

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 35 Issue 17

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, February 28, 2007

New "RAW" team bus will be rolling through Lowell

By Aly DeYoung

Arrow Force One, a new bus that will transport sports teams after hours, will be rolling down the street soon.

The Lowell Wrestling Club just took a loan out on a charter bus, and it will help both the wrestling and football teams get where they need to go when it's past school hours.

"We bought the bus to help our transport needs," said president of both clubs Brian Krajewski. "We took some funding out through ICMD. We want people to understand it's not school funded. It's club based." The wrestling club needed the bus not just for safe transportation, but comfort as well.

"If you've ever sat on a school bus for a long period of time, and you're

over 100 pounds, you know it's not very comfortable," Krajewski said.

Brad Sprague designed graphics that were put on by Chris Bieri of Bieri Auto Body, Inc. "It's an older bus," Bieri said. "It took a little work." All of this work involved, but wasn't limited to, removing old decals from the charter company, putting new wheels on, and painting.

The wrestling club intends to do fundraising to help pay off the loan. Members are planning to sell seat covers in a "Buy A Seat" program.

The club considered renting out the bus, but Krajewski said the Department of Transportation doesn't allow it.

Krajewski also plans to let other sports teams at Lowell High School use the bus as well.



The new Arrow Force One may be emblazoned with "RAW" for Red Arrow Wrestling, but organizers plan to transport other club teams as well.

Longtime Ledger Entries columnist Lussmyer retires

At 80, Priscilla Lussmyer's eye sight is not what it was when she started her historical column Ledger Entries in 1987.

As much as Lussmyer would like to continue to write until 2012, she called it quits this month. Plus, there is a time to say goodbye to everything.

Always a history buff, Lussmyer came up with the Ledger Entries idea to keep history alive. The Lowell native did her research on microfilm, first at the Engelhardt Library, later at home with the help of a bulky projector.

"It was something that kind of grew on me," she said. "Lowell is a very old town. I like looking back into what it was like."

Of course, as Lussmyer logged in the entries, she could remember anything under 50 years. She lived north of town since 1930s. "It was just fun to do," she said.

Lussmyer enjoyed reading about the earliest history including explorer Rix Robinson who is buried in cemetery on the corner of Vergennes and Lincoln Lake roads.

"I was just interested in looking up Lowell history," she said, "...how we have developed."

Five years ago, Lussmyer moved with her youngest son John to Washington state. She continued to do the Ledger Entries from 125, 100, 75, 50 and 25 years ago until this month when her eyesight worsened.

"I enjoyed doing it but sooner or later you need to retire and between my eyesight and my age," she said.

Lussmyer hopes she continues to get a free

subscription to the Lowell Ledger. "It's a very old newspaper," she said. "It's your hometown newspaper. You read about the people you know. It's not like a big city paper."



Priscilla Lussmyer at her home in Washington.

Parks commission sets user fee at \$5

By Emma Palova

The Lowell parks and recreation commission plans to establish a \$5 fee for resident and non-resident athletic users of city parks.

A five-year agreement with Lowell Little League, Extreme Softball, YMCA and Lowell Youth Football is expected by April 1.

The fees may be reviewed annually starting in January 2008. The agreement would give

affected parties, now already in the registration process, six months to prepare for the change, according to commission chair Perry Beachum.

Under the proposed agreement, the city will be in charge of scheduling events at the parks. Each athletic group will have a \$2 million insurance policy.

Unlike the previous proposal, the groups will only be responsible for

electricity, not for sewer and water.

"If you have a night game," said commissioner Margaret Hoats, "...you're going to get billed."

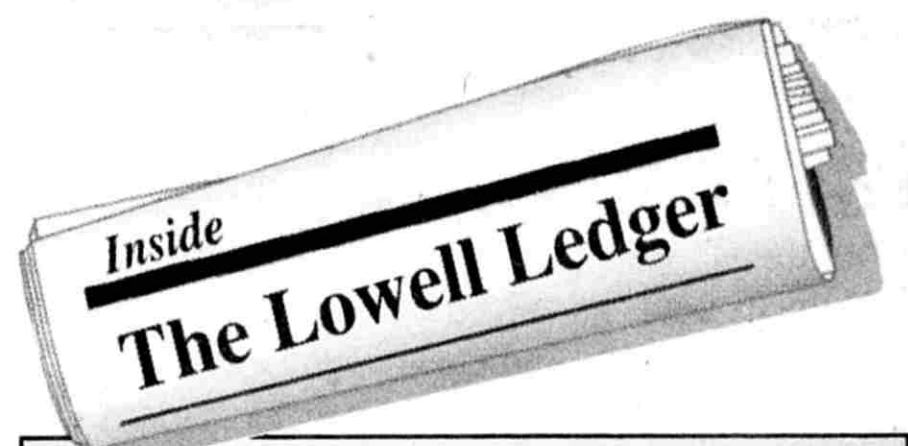
Each group will also pay 10 percent of gross revenues on additional activities outside the agreement.

"We're trying to be equal to everybody," said Beachum. "Let's keep it on equal basis."

In turn for the fees, the city will mow the fields once a week and provide portable toilets for parks without restrooms.

"We've been tugging at this forever," said Beachum. "Let's get this done and put it to bed."

A separate 10-year agreement will be hammered out with the Kent County Youth Fair.



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Obituaries

ALLEN
L. Dennis Allen passed away February 23, 2007 in Lansing. He was born October 1, 1948 in Ionia the son of Leo and Caroline (Degroot) Allen. He was a 1966 graduate of Ionia High School. Dennis married Suzie Stebbins August 15, 1995. He worked for IUE-CWA Union as an International Representative. He loved baseball and was very involved with Greater Ionia Youth League as a coach and in other areas for many years. He is survived by his wife Suzie Allen of Ionia; father, Leo Allen of Ionia; children, Dennis and Angela Allen Jr. of Ionia, Tim Allen of Ionia, Jeff Allen of Lowell, Julie Catherine Wiczorek-Allen and Scott Feltenberger of East Lansing; step sons, Scott Shellenbarger of Palo, Troy Shellenbarger of Ionia, Aaron Nelson Shellenbarger of Ionia; sisters, Julie and Don Riger of Ionia, Debbie and Bob Flynn of Ionia; 9 grandchildren, 3 step grandchildren, many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by



BELL
James "Jim" Craig Bell age 77, of Ada, passed away on Thursday February 22, 2007. He is survived by his parents Charlie and Denise Bell, sister Lynn Ann, grandparents, many uncles, aunts and cousins. He was a member of the senior class

at Lowell High School. Jim has gone to a better place and we will miss him, his loving nature and sense of humor. Funeral services were held on Monday at the Metcalf and Jonkhoff Chapel.

COURT

With her loving children at her side, Hollice Savage Court died February 13, 2007 in Alexandria, Virginia. Holly was born July 18, 1914 on the family farm in Marcellus, Michigan to Jesse and Hollister Savage. She graduated from what is now Western Michigan University in 1936. While a student at Western, Holly met Richard Court. They married in 1937. Following World War II Dick and Holly settled in Lowell where they raised their children. In 1961 they built a house on Algonquin Lake in Hastings where they lived for 45 years. Holly taught business education at the Thornapple-Kellogg Public Schools in Middleville, was a member of the Presbyterian Church in Hastings, was a docent at Charleton Park and was a member of the Algonquin Lake Association. She took pleasure in playing bridge, gardening, and participating in civic and church activities. Her greatest joy was celebrating gatherings with her children and their families. Holly was preceded in death by Margaret, her daughter, in 1959, and Dick in 1999. She is survived by her children,

Barbara (Ralph) St. John, Richard (Nancy) Court, and Catherine (Donnie) Smyles. Her grandchildren are Court (Jane) Herschelmann, Kern (Carol Lee) Herschelmann, Philip Richard (Christina) Herschelmann, Nathan Court, John Moran, Holly Smyles, and Margaret Smyles. She had ten great grandchildren. Holly is fondly remembered by extended family and numerous friends. A memorial will be held July 1, 2007 at the Presbyterian Church in Hastings. Herashes will be interred at Oakwood Cemetery in Lowell following the services. She may be honored by making contributions to the Margaret Court Memorial Scholarship, Lowell Area Schools, 300 High Street, Lowell, Michigan 49331, or by purchasing a book in her name for the Hastings City Library.



FISK
Russell E. Fisk, aged 65, of Lowell died unexpectedly February 20, 2007. Russell was born February 19, 1942 in Grand Rapids. He was

preceded in death by his parents, Emery and Viola Fisk; sister, June Kyser; father-in-law, Ronald Sebald. He is survived by his wife of 34 years, Lavon; three sons, Scott Fisk, Shannon Fisk, Ryan Fisk, (Hillary Smith); brother, James (Chris) Fisk; sister Beverly (Joe) Schmidt; brothers-in-law, Wayne (Barb) Kyser, Edward (Sheila) Sebald; sister-in-law, Donna Mae (L.J.) Main; mother-in-law, Gladys Sebald; several nieces and nephews. Russell loved welding, loved racing, was known as "Dad Fisk" at the racetracks. He worked Fisk Trucking for 34 years. He enjoyed flying, although the landing/take offs were a different story. He was a former employee of Dykema & Dykstra Excavators & Plumbers Septic. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 24 at the Roth-Gerst Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to: The family of Russell E. Fisk, c/o Roth-Gerst Funeral Home.

LUCAS

Ruth L. Lucas went home to be with her Lord on Sunday, February 25, 2007. She was born on October 29, 1912 the daughter of Edward Tingley and Myrtle Galloup in Stanton. Ruth married Otis Rice on July 3, 1937, who later preceded her in death on March 21, 1955. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Ionia, the Blue Star Mothers, and the American Legion Auxiliary where she also served as president. Ruth worked through the years at Vern's Bicycle Shop and Connor Furniture. She married Gerald D. Lucas on February 23, 1957, who later preceded her in death on March 19, 1998. Ruth is also preceded in death by her son-in-law Roger Connor and brother Vernon Galloup. She is survived by two daughters Joane (Bob) Bailey and Geraldine Connor, son Richard (Nancy) Rice, 18 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren, and 5 great-great-grandchildren. Funeral Services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on

Thursday, March 1, 2007 at the Schrauben-Lehman Funeral Home, 220 Rich St., Ionia with Rev. Kendall Harger presiding. Interment will take place at Balcom Cemetery in the Spring. The family will receive friends from 2-4 p.m. and 7-8:30 p.m. on Wednesday at the Funeral Home. Contributions may be made to either the First Baptist Church of Ionia, or the Ionia Commission on Aging in Ruth's name. Online condolences may be made at www.schraubenlehman.com.



WHEAT

James E. Wheat, age 76, of Lowell passed away February 24, 2007. He was preceded in death by his parents John and Mary Wheat, brother Philip Wheat, and daughter-in-law Debra Wheat. He is survived by his wife of 56 years Marion (Batey) Wheat, children, Cherry Wheat and Rex Wheat of Lowell, sisters, Evelyn (Clyde) Cooper of Ionia, Olive (Bill) Cook of Lowell, Doris (Delmar) Carlson of Lamont, Alice Wheat (Art) Botma of Six Lakes, Virginia (Jerry) Roberts of Riverview, Florida, sister-in-law, Juanita Wheat of Lowell, grandchildren, Tara (Brandon) Hamilton, and Cassy Wheat, and three great grandchildren. Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, February 28 11 a.m. at the Roth-Gerst Funeral Chapel, 305 North Hudson, Dr. Michael T. Konklm officiating. Interment will be at South Boston Cemetery.

Thebes present Humpty Dumpty is Missing



The Thebes Players Community Theatre will present "Humpty Dumpty is Missing...or the Mysterious Case of the Fallen Egg" March 16-18 and March 23-25 at the Lowell Performing Arts Center at Lowell High School. Coleen Downey directs the one-act comedy "whodunnit" written by Joseph Robinette. The show is produced by Brent Allen.

