The Lowell Leager

Volume 36 Issue 45

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Crowds gather for Lowell's first "Light the Night" parade

ith the theme "Light the Night", Saturday's night parade drew record crowds in spite of freezing temperatures to downtown Lowell. The parade kicked off with emergency vehicles, followed by semi-trucks and local organizations on floats and foot. The icy sidewalks were lined with hundreds of people all bundled up.

"It was a fantastic parade," said acting mayor Jeanne Shores. "It was long."

Council member Jim Pfaller was concerned about the crowd getting out of control.

"People were getting too far out into the streets," he said. "I'd hate that turned into a tragedy."

However, clerk Betty Morlock, one of the many parade volunteers, said volunteers were working hard pushing the kids back. Next year, volunteers along the entire parade corridor will be needed to keep the crowds back.Flat River Grill

> "Light the Night," cont'd., pg. 8



The first nighttime Christmas parade attracted hundreds of curious people to Main Street in Lowell. The "Light the Night" spectacle was a moveable feast for the eyes. It was also the debut for the Showbaot replica float as rispy ice and snow covered the ground.

Detailed Showboat replica shows community spirit

by Emma Palova

precise miniareplica real Showboat made of scrap shelving wood complete with laser-cut trimmings will serve as another marketing tool for Lowell.

The detailed miniature, christened last week, even has a sag in it much like the Showboat. The only thing missing on both boats is the nostalgic captain holding a cup of tea at the helm.

For builder Ivan Blough,

it all started out with a vision to lift the community spirit much like with the original boat built in the depression

Without any blueprints or drawings, the Showboat was the plan for the replica.

Since Blough also built the boat, which now docks by the Riverwalk, based on five slides of the long gone 1932 original, the blueprints were in his mind.

"I first built it in my mind," he said. "The prints

> were in my head, I had a vision of building a boat."

As Blough, along with 60 volunteers from the ambassador club, got further into discussing the future replica, it became more and more clear that the boat needed to float.

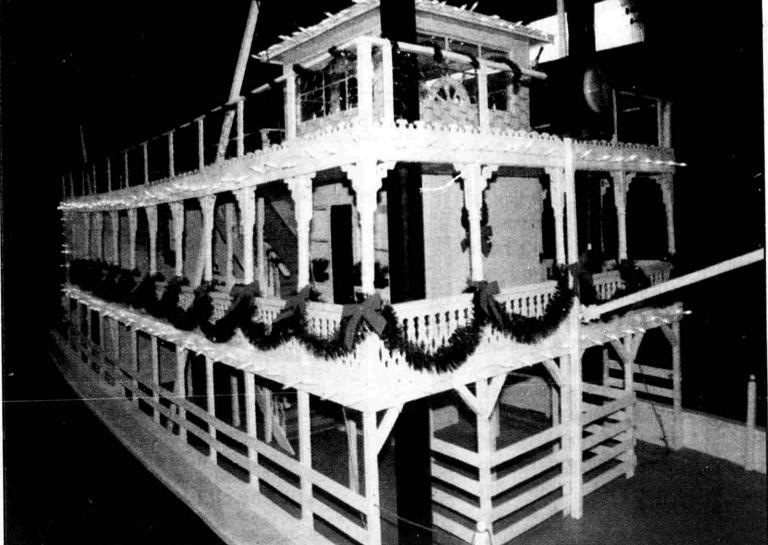
"We didn't just want it to sit there," said "We Blough. wanted it to go out and market Lowell, as the Next Place to Be."

So from the very beginning,

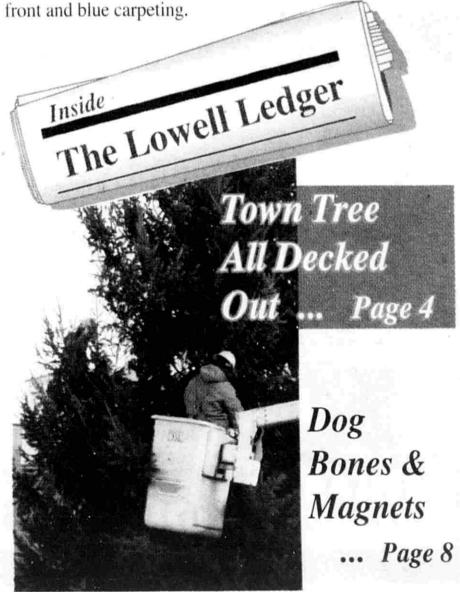
the replica was designed to be a moveable marketing tool sitting permanently on a long snowmobile trailer. The miniature is exactly one sixth of the 18-foot long Showboat to the last painstaking detail, including the swinging beam on the

However, at one point technology had to take over. Although Blough wanted to cut the moldings and the trimmings of the replica with a scroll saw, a coincidence had it different.

Replica, cont'd., pg. 4



The one-sixth replica of the real Showboat has been precisely designed to the last trimmings.



She was employed for

many years as the manager

of Spiegel's in Greenville

and at Jeff Branch Motor

Sales of Greenville. Funeral

services were held Friday at

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Memorial contributions

may be given to Greenville

Area Ecumenical Food

Mission.



AVERILL

Frank Averill, Jr. aged 82 of Ada passed away Tuesday, November 27, 2007. He was preceded in death by his son, Leslie H. Averill. He s survived by his children, Susan Brown, Bud (Cindy) Averill, Sandra Papple and their mother, Janice Heiney; special friend, Edie Pettis; grandchildren, Scott (Melissa) Averill, Shannon Averill, Pat Drake and Jeremy Drake, Dustin Averill, Debbie Stinson; and nine great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held Friday at the Roth-Gerst Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made of Ada.

DOWNES James P. Downes Otsego, Michigan died at 29, 2007. James was born on December 24, 1949 in Grand Rapids to Kenneth J Downes and Mary (Farrell) Blom. James was a retired civil engineer. He graduated in 1968 from St. Louis High School in Mt. Clemens. In 1972 James graduated from the University of Michigan School of Engineering. During his career he worked in the highly specialized field of shafts and mines. He received his engineering certification in that field. His work took him all over and many other states.

buff especially focusing on of Michigan in Negaunee to World War II. He is survived by his mother Mary Blom, and sister Mary Helen (David) Pepper of Sterling F. Schlernitzauer, and Heights, Michigan; his brother Kenneth (Marsha) British Columbia; and sister Kathleen (John) Kennedy Kenneth J. Downes, and his infant sister, Maureen Downes. Mass of Christian Burial was held Monday at St. Patrick Catholic Church. In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial to the to her Finnish heritage of American Cancer Society

JOLLIFF 93, of Lowell, passed away Monday, November 26, 2007. Survived by her two sons; Clare (Rosemary) Lowell and Ronald (Margie) McCaul of time, Trude was one of only 7-9 PM at the Roth-Gerst Lowell; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Cremation took place and Gold Badge for Pistol memorial services were in the United States. In

KUHN Dr. Gregory M. Kuhn, aged

58, of Alto, died November to Averill Historical Museum 27, 2007. Surviving are his wife, Renee; two daughters, Kristina (Gareth) Tanner, Heather (Brad) Dick lovingly raised three Block; two grandchildren, children. Her children Angie and Joey Block; his and grandchildren held a mother, Barbara Kuhn; two brothers, Rex M. (Rebecca) Kuhn, Eric M. (Theresa) Kuhn; nieces and nephews. Greg enjoyed his family and friends, playing poker, traveling, marathon running and smoking cigars. If there was one who lived life to its fullest, this was the man. Funeral services were held Jonkhoff Chapel.

SCHLERNITZAUER

Gertrude (Trude) Pauline Siltala), age 86, was born on the United States including November 30, 1920. She was Alaska, Virginia, California known as Trude, Momma, or simply Grandma to those James was an avid history who loved her. Trude was born in the Upper Peninsula

1 Olympic Plaza, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80909. Victor and Matilda Siltala.

In 1943, she married her

beloved husband, Richard

SHORTSLE Esther T. Shortsle aged 65 of Lowell passed away cherished him throughout their nearly fifty years of Saturday, December 1 marriage. Together, they 2007. She was preceded in owned and managed the death by her parents, John Frank's 5¢ to \$1 Store in and Hilda Duitsman. She of Plano, Texas. He was Lowell until retiring in 1975. is survived by her husband, At that time, they moved to Robert: children, Brent their cabin in the sanctuary (Lisa) Shortsle, Timothy of the Au Sable River, Shortsle, Brenda (Todd) Grayling, Michigan, In Keeler and Christopher 1945, Trude's father-in-law, Shortsle; brother, Jerome first introduced her to the (Sheryl) Duitsman; sisters, art of target shooting. Due Elaine (Norbert) McNulty and Mary Duitsman; six determination and tenacity, grandchildren and or to the American Diabetes Trude excelled. She became great-grandchild expecting. the first civilian woman to Funeral service will be 11:00 represent the United States AM, Thursday, December home on Sunday, December at the 38th World Pistol 6th at Evergreen Missionary 2, 2007. She was preceded Avis McCaul Jolliff, aged Championships held in Church, 10501 Settlewood, Cairo, Egypt in 1962 where Lowell with Rev. Rick she won a bronze medal. Her Ferguson officiating. medal is on display at the Oakwood National Firearms Museum Cemetery. Visitation will in Fairfax, Virginia. At that be Wednesday 2-4 PM and



two women to hold the Funeral Home, 305 N.

