The Lowell Ledger

Volume 34 Issue 11

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, January 18, 2006

Once the largest in Michigan, Flat River Antique Mall set to close its doors in February

By Dan Schneider

ith "4 Floors of Antiques" "More Antiques Downstairs," according to signs posted around the place, the Flat River Antique Mall is a giant of antique commerce.

The basement has old clothes and antique fabrics. On the main level are chairs, toys and books. The second floor, the one with the low ceiling, has antique Coleman lanterns. There are light fixtures hanging all over on the upper floor, next to a high-ceilinged room full of rusting garden ornaments. what's happening,"

Antiques made of colored glass are everywhere.

Children are often seen there, though it might not be the best place to take them--either because of the glass or because there's a chance they might get lost in the "4 Floors of Antiques."

The antique mall has been on Lowell's Main Street almost 20 years. At its peak, it filled nearly a whole city block and had five floors of antiques. The mall will close at the end of February, about three days before its 20th anniversary.

"We hate to see it close, we love it here, but that's



In its almost 20 years in business, the Flat River Antique Mall drew quite a bit of traffic to Lowell. The mall used to have five floors of antiques.

Marilyn Hendges. "End of an era."

Hendges, proprietor of booth B18, has been a dealer at the mall for nearly as long as the mall has been there ... 18 years.

There are certainly older businesses in Lowell. But the antique mall is one that has defined the city for many people who traveled here to shop there.

"They have had a huge impact on bringing visitors in as a destination," Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce director Liz Baker said.

The mall will stay open seven days a week until Feb. 12. After that, the operation will gradually shut down. Feb. 26 will be its final day. March 1 would have been its 20th anniversary.

Flat River Antique Mall's owners, Ron, 58, and Laura, 55, McCollum, are gearing down for an early retirement, Laura McCollum said. They will be shifting their focus to their other business, Storm Hill Nursery in Cascade Township.

She said with the economy in the shape it is in, it is becoming more difficult to sustain such a large antique operation. And the auction web site Ebay has changed the landscape of antique dealing, McCollum added.

When the McCollum's first bought the building, they did so out of an interest in renovating historic buildings. The antique mall idea came later. It started on the cusp of a boom for antique malls that lasted into the early 1990s.

"We became the largest antique mall in Michigan

> Antique mall closing, cont'd., pg. 9

Township approves rezoning of land approved for PDR program

By Dan Schneider

farmer in Lowell Township is hoping to get a better price for the development rights on his Land after the township board approved rezoning the land to a less strict agricultural designation.

Joe Merriman's 64 acres on the south side of 52nd Street between Alden Nash and Bancroft avenues was among the top priorities on the county's list of land to preserve under the fledgling Purchase of Development Rights program. The program seeks to keep land in agriculture by paying owners for an easement that prevents development of the property.

In the case of the Merriman farm, the process went smoothly until it came to determining a price for the development rights. Merriman submitted an application to have 64 of his 80 acres entered into the program during Kent County's first PDR application cycle in 2003. Also in that year, the township approved the land for preservation through the program. The appraiser the county hired

determined the value of the development rights on the land to be \$153,600, or \$2,400 per acre.

"I was grossly unhappy with his appraisal," Merriman said at the township board meeting Monday.

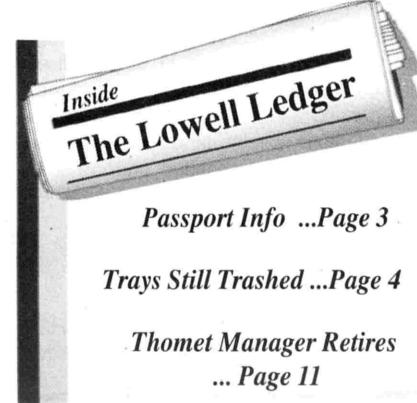
Merriman hired his own appraiser, which is acceptable under the county PDR ordinance. But the county agricultural preservation board did not accept the appraisal, Merriman explained.

"They said they didn't think his appraisal took Lowell Township's Ag-1 zoning into enough consideration," Merriman said.

Lowell Township has two degrees of agricultural zoning. Ag-1, or prime agricultural, allows eight houses per square mile.

"If your land is zoned Ag-1, then you really are pretty much restricted from building houses on it," said Lowell

Rezoning, cont'd., pg. 13







CALVI January 13, 2006 after a officiating.

of Fairbault, MN, Barb a member of West Berlin Kelly Moody and Steve is survived by his loving wife Bulson. Funeral service was Doris of Saranac; son Gary Lois T. Calvi, aged 46, held Jan. 16 at Ada Bible and Beverly Haller of Lake Brad, Mary and Al; parents Rapids, MI 49504.

TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN

COUNTY OF KENT, MICHIGAN

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on February 1, 2006 at 7:00 p.m., the Planning Commission of the Township of Grattan will hold a public hearing at the Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Road, within the Township, on an application by New Cingular Wireless for a special land use so as to authorize the co-location of communications antennas on an existing communications tower, and for accessory facilities associated with such antenna, on land commonly described as 6610 Nugent Avenue, N.E., which is legally described as follows:

Part of the Northwest 1/4, Section 17, Town 8 North, Range 9 West, described as commencing 1220.48 feet North 00°00'03" East along the North-South 1/4 line from the center of the Section; thence North 88°59'04" West 1583.32 feet: thence North 01°32'58" West 200.00 feet; thence North 88°59'04" West 600.60 feet: thence South 01°32'58" East 200.00 feet; thence North 88°59'04" West 394.08 feet more or less, to the West section line; thence North along the West section line to the North section line; thence East along the North section line to the North-South 1/4 line; thence South to the point of beginning, Grattan Township, Kent County, Michigan,

Information concerning the requested special land use is on file and may be examined at the Township office, 12050 Old Belding Road, Belding, Michigan 48809, during office hours. All interested persons may attend the public hearing and be heard with regard to the requested special land use. Written comments may be submitted prior to the hearing, to the Township office, up to the time of the public hearing.

Dated: January 13, 2006

PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN

HALLER

step-great-grandchildren. Royal Forest Haller, He was preceded in death by a son Terry C. Haller, aged 88, of Saranac, passed daughter-in-law Barbara away January 14, 2006 in Haller, brother Keith Haller, 15, 1917 in Berlin Twp., sister-in-law Helen Haller. Roger and Doris Timmer the son of Royal E. and Funeral services will be of Grand Rapids, Mary Racie (Leopard) Haller, held Wednesday at 1 p.m. at Grant Program for 2006 has including elm-lined drives, Timmer and Ed Bryan of Royal married Helen Bever Lake Funeral Home in Ionia been announced by Elm elm groves and specimen Byron Center: mother-in- on November 25, 1937 and with Rev. Mark Lipscomb Research Institute (ERI), elms in choice locations. law Zelma Calvi; siblings she preceded him in death officiating. Interment a nonprofit organization As the elms mature, they Jim (Jean) Timmer of Troy, on December 4, 1998. He Saranac Cemetery. The based in Keene, NH. This raise their wide canopies Cathy (Virgil) Cotter of married Doris Wheelock family will receive friends unique, community-oriented to heights that afford clear Caledonia, Linda Kirby October 31, 2001. He was and relatives Wednesday at promotion features disease-(Steve) Schulle, Missouri Wesleyan Church, Best Memorial contributions may Elms which are the only City, Texas; brother-in-law Years Fellowship and was be made in Royal's name street proven, purebred, enjoy. Doyle (Peggy) Calvi of involved in the Missions to West Berlin Wesleyan native American elms with Hamilton, Ohio; step-sister Committee at church. Royal Church Building Fund. HUBBARTH Evelyn

of Lowell, passed away Church, Rev. Bill Search Odessa; step-children Bruce Hubbarth, aged 81, of Ada, For every inch of caliper Interment and Marge Wheelock of died Saturday, January 7, purchased, in trees 3 inch long courageous battle with Bailey Cemetery. Memorial Colorado, Jeanne and Edwin 2006. She was preceded caliper and larger, ERI will cancer for 14 years. She is contributions may be made Hare of Wyoming, Mich., in death by her husband donate an equal total in 1 survived by her husband to: Gilda's Club. 1806 Marilyn and Art Williams of 58 years, Charles and inch or 2 inch caliper trees of 25 years, Bart; children Bridge St. N.W., Grand of Texas, Marla and Terry brothers Buzzy and Eugene to be presented as a gift to Jasinski. She is survived by the municipality of your her children Charles "Chip" Lola Haller of Lake Odessa: Hubbarth of Kalamazoo, property. brother-in-law Freeman and Steve (Nancy) Hubbarth of Lowell, Chris (Ann) town, a local business or Hubbarth of Royal Oak, resident purchase (1) 6-inch Todd and Donna Haller of Tulsa, Lori Bechtel of inch caliper, valued at \$300 Institute reports. Now the of Lowell, Terry Haller Battle Creek; sisters Jerry each, as a tax deductible gift, tree has had more than 20 and Shawn of Belding, McCreery, Linda Pirwitz; to a community or college years of "street testing," Becky Haller and David 14 grandchildren; six great- of your choice. This tree growing in communities Leiter of Ionia, Kristen and Christian Burial was offered Edward and Caryn Haller Wednesday, Jan. 11 at St. to "Re-elm" the streets of California, Ann and Chad Patrick Church, Parnell, of America. Contact Elm Losses among the over Leiter of Lake Odessa, Rev. Badgerow, presiding. Research Institute for all the 300,000 trees distributed Kari Haller of Kentucky; Memorial contributions 14 step-grandchildren: 13 may be made to St. Jude's great-grandchildren; several Children's Hospital.

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IO ID INSURANCE 940-8181 www.farmbureauinsurance-mi.com LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT

COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS **Decedent's Estate**

> FILE NO. 06-180,809-DE

Estate of ALFRED **GERHART TETZLAFF.** deceased

> Date of birth 09/05/1926

TO ALL CREDITORS: NOTICE TO CREDITORS: Craig A. Bruggink P.L.C. The decedent, ALFRED P29358 GERHART TETZLAFF. 429 Turner NW who lived at 226 Burton Grand Rapids, MI 49504 St. S.W., Grand Rapids, 616-456-5048 Michigan 49507 died 11/15/2005.

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

presented to SCOTT TETZLAFF, named or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave. NW. Ste. 2500, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/ proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

January 13, 2006

Scott Tetzlaff 12355 13 Mile Rd. Greenville, MI

Free elms available under matching grant program

The new Matching Tree landscape 12 p.m. until time of service. resistant American Liberty Having elms as a a Lifetime Warranty against

landscape element again, Dutch elm disease. designers can continue the Here's how the Matching tradition of Fredrick Law Barbara Tree Grant Program works: Olmsted, who included American elms in his plans for the U.S. Capitol grounds, New York City's Central Park and other Liberty Elms field tested

for more than 20 years

choice for planting on public The American Liberty Elm, during its research Example: Should the phase, showed superior fungus inoculations in Tom (Vickie) Hubbarth tree and ERI donates (3) 2- eight successive years, the grandchildren. Mass of grant will help Elm Research where Dutch elm disease Institute fulfill its mission is present. ERI calls this details of this unique offer. have been less than 1 per Receiving cities pay only cent. "With more elms now for shipping charges for the on the market claiming gift trees. These trees are not resistance," Hansel says, available from commercial "you need to ask the right nurseries ... you can get them questions. As a consumer, only from Elm Research you have the right to inquire about the origin and Tree specifiers eligible track record of any elm you "Liberty Elms have are considering."

For more information. become extremely popular with new home owners, about the Matching Tree landscape Grant Program, phone architects, developers and Elm Research Institute at contractors," says John P. 1-800-367-3567 (FOR-Hansel, founder of ERI. "We ELMS), online at www. landscapeelms.com or write will extend the Matching Tree Grant Program to those Elm Research Institute, 11 Kit St., Keene, NH 03431. who are specifying and planting American Liberty Individuals may also get a free 2-3 ft. tree with a \$45

The American Liberty membership. Elms, with their classic American elm personal representative lend themselves to many

ROGER K. BROWN...

JEANNE BOSS...

DAN SCHNEIDER.

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Institute.

City now offering passport services

By J. Lobdell Contributing Writer

summer?

Planning on traveling overseas in the next couple of months? Got a student who's looking to study in France or Spain this

to plan a special trip out of town to get that passport.

