

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 31 Issue 8

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, December 29, 2004



Dr. Donald Gerard, interim Lowell Community Wellness director Patty Sellner, and Theresa Beachum stand with a scale at the Lowell YMCA. All are organizers of a community weight-loss challenge. For 11 weeks, teams will weigh-in in an attempt to lose 2,005 pounds communitywide.

Lowell teams up to shed pounds in 2005

By Dan Schneider

A communitywide team approach hopes to add some punch to new year's resolutions in 2005.

Lowell, as a community, will attempt to shed 2,005 pounds from its collective waistline by March 29, 2005. To accomplish this, Lowell Community Wellness is organizing four-person weight-loss teams.

"It's a community project for Community Wellness to create awareness of healthy weight loss and nutrition," said Patty Sellner, interim Community Wellness director. Jessica Johnston, the previous director, recently moved to Flint after her husband took a new job.

The focus is on healthy weight loss. Teams are expected to lose 40 pounds, or 10 pounds each, in 11 weeks of the challenge.

"The whole goal is to lose 1.3 pounds per week per person," Sellner said.

Community Wellness hopes to recruit 40 teams for the weight-loss challenge. Sellner said other communities have had success with similar programs. Lowell YMCA associate director Andy Retberg said the team

approach and duration of the program will help people stick with a healthy lifestyle.

"The great thing about this is it's coming at the time when probably the majority of people's New Year's resolutions have something to do with health," Retberg said. "If people stay active with it, they'll have had the opportunity to create a habit."

There will be weekly weigh-ins Tuesdays at the YMCA. Program participants will receive frequent e-mail blasts with nutrition and active-lifestyle tips.

All four team members weigh in at the same time on a 1,000-pound scale provided by Kent Butcher Supply. The Y will be open for weigh-ins from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. every Tuesday.

Individual weights remain confidential throughout the contest. Weigh-in results are tabulated by team only. This is for the purpose of measuring progress toward the 2,005-pound weight loss. The three teams losing the most weight will win prizes.

Kick-off and initial weigh-in is Jan. 11 at the Lowell YMCA. An entrance fee of \$40 per team will benefit Flat River Outreach Ministries.

"After the holidays the food pantry may be a little depleted, so we're hoping to get them back up to where they need to be," Sellner said.

In addition to Lowell Community Wellness and the YMCA, the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce and Lowell Area Schools are sponsoring the challenge.

Project underway to update circuitry

By Dan Schneider

The majority of Lowell Light and Power electrical customers are now connected to the Boves Road substation.

The utility is in the middle of the three- to four-year process of rebuilding its circuits. The project will both update the electrical infrastructure and eliminate the need for the transmission line running along Riverside Drive.

"Because of its age and because of the business structure of that agreement, it's become more costly and more of a liability for us," explained Lowell Light and Power general manager Tom Richards.

The old transmission line was built in the 1960s. It runs north along the west side of the Flat River before crossing the river north of the Attwood Corp. property. The line heads east before turning back south to connect with a high-voltage

line running from Portland in Ionia County to Burnips in Allegan County.

Once all the circuits are rebuilt, Lowell will get its power through the substation on Boves Road. The substation's transmission line connects to the larger power grid near Two Mile Road. The utility has been rebuilding circuits and connecting them to the substation since it was completed in late 2002. Circuits rebuilt to date service about 60 percent of

Lowell Light and Power customers.

"We've been doing the ones that have the largest impact first and now we're moving on out to the smaller circuits that service fewer people," Richards said.

The first circuit to be rebuilt runs along Alden Nash, servicing Lowell High School and businesses on the northwest side of town.

This week, the Lowell Light and Power crew is *Electrical update, cont'd., pg. 8*



Fire Under Investigation ... Page 4

Nativity Scene Vandalized...Page 8

40 Years of Basketball...Page 13

OBITUARIES

BRADLEY - Alice C. Bradley, aged 59, of Alto, and formerly of Hastings, died Wednesday, December 22, 2004 at Spectrum Health Blodgett Campus in Grand Rapids. Survived by husband Jerry; daughters Cherie (Andy) Graham of Mattawan, Christy (Chris) Yoder of Lowell, Cari (Jeff) Lasch of Hastings; grandchildren Jillian, Max, Jacob, Joselynn, Brandon. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 28 at Hastings First Presbyterian Church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Cherry Valley Presbyterian Church in Caledonia.

DRIER - Rose Marie Drier, aged 87, of Byron Center, went to be with her Lord, Friday, December 24, 2004. She was preceded in death by her husband John; sisters Ann Zeboor, Mary Dola; sister-in-law Mary Dola and brother-in-law Jule Jakubowski. She is survived by her children Eugene (Maxine) Drier, Patricia (Gary) Basch, Lenore (David) Tinney; grandchildren Sherrie (John) Muha, Eugene Jr. (Beth) Drier, Michael Tinney, Joseph (Brenda) Tinney, Rachel Tinney; six great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; sisters and brothers Monica Jakubowski, Anthony (Jean) Dola, Sophie (John) Tomasunas, Henry Dola, Sybil (Russ) Feltmeyer, Mick (Luan) Dola. The funeral Mass will be celebrated Wednesday at St. Sebastian Catholic Church. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Sebastian Catholic Church Building Fund or a charity of one's choice.

MORAN - Reverend Monsignor James Patrick Moran, P.A., aged 85, died peacefully on Thursday morning, December 23, 2004 at St. Mary's Hospital after a lingering illness. He was born February 17, 1919, in Manistee, the son of James Edward Moran and Kathryn Graedler, who preceded him in death. A 1935 graduate of Manistee High School, he attended St. Joseph's Seminary in Grand Rapids (1935-39), St. Gregory's Seminary in Cincinnati (1939-41) and St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore (1941-45). He was

ordained a priest on February 24, 1945. After several assignments in other locations, he was assigned in June 1982 as pastor of St. Mary's in Lowell serving there until his retirement in July 1994. Among his many friends are the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist of Lowell. The funeral Mass was celebrated on Tuesday at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church with Most Reverend Robert J. Rose presiding. Burial on the grounds of the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist in Lowell. Memorials may be made to St. Ann's Home, 2161 Leonard NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504 or to Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist, 11650 Downes NE, Lowell, MI 49331.



LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT FOR THE
COUNTY OF KENT
180 Ottawa Avenue N.W.
Grand Rapids, Michigan
49503

KATIE RYAN POTTER -
YOUNGBLOOD,
4305 Mayaka Court
Grandville, MI 49418

Plaintiff,
Hon. NANARUTH H.
CARPENTER
No. 04-09226-DM
SERVICE BY
PUBLICATION AND
NOTICE OF ACTION
vs.
LAWRENCE TOMAS
YOUNGBLOOD
Last Known Address:
71 Second Street
Saratoga Springs,
NY 12866

Defendant
TO THE DEFENDANT,
LAWRENCE TOMAS
YOUNGBLOOD:
YOU ARE BEING SUED by
Plaintiff in this Court to
obtain a divorce. You must
file your answer or take
other action permitted by
law in this Court at the
Court address above on
or before March 15, 2005.
If you fail to do so, a default
judgment may be entered
against you for the relief
demanded in the complaint
filed in this case.

Dated: December 15,
2004

VANDEN BOSCH &
AVERY
3875 West River Drive
P.O. Box 327
Comstock Park, MI
49321
(616) 784-5080

CRAIG AVERY
Attorney for Plaintiff

CITY OF LOWELL OFFICES HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The following offices will be closed
Thursday and Friday, December 30 and
31, 2004 in observance of the New Year
Holiday.

LOWELL LIGHT AND POWER
AND
LOWELL CABLE VISION

The following office will close Friday,
December 31, 2004 in observance of the
New Year Holiday.

LOWELL CITY
HALL OFFICES,
LOWELL POLICE
OFFICES
AND
DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS

The Lowell Ledger (USPS 453-830)

Published weekly for \$15⁹⁵ a year in Kent County,
\$22⁹⁵ a year outside the county by the
Lowell Ledger Publishing Company,
105 N. Broadway St., Lowell, MI 49331

ROGER K. BROWN.....PUBLISHER
JEANNE BOSS.....MANAGING EDITOR
DAN SCHNEIDER.....LEAD REPORTER
TONI BLOUGH.....COPY EDITOR
TAMMY JANOWIAK.....CLASSIFIEDS/ACCOUNTING
JAY VEZINO.....ADVERTISING SALES

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

Snowmobilers - think safety first

With the snow falling, riders are taking to the 6,200 miles of groomed Michigan snowmobile trails which opened Dec. 1 and will remain open through March 31.

The Michigan Snowmobile Association (MSA) invites riders to hit the trails and enjoy the state from the seat of a snowmobile.



MSA reminds riders to be aware of unforeseen things on the trails and under the snow. Rocks and other material may be hidden beneath the snow. Trees may fall after groomers have groomed the trail.

It is very important that

snowmobilers avoid trespassing by staying on the trail. Fifty percent of the groomed trails are located on private property. Gracious state landowners allow the trail to run on or across their property in order to better the sport. Show respect for their property and stay on the trail.

Over the course of the four-month season, volunteer groomer operators around Michigan groomed over 425,000 miles of trail, keeping Michigan's trails in top condition. Snowmobilers in Michigan are required to purchase a \$25 state trail permit to operate on the state's trails. The funds go towards maintenance and improvements of the trail system. Volunteer clubs around the state work together to make that trail system one of the best in the country.

For more information on the MSA, call 616-301-2743 or visit www.msasnow.org.

Also, remember the importance of subscribing to zero tolerance. Don't drink and ride. Remember the pledge, "Zero Tolerance I say till I'm done for the day." One snowmobile-related death is one too many. It is up to the riders to do

LPD decides to lease machine

J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

Lowell police chief Jim Valentine learned quickly that not all leasing agreements are the same.

Valentine was in search of replacing the department's copy machine shortly after he received noticed that Xerox would no longer service it. Finding it less expensive to buy a new copier than to repair the old one, Valentine investigated a lease option.

Earlier this month, Valentine explained the reason for the lease option was because the department had not budgeted to purchase a new copier outright, but could cover a lease through its equipment fund.

The council preferred that the department lease with an option to purchase after a couple of years as it would save more than \$2,000 on the purchase of a copy machine.

City Council sets meeting dates for '05

J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

Regular meeting dates for the Lowell City Council are again set for the first and third Mondays of each month.

Council members discussed switching the week of

spring break to the second Monday of the month, but for consistency reasons, it will remain the first Monday.

The council does observe Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Jan. 17, and President's Day, Feb. 21, with those meetings falling on the following Tuesday.

The meeting dates are as follows: Jan. 3 and 18, Feb. 7 and 22, March 7 and 21, April 4 and 18, May 2 and 16, June 6 and 20, July 5 and 18, Aug. 1 and 15, Sept. 6 and 19, Oct. 3 and 17, Nov. 7 and 21, and Dec. 5 and 19.

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE RECYCLING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that effective immediately, the dimension size to recycle cardboard should be 2 ft. x 2 ft.

If you have any questions, you may call City Hall at (616) 897-8457.

Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk
City of Lowell

City of Lowell & Vergennes sit down to discuss options on land annexation

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

Officials from the city of Lowell will be meeting with representatives from Vergennes Township in two weeks to listen to a proposal that could bring city services to a piece of property in Vergennes Township and allow the city to share in tax revenues.

Vergennes Township officials asked to meet with the city Jan. 10 to discuss a 425 acre parcel at the intersection of Vergennes and Alden Nash. The land is currently owned by the Cook family but DeRay Development LLC has an option to purchase it, provided a successful annexation into the city takes place. DeRay filed in October with the state for the annexation and according to city officials, part of the reason was to get city services on the site that company is planning to develop.

Councilman Jim Pfaller questioned whether Vergennes officials weren't regretting the fact that the township passed on the chance to get in with the city's sewer treatment plant and water treatment plant several years ago.

"We need to protect the city," Pfaller said. "The best

change the township would agree in sharing the taxes with the city. The amount is negotiated between the two municipalities. Currently, the city is seeking such an agreement with Lowell Township in regards to the southwest corner of Bowes Road where a developer has hopes of putting in a Big Boy restaurant and several other businesses.

Pasquale said he did not know if the 425 discussions would prevent the annexation which is moving forward. A public hearing has been set for March 3 on the annexation.

A 425 agreement means the city would offer services to a parcel or site and in exchange for the city is the annexation of the property."

City manager David Pasquale said city officials do not need to make a decision about the 425 proposal, but should at least listen. One of the questions raised by the state when reviewing the annexation was whether alternative avenues have been explored. "I agree with [councilman] Jim [Pfaller]," said councilman Al Mathews, "but I'm still willing to sit down and hear what they have to say."

The Lowell City Council approved the final change order and last payment of the Clarke and Center streets project at its final meeting of 2004. That is not before several council members raised a few questions about the overall cost of the project.

The bid was \$151,877.90, \$20,000 more than originally bid. With all the changes, the final cost came to \$169,765.84. Dave Austin, of Williams and Works, said although this was an 11.8 percent increase in cost, it was still below the estimated \$249,000.

The project ran into a few problems... the biggest challenge being the discovery that soil conditions, despite previous tests, were unsuitable. This meant exporting the soil and replacing it with materials that could be used for bedding

and backfilling, Austin explained. The contractor, Ron Meyers & Associates, had moved forward on the project based on the soil borings taken by Midwest Engineering, Inc. Once it was determined that the soil could not be used, the contractor contacted Williams & Works, which concurred that the materials had to be replaced.

The cost to replace the materials came in at \$17,314.50. Austin said that Williams & Works reevaluated the original numbers proposed by the contractor and both felt comfortable with the final price.

The city will not be footing the entire bill since this

was generated by a developer for his project and he had offered to share in the cost. Earlier estimates indicate the city would pay less than half of the total cost of the bill. Austin said he did not have the final figures on what the cost to the city would be and what the developer would pay. The council requested those numbers be presented once determined.

It was approved by the council that the developer would cover 75 to 80 percent of the cost in the final payment for the export and import of materials for the laying of utilities to his development. The Clarke and Center streets project was completed during the summer.

FINANCIAL AID NIGHT

Lowell High School counseling staff financial aid night for students planning to attend college next fall, held in LPAC on Thursday, Jan. 6 at 7 p.m.

FOODMOBILE/ FREE FOOD

The Foodmobile will be at Lowell fairgrounds on S. Broadway, Saturday, Jan. 8 from 10-11 a.m. or until produce is gone. Bring your own box or bag. Distributed by Flat River Outreach Ministries. Visit www.flatriveroutreachministries.org.

Last payment sticker shock for city

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

The Lowell City Council approved the final change order and last payment of the Clarke and Center streets project at its final meeting of 2004. That is not before several council members raised a few questions about the overall cost of the project.

The bid was \$151,877.90, \$20,000 more than originally bid. With all the changes, the final cost came to



New Year's Eve course this week on babysitting

Everyone needs a babysitter for New Year's Eve, making December a great time for the American Red Cross of West Central Michigan to offer its one-day babysitting training class. Held at 1050 Fuller St., it will be this Thursday, Dec. 30 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. The course teaches potential babysitters how to:

- Respond to emergencies and illnesses with first aid, rescue breathing and other appropriate care
- Make decisions under pressure
- Communicate with parents to learn household rules
- Recognize safety and household issues
- Manage young children, including skills in feeding, diapering and caring for infants.