International Distinguished

addition, Trude was the

National Women's Pistol

Champion in 1965, 1968

and 1969. In recognition of

these accomplishments, she

appeared on the popular TV

show "To Tell The Truth"

in New York City. She and

special place in her heart,

and she greatly enjoyed just

spending time with all of Lynne L. (Sis) Smith aged nieces and nephews. Funeral Saranac Historical Society, services were held Monday PO Box 56, Saranac, MI at the Roth-Gerst Funeral. In 48881.

lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to, Lynne Smith Memorial Fund, c/o Roth-Gerst Funeral Home.



STORY Dorothy Elizabeth Story aged

88 of Lowell passed away at

nieces and nephews; many

friends. She was a 1937

graduate of Portland High

School and was baptized at

the age of 12 in the LeValley

Methodist Church, Dorothy

gas station Nelson and Nora Long. She married Ware Story in 1947, The Mobil gas station on he preceded her in death in Alden Nash in Lowell, near 1981. She is survived by her the I-96 expressway, was the daughters, Patty of Lowell, scene of an armed robbery Connie (Don) Bos of Saranac Sunday night. Two men with and Marlyene Hayden of guns robbed the store shortly Hudson, Lowell. Memorial White Lake; sister, Mary before midnight, taking contributions may be made E. Van Amburg of Grand an undisclosed amount of to the Evergreen Missionary Ledge; seven grandchildren; money. The robbers made 13 great-grandchildren; the clerk lay face down on two special nieces, Carole the floor while they took the (Herm) Schrauben and Mary money. Authorities are still Lou (Roger) Bullen both of investigating the incident. Portland; six great-nieces and nephews; 16 great-great

OPPORTUNITIES

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LUNCH MENU

ELEMENTARY MENU Week of Dec. 10, 2007

MON: Taco (soft or hard shell) w/cheese & lettuce (ham & cheese sub w/lettuce also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), fresh fruit, apple

juice, animal crackers, TUES: BBQ ribbette (cheese bun

quesdilla w/salsa also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), coleslaw, green applesauce, WED: Cheese pizza

(stacked turkey w cheese on bun also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), seasoned corn, fresh fruit, graham crackers, milk.

THURS: Book with purchase. Hotdog on bun (3 meat sub also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), fresh mini carrots, fruited gelatin salad, milk.

FRI: Baked chicken Fryzs (strips) (beef burrito w/sauce also offered at Alto & Murray Lake), mashed potatoes w/gravy, assorted fruit, milk.

CDBG to allocate monies for sidewalks, transit

by Emma Palova

Lowell may in the future be connected with side walks as well as transit. A \$42,829 allocation from the Community Development Block Grant would provide funding for sidewalks on North Center from West Main Street to Heffron Further improvement could be extended to North West

Holdup

at Lowell

primarily limited to west side neighborhoods, according to city manager Dave serving seniors and handi-Pasquale. The CDBG funds, capped will receive an alloavailable in July of next cation of \$6,000. year, would allow the city

away at sidewalks," said in Vergennes Township. The acting manager Jeanne Sho- Kent County Road Commis-

to install 3,000 feet of new

Block grant funds are res, "we're going to get the- sion regraded the road sectire one day."

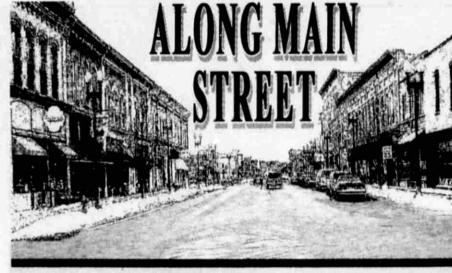
The North Kent Transit

issues on the unpaved porti-"If we keep plugging on of Grindle Drive located

on and installed a culvert.

According to Department of Public Works director Dan DesJarden this has improved the situation. If In other business, the further problems continue, council discussed drainage the intersection of Grindle and Fun will be raised by

CDBG, cont'd., pg. 4



THE LOWELL LEDGER - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2007 PAGE 3

SANTA PARADE

Light the Night will show on Lowell Cable Channel 20 on Thursday at 6 p.m., Friday at 3 p.m. and Saturday at 10 a.m.

LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL

Create a stained glass snowflake with glass artist Susan Molnar of Glass House Designs. Use beveled glass and precut stained glass accents. Dec. 11, 6:30 - 9 p.m. For ages 18+. Call the Lowell Area Arts Council for more information and to register, 897-8545.

LAS MUSIC BOOSTERS

Lowell Middle School 7th and 8th grade Band Holiday Concert, Thursday, Dec. 13, 7 p.m. at LMS gym. Lowell Middle School Intermediate and Advanced Orchestra Holiday Concert, Tuesday, Dec. 18, 7 p.m. at LPAC. Lowell High School Choir Holiday Concert, Thursday, Dec. 20, 7 p.m. at LPAC.

HOCKEY PROGRAM

The Lowell/Caledonia Hockey Proram will host its second annual Youth Night on Friday, Dec. 14 at Patterson Ice Center during the Varsity game against Forest Hills Central at 5:30 p.m. All youth players in the Lowell and Caledonia school districts will receive a free t-shirt, admission to the game, and they will be introduced during the intermission if they come in their hockey team jersey.

FREE ART WORKSHOP

Saturday, Dec. 15 from 12 - 4 p.m. at the Lowell Area Arts Council. Copper Painting on Rocks with artist Lori Kammeraad. Bring a favorite small smooth flat rock. You will apply multicolored copper leaf to creat a one-of-a-kind special rock. Drop in any time (allow 30 minutes). Open to all ages.

F.R.O.M. CHRISTMAS TOYS & FOOD

If you need help this Christmas with food and/or toys for your children, register in the Food Pantry, 897-8260 for hours. If you wish to donate, we are collecting new, unwrapped toys and Christmas dinner-type foods. Please call the Food Pantry for locations of toy dropoffs or call the Haybarkers at 897-8829.

There are no secrets better kept than the secrets that everybody guesses.

- George Bernard Shaw (1856 - 1950)



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Saturday at the Metcalf & is an inspiration to her her husband of 54 years, parents, Trude was preceded Dick, and brother, Willis Siltala. Trude is survived by her three children: Jo (Mike) Bousquet, Lee (Roger) (Debby) Schlernitzauer; 5 grandchildren: Megan Odell, Ryan Odell, Angela (Schlernitzauer) and Joe Kerr, Jordan Ann Small, and Dana (Schlernitzauer) and Terry Hendren; and 5 greatgrandchildren including a set of twins: Jacob Kerr, Aaron Kerr and Eden Kerr, Terra Hendren, Lydia Hendren. The family wishes to extend our appreciation to Laurels of Kent for their care during Trude's final years. A Memorial Service will

be held January 12, 2008,

11 a.m., at the Vergennes

United Methodist Church,

Lowell. In lieu of flowers,

may be made in her name

to the USA Shooting Team,

Township,

contributions

them. Trude was an honest, faithful, and kind person Friday, November 30, 2007. who never had a bad thing She was preceded in death to say about anyone. She by her son, Robert Smith; always tried to do the right thing; and her example of sister, Jeanne Stephens; quiet faith, humbleness, daughter-in-law, family and friends. Although Thomas, Sr.; children, us, her legacy of love will Thomas (Rachel) Smith

Lynne adored so very much; many Church or The Boston

grandchildren who brought contributions may be made her so much love and she to First United Methodist

SMITH was a member of the First United Methodist Church of 71 of Lowell passed away Lowell. Her family would like to thank Dr. Thomas McElwee and Dr. Donna Harold and staff of MMPC brother, James Stewart; for the years of wonderful Dorothy. Thank you also to generosity, and forgiveness Smith. She is survived by Sergeant James Hinton of Lowell Police Department, the Lowell EMT and Lowell she is now no longer with Diana (Michael) Burchardt, Ambulance Service. Funeral service will be 11:00 a.m., bless many generations to II, Cindy (Randy) Scoble; Wednesday, December 5th come. In addition to her mother, Alice Lorraine at the First United Methodist Johnson; brother, Robert Church, 621 E. Main Street, in death by her husband (Gen) Stewart; daughter- Dr. Michael Conklin, in-law, Cheryl Smith; 14 officiating. Interment South grandchildren and 16 great- Boston Cemetery. Memorial

