off in perfect weather with the 126 Army Band of the National Guard last Thursday on the Riverwalk.

The band, dressed in full fatigue uniforms and boots, played the anthem as the Color Guard marched in front of the podium.

There were many war veterans present sitting in the front line mostly formed of wheelchairs.

Later, the army's mini band, composed from players of all ages, played classic rock and roll in front of the stage.

The concert differed from its normal format because several conductors

took turns in directing the large band.

Young dancers, Alexis Noffke and Alex McIntire, showed off their skills in dancing swing.

A big surprise for Ella Bolan came during the intermission as producer Gordon Gould asked Randall Rapelje to come to the podium. At first there was silence, followed by whispering, and finally Rapelje appeared.

Then Bolan, totally blindsided, came to the podium.

And here, in front of the crowds, Rapelje pulled out a ring and knelt in front of Ella.

"Ella, I love you," he said. "Will you marry me?"

In a later interview, Ella said she didn't know anything about what was going to happen.

"It was scary, but it was exciting," she said. "It happened in front of my entire family and friends."

Rapelje had been planning the surprise for months ahead.

"I wanted to make it more exciting," he said.

The couple plans to get married in Lowell.

The next concert is "The Adams Family" with classic favorites from the 50s and the 60s.



Mini band plays rock and roll.



126 Army Band



Young dancers Alexis Noffke and Alex McIntire.

Randall Rapelje asks Ella Bolan to marry him.

business directory

TO ADVERTISE IN THE LEDGER BUSINESS DIRECTORY Call 897-9261

CURTIS
CLEANERS • LAUNDRY
FREE PICKUP & DELIVERY
Lowell • Ada • Cascade • Ionia • Grand Rapids
JUNE SPECIAL
20% Off Mens' & Ladies' Suits
(616) 897-9809 • 1410 W. Main • Lowell

Rich's Service Co.
In-Home Appliance Repair
Dryer Vent Cleaning
INSURED • 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE
WASHERS • DRYERS • REFRIGERATORS
GARBAGE DISPOSALS • STOVES • DISHWASHERS
209 E. Main St. RICH CURTIS
Lowell, MI 49331 (616) 897-5686

KIRK COLLINS
Owner
Auto Value
AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLY, INC.
1450 W. Main St., Lowell, MI
(616) 897-9231
HOURS: MON - FRI 8-7; SAT 8-5:30; SUN 9-3

ASPHALT PAVING & REPAIR
STORMZAND ASPHALT MAINTENANCE
Paving
Seal Coating with Sand
Hot Rubber Crack Repair
Cut & Replace Patching
Striping
Parking Lots & Driveways
Licensed & Insured
Serving West Michigan Since 1989
(616) 897-9872 Free Estimates
ASPHALT PAVING & REPAIR

FRY DADDY'S
608 West Main Street
Lowell, MI 49331
897-FISH
Fish Shrimp Wine Dinors - Chicken Strips
DAILY SPECIALS
OPEN TUESDAY - SATURDAY
Best Fish In Town!!!

It Pays To Advertise In
The Lowell Ledger
Business & Service Directory
For As Little As **\$8.50** Per Week!
Call 897-9261

BILL WHEELER
Certified Public Accountant
W. J. WHEELER MICHIGAN
103 Riverside Dr.
Lowell, Michigan 49331
616-897-7711

Ostrander
WINDOWS, SIDING & ROOFING INC.
9019 W. Belding Rd. (M-44), Belding, Michigan
Phone: (616) 794-0661
Toll Free: (888) 750-7078
Fax: (616) 794-0105
Email: info@ostranderinc.com
Web: ostranderinc.com

viewpoint

to the editor

school's decision unfair

Dear Editor,

This is a letter to the Lowell community, originally sent to the LHS principal, superintendent and school board president. To date I have had no reply from anyone.

