

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 37 Issue 9

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, January 2, 2008

“Behind the Scenes” series to profile local people

By Emma Palova

“Behind the Scenes” series will profile people you know in the community who make things happen. Whether ordinary or unique, leaders or followers, they get things done regardless the circumstances. Sometimes under pressure and in a short time frame with dwindling

resources, yet still able to accomplish their goals.

They serve as inspiration for their colleagues, neighbors and younger generation. They’re innovative, creative and talented, they push hard and don’t stop in front of obstacles.

In fact, they turn obstacles and challenges into opportunities. They’re not afraid to take the less-trav-

eled roads or to think outside the proverbial box.

They implement new methods, adopt new ways and try new things. At work and in the community as well, they deliver the highest caliber performance.

They’re knowledgeable and friendly, detailed, efficient and organized. They’re successful at whatever they try their hand be-

cause they are project-oriented.

They’re the people you know behind the counter at the post-office, behind the cash register at the store or behind a glass display case at a shimmering jewelry store.

Whether bankers, tellers or car dealers, they make the fabric of the com-

panies they lead or work for. They reach out to others to help when needed. Without them, humming businesses would be empty, quiet boxes of bricks and mortar.

They are today’s moving forces in the global market place.

We encourage you to nominate a person you know for our “Behind the

Scenes” series. We will select individuals from the nominees and profile them over the next few weeks in the Ledger.

Contact the Ledger by email at ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com or mail your information to The Ledger office at P.O. Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331

Community sends off the old year with fundraisers and fun

By Emma Palova

The community bid farewell to the old year in style to the beat of Al & The Black Cats at the Strand Theater and to Ryder Jones’ guitar at the Voyages Coffee Shop on New Year’s Eve.

In an effort to help raise food for the Flat River Outreach Ministries, Voyages owner Sterling Massey put on a day-long benefit serving free coffee, tea, soda and small talk in exchange for non-perishable items.

“It’s an important way to contribute back to the community,” said Massey.

If the event catches on, Massey hopes to continue it as an annual tradition. He held a similar benefit around Thanksgiving.

For the second year in a row, Al & The Black Cats played the Strand, while Larkin’s offered soothing cocktails such as “Ella’s Chocolate Vanilla Mint” with the slogan “She likes it for dessert.”

Other goodies included bacon and shrimp wraps.

Owner Mike Larkin said the business around the holidays is very unpredictable.

“You never know,” he said.

Arts council to offer new online service

By Emma Palova

The Lowell Area Arts Council’s website will offer links to artists’ websites in order to connect the artists with the students, and to eliminate unnecessary administrative work starting in February.

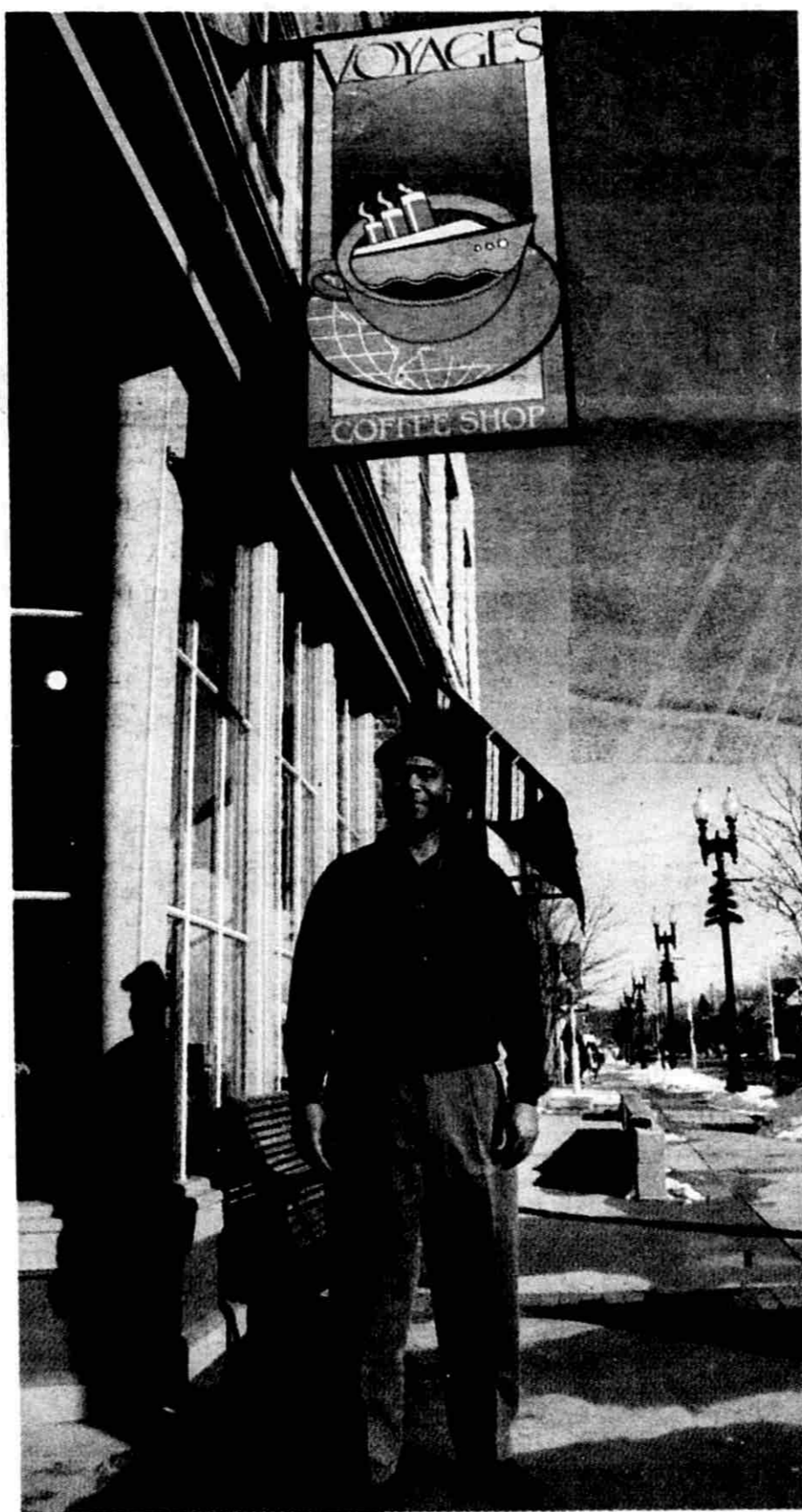
“We won’t be administrating,” said Steve Samson, marketing director. “Students will find more information about the artists and about the arts council.”

Artists are encour-

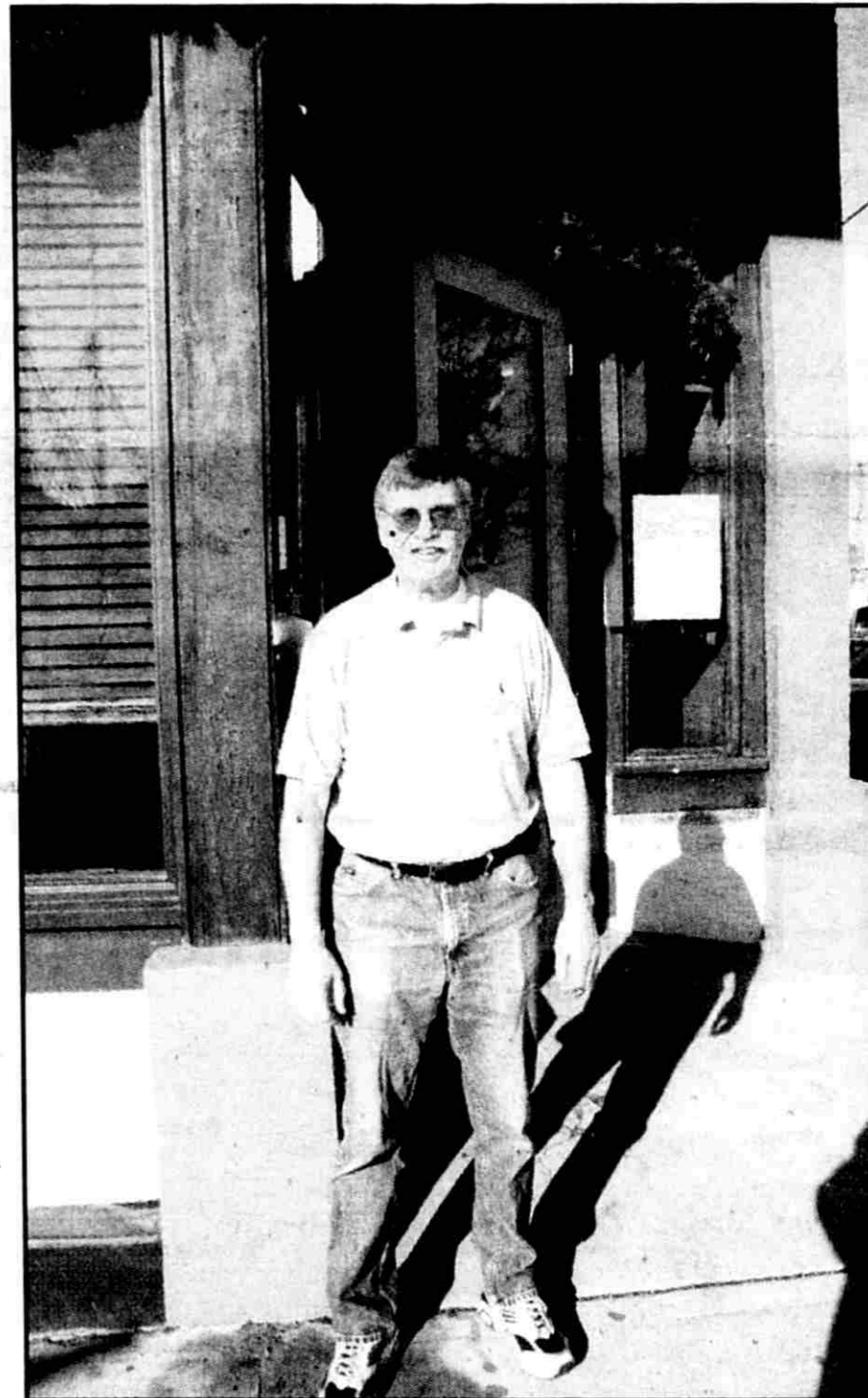
aged to attend a town hall meeting on Jan. 10 at 7 p.m. at the arts council to further discuss online services provided by the council.