The Lowell Ledger

(USPS 453-830)

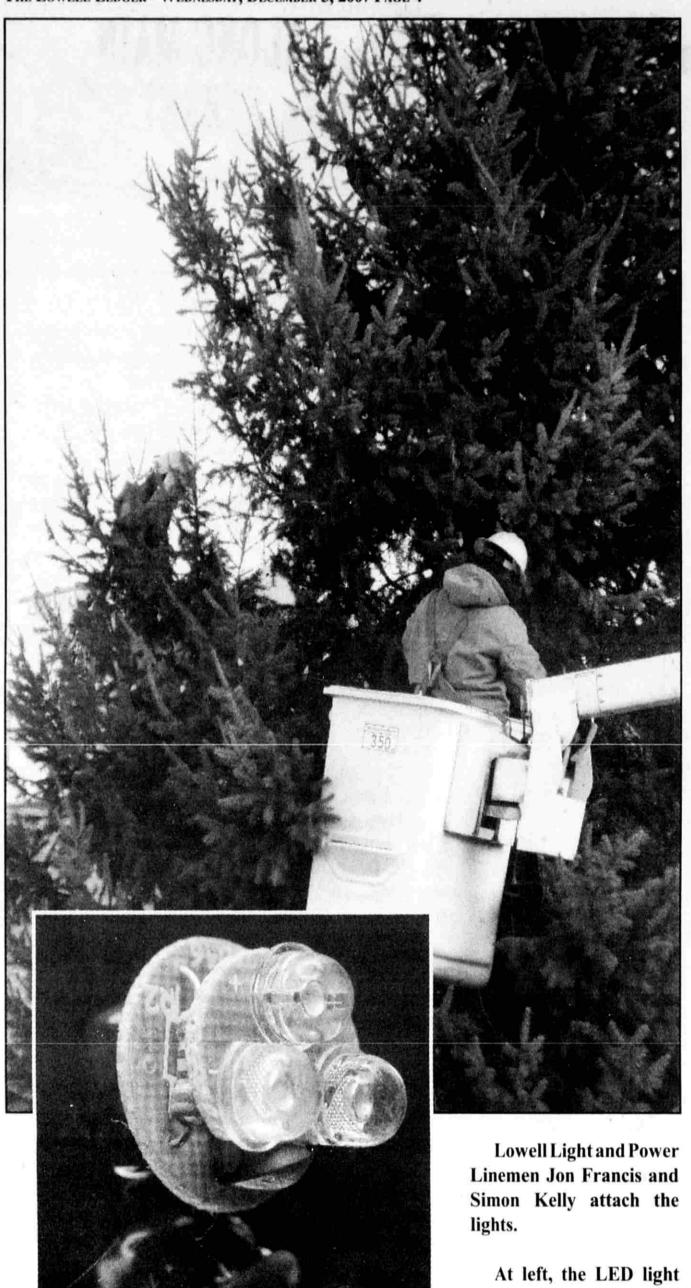
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Lowell's tree glows "green" with enery efficient lighting

glowing with high-tech lowenergy Christmas lights.

from the Lowell Area Center Christmas tree, the Chamber of Commerce, the White House Christmas tree Board of Light and Power Lowell Board of Light and and the National Christmas Power donated the lighting tree in Washington DC. and the labor to decorate the 22-foot Douglas Fir tree will use only one-tenth on Main Street at the Flat of the energy consumed River Bridge. The tree was by traditional Christmas crew. The "Town Christmas Richards, Lowell Light and for the season by Mayor He added that the LED of Saturday's Christmas and they have no filaments Community. Parade.

the tree are energy-saving long as typical incandescent the tree for this season light-emitting-diode or LED lights. Instead of a burning and for future Christmas lamps. The LED lamps filament, each lamp contains celebrations in Lowell. are becoming the popular three tiny LED light sources choice for communities and

Christmas will be a individuals who want the and two circuit boards. little brighter this year as most energy efficient means. Another benefit is that the the city's most prominent to light up the holiday. LED lights are built with evergreen tree is now Lowell's tree will join the tough acrylic lenses that nation's most famous trees are faceted like a jewel, so they give off a distinctive with LED lighting, including In response to a request New York's Rockefeller shimmering look. Richards said the

approved the purchase and installation of the Christmas "The LED lamps lights from a special limited fund set aside for such projects. In addition to the utility's monthly financial decorated by Jon Francis and lights so they will pay contribution to the City, the Simon Kelly of Lowell Light for themselves in energy Board's Benevolence Fund and Power's electric service savings" according to Tom is designated for situations where the utility has a unique Tree" was officially lighted Power General Manager. opportunity to provide a special contribution that Chuck Myers at the kickoff bulbs stay cool to the touch will benefit the Lowell to burn out, so they are

The Board of Light The 1,000 lights on expected to last 50 times as and Power agreed to light

CDBG, continued ... From Page 3

section paved," said Pas- and Power board.

med planning commission's decision not to rezone Keiser's area to commercial, but rather to explore mixed use zoning as proposed in the newly adopted

master plan. source contained in each The council is seeking ration for damages involved to fill two open board po- in the Highland Hills Deve-

"We'd love to have that sitions on the Lowell Light lopment. The Court of Ap-

interest board," said Shores. In city manager's report, Pasquale informed the council the Michigan Court cision of the Kent Coun-\$134,100 to Sundry Corpo- 7 p.m.

peals noted that Sundry did "It's a complicated but not have any compensable losses due to the fact that the referendum on PUD zoning

A joint work session of of Appeals reversed the de- the city council and the Lowell Light and Power board ty Circuit Court granting has been set for Dec. 13 at

volunteers. Blough plans

to populate the boat with

Replica, continued ... From Page 1

And unlike Blough, the man who did the trimmings as part of the community project, drew up moldings and digitalized them into CAD System. A large laser machine then cut out the intricate moldings.

"It's very fine intricate

owner of A-1 Laser. "The Baker said the replica will Showboat is a big part of travel around communities this community.' Smith, whose company donates scrap wood to us," she said.

stuff," said Rudy Smith,

programming and cutting time on the moldings to the progress even after putting uplifting project.

12-inch high end men and to market Lowell. chorus people. "It's another tool for

in 1,500 hours by countless

Chamber director Liz

"We did it again," he said. "The community will pick itself up behind this As for Blough, the replica remains a work in project. We won't just let it



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Viewpoint-

To The Editor

To the Editor,

I would like to thank the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce for asking me to lead many dedicated people in building a mini Showboat.

Liz Baker as our executive director, who led a group of Chamber members to identify a NEED in our community "Lowell, the Next Place to Be."

They had a VISION to build a mini Showboat that could travel to other communities. Then they invited other chamber members and friends to develop a PLAN.

Working together they rolled up their sleeves and went to WORK, in the middle of August. The City of Lowell gave them the use of space in the city garage to meet and Lowell Cable TV and now the confutation over property build on the boat every Monday night.

They showed their skills to make it as exact to onesixth the size of the original boat, the Robert E. Lee, in every detail. This coupled with their DETERMINATION to finish it on time for Dec. 1 parade, made it a very useful tool of which they, and the community, can be very proud.

This kind of volunteerism and cooperation, which is present in this community in many projects, is why Carolyn Jane and I feel blessed to live and participate in the Lowell community.

IT'S YOUR CHOICE

for another year-guess again. In the Upper Peninsula and

southern Lower Michigan (zones 1 and 3) muzzleloader

season begins Dec. 7th. In the northern Lower Peninsula

opportunity to use primitive firearms to take deer. Guns

available at the time were flintlock and caplock models which

looked and operated like those used during the eighteenth and

nineteenth centuries. The old flintlock functions by striking

a flint chip on steel which ignites priming powder in a pan

which then sets off a black powder charge. The resulting

explosion pushes a lead ball wrapped in a cloth patch out

the smooth barrel. The caplock uses a small explosive metal

cup which when hit by a spring-loaded hammer ignites the

weapons, so only a relatively small number of hunters

participated in the early seasons. Today things have changed

Most hunters were unfamiliar with these primitive

For those who thought deer hunting season was over

The first muzzleloading seasons gave hunters the

Outdoors

(zone 2), it begins Dec. 14th.

main charge of loose black powder.