Red Cross instructors are trained and certified in First Aid and CPR; however, formal CPR/First Aid is not taught during this class. It is recommended that children enroll in its Child and Infant CPR and First Aid class for those life-saving skills.

The fee for Babysitter Training is \$45 and includes

an easy-to-use babysitting handbook. To register call 456-8661 ext. 3604 or visit www.redcrosswcm.org.

ADA-LOWELL 5
M-21 5 Minutes East of Amway H.C.
(616) 897-FILM
\$5.25 Kids all shows \$5.50 Seniors
\$6.00 Students & Late Shows Fri & Sat
\$6.75 DAILY Matinees 11:00am ALL SCREENS
No passes DIGITAL STEREO
Unlimited Free Drink Refills & 25¢ Core Refills

MOVIE GUIDE

FREE
one \$1.00 Concession coupon with every \$10 purchased in MOVIE GIFT CARDS

SHOWTIMES 12/27 - 12/30
TITLES & TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE

MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13)
12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55
LEMONY SNICKETT'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS (PG)
12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20
SPANGLISH (PG-13)
11:05, 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45
FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG-13)
11:55, 2:25, 4:45, 7:10, 9:35
OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13)
12:50, 3:15, 5:40, 8:05, 10:30
POLAR EXPRESS (G)
11:00AM

COUPON
FREE 20¢ DRINK with \$2.00 purchase of movie. See rules on coupon. BEST DEAL! www.ada-lowell.com

ready set go!
Jump-Start the year with our NEW TurnAround™ Program!

Choose the approach that fits you best with TWO great ways to lose weight - our Flexible POINTS™ Plan or NEW No-Counting Plan.

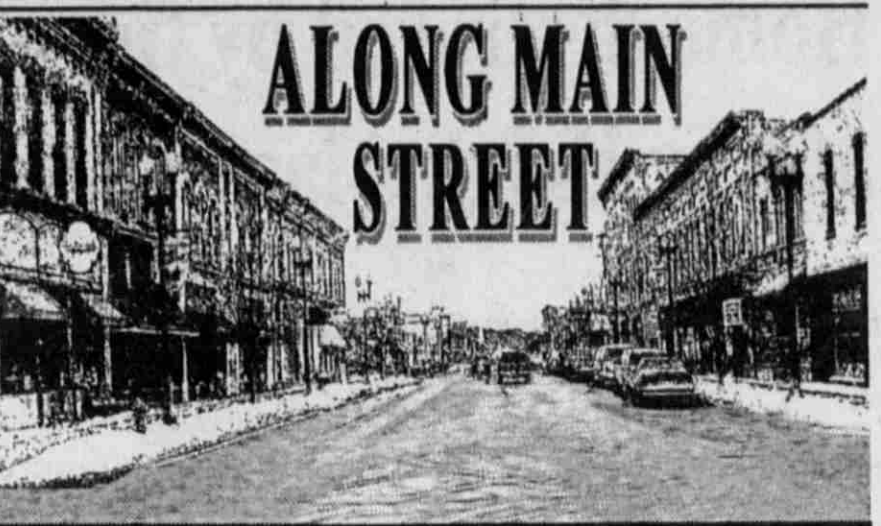
Join today for just \$19 and receive a "Ready, Set, GO!" Kit FREE!

(800) 651-6000 • www.wm-wmi.com

Lowell
Lowell Nazarene Church • 201 N. Washington
Thursday - 5:30 p.m.

Meetings also in Ada and more!

WeightWatchers
Offer valid through January 29, 2005 or while supplies last. Offer valid only in area 044. ©2005 Weight Watchers and POINTS are registered trademarks of Weight Watchers International, Inc. All rights reserved.



CHAMBER HOURS
The Lowell Chamber of Commerce will be closed for the holiday through Jan. 3.

LAAC ANNUAL MEETING
The Lowell Area Arts Council annual meeting will be held Thursday, Jan. 6 at 7 p.m. at 149 S. Hudson. Meet the staff, board of directors and get info. on future programs. Call 897-8545 for more information. Food and beverages will be provided.

WINTER FAST PITCH CLINIC
The LHS softball coaches will hold a Winter Fast Pitch pitching clinic for prospective pitchers at Riverside gym on Thursday, Jan. 6, 13, 20 and 27 and Feb. 3, 10, 17, and 24. Girls in grades 6 and under meet at 6 p.m.; girls in 7th-8th grades meet at 7 p.m. Call if another time is needed. Cost: \$30, includes a T-shirt. Applications are available at Lowell Middle School and Cherry Creek, Alto and Bushnell elementaries. Call Bob Rodenhouse at 987-2900 or at 245-4596 for information.

FINANCIAL AID NIGHT
Lowell High School counseling staff financial aid night for students planning to attend college next fall, held in LPAC on Thursday, Jan. 6 at 7 p.m.

FOODMOBILE/ FREE FOOD
The Foodmobile will be at Lowell fairgrounds on S. Broadway, Saturday, Jan. 8 from 10-11 a.m. or until produce is gone. Bring your own box or bag. Distributed by Flat River Outreach Ministries. Visit www.flatriveroutreachministries.org.

Wittenbach Center
11715 Vergennes • 987-1002

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING PROGRAM

Bring your Christmas Tree to the Wittenbach Center to be shredded into mulch for Nature Trails between Dec. 26th & Jan. 8th.

If you would like your tree picked up within the city limits or Eastgate, please mark your tree with a pick up tag available at the Wittenbach Center, Buyers Guide or L&A Rent-All

This event is sponsored this year by:
The Buyers Guide & L&A Rent-All

COMMUNITY EVENT
Sat., Jan. 8
Noon - 4 p.m. Christmas Tree Shredding
Shredder donated by L&A Rent-All

4-6 p.m. Luminary Walk & Bonfire
Snowshoes available for rent.

Home destroyed by fire at Key Heights last week

By Dan Schneider

A fire destroyed a mobile home in Key Heights in Lowell Township last Tuesday afternoon.

The fire started about 1 p.m. and gutted the house. Firefighters had it under control in under half an hour. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

No one was injured in the blaze, though it took firefighters some time to find the home's owner, Lisa Siciliano.

"We searched the house twice and we were unable to locate her," said Lowell fire chief Frank Martin.

She was found, uninjured, in a shed next to the house after a 45-minute search.

Matt Siciliano, 15, was away from home when he got a call from a neighbor

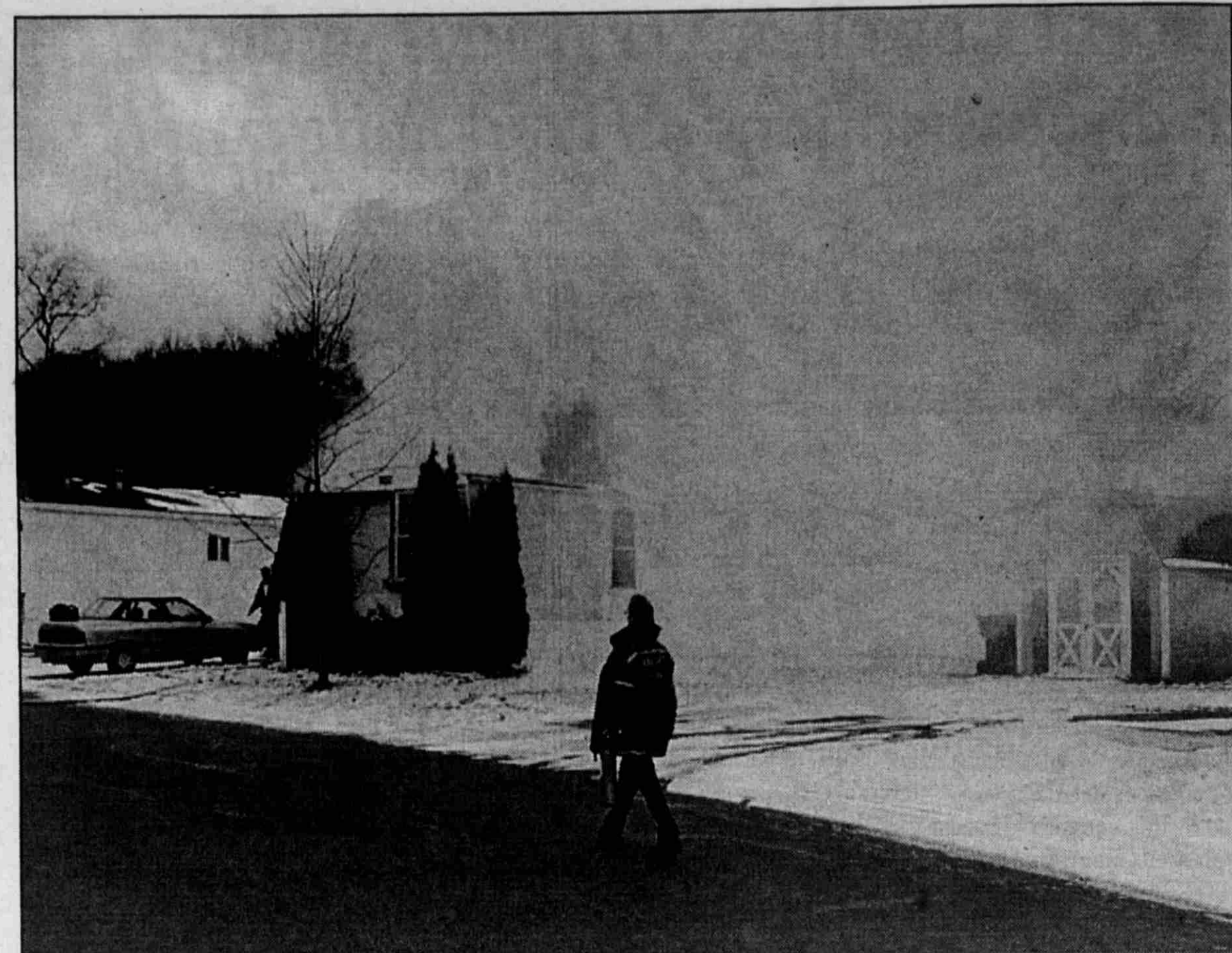
telling him the house was on fire.

He expressed frustration with the Kent County Sheriff's Department, who wouldn't let him talk to his mother immediately.

"When I came here I saw my house on fire and not only would they not let me talk to anyone, they wouldn't tell me what was going on," Siciliano said.

According to Kent County Sheriff's Department information officer Roger Parent, Lisa Siciliano was holding a pitchfork when a firefighter found her in the shed. Sheriff's deputies took the pitch fork and arrested her on a felony charge of assault. She was released on 10 percent of a \$2,000 bond.

The assault with weapon charge is standard procedure when someone is found with a potentially dangerous weapon, Parent said. Because



A Lowell Ambulance paramedic walks in front of the house as smoke pours out.

she did not attack anyone and because she has a history of mental illness, he said she will likely get a lesser charge when the case goes to court Jan. 15.



Lowell fire chief Frank Martin oversees the battling of a fire last Tuesday which gutted a mobile home in Key Heights. The owner was found uninjured in a shed on the property.

In every out-thrust headland, in every curving beach, in every grain of sand, there is the story of the earth. —Rachel Carson

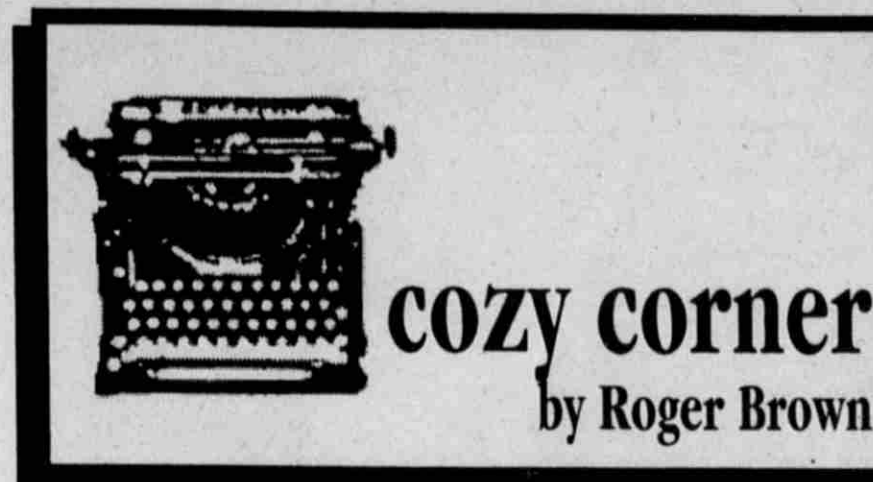
Maplewood Square Apartments

All apartments on one level
Senior citizen friendly
Large 940 s.f. - 2 bedroom, 1 bath
Huge 1400 s.f. - 3 bedroom, 2 bath
Laundry room with washer/dryer, attached garage, covered porches, all kitchen appliances included.

Contact:
Michael Nosko at 616-682-1581
www.maplewoodsquareapts.com

NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS 897-4835

Viewpoint . . .



In last week's column I told you a little about a recent trip to China. Since my writing style tends to ramble, we didn't get to a couple of things I really wanted to cover. That means one more column about China ... like it or not.

My daughter and her family now live in Cheng-Du, a large city in Sichuan Province. You probably recognize Sichuan as the hot and spicy dishes on a Chinese menu. That's the way they eat in Sichuan, and they pride themselves in acting the same way. People from the region are reported to be hot-blooded and vibrant, much like some Latin countries have a similar reputation. After enjoying some of their food, I can understand how it might have an effect on one's temperament.

"Hot-pot" restaurants are a big deal. The tables have a big hole or two in the middle. There is a gas burner at the bottom of each hole and a big pot is placed over the flame. The pot is full of a broth teeming with red peppers and other spices ... mostly inflammatory. When the broth reaches a rolling boil, the waitresses begin bringing courses of meats, vegetables, tofu, etc. Each course is cooked in the broth, ladled out and served up. I like hot food and this stuff is wonderful.

Is it hot? My daughter says that in warmer months you see local men dining at hot-pot restaurants stripped to the waist and mopping sweat as they partake. That should answer the question about whether the food is hot. Those are also my kind table manners.

Some nights we ordered take-out from a restaurant around the corner from my daughter's house. We'd come home with bags of great Sichuan food. The kids ate macaroni and cheese. My wife can't tolerate spicy foods, so she ate a little of the more bland stuff and some rice. Angie and I pigged out, mopping our brows as we ate. We did pull up short of taking our shirts off.

Probably the most interesting excursion of our short stay was a trip to Leshan and the Grand Buddha. Leshan is another

quaint little town of a mere 3.5 million people. The city is about a two-hour drive from Cheng-Du. The drive was very picturesque as we passed through rich farmland nestled in low mountains. Every kilometer, we passed a person in coveralls and equipped with a broom, sweeping the roadway. When you have a country about the same size as ours, but with roughly five times as many people, I guess you have to find something for them all to do.

In Leshan we boarded one of the many tour boats that take you across the river to the ancient Buddha and various religious temples. As the boat motored upstream we got our first look at the Grand Buddha, all 230 feet of him. He's a big old boy, the biggest Buddha in the world. The Grand Buddha is something like our Mt. Rushmore, and is carved into the sandstone cliffs along the river.

