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the lowell ledger

wednesday • august • 17 • 2011

vol. 40 issue 45

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auction time at the fair



MEAT PEN



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CENTS



\$12.5 million Rail to Trail Project GO under way

by Emma Palova

The Frederick Meijer rail to trail \$12.5 million project will connect communities from Greenville to Owosso.

The development of the trail will be funded with a combination of Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) enhancement grants, natural resources trust fund and from the recreation and trails program.

Local community contributions are estimated at \$295,000 and a request from the Meijer Foundation for \$3.3 million is pending.

The local participation in funding is divided among five counties, 10 communities and 16 townships. Each county is expected to contribute approximately \$15,000.

The reasons to fund Project GO range from creating jobs, enhancing property values, providing health

and recreation benefits, long-term maintenance, as well as return on the original investment.

The rail to trail group, also known as Frederick Meijer Flat River and Grand River trails, will now work on recreation and funding plans.

"We need to focus on the trail itself," said consultant Dave Austin.

The project endowment fund will be used for trail maintenance for the entire 125-mile network. The intergovernmental authority will be responsible for managing the trail maintenance funds.

The trail build out is estimated in three to five years.

"We really need this," said Annamarie Bauer. "This is a good investment. We need to look at this as an economical investment rather than recreational."

The engineering on Clinton Ionia Shiawassee (CIS) has been completed. The trust fund finances 15 percent for engineering costs.

Once completed, the trail network will span 125 miles between Greenville, Edmore, Alma, Owosso, Ionia and Lowell.

Following are the development projections:

Ionia to Owosso, 42 miles, cost \$5 million

Ionia to Saranac, 10 miles, cost \$1.85 million

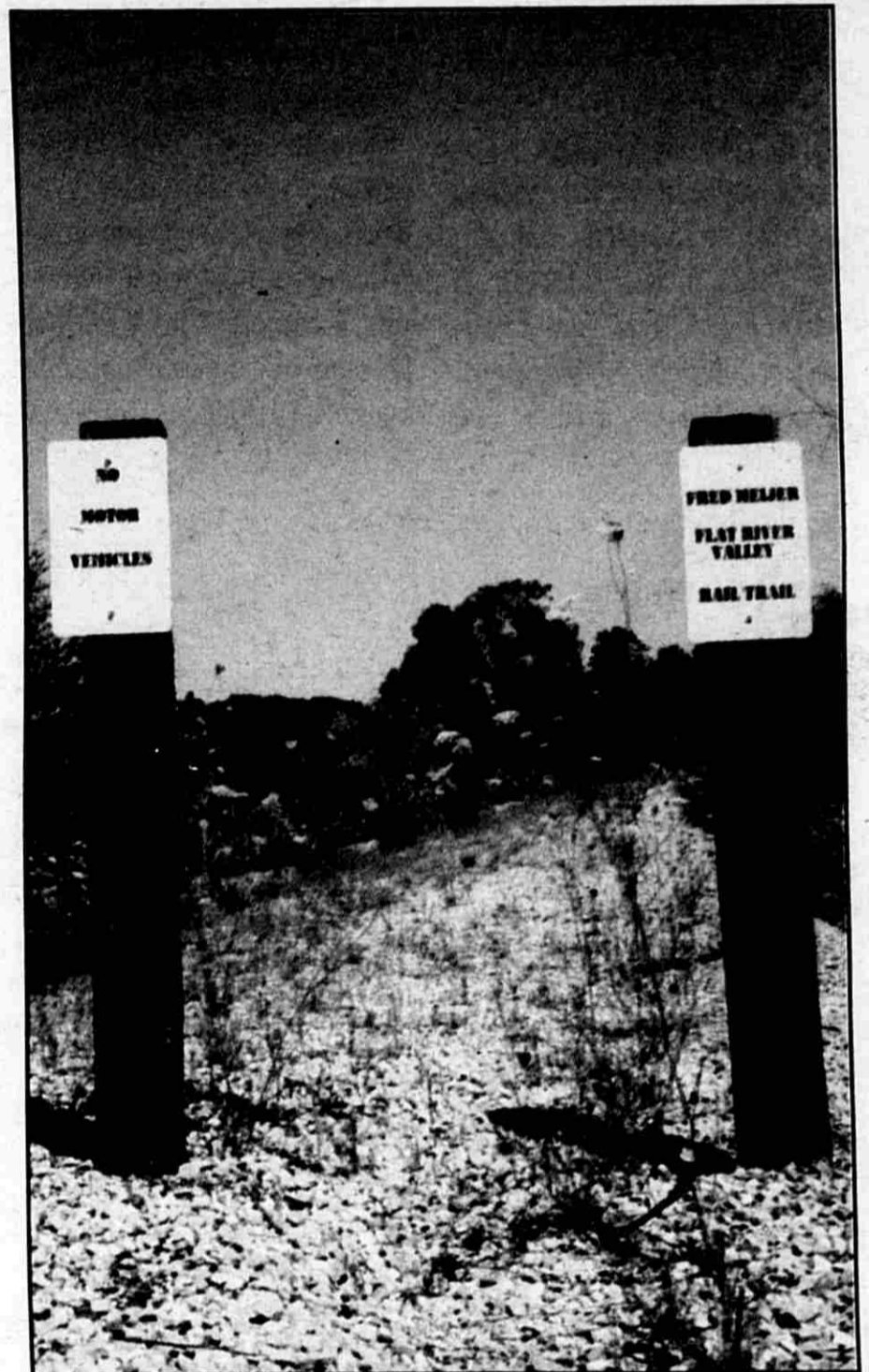
Saranac to Lowell, six miles, cost \$750,000

