The Lowell Leager

Volume 37 Issue 51

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

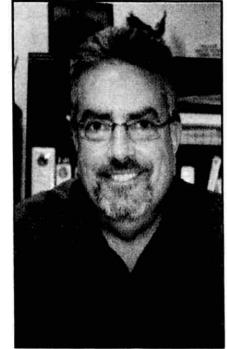
Lowell police chief accepts new position in Ionia County

by Emma Palova

owell police chief Jim Valentine. 55, has announced his retirement with the city of Lowell just shy of 26 years. He has accepted the position of director of Ionia County Central Dispatch.

"I have had a desire to pursue another career while applying my training, education and experience in another field," Valentine said.

He has been in law enforcement for 34 years, starting with the Lake Odessa Police Department.



Jim Valentine

In 1994, Valentine became the police chief in Lowell, after being hired as a patrol officer in 1983.

He was also named the first DARE officer in 1991.

"I've enjoyed everything both at departments," he said.

One of the biggest highlights of his career was his training with the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia in 2002 with other international students.

"It was a fabulous opportunity to attend something like that and to develop contacts," he said.

However, his first love is the Lowell community and his department staff.

"I've been blessed

with great co-workers and outstanding sworn personnel," he said.

Valentine has managed six full-time officers, two full time clerks and part time officers.

Crime-wise in a little town like Lowell not much happens. Valentine recalls two bank robberies, and against mainly crimes property.

"There weren't any heinous crimes in this wonderful community," he

Looking forward to his new job, Valentine wants to

serve the citizens of Ionia County much like he has the citizens of Lowell.

"I want to help and continue in the direction they are moving," he said.

City manager Dave Pasquale said Valentine will be missed.

"We respect his decision to seek other opportunities," he said. "It came as a surprise

Sgt. James Hinton has been appointed as acting police chief starting Jan. 1.

"We want to make sure the best person is appointed," said Pasquale.

Hinton said it was no surprise that a person of Valentine's quality would get a top job in tough economic times.

saddened. am he was my chief for 14 years," Hinton said. "It's a tremendous honor to be considered acting chief. I have huge shoes to fill."

Hinton said the department is well trained thanks to Valentine.

"He inspired innovation and helped keep stability in changing times," said Hinton.

Belding takes lead on rail to trail project

by Emma Palova

citizens group working toward the conversion of Ionia to Lowell, and Lowell to Greenville, rail to trail has made a huge leap last week.

The Department of Natural Resources has offered to acquire the Ionia to Lowell portion, while Belding will be the grant writer for a \$600,000 grant for the acquisition of Lowell to Greenville trail.

Both trails will be rail banked, pending decision of Mid Michigan Railroad, to ensure future use for trains if needed.

"It's a great project," said coordinator Carolyn Kane. "It's been my pleasure."

Belding city manager Randy DeBruine said Belding will be a conduit for the Lowell to Greenville portion.

A review of the grant application is expected by March.

The total project cost is \$2.6 million with monies to be used from Ionia and Greenville, and Lowell community foundations.

Ionia city manager Jason Eppler discussed inter local agreement as part of a mechanism to manage the trail.

"Our goal is a single point of contact, but we may not need an inter local agreement," he said.

The biggest concern for the involved parties remains the maintenance of the trails, including the trussels.

Firm Williams & Works has been hired to conduct the survey on Lowell to Greenville portion.



Shoppers enjoy 17th annual Christmas Through Lowell

17th annual Christmas through Lowell was a big success as people flocked to crafters and businesses. The Hanger, with owner Kristina Laux, and Jay-Tees wrought iron works, owned by John and Theresa Umlauf, were big hits on the tour.

There was a steady flow of customers at The Hanger last weekend.





John and Theresa Umlauf of Jay-Tee Products on the

DRAFT SYNOPSIS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOWELL CITY COUNCIL **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2008**

Motion to excuse the absence of Mayor Shores was presented and approved.

Motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Minutes of the November 3, 2008 meeting was approved as corrected and the accounts payables were approved.

Motion to approve the request from Ignite (Impact) Church to utilize Richards Park to host a post parade Christmas Festival on Saturday, December 6, 2008 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Yea: 3 (Altoft, Ellison, Hodges) Nay: 1 (Pfaller) Absent: 1 (Shores)

Motion to adopt the resolution to extend the Assessor Employment Agreement with Jim Marfia for a period of two years covering 2009 and 2010.

Motion to adopt the resolution for the installment purchase agreement to finance the cost of the dump truck from Firstbank -West Michigan of Lowell at 4.75% interest annually for five years.

Motion to set a public hearing for Monday, December 1, 2008 to consider an Ordinance amendment to Article II, Uniform Traffic Code, and Chapter 21, Traffic and Motor Vehicles, of the Code of Ordinances.

Motion to approve the Parks Use Policy as submitted by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Motion to set a public hearing for Monday, January 5, 2009 to consider adoption of the Recreation Plan

Letters of interest will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 26, 2008 for the three (3) City residents' positions on the newly formed LCTV Endowment Board. Letters should be sent to the City Clerk, 301 East Main Street, Lowell or emailed to bmorlock@ci.lowell.mi.us

Chief of Police Jim Valentine submitted his notice of intent to retire at the end of this year to City Manager David Pasquale. Valentine has been with the Lowell Police Department just short of 26 years. He wishes to move on to another career outside of actual law enforcement. He has accepted a position as the Director of Ionia County Central Dispatch.

Ellison Councilmember has been appointment by the Council to serve as the Council Representative of the LCTV Endowment Board.

Motion to adjourn at 8:29 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, December 1, 2008.

Complete minutes will be available after approved on December 1, 2008 on the City's web page at www.ci.lowell.mi.us or City Hall.



Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

How knowledgeable are you about your Social Security benefits?

A. About \$507

B. About \$1079

C. About \$1201

D. About \$2024

higher?

your full retirement age.

are expected to reach

retirement age over the

How did you do?

The answer key is below.

Remember this: you don't

have to answer all the

6. How many baby boomers

next 20 years?

A. About 20 million

B. About 50 million

C. About 80 million

Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

C. Your highest 35 years of Social Security is a vital program that touches the earnings lives of almost everyone in

Test your knowledge by answering the following questions.

the country.

- 1. If you are an average wage earner, how much of your pre-retirement earnings will Social Security replace?
- A. About 20 percent
- B. About 40 percent
- C. About 70 percent 2. In 1940, a 65 year old male could expect to live another 12 years, but
- today it is: A. 10 years
- B. 12 years
- C. 16 years D. 25 years
- 3. How many years of basic Social Security retirement benefit be based on?

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CITY OF LOWELL **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Lowell City Planning Commission-Citizen Advisory Committee will conduct a public hearing on Monday, November 24, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowell City Hall Council Chambers, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

To consider a Special Use Permit request from Impact Church, who wishes to establish a church-community center called Ignite at Larkin Other Place (315 West Main). This property is zoned C-2 Central Business District under Section 11.03 Special land uses Item D., theaters, concert halls, or similar places of public assembly, as determined by the zoning enforcement officer are considered subject to Planning Commission review and approval. Thus, a Special User Permit is required.



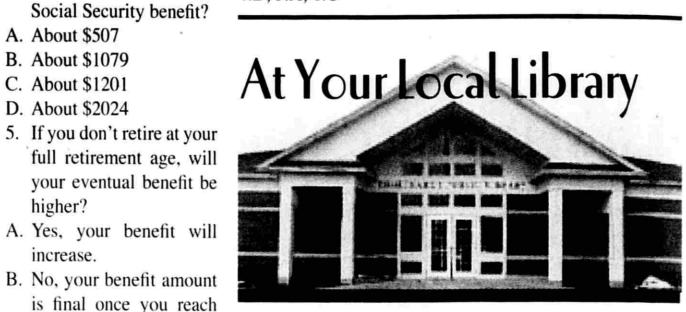
Interested persons may submit written comments or appear in person at City Hall, 301 East Main Lowell, Street,

> Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

A. Your last 10 years of questions right to be a winner. Just go to www. B. Your highest 3 years of socialsecurity.gov where the prize is an informative and

easy-to-use web site. KEY: 1.B; 2.C; 3.C; 4. How much is the average 4.B; 5.A; 6.C

affairs specialist for West Michigan. You can write her clo Social Security Administration, 50 College SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 or via email at vonda.vantil@ssa.gov.



GET CRAFTY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The Kent District Library will offer hands-on holiday craft programs for the whole family this winter.

The Alto branch will be hosting a Make It - Wrap It - Take It Holiday Gift Workshop on Saturday, Dec. 13, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Craft a gift and custom wrap it. For kids ages 5-15. Registration is required.

The Englehardt branch will be hosting a Holiday Gift Workshop on Tuesday, Dec. 16, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Handcraft holiday gifts and wrap them too. For kids ages 5-15. Registration is required.

For more information or to register, contact or visit your local KDL branch or visit us online at www.kdl.

Piles of gold are not as good as stores of grain.