The play is an affectionate spoof of the private eye thrillers of the 1940s and 1950s. Sammy Scoop is a private investigator in the tradition of his grandfather, Samuel Shovel and his father Sam Spade. Sammy faces the biggest challenge of his illustrious career with the sudden fall and disappearance of the jolly Humpty Dumpty, who had no enemies. Sammy and his sidekick, Alice from Dallas, soon come up with a list of suspects who had a motive and opportunity.

Performances are 7:30 p.m. March 16 and 23 and 2:30 p.m. March 17-18 and March 24-25. Tickets are \$12 general admission and \$10 for seniors and students. Group tickets (10 or more) are \$8 each. Advance tickets are available at lowellartscenter.org and by calling 897-8545. Tickets can be purchased at the arts council office at 149 S. Hudson and will also be available at the box office on performance days.

Benefit concert to be held at performing arts center

The Red Arrow Fiddle Club, a student organization of Lowell Area Schools, will host a benefit concert on Friday, March 9. Fiddle Fire 2007 will take place at 7 p.m. at Lowell Performing Arts Center at Lowell High School.

Co-directors Aaron and Wendy Tenney lead Lowell students from fourth grade through high school in the Red Arrow Fiddle Club and an audition-only group called the Red Arrow Fiddlers.

The concert will also feature Lowell area bluegrass group Patchwork Band and Lowell musicians Bill Nieuwsma (fiddle), Fred Wilson (guitar), and Brian

Adams (bass). The show will feature American folk tunes, traditional Celtic jigs, mariachi and rock music.

The concert, a partnership between Lowell's orchestras and the West Michigan Bluegrass Music Association, is designed to expand the horizons of traditional musicians, looking at stringed instruments in alternative styles.

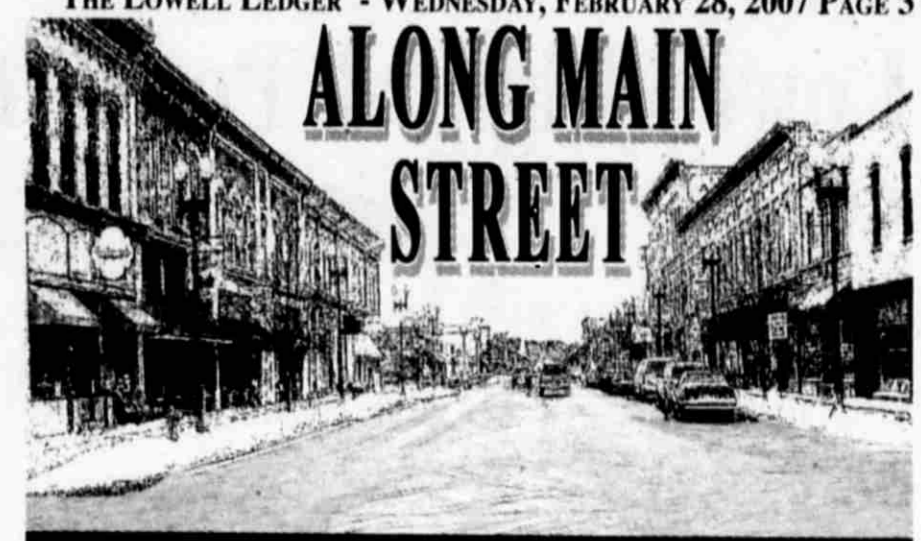
General admission tickets, \$5 for adults and \$2 for students, are available

the night of the concert. All proceeds benefit the Red Arrow Fiddlers.

Business Matters

Greenridge Realty announced that Sigg Winsor received Realtor of the Month in February. This award recognizes her outstanding success and achievements.

Sigg Winsor



FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Free Food Distribution is Thursday, March 1 now at the old Cumberland Manor, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at 11535 East Fulton. NOT at the Moose Building. Recipients must have proof for source of all income and Social Security numbers for entire household. Bring bags.

BLUEGRASS HOTBANDS FUNDRAISER

Bluegrass Hotbands Fundraiser, March 3 at River-view Restaurant. The event, starting at 6:30 p.m., will feature two bands, a big jam session and food for \$5.

ATHLETIC BOOSTER

The Athletic Boosters' regular business meeting will be held in the Lowell High School staff lounge on Monday, March 5 at 7 p.m. Please come and support our athletes.

NEW EXHIBIT

A collection of work by March artist-in-residence, mixed-media artist Meredith Parrish, opens March 3 and runs through March 31 at the Franciscan Life Process Center, 11650 Downes St. NE, Lowell. Hours are 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday and weekends by appointment. A reception will be held Saturday, March 17, from 4-7 p.m. For more information call 897-7842.

MEET COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER

Meet Kent County Drain Commissioner Bill Byll! Byll will speak on storm water runoff and other important drain-related issues from 6:15-7 p.m. on Monday, March 5 at Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Dr. Hosted by the Open Space Committee for Vergennes Township. Refreshments will be served. Call 897-5671 for more information.

HEALTH SHOPPING EVENT

Lowell Community Wellness and United Lifestyles of Greenville are partnering with Meijer to present a health shopping event on Saturday, March 3 from noon-2 p.m. This event is being held in conjunction with our Lowell Takes it off versus Greenville event which is nearing completion. Miranda of WOTV-4 will be attending and there will be taste testing and cholesterol screening. A chef will be cooking in the store and many more fun activities for the whole family are planned.

CROP WALK RALLY

The Lowell Crop Walk Rally is Thursday, March 8 at 7 p.m. at the new FROM building, 11535 Fulton St. E, Lowell. Those planning to walk in this year's Crop Walk, can pick up sponsor sheets that evening.

CONCERT FOR FOOD PANTRY

On March 10, at Larkin's Other Place, an all-day "family friendly" concert, "Who Cares" is happening. Bands will begin playing at noon and end at 9:30 p.m. Cost is \$6 (with \$5 going to Food Pantry) plus 2 items of non-perishable food.

LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM

If you're interested in learning more about the history of the Lowell area you may want to join a group of volunteers learning about the history of our community, and providing a much needed service. Greeters, tour guides, donation processors, clerical support and special events people are needed. The Lowell Area Historical Museum will be conducting its next volunteer training on March 13 at 7 p.m. at the Museum. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please call Judy Straub at 897-7688.

FROM FOOD PANTRY

The FROM Food Pantry is presently in need of dairy products (cheese, milk, yogurt), canned fruit, laundry soap, and paper products. Please help if you are able. The FROM Food Pantry is now located at 11535 Fulton St. E. (former Cumberland Manor). 897-8260.

BOWNE TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOWNE TOWNSHIP DEVELOPMENT AREA CITIZEN'S COUNCIL

Public notice is hereby given that the Bowne Township Development Area Citizen's Council will hold a meeting on Saturday, March 10, 2007 at 10:30 a.m. at the Alto Branch, Kent District Library, 6071 Linfield SE, Alto, Michigan. The purpose of the meeting is to review the proposed Amended and Restated Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing Plan of the Bowne Township Alto Downtown Development Authority. The Development Area Citizen's Council acts as an advisory body to the Bowne Township Alto Downtown Development Authority and the Bowne Township Board in the adoption of development plans and tax increment financing plans pursuant to Act No. 197 of 1975, as amended, and will make findings and recommendations regarding the proposed Amended and Restated Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing Plan.

Any person present at the meeting will have a reasonable opportunity to be heard. The proposed Amended and Restated Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing Plan is available for public inspection at the Township Hall, 8240 Alden Nash, Alto, Michigan, on Wednesdays and Thursdays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and on Fridays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

February 27, 2007

Sandra L. Kowalczyk, Clerk
Bowne Township

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LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate FILE NO. 07-182-809-DE

Estate of VERA I. THORNELL deceased

Date of birth: 1-21-1930

TO ALL CREDITORS: The decedent, VERA I. THORNELL, who lived at 3784 Eastern Avenue NE, Grand Rapids, Michigan died 10/28/2006.

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

D. THORNELL, named personal representative, or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
February 21, 2007

Craig Avery
P10311
3875 W. River Drive
PO Box 327
Comstock Park, MI 49321
616-784-5080

George D. Thornell
2033 Engleside Drive
SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49508
616-942-1954

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RENO 911: MIAMI (R) 1:20, 3:15, 5:10, 7:30, 9:25
GHOST RIDER (PG-13) 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40
BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA (PG) 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00
MUSIC AND LYRICS (PG-13) 1:30, 3:35, 5:40, 7:45, 9:50
CATCH AND RELEASE (PG-13) 2:05, 4:25, 6:45
THE HITCHER (R) 12:05, 9:15
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Lowell Light & Power to pay for replacement of trees on Bowes Road

By Emma Palova

Lowell Light and Power is expected to pay the city \$17,000 to replace trees on Bowes Road.

The city council Feb. 20 approved the funding to replace 68 trees cut down last year by the utility.

The \$17,000 will go into the city tree fund that was established with the first \$100 contribution from utility board chairman, Dave Austen.

According to council member Jim Pfaller, Lowell Light and Power officials told residents that only a few

trees would be cut. Instead, the utility removed a total of 83 trees, and trimmed trees on the other side of Bowes Road.

"I have credibility issues with Lowell Light and Power," Pfaller said. "The trees need to be replaced, but we can't replant them

where they were." A tree board has yet to be appointed based on the results of a study committee organized by Jim Reagan.

The tree board may consist of an arborist, a garden club member or any other concerned citizens in the community.

The study committee work with city hall, Light and Power and city residents to maintain trees on public property and right of ways," Reagan wrote in his proposal to the city.

Lowell Light and Power is expected to respond by March 8 to the city council funding request.

Charter amendments to align Light & Power Board

By Emma Palova

Proposed city charter amendments would adjust the number of members on the Lowell Light and Power board, and affirm city council organization.

The Lowell City Council Feb. 20 agreed to put a proposal on the Nov. 6 general election ballot that would update an obsolete charter.

The city council also proposed another ordinance that would downsize the number of planning commissioners from seven to five.

Under the charter amendment, the number of Lowell Light and Power board members would increase from three to five.

Mayor Charles Myers

said it has been difficult for the utility board to conduct meetings when two members were out of town.

"This will be more effective," said Myers.

The amendment provides for staggered terms on the utility board. One member will serve until 2009, two until 2010 and two members until 2011.

The organizational amendment would only affirm what the council has already been doing, according to city manager Dave Pasquale.

It stipulates that the first organizational meeting will be held in January to elect the offices of mayor and mayor pro-tem.

As in the past, council meetings will be held on

the first and third Monday of each month. The charter amendments will go to the attorney general for approval.

Also under the proposed ordinance reducing the number of planning commissioners, one council member would serve as ex-officio member with full voting power.

"Too many people can bog down the process," said Myers. "The increase (for Lowell Light and Power) and decrease (for the planning commission) will be beneficial."

A public hearing to consider amending the planning commission membership will be held on March 5 during the regular city council meeting.