Dear Mrs. Patricia Murphy Alderman,

I don't think you realize the extent of hurt that was caused by your refusal to allow Joel Michael Bieri to be in the graduation festivities on Sunday. Many people spoke to me afterward and expressed opinions that the action was hard-headed, hard-hearted and the actions of a control freak! Those are unkind words, but no more unkind than your actions on

Sunday. Some people said that your action cancelled all the fine words that were spoken by you and the graduates. Pure hypocrisy! The attributes we are trying to instill in our community, respect and dignity for the person, were not just overlooked; they were deliberately and viciously denied.

Joel's mom came from the Kentwood school district and thought poorly of moving to Lowell. Now you have confirmed that it was an unwise move. Thanks a bunch.

Joel's classmates were proud of Joel for honoring

Lowell by being our exchange student to France. But this was not mentioned in the opening remarks telling of the fine accomplishments of the class of 2011. How unfortunate that it was overlooked or deliberately omitted.

I called the school and asked to discuss this with you. I was told you were unavailable, so I left my phone number for a return call. Instead, your fine secretary called and said nothing is negotiable with you. I admitted that my grandson made a mistake and wished to apologize and be forgiven. I was told that no forgiveness is allowed. For what reason? Because it is always done this way. That's one of the world's oldest lame excuses. If there is a better way of

doing things, revision should take place!

I'd like to suggest that it might be a better time to have graduation practice after the senior breakfast. Whenever it is done, students should be excused for extenuating circumstances. Joel had the choice between two mandatory sessions. He had just begun a new job at Meijer, which he hopes will help to finance his college education next year. He was scheduled to work the whole weekend. He asked to have Saturday off for his graduation party and Sunday for his graduation. This was granted. But then he learned he would have to attend mandatory training on Thursday morning. I believe he made the best choice of which to attend. I believe he made a

youthful mistake in not getting a written note from his employer. He truly did not believe it would be accepted if he did which says something else uncomplimentary about the high school administration.

A student, Nick Crook, also tried to intercede for Joel but was told the principal had no time for him. Jon's dad went to bat for him but also without success. Kim Nyson told me I didn't know the whole story behind this, so I immediately drove to my son's house. They informed me that there is no more to the story. God offers forgiveness for repentance but the Lowell principal does not.

I boldly considered calling Channel 8 TV and getting this on the news. Then I seriously thought of the fine reputation of the many people both my husband and I worked with in our years of teaching at Lowell and decided not to smudge Lowell's reputation for the despicable actions of one person.

After graduation, Joel's cousin, Sean DenBraven, had to leave immediately with the U.S. Marine recruiter to go to Lansing. The boys have shared four years of high school, had their graduation party together on Saturday, but couldn't get a cap and gown picture together because Joel was also denied his rightfully owned and paid for outfit. Where's the justice in this? What did you think he would do with it if you released it to his possession? So mom and grand-mother and aunts and uncles stayed home and some were in tears. This is not how this graduation should have been. I am so sorry that it was such a travesty of justice. Joel was a good student and played both hockey and tennis for Lowell. His seat was conspicuously empty. I don't desire your apology Mrs. Alderman. I'd like someone else in your job!

Sincerely and sadly,
Janet J. Bieri
Lowell



By Shelly MacNaughton

hard to match anywhere. Covered bridges once were uncommonly common in this vicinity because a pioneer bridge builder, residing in Greenville, favored this type of construction and sold highway commissions galore on them.

50 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger June 29, 1961

In an announcement this week the Lowell Lumber and Coal Company announced the purchase of the C.H. Runciman Co. coal business in Lowell.

This will bring Lowell coal dealership to a single source. The announcement reveals that other fuels have caused the decline of use of coal to where it is not economical for more than one dealer to stock this fuel.

125 Years Ago The Lowell Journal Entry is missing

100 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger June 22, 1911

Fourteen Graduates Receive Diplomas
The commencement exercises of the Lowell High School were held at the city hall yesterday evening at 8 o'clock.