Ivan K. Blough

To the Editor,

I'm reflecting upon the article in the Lowell Ledger, "Keiser's area not rezoned to commercial for time being". I We are fortunate to have a very talented and dedicated believe the reason for not rezoning this area at this time was because of opposition from residents and the withdrawal of a rezoning request. And so should it be. But it was stated to develop a tool that can be used to advertise to the world, that the ideas and concepts of mixed use put forward by the master plan fit the block perfect. It was also stated, "You can create a new district, put it in the ordinance and decide where it will be." I don't know about you, but to me, those statements sound like the city can do whatever they want. whenever they want. I believe our community has seen enough of that kind of attitude in the past with the sale of bordering the city airport. You would think that the planning commission would be more concerned about the buildings and land not occupied already zoned commercial before forcing an unwanted master plan on an aging neighborhood. It seems to boil down to what the planning commission, the

considerably. Muzzleloading rifles have evolved into what

are now called modern muzzleloaders. These are not your

shell primers placed directly behind the powder charge

which is still poured down the front of the barrel. One new

rifle has an electronic ignition—batteries included. New

improved powders now come in solid pellet form and are

easier to handle and measure. These propellants are less

corrosive than black powder which make cleaning the firearm much easier. Most modern muzzleloading guns are

drilled and tapped for mounting scopes or other high-tech

aiming devises. The lead ball projectile has been replaced

with jacketed bullets in plastic sleeves called sabots. These

are pushed into the barrel which has rifling groves to spin

the bullet for better accuracy. Gunstocks are made from

more dependable, and easier to maintain. My wife and many

other hunters have enough confidence in their muzzleloaders

to use them instead of a shotgun during regular firearm

season. The number of muzzleloader hunters has grown

in proportion to the advances in technology. A similar

phenomenon has occurred with archery equipment and

choice between traditional and modern equipment. We

each need to ask ourselves why we hunt and decide which

legal hunting methods will meet our hunting objectives and

expectations, and then make a choice.

All of this technology still allows a hunter to make a

All of this technology has made the guns very accurate,

composite materials and barrels from stainless steel.

The latest models available to hunters use 209 shotgun

city council and the master plan dictate.

grandfather's guns.

Sincerely, Jim Howard



125 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL JOURNAL **DECEMBER 6, 1882**

Quite a number of Grand Rapids parties took turkey in Lowell Thursday.

E.R. Crew expects to have the Springbrook Mills in working order next week.

A case of diphtheria reported at M. Hunter's about five miles south of here. The patient brought the disease from Big Rapids.

100 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER **DECEMBER 5, 1907**

75 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AND ALTO SOLO **DECEMBER 1, 1932**

Dr. J.D. Brook, Kent County health officer, has issued a schedule for school district vaccinations against smallpox under the auspices of the Kent County Health

Stanley Fahrni, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chris Fahrni of Boston Township, had the misfortune to lose three fingers Monday in a corn husking machine.

50 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER **DECEMBER 5, 1957**

Barbara Krebs, eighth grade at Lowell School, was the high salesman in the magazine sales campaign in its final week; and she received a watch as her prize. She brought in a total of \$104 in subscriptions, more than anyone else in junior high and high school. Because of this outstanding work, Barbara has been selected Teen of the Week.

25 YEARS AGO THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER **DECEMBER 1, 1982**

Prompted by a recent rash of home burglaries, primarily in Vergennes Township, Roger Odell and other Lowell area citizens are attempting to organize a "neighborhood watch" program for the area.

Lowell's new downtown Christmas decorations are a vast improvement over the old Santas that had gotten rather dingy and tattered over the years.

Writing to the editor ...

The Lowell Ledger welcomes letters to the editor from readers, but there are a few conditions that must be met before they will be published. The requirements are:

- All letters must be signed by the writer, with address and phone number provided for verification. All that will be printed is the writer's name and community of residence.
- Letters that contain statements that are libelous will not be published.
- All letters are subject to editing for style, grammar and sense.
- Letters that serve as testimonials for or criticisms of for-profit businesses will not be accepted.
- Letters serving the function of "cards of thanks" will not be accepted unless there is a compelling public interest, which will be determined by the editor.
- · Letters that include attacks of a personal nature will not be published or will be edited heavily.
- · "Crossfire" letters between the same two people on one issue will be limited to one for each writer. • In an effort to keep opinions varied, there is a limit of one letter per person per week.
- We prefer letters to be printed legibly or typed, double-spaced. For e-mailed letters, please copy letter as part of the e-mail body and send to ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com.

by Rev. Randy Mevers Calvary Christian Reformed Church

In our evening worship times we are praying through debts as we also have forgiven our debtors." With the national, state, and local economy somewhat depressed this becomes a more powerful prayer. I realize that some traditions use the word 'trespass' instead of debt. This version is also powerful it seem that the perfect hunting spot is just over the fence? to Jesus. Why do the deer not come any closer? Do they know where my property line ends?

The 'debt' version of the Lord's Prayer reminds us that make at most one cent a week. Yet after all the generational bill we started racking up and maxing out our credit cards. to live in the red. Even collectively all the pennies from the human race could not pay back one of our debts to God.

bill who asked for debt forgiveness. However most of us Lord's prayer.

thought this offer was too good to be true. It seemed like one of those Internet scams from a foreign country where the beautiful widow of an oil baron needs your bank account and Social Security number to transfer millions of gold bullion into your newly established offshore account!

The beauty of our relationship is that Jesus does not send us an e-mail. Jesus comes calling. Jesus knocks on our hearts and asks to get to know us. Once we get to know him, see how beautiful he is, and how much he has to offer with a relationship, the debt owed in our account falls from the Lord's Prayer. This past week we prayed "forgive us our focus. We want to be with Jesus, not his account! Yet from time to time we recall our debt. Hopefully, no more than occasionally do we still make huge withdrawals on our relationship. Shockingly Jesus is not a collections agent. He graciously pays our tab and woos us back into a proper especially since we are in deer hunting season. Why does relationship with the father which cements our indebtedness

Finally then our debts remind us that we are not to be skimming off the top, cooking the books, or tapping the till when it comes to our relationships with others. How can we Mike Cummings. we were in debt to God. The first human pair originally put charge someone else a high interest rate when we have one us in debt. All of our ancestors have compounded that debt so that is interest - and capital-free? Yet we do it. We refuse to that we were born into slavery. In God's economy, slaves can forgive debts "owed us." "Oh, if you only knew what she did to me." "Yeah but he started it." "He did not really mean withdrawals from our account we owed trillions. Then once it when he said 'I'm sorry'" "She keeps right on doing the we came on the scene instead of applying our penny to the same thing over and over again." These expenses tempt us

However Jesus asks us to forgive. One old theologian I like to read said that to forgive others is "evidence of God's Second, we are indebted to Jesus, the son of God. As our grace in us." This season as you reach for your wallet or debt counselor, bill consolidator, financial advisor, budget purse may you be reminded that Jesus forgave all your debts, planner, and Chief Financial Officer Jesus stepped into our even the ones you are racking up by not forgiving others. grave situation. Jesus had a word with his father. They had Then surprise yourself and forgive someone for Christmas. a plan. Jesus whose account is infinite, would pay anyone's It will be the best gift you can give and an answer to the



DECEMBER 5:

Christopher Vickers.

DECEMBER 6: Katie Blough, Kristopher Vezino, Phil Seese, Maria Christopher DeBold, Marc Wernet.

DECEMBER 7: Jennifer Berry.

DECEMBER 8:

DECEMBER 9:

Allen Metternick, Sara Triplett, Deb Schuitema, Alison Nugent, Ben Nugent, Noah VanLaan.

DECEMBER 10: Bill Fluger, Evelyn Heim, Barbara Decker.

DECEMBER 11:

Dave Rhodes, Kathryn Zalewski, Amber Waldron, Mike Kline.



Holding on to anger is like grasping a hot coal with the intent of throwing it at someone else; you are the one who gets burned.

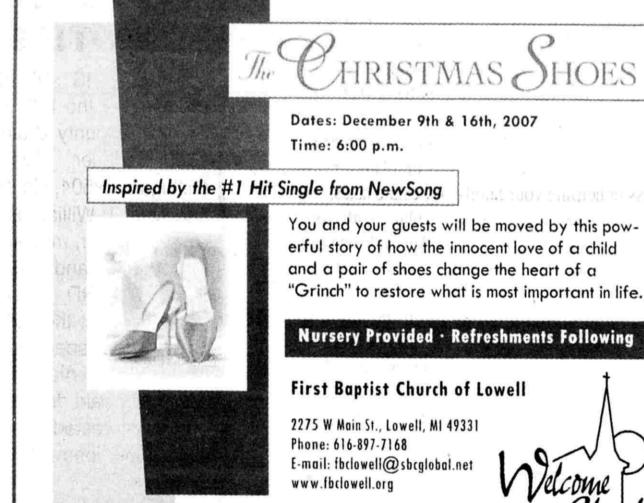
- Buddha

Happy 50th Anniversary Jim & Ruth Wood!



If you see Woody the Golf Club Guy and Ruth the Curves Manager Lady, be sure to wish them a Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary on December 7! Love You Always! Jeff, Candice, Skylar, Troy,





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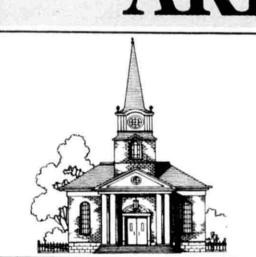
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.10:00 A.M.

