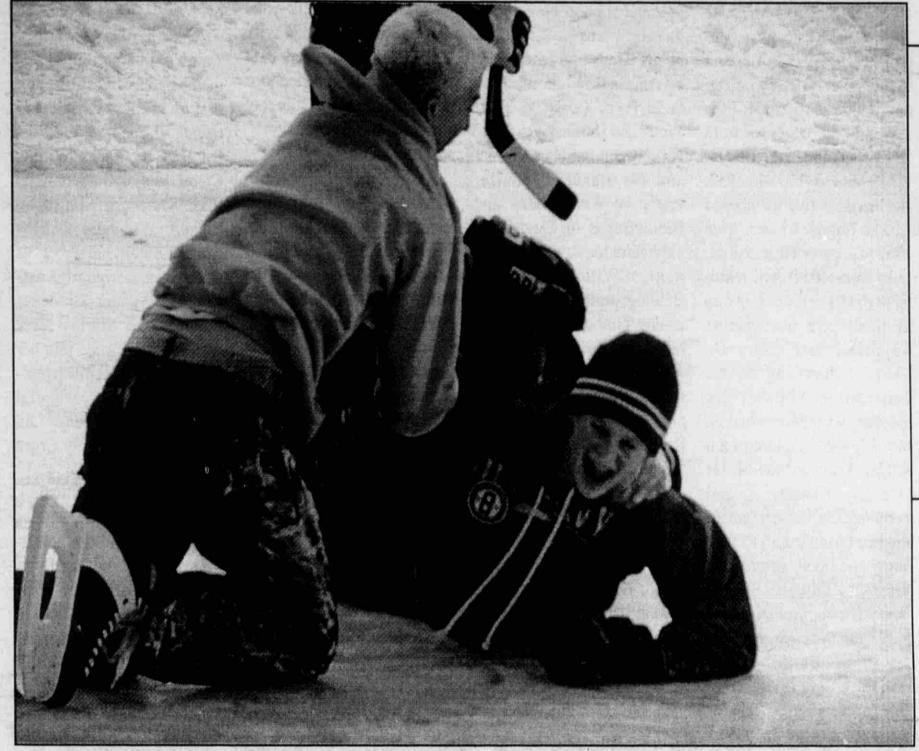
The Lowell Ledger

VOLUME 30 ASSUE 11

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2004



New ideas from the Secretary of State

By Dan Schneider

In a speech given at the annual joint meeting of the Lowell Rotary Club and the Lowell Women's Club last Wednesday, Secretary of State Terry Lynn Land talked about some new ideas her office is putting into effect.

As Secretary of State, Lynn is the chief motor vehicle administrator for the state of Michigan. Few people, she said, realize that this includes oversight and licensing of auto dealerships and repair shops. This provides consumer protection in the auto-repair market.

"If you feel like you don't get good service or they're not doing what they're supposed to do, let us know," Land said.

She also plugged the Secretary of State's web site, www.michigan.gov/sos. It is now possible to renew license-plate tabs on-line.

This is part of what Land said is an attempt to make the office more convenient. To that end, Land said, the office is also consolidating its branches. The Secretary of State currently has 173 branches in the state of Michigan. Decreasing the number of branches while maintain-



Judy Harrison, left, and Pete Odland, both of the Rotary Club, with Secretary of State Terry Lynn Land.

ing the same number of staff will allow remaining branches to extend their hours of operation.

The Secretary of State will also begin issuing permanent license plates to cut down on branch traffic from fleet-plate renewals. This will start with Consumers Energy and the UPS, two of the largest fleets in Michigan.

She encouraged the public to try out the ATM-style license-tab-renewal terminal at the main Grand Rapids branch at Monroe Center and Fulton Street. If the terminals prove successful, they will be eventually placed in convenient locations outside Secretary of State office branches.

As Secretary of State, Land is also Michigan's chief

elections officer. Using \$100 million from the federal Help America Vote Act, the state will be putting in electronic voting systems that will eliminate bad ballots. It is also working toward the development of devices to assist people who have needed help voting in the past - the blind, for example.

Icy Fun!

John Drier (top) and Cody Riemersma (hidden) tackle Torsten Boss Monday. The three were playing hockey on the ice at Richards Park.

Kent County Youth Fair president Ron Wenger and Todd Phillips of the Lowell Department of Public Works take care of the ice for Lowell Parks and Recreation.

"It's probably the best I've ever seen it right now," Wenger said about the ice Tuesday morning.

The ice rink has been at Richards Park for five years since it moved from Creekside Park.

Superintendent Miller sets future educational goals

By Dan Schneider

At the Jan. 12 board of education meeting, superintendent Shari Miller presented her goals for the school district for the next few years.

These "strategic change priorities" include improving performance on state assessments, developing the district's own assessment program, and improving communication and accountability with parents and the school board.

In the next three to five years, the goal is for 95 percent of students to be performing at grade level in math and literacy. This anticipates higher requirements from the state and federal government. Miller feels this is a reasonable goal based on Lowell's past performance in the Michigan Education Assessment Program.

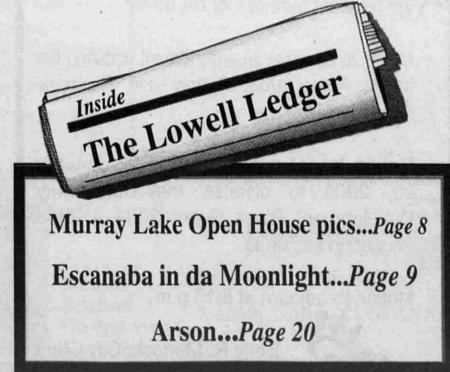
"We have on occasion hit 90 (percent) and we would like to once again hit 90 and go beyond," Miller said.

The last time Lowell MEAP scores showed more than 90 percent of students performing at grade level for fourth-grade math was in the 2000-2001 school year. The district score that year was 90.2. The fourth-grade score for 2002-2003 was 75.

The best performance on a MEAP eighth-grade math test was 88.4 in 1999-2000. The most recent eighth-grade score was 71.

The 2000-2001 MEAP math test increased in difficulty at both fourth- and eighth-grade levels. This is reflected in statewide scores also. Scores for Lowell Area Schools are perennially above state scores.

Educational goals, cont'd., pg. 15



grandparents Tom and Aileen Calif., Jeffrey P. Ross (Sandie) of Grattan, Randy J. Ross (Kelly) of LaBelle, Mich.; four

SYNOPSIS REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOWELL CITY COUNCIL **JANUARY 5, 2004, 7:30 P.M.**

The following motions were approved:

Motion was made to reelect Jeanne Shores as Mayor.

Yea: Councilmembers Hodges, Mathews, Myers, Pfaller and Shores. Nay: None.

Motion was made to reelect Charles Myers as Mayor Pro Tem.

Yea: Councilmembers Hodges, Mathews, Myers, Pfaller and Shores. Nay: None.

- Minutes of the December 15, 2003 Regular and Closed Session Meetings were approved as corrected and bills and the accounts payable were approved.
- Motion to approve the annual authorization of signatures for City bank accounts and Designation of Depository Banks.
- Motion to adopt the City Council rules of procedure as corrected.
- Motion to approve the collection of summer property taxes for Grand Rapids Community College for 2004.
- Motion understanding Convenient Construction Services, Inc. regarding improvements to South Center and Clark Streets and adoption of resolution stating the developer is responsible for sidewalks on the west side of Center Street.
- Motion to approve an amendment updating the MPPA Power Pool Supply and Purchase Agreement.
- Motion to set public hearing for January 20, 2004 to discuss the Community Development Block Grant 2004 - 2005 Allocation of Funds.
- Motion to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.



Betty R. Morlock, City Clerk

Hannah and Catherine; great- Geister Jr., aged 57, of Whites Bridge Rd., Smyrna. aunts and uncles in Califor- Belding, passed away Friday,

DE MEESTER - Mr. Lyle ther and soon to be grandfa- on Monday at St. Robert of Arleon De Meester, born Sep- ther and will be greatly missed Newminster Church, with tember 9, 1925, of Grand by his family and friends. He Rev. James Kowalski, presid-Rapids, passed away on Fri- was married on June 27, 1966 ing. Memorial contributions day, January 16, 2004. Lyle in El Paso, Texas, to Vicki may be made to St. Robert of served in the US Navy from Wood and she survives along Newminster Church, 6477 1943-1946 and in the US Na- with her children Ryan Geister Ada Dr. SE. val Reserve from 1946-1952. and his fiancee, Jennifer He was an active member of Probst of Alto, Marcy and SIMPSON - Donna M. Alaska Baptist Church from Brent Burris of Davisburg; Simpson passed to eternity on 1952 to present. He was in car expectant first grandchild; Tuesday, January 13, 2004 sales from 1954 until retire- mother Wilma Geister of surrounded by the love of her ment in 1998. Preceding him Belding; brothers and sisters- family, Kim Lum and her chilin death are his parents in-law Tim and Ann Geister dren Kai and Katie; Karmle Raymond and Clara De of Rochester Hills, Randy and Conrad and her children Meester. Surviving are his Judy Geister of Orleans; sis- Corrie, John and Ron Eroh; wife Alice (Lewis) De ters-in-law and spouses Pam Robin Shapiro and her chil-Meester, who he married on and Jim Tucker of dren Maxwell and Hannah; July 12, 1950; children John Roscommon, Inabeth and Joe Arthur and Jean Conrad and R. (Jack) and Jeanne M. De Male of Millington. Harmon their children D.J. and Amber Meester, Thomas A. and was preceded in death by his Schaub, Chad and Mark Robbin D. De Meester; grand- father in 2001. Funeral ser- Noffke; and Donna's youngchildren Jason, Jennifer, Janet, vices were held Tuesday at est son Ryan O'Toole; three Emily and Jared; sisters Jerre Smyrna Bible Church with great-granddaughters and (Larry) Zudweg, Sharon Pastor Darwyn Hassert offi- many nieces, nephews and (James) Ferris; brother-in-law ciating. Interment in Ashley cousins survive her. Donna's and sisters-in-law Roger (Sue) Cemetery. Memorial contri- mother Dorothea Arceo, along Lowell Education Founda-Lewis of Battle Creek, butions may be given to with many other family mem-tion or Paws With a Cause. Marjorie (Gerald) Baker of Caledonia, Fern (Richard) Eldridge of Alto. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be given to the Myositis Association, 1233 20th St. NW Suite 402, Washing-

cousins Hayley, Meghan, GEISTER - Harmon W. Smyrna Bible Church, 4864

nia, Michigan and Texas; January 16, 2004 from inju- MOORE - Raymond Willfriends in Lowell and Grand ries sustained in an auto acci- iam Moore, aged 92,of Cas-Rapids and Fortune, Yayo and dent in Kent Co. He was born cade, passed away Friday, Chubby. Mass of Christian May 2, 1946 in Belding, the January 16, 2004. He is sur-Burial will be offered Wednes- son of Harmon and Wilma vived by his wife of 70 years, day at 3 p.m. at St. Patrick Anthony Geister Sr. Harmon Nina; children Aileen (Dale) Church, 4351 Parnell Ave. NE attended Smyrna Bible Stevens of Vicksburg, Carol Interment St. Patrick's Cem- Church and worked at Ameri- (Steve) Haarman of Gulliver, etery. Memorial contributions can Seating Co. in Grand Rap- Mary (Robert) Grabiec of may be made to the Kent ids as a technical support pro- Cadillac, Tim (Mary) Moore County Humane Society, grammer. He served in the US of Lowell, Kevin (Janine) 3077 Wilson Dr., Walker, MI Army during the Vietnam War Moore of Ada; 19 grandchiland was stationed in Germany. dren; 11 great-grandchildren. He was a loving husband, fa- Memorial Mass was offered

31 at 11 a.m. at Holy Cross officiated by the Rev. Charles

bers, greeted her in heaven. Donna grew up on her grandma and grandpa MacDonald's farm in Saranac with her two brothers Dan (Lorraine) and the late Hank (Joyce) Converse. This past summer she joyfully attended her 50th year reunion for Saranac High School. Her strong faith in Jesus Christ was nourished by many years of worship at South United Methodist Church and then Holy Cross Episcopal Church serving as warden, youth group leader, a member of St. Mary's Altar Guild and social activities' organizer. Donna will lovingly be remembered for living life with zest by giving her time and talents to Camp Fire Girls, Psi Iota Xi, Paws With a Cause, Meijer Gardens, Flat River Outreach Ministries, Lowell Showboat Garden Club, Lowell Chamber of Commerce, Lowell Area Arts Council, Master Gardener program and Murray Lake Association. Please join her family and friends in celebrating her life in a Memorial Eucharist on Saturday, Jan.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

> NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

In Loving Memory of JACK BUTTERWORTH

Who Passed Away January 22, 1999

Spartans: 71 Wolverines: 54

ton, DC 20036. Cremation has

been requested. There will be

no funeral home visitation or

memorial service.

"On the banks of the Red Cedar Is a school that's known to all, Its specialty is winning And those Spartans play good ball. Spartan teams are never beaten All through the game they fight Fight for the only colors... GREEN AND WHITE! Go right through for MSU Watch the points keep growing, Spartan teams are bound to win They're fighting with vim RAH RAH RAH! See, their team is weakening We're going to win this game

Deeply missed by His children, Mark & Mary Ellen, Renee Grandchildren, RC, Jacob & Matthew, Nicole & Sean Sisters, Lorene (Giles) Courtney & Family & Gerry (the late Dick) Rothwell & Family His Kroger Family, Golfing Family and Friends

FIGHT FIGHT RAH TEAM FIGHT

VICTORY FOR MSU!"

M. WESTDORP, named personal representative. or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave., N.W., #2500. Grand Rapids, MI and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the

Episcopal Church, 4252

Breton Ave. SE, Kentwood.

Homeyer. Memorial contri-

butions may be made to

Christian Formation Pro-

grams at Holy Cross Church.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

FILE NO. 04-176, 826-DE

Estate of

ALBINA A. DRIZA

Date of Birth:

3/31/13

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, ALBINA A. DRIZA, who lived at Villa Maria Retirement Center, 1305 Walker, N.W. Grand Rapids, Michigan died 12/

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to KATHLEEN

date of publication of this January 7, 2004 JOHN D. MITUS

(P-31244) 410 Bridge Street, N.W. Grand Rapids, MI 49504 (616) 774-4001

> KATHLEEN M. WESTDORP 5119 Streamside Ct. Rockford, MI 49341 (616) 866-6024

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ROGER K. BROWN. ...PUBLISHER .. MANAGING EDITOR LEAD REPORTER TONI BLOUGH. .. COPY EDITOR TAMMY JANOWIAK......CLASSIFIEDS/ACCOUNTINGADVERTISING SALES

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P.O. Box 128 • Lowell, MI 49331 www.lowellbuyersguide.com

THE LOWELL LEDGER-WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2004 - PAGE 3 Penninga remembered for strength of character

By Dan Schneider

In the early morning of Dec. 30, 2003, Rachel Penninga lost her life in a car accident. Those who knew her remember her for her undying

"She always believed in us," said Katie Clements, a friend of Penninga's throughout high school. "She was one of those people who taught you you could be a better per-

Penninga was in the 2003 graduating class at Lowell High School. She and Clements were in FFA to-

Northwood University, in

Midland, granted degrees to

the graduating class of the Ri-

chard DeVos Graduate School

winter commencement cer-

received his MMBA degree,

tion or area of expertise.

of Management during the Ohio.



