# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 63

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, December 11, 2002



# Come Fly Away



Alyssa Churches, in Tim Hawkins' fifthgrade class, displays the butterfly on which she worked.

••• The life stages of a butterfly and its diverse beauty are being used in a collaborative public art program effort by Lowell Area Schools and the Lowell Area Arts Council.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

As part of celebrating 25 years of growth, the Lowell Area Arts Council has embarked on a public program in collaboration with Lowell Area Schools utilizing the beauty of the butterfly.

The butterfly art project has also served as an extension of the curriculum via teaching children about migration, symmetry and the life cycle.

Participating in the public art program, during the month of November, were first-, second-, third- and fifth-grade classrooms from

The creation of each butterfly's sculpture took place at the school. Over a three-day period each classroom (11 in all), through the assistance of an assigned artist, worked in small groups on the sculpture. In addition, students wrote narratives and poems to describe their experience with this program.

"I thought it was good everybody got to participate," said Alto fifth-grader, Austin Tackman. "With a bunch of people working together it worked out nice."

Lowell Area Arts Council executive director, Lorain Smalligan approached elementary principals of their possible interest in coordinating the project with the council.

"To start, the idea was rather nebulous. But it turned into such an enriching experience we want to do it all over again.

"Ididn't realize the sculptures, when completed, would be as sensational as they are," Alto Elementary principal, Mary Ann Schramm said. "The project combined community talent with the schools."

The public art program brought together students with 16 artists from Lowell and the Greater Grand Rapids Area to design and create larger than life butterfly sculptures.

As a group project each classroom creates one butterfly sculpture utilizing all of the ideas of the students.

"The project took the opinions of everyone in a large group," said Katie Jelsma.

# THAT HOLIDAY FEELING!



Lowell's annual
Christmas
Parade brought
many familiar
faces along
Main Street on
Saturday. Even
Santa Claus
waved a hand
this way!
Pictures and
winners of the
float and ice
carving contests
on page 11.



"One person did one thing and then everyone added to it. Large groups are better able to do projects this way."

The visiting artists demonstrated different techniques to the children as well as provided elements and principals of design.

"It was fun to see what was happening with the sculpture each day and to see where the kids' individual designs showed up on the sculpture and how the artists handled it," said Alto art teacher, Anna Marie Beduhn. "All the kids offered a little something and

Butterfly, cont'd. pg. 9

Inside

The Lowell Ledger

Gillette Shares
Amended Budget
With Board,
Story Page 9

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#### **Lowell Area Schools**

would like to thank the following local businesses for their contribution in our United Way Raffle: **Bernard's Ace Hardware** 

**Ball Floral Cousin's Hallmark** Keiser's **Fifth Third Bank Lowell High School Spirit Store** 

2ND ANNUAL

**Future Red Arrow** 

5th/6th Grade Boys

**Basketball Program** 

LOCATION: Lowell Middle School Gym

WHEN:

DATES:

Saturday mornings

Dec. 14 & Jan. 4

beginning December 14

Skills and Drills Sessions

(Please be in attendance!):

- 5th grade 8-9:30 am

- 6th grade 10 - 11:30 am

Vennen Meijer, Inc. **YMCA** Wittenbach Pizza Hut

the safest way to heat is with gas. Many Americans already of people already depend on propane or natural gas as their cylinder. primary source of heat.

> Steve Drake, district manager of Ferrellgas Lowell location, says his company and his employees take propane safety

"Ferrellgas is committed to helping homeowners enjoy the comfort and convenience of propane," said Drake. "Taking just a few minutes to review important safety information will help lead to a more comfortable and safe winter for all propane users."

To help homeowners remain safe throughout the winter, Ferrellgas is providing a list of important tips to remind propane users how to store propane cylinders and use propane appliances safely and efficiently

Propane appliances

· All furnaces can collect lint and dirt and should be cleaned regularly. Contact a reputable heating contractor to perform the cleaning, along with an equipment check up.

• Drain your water heater periodically to get rid of sediment build-up on the bottom of the tank.

• When using a space heater, it is essential that the space above and around the unit be free from any combustible materials, such as draperies or plastics. Check the manufacturer's instructions for clearance distances.

· Water can damage the internal safety mechanisms in the gas controls of an appliance. If you suspect that your appliance controls may have gotten wet, contact a trained technician

· Never attempt to light your own pilot lights. Call a trained technician to perform this task for you.

· Read and understand all educational and warning materials given to you by your propane supplier and appliance manufacturers. Make sure you share this information with your family.

Propane cylinders

Varsity Boys Basketball Tear

Our

Mission

**Tradition** 

· Never store or use a propane cylinder in your home or any other enclosed space, such as a garage.

#### **OBITUARIES**

STASKUS - Stanley Clark "Stan" Staskus, aged 50, passed away December 2, 2002. He was preceded in death by his father Stanley. He is survived by his mother Elinor; brother Scott (Nancy) Staskus; sisters Nora (Terry) Buck, Mary (Brian) Curie; many nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions may be made to Flat River Outreach Ministries, 519 E. Main, Lowell, MI 49331 or Mel Trotter Ministries.

#### **ADA-LOWELL 5** Jeff McDonald - Varsity Boys Basketball Coad

M-21 5 Minutes East of Amway H.Q. \$5.00 Kids all shows \$5.25 DAILY Matinees til 6pm & Seniors \$5.50 Students & Late Shows Fri & Sat \$6.50 Evenings Mon - Thurs ALL SCREENS

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SHOWTIMES 12/09 - 12/12

1:10, 1:40, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30 DIE ANOTHER DAY (PG-13)

1:20, 1:55, 4:30, 7:05, 9:40

CHAMBER OF SECRETS (PG)

COUPON

FREE

:40, 2:55, 6:10, 9:25

(PG-13) 11:30, 1:10, 2:50, 4:40, 7:30, 9:20

11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:10,

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Jan. 11, 18 & 25

Feb. 1, 8, 15 & 22

March 1

If there are any questions, or if you are interested in coaching one of the teams, please call: 897-8787

Cost: \$48 (Please call for financial assistance if necessary, Includes:

- 10 Saturdays of instruction and games
  - Future Red Arrow jersey
  - Weekly instruction with Coach McDonald and Varsity Players · An opportunity to play at halftime of a
  - High School Basketball game
  - At least one weekday practice per week

Please register by December 14th • Late registration is limited to availability

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Project Red Arrow • 13223 Burroughs • Lowell, MI 49331

NAME		GRADE:
ADDRESS:		
	PHONE#:	
PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME:		

You can reprint this flier or just visit us at: www.lowellbasketball.com

· Make sure to read all warning labels attached to the

• Don't use, store, or transport cylinders where they can be exposed to high temperatures because the pressure relief valve may open, allowing a large amount of flammable gas to

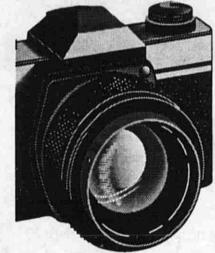
• When transporting a cylinder not in use, keep it secure in an upright position with the cylinder valve turned off.

Ferrellgas offices provide copies of the Ferrellgas Propane Safety Plan which will give many proven tips on how to be safe with propane.

Don't join the book burners. Don't think you're going to conceal faults by concealing evidence that they never existed. Don't be afraid to go in your library and read every book.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

**Attention All Coaches, Proud Parents, Athletes & Others Who Wish To Submit Photos In The Ledger...** 



It is important that the subject's face not be shaded in order to print your photo clearly in the paper.

> All group pictures should be taken WITHOUT caps, visors, etc.

Photos will no longer be accepted if faces are too dark.



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#### Be Our Guest At Calvary Church

Come Experience The True Light Of The World This Christmas

TRADITIONAL ADVENT SERVICE Sunday, December 15 • 10:00 am

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM "The Way To Bethlehem" Sunday • December 22 • 10 am

**CHOIR CANTATA** 

"He Is Born" Christmas Day • December 25 • 10:00 am

> CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH 1125 West Main Street

# Foster, a new, but familiar face

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

Politics isn't the only thing that's local.

Randy Merren, owner of dealerships in Greenville, Ionia and Lowell, believes successful car dealerships are local too.

This explains why he recently hired Lowell's Kim Foster to run his dealership at 2399 W. Main.

Merren wanted someone from Lowell running his Lowell store - someone with a familiar face and who is involved in the

the Lowell Athletic Boosters Club and has lived and worked in the community for seven years.

Foster fills the bill. The Lowell resident is the president of

to build up the business," said Foster who has 22 years of sales experience, much of that in the food industry." Merren's auto dealership provides customers with a data-

"I started last Monday. I'm excited about the opportunity

base of over 400 vehicles.

"Our goal is to create traffic at this location and eventually build a freestanding location for this dealership," Foster said. Merren's is open Monday and Wednesday from 9 a.m.

6 p.m.; and Saturday from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. For more information customers may call 897-8100

until 8 p.m.; Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. until

### Ameritech agrees to reimburse city

Contingent on receiving its \$850 reimbursement from beyond the original estimated completion. SBC-Ameritech for expenses incurred by Shaler Excavating of additional traffic sign rentals, the city of Lowell agreed to make its final payment of \$850 to Shaler to close out the N. did not require the road to be closed. Division Street project.

preconstruction conference minutes the need for Ameritech to be made to the city. expedite its work on Division Street. It went seven weeks

Ameritech originally indicated that it would not consider reimbursement as its work was outside of the paved area and

After receiving a letter and attachments from the city, Dave Austin, of Williams & Works, pointed out through Ameritech said that a reimbursement in the full amount would

### Builder and city reconcile parcel mixup

parcels of property on Shepard Drive as part of a housing rights development

It was later discovered, however, that Howerda's parcel is owned by the city. The parcel is needed for access to the Pasquale. "The road right-of-way overlapped the builder's

Through an advertised bid process, Howerda was awarded

Howerda Builders and the city agreed to swap small the parcel for a sum of \$10 with the city retaining any utility

'What was surveyed and what was shown on the map were two different things," said Lowell city manager, Dave property. This will reconcile the problem.