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OWN A BUSINESS? PUT RETIREMENT, SUCCESSION PLANS IN ORDER

If you own a small business, you probably laugh at the notion of a "9 to 5" workday. Unfortunately, many small business owners work so hard, and are so focused on the "here and now" - increasing sales, controlling costs, attracting new customers, etc. - that they forget to plan for their own retirement and for the fate of their business.

Don't make those mistakes. No matter how hectic your schedule, take the time to set up a retirement plan for yourself and a succession plan for your business.

Let's consider retirement plans first. These days, smallbusiness owners such as yourself have several good retirement plans from which to choose. If your business has no employees except you (and possibly your spouse), you can choose a SEP IRA, an "owner-only" 401(k) or an "owner-only" defined benefit plan. If you have employees, you Dean's List might want to explore a SIMPLE IRA or a "Safe Harbor" 401(k). All these plans have at least two things in common. Ada has made the Dean's First, your earnings can potentially grow tax-deferred. Sec-List at Kettering University ond, you can fund any of these plans with virtually any type of investment: stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit, government securities and more. You can even create a mix of investments to reflect your time horizon and risk tolerance.

Beyond these similarities, though, these plans have different requirements and features, so, to find the one that's right for you, consult with a financial advisor who is experienced in helping business owners.

Once you've established your retirement plan, it's time to think about succession planning. Here are a few general recommendations to keep in mind:

· Always know what your business is worth. Your succession plan will probably involve either selling the business or passing it to your heirs, so it's essential you know the sales price or its inheritance value. Once you have this information, you can help draw up plans for selling the business or helping your family pay estate taxes.

· Integrate your succession plans with your estate plans. Many business owners just plan on leaving the business to their spouse — a move that could cut off other heirs from an inheritance. This can be particularly troublesome if all your net worth is tied up in the business — a situation you'll want to avoid by having some outside investments, ir addition to one of the retirement plans mentioned above.

· Include key employees in your planning. If you'd like to retain some key employees after the business is transferred, let them know your plans while you're still i charge. Of course, if you plan on selling your business to one of them, you'll need to invest and organize the proceeds in such a way that they can be efficiently passed on to your

· Plan for "what if?" A good succession plan must also include plans for contingencies. To cite just one possible complication, what if you want to leave your business to an adult child, but that child dies before you? You may need to take many "what ifs" into account when you construct your plans.

You invest your heart and soul into your business. To look out for that investment, work with your financial, tax and legal advisors to create the appropriate retirement and succession plans. Even as busy as you are, it will be time well spent.

LOWELL AREA COMMUNITY FUND ACCEPTS GRANT PROPOSALS

All Proposals Must Be Submitted Online No Later Than December 21, 2007 to be considered Visit www.grfoundation.org/lowell to submit your application.

The Lowell Area Community Fund, a fund of Grand Rapids Community Foundation, awards grants to tax-exempt, nonprofit charitable organizations that have an impact in the Lowell area. The LACF funds innovative projects or programs that encourage community cooperation.

During the holidays, gather around the computer

by Vonda VanTil, Social Security

Public Affairs Specialist Each year, people from

across the nation spend holidays enjoying good food the application as well. and quality time with their socialsecurity.gov.

apply for Social Security an address, phone number, and resources.

College News

Kettering University

for the summer 2007

semester. Van Dyke is

have attained a minimum

summer 2007

who in a given term, this year.

Nicholas VanDyke of below 85, and have earned a

The Dean's List at graduate, was a second-

Kettering University is an year letter winner for the

honor earned by students, women's cross country team

announces

pursuing a BCS.

disability benefits. After they have applied, they can check

weighted grade average of

92.0 out of a possible 100,

minimum of 16 credits.

have received no grades

Rebekah Woods, a

junior at Hope College

and Lowell High School

current - even if they have complete. To qualify, they public affairs specialist for You can help them direct deposit. Changes to must have limited income West Michigan.

retirement, spouse's or and direct deposit can all be done online.

back online for the status of apply for the extra help for Social Security. So, once the Medicare Prescription the dishes are put away, If your loved ones are Drug Program. Social families. During this year's receiving Social Security Security has an easy-to- and visit Social Security at holiday season we hope benefits, it's important use online application that www.socialsecurity.gov/ you will consider assisting that their mailing address anyone - family members, onlineservices. a loved one online at www. and phone number remain friends and caregivers - can

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Vonda VanTil is the

Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.

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NOTICE OF REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENT

IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on 100-001, -002; 200-003, -006, -008, -010; 300the Kent County Drain Commissioner's Office, 400-006, -008, -009, -010; 1500 Scribner Ave., N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49504, County of Kent, or such place and time, I, William R. Byl, Kent County Drain Commissioner, may adjourn, the apportionment for benefits and the lands comprised within 41-24-02the "HOWARD COUNTY DRAIN", and the apportionment thereof will be subject to review on the above specified date only, from 8:30 A.M. 41-24-03until 4:30 P.M. Also on this date, the computation of cost for said drain will be open for inspection by any interested parties. You may also review 008, -015, -017, -022, -023; 501-001; your apportionments by phone at (616) 336-

WHEREAS, You are further advised that, pursuant to Section 155 of the Michigan Drain Code of 1956, as amended, any owner of land within the Drainage District or any city, village, township, district or county feeling aggrieved by of roads. the apportionments within ten (10) days after the Day of Review of Apportionment by making an application to the Kent County Probate Court for the appointment of a Board of Review. If there is no appeal, the roll will be confirmed ten (10) days after the Day of Review of Apportionments. The confirmed roll may be slightly different from the roll presented at the Day of Review due to arguments made at the Day of Review.

THE COST OF THIS PROJECT.

The following government units and permanent parcel numbers of the parcels of land within the Special Assessment District of said drain will be assessed:

41-20-26-300-003;

41-20-33-400-014, -021, -030;

41-20-34-

Wednesday, the 12th day of December, 2007, at 001, -004, -008, -010, -011, -016, -017, -018;

100-002, -010, -011, -012; 300-001, -002;

100-001; 500-001;

100-002, -008, -010, -011, -015, -018, -022, -024 thru -028; 200-001, -002, -003; 300-001; 400-

41-24-04-200-008:

The Township of Bowne, the Charter Township of Lowell, the Michigan Department Transportation and the County of Kent on account

NOW, THEREFORE, All unknown and nonresident persons, owners and persons interested in the above described lands, and you: Mary Hollinrake, Clerk of Kent County, Christian Wenger, Bowne Township Supervisor, Paula Blumm, Lowell Charter Township Supervisor, Kirk Steudle, Michigan Department of Transportation Director and Jon Rice, Managing Director, Kent County Road Commission, that at such time AS A PROPERTY OWNER WITHIN THE and place, as stated above, the apportionment DISTRICT, YOU ARE SUBJECT TO A for benefits and the lands comprised within SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR A PORTION OF the Howard County Drain Special Assessment District will be subject to review.

> AND EACH OF YOU, owners and persons interested in the above referenced parcels of land, are hereby given the opportunity to appear at the time and place noted above to review the apportionments and be heard with respect to such special assessments and your interests in relation to them, if you so desire. Dated 16th day of November, 2007.

> > William R. Byl Kent County Drain Commissioner

Local die maker builds dog bone cutters for Mackinac Island baker

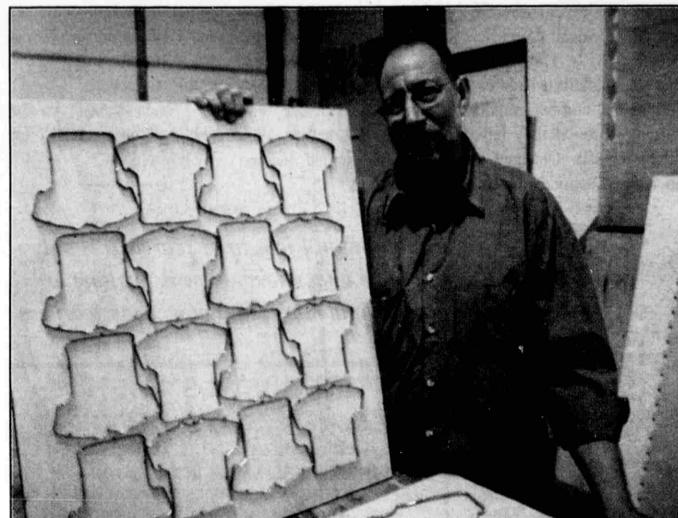
by Emma Palova

a die maker in Lowell?

In this case stainless steel dog winter hump. bone cutters made to order

by A-1 Laser for Marc's regular cutters to cut the Bobinsky found the right the dog bone cutters, Smith Well, a cache or a niche. years ago to get over the became obvious.