“If you are interested in posting your classes and artist information on the website join us at the planning meeting on Thursday,” said council director Loraine Smalligan.

The Lowell Area Arts Council is located on 149 Hudson St. in downtown Lowell.



Sterling Massey of Voyages put on a benefit for F.R.O.M.



Mike Larkin says business can be unpredictable around the holidays.

Car hits Schneider Manor apartments

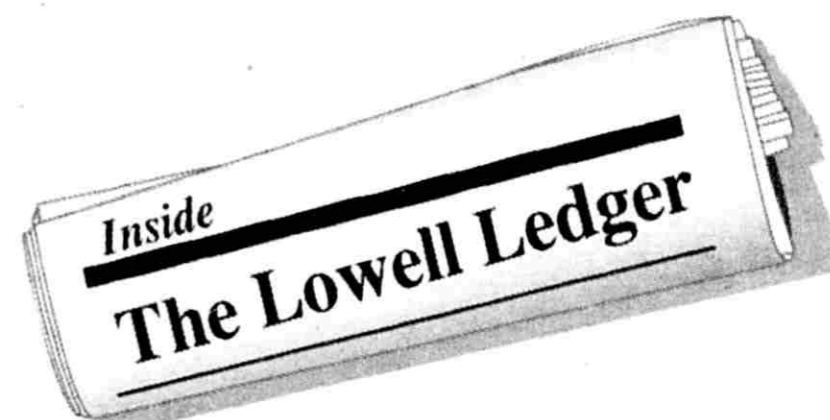
An unwanted Christmas present came to Schneider Manor resident John Gwatkin and his family, as a car almost crashed through the front of his apartment Tuesday afternoon.

The Mercury Sable, which was driven by an unidentified woman who is

the daughter of a resident in Schneider Manor, ran over two decorative reindeer and demolished a brick partition wall.

Police said she probably hit the accelerator instead of the brake, causing her to hit the wall.

No one was injured, and no arrests were made.



Quit Smoking Help

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Pastels On Exhibit

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Lowell Red Arrow Sports

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Obituaries

HEIMAN
Donald Richard Heiman aged 80 of Lowell passed away from accidental injuries Saturday, December 22, 2007. He is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Cora; his children, Michael (Shirley) Heiman of Lowell, Deborah (James) Hefner of Belding, and Alice Harris of White Cloud; brother, Calvin (Pat) Heiman of Jenison; sister, Yolanda Gonon of Grand Rapids; nine grandchildren, Michael, Jr., Maxwell, Clifford and Amanda Heiman, Gary (Karen) Stevenson, Heidi, James, Jr., David Hefner, and

death by his infant son David. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Rose; children, Dale (Susan) Mulder of Ada, Rhonda (Raymond) Brinks of Alto; sister, Elsie (Jack) Buys of Alto; brother-in-law Grover (Etta) Fase of Ada; sisters-in-law, Vera (Vernon) Bridgeman of Cascade, Diane (Tim) Pratt of Ada; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Lou worked 50 years at Ada Beef Company and was a veteran of the Korean War. Funeral services were held Monday, December 24 at Ada Community Reformed Church, Rev. Julie VanderVeen-Vantil officiating. Interment Cascade Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Ada Community Reformed Church or the charity of one's choice.



ROTH
Ilene Alta Roth aged 52 of Lowell passed away Thursday, December 20, 2007. She was preceded in death by her parents, Gerald and Carrie Endres; brother, Carl Endres; She is survived by her husband of 25 years, Robert; children, Jolene, Michael and Matthew Roth of Lowell; brothers, Lawrence (Mary) Endres

of Saranac, John (Jennifer) Endres of Freeport. Ilene loved working in her flower garden and loved her animals. She leaves behind a wonderful circle of friends and co-workers whom she enjoyed working with. Ilene was a member of the First Congregational Church of Lowell. Memorial service was held Monday, December 24 at the First Congregational Church, with Pastor Roger LaWarre officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Michigan or American Cancer Society.

TAYLOR
Christopher Lee Taylor, was born June 23, 1974 in Grand Rapids, Michigan to Rev. W. Lee Taylor & Beverly Jean Taylor. He was received into Jesus' arms December 18, 2007. He leaves behind wife, Amy Lee and the "apple of his eye" son, Benjamin Lee Taylor of Kentwood; his siblings and their families, Kimberly Taylor of Lowell, Heather & David Bennett and sons, Austin, Hudson & Jackson of Atlanta, GA, Deborah & Brian Moras and children, Nathan, Rachael and Lydia of Lake Odessa, and Pamela Taylor

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF LOWELL, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CITY OF LOWELL'S PROPOSED USE OF 2008-2009 KENT COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS

A public hearing will be conducted by the Lowell City Council on Monday, January 7, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. at the City Council Chambers, Lowell City Hall, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan 49331.

- Public comments will be received during the hearing, orally or in writing, regarding the City of Lowell's proposed use of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Funds for the following projects:
- N. Center Street from W. Main to Laurels of Kent sidewalk both sides - 2,135 l.f. \$36,829.23
 - Sibley Street from N. Center to N. West Street both sides 600 l.f. \$42,829.23
 - North Kent Transit assistance for senior citizens and the handicapped 6,000.00 \$42,829.23

The County of Kent has allocated approximately \$42,829.23 of its 2008-2009 federal entitlement Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to the City of Lowell. The primary objective of the federal CDBG Entitlement Program "Is the development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income". Activities using CDBG funds must meet one of the following National Objectives: benefiting low and moderate income persons; addressing slums or blight; or, meeting a particularly urgent community development need.

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

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**BOWNE
TOWNSHIP
NOTICE**

There will be a public accuracy test of the Optech tabulator on Wednesday, January 9, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at the Township office, 8240 Alden Nash SE, Alto, MI 49302 in preparation for the January 15th Presidential Primary.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk
Bowne Township Clerk

**CITY OF
LOWELL
PUBLIC NOTICE
SNOW REMOVAL**

Whenever any snow or ice has fallen or accumulated, it must be cleared within twenty-four (24) hours. Property owners/occupants are required to clear ice and snow from their sidewalk. If no sidewalk exists, the owner/occupant must clear a path if their property is adjacent to a sidewalk.

NOTICE TO SNOW PLOW OPERATORS

It is against the law to plow snow, ice or slush onto or across any roadway or highway.

Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

A man does not have to be an angel in order to be a saint.
- Albert Schweitzer (1875 - 1965)

**NOTICE
VERGENNES
TOWNSHIP
ACCURACY TEST
OF VOTING EQUIPMENT**

A public accuracy test of the voting equipment to be used in the January 15, 2008 election will be held on Friday, January 4, 2008, at 3:00 p.m. at the Vergennes Township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr., Lowell, MI 49331.

Mari C. Stone
Vergennes Township Clerk

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J-AD GRAPHICS INC. PUBLISHER
MOLLY BENNINGFIELD EDITOR
EMMA PALOVA LEAD REPORTER
TAMMY JANOWIAK CLASSIFIED/ACCOUNTING
JON JACOBS ADVERTISING SALES

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New Year, New Health Goals? Know Anyone Who Wants to Quit Smoking?

Freemoking cessation classes are coming back to Lowell. These group sessions meet for six weeks beginning Tuesday, Jan. 15 at 6 p.m. The classes are held at Lowell Family Medical Center, 2550 W. Main St. To register call (616) 975-0123 or go to www.tobaccofreepartners.org and click on classes.