Grand Rapids post office explained. or city office because the applications.

said for several years, the federal government has been expanding the sites

By Dan Schneider

position.

the position.

Hopkins.

AreaSchools'superintendent

continues for the Lowell even toured the district.

As of Monday, the district hopes to identify

tute, which is conducting by March 13. Under the

the candidate search under selection process timeline,

contract to the district, had the new superintendent will

active interest in the position first order of business will be

which has been very to familiarize him or herself

education president Nancy "organization of the district,

encouraging," said Lowell with the district.

"There has been very said, the new superintendent's

received 25 inquiries about start no later than July 1

several years.

passport four years ago, I went to the Alto post office," Morlock said. More recently, the

expanded the program to Well, you won't have municipalities, and many are Hall or have it downloaded necessary but picking up the opportunity because "with tight budgets In fact, you don't it's another way to bring in some income," Morlock

Lowell City Clerk's office offered on Plainfield where Michigan driver's license hand delivered to the post can now process passport several city staff members or a Michigan ID, and two office for that night's mail. including Morlock attended. processed her first three Photo or Meijer. applications.

applications. Post office Lowell. Morlock said this locations have been offering is the rate that the federal the service for a while and government has established the Alto post office has for all locations.

Still many candidates interested in

A high level of interest interested candidate has the union groups, getting

After that date, Hopkins

Michigan Leadership Insti- the successful candidate important, Hopkins said.

Understanding

Lowell school superintendent position

back by Friday, Feb. 3. The curriculum over the last

application, which assures "When I had to get a that it is sent overnight to the it's a minor or a person with U.S. Department of State, it divorced parents or other

federal government has person must either fill out simple. the application form at City from www.travel.state. gov. The person must also accepted between 8 a.m. bring in proof of U.S. and 4 p.m. Monday through citizenship, i.e., an original Friday. Morlock said the 4 One-day training was seal, a photo ID, such as a that the application can be passport photos, which can

that can process passport with \$30 going to the city of it is completed correctly, Alto post office and Ada check the proofs, and the Township Hall. photos before sending it to the U.S. Department of State for processing.

She added that one building relationships with they were involved in their

Applications are due we've made to the candidate will have some

Immersion in the Lowell

community will also be one

of the first steps for the new

part of their responsibility

will be getting involved in

the community and getting

to know the community,"

we're looking for ... how

superintendent.

several years" will all be contract negotiations get

"Another important months before that comes to

the Hopkins said. "That will be with its union staff for the

an important characteristic 2006-2007 school year.

to know the improvements

Sometimes the process can get a little tricky when is an extra \$60 on top of the family situations, Morlock said, adding that most of the To get a passport, a time the process is pretty

Appointments are not applications are only birth certificate with a raised p.m. deadline is to ensure

City of Lowell is the Clerk Betty Morlock On Friday, Morlock be done at either Modern only office in the Lowell area currently offering the City staff will review passport service. The next The passport fee is \$97 the application to make sure closest facilities are the

successful

time to settle in before

will start up again probably

not until that fall so that

person will be here several

the top of the list," Hopkins

negotiating new contracts

The district will be

"Contract negotiations

started in the district.

GOSPELMEN

CONCERT The Gospelmen will be in a concert of worship on Sunday, Jan. 22 at First Baptist Church, 2275 W. Main from 9:30 - 11 a.m. The public is invited to attend.

LHS CLASS TRIP

A parents' meeting regarding the LHS class of 2006 senior trip is scheduled for Monday, Jan. 30 at 7 p.m. in the math room at Lowell High School.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

A multi-media art show on "Michigan Rural Character" will be presented April 12 - May 10 at Vergennes Township Hall. Submission deadline: March 29. For info./registration forms: www.vergennestwp. org.; for hard copies call Mari Stone at 897-5671. Sponsored by Open Space Citizen Committee of Vergennes Township.

HEAD START **ENROLLMENT**

Lowell Head Start is now enrolling for the 2006-2007 school year. To qualify for this free preschool program, children must be three years old by Dec. 1. 2006 and the family must meet income requirements. Morning and afternoon sessions are available. Call 897-7920 for more information.

MATH PARENT NIGHT

There will be a math parent night at Cherry Creek Elementary on Tuesday, Jan. 31, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. No childcare will be available for this event.

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College News

Area Schools board of

Austin A. Blough, who will graduate this spring from Lowell High School, is a recipient of the Free Enterprise Scholarship for the 2006-2007 academic Northwood University.

The Free Enterprise Scholarship is \$5,000 per year with renewal options yearly, provided criteria is

ADA-LOWELL 5 www.adalowell5.com M-21 5 Minutes East of Amway H.O. (616)
ALL DIGITAL SOUND 897-FILM No passes Free drink refills & 25¢ corn refil SHOWTIMES 1/16 - 1/19 O HOSTEL (R) THE LAST HOLIDAY (PG-13) 2:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20 :00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00 FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) 1:05, 3:10, 5:15, 7:20 The Chronicles of Narnia: The LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE (PG) :20, 4:05, 6:50, 9:35

COUPON ...

Blough, the son of Arthur and Veronica Blough of Lowell, will work toward a business degree from Northwood University in

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2 bath

CONTACT: Michael Nosko

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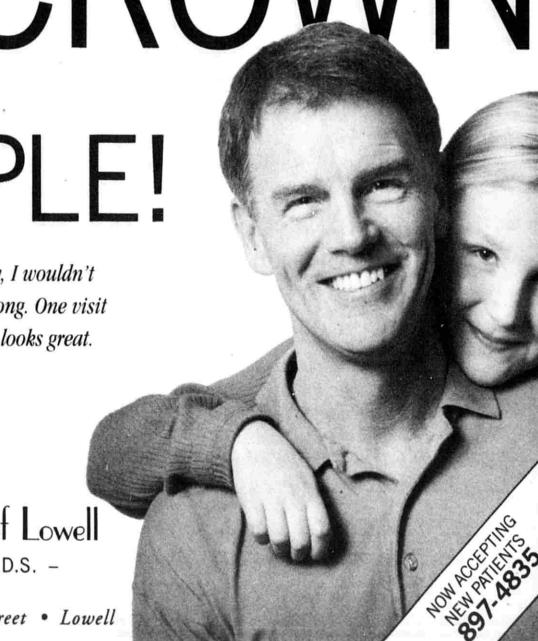
A CROW IN ONE VISIT ...SIMPLE! "If I had known it would be this easy, I wouldn't

bave 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!"



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Lunch trays not being recycled, still just trash

By Dan Schneider

district officials approved better part of a year to get the recycling of lunch trays at Lowell High School, the polystyrene trays are still going out with the garbage.

Last March, the Ledger reported high school and lunchroom officials and then-Lowell Area Schools' superintendent Shari Miller recycling the trays. The officials.

high school Environmental Almost a year after Club had worked for the the recycling approved.

> According Environmental is still a will to get the recycling going on the part of both the club and the administration.

"They're all for it," signed off on a plan for Smith said of district

working to get the project's pick up the trays for free ...

During the time the we just need a trailer to store of an animal-proof storage unit, so tray recycling won The length of time approval in Lowell.

between collections in the Dart recycling program principal Scott Vashaw said added to concerns that the the tray recycling will likely Steve" Mueller is adjusting president Lori Smith, there of time the trays would be dirty trays would attract be underway by the end of the to that role in addition to waiting for pickup. The vermin while in storage, school year. "I think it will his other responsibilities as club found a company, Dart But prior to last March, probably get started early in director of the Wittenbach-Container Corp., that would Rockford High School had the next semester here," he Wege Agriscience and already started a successful said. "I know it's one of their Environmental Center. tray recycling program, (the Environmental Club's) "We had that set up, but including the construction priorities."

The project, he said, may have been hampered by the fact that the Lowell High School Environmental Club has a new advisor. "Ranger

Sharing With Pat Murphy

continued support for reinstating the non-homestead property Lowell Area Schools.

Interim Superintendent

tax. The present non-homestead property tax expires on June 30, 2006. At their February board meeting, the Board of held regarding the non-homestead renewal issue and ways Education will be deciding on the ballot wording for the vou can help. non-homestead property tax renewal.

school district and the quality of the Lowell community.

programs are a treasure for everyone. This success only Board of Education at boardofed@lowellschools.com). As we look forward to the coming of spring, we also happens with the hard work and support of everyone in look forward to the regular school election on May 2, the community. This only happens where people truly care 2006. In addition to the importance of electing two Board about each other, their children, and their community. This of Education members, Lowell Area Schools needs your success will continue along with your continued support of

In March and April, informational meetings will be

Your comments about this matter or any issue would be As someone new to LAS (however, not to the education greatly appreciated. Send to Interim Superintendent Pat business), I am continually impressed with the quality of our Murphy, Lowell Area Schools, 300 High St., Lowell, MI 49331 or pmurphy@lowellschools.com (check out our Web The highly successful academic and co-curricular page at www.lowellschools.com or make comments to the



Wayne A. Christenson III. John G. Meier & Tracy Lixie

INFECTIOUS MONONUCLEOSIS

Infectious mononucleosis (mono) is something we

achy joints for several weeks. Mono is most common in older children, teenagers

and young adults, and is usually spread by contact with the saliva of a person who had the infection within the past few months. Mono can be spread by kissing a person who is infected or by sharing a glass, bottle, or eating utensils.

viral infections becomes apparent. Mono is caused by the

Epstein-Barr Virus. It is usually not a serious infection, but

many people who contract it feel very tired and may have

Symptoms of mono usually include sore throat, fever, swollen glands, and typically pus on the tonsils. The liver and spleen might be tender and larger than usual. The see during the fall and winter months as the increase in diagnosis is made by a blood test.

There is no treatment to cure mono, because it is viral in origin. Antibiotics are of no value. Symptomatic treatment includes rest, drinking plenty of fluids, using Tylenol or Motrin for fever or pain, and avoid spreading the virus to

Mono is self-limiting and usually resolves within two to four weeks. Because the spleen may enlarge, it is recommended that people with mono avoid contact sports for about six weeks.

Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc. hank you!

Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc. would like to thank all of our friends in the community who supported us in 2005. Your donations of food for the Food Pantry and gently-used goods for the Thrift Shop were very much appreciated. We hope you have a blessed and peaceful New Year!

We would especially like to thank the following businesses for hosting an Angel Tree or Toy Box for the collection of toys for the F.R.O.M. Christmas toy and food distribution:

- SHOWBOAT AUTOMOTIVE RITE AID
- HUNTINGTON BANK GOLDWORKS LOWELL CITY HALI
 - DOLLAR GENERAL BRENDA'S HAIR DESIGN
- IONIA CO. NATIONAL BANK ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY
- VIDEO LAND HOOPER PRINTING SPRINGROVE VARIETY

and a special "thanks" to Lowell's Meijer for their generous donation. Be sure to frequent these establishments!

Because of the generosity of our community, F.R.O.M. was able to give out 240 food boxes and 490 toys and gifts this year.

(Thanks, too, for those who helped pack the food boxes and carry toys and food to cars!)

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU AGAIN!

Defibrillator purchase approved

By Dan Schneider

hearing Tuesday, Feb. 21 on an expansion of the Look requirements. the 2006-2007 budget. The preliminary budget Lowell. The township has if you need it, you need it presented at Monday's also received a request from bad," township supervisor

estimated revenues to be Museum for \$5,000 for defibrillator. \$576,980 and estimated operating expenses since expenditures at \$565,985. "We've got less than put together.

\$11,000 to work with,"

from Rockford Ambulance Hall, pending a review of Lowell Charter Townfor \$16,000 to help finance the device's maintenance Memorial Fire Station in the budget estimates were \$2,388 and is the same make

said township clerk Linda township was the purchase Department.

Meanwhile, the town- of a defibrillator with ship has received requests cabinet for the Township

"A simple gadget, but township board meeting the Lowell Area Historical John Timpson said of the

> The device will cost and model as those used by Approved by the the Bowne Township Fire

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Viewpoint-



Two weeks ago I shared an anonymous piece that came to me in an e-mail from a friend. It extolled the virtues that some of us share by having grown up in an era without modern toys, electronics, communications and other distractions.