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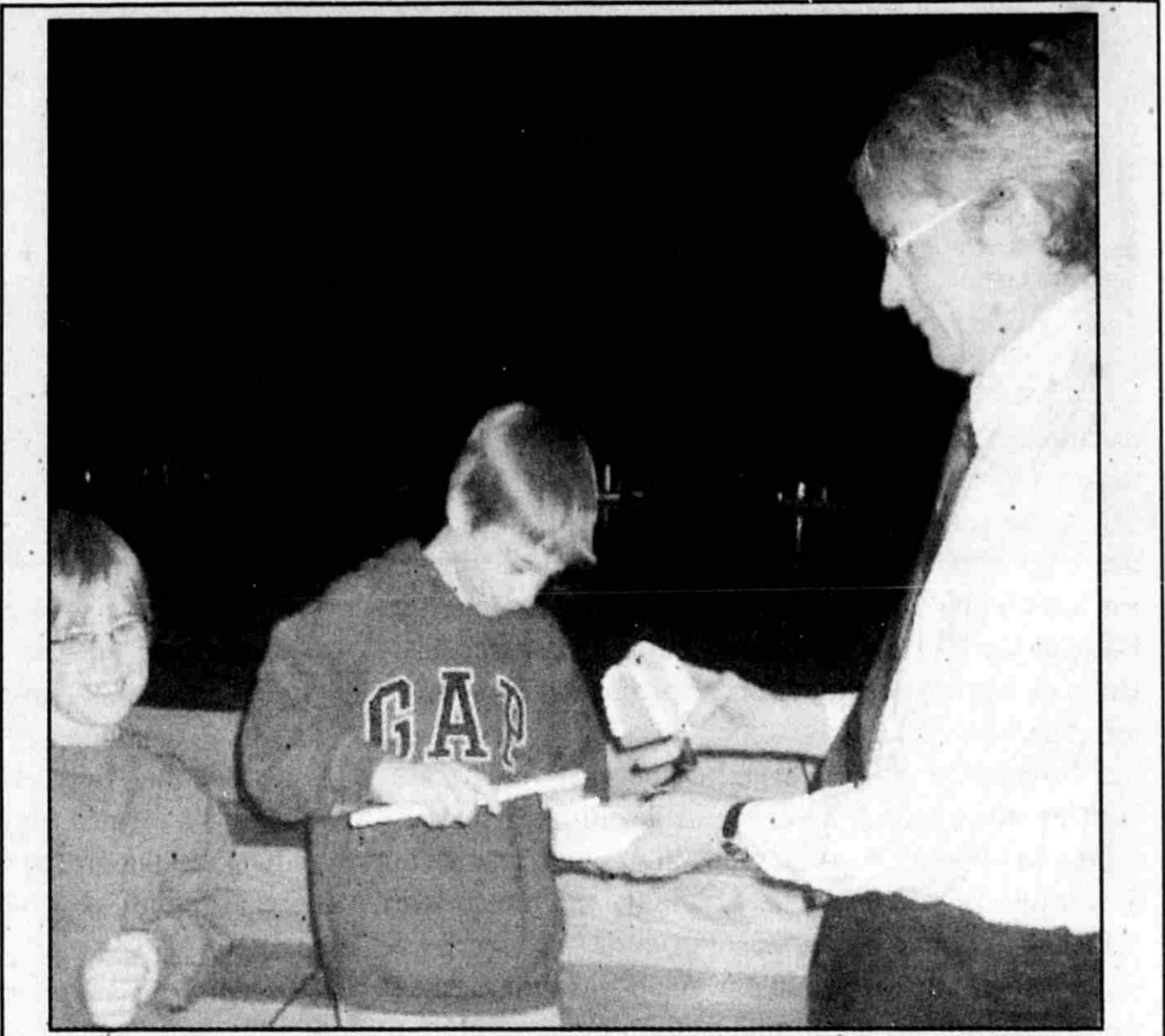
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Are you brushing?
February is National Dental Health Month. Third grade students at Cherry Creek Elementary enjoyed a visit from local dentist, Dr. James Reagan. The dentist taught students dental hygiene and the importance of brushing their teeth to prevent tooth decay. From left to right, North Yates, Isaiah Rowley, and Dr. James Reagan

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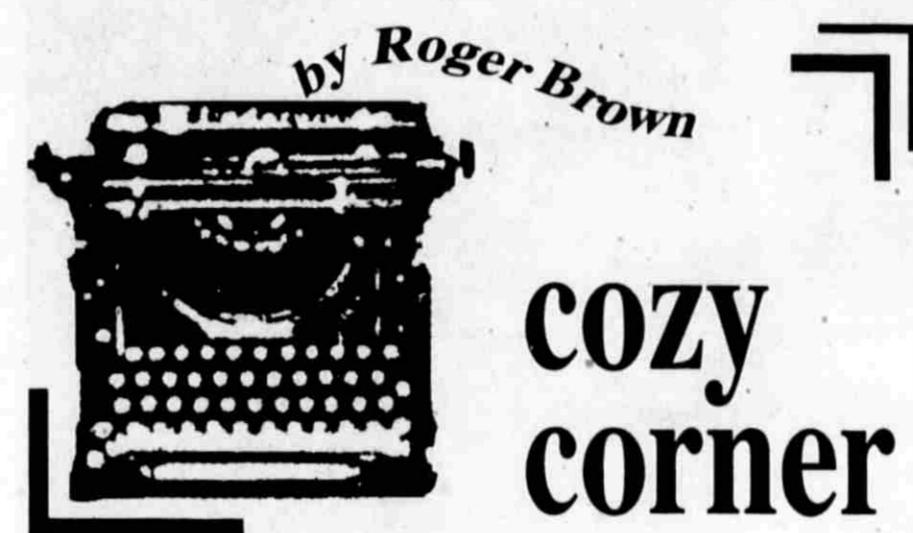
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Viewpoint



I've been around awhile. And, in all those years, I have also "been around" in a literal sense. Given all the time and distance my age and travels have encompassed, I have had remarkably few brushes with fame.

A few come to mind, but very few. While in Chicago, many years ago, I met Howard Cosell in a hotel hallway. He was in town because the Bears were on Monday Night Football. Cosell simply glared at me while puffing on a cigar. His body language screamed out "Don't even say hello, and forget about an autograph!"

On another trip to Chicago, again, many years ago, I shared a cab with Bill Dance, of Saturday morning TV fishing show fame. Yeah, I know, that's a bit of a stretch for "fame". Trying to make small talk, I offered my opinion that Chicago is a beautiful city. Dance pointed at an office building and said, "You could set me at a desk in there, writing thousand dollar checks to myself, and I still wouldn't live here." Guess he didn't like Chicago. End of small talk.


A few years ago, my daughter's family was living in the Phoenix area. Terese and I had been there for a visit and were returning home on U.S. Airways, connecting through Pittsburgh. Getting off in Pittsburgh, I thought a short, white-haired guy coming out of first class looked vaguely familiar.

After a reasonably long flight, there is a mad dash for the first men's room. In a special hurry are those of us in the age group that has stopped keeping track of their age. I pulled up to a vacant urinal, got things working and took a look around. The familiar looking white-haired guy was next to me. Yup, Senator John McCain.

He didn't need any glares or body language, nobody was going to ask him for an autograph at that particular moment. In fact, I think there is some sort of code prohibiting guys from making small talk at the urinal. A men's room is something of a safe zone for celebrities.

That's about it. Pretty paltry, heh? Guess I'm just not hanging out in the right kind of places.

Ask Kathryn



With Kathryn DenHouter Ph.D.

This month's question comes from someone who is frustrated with the Mental Health System. Her question is, "Why are there no programs for persons who are becoming addicted to crack cocaine?"

Many, many people are frustrated with our mental health system. It is hard to find an effective point of entry, and then, once you are in the system, it is hard to navigate through it to get what you or your loved ones need. Also, our lawmakers and our policy makers often see mental health services as a "money drain." It is often very hard to compile statistics in mental health and this is especially true in the area of addictions. The best way to deal with addictions is to "nip it in the bud." The old adage: "an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure" really applies here since the statistics for the recovery rates for addictions are pretty dismal. Nevertheless, it is clearly a public health issue that needs to be addressed.

The single most important phone number that can help

Given my lack of celebrity sightings, imagine my surprise when I saw a celebrity photo on my mom's refrigerator a few months ago. It was a picture of an aunt (my mom's sister) and uncle with a hugely famous guy standing between them.

The snapshot was amateurish and shot from much too far away. Even so, there was no mistaking my aunt and uncle with "Sparty" the M.S.U. sports mascot, standing between them with his big arms around their shoulders. Cool!!!

I hit my mom up for info about the picture. She wouldn't know Sparty from Big Bird or the Michelin Man. All she knew was that "Sparty", or as she put it, "the young fellow in the outfit", is my aunt and uncle's grandson...my cousin's kid!!! "It's something to do with his college", she added. WOW, that's not just a celebrity sighting, I'm related to a celebrity!!!

Seeking more information about my cousin Sparty, I asked one of my brothers. Sparty's dad, our first cousin, is my brother's accountant. My brother filled me in. Seems this second cousin has been one of M.S.U.'s four Spartys for the past three years. He's a senior and will graduate in the spring.

After adding a few more details, my brother threw in a warning. He said our cousin told him to keep this Sparty thing quiet. I guess it's sort of like Clark Kent and Superman. Nobody is supposed to know who Sparty is. I don't know, maybe it's more like a department store Santa, who shouldn't be taking a smoke break where little kids can see him. Whatever the case, Sparty is Sparty, and is not to be connected with a human.

Okay, I get it... but I just can't keep my newfound celebrity kin quiet. This is big!!! Notice that I didn't mention any names. Besides, he graduates in a couple of months. How much trouble can I make for him? Don't answer that!

I watched the M.S.U. vs. Indiana game Saturday night. I wasn't watching because of the basketball game or the cute cheerleaders kissing Dick Vitale's bald noggin. No, I was watching for Sparty sightings! My wife thinks I'm crazy. She was watching TV in the bedroom and I'd holler, "Terese! Terese! Come see! It's Sparty! Cousin Sparty!"

Sure, I'm exaggerating here, but I do find myself to be surprisingly geeked about this "Cousin Sparty" thing. Maybe it's my lack of celebrity exposure. When I'm confronted with a celebrity, I just don't know how to handle myself. It's probably a wonder I didn't whiz all over John McCain's shoes.

you find the services you need is 459-2255. This is a number that is sponsored by United Way, and they give you current information about how you can get the help you need especially in the area of mental health. Let's use an example of an 18 year old that has some insurance. The services available for an individual with insurance would be AOS of Arbor Circle. This is an outpatient treatment program. The term outpatient refers to getting treatment outside of a hospital. Inpatient refers to a hospital placement such as in Forest View Hospital and/or Pine Rest Christian Hospital. Another possibility for an individual that is dealing with an addiction is going to the Assessment center at Pine Rest Christian Hospital or Forest View Hospital. Once the assessment has been completed, then a referral can be made by the hospital staff. The Pine Rest phone number is: 455-5000 and the Forest View Hospital Intake number is 942-9610.

If this 18 year old does not have insurance, he has a different path to follow. They need to make a phone call to the Assessment center for Network 180 (336-3909). Once the assessment has been done, and the individual qualifies for a treatment program, then a placement can be made to the Salvation Army, Project Rehab and/or Turning Point. These services are very helpful for families that are struggling with the effects of addictions. Thank you for sending your question, and hopefully, this answers your question. Please keep these questions coming. My e-mail address is kathryndenhouer@gmail.com.

Ledger Entries

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

By Priscilla Lussmyer



**125 YEARS
THE WEEKLY JOURNAL
MARCH 1 1882**

H.W.Green was in town Monday with specimens of white bronze monuments for which he is agent for Kent County.

Between 50 and 70 residents of Lowell and vicinity leave for Dakota this week, intending to settle there.

The Train's Opera House manager says that the "disgusting performance" of last week's troupe was done without his knowledge or permission.

Judge Montgomery receives many compliments for rapid dispatch of business in court.

**100 YEARS
THE LOWELL LEDGER
FEBRUARY 28 1907**

The new canning factory is still making contracts with tomato farmers.

Lowell's annual financial report shows that the village is prospering in a big way.

County looks for a place to hold the annual elections. (McCord's news column): Mr. and Mrs. John McCord made a business trip to Grand Rapids Tuesday.

**75 YEARS
THE LOWELL LEDGER
AND THE ALTO SOLO FEB 25 1931**

Norman Borgerson is the new president of the Board of Trade.

Sen. Vandenberg's Bonus Loan Bill, passed overwhelmingly, will give WWI veterans the chance to borrow half the face value of their bonus certificates.

Lowell Light and Power reduces electric rates for customers, a very welcome change for Depression times.