### **KDL News & Notes:**

**CURIOUS GEORGE** BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Everyone's favorite monkey is celebrating his 60th birthday! Children ages six and under can meet Curious George and celebrate his special day by reading his books, watching his video and sing-

2000 KIA SPORTAGE EX

4X4, auto., leather, loaded,

36,000 miles

\$9,995

1998 SATURN SLI

4 door, 5 speed, 53,000 miles

\$5,995

1999 DODGE 3/4 TON 4X4

360, SLT, auto., loaded

\$15,995

ing monkey songs as well as first published in 1941. Since make a take-home monkey then, a series of his books and the Englehardt branch craft.

Curious George, written

have followed.

The Alto branch library 7 at 6:30 p.m. by H.A. and Margret Rey, was will present the program on

Saturday, Jan. 4 at 10 a.m.

will offer it on Tuesday, Jan.

You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have. -Maya Angelou

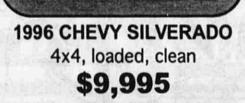


Kim Foster now runs Randy Merren's auto dealership on 2399 W. Main in Lowell.

#### IS OPEN **REGISTER TO WIN** Your choice of 18 gemstones & \$100 towards a setting. Fine Jewelry & Fine Art From Area Artists Jewelry Repair & Custom Design Watch Repair & Batteries Unique Gift Ideas 208 E. Main Street • 897-9480 Mon, Tue, Th: 10-6; Wed & Fri: 10-8; Saturday 10-5 3 Winners On The 16th!



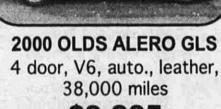






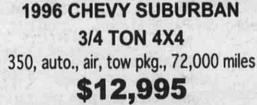














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3rd seat, loaded, sharp, 38,000 miles

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Reg. cab, 5 speed, long box \$5,995





1997 JEEP GRAND

**CHEROKEE 4X4** 

6 cyl., auto., loaded

\$9,995

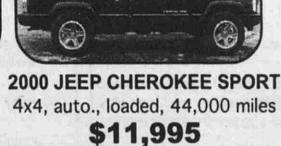




2000 FORD F350 **POWERSTROKE 4X4** Crew cab, XLT Lariat, leather, loaded, 42,000 miles



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897-8100

2399 W. Main Lowell

(1/2 mile east of Meijer on M-21)

grandfather Brown almost certainly descended from German

dered shorts with suspenders the Germans wear at Octoberfest.

Instead of a piper I would have had a tuba player belting out

My mother's father was a Reynolds. His father was Irish.

Unfortunately, grandpa's mother was English. If there was a

little more Irish in there we might be getting somewhere. The

Irish like their pipes and kilts almost as much as the Scots. The

from my mother's mother. She was pure Danish and proud of

it. Her parents came over from Denmark and Grandma even

spoke a little Danish (cuss words) when she got mad at us

music stands out. When I think of Denmark I think of Vikings.

a fur cape while brandishing a sword and blowing a horn

Minnesota Viking fan in purple facepaint. With a little work

Scots. With their kilts and bagpipes, they're the only ones who

come to mind who can pull off that old-world tradition as they

involved in any future weddings, I guess I'll just have to

I guess we'll just have to leave this kind of thing to the

I don't know much about Danish culture, but no dress or

The closest thing I have to a real link to the old country is

# Of Faith

Father George J. Fekete St. Mary Catholic Church

two good teams are playing mentit is conceived until God is going to win, you'll see suade anyone who may be many of the fans holding up contemplating having an their hand and index finger, abortion? Do we pray for and showing their team is num- try to dissuade any proponent ber one.

Well, that's fine and there's nothing wrong thinking that your team is number sistent with the commandone. But how much more ments and teaching of Jesus. wonderful it would be if, and then we are called to make the especially where many people necessary changes. "Prepare were present, most everyone the way of the Lord, make would hold up their hand and index finger and claim that Jesus Christ, Savior, is Num- Advent is all about. God love ber One in their lives.

During this second week of Advent, what should we do. as Christians, if Jesus Christ does not really have first place in our lives? What should we do if our lives are taught? What should we do if we are not prepared for death, or for the Second Coming of **DEC. 13:** Chrys Thaler.

The answer is that we Robert Roth. should do exactly what John DEC. 15: Roger Brown, the Baptist advised the people Karen Latva, Tammy Baird, of his time to do. We should Kathryn Duiven, Kristin Ellis, ence and fine arts. repent, turn around, make the Danielle Brenk, Marea Borg. you love me, keep my commandments." (John 14:15).

Regarding the command-

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Week of 12/16 - 12/20

**ELEMENTARY** 

MON .: Cheeseburger on bun or

ham, egg & cheese bagel, apricots

& cherries, golden oven fries, free

TUES: Beefy nachos with meat &

cheese sauce or mini corndogs

WED: Chicken sticks and biscui

or beefy burrito with nacho pieces

orange wedges, baked beans.

fresh veggies & dip, fruit crisp.

nvest in 2 weeks Career Develop.

nvest in your future

vest in yourself

It's time to plan a new

ments and beginning with the gift of human life, do we respect human life and work for At an athletic event where its protection from the moand then near the end of the calls the person home? Do we game it seems that one team pray for and really try to disof assisted suicide or of the

If our attitudes are not con-

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

not being lived as Jesus has DEC. 12: Brad Briggs, Joyce designed for students inter-Stormzand, Matt Newhouse, ested in challenges and op- a senior at Lowell High Sally Hacker.

change! Didn't Jesus say, "If DEC. 17: Bill Ellison, Jerry

**DEC. 18:** Danielle Anchors. Hillary Graves, Cliff Wall-

death penalty?

straight his paths" (Mark 1:3) into your life. This is what

graduate, was accepted this Marcia Scheider of Lowell. fall into the Honors Institute at Albion College.

portunities beyond the tradi- School, has met the qualificational lecture and laboratory tions required and has re-Jesus, whichever comes first? DEC. 14: Chris Kropf, Bryan courses. Honors students are ceived an offer of admission required to enroll in four "Great Issues" seminars in humanities, science, social sci- Dewey.

> with a 3.5 cumulative grade of the Lutheran Church-Mispoint average and produce an Honors thesis.

Scheider is a first-year stu-

Kelsey L. Scheider, a dent at Albion College and 2002 Lowell High School the daughter of Mike and

Concordia University, The Honors Institute is Ann Arbor, recently announced that Noelle Dewey. for the fall of 2003. She is the daughter of Mark and Jill

Concordia University is a They must also graduate four-year liberal arts college souri Synod's Concordia University System of 10 colleges and universities.

### Searfoss/Miller

James and Melanie Searfoss of Lowell, Michigan, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer Louise, to Michael Anthony Miller, son of Anthony and Mary Miller of Etters, Pennsylvania.

Jennifer, a 1995 graduate of Manhattan High School. Manhattan, Kansas, attended Kansas State University before graduating in May 1999 from the University of Maryland Baltimore County with a degree in Health Science and Policy. Currently a junior at the University of Maryland School of Law, she is the governmental affairs representative at the Medical Group Management Association in Washington, D.C.

Michael, a 1995 graduate of Williamsport High School, Williamsport, Pennsylvania, obtained his Associate of Arts degree in Social Science from Harrisburg Area Community College in 1998. He is currently attending the University of Maryland Baltimore County, and will graduate in May with a degree in Political Science.

The wedding will take place on January 11, 2003, in Baltimore, Maryland, with Dr. Donald J. Longbottom officiating.

# **YMCA** hosts its annual

Many families from the YMCA Before and After School childcare program came out to enjoy their annual Thanksgiving dinner. "We feasted on all the traditional Thanksgiving food plus some delicious salads and desserts made by the families," said child care director, Sarah Wolters. "The children put on a talent show, which included a play, dance routines, and even balloon animals."

poverty, illness or neglect.

Together the children and families filled 10 shoeboxes with toys and hygiene products for children around the world. The YMCA kids had a great time packing the boxes and began learning the true meaning of giving.

# COLLEGE NEWS

# Thanksgiving Feast

The children decided that this year the freewill donations should go to Operation Christmas Child, a program which accepts shoeboxes filled with gifts. These boxes are then sent to children who are suffering due to war, natural disaster.

# AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 **Worship Time** 

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. **Sunday School** 9:50 a.m. **REV. B. GORDON BARRY** 

lursery & child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance

GOOD SHEPHERD **LUTHERAN CHURCH** 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21

> Adult Bible Class & Sunday School 9:00 A.M. Sunday Worship ...... 10:00 A.M. (Nursery available)

www.goodshepherdlowell.org

Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible

#### FIRST BAPTIST **CHURCH OF LOWELL**

THURS: Spaghetti with meat 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 sauce and garlic toast or subma-Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org rine sandwich, pears, carrot coins Rev. Burland Margesson & Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor FRI .: Sliced turkey or baked ham, Sun. Worship Service..9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. whipped potatoes & gravy, home-Sunday School Hour......11:00 A.M. made dinner roll, fruity jello, holi-...... Wed. 6:15 & 7 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free

#### EVERGREEN MISSIONARY CHURCH

10501 Settlewood • Ph. 897-7185 Sunday School. Morning Worship. ..11 A.M .6:00 P.M. Evening Service.

Prayer and Praise - Wed., 7:00 P.M. GLENN H. MARKS - Senior Pastor, 897-9110 STAN GERIG - Associate Pastor, 897-5894 ALL ARE WELCOME! (Barrier-Free)

#### APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Sunday Services 10:00 A.M. at the Cherry Creek Elementary School 12675 Foreman Road, Lowell, MI 49331 CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES

Pastor Robert L. Hubbard Phone: (616) 897-1267 website www.aplighthouse.com

#### **ALTON BIBLE CHURCH** Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road

897-5648 Sunday School. .10:00 A.M. Morning Worship 11:00 A.M. **Evening Praise** .. 6:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA... ...7:00 P.M. (Sept. - April) Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418

YOU ARE WELCOME!

#### **CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER** (Assembly of God) 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery

Robert W. Holmes, Senior Pastor Dave Noonon, Asst. Pastor Stacy Peters, College & Twenties SUNDAYS: Worship: 9:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. WEDNESDAYS: Family Night: (For All Ages) 7 p.m. Generation Jacob Youth: 7 p.m.

#### LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

201 N. Washington • 897-8800 Sunday School. ..9:30 A.M Morning Worship 10:50 A.M. Sunday Evening ..6:00 P.M. Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M.