The column prompted an e-mail response from a childhood friend and neighbor. The article I re-printed referred to BB guns at ten, falling out of trees and other rough and tumble fun. The e-mailer had trouble believing I wasn't the author of the piece because it pretty much "nailed" our formative years. Yeah ... us and a few million other Baby-Boomers!

The e-mailer recounted some childhood memories involving our antics. The first was an instance where I was able to combine BB guns with falling out of a tree.

We had a huge white pine in our backyard. It was great for climbing except for the sap, which didn't bother us as much as it did my mother on washday. I don't recall the events that led to climax but I somehow found myself at the top of that big pine tree with the guys on the ground blazing away at me with BB guns. I'm guessing I had it coming.

By scrambling around in the crown of the tree, the branches offered some semblance of cover from the relentless hail of fire. BB's were cheap. A branch may have broken. I may have missed a handhold. All I know is that I fell from the very top of the tree.

All accounts say it took quite awhile because the fall was partially broken as I passed through each layer of boughs. I hit the ground with a thud. There were lots of scrapes, scratches and bruises, but no serious cuts or broken bones. My attackers scattered when they discovered they hadn't killed me.

Another of the friend's recollections also involved BB guns. Days when the weather kept us indoors, we'd retreat to our basement. My brothers and I slept in one end of the basement; the rest was our shooting gallery. We would carefully set up a huge collection of "army men", then take our positions and blaze away with BB guns. The ricocheting BB's would occasionally take out a jar of my mom's canned peaches or a light bulb, but never an eye.

For the most unfortunate "army men" there was a

I am compelled to alert our great community of a true

gem within our midst. I encourage each/all, young and old,

to make an effort to visit the current exhibit "Passport to

Europe" at the Lowell Area Arts Council's Hudson Street

Gallery. It truly glitters and is one of the more beautiful

Lowell Ledger thanks you in advance for your cooperation.

Letters... We love to hear from you!

The Lowell Ledger - welcomes all "Letters to the Editor" for publication on its "Viewpoint" page. Letters

can be typed or written. However, we ask that they not exceed 250 words and not be strictly thank you letters.

"Letters to the Editor" should be sent to the Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, P.O. Box 128, Lowell, MI

49331 or emailed to: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com. Letters must be signed and please include a phone

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

To The Editor

Dear Editor.

shows I have ever seen.

special demise in store. We'd douse them with a squirt of lighter fluid, then drop an old style "strike anywhere ... can't buy 'em anymore" kitchen match down the barrel of a BB gun. The match would ignite on impact. Of course, the "army man" would burst into flames and melt into a puddle of plastic. No, the fire department was never called.

Finally, the friend's e-mail dredged up memories of our "capture the flag" games. These neighborhood games weren't run of the mill capture the flag where you seize an opponent by tagging or maybe even tackling them. No, we fashioned swords from sticks and beat the crap out of each other. You had to have some serious nerve to make a run at the enemy's flag. That, or possess some good speed for a

The friend said in his e-mail that he remembered my dad rounding up all the weapons and destroying them. He probably got one too many phones calls from irate mothers having to dress wounds.

One of our pranks involved the e-mailer, but he didn't mention it in his letter. We "borrowed" my dad's pump-up garden sprayer and filled it with water. By pumping it to the max and adjusting the nozzle, it would shoot a good stream a fair distance. Yes, it had great potential as a troublemaker!

On a hot summer night we hid in the weeds near a neighborhood stop sign. When a car pulled up we'd give 'em a shot through the open window. They'd cuss and swear but never figure out what had happened. Finally, one guy put two and two together, got out of his car and chased us out of the weeds. He couldn't catch us and we were soon back

Unfortunately, the driver had reported us to the local constable. The constable was really a plumber who kept the peace in our little town by driving around at night in his big blue Buick with a red light on the dashboard. If memory serves me, we gave him a squirt before we realized who it was. He couldn't catch us either.

Using accepted police practices of the day, the constable pinned it on the e-mailer's younger brother. The reason. he'd seen a big kid in a white T-shirt running away. I was the "other" big kid in the neighborhood, and we all wore white T-shirts in the summer. The constable had a fifty-fifty chance of getting the right kid. My lucky day, I guess.

My friend closed his e-mail with a simple statement that anyone close to our age and from our little town can relate to. "Bob Davis actually survived his teen years!" Bob Davis was far and away the most out of control kid in our collective memories. He was also one of my very best friends. But those teen years were altogether different from what we've been talking about here. Things got really dangerous ... motorcycles, cherry bombs, etc. I might cover some of those stories someday. Then again, maybe I'd better

Thanks for the e-mail, Lynn.

and her installation group.

three little words: Wow! Really wow!!!

Ledger Entries



125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL **JANUARY 19, 1881**

Wood is selling on the street at \$1 to \$1.50 a cord. Diphtheria closed the school in District #6, Paris Township, last week.

Charles Wilcox of Charlotte had a 50-foot tapeworm

"No wedding notices printed without being properly vouched for. We have only one wig and don't want to lose

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER **JANUARY 18, 1906**

"Kid White," as former Lowell boy Billy Whiting is known in Seattle, is sentenced to death there for a murder

School District #1 wants 50-100 cords of 18" green beech and maple wood.

The "Donkey Club," long ears and all, after a long absence, is again annoying Methodist church-goers at dismissal time on the front steps.

Rain and slop on the 15th, big snow on the 17th.

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO JANUARY 15, 1931

Thousands of workers are called back for full or part

Michigan electric and gas utilities plan on about \$40 million in new construction this year throughout the state.

Harvey Blough sets up his old sawmill south of the pickle factory to saw beams for reconstruction at King Milling. The old whistle is also being used.

A farmer near Collins is attacked by his two-year-old bull, but saved by his collie dog's counterattack.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER JANUARY 19, 1956

Lowell schools must change the district name under Perhaps the very best part is that it features the work of new state rules, but the title "Fourth Class School District" three Lowell artists, Ann Breckon, Kathleen Mooney, and Judith Tummino. Also due kudos are Jan Johnson, curator, (based on size) won't be the official one adopted for this top-rated organization. The exhibit is on view through Feb. 4. All I can say are

A grass fire on 36th Street is the first time the fire department has been called out for 54 days.

The Boy Scouts hope for plenty of good-paying phone David Davis books for their paper drive, kicking off again at the corner of Main and Hudson.

> A former resident's letter informs that Carl Munroe's grocery was the Blain Dry Goods in 1887, then the Mount grocery, then a millinery shop, before Munroe bought it.

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER **JANUARY 14, 1981**

Sesquicentennial chairpersons are named and getting started, says chair Delores Dey, and the Lions Club has already donated \$500.

Four small-print pages for the County Commission

A public hearing is called to discuss what to do about the Division Street bridge: rehab, replace or demolish.

A very slow growth is predicted for 1981, with oil prices reflecting the Iran-Iraq conflict, and higher food prices

Weddings

Wojciakowski/Newman



Mr. and Mrs. Michael Wojciakowski



Dean Bailey, pastor Alto/Bowne Center United Methodist Churches

One participant confessed that his old name so name and live creative and loving lives. dominated his life that he found even considering what a been given to him by his father when he was just a young "beloved." child and had never changed. His name was "not good

Jan Thompson, of Lowell, held crossed broomsticks over the showboat exit as the The couple spent their happy couple descended onto Riverwalk Plaza. The gesture was meant to evoke a honeymoon in Punta Cana, U.S. military tradition, Dave Thompson being a Navy veteran and brooms being Republic. Dominican the closest approximation to swords available at the time. and now reside in Grand Rapids. enough." No matter what he did, no matter how well he

Yankovich/DeVoe

St. Patrick's Church in

Parnell was the setting for

the July 23, 2005 wedding

of Amorena Eve Newman

Wojciakowski.

Michael Edward

of honor

Wojciakowski

Aquinas

Parents of the couple are

Jim Newman and Shelley Stevens-Newman and Ed

was Ashley Newman.

Bridesmaids were Lisa

Wojciakowski, Michelle

Swift, Ashley Mynsberge,

Tamara Harnden and

Jennifer Flanders. Flower

girls were Charlie, Lucy

Groomsmen were Brian

Sheedy, Nathan Kaiser,

Andrew Sak, Seth Newman

was held in the Wege

at

and Lily Pietryga

served as best

and Matt McWilliams.

John

Ballroom

College.

and Sally Wojciakowski.

verdict of his father was "not good enough." He desperately desired and sought his father's commendation and approval and never received it. He grew into an adult whose selfconcept was dominated by "not good enough."

accomplished a task, no matter what honors he achieved, the

All of us could use a new name to propel us into a new future of satisfying relationships and competent actions.

When Jesus presented himself for baptism by his cousin John, Mark records (Mark 1:9-11) God's name for At a weekend retreat to assist persons with developing Jesus: "You are my Son, the Beloved, with you I am well their self-esteem, participants were urged to adopt new pleased." Jesus' approval by his heavenly Father was the names for themselves, to leave behind old names like fear, solid foundation of his ministry of caring and compassion. anxiety, worry, rude and angry, and move into newness. He invited women, men and children into the kingdom of like confident, purposeful, compassionate, thoughtful, God, a new dimension of living in which we are so grounded in God's love, forgiveness and approval that we have a new

God is waiting patiently for us to step into his presence new name could be impossible. He said his old name had daily and respond affirmatively to his invitation to be



Schuitema, Trevor Mooney,

Julie DeVoe and Cliff Yankovich, of Chimera Design in Lowell, were wed in

a private ceremony New Year's Eve Day at 11 a.m. The Lowell Showboat was the

site of the wedding. Lou VanderMeer, pastor of the New Community Church in

Grand Rapids, presided over the ceremony. Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce

executive director Liz Baker and her husband, Mike, were witnesses. Dave and

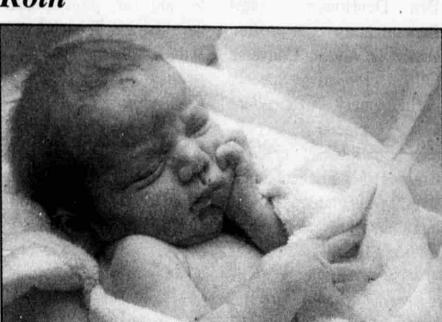
JANUARY 20: Shelby

Vezino, Mark MacNaughton, Eunice VanderVeen, Krysta Haleigh

JANUARY 22: Cheryl JANUARY Dale Latva, Jenni Magner, Dean Olin.

25: Dave DeYoung, Bob Pfaller, Harding, Molly Doyle,

New Arrivals Roth



Jonah Taylor Roth

The Gospelmen, back for their 11th visit, will present

the Gospel through song on Jan. 22 at First Baptist Church

Becka, Noah and Diana are excited to announce the arrival of their new baby brother! Jonah Taylor was born December 31, 2005 at 10:45 p.m. He weighed 7 lbs. 7 oz. and measured 19 1/2 inches.

Proud parents

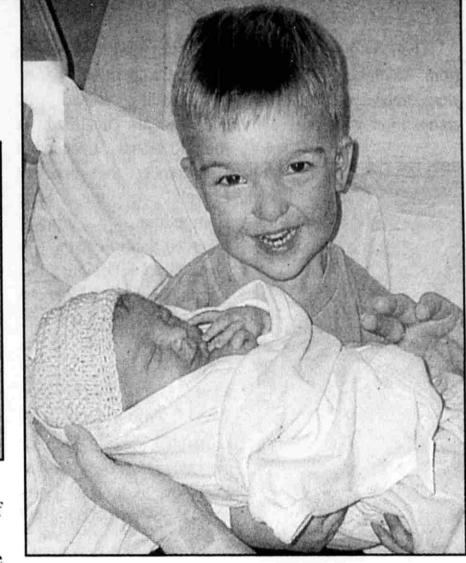
of Lowell, 2275 W. Main

Aaron and Barbara Roth of

Proud grandparents are Roger and Pat Kropf and Steve and Barb Roth; greatgrandparents are Ed and Doris Roth and Herb and Sylvia Huizing.

The Gospelmen return to perform

Williams



Nicholas Allen Williams and big brother Zach

denominations and each is a born again Christian.

They have also produced several recordings over the

The public is invited to this concert of fresh and exciting

Gospel music, held this Sunday from 9:30 - 11 a.m.

The Gospelmen will sing at First Baptist

bass; and Jeff Groat, sound engineer.