We disembarked and began climbing steps. Lots and lots of steps. Up, and up we went. The steps and trails went up and down and around and around through monasteries, temples and monk burial tombs carved into the sandstone. It was all very interesting, but the Buddha is the big deal. Finally we arrived at the head of the Buddha and began a descent of the narrow stairs carved into the sandstone. I'm spooked by heights, and I was hugging the walled side of the stairs all the way down.

At the base of the Buddha we took the prerequisite photos, stood in awe of his beauty and wondered at how they managed to create something so massive, so long ago. Don't quote me on this, but I think my daughter said he was completed in about 750 A.D. I also kept looking at the same sort of narrow stairs we had to ascend on the other side of the Buddha. I was glad the kids were in school 'cause somebody would be carrying Boog by now.

We huffed and puffed our way up the stairs and hiked along the river to the boat docks. After catching a boat for the crossing we toured a street market in the city. We struck out trying to find a restaurant recommended in our travel guide and headed home munching on some fruit and baked goods we purchased at the market. It was a big day, and everybody slept well that night.

That's about it for our latest China adventure. I'll be honest, a trip to China was nowhere on my radar before my daughter's family moved there. This was our fourth trip, and we find new and interesting things to see and do each time we go. It is an incredible country and I'd recommend moving a China trip up a few notches on your list of places to visit.

Happy New Year!

To The Editor

Dear Editor,

I would like to respond to Paula Blumm and correct some inaccuracies in her statement. I thought about going point by point to show how inaccurate all of her arguments are, but I would rather educate the public and let all of you draw your own conclusions on the Big Boy property.

I recently attended an 18 credit hour course through Northwestern University and I decided to do a research project on Public Act 1984, 425. Since I didn't know a whole lot about it, I thought I should educate myself on this, plus I was interested in it.

Public Act 425 is an "Economic Development Project" that allows two or more local units of government to conditionally transfer property for a period not to exceed 50 years. This is controlled by a written agreement between the local governments (Michigan Compiled Laws, P.A. 1984, No. 425, 124.22, Sec. 2). This is not annexation; in fact, it is just the opposite.

This act allows certain areas to be developed and have access to organized community services, which may not be available to these areas. These organized community services include water, sewer, road maintenance, electricity, police, and fire. As many of you know, these services are available in the city, but not all are made available in the township. Lowell Township does have water and sewer available to certain areas provided under an already established agreement. This was due to a small percentage purchased by Lowell Township in the early 1990's when the water treatment facilities were expanded.

However, since this agreement, the population in Lowell and Vergennes Township has ballooned to 5758 and 3929 residents respectively (2003 population, The Grand Rapids Press, June 25, 2004). I might add, exceeding their projec-

tions for anticipated growth, and this area is only going to continue to grow. These additional "area residents" come into the city and drive 9900 vehicles daily through Alden Nash and M-21, or the area Ms. Blumm is referring to (Kent County Road Commission, 2000). For a city of just over 4,000 people, that's a lot of traffic and strain on city resources. In addition, the city does not receive any additional revenue from residents outside the city. Don't get me wrong; we love you in the city and so do the business owners!

I digress, Ms. Blumm states Lowell Township has water and sewer lines near Bowes Rd. Last time I checked those are owned and maintained by the city. The city DPW, its police department, and its residents will burden any additional traffic and road maintenance in this area. Why not let the city apply its tax rate to that one area? The property value may even increase since the businesses will only have to worry about running a business, and not maintaining a private road.

The benefits of a 425 agreement outweigh the negatives. The city of Lowell puts in the road, curb, gutter, water, sewer, electricity, plows the snow, maintains the roadway surface, and has a police department to police the accidents and to investigate any crimes that may happen there. Just ask Meijer Loss Prevention if they would like to have Lowell Police respond to their store.

Several cities in Michigan use a 425 agreement, but let's keep it local and in Kent County. The city of Cedar Springs and Solon Township entered a P.A. 425 agreement back in 2000. The property is in Solon Township, but receives all of the city services in exchange for the Cedar Springs tax rate. Cedar Springs has even made it better by providing 2.1 mills in 2001 with a .1 mill increase up to 2.5 mills for those properties in 2004. That's an additional 1.5 mills for Solon Township to use for whatever projects they see fit. Sound good to you? I understand the city of Lowell is open to a similar type of agreement.

To The Editor, cont'd., pg. 10



By Priscilla Lussmeyer

Ledger Entries

of 125, 100, 75, 50 and 25 years ago

125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL
DECEMBER 31, 1879

Owners of cattle wandering the streets will be fined, says the marshal.

The post office is promoted from third-class to second-class.

Rickert of the Lowell Bakery is putting on a banquet at Music Hall tomorrow afternoon and evening. Napkins are printed with the bill of fare.

Not very good sleighing; more ice than snow.

"Roch" Mason of Grattan will go to Ann Arbor this week for cancer treatment.

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER
DECEMBER 29, 1904

The Village Council has been working on requiring fire escapes, but Train's Hall has done nothing.

Grand Rapids is often called "the Rapids" when mentioned in local columns.

"Squire John: A Tale of the Cuban War" by St. John Rathborne, is the serial running now.

A testimonial for Lydia Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is the largest in a group of St. Jacob's Oil, Celery King, Free Farms in Western Canada and other advertisements.

Local columns run to accounts of Christmas visits, and many illnesses with winter here.

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER
AND THE ALTO SOLO DECEMBER 26, 1929

The Santa Claus girls raise \$85 for Christmas gifts; donors and amounts are listed.

A movie at the Strand, "Her Private Affair," features "all-dialogue" as well as music and sound.

Gould's Garage lists a 1928 Whippet and 1929 Willys Knight, both sedans, in its ad.

Supt. Gumsier is chairman of the Scout Committee; science teacher Adrian Zwemer is scoutmaster and history teacher Lee Miller is assistant.

A group protests expansion of the Martin school, because it fronts US-16 and is next to a cemetery.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER
DECEMBER 30, 1954

Herbert Elzinga announces his intention to retire from council in February. He has served seven years.

Christmas week ice skating plans were melted. Various parents and organizations are sponsoring the New Year's dance at City Hall for students.

The old Garland coal stove in Hartman's drug store has been there since 1883, when it was in the Quincy Look drug store.

A superfine plastic powder, dissolved in water, prevents sticking when brushed on baking pans.

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER
DECEMBER 27, 1979

The December 20 and 27 issues are combined; 18 pages. Bids for relocation of Thornapple River Drive to make way for a longer east runway at Kent County airport, are due in January.

Ice fishing is poor so far, but there's enough snow for snowmobiles.

Council discusses putting up street lights west of the railroad tracks, to prevent vandalism and stealing gas at the high school and Christoff & Sons.

Grand Valley State College is raising a half-million dollars for a new football stadium and track to replace the old.

"A CROWN IN ONE VISIT ...SIMPLE!"

"If I had known it would be this easy, I wouldn't have put off getting a crown for so long. One visit and it was done. The crown fits and looks great. I have my smile back...simple!"

Family Dentistry of Lowell
- ANN WILSON, D.D.S. -

Tel. 897-4835 • 147 North Center Street • Lowell



Reflections Of Faith

Father George J. Fekete
Saint Mary Church

Father Theodore Hesburgh, a former president of Notre Dame University, and one of the most influential educators of his day, was asked, "What is the most important thing a father can do for his children?" He answered, "The most important thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother." The same thing can be said for mothers. "The most important thing a mother can do for her children is to love their father." Similarly, "the most important thing children can do for their parents is to love their sisters and brothers."

Jesus said to all of us, "Love one another as I love you." (John 15:12).

How very important family love and unity are, and all family members suffer when they are missing at any level. That's one reason why on the first Sunday after Christmas, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Jesus, Mary and Joseph truly loved each other and they put that love into action. Saint Therese of Lisieux once said, "Love is repaid by love alone." In other words, the only loving response to a person's love for you, is to love that person in return. We frequently take those we love the most for granted and don't do nearly enough to make our love shown. Love is proven in actions, and by what we say and do, by how we treat those we love.

We also want to remember that our first vocation (or state in life) is as a family member, and God will judge us one day, on how well we treated those members of our immediate family. As we begin the New Year of 2005, let's resolve and pray that each of us who have been born into a family, will show the respect and love for each of our family members that Jesus, Mary and Joseph had for one another.

God love you.

Host families still needed in the Kent County area

Foreign high school students are scheduled to arrive soon for academic semester- and year-program homestays, and a few more local host families are needed.

According to Pacific Intercultural Exchange (P.I.E.), the students are between the

ages of 15 and 18, are English-speaking, have their own spending money, and carry accident and health insurance.

Prospective host families are able to review student applications and select the perfect match. P.I.E. can fit a student into just about any situation, whether it be a

single parent, a large family, a childless couple, or a retired couple.

Families who host for P.I.E. are also eligible to claim a \$50 per month charitable contribution deduction on their itemized tax returns for each month they host a sponsored student.

Kent County area families interested in learning more about student exchange or arranging for a meeting with a community representative may call P.I.E. at 1-800-631-1818. Available as well are travel/study program opportunities for American high school students.

VOWS SPOKEN

Teelander/Dawson



Mr. and Mrs. Shane Teelander

Kentwood Community Church was the setting for the May 15, 2004 wedding of Angie Dawson and Shane Teelander.

Parents of the couple are Dale and Mary Dawson, Alan and Jerri Teelander and Carla Bunce.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

DEC. 30: Stacy Thomas, Ben Hodges, Kyle Triplett, Joe

Hunt, Stacey Craig, Joshua Gee, Maliree Trierweiler, Matthew Trierweiler.

DEC. 31: Marcie Page, Bill DeHaan, Charles Boerema.

JAN. 1: Tory Abel, Alice Hesche, Carolyn Yonker, John Wenger, Amanita Fahrni.

JAN. 2: Rose Nead, Helen Kuiper.

JAN. 3: Jon Vezino, Agnes Kent, Audrie Olszewski, Lloyd Callihan.

JAN. 4: Donna Johnson, Nicholas Knonenwetter.

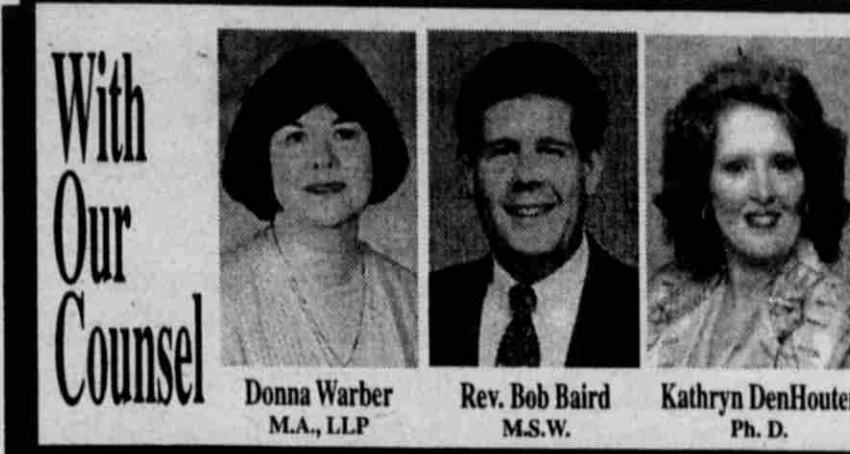
JAN. 5: Ryan Sauber, Craig Carpenter, Pauline LaDue, Genie Southwick, Jody Ann Young.

COLLEGE NEWS

Ashley Rickert, a senior at Northwood University, has been named to the dean's list for fall term.

Rickert is the daughter of Jeffery and Julie Rickert of Lowell.

To achieve dean's list recognition, students must earn a 3.25 grade point on a 4.0 scale.



Well, Christmas is over and we're left with wadded up wrapping paper and unpaid bills. Also, celebrations during Christmas can leave us with the "dysfunctional family blues."

In other words, what happened during the Christmas holidays was quite a bit different from the fantasies we had before Christmas. We have expectations of togetherness where we have tender expressions of caring and love for each other. So many times the pressures of the holiday and

HEALTH

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



REBOUND HEADACHES

Headaches that occur every day or almost every day may be caused by overuse of pain medicines, and are called rebound headaches. These headaches often begin early in the morning, usually shortly after waking up. The actual

Teen years can be tough on teeth

The preteen and teen years may be some of the toughest for teeth. Peer pressure, fashion statements and the need to fit in can impact how teens treat their teeth. These factors can contribute to a variety of oral and general health problems including poor nutrition, cavities and early gum disease.

Some of the most common challenges that can impact a teen's healthy smile include:

Eating Disorders

Bulimia and anorexia are two of the most destructive eating disorders impacting teenagers' oral and general health. According to the National Eating Disorders Association, five to 10 million girls and women, and one million boys and men, are struggling with eating disorders. Bulimia and anorexia can lead to inflammation of the gums, erosion of tooth enamel, cavities and can eventually cause tooth loss. Dentists can often detect symptoms of eating disorders during routine examinations of the mouth. Customized courses of treatment are often recommended to mitigate damage to teeth and gums.

Mouth Piercing

Many teens are making a fashion statement with mouth piercings but they might not be aware of the risks involved. Jewelry in

the hassles of gift giving can leave us exhausted and depressed. These disappointments can leave a person in a "funk." Because of this, counselors and therapists are moving into their busy season.

Many times an underlying mild to moderate depression can move into severe depression due to the holiday blues. If you're feeling sad four days out of nine, it's time to get some help. Family changes, SAD (Seasonal Affective Disorder), loss or change of jobs as well as other losses can put us in this "at risk" category. Like so many other things, good mental health necessitates solving the problems early. Mental health is a very precious state of mind, so talk to someone if you feel the need.

Perhaps you feel a little bit "funky," but are certain that you can manage your emotional state by yourself. Please keep in mind the importance of cultivating a mental "state of gratitude." The state of gratitude is the most enviable state of mind because fear and anxiety cannot reside in a mind that is in that state. In fact, it has been found that when

location of the headache and the severity may vary from day to day. People who suffer from rebound headaches also may have nausea, anxiety, irritability, depression, or difficulty sleeping.

Both prescription and over-the-counter medicines for headache (such as aspirin and acetaminophen) can actually cause headaches if you take them too often. These medications shouldn't be taken more than two days per week. Medications specifically for migraine can also cause rebound headache.

Talk with your physician about stopping medications. Some can be safely stopped right away, while others have to be reduced slowly. After stopping the medication that is giving you the rebound headaches, your headache may get worse for a few days. This is a normal response, so don't make any changes without consulting your physician.

Caffeine is an ingredient in some headache medications. It may make your headache feel better for a little while. If you take medication with caffeine every day, or if you drink caffeine every day, you might end up with more frequent,

we are in a state of gratitude, it is neurologically impossible to be in the state of fear.

When we are appreciative of what is around us, we naturally are open and positive. We welcome people into our lives and a mutually healthy relationship can be established. It is fear that narrows our focus and constricts our thinking to the single-minded focus of self-preservation. Of course, it is necessary to be fearful when our well-being is truly being threatened. This is a good kind of fear because it generates a fight or flight response. This, in turn, moves us to action which helps us to survive. Most often, however, when we live in the unnecessary state of fear, we create tension and anxiety. Unfortunately, this can keep our life out of balance. Cultivating a state of gratitude increases the quality of life for ourselves and for those around us.