PASTOR TIM DESHAW Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance

#### FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (United Church of Christ) 404 North Hudson • 897-5906

Worship and Church School .10:00 A.M. Dr. Roger LaWarre Megan MacNaughton. . Music Director Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise & Worship



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CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM

Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM

Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM

Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM

Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 9 PM

eligious Education, children to adults - call Brenda Berding 897-7915

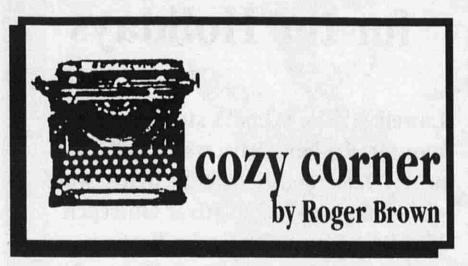
See Lowell Cable Ch. 49, EWTN for 24 hr. Catholic broadcasting

10:00 A. M

. 11:20 A.M.

..6:00 P.M.

# Viewpoint...



Terese and I attended a wedding Saturday night. It was a beautiful affair with the ceremony and reception held at one of Key West's unique downtown restaurants. The bride works there and the entire place was closed for the event. Even with the bride's connection, I'm reasonably certain this shindig cost more than my daughter's wedding reception at the Ionia K of C Hall.

The ceremony took place in the courtyard and guests took up viewing positions wherever they could. There were people in the bushes and hanging from balconies. From my vantage point in a potted palm I could see there were at least a couple things about the ceremony that were a bit out of the norm. No, the bride and groom weren't of the same sex.

The first thing I noticed was the father-of-the-bride as he escorted his daughter through the courtyard. He is a customer and friend of ours. He is a tall, fair redhead and his last name is MacLaren. I guess it shouldn't have been a shock to see him in full Scottish regalia. He was resplendent in a kilt, cap and a cape sort of thing all in wool tartan. For good measure, the

ledger Entries

of 125, 100, 75, 50 & 25 Years Ago

125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL DECEMBER

12, 1877

TO THE EDITOR

Truly sorry to read about B.J. Thompson's resigning from

the Lowell Planning Commission. Having survived several

trips to this fabled panel, I always felt that B. J. was on my side

and that she exuded an extremely rare trait, common sense! We

In praise of the total team effort of the football team.

based on the performance of just one or two or even three

talented players. They are based on a total team effort. This

may be an obvious truth that doesn't need to be stated, but I

Great teams produce great results. Great results are not

Our football team has Mark Catlin plus more than one all-

state quality receiver, but it also has an outstanding offensive

line and an outstanding defense. There is the old cliche which

says that offense puts points on the scoreboard but defense

ship football game. I wish to reiterate and emphasize my

praise of our defensive team and the coaching staff that

produced such results. There are 22 positions filled at any time

spots on Friday, November 29, 2002, all deserve to be consid-

ered as all-staters by the Lowell Area community

This is certainly true once again in our recent champion-

I would hope another free thinking, courageous woman

wish her every blessing in her future endeavors.

can be found for this important position.

To the Editor:

want to say it anyway.

Saranac has 15 men who weigh 3000 pounds "jointly."

Priscilla Lussmyer

Sincerely,

Charlie Bernard

bride and her dad were followed down the aisle by a kilted father's mother was a Haney, which had once been Henig. My bagpiper playing a Scottish tune. Pretty cool!

The other unusual aspect of the wedding was who was up Brauns. So, I could have dressed in those traditional embroithere with the bride and groom. As the actual ceremony began, I noticed another customer and friend was officiating. The guy is a realtor, not a minister. He is Italian, not Scottish. But, there "Oompa music." Somehow the image doesn't compare to he was, decked out in a tuxedo, conducting a wedding.

After the ceremony I cornered the guy. "Okay Carmen, what 'powers vested in me' are we talking about here?" I asked. "Were you a preacher in another life?" I added. "No ... I'm a notary," he says. I found out that Florida is one of four states in which Notary Publics can legally marry people. So, English ... well ... they're English. I guess you can go to the Department of Motor Vehicles, sell your used pickup and get hitched all at the same time. Bonus!

In the reception line I complimented the father-of-thebride on his Scottish attire. He told me it was the genuine article fashioned in the MacLaren family tartan. He had it made years ago and keeps it around for special occasions. Even though he was born and raised in Florida, he's obviously very proud of his Scottish lineage. It also doesn't hurt that he I get the image of a bearded brute wearing a horned helmet and looks pretty good in a kilt. There are some of us who, even if we were of Scottish descent, shouldn't be seen in public fashioned from a steer's horn. You know .... your typical wearing a kilt.

Once we were through the reception line Terese comin the gym, I could pull that look off. Somehow, I don't think mented that she envied people with a heritage they could I could have sold my daughter on the idea of a Viking escorting celebrate. I agreed with her. She and I are pretty watered down her down the aisle. when it comes to our ancestry. Even though I can't boast any direct lineage to the old country, I began to think of ways I could have dressed for my daughter's wedding.

On my father's side the ancestors can be traced back to the escort their daughters to the altar. If I want to get more Revolutionary War. That's a lot of generations to dilute. One strand seems to run through it all. That strand is German. My become a Notary Public.

Lowell Union School has an eight-page pamphlet listing community singing. teachers, course of study and rules.

Chicago, Illinois. Indian Summer-type weather last Friday.

Wm. Youngs of Segwun manufactured 100 grain cradles and 60 dozen ax helves in 1877, and Wm. Jones made 30,000 scythe snaths.

#### 100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER DECEMBER 11, 1902

J. Pierpont Morgan is engineering a combine to control every coal company in the United States.

Teachers can get supplies of monthly report cards from the

It is suggested that country school teachers receive courses in agriculture and horticulture to pass on to their students and thus improve farming.

"The pension of Newell Hotchkiss of Lowell has been increased to \$12 a month."

D.G. Look advertises Rocky Mountain Tea, "liquid electricity that drives away suffering and disease."

#### 75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO **SOLO DECEMBER 15, 1927**

Harold Waddell and Helen Wittenbach star in the junior class play, "A Pair of Sixes."

The Clover Leaf Club is sponsoring the Santa Claus Girls program in Lowell, raising \$150 for local needs.

W. J. Lessiter of Grattan gets a record-breaking 24 cents a pound for his steer, especially raised and fed as a show

Kent County high school teachers get together for a first social evening at the Grand Rapids YWCA. Lowell Supt. W. W. Gumser sings a solo and County Supt. Lynn Clark leads

#### Address on a letter, delivered: "Scogo elnoy." That is 50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER DECEMBER 11, 1952

The old Weavers Market building will reopen as a restau-

An anonymous businessman will cash teacher paychecks and hold them until the state can cover them, at least through December.

Overhead Main Street lights are on, a tree stands at each light post, and the aging Richards Park life-size creche is being repaired in time for Christmas week.

Frank Stephens and Gerald Rollins spearhead formation of a Ground Observer Corps for civil defense. Observers will have a small building on the 4-H fairgrounds.

Lowell again studies the question of becoming a city, but this time state tax allotments may justify the action.

#### 25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER DE-**CEMBER 14, 1977**

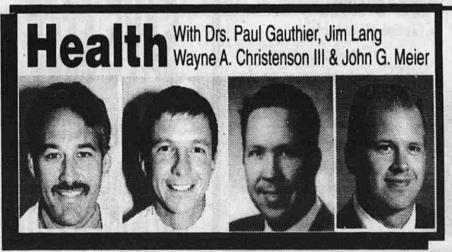
The first hard snow struck Friday, with 5 1/2 inches and

Tom Heintzleman is the first area person to start college classes under the AHEAD program which allows those on

active military duty to attend college. The legislature turns down a proposal to provide unemployment compensation to teachers during the summer.

The Kent County Park Commission, in the first annual Fall Color Photo Contest, awards first place to a photo in Palmer Park, second to one of the Fallasburg Covered Bridge.

Rep. Hal Sawyer tries for a national initiative bill, to allow citizens to place an issue on the ballot by securing a given number of signatures; 23 states, including Michigan, already



#### **ACNE ROSACEA**

Rosacea is often called "adult acne," and is a disease that affects the skin of the face. It usually starts with a redness of the cheeks, and may progress to a blotchy, red rash or spots that resemble acne. Unlike acne, however, rosacea usually first occurs in adults between the ages of 35 and 50. Many times eye symptoms, such as redness, itch or a gritty feeling can be associated with this condition. The rash associated with rosacea can also be tender and painful.

in any football game. The players of our team who filled those While the cause of rosacea is unknown, some factors may worsen it: sun exposure, cold weather, certain foods, and alcoholic beverages. Donna W. Gerard

The treatment for rosacea can be handled by your family physician. Treatment usually consists of oral or topical antibiotics. In most cases several weeks may ensue before any satisfactory results are noted. Once symptoms have cleared patients often need to continue the medication for extended periods of time to prevent relapse.

For more information on rosacea, you may contact The National Rosacea Society at 1-800-NO-BLUSH.

#### Letters, Letters, Letters...

The Lowell Ledger welcomes all "Letters to the Editor" for publication on its "Viewpoint" page. Letters can be typed or written. However, we ask that they do not exceed

"Letters to the Editor" should be sent to the Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, P.O. Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or emailed to: ledgerbg1@aol.com. Letters must be signed and please include a phone number when emailing.

Editing may be necessary for space, clarity and to avoid obscenity, libel or invasion of privacy.

The Lowell Ledger thanks you in advance for your cooperation.



# **Carting off Goods** for the Holidays

Lowell Middle School's student council sponsored a food drive which collected nearly 2,000 non-perishable items which were delivered to Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc. The food collection campaign ran for one week. Pictured, from left to right, are: Brooke Liu, Marissa Garza, Alex Fleet and Kara Schloop.

