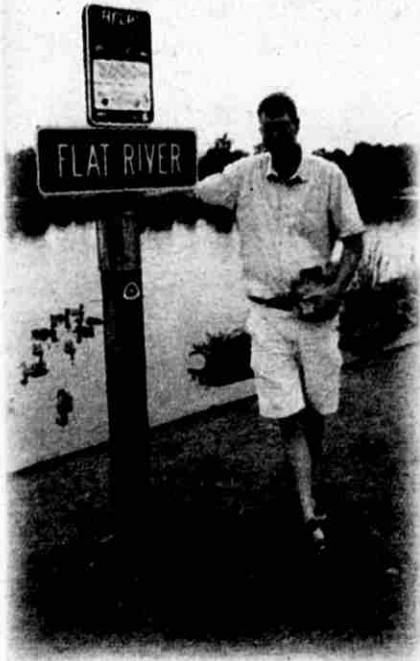


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managing the trails



page 16

planning commission



page 3

on the riverwalk



page 8

Lowell woman is charged with embezzling over \$98,000 from athletic boosters club

by Casey Cheney

Carrie Curtis-Fisher, treasurer of the Lowell Area Schools Athletic Boosters Club, was charged last Wednesday at her arraignment with embezzling \$98,588.70 over a three-year period, as well as forgery and using a computer to commit a crime.

The club raised between \$75,000 and \$100,000 annually, according to a statement released from the boosters club the day of Fishers' arraignment.

Fisher plead not guilty to the charges and will appear before the court for a preliminary examination on August 3. At this examination, the state must prove that a felony has been committed and was committed by the defendant.

In addition to embezzlement, Fisher was charged with forging the signature of the booster's president, Doris Drain, on a check she wrote September 13, 2008, for \$1,642.41. At the time, Fisher had been treasurer for two months.

The affidavit of probable cause read: "Suspect Fisher utilized a computer to aid in the embezzlement of probable cause."

Her criminal actions on the computer regarded electronic fund transfers, fraudulent electronic record keeping and creating fraudulent tax statements.

Fisher wrote the checks to either herself or her company, Curtis Accounting.

In the memo she wrote, "sales tax payment," then forged Drain's signature "to prevent suspicion from bank

employees when cashing/depositing the checks."

According to a statement from the boosters club, the ebbing funds went, in part, to make up sales taxes owed since 2002. It also cited bad weather and the economy.

"However, it was a very different reason," the statement went on to say. "A club officer allegedly channeled over \$90,000 of Boosters' funds to her personal use."

Fisher avoided suspicion for nearly two and a half years.

The club requested an audit in March of this year after then-president Doris Drain received complaints from vendors regarding overdue invoices.

The audit led to an investigation by the Michigan State Police Major Case Team, which led to a

search of Fisher's home and her arrest.

The charge of embezzlement Fisher is facing is punishable by up to 15 years and fines tripling the amount embezzled.

The boosters has recently reduced its stipends to sports programs by fifty percent.

The statement said, "The boosters are disappointed the athletes of Lowell Schools have been denied some support.

We continue to be dedicated to raising funds and supporting our student-athletes."



Carrie Curtis-Fisher was arraigned last week on several charges. (file photo)

A warm welcome at the fairgrounds for visiting Michigander bike tour

by Emma Palova

The Michigander bike tour arrived at the Lowell fairgrounds on Tuesday in the middle of the scorching heat wave that swept the country.

Bicyclists Jeanne Lahaie of Macatawa and Holly Husted of Kalamazoo took the six-day tour option originating in South Haven to keep up with their friends, to stay fit and to support the fundraiser for the Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance.

"I did it because my friend does it," Husted said. Husted's friend Nancy

Aymbs introduced her to the tour that has just celebrated its 20-year anniversary. This was the first time for Husted, who is a nurse practitioner, but her bicycle partner, English teacher Lahaie, has been doing the tour since 2003.

They have been training for the 340-mile ride since spring accumulating miles.

More than 400 bicyclists camped out and enjoyed the camaraderie of fellow cyclists at the fairgrounds, historical displays and food catered by Backwater Café.

Site coordinator for

Michigander bike tour, continued, page 9



Holly Husted and Jeanne Lahaie prior to heading out on the Michigander.

Grattan Twilight Cancer Walk races forward

by Casey Cheney

Grattan Raceway will turn out a big crowd this Thursday to raise funds for the fight against cancer for the third annual Grattan Twilight Cancer Walk. Typically during the events, the raceway is filled with the deafening roar of engines, but this time it will be replaced with the hum of conversation, laughter and the pad of walking feet.

Donna Gundrum, who started the event with her friend April Kole, said the event has raised \$19,000 over the last two years. In 2009, 100 walkers came out, then 311 walkers in 2010. Gundrum said they're planning on 500 or more this year.

"We aren't even to the walk yet and we have \$6,000," she said, adding that she would love to match the total of \$13,000 from 2010. "But whatever it is, it is. It's awesome regardless."

She said the Grattan community has fully supported the walk each year and now members of other communities, like Kentwood and Grandville, are making an appearance.

Gundrum said, "It's spreading and that's a good thing."

The project started when Gundrum and Kole, both cancer survivors,

Grattan cancer walk, continued, page 2

50 CENTS



Lowell Light and Power board recognizes excellent performance of Light and Power general manager

During a recent board meeting, board members of Lowell Light and Power (LLP) presented general manager Greg Pierce with a plaque signifying their appreciation for his outstanding leadership, commitment

and dedication to Lowell Light and Power and the community of Lowell.

Pierce, who joined the utility nearly three years ago, has helped foster change and develop long-range vision for the Lowell electric utility. LLP has made significant strides toward financial health with strong operating incomes for the last three fiscal years. Numerous projects are now underway to ensure the future reliability of the utility and ride in the wake of the prestigious Na-

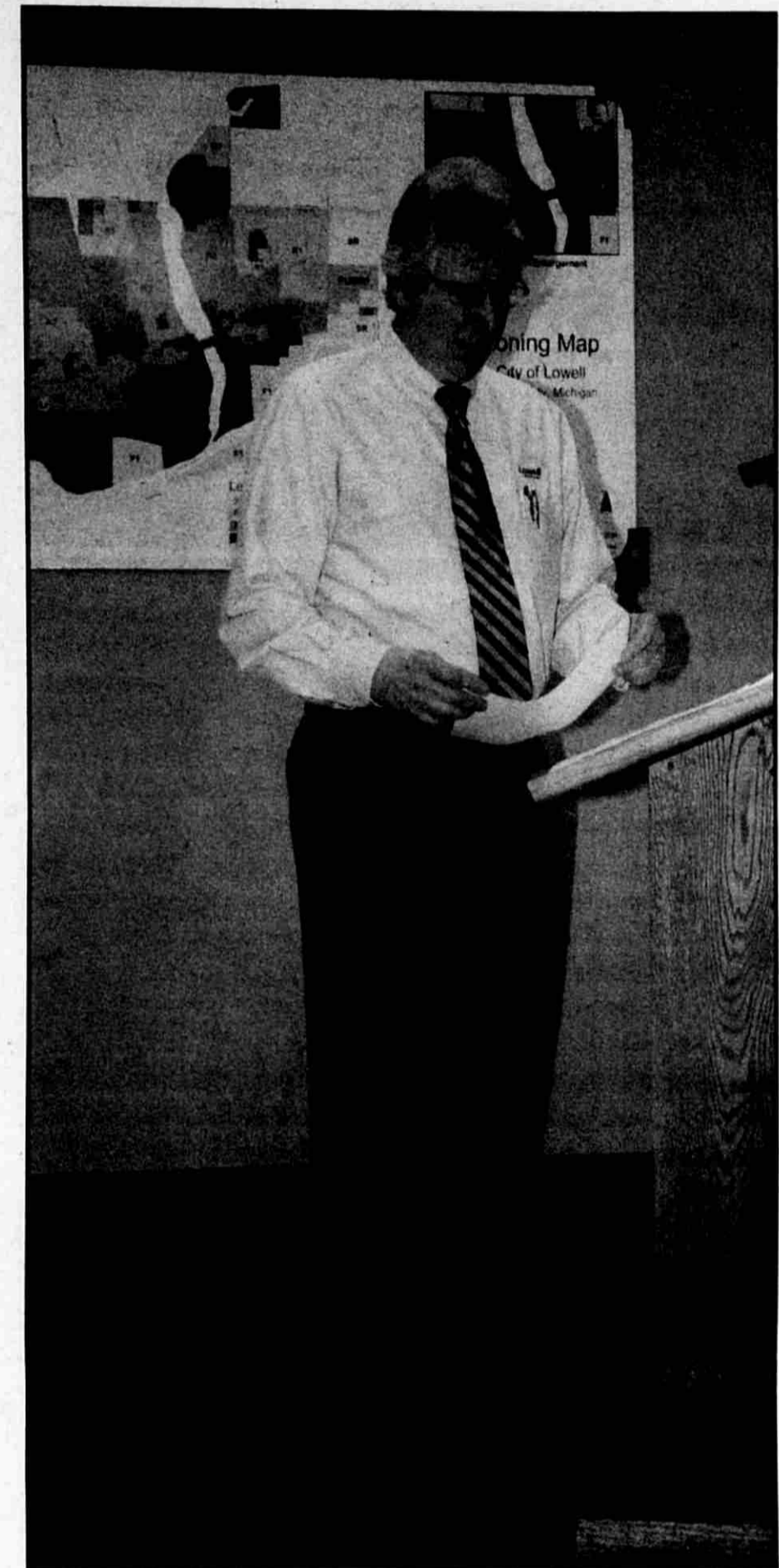
tional RP3 (Reliable Public Power Provider) designation awarded to LLP in March of this year.

Lowell Light and Power is currently in the process of completing a feasibility study for the development of a Bio-digestion facility in Lowell that would produce a renewable biogas to be used for generations. The utility is also in the process of reviewing the purchase of a new combined cycle generator to replace its three outdated peaking units at the

N. Broadway location. This fall, the utility will be conducting a pilot study with new digital meters that allow monthly meter data to be collected remotely and transmitted to the billing office through a fiberoptic network.

Earlier this spring, Lowell Light and Power joined several other communities across the country in becoming the first to install electric vehicle charging stations as part of a nation-

al charging network called "ChargePoint America." "We are very pleased with the new direction of Lowell Light and Power and wanted to show our support and appreciation to Mr. Pierce," said board chairman Greg Canfield. "We have set a strategic goal to be a premier utility for our size and I believe we are headed in the right direction with the right leadership."



Lowell Light and Power general manager Greg Pierce at a city council meeting. (file photo)

Grattan cancer walk, continued

were discussing ways to raise money for cancer patients. Then, the conversation turned to walking for exercise. The women then decided to combine the two.

"Then it was just getting together with the rest of our friends and planning it," Gundrum said.

The raceway gave

them the green light for using the track whenever they wanted as long as it wasn't a weekend. Then, ten women "just get together and hammer it out."

As for the popularity of the twilight cancer walk has gotten over two years, she said, "It's humbling to me to see these people willing to help people they don't even know."

The walk this year has new features: a child's

play area where volunteers monitor the kids and a live performance by Stroke of Midnite. Hot dogs will also be supplied, as well as free ice cream courtesy of Rocky's Dairy Depot.