At first Bobinsky used contacts in Traverse City, beautiful crispy winter day.



Rudy Smith, owner of A-1 Laser, shows box with dog bone cutters and other specialty products.

What does a specialty Double Oven. Retired baker treats at the kitchen table, man who could make the proudly showed off the to live," he said. "I still get baker living on Mackinac from Grand Hotel Marc but as the niche business dog bone cutter prototypes, prototype last week at the a chuckle out of this whole Island have in common with Bobinsky started a specialty grew with Pet Expos, the that is A-1 Laser in Lowell. store with dog treats three need for dog bone cutters Without calling ahead of time, Bobinsky headed various mainland to Lowell on a

a town that reminded him of his home town in Ohio. Not only did he find Rudy Smith, Lori and the crew at the die company, but he was finally able to put the flour Missouri," he said. product he had been using at the Grand Hotel and at Double Oven with the name King Milling together.

He was astounded to see a hurting economy the silos and the grindstone.

"I had never been to Lowell before," he said, "I was extremely well treated by Rudy and the crew. It was amazing to see the source, King Milling."

Holding a box with

die shop along with other deal. orders and final products.

Maybe, Smith should have been better known for building 15 different dies for the famous magnetic "Support our troops" ribbons. But, it was actually manufacturers, who made a lot of money

"I've worked with manufacturers in Ohio and close knit network.'

like with the dog bone cutters that kept the steel rule die company vibrant in

"This guy is a baker,"

And truly, as Bobinsky awaits his dog bone cutters, he is amazed at the strange set of circumstances that led him to Lowell.

If everything goes well at the winter pet shows, Bobinsky plans to automate and get an extrusion oven. But, he will keep the NSF certified dog bone cutters no matter what.

"It's an interesting twist in life," Bobinsky said. "I guess the die industry has a

In the wake of the recent Itwasthisdiversification pet food recalls, Bobinsky claims to make nothing exotic or proprietary, only a clean label product using whole wheat flour.

> And that's were the story started with whole wheat flour from King Milling squirreled up at the Double Oven bakery on 3rd Street past the barns beyond the Grand Hotel.

"Light the Night," continued ... From Page 1 served up hot cider, while the King Milling Company. challenge resulted in four Springrove Variety offered Honorable mention went to sculptures on the Riverwalk

hot buttered popcorn. The parade winners River Girl Scouts, historical were first place Backwater museum and YMCA Richardson for the eagle carved by Andrea Stahl. Café, second place Lowell Autumn Athletes.

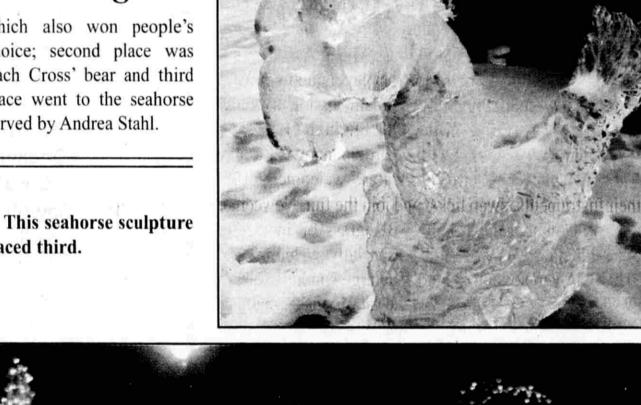
Crew Club and third place

Lowell Light & Power, Flat Plaza.

The ice sculpting

choice; second place was Zach Cross' bear and third First place went to Mark place went to the seahorse

placed third.





The Lowell Crew Club's second-place float above and at right the float designed and built by Girls Scouts won an honorable mention.





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The Lowell Ledger 897-9261



by Emma Palova

A cherry wood giant head of daughter Maddie by power carver Jack Eppinga is the result of an evolving artist.

Eppinga, who never stays stagnant with one subject, has been working through different subjects such as slender herons, cranes, long limbs, skinny bodies and parabolic

"I am never done with a certain theme," he said, "but ! don't like staying with something too long."

Eppinga calls the evolution process feeding on time. That was the case with the oversized head. Many years ago, when Eppinga lived in Yellowstone, his friend had an Indian head on display in a local gallery for \$35,000.

That head continued to fascinate Eppinga over the years until he recently created his very own giant head which happened to resemble his daughter, "Untitled."

He started out as an artist sketching landscapes, fast contour drawings and moved to cattle marker paintings, a sort of an oil pastel. What really contributed to Eppinga's evolution as an artist surprisingly enough was working in a silk screen factory. "I had that factory mindset that you have to complete a project," he said.

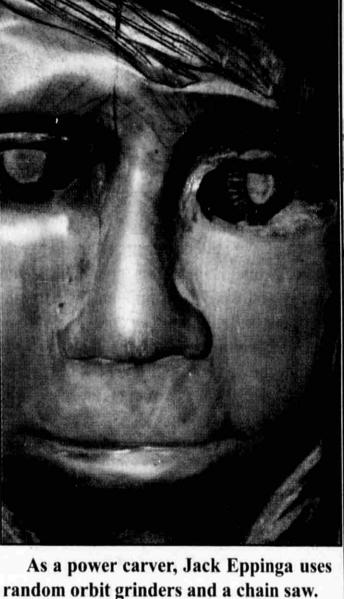
And although Eppinga still has a few unfinished pieces surrounding him, he finishes them with the tenacity of a metal worker.

His work is now on display at the Riverwalk Gallery under the common theme, "Pieces I've been feeding off this year." The exhibit also includes a mysterious carving of a crow-eating plant.

Bluegrass jam session

The West Michigan Bluegrass Music Association is hosting a free Bluegrass event for players and spectators on Saturday, Dec. 15. A free open jam session will begin at 7 p.m. at T J's Bar & Grille, 14043 Fulton, Lowell, and will continue for as long as the participants wish to play. Bluegrass musicians at all levels are welcome to bring their instruments, swap licks, and join the fun. Newcomers interested in learning to play Bluegrass or in meeting other bluegrass musicians are especially welcome. This WMBMA jam session is held in a large smoke-free room with food and beverages available for purchase, making it an ideal event for non-musical guests who enjoy listening to free Bluegrass music. This will be the final Bluegrass jam session event for the 2007 fall season.





Eppinga is the featured artist at the Riverwalk. He carved this oversized cherry wood head of his daughter



The Lowell Area Dog Park Committee would like to thank the following donors for helping to bring a dog park to Lowell.

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Sharing The Vision

Board of Education President

your families! With the recent time change back to Eastern Standard Time and as winter begins to take hold of our area, we realize that we have to turn the lights on in our home for longer periods of time each day, and the furnace seems to run constantly! Of course, this also applies to our school

FAXING

Sending or Receiving

buildings. However, at Lowell Area Schools we have taken steps to help conserve our natural resources by reducing our consumption of electricity, natural gas and water. We have also replaced or added equipment and controls, as needed, to become more efficient. LAS decided to do this for two reasons: 1) it is the right thing to do for the environment. and 2) we need to be good stewards of taxpayers' money.

Approximately four years ago, LAS entered into a includes: contract with Energy Education, Inc., of Dallas, Texas. As Happy Holidays from Lowell Area Schools to you and part of this contract, we have employed an energy manager, Mr. Jim White, who has received specialized training, both consumption. off-site and on-site, so that the district is more educated and aware of our energy and water consumption. This training includes analyzing our utility bills so we know what we are paying for and are charged the correct rates. It also includes learning more about the systems and layouts of all of our buildings so we can take advantage of energy conservation period! opportunities. Our custodian staff has also received training in identifying areas where we can conserve and operate more efficiently.

Energy Education personnel also visits our buildings with Mr. White at many different times of the day, including at system start-up, day-time, night-time and on weekends. This provides us with real time information on how the

building lighting and HVAC systems are operating. By using our system controls and sophisticated software provided by Energy Education, we can maximize our savings, while maintaining ideal lighting and conditioned spaces for teaching and learning.

Since the beginning of this contract, LAS has substantially reduced our energy and water usage. This

- A 45 percent reduction in electricity consumption.
- A 33 percent reduction in natural gas
- A 27 percent reduction in water usage.

These reductions in consumption have allowed LAS to avoid paying over \$1.8 million for these utilities over the last four years! It is estimated by Energy Education that we will avoid paying nearly \$6.4 million over a 10-year

The real heart of this program is people. From Jim White, to our custodians and building principals, to every staff member at LAS, we have all taken the conservation of energy and water seriously. By avoiding these utility costs we have provided more money to be spent where it belongs: in the classroom for teaching and learning. Hey, if you're the last one out, turn off the lights!