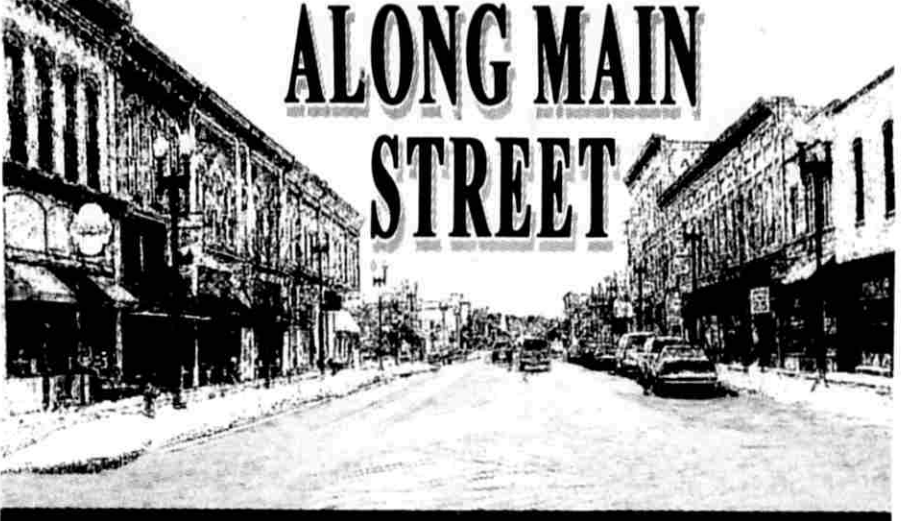
"I tell people, 'now is a great time to be a smoker. You have more resources, more options and more information than you've ever had. There's new medication, innovative online support programs and a free class right here in Lowell,'" said Jodie

Seese, the facilitator. Seese is a nationally-certified tobacco addiction specialist and has been involved in cessation programs for eight years. Quitting smoking is a common New Year's resolution. But Seese warns not to resolve to quit without any preparation or counseling. That can lead to a negative, unsuccessful experience. "Use the New Year as an opportunity to explore what resources are available. That way when you are ready, you know where to go - the pharmacy, your doctor or health plan, a cessation class. Research shows having a plan and setting a quit date is the most effective way to approach this challenge.

Cessation classes are effective for a wide range of smokers. Class topics include: Developing your personal Quit Plan, reviewing medications and nicotine replacement therapies, understanding withdrawal symptoms, coping with stress, managing weight control & fitness; and preventing relapses.

According to the CDC (Centers for Disease Control), participating in an educational program can increase your chances of quitting by 70 percent.

Seese explains, "It's important for people to understand that quitting is a process, a transition. It's a learning experience and it's highly individualized. Every smoker is a little different and what worked for your neighbor or a co-worker may not be right for you. The benefit of a class is that you determine your own Quit Plan based on your smoking patterns and previous quit attempts. You also have the support of everyone in that class, which participants cite as a tremendous value to the them.



CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

Bring Christmas trees between Christmas and Jan. 12 for recycling to WWC to prevent landfill deposition. Free will donation requested (suggested \$3-5 per tree). Volunteers needed to help with tree chipping. Place trees at west end of parking lot before 3 p.m. on Jan. 12. Contact Ranger Steve: smueller@lowellschools.com or 987-1002.

ATTENTION LHS ALUMNI

The Lowell Alumni Association will be publishing the Second Edition of the LHS Alumni Directory. It is scheduled for completion in July 2008. If you are an LHS Alumni, and your name was missing from the First Edition, please call Alumni Research customer service at 1-800-299-1230 (toll free) weekdays from 9:30 a.m. to 11 p.m., or Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Help make the directory as complete as possible by calling by Jan. 15. Information will only be available to other graduates and will not be sold or used for any other purpose.

BREAK THE "WINTER BREAK" BOREDOM

Glass House Designs will have open studio all day on Jan. 2, 3, 4, and 5, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Bring the kids, ages 5 and up, in to create great fused glass projects. No appointment or reservation is needed, just stop in and plan to spend 45 min. - 1 hr in the studio. Project prices start at just \$4. Call 987-4527 for details.

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES

Sign up at the Nazarene Church, 211 N. Washington St., Fri., Jan. 4, 6-8 p.m. or Sat., Jan. 5, 10 a.m. - 12 noon. Everyone welcome. Any questions call Esther 897-7395.

NEW EXHIBIT

Franciscan Life Process Center, 11650 Downes St., Lowell. Masks: art & illusion, artwork created by artists Roy Brown and Karen P. Cornwell. Jan. 6 - Mar. 2, 9 a.m. - 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information call 897-7842.

LAS ATHLETIC BOOSTERS

The Athletic Boosters will hold their regular business meeting in the high school staff lounge on Monday, Jan. 7 at 7 p.m. Please come and help support our athletes.

WINTER FAST PITCH

The Lowell High School softball coaches will be holding a pitching clinic for all girls interested in becoming a softball pitcher. The clinic will be held at Riverside Gym on Wednesdays, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30 and Feb. 6, 13, 20. Girls in grades 6 and under are asked to report at 5:30 p.m. Girls in 7-8 please report at 6:30. The cost of the clinic is \$30, which includes a t-shirt. Applications can be picked up at Lowell Middle School, Cherry Creek. Alto and Bushnell schools. Please call Bob Rodenhouse at 987-2967 or 245-4596 for more information.

2008 LACROSSE PLAYER/PARENT MEETINGS

The Lowell Lacrosse program will be holding parent/player meetings for anyone interested in playing lacrosse. Meeting dates and times are Jan. 10, High School level, Cherry Creek cafeteria. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Jan. 17, middle school level, middle school cafeteria. 6:30-7:30 p.m.

FREE SMOKING CESSATION CLASSES

Starting Tuesday, Jan. 15 at 6 p.m. at Lowell Family Medical Center, 2550 W. Main St. Call 616-975-0123 to register or to www.tobaccofreepartners.org.

CSI:LMS

On Tuesday, Jan. 15, from 6 - 8:30 p.m., put your deduction skills to the test as you sift through evidence to identify the LMS teacher who committed the CRIME. Middle School students and their families can use their math skills to play games that will unravel the clues. Win prizes! Pre-register before Jan. 10 987-2800 to get free pizza. Don't let your teacher get away with...

Michigan Volunteer River, Stream, and Creek Cleanup Grants Available for '08

The Department of Environmental Quality and the Great Lakes Commission are pleased to announce the release of the 2008 Grant Application

Package for Michigan's Volunteer River, Stream, and Creek Cleanup Program (VRSCCP). A total of \$25,000 is available under the program for Fiscal Year 2008 and is provided by the DEQ from fees collected from the sale of the State's Water Quality Protection license plates.

The Michigan VRSCCP provides small grants to local units of government to help implement the cleanup and improvement of Michigan's rivers, streams, and creeks. Local units of government may partner with nonprofit organizations or other volunteer groups to carry out the cleanups. There is a minimum local match requirement of 25 percent of the total project costs.

Lowell man dies while crossing street

Donald Heiman, 80, of Lowell, was killed the evening of Saturday, Dec. 22 in a crash along a stretch of East Fulton Street near Settlewood Drive.

Heiman was attempting to cross Fulton Street to his home after parking his vehicle at a relative's residence on the North side of the street.

The vehicle that hit Heiman was traveling Eastbound and was driven by a 16-year-old from Lowell.

Heiman died at the scene of the crash.

For questions regarding the application process, please contact John Hummer, GLC, at (734) 971-9135 or jhummer@gle.org; or John Wuycheck, DEQ, at (517) 335-4195 or wuycheckj@Michigan.gov.

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Wellness Workshop and Weight Loss Challenge!

Get Your 2008 Off to a Great Start!
Learn all about how to eat right, how to read labels, good fats vs bad fats and lots, lots more!

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12 Week Program for just \$29!
Weekly weigh-ins required and personalized coaching is available! Attendance for Wellness Workshop classes alone is only \$15!

Location: The Wisdom Wellness Center
10015 Cascade Road between Snow & Morse Lake
Classes start January 8 & 9! Class size is limited, meeting Tuesday's at noon or 7 pm or early Wednesday mornings.

Call Cheryl to PRE-REGISTER 868-7551

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NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS
(PG) 11:05, 1:50, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00

WALK HARD: THE DEWEY COX STORY (R)
12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45

CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR (R)
12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20

I AM LEGEND (PG-13)
11:10, 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:25

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG)
11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:25, 7:35, 9:40



Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold
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AVOID ESTATE PLANNING MISTAKES

If you've been investing for a while, you probably have learned to avoid key mistakes, such as making frequent trades based on short-term price fluctuations. But even if you invest wisely and are able to retire comfortably, you could still make some errors in your estate planning — and these miscues could prove costly and painful to your family.

How can you avoid making the wrong moves with your estate plans? Here are a few tips:

- Communicate with your family. To reduce the possibility of hurt feelings and damaged relationships within your family after you're gone, make sure that everyone knows what they can expect from the disposition of your estate plan. Tell your children how much money they can expect — and when. (If you decide to establish a trust, you can arrange for money to be disbursed over various periods of time, or when your children reach a given age.) Are you

going to leave a considerable amount of your assets to charities? Let your family know.