Those interested in registering can do so online at grattantlewalk.com or between 5 and 7 pm on Thursday. With the \$10 registration fee, the walkers get a t-shirt and beverages.

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- Evan Esar (1899 - 1995)

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○ FRIENDS WITH BENEFITS (R) 6:50, 7:10, 9:30

○ 3D HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 2 (PG-13) 6:50 PREMIUM PER 3D THEATER 6:05, 9:00

○ HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 2 (PG-13) 6:45, 9:45

○ HORRIBLE BOSSSES (R) 6:05, 7:20, 9:55

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along main street

LHS CLASS OF 1976
The Class of 1976 will have their 35th class reunion on Oct. 1, 2011, at the Grand Volute. Anyone who would like to help organize, meet July 28 at 7 pm at Larkin's, or contact Jim Reagan, 897-7179.

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.

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.

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Planning commission bounces variance request to the city ZBA

The Lowell city planning commission sent a variance request for two additions to the Jice Pharmaceuticals to the zoning board of appeals (ZBA) following planning consultant's advice on Monday night.

Jice, located on South Washington Street, submitted a site plan review for a proposed expansion in an industrial district. The expansion includes addition to the existing office and manufacturing areas and a metal building.

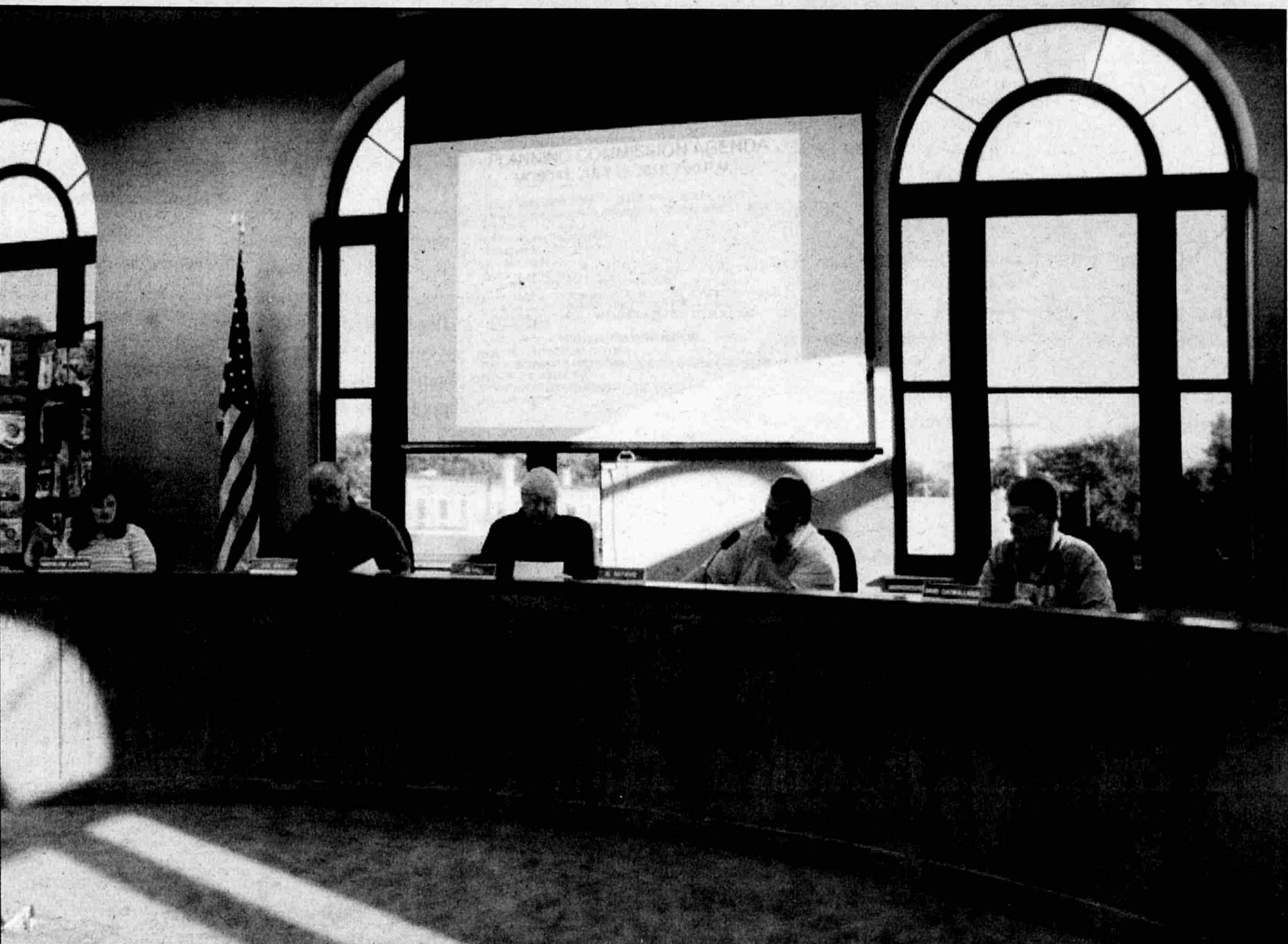
However, the existing structure is non-conforming in terms of setbacks, lot coverage and the proposed expansion of an already nonconforming use. These require variances from the ZBA.

According to planning consultant Jay Kilpatrick of Williams & Works, the variance issues should be cleared up prior to the site plan review by the planning commission.

"The planning commission does not need to make a recommendation, get the variance off the table and then deal with the site plan," said Kilpatrick. "Let them make that call."

In the past, the planning commission used to make a recommendation to the ZBA.

However, since the city is in transition with the new manager Mark Howe, chairman Jim Hall said the planning commission should be taking the recommendation of the professional planner.



Commissioners Maryalene LaPonsie, Don Green, Jim Hall, Al Mathews and David Cadwallader discuss Jice Pharmaceuticals' expansion.

"Maybe it's time to make that adjustment," he said. "We haven't had a professional planner in 20 years."

The city of Lowell is unique in a sense that the city council is the ZBA, according to Kilpatrick.

"Let's get the variance out of the way so the planning commission has a clean

site plan," said Kilpatrick. Chairman Jim Hall said he had issues with the two trailers sitting next to the Jice building.

"I want to see something to improve Washington Street façade," he said. "I don't want signage on Kent Street."

However, according to contractor Travis Miller,

the addition will take care of the two trailers used for storage.

A buffer should be kept between a nearby residence and the additions. The lot coverage based on the current plan is 44 percent.

The ZBA will take on the variance request at the Aug. 1 city council meeting.

In other business, the planning commission put on hold the review of its manual pending training. One of the priorities will include setbacks in residential districts, mainly the older neighborhoods.

It is not an ennobling experience. Poverty entails fear and stress and sometimes depression. It means a thousand petty humiliations and hardships.

- J.K. Rowling, Harvard Commencement Address, 2008

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Lessons

Two birds, one white and one much larger and darker, came into view above Lake Independence in the U.P. near where the Yellow Dog River enters the lake...

we think are crucial to maintaining our vision of a suitable lifestyle. They have no idea when they are in a no-bars cell phone area.

The world will not always be the same, and people will need to continue to adapt to changing circumstances such as dwindling resources, population increases, weather extremes, pollution, and economic crises.

Hopefully though, there will always be wild places and wild things to help us form a realistic perspective on what is important in life and our relationship with nature.

Early this morning a Canada goose family fed on vegetation along the shore-

Planning A Wedding?

Advertisement for Carlson Craft line of invitations, featuring a bride and the company name LITHO.

financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

Time to re-examine your retirement plans?

As a nation, we appear to be getting nervous about retirement. We aren't sure if we'll have enough money, and we don't know if we'll be able to retire when we had originally planned.

health



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

Glucosamine and arthritis

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ple who are allergic to shellfish react to the meat, not the shell, people with these allergies should still be careful when taking glucosamine.

Each brought expertise and a willingness to tackle the challenges - safely and expediently - which resulted in our customers having power restored in short order.

viewpoint

to the editor

lowell lends a helping hand

To The Editor, On behalf of the Village Council, all village employees, and certainly on behalf of our residents, we write to thank the City of South Haven for their assistance in helping restore electrical power in the Village of Paw Paw in the aftermath of the storm that blew through Monday, July 11, 2011.

That storm caused significant damage throughout our small community. The storm snapped poles and brought down trees and branches all over town.

ciently. That is where your community stepped in.

The City of Lowell sent us personnel and equipment in our time of need. We are grateful.

One goal that was brought up is to develop a long-term plan for street and sidewalk improvements. A long-term plan is a good idea but it doesn't solve the immediate problem.

times dangerous tangles of trees and wires. Yet, they prevailed.

All in South Haven can be very proud of the city and their personnel. Simply put, they were terrific.

You have a great community with outstanding leadership and personnel. We, our employees and our

residents, cannot thank you enough.

Sincerely, Roman Plaszczyk, president; Larry Nielsen, manager; and John Small, director, public services

still not happy with spending

To The Editor, "New city manager starts job in Lowell" was a headline in the July 13th Lowell Ledger. The new city manager with his vision and goals made an interesting article.

The immediate problem is that Lowell has 20 miles of roads that are disintegrating and need to be replaced in the very near future.

lem is that Lowell has 20 miles of roads that are disintegrating and need to be replaced in the very near future. Maybe our new city manager can come up with an idea in how Lowell can replace more than just two or three blocks a year of roads without asking for a millage hike.

Maybe he can come up with an idea in how the city can establish a well-funded equipment fund. Lowell has been on a spending spree for

several decades while Lowell's roads became twice the age of replacement. On top of that, a statewide recession has caused the loss of property tax revenue and revenue sharing.

It's time for Lowell to go back to having a one governing body where all the city taxes go into the general fund except for what the county and the school would get.

There should be no spending on any major project except for the replacing of roads unless it's an emergency. Roads should be the number one agenda.

It will be interesting to hear what our new city manager has to say after he has had a chance to settle into his new job.

Sincerely, Jim Howard Lowell

Military, civilian agencies break down barriers to future technologies



Sen. Carl Levin

So much of our future - Michigan's and the nation's - depends on energy. National security, job creation, competitiveness in the global economy, and our environment all depend on our ability to break free from our dependence on fossil fuels and find the technologies that will power us into the coming decades.

Doing so means we must rethink old methods of doing things and break down the barriers that stand between us and new energy technologies. On July 18 at an event in Detroit, two important federal agencies with different but important missions unveiled a historic agreement that will break down some of those barriers.

The agreement establishes an alliance between the Department of the Army and the Department of Energy aimed at promoting the joint development of advanced vehicle technologies. Significantly, this alliance will become "the primary point of contact" between the Army and Department of Energy in developing new technologies such as efficient power trains; lighter materials; alternative propulsion systems, including batteries; and alternative fuels.

Energy Secretary Steven Chu and Undersecretary of the Army Joseph Westphal announced the agreement at a first-of-its-kind Advanced Vehicle Power Technology Workshop, an event designed to bring ex-

What's more, transporting all that fuel means that our troops, on top of all their other dangerous missions, have to protect a steady stream of fuel convoys, putting them at more risk. And all that transportation is expensive. According to one Pentagon estimate, supplying a remote base in Afghanistan with a single gallon of fuel, once all the transport and security costs are included, can cost as much as \$400.

So new energy technology can mean a real difference from government, academia and the private sector together to discuss how to make vehicles lighter, more efficient, and less dependent on fossil fuels.