As we move out of the Christmas season and into a new year, setting a goal of cultivating a mental state of gratitude can help us retain our mental health.

severe headaches. If your headaches get worse when you stop drinking caffeine, then caffeine may be an important cause of some of your headaches.

To help with rebound headaches, follow these guidelines: Take only the headache medicines recommended or prescribed by your physician, including over-the-counter medications; always have your medications with you in case you begin to have a headache; and keep a headache diary so your physician knows what helps and when you are getting headaches.

Following a regular daily pattern will help with your headaches. Eat meals at regular hours, and don't skip breakfast. Go to bed and get up at the same time every day, including weekends. Regular aerobic exercise can also be helpful for headaches. Yoga, meditation, and relaxation therapy may help. Some natural supplements may help prevent headaches, including vitamin B2, magnesium, feverfew, and coenzyme Q10. Natural supplements may interfere with other meds you are taking, however, so always consult your physician before starting supplements.



'HARDT HAPPENINGS
Bring the kids to the Englehardt library during January and let them burn off some of their energy. The program, "Kids in Motion" includes several active games for ages six and under.
One program will be held Tuesday, Jan. 11 at 6:30 p.m.; the other on Saturday, Jan. 15 at 11 a.m. To register, call 647-3920.

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

ATTENTION: BIBLE BELIEVERS
If you would like to attend a church where the King James Bible is held up as the perfect, preserved word of God with all the words of God for all English speaking people, then give us a visit at: 901 W. Main, Lowell
Across the street from the Vennet Dodge dealership.
897-6284 or 485-4195
10AM Sunday School; 11AM Morning Service; 6PM Evening Service; Wed., 7:30PM Prayer Meeting.

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

Contemporary Services
Lowell High School Auditorium
(Nursery & Children's Ministry Provided)
Sunday Mornings.....10 AM
Impact Youth (Sunday's at the Pastor's home).....5 PM
Phone us @ 897-0333 or 437-5093
Call for a free CD Service Sample

CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL
Rev. Randy Meyers - 897-7060
1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI
Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M.
Sunday School.....11:20 A.M.
Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.
Nursery available at both services
Barrier-Free

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

EVERGREEN MISSIONARY CHURCH
10501 Saddlewood • Ph. 897-7185
Sunday School.....9:45 A.M.
Morning Worship.....11 A.M.
Evening Service.....6:00 P.M.
Prayer and Praise - Wed., 7:00 P.M.
Rev. Rick Ferguson - 987-6475
ALL ARE WELCOME!
(Barrier-Free)

CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God)
3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery
Robert W. Holmes, Senior Pastor
Dave Noonan, Asst. Pastor
Jonathan & Stacy Holmes, Youth Pastors
SUNDAYS:
Worship: 9:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAYS:
Family Night: (For All Ages) 7 p.m.
"XL" Youth: 7 p.m.

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
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL SHERI BERG 897-7915
SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 48, EFTV FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod)
Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21
www.goodshepherdlowell.org
Sunday School & Adult Bible Class. 9:00 A.M.
Worship Service.....10:00 A.M.
(Nursery available)
Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307
All facilities are wheelchair accessible

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 215 1/2 W. Main, Lowell
(entrance in rear of building)
CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES
Pastor Robert L. Hubbard
Phone: (616) 897-1267
website www.aplighthouse.com

LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
201 N. Washington • 897-8800
Sunday School.....9:45 A.M.
Morning Worship.....10:50 A.M.
Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M.
Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M.
PASTOR KEN ANDERSON
Staffed Nursery Provided
Barrier-Free Entrance

SOUTH BOSTON BIBLE CHURCH
(Kysar Road SE at Grand River Ave.)
WE ARE YOUR NEIGHBORS • WE CARE ABOUT YOU
Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M.
Sunday School.....11:00 A.M.
Word of Life (for Jr. & Sr. High).....6:30 P.M.
Evening Praise.....7:00 P.M.
Wednesday Kids Klub (ages 2-5).....7:00 P.M.
Olympians (1st-6th grades)
Prayer and Bible Study
Library, Nursery, College & Children's Services provided • Wheelchair Accessible
Church 897-7823 • Parsonage 897-5464 • sbccbch@juno.com

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL
2275 West Main Street • 897-7168
Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org
Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Lee Taylor
Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor
Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M.
Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M.
AWANA/CLUB JC.....Wed. 6:15 & 6:30 P.M.
Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times
Nursery Provided • Barrier Free

ALTON BIBLE CHURCH
Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road
897-5648
Sunday School.....10:00 A.M.
Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.
Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M.
Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M.
(Sept. - April)
Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M.
Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418
YOU ARE WELCOME!

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL
(United Church of Christ)
404 North Hudson • 897-5906
Worship and Church School.....10:00 A.M.
Dr. Roger LaWarre.....Pastor
Megan MacNaughton.....Music Director
Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided
Come Join Us For Praise & Worship

"Lowell Mission" of the Evangelical Apostolic Church of North America
Located at 404 North Hudson
(First Congregational Church Facility)
Christ Centered Sunday Worship.....4:00 PM
Bishop Alex McCullough.....Clergy In Charge
Reverend Deacon Mark O. Fleet. Clergy In Assistance
Stacy, Ben, and Alex Fleet.....Musicians
Parsonage.....(616) 897-2587
Corporate Web Page.....http://www.eacna.org
May the Lord fill you and bless you this day!

THE GREAT LAKES BAND

CHRIS COLLINS
DAVE JONES
DOUG SLOCUM
MITCH MCMAHON
CHARLIE LUSCOMBE

\$10 Tickets On Sale At: Deer Run Golf Course 897-8481 and Greenridge Realty 897-9239

Rockin' for the New Year
Friday, December 31, 2004
Hors d'Oeuvres a la carte
Doors Open at 8 pm
Deer Run Golf Course
13955 Cascade Rd, Lowell
LIMITED SEATING CAPACITY

Figures stolen from St. Mary's nativity scene



By Dan Schneider

Hoodlums absconded with a shepherd and sheep from the nativity scene at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 402 Amity St. in Lowell.

A spotlight and power cords were also stolen. The theft took place after 10:30 last Wednesday night, some time following youth choir rehearsals.

"It was here when they left," said St. Mary's director of faith formation Brenda Berding, who coordinates the set-up of the scene every year.

"They took three of the biggest things," she said. "The lamb is right in front of where we have baby Jesus."

The holy family and

three wise men remained. However, they were visible only by daylight in the days leading up to Christmas because of the spotlight theft. Joseph was also placed outside the stable, presumably to help balance the composition which was right-heavy after the theft of the shepherd and sheep.

The scene has long stood in front of the church prior to Christmas.

"It's a tradition that the teenagers put it together every year," Berding said.

Anyone with information regarding the theft should contact the Lowell Police Department at 897-7123 or St. Mary's Church at 897-9820.

St. Mary's nativity scene, minus the sheep and shepherd. Both figures were stolen last Wednesday night along with the spotlight and power cords.

Local poet publishes *Soul Solutions*

By Dan Schneider

There are 28 poems in a book called *Soul Solutions* and they say something about the philosophy of Sean Young, the writer.

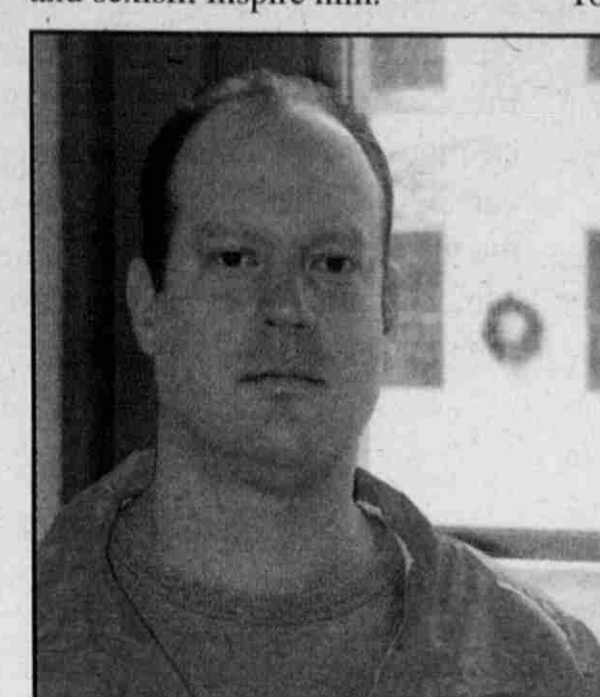
"Trying to fight for the little guy, things that involve the human soul and how we live our lives," Young said. "And I guess trying to promote a healthy awareness of the good things that are in our world."

What it boils down to is his belief that a lot of the world's problems can be solved by introspective effort on the part of individuals.

"You can stop to help someone out or you can keep on walking," Young said. "And that's a choice you have to make. Plus it makes

life more interesting if you do stop and try to help people out."

To Young, poetry should address social issues. Racism and sexism inspire him.



Poet Sean Young has collected 28 poems into a book he published himself. Subjects include beauty and human empathy.

"Social injustice will strike me, people with mental illness strike me," he said. "Writing for me is a coping tool. It keeps me grounded."

Young, a psychotherapist, works at the VA hospital in Battle Creek.

A lot of the poetry is about getting into other people's heads, and how that process can make the world roll more peacefully.

"Empathy is a much harder process for people to feel and think about, whereas being

negative is very easy to do but there's no substance in being negative," Young explained.

His poetry makes obvious efforts to convey positivity. It's part of his creative process.

"Instead of being negative, I put myself in someone else's feelings ... and that's how it happens for me," Young said.

His poetry expresses his philosophy that a conglomeration of individual efforts can make real change in the world. For example, in his poem "The Time is Now:"

What if the torture of poverty's chains and shackles were released?

What if giving were more important than taking?

What if remorseful politicians put an end to washing their hands in the blood of evil?

What if faith were just being?

... *What if, what if, what if, what if?*

It sounds like some breathless and uncertain idealism but the next lines show how he believes it to be possible:

You know the answer and so do I.

A coin is tossed and you control the fall.

So what's it gonna be? Heads or tails?

His poetry also expresses the idea that beauty is not just a passing distraction in the world, but an essential part of existence. There's a lot of nature in his poems ... especially water; water in all forms like mist, rain, rainbows, lakes. A picture accompanies each poem and many are of lakes and oceans.

The idea of immersion comes across in the photos and his poems' imagery.

American Indian imagery turns up in the poems, as well.

"They're a group that has been left by the wayside," Young said. "The issues that affect the Native American Indian are issues that they didn't cause, they were left with these issues. I think their culture is a really beautiful culture and people could learn a lot from the Native American Indian."

Young published the book himself, under the name Bone Crusher Publishing.

"I guess I'm proud of the stuff I've written and I really believe it can help people understand themselves and their own principles of how they view the world," Young said about his motivations for publishing the work.

The book is available at Chimera Design at 208 E. Main Street. It is \$18.

Lowell Planning Commission reworks sign ordinance again

By J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

Eliminating the wording about wall signs, the Lowell Planning Commission has decided to resend its proposed ordinance on residential signs to the city council.

During a Dec. 13 work session, the commission reviewed the proposed ordinance which the council sent back due to concerns over definitions and size, specifically of wall signs. Would a decoration, such as a sled, with a name on it be considered a wall sign? Would names on a mailbox post be considered a wall sign?

Councilman Jim Pfaller pointed out that a name sign he currently has down for repainting would not fall under the proposed guidelines.

"I don't see anything wrong with what we sent," said planning commission member Jim Hall, who added that the city can't solve all of the potential problems.

The residential sign issue came up late this summer when resident Josh Langdon was cited by the city for having two non-traditional signs on his property. Langdon came before the planning commission with a Supreme Court ruling that stated such residential signs could be regulated but not prohibited.

"You can propose the height of the sign, the size of the sign, the placement, but you cannot regulate what is on the sign," said Deb Steenhagen, a planner with Langworthy, Strader, LeBlanc and Associates.

The commission reviewed sign ordinances from several cities including Fremont, Cedar Springs, Ionia and Newaygo, all areas that Langdon indicated had residential sign ordinances. The only city with a specific resident sign ordinance was that of Newaygo, in which the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) got involved to develop that portion of the ordinance, which is what Langdon told the planning commission.

The Newaygo residential sign ordinance reads much the same as Lowell's. Under the Lowell proposed ordinance, a home would be allowed one wall sign of one square foot identifying the occupant or address of a lot or parcel, two square feet for nameplates, names of buildings, and date of erection when cut into any masonry surface or constructed of bronze or noncombustible material.

A resident would be

allowed one ground sign per lot that is no greater than three square feet and can only be located in the front yard. The commission found its ordinance does have an exception for address signs, which are allowed to be up to two square feet that are attached to mailboxes, lamp posts, or the building. The ordinance specifically deals with political and real estate signs, as well.

The group, by consensus, voted to remove the wall sign portion of the proposed ordinance, and replace the ground sign wording to "non-identifying" signs. These non-identifying signs could be up to three feet in height with only one sign per parcel or lot.

The planning commission will make a proposal to send the revised ordinance back to the city council at its next meeting Jan. 24, when the group will look over the final wording.

Electrical update, continued

... From Page 1

working on a circuit on North Washington Street across from Oakwood Cemetery. Workers attach crosspieces and insulators to the utility poles along the street before placing them in the ground to minimize aerial work.

Rebuilt circuits get new poles, new conducting line and new insulators. The new lines run at higher voltage for more efficiency, Richards explained. Utility line components installed more recently are left in place, but this doesn't happen often.

"Lowell has a lot of older construction so we're not finding a lot that we can re-use very well," said the general manager.

With line workers

trained to work on live wires and with the ability to feed power to both sides of a circuit, the work has caused few interruptions in electrical service.

"In most cases, we've done it so the customer wouldn't even notice. It's been a blip if that," Richards said.

Work will continue, circuit by circuit, until all of them are fed from the Bowes Road substation. This will likely be done by 2006, but possibly as early as the end of next year. The utility will then cut down the high poles of the old transmission line and remove the span across the Flat River.

"It will be quite a project

when it comes time to take those lines down," Richards said.

The bottom portion of the poles will remain to hold up neighborhood power lines. Lowell Light and Power will also dismantle substations near Unity High School, Creekside Park and the Lowell Area Schools bus garage. Some of the equipment at the south side of the utility's building on Broadway will also disappear. One challenge Lowell Light and Power will face at that time will be linking the Broadway diesel generators into the rebuilt system. The generators provide auxiliary power during peak use periods.