Joseph H. Hamilton
We are today called upon to chronicle the death, of one of Lowell's best known and representative citizens, which occurred early last Monday morning. Although Mr. Hamilton had been ill for a number of weeks, great hopes were entertained by his physicians and family for his recovery and the news of his death came as a great blow to his family and as an irreparable loss to the entire community.

75 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo June 18, 1936

The eighty year-old covered bridge over Flat River, at Frank Jones' place in Fallsburg, has entered upon another year of service. The bridge is one of the few of its type left in Michigan. With the River vista, it presents a scene of pastoral beauty which would be

health



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

Carpal tunnel syndrome

Carpal tunnel syndrome is a common, painful disorder of the wrist and hand. It happens when the median nerve, which runs through the wrist, gets squeezed under a band of tissue over the wrist joint. This causes pain and other symptoms along the nerve. Anything that increases pressure on the median nerve can cause carpal tunnel syndrome. Sometimes pregnancy and health conditions like arthritis and diabetes can increase the pressure on the nerve. People who use their hands and wrists repeatedly in the same way (for example, typists, carpenters and cashiers) are more likely to develop carpal tunnel syndrome.

Carpal tunnel syndrome may cause pain, numbness or tingling in your wrist and hand, mostly in the middle finger, index finger and

thumb. The symptoms are usually worse at night and when you use your wrists and hands a lot. Over time, grip strength may get weaker and you may tend to drop heavy objects.

The diagnosis of carpal tunnel syndrome can often be made by examination of the hands and wrist. There are also nerve studies that can be done. These test how your nerves respond to electrical stimulation.

There are several treatment options for carpal tunnel syndrome. Not repeating the same hand movements over and over, doing hand and wrist exercises, and wearing a wrist splint may help. Anti-inflammatory medications may help to reduce the swelling. If these treatments don't help, surgery may be an option.

the lowell **ledger**
Email Us!
ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com

weddings

Sowle/Dittrich



Daniela and Pike Sowle

The marriage of Daniela Karin Cynthia Dittrich and Pike Daniel Sowle was celebrated on May 7, 2011, in Moab, Utah. The groom is the son of Jim and Ann Sowle of Lowell. The bride is the daughter of Walter and Erika Dittrich of Mainz-Bretzenheim, Germany and the late Anny Arzberger Dittrich.