Levin, continued, page 7

business directory

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Advertisement for KIRK COLLINS, owner of Snowboat Automotive Supply, Inc., specializing in asphalt paving and repair.

Advertisement for FRY DADDY'S, a fish and seafood restaurant at 608 West Main Street, Lowell, MI.

Advertisement for advertising in The Lowell Ledger Business & Service Directory, with a rate of \$8.50 per week.

Advertisement for BILL WHEELER, Certified Public Accountant, located at 103 Riverside Dr., Lowell, Michigan.

Advertisement for Ostrander, a roofing and siding contractor with a long history in the area.



By Shelly MacNaughton

50 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger July 27, 1961

Albert Zigmont and son Bill, 11010 Grand River Drive, were the first to bring, in 1961, wheat to the King Milling Company. They appeared early Monday morning with wheat that was combined on the day before.

25 Years Ago The Grand Valley Ledger July 30, 1986

Youth and liberty will be the theme when over 800 6-19 year-old Kent County 4-H fanatics will stampede the Lowell fairgrounds next Monday for the opening day of the 1986 Kent County Youth Fair.

125 Years Ago The Lowell Journal Entry missing from files

100 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger

Jim Spadfora was badly burned on the face, hands and arms by the explosion of his gasoline peanut roaster on Saturday morning. He succeeded in tearing off his burning clothes and in preventing what easily would have been another fatality.

75 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo July 23, 1936

A material increase is being made this week in Lowell's paved streets, adding much to the improvement of the town. The additional streets treated with black top surfacing include the following: Lafayette, from Main St. north to the school grounds, five blocks in N. Washington, five blocks in N. Jefferson, South Riverside Dr., from Main St. to Recreation Park and Monroe Ave. north to Oakwood Cemetery.

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.

In The Service

Air Force Airman 1st Class Matthew B. Idema graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.



Matthew B. Idema

He is the son of Terri Bloem of Alto and James Idema of Grand Rapids.

Idema graduated in 2004 from Caledonia High School.

Audit shows declines in alcohol-related crashes, fatalities and arrests, notes increases involving drugs

Overall, deaths resulting from alcohol and/or drug-related crashes increased slightly from 351 in 2009 to 357 in 2010, while injuries decreased from 6,271 to 6,175. However, alcohol-involved traffic deaths decreased from 299 to 283 while drug-involved fatalities went up 29 percent,

college news

Kristen Borup, of Saranac, was named to the Spring Arbor University spring 2011 academic honors list. The academic honors list recognizes full-time students who have received a grade point average of 3.7 or higher for the semester.

Borup is a sophomore majoring in elementary education and the daughter of Derrick and Lori Borup.

Calvin College has announced the following spring 2011 graduates:

from 119 in 2009 to 153 in 2010. Part of this increase is due to increased testing to detect drug-impaired driving.

Law enforcement officers are continually finding drugged drivers behind the wheel during traffic stops, said Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue, director

of the Michigan State Police (MSP). To help address this growing issue, officers have been receiving advanced training to assist them in identifying and arresting these impaired drivers in an effort to make our roadways safer.

The Drunk Driving Audit is an annual report issued by the MSP Criminal Justice Information Center and the Michigan Department of State.

"Education remains critical in preventing people from driving under the influence," said Secretary of State Ruth Johnson. "While the drinking and driving data are encouraging, we must continue educating people about the dangers of driving under the influence and especially drugged-

driving. By working with law enforcement and other safety advocates, we can make Michigan roads even safer."

In 2010, 41,883 alcohol and drug-related driving arrests were made. Male drivers were three times as likely as female drivers to be arrested for impaired driving, with 31,021 men arrested compared to 10,862 women. There were 41,887 persons convicted of operating under the influence of liquor or other impaired driving offenses. Some of these convictions include arrests made in prior years.

The audit is available at www.michigan.gov/msp. Click on Publications, Forms & Statistics, then select Statistical Information and then choose Drunk Driving Audit.

Class of 1961 reunion

The Lowell High School class of 1961 came together July 9, 2011, to celebrate their 50th class reunion.

There were 29 classmates present including spouses for a total of 48 in attendance. The event was held at the Grand Volute.

Ed Ridgway, Master of Ceremonies, introduced the committee of Linda Barnes, Doug Wester, Harold and

Beth Kettner, Ed Ridgway, Joann Childs, Jayma Kurnat, and Mary Haroll.

Class members came from as far away as Florida, California and New York.

Music by The Adams Family added to the festive mood as school memories and life stories were shared. All enjoyed a great time together.



Pictured, first row, left to right: Judy Fuller Smith, Sharon Linsinski Wieland, Jayma Wolfe Kurnat, Darlene Mayou Warner, Mary Bigelow Harroll, Dan Mull, Craig Starkweather, Joan Briggs Hoffman, and Louis Marvin; second row, left to right: Linda Stephens Barnes, Harold Kettner, Larry Keiser, and Doug Wester; third row, left to right: Alice Smith Alcorn, Sandy Staal Boone, Joann Venneman Childs, Mavis Saganek Moritti, Carol Hunt Wingeier, Linda Green Hawk, and Ray Kelley; fourth row, left to right: Sharon Grummet Jenks, Rose Ellyn Mclver VanBuren, Judy Strand Kremen, Sandy Ford Murphy, and Sharon Griffen DePew; fifth row, left to right: Ed Ridgway, Galen Pletcher, Bruce Munroe, and Jim Floyd.

Financial Focus, continued

of having to work past 65 are due in part to the Great Recession and the housing market collapse, which combined to reduce the savings of many future retirees.

You can't control these types of factors, but you can do a lot to boost your prospects for a comfortable retirement — both before and after you retire.

Before You Retire:
• Estimate your expenses. Try to estimate

about how much money you'll need each year of your retirement.

Contribute to your retirement plans. Put as much as you can afford into your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan, such as a 403(b) or 457(b) plan. Each time you get a raise, boost your annual contribution to your retirement plan. Also, try to fully fund your traditional or Roth Individual Retirement Ac-

count (IRA) each year.

After You Retire:

Evaluate your employment prospects. You may have retired from one career, but that doesn't mean you can't work part time, do some consulting or even open your own business. If you think you'd enjoy doing some type of work, the added income can obviously be quite helpful at this stage of your life.

Decide when to take Social Security. You can start taking Social Security at any time from 62 to 70, but the longer you wait, the bigger your monthly payments. Your decision on when to take Social Security should be based on the amount of income you can expect from a pension or your investment portfolio, plus any income you might receive from employment.

withdrawal rate. You'll need to calculate how much you can safely withdraw from your various retirement accounts each year. Your withdrawal rate will depend on several factors, including your lifestyle, your estimated longevity, your other sources of income and the

level of inflation. You may need to adjust your withdrawal rate periodically. These aren't the only factors involved in preparing for, and living in, retirement, but they should give you a good idea of what you need to do to enjoy the lifestyle you've envisioned.

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JULY 27
Kyle Hendrick, Mike Shalander, Ed Roth Sr., Jason Spencer, Paige Wilson, Sharon Tichelaar.

JULY 30
Patricia Smith, Scott Kooistra, Jodi Mohr, Kimberly DeBold, Bill Potter, Paige Rash.

JULY 28
Tom Speerstra, Rachel Shanne Smith, Bobby Wright, Tiffany Hunt, Alexander Barr.

JULY 31
Nancy Raymor, Sandy Roth, Rochelle Bieri, Morris Robert Young.

AUGUST 1
Barbara Callihan, Bailee Emelander.

AUGUST 2
Carolynn Kline, Hayley Woolfenden.

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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!

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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. & 6:30 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!

worship ON THE RIVERWALK
sundays @ 9:30 am
July 17 - August 14
at Showboat/Riverwalk Plaza
Bring your own lawn chair
Inclement weather - held at Lowell First UMC Building

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
402 Amity St. • 897-9820
www.stmary-lowell.com
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Saturday confessions: 4-4:45 PM
Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:00 AM - 8 PM
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Levin, continued

ence on the battlefield in keeping our troops safe. It's also important to our broader national security. The less fuel we use, on the battlefield and on the highway, the less we depend on oil that is often imported from dangerous and unfriendly parts of the world.

And Michigan is already familiar with the economic benefits of energy breakthroughs. Efforts to improve fuel efficiency and develop advanced batteries and other technologies are creating new jobs for Michigan workers and ensuring that our domestic vehicle makers compete on a level playing field with those in other nations, which are working hard on the same technologies. The partnership between the Army and the Department of Energy can spark breakthroughs that

aid not just the military's efficiency efforts, but those in the private sector, too.

Their new partnership is all about breaking down walls. In the past, eliminating barriers to cooperation has meant great things. Twenty years ago, the military's vehicle development was on a totally separate track from our domestic vehicle manufacturers, even though military and civilian research centers were sometimes literally next-

door neighbors and working on the same technologies, such as light-weight materials and efficient engines. But in 1993, I hosted a ceremony in which the Army and automakers signed an agreement to break down those barriers and cooperate on vehicle research and development. This new partnership has a similar goal: bringing engineering talent together to gain the benefits of cooperation.

With their new partnership, experts with the Army, the Department of Energy, our fine universities, and our great manufacturers will all work together to develop new technologies. They will make our military vehicles lighter, more efficient, and more capable, giving our troops the tools they need and deserve.
Carl Levin is the senior U.S. senator from Michigan.

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WWW.FAMILYDENTISTRYOFLOWELL.COM

Vergennes Township NOTICE OF RIGHT TO REFERENDUM

Notice is hereby given that official certification has been received from the Michigan Secretary of State that the township of Vergennes has a population exceeding 2000 (Vergennes' 2010 Census number is 4,189) according to the most recent United States Census and is therefore eligible to be incorporated as a charter township under the provisions of section 3a of the Charter Township Act, 1947 PA 359 (MCL 42.3a).

The township board has exercised option 1. as depicted in PA 359 of 1947, by adopting by majority vote a resolution opposed to incorporation as a charter township.

Township electors have the right to referendum regarding this decision. For further information, you may e-mail the clerk at clerk@vergennestwp.org, or contact the township offices at 897-5671 during regular business hours.

Documentation from the Secretary of State regarding this matter can be reviewed at the Vergennes Township Hall, located at 10381 Bailey Dr., on Monday and Wednesday from 9am to 3pm, and Friday 9am to noon.