- Update your beneficiaries. Many of your financial assets — including your IRA, 401(k), annuities, life insurance contracts and some government bonds — allow you to designate a beneficiary. It's important to name both a primary beneficiary and a contingent beneficiary (an individual or trust who will receive the assets if the primary beneficiary dies before you). Beneficiary designations supersede whatever instructions may be in your will, so it's essential that you update your beneficiary designations whenever your family situation changes. It's not uncommon for assets to go to the "wrong beneficiaries" (e.g., spouses from earlier marriages) or to bypass children born after the initial beneficiary designation was made.

- Maintain adequate liquidity. It's not always easy to know the amount of "cash" (liquid investments) you should keep in your investment portfolio. But as you prepare your estate plans, keep in mind that it's usually a good idea to have at least enough cash available to help your family pay for any final expenses.

- Choose the right executor. When you choose an executor for your estate, you'll want someone who has the time to devote to the sometimes long and protracted estate administration process. You also want to make sure

that your executor will be fair, knowledgeable and free of conflicts of interest.

- Keep good records. Your executor and your family will need to know where your assets are located — your bank accounts, insurance policies, investments, retirement plans, etc. By maintaining an orderly record system throughout your life, you can make it much easier on everyone when it's time for your estate to be settled.

- Get professional help. You may require a variety of legal documents and arrangements — a will, various trusts, powers of attorney, health care directive, etc. — to complete your estate plans. Consequently, you will need to work with a competent legal professional, along with your financial and tax advisors. The right estate-planning team can help you avoid many of the mistakes that disrupt people's estate plans.

Here's one final suggestion: Don't wait too long to start your estate plans. They can take some time to develop, so the sooner you get them in the books, the better.

Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors are not estate planners and cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult with a competent tax or legal professional for your particular situation.

There's snow place like Michigan

Michigan in winter is a wonderland for skiers, snowmobilers and other winter sports enthusiasts who welcome the snow for the fun and excitement it brings.

If you're like these folks, hearing those magical words, "It's snowing" will send you scurrying to the closet, basement, attic and garage to drag your equipment and prepare for your first big outing.

In most years that first snowfall is just a tease, usually melting away because the earth is still too warm for it to last.

But not this year. Most northern areas received an abundance of snow, and much of it is still on the ground, which is great

news for the state's winter-recreation businesses and for all who flock to our state's northern winter playgrounds each weekend.

Michigan's early-in-the-season windfall of snow this year can be credited to the Great Lakes and the phenomenon known as lake-effect snow.

When cold Arctic air sweeps across the unfrozen lake waters, local, often heavy, snow squalls develop along the downward lake shores. Most of this heavy snowfall occurs not during the passage of large low-pressure systems but in the cold air behind the storm fronts. In the most severe lake-effect squalls, snow accumulations of more than 30 inches per day are

common with snowfall rates as great as 11 inches per hour.

Lake-generated snow squalls are the result of energy and moisture exchanges between cold air masses descending from the Arctic and the relatively warm water of a large lake such as the Great Lakes. These squalls are restricted to areas where cold air blows over a lake for an extended time. They are most pronounced and effective wherever terrain barriers are oriented along the lee shores that are sheltered from the wind.

The intensity of the snowfall depends upon three factors: the temperature contrast between the lake surface and the overpassing

air, the over-water distance the air has traveled and the regional weather situation.

Although lake-effect snowfalls usually come in the form of light to moderate flurries, one single intense local storm cell can yield as much as 48 inches of light density snow in 24 hours or less. These storms travel farther inland under higher wind speeds while the upper-air winds control their direction. As a result, an individual cell of heavy snow may remain in place for several hours then, with a shift in wind direction, move to drop its snow on another area.

Satellites and radar show that lake-effect snow clouds most often form in long, narrow bands over the lakes and are swept inland by the wind.

Small multiple bands develop when the wind blows across the shorter dimensions of the lake.

In contrast, the wind blowing the length of the lake may form a single large cloud band as much as 50 miles wide and 25 to 100 miles long. This intense

type of cloud band causes localized blizzards with swirling, blowing snow which can reduce visibility to zero.

Lake-effect snowfall contributes between 30 and 50 percent of seasonal snowfall on eastern and southern shores of the Great Lakes, more than 35 percent of the seasonal snowfall in the western lower Michigan snowbelts and more than 20 percent in the Upper Peninsula snowbelts. The greatest impact occurs in Michigan, where the snowbelts are nearly continuous along the lee shores of Lake Michigan and Lake Superior.

It's here in these northern areas, when the snowpack is deep enough, that our majestic forests become winter playgrounds, offering nearly 3.9 million acres for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing, and more than 6,100 miles of designated snowmobile trails that wind through absolutely spectacular scenery.

Plenty of winter fun also awaits at Michigan's four-season state parks. Even though your favorite campground may be closed for the season,

Michigan, cont'd., pg. 10

College News

Local student Stephanie Wagner has been named to the Albion College Dean's List for the fall 2007 semester.

Students named to the Dean's List must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or above at the completion of the semester. This GPA

must be based on at least three units in graded courses and a minimum of four units completed.

Wagner is a senior majoring in psychology. She is the daughter of Sidney Wagner of Lowell and a graduate of Lowell High School.

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Have you recently completed your degree in Human Resources and are looking to apply this knowledge in a professional setting? Perhaps you have been doing administrative work and would now like to gain experience in Human Resources. Local employment services provider is in need of a talented, positive, high energy professional to fill an entry-level position within our growing organization. Position requires greeting the general public, answering multiple incoming phone lines, interviewing candidates, offering work that is appropriate to applicants interests and skills, and doing various customer service, marketing, human resources, and administrative functions. Desire to work with the general population proficiency with MS Office Suite, and at least one year of prior clerical experience are preferred. Candidates, who feel they are qualified and are interested in jump starting their career, are encouraged to email their resume to Lowell.MI@na.manpower.com.



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Viewpoint

To The Editor

Dear Senator Levin,

Each week, we read your articles in the Lowell Ledger. First of all, before you preach about conservation you might consider the same approach to your syntax. Talk about waste.

Secondly, the issues of oil prices are always obfuscated from the real issue, which is why we aren't producing more power sources. We both know that the "tree huggers" have bamboozled most of the astute legislators, while Canada and all of Europe surpass us in creative energy production.

Be a true leader and campaign for effort that unleash our creative abilities and available natural resources. Remember the issues with the Alaskan Pipe Line? The Caribou are doing just fine...

Sincerely,
Charles V. Bernard

Dear Editor,

We're writing in regards to the applications for absentee ballots. Do folks know that if you do not declare Democrat or Republican, you don't get a ballot? First of all, we feel this is a violation of our privacy rights. Second, it violates our Constitutional rights. Third, it degrades our rights as a registered voter and taxpayer. This is the application we're talking about, not the ballot. What purpose does declaring the party serve? We get bombarded with political mail regardless.

I contacted our representative (Dave Hildenbrand) for our area, only to find the Supreme Court says it's all legal.

Not all states do this. I have friends in Wisconsin and Ohio - they don't have to declare what party they're going to vote for on their absentee ballot applications.

We thought the Constitution of the United States protected our voting rights. Just because we have to vote absentee ballot (one of us is having surgery), we're penalized!

We won't be voting. Our rights are surely being violated.

Larry and Rose Jerrils

Outdoors

By
Dave Stegehuis



WINTER IS HERE

After the New Year begins and before the grass turns green again, can seem like a long time, especially for those not involved in winter activities. A brief trip south of the border can shorten this period some, but a better solution is to take advantage of our winter wonderland in Michigan. This requires a winter of average snow cover and below freezing temperatures. So far, so good.

Sliding down a hillside on whatever is handy is a simple way to get out and have fun. If you feel you are

beyond the point of sliding down a slippery slope, then take on a supervisory position and go out with the kids or grandchildren. Keeping up with a couple of 10-year-olds is plenty of exercise.

Cross-country skiing is fun and easy to learn and will take one through postcard-like winter landscapes. Most ski areas and some municipal parks have skis as well as snowshoes for rent. Snowshoeing is becoming more popular. Snowshoes will get you off the beaten path and do not require a groomed trail, so all you need is snow. For the more athletically inclined, downhill skiing and snowboarding can provide an exhilarating day on the slopes. Ice skating is a choice for a wide range of ages whether gliding around the rink or playing an action-packed hockey game. For those who prefer a more mechanized mode of transportation, hundreds of miles of snowmobile trails provide access to vast stretches of Michigan backcountry.

Ice fishing is a way to get outdoors in the fresh air and, with some luck, could produce a great meal of fresh fish. Ice fishing can be an inexpensive and simple activity or as sophisticated as your interest and wallet will allow.

There are a few hunting seasons open during the winter. Rabbit hunting with or without dogs is a good opportunity to get out with friends, family, and especially youngsters. Raccoon and predator hunting for fox and coyote helps to maintain healthy game populations. Check the Hunting and Trapping Guide for season dates and other regulations.

Attracting birds and small animals to your backyard is a less strenuous but fun and educational activity. Providing food, water, and habitat help our wild friends through the lean winter months.