Church on Jan. 22

Joanna Nicholas Allen Williams. Williams, together with their son and baby brother, inches.

Nicholas was born big brothers Keith, Jared November 23, 2005 at 12:53 and Zachary, are happy p.m. He weighed 8 lbs. 2 to announce the arrival of oz. and measured 19 1/4

Vickers

ChristineVickers Lowel happy Thomas Monday. born November 21, 2005 12:39 p.m. Spectrum Health Butterworth Campus. weighed 8 lbs. 3 oz. and measured

He was also welcomed home by big brothers Christopher and Kenney and big sister Stephanie.

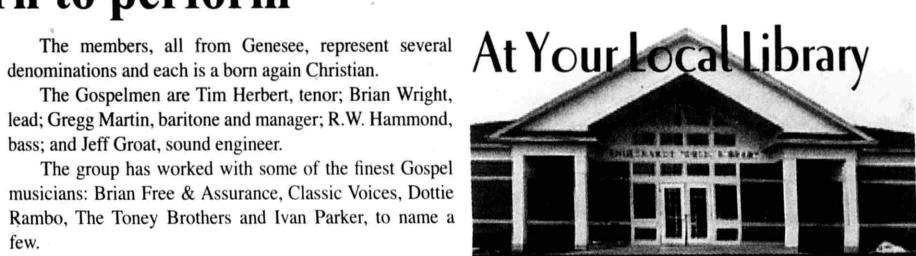
20 1/2 inches.

Thomas Dale Vickers

Proud grandparents are Ron and Helen Vickers of Ada, Michael and Julie Kenney of Lowell, and great-grandfather Joseph Kenney of Sebring, Fla.

Malone

and Kathie brothers, Jack and Aiden Malone of Lowell are happy welcome her home. to announce the arrival of Proud grandparents are their daughter, Lauren Grace Terry and Gerre Abel and on December 29, 2005. Steve and Liz Malone, all of Lauren weighed 7 lbs. 4 oz. Lowell.



The Englehardt branch of Kent District Library will host a "Mid-winter Book Sale" on Friday, Jan. 27 from 10 a.m. - 7 p.m and on Saturday, Jan. 28 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. This sale is sponsored by the Friends of the Englehardt Library.

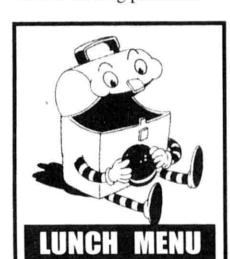
Elizabeth Pniewski

Corah Kaufman

Evan Swanson

and measured 19 inches. Big

For more information call the branch at 647-3920 All genres at great prices will be available for your winter reading pleasure.



BUSHNELL & CHERRY CREEK ELEMENTARY MENU Week of Jan. 23, 2006

MON: Cheese pizza, French fries, assorted fruit, milk.

TUES: Chicken w/bread. potatoes & mashed gravy, assorted fruit.

WED: Chicken patty, fresh vegetables & dip. assorted fruit. hot pretzel, milk.

THURS: Danimals w/cheese yogurt wedge, green beans assorted fruit, pretzel rod, milk.

FRI: Hotdog on bun diced carrots, assorted



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WEDNESDAYS:

Sunday School.

.9:45 A.M

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897-6284 or 485-4195 10AM Sunday School; 11AM Morning Service: 6PM Evening Service; Wed., 7:30PM Prayer Meeting FIRST UNITED METHODIST

CHURCH OF LOWELL

621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 Worship Services.....8:30 & 11:00 a.m Sunday School......9:45 - 10:45 a.m Kids Club Wednesdays

After school to... ...5:30 p.m DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN. PASTOR Nursery & child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance

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

www.goodshepherdlowell.org Sunday School & Adult Bible Study. . 9 A.M.

(Nursery available) Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible

DAY BIBLE CHAPEL ALTO UNITED 9305 Centerline, Saranac METHODIST CHURCH Kirby and Harrison

Alto • 616-691-8011 .9:30 A.M. Children's Church......9:30 A.M.

OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS OPEN DOORS **Pastor Dean Bailey**

"Lowell Mission" of the Evangelical | CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA ocated at 404 North Hudson

Robert W. Holmes, Senior Pastor Jonathan & Stacy Holmes, Youth Pastors ...Clergy In Charge Worship: 10:00 a.m - LIFE Home Groups Reverend Deacon Mark O. Fleet. Clergy In Assistance & "XL" Youth Sunday evenings Corporate Web Page.....http://www.eacna.org

Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org

—Sun. Worship Service......9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M

AWANA/CLUB JC......Wed. 6:15 & 6:30 P.M.

Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times

Nursery Provided · Barrier Free

Family Night (For All Ages): 7 p.m. May the Lord fill you and bless you this day! "XL" Youth: 7 p.m. SNOW UNITED FIRST BAPTIST -METHODIST CHURCH CHURCH OF LOWELL 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell

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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

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Barrier-Free Entrance

.9:30 A.M

10:40 A.M

.6:00 P.M

....7:00 P.M.

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 119 Lincoln Lake, Lowell **CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES**

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

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

Church School. .10:15-11:15 A.M. Dr. Roger LaWarre ..C.E. Director Shannon Hanley. .Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise & Worship

ALTON BIBLE CHURCH Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road Sunday School.

.10:00 A.M. Morning Worship. .11:00 A.M. Evening Praise .6:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA. ..7:00 P.M. Prayer and Bible Study... Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418 YOU ARE WELCOME!

A bird does not sing because it has an answer. It sings because it has a song.

Chinese Proverb

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Jared Lezan

Liam Peterson Matthew Schuitema Collier Kaufman

Jeremy Bergin

Charlotte Hayden Abigail Wester Conner Bergin Rachel Wold Peyton Clevenger

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Local students prepare for state competition

A total of 20 students from Lowell High School competed in the Business Professionals of America

(BPA) Regional Workplace competition at Davenport University on Jan. 6.

Assessment

from southwest Michigan were represented at the competition with over 850

13 students qualified the Regional Leadership included Scott Beatson (1st place) Graphic Design; Adam Ingraham (1st) Financial Brittney Math, (5th) Parliamentary Ben DenHouter, Adam Procedure Concepts; Kelsey Ingraham, Lori Smith and Crowley (2nd) Financial Anthony Everitt. Word Processing; Alex

all-day competition.

students taking part in the Corlett (2nd) Digital Media compete with students Production; Austin Blough from across Michigan and (3rd) Graphic Design; attend workshops designed Ben DenHouter Parliamentary Procedure development. Top students Concepts; Andrea Converse at the state conference will Prepared Speech. Parliamentary Procedure Leadership Conference placed team members Shellenbarger,

These students will represent Lowell at the Morrison, Nate Stoliker, Carpenter (2nd) Graphic 2006 State Leadership Jon Riddle and Crystal Design; Ian Fowler (2nd) Conference on March 17- Smith. Advisors were Dee Interview Skills; Jesi Hook 19 at the Amway Grand Crowley, Cari Slot and (2nd) Prepared Speech; Brad Plaza Hotel where they will Bill McElroy.

to aid in professional advance to the National held in Orlando, Florida,

Other Lowell students attending the competition Duley, Kristin Johnson, Jennifer Zoodsma, Josh

Other communities are

adopting LID strategies on

assistance from the DEQ.

encourage new development

by directing runoff from

their gutters to rain barrels

or rain gardens as opposed

to directing it to a storm

development can certainly

go a long way towards

protecting the integrity

of Michigan's lakes and

streams and improve the

aesthetics of the local

community. For anyone

interested in LID and what

all of us can do, contact a

local DEQ office, or visit

the DEQ Web site at http://

www.michigan.gov/deq.

Private citizens are

to utilize LID.

DEQ, along with the Communities in urbanized

Southeast Michigan Council areas are committing to

Students placing at the BPA Regional Competition. Back row, left to right, are: Andrea Converse, Brittney Shellenbarger, Jesi Hook, Kelsey Crowley, Adam Ingraham, Anthony Everitt and Ben DenHouter; front row: Alex Carpenter, Scott Beatson and Lori Smith. Not available for the picture are Austin Blough, Ian Fowler and Brad Corlett.

Low impact development means smart growth for Michigan

most at risk.

causes increased stormwater runoff, which occurs when

following:

Lowell.

Library.

streets and sidewalks development (LID). LID amendments; impervious of Environmental Quality, is creating water quality prevent stormwater from problems in our lakes and naturally soaking into the premise that stormwater can disconnection; pollution surrounding communities. streams, with recent studies ground. Stormwater can showing that watersheds in pick up debris, chemicals, source to keep pollutants out housekeeping. including Grand Rapids are and flow into a storm sewer system or directly into a Development generally lake, stream, wetland or coastal water.

precipitation from rain or that communities can take snowmelt flows over the steps to lessen the impact ground. Impervious surfaces of new development by

LOWELL

PLANNING COMMISSION

PUBLIC HEARING

The Lowell City Planning Commission-Citizen

Advisory Committee will conduct a public

hearing at their regular scheduled meeting of

Monday, January 23, 2006 at 7 p.m. at the City

Council Chambers, Lowell City Hall, 301 East

Main Street, Lowell, MI for the purpose of

receiving comments from the public on the

An Ordinance to amend Sections 2.02 (Awning)

and 2.04 (Canopy) of Chapter 2, "Definitions,"

and add Section 4.23 of Chapter 4, "General

Provisions," of Appendix A – Zoning Ordinance

of the Code of Ordinances of the City of

Copies of the proposed Ordinance are available

for public inspection during normal business

hours at City Hall and the Englehardt Public

Interested persons may submit written comments

to City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, MI

Betty R. Morlock

(616) 897-8457

City Clerk

49331 prior to the meeting or appear in person.

rapidly developing areas dirt and other pollutants of the stormwater stream. Some communities are of Governments, is also actions that will lessen the The good news is of soil, treating stormwater roof installed at the city of LID in Michigan. This would CITY OF

rooftop gardens (green roofs); sidewalk storage; vegetated swales, buffers, and strips; tree preservation; roof leader disconnection; rain barrels and cisterns;

developed.

WEDDING INVITATIONS



We offer the Carlson Craft line of invitations.

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105 N. Broadway Phone 897-9261

Land development in like parking lots, driveways, encouraging low impact permeable pavers; soil moneys from the Department practices are built upon the surface reduction and and local match from the their own with technical be controlled close to the prevention; and good

This is accomplished by receiving grant funding to pursuing grant funding likelihood of contaminated protecting native vegetation, implement LID practices. In to provide local land-use reducing the amount of hard West Michigan alone, grant decision makers with the

surfaces and compaction projects include a green tools necessary to implement runoff close to where it Battle Creek Police Station, be achieved by developing a even able to do their part starts, and slowing the flow and approximately 20 rain LID manual and brochures, of stormwater runoff so that gardens that have been or and then using them to it is closer to conditions will be installed in the West facilitate implementation found prior to the site being Michiganarea within the next through networking and two years. These projects workshops. This work has Common LID practices and others like them result the potential to come to include: rain gardens; from a combination of grant fruition within the next year.

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New Year's Resolutions 1. Shop 2. Donate

goodwill stores



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Flat River Antique

Mall customers had their

purchases rung up at the first-floor sales counter

Monday, framed by

displays on the second

floor that reflect the

eclectic nature of the

antiques offered for sale.

Antique mall closing, continued ... From Page 1

and one of the largest in the United States," McCollum said. "Really, the antique mall concept was fairly new, and we just grew with it. We definitely never planned on it being that huge.

But they enjoyed owning the biggest antique mall in Michigan.

"We've loved it and we've loved being in Lowell and watching Lowell grow," McCollum said.

Over the years, the mall started seeing more dealers retiring and fewer young dealers coming along to take their place. They sold the easternmost portion of the building, hopes it will delay.

the mall in 2004. It now holds condominiums, a The company has plans to clothing store, a hair salon and a real estate office. They also sold the building the mall currently occupies, and level, they will "probably have been leasing the space divide the space up for

Once the antique mall closes, it will leave a hole along Main Street at least

"It's definitely a big void in the middle of downtown,"

Todd Schaal, chief executive officer of Estes

not stay that way for long. renovate the interior and exterior of the building.

Schaal said, on the street smaller spaces for lease, retail or office."

He said the upper level will be a "logical" place for résidential development, but "we don't have any plans for it right now. I see that happening down the road."