Capital punishment, checking "wild driving" and legal beer are all on the legislature's agenda.

**50 YEARS
THE LOWELL LEDGER
FEBRUARY 28 1957**

Village Council is charged with paying village workers sub-standard wages and preventing them from organizing.

The annual Cub Scout banquet features robots made by the scouts.

A semi loaded with 150 cattle hits a tree on M21 and burns. Some, injured, are shot and others disappear into the darkness.

The Frank Ryders have a key to the original homestead on their farm, just designated a Centennial Farm.

**25 YEARS
THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER FEBRUARY 25 1981**

Senior Neighbors is seven years old this week. That Special Place and Pfaller's hold the first sidewalk sale of the season; the weather is spring like.

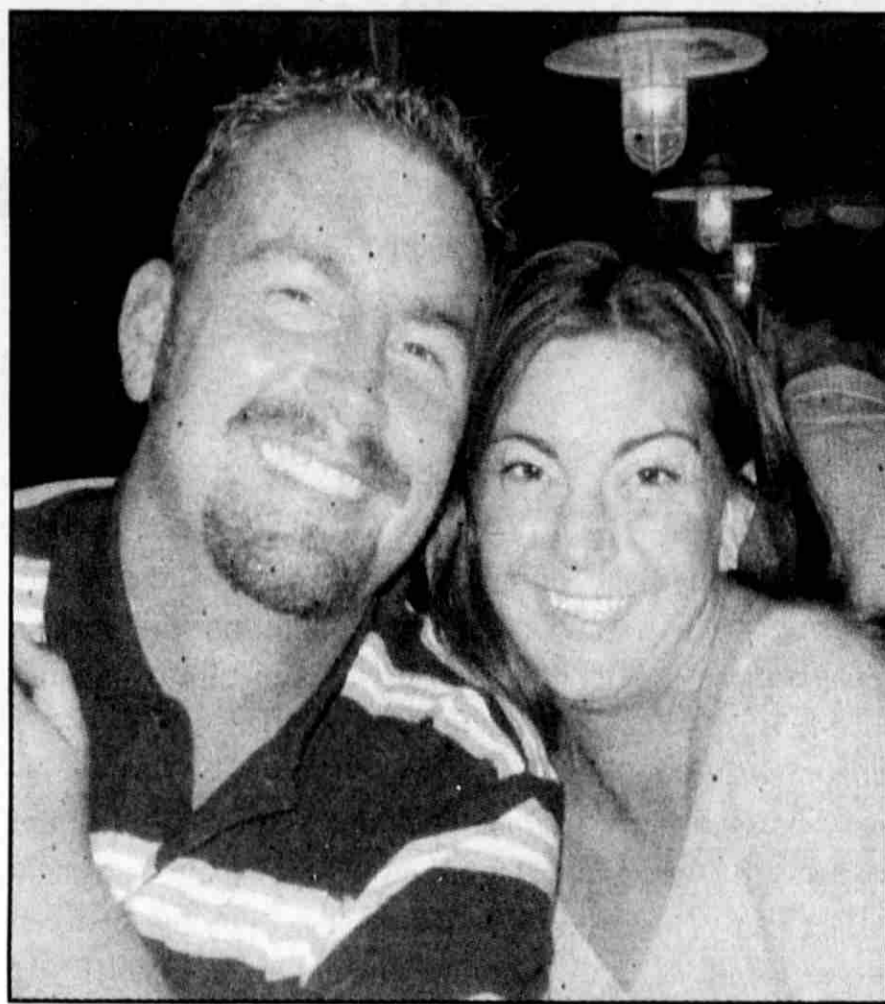
The three major automakers establish rebate programs to get the cars moving out of showrooms.

Al Eckman is named Police Officer of the Year (in Kent County) by the Exchange Club of Grand Rapids.

Engagements

Rosenberg/Phillips

A Sept. 8, 2007 wedding is planned in Bennington, Vermont for Marti Rosenberg and Brian Jacob Phillips. Both are residents of Vero Beach, Florida. Marti graduated from Keiser Career College and Central Michigan University. Brian graduated from Lowell High School and Central Michigan University. Parents of couple are Bert and Maureen Rosenberg of Hoosick Falls, New York and Michael and Phyllis Phillips of Lowell.



Brian Jacob Phillips and Marti Rosenberg

Happy Birthday

- FEBRUARY 28:**
Mark V. Ritzema, Connie Roth, Scott Denton, Claressa Guastavino.
- MARCH 1:**
Barak Brown, Jill Callihan, Laura Christiansen.
- MARCH 2:**
Mary Vezino, Roger MacNaughton, Anna Kline, Martin Johnson, Lisa Schoen.
- MARCH 3:**
Sarah Newell.
- MARCH 4:**
Scott Vashaw, Bryce Tulppo, Patrick N. Johnson, Art Warning, Jared Brzezniak.
- MARCH 5:**
Don Silvis, Michael Nearing, Brandy Washburn.
- MARCH 6:**
Pat Covell, Darlene McClure.

Reflections of faith

By Pastor Joe Fremer,
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Lowell

I saw a sign once in an outfitter's store. This was the kind of place that sells gear for serious winter enthusiasts, like people who are into dog-sled racing. The sign said: "There's no such thing as bad weather - just poor clothing choices." It took me a moment, but I got it.

Remember Super Bowl weekend at the beginning of this month? We had a bit of bad weather here in West Michigan. Schools closed, churches canceled Sunday services, because of white-out blizzard conditions and bitter cold. I wonder if the extreme winter gear outfitter could sell me a NASA space suit? That's the only thing I can think of that would have been an "appropriate clothing choice" for spending much time outside that weekend.

No matter how tough we humans think we are, there is

one thing that we are not tough enough to face on our own: death. All the bluster and bravado in the world can't get you through that bit of truly bad weather. Death doesn't care if you regard it as a friend or a foe. It makes no difference, ultimately, whether your chosen philosophy is "cease upon the midnight" or "rage, rage against the dying of the light." You can't weather this storm without protective gear.

Only one brand has been proven effective. "As many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ," it says in Galatians chapter 3. Put on, just like putting on a really, really good snow suit. Romans 6 says, "We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from death through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." Converting to the Christian faith (normally accomplished through being baptized) unites you with Jesus' death and resurrection, and makes you death-proof, because you put on Christ, becoming clothed in Him. He can't die again, so death can't kill you. It can only deliver you into His waiting arms.

No Doppler radar on earth can warn you when that blizzard is going to hit. The only way to be safe is to be clothed in Christ beforehand: trusting in Him to do for you, and be for you, everything necessary to make you ready for the storm. Anything else is a poor clothing choice indeed!

Weddings

Dewey/Rottier



Noelle and Dan Rottier

Noelle Dewey and Dan Rottier were joined together as husband and wife on Aug. 19, 2006 at Grandville Baptist Church.

Attending the bride were Andrea Dewey as maid of honor and bridesmaids Kate Lum, Jacquelyn Benedict, Emily Walford and Katie Rottier.

Serving as best man was Steve Rottier and groomsmen were Mike Rottier, Dave Rottier, BJ Schroeder and Tyler Dewey.

Jake Rottier and Anna Rottier served as ring bearer and flower girl.

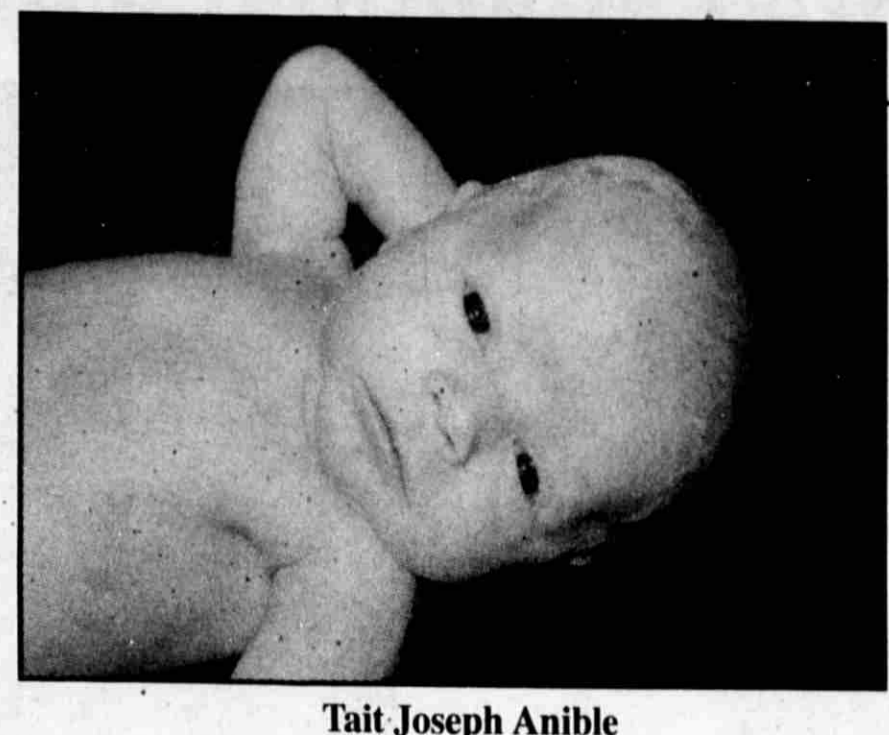
Parents of the couple are Mark and Jill Dewey and Robert and Mary Rottier, all of Lowell.

The couple resides in Rockford.

New Arrivals

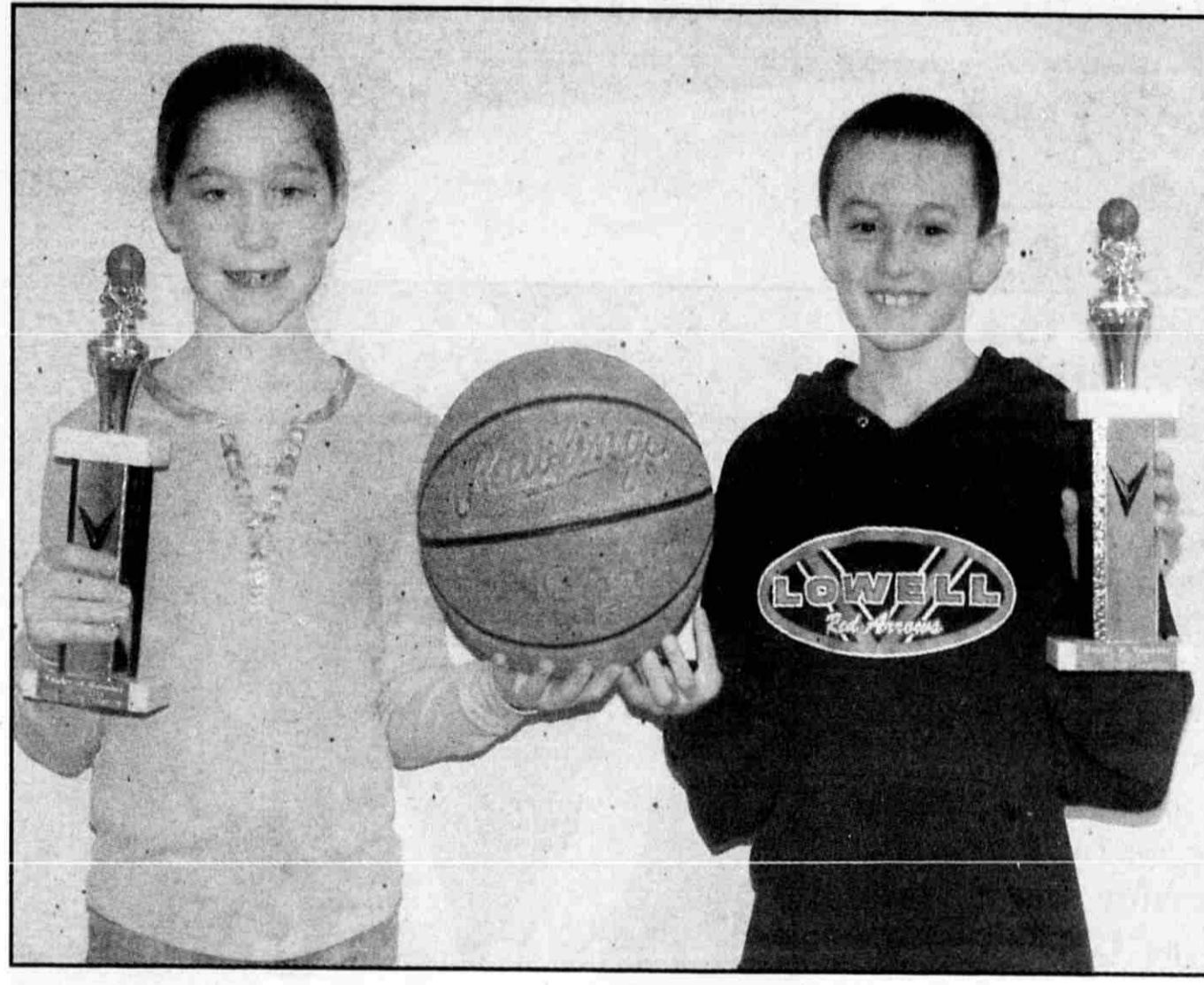
Anible

James and Kyle Anible of Lowell are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Tait Joseph, on February 15, 2007 at Metropolitan Hospital in Grand Rapids. He weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces and was 20.5 inches long. He has three brothers, Michael 11, Jonathon 8, and Wyatt 2. Grandparents are Dorothy Anible of Lowell and David and Jody Young of Belding. Great-grandparents are Joseph and Dolores Mason of Lyons.