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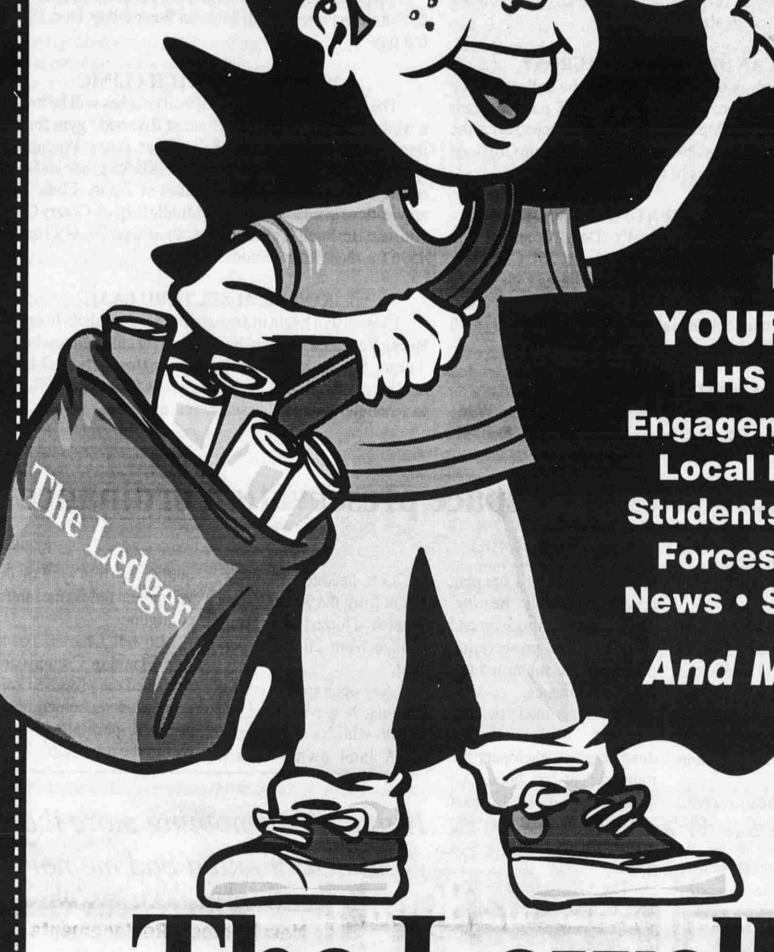


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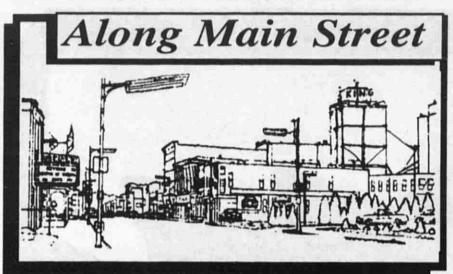
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#### WINTER SPORTS MEETING

The Parents/Coaches/Players meeting is Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 6 p.m. (general session) in the high school cafeteria. Parents who did not have a student involved in a fall sport are required to attend the 6 p.m. Coaches will meet with teams and parents at approximately 6:35 p.m. for specific information.

#### L.H.S. BAND CONCERT RESCHEDULED

The Lowell High School Bands Holiday Concert has been changed from Dec. 11 to Wednesday, January 8 at 7 p.m. and will be held in the Performing Arts Center. Admission is free; p.m. Call Pam 676-1398 with questions. everyone is welcome to attend.

#### CHRISTMAS PARADE/ACTIVITIES TELEVISED

Revisit the downtown holiday activities on Lowell Cable TV Channel 20 on the following days: Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 3 p.m.; Thursday, Dec. 12 at 5 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 13 at 6 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 14 at 10 a.m.

### Request for funds pushed back until Dec. '03

It will not be necessary for the various organizations that request funds from the Lowell Community Fund to apply for funds for the year 2003.

Usually these grant request forms are accepted and approved during the Lowell Community Fund's December meet-

The Heart of West Michigan United Way has informed the Lowell Community Fund that there will be no need to submit a request for funds until December of 2003. United Way will be extending the present cycle of funding for one more year.

ENTERTAINMENT ALONG MAIN STREET

Wednesday, Dec. 11, 6-8 p.m. Lowell High School Cheerleaders & Girls from LAS High School; Saturday, Dec. 14, 1-3 p.m. LHS All School Cast and Crew; Wednesday, Dec. 18, 6-8 p.m. Lowell High School Cheerleaders; Saturday, Dec. 21, 1-3 p.m. LHS All School Cast and Crew.

CHAMPIONSHIP T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE

The LHS athletic office is selling football championship Γ-shirts for \$12; adult sizes S thru 2XL

POP CAN DRIVE THIS SATURDAY

Eighth graders in the community will be collecting pop cans on Saturday, Dec. 14 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. for their Washington D.C. trip. Pop cans may also be dropped off at the middle school during the same time period. Call Kim Griffioen at 897-6755 with questions or to pick up your cans.

#### ATTENTION: PARENTS OF SENIORS

Volunteers are needed at Kohl's (Dec. 14) and at Van Andel Arena (Dec. 13 & 28, also Jan. 3, 11, 25). Call Lynn (676-3680). Please make your Meijer purchases with Meijer certificates and Meijer will donate 5% of your receipts to the trip - certificates available at high school Mondays, 2:30 - 5:30

#### SANTA VISITS WITH CHILDREN

Santa will be at Touch of Country, 96 W. Main, on Wed. Dec. 11, 6-8 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 14, 1-3 p.m.; and Sat., Dec. 21 1-3 p.m. Also you may drop off your wish list at Santa's

CHAMBER OFFICE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce will be closed from

Dec. 23 through Jan. 1, 2003.

SANTA PAWS AND PICTURES

Take your pet to Animal Hospital & Pet Complex at 1161 E. Fulton for pictures with Santa on Wednesday, Dec. 18 from 6-8 p.m.

#### WINTER FAST PITCH CLINIC

The Lowell High School softball coaches will be holding a winter fast pitch pitching clinic at Riverside gym for girls interested in becoming a softball pitcher. Dates: Wednesday, Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29 and Feb. 5, 12, 19. Girls 6th grade and under report at 6 p.m.; girls in 7-8 grades at 7 p.m. Clinic: \$25; applications available at Lowell Middle School, Cherry Creek, Alto and Bushnell. Call Bob Rodenhouse at 897-4125 or 245-4596 for more information.

#### KINDERMUSIK THRU LAAC

Classes will begin in January for Kindermusik. Instructor Becky Reagan will teach the program for children newborn to 3 years. See the Kaleidoscope mailing (formerly the LLEAP brochure) or call the Lowell Area Arts Council at 897-8545 to schedule. Financial assistance is available.

#### State mandates open space preservation ordinance

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

Township already has an Open Space PUD Ordinance that was recently adopted, the state of Michigan mandates that the township also adopt an Open Space Preservation Ordinance.

The new ordinance would apply to residential developments in the AG-1, AG-2, R-1 and R-2 zoned areas. Any space. development under this ordi-

nance will require a site plan review and public hearing. Although Lowell Charter The existing zoning plan and an open space preservation plan must be submitted un- cent der this ordinance.

> Revisions made or considered for the proposed ordinance give developers the right to "cluster" homes on smaller lots, provided at least 50 percent of the property is permanently set aside as open

have to allow more density than is currently allowed by the ordinance.

Lots needing documentation from the Kent County Health Department will change from 20 to 30 per-

Any open space used for farming, however, need not comply with this requirement. A land owner cannot

qualify for this type of development unless the land is contiguous.

Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission approved the proposed zoning ordinance amendment for open space preservation within the township.

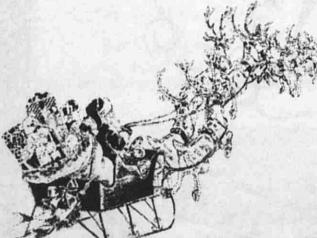
Happiness is nothing more than good health and a bad memory.

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### Butterfly, continued... From Page 1

then someone added to it.'

will be compiled into a classroom booklet.

Upon completion of the butterflies, the sculptures will be showcased at the Lowell Area Arts Council for its 25th anniversary celebration, "Art Attack," on June 21, '03. In addition, two butterflies will be on exhibit at Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpure Park during their butterfly exhibit in Lowell assistant superintendent to curriculum and instruc-

"The research is very clear on the impact that arts educa-All the students' butterfly drawings and creative writings tion has on both child and adult learning. Without a doubt, students who are engaged in artistic activities, particularly activities which involve creating images, have been shown to have significantly increased skills with regard to core academic learning, especially as measured by state assessment tests such as MEAP in the state of Michigan," said Jim White,

"I enjoyed it. I thought the project was really neat," said Sara Nagy. Jonathan Hansen added that he learned about texture and said, "The process was a lot of fun."

Bushnell students began the design phase of the art program in early December

At the conclusion of this 10-month program, the butterfly sculptures will be sold to the public to raise money for an artists-in-residency fund.

# Budget news is slightly better; Gillette hopes end of year report will be considerably better

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

With all the changes in revenues and expenditures from the time the budget was adopted prior to July 1 and the amended budget presented Monday night at the Lowell School Board meeting, the bottom line remained nearly the same.

The current snapshot of the school budget shows the district will deficit spend in the amount of \$314, 848.

With the volatile state of a school budget, change occurs from day to day, often times more frequently than that.

Lowell assistant superintendent to finance and personnel, Connie Gillette says the goal is to present an amended budget at year-end that is in the black. "The bigger the better," she explains.

While Gillette cannot guarantee it, she is hopeful because "given the fact that at the end of the year there are a thousand line items that are not 100 percent spent," she explains.

If not spent, that's money which can be used to reduce the deficit.

As an example, Gillette notes that the district budgets for five early retirements each year at a cost of roughly \$150,000. If all are not used, it's money the school can return to its general fund.

The other unknowns are fuel and utilities. "Right now we have spent less on fuel than what we've budgeted," Gillette said. "It's important that we continue to scrutinize and be careful of how we spend money. We've got to continue to put money away. We have been doing that, but it takes a lot of hard work.'

Changes that have occurred since the adoption of the budget include an increased number of students resulting in

That increased number of students has created a need for additional staff, resulting in increased expenses (\$323,810). There have also been increased benefit costs, insurance increases and added utilities for the new high school wing.

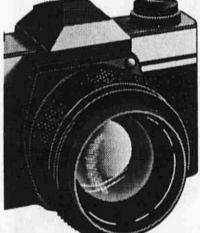
Offsetting some of that additional expense has been the superintendent transition, budget reductions, reduced expense for bus purchase and a decrease in bus routes.

Items which could affect the budget between now and the end of the fiscal year include weather conditions, unexpected revenues and expenditures, unspent or overspent line items, state economy, and the new governor and legislature.