— Chinese proverb



The Lowell Ledger

(USPS 453-830)

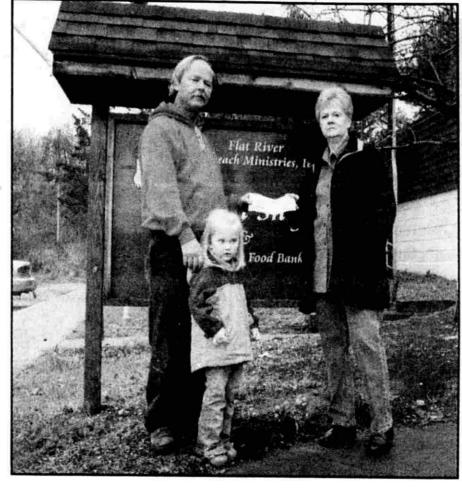
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by Jon Gambee

Tournament benefits food pantry

proceeds from the first participated. Next year, annual corn hole tournament Clark is hoping to get 64 held at the Foreman teams. The tournament Building went to Flat River started as a neighborhood Outreach Ministries. Dave block party. "We wanted Clark handed a check to support a local charity in in the amount of \$520 Lowell," said Clark. First to Marge Rehl, pantry place went to a team from volunteer, last Friday. Also Lowell, second to Lansing pictured is Olivia Morgan. and third to Grattan. The tournament was just

Lowell man injured in boating accident

Both Earhart and Raimer in approximately five to six

hospitalized after a 1990 the time, and it is believed and Raimer were transported Friday," Felkers said, "and

flipped over on Gun Lake them from more serious Grand Rapids with non-life- at that time but was waiting

thrown into the water after Hastings Post said the result the steering mechanism and Premier Motor Sports and

the boat veered suddenly, of the investigation indicated that caused the boat to veer Matteson Marina, assisted

Deadline approaching for Lowell Community Fund requests

From 1955-2008, the Harold Englehardt funding

has dispersed over \$265,000 Community Fund) which is

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Nov. 6. Tom Earhart, 66, a injuries. A malfunction to threatening injuries.

turned sideways in the water the boat veered suddenly to suddenly and flip."

into the community.

were injured when they were of the Michigan State Police thought a gear had broken in

The deadline to request Lowell Community Fund program (Lowell Area

"It is important to note

resident of Gun Lake, and the steering gear may have

and flipped completely the right and flipped over

his passenger, 25-year-old caused the mishap.

approaching for Lowell requesting funds.

Mike Raimer of Lowell,

funds from the Lowell

Community Fund is Friday,

and approval, all requests

must be for funds that will

aid local organizations in

providing help to persons in

the Lowell area. The Heart

of West Michigan United

Way has set the December

date aside for those qualified

to receive funding for 2009-

a three-year funding cycle,

which means groups

interested in receiving funds

will submit a formal funding

available at Dr. James

Reagan's office, 207 W.

Main St., or at Huntington

Bank, 414 E. Main St.

The formal request forms

include a demographic data

sheet on clients served, how

funds from the previous year

were spent, and the annual

THANKSGIVING

DEADLINE

Deadline for

the Dec. 3

edition of the

Ledger is

10 a.m. Mon.

Dec. 1st

Ads requiring a proof

should be here Wed.,

Nov. 26, by 5 pm.

The Lowell Ledger

Sarty

897-9261

Request forms are

request every three years.

It has now implemented

2012.

To receive consideration

Dec. 5 at noon.

were were wearing life jackets at feet of water. Both Earhart talked to Mr. Earhart on

Earhart," Trooper Felkers

speedboat the flotation devices saved to Spectrum Hospital in he was still in the hospital

Trooper Ernie Felkers said, "and he stated he Mr. Raimer."

quickly budget for the organizations that this funding program is Rapids Foundation," said

handled through the Grand

percent of shy of its goal, 52 teams

"One of our troopers

to be released. I do not have

condition of his passenger.

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N/WED/TH 4 15 6 45, 9:15

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MON/WED/TH 4:25, 7:15, 10:00

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Employees

on the scene.

"We talked with Mr. any information on the

entirely separate from the Dr. Bob Reagan, secretary/

ALONG MAIN

FOOD DRIVE

Firstbank of Lowell's community food drive has been extended through Nov. 21. A deposit of nonperishable food or a cash donation can be made at the local office, 2601 W. Main. Donations will go toward helping families in the Lowell community.

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES

Angel Food Distribution at First Baptist Church, Sat., Nov. 22. IMPORTANT REMINDER: new distribution time, 8-10 a.m.

CELLO RECITAL

Wendy Tenney, Lowell Schools orchestra director, will be performing a benefit concert Sat., Nov. 22 at 7 p.m. at the Lowell Performing Arts Center. A freewill offering will be taken at the door to benefit the Lowell Music Boosters and Dr. Debra Walker, missionary in Nakuru, Kenya.

LAS ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB

The athletic boosters will hold their regular business meeting in the high school staff lounge on Mon., Dec. 1 at 7 p.m. Please come and help support our athletes.

MUSEUM DINNER

The Lowell Area Historical Museum would like to start your Christmas holidays with an elegant dinner in our dining room, Dec. 2, 3 & 4. The evening starts with hors d'oeuvres at 6:30 and dinner at 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$50 per person. For more information call the museum at 897-7688.

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES

Sign up at the Nazarene Church, 201 N Washington St., Fri., Dec. 5, 6-8 p.m. or Sat., Dec. 6, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Regular box is \$30. Senior boxes also now available. Everyone welcome. Any questions call Esther at 897-7395.

CHRISTMAS TEA

The Lowell Area Historical Museum will be hosting "A Cup of Christmas Tea" in our decorated dining room and parlor prior to the Christmas parade, Sat., Dec. 6, from 4-6 p.m. Donations are accepted to partake in tea and light refreshments. Call the museum for more information at 897-7688.

ROGUE RIVER ARTISANS

26th annual fine art and craft sale, Sat., Dec. 6, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at 11700 Vergennes Road. \$1 admission benefits Lowell High School special activities.

YOU'RE INVITED!

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE at Jenett Patrick's Home

Jan-Apr Hours: M-F 9A-7P.

Sa 10A - 3P

May-Dec Hours: M-F 10A-6P

5982 David Hwy., Saranac 1 mile east of 4-way stop at fire barn, Mill St., becomes David Hwy.

Wednesday, Nov. 19 • 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20 • 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.

★ CLOSE OUT SALE ★ **EVERYTHING 1/2 PRICE**

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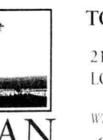
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CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN LOWELL

Pauly's upgrades with more cooler space

Stacey Faba is better known as the beer goddess. Start talking to the beer connoisseur about craft beers, and you'll be talking for hours.

"To me beer is like recently Pauly's has added cooler space."

meat loaf five times a 725 different beers.

So, she experiments in West Michigan," said part the coolers. with different beers and time help Ben Olds. "We has space to do so. Since have 1,269 square feet of

food, why would I want to more coolers to house up to

And the numbers add up like 32 cooler doors and 425 "There's nothing like it linear feet of racks within

makes the store tick is the knowledge of the owners,

> So what, if you're a diehard Budweiser drinker. No problem, start with something like Bell's.

they sometimes cross lines

and give advice to curious

wine or beer.

customers wishing to try

"There's more flavor profiles with more character," Stacey said. "Why would you want to drink the same bottles? beer every day? They each have their own place.

So, expand your senses, challenge your taste buds and gear toward more variety. "You need to excite your

palate and give it something different," she said. So, Stacey recommends

trying Founder's brews. The store carries many single alive. bottles to experiment.

A great alternative to got us this far has been Bud Light can be German great," she said.

Stacey is also an expert at the Siebel Institute of in food and beer pairings. If Technology in Chicago.

you're eating asparagus, you should pair it with Pilsners. though they keep their departments strictly separate,

"It's much like wine. there are so many different flavor profiles and different possibilities," she said.

And if you don't like something new, whether one beer, like the hoppy IPA, so what, try a different one, Stacey advises.

> "Don't give up on one style," she said. "There's just too much not to explore."

How about beer in green bottles as opposed to brown

Well, Stacey calls beer in green bottles light struck with distinct skunky flavor. But for that particular reason, some consumers may like it.

"One is light struck, the other isn't," she said. "It's just what you're used to."

The Fabas are devoted to keeping local business

"The community that

Stacey has taken courses

DEER CAMP

This week from Ontonagon to Tecumseh, three quarters swamps in pursuit of the elusive whitetail deer. Many of the the solid feel of polished walnut and cold-blued steel of my hunters will be gathered with friends and family at a place first deer rifle, the sight of a ghostly gray form suddenly called deer camp.

a remote wooded location accessible by an abandoned two-first deer in my lap as I gave thanks for the gift of such track logging road that inside smells of wood smoke, bacon fat, and wet socks. Traditionalists, however, find shelter in the deep north woods with a wall tent heated by a sheetmetal sheepherder's stove. Because of lifestyle, modern transportation, and the proliferation of deer throughout the Upper and Lower Peninsulas, deer camp can also be a travel deer season 2008 evolves and is etched into the memory of trailer, farmhouse, or suburban ranch.

old friends make it a priority to get together. It is a time back at camp.