engagements

Feenstra/Gessler

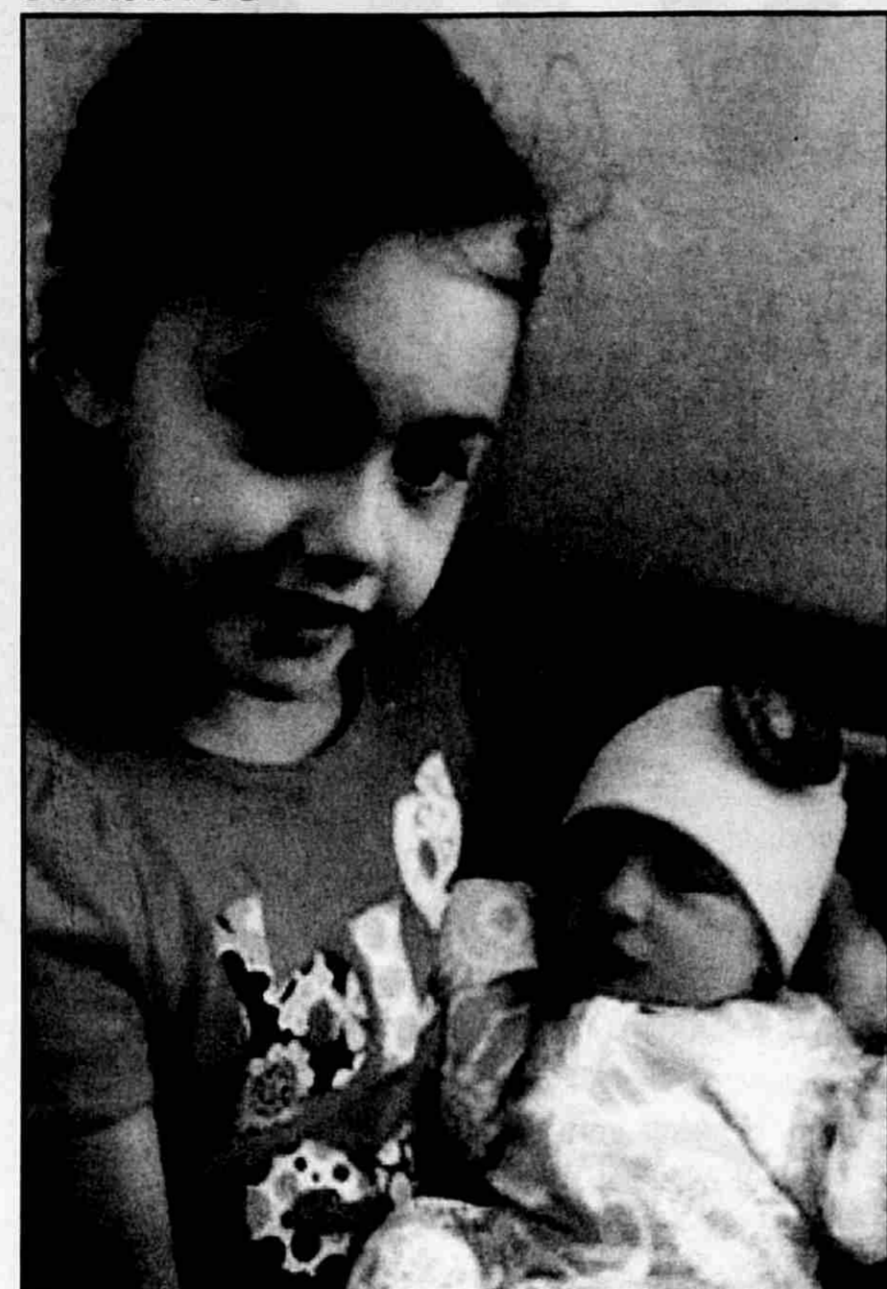


Brandon Gessler and Cyndi Feenstra

Chuck and Barb Feenstra of Grand Rapids, Heidi Gessler-Hussey of Lowell, and Brian and Cris Gessler of Hudsonville are proud to announce the engagement of their children, Cyndi Jayne Feenstra and Brandon Patrick Gessler. The bride is a graduate of Forest Hills Northern and Calvin College. The groom is a graduate of Lowell High School.

area births

Carbines



Mara Grace and Ella Felyse Bea Carbines

Jeffrey and Dawn Carbines, along with big sister, Mara Grace, of Lowell are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Ella Felyse Bea, born June 11, 2011, weighing 7 lbs. 6 oz. Grandparents are Marcia Carbines and Bill Carbines, both of Grand Rapids, and David and Deborah Heckerson of Potomac, IL.

New name and logo for longstanding Lowell Arts organization unveiled during Art Attack

by Emma Palova

It was a party like no other on the lawn by the Lowell Area Arts Council building, complete with a string band playing Mozart.

A blackened roasted pig, sporting a straw hat and an apple in his mouth, was awaiting carving inside while the crowd was waiting for the big announcement. It must have been the perfect week for big announcements.

Jack Lane, council board president and artist Gary Eldridge presented the new name and logo for the arts council at the event.

The Lowell Area Arts Council is now Lowell Arts!

Lane said the purpose of the name change is to stimulate a new sense of engagement with the community of Lowell while continuing to reflect on its diverse support for all things artistic, including music, theatre, fine art, crafts and more.

"It is time to move the organization forward and we invite the community to join us as we continue to dream big dreams, just as our founders did over 35 years ago," he said.