Lowell native Janelle

Marie Horton has received

a President's Scholarship at

Cedarville University in

awards President's Scholar-

score of 30 or better (SAT of

Cedarville University

COLLEGE NEWS

From the Lowell area is ships to incoming first-year

Brian Lincoln McLane who students who have an ACT

designed for students who are 1310 or better) and a cumula-

currently employed in an entry tive high school grade point

level management position or average of 3.0 or higher. This

desire to enter a management renewable scholarship is

career track within their func- worth \$2,500 per year.

came here to Lowell in 2000," top of the Eiffel Tower. said John Schut, her FFA adexcellent example for her the elevator," Clements said. peers and younger people. She overcame a lot of challenges Penninga, said Rachel develin life." oped her strength fighting can-Penninga lost one of her cer. She was never shy about lessly devoted to her faith.

life. She didn't let it hold her wear a prosthesis.

teach people languages."

time she and Penninga were unteered every week at DeVos visiting France with other Children's Hospital. She

Horton, who is home-

"She did so many differ- down and say, 'Yeah, I had ent things," Clements said. cancer, and they cut my leg ers and a faith connection that "She went to Mexico to build off and this is how it is," Ann led her to reach out to others houses; she went overseas to Penninga said.

legs to bone cancer early in having lost a leg or having to Rick Kiekintveld was her "She would just sit people tian Reformed Church.

Before the car accident

Clements recalled the ended her life, Penninga vol-

A total of 260 students

ter of Jack and Fay Horton of dean's list. From the Lowell area are Cedarville University is Benjamin Barle, Craig Caran accredited Baptist univer- penter and Kristie Noall.

sity of arts, sciences, profes-To make the dean's list, a sional, and graduate pro- student must be full time and earn a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

"Happiness is as a butterfly which when pursued is always beyond our grasp, but which if you will sit down quietly may alight upon you."

- Nathaniel Hawthorne

"I've know Rachel since I friends. She took them to the played with children who were fighting cancer. "She climbed up all the

"She just had such a posivisor. "I would say she was an stairs with us instead of taking tive impact on those kids that you or I could never have be-Her mother, Ann cause she had been there," explained her mother.

Penninga was also tire-

youth minister at Ada Chris-"She had a heart for oth-

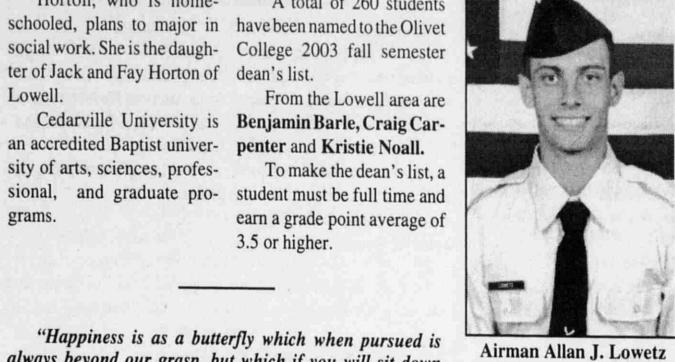
and bring them to Christ," it."

Kiekintveld said. "She was a person full of life and that life was a life in Christ."

Clements said Penninga was a model of joy in life.

"She worked teaching about God into all the little things she did even if it was just by example," Clements said. "She worked being a Christian into everything just in the way she enjoyed herself." "She loved life," added her mother. "Anything she did. she wanted to have fun doing

IN THE SERVICE

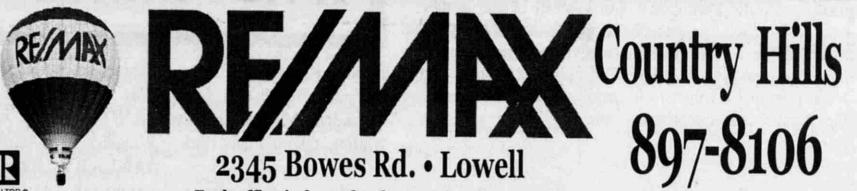


Air Force Airman Allan J. Lowetz has graduated from basic military training at of Lowell. Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

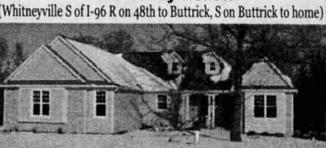
During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training. rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and special training in human rela-

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

The 2003 graduate of Saranac High School is the son of Alfred Lowetz and grandson of Marylou Casler, both



OPEN SUNDAY, JAN. 18 • 1:00-3:00



OPEN SUNDAY, JAN. 18 • 1:00-3:00

7925 Sandy Hollow

Forest Hills: New Home!

Makuski built home. Home overlooks a private wooded setting. Outside, pantry and a dramatic fireplace in the living room. The elegant master suite garage complete this picture! Supplemented by solar for low heat bills includes trey ceilings, whirlpool tub, 4x4 tiled shower, and huge walk-in & all appliances remain..WOW! Only \$139,900 Pat & Toni

Diamond 6 Ranch For Sale!

farm is perfect for the growing family. It offers 4 bedrooms, 3

ths. An extra room down could be converted to a 5th bedroom. I

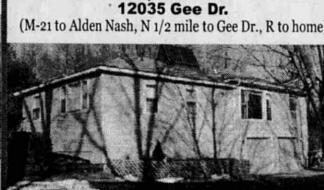
intry kitchen, formal dining room, large living room, a family ro

n the main floor with a fireplace! Also enjoy another family room ar

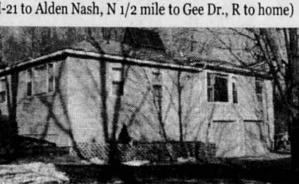
kitchen down! New Pergo or real wood flooring along with some room with new paint. New landscaping and brick sidewalk! Property i

rgeous with giant hardwood trees in the yard and pastures. Set

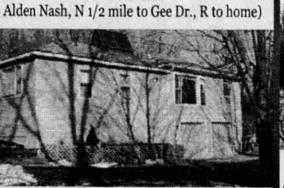
or horses or cattle. Short distance from expressway for easy commu o Grand Rapids or Lansing. \$199,900 Joice Smith

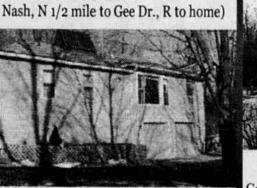


Lowell: Sparkles & Shines!

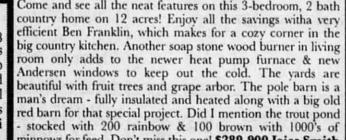


bedroom, 2 full bath home has a lot to offer! Large deck off spacious great room, main floor laundry, ample rooms and pride of ownership dscaping, large deck off back and a three-stall garage. shines throughout. Nicely landscaped, fenced backyard, updated side, you'll see custom lighting, cathedral ceilings, spacious kitchen with furnace, water heater, electrical service, vinyl siding, and a 2-stall











New Listing!

mows for feed. Don't miss this one! \$289,900 Joice Smith Suzie Reinbold www.realestatesuzie.com

Vacant Land!

piece of land has approximately 800 ft. of private frontage

on the river. It boasts hardwoods throughout, wonderfu

nills & valleys and several perfect walkout sites! Nature is

abundant with deer, turkey, ducks, swans and rabbit

Fishing is second to none with small mouth bass, northern

pike and pan fish! Only 10 miles to the center of Lowell!

Lowell: 4.5 acre wooded hilltop setting. Great walkout site

that has already been cleared for building. Secluded, wildlif

abounds, perked & surveyed. \$68,000 Pat Schaefer

Lowell: Nice partially wooded city lot on peaceful stree

Natural gas water & sewer. Walking distance to shopping &

More land available! Pat Schaefer

parks. \$33,000 Pat Schaefer



All you need to

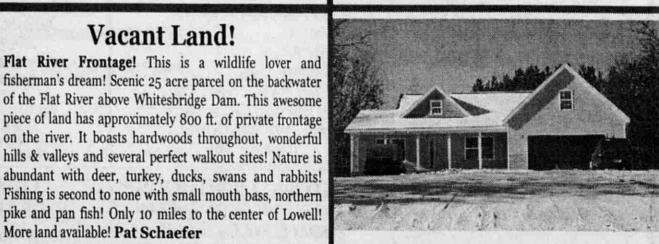
know about

buying or selling is

REMAX Country Hills

Lowell: Country Setting!

Call for details or a private showing \$149,900



Cascade: New Home! bedroom, 3-bath family home with over 3000 finish

. ft.! Enjoy spacious rooms and a friendly floor plan. Quality dry construction in beautiful Bloomington Hills. All the mes with a 23-acre conservancy and community park. Great cation convenient to Cascade, parks and golf course. All is antastic Lowell Schools. \$286,900! Pat Schaefer



Joice Smith Cell #293-0980 Pat Schaefer

Cell #581-7580



Toni Schaefer Cell #581-7495

Many Updates/Move-In Condition!

siding, attached, one-stall garage and fantastic covered front porch! All

of this close to shopping and schools offered at \$89,900 Mark

tonischaefer@grar.com www.patschaefer.com Mark Christiansen Cell #540-1859







Suzanne



Miller to the count found from the contract of the contract of

Cell #550-6777

ENGAGEMENTS



Kevin Johnson and Wendy Schroeder

Wendy Schroeder, of Midland, and Kevin Johnson, of graduate of Lowell High Alto, are happy to announce School and a 2003 graduate of their engagement.

graduate of Bullock Creek Alto and Kevin Johnson of Salon of Ada. High School and a junior at Schreveport, La. Hope College. She is the daughter of David and Donna May 8, 2004 wedding.

Feb. 7 from 7:30 - 9 p.m. Fire."

FIRST UNITED METHODIST

CHURCH OF LOWELL

621 E. Main Street • 897-5936

Worship Hours...8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School...9:45 a.m.

DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR

Nursery & 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

www.goodshepherdlowell.org

tact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times

Nursery Provided • Barrier Free

The future groom is a 1999 Northwood University. He is The bride-elect is a 2001 the son of Christine Grove of

The couple are planning a

Heartfelt performances scheduled

for Franciscan Life Process Center

Day event, "Harp Throbs" is selections to include "Em- principal harpist for the Grand son; \$15 for a couple; and \$35

coming to the Franciscan Life braceable You," "Jardin Rapids Youth Symphony for a family of four or more.

Process Center on Saturday, d'Amour' and "Chariots of from 2001-2003. A special All proceeds will benefit the

whole family will enjoy this harpists includes Heidi Hata, principal clarinetist of mation or to make a reserva-

EVERGREEN MISSIONARY CHURCH

Prayer and Praise - Wed., 7:00 P.M.

Rev. Rick Ferguson - 987-6475

ALL ARE WELCOME!

(Barrier-Free)

APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE

UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 A.M.

SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES 6:00 P.M

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 P.M.

At 2151/2 W. Main, Lowell

Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418

YOU ARE WELCOME!

Sunday School.

Morning Worship.

A unique pre-Valentine's solo and ensemble music with Shannon Therese O'Rourke,

special event, complete with Wolterstorff, winner of the the Grand Rapids Symphonic tion.

coffee, tea, or punch and cafe 2001 University of Michigan Band.

dessert. Harpists will perform Concerto Competition, and

Shane Teelander and Angie Dawson

treat will be a clarinet and center's music programming.

Contemporary Services

Lowell High School Auditorium

(Nursery & Children's Ministry Provided)

Impact Youth (Sunday's at the Pastor's home). . 5 PM

Call for a free CD Service Sample

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 Holmes, College & Twenties

Brian Baber, Youth Pastor

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

Morning Worship

Phone us @ 897-0333 or 437-5093

unday Mornings.

Dale and Mary Dawson of Lowell are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Angie to Shane Teelander, also of Lowell.

The bride to be is a graduate of Lowell High School and Chic University. She is planned. currently employed by Grand

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

The future groom is a graduate of Lowell High School and employed by ABC Auto Auction. He is the son of Alan and Geri Teelander and

Carla Bunce. A May 2004 wedding is

saying God has set eternity in our hearts. (3:11 NIV). This

Tickets are \$10 per per-

existence beyond. When God is our Alpha and Omega, our possibilities are infinite and eternal - the good news of Christ in the midst of everything. Michael Joncas reminds us: "And God will raise us up on eagle's wings, bear us on the breath of dawn, make us to shine like the sun, and hold us in the palm of God's

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Valentine couples or the The roster of performing harp duo featuring Minako Call 897-7842 for more infor- JANUARY 22: Cheryl Shane Gildner, Reece Vander DeYoung, Bob Pfaller, Dale Warf, Frances DeVries. Walling, Glenn Vanbuskirk, Wingeier, Zach Stauffer.

CALVARY CHRISTIAN

REFORMED CHURCH

OF LOWELL

Rev. William J. Renkema - 897-7060

1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI

Nursery available at both services

Barrier-Free

ST. MARY'S

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fr. George J. Fekete

402 Amity St. • 897-9820

www.stmary-lowell.com

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

Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM

Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM

Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM

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

.10:00 A. M

.11:20 A.M

..6:00 P.M.

Morning Worship.

Sunday School.

Evening Worship.

Dean Bailey, pastor

be very tough and very unfair.

Alto/Bowne Center United Methodist churches

Found in the concluding pages of the Bible is a short

God bookends our lives. But more than being in our

The time "in between" is not always easy as the writer of

affirmation of the source of the meaning of life: "I (God) am

beginnings and endings, God companions us in the time in

between with gracious presence as attested to in the familiar

Ecclesiastes relates times of tearing down, weeping, mourn-

ing, tearing, hating and warring. The pain of tragedy impacts

our families, our neighborhoods, our communities. Life can

Yet life grounded in God has not only strength and

courage but, most importantly, hope. Ecclesiastes also lists

the positive side of living, such as loving, peacefulness,

healing, building, laughing, dancing, and mending. These

qualities or gifts of God enhance our daily lives and impart

eagerness. Ecclesiastes then points to our ultimate hope by

eternal dimension gives us hope for these present days, and an

Hope creates a future and leads us into that future with

Psalm 23 where God is pictured as the Good Shepherd.

the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end."

Latva, Jenni Magner, Frances JANUARY 23: Amanda

Of Faith

JANUARY 24: David Szymczak, Allan Baird, Haleigh Timmers, Mackenzie

JANUARY 25: Dave Harding, Molly Doyle, Dean

JANUARY 26: Victor Weeks, Steven Uzarski, Kitty Brenk, Andy Nowak.

JANUARY 27: Nancy Roth, Jacqueline (Bay) Saylor, Brittani Anderson, Dianna Rhodes, Lori Smith, Andrea Dewey,

JANUARY 28: Ryan White, Cher Mastenbrook, Amy Newhouse, Renee DeBold, Bill Wierenga, Robert (Dr. Bob) Kyser.

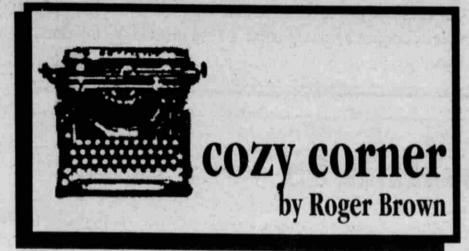
Ford museum seminar

A seminar, titled "The Tet Offensive," will be held at the Gerald R. Ford Museum in Grand Rapids, on Thursday, Jan. 29 from 7-9 p.m.

Tet is considered by many historians to be the turning point of the Vietnam War. After being told by the Johnson Administration that the war was going well, Tet showed otherwise, and public support for the Vietnam War

rapidly declined. A panel consisting of Vietnamese and American veterans will be facilitated by Jim Kratsas. The Freedom Series is free to the public.

Viewpoint



Gotta make this quick. I overslept and have to meet a guy at 7:30. The fact I have to hurry through this is ironic. My subject this morning is the fallacy of the word "express" in grocery checkout lines given that distinction.