Progress For Our

With Senator Carl Levin

Even when our nation has been divided politically, we

have consistently come together behind the brave men and

women who serve in our nation's armed forces. They offer

their lives to defend this country, and for that we are all gra-

hington Post and hearings in Congress uncovered major

shortfalls in our efforts to care for our troops who have been

state of the art inpatient care, we learned that there was an

inadequate system to ensure they consistently receive high

quality care when they were outpatients. Instead, injured

Affairs Committees held a rare joint hearing to address the

passed with overwhelming bipartisan support in both the

House and the Senate as part of the National Defense Au-

thorization Act for fiscal year 2008. In January, the Presi-

overwhelmed and all too often without adequate care.

bureaucracies that left them and their families confused, ved.

problem. We then wrote the Wounded Warrior Act, which cation.

But a year and a half ago, an investigation by The Was-

Although these wounded warriors received superb, falls through the cracks.

Nation's Veterans

when sons and daughters share experiences with parents which will be remembered and recounted over a lifetime.

Viewpoint-

Back in November 1957, I can't tell you what I was doing in school or what television programs were popular (did we have T.V. then?), or what the news headlines may have been, but the memories of the time I spent in a log cabin on the Little Manistee River are as fresh as yesterday: using a hunting knife to cut chunks of summer sausage off a link hanging from the mantel of the fieldstone fireplace, opening of a million hunters are scattered about in fields, woods, and day and the nip of a cold November wind stinging my face, materializing out of the falling snow and a jack-pine cover, The typical deer camp is a small rustic cabin nestled in the smell of burned gunpowder, and holding the head of my a beautiful creature. My brother also took a deer that day and we hung them both from a pole by the cabin and went inside with our dad to tell and retell the day's adventure by a crackling pine-knot fire.

the participants. No matter where the deer camp or who has The spirit of any deer camp reflects the excitement, assembled there, the familiar story repeats itself as it has for insufficient to sustain the charge, Snyder was acquitted. anticipation, and companionship that exists when those who over 100 years in the woods and fields of Michigan. Even for firearm deer season. It may be the only time all year when diminishes or gets old. Hunt well, hunt safe, and see you suspended for the winter.

The Act requires the Defense Department to use the VA

disability rating standards and to adopt the more favorable

VA standards for determining if a medical condition is ser-

members who are wounded in combat zones or combat re-

lated activities, and eliminated some counterproductive re-

quirements that severance pay be deducted from VA disabi-

\$50 million for improved diagnosis, treatment and rehabi-

litation of service members suffering from Traumatic Brain

and Veterans' Affairs to develop comprehensive policies to

ensure a seamless transition to VA care for wounded warri-

Warrior Act provided, there continue to be shortfalls in im-

plementation. For instance, the increased staffing at the VA

cial support to post-9/11 veterans to pursue a college edu-

Additionally, we required the secretaries of Defense

Despite the significant step forward that the Wounded

Beyond the Wounded Warrior Act, this year Congress

As we commemorate all who served our nation in uni-

Levin, cont'd., pg. 16

form on Veterans Day, we will remain focused on doing

Injuries and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

unfair ratings.

125 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL JOURNAL **NOVEMBER 21, 1883**

Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Housman came to The drama will be played out over and over again as Lowell Friday to attend the trial of Fred Snyder, who was charged with keeping his saloon open on Sunday. The trial was by jury, before Justice Hunter. The evidence being

The Washington monument has reached a height of truly love to hunt or just be a part of it, gather in November in a very complex world, the magic of deer camp never 400 feet, and after 10 feet more are added, work will be

100 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER NOVEMBER 19, 1908

Another big and enthusiastic meeting at the Grandvice connected. This should prevent our wounded warriors Saginaw Valley Waterway association was held at Saginaw from being subjected to a complex maze of different and last week and there were some developments of special interest to Lowell people. Talk of gold in and along Grand We also increased minimum severance pay for services River in the Lowell section reminds old residents of the time when a little gold mining was done on the Carr farm and of a time more recent when W. B. Huston, now deceased. claimed that there was gold in the little creek that runs across lity compensation for combat injuries. We also authorized the flats owned by him.

75 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AND ALTO SOLO **NOVEMBER 23, 1933**

Cheering news for Lowell!

ors, so that no service member gets stuck in the system or Gray skies will change to a rosy hue here next week when turning of the earth will start for the construction of a sewage disposal plant that will give steady employment to forty or more men for the next three months.

50 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER **NOVEMBER 20, 1958**

Little Gail Kloosterman spent the weekend with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Nick Kloosterman, while her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Berwyn Kloosterman were deer hunting. Mr. and Mrs. Donald Weeks accompanied the Berwyn Kloostermans on the hunting trip.

25 YEARS AGO THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER **NOVEMBER 23, 1983**

Amway Corporation said lingering effects of the recession and the strong US Dollar slowed its sales during fiscal 1983. The international direct selling firm's worldwide corporate revenues for the year ended August 31 and were \$1.13 billion, down from 1982 record of \$1.2 billion.

As a result, Amway said it will lay off 230 of the 7,000 workers it employs worldwide.

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Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold EdwardJones Serving Individuals Investors Since 1871

WANT TO RETIRE EARLY? ADJUST YOUR

Do you want to retire early? Many people do — but

To afford early retirement, you've got to address at least

more years of retirement to pay for than people who retire over time, can seriously erode your purchasing power. So later. And second, by retiring early, you're sacrificing the a few years before you retire, you may want to review your opportunity to contribute to your 401(k) or other employer- portfolio to make sure you have the proper balance between sponsored retirement plan; also, you need earned income to "growth" and "income" investments. contribute to an IRA.

each year — and a greater percentage of the investments in these accounts may need to be in growth-oriented vehicles, such as stocks.

accounts entirely with stocks, given their higher risk and or do some consulting, you can once again contribute to an help diversify your holdings. (Keep in mind though, that

> diversification cannot guarantee a profit or protect since your retirement could investments to keep you now. ahead of inflation, which,

To afford early retirement, you may also decide to take How can you overcome these potential barriers to a Social Security earlier than at your full retirement age. Your successful early retirement? For starters, you'll need to put monthly payments will be lower than if you had waited, so as much as you can possibly afford into your 401(k) and IRA before you retire, make sure these smaller checks can still provide for some of your needs.

And speaking of checks, there's no reason that early retirement means you'll never earn another paycheck. If Of course, it's not a good idea to fill your retirement you decide to open a small business, take a part-time job volatility. You'll also want to add some bonds, certificates IRA or even open your own retirement plan, such as a SEPof deposit (CDs) and other fixed-income investments to IRA or SIMPLE IRA. Obviously, the additional income and the ability to contribute to a retirement plan can make early retirement more affordable.

One final note: If you're contemplating early retirement, against loss.) Furthermore, you may want to consult with a professional financial advisor if you're going to retire well before you make your move to make sure you've saved early, you may well need enough. A financial advisor can also help you decide upon a these fixed-income vehicles reasonable annual rate of withdrawal from your investments. to provide you with a more You don't want to take out so much that you risk running predictable income stream. short in later years, nor do you want to withdraw so little Remember, however, that that you struggle to make ends meet.

Early retirement can be both a challenge and a joy. last 30 years or more, you'll To reduce the challenge and increase the possibility of joy still need growth-oriented though, you'll need to start planning soon - as in right

INVESTMENT STRATEGY

they're not always financially prepared. If you're thinking of taking early retirement, start preparing for it - as early as you can.

two key financial concerns. First, by definition, you'll have

F.R.O.M. CHRISTMAS BOX **DONATIONS** Flat River Outreach Ministries will be collecting new, unwrapped toys and gifts through Dec. 20, 2008.

Toy Boxes will be in place at the following locations beginning Fri.,

Springrove Variety, Rite Aid, Dollar General, Brenda's Hair Design, Fifth Third Bank, Curves, Good Chevrolet, Harold Zeigler Ford, Wittenbach Pontiac-GMC, Grand Chrysler-Dodge.

Angel Trees will be in place at the following locations: Huntington Bank, Huntington Bank West, Firstbank, Englehardt Library, Voyages Coffee Shop.

Food and Monetary Donations will be collected at: Simple Pleasures, 508 W. Main Street.

Foods and toys can be dropped off at the Food Pantry in the F.R.O.M. building, 11535 E. Fulton Street, on Dec. 17 & 18 from 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Food & toys will be distributed on Sat., Dec. 20 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. If we can be of assistance to your family with food and/or toys, please come to the Food Pantry to sign up.

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dent signed it into law.

wounded in combat.

• 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.

services members faced an overlap of different systems and that we identified as necessary has not yet been fully achie-

In response, the Senate Armed Services and Veterans' also enacted a 21st Century G.I. Bill, which provides finan-

- 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, at times there may be 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

Reflections

by Rev. Randy Mevers

Calvary Christian Reformed Church

Hey dude, check out my old car! Hey guys how do you like my old shirt? Wow, nice old hairstyle! These are the kinds of phrases you might hear at an antique mall or at a retro party. You probably never hear them at school, at work, or in everyday life. Yet somehow some people say this every week at church. Hey friend, check out our old hymnal. Hi buddy, sing this old song with me. Wow, listen to this old tune. Some people like antiques. Some people like antique music. Some people like oldies. Some like the classics. Some like classic rock. Other people like new stuff. Other people like new music. Other people sing new songs.