As part of this new drive, Lowell Arts! will be offering free membership to new members, development of a new website, and new outdoor signage for the organization's building on Hudson Street.

Eldridge said there is a need for change of pace. "We need to start looking forward with a new set of eyes," he said.

The organization is now looking for new ideas as it hopes to move progressively forward.

"We're looking for suggestions as we take

a look back and a huge look forward," said Lowell Arts! director Lorain Smalligan.

And the new games at the Art Attack were a big hit this year, according to Smalligan.

But, the roasted pig remained the king of the show, serving also as a prop to other caterers like Tina Greene of Kissing Rock Kitchens dangerously swishing around the carving knife.

"I loved the pig," said Smalligan. Approximately 85 people got to taste the delicacy of the other white meat.



Jack Lane and Gary Eldridge make the announcement.

she'll have a pig again at a graduation party.

Chef Ron Schell didn't disappoint with his pork au jus, vegetable medley, potato salad, cole slaw, corn bread and baked beans.

There was an eclectic mix of auction items from massages and electric toothbrushes to silk batik by Zuri-na Ariffin.

The auction items that went for the highest bid were two timeshares, each for \$850.

The catering was provided by Grand Volute and CaterCat.

Smalligan estimated that \$7,500 was raised at the Art Attack.

"On a beautiful summer evening we had a fun party in our own back yard," she said. "It was a wonderful way for us to announce our new name and logo."



Marilyn Monroe print signed by Tony Curtis and donated by Jera Smith was among the auction items.

Among the people enjoying the party were friends and arts' volunteers Lil Bossecher and Eva Cain.

"If she bids against me, I'll make her walk home," laughed Cain.

Cain wanted to bid on a basket containing the coupons to Cascade Roadhouse.

Bossecher, who knows everybody in Lowell, said

LOW COST SPAY & NEUTER
No restrictions. Available for everyone. Also vaccinations, tests and parasite control. Call 897-8865. www.spayneutrexpress.com

happy birthday!
JUNE 22 Michael Korte, Byron Pat Brenk, Jim Francis I, Ken Stager III.
JUNE 23 Jane Rogers, Brinna Manszewski, Fetterhoff, Wingerter, Katy Quinton

JUNE 24 Saralyn Vezino, Gay Pfaller, Ramee Guild, Fred Fyan, Roger Barr.
JUNE 25 Ann Wittenbach, Kim Raines, Angela Lonero.
JUNE 26 Cathy Acker, Velma Perry, Dwane Cavanaugh, Pat Roth, Hunter Jamieson, David Scott, J.R. Alstine, Elliot Peel.
JUNE 27 Dylan Schneider, Aaron Kroemer.
JUNE 28 Brian Doyle.

area churches

LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
201 N. Washington Lowell, MI • 897-8800
Pastor Wes Hershberger
Sundays - Christian Education... 9:15 a.m.
Celebration... 10:40 a.m.
Wednesdays - Kid's Service, Teen's Service, Adult Bible Study... 7:00 p.m.
Lowell Naz - Where People Matter

ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Kirby and Harrison
Alto • 616-691-8011
Worship... 9:30 A.M.
Morning Worship... 10:00 A.M.
Children's Church... 9:30 A.M.
OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS
Pastor Dean Bailey

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

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.
"The Source" Youth: 7:00 p.m.
Loving God ... Loving People!

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL
2275 West Main Street • 897-7168
Internet: http://www.fblowell.org
Rev. W. Lee Taylor & Pastor Phil Severn
Sun. Worship Service... 9:30 A.M. & 11:00 P.M.
Sunday School Hour... 11:00 A.M.
AWANA EXCITE-TEENS... Wed. 8:15 P.M.
Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times
Nursery Provided • Barrier Free

SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell
Pastor Dr. Mike Conkline
9:45 A.M. ... Sunday School
10:30 A.M. ... Fellowship
11:00 A.M. ... Worship
897-9863
Nursery & Children
Worship Programs Provided
A friend...a family...a mission!