The company had Group, the Grand Rapids renovations already last company that now owns year, but weather caused a



Dick Meyers has a look at some light fixtures for sale on the top floor of the Flat River Antique Mall.



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The Lowell Ledger 105 N. Broadway 897-9261

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FAXING **Sending or Receiving**

\$1 for 1st sheet, 50¢ each additional sheet

The Lowell Ledger 105 N. Broadway, Lowell

NOTICE

BOWNE TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC NOTICE

There will be a meeting of the Bowne Township Zoning Board of Appeals on Thursday, January 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the Bowne Township Offices located at 8240 Alden Nash SE, PO Box 35, Alto to hear the following variance application:

Tim Nurenberg is requesting a variance on 12360 92nd Street, located in the NW quarter of Section 27, parcel number 41-24-27-100-014. The variance request is for Article 3.02 (f) Accessory Structures and Uses in the Bowne Township Zoning Ordinance in order to erect an accessory structure larger than allowed.

The complete application can be reviewed at the Bowne Township Hall from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday and 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Friday. Public comment will be heard at the meeting. Written comments received by mail, in person or in the mail slot located at the office entrance will also be considered if received at the Township office prior to 7:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Comments may also be emailed to clerk@bownetwp.cc.

> Sandra L. Kowalczyk Bowne Township Clerk

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Samsung 570 Free

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- Voice Dialing

ith a NEW 2 year agreement. While supplies last. Terms apply.TXT messages 10¢/ send & 10¢/ receive; in National Enhanced Services Coverage Area only; coverage limita-



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16.

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Local automobile dealership owner/manager retires

By Dan Schneider

ever sold.

But he figures odds are it hasn't changed. was a Chevy pickup truck.

said. "Coming from a rural area, I had a lot of farm technology-wise and quality, bought the dealership at 1250 hired on "just to go in and acquaintances."

AMERICAN REVOLUTION

But a lot has changed 200,000 miles." "Probably was a about cars since September

popular in Lowell. The Thomet said. "Way back in Thomet came along to work opening the dealership and Stew Thomet can't Thomet lot is still full the '70s, when (a car) hit remember the first car he of them, as are other car 50,000 miles, people were dealerships in town. So that trading it off. Now it's not

unusual for people to hit 150-September 1969 was said.

when Thomet's brother, "The cars, certainly, Alfred "Duke" Thomet, interest in cars, Thomet

Pickup trucks are still it's a big improvement," West Main Street. Stew work for my brother. He was

"There weren't any employees here when we cars. started, so we did a little bit of everything," Thomet Thomet said. "And

Without a particular very interesting, fantastic

he needed help."

But he grew to like people. You meet a lot of

people over the years." years ago when he sold and stayed on as general manager. Now he has retired from that position.

Florida Saturday, staying car lot. for the winter. After that, he doesn't have any set plans.

do," Thomet said.

Thomet, who lives near

"Whether or not I'll go he said.

Meanwhile, Rodger Garner has taken over as general manager of Thomet Chevrolet Buick. He comes to the job after several years of experience as a sales manager for GMAC financing.

s set here to do well.'

the Little League," Garner manager.

for business and personal reasons. I've had kids who played the sports and were in theater, and people supported them, so now I'm

do the same thing." Long term, Garner plans to build up his inventory and upgrade the facilities, including a new showroom

in the position where I can

and new service bays. "It will be a whole new dealership in a couple of vears," Garner said.

The employees will

mostly remain the same,

moved into other positions.

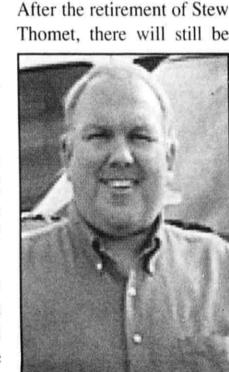
In the near term, he He and his wife left for plans to add lighting to the "Two weeks from now.

this place will be shining at "I gotta do something, night, whereas right now you but I'm not sure what I'll can barely tell it's open," he

Alto, owns 180 acres of farmland that he currently though some have been

dealership, they've been a client of mine for over 15 years,"Garnersaid."They've got a great customer base, great employees, everything

role in the community is manager. important for the dealership.



Rodger Garner, new Garner said having a Thomet Chevrolet general

"We're going to support a Thomet at the dealership. the high school sports, Steve Thomet is staying we're going to support on as inventory/internet

LMS students are tops in geography

Stew Thomet has retired as general manager of Thomet Chevrolet Buick after 35 years with the company.

Lowell Middle School eighth-grade students Dylan Olin (middle) and Christian Crook (left) finished first and second, respectively, in the recent middle school geography bee.

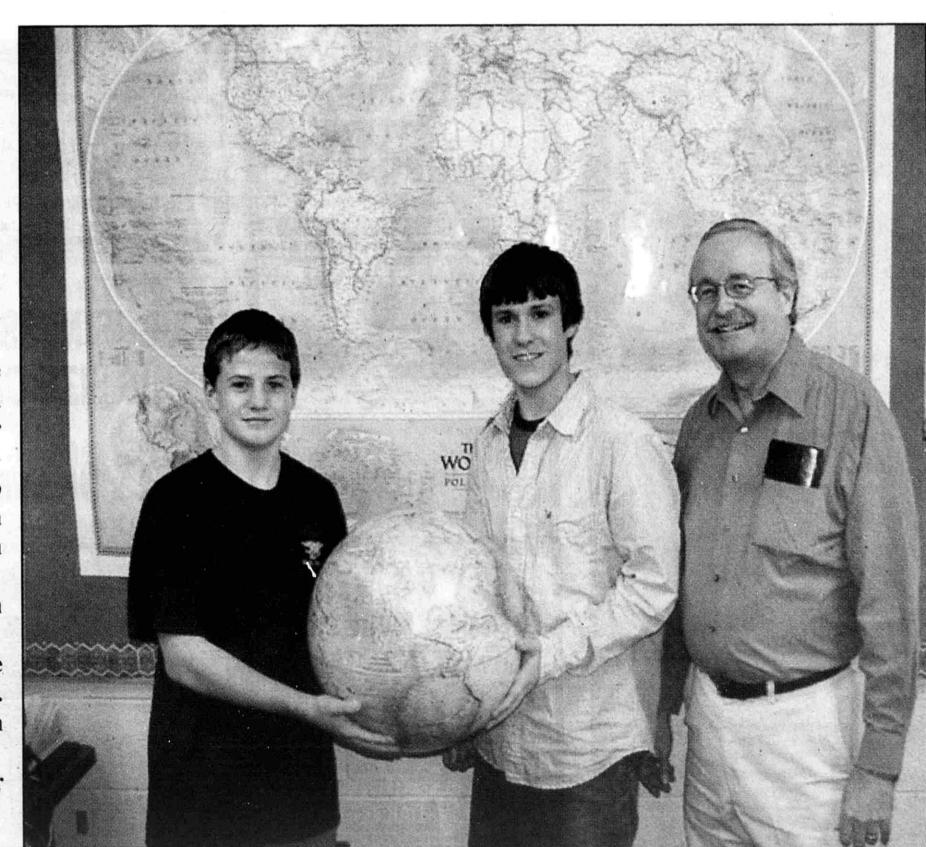
"They're both sharp, there were some tough questions," said seventh-grade social studies teacher and geography bee organizer Jim Hubbard, pictured at right.

Olin, last year's runner-up, took a test to qualify for the state bee, which will be held in Mount Pleasant March 31 at Central Michigan University. Test results are pending.

To win the Lowell Middle School bee, Olin correctly answered the following question:

"In April 2005, Pope John Paul the Second's funeral procession crossed St. Peter's Square in which small European country?"

The correct answer was "Vatican City" or "The Vatican."





Free-throw champs

There were 52 participants in the Knights of Columbus Free-throw Championship. Winners of the locally-sponsored basketball event will advance to the district level on Feb. 4. Winners are pictured, back row, left to right: Cole Wade (boys 14), Zach Noskey (boys 13), Megan Montgomery (girls 12), Jake Boelens (boys 11) and Tyler Wallner (boys 12); front row: Julie Smith (girls 10), Katie Holzhueter (girls 9), Alexis Foster (girls 11), Matthew Milstead (boys 9) and Derek Bitterman (boys 10).

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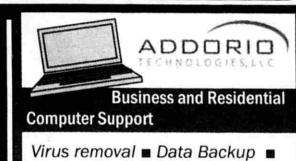
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Rezoning, continued ... From Page 1

Township planning commission chair Dave Simmonds. Ag-2, which is what the township board rezoned Merriman's property to Monday by a 6-1 vote, allows one house per four acres. Zoned for higher density, the land might now be more valuable. Merriman said he has no land in the PDR program. intention of selling it.

happen," Merriman said. "My whole goal in this is to have a

farm to give my kids." He hoped the rezoning would lead the agricultural preservation board to accept a higher appraisal and enter the

"As far as I know, if this rezoning goes through, it's a zoning." "As far as a developer coming along, that's not going to done deal, it's in the program," Merriman said.



Top spellers

Murray Lake Elementary's fifth grade spelling bee winner was Kanon Dean; runner-up was Maggie Wissman. Kanon won in the 17th round by spelling the word "grammar." Both students will advance to the regional competition to be held in February.

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But Dennis Hefron, chair of the preservation board, said in a prior interview that is not the case.

"If he gets his rezoning, then he'd have to start over, basically," Hefron said. "His original application he filled out, there are things he will have to change based on the

Applications to the PDR program are scored based on several criteria. One of them is the presence or absence of township zoning that protects it as agriculture. Farmland parcels that are accepted into the county program are ranked according to their score. Farms near the top of the list are entered into the program when funding becomes available.

This is the first time in Kent County that land has been rezoned after being accepted into the program.

"I have not heard of this being brought up from any other counties, although it (PDR) is relatively new," Hefron

Merriman applied for the rezoning last August. On Dec. 12, the planning commission voted 4-1 to make a recommendation in favor of the rezoning. The land was master-planned to eventually become Ag-2, as was a parcel across the street. Two small parcels of land across Bancroft Avenue were already zoned Ag-2. Merriman's property includes 14 acres along Alden Nash, separated from the 64 acres by a drainage ditch, that are master planned to become light industrial. They are currently zoned Ag-1.

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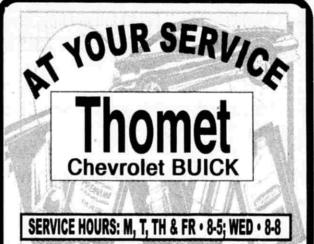
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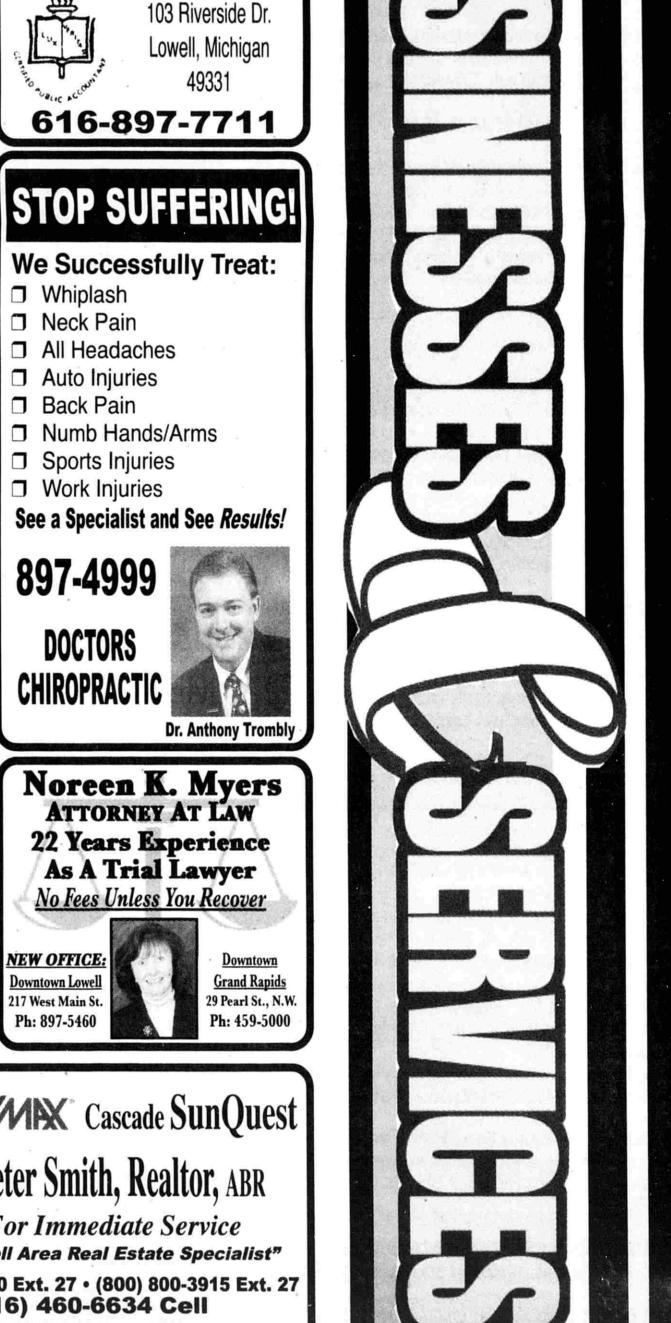
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COMING EVENTS

JANUARY

WED., JAN. 18: Bosnia Shoppers. 12:45 p.m. Shop Meijer. Lowell Senior Neighbors.