My most recent experience in an "express" line was Sunday. Rather than getting upset with the situation, I folded my arms and made mental notes for use here. "I'll have to remember that trick for times when being tailgated, smoked upon in a restaurant, cell phone exposed in a confined space like an airline seat, etc." That's my new philosophy, "Don't get mad, get even on paper."

So, it was Sunday at a little before noon. The grocery store was reasonably busy. There was the after church crowd and the just rolling out of bed after a big Saturday night bunch. Most notably was my group, the stocking up for the NFL play-offs people. We were easy to spot. There were throngs of us around the deli case, the chips and snacks aisle and the beercase.

We had friends coming over to watch the games, so I was grabbing just a few munchies. Entering the store, I pulled my old bonehead mistake. I picked up a basket rather than a cart. This tendency comes from being a born optimist and thus thinking a basket is all I'll need. I also hate the carts. They all have at least one square wheel and another that is locked up like it's equipped with high performance disc brakes.

Of course, I fill the basket to over flowing and have other items stuffed under my arms, down my pants, etc. I approach the checkouts, not because I'm finished with my shopping, but because I simply can't carry any more.

The checkout lines are mostly closed. What else is new? The open ones are up to four and five deep. One of the two express lanes has just two people in line. The lane is marked, "Fifteen items or less." I do a quick mental count of what I have draped about my body. I figure I'm not over the fifteen count lane" to this meeting. by more than an item or two. I ducked into the line.

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

ATRIAL FIBRILLATION

Atrial fibrillation is one of the most common abnormal

The first person in line was just settling up and leaving. The next customers, from the after church crowd, were just starting to unload their cart. Yes, I said cart ... and it was

These people were obviously doing their week's shopping and tying up an express line on an NFL play-off Sunday with a couple hundred items. I couldn't even unburden myself. Mrs. Slowpoke stood duty by the cash register, making sure each item rang up properly. Mr. Slowpoke unloaded the cart from the front, one item at a time. The two of them and their cart took up the entire lane. My arms were aching.

I wanted to ask where they were from. Had they said New Jersey, or Pennsylvania, or Michigan or wherever, I would have then said, "Oh, I would have bet anything they had public schools that taught reading in 'wherever'". As I said this, I would have made a sweeping gesture toward the fifteen-item express lane sign. Of course, this would have been a rotten thing to do to a nice church-going couple, even if they were putting me through a torture test that would make Saddam sing like a canary.

Finally, the groceries were unloaded. Mr. Slowpoke realized he wasn't going to get a bagger in the checkout line and squeezed by his wife to do the bagging. At last I could put my library. items down. I folded my arms and began tapping my foot. I kept my mouth shut but I was heavy with the body language.

When the checkout was complete, out came the coupons. I released an audible sigh. Once the coupons were entered into the transaction, Mrs. Slowpoke once again checked the checkout girl. Satisfied with the math (they must teach arithmetic in "wherever"), she went to her purse for the cash.

Oh no, out came a checkbook. She wrote out a check and seemed appalled that she would be asked for I.D. when it was handed over. There was some trouble locating her driver's license but eventually, it too was handed over. Then came "the process." The license number was recorded on the check. The check was validated by the cash register. Then a manager was called to okay the transaction. More sighs. More foot tapping.

Finally, and I do mean, finally, they were gone. It was my turn! My items were quickly checked through. I paid with cash and bagged as the transaction was finalized. I counted. I had eighteen items. The woman in line behind me with a lone twelve-pack gave me a dirty look.

Hey, I am running way late!!! I have to get in the "express

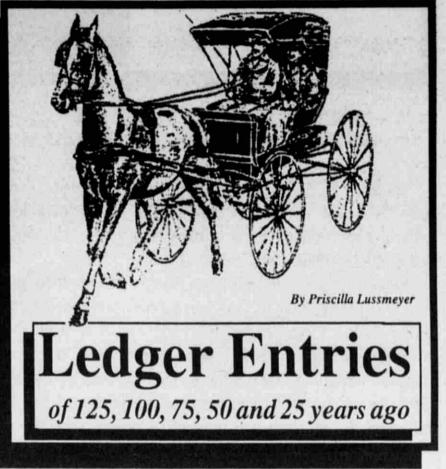
Cardiac medication is usually prescribed to control the

hospital for cardioversion. This is a procedure where a small

electrical shock is given to the heart through the chest wall to

person's activities. Most patients with atrial fibrillation can

If treated properly, atrial fibrillation should not restrict a



125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL **JANUARY 22, 1879**

The school board adds \$70 worth of books to the district

Dry beech and maple wood are \$1.25 a cord. Get your 1879 Michigan Almanac, 15 cents. Local actors are rehearsing "The Spy of Shiloh" for

presentation; no performance date given yet. If your sugar is slightly blue, it may be dyed glucose, which is a yellowish cheap sugar substitute.

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER **JANUARY 21, 1904**

Kent County finances are \$92,000 in the hole, and the editor calls for replacing all the officials.

Dancing party next Tuesday evening at Train's Opera House. Full orchestra, program, 50 cents. Frank King and wife are attending the millers' convention

at Lansing this week. Anton Kallinger is the general superintendent of both

electric plants above Lowell.

Treasurer Harvey Coons announces Lowell Township taxes are due and payable at A. L. Coons' store downtown.

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO JANUARY 24, 1929

Lowell Specialty Co. and Hudson Corp. finish the merger. Hudson operations will be transferred to Lowell from Minneheart rate. Occasionally your doctor may send you to the

Foreman Hatchery adds a 15,000 egg-incubating machine in anticipation of increased spring orders.

The idea of a car for each member of the family seems to be spreading.

Possibility of a state income tax is being discussed. The magician Houdini's widow says she will publish proof of his communication with her from the grave.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER JANUARY 21, 1954

Poor visibility and icy blacktop account for several fenderbenders Wednesday morning.

Ice skating finally gets going, and a picture shows a crowded rink. Ernie Foreman is the "father" of the project, keeping it safe for small skaters.

More than 1,200 people visited Speerstra Motors' grand opening in two days.

Not many around here have the ultra-high frequency set to tune in to the new WKAR-TV station in Okemos, Channel

The Lowell High Student Council has purchased a juke box for after-basketball and between-exam dances.

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER **JANUARY 24, 1979**

"SafetyTown" is a miniature town set up outdoors to teach four- and five-year-olds traffic safety; it will be sponsored by the schools' Community Education office.

With 1.3 million snowmobiles in Michigan, the governor announces a Snowmobile Week for Feb. 3-10.

A burst pipe in the Congregational Church in the wake of last week's storm floods the basement and damages the sanctuary with vapor condensation.

Alternate school bus routes are mapped for "Main Roads Only" snow conditions.

Congressman Hal Sawyer announces plans for town meetings, a mobile office and newsletter to keep constituents

NESCHARGO ESTATES TO YOUNFE WELCOMES

live perfectly normal lives.

reestablish a normal sinus rhythm.

heart rhythms seen in our office. It is estimated the 2.3 million persons in the U.S. suffer from atrial fibrillation. It is much more common in individuals older than 65. Because it can lead to serious health problems, it is important that it be

Solidary solver early at the solution of the s

Atrial fibrillation occurs when the atrium (upper part of the heart containing the pacemaker) beats in an irregular rapid rhythm. This electrical impulse is passed on to the ventricles (lower part of the heart) resulting in an irregular heart beat with irregular pulse.

recognized and treated.

Many people with atrial fibrillation will experience no symptoms, while others experience palpitations or a fluttering in the chest. Some people may notice chest discomfort, shortness of breath or dizziness. It is important to treat atrial fibrillation because it can lead

to blood clot formation within the heart resulting in a stroke. Atrial fibrillation decreases the efficiency of the heart as a pump. Congestive heart failure can develop as a result. The abnormality is easily detected by performing an

electrocardiogram in the office. Patients with atrial fibrillation are started on anticoagulant medication to prevent blood clot formation. This may require monthly lab tests to monitor the level of anticoagulation. If the level is too high, there is a risk for bleeding and if the level is too low, the risk for clot formulation and stroke persists.

evening the Lowell Softball paper drive truck stored at munity of Lowell.

only received funds for the donated to the Flat River food back! bank. It provided a place where people can recycle their papers. This support could not

be possible without the great This past Thursday response by the Lowell Com-

At this point it is uncer-Curtis Cleaners was set on tain as to where and when we fire with major damage. The will reopen. Please store your truck is a total loss as was the papers. The community will paper in it. It is unfortunate be notified to where and when that the actions of one or two we will be back in operation. individuals can ruin a great If anyone has information as fundraiser for an athletic pro- to the person or persons who gram and a service to the com- committed this crime, please call the Lowell Police Depart-Through this truck we not ment.

Bob Rodenhouse

TO THE EDITOR

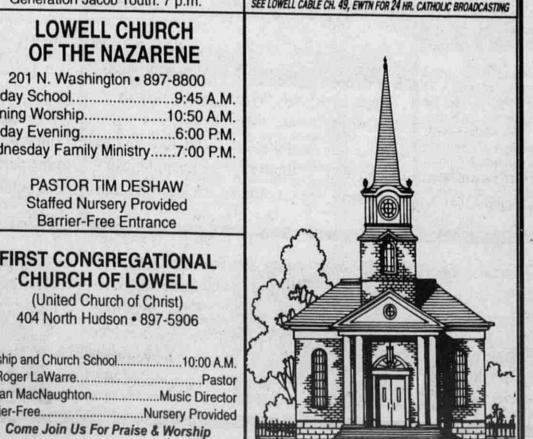
Dear Editor:

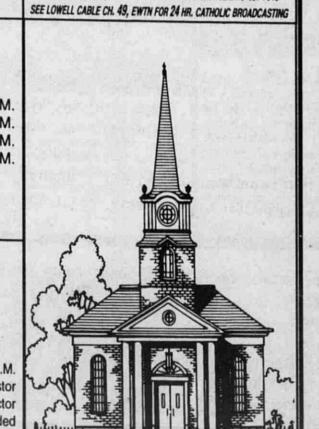
Again, thanks to the Lowsoftball program but also have ell Community ... we will be

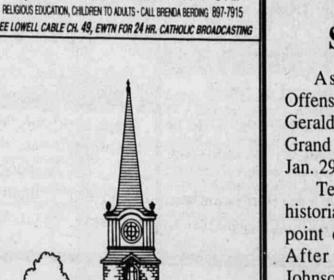
Varsity Softball Coach Lowell High School

Sunday School/Adult Bible Study.....9:00 A.M. Sunday Evening. .6:00 P.M (entrance in rear of building) Sunday Worship... Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M. **CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES** (Nursery available) Pastor Robert L. Hubbard PASTOR TIM DESHAW Phone: (616) 897-1267 Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 Staffed Nursery Provided website www.aplighthouse.com Barrier-Free Entrance **FIRST BAPTIST ALTON BIBLE CHURCH** FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road CHURCH OF LOWELL 897-5648 (United Church of Christ) Sunday School.. 404 North Hudson • 897-5906 Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org Morning Worship. ..11:00 A.M Rev. Burland Margesson & Rev. W. Lee Taylor Evening Praise. .6:00 P.M Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor Worship and Church School. Wednesday AWANA. ..7:00 P.M. Sun. Worship Service. 9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour......11:00 A.M. Megan MacNaughton. .. Music Director Prayer and Bible Study...7:00 P.M. AWANA/JV......Wed. 6:15 & 7 P.M.

.6:00 P.M.



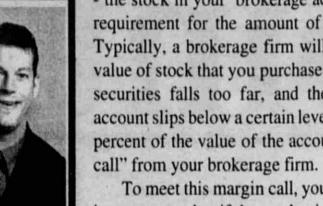




Financial Focus

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With Christopher C. Godbold



USING MARGIN ACCOUNTS FOR "HOT" STOCKS? DON'T GET BURNED

Baseball Hall of Famer Yogi Berra is supposed to have said: "It's deja vu all over again." This saying may have particular relevance to today's investment scene - with some potentially unfortunate consequences.

Over the past several months, investors enjoyed the appreciation of many stock prices - just as they did in the months before the stock market "bubble" burst in 2000. And some investors are buying these risky, volatile "hot" stocks on margin - that is, they are borrowing money from their brokers to pay for these stocks. Margin account balances grew rapidly this year - similar to the way they did in 1999 and early 2000.

Why does this recent investment history seem to be repeating itself? Let's look back to the technology stock boom in the late 1990s. When prices soared, investors learned that they could make money over a relatively short period of time. As we now know, many of these investors got burned. Yet, some of these same people believe they learned from the experience, and that they can now make money trading "hot" stocks. They are so confident stock prices will rise that they are willing to buy these stocks on margin.

Of course, margin trading is risky, because it frequently involves the trading of volatile stocks. For margin transactions to be profitable, stock prices have to rise high enough to cover the commissions charged on the purchase, the commissions charged at the sale and the interest the borrower is charged on the loan. If the margined stocks are not sold at their high points, the profit is quickly eroded by these charges.

As an investor, can you pick the right "hot" stock? Can you control the impulse to "ride a stock up" in an effort to wring out every possible dollar of profit? Can you tell the difference between a temporary "dip" and the beginning of a significant price drop?

And, perhaps the most important question is: Can you come up with the funds immediately to meet a "margin call?" - You might face a margin call if the value of your collateral

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the stock in your brokerage account - no longer meets the requirement for the amount of money that you borrowed. Typically, a brokerage firm will lend you 50 percent of the value of stock that you purchase. If the price of the margined securities falls too far, and the equity in your brokerage account slips below a certain level - generally 30 percent to 35 percent of the value of the account - you may get a "margin

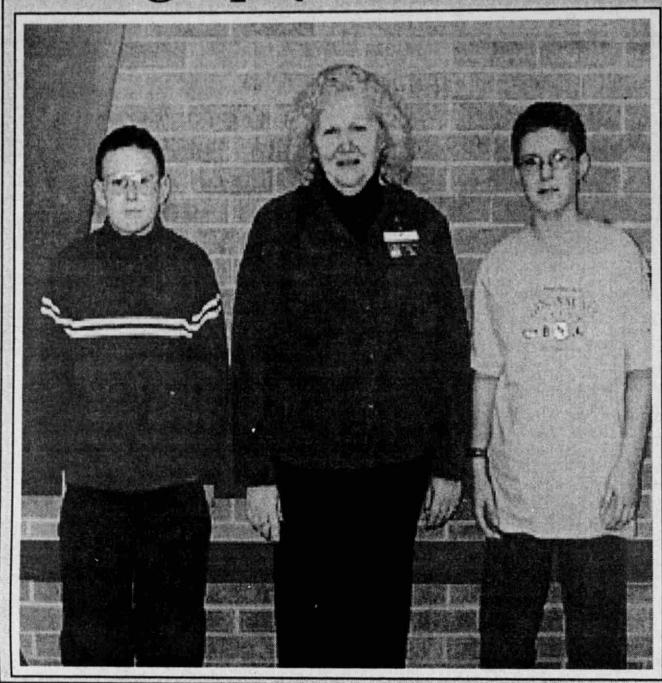
To meet this margin call, you may have to liquidate some be selling stocks. So, if you're going to be a margin trader, you two.

need to have reserve funds available to outlast a drop in stock prices. And you need to know when to cut your losses.

Margin trading has its rewards - but it certainly comes with some hazards. To trade on the margin, you need patience. discipline and the right disposition - and, as we've seen, you need to have enough liquidity to face an unpleasant margin call. In short, margin trading is not a good strategy for those people who think they can make money quickly on hot stocks.

Ultimately, you need to ask yourself this: Are you an investments - but if the market is declining, it's a bad time to investor or just a trader? There's a big difference between the

Geography bee winners



Pictured, from left to right are: Cody Acker, Lowell Middle School principal Linda Warren and Dylan Olin.Olin won the middle school National Geographic geography bee Friday, Jan. 9. Acker took second place. To win the bee, Olin wrote the correct response to "Urdu is the official language of a Muslim country that was once part of India. Name this country."