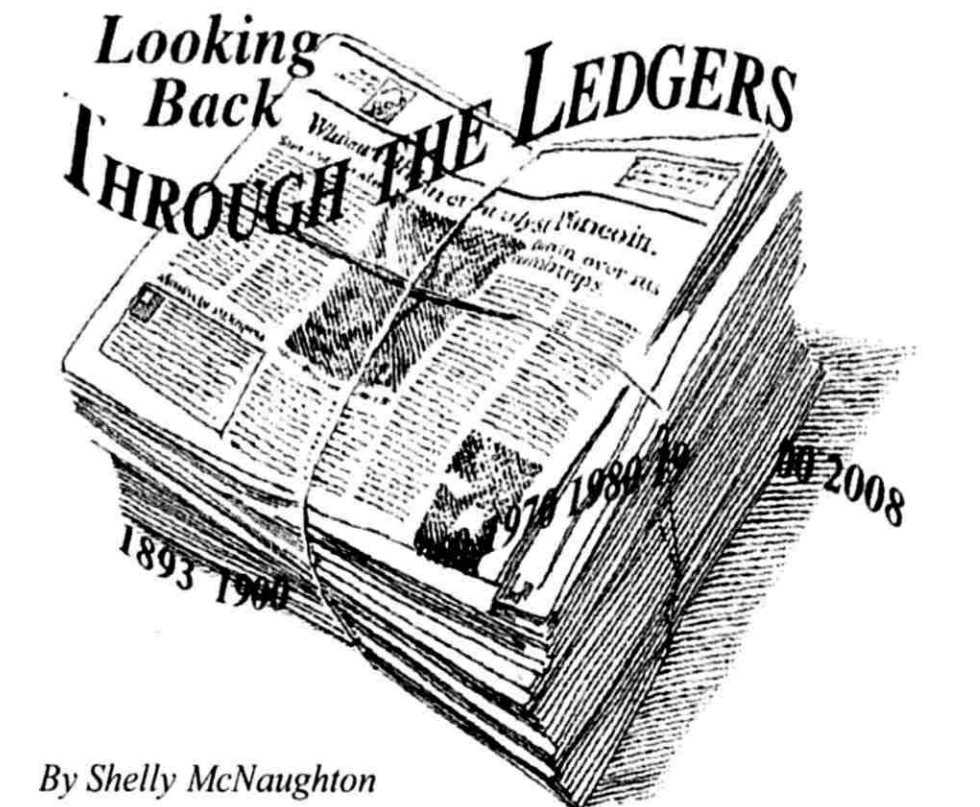
Four distinct seasons provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities not found in more even climates. We can complain and struggle with winter conditions or take advantage of the opportunities to enjoy the season. It is tempting to sit by the fireside and just look out the window, so it may take some resolve to get outside and participate. The choice is ours.

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By Shelly McNaughton

125 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL JOURNAL JANUARY 3, 1883

The ice packers have commenced work filling the ice-houses in this village.

A new shoe shop on the west side. C. F. Howk and George Bonner, proprietors.

The recent warm weather destroyed sleighing, but the roads are in fine condition for wheeling.

100 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER JANUARY 2, 1908

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Oglivie were presented with a nine-pound son on Christmas day.

The new Kent county atlas is being delivered to subscribers in this vicinity.

75 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AND ALTO SOLO JANUARY 5, 1933

Headline: "Keeping Lowell On the Map" This week's issue of the Ledger totals over 3,000 copies and is probably the largest edition of any newspaper ever to go out from Lowell.

Twice during the past few weeks the editor of the Ledger has met with a group of other publishers of country newspapers. One of the main objects of the meetings held was to lay plans and discuss ways and means of fighting the depression.

50 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER JANUARY 2, 1958

After seven basketball games, a look at the Arrow scoring statistics shows senior forward Tony Stormzand as the team's point leader.

Rapid progress has been made on the construction in the Lowell gymnasium. When the ceiling is finished, the lighting in the gym will be tripled.

Charles Hill has been appointed chairman for the March of Dimes campaign again this year for the Lowell area. The program is to help the ones who have polio to get well and to promote the use of the Salk vaccine which has been proven effective and safe.

25 YEARS AGO THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER JANUARY 5, 1983

The 1983 volleyball season is underway, with Julie Niemela coaching the Lowell High School Varsity volleyball team once again this year. Captains of the team this year are Kellie Baker and Doreen Rickert.

Reflections of faith

By George J. Fekete, Pastor
St. Mary Church

Blessed Giles, a friend of St. Francis once stated, "There is no greater grace given to a person under heaven than to live at peace with those amongst whom his life is set." That's a beautiful, wise and simple truth. Whether we live in a conventional family, a nursing home, a college dormitory or apartment, military quarters or a religious community, one of the great graces we can experience is to live peacefully with those who surround us. Regarding family life, who can be more trying than a husband or wife, mother or father, son or daughter? Who has seen us at our worst? Who continually makes demands on us to give up and let go of our time, our finances, our selfishness in running our daily lives? It is no wonder that we need a great grace from God to live peacefully in our families.

A week ago, we celebrated the birthday of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. He was born into and became part of a family. It was the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. We need the example of this Holy Family more than ever in our world in which there are so many fears and so much alienation and division.

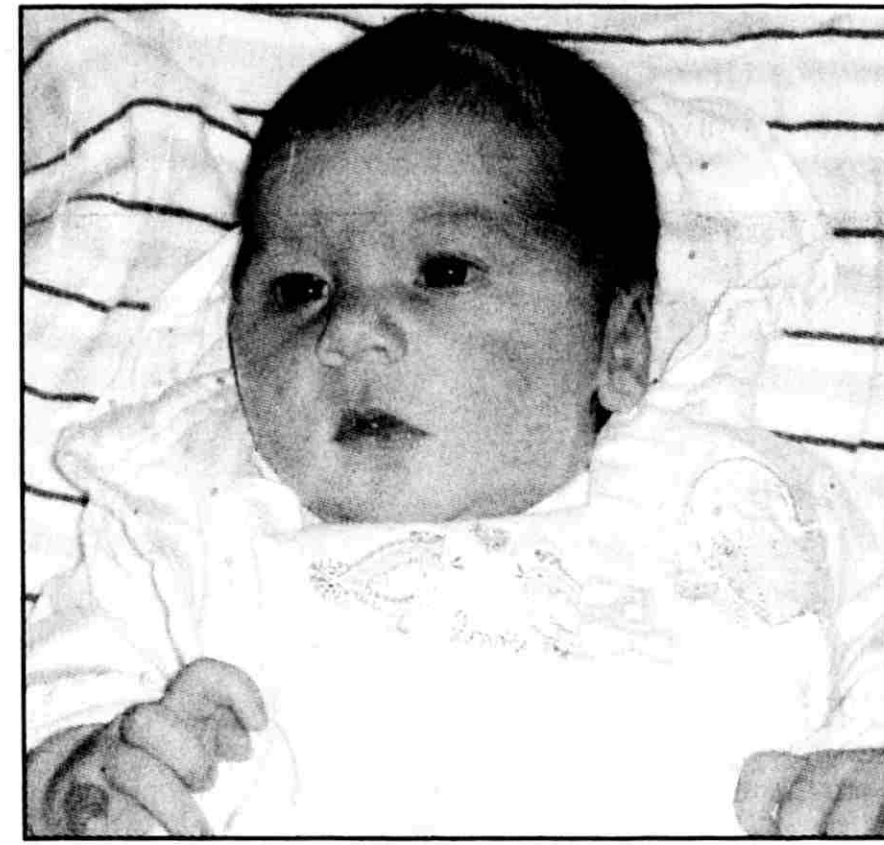
Someone once referred to the family as a "school of love." St. Paul in his letter to the Colossians (3:12-21) on the practice of the virtues, gives us a detailed outline of what we need to learn if we want to be good students in this most important school. We are to clothe ourselves in kindness, humility and patience.

I'll end the prayer: "Jesus, Mary and Joseph as we begin this New Year, ask the Father to give each of us the grace to live peacefully with every member of our family and strengthen our desire to make our family a 'school of love' in which each person is respected as a child of God."

P.S. If the need is present there is a beautiful Prayer for Healing the Family Tree. It can be found at: http://www.mercyhealing.com/Prayers_files/prayer-for-healing-the-family-tree.html

New Arrivals

Boruta



Ava Lynn Boruta

Joe and Becky Boruta are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Ava Lynn. She was born November 1, 2008, weighing 7 lbs. 11 oz. and measuring 20 1/2 inches.

Proud grandparents are Terry and Nancy Raymor and Mike and Mary Boruta. Great-grandparents are Roger and Norma Raymor and Jean Boruta.

Happy Birthday

JANUARY 2: Genie Southwick, Jody Ann Rose Nead, Helen Kuiper, Angie Sloan, Young.

JANUARY 3: Don Green, Mary Ellen Jon Vezino, Agnes Kent, Miller, Bob Kinsley, Bobbi Audrie Olszewski, Lloyd Jo Young, Terri Stuckey, Callihan, Jane Lally, Rick Norann DeLoof, Fyan.

JANUARY 4: Lois Seese, Helga Wester, Nicholas Knonenwetter, Bob Leyman, Karen Donna Johnson, Ruth Cummings, Troy Dilly, Wood.




JANUARY 5: Ryan Sauber, Craig Carpenter, Pauline LaDue.