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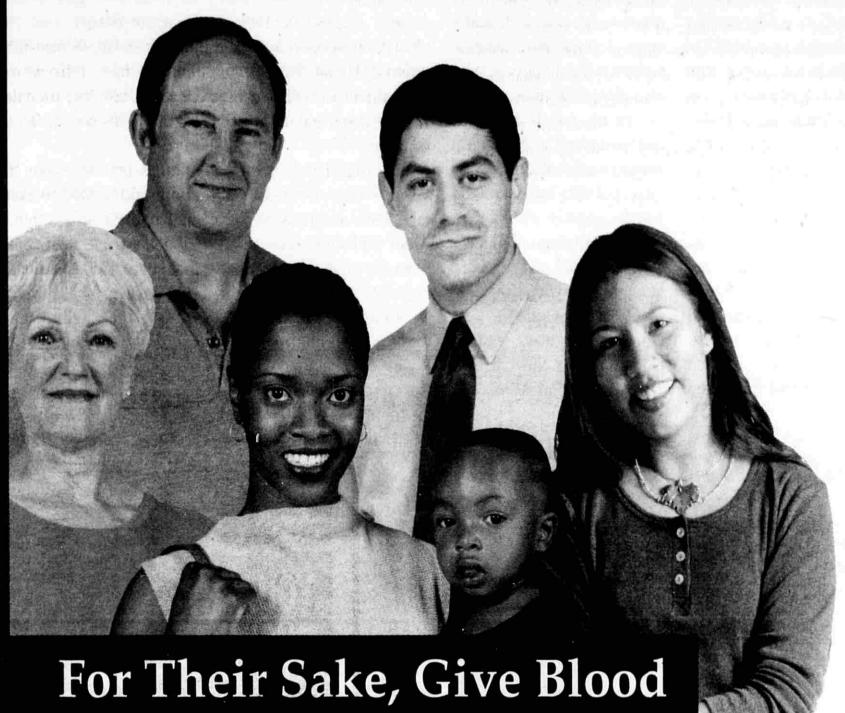


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RED ARROW SPORTS 3 1 1 1.

Red Arrow wrestling wins come-from-behind thriller in Detroit

by Sean Garner special to the Ledger

After a thrilling season the Lowell wrestling squad over highly touted Detroit Catholic Central.

The environment was a unique one as Catholic Central scheduled the match student body would get the

of the meet, providing an

opportunity to see at least state qualifier in Shamrock Hasenauer, a returning fifth match, keeping the Red on that. We got exposed of the students chose to stay a win at 189 pounds to give also placed fifth last season. the Catholic Central fans. watch the remainder the Red Arrows a 9-0 lead.

The match began at 171 needing pins in all three final Olep, a sophomore state seemed unlikely when pinned in the third period

In his match, Gingrich Despite their early had to contend with not only in their face," Gingrich him." timidating environment success, Lowell quickly Hasenauer but also a raucous said. "They were terrible. Head Coach Dave Dean By the time the 145-pound which erupted during the my family at one point, and environment said the hostile environment match came around, the match into a chant of "That's I just winked at them to let Shamrocks, 36-20, likely going to beat you anyway." Hasenauer didn't beat

pounds with Red Arrow Ryan matches. Such a scenario Gingrich anyway, getting followed by pins from both Rocky Pabon and Justin qualifier, pinning another Catholic Central put Shea after leading most of the Boss to give the Red Arrows Dean said the comeback was performance by the team.

to bother me."

Dean said. "They delivered in the OK-White.

part of the meet. After school Stephan Gatt. Senior captain place finisher at last year's Arrows' hopes for victory in some places, and then was dismissed roughly a half Nate Vaught continued the state tournament, against alive. Gingrich was less than other kids like Rocky Pabon hour later, a distinct majority momentum for Lowell with Lowell's Tim Gingrich, who impressed by the behavior of stepped up. Last year, a situation like this may have "It was nice to rub it been a little too much for

Pabon said he was for the visiting Red Arrows. found themselves in a hole. victory-thirsty student body, I heard them make fun of unaffected by the fever pitch

"It's one of those things served the exact purpose he Red Arrows trailed the alright. That's okay. We're them know it wasn't going that is just kind of there and you have to deal with it." Gingrich's pin was Pabon said. "I think that's one of those things Dean tries to do is put us in that position where we have to the improbable 38-36 win. just focus in and westle."

> The Red Arrows' due to a gutsy all-around next competition will come tonight at home "What I was looking against Greenville, widely for in our team was a considered to be one of, if competitive mentality," not the best wrestling teams

The boys' tennis team has earned academic all-state honors for the fall season, putting them in an elite group of only 10 Division 2 teams that have earned the honor.

To earn the honor, a team's composite grade point average must exceed 3.25. The team had a 3.34 average for the fall season. Coach Bonnie Wall said the team has gotten the award almost every year (for both boys' and girls' teams) since she's been a coach, and she said they're "quite proud of their academic achievements."

Boys' tennis earns academic all-state



Pictured are (first row, L-R) Jack Weeber, Sean Greenhoe, Dylan Dues, Cort Thompson, Patrick Misner and Josh Spratt. (Second row, L-R) coach Bonnie Wall, Austin Litchfield, Chase Canning, Evan Wilterink, Clayton Stedman, Josh Hobrla, Tony Dubbink, Travis Trapp and assistant coach Roger Wall.

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Bowling teams win at EGR Saturday

Both bowling teams started their seasons strong Saturday at East Grand Rapids with wins. The boys team beat EGR 1-0, and the girls team won 1-0, also. The team will take on Northview this afternoon at 3:30 p.m. at

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RED ARROW S DO BIS 3 STATE.

Boss named top special teams player in state

player in the state at the honor. third annual Michigan Great 8 Prep Football Awards last individual winners were

by Molly Benningfield

Sports editor

Rapids area who walked City West, defensive lineman this fall. Early in the named the top special teams away with an individual Nick Perry of Detroit King, season, he led the team as

defensive back Bobacar VanDreumel of DeWitt. week in East Lansing. Boss, a junior on the Cissoko of Detroit Cass football team, was among Tech, linebacker Kenny 64 players and eight Demens of Country Day, Michigan Touchdown Club, passing, rushing, catching coaches from around the running back Jonas Gray of a chapter of the National and tackling. state (including nine from Birmingham Detroit Country West Michigan), but was the Day, offensive lineman Hall of Fame. only athlete from the Grand Rocko Khoury of Traverse

The Benning-Fielder

It's finally college basketball season

When you think of Harvard, a winning basketball team

probably isn't the first thought that comes to mind. But

last week, the smarties from New England rallied to beat

so after six seasons and three NIT appearances, he was fired.

But Boston proved to be lucky for him, as his team scored the

last 11 points of the game to win 62-51. The game was tied at

people are still complaining about it. That's why I look

forward to March much more than the holiday season for

Michigan will face off against Florida in the Capital One

Bowl on Jan. 1 in Orlando, Fla. at 1 p.m. Michigan State will

face Boston College on Dec. 28 at 5 p.m., also in Orlando.

Central Michigan will travel to Detroit to face Purdue for the

Lowell-Caledonia hockey

loses to Big Rapids

Rapids. The Lowell-Caledonia team lost 6-3. The Arrows

play Dewitt tonight at 7 p.m. at the Summit in Lansing. The

next home game is Friday, Dec. 14 vs. Forest Hills Central,

and will feature "Youth Night", with Griff from the Grand

The hockey team lost a tough match Friday night to Big

Motor City Bowl, on Dec. 26 at 7:30 p.m.

In other sports news, the BCS is still horrible. And

But three state teams did get berths in bowl games.

Michigan's struggling basketball team.

51 with 3:38 remaining.

college sports.

The other seven of Detroit Southeastern, to receiver to create a deadly

Football Foundation and

starter for the Red Arrows, Red Arrows. and excelled in all positions

wide receiver Fred Smith quarterback, but then moved and quarterback Dan 1-2 punch with another junior, Kyle Nichol. He was The awards were strong on all sides, bringing presented by the Mid- big numbers for Lowell in

Boss will return next season with a strong group Boss is a three-year of upperclassmen for the

Girls' basketball loses two close matches

A comeback shot late loss to Greenville Friday in the second half couldn't night propel Lowell ahead of a tough Rockford team Monday night as the Arrows 63-45 victory on Wednesday. lost to the Rams 45-49.

game, the Arrows tied it at 40 And the clincher? Tommy Amaker, the turtleneck-ed former coach of the Wolverines is now the Crimson's main guy. The crowd began chanting "We got Tommy! We got the team couldn't keep the points. Amaker couldn't get the W enough times in Ann Arbor,

> games in the second half of last week, with a big win Wednesday night against

The Arrows won big against the Sailors, with a Chelsea Harrison was on After trailing the entire fire, scoring 27 points, including five 3-pointers. with less than five minutes Hannah Oberlin contributed to go. But after making less 16 points, and was 2-2 from than half the shots they took, the line. Kara Rasch had 11

The team split two Yellow Jackets Friday 44-

The team's first home game is Tuesday, Dec. 11 at Unity Christian and a close 7 p.m. vs. Caledonia.