Lowell to Greenville, 22 miles, cost \$3.5 million

Lowell connector three miles, cost \$1.4 million

The trail will be paved around cities, the rest will be crushed limestone.

The next meeting will be on Sept. 8 at 1 pm at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce.



The trail will eventually connect communities from Greenville to Owosso.

Fair 2011 closes with strong numbers

by Emma Palova

It was a perfect fair that happened in between the raindrops. From the opening day to close on Saturday night, the event attracted hundreds of fairgoers trying to catch the last of summer.

For Bill and Evelyn Sikma of Kentwood, the fair wasn't just about watching their grandchildren compete in the horse arena, but it was also about looking at still exhibits like "Merry Seamstresses."

"We come here to see the competition," said Bill.

In the entertainment tent, it was all bluegrass. First, Steam Powered Bluegrass played and then the Patchwork Band to a crowd of 150.

"We had a beautiful week of perfect weather and the fairgoers came out by the thousands. The crowds built up earlier than in other years and folks stayed around later," said secretary Bruce Doll.

The 2011-2012 Royal Court were the perfect ambassadors of the fair. They will appear in parades and community service projects all over Kent County

throughout the upcoming year.

As far as food vendors, "Fry Guy" as he is affectionately known, said

that Kent County Youth Fair is his favorite fair because everyone at the fair is so nice.

The still exhibit build-

ing was filled with drawings, photographs, entomology and baking projects. The club booths embraced this year's theme "Built Fair

Tough;" one booth even had a miniature car in it.

Monday night was the

Fair closes, continued, page 8



Sweepstakes winners, pictured, back row, standing, left to right: Sarah Crosby, Marina Carpenter, Shelli Praniewicz, Kali Smolen, Kyle Longcore, Alexandria Schut, Calina Mills, Sarah Kennedy, Nicole Yeager, Emily Biermacher, Mackenzie Whaley, Lauren Bush and Olivia Biermacher; front row, kneeling, left to right: Bailey Strouse, Mary Riegling, Jessica Graves (Junior Winner), Sarah Vandefifer (Senior Winner), Kendra Merriman and Lindsay Klomprens. Not pictured, Mark Rasch. Photo by Bruce Doll

Michigan Historical Museum invites you to help share our history

Do you have a passion for Michigan? Or an interest in the state's history? Then the Michigan Historical Museum in Lansing needs you. On Aug. 16, the museum will host an informational meeting on volunteering as a docent.

Docents are volunteers who welcome visitors in the museum galleries, answer questions and share their own interest and knowledge of Michigan's past.

"As a new docent, I started out with very limited knowledge of Michigan's history, but over time I've

learned how to roll bandages for the Civil War, what a flapper wore and did for fun, and how B-24 bombers and Model Ts were built," said MHC docent Deb Malewski. "It's fun interacting and sharing information with our visitors."

People wishing to learn more about the docent program are invited to meet museum staff and current docents on Tuesday, Aug. 16, from 2 to 3:30 pm at the Michigan Historical Museum, located at 702 West Kalamazoo St. in Lansing. The event will include informa-

tion about the museum, the docent application process and the types of work docents do.

"Our docents are essential to making every visit a fun learning experience for children and adults," said Michigan Historical Center director Sandra Clark. "We hope many people will take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about a great way to give back to our community and work with a wonderful group of people."

The most successful docents have an interest in Michigan history, a desire

to share their enthusiasm with the public, the ability to speak clearly before a group and a willingness to lead tours and programs for children and adults.

Scheduling is flexible and can include weekend hours. Docents who complete training are expected to fulfill an annual time commitment. Docents also receive a museum store discount, free parking and special training opportunities.

Docent training begins on Thursday, Sept. 29, and

Michigan history, continued, page 11



ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES

Sign up at the Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington St., Sat., Aug. 20, 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.