King David was an "other people." David liked new stuff, new music and new lyrics. David liked new songs. David wrote new songs like Psalm 33, which says, "sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy." Sounds

CITY OF LOWELL **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Lowell City Council will conduct a public hearing at its regularly scheduled meeting of Monday, January 5, 2009 at the Lowell City Hall Council Chambers, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

City of Lowell Recreation Plan

A copy of the proposed Recreation Plan is available for inspection during normal business hours at City Hall and the Englehardt Public Library.



Interested persons may submit comments to the owell City Hall prior to e meeting or appear in

> Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

crazy to many, but then again, David was known for his

The reason was that David knew from "whence" (a nice old word) he came. In one new song that David had commissioned, Psalm 40, he chronicles his not so shiny past. It does not go in to gory detail, but it paints a bad enough picture that we get it that David was a slime ball who was into deviant lifestyles and wild behavior. But God wooed David out of that life and gave him a new life and a new

The new David became a song writing machine. He wrote, or had commissioned, hundreds of new songs. He became an advocate for new song singing. Five of his new songs challenge the listener to sing their own new songs. So refreshing were his new songs that they rocketed up the charts. David's new songs became so popular that they eventually became greatest hits.

Greatest hits albums are an odd thing. They are filled with tension. With one chord they sing like the newest greatest song ever. With another chord they sing like a golden oldie. The very fact that a song is old enough to be on a greatest hits album, already means that it is an old song. It is odd that the very newness of the song, which contributed to its being great in the first place, soon relegates it to the song scrap heap endlessly looping through elevators and background beats.

Saint John's vision of heaven includes a scene where those gathered sing a new song. I have often wondered, in eternity how long will a new song be new? How quickly will the first new song we sing become a classic, an eternal classic to be sure, but a classic none the less? It will be so weird getting to heaven and not knowing much of the music that has already been sung there for thousands of years. While I might miss some of my favorites down here, I am really looking forward to all the new music up there.

CITY OF LOWELL **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The City of Lowell has three positions available on the newly formed LCTV Endowment Board. Letters of interest wil be accepted from City residents who are interested in serving until 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 26, 2008. Letters are to be sent to City Clerk Morlock, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan 49331 or by email to bmorlock@ci.lowell.mi.us.



Betty R. Morlock City Clerk



Jim Lang, Wayne A. Christenson III, John G. Meier & Tracy Lixie



GENERALIZED ANXIETY DISORDER

Generalized anxiety disorder (GAD) is a condition in which a person worries excessively about a variety of every day problems for six months or more. They go through their day filled with exaggerated worry and tension when there is very little to provoke it. They worry about money, work, health issues, and family issues and anticipate disaster. Some have difficulty just getting through their day. Patients with GAD can't get rid of their worries even though they realize it is more intense than the situation warrants. They can't relax or concentrate, and have problems falling asleep. Physical symptoms include fatigue, headaches, muscle aches, sweating, nausea, dizziness, chest pain, shortness of breath, and trembling.

This disorder usually comes on gradually. It can occur at any age, but is most common between childhood and middle age. It occurs two times more frequently in women than in men. Substance abuse and depression commonly occur in conjunction with GAD. There is some evidence that this can be an inherited condition.

Treatment for GAD is similar to depression. Serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRI's) like Prozac, Zoloft, Paxil, and Celexa are commonly used to effectively treat this disorder. Psychotherapy such as cognitive behavioral therapy is also very useful in treating GAD. Treatment truly can make a dramatic improvement in someone's life.

Zoodsma, Marlene Nash, Lewis Powell.

NOVEMBER 20: Brian Brown, John Butler Sr., Michelle Wernet.

NOVEMBER 21: Gert DeHaan, Michael Hewitt, Tammy Gildner.

NOVEMBER 22: Lu Green, Carla Briggs, Andrea Richmond, Karrie Borton, Joshua Gerard, Dylan Olin.

Trisha Propst, Sherri Vezino. Gregory Duiven, Mike Harding, McKinsie Rice, Dave Thompson.

NOVEMBER 24: Sabra Nicole Kinsley, Ryan Moore, Jenny Decker, Heather French.

NOVEMBER 25:

Pat Vezino, Melissa Peterson, Amy Swift, Shawn Ayres Hazel, Megan Hewitt. Lorri Myers.

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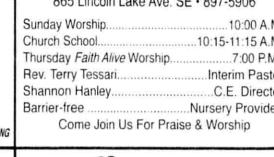
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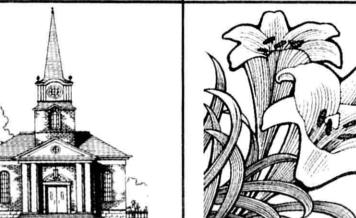
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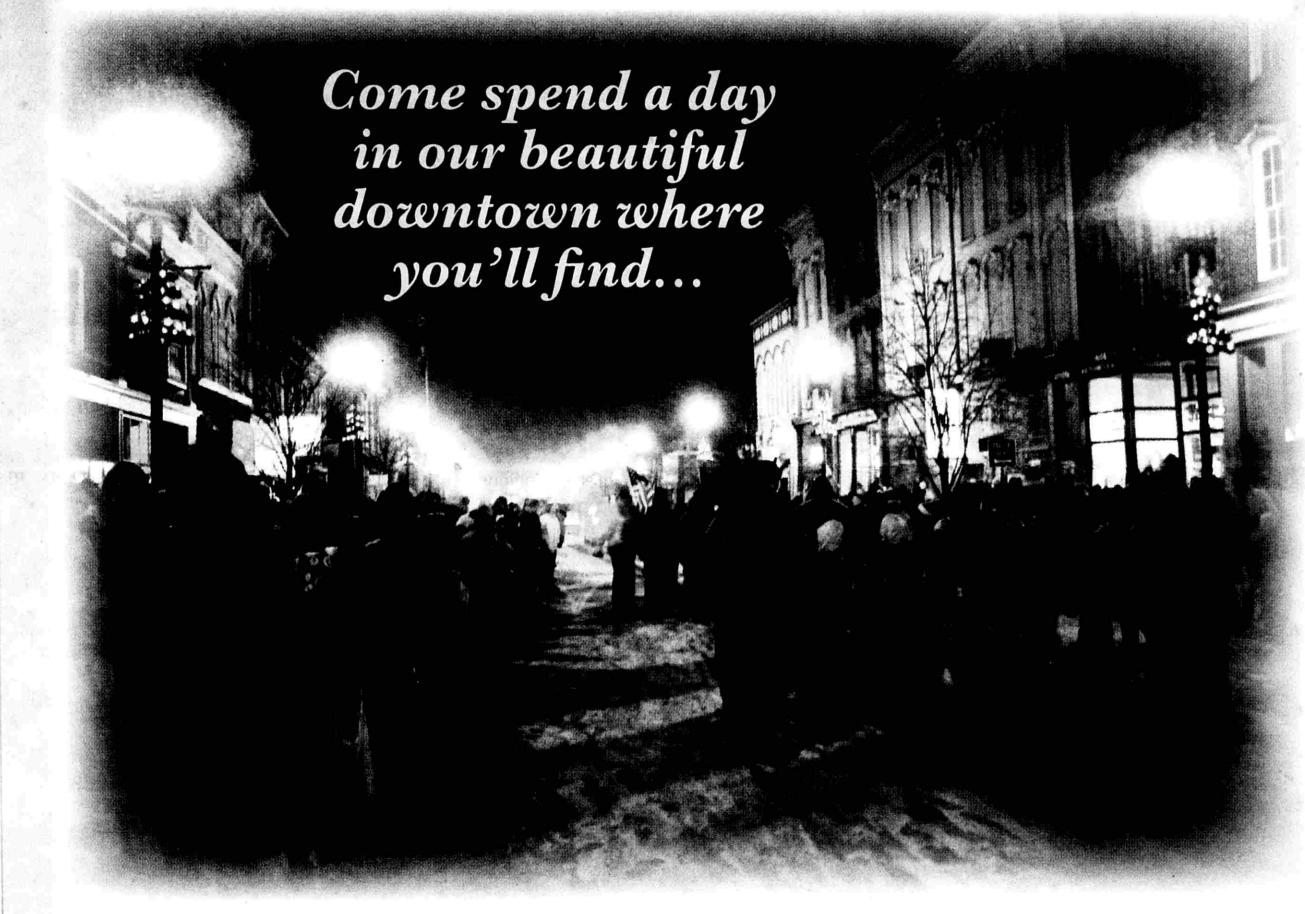
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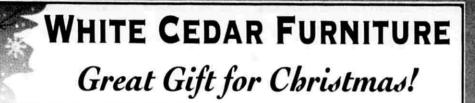
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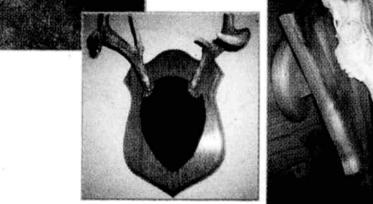