THURS., JAN. 19: Pancake Lunch at noon. Lowell Senior Neighbors.

FRI., JAN. 20: 12 p.m. Birthday Lunch; 12:45 p.m. Bingo; 1 p.m. Bowling. Lowell Senior Neighbors.

SUN., JAN. 22: Half-A-Ton of Praise at Palo Methodis Church, 5 p.m. Light lunch following; public invited.

SUN., JAN. 22: Gospelmen concert at First Baptist Church of Lowell, 9:30-11 a.m. Public is welcome.

MON., JAN. 23: 12:45 p.m. Games at Center. Lowell Senior Neighbors.

MONDAYS

LHS Fellowship of Christian Athletes & Friends, 7-8:30 p.m. at Gallagher's. Call 676-1355.

Overeaters Anonymous, 7 p.m. at Key Heights Mobile Home Park Community Building, no dues, no joining fee, no weighins. Brenda 897-9141.

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

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.

1ST MON.: Regular communication of the Belding-Ionia-Lowell Masonic Lodge #355 at 7:30 p.m. in lodge room, 211 E. Main, Belding. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. All Masons may attend.

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

2ND MON.: Lowell Board of Education meets 7 p.m. in Administration Building, 300 High Street. (Note: except April which is the 3rd Monday).

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

3RD MON.: Fallasburg Historical Society board meetings at chamber office or Fallasburg, 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. at Schneider Manor Community Rm., 725 Bowes. Dorothy 897-9794.

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

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

EVERY OTHER MON.: The Lowell Area Juggling Club meets in the Community room at Englehardt Library, 6:30 - 8 p.m. Anyone 12 or older who can juggle 3 balls is welcome. No dues. Call 897-9879.

TUESDAYS

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

Cub Scout Pack 3188 meets at 1st United Methodist Church (as long as there is school), 6:30 p.m. 1st-5th grade boys. Contact Clarence Whittum at 897-8194 after 11 a.m.

Weight Watchers at Alto United Methodist Church, corner of Kirby & Harrison meets at 5:30 p.m. Register 1/2 hour before meeting. 800-651-6000.

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

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 897-5981.

TUES..., JAN. 24: 4:30 p.m. Dinner at Big O Fish, Lowell Senior Neighbors.

FRI., JAN. 27 & SAT., JAN. 28: Mid-winter used book sale in Community Room of Englehardt Library. Friday, 10-7 p.m.; Saturday, 10-4 p.m.

MON., JAN. 30: LHS class of 2006 parent meeting regarding senior trip, in high school math room at 7 p.m.

TUES., JAN. 31: Math Parent Night at Cherry Creek Elementary, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. No childcare available.

ENROLL FOR HEAD START: Lowell Head Start is enrolling for the 2006-2007 school year. The free preschool program is for children 3 years old by Dec. 1, 2006 and family must meet income requirements. Two sessions: morning and afternoon. Call 897-7920 for info.

TUESDAYS

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 Memo- St. Mary's Pregnancy Crisis Center, 402 Amity St., non-derial 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 p.m. refreshments/ 7 p.m. program Olga 616-975-9977/June 231-780-1249 info.

2ND & 3RD TUES.: Qua-Ke-Zik Sportsman's Club, 11400 Foreman Rd. at 8 p.m. Winter leagues start 1st week of Janu- choir room. Call 897-1502 after 5 p.m. ary. Go to www.qua-ke-zik.org.

2ND & 4TH TUES.: MOPS - Mothers of Preschoolers ... because at 7 p.m. mothering matters. 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Impact 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

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

3RD TUES.: Parents of children w/AD/HD at St. Luke's Lutheran 6:30 - 8 p.m. Church, 32156 4 Mile NE/E. Beltline) at 7 p.m. Call Linda at 874-5662; teen group: call Sarah at 281-6588.

WEDNESDAYS

Rotary meets at noon at City Hall, 301 E. Main, 2nd floor.

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

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

1ST WED.: GR area Scrabble Club at Schuler's Bookstore. 28th St. 5:30 - 9:30 p.m.Rd. Robin open play, all levels, walkins welcome. Jan 897-5759.

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

2ND WED.: Royal Arch Masons, Hooker Chapter #73 meets at 7:30 p.m. in Belding Masonic Temple, 211 E. Main; dinner at 6:30 p.m. All Royal Arch Masons are welcome.

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

3RD WED.: GR area Scrabble Club at Schuler's Bookstore. Alpine NW, 5:30 - 9:30 p.m.Rd. Robin open play, all levels walk-ins. Jan 897-5759.

THURSDAYS

Weight Watchers at Lowell Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington St. 5:30 p.m. Register 1/2 hr. before the meeting. For at 7144 Headley. Hours are 1-4 p.m. or by appointment. Call nfo. 1-800-651-6000.

Saranac Area Musicians and Singers practice at Saranac High SUN.: Tri-town Conservation Club trap & skeet league, School Band Rm. Choir:6-7 p.m./band:7-8. Kathy Maatman, 5616 Dunn Rd. 12-5 p.m. Call Larry at 754-7104. Public

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

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, phone - 897-9261, fax -897-4809 or

email - ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com. All submissions are subject to available space.

ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY HOURS: Mon.- Wed., 12 - 8 p.m.; Thurs. and Fri .: 9:30 -5 p.m.; Sat.: 9:30-1:30 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. 647-3820.

LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL: Tues.- Fri.: 12 - 5 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m. Monday/a.m. by appt. 149 S. Hudson. Call 897-8545 or www.lowell artscouncil.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 OUTREACH MINISTRIES THRIFT SHOP HOURS: Wed.- Fri. 12-6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. 519 E. Main St. Call 897-2037.

THURSDAYS

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

nominational 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. 250 Cherry, Lacks Cancer Center, Grand

1ST THURS.: 4-H drama club meeting, Lowell Middle School

1ST & 3RD THURS.: Alto Lions Club meets at Monterey Grill

1ST & 3RD THURS.: Bluegrass Jam inside Kountry Korner of Alto, 6077 Linfield, 868-6371.

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

2ND THURS.: Genealogy-Alto Family Tree Club at Alto Library

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

3RD THURS.: Rubber stamping at Christian Life Center 6-9

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

p.m. Call Dawn 862-8841.

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.

FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY

1ST & 3RD FRI.: Teen MOPS support group for pregnant teens and teen moms, 9:15 - 11:30 a.m. at Impact Church, 1070 N.

2ND & 4TH FRI.: GR area Scrabble Club at Meijer Cafe, Knapp's Corners, 10 - 3 p.m. Round Robin open play, all levels, walk-ins welcome. Jan 897-5759.

FRI.: Arts/Crafts volunteers, Franciscan Life Process Center, 9:30-12:30 p.m. Pat or 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, held at 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. & SUN.: Averill Historical Museum of Ada, located

RED ARROW S DOBIES 3 1 1 1 1.

Lowell gymnastics team competitive in home opener

By Dan Schneider

up of gymnasts from East scored 6.15. Grand Rapids, Caledonia, and Grand Rapids West scored 8.15; Kowalski, Catholic (ECWC).

Lowell scored 124.4 to Seese, 7.3. ECWC's 128.3.

on vault were Richelle Kimble (8.8), Seese (8.15), Kimble of a fourth team regional (8.15), Leannah Seese (8.05), (8.15) and Kowalski (8.0). Becca Underwood (8.05) and Kelli Kowalski (7.9).

By Dan Schneider

Puffer Monday.

The Lowell girls bowling

The Red Arrow girls

Last Wednesday, Lowell

the Wildcats 22-

win. Bakers are the games 17-13.

that start each match in which

five players from each team

right now," said Lowell

together a full game.

team took a 6-0 dual-match cashing in."

team is rolling this season.

record to a non-conference

match at Muskegon Reeths

Lowell gymnastics fell Underwood scored 7.65, she's competed," Lowell just short last Wednesday Kimble and Kowalski both coach Skye Fisher said. against a cooperative made scored 7.35, and Seese "And we scored really well

Girls bowling rolling high

Lowell boys team also off to strong start

coach Rocky Eickhoff.

"When it comes down to

settling in and playing our

Lowell's high rollers

Last Monday hosting

"It was the first time

Losing the bakers put

in three years, since I was

beat the (Rockford) girls,"

regular games, they're just

were Ashley Nawrocki with

a score of 362 for two games

and Erin Sowles with a 288

for two games.

8. Lowell split the bakers Rockford, the Lowell girls

double but dominated the lost both bakers games but

regular games to take the pulled off the win anyway,

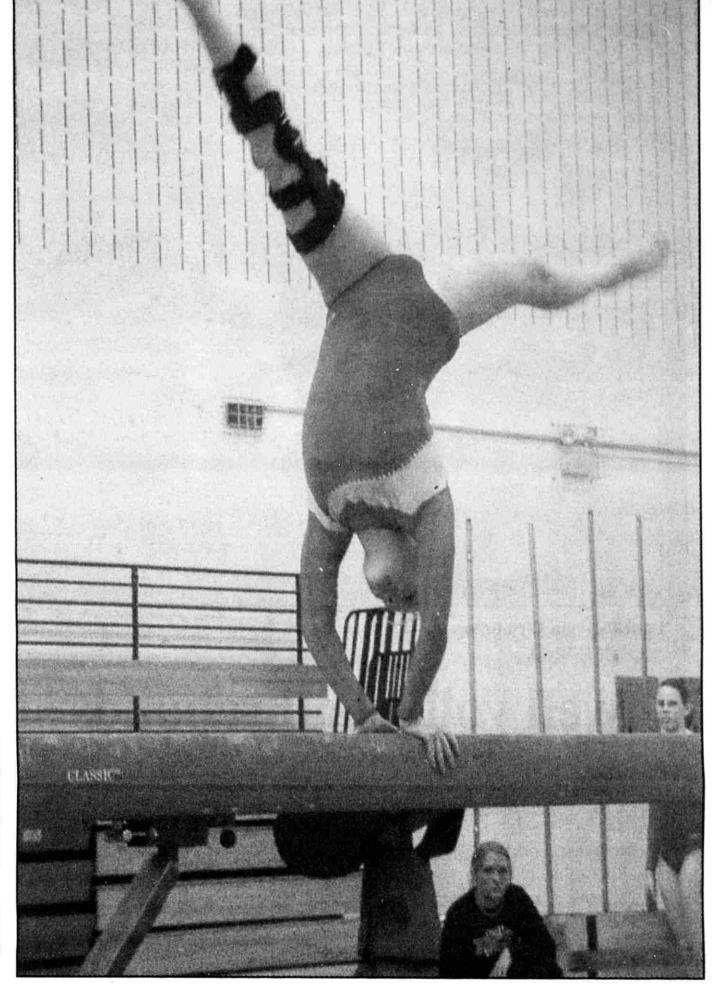
bowl two frames each to put coaching here, that we ever

"Bakers are killing us Eickhoff said.

On uneven bars, beam; that's the first time on bars. Kelli Kowalski did On beam, Kimble really well on bars."