RED ARROWS vs. RAMS

The big game between the Lowell Red Arrows and the Rockford Rams will be held at Red Arrow Memorial Stadium on Thursday, Aug. 25 at 7 pm. Tickets are available at

the LHS athletic office Mon. - Thurs., 7:30 am - 3:30 pm. are \$5 for everyone - k-adult. Limited parking at the high school. Shuttle buses will be starting at 5 pm. Food items at booster concession stands and restaurant booths beginning at 5 pm. Special reserved seating available for the Rockford game only, \$20 each. Purchase these seats at Pep Talk from Aug. 16 - Aug. 24. Call 897-7200 for store hours.

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.

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council will conduct a public hearing at its regularly scheduled meeting of Tuesday, September 6, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. at Lowell City Hall Council Chambers, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan. The purpose of said hearing will be to receive comments on the following:

Jice Pharmaceuticals (applicant) has petition for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate (P.A. 198) on real and personal property (located at 218 South Washington, parcel #41-20-02-434-004 and 350 Kent Street parcel #41-20-02-434-002). The applicant qualifies for two (2) years of abatement for improvements of \$220,000.00 in facilities and machinery.

Interested persons may submit comments prior to the meeting at City Hall, 301 East Main Street or appear in person.

Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

How To Change Your Life In September



Mark Johnson

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In The Service

Coast Guard Seaman Robert A. Schreur, son of Brenda J. and William J. Schreur of Lowell, recently graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May, N. J.

During the eight-week training program, Schreur completed a vigorous training curriculum consisting of academics and practical instruction on water safety and survival, military customs and courtesies, seamanship skills, physical fitness, health and wellness, first aid, fire fighting and marksmanship. Men and women train together from the first day in the Coast Guard just as they will work together aboard ships and shore

units throughout the world. To reinforce the team concept, all recruits are trained in preventing sexual harassment, drug and alcohol awareness, civil rights training, and the basics of the work-life balance.

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

Schreur is a 2011 graduate of Lowell High School.

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I like to believe that people in the long run are going to do more to promote peace than our governments. Indeed, I think that people want peace so much that one of these days governments had better get out of the way and let them have it.
- Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890 - 1969)

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.

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(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

Fairgoers flock to Reath Barn for annual livestock auction

by Casey Cheney

The squeals of animals and the ringing of auctioneers' voices provided the background this Thursday during the livestock auction. The auction, which started at 2 pm with small animals, typically lasts most of the day. Crowds piled into the Reath Barn until there was standing room only for arguably the most popular event of the fair.

More than 500 animals were auctioned off, almost 50 percent of which were pigs.

The auction allows children to display their product - be it rabbits, poultry, hogs, steer, goats, sheep, feeder calves, beef or a gallon of milk - and sell them for some hard-earned cash. Community businesses and individuals also use this as an opportunity to invest in the area and its youth.

Jake Nugent has been a long time participant in the auction and says

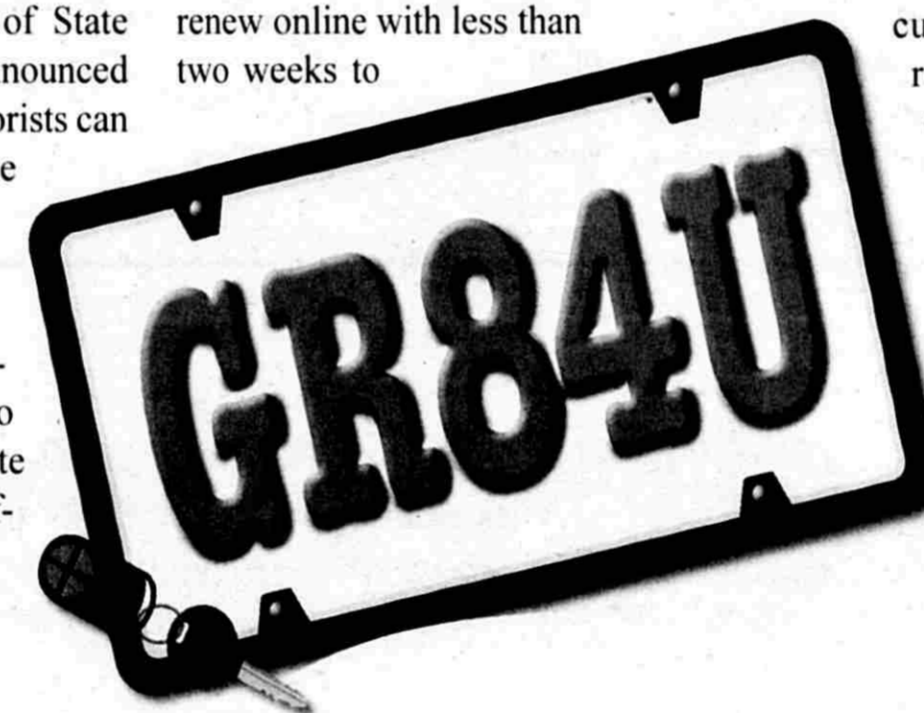
Fair auction, continued, page 9



It was standing room only in the Reath Barn for the livestock auction.