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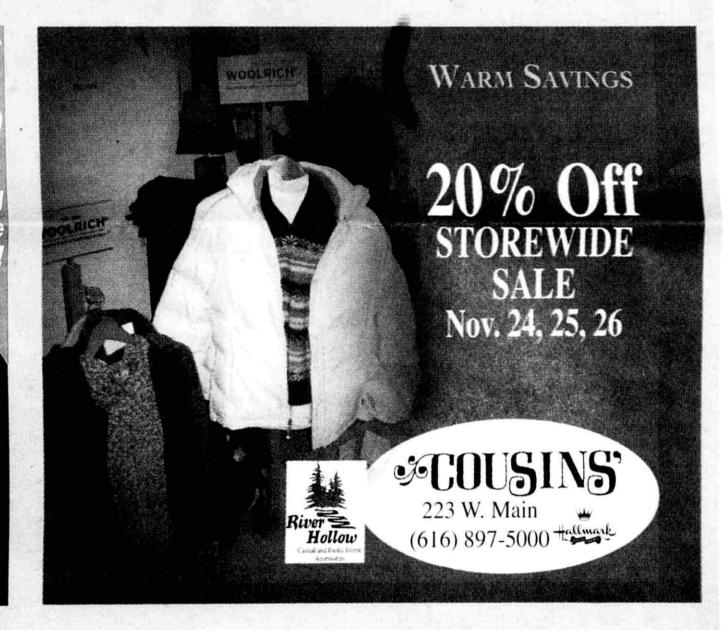
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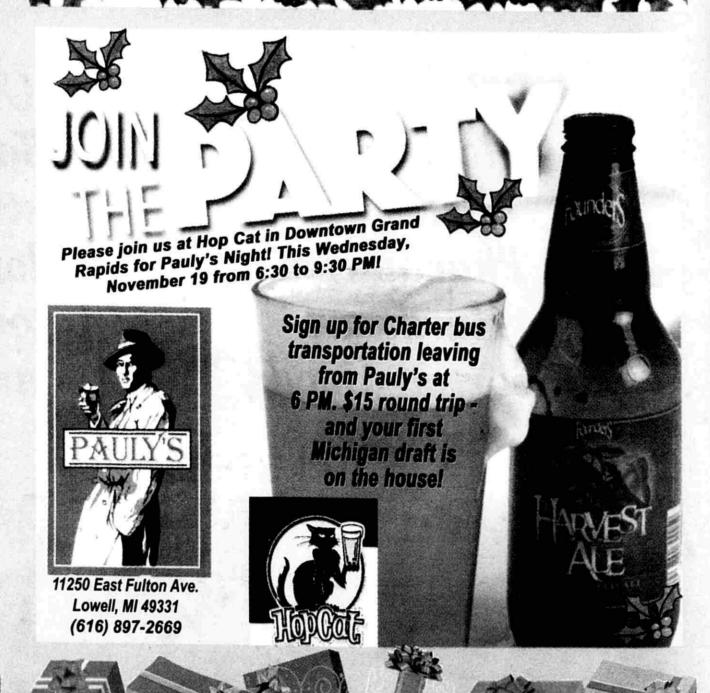




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A couple of

months after Mom's

surgery, she was

independence, but

not quite ready to

do everything on

her own. I'm so

Fountain View.

in Lowell!

glad she thought of

I had no clue

we had such a won-

derful resource here

The facility is

beautiful, the staff is

outstanding, and the

delightful. Fountain

other residents are

View has been the

perfect solution for

Mom has the

enjoys and we have

- Carla Stone and

Jeanne Shores

independence she

peace of mind!

ready for more

Pfaller and Hildenbrand first two in with winning bucks

On a morning when two sons were working and a third northeast of Kent County, ago. I get more excited when 9:35 a.m. was serving in the Navy, Jim for about an hour when he one of my kids gets a buck Pfaller decided to break his four-year hiatus on opening yards out. day for deer hunting.

Fountain

who is in the Navy) rifle," opening day prize. Pfaller explained.

He didn't need to use it

saw a six-point about 75 now than when I do," Pfaller

Loaded and ready, the

"I started hunting on morning to claim his prize.

Ledger office on Saturday his birthday.

minutes later by David Hildenbrand. The state

Pfaller was out, opening day 20-plus years He arrived at the office at father Lee, shot on and hit Bernard's ACE Hardware, an eight-point buck at 7:45 Good Chevrolet-Buick, and He was followed 40 a.m. with his Remington 12- Grand Chrysler-Dodge-

Prizes for The Lowell Pfaller was the first representative was out for Ledger's First Buck Contest regrets not having pictures "I used George's (son Lowell resident dropped his hunter in to The Lowell the 21st consecutive year on were donated by Gary's of the winners. Due to a Meat, Daisy's Floral, computer glitch the photos Hildenbrand with his Backwater Cafe, Keiser's, are unavailable.

Editors note: The Ledger

Experienced and first-time hunters successful



Tom Plite, of Lowell, shot a 13-point non-typical deer while bow hunting on Nov. 11 in the Lowell



Anthony Alderink, 12, of Lowell, deer hunting for the first time, gunned himself a prized seven-point buck Saturday morning north of Lowell. Alderink was out with his father, grandfather and two uncles. He shot the buck at 7:25 a.m. His initial deer-hunting experience was a short one as the youth dropped the first buck he saw.



Miranda (Randi) Drier took an 8 point at 7:20 a.m. on opening morning and a 9 point on Nov. 17. Drier, of Belding, is 19 years old and this is her first year

out of boredom or habit.

Explain to friends.

Great American Smoke Out November 20th

American Smoke Out has researching what tools and promoted quitting smoking methods will work for you for a day as a way to create is a great first step toward awareness of the health risks better health. of smoking. While raising awareness of health issues in place of quitting for a is a good idea, quitting day that will improve your cold turkey is not. Nicotine chances of success when is a powerful and highly you are ready: addicted substance. Quitting Healthcare providers do not recommend quitting

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Over the years the Great cold turkey. However,

Ten things you can do

Make an appointment smoking requires planning, with your physician to education and aids such discuss what medications as medications or nicotine or nicotine replacement replacement products in products would help you order to be successful. when you are ready to quit.

Research smoking

cessation classes offered www.quitnet.com, www. through work or in the becomeanex.org and www. community. There are free cancer.org. classes offered in January 2009 in Lowell. Call 975-

support group in Lowell. Call 446-7058 for details.

0123 to inquire.

who would provide support when you are ready to quit.

Research websites on the Internet for tips and helpful hints to get you started. Good examples are

OWEL

Check with your health insurance company to see if they offer programs or Consider attending a materials that may help you.

Call the Michigan Quit Line for phone counseling at

Make a list of people 1-800-480-QUIT (7848).

why you would consider quitting and what your next

don't really need but smoke that time.

Consider reducing the number of cigarettes you

family and co-workers that quitting cold turkey step would be when you are is not helpful or medically advised. Then assure them that when you are ready to smoke (or tobacco you quit, you will let them know chew) to see which ones you and ask for their support at

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids, in triplicate, for the Lowell Area Schools Phase 2 Renovations, will be received at Lowell Area Schools Administration Building, 300 High Street, Lowell, Michigan on Thursday, December 04 2008

Il proposals received (mailed and delivered) will be opened and read publicly shortly after 2:00 p.m. local me on in Lowell Area Schools Administration Building Conference Room 300 High Street, Lowell, MI.

Bids may be mailed to Lowell Area Schools, 300 High Street, Lowell, Michigan 49331. Mailed bids must be received prior to the bid due time and date stated above. FAXED BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

A construction pre-bid meeting will be held at Cherry Creek Elementary in the Cafeteria, 12675 Foreman Road, Lowell, MI, on Thursday, November 20 2008 at 4:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. local time. After the pre-

The Bidding Documents may be obtained at Owen-Ames-Kimball Co., 300 Ionia N.W. Grand Rapids, MI. A deposit of \$100.00 is required. The deposit will be refunded if documents are returned within 15 days. after bid opening. A non-refundable charge of \$25.00 will be required for mailing documents.

SIDDER QUALIFICATIONS

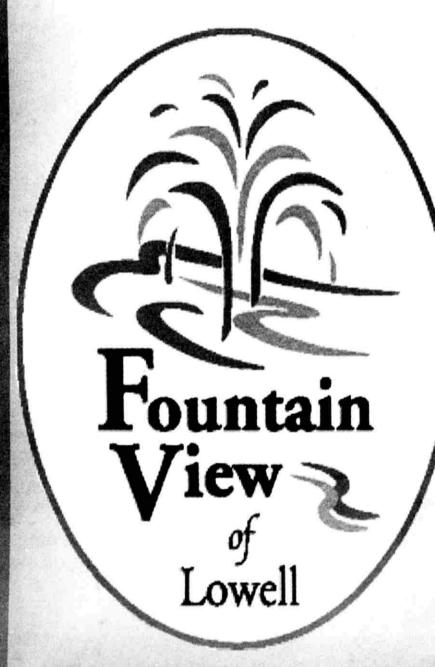
Bidders submitting a Bid for this Project shall have qualifications as follows:

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Shall have a license where required by public authorities having jurisdiction. Shall have ample financial resources for work of this magnitude

each bid shall be accompanied by good and sufficient bid security or bid bond in an amount not less than % of the Bid amount and shall secure the Owner from loss or damage by reason of the withdrawal of the Bid by a Bidder or by failure of the successful Bidder to enter into a Contract with the Owner if his Bid is

The successful Bidder will be required to secure Performance, Labor and Material bonds for all contracts exceeding \$50,000, from a surety company having a rating of A- or better, for the full amount of the



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GRAND HAVEN

With the Spartans off for a Bye weekend, I retreated to Grand Haven High School Stadium to watch two excellent high school teams battle it out for the Regional Championship; and thanks to the announcer, we were kept informed about Big Ten football scores. Meanwhile, Muskegon and Lowell went at each other pretty good. ABC. Congratulations to the Big Reds Regional Champs. Interestingly, both these teams have at least two athletes that are now playing Division 1 and of those four, three are in the Big Ten and one in the PAC Ten. Again, congratulations to Muskegon (12–0) and to runner-up Lowell (11–1) for their performance this season and for producing lots of young men that go into college as student athletes in various divisions.