A TRUSTED TRADITION OF AFFORDABLE, PERSONALIZED, AND COMFORTABLE CARE

LIFETIME DENTAL EXCELLENCE

- Professionally Trained, Caring, and Courteous Staff
- State-of-the-Art Procedures, Instruments, and Techniques
- Cosmetic Care: Porcelain Veneers, Bonding, and Whitening
- Mercury-Free Dentistry • Filtered Water Lines
- Orthodontic Care (Braces) • Wisdom Teeth Extraction
- Implants • TMJ (Jaw Pain Therapy)
- Treatment of Periodontal Disease (Latest Non-Surgical Techniques Available)
- Dentures • Partials • Root Canals • Crowns and Bridges
- Emergencies Accepted • Convenient Payment Plans
- Serving the Area Since 1981

TODD GILLAN, DDS, PC

2186 MAIN STREET • LOWELL
LOCATED ACROSS FROM ARBYS

WE CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO CALL

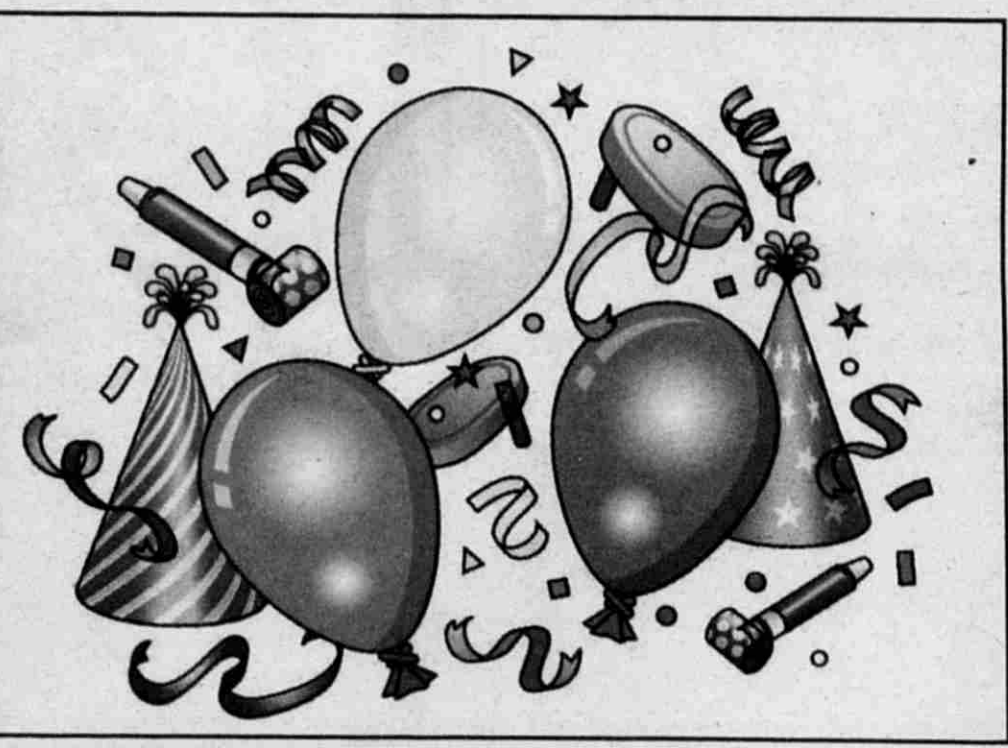
(616) 897-8491

CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN LOWELL

copyright © 2004 chrisd

Happy New Year!

Start the New Year Right!!!
MANPOWER



Manpower is recruiting for:
2nd Shift - Packers, fillers, assembly
Open to last minute calls for help
Flexible to stay for overtime if needed
\$8.00/hr.

Material Handler/Forklift Operators
Looking for reliable and committed forklift operators experienced at sit down propane type hilo. Good math skills. ALL SHIFTS
RESUME REQUIRED - Fax 616-897-4801
\$10.00/hr.

MANPOWER 616-897-0050
E.O.E.

MANPOWER 2005

MANPOWER 2005

Grand Opening

Here's an offer you can't refuse.

Great Clips for hair.

Stone Ridge Center
11635 Fulton St. - Lowell
Hours: Mon-Fri 9-9, Sat 9-6, Sun 12-5
616-897-9520
No appointments necessary.
Great Haircuts. Every Time. Every Where.

A Great Clips for hair!
LOWELL
11635 E. Fulton

Boulder Dr. Meijer
GOODWILL A Great Clips for hair!
M-21 Saranac/Albion

WE CARRY GREAT CLIPS, AMERICAN CREW AND MATRIX HAIRCARE PRODUCTS.

HAIRCUT SPECIAL \$2.99
Not valid with other offers. Limit one coupon per customer. Good at Lowell location only. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/04

HAIRCUT SPECIAL \$2.99
Not valid with other offers. Limit one coupon per customer. Good at Lowell location only. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/04

Great Clips for hair.

Recycle that holiday tree



The Lowell Buyers Guide and L&A Rent-All are once again sponsoring Christmas tree recycling at the Wittenbach Center. Trees may be dropped off at the center, 11715 Vergennes, on or before Jan. 8 and they will be shredded into woodchips for use in making nature trails. Or if you prefer curbside pickup, tags are available at L&A Rent-All, the Buyers Guide and the Wittenbach Center. Shredding will take place from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8 at the Wittenbach Center. A luminary walk and bonfire will follow.

City elections will fall in line with state, federal dates

J. Lobdell
Contributing Writer

City clerk Betty Morlock announced at the Lowell City Council meeting that the city's elections will follow the new state and federal guidelines.

There will be a consolidation of elections, beginning Jan. 1, with all federal, state, county, township, village and school elections restricted to four dates each year, Morlock

explained. This is expected to create less confusion and perhaps save the city some election costs. Those dates include the fourth Tuesday in February and the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May, August and November.

In the past, the city has held its primary election in September, but with the change, it will now be in August. Morlock said she is in the process of getting filing

dates for petitions for the city elections.

The city clerk said by switching the dates, if there is a federal or state issue, those bodies will help cover the cost of the elections. "With voter turnout so low, it hardly pays to run the election," said councilman Charles Myers as he commented about the city's

individually run elections when there is no state or federal item on the ballot.

Morlock said the school does have one floater date with the change ... residents will vote on all issues at their regular polling district versus different polling centers when just a school issue or just a city issue.

To The Editor, continued...From Page 5

Under the 425 agreement, Cedar Springs reimburses Solon Township their 1 mill operating cost. This seemed important to Ms. Blumm that Lowell Township only has a 1 mill tax. Does anyone only pay one mill in taxes? I live in Vergennes Township and between the state tax, county tax, school tax, and township tax I thought I was paying between 12 and 14 mills, which is not too far away from the city's tax rate.

I almost forgot about the most important reason for the 425 agreement ... the city of Lowell and the developer are not opposed to it. Who does that leave? Let's ask the elected officials at Lowell Township Hall.

Steve Bukala
Vergennes Township

P.S. I wrote this as a citizen for common sense in the Lowell area, not as an opinionated police officer. Thank you for the donation for the DARE truck.

Dear Editor,

The meeting of the Lowell Township Planning Commission last night had not that many agenda items but nonetheless a full card: the large condominium proposal on/ around Cumberland. They face much communication in the immediate future from the township attorney, planning consultant, developers (who might rummage around for a necktie), and amongst themselves. One must admire such a small undercompensated group who take so much on themselves.

Much testimony was given from the floor from both developers and public during and after the formal public hearing. The drift of public comment was interesting and not to be dismissed by a student of society. Most of it was from Eastgators. We have classic "growth issues" and reactions thereto.

One cannot say it this way - it ain't nice - and the Eastgate people might even be astonished to hear the reconfiguration of their comments. I know my stuff and have heard it all before. What they object to is the turn-of-the-century American culture.

G.M.Ross

Financial Focus

Edward Jones
Serving Individual Investors Since 1871



With Christopher C. Godbold

NEARING RETIREMENT? CONSIDER THESE "TAX-SMART" MOVES

If you're planning to retire in the next few years, you've got a lot of questions to answer. Will your employer-sponsored retirement plan, Social Security and personal savings provide you with a comfortable lifestyle? How much can you afford to take out each year? From what sources? All these issues are important. But one area that might slip beneath your "radar" is taxes - and they can be troublesome if you make the wrong moves.

One potential tax problem can crop up if you need to tap into your retirement savings before you reach age 59 1/2. If you take money out of your IRA or company retirement plan, such as a 401(k), you may have to pay a 10 percent

penalty, in addition to regular income taxes, on your withdrawals.

So here are a few "tax-smart" moves you may want to consider in your pre-retirement or retirement years:

• **Take regular payments from your traditional IRA** - If you must tap your traditional IRA before you're 59 1/2, you can avoid the 10 percent penalty by taking "substantially equal periodic payments" - as determined by an IRS formula - for at least five years or until you reach 59 1/2, whichever is longer. For example, if you start taking these payments at 50, you must keep taking them until you're 59 1/2. However, if you don't start collecting this money until you're 55, you'll have to keep making withdrawals until you're 60.

• **Roll over company stock into a traditional IRA** - If you leave your job, and you have company stock in your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan, you can defer taxes by rolling the stock over into a traditional IRA.

If your company retirement plan contains stock that has grown significantly in value over the years, you could potentially save on taxes through an Internal Revenue Service rule called "net unrealized appreciation" or NUA. These rules apply to certain distributions of company stock from a qualified retirement plan. They can help turn a portion

of your retirement - plan distribution, which normally would be taxed as ordinary income, into long-term capital gains, which are usually taxed at lower rates.

• **Convert traditional IRA to Roth IRA** - When you reach 70 1/2, you'll need to take "required minimum distributions" (RMDs) from your traditional IRA and your 401(k). If you don't take these distributions, you'll be slapped with a penalty of 50 percent of what you should have taken, but didn't, plus ordinary income tax when you do take the distribution. And, if you don't want to withdraw money from your traditional IRA, you can convert it to a Roth IRA. You'll have to pay taxes upon the conversion, but, after that, you'll never face RMDs - and your Roth will grow tax-free for your lifetime, plus that of your spouse's and subsequent beneficiaries.

Before you act on any of these suggestions, see your tax advisor. In fact, it's a good idea to get professional advice well before you think you'll need to make any moves. By planning ahead, you can make your pre-retirement and retirement years far less "taxing."

A committee is a group of important individuals who singly can do nothing but who can together agree that nothing can be done.

—Fred Allen

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

ADVERTISE
IN THE
LEDGER BUSINESS DIRECTORY
As Low as **\$7.50** PER WEEK
Call 897-9261

Noon Tire STEVE NOON 11930 E. Fulton (M-21) Lowell, MI 49331 Dealing In Most Brands (616) 897-5925	Durkee Lumber, Inc. Lumber and Building Materials 868-6026 6071 Depot St. Alto, MI	24 Hour Towing & Road Service Flat Bed Service Jump Starts Lock Outs Tire Changes Lincoln Lake Auto's Cell #446-5909	bryant Heating & Cooling Systems Since 1904 Arctic, Inc. HEATING • AIR CONDITIONING 1301 Bows Rd., Lowell, MI 49331 897-4123 www.heatingcoolingonline.com Licensed & Insured
MIKA MEYERS BECKETT & JONES PLC ATTORNEYS John T. Spera Mark A. Kehoe Ross A. Leisman Benjamin A. Zainea Heidi A. Lyon Daniel J. Parmeter, Jr. 307-A E. Main Street Lowell, Michigan 49331 (616) 897-3111 www.mmbjlaw.com		AUTO INJURY? WHIPLASH? Do You Need PAIN RELIEF? Free 1/2 Hour MASSAGE! • Doctor Supervised • Certified Therapist • Relieves Tight Muscles • Speeds Healing 897-4999 Dr. Steve Brown DOCTORS CHIROPRACTIC	
BASIC COMMUNICATIONS INC. HERBERT PETT Telecommunications Consultant Phone 616-897-2045 NexTel 616-262-6102 Fax 616-647-4001 Email: hpett@basiccom.com	Curtis Accounting & Tax Services 209 E. Main St. - Suite A, Lowell, MI Complete accounting, payroll and tax services (616) 897-4120 • (616) 262-4873	CUMBERLAND Retirement Village A Leisure Living Managed Community www.leisure-living.com 11535 E. Fulton • Lowell, MI 49331 (616) 897-8413 • Fax 616-897-7839 e-mail: cmbld@leisure-living.com	

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

ADVERTISE
IN THE
LEDGER BUSINESS DIRECTORY
As Low as **\$7.50** PER WEEK
Call 897-9261

AT YOUR SERVICE Thomet Chevrolet BUICK SERVICE HOURS: M, T, TH & FR • 8-5; WED • 8-8 Phone 897-9294	KIRK COLLINS Owner Showboat AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLY, INC. Auto Value 1450 W. Main St., Lowell, MI (616) 897-9231 HOURS: MON-FRI 8-7; SAT 8-3:30; SUN 9-3	Buy life insurance and save on your home and car. When you buy your life insurance from us through Auto-Owners Insurance, you'll receive special discounts on your home, mobile home or car insurance. We'll save you money. As an independent Auto-Owners agent, we take great interest in you - as well as your home and car. We are specialists in insuring people and the things they own. Auto-Owners Insurance REGAL INSURANCE AGENCY 835 W. Main St. Lowell, MI 49331 897-9259 (800)804-3322 Dale Triplett	STOP SUFFERING! We Successfully Treat: <input type="checkbox"/> Whiplash <input type="checkbox"/> Neck Pain <input type="checkbox"/> All Headaches <input type="checkbox"/> Auto Injuries <input type="checkbox"/> Back Pain <input type="checkbox"/> Numb Hands/Arms <input type="checkbox"/> Sports Injuries <input type="checkbox"/> Work Injuries See a Specialist and See Results! 897-4999 DOCTORS CHIROPRACTIC Dr. Anthony Trombly
CURTIS CLEANERS • LAUNDRY Open 7 Days • 897-9809 • 1410 W. Main Same Day Service Monday - Friday DECEMBER SPECIAL 20% OFF SUITS & DRESSES SANTA SUITS FREE Bring in 6 shirts pay for 5 • EXTRA LARGE WASHERS & DRYERS • SPECIAL CYCLES FOR RUGS BLANKETS • ALWAYS ATTENDED & CLEAN	BILL WHEELER Certified Public Accountant W.J. WHEELER MICHIGAN 103 Riverside Dr. Lowell, Michigan 49331 616-897-7711	Rich's Service Co. In-Home Appliance Repair INSURED • 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE WASHERS • DRYERS • REFRIGERATORS GARBAGE DISPOSALS • STOVES 209 E. Main St. RICH CURTIS Lowell, MI 49331 (616) 897-5686	PREVIEW PROPERTIES.COM CALL JERRY HALE 897-0229 or 1-800-515-7763 JERRY IS A FULL-TIME PROFESSIONAL WHO WILL SERVE ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS.
JB HARRISON INSURANCE AGENCY COMPETITIVE AUTO RATES Daniel Ulrich 6661 Alden Nash, Alto 868-0050		RE/MAX SunQuest Peter Smith, Realtor Call For Immediate, Professional, Committed Service (616) 949-6980 Ext. 27 • (800) 800-3915 Ext. 27 (616) 460-6634 Cell www.realtybypetersmith.com www.petersmith.com	

COMING EVENTS

Notices in the "Coming Events" are free to any nonprofit organization in the Lowell, Ada, Alto & Saranac areas. Keep notices brief; may submit by mail, but will accept notices by phone at 897-9261.

SUN.: Tri-town Conservation Club trap & skeet league, 5616 Dunn Rd. 12-5 p.m. Call Larry at 754-7104. Public welcome.

SUN.: V.F.W. Post 8303 Bingo. Doors open: 11 a.m.; 1st game: 1 p.m. at Lowell Veterans Center, 3116 Alden Nash S.E. Every Sunday except holidays.

MON.: LHS Fellowship of Christian Athletes & Friends, 7-8:30 p.m. in homes. Call 676-1355.