Renew license plates online through birthday

In a major step toward reducing wait times for customers, Secretary of State Ruth Johnson announced that Michigan motorists can now renew vehicle license plate registrations online right up through their birthday, eliminating the need to make a last-minute trip to a branch office.



Previously, vehicle owners were advised not to renew online with less than two weeks to

go before their birthday. This allowed time for the customers' registration and license plate tabs to arrive in the mail

by the time the old ones expired.

In many cases, by the time customers remembered to renew and went online, it was too late and required them to make a last-minute trip to a branch office to obtain their new tabs and registration.

As a result of the new policy Johnson has implemented, vehicle owners can conveniently renew online at www.Michigan.gov/sos up through the last minute

of their birthday. Upon completion of the transaction, they will be able to print off a temporary registration document to keep in their vehicle as proof until they receive their tabs and registration in the mail, usually within seven to ten days.

License plates, continued, page 7

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COWBOYS & ALIENS (PG-13) 4:45, 7:20, 9:55
SMURFS (PG) 4:20, 6:40, 9:00

BACK-TO-SCHOOL BULLETIN

Cherry Creek students and families are invited to a back to school extravaganza on **Tuesday, August 30th** from 5-7:30 p.m.

Come to Cherry Creek to meet your new teacher, enjoy a hot dog picnic, and have fun!

Our theme this year is "Dream, Believe and Achieve It!" and teachers will present classroom information during the evening.

Free child care for children 2-5 is available through the YMCA. Call 987-2700 by August 26 to pre-register for child care.

Here We Go Again!

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

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Groundbreaking for new Alto United Methodist Church

The Alto United Methodist Church held a groundbreaking ceremony on July 24. The new building will be on 64th Street at the edge of Alto. A presence in Alto since the late 1800's, the church will continue to serve the community into the future. Honored during the groundbreaking were deceased building committee members: Robert Grummet and Stewart Thomet; along with current members: Pat Thomet, James Peterson, Jennifer Dougherty (chair), Norma Peterson, Jeri Jousma, Alice Heschke, Paster Bailey, and Lila Lee Grummet (absent). Construction by Dan Vos Inc. began August 8 with completion anticipated in January of 2012.

area births

Bredin



Teige and Finn Bredin are happy to announce the birth of their brother, Culley Roe Bredin. He was born on July 1, 2011 weighing 9 lbs., 9 oz. and measuring 20 1/2 inches. Parents are Eric and Lindsay Bredin of Lowell. Grandparents are Deb and Mike Pavok of Lowell, Linda and Clif Schultz of Grayling and Woody and Jean Bredin of Allen Park.

Culley Roe Bredin

happy birthday!

- AUGUST 17**
Brittany Essich, Jordan Harding.
- AUGUST 18**
Matthew D'Agostino, Sandy Dykhuizen, Sean Pawloski, Paul Reggie Owen, Paul R. Owen II.
- AUGUST 19**
Peggy Idema, Joseph Thaler, Lois Boonstra, Braydon Brown, Brian DeBold, Daryl Chamberlain, Charley Vankeulen, Betty Wierenga.
- AUGUST 20**
Mattie Dalziel, B.J. Rittersdorf, Alexis Holloway, Andrea Bryant, Katelyn Krzacanowski, Edwin Roth.
- AUGUST 21**
Madelyn Pfaller, Charlene DeShane-Dalga, Tim Aksamitowski, Joshua Hobria, Tom Barnes, Ethan Shindorf, Katelyn Videto, Emma Yeiter.
- AUGUST 22**
Mike Blough, Shane Teelander.
- AUGUST 23**
Kacy Anderson, Rhea Bundy Anes, Stephen Rhodes, Brandon Taylor, Ron Kennedy, Jesse Carr, Katie Peterson, Chad Peterson.

I never did give anybody hell. I just told the truth, and they thought it was hell. - Harry S Truman (1884 - 1972)

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college news

Phi Sigma Theta is proud to announce that Joshua D. Corteville, a 2010 Lowell High School graduate and son of David and Jennifer Corteville of Lowell, has recently become a member of Phi Sigma Theta National Honor Society at Michigan State University. Phi Sigma Theta is a national honor society dedicated to recognizing and rewarding academic achievement in undergraduates at institutions of higher learning. Corteville is currently a second year junior in Michigan State University's Honors College. His declared major is physiology where he maintains a 3.94 grade point average. Corteville will be applying to medical school as soon as his prerequisite courses are complete.