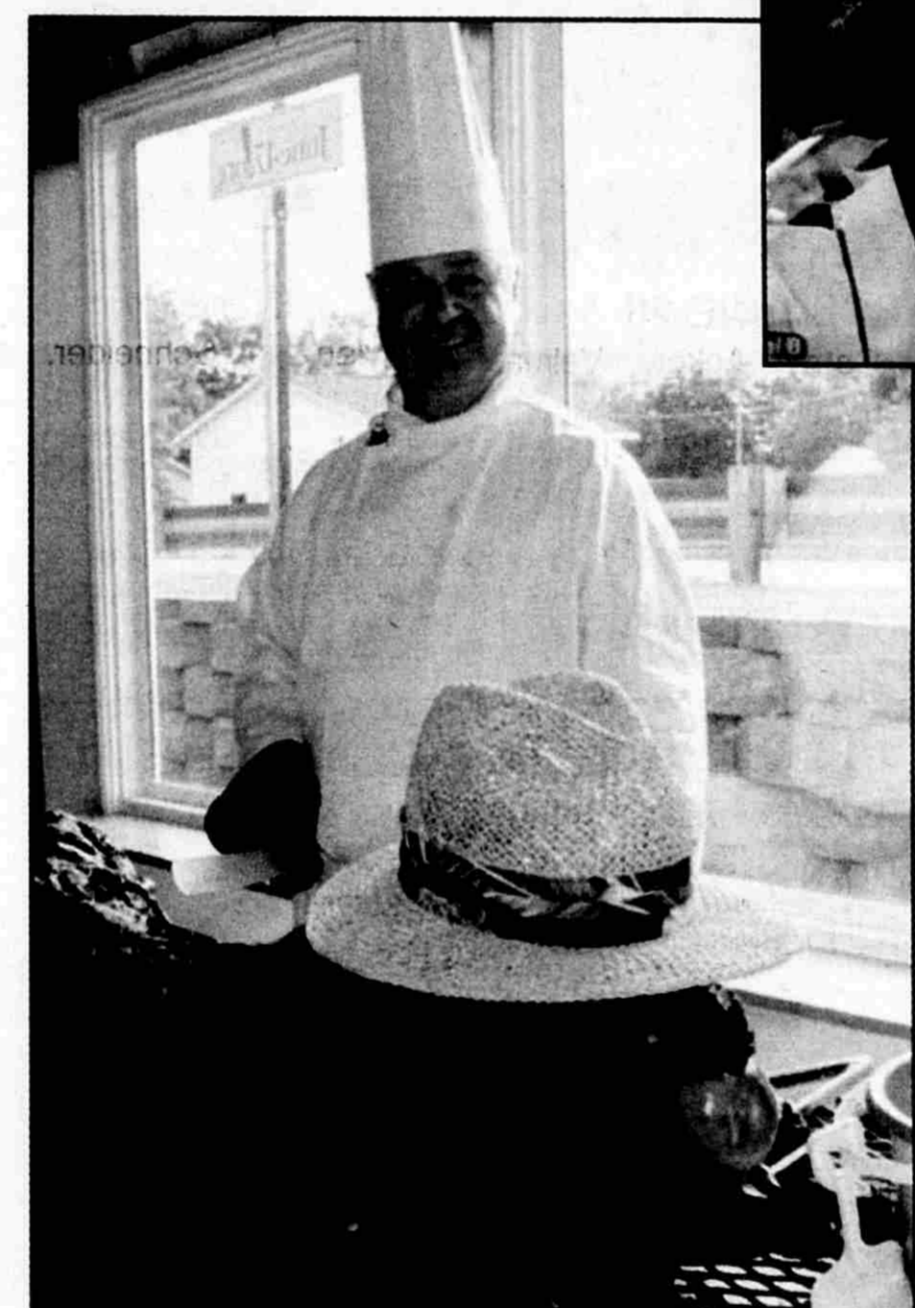
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL
621 E. Main Street • 897-5936
www.lowellumc.com
WORSHIP... 9:30 a.m.
Rev. Rick Blunt
Barrier-free entrance