MON.: Women's over 30 drop-in basketball, 7-9:30 p.m. at Cherry Creek Elementary. Call Dave (YMCA) 897-8445. Fee \$3.

MON.: Boy Scout Troop 102, 11 & up or completing 5th grade, meets 7-8:30 p.m. at Scout Cabin, end of N. Washington St. Call Tim Vanderwulp at 897-4302 for more info.

MON.: Lowell Board of Education meets 7 p.m. in Administration Building, 300 High Street.

1ST MON.: V.F.W. Post #8303, 3116 Alden Nash S.E. at 7 p.m.

2ND MON.: Bowne Township Historical Society meets 7:30 at historic museum, 84th/Alden Nash.

3RD MON.: Fallsburg Historical Society board meetings at chamber of commerce or Fallsburg, 7 p.m. All invited. Call 897-7161 for info. or location.

3RD MON.: Women of the Moose meeting at 7:30 p.m.

3RD MON.: Peripheral Neuropathy support group, 7 p.m. Next meeting Feb. 21 at Schneider Manor Community Rm., 725 Bowes. Dorothy 897-9794.

3RD MON.: Lowell Showboat Garden Club meets at 7 p.m. at Lowell Church of the Nazarene in the Fellowship Hall.

4TH MON.: Clark-Ellis American Legion Post 152, 3100 Alden Nash S.E. at 7:30 p.m.

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

TUES.: Cub Scout Pack 3188 at 1st United Methodist Church, 6:30 p.m. Cubmaster Bruce Doll, 897-9782 / email: bruce@imagesofvision.com.

TUES.: Flat River Woodcarvers meet at LAAC from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

TUES.: Women's Community Bible Study. Free nursery and preschool story hour/craft time 9:45-11:15 a.m./women only at 7:15 p.m. Calvary Christian Reformed Church. Call 897-7060 or 897-7555.

1ST TUES.: Grattan Historical Society at O'Brien Room of Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Rd. Public invited.

1ST TUES.: Diabetic Support group, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Schneider Manor Community Rm., 725 Bowes Rd. 897-2760 or 897-9160.

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

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

2ND TUES.: G.R. Chapter of the American Sewing Guild, Plainfield Senior Center, 5255 Grand River Dr. NE, 6:30 social; 7 p.m. meeting/program. Call Sandy 285-0621 or June 231-780-1249 for more information.

2ND & 4TH TUES.: MOPS - Mothers of Preschoolers ...because mothering matters. 9:15-11:30 a.m. at Impact, a Wesleyan Church, 1070 N. Hudson. Call 897-8304.

2ND & 4TH TUES.: Saranac Needlers, needleart/quilting bee, 5-8:30 p.m., 4 Health Wellness Center, Bridge St., Saranac. All are welcome. Contact Bev or Melissa, 642-6466. Light dinner is provided.

2ND & 4TH TUES.: Knights of Columbus #7719 meets at St. Mary School at 7:30 p.m.

3RD TUES.: Saranac Scrappers, scrapbooking/journaling group meets at 4 Health Wellness Center, Bridge St., Saranac, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Light refreshments are served. Bev or Melissa, 642-6466.

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

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

WED.: Rotary meets at noon, Lowell Masonic Temple, 119 Lincoln Lake.

WED.: 8 p.m. ALANON upstairs at 1st Congregational Church, 404 N. Hudson St.

WED.: Tri-town Conservation Club trap & skeet league, 5616 Dunn Rd. 6-10 p.m. Larry 754-7104.

2ND WED.: Kent County Youth Fair Board meeting, 7:30 p.m., King Memorial Youth Center, 4-H Fairgrounds. Call 897-6050.

2ND WED.: Lowell Women's Club, noon in Schneider Manor Community Room, 725 Bowes Rd.

2ND WED.: Support group for Peripheral Neuropathy, 4 p.m., St. Paul's Anglican Catholic Church, Grand Rapids. Dorothy 897-9794.

THURS.: Weight Watchers at Lowell Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington St. 5:30 p.m. Register 1/2 hr. before the meeting. For info. 1-800-651-6000.

THURS.: Saranac Area Musicians and Singers practice at Saranac High School Band Rm. Choir: 6-7 p.m./band: 7-8. Kathy Maatman, 897-5981.

THURS.: Pottery classes at Franciscan Life Process Center, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. 897-7842.

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

1ST THURS.: Michigan Hepatitis C Foundation support meetings, 7-8:30 p.m. Spectrum Health Kent Community Campus, 750 Fuller NE.

1ST THURS.: 4-H drama club meeting, Lowell Middle School choir room. Call 897-1502 after 5 p.m.

1ST & 3RD THURS.: Alto Lions Club meets at Annalaine's on S. Alden Nash Ave. at 7 p.m.

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

2ND THURS.: Loyal Order of the Moose, men's meeting at 7:30 p.m.

2ND THURS.: Genealogy-Alto Family Tree Club at Alto Library, 6:30 - 8 p.m.

3RD THURS.: 4 Health Wellness Center in Saranac. Parent Support Group 7-8:30 p.m. Call 642-6466 for information.

3RD THURS.: Rubber stamping at Christian Life Center 6-9 p.m. Call Dawn at 862-8841.

3RD THURS.: VF#8303 Ladies Auxiliary, 3116 Alden Nash S.E. at 3 p.m.

3RD THURS.: Parents Supporting Parents group, Franciscan Life Process Center. Call 897-7842.

3RD THURS.: LaLeche League of Ada, Cascade, Lowell 6:30 p.m. socializing; meeting 7. Support for pregnant/breastfeeding women, Ada 752-8300.

FRI.: Arts/Crafts volunteers at Franciscan Life Process Center, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Call Pator/Judy at 897-7842.

2ND SAT.: Ada Historical Society, 10:30 a.m. at Averill Historical Museum, 7144 Headley, Ada.

2ND 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.

FRI., SAT. AND SUN.: Averill Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley, 1-4 p.m. or by appointment. Call 676-9346.

LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM: Tues., Sat. & Sun. 1-4; Thurs., 1-8. Families: \$10; individuals \$3; 5-17 \$1.50; members free. 897-7688.

ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY HOURS: Mon.-Wed., 12 - 8 p.m.; Thurs. and Fri.: 9:30 - 5 p.m.; Sat.: 9:30 - 2:30 p.m. 200 N. Monroe. Call 647-3920.

ALTO LIBRARY HOURS: Mon. & Sat. 9:30 - 1:30 p.m.; Tues. & Wed. 12-8 p.m.; Thurs. 1-5 p.m.

LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL: Tues.-Fri.: 12 - 5 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m. Monday / a.m. by appt. 149 S. Hudson. 897-8545 or www.lowellartscouncil.org.

LOWELL SERENITY CLUB MEETINGS: (AA) Mon., Wed., Thurs: 12-1 & 8-9 p.m.; Tues./Fri: 12-1, 4:30-5:30 & 8-9 p.m.; Sat./Sun.: 10-11 a.m. & 8-9 p.m.; (NA) Mon./Thurs., 6-7:30 p.m. 101 W. Main. 897-8565.

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

MON., JAN. 3: Lowell Athletic Boosters regular meeting at 7 p.m. in high school staff lounge.

THURS., JAN. 6: Financial Aid Night at LPAC at 7 p.m. for juniors, seniors and their parents to go over FAFSA.

THURS., JAN. 6: LAAC annual meeting at 7 p.m. at 149 S. Hudson. Call 897-8545 for more info.

THURS., JAN. 6: LAS softball winter fast pitch clinic begins for two months. Cost: \$30. Call Bob Rodenhouse at 987-2900 or 245-4596.

THURS., JAN. 27: ACT Preparation Workshop at Lowell High School, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Cost: \$38. Call 987-2908 with questions.

SAT., JAN. 8: LAS Environmental Club & Wege/Wittenbach Center free Christmas tree shredding, 12-4 p.m.; luminary walk, snowshoes available for rent, 4-6 p.m. Donations accepted.

SAT., JAN. 8: Foodmobile, free produce from 10-11 a.m. at Lowell fairgrounds, S. Broadway. Bring own bag or box. Distributed by F.R.O.M.

SAT., JAN. 8: Foodmobile, free produce from 10-11 a.m. at Lowell fairgrounds, S. Broadway. Bring own bag or box. Distributed by F.R.O.M.

SAT., JAN. 8: Foodmobile, free produce from 10-11 a.m. at Lowell fairgrounds, S. Broadway. Bring own bag or box. Distributed by F.R.O.M.

LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES
897-5949

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

TUES.: 9:00 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall; 12:45 p.m. Bible Study. **FRI.:** 9:00 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall.

WED., DEC. 29: 12 p.m. Pizza and Salad. **WED., JAN. 12:** 8:30 a.m. Traveling Breakfast at the Big Boy; 11 p.m. & 1 p.m. Math Games.

FRI., DEC. 31: New Year's Eve. Center Is Closed. **THURS., JAN. 13:** 12:15 p.m. Dance Westside Complex.

MON., JAN. 3: 10 a.m. Advisory Council. **FRI., JAN. 14:** 10 a.m. Community Senior Neighbors Lunch; 10 a.m. Out & About.

TUES., JAN. 4: 10:30 a.m. Reading Grandparents; Noon Potato Bar; 12:45 Bible Study. **MON., JAN. 17:** 12:45 p.m. Shop Target and Dollar Store.

WED., JAN. 5: 12:45 p.m. Shop at Lowell Meijer. **TUES., JAN. 18:** 10:30 a.m. Reading Grandparents; Noon Pizza Lunch; 12:45 p.m. Bible Study.

FRI., JAN. 7: 9 a.m. Bowling; 10 a.m. Out & About; 12:45 p.m. Bingo. **WED., JAN. 19:** 11 a.m. Math Games; 12:45 p.m. Shop Meijer; 1 p.m. Math Games.

MON., JAN. 10: Noon Pancake Lunch; 12:45 p.m. Games at Center. **THURS., JAN. 20:** 4:30 p.m. Dinner at Chinese Restaurant in Ionia.

TUES., JAN. 11: 10:30 a.m. Reading Grandparents; 12:45 p.m. Bible Study.

Lowell triumphs over Kenowa Hills 65-49; Former champs highlighted at Tuesday's game

By Dan Schneider

In the basketball game before the Christmas holiday, the Red Arrows defeated the Knights of Kenowa Hills at home, 65-49.

Lowell came out strong, leading at the half. The Arrows were tough in the third quarter, as well, with the Knights working hard to close the deficit to eight points.

The Red Arrows were dominant, rebounding in the fourth quarter. With several of the boards on the offensive side of the court, Lowell was able to prolong its posses-

sions. It also gave them the confidence to work the ball from the outside in.

Lowell was in control of the scoreboard throughout, though Kenowa forced them into a slower game than they usually play.

"They're a very disciplined, methodical offensive team," said Lowell coach Jeff McDonald. "It was a little different-paced game than what we would have liked to have played, but the encouraging thing was we won playing a different pace than we are comfortable doing."

Kenowa Hills coach Todd Johnston gave Ryan Lane a lot of the credit for Lowell's success inside against his team.

"If Ryan Lane plays like that, they can win this league," Johnston said. "I think their team is hard to defend and I think he may be the missing ingredient just because of his post play."

Kenowa's inside play was most in evidence in the third quarter.

"I thought we did a better job getting the ball inside and not settling for jumpshots," Johnston said. "And their defense adjusted to that, especially Lane."

The team is 2-1 in conference. During the holiday break, the team has been getting some consistent team practice.

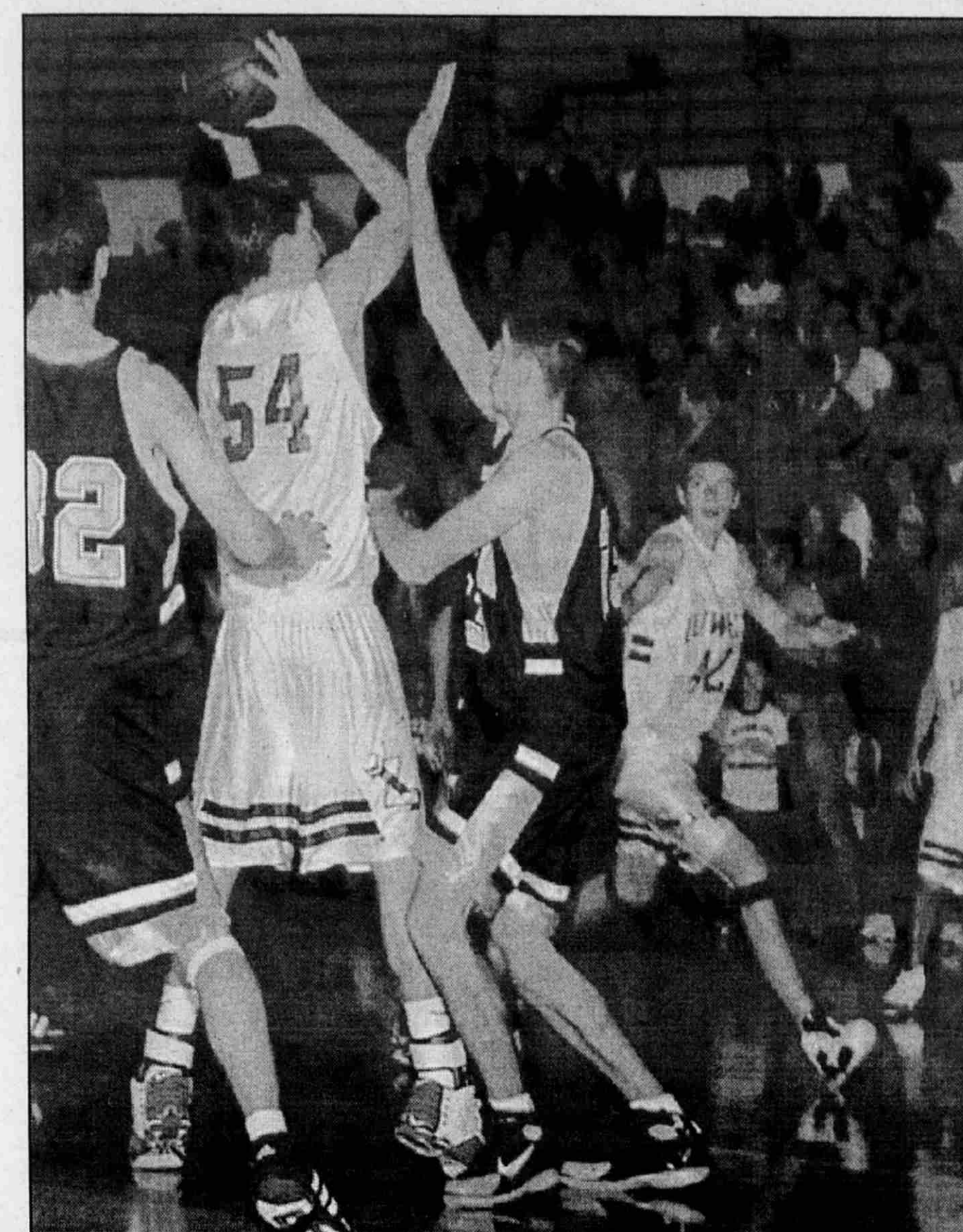
"We're really excited about our Christmas practice time," McDonald said. "Our kids have been waiting to have a full week together."