The unreserved fund balance is currently \$3.3 million. Of this, \$1.9 million is cash invested. This pales in comparison to

typical monthly expenses which run from \$2.2-\$25 million. "Our goal remains to continue to discuss and monitor fiscal accountability, and a year-end balanced budget," Gillette

Attention All Coaches, Proud Parents, Athletes & Others Who Wish To Submit Photos In The Ledger...



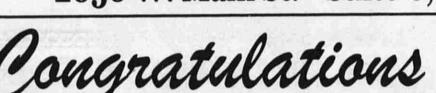
It is important that the subject's face not be shaded in order to print your photo clearly in the paper.

All group pictures should be taken WITHOUT caps, visors, etc.

Photos will no longer be accepted if faces are too dark.

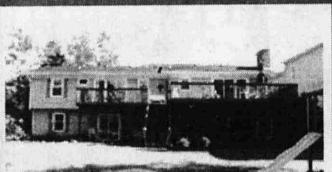
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Lowell: Murray Lake Home! furray Lake. The sprawling 700 sq. ft. deck with 9 i iders to dining area and family room as well as slider off the super rec. room on walkout level make access to the huge back yard and additional 400 sq. ft. lakesid deck a snap. A separate living room, family room and over 2200 sq. ft. finished. \$329,000! Pat & Toni Schaefer www.patschaefer.com



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is snack bar. Spacious master suite with large walk-in closet, whirlpool tub, double vanity & large shower.

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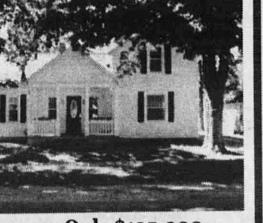
Lowell: Secluded Setting

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full baths, 3000 sq. ft., big living room w/fieldstone ireplace, lower level walkout family room. 3-stall



Lowell: Great Hunting Property Hilltop ranch, 4 bd., 3 bath, new carpet, central ai home is much larger than it looks. An all-new "Top of the line" kitchen with hardwood floors is something you would see in your favorite magazine. The bathrooms feature claw foot tub, tile shower and pedestal sink. A great value. Charles Lupton sliders to deck, all on 20 acres. Living room with fireplace. Walkout lower level. Attached 2-stall garage. New 32x48 heated floor pole barn. 4 miles north of town. Call for a tour. Reduced! \$239,900! Joice



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tored to original state. We have it all including formal tchen has a walk-in pantry and breakfast nook creates by mornings. A total of 6 bedrooms. 2.5 baths and 5 cres! Call for a private tour. Also available with more









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mas Parade drew 69 entries including the Northern Lights Home School Marching Band, the LHS girls basketball

team, LHS state champion equestrian team and the state champion Red Arrow football team. The top three floats were Brenda's Hair Design, left, (\$150), Lowell Area

Historical Museum (\$100; and the Alto Girl Scouts (\$75);

Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce's annual Christ-

The Lowell Ledger caught up with children in the community prior to the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade to find out what they want for Christmas this holiday season.



Seth Hemingsen A play jeep.



Vicky Chase Barbie as Rapunzel, a Scoobie doll that talks to me and Pop Goes perfection.



**Terry Henderson** Play Station II



Jordan Blough A talking mirror and a



**Taven Haskins** Candy and big trucks.



A puppy and a Brat Girl.



Abigail Kastanek A baby buggy and a



big as me.



Kaya Overly

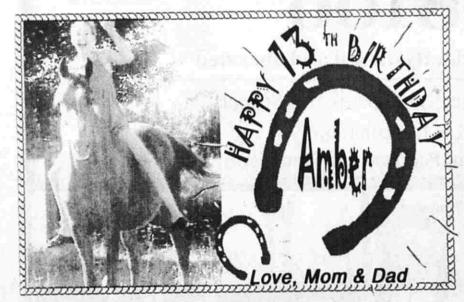




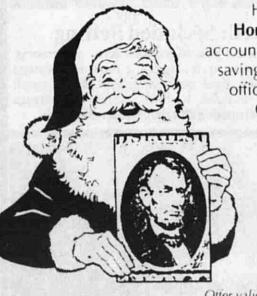
Molly Mooney



Kaden Schafer



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### Cloggers receive certificates

Five Lowell residents: Karen Bennett, Kathleen Casler, Jerri Larkin, Barbara Russell and Teresa DeVito graduated from their beginner basic clogging class in learning the American step

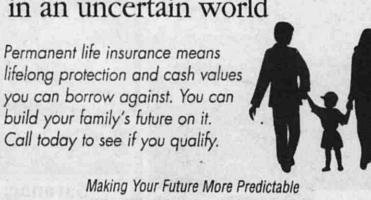
They received their certificates for the fall eight-week beginners course in Hastings, the next level being the basic level of achievement.



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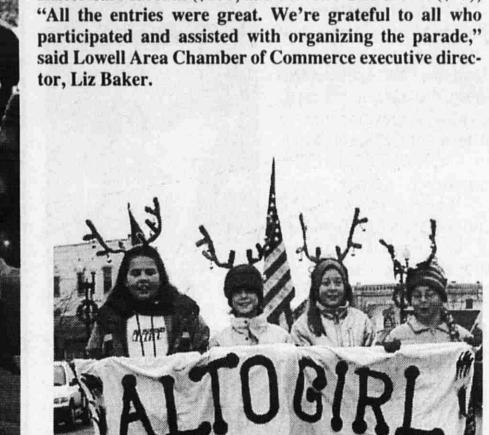
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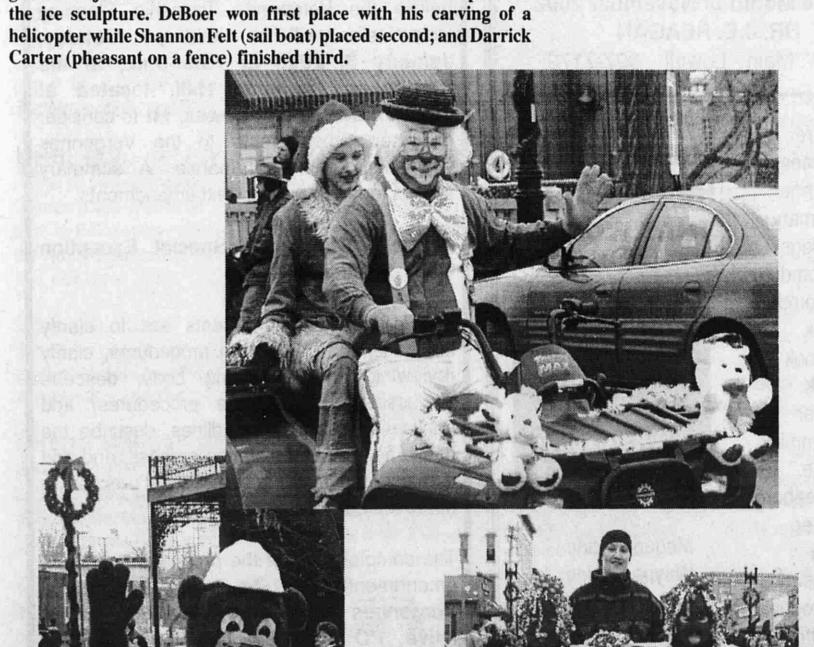




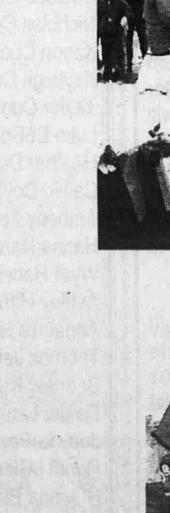
Parade of **Seasonal Activity** 







Phil DeBoer was the winner of the first annual Flat River Freeze Ice Sculpture Challenge held on Saturday after the parade on the Riverwalk. Six students from the Grand Rapids Community College and their coach, Bob Schultz put on the show. Each participant was given a subject to carve and had an allotted time in which to produce



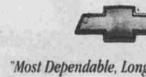




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#### IN THE SERVICE

Corporal Matthew Barton, United States Marine Corps, was awarded the Joint Service Achievement medal for exceptional meritorious achievement as a member of the Marine Security Force, White House Communications Agency.

When a known felon crashed through the front gate of the compound, Corporal Barton armed himself and pursued the intruder. He restrained the suspect, placed him in handcuffs and notified the appropriate authorities. Corporal Barton ensured that reflects credit upon himself. the destroyed gate and breech the United States Marine to the compound fence were Corps and the Department of properly guarded until repairs Defense. were made.

sive action ensured the physi- son of Mr. and Mrs. Allen cal integrity of the presiden- Barton of Sterling Heights and tial support facility.



Corporal Matthew A. Barton plishment of Corporal Barton

Barton was recently pro-His immediate and deci- moted to sergeant. He is the the grandson of Richard and The distinctive accom- Barbara Doezema of Lowell.



# **Helping Hands**

Alto Girl Scout Troops 2068. 1826, 1842, 002, 392 and 1101 collected food for needy families this Thanksgiving season. They distributed turkey boxes to six Alto families. Meijer helped subsidize the cost of the turkeys.



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The Lowell Ledger

# **TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

before the Vergennes Township Planning Commission will be held on Monday, January 6, 2003 at 7:00 p.m., at the Vergennes Township Hall, located at follows for the proposed text amendments.

Uses, Section 201.502

The proposed amendments are to clarify language and application procedures, clarify reviewing and approving body, describe unclassified special use procedures, add application submittal deadlines, describe the public hearing and violation process, and add a major and minor modifications process to approved permits.

The complete text of the proposed ordinance

# COMNGEVENIS

Notices in The Ledger's "Com- Post #8303 (men only) ing Events" are free of charge to any nonprofit organization in the Lowell, Ada, Alto & EVERY MON .: Boy Scout Saranac areas. We prefer such notices to be kept brief and to be submitted by mail, phone at 897-9261.

**EVERY MONTH:**Flat River Snowmobile Club meets at the clubhouse (11841 Potters Rd.) east of Montcalm Ave. For dates call 897-5015. Guests wel-

EVERY OTHER SUN: Single adults, ages 25-50 years, meet 4 - 5:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church of Lowell. Social time/ It. Bible study. Call Mark 897-8642 or Tammy 897-0872.

**EVERY MON.:** Lowel High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Friends - meets from 7-8:30 p.m. in members homes. Call 676-1355 for

SECOND MON. OF EACH MONTH: Fallasburg Historical Society holds monthly board meeting at at 300 High St. Business chamber office at 7 p.m. Public invited. 897-7161.