Olin, Acker and Tony Larkin (3rd place) are all sixth graders at the middle school. They finished at the top of a field of 30 that included seventh and eighth grade students.

The correct answer to the question above is Paki-

Extra planning required for winter travel

An estimated one million Michiganians - 10 percent of COMPLETE MEDICAL the population - are planning **CARE FOR CHILDREN** a winter vacation this year, according to a recent AAA AND ADULTS Michigan survey. More than half (56 percent) of the win-LOWELL MEDICAL SPECIALISTS, P.C. ter travelers surveyed plan to fly to their final destination, 1150 N. Hudson, Lowell - 897-8436 up over last year (44 per-MARK EVENHOUSE, M.D. cent), and 34 percent will

> According to the Auto Club survey of 400 state residents - conducted in October - 88 percent of those traveling will head for a distination outside of Michigan. Twenty-

two percent plan on leaving the U.S.

Travelers looking for the lowest prices and for the most available flights should avoid travel during peak periods. In

· It pays to book your travel as far in advance as

 Consider an alternate airport. Flying in and out of nearby, but less popular, airports may save you hundreds of dollars.

departure and return dates. Traveling Monday - Thursday is far cheaper than flying on the weekend.

· Late night or "red eye" flights are often considerably less expensive than flying during morning or afternoon

 Non-stop direct to your destination flights are the most convenient ... and usually the

· Check with your travel agent for most-recent or unadvertised travel bargains.

· Consider a cruise with air included. The flights are often cheaper and include transfer to the ship.

If driving, AAA's suggested budget for a family of four - two adults and two children - is \$244 per day for • Be flexible with your lodging and meals, not to mentions gas, oil, tires, and maintenance on the car.

sion fees, road and bridge tolls recreation and shopping. Fc added security, AAA suggest carrying traveler's checks. If you're flying, remenber: Most airlines now limit the number of carry-on items

In addition to lodging

food and driving costs, a fam-

ily should budget for admis

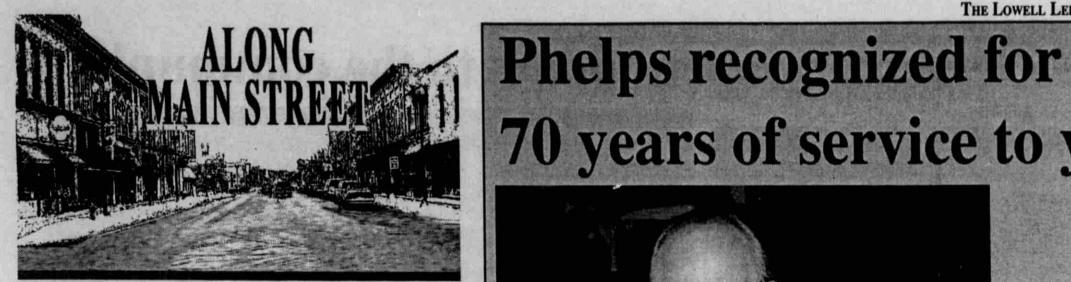
SEEKING COMMUNITY PHOTOS to one per passenger. For a complete list of new security requirements and passenger tips, visit http://www.tsa.gov/ public/display?theme=1.

History is the witness of the times, the torch of truth, the life of memory, the teacher of life, the messenger of antiquity.

-Cicero

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DIABETES MANAGEMENT

Metro Health Lowell Plaza at 2550 W. Main St. will be holding a lecture series beginning tonight, Jan. 21, titled "Intensive diabetes management" from 6:30 - 8 p.m. Guest speaker Dr. Michael Valitutto, D.O. No registration is required for the free series.

WIGGLES & GIGGLES GYMNASTICS NIGHT

Tots on Track for School (TOTS) Wiggles and Giggles Gymnastics Night for preschool families will be held in the Bright Beginnings gym at 300 High St. on Thursday, Jan. 22 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Cost: \$1 donation per family. Refreshments served.

LIBRARY BOOK SALE

There will be a mid-winter book sale in the community room of the Englehardt Library, 200 N. Monroe St., on Jan. 26, noon - 8 p.m. & Jan. 27, noon - 5 p.m. Proceeds benefit Englehardt branch.

TOTS NEW SUPPORT GROUP

Lowell Area Schools Tots on Track for School is forming a new group for families with multiples of all ages (twins & triplets) and will begin on Tuesday, Jan. 27 from 6:30 - 7:45 p.m. in the Bright Beginnings Family Resource Center, 300 High St. Childcare and refreshments will be provided. Please call Kathy at 897-1232 if you plan to attend

NATURAL FEATURES INVENTORY

Vergennes Township's Open Space Citizen Committee will have a program on Wednesday, Jan. 28 from 7-8:30 p.m. at Vergennes Township Hall to help people understand what a natural features inventory is. Call 682-0445 or 897-8949 for more information.

CALL FOR AUDITIONS

The LAAC Thebes Players are seeking actors for "Snow Queen and the Goblin." Production: April 22-25. Auditions March 6 and March 8 at Englehardt Library. Call 897-8545 for information or to borrow a script for review.

BLOOD DRIVE

The Lowell Area Fire Dept. is sponsoring a blood drive for the Grand Valley Blood program on Wednesday, Feb. 11 from 2-7 p.m. at the Look Memorial Fire Station, 315 S. Hudson St.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

The 18th West Michigan Regional Competition will be held at the Lowell Area Arts Council Gallery from Feb. 15 March 20. Drop off dates for entry forms are Feb. 5-7; each artists may submit up to two entries. Non-refundable entry fee of \$20 for LAAC members & students/\$25 for nonmembers. Cal 897-8545 for more info.

Photos are needed of "volunteers in action" to showcase the Spirit of our Community at service organization events and meetings. Digital photos on a CD or prints may be dropped off at LAAC, 149 S. Hudson or emailed to George Hommowun at ghommowun @lowell.k12.mi.us. Deadline April 1. Call 897-8545 or 897-9161 with questions.

70 years of service to youth fair

E.L.Phelps holding the award he received Friday, Jan. 9, recognizing 70 years of service to the Kent County Youth Fair. The 85 year old showed a jersey calf at the first 4-H Fair when he was 14. Since then, he has served in various instrumental roles in the fair's history, including fair president. He is now an honorary member of the fair board. This year will be the 70th anniversary of the Kent County Youth Fair.



"ONE BOOK ONE COUNTY" PROGRAM

the book chosen for the "One Book, One County" program, a countywide reading initiative at local libraries. The event encourages adults and young adults to read and discuss the same book in Kent County at the same time.

The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency, by Alexander McCall Smith, is the first in a series of detective novels set in Botswana starring a very

The Englehardt Library will participate in a discussion on Tuesday, Feb. 10 at 10 a.m. Resource guides, available free of charge, provide



Smith, a master at writ-

SECOND ANNUAL

ticipating libraries and book-Just released: the name of stores, as well as on the website www.grpl.org/ ing, a distinguished professor of medical law at Edinburgh University and a native of what is now Zimbabwe, has

unusual heroine.



BLONDIE and resources for related topics that are key to the story. (Nancy Louise) They are available at all par-

> HAPPY 5014

WISH



For other discussion

dates and locations, call 784-

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Tuesday...........9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday......9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday......8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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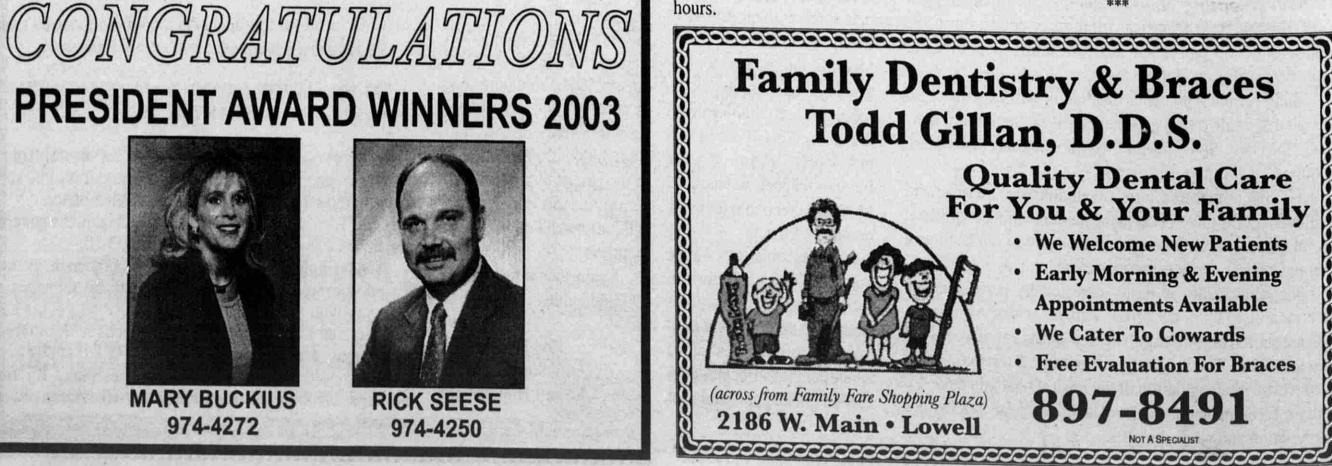
Cosmetic Dentistry, Teeth Whitening

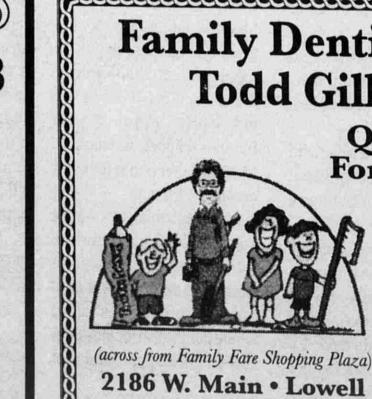


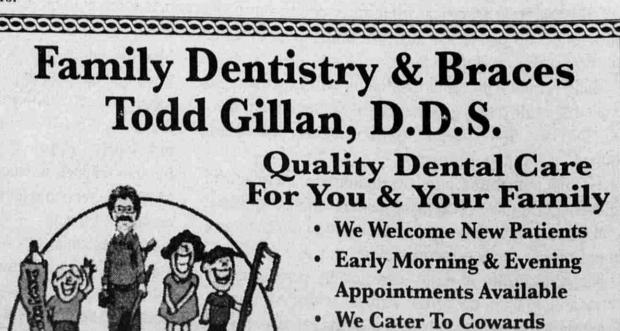
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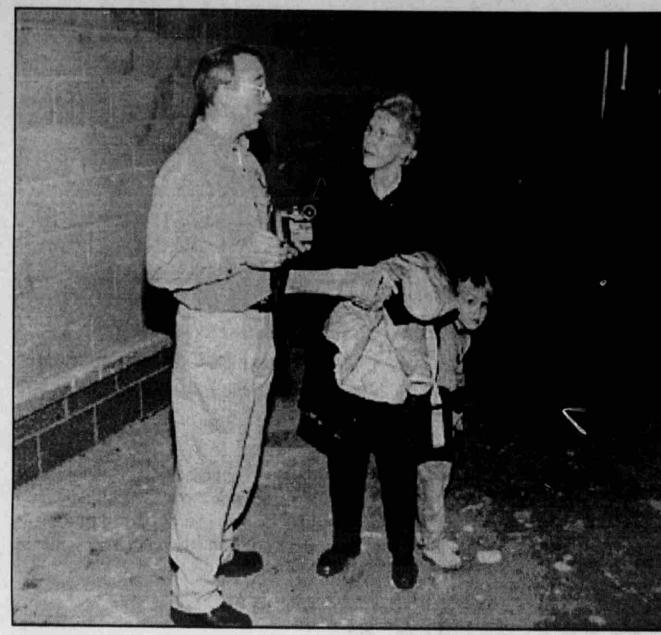
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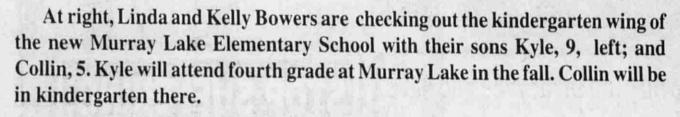


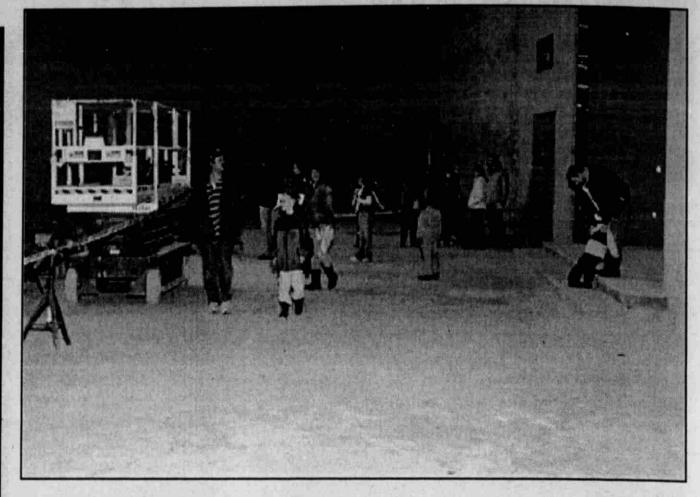


Murray Lake Elementary opens doors to the community

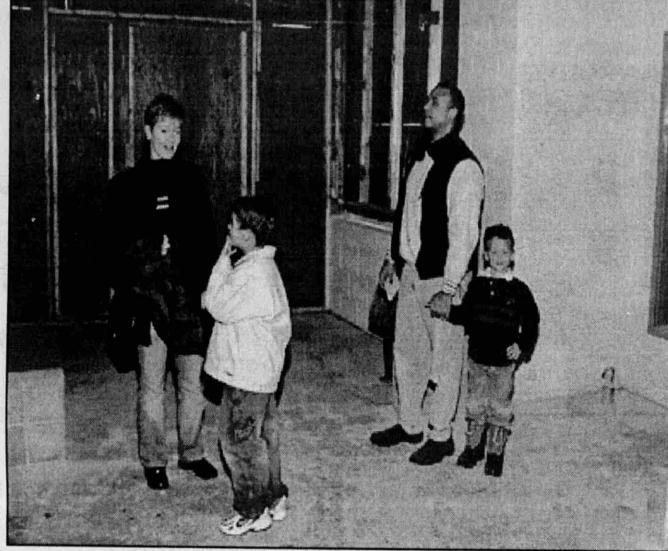


Pictured, Jim White explains the attendance area for the new Murray Lake Elementary School to Sandy Lambert at the open house last Saturday. Hiding behind Lambert is Darby Fuller, Lambert's five-year-old granddaughter who will attend kindergarten there in the fall. More than 500 people attended the open house to check out the new school, still under construction. Thirty-five people signed up to be volunteers through Murray Lake Family Links. The building is now ahead of schedule with most of the work now being done indoors.





Visitors at the Murray Lake Elementary School open house take a look at the gym, cafeteria and stage of the new school.



LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS BOARD BRIEFS

Regular Meeting of January 12, 2004

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT - Matt Hansen reported that the new tshirt he was wearing was won in a Food Service contest for using the new milk machine dispenser. The 2004 graduates are just completing their 7th semester and this year seniors will be graduating with all the new standards in place. A 4th student speaker will participate at either Seniors Night or Graduation. That student will be chosen based on a prepared speech. Students are helping with the Kent County Hug-a-Bear program, and a new pilot has been established for 20 seniors to participate in a

SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION -To honor the Board members for their dedication in serving the Lowell Area Schools, Shari Miller presented the Board members with a certificate of appreciation.