Northern Michigan University announces the dean's list for the winter 2011 semester. The following students qualified with a grade point average of 3.25-3.99. Thomas I. Beddows, Nicholas C. Leach, Kati J. Niekerk, Kelly B. Shaheen, Gregory P. Smale, all of Ada. Andrew C. Brim, Andrew O. Hewitt, Brandon N. Lee, Seth D. Mayhew, Patrick R. Misner, Kristen E. Priest, all of Lowell.

License plates, continued

"This change should be a major step to improving our wait times at the branch offices," Johnson said. "We understand that life is busy and renewing vehicle registrations is often a last-minute task. Now you can do it from home instead of at our office. So please; renew online, save the time and go do something more enjoyable on your birthday!" Of the nine million vehicle registration transactions processed each year in Michigan, approximately 75 percent -- more than 6.5 million transactions - are still handled in branch offices. Moving hundreds of thousands of these transactions online and out of the branch offices will help speed service for those customers who do need to visit, Johnson added. "In some of our busiest offices, we have wait times of up to two to three hours - that is unacceptable," said Johnson, who has served as Secretary of State since January. "Given budget and staff level constraints, we have to come up with creative ways to reduce customer wait times. Putting more services on-line will be critical to doing that." Because of current constraints in the state's computer system, customers renewing multiple license plate registrations MUST print or save each registration individually before beginning their next transaction. Law enforcement agencies in Michigan have been notified of the new policy and the use of temporary registration documents. It is critical that motorists carry their temporary registrations with them as proof of their transactions, Johnson said. For more information about online options and other Secretary of State services, visit the website above and sign up for the official SOS Twitter feed, www.twitter.com/MichSOS, and Facebook updates, www.facebook.com/Michigansos. Customers also may call the Department of State Information Center to speak to a customer-service representative at (888) SOS-MICH (767-6424).

Health, continued

- use air conditioning in your home and car.
- reduce mold by cleaning shower curtains, bathroom windows and trash cans often.
- reduce dust by eliminating drapes, feather pillows, soft furniture and nonwashable bedding if possible.
- vacuum regularly including drapes and soft furniture.
- wash pets often and consider an air filter.

Medications can significantly relieve your allergy symptoms. Non-sedating over-the-counter antihistamines are quite effective and we usually recommend Zyrtec, Claritin or Allegra because they can be taken once a day without side effects. The generic store brands are just as effective as the name brands and may be considerably cheaper. Eye drops (Zaditor, Alaway, generic ketotifen) are effective if itchy eyes are the primary problem. Nasal steroid sprays are probably the most useful medication for allergy symptoms, but these require a prescription. In severe cases your doctor may recommend a steroid shot. If medications don't adequately control your symptoms you may consider allergy testing and a program of allergy shots. These shots are given at regular intervals over a long period of time. The shots contain minute amounts of the allergen you are sensitive to. Eventually your body gets used to the allergies and no longer overreacts when exposed. Allergy shots can be inconvenient and results may not be seen for several months to years. Talk to your doctor if you are suffering with allergy symptoms.

Financial Focus, continued

ations related to your marriage, be sure to adjust your tax withholding on Form W-4 to reflect your marital status. You may also want to discuss whether your Social Security benefits will be impacted if you remarry and are under age 60. Estate considerations — Remarriage almost certainly will require you to work with a legal advisor to make changes to the following: will, living will, durable power of attorney, health care power of attorney and trust.

If you have children, this step is critical toward ensuring your wishes will be carried out. You can also speak with your legal advisor if you are considering a prenuptial or post-nuptial agreement. And perhaps above all else, you need to communicate effectively with your new spouse about your respective ideas on managing finances and investments. To develop a joint investment strategy that addresses your goals and your individual differences, you may want to consult with a financial professional. Your remarriage can be a joyous occasion. And by making sure you and your new spouse are "on the same page" with regard to your financial situation and goals, you can make a positive contribution to your new life together. This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Imagination is not only the uniquely human capacity to envision that which is not, and, therefore, the foundation of all invention and innovation. In its arguably most transformative and revelatory capacity, it is the power that enables us to empathize with humans whose experiences we have never shared. - J.K. Rowling

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Fair closes, continued

youth talent show and the antique tractor pull.

Tuesday night was rockabilly with Delilah and the Lost Boys.