Josh Hettinga was the leading scorer for Lowell against Kenowa. He put up 18 points, going 10 for 13 from the free-throw line.

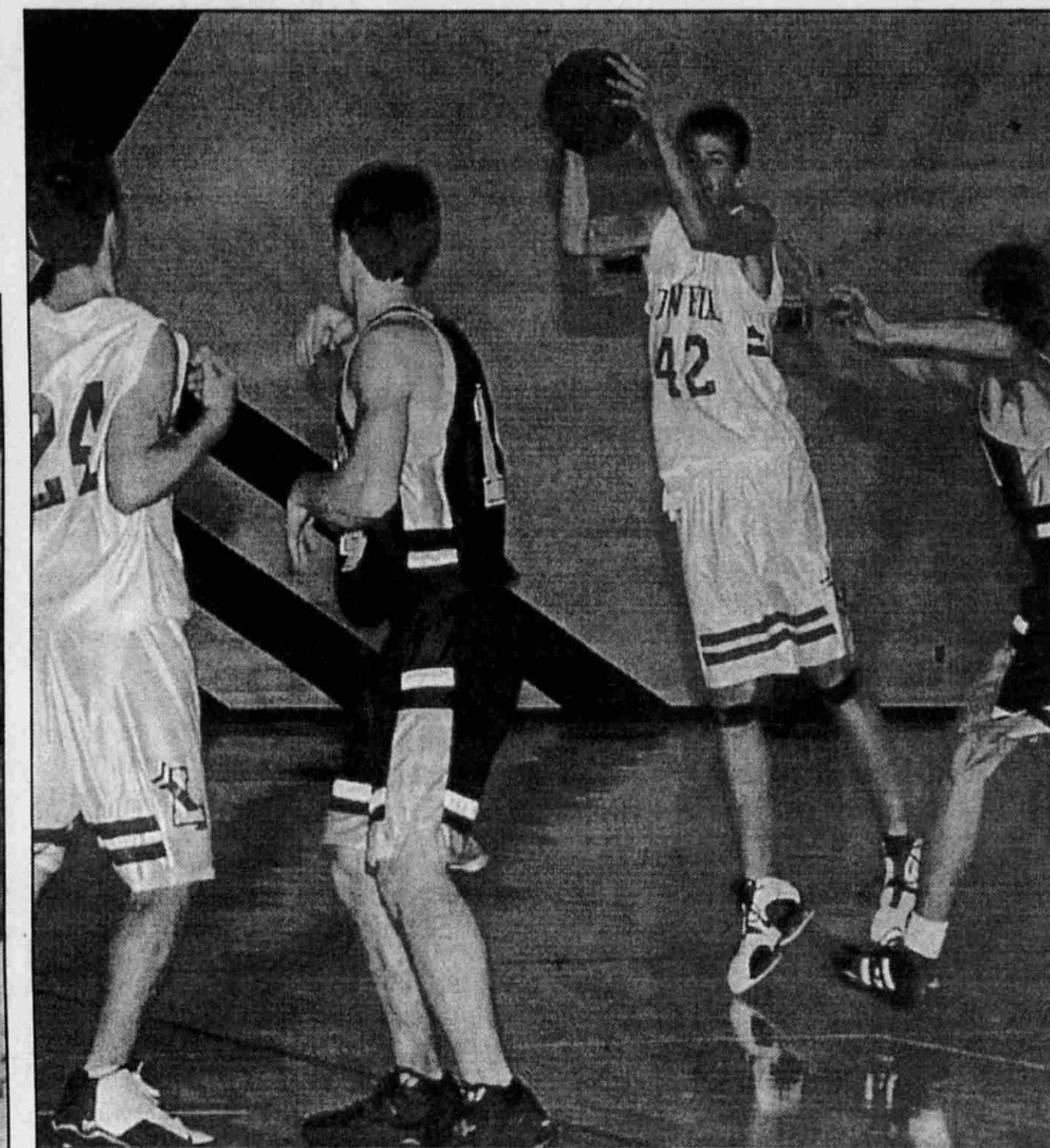
Kevin Gillman scored 11 points in the game.

At halftime, Lowell High School took time to honor the 1964-'65 basketball team. In that season, the Red Arrows went 20-1 and claimed conference and district championships before losing to Whitehall in the regional final of the Class B state tournament that year.

Lowell's next game is Tuesday, Jan. 4 at home against Northview.



Kenowa Hills' defenders surround Lowell's Ryan Lane, 54, in the key.



Lowell's Andrew Happie looks for an open man.

Life Insurance...
As permanent as your love

Your love for your kids is permanent, so protect them with permanent life insurance. It gives you peace of mind, lifelong protection, and cash values you can borrow against. Call today.

MARK JOHNSON
6095-28th Street Ste. 4
Grand Rapids, MI
49546 - 940-6161

Making Your Future More Predictable
FARM BUREAU INSURANCE
FARM BUREAU MUTUAL • FARM BUREAU LIFE • FARM BUREAU GENERAL
www.farmbureauinsurance-mi.com

GOING TO THE DENTIST DOESN'T HAVE TO HURT ANYMORE!

COMPLETE FAMILY DENTAL CARE
Accepting New Patients

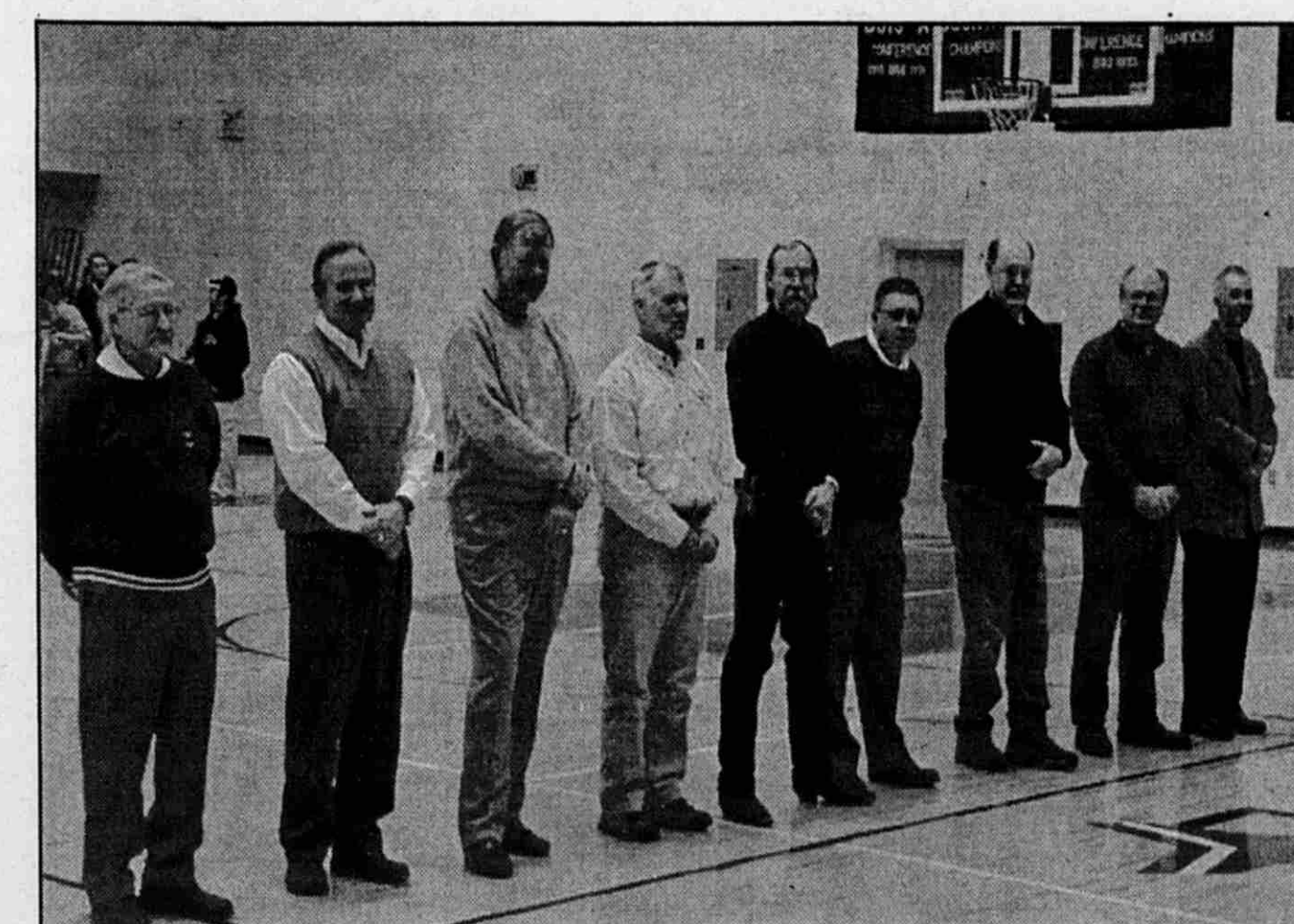
"Gentle & Painless Dentistry Is Our Goal"

COMPLETE SERVICES:

- ✓ Gentle Dentistry for Children & Adults
- ✓ Immediate Emergency Treatment
- ✓ Cosmetic Dentistry, Teeth Whitening
- ✓ Preventive Care
- ✓ Extractions/Broken Tooth Repaired
- ✓ Dentures (Same Day Repair)
- ✓ Insurance Plans Accepted
- ✓ Day & Evening Hours:

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

Judd T. Carroll, D.M.D.
103 East Main • Lowell, Michigan
(616) 897-7595



Pictured, from left to right, are coach Jack Kempker, Mike McMahon, Duane McIver, Dick Rollins, Kurt Beimers, Brad Fonger, Gary Sherman, Paul Kropf and Bob Elzinga of the 1964-'65 basketball team that went 20-1. They were recognized at halftime of the Lowell/Kenowa Hills game.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
IN THE 61ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

DUTCH SHAMROCK PROPERTIES L.L.C.
Plaintiff,

HON. PATRICK C. BOWLER

vs.

RENE DIEGO
and GERALDINE DIEGO
Case No. 04-SP-152
Defendant.

CRAIG A. BRUGGINK P.L.C.

(P29358)
Attorney for Plaintiff
The Steeple View Building
429 Turner, N.W.
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
(616) 456-5048

**ORDER FOR SERVICE OF
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**

At a session of court held in the courthouse in
Kent County, Michigan, on 12-6-04

Present: Honorable PATRICK C. BOWLER
61st District Court Judge

Plaintiff filed a verified ex parte motion for service of process in the discretion of the court. After reading the motion the court finds that Plaintiff has shown that service of process cannot reasonably be made on Defendant Rene Diego by the methods provided in MCR 2.105 (A), in that Plaintiff has demonstrated that diligent attempts to locate Defendant and his current address and to serve Defendant by personal delivery and by registered mail have not been successful. The court further finds, pursuant to MCR 2.105 (I), that service of process by publication is the best available method of service of process reasonably calculated to give Defendant actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard.

IT IS ORDERED:

1. Plaintiff may serve process on Defendant by publishing the following notice once each week for a period of three consecutive weeks in a newspaper, as defined in MCR 2.106 (F), that is published in the county of Defendant's last known address:

You are being sued by Plaintiff in this court to recover possession after land contract forfeiture, for the property located at 743 Watson SW, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49503 and legally described as:

The South 16 feet of the West 50 feet of Lot 16 and the West 50 feet of Lot 17, Block 12, Converse and Tolford's Addition, as recorded in Liber 3 of Plats, on Page 37, Kent County Records. City of Grand Rapids, Kent County, Michigan.

You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in this court at the court address, 61st District Court, 180 Ottawa NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503, on or before 28 days after the last date of publication. If you fail to do so, a default judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint filed in this case. Hearing is 1-4-05 at 8:30 a.m., 8th floor courtroom 8A.

2. A copy of the summons and a copy of the complaint along with a copy of this Order for Service by Publication shall be posted in the Kent County Courthouse and at 743 Watson SW, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49503 for three continuous weeks and a proof of posting shall be filed with the court.
3. A copy of the summons and a copy of the complaint along with a copy of this Order for Service by Publication shall be sent by registered mail addressed to the defendant at his last known address, 743 Watson S.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49503, before the date of the last publication and the Affidavit of Mailing shall be filed with this court.

Hon. Patrick C. Bowler
61st District Court Judge

Prepared by:
CRAIG A. BRUGGINK P.L.C.
(P29358)
Attorney for Plaintiff
429 Turner NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
616-456-5048

Lowell takes third in tough volleyball tournament in Portage

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell varsity volleyball team showed the state what it is made of at the Portage Northern Tournament a week ago Tuesday.

The Red Arrows finished third in the bronze division of the invitation-only tournament. The tournament lineup boasted returning champions and perennial powerhouses. It was a welcome addition to Lowell's volleyball schedule this year.

"One, if you get invited to one, you don't turn down the opportunity, and two, the competition's so good you get a great day of volleyball," said Lowell coach Gigi Peal. "It was really a great experience for Lowell volleyball. The girls earned a lot of respect."

The tournament was divided into two "power pools" building up to the semifinals in each division.

Lowell beat Pinconning (25-17, 25-9) and lost to Fruitport (24-26, 25-20, 15-12) in the first power pool. Peal called both teams Class B powerhouses. She also called the match against Fruitport, with 2 three-year all-state players "by far one of the best matches these kids have ever played."

"We've never played against a team like that," Peal said. "For us to come out and do well against them is a great thing."

Lowell lost to Concord and won (25-22, 25-9) against Comstock in the second power pool. The Arrows fell to eventual bronze division champion St. Joe (23-25, 25-23, 15-10) in the semifinal.

Peal said the tournament is the kind of experience Lowell needs to step up a level in this year's volleyball season.

"When you're competing at high levels all day, you have to bring your best game every time," Peal said. "If they can play that way against the teams that we see on a daily basis, we'll be very competitive."

The team is playing a tougher tournament schedule this season compared to previous years.

"We have totally changed our schedule from last year... just to increase our competition," Peal said.

After finishing second in the OK White last year, and with East Grand Rapids undergoing a rebuilding year, Lowell has its sights set on this year's conference championship.

Four starters are returning this year. Seniors include setter Taylor Verdon and hitter Katie Baker. Hit-

ters Kristin Johnson and Samantha Mol are junior returning starters. Malley Cahoon and Amanda Schneider are first-year varsity juniors playing in the middle. The defensive specialists are also first-time varsity players: sophomore Lisa Johnson and freshman Katie McElroy.

Juniors Kaitlyn Brower, Eva Wilcox and Jenny Zoodsma along with freshman Mary VanderLaan make up the rest of the team.

The Arrows competed Tuesday in the West Michigan Volleyball Officials Association Tournament at East Kentwood. Zealand, Rockford and Hamilton were in their pool.

Lowell's first home conference match is Jan. 6 against Sparta.

Want to tell us how you feel? Got a pet peeve To Get off Your Chest?

Did someone do the RIGHT thing for a change!

Sound Off

The Ledger (Almost) Anything Goes Opinion Forum

897-0787 or www.lowellbuyersguide.com

If people aren't "impressed" with our local sit down restaurant, why is there such a long line most of the time? No worries Keiser's...the loyal locals love you!