SECOND MON. OF EACH MONTH: The Lowel Board of Education meets at 7:00 p.m. in Administration Building, 300 High Street.

SECOND MON. OF EACH MONTH: Bowne Township Historical Society holds its regular meeting at the Historical Museum at 84th and Alden Nash, 7:30 p.m.

THIRD MON. OF THE MONTH: Lowell Showboat Garden Club meets at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall of the Nazarene Church. For info. call Dave: 897-2533.

MON. OR TUES .: Cub Scouts for boys in 1st - 5th grades, Alto or Lowell. Call Terry Amidon at 897-8751.

FOURTH MONDAY OF **EACH MONTH:** American Legion Clark-Ellis Post 152 at Schneider Manor, Bldg. D, 725 Bowes Rd. 8 p.m.

1ST MONDAY OF THE MONTH: Diabetic Support group at 7 p.m. at 1st United Methodist Church dining room. Call 897-2760 with questions.

THIRD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH: Women of the Moose business meeting at 7:30 p.m.

EVERY 1STMON.: V.F.W.

Troop 102: boys 11 & up or completing 5th-grade, meets 7 - 8:30 p.m. at but will accept notices by Scout Cabin on N. Washington St. Call Terry 868-6481.

meets at 7:00 p.m.

1ST & 3RD TUES .: Diabetic Support group meets at Schneider Manor Community Room at 9:30 a.m. ?'s call 897-2760.

TUES.: Take Off Pounds Sensibly Tops MI#372 meets Key Heights Mobile Home Park Community Bldg. Weigh-ins 5:45 p.m.

TUES.: Flat River Woodcarvers meet at LAAC 6:30-8:30 p.m. New members welcome.

1ST TUES .: Adults with AD/HD at Calvin College. 7-9 p.m. Free. Call Gary Engle at 897-6325 or 248-2423.

**1ST TUES.:** WINGS Parent Group meetings 7:30 to 9 p.m., in Board Room meetings/odd months; program meetings/even months. All are welcome.

EVERY SECOND & **FOURTH TUES.:** Knights of Columbus #7719 meets St. Mary School, 7:30 p.m.

**EVERY SECOND TUES.:** Lowell Masonic Lodge regular meeting, 7:30 p.m. at Masonic Center, 119 Lincoln Lake. All Masons are welcome.

EVERY 1ST & 3RD TUES.: Lowell Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Look Memorial Fire Station, 315 S. Hudson St.

**EVERY 3RD TUES.:** Parents of children w/AD/HD Issues Group at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 32156 4 Mile NE (& E. Beltline) 7 p.m. Linda 874-5662; teen group:Sarah 281-6588.

**EVERY 1ST TUES:** Adults w/ AD/HD Issues Group meeting: Calvin College #206 of the Commons bldg. Connie 942-6887.

EVERY OTHER WED.: 6:45-8:45 p.m. G.E.M.S. Girls Club - Calvary Christian Reformed Church. Girls ages 8-13. 897-8694.

**EVERY WED.:** Pioneer Clubs 6:30-8 p.m. Evergreen Missionary Church, 10501 Settlewood Dr. Children 4-7th grade. 897-5894 for details.

WED.: 8 p.m. ALANON meets at Lowell Congregational Church basement.

**EVERY WED.:** Rotary meets at noon at Lowell Masonic Temple.

**EVERY WED.:** "Peppers" (Sr. adults) meets at Franciscan Life Process Center: 1-3:30 p.m. \$10 per week. Transportation available, Call Pat at 897-7842.

**EVERY WED.:** Lowell Church of the Nazarene Caravan children's program, 7 p.m., 5-12 years. Call 897-8800 with ???'s.

**EVERY SECOND WED.:** Kent County Youth Fair Board meets at 7:30 p.m. at King Memorial Youth Center at the Fairgrounds. Call 897-6050.

EVERY SECOND WED.: G.F.W.C. Lowell Women's Club meets noon in community room at Schneider Manor, 725 Bowes Rd.

**EVERY FOURTH WED.:** Elderly volunteers needed for Intergenerational program w/school children ties.9:45-10:45 a.m. or 12:45 - 1:45 p.m. Call Sister Colleen F.S.E. at Franciscan Child Development Center, 897-7842.

**EVERY FOURTH WED.:** Support group for Peripheral neuropathy meets at 4 p.m. at St. Paul's Anglican Church, 2560 Lake Michigan Dr. Grand Rapids. 897-9794.

THURS .: Weight Watchers at Lowell Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington, 5:30 & 7 p.m. Register1/2 hour before meetings. New members invited 1-800-651-6000.

**EVERY THURS.:** Saranac Area Musicians and Singers: Saranac High School, Choir - 6:30 p.m./ band -7:30. Kathy 897-5981.

**EVERY THURS.:** Pottery classes at Franciscan Life Process Center from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. \$10 per hour/ \$15 for two. Call 897-7842 for info. or to register.

EVERY THURS. - St. Mary's Pregnancy Crisis Center, 402 Amity St., nondenominational help for pregnant women / adolescents at the school: 11 a.m. -3 p.m.; Mondays: 5:30-8 p.m. 897-9393.

FIRST THURS.: 4-H drama club meetings at Lowell Middle School choir room. 897-1502 after 5.

FIRST AND THIRD ENGLEHARDTLIBRARY THURS.: Alto Lions Club HOURS: Mon.- Wed., 12 at Bowne Center Fellow- 8 p.m.; Thurs. - Fri.: 9:30 ship Hall, corner of 84th & a.m.-5p.m.; Sat.: 9:30 a.m. 2:30 p.m. 200 N. Monroe M-50 (Alden Nash) at 7.

**EVERY 2ND THURS.:** N.A.R.F.E. meets 1:30 LOWELL AREA ARTS p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2700 E. Fulton.

EVERY 3RD THURS .: 1-4 p.m. 149 S. Hudson. Rubber stamping group meets at Christian Life Center 6-9 p.m. Create cards, scrapbooks, etc. Share supplies. Call Dawn 862-8841 for information.

**EVERY 3RD THURS.:** with questions. VFW #8303 Ladies Auxiliary: 3 p.m. at Schneider SAT., DEC. 14: Pop can Manor Community Room. drive for 8th graders' trip to

Parents Supporting Parto pick up your cans. May ents group at Franciscan also drop off pop cans at Life Process Center: dis- middle school between 11 cussion for parents of children. Call 897-7842.

Royal Arch Masons regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Lowell Masonic Center, 119 Lincoln Lake, Lowell. Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

**EVERY THIRD THURS.**: LaLeche League of Ada, Cascade & Lowell 6:30 p.m. for socializing; meeting 7 p.m. Mother to mother support for pregnant & breastfeeding women. Nursing children welcome. Ada church. Call 752-8300.

SECOND THURS. OF **EACH MONTH:** Genealogy - Alto Family Tree Club at Alto Library 6:30 - 8 p.m.

SECOND SAT. OF EV-ERY MONTH: Ada Historical Society at 1 p.m. at Averill Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley.

SECOND SAT.: Lowel Amateur Radio Club at Lowell High School 9 a.m. social gathering; 10 a.m. meeting. LARC sponsors the 145.27 MHz area radio repeater system.

**EVERY FRI. & SAT.:** Averill Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley 1-4 p.m. By appt.: 676-9346.

LOWELL AREA HIS-TORICAL MUSEUM HOURS: - Tues., Sat. & Sun.:1-4 p.m.; Thurs., 1-8 p.m. Families: \$10; individuals \$3; ages 5-17 \$1.50; members free.

FLAT RIVER OUT-REACH MINISTRIES THRIFT SHOP HOURS: Wed.- Fri.: 12-6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. 519 E. Main St. 897-2037.

COUNCIL: Open Tues., Wed. & Fri.: noon - 5 p.m.; Thurs.: noon -7 p.m.; Sat.,

WED., DEC. 11: Winter Sports meeting for parents/ students 6 p.m. in Lowell High School cafeteria. Call athletic office at 897-4442

St. Call 647-3920.

Call 897-8545.

Washington D.C. Call Kim EVERY THIRD THURS.: at 897-6755 with ???'s or a.m. and 1 p.m.

FRI., DEC. 20: Lowell EVERY THIRD THURS .: Women's Club bake sale at Huntingon Bank main

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office - regular business

DEC. 23 - JAN. 1: Chamber of Commerce office will be closed during the holi-

SAT., JAN. 4: Luminary Walk, 5-7 p.m. at Wittenbach Agriscience Center; snow shoes available; guided hike; live music by Lowell Music Ensemble.

WED., JAN. 8: LHS bands holiday concert rescheduled from Dec. 11 in Performing Arts Center. Everyone is welcome to this free concert.

**COMING EVENT** - Lowell Seniors Travel (all ages). Norwegian Sky Caribbean cruise Jan. 26-Feb. '03. Call Mary 897-7092.

**COMING EVENT - Lowell** Seniors Travel (all ages). Italy (Tuscany area) March 29-April 6 all inclusive.Call Mary 897-7092.

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#### **SYNOPSIS REGULAR MEETING OF** THE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP BOARD November 18, 2002 - 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of the October 21, 2002 Regular Meeting and October 29, 2002 Special Meeting accepted as read, and list of Other motions invoices approved. approved:

- Motion to hire Janine Mork to fill the reception position
- Motion to approve use of the township meeting space for Boy Scout Troop 104 for the purpose of Merit Reviews
- Motion to adjourn at 7:50 PM. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting December 16, 2002

Complete minutes are available on the township site web www.vergennestwp.org, or at the township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr., Lowell.

Mari Stone, Vergennes Township Clerk

Chelsea Comdure Luke DeBoer **Heather Dimmick** Caitlin Doyle Anthony Freeburg Hanna Haner

Ashley Hansen ICNB offers an excellent fringe benefit **Annalyse Hopping** Thomas Jeffrey Bethany Kaczanowski Daniel Lane Joey LaPenna Randi Millering Rhianna Peterson Sara Poelstra

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PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing 10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell, MI to consider proposed amendments to the Vergennes Township Zoning Ordinance. A summary

Article V/Chapter 5 Special Exception

amendments can be reviewed at the Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Drive, PO Box 208, Lowell, MI 49331-Phone: (616) 897-5671 [fax 897-5674]. Written and oral comments will be received until the conclusion of the public hearing. Written comments may be addressed to the Planning Commission Chairman or the Planning Coordinator at the Township offices. Comments may be emailed to the Planning Commission at: zoning@vergennestwp.org.