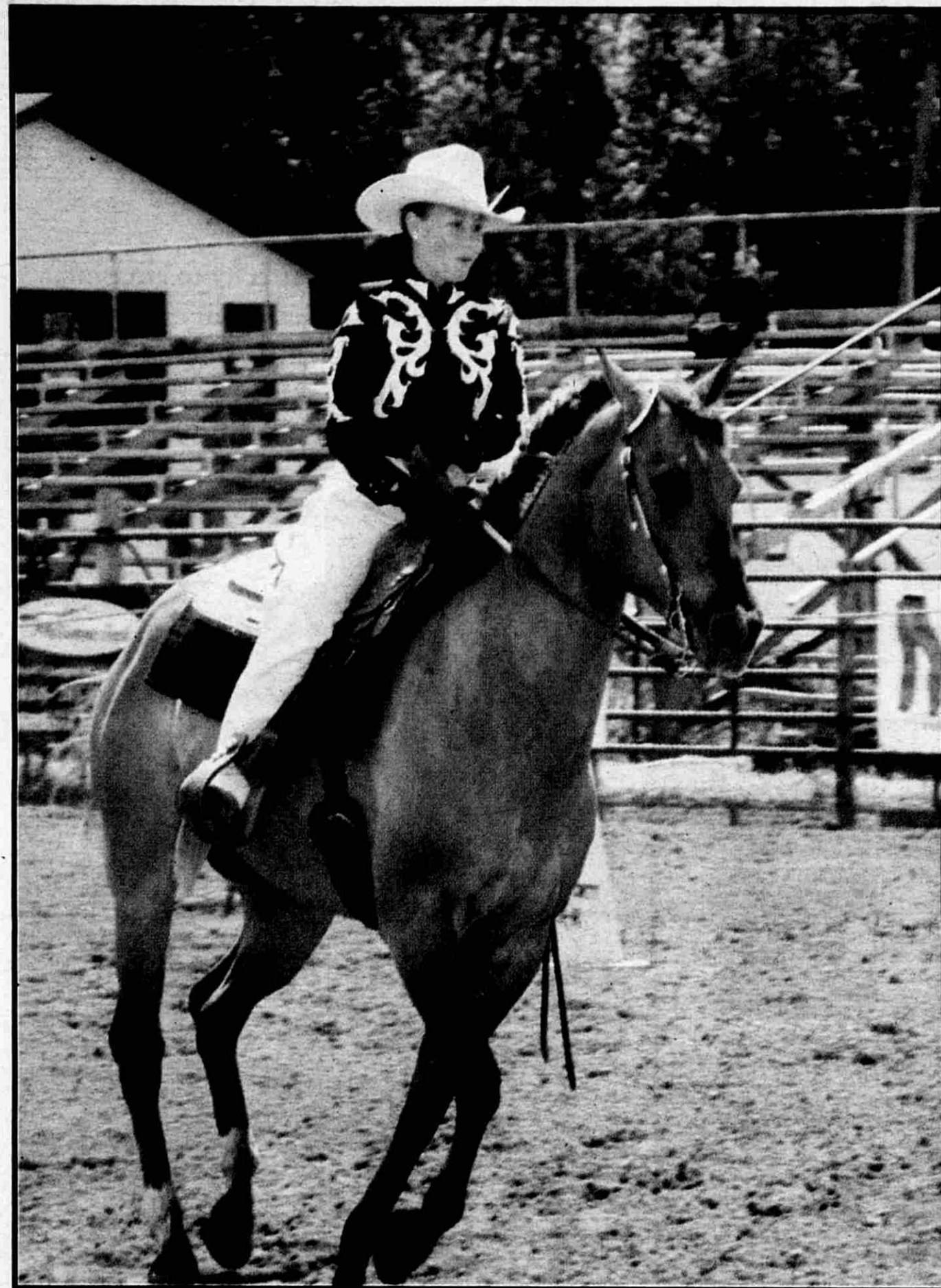
Wednesday was the draft horse pull and country music with Dale Vaughn. Friday night had karaoke and the family dance. The new event, Xtreme Cowboy racing, ran all-day and was very well-attended.

The Kari Lynch Band performed their special blend of country music over at the free entertainment tent. The Minute to Win It competition and an old-fashioned pie eating contest drew a lot of contestants. Thursday and Friday, the Dominator I storm-chasing vehicle was on the grounds.

"We had a great fair this year," said Doll.

The fair is largely a volunteer organization.

"I would like to encourage anyone interested in helping out with next year's fair to check out our website www.kcfcg.org for more information on volunteering," said Doll.



The equestrian section is the biggest department at the Kent County Youth Fair with exhibitors competing in two major categories: horse showmanship and horse equitation. Above, Jillian Kaminski, of Alto, with horse Hottie competing in Western saddle. At left, Taylor Nielsen, from Cedar Springs, exhibits in Western riding pattern. Photos by J. Boss



Julia Timmer, Alyssa Lamoreaux and Sara Kloosterman of Byron Center are unbraiding their horse Maizey's mane.