Let's talk Big Ten. Going into the final week of the regular season schedule, here are the standings.

	Conference	Season	This Weekend
Penn State	6 - 1	10 - 1	hosts MSU
MSU	6 - 1	9 - 2	at Penn State
Ohio State	6 - 1	9 - 2	hosts Michigar
Northwestern	4 - 3	8 - 3	hosts Illinois
Iowa	4 - 3	7 - 4	at Minnesota
Minnesota	3 - 4	7 - 4	hosts Iowa
Illinois	3 - 4	5 - 6	at Northwester
Wisconsin	3 - 5	6 - 5	hosts Cal Poly
Michigan	2 - 5	3 - 8	at Ohio State
Indiana	1 - 6	3 - 8	at Purdue
Purdue	1 - 6	3 - 8	hosts Indiana

Interestingly and not surprisingly, Iowa came up with a 7th win to solidify a bowl game. Way to go Hawkeyes! say eight or 10 teams? So what about the other roughly They are not a dominate team. They definitely play tough 20 teams that have normally been bowl bound and that "D." Iowa's win over Purdue sets the Big Ten with six are not in the playoff? For those 20ish teams, keep them bowl bound teams. Possibly Wisconsin may get a bowl going to a bowl game. invite with a win over Cal Poly.

conference champion? Penn State, the Spartans and the Buckeyes will have an intense week preparing for this Saturday, and then those three teams will decide on the field who most deserves to be The 2008 Big Ten Champion or Co-Champions.

Michigan at Ohio State at 12 noon on ABC.

Tagline: The discussion of a playoff tournament for Division 1 keeps coming up. For what it is worth, here i my opinion. A playoff might be a fun experiment. Let's consider various perspectives.

Perspective of the athletes – the student athletes are students. To be playing four games in the exam month of December is too much for students. Therefore, a playoff might force a shorter regular season, say a nine game schedule. That would allow the athlete to be a decent student... to prepare themselves for a future whenever football is over for them.

Perspective of Athletic Departments – nine regular season games mean four to five home game ticket sales instead of six to seven home game ticket sales. By the way, in the 1960's Division 1, schools like MSU had a 10 game schedule as compared to 12 today.

Perspective of Alums and other fans – I believe they basically would like the playoff idea. Would a tourney be flawless? Probably not. Would it settle what team is truly the best in the nation? Who knows? Maybe.

Perspective of Teams that don't qualify for the

playoffs - for a playoff to be manageable, would there be

Perspective of the Universities and Coaches -The bigger story right now is who will be the probably various perspectives too numerous to generalize in this Big Ten Talk format.

Anyway, it is fun to debate. Let me know what you think when we see each other around town.

Quote of the week: When asked what game Big Ten Commissioner James Delaney will be attending TV Coverage: MSU at Penn State at 3:30 p.m. on this weekend, Scott Chipman, Big Ten communications lead said, "He will be attending Michigan State vs. Penn State."

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Red Arrow SPORTS

"Mama said there'd be days like this." - Coach Noel Dean

Muskegon 'Reds' prevail over Arrows in playoffs

by Thad Kraus

brought many fans back for Very impressed." the much anticipated encore performance on Saturday.

from Saturday's game will be the shock and awe that Muskegon put on Lowell.

championship performance, regional victory emphatically Muskegon the prohibitive favorite rushing the Big Red rolled to claim the Division II up. championship. It also raised the question as to why there was ever any doubt.

One did not sense any doubt in Lowell coach Noel to 159 yards rushing. Dean's voice.

a fantastic football team. They are well organized and they do a great job and are very impressive," Dean game and on a three-play that probably had a lot to do explained. "I just know what my kids have done to other teams this year and to be on defense stopped Lowell on

the other end of that goes fourth and one. Once inside The memory of the two to show just how good they the Muskegon five-yard line clubs' first meeting in 2006 really are. I'm impressed. and once at mid field

The memory taken away for the home folks and toxic for the Red Arrows and their

The Big Reds' 49-14 thing about Muskegon's it was everything.

It was the 448 yards

195 yards rushing and two touchdowns.

It was holding Lowell It was Elan Banks' 92 we play a little harder, coach

"Mama said there would yards on the ground, two a little smarter for a longer be days like this. That's rushing touchdowns and a time. I don't want to take perfect five-for-five passing. away from what they did Muskegon scored on a Maybe we didn't play to the

M u s k e g o n 's a little more intensity level performance was stirring if we score early and we're was a second half fumble up 7-6. Who knows, maybe

It wasn't any one

It was Jason Hannett

Twice the Big Red Dean said.

"Sure, maybe we have possessions. The only thing

"This is a big win for us and our program," Muskegon coach Tony



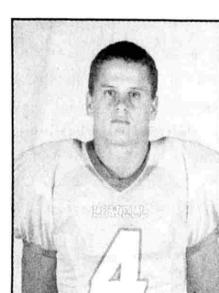
sustained drive to open the level we're capable of, but with the way they played,"

first six possessions

and seven of its eight

that stopped the Big Red

inside the Lowell five yard



Torsten Boss Annese said. "We're happy to be able to move on. Jason play in the second quarter on

Muskegon scored on of the top five kids I've and catch from Nichol to ever coached. He has an Boss

Josh Faulkner

Hannett also had an

incredible supporting cast.

Along with Banks, Anthony

Davis Jr. ran for 82 yards

and scored two touchdowns.

Will Gardner rolled up

71 yards and tallied one

got on the board with 4:26 to

Trailing 20-0, Lowell

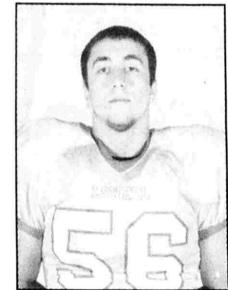
incredible heart.

touchdown.

Nichol was 12-of-19 for 172 yards and two touchdowns and one interception.

Boss caught nine passes for 133 yards and two scores.

"Our defense hung in there and tried to minimize Torsten Boss and his great plays," Annese said. " Give



Agim Selimi

(Hannett), in the 22 years a 25-yard touchdown pass credit to Lowell. People I've been coaching is one from Kyle Nichol to Torsten don't realize how good a team that really is and how Lowell's second and good a program that has final touchdown of the day been.'

> came at the end of the third Lowell ends its season quarter on a 21-yard pass at 11-1.



Support Your Red Arrow Teams!

CITY OF LOWELL

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council will conduct a public hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, December 1, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. at the City Council Chambers, Lowell City Hall, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

An Ordinance to amend Article II, "Uniform Traffic Code," to Chapter 21, "Traffic and Motor Vehicles," of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell.

Copies of the proposed Ordinance are available for inspection during normal business hours at City Hall and the Englehardt Public Library.

Interested persons may submit written comments to City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331, email City Clerk at bmorlock@ci.lowell.mi.us prior to the meeting or appear in person.



Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

OKAY -Someone Has To Say It ...

So, how many of you out there watched the Lions on Sunday? My guess the numbers are slim about now. The hapless Lions are not a great way to spend your Sunday

However, it's conceivable that come Thanksgiving day, Detroit, with a loss to Tampa Bay Sunday, will be 0-11 and Tennessee, with a win against the New York Jets, will be

The network, CBS, would have two teams "chasing" history; the Lions on pace to go 0-16 and Tennessee becoming the second team in two years to go 16-0 during the regular season.

Forget all that talk about pushing the pathetic Lions off Thanksgiving Day; CBS will take that match-up 0-11 versus 11-0. My guess is NFL fans across the country will tune in for this turkey game.

Join me in rooting for the Lions to get waxed on Sunday and for the Titans to make life difficult for the Favre-led Jets. I know CBS is.

Huge Gets It Right

I seldom agree with let alone listen to Bill Simonson; however, his booming voice caught my attention Monday when he was talking to a fan about the high school football playoffs.

The fan was complaining about how some school fans are bush...blah blah, blah.. Simonson told him that he didn't want anything to do with verbal spars between schools. He then went on to say that Muskegon is the best football team in the state.

With my eyes being the barometer on Saturday, he could not be more right.

That is one talented football team. Just ask Lowell, Rockford and any of the other nine teams they beat this

Next up for the Big Red is Davison, a 25-19 winner over Midland. Lowell defeated Davison 42-7 some 10 weeks ago. I know things change and teams improve, but is there a high school football fan outside the Davison city limits who thinks Muskegon will lose?