Vergennes Township Planning Commission



# MURAL IN **MOTION**

Lowell Middle School students independent artists - are working creatively to brighten up the walls. The mural, in progress, can be viewed from the school's entrance. A mural has also been initiated in the student cafeteria. Pictured, from left to right, are: David Gallagher, Jeanette Griner, Esther Porritt, Holly Vaught, Nathan Willemstein, Terrah Tawney and Andy Oesch.

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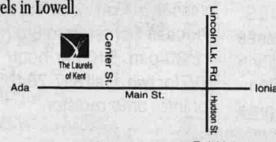


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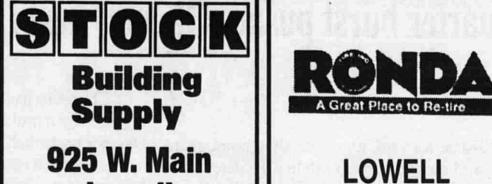


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# Lady Arrows celebrate fall season triumphs

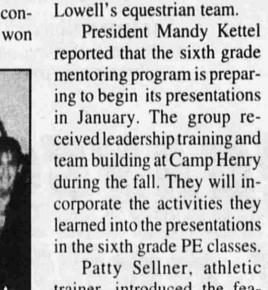
The Lady Arrows Varsity Club held its annual holiday luncheon to celebrate the accomplishments of the fall sports. Thirty varsity athletes met on Dec. 5 at Sayfee's in Grand Rapids.

and for its team all-state aca- Class A quarterfinals. demic recognition.

Lady Arrows basketball team had a very successful

The cross country team season. The team won both was recognized for its fourth district and regional champiplace finish at the state meet onships and competed in the

> The tennis team is continuing to improve and won



many invitational tourna-

ments this year.

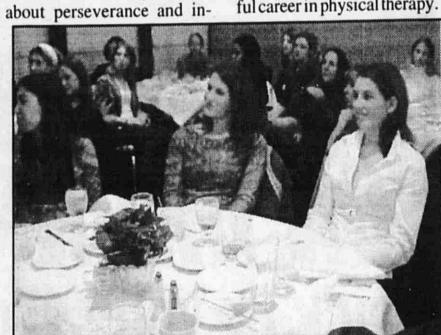
trainer, introduced the featured speaker, Barb Hoogenboom, a physical therapist and professor at GVSU. She shared her insight and experiences about sports, leadership and life.

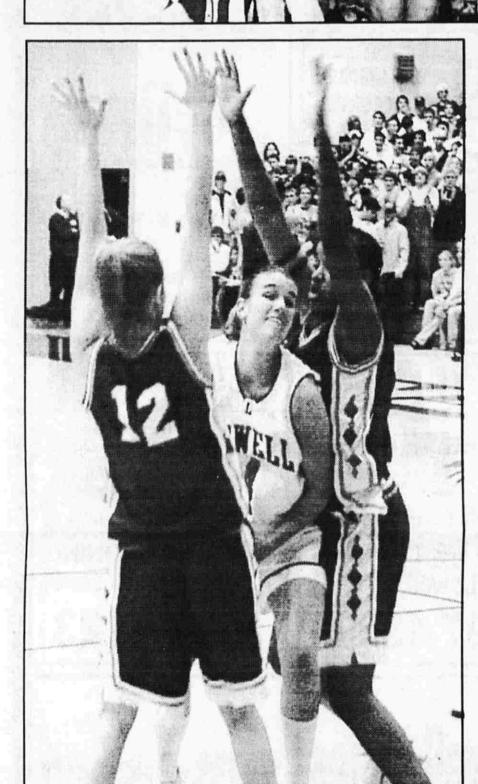
Hoogenboom reinforced the importance of athletes serving as mentors for younger The group celebrated a children. Through team parstate championship by ticipation, athletes learn many life lessons. By learning about winning and losing, athletes

have firsthand experiences

tegrity, and develop friends

Hoogenboom shared her personal reasons for choosing physical therapy as a career. She explained the skills and preparation that are needed to develop a successful career in physical therapy.





### Third-quarter burst pushes Okemos past Lowell in quarterfinal

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

It took an all-state forward, an outstanding point guard and an Okemos third-quarter burst to sideline the determination, integrity and character of what has become known as ball candidate, inside. She finished with 12 points. Lowell girls basketball.

The Red Arrows, who have had an answer for every hurdle in their path this year, could not stop the inside play of Jennifer Smith-Dewey and the perimeter exploits of Farai High School Athletic Quarterfinals at Lansing Eastern.

"Okemos is talented at many positions," said Lowell girls basketball coach, Dee Crowley. "Chiwocha is extremely quick and a better outside shooter than what I had thought. Chiwocha netted 12 points including three treys."

This club has overcome 10 major adversities, many of which people don't even know about. For them to be where they are at speaks of their class and character. They have made an exceptional run despite those adversities. I am so proud of these girls and what they have accomplished.

Blair Meyer battles to get off a shot against two Okemos

**Lowell Basketball Coach Dee Crowley** 

big threes and provides us with energy out on the floor," said Okemos basketball coach Christine Sermak.

Lowell just could not stop Smith-Dewey, a Miss Basket-

"We answered their burst at the beginning of the game, but that one that came toward the end of the third quarter, we just couldn't recover from," Crowley said.

Chiwocha as Okemos defeated Lowell 63-46 in the Michigan Arrows trimmed the deficit to three (29-26) by outscoring Okemos 14-11 in the second quarter.

Lowell finished its season at 21-4.

which people don't even know about," Crowley explained. "For them to be where they are at, speaks of their class and character. They have made an exceptional run despite those adversities. I am so proud of these girls and what they have

Amy Oberlin led Lowell in scoring with 12; she tallied 10 in the first half. Becky Bosserd netted 11 and Blair Meyer scored 10, eight of which came in the first half.

"Chiwocha has been instrumental for us all year. She hits

Lowell trailed 18-12 after one quarter of play. The Red

"I didn't think we played Okemos basketball in the first half. Coming into the game we knew we had to do a good job breaking the press, controlling the boards and playing defense," said Sermak. "To Lowell's credit, they got more layups in the first half against us than I can count, than we've given up most of the year."

"This club has overcome 10 major adversities, many of

# Strong returning core of state qualifiers and depth have grapplers eyeing second state title

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

may be masquerading as a sub .500 team in the early stages of the 2002-03 wrestling season.

Don't be alarmed... their coach isn't - and the seven state qualifiers returning from a year ago don't appear to be either. That's what success has brought. In this case, at least in part, success of a football team.

wrestler to go out onto a mat until he has had two weeks of state title," said Strejc. practice in.

The coach's rule will keep J.J. Wilder, Ryan Dykhouse, Ben Barle, Pete Serne and Jordan Moore off the mat for at least the first two weeks of the season.

"These guys would go out on the mat right now. But the body needs rest and I'm not willing to risk injury to any of them this early in the season - that doesn't make sense," Strejc said. "They are coming off a draining five weeks of playoff

Strejc views this time as a wonderful opportunity for his underclassmen to step forward. "We are as deep a team as we've been since I've been here and we have a strong fresh- the end of January will have Sean Donahue or Alex Carpenter

man class. This is the time for them to shine and gain valuable experience."

With younger wrestlers getting an opportunity, Strejc said WARNING: A defending division II state champion he has spent more time in practice working on basics and fundamentals. "They (younger wrestlers) are our future. Basic skills are what comes through in the end."

The Red Arrows have started the season with three wins and four losses. "There are no excuses. State champions don't give excuses. These kids are well grounded and understand that they have work to do, to get better, including last year's Lowell wrestling coach, Dave Strejc does not allow a state qualifiers. Never let wins and losses get in the way of a

> Also missing early on are Mike Nearing and Chris Rash with broken hands.

Lowell's coach says it may be the Gary Rivers Memorial Tournament before he has everyone healthy and wrestling at their preferred weight. Which would be wonderful for wrestling fans, since defending division I state champion, Davison, will be part of this year's tournament mix.

The change in the alpha weigh-in rules poses a stumbling block to all. Wrestlers can only drop a pound a week in order to get to a lower weight class.

A profile of what Strejc believes his club will look like by

at 103; Joe Mendez wrestling at 112 pounds; David Kropf and Mike Nearing at 119; Brandon Kinney and Matt Kilmartin at 125; Ryan Karasiewicz wrestling at 130 and Kevin Frazier at

In the middle weights it will be Beau Wilder, 140; Bobby Gingerich 145; Braton Fredline and Jason Nearing 152; J.J. Wilder 160; and Ryan Dykhouse and Josh Vaught at 170

The upper weights look like this: Pete Serne and Phil Barton wrestling at 189; Ben Barle, Ryan Esbaugh, Mike Wildey and Matt Francisco at 215 with Pat Persons, John Rasch, Trevor Voss and Jordan Moore wrestling at heavy-

"We're really balanced. The upperclassmen know what it takes and know where they want to be when we're done," Strejc concludes.

Lowell has made it to the state championship match in each of the last four years. The only other teams to make it to the state finals four years in a row are Eaton Rapids 1990-'93 and Dundee 1995-'98.

Should Lowell do it again in 2003, it will be the first time in any division that a club has reached the finals five consecu-

# Task in the final year of the O-K White a "tall one" for Red Arrows

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

When building a foundation for a program, it helps that those helping you construct it are fresh off championship

Nine of the 12 players on the Lowell boys basketball team's roster were either members of the district winning soccer team and/or the state champion football team. Seven have at least one year of varsity experience.

"That attitude of 'we can win' has to carry over," said Lowell second-year basketball coach, Jeff McDonald. As do memories of a 6-15 record of a year ago and an

outstanding collection of basketball teams known as the O-K "Actually, I think the league will be better this year. I think

we will be better, but everyone else will also be better,"

McDonald says. "With maybe the exception of Forest Hills Central. They will drop from phenomenal to excellent." With the exception of the Red Arrows, the clubs will also

Hudsonville has a frontline which includes players that

are '6'5" and 6'7". Northview will benefit from a 6'7" transfer from Creston; East will ride on the back of a 6'11" center and Forest Hills Central will have a 6'10" center playing alongside a 6'6" forward.