Mikala Vanderband competed in hunt seat with horse Cochise for the first time at the fair.

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AUGUST 22 AND 23:

At Youth Football

AUGUST 25:

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AUGUST 29 - AUGUST 31

At Pep Talk 9:00AM - 9:00PM
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SEPTEMBER 1:

At the Freshman/JV Football Games

SEPTEMBER 2, 3, 4, 5:

At Pep Talk 10:00AM - 3:00PM
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SEPTEMBER 6, 7, 8:

At Pep Talk 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
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SEPTEMBER 7 & 8:

Available at all schools during lunch

SEPTEMBER 9:

T-Shirt sales will be moving to the high school at noon.

LIVE AUCTION
Pink Arrow
Jersey Auction
at Pep Talk
August 31
7:00 PM

ALL SHIRTS
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Extra Charge for
2XL, 3XL
4XL & 5XL



Fair auction, continued

he liked it, then pausing for emphasis, added, "A lot." Last year, Nugent said he made \$800 in the gallon of milk portion of the auction, adding that he got about half of it back. Though he has to share the money with his cousins, he said, "I still

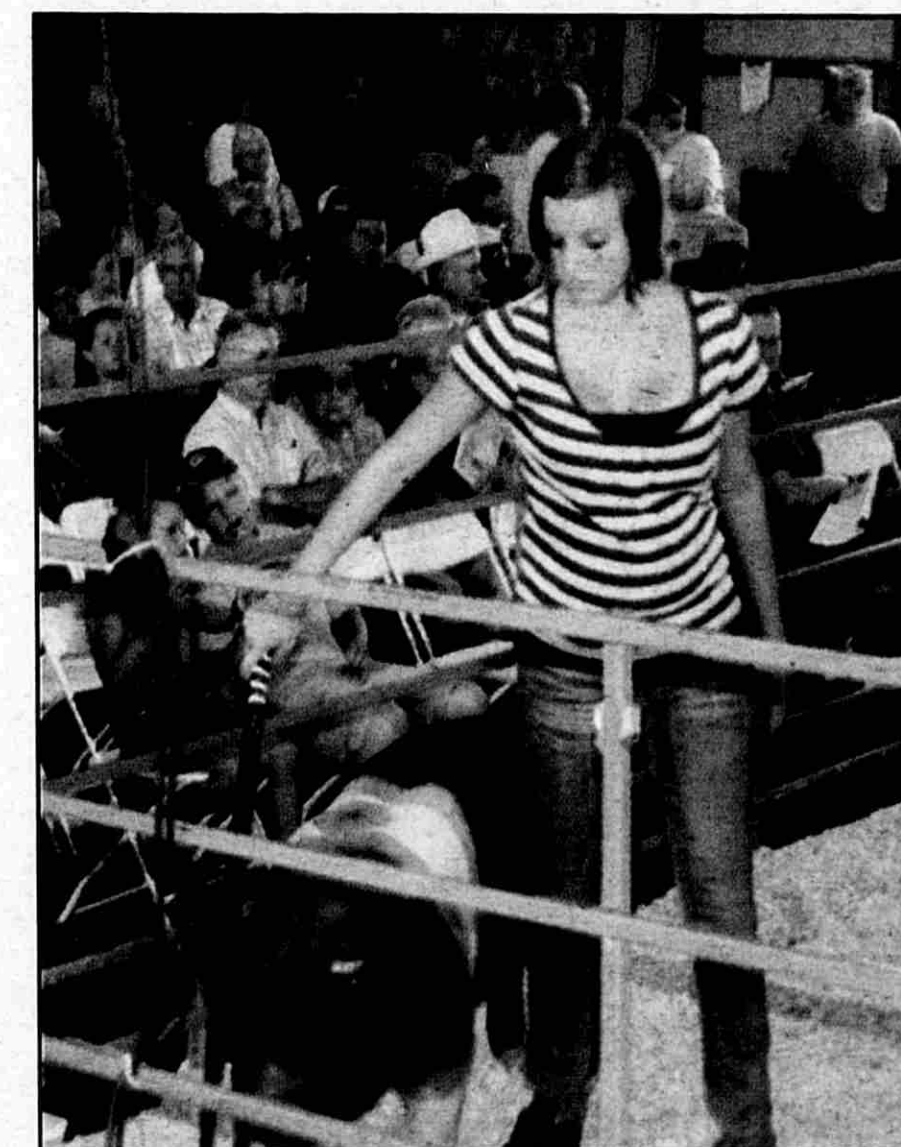
make some good money." Nugent's cow Laurie was named the High Production Cow this year, with a mature equivalent of 38,961 pounds of milk, 1,382 pounds of fat and 1,137 pounds of protein. Nugent also participated in the beef auction.