Cherry Creek angels



The 4th grade classes of Mrs. Reynolds and Mr. Audia collected money to purchase gifts to be donated to the Angel Tree Program. Pictured (L-R): Lance Huber, Ashton Pallottini, Mrs. Pallottini, Elaine Reed, and Diana Mexicano.

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

 <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</p> <p>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</p> <p>Pastor Robert L. Hubbard Phone: (616) 897-1267 website www.aplighthouse.com</p>
<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</p> <p>621 E. Main Street • 897-5936</p> <p>Worship.....8:30 & 11:00 a.m. DR. MICHAEL T. CONKLIN, PASTOR Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	 <p>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God) 3050 Alden 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 AM Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETER HIGGINS 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 48. EWTN 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>Worship Service.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....9:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</p> <p>2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbclowell.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 Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA/CLUB JC.....Wed. 6:15 & 6:30 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free</p>	<p>SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Rev. Thurian 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 Lowell High School Performing Arts Center Greeting & Fellowship.....10:15 A.M. Sunday Morning Worship.....10:40 A.M. Wednesday Discipleship Ministries.....7:00 P.M.</p> <p>Meets at 201 N. Washington PASTOR MICHAEL RHODABARGER Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>

LHS grad attempts run from Ann Arbor to Lowell

by Molly Benningfield
Editor

According to Mapquest, it would take, on average, 1 hour and 48 minutes - roughly 116 miles - for a person to drive from Ann

Arbor, Mich. to Lowell. The journey would take travelers from the Southeast part of the state to just east of Grand Rapids. Scott Riddle, a former Lowell High School student and current University of Michigan

senior, decided that he would go the distance - as a runner. Riddle is no stranger to running for many miles, nor is he a person who would try to get home the conventional way. Two years ago, he said he tried running home from

Ann Arbor to "surprise [his] mom." It's this kind of insane drive that pushed Riddle to try it again on Dec. 1.

This time, Riddle was more prepared for his journey. He was attempting the trek again - which took

him through towns like Eaton Rapids, Charlotte, Lake Odessa and 15 other small towns. He calculated that the trip would take roughly 24 hours. In Ann Arbor, he started at 3 a.m., a time when most of his fellow students were either sleeping or studying for upcoming exams.

Armored in cold-weather running gear and stocked with a headlamp and belt packed with high-calorie food, he ran for 58 miles - a total of 16-and-a-half hours before collapsing from exhaustion. His parents were on hand to provide support, as well as hospital runs and extra batteries for his headlamp. Also supporting Riddle was a friend from U

M. Liz Hrivnak, who rode her bike next to him for the final eight hours. "I wouldn't have been able to do it [if she wasn't there]," he said. Riddle's goal for the running trip was to raise money for an organization called "Invisible Children", which helps to change the lives of thousands

of displaced children in Uganda. Many of the children affected by the war in the country are forced to hide under fear of being turned into soldiers. For more information on the project, visit www.invisiblechildren.com.

Riddle ran on a "per-mile pledge" basis, asking friends and family for support in each mile he ran. He said he raised \$2200 to send, and was "quite pleased" with the turnout.

Riddle prepared for the trip in much of the same ways that he has prepared for many of his other competitions. He was a cross country runner in high school, and was known for being an overly-obsessed competitor. He is now an Ironman, finishing one of the competitions in Madison, Wis. in 2006 in 11 hours, 9 minutes.

He said that the pressure of succeeding, coupled with the stress of working toward finals at school, was "really overwhelming, and consuming my life."



Scott Riddle is shown as he runs through Eaton Rapids, about 15 and a half hours into the run, with friend Liz Hrivnak, who biked with him for the last eight hours.

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This program is available through funds from the Kent County Senior Millage and is provided by Senior Neighbors.

For more information please contact Julie at 233-0283

When a man tells you that he got rich through hard work, ask him: 'Whose?'

- Don Marquis

CATHOLIC HOMECOMING

Catholic Homecoming is an outreach to Catholics, who for whatever reason, no longer practice their faith. The reason one may have for leaving the Church tends to not diminish the yearning to receive the Eucharist. That yearning is the result of the intimate contact with Jesus Christ that one experiences at Holy Communion. This intimate contact with Jesus is the "where the rubber meets the road," so to speak, of being Catholic. Unfortunately, many have encountered human obstacles to this contact with Jesus, obstacles that have damaged their relationship with Christ and His Church. If you are a Catholic who no longer practices the Faith, please consider this invitation to come home to Jesus, to join us again at the table of the Lord. We at Catholic Homecoming would like to be the ears that hear what happened to cause the rift between you and the Church, the heart that listens to your pain. Let our arms be the ones that welcome and embrace you, as the father embraced his prodigal son. Catholic Homecoming is a three week process that begins on Tuesday, January 15th at 7:00 p.m. at Saint Mary Church; 402 Amity; Lowell, MI. For more information please call the Office of Religious Education at 897-7915.

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Pastels only exhibit shows versatility

By Emma Palova

"Brilliant, sparkling and forgiving."

That is how artist Jim Markle described pastels as one of the most versatile medium in arts.

"I like the medium," he said. "It's spontaneous. The colors can be so brilliant, that when light hits the painting, it sparkles."

And the upcoming show "Pastels Only" at the Lowell Area Arts Council starting Jan. 6 demonstrates the incredible variety that only a pure pigment pastel stick can deliver.

From landscapes such as the Sleeping Bear Dunes to classical impressionistic gardens and still life with pears, pastels have the power without the brush.

"There is no brush between you and the surface," said Markle, "you don't have to wait for pastels to dry."

In a pastel setting, it is

only the artist, the idea, hard sand surface and the pastel stick. The artist can choose to leave the setting at any point and return at any time. No turpentine, no water, no brushes.

"If you like to draw, you will like pastels," said Markle.

The pastel technique, according to Markle who curated the show, is all about layering to get the right color.

"It's a layered process," said Markle, "you apply layers to create variations."

The only challenge is to learn how to apply pastel to the surface, and you do not have to push hard. But it takes years of practice, observation, and patience to master the pastel medium.

Pastel as a medium is becoming more popular, according to Markle, mainly because of its forgiving qualities.

"There is a great variety of artists and styles from

contemporary through classic in this show," said marketing director Steve Samson.

Contrary to popular belief, pastel is not a chalk but is the purest form of pigment without any diluting found in oil paints. Many oil painters work with pastels and vice versa.

Some of the old cave paintings were created with sticks of pigment. Famous artists Degas and Picasso both used pastels.

"We want to educate public about pastels and inspire other artists," said Markle.

Moreover, a pastel painting will not yellow with time.

"It's going to be a good show," he said, "to illustrate the broad spectrum of subjects and to encourage others to try it."

Markle is a master member of the Great Lakes Plain Air Painters Society of America, and a signature member of the Pastel Society



"Snow Fun" by Collin Fry.

of America (PSA). The majority of the exhibiting artists are members of PSA as well.

Over the last 10 years,

the membership in the Great Lakes society has grown from five people to 200.

"The following is just growing," said Markle.

The show will run through Feb. 2.

For more information on the exhibit contact info@lowellartscouncil.org



"Fleck and the Rose" by Brenda Mattson



"Three Pears Talking" by Mary Beth Koeze

eBay Store Rewards Loyal Customers

Drop Everything, an e-Bay drop-off store in downtown Ada, recently rewarded some of its top sellers of the year with gift cards just before Christmas. Among the recipients of the rewards were residents who sold a motor home for \$25,000, another who sold a dump truck and backhoe for over \$25,000 and a gentleman who sold his car in 7 days through Drop Everything for \$43,765.00. A Cooley Law School student was even a top seller this year.

Drop Everything is open throughout the week for people to drop off items for sale on eBay. Musical instruments, cameras, antiques, and some electronics continue to be good sellers. Among other successful sales, Drop Everything recently sold an old Chinese vase on eBay for over \$8,600.00.



\$43,765.00

The store is located at 416 Ada Drive, in the Thornapple Village. (616) 682-1122.
www.drop-everything.com.

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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



HELP PROMOTE LITERACY

The Kent County Literacy Council has scheduled information sessions on Monday, Jan. 14, and Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2008 for prospective volunteer tutors. These sessions will be held at 6:30 p.m. and last one hour. It allows those interested in becoming volunteer tutors to find out more about the Council and its literacy programs. At the end of the session, there will be an opportunity to sign up for tutor training.

The Kent County Literacy Council is a non-profit, United Way agency devoted to reducing illiteracy in our community. Based on 1990 census figures, at least 19,000 adults in Kent County cannot read at a functional level. At least 6,000 adults cannot speak or understand English well. By training people to be tutors, the Council can offer

one-on-one reading help to adults asking for assistance in reading or English as a Second Language (ESL). You do not need to speak another language to tutor ESL.

The information sessions will be held at the Yankee

Clipper Library located at 2025 Leonard St., NE, Grand Rapids and Grand Rapids Public Library located at 111 Library St., NE, Grand Rapids, 4th Floor, VanderVeen Center. Please Call 459-5151 to register.