STUDENT RECOGNITION - Board members recognized the following Middle School Character Award - Torsten Boss, 8th grader Cherry Creek

Geography Bee Winner - Jon Nichols - 5th grader

ACTION ITEMS -

Accepted the following Gifts:

- Richard Horsch from Knights of Columbus donation of \$804.68 to be used by the Special Education Department.
- Jim and Mari Stone donation of \$1000 to be used for the Lowell Area Schools Strings Program. Cheryl & Jim Blodgett donation of an insect display case valued at \$50
- to be used by the Wittenbach Center. Paul & Noreen Balaam donation of a scanner and computer monitor
- valued at \$250 to be used by the school technology department. Alticor (Paul Seese) donation of computers valued at \$15,100 to be
- used by the school technology department. Dennis Kuhn donation of crib, mattress, bedding, and quilt valued at
- \$400 to be used by the Unity nursery. Carol Stormzand donation of wooden, stackable shelves valued at \$25 to be used by the Wittenbach Center.
- Terry Churches donation of preschool books valued at \$50 to be used FAMILY LINKS/PTO UPDATE Dee McKendrick from the Bushnell/ by the TOTS Program.
- Ed Nausieda donation of \$500 to be used by the high school Volleyball
- Approved the amendment to the 2003-2004 general fund budget following a presentation made by Connie Gillette of the changes.

Approved the Letter of Agreement with the Lowell Area Schools, the City of Lowell, and the Kent County Youth Fair for jointly owned outdoor

Adopted the bond authorizing resolution for completion of the Murray Lake Elementary and other projects. Approved the Driver Training fee at \$240.

CONSENT ITEMS - Approved/adopted/awarded were:

· Minutes of December 6, 2003 Board Retreat and Closed Session, December 8, 2003 Board Meeting, December 15, 2003 Board Workshop and Closed Session

 The following payment of bills for December 2003: **GENERAL FUND** .\$992,173.34 SCHOOL SERVICES FUND

A. Food Service Fund... \$67,675.08 B. Athletic Fund. ..\$9,814.15 2000 CONSTRUCTION FUND... .\$567,494.40 TRUST AND AGENCY FUND... ..\$44,024.80

· Change order in the amount of \$25,779 to Ritsema Associates to substitute a hard surface tile in lieu of carpet in the main Murray Lake

connection at Murray Lake Elementary School.

• The bid to Shareco Communications in the amount of \$48,225 for Murray Lake cabling.

BOARD REPORT - Shari Miller and Nancy Hopkins shared "Strategic Change Initiatives" that the Board and district will be addressing during

- the school year and into the future. They are: * 95% of students achieving at grade level in math and literacy
- * District-wide plan for school improvement, curriculum development, and character education
- * Development of Accountability Model
- Meeting requirements of NCLB and Ed Yes! * Hire the best qualified staff
- * Effective utilization of resources The Board's commitment is: "To provide for our students the best educational opportunities and environment that our resources permit."

Cherry Creek/Bright Beginnings Family Links Committee and Trisha Propst from the Alto PTO gave a report on the many ways parent volunteers are raising money and helping in classrooms and with field trips to enhance the learning for students.

SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT UPDATE - Pam Thomas shared a brief report on the Special Education Department's goal in

implementing a program for direct instruction in reading, writing, and mathematics. The program follows a student from level to level and teacher to teacher with literacy being the first and most essential goal.

EDUCATION YES! UPDATE - HIGH SCHOOL AND UNITY - Mark Kasmer reported on the H.S. MEAP scores for those students who took the test last year during their junior year. Since the Kent ISD does not yet have all the data, the Board viewed Lowell Area Schools scores as they compared to the State. The information for the Education YES! report cards for Cherry Creek, Middle School and the High School has been appealed because there are discrepancies in the data. Mark will give a report on those scores at a later date.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE - Shari Miller reported that there will be an Open House at the new Murray Lake Elementary School on Saturday, January 17 from 1-3 p.m. The brick work is nearly completed and interior walls are getting their first coat of paint.

• Change order to Powerlink Plus in the amount of \$52,520 for fiber NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE - Connie Gillette reported that the mediation session scheduled for January 7 was canceled due to an emergency on behalf of the mediator. The next session is scheduled for January 15. The parties continue to operate under the terms of expired contracts and bargaining in good faith continues.

> SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Shari Miller thanked the Family Links/PTO members who have so richly blessed the schools. Scott Vashaw briefly thanked the Board for their direction and for Shari's enthusiasm in leading the school district. Shari concluded that it takes the effort of all employees and parents to reach the established goals.

CLOSED SESSION - The Board met in closed session to discuss

UPCOMING MEETINGS: Board Workshop Monday, January 26, 2004 Runciman Administration Building - Board Room - 5:30 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting Monday, February 9, 2004 Runciman Administration Building - Board Room - 7:00 p.m. Please visit our web page at www.lowell.k12.mi.us

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LAAC presents Escanaba in da Moonlight

By Dan Schneider

theater production, the Thebes shaboom! M'shevy bursh inna Players are putting on shamesh! An' I meansh, "Escanaba In Da Moonlight" shere wash shamesh at Larkin's Other Place. The ev'yshwheresh! Sho I reash play, by Jeff Daniels, is about inna sha backshea', shrab in the Upper Peninsula of an' m' sheepin' shag an'

Dance and Rick Thomson of shootin'! Lowell as the Ranger.

action to his pickup truck cash bar during all perforspontaneously combusting: An' sha shex shing I show,

the Soady family deer camp m'Shremingshon Shoe Shifty The play opens Feb. 6.On Fri-The actors in the produc- shnow sha mo'ersh shartsh tion are Ken Parrish as Albert, shrunnin' lie she's shonna Steve Tokarski as Reuben, shrive ashway! I shump Tim Somes as Remnar, shacksh, shared sherm'yeish, Leonard Cradit as Jimmer, shrabbed m'Shremington formances beginning at 1:30 Marge Schultz as Wolf Moon Shoe Shifty an' sharsh p.m.

Amid themes such as male that makes seasoned theater- ater only. Reservations are recomradery and UFO abduc- goers weep with heartfelt ap- quired and should be made at tions, it is easy to overlook the preciation. As for the rest of least four days in advance. To sensitive, nuanced dialogue of us ... there's beer. Mike Larkin purchase tickets, call or visit Daniels' script. Following is has promised Leinenkugel's the Lowell Area Arts Council an example of "Jimmer's" re- Red will be available at the at 149 S. Hudson.

mances. Some parts of the performance demand audience participation. The beer is in-

tended to help with that. The menu also includes pasties, vegetarian and meat chili, salad bar and dessert. days and Saturdays, Feb. 6, 7, 13, 14, 20 and 21, dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. with the play at 7:30. For the Feb. 8 and 15 Sunday matinees, dinner begins at 12:30 p.m. with per-

Tickets are \$21-26 for din-This is the kind of drama ner and theater: \$8-10 for the-



Pictured, left to right, are Albert (Ken Parrish), Reuben (Steve Tokarski), Ranger (Rick Thomson), Jimmer (Leonard Cradit) and Remnar (Tim Somes) in "Escanaba in da Moonlight."

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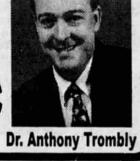
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SHARI MILLER

Lowell Schools Superintendent

Pictured are this

year's winners of the Low-

ell Knights of Columbus

Freethrow Champion-

ship, in which over 70 kids

participated. Winners will

move on to the district

are Alexis Foster, Cody

Bieri, Stephanie Stevens,

Jordan Drake, Samantha

Braman and Zach Noskey;

back row are Josh Drake,

Krista Foster, Jordan

Boon, Breanna Bueche, Eric Saenz and Chelsea

Harrison.

Front row, left to right,

championship Feb. 7.

Knights of Columbus free throw champs

grade given to each of our schools and to schools throughout time, and some other factors like parent involvement in the Michigan. Schools may get an A, B, C or D/Alert under this schools. The Report Card's single letter grade is a shorthand new grading system known as the Education YES! Report way to show how our schools are doing. Just as a child's report Card, the state's latest way to gauge how schools are doing. card is an accounting of how he or she did on tests and While it's not the only way to measure a school's success, it is assignments throughout the year, Education YES! is an the newest way.

Education YES! is required by state law and was created, in part, to be Michigan's answer to the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act that requires each state to have an approved accountability system. Developed by Michigan experts, the Education YES! system was recently approved by the federal government, so that eligible Michigan schools can receive federal funding for children in need of extra help and schools in need of improvement can be identified.

The Education YES! grades will be given once every school year. The single letter grade will be computed using students' scores on Michigan Educational Assessment Pro-In the next few weeks, you'll see or hear about a letter gram (MEAP) tests, a comparison of those MEAP scores over

THE LOWELL LEDGER-WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2004 -PAGE 11 accounting of how students in specific grades did on selected tests at a given time during a school year.

But a school, like a student, is much more than a letter grade. A student's report card is just one way we assess his or her progress. Likewise, the Education YES! Report Card is just one way we assess each school's progress.

The Report Card doesn't tell about the hundreds of success stories that happen everyday within the school walls. It misses the thousands of exciting learning moments each day when the "light goes on" for a student and he finally understands about fractions or when she "sees" how the human heart works or when he plays a perfect trumpet solo or when she gives a convincing performance in the school play. It can't adequately reflect the quality of interaction between teachers and students. It doesn't measure the valuable lessons learned each day that don't fall under the statewide, pre-determined test items In other words, just like it's impossible to know a child's whole nature by a single grade, it's impossible to judge a school's whole essence by a single grade. That's why we will continue to report our progress in many different ways.

We believe you're entitled to know the entire story about how our schools are doing. That's why we report on them regularly through our annual reports, school newsletters, televised Board meetings, and school website. And, that's what we will continue to do, even after the Education YES! Report Cards are issued. We believe that the grades received this year by our schools will help us identify ways in which we can improve.

We're always working to improve achievement for our students. And, we can do even better with your help. Please join us in our continuing efforts to be the best schools we can be. If you are interested in being more involved in your child's school or at the district-level, please contact your building principal or me. Your thoughts and ideas are important to us.

Your comments about this concern or any issue would be greatly appreciated. Send to Shari Miller, Lowell Area Schools, 300 High St., Lowell, MI 49331 or smiller@remc8.k12.mi.us. (check out our web page as www.lowell.k12.mi.us)

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engage in the recommended ing." amount of physical activity 2002, a lack of physical activnearly \$8.9 billion in health care payments stemming from diseases associated with obesity and heart disease. For both quality of life and health care ties to jump-start your intercosts, every bit of physical est, such as local fitness walks. activity counts.

attainable goals to start and sustain a healthier lifestyle in medical director. "As diffi- optimal health benefits. cult as it is to start good exerharder to continue after the muscles after.

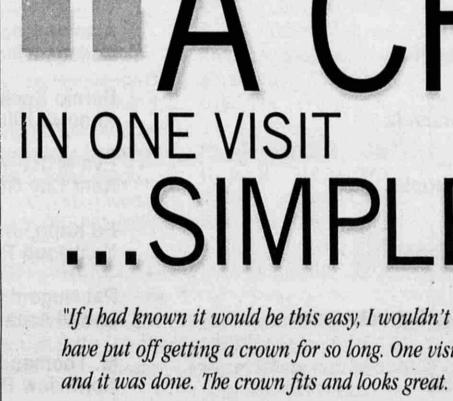
The U.S. Surgeon Gen- newness wears off. The good eral reports that at least three news is that small challenges from a variety of physical acout of five Americans do not help to get and keep you go-tivities, ranging from sports

It is recommended that Be sure to consult with your necessary for good health. In one start with a 10-15 minute doctor about the types of prowalk three times a week, with grams that will most benefit ity cost Michigan residents a goal of increasing to 30-45 you. minutes, five days a week. Some additional tips for a

successful year of activity: · Look for group activi-

• When you're up to 30 "Take small steps and set minutes of moderate aerobic activity (i.e., walking, jogging swimming) several times a the New Year," says Dr. Tom week, you can add a few min-Simmer, Blue Cross Blue utes of weight and resistance Shield of Michigan corporate training to your workout for

 Be sure to warm up becise and eating habits, it's even fore activity and stretch your



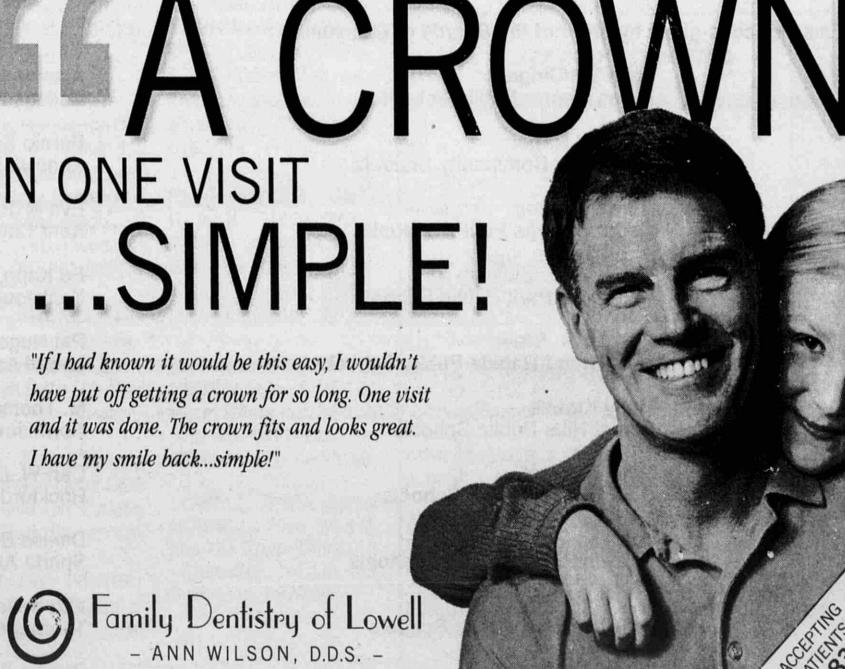
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LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION SCHOOL ELECTION

NOTICE OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION OF THE ELECTORS OF

Byron Center Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan Caledonia Community Schools, Kent, Allegan and Barry Counties, Michigan Cedar Springs Public Schools, Kent and Newaygo Counties, Michigan Comstock Park Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan East Grand Rapids Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan Forest Hills Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan Godfrey-Lee Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan Godwin Heights Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan Grand Rapids Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan Grandville Public Schools, Kent and Ottawa Counties, Michigan Kelloggsville Public School District, Kent County, Michigan Kenowa Hills Public Schools, Kent and Ottawa Counties, Michigan Kent City Community Schools, Kent, Ottawa, Muskegon and Newaygo Counties, Michigan Kentwood Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan Lowell Area Schools, Kent and Ionia Counties, Michigan Northview Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan Rockford Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan Sparta Area Schools, Kent and Ottawa Counties, Michigan Thornapple Kellogg School, Barry, Allegan, Kent and Ionia Counties, Michigan Wyoming Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan

TO THE ELECTORS OF EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT:

Please Take Notice that the Boards of Education of the above named school districts, pursuant to a directive from the Intermediate School Board of Kent Intermediate School District, Michigan, have called special elections to be held in each of the districts on Tuesday, February 24, 2004.

TAKE NOTICE that the purpose of the special elections is to vote on the following proposition:

SPECIAL EDUCATION MILLAGE PROPOSAL

This proposal will increase the levy by the intermediate school district of special education millage previously approved by the electors. All or a portion of the revenues will be distributed to local school districts in the intermediate school district to reimburse costs for special education programs and services.