Mari C. Stone
Vergennes Township Clerk

Summer concert sizzles in the extreme heat

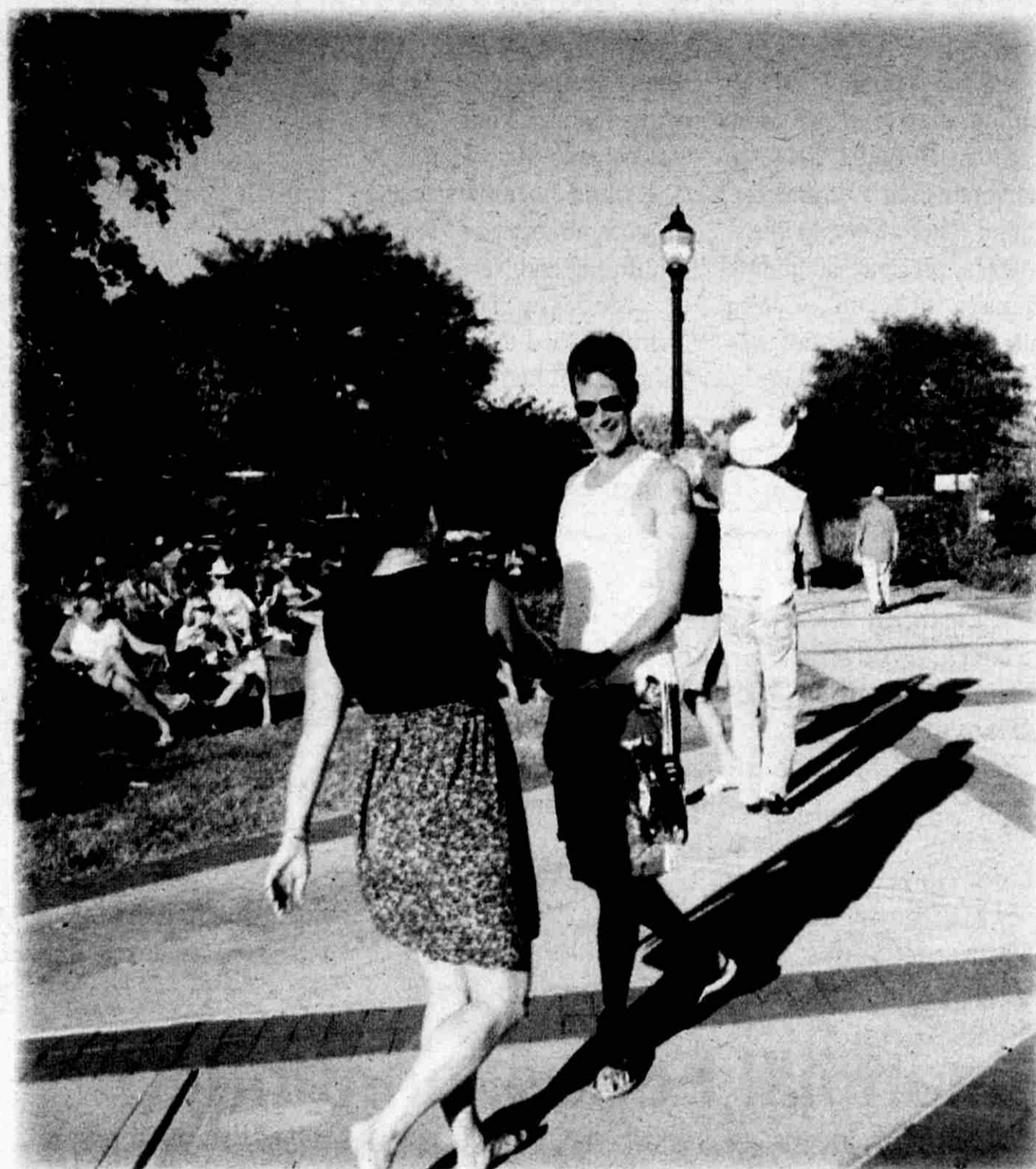
The concert on the Riverwalk, last Thursday, lived up to its Sizzlin' summer name. The country band Kris Hitchcock and Small Town Son, with minimum spectators, sizzled in the relentless scorching sun well into the evening hours, as a heat advisory was issued. The combination

of high temperatures and humidity felt like it was more than 100 degrees.

The Thirsty Perch Blues Band will play this Thursday. The band solidified its line-up in the late summer of 2008. They built their foundation as a powerhouse rocking blues band that can be described

as a "howling hurricane" of a five piece ensemble.

The band features Phillip A. on bass and vocals, George Ferguson on percussion, Chris Collins on guitar and vocals, Chuck Luscombe on harmonica and vocals, and Dan Lomas on guitar and vocals.



Michigander bike tour, continued

Lowell, Karen Harkness Leslie with husband Gale, has been with the tour since its inception. Leslie was part of a 50-some staff on the week long tour.

The group pedaled an average of 60 miles a day in tough conditions exacerbated by the recent heat wave.

Leslie said the cyclists traveled in clusters to ease SAG (Support and Gear) stops along the way to replenish liquids. They also headed out earlier in the morning so as not to hit the hard noon heat.

"We had to keep the riders close," she said. "It's a leisure tour with family atmosphere. The riders look out for each other."

The route for Michigander changes every year, so the 2010 route in Northern Michigan including Mackinaw City wasn't as hot.

But, every year, the success of the tour is heavily reliant on the weather. The route uses a lot of the rails to trails conversions and back roads.

The goals of the Michigander include seeing the sights off the beaten path, challenging riding skills and stirring the imagination about transforming 1,400 miles of Michigan's abandoned rail corridors into an inter-connected system.

The number of riders has gone down this year, according to Leslie, because of increased numbers of similar bicycle tours that often coincide in timing.

The bicyclists slept mostly in schools along the route, but Lowell was an exception.

"We really liked the fairgrounds," Leslie said. "There's a really nice atmosphere on the tour."

The fairgrounds allowed for camping and camaraderie. And the participants had the best dinner of the tour to pump up some strength for the next day.

They enjoyed pork roast, mashed potatoes, pasta salad, full salad bar, and even a chocolate fountain for dipping strawberries.



Approximately 400 bicyclists camped and ate at the fairgrounds during a stop in Lowell.

TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN COUNTY OF KENT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

ROUND LAKE WEED CONTROL SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NO. 2

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Township Board of the Township of Grattan, Kent County, Michigan, having received petitions to make certain public improvements to Round Lake consisting of the application of herbicide treatments for the eradication or control of aquatic weeds and plants, from record owners of land constituting more than 50% of the total land area in the proposed special assessment district described below, has resolved its intention to proceed on the petitions and, pursuant to Act 188 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1954, as amended, to make said improvements shall be specially assessed against each of the following described lots and parcels of land which are benefited by the improvements and which together comprise the following special assessment district:

ROUND LAKE WEED CONTROL SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NO. 2

The lots included within the proposed special assessment district are permanent parcel numbers:
41-12-21-400-003, 41-12-21-400-007, 41-12-21-400-008, 41-12-21-400-011, 41-12-21-400-012, 41-12-21-400-013, 41-12-21-400-014, 41-12-21-400-016, 41-12-21-326-002, 41-12-21-326-006, 41-12-21-326-012, 41-12-21-326-013, 41-12-21-326-014, 41-12-21-326-015, 41-12-21-326-018, 41-12-21-326-019, 41-12-21-326-020, 41-12-21-326-021, 41-12-21-200-005, 41-12-21-200-008, 41-12-21-200-011

TAKE NOTICE that the Township Board of Grattan Township will hold a public hearing on August 08, 2011 at the Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Road, within the Township, to hear and consider any objections to the petitions filed, the proposed Improvements, the proposed special assessment district, and all other matters relating to said Improvements.

TAKE NOTICE that preliminary plans and estimates of cost for the Improvements are on file with the Township Clerk for public examination.

PROPERTY SHALL NOT BE ADDED TO THE PROPOSED SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT AND THE ORIGINAL ESTIMATE OF COST SHALL NOT BE MORE THAN 10% ABOVE PROPOSED WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE AND PUBLIC HEARING.

Periodic redetermination of the cost of the Improvements may be necessary, without a change in the Special Assessment District, and in that event, such redeterminations may be made by the Township Board without further notice to record owners or parties of interest in the lands in the Special Assessment District, in accordance with the provisions of said Act 188.

This Notice was authorized by the Grattan Township Board.

Further information can be obtained by contacting Jim Fues at 616-691-8450. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) during these hearings should notify Jim Fues at the Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Rd., Belding, MI 48809, at least seven days prior to the hearings to be attended.

Dated: July 18, 2011
Jim Fues, Clerk
Township of Grattan

Backyard Dreams play at Fifth Third Ballpark

Justin Verlander, Alex Avila, Don Kelly and Brennan Boesch are just a few current Detroit Tigers that have played at Fifth Third Ballpark. On August 1, 2011, head coach Toby Alderink's Backyard Dreams 14U team will be playing on the same field as the West Michigan Whitecaps as Backyard Dreams (BYD) is set to play a double header at 4 pm vs. Trojan Baseball and at 6:30 pm BYD will take on Greenville travel baseball.

The idea was developed

by professional ball players."

"Everyone is invited, all baseball fans of all ages. We'd love to see the whole towns of Lowell, Middleville and Greenville at Fifth Third Ballpark on August 1, 2011, for it will be a night of dreams coming true for many kids, families, friends and baseball fans."

Coach Alderink's staff is accompanied by assistant coaches Dwayne Botruff and Mike Bonney. The



by Backyard Dreams and Spring Training co-founder Shane Beach, as he was able to seal a deal with his longtime friend Jim Jarecki (West Michigan Whitecaps general manager).

"Our organization takes pride in giving kids opportunities that they may never get otherwise," states Beach. "How many kids are able to say they played in a professional stadium on the same

Dreams players taking the field are Anthony Alderink, Kyle Friberg, John Keenoy, Cam Bonney, Brandon Botruff, Jason Price, Cody Jakiel, Brian Wiles, Dominic Nowicki and Dustin Updyke.

Gates open at 1 pm on Monday, Aug. 1. You can pre-purchase tickets (you'll also receive a commemorative game ticket) for \$10 at Spring Training.

college news

Kristen Borup, of Saranac, was named to the Spring Arbor University spring 2011 academic honors list. The academic honors list recognizes full-time students who have received a grade point average of 3.7 or higher for the semester.

Borup is a sophomore majoring in elementary education and the daughter of Derrick and Lori Borup.

Calvin College has announced the following spring 2011 graduates:

Justin R. Eames, interdisciplinary major, son of Bob and Sue Eames; Meghan E. Eames, elementary ed-three minors, daughter of Bob and Sue Eames; Lukas R. Leisman, physics major with honor in physics, son of Ross and Sheri Leisman; Nichole M. Smith, psychology major, daughter of Doug and Rev. Kathy Smith; Jessica P. Wilbur, nursing major, daughter of Bob and Denise Wilbur; all of Ada.

Katherine M. Baker, english major with honors in English, daughter of Thomas and Julie Baker, of Alto.

Chad T. Drenth, elementary ed-three minors, son of Thomas and Carol Drenth; Benjamin K. Geldersma, nursing major, son of Keith and Sandra Geldersma; Hannah E. Gerig, engr-chemical concentration major, daughter of Stanley and Cindy Gerig; and Brook M. VanEck, special ed-cognitive impairment major, daughter of Diane S. VanEck, all of Lowell.

2012 TRYOUTS PLAY BYD TRAVEL BASEBALL

Ages: 8 and under teams THROUGH 15 and under teams

When: Aug 2, 2011 for 8, 9, and 10 year olds (Creekside)
Aug 3, 2011 for 11, 12, and 13 year olds (Creekside)
Aug 3, 2011 for 14 and 15 year olds (Rec Park)

Time: Registration 5:30 to 6PM
Workout 6PM until completed

Where: Creekside Park and Rec Park in Lowell

Be sure to wear your ball gear and bring your necessary equipment. It's as simple as just showing up for your age time and location.