Lowell finished 12th out 7.8; Underwood, 7.4; and of 16 teams at Saturday's Holland Invitational. The top scorers on floor Lowell's team score was Top Red Arrow scorers exercise were Underwood 118.675. It was just short qualifying score (a team

"Richelle Kimble, my regional qualifying score is freshman, did really well on 119 or better), which would



Lowell's Leannah Seese performs on the balance beam during last Wednesday's meet against East Grand Rapids-Caledonia-West Catholic at Lowell High School.

At left: Richelle Kimble mid-floor exercise at last Wednesday's gymnastics meet.

to regionals again this year.

Underwood was in a three-way tie for first place in scored 7.25; Kowalski, 6.9; hostedRockfordMonday.The the division 2 floor exercise, Kimble, 6.85; and Coffey, Arrows travel to Ludington scoring 8.75. Kowalski 5.3. medaled on vault, placing tenth with a score of 8.45.

Other top for Lowell on vault were Underwood (8.25), Kimble (7.9) and Andrea Coffey

Lowell's other top scorers on floor exercise were

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Terry Abel

them in a 10-0 hole, but

the regular games.

again they made up for it in

Bowling, cont'd., pg. 17

any older.

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guarantee the Arrows a trip Coffey (7.65), Kowalski Weeber (6.95) and Kowalski (7.6) and Kimble (7.2).

> On bars, Underwood Top scorers on beam the Mona Shores Invitational

were Underwood (7.975), Saturday. scorers Mandy Vezino (7.25), Alicia

Lowell for a meet Wednesday and to

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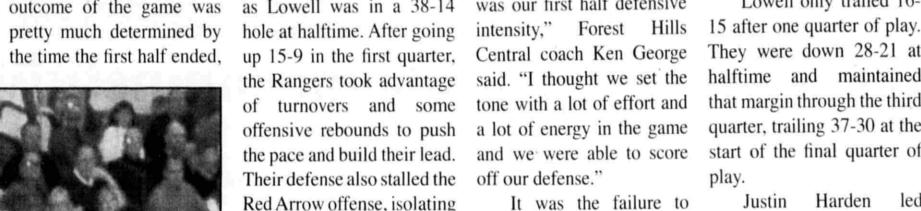
Mr. Steven Flohr, Office Manager 1335 West Main St. Suite 101 Lowell, MI 49331 Fax 616-897-5604

Lowell boys basketball falls to Forest Hills Central

By Dan Schneider

Lowell boys basketball Central. played a strong second half

Friday against Forest Hills outcome of the game was as Lowell was in a 38-14 was our first half defensive The problem was, the the time the first half ended, up 15-9 in the first quarter, Central coach Ken George They were down 28-21 at



Lowell on the perimeter.

"We are all extremely Lowell. disappointed with the way

score was 62-44.

Lowell's Colin Rich drives the ball in the fourth quarter of Friday's game against McDonald said.

"I thought the difference night."

It was the failure to

we played in the first half," up at tipoff and play our Josh Hettinga each added Lowell coach Jeff McDonald butts off because we're not six. Mike McElroy had four, said. "We got outhustled in talented enough to not play Brett McMahon had three the first half and I think this hard," McDonald said. "We and Travis Hippey scored was a good wakeup call for have to play hard every two. single night and every In the third quarter, minute of every game."

the things they were unable Godwin Heights, Lowell Arena in the Pepsi Jam. The to do in the first half: lost 53-40. The Arrows Arrows will play Greenville defensive stops, penetration played a competitive game, at 6:15 p.m. That game is on offense, ball movement, even outrebounding the followed by Hudsonville speed and forcing turnovers. Wolverines 35-27, but Unity Christian versus Lowell shaved the deficit struggled to make the shots Holland Christian. to nine points in the third necessary for victory. Lowell quarter, trailing 43-28 after was 12 for 33 in the paint. games prior to Monday

held tough the rest of the team, we played well available at the Lowell High game, however. The final against a good team in a School athletic office, at "I was proud of our McDonald. "We did most DeVos Place box offices,

the Rangers took advantage said. "I thought we set the halftime and maintained turnovers and some tone with a lot of effort and that margin through the third offensive rebounds to push a lot of energy in the game quarter, trailing 37-30 at the the pace and build their lead. and we were able to score start of the final quarter of

Justin Harden led match that intensity that hurt Lowell offensively with 11 points. Ryan Lane scored "We just have to show eight and Drew Happie and

Lowell's next game is Friday at Northview. Lowell Last Tuesday at plays Monday at Van Andel

Tickets are \$6 for both "I was proud of our or \$8 at the door. They are tough environment," said the Van Andel Arena and things right, there was just by phone at 456-3333 and a lid on the rim the whole online at ticketmaster.com/ venue/65737.

Red Arrows beat Sparta, host Lowell Invitational

By Dan Schneider

The Lowell wrestling look like there was one. team took a fourth place Saturday in the Lowell Invitational, also known as the Gary Rivers Memorial Dean said it was a good

55-10. Lowell dominated Whitehall, 55-3, in the final the score. match of the pool to earn a

brick wall. Martin wrestled we just got pinned." with intensity, going for a pin of an opportunity to throw a and Lowell. pin, and sometimes made an

to be able to use it quite a bit to grow as a program They ended up beating because I think a lot of guys understand what happened,"

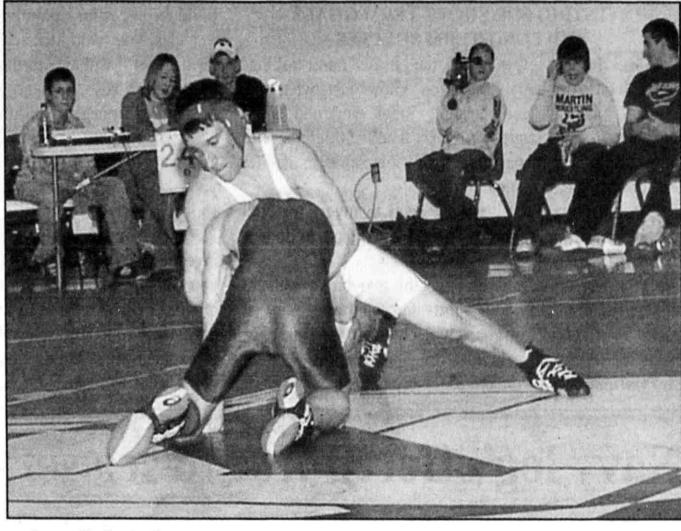
Lowell coach Dave Dean said He said Lowell has learning opportunity for been the victim of ups and Lowell wrestled in Pool Lowell, with the lesson downs on the emotional D, first beating Big Rapids being to wrestle a full six level this season. The up to 62-12, then Byron Center minutes and never let your this down was when Lowell guard down, no matter what beat Greenville on Jan. 5.

"When we beat a good "We had some guys just team one week, we end up berth in the championship looking to hang on for a win, going out the next weekend, and they were hanging on we go out and try to hang The Red Arrows ran into and they got pinned," Dean on," Dean said. "We're not said. "There were some the kind of team that can semifinal, a Division 4 matches where we were hang on and win. We need school that turned out to be a winning fairly sizeably and to come out and compete to

Martin had five wrestlers Lowell at just about every weight. who placed individually at Hastings in the third-place Against Lowell, the Clippers state last year. Dean said that match, falling to the Saxons were opportunistic. They kind of experience made the 34-28. Martin went on to sometimes took advantage difference between them beat Lakeshore in the finals for the championship, 38-"I think we're going 36.

beating the Spartans 40- Northern. The Arrows

Last Thursday, the Red 29. Lowell's next match is wrestle Saturday at the Arrows wrestled Sparta, Thursday at Forest Hills Lakeshore Tournament.



Lowell's Cody Toomey wrestles against Martin in the semifinal round of the Lowell

"She stepped in, in the

Forest Hills Central. Lowell volleyball rebuilds steam at Zeeland Tournament

By Dan Schneider

Invitational to rebuild after things are going well and were in the game but there a deflating loss at Muskegon you end up with a loss like was no emotion there."

Zeeland, Lowell lost to where you were." Zeeland in the semifinals. championship

really bad loss Thursday at Reeths Puffer last Thursday. that, you need to have a

14, 19-25, 25-20, 17-25, 12-23-25, 25-14, 15-8. "Overall, it was a really 15. Lowell won the first and

good day out, trying to do third games, but struggled 25-20, 27-25 in game one of "We were just really show a really good day of

"We never emotionally placed first in the power managed to take control, but volleyball Reeths Puffer," said Lowell got into the game," Peal said. pool by beating Holland 25- we were always right there," blocks with 17 in addition to used Saturday's Zeeland coach Gigi Peal. "When "I think the kids mentally 21, 18-25, 15-11.

Lowell Inpoolplay at Saturday's tournament quarterfinal, huge match just before had nine blocks and 14 kills. Finishing third at regrouping stage to get back tournament, Lowell started winning another close (Hudsonville, round 2), it Amanda Schneider had with a win over Wyoming match. This time the score would have been a different seven blocks, 26 kills and The loss against Reeths Park, 25-18, 25-9. Then the was 21-25, 25-23, 19-17. story." Zeeland went on to win the Puffer was by a score of 25- Red Arrows fell to Mattawan Zeeland beat Lowell in the semifinals by a score of 25- Hills in the final match. Lowell beat Hudsonville 21, 25-23.

Peal said of the Zeeland 14 kills. Amanda Geelhoed faced match. "I think had we not had 14 blocks to go with Hudsonville again in the come off an emotionally 12 kills. Mary VanderLaan

> Zeeland beat Kenowa had 35 kills. Statistics for the day

Malley Cahoon led in six aces. Kristin Johnson

"Obviously a great blocking day," Peal said.

Volleyball, continued...From Page 16

getting touches on the ball." Schumacher was the other the team.

and Liberty Clark with 352

Invitational on Jan. 7, the

and Grand Rapids West

for two games.

Catholic.

opportunity where it didn't

Bowling, continued...From Page 15

we're successful is when assists and also 24 kills and defensive effort and talked said.

"Sam Mol had 54 credited Lisa Johnson for her in close matches," Peal

in her first varsity matches, said.

Peal was experimenting setter of the two setter "Eva Wilcox just came having sat out the early The varsity coach has The Red Arrows have The Lowell coach positions and on key points severed nerve in her hand.

team," Peal said.

its depth and all the steam in the same poll. it built up Saturday for the next two matches.

"We definitely have semifinals and quarterfinals our toughest two weeks of we're blocking well and six aces," Peal said. "Taryn about a few role players on Amy VanEns played and played really well," Peal conference play back to back," she said.

with two setters during the system and got 68 assists." in for everyone in key season recovering from a spent a lot of the early season their home opener Thursday tinkering with the lineups. at 7:30 p.m. Lowell hosts "I'm so deep that there Forest Hills Northern, the has been a lot of competition third-ranked team in the between players and a lot of latest Class A state coaches' finding out who fits the best poll. Next Thursday, in different roles on this Lowell travels to Forest Hills Central. The Rangers Lowell will need all received honorable mention

Volleyball, cont'd., pg. 17 the power pool. The Arrows kind of tired and we never blocking for Lowell. some regrouping after a in the others. LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS BOARD BRIEFS

Regular Meeting of January 9, 2006 STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Representative to the Board, reported that the Student Middle School Feasibility Study Preliminary Report being reviewed and a report will be shared on this towards Services Center has been busy getting new schedules out Larry Mikulski gave an update on the various air quality the end of the school year. for the second semester. The Freshman Center will be studies that have been taking place at the Middle School. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Pat Murphy again opportunity this year to participate in a dodge ball recommendation to the Board. tournament. The Senior Class is looking at doing a ACTION ITEMS memorial at the Red Arrow Stadium, and a student will The Board accepted the following gifts:

SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION - To honor the • Valeri Chumney donation of 20 violins valued at \$1200 session to discuss negotiations. Board members for their dedication in serving the Lowell Area Schools, Pat Murphy announced their years of **CONSENT ITEMS** - Approved/adopted were: service and presented them with a certificate.