Thank you Brent Noskey for taking the time to go out on the playground and push a line of 20 plus eager children on the tire swing during recess. The community is blessed to have a principal as caring as you.

- Heather DeYoung

We want to be your Other Family Doctor.

Sick or Injured Animals See Same Day
Evenings & Saturday Hours Available
Early Drop-offs & House Calls
24-Hour Emergency Service
Science Diet Pet Foods
Boarding & Grooming

ANIMAL HOSPITAL OF LOWELL

Call 897-8484
11610 East Fulton Street - Lowell, Michigan

NEED COPIES?

Black & White
15¢ per copy or
10¢ per copy
if more than 10 of same page

We have a NEW Color Copier!

Color Copies
8 1/2 x 11 size paper
95¢ each
discounts for 10 or more of same page

11x17 size paper
\$1.25 each
discounts for 10 or more of same page

Lowell Ledger
105 N. Broadway,
897-9555

CLASSIFIEDS

PRICES
15 words for \$1.00
each additional word is 10¢
\$1 extra for bold
\$1 extra for a box

HOW TO REACH US
By Phone: 897-9261
By Fax: 897-4809
By E-Mail: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com
By Mail: PO Box 128 Lowell, MI 49331

DEADLINE
Monday at 5 p.m.
For the Wednesday Publication

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
In Kent County
\$15 - 1 year
\$29 - 2 years
Outside Kent County
\$22.50 - 1 yr.
\$38.00 - 2 yrs.

OFFICE HOURS
Mon. - Thurs.
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Fri.
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Closed Sat. & Sun.

GET THE LEDGER DELIVERED RIGHT TO YOUR DOOR!
Subscriptions make great gifts for that person who has everything!
Subscriptions in county are only \$15!
Call Our Office at 897-9261 Or Stop by 105 N. Broadway
Credit Card Required For a Phone-in order.

FOR SALE

BEDS - Namebrand mattress sets, twin, \$80; full \$80; queen \$95, King \$150. Call 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160.

FOR SALE - Hay, good first cutting. \$1.50 a bale. Call 691-7176.

FURNITURE - Bedroom & dining room, headboards, canopy beds, living room. Large selection. Wholesale prices. Call 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160.

AIR BED - Selecta comfort firmness for each of you. Dual chambers. Remote control. Warranty. Never used. Cost \$1,400, sell \$750. 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160.

FOR SALE 1995 CORSICA - Great car. Call 897-6992.

MATTRESS/BOX SPRINGS - Brand new, \$49/set. Twin, full, queen, delivery available. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

BATHROOM SINK TOP - White marble 36" with chrome faucet, \$10. 987-6412.

RAMADA INN FURNITURE - 25 rooms, excellent condition, night stands, \$5; desk, \$10; chest of drawers, \$25. Dennis Distributing, 315 N. Lansing, St. Johns, 989-224-4822.

SNOWBLOWER - John Deere 110 Lawn Tractor with mower deck and snowblower attachments; includes tire chains and rear weights. Fair condition, \$650.00. Call 897-8858 or 262-6581.

10 GAS STOVE/REFRIGERATOR SETS - Excellent working condition. Guaranteed. White, \$125/set til gone. Dennis Distributing, 315 N. Lansing, St. Johns, 989-224-4822.

CHOCOLATE LAB PUPPIES - AKC/OFA male and female, blockhead, excellent hunting stock, dew-claws, 1st shots, \$450 - \$500. Ready January 10, 2005. Call 682-0562.

HOT WATER HEATER - Kenmore Powermizer 6, 40 gal. electric, like new \$25. 987-6412.

SOFA, LOVESEAT - Beige, cushioned arms, floor ruffle (1 month old). Bought, did not use. Cost \$1,100, sell \$495/best. 517-719-8062.

AMISH BEDROOM SET - 7 pieces plus queen pillowtop mattress; new, never used. Cost \$1,400, sell \$250. Call 517-719-8062.

GENERAL ELECTRIC WASHER/DRYER SET - 5 years old, runs great, large capacity, guaranteed. \$75 each. Dennis Distributing, 989-224-4822.

A MEMORY FOAM BED - NASA developed memory foam. Brand name, never used. \$500. Call 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160.

FOR SALE

FURNITURE - Bedroom & dining room, headboards, canopy beds, living room. Large selection. Wholesale prices. Call 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160.

GATEWAY COMPUTER - with printer \$150.00. Call 897-5326.

TIRES - 4-255-85-16 Copper all terrain, black rims. 60% tread. Fits Dodge 1/2 ton, \$200. 231-679-0742.

SCANNER - Umax Astra 2400s color with imaging software, \$10. 987-6412.

TOILET TANK - New white with fittings, \$5. 987-6412.

THE LEDGER OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON DEC. 31
We will be open on **Mon., Jan. 3 at 8 a.m.**

GOOD WINTER CAR - AMC Eagle wagon, 4x4, USA's first SUV. Good runner, quite clean and solid. Needs TLC. No longer used. \$675 obo. Call 616-443-3718.

FOR SALE OR FOR RENT - 3 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home on country lots, Lowell Schools, \$600 per month plus security deposit or \$7,500 cash. Call 616-761-2249.

BUCKEYE FEEDS - Now available at Lizzie Scott Feed Shop. Call Wednesday for your order, pickup Friday. Mary Raimer 642-9821. "We Make Farm Calls."

FLUTES FOR SALE - New, also private lessons, 20 years experience. Call Denise 682-1560.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE - \$120 per cord. Call 691-7888.

BEAUTIFUL ROLLING - 6 acre parcel SE of Alto, Thornapple-Kellogg schools, \$49,900 C-21 Pearson-Cook 616-891-8980 or Mary at 269-795-2337 MLS#G512130.

FOR SALE - Great bargains at the F.R.O.M. Thrift Store. Come shop with us!

PLEASE NOTE - Beginning Jan. 1, 2005 all Cards of Thanks & In Memoriam ads in the Buyers Guide & Lowell Ledger must be paid for in advance. We can no longer bill for these ads.

TO BE BUILT - 1100 sq. ft, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, full basement, 2-stall garage, improved lot, professionally landscaped, Lowell schools. Prices starting at \$124,900. Choice of lots. Models available. In Alto Meadows site condo association. Call Pat at 868-0123.

CUSTOM MADE FARMHOUSE & COTTAGE STYLE FURNITURE - Morning Glory Farm, 616-527-1555.

JOHN SCHLOOP BUILDER - 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranches from \$120,000. Call 897-1335.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT - 1 & 2 bedroom trailers \$1,000 - \$1,050 to move in. No dogs please. \$400 - \$420 per mo. plus 1 1/2 mo. rent deposit. Call 813-8041 or 616-754-0276.

HALL FOR RENT - with kitchen, seats 150. Call 897-6050.

HOUSE FOR RENT - in Clarksville. 2 story, 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath. Available Jan. 5. \$875/month. Call 897-3120.

ONE BEDROOM APARTMENT FOR RENT - semi-furnished, all utilities and cable included. \$140/week. Call 897-6318.

FOR RENT - \$400 moves you in! 1 & 2 bedroom apartments in Lowell. One stall garage, w/d hook-ups & convenient location. Starting at \$625 month. Call today 363-5430 or visit us on the web at www.wmponline.com.

LOWELL 2 BEDROOM APARTMENT - for rent. \$450 a month plus utilities. Call 897-1160.

FOR RENT - 2 bedroom home in great neighborhood. Appliances, completely remodeled, large yard, pets okay on approval, \$750 month plus utilities and deposit. 897-2033 or 318-9294.

FOR RENT - Very nice newer 2 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home with central air, washer & dryer, 2 miles from Lowell. \$550 a month plus deposit. No pets. Call 897-6933 or 616-862-8179.

FOR RENT - 2 bedroom home, nice yard in like new condition. Ada, Lowell Schools of Choice. \$950 a month. Call 293-0128.

HALL FOR RENT - Caledonia Sportsman Club. Newly renovated. For more information call 616-891-1168.

CARD OF THANKS

CARD OF THANKS
My family and I would like to thank the Grattan and Cannon Township Fire Departments for their wonderful work in putting out the chimney fire at our home during a bitter cold evening last week. The effort by the whole group was outstanding. You are a great bunch. Special thanks to Fire Captain Lou Kirkbride and Marty Chambers.
The Blattner family

CARD OF THANKS
I would like to thank my family and friends for giving me a wonderful 75th surprise birthday party. Also for all the cards sent to me.
Ellen Miller

TOWING - Servicing Lowell & surrounding areas. Flat bed & wrecker, Tire changes, Jump starts, Lock outs, 24 Hr. service. Call Lincoln Lake Autos 446-5909.

HELP WANTED

COUNTER CLERK NEEDED - Part time evenings & Saturday. Apply in person at 591 Ada Dr. or 6555 28th St. SE

HOME HEALTH AIDE NEEDED - part-time, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. full time 4 p.m. - 12 a.m. in downtown Lowell. Call Amanda 616-447-8070.

HELP WANTED - General labor, full time, factory, good pay and benefits. Apply in person to HR Department. Michigan Wire Processing, 2487 W. Main, Lowell, MI 49331.

WANTED

WANTED JUNK CARS - for scrap. Call Todd 616-887-9256.

SERVICES

K & E PAINTING & PAPERING - Commercial & industrial. Over 30 years of service. Discount rates thru the end of March. Call 897-2771 for free estimate.

MOTHER HELPING TO SEND KIDS TO COLLEGE - Will clean, cook, paint, laundry. \$10 an hour. Phone 897-5711.

COPIES COPIES COPIES - We have new color & black & white copiers! Excellent quality! Stop by our office, Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway.

CHAIR CANING - Rushing, flat reed seat weaving. Karin Eldredge, 897-6315.

WEDDING INVITATIONS

Available at Lowell Litho
105 N. Broadway.
Stop by & check out a book! 4 books to choose from. Wide variety of invitations & prices. Ph. 897-9261

NEED A SITTER FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE? - Sunshine Mountain Daycare is offering overnight care, 6 p.m. - 10 a.m. Includes pizza dinner, snacks & party favors, games & activities, continental breakfast. Call to reserve your spot! 897-3120.

ALTERATIONS - Experienced professional, men's, women's, leather coats, all fabrics, zippers replaced, wedding & prom dresses altered. Call Helen 897-6071.

I WILL REMOVE - Unwanted vehicles or scrap metal for FREE! Also will do odd jobs. Call 616-293-8360.

TOWING - Servicing Lowell & surrounding areas. Flat bed & wrecker, Tire changes, Jump starts, Lock outs, 24 Hr. service. Call Lincoln Lake Autos 446-5909.

SERVICES

RAY'S SMALL ENGINE REPAIR - Lawn mowers, riders, weedwackers & snow blowers. Pickup & delivery available. Call 485-5835.

PLUMBER - Experienced. Residential, Service or New Construction. Reasonable rates. Call 897-2575.

NEW YEAR'S TEENAGE BABYSITTERS AVAILABLE - Includes dinner & breakfast. Overnight optional. Call 616-293-6902 or 616-893-7723.

SNOWPLOWING - Tired of shoveling that driveway? We have great hourly or seasonal rates available. Long, short, straight or curvy driveways. We do them all. Call Homrich Mobile Washing & Snowplowing at 897-0269 for your free quote.

JOHN DEBIAK HORSESHOEING & HOOK TRIMMING - Serving the Greater Kent/Lonia County area with 15 years of professional, full-time experience. Call 897-4290.

IF YOU HAVE TRASH - Call ALL TRASH. All trash LLC. 15 yd. rolloff dumpsters. 616-887-8870.

PAYROLL & BOOKKEEPING SERVICE - By certified Quickbooks advisor. Call Kathy 897-0686.

SHIP UPS AT THE LEDGER OFFICE - Daily pickup. Small box packaging available. 105 N. Broadway. Compare our prices! Call for a price quote!

HORSE BOARDING - 6 miles north of Lowell. Excellent facility, excellent care. Contact: Wendy at 616-794-3793 or 616-481-2490.

UHEN CONSTRUCTION SNOWPLOWING - Snow removal, driveways, roofs, etc. 299-1249.

LISA'S DAYCARE - Has full-time positions available. Kids welcome for Murray Lake School. Great country setting with indoor & outdoor play areas. Planned daily activities & occasional field trips. Call Lisa at 897-3065 for an interview.

DOES YOUR CHRYSLER, PLYMOUTH, DODGE CAR, TRUCK OR VAN NEED REPAIR? - Don't make a mistake & take it anywhere else - give Geo-Tech a try! Contact George at Geo-Tech Transmission & Repair, 897-0743.



Tie a MADD Ribbon on a visible part of your car to show others your support TO STOP Drunk Driving and your commitment to DRIVE SOBER!

MADD of KENT COUNTY
146 MONROE CENTER N.W.
456-MADD

MADD Mission
"To stop drunk driving, support the victims of this violent crime and prevent underage drinking."



PUT THE BRAKES ON DRUNK DRIVING

PICK UP YOUR RED RIBBON AT ANY OF THESE BUSINESSES

VOYAGES

COFFEE SHOP
307-B E. Main
897-4337

STOCK
Building Supply
925 W. Main
Lowell
897-9291

RONDA
A Great Place to Re-tire
LOWELL
746 W. MAIN
897-6200

COLDWELL BANKER
HOPPOUGH & ASSOCIATES
200 West Main St.
Lowell, MI
897-0500

DOCTORS CHIROPRACTIC
11827 E. FULTON
897-4999

ICNB
Hometown Banking
Member FDIC
www.icnb.com
2601 W. Main
897-6171

HAROLD ZEIGLER
FORD
LOWELL
11979 E. Fulton, Lowell, MI
897-8431

Keiser's
"A Family Tradition Since 1945"
724 E. MAIN
LOWELL
897-8455

CAR CITY
2399 West Main St.
Lowell, MI
897-8100

bryant Factory Authorized Dealer
Arctic, Inc.
HEATING • AIR CONDITIONING
1301 Bowes Rd., Lowell, MI 49331
897-4123
www.heatingcoolingonline.com
Licensed & Insured

LOWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT
111 N. Monroe
897-7123

ANIMAL HOSPITAL OF LOWELL
11610 E. Fulton
897-8484

JAMES E. REAGAN, D.D.S.
207 West Main
897-7179

Lowell Lanes
11550 E. Fulton,
Lowell, MI
897-8443

Wittenbach GMC
749 West Main
897-9227

Thomet
CHEVROLET • BUICK
1250 W. Main
Lowell
897-9294

GERST FUNERAL HOMES
Advanced Funeral Planning Specialists
ROTH-GERST
305 N. Hudson, Lowell
897-7101
O'BRIEN-EGGEBEEN-GERST
3980 Cascade Rd., S.E., Grand Rapids
949-7350

REGAL INSURANCE
897-9259

835 W. MAIN
Dale & Nancy Triplett
Agents

Showboat
AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLY, INC.

1450 W. Main, Lowell, MI
(616) 897-9231

STATE FARM INSURANCE
Roger Chapman
217 West Main
897-9237

Bernard's ACE Hardware
1601 W. Main
897-9490

Little Caesars
505 W. Main
897-0043

exo **Salon, Inc.**
204 W. Main
897-1700

LOWELL LITHO
Lowell Ledger Buyers Guide
"Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893" "Your Guide To Better Buying Since 1954"
105 N. Broadway
897-9261