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
Fr. Eugene Okoli
402 Amity St. • 897-9820
www.stmary-lowell.com
Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM
Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM
Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM
Saturday confessions: 4-4:45 PM
Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETE WIGINS 897-7915
SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 303. ENTV FOR 24-HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING



A-1 MOBILE ROOF-OVER SYSTEM
Michigan's Oldest and Finest Roof Replacement System
FREE ESTIMATES
12x60 \$2980 Installed 14x70 \$3980
Conserves Energy • Made in Michigan
1-800-872-2089 BBB

BUSY. BUSY. BUSY.
Deborah A Wilks, Agent
2050 W Main Street Lowell, MI 49331
Bus: 616-897-9237
deborah.wilks.pwmq@statefarm.com
Life insurance shouldn't wait.
Even though life is busy, take a moment to reflect on what's most important. For peace of mind, protect your family with State Farm® life insurance. Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there. CALL ME TODAY.
State Farm
State Farm Life Insurance Company (Not licensed in MA, NY or WI)
State Farm Life and Accident Assurance Company (Licensed in NY and WI)
0901038



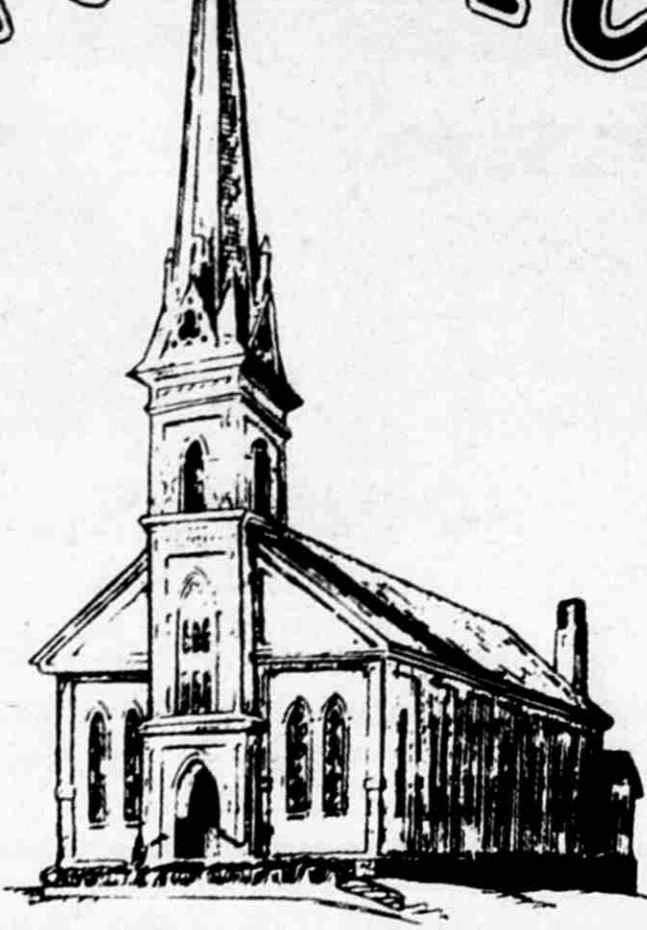
Chef Ron Schell with his roasted pig.