Kudos to Coach

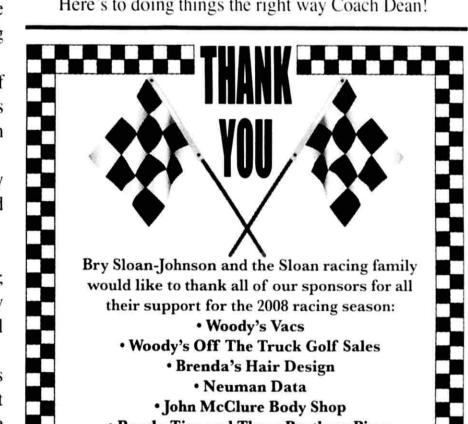
Following Saturday's loss to Muskegon I watched as the teams lined up and shook hands afterwards.

What caught my attention was right in the middle of the Lowell Line was coach Noel Dean congratulating and shaking the hands of each of the Big Red players and

I've been covering high school athletics long enough to have observed that doesn't happen as often as one would like to think. It's been a pet-peeve of mine for many years. I hear coaches tell players to keep their heads up and shake the hand of the opponent.

Then I watch as the coach walks briskly across the field quickly shakes, not offering a hand to the opposing coach and then off he goes.

Here's to doing things the right way Coach Dean!



• Ronda Tire and Three Brothers Pizza We would also like to thank our family and friends for all your support and help, we couldn't have done it without you. And for all that extra help we got from Nate Sloan, Tim Sloan, Rudy Smith - Al Lazer, and the Fisk Brothers. And a BIG Thanks to my Grandparents Jim and Ruth Wood, Uncle Jeff, Aunt Candi and Skylar for all

my 2008 Race Season a great one. P.S. A big hello and hugs and kisses to Uncle Hank and Aunt Bea Hoekstra in Texas!

Thanks, Bry Sloan-Johnson, Troy & Angie Sloan & Brian Johnson

the cheers. Thanks again everyone for making

deals

Jared's team cheers to support first-grader suffering from MD

by Emma Palova

Elementary as hundreds of

students gathered to support It was Jared's team Jared Sweet, 6, suffering as Jared's day after a week- assembly wasn't the finale the children to take on the and I never give up. I train last Friday at Murray Lake from muscular dystrophy.

That day was dubbed help the cause. But, the Moore of Alto, challenged you, " she said. "I work hard long of activities slated to yet, as martial artist Mariah other elementaries, to raise every day and I set goals for

more money for the cure of myself." muscular dystrophy.

Now, the schools, champion from Phillippines, Bushnell, Cherry Creek, Alto and Murray Lake are n competition including parents to gather change and coins and bring it in to help

The blue tee shirts on lared's team read, "One good deed at a time to change the medals So far, the school has

raised \$700 to help Jared. Moore, 14, after her nartial arts performance gave a presentation.

"We will fight MD and help save Jared," she said. "We're on Jared's team." "I am a normal kid like

Moore, a national

"I've had broken bones,

From Phillippines, she

However, her real

said she keeps trying in spite

a broken nose, but I have a

secret weapon I never say I

brought home two gold

passion is helping other

can't." she said.

Jared sits in front of his many student supporters during assembly at Murray Lake.

Sound Off

The Ledger "Almost" Anything Goes Column



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 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). All comments are submitted ONLINE POLL RESULTS Should the government bail out the auto industry?

Be sure and check us out online and participate this week!

Gee Mr. Howard, seems like you have many opinions, why don't you join a committee and help make change!

Would like to say great job to the Lowell varsity cheerleaders.

To the Lowell football teams. Thanks for a great season! - Fulton Manor staff and grandpas and grandmas

I take pride in my town and enjoy all of the events that are put on here. One of my contributions to Christmas through Lowell is putting out the luminaries for the weekend and lighting them. Along with the help of my family and the Chamber. But it saddens me to have to pick them up at the end of the weekend and find trash in them, half knocked over and a dozen or more missing the glass for the candles. It's hard to believe that some people just can't leave a nice decoration alone.

- April McClure

Thank you Ron, Dan and all the workers at the public works department who helped make the foodmobile a success for 2008. We couldn't have done it without your help. - Bob and Diane

LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS BOARD BRIEFS

Regular Meeting of November 10, 2008

Reports

- Parker Liu, Student Representative, provided an · Lowell Baseball Program Trip: Gulf Shores, AL · update on high school and student council activities.
- Mr. Mikulski provided an update on the Bus Fleet Inspection Report.
- Mrs. Murphy-Alderman presented a high school intervention update.

Action Items

- The Board accepted the following gifts to the .
- School Orchestra
- 49 Computers Donated by Alticor, Valued at \$3,489.00
- Donated by Judith Potter
- 3423 Use of Credit/Debit Cards
- and Non-Union Staff Work Agreements
- Approved Consumers Energy Resolution Authorized Bid Phase II of Construction

Consent Items Approved

- Minutes for the October 6, 2008, Closed Session and October 13, 2008 Regular Meeting
- The following payment of bills for October, 2008: GENERAL FUND. .\$1,583,065.97
- 2. SCHOOL SERVICES FUND Food Service Fund... .\$97,632.45 Athletic Fund. .\$3,383.17 TRUST AND AGENCY FUND. \$82,237.92 4. SCHOLARSHIP FUND. .\$1,049.85 2007 DEBT FUND. ..\$ 500.00 6. 2007 CONSTRUCTION FUND. ..\$1,195,062,91 TOTAL EXPENDITURES.

.\$2.962.932.27

The following Personnel Leave:

Courtney Duffner, Bushnell, Social Worker (Itinerant) Consent Items Continued...

The following overnight student trips:

- FFA Members Trip to State Convention: Lansing. MI - March 11-13, 2009
- Lowell Baseball Tournament: Lake Orion, MI May 22 – 23, 2009
- · Camp T & Camp Mel Trotter: May, 2009 Varsity Softball Team: Orange Beach, AL - April 3
- Columbus, OH January 29 31, 2009
- Wrestling Quad Meet: St. Rita High School, Chicago, IL – December 12 – 13, 2008
- \$900.00, Donated by Guarneri House to the High . Wrestling Tournament: Main South High School, Chicago, IL - January 2 - 3, 2009

Budget Update

-11.2009

for the month of October. Mr. Zielinski informed the conference, and had an opportunity to learn about Approved the Second Reading of Board Policy Board that he will submit budget amendment the myriad of challenges at other school districts as information to the Board in early December. Mr. it relates to financial challenges, Board relationships, Approved Bus Garage Mechanics, Bus Drivers Zielinski added that the district auditor will summarize the audit for the 2007/2008 fiscal year at the Board Work Session on November 24, 2008. Mr. Zielinski commented that Governor Granholm will address potential budget cuts and/or freezes as it relates to district has taken a data driven approach to education in late November or December.

Curriculum Update

Mr. Bearup commended principals across the district transporting students to school. for their hard work as it relates to improved student achievement. Mr. Bearup noted his excitement that the district is shifting its focus to understanding how students learn, and for examining data and interventions to meet the needs of all students. Mr. Bearup indicated that at the end of the first trimester. staff will begin using EPIC, which is an after-school credit recovery program. Mr. Bearup reported that the MEAP tests have been sent and estimates that results will be received in mid-December or early January. Mr. Bearup announced that a professional development records day is planned in November and indicated that differentiation through technology will be examined. Mr. Bearup stated that work

continues in the area of power standards and ACT.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Pratt commented that the work of education has changed and that efforts are being made to individualize every students education. Superintendent Pratt added that it is an exciting time in Lowell and indicated that this important work is a reflection of the high caliber of staff and community members that support the school district · Varsity Wrestling: Ohio State University, Superintendent Pratt announced that school will not be in session for students the week of November 24. Superintendent Pratt expressed his appreciation to the staff and Board of Education for the hard work and dedication to students.

Board Discussion

Mr. Brubaker informed the Board that he attended Powdered Poster Paints, Valued at \$25.00, Mr. Zielinski summarized the budget status reports the Michigan Association of School Boards fall etc. Mr. Brubaker indicated he is grateful that Lowell Area Schools is a leader in education for our community, and for the excellent staff that serves our students. Mr. Turner shared his excitement that the instruction and is eager to see the ultimate results. Mr. Haefner expressed appreciation to the bus drivers and mechanics for their commitment to safely

Upcoming Board Meetings

All Board of Education meetings are held in the Board Room at the Runciman Administration Building, 300 High Street. Lowell, MI

Board Work Session November 24, 2008

6:00 p.m.

Please visit our web page at www.lowellschools.com

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HALL FOR RENT - Lowell

Veteran's Center, 3100

Alden Nash. Newly remod-

eled, smoke-free, private,

great location & great rate!

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Call 868-2053.

868-2053.

Call John at 299-0486 or

ALTO - 12055 84th St.

Large 3 bedroom ranch.

1 1/2 baths. Includes all

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snowplowing. \$900/month.

NEWSPAPER END ROLLS AVAILABLE AT THE BUY-ERS GUIDE OFFICE Many uses, table cover, art projects, packaging, etc. Stop by & grab one today! 105 N. Broadway.

MATTRESSES - Large selection of name brand mattresses at 30% less than the stores 50% off "sale" price. Yes, 30% less! RCD Wholesale, 616-682-4767 or 293-6160.TEN

KEY CARDS ARE HERE! - Help support the Lowell Academic Boosters. Key Cards are \$15. They make the perfect gift! Cash please. Available at the Buyers Guide, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

EGGS - Farm fresh brown eggs. Bi-weekly delivery available in Lowell area. Call 897-9147.