Tait Joseph Anible

Regional free throw champs



Emma McLane and Matthew Beachler won the Knights of Columbus regional free throw competition in their respective age divisions. Both will take part in state competition in Mt. Pleasant on March 11. The two qualified for regionals by winning at the local and district levels.

HEALTH

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

"LAZY EYE" IN CHILDREN
A "lazy eye", or Amblyopia, is a condition where a child may lose vision in one or both eyes. Amblyopia can occur if a child has one eye that moves differently from the other. It can also occur if one eye sees less well than the other.

A child with symptoms of amblyopia might: look cross-eyed when looking in certain directions, hold things close to their face to see, sit close to the television, and have trouble watching things that are moving in front of them.

Children showing symptoms of amblyopia should see their health care provider right away. Early diagnosis and treatment can prevent permanent vision loss. All children should be seen by their healthcare provider at 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18 and 24 months of age, then yearly for well child or physical exams. Regular physical exams can help detect the symptoms of amblyopia early.

If detected early, amblyopia can usually be treated with an eye patch for a period of time. Sometimes surgery may be necessary.

Now there are more overweight people in America than average-weight people. So overweight people are now average. Which means you've met your New Year's resolution.

Jay Len0 (1950 -)

Revival planned at Lowell church

Lowell Church of the Nazarene, located at 201 N. Washington, will hold a revival March 4-7 from 10:40 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. The revival will feature preacher and gospel soloist Mark Murphy.

Murphy, celebrating 25 years of evangelism, is a graduate of Olivet Nazarene University and has served as an associate director of admissions there. He has voted one of the top five vocal soloists for 2005 at the National Quartet Convention Soloist Contest.



Mark Murphy in Louisville, Kentucky and has written and recorded many songs and solo albums. Murphy performs

over 45 weeks a year and has traveled extensively in the United States and into Great Britain, Wales, the Caribbean and Canada.

He and his wife Julie, an oncology nurse, have three adult children.

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LUNCH MENU
ELEMENTARY MENU
Week of March 5, 2007

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p>ATTENTION: BIBLE BELIEVERS If you would like to attend a church where the King James Bible is held up as the perfect, preserved word of God with all the words of God for all English speaking people, then give us a visit at: 901 W. Main, Lowell</p> <p>897-6284 or 485-4195 10AM Sunday School; 11AM Morning Service; 6PM Evening Service; Wed., 7:30PM Prayer Meeting.</p>	<p>ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Kirby and Harrison Alto • 616-691-8011 Worship.....9:30 A.M. Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.</p> <p>OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS Pastor Dean Bailey</p>	<p>DAY BIBLE CHAPEL 9305 Centerline, Saranac 897-6332</p> <p>Worship.....9:45 A.M. Sunday School.....11:00 A.M.</p> <p>Nursery & Jr. Church Provided Rev. Frank Lattimore, Pastor "A Nondenominational Ministry With A Blended Word Centered Service!"</p>	<p>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL Rev. Randy Meyers - 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....11:20 A.M. Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M. Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936</p> <p>Worship Services.....8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.</p> <p>DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR Nursery & child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648</p> <p>Sunday School.....10:00 A.M. Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M. Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M. (Sept. - April) Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M. Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418 YOU ARE WELCOME!</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God) 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, Lead Pastor John King, Youth Pastor</p> <p>SUNDAYS: 10:00 a.m. - Worship & Evening; LIFE Home Groups & "The Source" Youth WEDNESDAYS: Family Night; (for all ages) 7:00 p.m. "The Source" Youth; 7:00 p.m. Loving God... Loving People!</p>	<p>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Fr. George J. Fekete 402 Amity St. • 897-9820 www.stmary-lowell.com</p> <p>Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 p.m. SUN. 9:30 a.m. Weekday Masses: 7:45 a.m. Holy Day Masses: 9 a.m. & 7 p.m. Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 a.m. Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 a.m. - 8 p.m. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETE WISNOSKI 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 48, ENTN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING</p>	<p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (United Church of Christ) 865 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE • 897-5906</p> <p>Sunday Worship.....10:00 A.M. Church School.....10:15-11:15 A.M. Thursday Faith Alive Worship.....7:00 P.M. Dr. Roger LaWare.....Pastor Shannon Hanley.....C.E. Director Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise & Worship</p>
<p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 www.goodshepherdlowell.org</p> <p>Sunday School.....9:00 A.M. Worship Service.....10:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbcloowell.org Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor</p> <p>Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School.....11:00 A.M. AWANA CLUB J.C. Wed. 6:15 & 6:30 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free</p>	<p>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Rev. Thurlan Meredith</p> <p>9:45 A.M.Worship/Fellowship 11:15 A.M.Sunday School 897-9863 or 897-9588 Nursery & Children Worship Programs Provided A friend...a family...a mission!</p>	<p>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 201 N. Washington • 897-8800</p> <p>Sunday School.....9:30 A.M. Morning Worship.....10:40 A.M. Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M.</p> <p>PASTOR MICHAEL RHODABARGER Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>	

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ATTENTION SPORTSMEN
Join us for our annual Sportsmen's Banquet at the First Baptist Church of Alto
FRIDAY, MARCH 2.
Our speaker is Bill Jenkin (Montana Big Game Hunter).
The activities begin at 6 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the presentation and door prizes following the dinner.
Everyone is welcome.
We are located at the corner of 60th & Bancroft in Alto.
www.fbcalto.com 616-868-6403

CITY OF LOWELL
NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF REVIEW
The Lowell City Board of Review will meet to receive and review the various Assessment Rolls for 2007 at City Hall on:

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 2007
AT 10:00 A.M.

A second meeting, for the purpose of hearing appeals and a continuation thereof will be held at City Hall on:

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2007
from 9:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. and 1:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
and 6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. if necessary

Appeals may be made by letter or on forms available at City Hall. Letters and/or forms must be submitted not later than March 9, 2007. A personal appearance is not required.

The following ratios and multipliers are expected for Real and Personal Property assessments:

Commercial Property	50.00%	1.0000
Industrial Property	50.00%	1.0000
Residential Property	50.00%	1.0000
Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000

Charles R. Myers, Mayor
James Marfia, Assessor

MON: Hot dog on bun (3 meat sub also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), mini carrots, assorted fruit, milk.

TUES: Baked chicken patty on bun (BBQ ribette on bun also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), coleslaw, green beans, applesauce, milk.

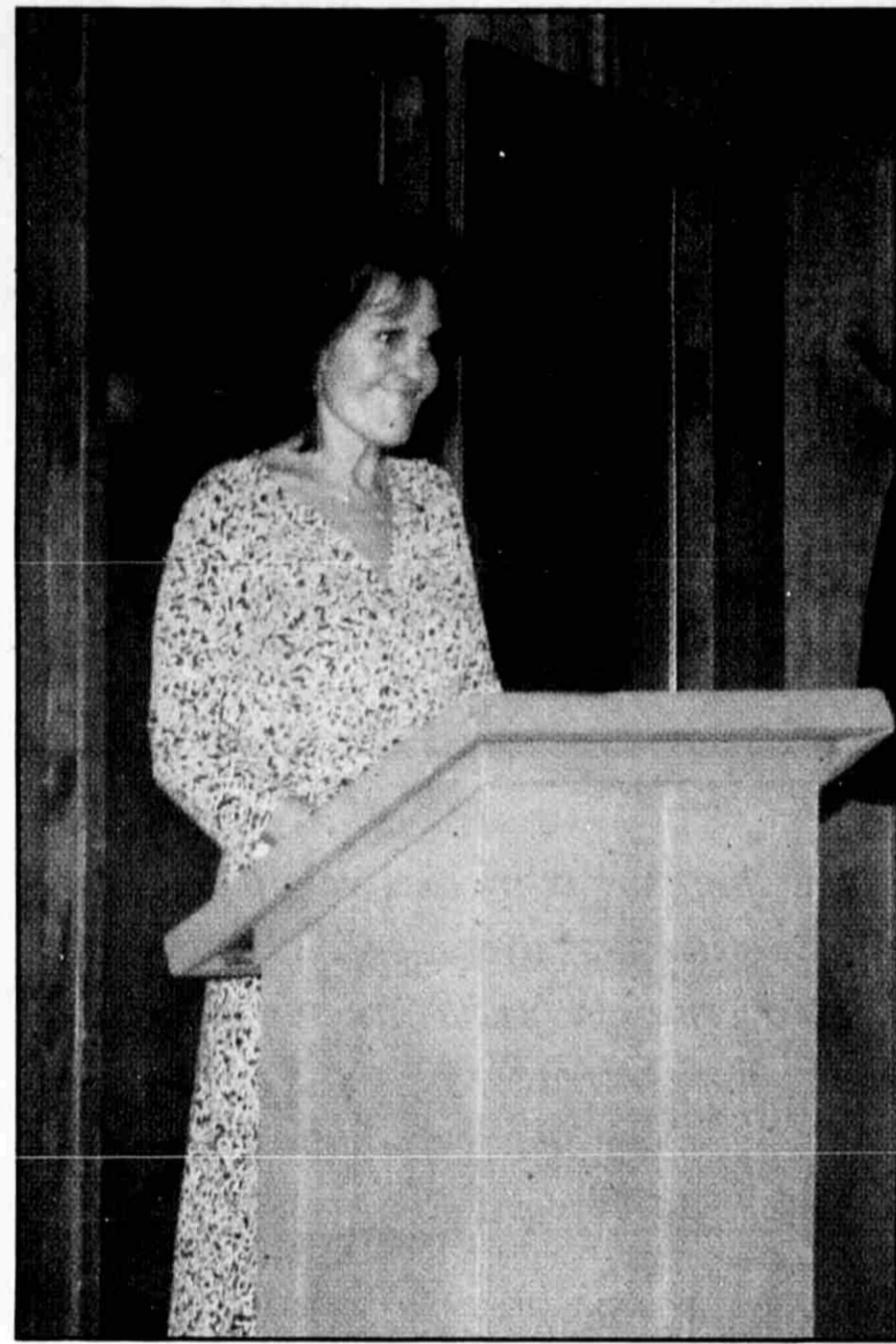
WED: Pepperoni pizza (stacked turkey/cheese on bun also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), seasoned corn, fresh fruit, graham crackers, milk.