Shall the original millage limitation on the annual property tax previously approved by the electors of Kent Intermediate School District, Michigan, which has been reduced by the "Headlee" amendment, Michigan Constitution of 1963, to 2.7099 mills (\$2.7099 on each \$1,000.00 of taxable valuation) for the education of persons with disabilities be increased by 1 mill (\$1.00 on each \$1,000.00 of taxable valuation), without limitation as to number of years, commencing in 2004; the estimate of the revenue the intermediate school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2004 is approximately \$17,650,000 from local property taxes authorized herein?

THE LAST DAY ON WHICH PERSONS MAY REGISTER IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT THE SPECIAL INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION CALLED TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2004, IS MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2004. PERSONS REGISTERING AFTER 5:00 0'CLOCK, P.M. ON MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2004, ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT THE SPECIAL INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION.

To register, visit any Secretary of State branch office or your county, city or township clerk's office. Persons planning to register with the respective county, city or township clerks must ascertain the days and hours on which the clerks' offices are open for registration.

This Notice is given by order of the Boards of Education.

John VanSingel **Byron Center Public Schools**

Bernard Nagel Caledonia Community Schools

Sara Thornton **Cedar Springs Public Schools**

Kathleen E. Sullivan Comstock Park Public Schools

Rosalie R. Stein East Grand Rapids Public Schools

Molly Krauss Forest Hills Public Schools

Julie Jacamel **Godfrey-Lee Public Schools**

Lee Ann Platschorre **Godwin Heights Public Schools**

Luis R. Pena **Grand Rapids Public Schools**

Mary Walsh **Grandville Public Schools**

A secretar and the secr

Alan Woodcox Kelloggsville Public School District

Bernie Beckman Kenowa Hills Public Schools

Eva Miller-Videtich Kent City Community Schools

Ed Kape, Jr. **Kentwood Public Schools**

Pat Nugent Lowell Area Schools

M. Thomas Lothamer **Northview Public Schools**

Carl W. Dufendach **Rockford Public Schools**

Denise Bloom Sparta Area Schools

Kim Selleck Thornapple Kellogg School

Dennis Bush Wyoming Public Schools

COMNGEVENTS

in the Lowell, Ada, Alto & Call 897-8304 for details. 897-7842. Saranac areas. We prefer such notices to be kept brief and to be submitted by mail, phone at 897-9261.

servation Club trap & skeet league, 5616 Dunn Rd. 12-5 p.m. Call Larry at 754-7104. Public welcome.

EVERY MON .: LHS Fellowship of Christian Athletes & Friends, 7-8:30 Bldg. Weigh-ins 5:45 p.m. EVERY SECOND WED.: p.m. in members' homes. 676-1355.

THIRD MON. OF EACH 8:30 p.m. MONTH: Fallasburg Historical Society board 1ST TUES .: Adults with EVERY SECOND WED .: Fallasburg, 7 p.m. All in- 7-9 p.m. Call Gary Engle noon, community room, vited.897-7161 for info.

SECOND MON. OF EACH SECOND & FOURTH MONTH: Lowell Board of TUES .: Saranac Needlers, in Administration Building, meets 5-8:30 p.m. at 4 300 High Street.

MONTH: Bowne Township tact Bev or Melissa, at Historical Museum, 84th dinner will be provided. and Alden Nash, 7:30 p.m.

Garden Club, 7 p.m. in St. Mary School, 7:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall of Dave, 897-2533.

Scouts, boys in 1st - 5th Lake. grades, Alto or Lowell. Call school for more info.

MONTH:Clark-Ellis Ameri- Fire Station, 315 S. can Legion Post 152, 3100 Hudson St. Alden Nash S.E. at 7:30.

MONTH: Women of the scrapbooking/journaling Moose business meeting group meets at 4 Health at 7:30 p.m.

Post #8303, 3116 Alden Bev or Melissa, 642-6466. Nash S.E. at 7 p.m.

7-8:30 p.m. at Scout Cabin. E. Beltline) at 7 p.m. Call Call Terry 868-6481.

1ST TUES .: Grattan His-O'Brien Room of Grattan 6:45-8:45 p.m. G.E.M.S. 5 p.m. Township Hall, 12050 Old Girls Club - Calvary Chris-Belding Rd. Public invited. tian Reformed Church.

1ST & 3RD TUES .: Dia-Bowes Rd.

2ND & 4TH TUES.: MOPS meets at noon at Lowell - Mothers of Preschoolers Masonic Temple, 119 Lin-Decause mothering mat- coln Lake Ave.

Notices in The Ledger's "Com- ters. 9:15-11:30 a.m. at EVERY WED.: "Peppers" ing Events" are free of charge Impact, a Wesleyan Franciscan Life Process to any nonprofit organization Church, 1070 N. Hudson. Center: 1-3:30p.m.Pat

Chapter of the American Church of the Nazarene but will accept notices by Sewing Guild, D.W. Caravan children's pro- EVERY 3RD THURS .: 8565. Richardson Center, 5255 gram at 7 p.m., ages 5-12 Grand River Dr. 6:30 so- years. Call 897-8800. SUNDAYS: Tri-town Concial time; 7 p.m. program. Sandy, 285-0621.

Home Park Community

AD/HD at Calvin College, Lowell Women's Club, at 897-6325 or 248-2423. Schneider Manor, 725

Education meets 7:00 p.m. needleart/quilting bee Support group for Periph-Health Wellness Center in St. Paul's Anglican Catho-Saranac. For all or part SECOND MON. OF EACH time; all are invited. Con- Dorothy 897-9794. Historical Society meeting 642-6466 for info. A light THURS.: Weight Watch-

THIRD MON. OF THE FOURTH TUES.: Knights 1/2 hr. before the meeting. MONTH: Lowell Showboat of Columbus #7719 meets For info., 800-651-6000.

Lowell Masonic Lodge meeting, 7:30 p.m., Ma-MON. OR TUES .: Cub sonic Center, 119 Lincoln

TUES.: Lowell Lions Club, FOURTH MON. OF EACH 6:30 p.m., Look Memorial

THIRD MON. OF EACH Saranac Scrappers, Wellness Center, Saranac, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Light re- EVERY THURS. -EVERY 1STMON .: V.F.W. freshments will be served.

EVERY MON.: Boy Scout Parents of children w/AD/ Troop 102, 11 & up or com- HD at St. Luke's Lutheran pleting 5th-grade, meets Church, 32156 4 Mile NE/ 5:30 - 8 p.m. 897-9393. Linda: 874-5662; teen group: Sarah 281-6588.

Ages 8-13, 897-8694.

betic Support group, 9:30 WED.: 8 p.m. ALANON a.m. at Schneider Manor meets at Lowell Congre-Community Room, 725 gational Church upstairs.

EVERY WED.: Rotary

SECOND TUES .: G.R. EVERY WED .: Lowell Dawn 862-8841.

WEDNESDAYS: Tri-town Conservation Club trap & TUES.: Take Off Pounds skeet league, 5616 Dunn Parents Supporting Par-Sensibly Tops MI#372 Rd. 6-10 p.m. Call Larry meets Key Heights Mobile 754-7104. Public welcome. Process Center. 897-7842.

Kent County Youth Fair TUES .: Flat River Board, 7:30 p.m., King Me-Woodcarvers, LAAC, 6:30- morial Youth Center at Fairgrounds. 897-6050.

Bowes Rd.

EVERY SECOND WED.: eral Neuropathy, 4 p.m. at lic Church, Grand Rapids.

ers at Lowell Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washing-EVERY SECOND & ton St. 5:30 p.m. Register

EVERY SECOND Nazarene Church. Call EVERY SECOND TUES .: THURS .: Loyal Order of the Moose, men's general meeting at 7:30 p.m. -? All members in good standing are invited to attend.

> EVERY 1ST & 3RD THURS.: Saranac Area Musicians and Singers at Saranac H. S. Band Room. Choir:6-7 p.m./band:7-8. Kathy Maatman 897-5981.

> **EVERY THIRD TUES.: EVERY THURS.: Pottery** classes at Franciscan Life Process Center, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Call 897-7842.

> St.Mary's Pregnancy Crisis Center, 402 Amity St., non-denominational help EVERY 3RD TUES .: for pregnant women / adolescents at the school: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.; Mondays:

drama club meeting, Lowell Middle School choir torical Society meets in EVERY OTHER WED .: room. Call 897-1502 after

> FIRST AND THIRD THURS.: Alto Lions Club at Annalaine's on S. Alden Nash Ave. at 7 p.m.

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

EVERY 3RD THURS.: Rubber stamping group, Christian Life Center 6-9 p.m. Create scrapbooks, etc. Share supplies. Call

VFW #8303 Ladies Auxil-S.E. at 3 p.m.

EVERY THIRD THURS.: ents group, Franciscan Life

EVERY THIRD THURS.: Royal Arch Masons, 7:30 p.m., Lowell Masonia Center, 119 Lincoln Lake. Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

EVERY THIRD THURS.: LaLeche League of Ada, Cascade, Lowell 6:30 p.m. socializing: meeting 7 p.m. Support for pregnant & breastfeeding women/ nursing children welcome. Ada church, 752-8300.

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

SECOND SATURDAY: Ada Historical Society at Tues., noon - 5 p.m 10:30 a.m., Averill Historical Museum, 7144 Headley, Ada.

SECOND SAT.: Lowell Amateur Radio Club. Lowell Airport, 730 Lincoln Lake NE. 9 a.m. social time; 10 a.m. meeting, LARC sponsors 145.27 MHz area radio repeater system.

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

LOWELL AREA HIS-TORICAL MUSEUM OPEN-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. FIRST THURS .: 4-H Main St. Call 897-2037.

> **ENGLEHARDTLIBRARY** HOURS: Mon.- Wed., 12 -8 p.m.; Thurs.-Fri.: 9:30 -5 p.m.; Sat.: 9:30 - 2:30 p.m. 200 N. Monroe. 647-3920.

LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL: Tues. Wed. & Fri.: 12 - 5 p.m. Thurs.: 12 - 7 p.m. Sat., 1-4 p.m. 149 S. Hudson. 897-8545.

CLUB MEETINGS: (AA) Mon., Wed., Thurs: 12-1 & 4:30-5:30 & 8-9 p.m.; Sat./ Sun.: 10-11 a.m. & 8-9 p.m.;

iary, 3116 Alden Nash WED., JAN. 21: Metro Vergennes Twp. Hall: Health Lowell Plaza, 2550 W. Main. 6:30 - 8 p.m. Indiabetes management lecture series. Free to the public; no

registration is needed.

THURS., JAN. 22: Knowhow workshop on improving your marketing, 7:30 - 9:15 a.m. at city of Lowell offices, 301 E. Main St. Registration is required. Call Liz at 897-9161.

Wiggles and Giggles Gymfamilies in Bright Beginnings gym, 300 High St.

MON. & TUES., JAN. 26 & Historical Museum pro-27: Friends of the gram on American Civil Englehardt Library mid- War in conjunction with winter book sale. Great Lowell Middle School Benselection of winter reads for all. Mon.: noon - 8 p.m.;

LOWELL SERENITY TUES., JAN. 27: TOTS new support group for families with twins and triplets 8-9 p.m.; Tues./Fri:12-1, at Bright Beginnings Family Resource Center, 300 High St. 6:30 - 7:45 p.m. (NA) Mon./Thurs., 6-7:30 Call Kathy at 897-1232 if p.m. 101 W. Main. 897- you plan to attend.

> Open Space Citizen Committee "Celebration of Collaboration and a Chance to Learn, 7-8:30 p.m. Call Kate 682-0445 or Marsha 897-8949. Public welcome.

WED., FEB. 11: Lowell Area Fire Dept. will sponsor a blood drive for the Grand Valley Blood program from 2-7 p.m. at Look Memorial Fire Station.

THURS., JAN. 22: TOTS FEB. 15 - MARCH 20: West Michigan Regional nastics Night for preschool Competition. Call for artists - juried competition. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Cost: \$1 do- Feb. 5-7. Call LAAC at nation per family. 897-8545 or email Refreshments will be info@lowellartscouncil.org.

> TUES., FEB. 17: Lowell jamin Morse Society. Public welcome to Lowell Township Hall, 7 p.m. Share your stories about family history of Civil War involvement.



WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

(616) 897-1710 • (616) 292-7469

LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR

897-5949

MON.: 9:00 a.m. Walk at Voodland Mall. TUES .: 9:00 a.m. Walk

at Woodland Mall.

THURS.: 9:00 a.m. Walk/ Shop at Malls: 9:30 Crafts; 1:00 p.m. Euchre.

FRI.: 9:00 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall.

SPECIAL EVENTS

VED., JAN. 21: 10 a.m. Advisory Council; 12:45 p.m. Shop Meijer.

THURS., JAN. 22: 12:45 o.m. Cafe in the Woods & Shop at Wal-Mart.

FRI., JAN. 23: 12:45 p.m.

p.m. Sly Mosier

p.m.Alto Senior Luncheon.

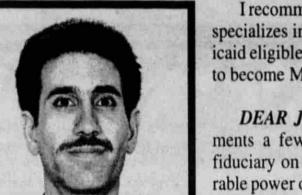
TUES., JAN. 27: 12:15

WED., JAN. 28: 8:30 a.m. Traveling Breakfast.

THURS., JAN. 29: 11:30 a.m.MetroHospital Physical Therapy.

MON., JAN. 26: 12:45 FRI., JAN. 30: 12:45 p.m. CHECKET THE PROPERTY OF THE PR

Jonathan David



DEAR JONATHAN: I had always heard that you could own a house, car and \$2,000 in the bank, and no one could take this if your elderly mother (who is a widow and has five children) got sick and was put in a nursing home. Now, I find out that you have to sell the house and car, and lose the \$2,000. How does one get around this?

JONATHAN SAYS: I am not sure where you received your information. However, under current law, a house and car are still considered to be exempt assets when determining whether an individual qualifies for Medicaid. There is a possibility that at some point Michigan will enact an estate recovery program in compliance with federal law, which provides that the state can place a lien on a person's residence for monies received by that Medicaid recipient during lifetime. However, that law is currently not in effect. Further, even if that law were in effect, it would not impact whether your mother qualified for Medicaid or not - it simply provides a mechanism for the state to be reimbursed after Medicaid funds have been paid out, but does not prevent the ability to receive Medicaid funds in the first place.

I recommend that your mother meet with an attorney who specializes in Medicaid planning to determine if she is Medicaid eligible now or what type of planning she can engage in to become Medicaid eligible.

DEAR JONATHAN: I prepared estate planning documents a few years ago naming my older brother as my fiduciary on all my documents, i.e., my agent under my durable power of attorney, my patient advocate under my health care power of attorney, my personal representative, the guardian of my children, and the trustee under my trust - my spouse is deceased. My brother has now died; what happens now?

JONATHAN SAYS: Your durable power of attorney and health care power of attorney are no longer of any use to you since there is no one named in those documents who can act as your agent under your financial durable power of attorney or patient advocate under your health care power of attorney. Consequently, if you were to become disabled, those documents would be of no use to you and you would have to go through the probate court to have a guardian and/or conservator appointed on your behalf.

As for your will, the court will appoint a personal representative of your estate since you have not named a back up to your brother. Further, the court will appoint a guardian and a conservator for your minor children.