2011 Graduation Celebration Honoring BRYAN ROBERT ROTH
Friday, June 24 • 4 to 8 p.m.
Given at Wilda Terrie Home
6400 Bowen Rd. E. • 4 miles north of Saranac
Bryan is formerly of Lowell & Paradise.
Graduated from Saranac High School
Great Job, Bry, Love Dad

Strawberries Are Here! Rasch Farm Market
(616) 897-8212
MARKET OPEN 9:00 A.M.
Corner of Lincoln Lake & 4 mile

June 30
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Lowell shows a Sizzlin' Summer Concerts
Live Music on the Flat River On the Riverwalk • Historic Downtown Lowell
Stolen Horses (Country)
From Baritone vocals to "Tele Twang" - Stolen Horses is West Michigan's premier Country Band with Nashville style musicians including: David Lyle (lead vocals & rhythm guitar), Joe Afton (lead guitar & vocals), Rusty Kitchens (bass guitar & vocals) and Sean Kittredge (drums & vocals). This is your true country group of the North. Stolen Horses will play covers from today's charts, traditional Country to the core, and best of all, originals from this extremely high energy band.
www.thestolenhorsesband.com
Live Music • Food & Spirits • Free Admission • Free Parking
NEED INFO?
www.lowellartscouncil.org or 616.897.8545
www.discoverlowell.org or 616.897.9161

ST. PATRICK PARISH FESTIVAL



Friday to Sunday
June 24 - 26, 2011

Parnell Road at 5 Mile, N.E.

**CHICKEN
BAR-B-Q DINNER**

Sunday, June 26

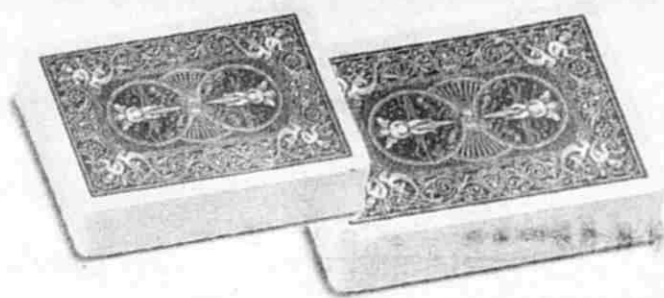
Served from 12- 5 pm

Take Outs Available

Adults \$8.00

Children (12 & Under) \$3.00

FRIDAY



**EUCHRE
TOURNAMENT**

7:00 PM

BEER TENT

7:00 PM - 12:00 AM

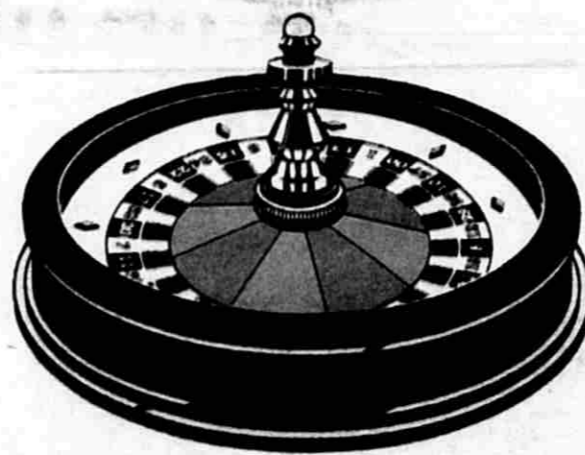
5K RUN

7:00 PM

SATURDAY

AUCTION

6:30 PM



LAS VEGAS

7:00 PM - 12:00 AM

BEER TENT

6:00 PM - 12:00 AM

SUNDAY

ST. PATRICK PARISH
CASH RAFFLE

Drawing June 26, 2011 at 6 pm

Grand Prize:

\$15,000

2nd Prize: \$2,500.00

3rd Prize: \$1,000.00

4th Prize: \$500.00

Ticket Price: \$5.00 per Ticket

Raffle License No. C25261

SUNDAY FAMILY FUN

Children's Games

Live Music

50/50

Bingo (12:30 - 4:30 pm)

Beer Tent

Annual Custom Classic Car, Truck & Antique Tractor Show

EZ IDLE

(Bluegrass Music)

Friday 7 - 10 PM

Phoenix Rose

Saturday -

8:00 - Midnight

The Diddle Styx

Polka Band

Sunday 1 - 5 PM