McDonald, however, remains positive. "We will defend them with our 6'2" guys. "I've told my club, some of these guys on the other teams

will be playing on ESPN next year. It's going to be a challenge, but I'm excited about it," he said

Leading the cast of seven returnees from a year ago is junior Sam Oberlin. Joining him are Mark Catlin, Craig

Carpenter, Mark Biener, Andy McQueen, Shawn Koning and Landon Trierweiler.

"Landon is looking forward to much better days. He's healthy and in a good frame of mind. We'll be a lot better off with him on the floor," McDonald said.

Filling out the remaining spots on the roster are Mike Koster, Dan Vegter, Shane Stokes and Andrew Min.

"We're still building a foundation on work ethic, attitude, toughness and playing hard and together," McDonald explains. "Making baskets will also help."

The Lowell coach says his club is fundamentally better than a year ago and has a better understanding of the offensive and defensive concepts. "The boys are doing things more instinctively and naturally," he says.

Lowell's home opener is Friday against Creston.

#### Red Arrow hockey team defeats conference foe

The Lowell varsity hockey team kicked off conference play this weekend with a 5-2 win over the Sailors of South

Corey Kelly opened the scoring for the Red Arrows just 1:56 into the game with as assist from Ted McCoy. A little over a minute later McCoy scored the second goal for Lowell with David Blair getting the assist. South Christian quickly answered and cut the Red Arrow lead to 2-1 to end the first period of play.

Midway through the second period, Josh John hit the back of the net for Lowell with McCoy and Chad Rau assisting on the play. Once again the Sailors answered but it didn't take long for Kelly, McCoy and John to team up and put the Red Arrows on top to stay.

The third period was all Lowell with McCoy scoring once again and Kelly getting the assist. Lowell goaltender David Maylone stopped 16 of 18 Sailor shots to seal the wir for the Red Arrows.

The Lowell hockey team will be on home ice again this weekend when they take on West Catholic at 7 p.m. at Standard Federal Ice Center.

Attention All Coaches, Proud Parents,

**Athletes & Others Who Wish To** 

Submit Photos In The Ledger...

It is important that the

subject's face not be shaded

in order to print your photo

clearly in the paper.

All group pictures should

be taken

WITHOUT

caps, visors, etc.

Photos will no longer be

accepted if faces are too dark.

# **Financial Focus**

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#### Helping Aging Parents Cope with Health Insurance

If your parents are getting on in years, you may want to have some serious discussions with them on financial issues. Of course, you'll want to make sure their estate plans are in order - they've worked hard all their lives, and, if they're like most people, they are very concerned about leaving a legacy to their family. But you may not realize the importance of another key issue: health insurance. If you're not familiar with your parents' health insurance situation, you could eventually run into serious - and expensive - problems.

Your first step is to make sure you know your parents medical histories. You also need to acquaint yourself with any prescriptions and over-the-counter medications they're taking. In a medical emergency, you would need this information - but you'll also need it to correctly complete medical claim forms. Also, ask your parents for names and phone numbers of their medical care providers.

Once you've got all this information, keep it in one place that's readily accessible. If you need to act quickly, you don't want to scramble around, looking for a dozen scraps of paper. Getting your parents' medical histories and names of

health care providers is obviously important. But it's just as important for you to know who's insuring your parents.

#### LHS Athletic News & Notes:

WINTER SPORTS MEETING

The Parents/Coaches/Players meeting is Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 6 p.m. (general session) in the high school cafeteria. Parents who did not have a student involved in a fall sport are required to attend the 6 p.m. Coaches will meet with teams and parents at approximately 6:35 p.m. for specific information.

CHAMPIONSHIP T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE The LHS athletic office is selling football championship 4596 for more information.

You need to know where your parents keep their health insurance cards and bills. You also should have a basic understanding of Medicare, the national health insurance program for Americans age 65 and older. Keep in mind that Medicare pays for most doctor's bills and related services, but it doesn't cover prescription drugs. Consequently, your parents may need supplemental insurance policies.

In reviewing your parents' health insurance situation, you'll want to pay special attention to long-term coverage. Why? Because long-term care costs may be the single largest threat to your parents' financial independence during their retirement years. Right now, the average cost of a year's stay in a nursing home is \$50,000 - and it's twice that amount in some cities. So, if your parents don't already have a long-term care policy, you may want to discuss it with them. If they do have a policy, ask to see it, so that you'll know exactly what types of services and facilities are covered. If your parents become incapacitated and are unable to choose a long-term care facility for themselves, you may have to do it. And if you don't choose the right type of place, their long-term care provider could decline coverage.

In fact, if you'd like to make sure you can step in at any time to deal with your parents' health-care issues, you may want to establish a "durable power of attorney." This document gives you the authority to make financial and legal decisions and transactions on your parents' behalf. You may also want to obtain a durable power of attorney for health care, otherwise known as a "health care proxy." A health care proxy, which only becomes effective when your parents are not competent to make their own health care decisions, gives you the power to access medical records and refuse or consent to medical treatment.

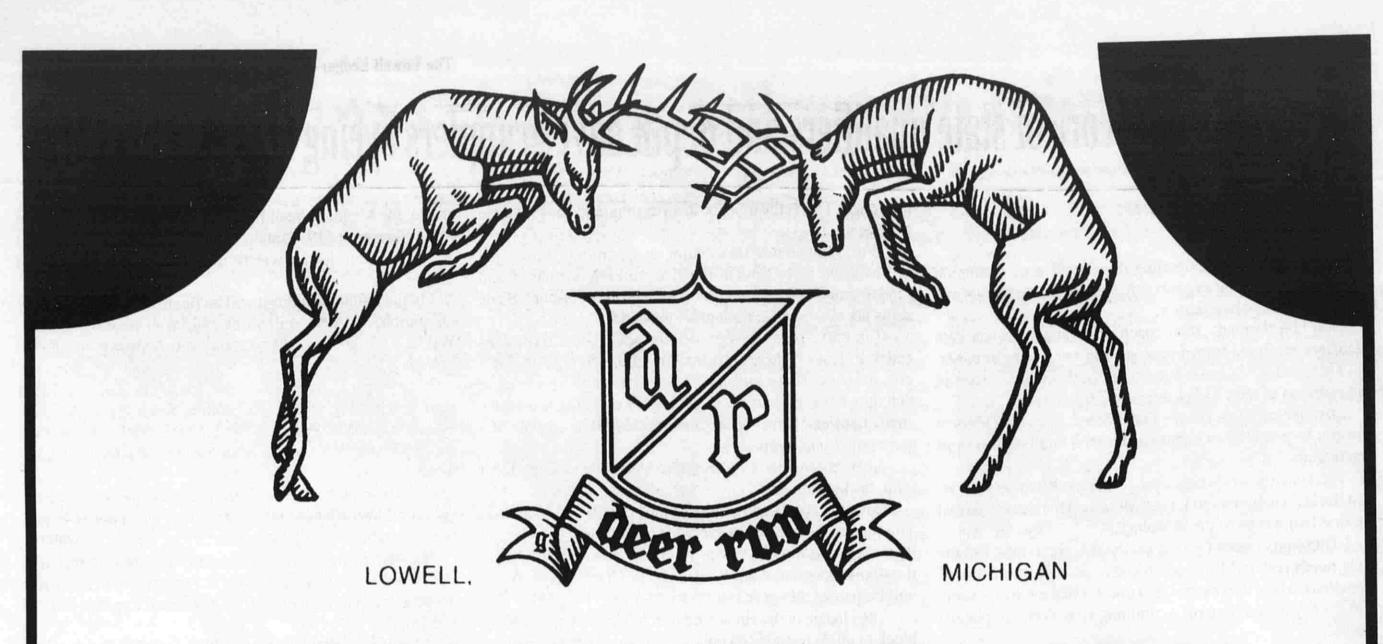
As you can see, many of these issues are quite sensitive so you'll want to discuss them with your parents when they're physically healthy and emotionally stable. By acting early, you can head off health-care related financial problems at the best possible time - before they occur.

T-shirts for \$12; adult sizes S thru 2XL

#### WINTER FAST PITCH CLINIC

The Lowell High School softball coaches will be holding winter fast pitch pitching clinic at Riverside gym for girls interested in becoming a softball pitcher. Dates: Wednesday, Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29 and Feb. 5, 12, 19. Girls 6th grade and under report at 6 p.m.; girls in 7-8 grades at 7 p.m. Clinic: \$25; applications available at Lowell Middle School, Cherry Creek, Alto and Bushnell. Call Bob Rodenhouse at 897-4125 or 245-

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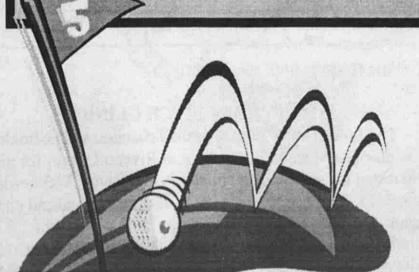
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May, June, July & August from the end of league until 7 p.m. weekdays & Sundays 9 to 10 a.m. for members & their guests!





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Schools, located in private development. Walking dis-School. Land is surveyed and staked; soil is sandy Wittenbach Agriscience Nature Preserve. Walking, cross country skiing and horseback riding trails are open to public. Asking \$46,900. Call 897-0544.

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IN MEMORIAM In memory of Jeanne Marie Biggs

The family of Jeanne Biggs their kindness, Dr. Mogor and Lowell for their prayers and Plans Available. Evening & wonderful luncheon. Also Saturday we'd like to thank the many Available. 10 minutes north friends and neighbors who of Lowell. 616-794-9614. had us in their thoughts and prayers. Lastly we would like PAYROLL for being not only our advisor. Call Kathy 897-

In loving memory of Lena Peckham who passed away 10 years

ago Dec. 15.

Greatly missed but always children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren & great-great-grandchildren.

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> Be sure to check out the school lunch menu in this issue of the Ledger.

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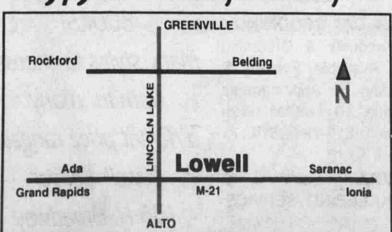
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