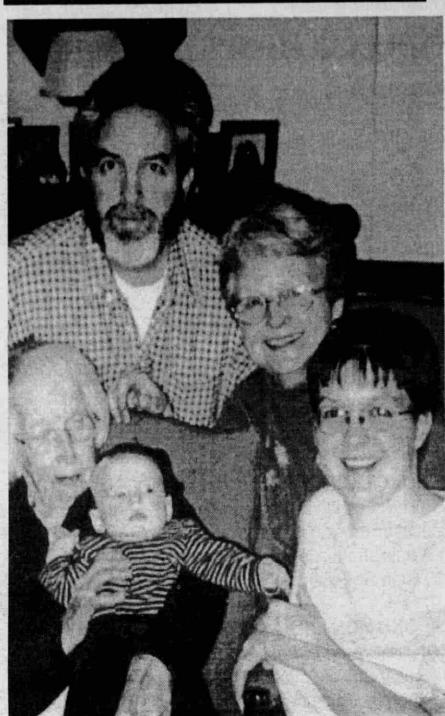
As for your trust, if the trust document gives your beneficiaries the right to appoint a new trustee, then they can exercise that right pursuant to that provision; otherwise, they could petition the court to have a trustee appointed.

Obviously rather than have to have the court determine who is to act on your behalf in all these various instances, it would make more sense if you amended your will and appointed a new personal representative, as well as a guardian

and conservator for your minor children. You should also amend your trust for the purpose of appointing a new trustee. attorney and health care power of attorney naming a new agent and a new patient advocate. While you are at it, you might want to name one or two back-ups so if the person you name is not around to act, you have other people already in place to take over those responsibilities.

The information contained in this column is not to be

AREA BIRTHS



Tricia and Stephen Yonker of Saranac were blessed with Also welcoming another healthy generation to love were great-great-grandmother Marjorie Sullivan.

St. Pat's students

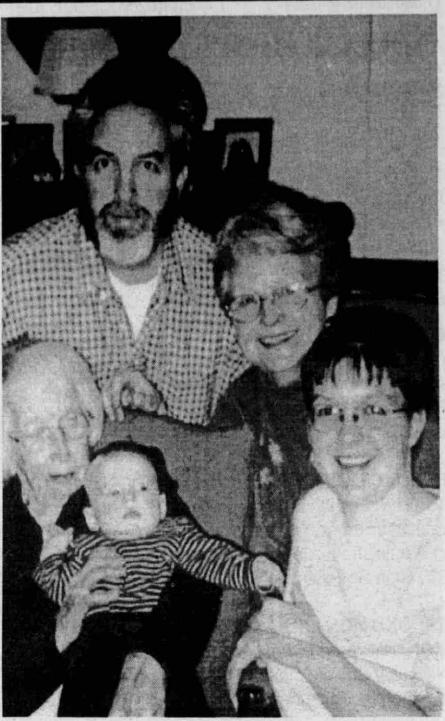
Japanese culture

learn about

Second grade students at St. Patrick School had a special volunteer from Japan at their school from April until December. Pictured is Tomoka teaching Japanese culture, art and language to the students.

Further, you should create a new financial durable power of

construed as legal advice or legal representation and should not be relied upon as such. If legal advice or legal representation is desired, please consult with an attorney.



the birth of their baby boy, Zachariah Dylan on Aug. 9, 2003. grandpa George E. Raimer, great-grandma Pat Raimer and

PEACE OF MIND

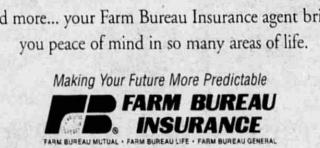
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LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

> NOTICE TO CREDITORS **Decedent's Estate**

ADA-LOWELL 5

(616) 897-FILM

FILE NO. 04-176-849-DE

Estate of DONALD JOSEPH GABOURIE Date of Birth: 7/12/1949

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, DONALD JOSEPH GABOURIE, who lived at 3230 Emery Drive, Lowell, Michigan 49331, died 12/21/2003.

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

publication of this notice. January 13, 2004 MICHAEL J. TUMMINO, JR. 311 East Main

Lowell, MI 49331

(616) 897-5931

forever barred unless

presented to CARRY DeGROOT, named per-

sonal representative, or

proposed personal rep-

resentative, or to both the

probate court at P.O. Box

491, Caledonia, Michigan

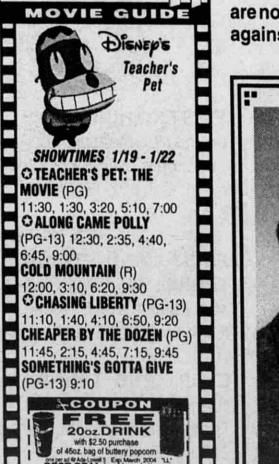
49316 and the named/

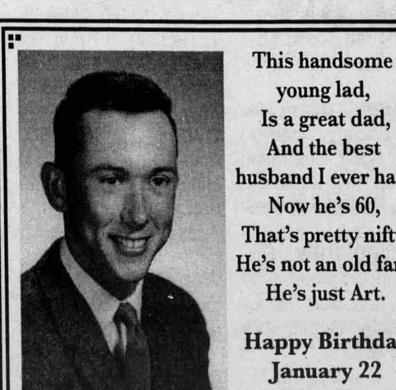
proposed personal rep-

resentative within 4

months after the date of

CARRY DeGROOT P.O. Box 491 Caledonia, MI 49316





young lad, Is a great dad, And the best husband I ever had. Now he's 60, That's pretty nifty. He's not an old fart, He's just Art. Happy Birthday January 22 Love, Ronni

Educational goals, continued...From Page 1

The school district does trict is doing common assess- "If we see an instructional problems will be addressed, orities is to build these into a dress needs." more comprehensive, districtwide testing program.

cess completed, I think we'll be ahead (of other districts)," Miller said. "Not every dis- correcting them.

currently employ some of its ments across the whole dis-need, that will be a signal for Miller said, by talking to teachown assessments at various trict as yet. What will put us us that we need professional ers and principals. grade levels. One of the pri- ahead is using the data to ad- development in that area,"

in the district curriculum and vidual school buildings. These

Speech raises over \$800 for education foundation

The tests will create an-

Part of the testing pro- The tests will help the dis- the school board. They will be gram will be analysis of the trict identify gaps in its over- taken in addition to state and "When we have this pro- test results with the specific all curriculum, as well as prob- federal testing, requiring their intent of finding weaknesses lems more specific to indi- own class time.

other set of data to report to

"The test should be able

lum. For example, it could and library accounts. Parents help to create reading instruc- will also have the option of tion that concurrently im- receiving the monthly district proves math or social studies newsletter electronically. comprehension.

currently receives regular re- Miller presented the initiatives ports on academic progress. to about 20 teachers and prin-The initiatives, she said, cipals the day of the school should result in more com- board meeting. plete information.

information in stand-alone Miller now feels comfortable

themselves to that."

priorities is to develop a long- planning its future. range maintenance plan that encompasses all of the district's buildings.

to be completed in one class To increase parent access period," Miller said. "The to student information, Miller teachers will be the primary said, the district is implementdevelopers of the common as- ing a new student managesessments. We will need their ment system. The system will allow parents on-line access Miller said the tests will to information about their stuhelp the district integrate dif- dents. This includes grades, ferent subjects in the curricu- attendance, lunch accounts

The strategic change ini-School board president tiatives were first discussed at Nancy Hopkins said the board a school board retreat last year.

The introduction of pri-"We are used to getting orities for change indicates segments," Hopkins said. with her knowledge of the "We've never had the oppor-school system. She wanted to tunity to see if some of the spend her first year becoming same processes are working informed about the school sysamong different subjects. tem and the community, she "We can do our job better said. She did not want to make when we are informed through changes for the sake of the whole process, and I think changes. She feels that now, the strategic initiatives lend especially with the addition of Mark Kasmer as assistant Integration will also ap- superintendent for curriculum ply to district facilities - man- and instruction, the district has agement. One of the strategic a strong foundation to start





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Hastings wins Gary Rivers Memorial Tournament

Red Arrows finish second in Lowell's biggest wrestling event

By Dan Schneider

fought their way to the top of Hastings coach, Mike Goggins the Gary Rivers Memorial said. Tournament last Saturday. They beat Lowell "A" team 38-31 in the championship

"If you can pull off a win against Lowell in Lowell, The Hastings Saxons you're doing something right,"

> Hastings beat Whitehall, Belding and Plainwell to win their pool. The Saxons then beat the Lakeshore "A" team 45-18 in the championship beat Coldwater, Otsego and

were able to accomplish it." of 39 to 30.

The Lowell "A" team

semifinals. Five of the Lakeshore "B" to win its pool. Hastings wrestlers went un- They faced the Allegan defeated for the day.

Mike Nearing, Matt

Tigersharks, whom they had "It's a great tournament," beaten the previous weekend, Goggins said. "It was one of in the semifinal match. The our goals at the start of the Red Arrows again beat season so we were glad we Allegan, this time by a score

exposes all the leaks in their technique that we have to work on on Monday," he said. "We're working on our way

to peaking in February." Allegan beat Lakeshore "A" 30 to 39 to take third place in the tournament. Martin and Coldwater tied at 37 for fifth place. Allendale beat Plainwell for seventh place.

Kilmartin and Kevin Frasier

went undefeated for the day.

and we'll most likely see them

again in the OK crossover,"

"Hastings is a tough squad

The individual results for the final match were as fol-

At 103, R.J. Morgan of 12-2. Hastings pinned Ray Seese in At 112, Rusty Burghorf

of Hastings pinned Rob Karasiewicz in 1:03. At 119, Mike Nearing of Lowell won a major decision

over Steve Case, 16-4. At 125, Jeff Allen of Armour in 2:47. Hastings beat David Kropf,

At 130, Joe Mendez of Lowell beat Chad Ferguson by a 9-4 decision.

At 135, Matt Kilmartin of Lowell won by injury default against Tom Rowse.

Lowell coach, Dave Strejc At 140, Kevin Frasier of Lowell pinned Ryan Ferguson "In a situation like this, it

> Hastings pinned Jayme DeLiefde in 4:24. At 152, Kyle Quada of Hastings won a major decision against Dan Lyman, 13-

At 145, Matt Lipstra of

At 160, Scott Redman of Hastings beat Jason Nearing

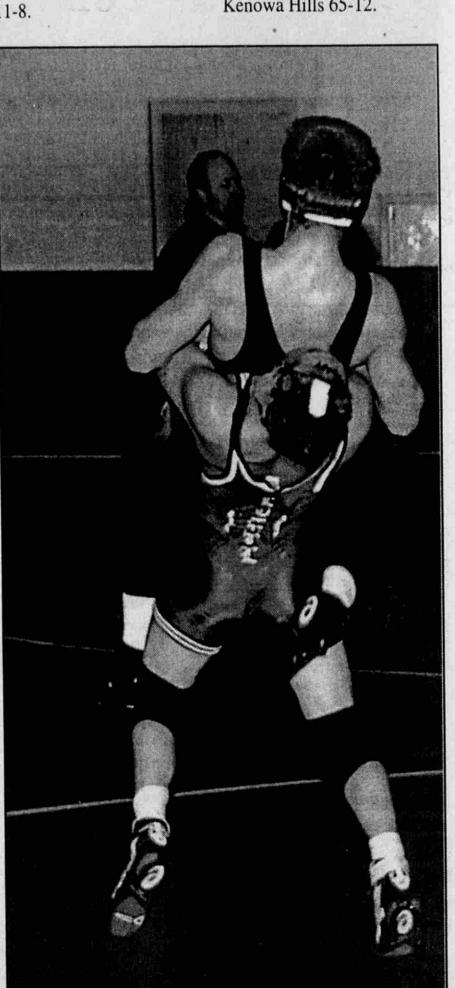
At 171, Dan Blair of Hastings won a major decision against Ryan Dykhouse,

At 189, Josh Vaught of Lowell pinned Mike Morehouse in 1:56.

At 215, Heath VanBelkuin of Hastings pinned Matt Francisco in 3:06.

At heavyweight, Trevor Foss of Lowell pinned Jake

Thursday, the Arrows beat Kenowa Hills 65-12.



Trevor Foss of Lowell works to turn over Jake Armour of Hastings. Foss pinned Armour in 2:47 to win the heavyweight match in the championship final of the Gary Rivers Memorial Tournament

Lowell/Caledonia Varsity Hockey shuts out G.R. Central Creston

the Lowell-Caledonia Red Arrows led to a shut out against Creston in a non-league game at Belknap Arena on Monday Red Arrows pepper Creston get on the scoreboard, but

the scoring in the first period of the period after Lowell- game with a shut out. McCoy with two goals back to back Caledonia's John Christiansen scored again with help from by Kyle Austin. He was as- scored with a shot off the back Corey Kelly as they skated sisted on the first by Ted of the goalie. The change in down ice and McCoy put the on the second by Aaron rows but not enough to stop got the goalie out of position. Benmark. With only a minute Holland (David Blair) from With 1:20 left in the game,

We want to be your

Other Family Doctor.

A stellar performance by left in the first period, McCoy scoring with 8:04 remaining John (Blair) scored, bringing scored with an assist to Bran- in the period.

Lowell-Caledonia opened changed goalies in the middle up to the job, completing the McCoy and Will Holland, and goalies contained the Red Ar- puck in the stick side as he

The third period was The second period saw the fairly even as Creston tried to with 15 shots on goal. Creston goalie David Maylone was

the game to a 7-0 win.

Maylone faced 17 shots while Creston faced a total of 35. This was a well-deserved win after a tough weekend against top-ranked East Lansing and a loss to West Ottawa Saturday night. Jeff Moore and Ramsey Charrouf provided strong defensive support as forwards; John Truszkowski, Michael Baron, David Sweeney, Pat McMahon and Christiansen provided strong offensive support.

At right: Jayme DeLiefde of Lowell throws Matt Lipstra of Hastings. Lipstra ended up pinning DeLiefde in 4:24 to win at the 145 weight.

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Lowell basketball finds offensive fire against Trojans

By Dan Schneider

coach, Jeff McDonald called last Tuesday night the most the bench and was a huge spark fun night of basketball he's for us," McDonald said. coached in his five years at

scrabbling for loose balls, the performance so far this sea- played in three years."

run, ending with a three-Red Arrow basketball pointer by Frank Mulder. "He (Mulder) came off

The home crowd roared

Acing three-pointers and locker room tied at 26. "The first 12 minutes of point line that night. Lowell varsity squad claimed the game we struggled,"

a decisive 74-54 victory over McDonald said. "The last 20 the Thornapple Kellogg Tro- minutes we played the best jans. It was the team's best basketball we've probably The Red Arrows kept their

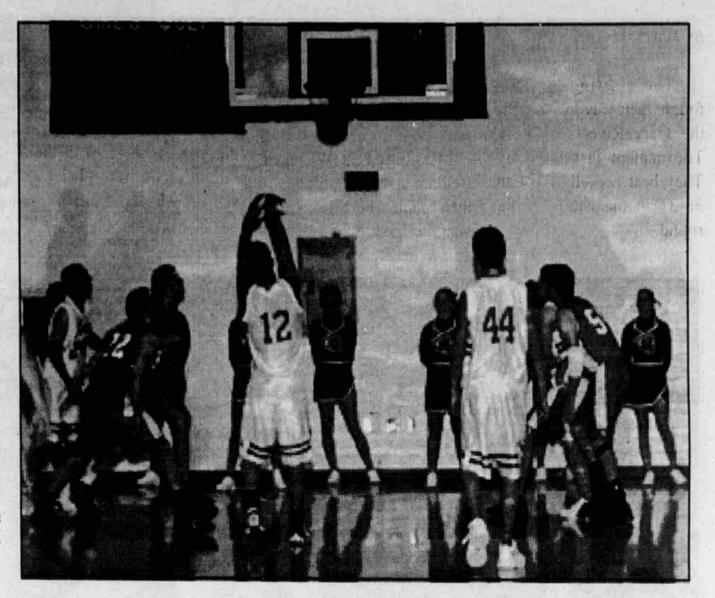
But it didn't look that way momentum through the sec- and four steals in the game. to start. The Trojans were up ond half. Near the end of the Shane Stokes had 15 points 16-12 at the end of the first fourth quarter, Mulder sunk and four assists. As a team, quarter. They stretched that another three. The Trojans' the Red Arrows shot 61 perlead to 26-15 with three min- #54 countered with a three of cent from the field while utes left in the half. That's his own. Mulder dropped an- Northview shot only 31 perwhen Lowell went on an 11-0 other three through the net, cent.

drawing a foul at the left baseline. He made his free throw. #54 sunk yet another three to end an exciting but ineffectual long-range shooting exchange.