Michigan, continued ... From Page 4

The rest of the park is open for cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, sledding, skating, ice fishing, snowmobiling and a host of other activities. For more information, visit the DNR Web site at www.michigan.gov/dnr and click on the Recreation and Camping link.

Then when winter's blast of freezing temperatures seals over Michigan's inland waters, almost overnight, hundreds of little communities spring

up on our lakes and bays, populated by rugged ice anglers who are treated to some of the best fishing available anywhere.

In order to encourage more women to become active outdoors, the DNR's "Becoming an Outdoors-Woman" program hosts a major winter event each year in the Upper and Lower Peninsulas. The winter programs have grown substantially in recent years. What began as ice fishing and winter bird-watching

classes has expanded to include popular programs on snowshoeing, dog-sledding, winter outdoor survival skills and even river rafting.

The next winter BOW programs are slated for Feb. 22-24 at the Bay Cliff Heath Camp at Big Bay northwest of Marquette and at the Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center at Higgins Lake Feb. 29-March 2. For more information, visit the BOW

page on the DNR Web site at www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Although lake-effect snowstorms in Michigan do have their downside, accounting for lost work and school days, increased expenditures for snow removal, and, on occasion, hazardous driving conditions, their upside is no matter how you choose to celebrate winter, when the white stuff is here to stay, there's plenty to do and see.

PAUSE, PONDER & PASS SOME TIME!

Happy New Year!

New Year's Day is the first day of the calendar year. People in almost every country celebrate this day as a holiday. The celebrations are both festive and serious. Many people make New Year's resolutions to break bad habits or to start good ones. Some think about how they have lived during the past year and look forward to the next 12 months.

Early customs. Many ancient peoples started the year at harvesttime. They performed rituals to do away with the past and purify themselves for the new year. For example, some people put out the fires they were using and started new ones.

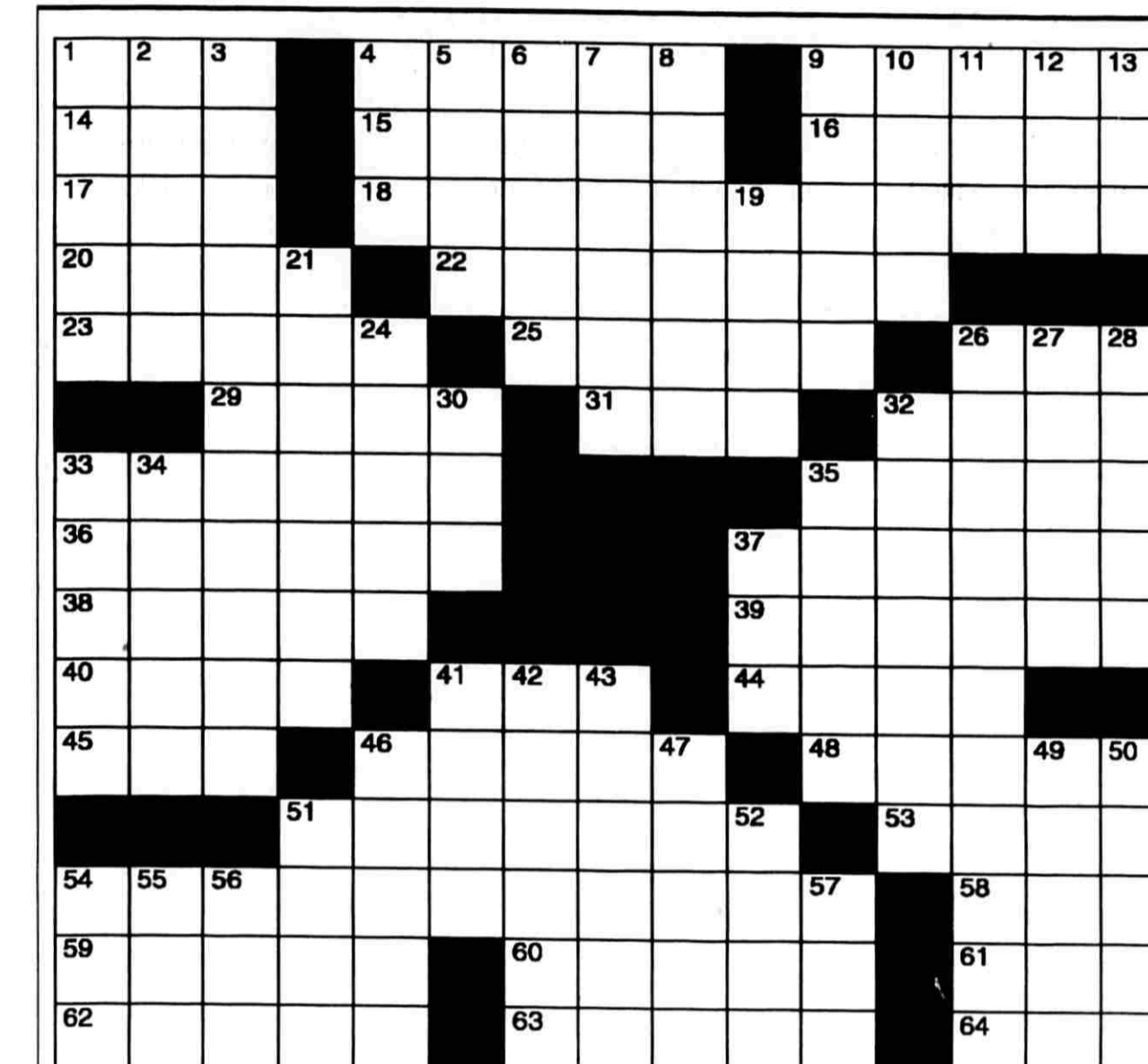
In early times, the ancient Romans gave each other New Year's gifts of branches from sacred trees. In later years, they gave gold-covered nuts or coins imprinted with pictures of Janus, the god of gates, doors, and beginnings. January was named after Janus, who had two faces--one looking forward and the other looking backward. The Romans also brought gifts to the emperor. The emperors eventually began to demand such gifts. But the Christian church outlawed this custom and certain other pagan New Year's practices in A.D. 567.

The ancient Persians gave New Year's gifts of eggs, which symbolized productivity. The Celtic priests of what is now England gave the people branches of mistletoe, which was considered sacred.

The Celts took over many New Year's customs from the Romans, who invaded the British Isles in A.D. 43. By the 1200's, English rulers had revived the Roman custom of asking their subjects for New Year's presents. Common presents included jewelry and gold. Queen Elizabeth I acquired a large collection of richly embroidered and jeweled gloves through this custom. English husbands gave their wives money on New Year's Day to buy pins and other articles. This custom disappeared in the 1800's. However, the term pin money still means small amounts of spending money.

Many American colonists in New England celebrated the new year by firing guns into the air and shouting. They also visited taverns and houses to ask for drinks. Other colonists attended church services. Some people held open house, welcoming all visitors and feeding them generously.

Another old custom involved using the Bible to predict what would happen in the new year. People chose a passage of the Bible at random. They then applied the passage to the coming months of the new year.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Scientiae Baccalaureus (abbr.)
4. Niches
9. Express gratitude
14. Equal opportunity employer (abbr.)
15. Makes tractors
16. Rajah's wife
17. Ribonucleic acid (abbr.)
18. Degree to which surgery is possible
20. Putting green grass
22. About space
23. Grooms in India
25. Lieu
26. Digital audiotape (abbr.)
29. NW Algerian port city
31. Promotions
32. ___ phim Falls: Neeson film
33. Scaly skin
35. Tramp about
36. An insane person
37. Heavy spar
38. Fall flower
39. Corrupt payments
40. ___ port, PA - 19533
41. Manuscripts (abbr.)
44. Arrive
45. Norse god of war
46. Capture or seize
48. Supports mine roof
51. Highest ranking officer
53. New England river
54. Brunch refreshments
58. ___ death do us part
59. Myrmica 1 ___ ant species
60. Lake in central Africa
61. Point midway between northeast and east
62. Skating moves
63. River in SE Russia
64. Lacking in brightness

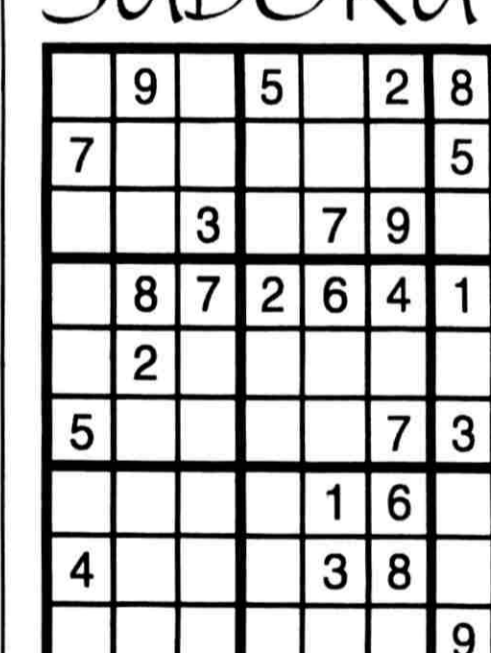
CLUES DOWN

1. Bosnian ethnic group
2. NY amusement island
3. Accountant
4. Bustle and fuss
5. ___ i Cola: popular drink
6. Oozes
7. Print errors (latin)
8. Put into position
9. III
10. Dormitory
11. Black tropical American cuckoo
12. Remaining after all deductions
13. Device to open a lock
19. Diagonal to the grain of fabric
21. Towelings
24. 2nd Islamic month
26. Ruminated with others
27. A sharp narrow mountain ridge
28. Records
30. Never sleeps
32. Prawns
33. Blue pigment containing glass
34. CIA Director 81 - 87
35. ___ patak: town in No. Hungary
37. London radio station
41. Numerous
42. Tree diagram of a literary work
43. Poor handwriting
46. Surrenders possession of
47. Moved quickly
49. ___ de pepe: small pasta
50. A. Ellstein's opera *The*
51. Destination
52. Constellation containing Vega
54. The cry made by sheep
55. Illumination unit
56. A metal-bearing mineral
57. Our closest star

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ANSWER:

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Red Arrow SPORTS

Lowell/Caledonia cruises in conference action

Sean Garner
special to the Ledger

The Lowell/Caledonia varsity hockey team is beginning to reap the rewards of its demanding early schedule.