Crystal Peake helped her cousin Aili Fisher. Fisher showed her steer throughout the fair for her neighbors and again showed it for sale at the livestock auction. Though Peake has only participated one year, she said she enjoys helping her cousin. Fisher said she enjoys the process, from the caring and grooming to showing, because, "I get to take care of our animals." She added that another bonus is learning responsibility.

Dozens of ribbons hung on the cages and above stables speaking to the success of the youth who worked so hard to prepare and present their animals at the Kent County Youth Fair.



Crystal Peake with a steer.



Many hogs were led through the small auctioning ring. Though they spend only a couple minutes there, it is up to the owners to find a potential buyer before their time on stage.



Jake Nugent, 10, and his cow Laurie relax together during the auction Thursday.

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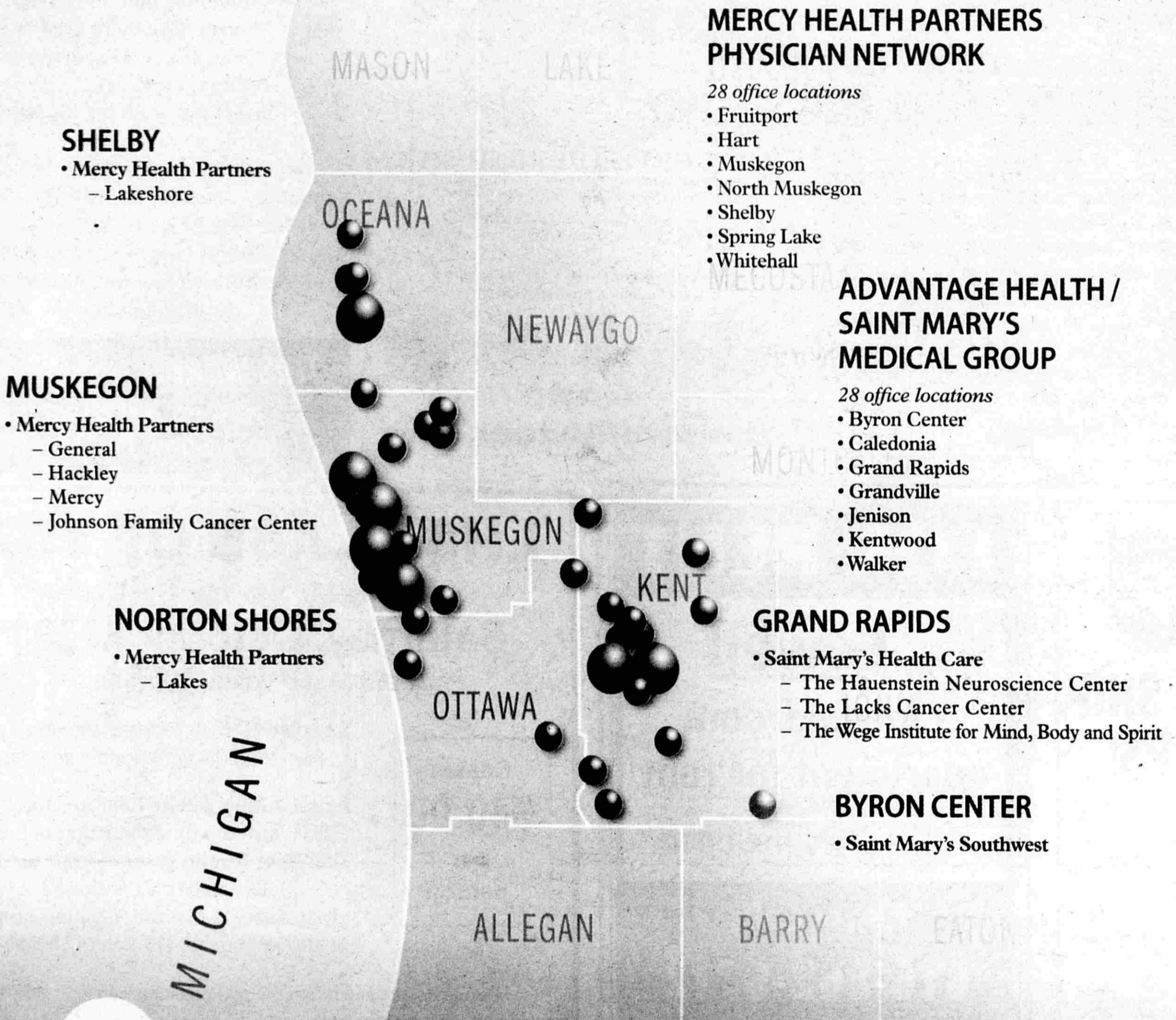
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