If you need additional information you may call 616-560-8889 or visit www.yourstraining.com

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NOTICE OF REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on Thursday, the 4th day of August, 2011, at the Kent County Drain Commissioner's Office, 1500 Scribner Ave., N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49504, County of Kent, or such place and time, I, William R. Byl, Kent County Drain Commissioner, may adjourn, the apportionment for benefits and the lands comprised within the "PRATT LAKE COUNTY DRAIN DRAINAGE DISTRICT", and the tentative apportionments against parcels and municipalities in the Drainage District will be subject to review on the above specified date only, from 8:30 A.M. until 4:30 P.M. Also on this date, the computation of cost for said drain will be open for inspection by any interested parties. You may also review your apportionments by phone at (616) 336-3688.

WHEREAS, You are further advised that, pursuant to Section 154 of the Michigan Drain Code of 1956, as amended, drain assessments against land will be collected in the same manner as property taxes. And also if drain assessments against land are collected by installment, the land owner may pay the assessments in full with any interest to date at any time and thereby avoid further interest charges.

WHEREAS, You are further advised that, pursuant to Section 155 of the Michigan Drain Code of 1956, as amended, any owner of land within the Drainage District or any city, village, township, district or county feeling aggrieved by the apportionment of benefits made by the drain commissioner, may appeal the apportionment within ten (10) days after the Day of Review of Apportionment by making an application to the Kent County Probate Court for the appointment of a Board of Review. If there is no appeal, the roll will be confirmed ten (10) days after the Day of Review of Apportionment. The confirmed roll may be slightly different from the roll presented at the Day of Review due to arguments made at the Day of Review.

AS A PROPERTY OWNER WITHIN THE DISTRICT, YOU ARE SUBJECT TO A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR A PORTION OF THE COST OF THIS PROJECT.

The following government units and permanent parcel numbers of the parcels of land within the Special Assessment District of said drain will be assessed:

41-20-22-300-013;

41-20-23-300-002, -003, -010, -016, -017; 400-003;

41-20-24-300-002, -005, -006; 400-004, -006 thru -009;

41-20-25-100-001, -004, -006, -008, -009; 200-002, -003, -006; 300-005 thru -009; 400-007 thru -009; 501-001;

41-20-26-100-002 thru -005, -007, -008; 200-001, -002; 300-001, -003, -005; 400-001, -002, -006, -009, -010;

41-20-27-100-002 thru -004; 200-001, -002; 300-001, -002; 400-004 thru -006;

41-20-28-300-004, -005, -007, -009, -011, -016, -020 thru -022, -026 thru -028; 400-003, -004;

41-20-33-100-004, -007, -010, -012, -014, -016, -018, -019, -023, -024, -026 thru -028, -030 thru -032, -034 thru -037; 200-002, -004 thru -008; 301-003, -006 thru -009; 326-002, -005; 351-002, -003, -006 thru -009; 352-001 thru -006; 376-001 thru -003, -006, -007, -011, -015 thru -018; 380-002, -004, -005; 400-009, -014, -015, -021, -022, -025, -027, -030 thru -035;

41-20-34-100-001, -002; 200-003, -005, -007 thru -012; 300-001, -008, -010, -011, -018 thru -022; 400-006, -008 thru -010;

41-20-35-100-002, -003, -005, -007 thru -012; 200-002, -006 thru -009; 300-001, -002; 400-004, -006, -009 thru -012;

41-20-36-100-005, -007, -009, -012, -013; 200-009; 300-006, -012 thru -016; 400-003, -004; 501-001;

41-24-01-100-005, -009, -012, -014, -016, -018 thru -024; 200-002, -009, -014 thru -016; 300-002, -003, -007, -010 thru -016; 400-009, -012; 501-004;

41-24-02-100-001, -002, -005 thru -009; 200-003 thru -007; 300-004, -005, -008,

-016, -017, -021 thru -024, -026, -028, -029, -032 thru -035; 400-002, -004, -005, -007, -009 thru -011; 501-001;

41-24-03-100-008, -010, -011, -013, -015, -016, -018, -021, -023 thru -025, -027, -029, -030; 200-001 thru -003; 300-001, -006, -007; 400-003, -004, -008, -015, -017, -022, -023; 501-001;

41-24-04-101-001 thru -005; 102-001 thru -003, -005; 103-007, -010, -011; 126-003 thru -009; 127-003 thru -010; 128-001, -004, -010 thru -014; 129-002, -005 thru -009; 130-001, -002, -004, -007, -008, -010, -011, -014, -015; 131-001, -002, -006, -009, -010, -012, -014, -022, -025 thru -027, -029 thru -032; 134-006, -007; 135-003, -006, -007, -009; 151-002 thru -009; 176-007 thru -010, -024, -025, -030; 200-001 thru -011, -013, -016, -017, -022 thru -024; 300-004, -007, -009 thru -014; 400-003, -012, -017, -018, -028, -029, -031 thru -034, -036, -037; 401-002, -004; 404-001 thru -061; 425-002; 501-001;

41-24-05-200-004; 400-007 thru -009, -015, -020, -022;

41-24-09-100-014; 200-007, -008, -013, -016, -020, -029 thru -031; 400-005, -006, -015, -016;

41-24-10-100-008, -010, -013; 200-005, -008 thru -011, -019, -021, -023 thru -025; 300-002, -005 thru -009; 400-002, -005 thru -007, -009, -011, -012;

41-24-11-100-003 thru -006; 200-003, -004; 300-002 thru -004; 400-002 thru -004;

41-24-12-100-001, -003 thru -006; 200-004; 300-003, -005 thru -010; 400-009;

41-24-13-100-003, -005 thru -008; 300-011;

41-24-14-100-002, -004, -005; 200-001, -005, -006, -010 thru -014; 300-001, -005; -010; 400-004, -007, -008;

41-24-15-100-003 thru -005; 200-003, -004; 300-016, -017, -020 thru -023; 400-004, -006, -007, -009, -010;

41-24-16-200-010 thru -012; 400-002, -007, -010 thru -012;

41-24-21-100-010; 200-003, -004, -007, -018 thru -021, -023, -024, -026; 400-005;

41-24-22-100-001 thru -005, -007, -008, -010, -011; 200-002, -006 thru -010; 300-003, -005, -006, -008, -009; 400-001, -005 thru -010;

41-24-23-100-002, -005 thru 009; 200-013, -016, -017, -019, -021, -023; 300-008, -013, -014; 400-010;

Bowne Township at large, Lowell Charter Township at large, the County of Kent on account of roads and the State of Michigan on account of State Highways.

NOW, THEREFORE, All unknown and non-resident persons, owners and persons interested in the above described lands, and you: Mary Hollinrake - Clerk of Kent County; Christian Wenger-Bowne Township Supervisor; Jerry Hale-Lowell Charter Township Supervisor; Kirk Steudle - Michigan Department of Transportation Director; and Jon Rice - Kent County Road Commission Managing Director; that at such time and place, as stated above, the apportionment for benefits and the lands comprised within the Pratt Lake County Drain Special Assessment District will be subject to review.

AND EACH OF YOU, owners and persons interested in the above referenced parcels of land, are hereby given the opportunity to appear at the time and place noted above to review the apportionments and be heard with respect to such special assessments and your interests in relation to them, if you so desire.

Dated this 8th day of July, 2011.

William R. Byl,
Kent County Drain Commissioner

EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk: Can earthquake energy be harnessed for power, particularly in places like Japan? Also, how can Japan, so vulnerable to earthquakes, even have nuclear power? -- Sasha M., Australia

While it is no doubt theoretically possible to generate electricity by harnessing the kinetic energy of shifting tectonic plates below the Earth's crust, pulling it off from a practical standpoint would be a real logistical challenge — not to mention prohibitively expensive compared to harnessing other forms of energy, renewable or otherwise.

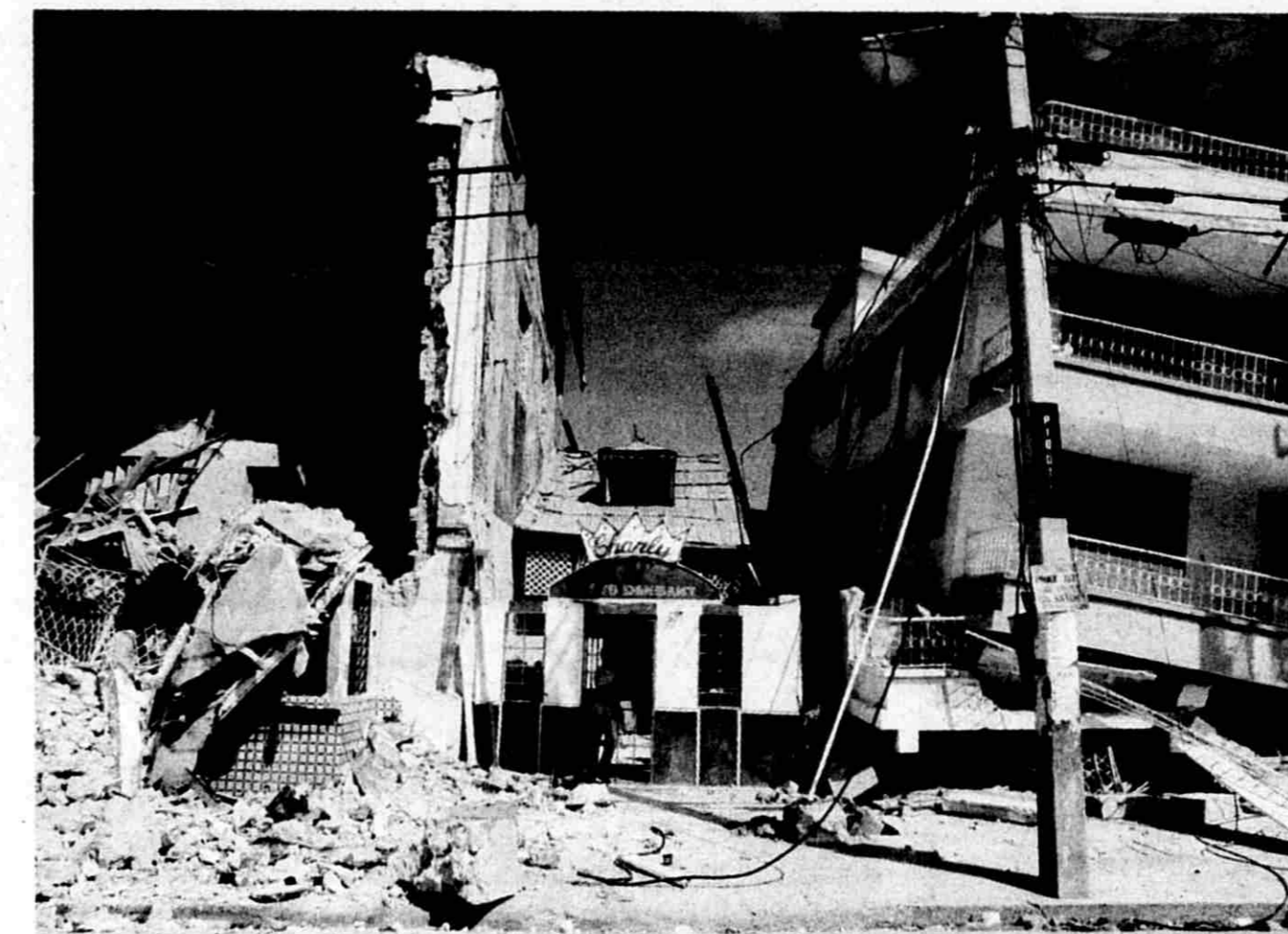
Big earthquakes throw off vast amounts of energy. According to Beth Buczynski of the CrispGreen website, re-

reserves to account for half of its electricity needs by 2030. This increased reliance on nuclear power was set to play a big part in the country's rollback of greenhouse gas emissions.