Lowell/Caledonia began its OK-Conference Tier III schedule this weekend with two impressive victories coming by a combined score of 15-2. The squad kicked conference competition off last Friday beating Wayland

7-2. They then followed up that performance with an 8-0 trouncing of Northview the next Saturday which was stopped near the end of the second period due to a mercy rule.

Jordan Steger led the team in goals scored over the weekend with four, three coming against Wayland. Justin Story and Ken Hayes each added two goals and three assists over the same stretch.

Along with a win over Spring Lake on December

15, Lowell/Caledonia is now riding a three-game winning streak with an overall record of 4-5. Head Coach Mike Ballard says the 1-5 start is the result of a number of factors.

"It is a combination of having our full lineup back and the timing of the competition," Ballard said. "A lot of the teams we played early on are as tough as any teams we will face all year."

Lowell/Caledonia has benefited by the addition

of a few key players to the lineup who had missed action because of injury. Story missed each of the first six games, while Steger and fellow starter Drake Chittenden both had to sit games out.

One reason for the turnaround has been Lowell/Caledonia's improved play on defense. In their first six games, the Red Arrows yielded an average of 5.7 goals per game. During the three-game winning streak, they have allowed only two

goals a contest.

"What has impressed me the most has been our concentration on the defensive zone," Ballard said. "That provides a lot of hope really. I know we have the ability to score a lot of goals, but it is great to see the focus on the defensive end. The goaltending of Corey Phillips has improved indeed."

Lowell/Caledonia had to turn its attention toward a tournament Friday and Saturday at East Kentwood

High School, where Ballard said the competition will be similar in terms of talent to what they faced early in the season.

"It is going to be a very tough tournament," Ballard said. "It should be a good telltale sign of how much we have really learned and improved. We went into conference play and succeeded at a lower level of play, can we sustain that?"



Billy Watson (2) looks to Michael Przybysz (11) for a pass during the FHC game on Dec. 14.



Joel Morgan (9) chases after a FHC defender.

Red Arrow SPORTS

The Benning-Fielder

by Molly Benningfield
Sports editor



Patriots become perfect

Not many teams can claim that they are perfect. Perfect describes a near godlike status - the players celebrated like Zeus and Hercules, while fans stare at their television screens with jaws open.

On Saturday, the New England Patriots finished their regular season with a perfect record - 16-0. The Miami Dolphins are the only other team to have done so, in 1972 when the regular season was only 14 games long. If the Pats win the Super Bowl this year, they will be able to claim the rights to top dogs.

The brawl on Saturday was set up to be a big deal - originally, it was only supposed to air on the NFL network (you know, the one where less than half the nation could even view the game). Then, the NFL announced it would air the game both on CBS and NBC. It was a good thing for the TV companies that night - the game drew in 34.5 million viewers, and was the most watched since the Cowboys-Chiefs Thanksgiving face-off in 1995.

It was a huge game for the Patriots, who time after time prove that they really are the best team in the league. Tom Brady and his boys were down 28-16 in the third, but he rallied the team and took the lead, including an awe-inspiring 65-yard pass to Randy Moss with 11 minutes left in the game.

The NFL web site said of the Patriots, "perfect if somewhat joyless journey through the season". However boring their perfect season might've been, it was still interesting enough for 34.5 million fans to watch.

Lowell wrestling takes 2nd in home duals

The varsity wrestling team took second place Friday afternoon in their own Lowell Duals.

In the first round, Lowell defeated Lakeview 51-16, while Spring Lake defeated Grand Ledge 52-21.

Lowell came up just short of a win against Spring Lake, with the Lakers edging out the Arrows 31-30. Grand Ledge beat Lakeview 39-30.

In the third round, Lowell won big, posting a 55-19 score against

Grand Ledge. Spring Lake would win the tournament, with a 42-26 win against Lakeview.

The team will face off at New Lothrop this Saturday, and will wrestle at home on Wednesday, Jan. 9 against Forest Hills Central at 7 p.m.

Upcoming varsity home matches

- Boys' basketball** - Thursday, Jan. 3 at 7:30 p.m. vs. Forest Hills Central
- Boys' and girls' bowling** - Wednesday, Jan. 9 at 3:30 p.m. vs. Kenowa Hills
- Wrestling** - Wednesday, Jan. 9 at 7 p.m. vs. Forest Hills Central
- Girls' basketball** - Thursday, Jan. 10 at 7 p.m. vs. East Grand Rapids
- Ice Hockey** - Wednesday, Jan. 23 at 7 p.m. vs. Kenowa Hills
- Gymnastics** - Monday, Jan. 21 at 7 p.m.
- Competitive Cheer** - Saturday, Feb. 2 at 1 p.m.

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Lowell/Caledonia Hockey Weekend Round-up

The Arrows were defeated 2-9 Friday night by Auburn Hills Avondale in the first round of the Christmas Tourney at Kentwood Ice Arena. On Saturday, the Arrows defeated the Kalamazoo Eagles 6-5 in overtime to take third in the tournament.

L/C is sitting on top of the Tier-3 bracket, just ahead of Northview, who they'll face on Jan. 11. They'll also take on Tier-2 leaders Hudsonville Jan. 17.

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Red Arrow SPORTS

Red Arrow basketball garners tough loss in OT

The Red Arrows were narrowly defeated Friday night at Caledonia. Lowell lost 64-68 in overtime.

The Arrows held the lead for most of the game, but the Scots rallied to push the game into OT.

Tim Hettinga had another big game, putting 23 points on the board for

Lowell. Matt Kurtz scored 20, while Brett McMahon added 15.

Lowell will play Thursday night against Forest Hills Central at home, starting at 7:30 p.m. for the varsity.

At the beginning of the season, head coach Jeff McDonald said, "Forest

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Sincerely,
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The family of Gladys M. Shade would like to thank our many friends and family who called, visited, sent cards and provided food at the time of our sorrow. A special thank you to Dr. Mike Conklin and the Lowell United Methodist Women for the memorial service and luncheon.
Dale Shade & family

EVENTS

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\$14,997

2002 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500
 STK#275998 4X4, HEAVY DUTY, CREW CAB, 271 LEATHER
\$15,977

2005 MAZDA MAZDA 6
 STK#110422 LEATHER, BOSE SOUND SYSTEM, POWER SUNROOF
\$16,333

2002 AUDI A6
 STK#110362 POWER ROOF, 3.0 QUATTRO, AWESOME CAR
\$16,735

2003 FORD EXPEDITION
 STK#28105A EDDIE BAUER, POWER ROOF, RUNNING BOARDS
\$16,912

2007 MERCURY MILAN
 STK#276416 V-6, FWD, LUXURY, PREMIUM SOUND
\$17,493

2004 DODGE DURANGO LIMITED
 STK#110418 HEMI, REAR DVD, POWER ROOF, LEATHER
\$17,896

2005 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE
 STK#110223A LAREDO, V-8, ONLY 28000 MILES ON IT
\$17,967

2005 CHEVROLET EQUINOX
 STK#281544 LT, LEATHER SEATS, AWESOME RIDE
\$17,983

2006 FORD EXPLORER
 STK#110420 EDDIE BAUER, LEATHER, 3RD ROW SEATS
\$18,777

2005 GMC ENVOY DENALI XL
 STK#110416 NAVIGATION, REAR DVD, JUST PLAIN LOADED
\$21,930

HAROLD ZEIGLER

FORD LOWELL

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All new leases include FMC renewal cash (lease loyalty) and applicable rebates. All payments and prices plus tax, state fees & doc. '08 Edge priced at employee pricing. See a salesperson for details. All prices plus state fees & doc. Monthly payments require state fees & due at delivery, terms vary according to model.

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616-897-8431

Model	Miles Per Year	Security Deposit	Down Payment	Term	Total Due
FOCUS	10,500	\$0	\$699	36	\$1,226
FUSION	10,500	\$0	\$999	36	\$1,546
EDGE	10,500	\$0	\$2,000	24	\$2,537
SUPERCAB	10,500	\$0	\$2,699	24	\$3,486