THURS: Cheesy ravioli (baked chicken nuggets also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), potatoes, fruited gelatin salad, milk.

FRI: Macaroni & cheese w/cinnamon roll (hotdog on bun also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), broccoli, assorted fruit, milk.

Awards presented at annual winter gathering

Cliff Yankovich of Chimera Design was the presenter at the Annual Winter Membership Gathering Feb.22 at Deer Run Golf Course. Karen Hale of Cousins Hallmark received Business Person of the Year Award, while Marj Harding got Person of the Year honor. The event was well attended by approximately 150 community members.



Business Person of the Year Karen Hale.



Above Yankovich presents Marj Harding with the Person of the Year award.

At right Harding is pictured with Diane Schaffer, director of Porter Hills Retirement Community. Together Harding and Schaffer worked on a marketing campaign for the Lowell Women's Club.



Benefit harp concert to raise money for art therapy

By Emma Palova

A harp concert at the Franciscan Life Process Center will raise money for the center art therapy program.

The concert, along with an invitational art exhibit, will take place on March 3 from 1-4 p.m. at the center located at 11650 Downes St. NE.

The invitational art exhibit is new this year. The

concert of all peddle harps will also include Victorian tea.

"The concert reflects a by-gone era," said spokesperson Kacey Cornwell.

A tour of the art show begins at 1 p.m. followed by the multi-instrument harp concert with master of ceremonies symphony director John Varineau.

The dining room will be transformed into a traditional tea room complete with

historically-attired wait staff. Special speaker will be herbalist Jeanne Hawkins, who will give a talk on the history of tea.

The art show features work by eight area artists. Sister Margaret Delaski said she expects to sell 100 tickets.

"The event has been very successful," she said. "We will have a classical program to fit the Victorian theme... We want to make it more of

a destination to come and spend the afternoon, to encompass the center."

Each person attending the event will leave with a favor such as scones and truffles. Tickets are \$15 and can be obtained by calling 897-7842.

In the past, the center used hunting themes. Valentine Heart Throbs, Heart Throbs and Celtic Lore, Mardi Gras and Lent.



Beth Colpean, principal harpist of the Grand Rapids Symphony, helped organize the art benefit.

College News

The following students are listed on the fall 2006 Dean's List for Western Michigan University.

Of Ada: Joseph R. Barron, Alex T. Casamatta, Benjamin R. Daneman, Whitney S. Dykhouse, Charles P. Gauthier, Andrew J. Kapral, Christopher K. Lewis, Sara M. Long, Austin S. McGregor, Sarah M. Monterusso, Delal Pektas, Casey E. Riddle, Patrick H. Roth, Brian P. Schafer, Kristin M. Smit, Maureen A. Urquhart, and Raymond V. Venezia.

Of Alto: Emily L. Damison, Kady I. Dingman, Jesse A. Heys, and Arturo J. Ziraldo. Of Lowell: Holly R. Borth, Alyssa B. Coffey, Bryan P. Nowak, Jonathan Y. Riddle, and Anthony E. Robinson.

consecutive semesters. Those part-time students honored have maintained a 3.3 overall GPA and a 3.5 in their last 12 semester credits.

The Grand Valley State football program handed out its annual team awards at the 2006 Senior Awards Banquet at the Amway Grand Plaza Ballroom Feb. 11. A crowd of more than 350 attended the event that is held following each season to honor the Laker football team award winners and the graduating seniors. Twelve Laker seniors were honored by their position coaches during the event.

Honored with Special Teams Players of the Year was WR Mark Catlin Lowell.

Aquinas College's fall semester Dean's List includes the following Lowell area students: Natalie Kent, Christina Kuhn, Tyler Nethercott, Nicole Shepard, Mary Vezino and Elise Wisnieski.

From the Alto area was Jackson Botsford, Leslie Buikema, Robert Dordan, Kaye Littell and Janine Wilson.

To qualify for the Dean's List, a full-time student must have a grade point average of 3.5 or above in a minimum of 12 hours or more of graded credit in any semester.

Chris Gerard of Lowell qualified for the Dean's List at Bethel

College in Mishawaka, IN. Some 638 students completed the requirements for certificates, associate, bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees at Ferris State University, Kendall College of Art and Design, and the College of Professional and Technological Studies during the semester that ended December 2006.

Area students include

Jacqueline Moleski of Ada and Douglas Anchors, Jenny Dillinger, Colleen Ritchie and Josh Soyka, all of Lowell.

Northern Michigan University announces the Dean's List for the Fall 2006 semester.

Thomas V. Wynsma of Alto qualified with a grade point average of 3.25-3.99.

THANK YOU!



The Lowell Wrestling Club would like to thank the following for making the "Arrow Force One" club bus a reality!

- ICNB for providing the club with financing for the bus.
- Byrne Electrical Specialist for "jump starting" our fundraising effort
- Bieri Auto Body and the Bieri team for the body work and painting and for "squeezing us in."
- Brad Sprague for the graphic artwork and decal detailing.
- Good Chevy of Lowell for providing a home for our project.
- And the countless Wrestling Club members for their help and support on this project.

The Lowell Wrestling Club is looking forward to connecting our community and club sports to the Lowell wrestling program and using "Arrow Force One" as a vehicle to make that happen! In the upcoming weeks and months you will see ways that you can help with the fund raising of the bus and ways that you can enjoy its use!

THANK YOU!



Lend A Hand



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

During the past week, the American Red Cross of Greater Grand Rapids assisted 13 adults and eight children affected by eight different fires that struck the area. Luckily, no one incurred any injuries after these series of unfortunate events.

The Red Cross disaster

volunteers provided shelter, food, clothing and mental health support services to the 21 people who found themselves unable to stay in their homes due to the fires. The Red Cross will also provide services to help those displaced find permanent housing. Each disaster response costs the local

Red Cross approximately \$4,500.

These services are made possible through local fundraising efforts. This March the American Red Cross of Greater Grand Rapids is kicking off its third annual HEROES campaign. Any individual, group, business, club, church or school in Barry, Ionia, Kent and Montcalm counties can be a HERO by giving or raising a minimum of \$1,000 for the American Red Cross of Greater Grand Rapids. Money raised during the campaign will be used by the chapter to support local Red Cross services. For more information contact Sarah Barton at 616-456-8661 ext 3003 or sbarton@ggr.redcross.org.

BOWNE TOWNSHIP SYNOPSIS

MOTIONS APPROVED:

- Minutes of January meeting. List of all invoices.
 - Continue with Law, Weathers & Richardson.
 - Resolution for charitable gaming license for Caledonia sportsmen Club.
 - Property line adjustment-preparation of necessary documents.
 - Increase of grave opening/closing rates.
- Copies of entire minutes available on the website bownetwp.cc.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk
Bowne Township Clerk



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The Lowell Ledger

105 N. Broadway
897-9261

Are you losing someone you love to Alzheimer's or Dementia?

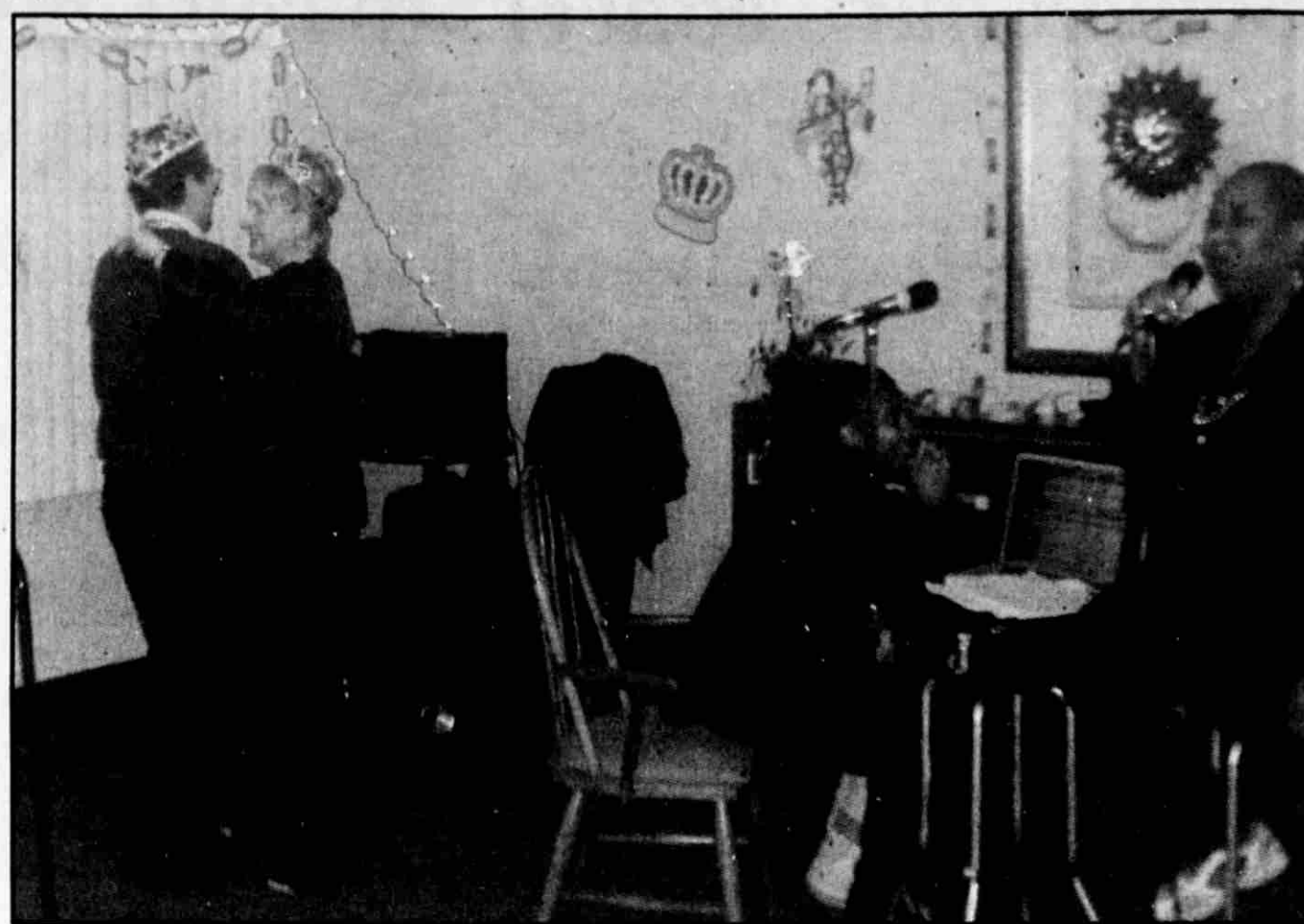
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616-897-8413
web: www.leisure-living.com

Mardi Gras dance



Fountain View of Lowell hosted a Mardi Gras dance last week honoring Bill and Susan Stouffer who were the the king and queen of the night. The Stouffers are master gardeners who spent all of last summer creating beautiful gardens for the residents to enjoy.

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RED ARROW SPORTS



Back-to-back victories for Red Arrow hoopsters

By Sean Garner

After a long season filled with struggles, the Lowell boys' varsity basketball team has finally strung together back to back victories for the first time this season.

Trailing by as many as 10 points in the second half Friday at Northview, the Red Arrows fought back to take a 41-39 lead on a last minute Ryan Magnuson field goal. Northview, however, received one last opportunity to win the game, when trailing 41-40 with under eight seconds to play, an erred Red Arrow inbound pass gave the Wildcats another shot. Northview missed and the Red Arrows escaped, improving their record to 5-13, including a 45-43 victory over Caledonia four days earlier.

Magnuson was the star of the night, leading all

scorers with 18 points. Mike McElroy and Justin Harden each added 9 points

Head coach Jeff McDonald admits the turnover on the inbound pass from McElroy to Harden caused a bit of worry.