Prior to the earthquake and tsunami, the Japan Atomic Energy Agency had modeled a 54 percent reduction in carbon dioxide emissions from 2000 levels by 2050, and a 90 percent reduction by 2100, with nuclear energy accounting for upwards of 60 percent of the country's total energy mix. Now it looks like the country may scale back its nuclear expansion plans, which in the short term will only increase its reliance on fossil fuels which will in turn drastically limit Japan's ambitious plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Of course, one would hope that turning away from nuclear expansion would spur the growth of alternatives such as wind power and

the U.S. Food & Drug Administration, recycled PET is superior to lower grades of virgin synthetic fibers used in making other brands of polyester carpet yarns.

Also, old PET carpet can live another day when it is "down-cycled" for use in other applications such as car parts, insulation, and even furniture stuffing. PET carpet advocates brag that their products keep plastic soda and water bottles out of the landfill, but who knows how many of those



other forms of renewable energy.

CONTACTS: CrispGreen, www.crispgreen.com; U.S. Geological Survey's Earthquake Hazards Program, www.earthquake.usgs.gov.

Dear EarthTalk: I have a carpet made out of recycled PET bottles in my baby's room and I started noticing a lot of the fibers on our clothes and even in my mouth! Is it dangerous for me or my baby to be in contact with and possibly ingest

these fibers? -- Ashley Riccaboni, via e-mail

The jury is still out as to whether PET plastics can leach contaminants into our systems, but most reputable consumer advocates seem to think the stuff is relatively benign. That said, it can't be good to ingest carpet fibers of any kind, and a 2009 study by German scientists found that some PET water bottles contained trace amounts of chemicals that could mimic hormones if ingested. So while there is no documented proof that PET carpet fibers are bad for you, why risk it? Stay safe by keeping them out of your mouths and noses. Also, frequent vacuuming (once a week or more often) should help to contain the problem, and is recommended for general maintenance anyway.

Overall, PET carpet — which is indeed made from recycled soda and water bottles and is sold under the name brands Restorator and Permalon, among others — is a pretty green choice. Buildings in several national parks have used PET carpet in lobbies and other high-traffic areas with minimal need for maintenance and excellent results. PET fibers are naturally stain resistant and do not require the chemical treatments used on most nylon carpets, and they retain color and resist fading from exposure to the sun or harsh cleaning. PET carpet advocates report that because plastic beverage containers are made with top quality resins as required by

sacrificed bottles could have lived on as more bottles instead of other end of the line products.

GreenAmerica, publisher of the popular yearly-published National Green Pages, recommends the 100 percent post-consumer recycled PET carpets for sale on Liberty Carpet One's GreenFloors.com website. Liberty Carpet One claims that every square yard of PET carpeting they sell keeps 40 water or soda bottles out of landfills. The company also reports that its dyeing method is less polluting and requires less energy to produce than other flooring options, and that all of their carpets have been tested and meet indoor air quality standards set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Of course, if you're starting from scratch, good old natural fibers such as wool, sisal, jute and seagrass may be the greenest and healthiest carpet choices out there, especially when paired with pads made from cotton or rag (not petroleum). Other than GreenFloors PET carpeting, GreenAmerica also vouches for natural fiber offerings from the likes of Contempo Floor Coverings and Natural Home. And besides carpeting, there is a whole world of harder flooring choices that meet environmentalists' strict criteria, from sustainably harvested hard woods to bamboo to cork.

EarthTalk® is written and edited by Roddy Scheer and Doug Moss and is a registered trademark. CONTACTS: "Plastic Water Bottles May Pose Health Hazard," Discovery News, dsc.discovery.com/news/2009/04/28/water-bottles-health.html; Go Green Flooring, www.gogreenflooring.com; GreenAmerica, www.greenamerica.org. mark of E - The Environmental Magazine (www.emagazine.com). Send questions to: earthtalk@emagazine.com. Subscribe: www.emagazine.com/subscribe.

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obituaries

BROOKS

Mr. Ronald L. Brooks, age 82, of Twin Lake, passed away on Saturday, July 16, 2011, at his home. He graduated from high school and the university of hard knocks. Ronald had a unique gift. He could engineer anything and make any special machine parts.

ENGL

Clayton Davis Engle went peacefully to be with the Lord Sunday, July 17, 2011 at Spectrum United Health in the presence of his loving wife and family. Born February 8, 1919, Clayton met the love of his life, Laura May, whom he was married to for 69 years.

Safety net for aged, blind, and disabled

There is a safety net out there for those who might otherwise slip through the cracks and it's called Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Administered by Social Security, SSI makes payments to people with limited income and resources who are age 65 or older, blind, or have a disability.

The monthly maximum Federal SSI payment is the same nationwide and amounts to \$674 for a person and \$1,011 for a married couple. However, the amount you receive depends on factors such as where you live, your living arrangements, and income.

To learn more about SSI, read the online SSI page at www.socialsecurity.gov/ssi or call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY, 1-800-325-0778).

If you're too disabled to work but haven't paid enough into Social Security to qualify for benefits on your record, SSI may be the program to help you.

CLARIFICATION

Following is a clarification statement to "The Healing Center offers holistic therapy" story published on July 20.

"At The Healing Center our main goal is to educate people of the importance of self-healing and maintaining ones own health. Whether a person seeks our assistance or that of any other health care provider, we support that decision. Having personally benefited from years of chiropractic and medical care, we recognize how lucky the Lowell area is to have so many wonderful health care professionals.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

Grid of numbers for puzzle solutions: 1 3 5 8 7 2 9 6 4; 8 2 7 6 9 4 1 3 5; 9 6 4 3 5 1 8 2 7; 2 7 9 5 4 3 6 1 8; 6 5 1 7 2 8 3 4 9; 3 4 8 1 6 9 7 5 2; 7 1 2 4 8 6 5 9 3; 5 9 3 2 1 7 4 8 6; 4 8 6 9 3 5 2 7 1

Grid of letters for puzzle solutions: A M A S S S P A A T O P; L E F T Y A I R G L O V E; B E A R D T E E E L D E R; T R A N C E N E W Y O R K; P E R B A N G; P U G Y O U R S A V A G E; A V E R C L A P W I L E S; R U L E I N V A R E L M S; I L I A C A U R A R O M E; S A D D H U R A Z Z T A N; A R E A O U T; B E I J I N G A R R E S T; R E M U S R O N I S L E T; I R A T E E N D C L A S H; G Y M S T O Y H A W S E

classifieds

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

for sale

LOGBED SET - Cedar (complete), \$125. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600. See us on Facebook. Delivery available.

SEMI LOADS 10 CORDS OF 8 FT. WOOD - semi loads of 8 ft. logs, 10 in. average diameter, super clean, processed & carried out of the woods, delivered to your property. See pictures at www.coxx.com or call Al at 231-846-0346 anytime. Please clip this ad & give it to a fellow wood burner.

TWIN BED - Mattress, box spring & frame, (Sealy), \$85 complete. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600. See us on Facebook.

NEED A JOB? - Own your own salon business! Fully equipped & ready to go. Call Diane Karns at Callander Commercial at 616-459-8000 for more details.

GET THE SMOKE, ASH & WOOD MESS OUTSIDE - Central Boiler Classic Outdoor Wood Furnace with a 25 year warranty. Call SOS your "Stocking Dealer" Dutton, MI 616-554-8669 or 616-915-5061.

200 APPLIANCES - Washers, dryers, refrigerators & stoves. Guaranteed. From \$69. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600. See us on Facebook. Delivery available.

TRUMPET - 2008 Yamaha, well-maintained, excellent condition w/trumpet stand, \$275 OBO. Call 897-2637.

HAY FOR SALE - 1st cutting grass hay, 4x5 round bales; maple syrup various size containers. 616-437-6735, 616-437-3315.

BED & MATTRESS SET - queen, Sealy, \$95 includes frame. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600. See us on Facebook. Delivery available.

GREENLEE 7506 SLUG SPLITTER - Heavy Duty slug splitter hydraulic knockout set with hand pump & punches for 1/2", 3/4", 1", 1-1/4", 1-1/2", & 2" conduit, used, \$300 firm. 987-4457.

QUEEN PILLOWTOP MATTRESS SET - (new), \$248/set. Thick & plush. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600. See us on Facebook.

FIREWOOD - Tree tops, You cut, \$25 per Pickup load. Lowell/Belding area. Call 616-540-3233.

for sale

KENMORE REFRIGERATOR & STOVE SET - (2006), cost \$900, sell \$199 for pair. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600. See us on Facebook.

AKC POMERANIAN PUPPIES - ages 2 weeks to 4 mos. old. Champion bloodlines, benexamined, shots UTD. Please call for more info, pictures available thru email. 616-648-4170.

FOR SALE - 3 folding aluminum saddle racks, \$10 each. Call 897-5717.

for rent

APARTMENT FOR RENT - Lowell 2 BR upper unit, no pets. \$700 month. Gas, water, electric included. \$400 deposit immediate availability. Call 897-7176 or 299-3198.

PRICELESS STORAGE - Indoor/outdoor. New Units on Alden Nash, 1 mile South of 196. Call for specials 558-2900.

COZY ONE BEDROOM UPPER UNIT - in quiet neighborhood. References required. 1078 Lincoln Lake Ave., heat included, \$475 per month, 987-9124.

HALL FOR RENT - Lowell Veteran's Center, 3100 Alden Nash. Newly remodeled, smoke-free, private, great location & great rate! www.vfw8303.org. Call John at 299-0486 or 897-8303.

help wanted

NOW HIRING - and training for career positions with West Michigan's leading real estate company. Call Rick Seese, Greenridge Realty, Inc. for a confidential interview. 616-437-2576 or 616-974-4250.

YMCA CHILD CARE - The Lowell Y is currently hiring experienced Lead Teachers for our before and after school programs. The position is responsible for the planning, developing, and implementation of classroom activities. Please see our website for full details and to apply online at www.grymca.org.

DIETARY AIDE - part time, AM & PM shifts, apply in person at Emerald Meadows behind 28th St. Walmart.

COMMERCIAL CLEANING POSITION - Janitorial position available in the Ada area. Part time, Mon. - Sat., 10 p.m. - 2 a.m. Reliable transportation & valid drivers license required. We offer competitive wages. Stop in soon & fill out an application: Metropolitan Building Maintenance, 868 Barnum S.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49509.

help wanted

DRIVER - CDL-A, 2 years experience, clean driving record, regional 6 state area, home every weekend, pay is based on percentage of load. Send resume and references to: Driver, P.O. Box A, Ada, MI 49301.

sales

HUGE SALE - GREAT DEALS - July 29-30, 8-5 p.m. Household items, dorm refrigerators, computer gear, furniture, holiday books, golf gear, toys, puzzles, crafts, tools, clothing, bedding, baskets and more. 6761 Rix in Ada.

GARAGE SALE - 220 N. Jefferson, Thurs. & Fri., July 28 & 29, 9-4 p.m. Computer desk, grills, kids & women's clothes, household goods, electronics, toys & much more.