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LOWELL OPEN HOUSE Sunday, December 9th

1 - 4 p.m.



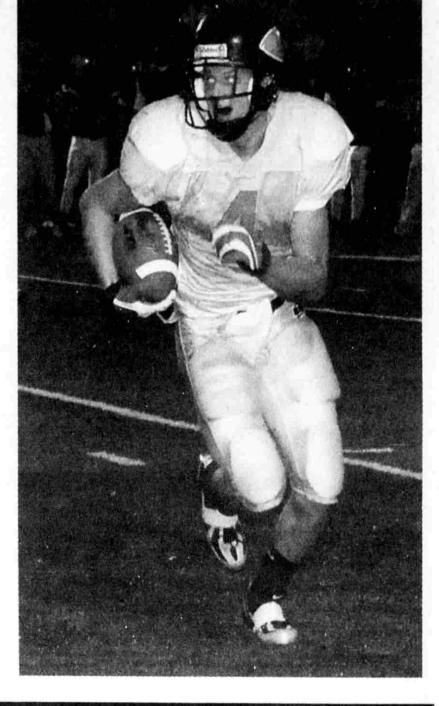
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M-21 east through town, right on Jackson, left on Grand River (1st road over the bridge) turns into Riverside Dr., right on Amazon Drive (Riverside Woods Development) 5th house on right. \$239,900

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SYNOPSIS **REGULAR MEETING OF** THE LOWELL CITY COUNCIL **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2007**

The Arrows lost to the Minutes of the November 5, 2007 meeting were approved as corrected and the accounts payable were approved.

The following actions were taken:

Motion to nominate Charles Myers as Mayor until the first meeting of Council in January,

Motion to nominate Alan Mathews as Mayor Pro Tem until the first meeting of Council in January, 2008.

Motion to not sell the 50' x 208' property on North Washington because the bid submitted was inadequate.

YEA: 3. (Councilmembers Mathews, Pfaller and Mayor Myers).

NAY: 1. (Councilmember Hodges). ABSENT: 1. (Councilmember Shores). Motion Carried.

Motion to adopt the resolution bringing the City to federal standards on the granting of homestead property tax exemptions list under Public Act 390.

Motion to adopt the resolution for the purchase of the two police vehicles with financing over three years of \$39,600 at an interest rate of 4% provided by Firstbank.

Motion to adjourn at 8:01 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, December 3, 2007.

Complete minutes are available on the City's web page at www.ci.lowell.mi.us or at the Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main.



Betty R. Morlock, City Clerk

SYNOPSIS BOWNE TOWNSHIP

NOVEMBER 2007

Motions approved:

Rapids Griffins hockey team.

Minutes of October board meeting. List of all invoices

Resolution to place delinquent sewer maintenance fees on tax bills.

Connect Fire Station to WiFi Internet service.

Copies of entire minutes available on the website bownetwp.cc.

> Sandra L. Kowalczyk Bowne Township Clerk

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ALTERATIONS - Ex-

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Local students attend FFA convention

Area students recently traveled to Indianapolis, Ind. for the National FFA Convention, which was attended by more than 50,000 people from Oct. 24-27. The students, from the Lowell FFA Chapter are pictured in front of the new Toyota Tundra. Picture, clockwise are (from left) Sara Fosburg (of Ada) and April Wolf (of Lowell), Emma Bencker (of Alto) and Kari Bergy (of Lowell), and Briana Buck and Wolf.







LOWELL CITY AIRPORT LOWELL, MICHIGAN STATE CONTRACT NO. M 41-3-C2

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals for the procurement of the following services will be received from contractors at the time and place indicated below and will then be publicly opened and read:

Sponsor of Project

City of Lowell 301 East Main Street Lowell, Michigan 49331

State Contract No.

M 41-3-C2

Procurement

Phase I Airport Tree Clearing

Sealed Bid Proposals marked "PHASE I AIRPORT TREE CLEARING - CONTRACT NO. M 41-3-C2" will be accepted from contractors at the office of the City Clerk, City of Lowell, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan until 4:00 p.m. Local Time, Wednesday, December 12, 2007, at which time and place all Bid Proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. No faxed or unsealed bids will be accepted. All Bid Proposals shall be submitted in sealed envelopes marked as to the bidder and the contents therein. A mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting will be held on Friday, December 7, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. at the airport terminal building at which time the site will be inspected and questions will be taken.

Bid security required is five percent (5%) of base bid amount

Bidders Note that the proposed procurement is or will be funded as a State Aid Project. The bidder's attention is directed in particular to the Equal Employment Opportunity and other labor requirements as detailed therein.

The project plans incorporating "Proposal Instructions," "Proposal" and "Specifications" may be inspected at

Lowell City Airport 770 Lincoln Lake Road Lowell, Michigan 49331

URS Corporation

3950 Sparks Drive SE Grand Rapids, Michigan 49546

Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained from the Office of URS upon a nonrefundable payment of twenty five dollars (\$25.00) for each set. Contact Jackie Warfield at the URS Plan Desk at (616) 574-8506.

The City reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Bid Proposals, and the right to waive any formal defects in bids when deemed in the best interest of the City. It may award to someone other than the lowest monetary bidder. No Bid Proposal may be withdrawn for a period of forty-five (45) days after receipt of bids.

Proposal Contacts: All inquiries shall be directed to URS Corporation attention Jason Clark, PE at 616-574-8491 or Jim Sowle, Lowell City Airport Manger at (616) 897-2530.

Dated and signed at The City of Lowell, Michigan, this November 26, 2007.

Owner:

City of Lowell 301 East Main Street Lowell, MI 49337

Sound Off

The Ledger "Almost" Anything Goes Column



www.lowellbuyersguide.com

Or CALL...897-0787

The Lowell Ledger welcomes all "Sound Off" comments. but would like to remind readers of the nature of the column. "Sound Off" is meant to be a community notice board, a means for comments that can be regarded as helpful, congratulatory, thankful and informational.

We will not print any comments that are offensive or libelous. Direct aims at individuals, political figures and businesses will not be printed. For direct opinions on a subject (including, but not limited to, politics, businesses, city government and Ledger criticisms), please send a letter "To the Editor". All letters must be signed (first and last names). Please check Page 5 of this week's paper for the complete guidelines.

All comments are submitted by the public and do not necessarily represent the views of the Ledger.

Last week's Sound Off was so syrupy and sugarcoated it made me sick. Why not poll your readers to find out what they want? I bet most of us want the original Sound Off back!

As a martial artist, we are taught the art of humility. While it is wonderful to earn titles and possess strength in your sport, martial artists do what they do for the love, not for the recognition.

> Sound off now is very boring. Whatever happened to freedom of speech?

Let's not spoil a good thing. Please clean up after your dog at the new Lowell dog park.

Thanks be to God and St. Jude that we are staying in Lowell! We have a new job in Grand Rapids. After living in several states, there's no better place to live!

Cheers for the hardy participants in Saturday's shimmering, shivering spectacle. Lowell's nighttime Santa parade was a shining extravaganza!

The Wildlife Center would like to thank the community for all their support.

> Thanks to chief Valentine for having big shoulders and listening to me.

"Outdoor" dogs need to be brought indoors during these cold winter temperatures. If it is too cold for you to be out it's too cold for your dog.

Congratulations on the best, best ever parade. Great to see Seymour. Congrats to Liz Baker and all who did it.

CITY OF LOWELL

PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING OF BOARD OF REVIEW

The Lowell City Board of Review will meet to correct the various Assessment Rolls for 2007 at City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan on:

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2007 10:00 – 11:00 A.M

> Charles R. Myers, Mayor James Marfia, Assessor

small ads

FOR SALE FOR SALE

LITEHOUSE DRESSING GIFT PACKS - are available at the following locations: Fifth Third, Bernards Ace Hardware, Cousins Hallmark, Springrove, Huntington Bank, Firstbank, Voyages, & Lowell Area Arts Council, or from any Rotarian. \$12.50 per pack.

BED - Queen pillowtop mattress set. Brand new, in plastic, warranty. \$110. Can deliver. 616-318-6998.

FOR SALE - 1995 Chevy Lumina mini van, rebuilt trans, new struts & brakes, snow tires. \$1,699 obo. Call Jon, 724-7633.

CHRISTMASTREESTAND Structural Steel, holds 20 ft. plus tree. Adjustable tree collar and leveling rods. \$100. Call 897-0011.

BED-A new King pillowtop mattress set, in plastic, warranty. Can deliver. \$180. Also full size, only \$95. 616-949-2683.

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PARTING OUT-1985 GMC 4X4 with snow plow. Call 616-987-9525.

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paired dial 711.TEN

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