"Your heart sinks when something like that happens," McDonald said. "Your number one objective is that you want to cleanly get the ball in bounds...I still feel comfortable getting the ball in Justin's hands late in the game."

The Red Arrows were able to overcome the inbound error and only connecting on two three-point shots by playing strong defense. Lowell only allowed Northview five points in the fourth quarter, including the critical stop on the final possession. The Arrows also held Northview to no three-pointers on the

"The bottom line is we got two big stops when we needed them," McDonald said. "We found a way. Our kids are elated, and its well-deserved. We had to fight for this one."

McDonald said the Red Arrows have been able to overcome the adversity of a losing season by sticking together and trusting one another.

"We have had a lot of communication the past two weeks about team morale and about what we had to finish the year for," McDonald said. "We still understand that there are good things that can happen here, even though we might not get the number of wins we want."

Lowell still has one more regular season game to play, a crossover with a team yet to be determined from the OK-Green on Friday.

After that, Lowell heads into the district portion of the Michigan High School Athletic Association Class A tournament.

The Red Arrows, through unfortunate chance, will have to play arguably the toughest team in the district, Rockford.

Rockford is 14-3, ranked third in the area by The Grand Rapids Press and champions of the OK-Red. Still, McDonald has confidence in his team's ability to pull off the upset and his staff is not quick to forget the Red Arrows' first game of the year, a 33-31 win over top-ranked Cedar Springs. The game remains Cedar Spring's only loss of the season.

"Like Coach Stevens says before every game, 'you are still the team that beat Cedar,'" McDonald said. "We need to build on

that, even though it was 17 games ago. It is an example of 'look at what you can do when you execute, when you believe, when you play hard and take care of the basketball.'"

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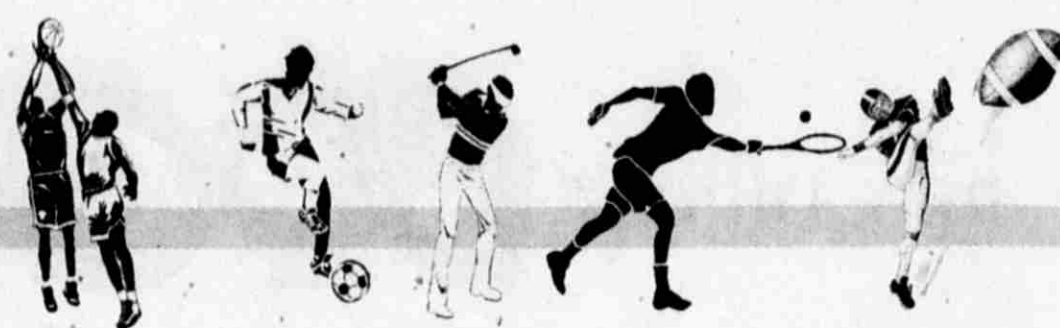
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RED ARROW SPORTS



Extra meet gives Lowell gymnasts best score of season

By Aly DeYoung

Coach Skye Fisher lined up one more meet before regionals to get more of her top scorers in. She succeeded.

Though they lost to Ludington, the Lowell gymnasts got their best team score of the entire season-132.725.

Ludington's team also got it's highest score of the season with 141.20.

"The girls really rocked tonight," Fisher said. "Too bad Ludington also got their highest team score."

Richelle Kimble, who won the all-around, took first in the balance beam, uneven bars, and floor exercise.

Kelsey Teft placed third in the vault and Kelli Kowalski fourth. Teft also finished fourth in the floor exercise.

Kimble, Kowalski, and Teft all got fifth place in vault, bars, and beam respectively.

Mandy Vezino also

took fifth place in the floor exercise and seventh on the beam.

"Tonight's bar scores

were everyone's top scores this year," Fisher said.

Seven Red Arrow girls will compete at regionals.

Kowalski, Kimble, Teft, and Andrea Coffey qualified in all four events and Vezino in floor exercise and beam.

Sara Tarchala will compete on beam and bars, and Kaylee Yonker will be there for vault and floor exercise.



Clockwise, Kelsey Teft and Mandy Vezino on the beam and Richelle Kimble during her floor exercise.

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RED ARROW SPORTS



Red Arrow wrestlers win regional championship

By Sean Garner

Lowell's varsity wrestlers won a hard fought battle to earn a regional championship Feb. 21. The win takes the team to the state tournament this weekend.

With the score tied going into the last match of the dual, all Justin Boss needed to do was beat a wrestler he had beaten twice in the past two weeks.

After a win by Greenville at 140 pounds knotted the score of the MHSAA regional team semifinals at 24 a piece, Lowell's Boss headed into his 145-pound match against the Yellow Jackets' Derek Ladderman with a likely trip to Battle Creek for the team state finals on the line.

It was not long before Boss took control of the match, jumping out to a big lead in the first period and not letting up until he won the match by a 14-2 major decision.

The Red Arrows beat Greenville 28-24 and coasted to an easy 57-12 win over Muskegon Reeths-Puffer to take the regional title.

Boss said he felt confident going into the

match, having beaten Ladderman 12-7 in the OK-White finals tournament and 6-1 in the consolation finals of the Individual District tournament.

"Since I beat him the last two times, I knew I probably had the upper hand on him this time," Boss said. "I just psyched myself up. When I got an early lead it just kept rolling."

Head coach Dave Dean was elated with the victory.

"We knew it was going to be a very tough dual," Dean said. "I think it got to a point where we won a couple of matches where they decided to take some chances on us. That was probably the difference in the match."

Greenville, who beat the Red Arrows, 36-28 earlier in the year, had some changes from their line-up in the earlier meet. Junior 160-pounder Ben Brodie returned to the line-up for Greenville after missing nearly the whole season, and suffered a close loss to Red Arrows standout freshman Ryan Olep in the second match of the night.

Lowell followed that victory with one of the biggest upsets of the night at 171 pounds. There, district champion Tyler Fuller of Greenville bumped up from 160 to wrestle Nate Vaught. Vaught, one of only three Red Arrow starters to be eliminated at districts, stunned Fuller by a score of 7-2.

Greenville coach Paul Johnson said he knew going into the meet that winning the coin flip - which determines which team must send out the first wrestler at each alternating weight - would be crucial.

"Both teams wrestled real well, and I think what



Members of the Lowell High School wrestling team celebrate their victory at regionals. The team advanced to state competition that will start March 2.

Photo submitted by Tim Stencel

Greenville coach Paul Johnson said he knew going into the meet that winning the coin flip - which determines which team must send out the first wrestler at each alternating weight - would be crucial.

"Both teams wrestled real well, and I think what

it came down to was a flip of the coin for us," Johnson said. "We knew that they were looking to move around their weights in the upper weight classes and we were forced to make some adjustments that we did not want to make in order to stay in the match. I think that proved to be the difference in the match."

The state matches can be heard on Lowell High School's radio station WLHS. The quarter final winner will move to the semi-final round at 11:45 a.m. on Saturday. The state team finals are scheduled to begin at 3 p.m. on Saturday. The matches can also be heard on Lowell cable channel 20 or on the internet at www.wlhrsradio.org

Lowell will now wrestle at 7:45 p.m. Friday night against Petoskey at Kellogg Arena in downtown Battle Creek. For senior 189-pound wrestler Alex Fleet, the return trip sparks fond memories of 2004 when the

Red Arrows won the state championship. "It is so exciting to go back," Fleet said. "2004's team was kind of a dream team with so many really talented guys. This year, we have a lot of young guys but a team with a lot of heart. We really earned this, I am really psyched."

With the win, Lowell, who entered the meet ranked No. 3 in the state, avenged a loss to No. 2 Greenville in December.

Lowell will now wrestle at 7:45 p.m. Friday night against Petoskey at Kellogg Arena in downtown Battle Creek. For senior 189-pound wrestler Alex Fleet, the return trip sparks fond memories of 2004 when the

Ten wrestlers head to State Individuals

By Tim Stencel

Ten Lowell wrestlers are headed to the state individual tournament March 8.

The wrestlers' confidence following their win at team regionals Feb. 21 pushed them through the individual regional Feb. 24 at Northview.

Freshman Jackson Morse was 3-0 on the day capturing a regional championship in the 125 pound weight class. His season record improved to 36-4.

"My team did very well today," said Morse. "It feels good to be a regional champ. My coaches did a great job in preparing me for today. I am proud of our team and their accomplishments this year." Morse faced Adam Draves from Northview for the fourth time this year giving Draves his fourth loss.

Other Red Arrows placed in the top four to advance to state.

"All of them had an outstanding day today," said coach Dave Dean. "These guys work hard in practice every day and I am glad

there are events such as the individual matches for them to compete in."

"Having 10 get to the state individuals speaks a lot for a program," said wrestler Alex Fleet who advanced in the 189 pound weight class. "There were tough matches at every level today...Our coaching staff has been great in preparing us for events like today...The last time we sent 10 guys was in 2002 - that team was a state champion team."

Wrestlers who will be competing in the individual state meet at Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena are: Tyler Jack in the 112 pound weight class, Zach Baum 119, Morse 125, Raymond Seese 130, Tim Gingerich 135, Rob Karasiewicz 140, Justin Boss 145, Ryan Olep 152, Alex Fleet 189 and Dominic Doyle 285.

Placing second in their respective weight classes were Gingerich (2-1 for the day, 34-11 for the season), Olep (2-1, 38-9), and Fleet (2-1, 39-4).

Placing third were Jack

(3-1, 24-15) and Seese (3-1, 37-8).

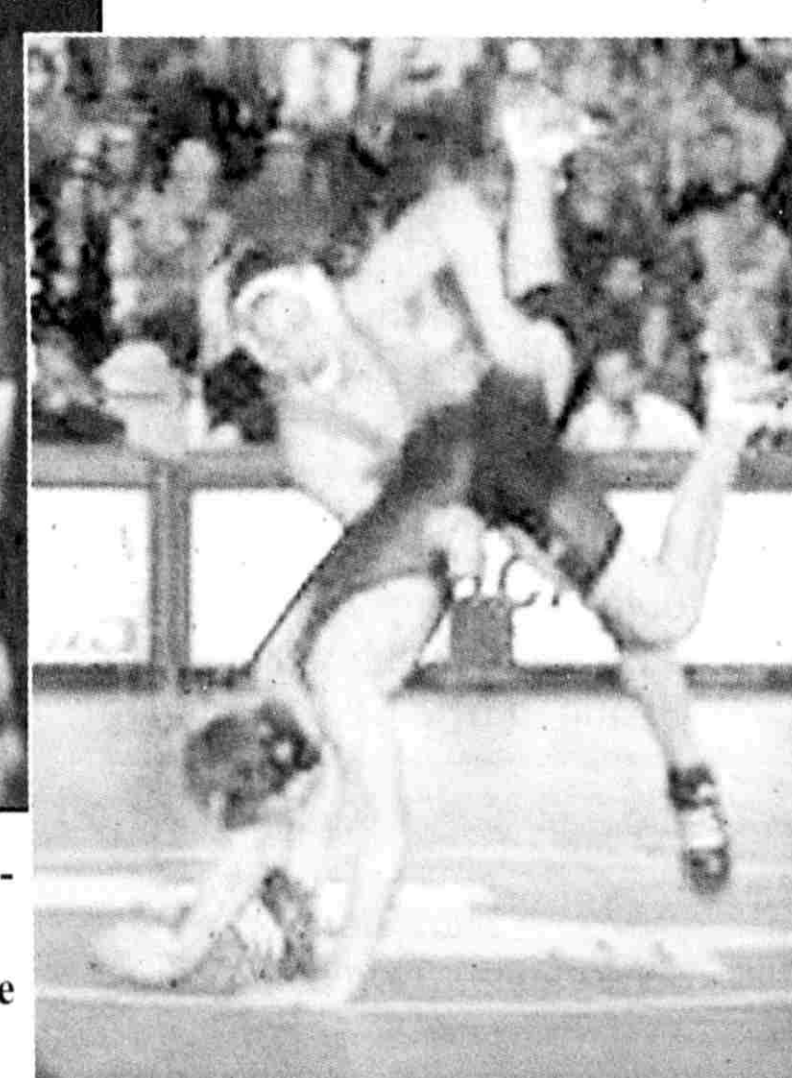
Placing fourth for the Red Arrows were Baum (2-2, 34-10), Karasiewicz (2-2, 31-9), Boss (2-2, 30-11), and Dominic Doyle (2-2, 37-7).