BABY SALE - Clothes: newborn - 3T, boy & girl; highchair, carseat, pack & play, toys, maternity clothes & some household items. 423 Suffolk St. Fri. & Sat., July 29 & 30, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

SIGN UP NOW FOR SOCCER FUN - AYSO region 746 registration dates, 7/25/11 & 7/28/11, 6-8 p.m. at Midwest Soccer Field in Saranac. If rain, follow signs.

sales

MOVING SALEADA-8741 Glen Nevis, off Bailey. July 28-30, 9-6 (Thurs. & Fri.), 9-3 (Sat.) Furniture, household items, collectibles, tools, antiques, jewelry, old sporting equipment, years of Christmas items, huge variety of items.

GARAGE SALE - 14195 Cascade Rd. Thurs. & Fri., July 28 & 29. Men's XLT clothes, women's 12 to 16, girls 0 to 8 years, & tons of toys.

GARAGESALE - Sat., July 30, 9-3, 1490 Baywicke Dr. SE. New husband needs closet space. Household items, women's clothes, books.

YARD SALE AT IMPACT CHURCH-1070N. Hudson St. in Lowell. Sat., July 30 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. HUGE church-wide sale with a lot of everything!

misc.

COMPUTERREHAB- \$65 all repairs - Virus & Spyware removal. No diagnostic fees! Mon. - Sat., 505-B West Main, Lowell. 987-1155, www.computerRehab.ws

services

BRICK - BLOCK - STONE - Chimney repair & concrete work. Call 897-0698 ask for Darryl.

GEE'S ROLLING DUMPSTERS - 15 yard. \$170 for household trash or \$250 for shingles/drywall. 616-205-6871.

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

CUSTOM & DESIGN SHEETMETAL INC. - Metal fabrication, welding of all types & powder painting. Call 616-897-7336.

NEED A DUMPSTER? - 14 to 20 yards available. Garage, attic, household cleanup, roofing, trash, junk, etc. Dependable service & affordable prices. Mention this ad & receive 10% off. Call for free estimates. Contact Doug 616-295-6640.

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.

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

WEBSITE DESIGN - Professional website development, search engine optimization (SEO), internet marketing, ecommerce online stores. DC Design - www.dcdesigninc.net - 616-890-0614.

In Loving Memory of our Husband, Father & Grandfather



BOB PERRY

March 26, 1926 - July 23, 2005

YOUR GENTLE FACE AND PATIENT SMILE WITH SADNESS WE RECALL YOU HAD A KINDLY WORD FOR EACH AND LEFT US LOVED BY ALL

Love and Miss you - your family

Velma

Ron and Ann Wittenbach

Bert and Ruby Baker

Grandchildren and Great-grandchildren

When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened for us.

- Helen Keller

PUBLIC NOTICE

Lowell Light and Power (LLP) has filed a revised two year Renewable Energy Portfolio Plan to the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) for review and amendment. A copy of the revised Plan is available at the Lowell Light and Power office, 127 N. Broadway, Lowell, MI or on our website at www.lowelllight.org

Written comments by the public are welcome. The public is also welcome to make comments on the revised Renewable Energy Plan (REP) in person at the LLP Board meeting scheduled for July 28th, 5:30 PM, at 127 N. Broadway, Lowell, MI.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Sale is August 6, 2011 at 10 a.m. at Priceless Storage, 5890 Alden Nash Ave SE, Lowell, MI. Property will be sold to highest bidder, cash only. Seller reserves right to withdraw property from sale. Property includes contents of spaces of the following tenants:

Brandon Driskell, Alto, MI
Pat Lyman, Freepport, MI

Contents of these units will be sold as a whole unit. Bidders view it from the doorway - no one is allowed in the unit until after the locker is purchased. Buyer must take everything in the unit. You will have 24 hours to clean the unit out completely.

NOTE The tenants have right up until the time that the sale starts to come in and pay off their delinquent balances, so that unit would not be sold as advertised.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 8 am - 5 pm
Friday: 8 am - 2 pm
Closed Sat. & Sun.

www.thelowellledger.com

CITY OF LOWELL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY. The City of Lowell is seeking a F-4, F-3 or F-2 licensed water plant operator or person with the ability to obtain the required state license within one year, to work in their lime softening and filtration plant. Salary commensurate with experience and education.

the ledger P.O. Box 128 • Lowell, MI 49331 897-9261

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 ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS & ARE NOT GUARANTEED TO RUN.

THEME:
WORLD CITIES

- ACROSS**
- Collect
 - R&R hot spot
 - Summit location
 - Like Babe Ruth the pitcher, e.g.
 - Broadcasting medium
 - Gauntlet
 - Pirate Black
 - Start of a golf hole
 - Senior
 - Medium's seance state
 - *"Sex and the City" locale
 - capita
 - Gun shot sound
 - Flat-muzzled little dog
 - Belonging to you
 - Uncivilized person
 - Affirm solemnly
 - Show of appreciation
 - Trickeries
 - "_ of thumb"
 - Iron+nickel
 - They're on Freddy's street
 - Relating to ilium
 - Sign of a saint
 - *It wasn't built in a day
 - Holy Hindu
 - Taunt
 - Summer color
 - code
 - Not safe in baseball
 - *aka Peking
 - Miranda rights occasion
 - *One of the twin founders of 47 across
 - First name of former child-actor turned director
 - Small body of land
 - Very angry
 - The Doors' hit "The _"
 - "London Calling" band, The _
 - They're meant to get you in shape

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13					14			15				
16					17			18				
19				20			21	22				
23				24								
25	26	27		28		29		30	31	32	33	34
35			36		37			38		39		
40				41			42		43			
44				45		46			47			
48				49		50			51		52	
53				54			55		56			
57	58	59	60				61			62	63	
64					65	66		67				68
69					70			71				
72					73			74				

PRESENTED BY

VolunteerMatch.org
Where volunteering begins.

- DOWN**
- Priestly vestment
 - "_ Me in St. Louis"
 - At a great distance
 - Bra holder?
 - *Famous for its Opera House
 - Fill to satisfaction
 - Type of chart
 - Madison Square Garden, e.g.
 - USSR to USA during WWII
 - Type of list
 - Completed
 - Company car, e.g.
 - Cheap showy jewelry
 - Crocus, pl.
 - Half the width of an em, pl.
 - Virtuosity
 - *Split by the Seine
 - Palate lobe
 - Extremely cold
 - Bone in human forearm
 - Contender
 - Administrator
 - Fashion designer Kahng
 - *Ruhr's industrial center
 - Interpret writing
 - "For" in Spanish
 - Sweeney Todd's tool
 - Daybed
 - Coffee pot
 - *A financial hub of Europe
 - White heron
 - _____ Motors, maker of stylish electric cars
 - Where pirates were often thrown
 - Spooky
 - Prayer leader in mosque
 - Sticks out
 - Artist Warhol, e.g.
 - Shredded cabbage
 - "_" of the d'Urbervilles"
 - Lennon's wife
 - Definite article



616-897-0787
No parking: Resolution :) It's not a parking spot.

To the person asking about the collection boxes around Lowell, there are two carriers who pick up Meijer's because of the mail volume. The times posted on the boxes are the last time the carrier picks up the mail. The carriers can pick up the boxes more than once a day.

Most people in town know who was embezzling from the athletic club. Why hasn't anything been published?

Editor's note: This publication comes out on Wednesday, the same day the story broke. We did however get it on our website the same day. (Visit www.thelowellledger.com)

ONLINE POLL RESULTS

Do you believe the U.S. will reach a deal to raise its debt ceiling?

- YES 60%
- NO 40%

About the debt ceiling, do you feel that it, should be raised; shouldn't be raised or I don't understand the issue

- Should be raised 36%
- Shouldn't be raised 64%
- Don't understand 0%



JULY 20 - JULY 26

- Deadly explosion rocks Oslo, Norway. A powerful bomb tore into the heart of Norway Friday. It ripped into buildings, including the prime minister's office. It was the deadliest bombing since World War II in Oslo. Anders Behring Breivik pleads not guilty for killing at least 93 people.
- Michigan stadium is available for weddings if you're planning a wedding and love Michigan football - or maybe you have a huge guest list.
- The NFL players' association and league reach an agreement on a new 10 year labor deal. The deal was hammered out early Monday morning.
- Grammy-winning 27-year-old Amy Winehouse is found dead in her North London home Saturday, July 23. An autopsy was performed on Tuesday.

Puzzle solutions on page 12

I don't understand the sizes anymore. There's a size zero, which I didn't even know that they had. It must stand for: 'Ohhh my God, you're thin.'

- Ellen DeGeneres

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Call Us for a Price Quote!
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The Lowell Ledger
105 N. Broadway, 897-9261

SUDOKU

PRESENTED BY

VolunteerMatch.org
Where volunteering begins.

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

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

NOTICE OF ELIGIBILITY TO INCORPORATE AS A CHARTER TOWNSHIP AND RIGHT TO REFERENDUM

Official certification has been received from the Michigan Secretary of State that the township of BOWNE has a population of 2,000 or more, and the township board has the right to exercise one of three options concerning status as a charter township under the provisions of the Charter Township Act, Public Act 359 of 1947, as amended (MCL 42.3a):

Upon roll call vote, the following voted "No":

The chair declared the motion carried and the resolution duly adopted.

Township Clerk

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned, being the duly elected and acting Clerk of the Township of _____ hereby certifies that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board at which a quorum was present on the ____ day of _____, 20____, and that the members voted thereon as hereinbefore set forth.

Township Clerk

(Option 2—First Resolution, Subject to Petition of Disagreement Calling for Referendum)

Resolution of Intent to Become a Charter Township Township County, Michigan

WHEREAS, the Township Clerk has been notified by the Secretary of State of the State of Michigan that _____ Township has a population of 2,000 or more inhabitants, excluding the population of any incorporated village, and notice of that notification was duly published in the ____ (identify newspaper)____, a newspaper of general circulation in the township, as required by law, and

WHEREAS, under the provisions of MCL 42.3a, the Township is eligible to be incorporated as a charter township by resolution of the Township Board stating its intent to so incorporate, and a second, subsequent resolution of said Township Board incorporating the township as a charter township, adopted at least 60 days after the adoption of the first resolution of intent, and

**(Option 1)
Resolution of Intent Opposing Incorporation as a Charter Township Township County, Michigan**

WHEREAS, the Township Clerk has been notified by the Secretary of State of the State of Michigan that _____ Township has a population of 2,000 or more inhabitants, excluding the population of any incorporated village, and notice of that notification was duly published in the ____ (identify newspaper)____, a newspaper of general circulation in the township, as required by law, and

WHEREAS, under the provisions of MCL 42.3a, the Township is eligible to be incorporated as a charter township by resolution of the Township Board, and

WHEREAS, after notification is received by the clerk, the township board may adopt, by a majority vote, a resolution opposed to incorporation, and

WHEREAS, the Township Board does not desire to incorporate as a charter township,

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Township Board does hereby declare its intent to not incorporate _____ Township as a charter township.

Motion was made by _____, seconded by _____, to adopt the foregoing resolution.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted "Yes":

of the Township Board at which a quorum was present on the ____ day of _____, 20____, and that the members voted thereon as hereinbefore set forth.