Mulder was seven for eight from behind the three-

Last Friday, the Red Arrows beat the Northview Wildcats, a team they haven't often beaten in the past. The score was 67-45.

Sam Oberlin had 15 points



Lowell's Mike Koster sinks a free throw last Tuesday in the Red Arrow victory over Kenowa Hills.

Red Arrow boys bowl past two opponents; Girls win at Comstock Park

By Dan Schneider

Trojans from Thornapple (186,182), Eric Horsford (183, (104). Kellogg High School. The 165) and Karl Bohuis (153).

Everitt (145).

boys' team had bowled past however, 21-9. High scorers girls are 1-2.

Comstock Park, also by a 27- for that match were Nawrocki The Lowell High School- 3 score. Scores in that match (169, 159), Brown (159, 136), boys bowling team won its were: Denney (222,159), Crout (129, 117), Christina match last Tuesday against the Eickhoff (181, 177), Patnode Kosbar (109) and Kim Ward

The bowling team comscore was 27-3. The girls' team lost to petes in the Southeast Divi-Jim Denney rolled games Thornapple Kellogg 20-10. sion of the Greater Grand Rapof 210 and 191. John Eickhoff High scorers were Rachel ids High School Bowling Conbowled 214 and 161. Other Nawrocki (171, 152), Lisa ference. The other teams in high scorers for the boys team Brown (160, 115), Tiffany the division are Caledonia, were Wes Patnode (191), Sean Blanchard (130), Carey Crout Thornapple Kellogg, East Adrianse (183) and Anthony (102) and Cassie Bodus (101). Grand Rapids, Wayland and The lady Red Arrow Comstock Park. The boys are The previous night, the bowlers beat Comstock Park, 3-0 in division play and the

Driver's education fees raised for Lowell area students

By Dan Schneider

Lowell Area Schools is raising the fee for its driver's education course. The new

rate is \$240. It had previously been \$140. "That's the projected price for a breakeven point for Lowell schools," driver's training supervisor, Al Eckman said.

The increased cost is in place to cover losses from state budget cuts. "The state took away all funds for

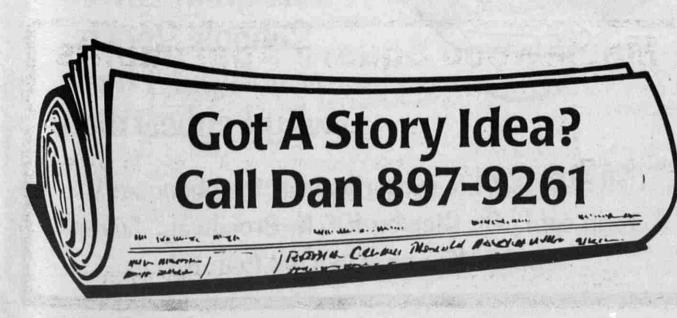
driver's education in its last round of cuts," Eckman said.

The fee remains below those charged

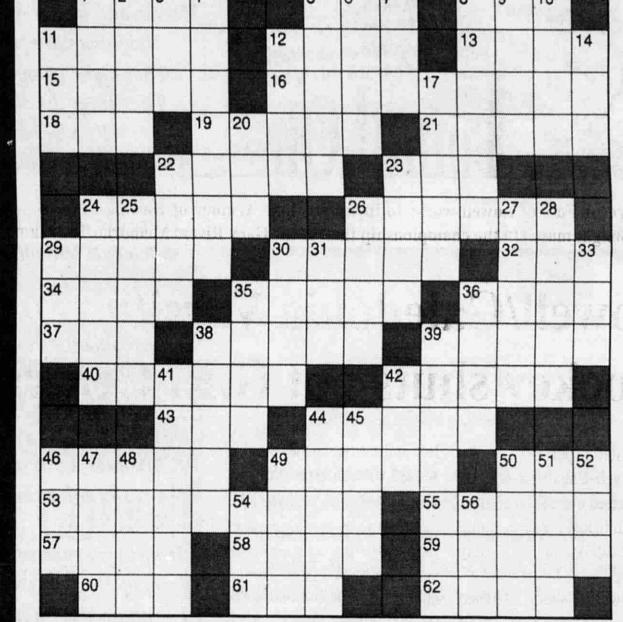
at private driving schools in the area. Sears **Authorized Driving School charges \$329** for a complete course. At Precision Driver Testing, Inc., the cost is \$345. A-Plus Driver **Education charges \$355.**

The fee for driver's education at Rockford High School is \$250. Greenville Schools intends to keep its fee at \$150 this year.

Applications for this summer's June and July driver's education courses in Lowell will be available in March.



crossword •



43. Old World: abbr.

old adage

46. Apian horde

50. Feather scarf

53. Registers for

55. Freight carrier

Alpert hit)

60. Benzene source

62. Reagan and Moody

DOWN

1. Make a phone call

2. Confirm, in a way

3. Drink for Andy Capp

59. Main artery

61. Want

57. Stake

saving's accounts

58. "Spanish __ " (Herb

49. Carnivals

44. Like the milk of an

ACROSS

1. Unimaginitive

5. Manipulate fraudulently 8. Ship's initials

11. Lover's lane 12. Pronoun preceding

colada (cocktail) 15. Put by 16. Like cubic zirconia

18. Jungfrau or 19. Enlarges a hole

21. Unprofessional 22. Sculptor George

24. Joint venture 26. Beginning 29. Composition from King David

Cassoulet 32. Type of doll Wild animals

collectively **35.** Brag 36. FDR's pooch

37. Ripen 38. Rainbow fish 39. Famed fabulist

42. Hexagonal wrench

11. Skinny 40. Job's preceder, in

(2 wds.) 12. Dictator 14. Deed

5. Poesy

9. Locale

4. Efficiency 46. Workout spot 47. Yearn for

apartment's lack 6. Electrified particles 48. The Thin Man dog

7. Kind of feeling 49. Do not , spindle 8. Turns over, in a way or mutilate 50. Singe 10. Hair-raising sound?

51. Fall months: abbr 52. Alias inits.

20. Time without end

22. Eight furlongs

24. Henry Fowler's

23. Em or Bee

25. Designates

26. Pottery kiln

27. Clean the slate

28. Stock, in cards

30. Crude fellow

33. Breach

29. Golf tournament inits.

de vie (brandy)

35. Member of Uncle

36. Fedora materia

38. Hitch a ride

39. Sports VIP

41. Briefer

42. Expose

44. Benefits

45. Leaning Tower

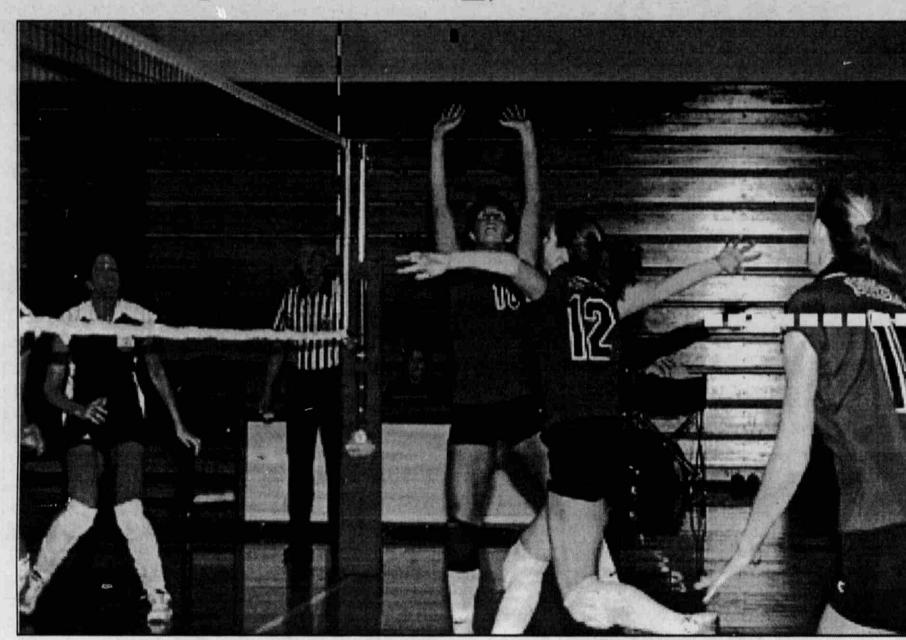
Remus's family?

54. Two ___ kind (2 wds.) 56. Aussie creature

ANSWERS WILL APPEAR IN THE JANUARY 28th ISSUE OF THE LEDGER!

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Volleyball tops at Kenowa Hills



Lowell's Taylor Verdon sets the ball while Amy Oberlin gets ready to spike it in game two of Lowell's win last Thursday against Kenowa Hills.

Get Cut Government Off In Traffic? spending too Much? Curfew not late enough for you? South Oli Anything Goes **Opinion Forum**

897-0787

or online www.lowellbuyersguide.com

I thought there was a city ordinance on businesses keeping sidewalks clean. I walked from the Napa store east to Hudson and at just about every store and business there was about 2-3 inches of ice on the sidewalk.

With all the new homes being built in Lowell, why not build some affordable senior citizens apartments? Schneider Manor has a long waiting list, we need more senior housing.

Marcia and Verna -what a team! Lowell Senior Neighbors are so blessed to have them. They come in smiling and leave smiling. The things they have done to the center. It's a beautiful place to come. What a joy to see all five tables full of seniors.

There are a lot of people leaving their bank statements and other personal information in the recycling box and it's not a good idea.

Two comments. First a big thanks to all those volunteers who stood in the cold to serve food for the foodmobile. And also, I'm glad some people kept their Christmas lights on until the snow arrived. We really enjoy the lights through the snow.

It was very sportsman like at the E. Lansing Team of the 4 players who congratulated them on a win. What was up with the refs?

W. Main S. reet businesses - You are responsible to keep your sidewalks cleared! This is per the city of Lowell! Check with them!

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell varsity vollevball team ended a long conference drought last Thursday night, defeating the Knights from Kenowa Hills in two games.

"I was checking today varsity match since 1997, so we needed this to get over that hump," coach Gigi Peal said after the victory.

first game 15-10. In the sec- nine aces. ond game, Kenowa Hills rallied back from a 12-7 deficit records now stand at 1-1. to tie the game at 12. After a Lowell's overall record for the timeout, the Lowell girls season is 19-6-1. scored the next three points

"Kenowa went three conference challenge for Lowgames last week and won; I didn't want to go three games here," Peal said. "I knew they had it in them and I didn't want to go there. I just said 'let's get it done' and they knew what that meant.'

Kenowa coach, Justin 15-1 and 15-0. The Creston Hutt came into the game ex- Polar Bears fell in two games, pecting a different outcome. 15-4 and 15-6.

"Ithought we'd win," Hutt said, blaming "lack of intensity, lack of teamwork, our passing wasn't good tonight, we had a lot of personal er-

Samantha Mol, Katie Baker, Heather Becker and Amy Oberlin each contributed four kills to Lowell's team total of 22. Taylor Verdon had 22 as-The Red Arrows took the sists and three of the team's

Springs this week. The next

ell will be at home tomorrow

last Monday, the Red Arrows

dispatched both Godwin and

Creston at home. They beat

the Wolverines in two games,

In non-conference action

against Northview.

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Thank you all, Jean Reynolds & family

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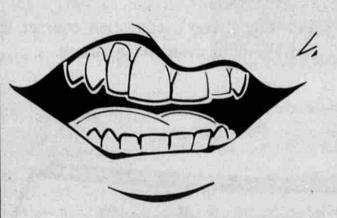
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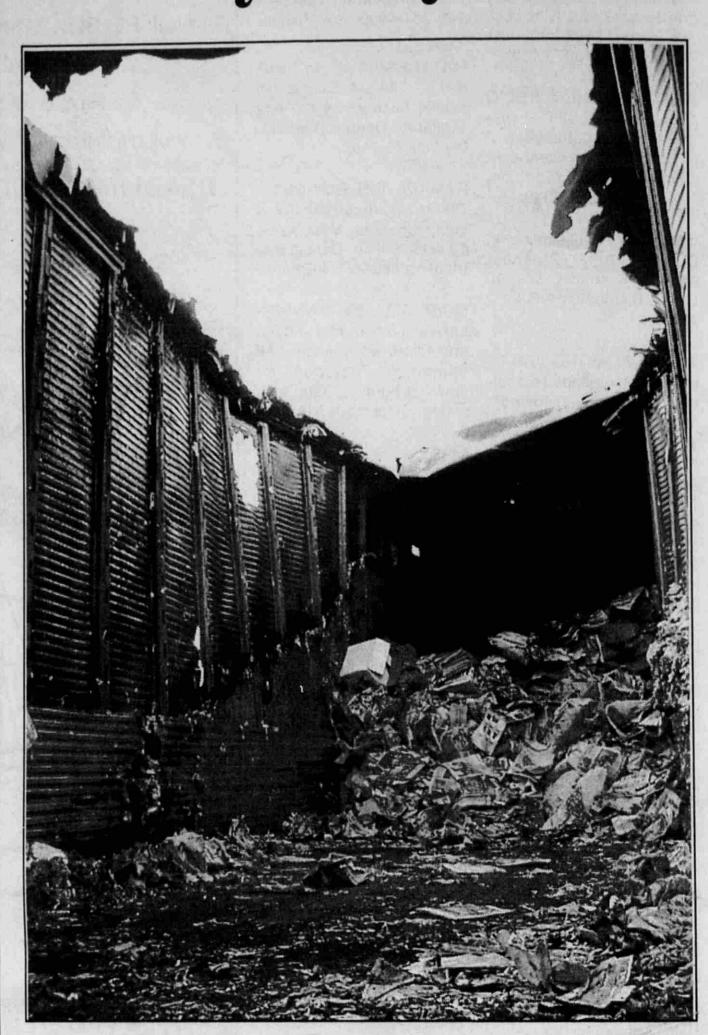
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Paper-drive trailer destroyed by arson



The Lowell High School softball team's paper-drive trailer is pictured after a fire destroyed it last Thursday evening. The cause is still under investigation.

By Dan Schneider

A fire last Thursday raise evening destroyed the Lowell High School softball the last team's paper-drive trailer has go in the parking lot of Curtis Cleaners on West Main reach Street. The fire began after 7 p.m. It took firefighters two hours to extinguish it. The cause of the fire is under investigation. "It is unknown right at this point if an accelerant was used," body Lowell police chief Jim Valentine said.

The trailer has been a fixture in the Lowell community for the past several

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years. The paper drive raised money for the softball program. Also, over the last two years the team has given \$400 to the food pantry at Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc.

"The community supported it," softball coach,
Bob Rodenhouse said."There wasn't a time I came out here to check on it when there wasn't somebody dropping something off."

Rodenhouse said the trailer was nearly full when the fire occured.

He also said Nu-Wool

Insulation Company, Inc., the company that provides the trailer and uses the paper to make insulation, has had several of its paperdrive trailers in the Grand Rapids area burned.

The team will set up a new trailer, Rodenhouse said, but he is not sure where.

Lowell police were following leads as of yesterday. Anyone with information is asked to call the Silent Observer at 774-2345. A \$250 reward is being offered.



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