Eric Dean was 1-2 on the day improving his season record to 29-13.

The state individual tournament will take place at Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena.



Lowell's Jackson Morse won the regional individual title in the 125-pound weight class. At right, Lowell's Alex fleet takes down Jason Sage of Greenville. Fleet won the match 12-7.



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Brief, "Sound Off" comments are always welcome but will be, at times, edited for content and length. All comments are submitted by the public and do not necessarily represent the views of the Ledger. Feel free to sign your comment. For more lengthy views please consider a letter "To The Editor".

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VERGENNES TOWNSHIP NOTICE BOARD OF REVIEW

THE BOARD OF REVIEW OF VERGENNES TOWNSHIP WILL MEET AT THE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP HALL 10381 BAILEY DRIVE, LOWELL, MI, 49331 ON

MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2007 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 12 noon and from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

and also on

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2007 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 12 noon and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.,

for the purpose of reviewing the tax roll and hearing all claims.

You may appeal an assessed valuation one of two ways:

1. To appear at the Board of Review, call 897-5671 on Monday, Wednesday or Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to schedule an appointment to appear in person.
2. By letter* addressed to:
Vergennes Township Assessor
P.O. Box 208
Lowell, MI 49331-0208

*Letters must be received by March 9, 2007

The tentative Real Property assessment ratio and estimated multipliers Required by MCL 211.34a are

Ratio - 50% Multiplier - 1.00

Mari Stone
Vergennes Township Clerk

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Hello. Thank you Brian of Birchwood Garden Apartments. I can't wait until spring to see what new plants you may have planted. Looking really nice.

BOWNE TOWNSHIP NOTICE BOARD OF REVIEW

THE BOARD OF REVIEW OF BOWNE TOWNSHIP WILL MEET AT THE HISTORIC TOWNSHIP HALL - 8240 ALDEN NASH SE., ALTO ON:

FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 2007 10:00 A.M. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2007 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. 1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2007 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 NOON 6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. (EVENING HOURS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY).

FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVIEWING THE TAX ROLL AND HEARING ALL CLAIMS. YOU MAY APPEAL YOUR ASSESSED VALUATION ONE OF (2) WAYS: BY LETTER ADDRESSED TO THE BOWNE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR AND RECEIVED BY HIM PRIOR TO MARCH 7, 2007. OR BY APPEARING IN PERSON ON ONE OF THE DATES THE BOARD OF REVIEW MEETS.

THE TENTATIVE REAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AND ASSESSMENT MULTIPLIER REQUIRED BY PA 165 OF 1971 ARE:

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Commercial Ratio	47.65	Multiplier	1.0493
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TOWNSHIP OF LOWELL COUNTY OF KENT NOTICE OF MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

The March board of review of Lowell Charter Township Will meet at the Lowell Township Hall on:

TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2007

Between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. and From 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2007

Between the hour of 9:00 a.m. and 12 noon and from 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the tax roll and hearing all claims.

You may appeal assessed valuation One of two ways:

1. To appear at the Board of Review, call on Tuesday or Thursday, 9 a.m to 5 p.m., (616) 897-7600, to schedule an appointment.

2. By letter addressed to:
Lowell Township/Assessor
2910 Alden Nash SE
Lowell MI 49331

Letter must be received prior to March 8, 2007

The tentative Real Property assessment ratio and estimated multipliers required by MCL 211.34 are
Ratio - 50% Multiplier - 1.00

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HALL FOR RENT - Lowell Veteran's Center, 3100 Alden Nash. Newly remodeled, smoke-free, private, great location & great rate! Call John at 299-0486 or 897-8303.

EVENTS

LOWELL LITTLE LEAGUE baseball & softball sign-up dates - Wed., Feb. 28, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.; Wed., March 7, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.; Sat., March 10, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, 113 Riverwalk Plaza.

HAVE ANY OLD PROM DRESSES? - Want to help a good cause? The Class of 2008 is partnering with Northview High School sponsoring a dress sale on March 3, 9 a.m. - noon. Donations will be taken at LHS now through March 2 from 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. For more info call Chaye Klomprens at 987-2969.

BLUEGRASS HOT-BANDS FUNDRAISER - on March 3 at Riverview, Lowell. Two bands, big jam session & food for only \$5. Begins at 6:30 p.m.

HELP WANTED

DELIVERY DRIVER - CDL-A drivers needed. Looking for dependable customer service oriented person w/chauffeurs CDL-B, CDL-A license. Good working environment. Also hiring nights/weekends. 616-248-7729.

BUSINESS ASSISTANT - Base compensation + bonus. Contact 616-560-4544.

WANTED

YOUNG MEN LOOKING FOR WORK - Will do odd jobs. Lowell area. Call 813-2785 or 813-3010.

WANTED - Motorcycles. Cash paid for road bikes, running or not. Call 616-446-8352.

ROOMMATE WANTED - female retiree looking to share two bedroom apartment in Saranac. Call 616-915-1794.

IN MEMORIAM

IN MEMORIAM In memory of John DeHaan who left us March 5, 2004. Those we loved don't go away. They walk beside us every day unseen, unheard but always near. Still loved, still missed, still very dear. Lovingly remembered by your wife, children, grand children & great-grandchildren

CARD OF THANKS

THANK YOU We wish to thank all of our friends who have given us happy memories on our 65th wedding anniversary and Laurels of Kent for the lovely party they gave us on our special day, Feb. 21, 2007. That made our day. Martin & Treva Johnson

CARD OF THANKS

The family of Cassie Stinchcomb would like to express our deep appreciation for all the love and support in the tragic loss of our daughter, sister, niece and granddaughter. A special thank you to the Lake Odessa Fire Dept., Koops Funeral Chapel and Pastor Ridder and family. Thank you to everyone who gave a hand, an ear or anything else. Thank you one and all. Art & Jackie Sheldon, Carly & Tyler Miller

SALES

JOHN SCHLOOP BUILDER - New homes, additions & remodeling. Call 897-1335.

JIM'S FLOOR COVERING SALES & INSTALLATION - 22 years experience. Best price & quality installation on vinyl, carpet, and laminate flooring. 897-0737 or 560-8515, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., leave message.

SWING DANCE LESSONS - at Voyages, Lowell. Starting March 3, \$45 per couple. Call 635-0668 to register.

AIR DUCT CLEANING - reasonable rates. Call Randy at R&R Enterprises, 616-581-8561. Mention this ad for 15% discount.

SERVICES

ZOOLAND DAYCARE - Full-time & part-time openings for 1st & 2nd shifts. Licensed. Special needs children accepted. FIA accepted. Food Program. Weekends available. Drop in's. 308-0195 or 897-8386.

REDfrog COMPUTERS - HIGH SPEED INTERNET! \$29.95. Dialup internet, \$9.95. Computer repair, virus removal. We build computers for you! Wholesale ink! Lowell - 897-5814. M-F, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., S. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

LOWELL CITY DIRECTORY - New books will be available in March.

DIVORCE BY AGREEMENT - Save \$\$\$! Non-attorney. Free quote & brochure. David, 616-248-5045 ext. 51 or 888-381-6863 ext. 51 (24 hours).

MR. R'S A+ DRIVING SCHOOL - Now offering classes for Segment 1 & Segment 2 at the YMCA Teen Center. Next Segment 1 class begins Mon., March 5, Ph. 616-761-2217.

AVON - Buy or Sell. Call 897-5086 evenings/weekends. E-mail: AvonbySherry@atcml.com - website: www.youravon.com/sgrimm.

SERVICES

NEED A RESUME? - I have over 22 years experience in formatting & writing professional resumes & cover letters. Call me at 616-897-6592 & leave a message or email me at mkdesign315@yahoo.com.

BOB FORD - Formerly of Hahn Hardware, is doing all kinds of service work. Call 299-3198.

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

HANDYMAN REMODELING - Drywall, painting, decks, siding, windows, finish trim work, bathroom remodeling. Insured. 25 years experience 919-906-1489.

TK'S HEART PETSITTING - Loving & expert care for your pet(s) while you work or vacation! References available. Call Tera, 897-7347 or cell 847-254-1734.

JOHN DEBIAK HORSE-SHOEING & HOOF TRIMMING - Serving the Greater Kent/Ionia County area with 15 years of professional, full-time experience. Call 897-4290.

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council will conduct a public hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting of Monday, March 5, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. at the City Council Chamber, Lowell City Hall, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

An Ordinance to amend Sections 16-27 and 16-28 of Article II, "Planning Commission," of Chapter 16. "Planning," shall consist of seven (7) members, one (1) of whom shall be a Councilmember selected by resolution of the City Council to serve as a member ex officio and have full voting rights and the other six (6) members shall be appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council by majority vote" of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell.

Copies of the proposed Ordinance are available for public inspection during normal business hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday) at City Hall and at the Englehardt Public Library during scheduled hours Monday through Saturday.

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



Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk
(616) 897-8457

Area elementaries celebrate Chinese New Year



Teacher Charlie Knudstrup with Kimi Witherell lead the traditional Chinese New Year parade at the Franciscan Life Process Center. The preschool students formed a long dragon, some wearing animal masks, to scare away the old year. According to the Chinese calendar, this year is the Year of the Pig. "Pig is a good luck animal," said Knudstrup. "It should be a good luck year." On New Year, the Chinese wear red symbolizing fire that drives away bad luck. They eat special food like rice pudding with sweet bean layering. The Franciscan Life Process Center started celebrating Chinese New Year four years ago as a multicultural event. Pictured at the dragon's tail is teacher Fredna Rayford.

Second grade students at Alto Elementary celebrated the Chinese New Year last week. After reading Chinatown, a story in their reading books, they discussed different cultures and customs. Parent volunteers prepared vegetable stir fry, rice and egg rolls. Students made traditional Chinese hats and hung Chinese paper lanterns from the classroom ceiling for the celebration. Then, with chopsticks in hand, the feast began. Many of the kids found the food delicious and enjoyed using chopsticks and learning about Chinese culture.

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Charger Sports
Performance
Sedan

BRAND NEW!



Now At

\$19,499

2006 Chrysler
Sebring

BRAND NEW!



Now At

\$15,399

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PT Cruiser

BRAND NEW!



Now At

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2007 Lease Specials!

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Compass
Sport 4x4

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\$266¹⁰ mo. 27 mo lease

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Chrysler
PT
Cruiser

#C7080



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4x4

#J7096



\$254³⁴ mo. 27 mo lease



#D7057

2007
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#D7137

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SXT

\$251⁰⁹ mo. 27 mo lease



#D7122

2007
Dodge
Ram
1500 4x4

\$263³⁰ mo. 27 mo lease

	07 Compass	07 Sebring	07 PT Cruiser	07 Grand Caravan	07 Liberty	06 Ram 1500
Stock#	J7022	C7085	C7080	C7137	J7096	D7087
Down payment	\$2000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Due at Signing	\$2,659.74	\$2,673.29	\$2,625.88	\$2,899.73	\$2,842.98	\$3,031.00
Total Payments	\$6,778.02	\$8,988.11	\$5,533.47	\$6,395.69	\$6,478.47	\$5,706.70
Purchase Option	\$13,166.00	\$12,017.00	\$9,209.00	\$15,253.00	\$13,355.00	\$19,542.00



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Sonya Czyzyk
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