REPORTS -

Elementary Science

Mike Fillman, Murray Lake elementary teacher, presented GENERAL FUND... a report on the usage of the Battle Creek Science Kits SCHOOL SERVICES FUND which is an inquiry based learning program and is aligned with State curriculum standards. The students are asked a question, and then the students investigate and draw conclusions. This has been a great learning tool for the

Literacy Teachers Susan Gordon Jackie Krygier, and Rachel • Resolution to Modify the 403B Plan and Amend and Bowen gave a presentation on the DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Literacy Skills) program which • Resolution - Designation of Title I Coordinator identifies the literacy skill level of students to find • Administrative Regulation #8670-R for Administering students at risk. Intervention measures are then put in Medication

place for these students. Marlene Heemstra then CURRICULUM REPORT - Mark Kasmer thanked the explained how common strategies are used by teachers staff members who presented curriculum information at Brooke Liu, Student Council President and Student kindergarten through 12th grade to help with literacy. the meeting. The Middle School science curriculum is

address the Board concerning this at the next board • Dean Transportation donation of \$250 to be used for deadline for filing nominating petitions is February 7. Christmas gift certificates for families in need.

to be used as a fund raiser for the Orchestra Program.

 Minutes for December 12, 2005 Special Meeting and December 12, 2005 Regular Meeting

• The following payment of bills for December 2005: ..\$1,103,651.96

 Food Service Fund. ..\$77,285.44 ..\$4,157.66 B. Athletic Fund. ..\$1,739.38 1990 Debt Fund.. ..\$528.05 2000 Debt Fund... ..\$42.51 2004 Debt Fund... TRUST AND AGENCY FUND. ..\$30,995.47

Restate the LAS Deferred Compensation Plan (457)

sponsoring a dance in February, and students have the A committee will review the final reports and will make a thanked the Board members for their dedication and service to the students and Lowell community. The Board will be going into closed sessions to discuss negotiations. The regular election will be held on May 2, 2006 and the CLOSED SESSION - The Board went into closed

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Board Workshop Monday, January 23, 2006 - 5:30 p.m. Runciman Administration Building - Board Room

Regular Board Meeting Monday, February 13, 2006 - 7:00 p.m. Runciman Administration Building - Board Room

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Hockey scores

The Lowell-Caledonia hockey team lost a pair of non-league games over the weekend.

Lowell-Caledonia traveled to Kalamazoo for a game against the Kalamazoo Eagles, a cooperative team, Friday. The Eagles won 3-1. Against Forest Hills Northern on Saturday, as the away team at the Patterson Ice Center, Lowell-Caledonia fell 5-3.

The next game for Lowell-Caledonia is Saturday versus South Christian at Patterson. The game starts at 3 p.m.

were Sowles with a 358 for what they had to take care Greg Sherman (386), Eric The Lowell boys two games, and Nawrocki of," Eickhoff said. The team is working on Everitt (352) and Sean Catholic at the Fruitport

consistent rolling and adding Adrianse (336). At the Fruitport pins to their scores.

Hudsonville, Grand Haven Eickhoff said. has also had a strong season, one by 40-50 pins," Lowell "We had a lot of good though they didn't do as boys coach Dave Adrianse bowling conference includes

with us ... and the girls went two matches.

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Lowell girls finished in third where they've got a chance bakers, losing both. The Muskegon Reeths Puffer. place. It was a tough field to win it all the time, and Rams eventually won 22-8 that included Rockford, that's what we're doing," after the regular games.

The Lowell boys team by eight and lost the second Monday.

Lowell fell to Northview were Jahnke (471 for two Grand Rapids, Forest Hills 17-13. The top Red Arrow games), Adrianse (391), Central and Northview. bowlers were Brandon Bouwhuis (372), Sherman

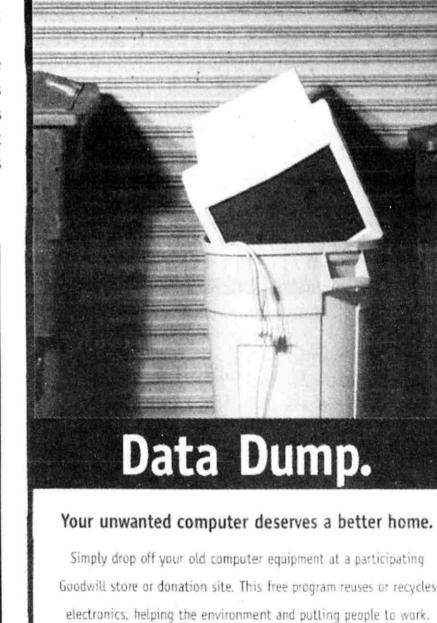
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Top Red Arrow bowlers in there and took care of Jahnke (474 for two games), (322) and Everitt (314).

Bouwhuis (366), Anthony finished second to West Invitational. They were 4-Against Rockford, the 2 in dual matches going "They're in the ballpark boys also struggled in the into Monday's match at

> Lowellhosts Forest Hills Northern on Wednesday and "We won the first one travels to Kenowa Hills next In addition to Lowell, the

teams that are right up there well as the girls in the last said. "It was a good match." Kenowa Hills, Forest Hills Top Red Arrow bowlers Northern, Rockford, East



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Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold Edward **Jones** Serving Individuals Investors Since 1871

INVESTING FOR SHORT-TERM GOALS -AND LONG-TERM SUCCESS

Over the past several years, the phrase "multi-tasking" has gained popularity. And you know just what this expression means if you constantly juggle work and family demands. But you might not realize that you might have to use your skills at managing different outcomes in another area of your life: investing.

Specifically, you will likely need to invest for both short-term and long-term goals. And you'll have to do it at the same time.

Your first step toward achieving this two-part investment strategy is to identify your short- and long-term financial goals. Your short-term goals will change over time. For example, when you're first starting out in your working life, you may want to make a down payment on a house.

In the middle of your career, you may want to take your whole family on a round-the-world trip. And then, as you near retirement, you might decide to purchase a vacation

Your long-term goals, by definition, will likely remain fairly fixed. So, when you first have children, you might decide that you will save and invest for 18 years to help pay for college. And your biggest long-term goal will be to build resources for a comfortable retirement.

Can you work to achieve both short- and longterm goals - without hurting your progress toward one or another? Yes - but you will need to follow different investment strategies for different goals.

Let's suppose you're at the beginning of your career. You want to save for a down payment on your home, but you also want to start a retirement savings plan. What should you do?

investments that you can be fairly certain will provide you with the money you'll need in a relatively short period of time - perhaps three to five years. Consequently, you may want to consider certificates of deposit (CDs) or investment-grade bonds that mature at exactly the time you'll want to make your down payment. You'll receive

permanent public registry the Internet at www.

regular interest payments, but even more importantly, you'll get your principal back - just when you need it.

During these same years, you may be contributing to your 401(k) at work, and, if you can afford it, to an IRA as well. And, since you are investing for retirement, which is likely many decades away, you need to take quite a different approach to the one you used when saving for a down payment. In short, you can afford to be a much more aggressive investor. That means you should include a mix of high-quality, growth-oriented stocks in your 401(k) or IRA. Will these stocks fluctuate in value over the years? Certainly. But the longer you hold these stocks, the greater the likelihood that you will overcome the short-term "down" periods and potentially achieve significant gains.

So, there you have it: One point in your life, two different goals, two different investment strategies. And you will find that you may need to follow this "dual-track" approach many For your down payment, you'll need to rely on times over the years. To coordinate your different investment approaches, you may want to work with an investment professional who can help you draw up a comprehensive financial plan for your financial future.

> By choosing the right investments, you can move toward your short- and long-term goals at the same time. That's a "win-today," "win-tomorrow" situation.

Navy log offered free to sea service members, veterans

The United States Navy ticular type of ship, battle Memorial, on Pennsylvania or conflict, but rather the where Sea Service members lonesailor.org. The goal Ave. in Washington, D.C., is a national memorial that honors those who served, and are serving, in America's U.S. Navy Memorial is the Sea Services.

Its focus is not a par-

individual whose service and sacrifice is honored and celebrated. The heart of the Navy Log.

veterans can record is to record the service their service information: history of all eligible name, duty stations, awards, uniformed It may be viewed at the

All members and The Navy Log is the Navy Memorial, or via veterans

individuals

without charge and without any obligation through the end of July. Family members and friends can record service information for veterans who are deceased or those who are unable to record their own information.

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Members from the Kalamazoo Astronomical Society will be on hand Friday, Jan. 20 at 6 p.m. the different types of www.airzoo.org. telescopes and how they

With the holiday work. Those participating in the workshop are encouraged in Kalamazoo is hosting to bring their telescopes for individual assistance. Weather permitting, there will be an after-workshop view session.

The cost is \$10 for Air Zoo members (\$20 for a family) and \$15 for non-members (\$25) for non-member families) Advanced registration with payment is required. For more information, contact the Air to teach participants about Zoo at 269-382-6555 or visit



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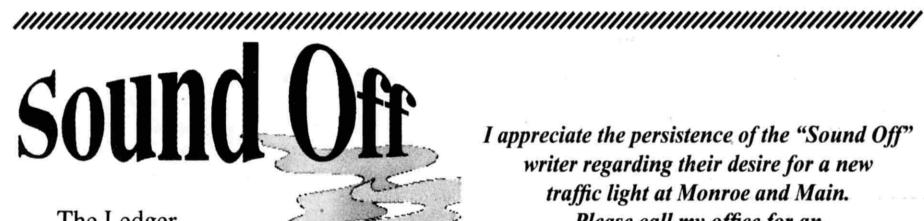
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Congratulations Chuck Myers on being elected mayor. It's long overdue.



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I appreciate the persistence of the "Sound Off" writer regarding their desire for a new traffic light at Monroe and Main. Please call my office for an update at 1-877-DAVE-086.

> I found my hub cap thanks to a very thoughtful person.

Since when does the city council elect a mayor. I thought the town's people did. I think that's called communism.

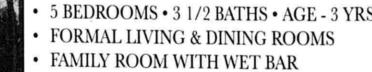
We love the Wittenbach Center fun and informative walks and look forward to next month.

I don't understand how an employer can not pay his employees & feel good about himself like it's not a big problem.

> I have a problem. I was wondering why the majority of Michigan schools are closed on Martin Luther King day but Lowell is open. What exactly are we trying to say?

> > How do people needing free food afford cigarettes?

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bedroom apartments. Available first of the year. Call HOUSE FOR RENT IN

FOR RENT - 2 spacious 2

BELDING - 2 story, newly remodeled on large corner lot with garage. Call after 4 p.m. 989-855-2367

WANTED

The Lowell Ledger - Wednesday, January 18, 2006 - Page 19

WANTED MOTORCYCLES - cash paid for road bikes, running or not, 446-8352.

PERSONALS

LONELY. HOMETOWN GUY TEMPORARILY DIS-PLACED - Pen-pals wanted! Will send pictures! Steven James Osborne 10852040, PO Box 8000, Bradford, PA 16701-0980.

IN MEMORIAM

IN MEMORIAM In loving memory of our

parents: Emma E. Kropf June 17, 1909 February 24, 1958 Bertha M. Weir, October 24, 1901 February 20, 1968

James W. Weir October 7, 1899 March 20, 1973 Carl Kropf

September 13, 1909 January 18, 1993 Those we love remain with us:

for love itself lives on. and cherished memories never fade. because a loved one's

Those we love will never be more than a thought for as long as there is

in our hearts.

memory, they'll live on

IN MEMORIAM In loving memory of Mildred Pinckney

who passed away January, 1998. She is sadly missed by her son Tilden F. & Judy K. Pinckney

SERVICES

brands of: washers, dryers, dishwashers, garbage dissured. Leave a message for 3718 Mike at 897-6277 or reach me in person at 616-299-

WATSON'S HANDYMAN SERVICES - Decks, basement remodels, doors, drywall & much more. Small jobs welcome. Honest & dependable. Call 897-6906

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SERVICES

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BILL'S CUSTOM MADE FURNITURE & CABINETS -All types of wood: oak maple, hickory, cherry plus others. Reasonable rates and free estimates, 989 855-3644.

DAYCARE - Now has open ings for the new year. M-F, 6 a.m. - 5 p.m. Lowell bus for Bushnell & Cherry Creek. CPR & First Aid, DHS is accepted. Call Robin 897-4570

or 889-8384.

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posals, ranges & refrigera- NO JOB TOO SMALL tors. Call Krisel's Appli- Those little jobs about the ance Repair Service, serv- house need fixing. Call me ing the Lowell & surrounding and get them done at a rea area since 1976. Fully in- sonable price. Call 616-443-

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