Township Clerk

(Option 2—Second Resolution, to be adopted at least 60 days after adopting Resolution of Intent)

Resolution Incorporating as the Charter Township of

WHEREAS, the _____ Township Board on the ____ day of _____, 20____, by motion duly made, seconded and passed, adopted the Resolution of Intent to Incorporate _____ Township, _____ County, Michigan, as the Charter Township of _____, under Public Act 359 of 1947, as amended; and

WHEREAS, notice of adoption of said resolution was published in the ____ (identify newspaper)____, a newspaper of general circulation in the township, as required by law, the ____ day of _____, 20____, and again on the ____ day of _____, 20____, and considerable publicity has been given this matter; and

WHEREAS, more than sixty (60) days have elapsed since adoption of said resolution and no Petition of Disagreement to the Intent to Incorporate as Charter Township has been filed as in said Act provided;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of _____ County, Michigan, being qualified, having completed all necessary action preliminary thereto, hereby does INCORPORATE AS THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF _____ COUNTY, MICHIGAN, a municipal corporation pursuant to PA 359 of 1947, as amended, which act shall constitute the charter of this charter township.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF _____ COUNTY, MICHIGAN, shall, as provided by law, succeed to and be vested with all of the property, real and personal, money, rights, credits and causes of action belonging to _____ Township as it formerly existed, and all debts and liabilities of _____ Township and all taxes and assessments levied and uncollected as of the date of this Resolution of Incorporation shall stand until discharged or collected.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk is hereby directed to file certified copies of this resolution with the Secretary of State for the State of Michigan, and with the Clerk for _____ County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect as of this date.

Motion was made by _____, seconded by _____, to adopt the foregoing resolution.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted "Yes":

Upon roll call vote, the following voted "No":

The chair declared the motion carried and the resolution duly adopted.

Township Clerk

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned, being the duly elected and acting Clerk of the Township of _____ hereby certifies that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board at which a quorum was present on the ____ day of _____, 20____, and that the members voted thereon as hereinbefore set forth.

hereby certifies that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board at which a quorum was present on the ____ day of _____, 20____, and that the members voted thereon as hereinbefore set forth.

Township Clerk

(Option 3)

Resolution of Intent to Place the Question of Incorporation as a Charter Township on the Ballot at the ____ (Month, day, year) ____ (Regular or Special) Election Township County, Michigan

WHEREAS, the Township Clerk has been notified by the Secretary of State of the State of Michigan that _____ Township has a population of 2,000 or more inhabitants, excluding the population of any incorporated village, notice of which notification was duly published in the ____ (identify newspaper)____, a newspaper of general circulation in the township, as required by law, and

WHEREAS, under the provisions of MCL 42.3a, the Township is eligible to be incorporated as a charter township by resolution of the Township Board placing the question of incorporation on the ballot at the next regular or special township election, and

WHEREAS, the Township Board desires to place the question of incorporation before the electorate,

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Township Board does hereby declare its intent to place the question of incorporation as a Charter Township on the ballot at the ____ (Month, day, year) ____ (Regular or Special) Election.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Clerk shall prepare a ballot for the submission of such proposition at such election in accordance with the general election laws of the state and setting forth the proposition as follows:

Shall the Township of _____ incorporate as a charter township which shall be a municipal corporation subject to the provisions of Act No. 359 of the Public Acts of 1947, as amended, which act shall constitute the charter of such municipal corporation?

Motion was made by _____, seconded by _____, to adopt the foregoing resolution.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted "Yes":

Upon roll call vote, the following voted "No":

The chair declared the motion carried and the resolution duly adopted.

Township Clerk

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned, being the duly elected and acting Clerk of the Township of _____ hereby certifies that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board at which a quorum was present on the ____ day of _____, 20____, and that the members voted thereon as hereinbefore set forth.

Township Clerk

New National Park Service trail manager stationed in Lowell

by Emma Palova

Speaking about being at the right place at the right name.

Jeff McCusker, the new trail manager for the North Country National Scenic Trail (NST) spanning the northern USA from North Dakota to New York State, can attest to that.

McCusker came from Virginia to Lowell to manage the trail development because of the headquarters of the North Country Trail Association (NCTA) right in downtown on Main Street. Previously, he worked as a planner for Bureau of Land Management.

McCusker is entering the Lowell area trail scene, where three distinct trail systems meet, in action. The Lowell Area Trailway is under construction and the Grand and Flat River Valley Frederick Meijer rails are being converted to trails.

The North Country Trail was created by the Congress in 1980, as part of the National Trails System. The system is most known for the Appalachian Trail. In Michigan, the Northern Trail stretches 1,150 miles from Ironwood to Ohio.

McCusker will be working hand in hand with the NCTA to help develop the northern trail in terms of administering federal money, obtaining grants and planning and development of the entire 4,600 mile long trail corridor.

"It's a big challenge," said McCusker.

Approximately 2,200 miles of the corridor have been developed and the trail is maintained through the local chapters. Completed segments vary in length from one to 300 miles.

However, that was the easy part of the trail which runs mostly on public lands. The rest will require looking at private lands, according to McCusker.

Due to the span of the trail, the process will require negotiations with thousands of landowners, partnerships with state and local governments, as well as using other parks, national forests and other trails.

But, once completed the northern trail will become the longest continuous trail in the United States.

McCusker will work as a liaison between NCTA and the US government to

make the trail development process shorter, around two to three years.

"We rely on the volunteer chapters," said McCusker. "Once the corridor plan is done, we identify the detailed location to put it on the ground."

He will be working with the Western Michigan chapter of NCTA.

Sometimes agreements are needed for the trail to cross certain areas. Then the chapter volunteers to go out and physically build the trail.

There are approximately 2,700 volunteers for the NCTA. The annual budget for the northern trail is \$900,000.

McCusker will also be working on designating the trail through upstate New York through the Adirondacks.

"I love working on trails," he said. "I like the end result; I love hiking and looking at a well-built trail."

The vision for the trail system is to create a footpath hiking trail.

"We will be using the chapters along the route trying to finish it and provide an asset to the public."

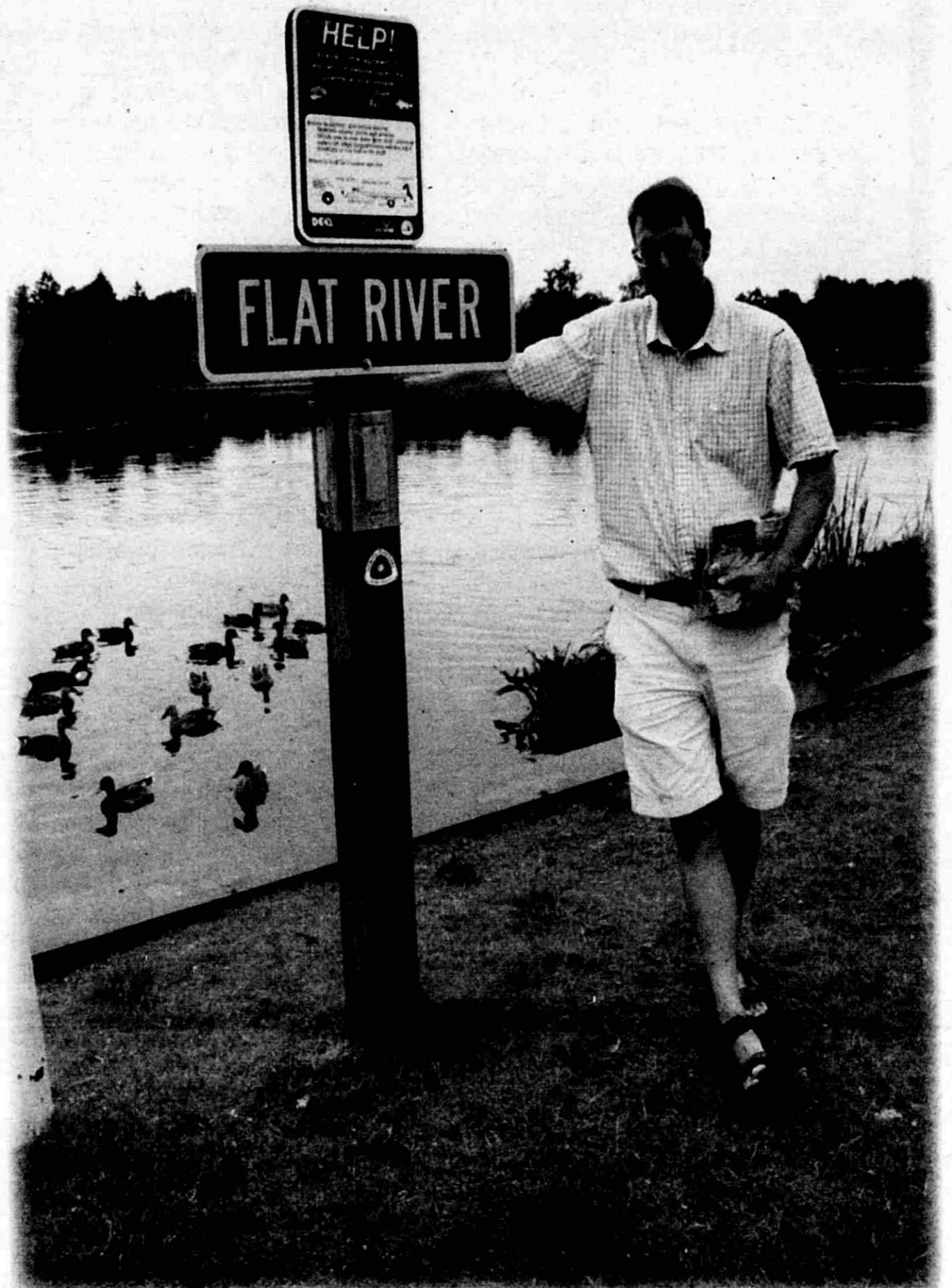
The goal, according to McCusker, is to get people out of the cars and to travel through the country to experience the landscapes, the history and the culture. Instead of being encased in cars, the trail system will provide exercise and fresh air.

"It's good for people," he said. "My interests coincide with this. I am thrilled and I am excited to be here."

Apart from streamlining the planning process, the administration, and

the technical aspects of designing the trail, McCusker plans on working physically on the trail.

McCusker has an office inside the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce.



Jeff McCusker by the blue band designating the North Country Scenic Trail on the Riverwalk.

Special Invitation

Happy 12th Birthday!

Join us in a carnival-style celebration of our 12-year anniversary! Carnival games, carnival food, and a bouncy house for the kids will make this fun for the whole family. Entertainment by John Amos and a free raffle add to the excitement — come celebrate with us!

Thursday, August 11, 4:30-6:30pm

Please RSVP to Sylvia
by August 4 — 616.954.2366

Mark your calendars!
Bring your friends!



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6117 Charlevoix Woods Court SE
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49546

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Lowell Area Arts Council

Aug 4

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Lowell Showboat

Sizzlin' Summer Concerts

Live Music on the Flat River

On the Riverwalk • Historic Downtown Lowell

Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra

www.grjo.com

For more than 30 years, The *Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra* has been one of Michigan's premier jazz ensembles, featuring some of the finest musicians in the area playing swinging original compositions and arrangements as well as traditional favorites. The musicians that create the live sounds are some of the area's best soloists and sidemen available. Many have jazz projects of their own, yet dedicate time to fostering the performance of live big band jazz. The band was founded in 1977 by the late Bruce Early.

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NEED INFO?

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