DOG KENNEL - 6 x 12 ft. chainlink dog kennel w/door & igloos dog house, \$125; Also garage space to rent for campers or boats. 897-

SHIP UPS AT THE LED-**GER OFFICE** - We cannot accept hazardous materials or firearms. Compare our prices! Call for a price auote! We will need weight zip code & dimensions for a price quote over the phone, 105 N. Broadway. 897-9261.

AIR BEDS - Final close out of 2008 models. Select a comfort firmness for each of you. All new. Why pay double at the mall??Air Bed Store, 616-682-4767 or 293-6160.TEN

3+ ACRES - South of Murray Lake School, Wooded, sandy, walk-out site on paved road. For sale by owner. \$74,900. Call 897-8820.

EGGS - free range, 1661 Whites Bridge, Lowell 897-

FOR SALE - White Maytag washer & dryer, matching front loading, high efficiency, Neptune, \$500/set; queen mattress, firm, \$50; white 8x20 double axle enclosed trailer, 2002 Car Mate, used 3 times, \$6,000. Call 446-5118.

MEMORY FOAM & LATEX MATTRESSES - 8 different models. All new. Starting at \$399. Why pay \$699 at the big name stores?? RCD Wholesale, 616-682-4767 or 293-6160.TEN

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSI-NESS IN THE LOWELL PHONE BOOK! - Small businesses or large businesses, rates as low as \$130 (that's for the whole year, not a per month price!). Deadline is Dec. Call Tammy, 897-9560 for an informational packet or email your request to citydirectory@att.net.

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The Lowell Ledger

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OFFICE HOURS:

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Friday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Closed Saturday & Sunday

CLASSIFIEDS NOW

POSTED ONLINE!

www.lowellbuyersguide.com

In Person: 105 N. Broadway, Lowell By Mail: PO BOX 128, Lowell, MI 49331 ADA - 8761 Bailey Dr. By Phone: 616-897-9261 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 20' x 24' garage + 16' x 20'

storage shed. Country Classified ad rates: setting. \$900/month. Call 20 words...\$4 CENTER COURT APT. - First Month Rent Free! each additional word 10¢ (with 12 month lease). Two bedrooms at \$600. On-site Bold \$1 each or Box \$2 each laundry. Small dogs & cats

Rapids, 877-780-2200. FOR RENT - Clarksville area, close to expressway, 3 bedroom, 2 bath house on 5 acres. \$925/mo. + utilities. Call 616-366-8535

allowed. Center Court Apt.

201 N. Center St., Lowell

Call CB Richard Ellis/Grand

HALL FOR RENT - with kitchen, seats 150. Call

FOR LEASE - Must see lovely 2 bdrm mobile home in country. Centrally located btw Lowell, Belding & Ionia, 30 minutes to GR. Call 616-794-0085.

FOR RENT - 2 bedroom house in Lowell. 1 bath. 1 stall garage. No pets & no smoking, 897-2000.

LOWELL MOBILE HOME PARK - Under new management. Nice 1, 2 & 3 bedroom trailer for rent. For info call George at 616-754-0276 or 616-813-8041.TEN

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CASH PAID - for old toys games, antiques, jewelry sporting goods, hunting/ fishing etc. Call today for an appt., 616-550-0521.

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CARD OF THANKS

always be treasured

Young male, Found 11/10

5-7 p.m. NO CHARGE. For

questions please call the

THANKSGIVING WEEK

HOURS - M-W, 8 a.m. - 5

p.m. Closed Thursday

music 8 -12. No Cover!

Chapter #1388.

church office, 897-9820.

makers, experienced. Apply in person, Vitales, 400 540-4319.

OFFICE ASSISTANT - for church. Primary duties with print publications. Requires fluency with Publisher and Word, excellent grammar and proof reading skills, ability to work under deadlines, good people skills, friendly receptionist and phone presence, and strong organizational skills. Church familiarity helpful 12 hours per week. Wed. Thurs., and Fri. Send resume by November 21 to mail to First United Methodist of Lowell, 621 E. Main Mary's Church Parish Life Center (N. side of church). St. Lowell, MI 49331. No

HELP WANTED

WANTED - Dec. deer lease

CARD OF THANKS

During the tme of sorrw we learn how much our friends really mean to us. Your expression of sympathy will The McCaul family

FOUND

HELP WANTED - Pizza FOUND - Golden Lab Fallasburg Park area. Call

SEEKING PART TIME FOUND - small reddish color dog, wearing collar & dragging a leash. Bennett Street area. Call **EVENTS** COMMUNITY SOUP DIN-NER - St. Mary's confirmation class will be hosting a community soup dinner. Please share with us an evening of homemade food, friendship & com munity. Wed., Nov. 19, St.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS BEEN DE-NIED? - Is your past

employer or the state fighting your benefits? For information & possible experienced representation. Call 1-231-773-8529 or 1-800-305-2899.

calls please.

WEDDING INVITATIONS Available at Lowell Litho.

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WINDOW WASHING & GUTTER CLEANING Residential & commercial. Call Randy at R & R Enterprises, 616-581-8561

AIR DUCT & DRYER VENT CLEANING - Call Randy at R & R Enterprises 616-581-8561.

ALTO DAYCARE - has 2 full time openings, 1st or 2nd shift. Fenced in backyard. Food program. Accept FIA payments. Call 868-0752.

HOLIDAY PIES BY COOK-IE - (former baker from Jimmy's Grill). Get your holiday pies baked fresh! Delivery to the Great Lowell/Saranac area available. Call Cookie today for pie selection & pricing! 616-550-7903.

SENIOR HOME HELP - Assistance with daily, weekly or monthly items. Some services provided are: housekeeping, laundry personal care, cooking & errands. For more information call 616-862-6712.

ZOOLAND DAYCARE & 2nd shifts. Call 897-8386 or 308-0195.

BOAT STORAGE - \$100 to \$150 per season. Call 897-5426 or cell 581-5265.

ANY TREE WORK NEED. ED - CHEAP! - Removals, storm damage & chipping Licensed & insured. Call Dan for free estimate at 616-970-3832.

PIANO LESSONS - Im-

email MissMeowsic@msn.

prove your child's school Friday. Lowell Ledger, 105 performance, concentra N. Broadway, Lowell. Ph. tion & confidence by learning Jazz, Blues & Classical Piano & Music Notation FRIDAY NIGHT WITH A Ages 6-18. \$15 per half BAND AT THE STRAND hour, Experienced, patient, Nov. 28 Rock & Roll with caring teacher who is a PRIMALURGE. Doors at 7 seasoned, professional performer. 897-9485 or

QUARTER BINGO - 2nd Thurs, of each month, 1-5 p.m. 2 cards for a quarter. DAYCARE - Immediate 50% payback w/100% payback hourly specials. Open censed, fun, loving, clean! to the public. The Moose ots of creative play, art, Rec Hall, 1320 E. Main St. early math & language Sponsored by W.O.T.M. development. Food provided. 1 mile from Main St. (on Rolling Creek Dr.) Call

897-4898.

SERVICES

PROOFREADER - Do you need a proofreader for your letters, term papers, articles, etc? I can help. Please call 897-9610.

> **BUSINESS CARDS** - For as little as \$28 for 250. (white card, black ink) Before you order your cards from somewhere else check our rates! Call Lowell Litho, 897-9261

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NEED A DUMP-STER? - Dudley's Dumpsters. Dumpsters priced to get rid of your trash & save you cash! Garage, attic, household cleanup, roofing, trash, junk etc. 14 to 20 yards available. Call for free estimates. Now accepting credit cards. Contact Doug 616-295-6640.

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Call for a price quote! 897-9261 When calling please have zip code, weight & dimensions of box

MONEYS TIGHT - Stretch yours at Larkins Monday Nights 2 Steak Dinners

EARLY DEADLINE - The deadline for the Dec. 3 edition of the Lowell Ledger is Mon., Dec. 1 at noon.

CATS/KITTENS - Spayed & neutered. \$25 for entire litter w/mama. Also, entire barn of cats for \$25. This is for Kent County residents only. Call 897-8865 to schedule an appointment.

DRYWALL-Nojob to small. Hanging, finishing, texturing. Call 897-9086.

Congratulations on a great season

2008 LOWELL VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM

(First row, L-R): Jacob Meyer, Lance Fargo, Kyle Nichol, Torsten Boss, Zach Stephens, Pat Martin, Drew Culross, Tom Jeffrey, Derek Corniss, Zach Noskey, Marc Destine, Jake Fillingham, Clinton Marsh and Austin Tackmann. (Second row, L-R): Jon Hanson, Austin Graham, Sam Young, Chris Eckman, Keegan Hanrahan, Cole Wade, Mark Ford, Trevis Shea, Randy Hogan, Connor Kruse, Agin Selimi, Torin Rix, Tom Alberts and John Bogardus. (Third row, L-R): Jason Miller, Sage Fox, Keith Williams, Dylan Olin, Zach White, Nick White, Matt Persons, Tyler Matteson, Kevin Jones, Josh Drake, Thomas Fleet and Josh Faulkner.

LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider amendments to Section 4.4, Signs and Billboards, of the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Ordinance. These amendments would in part: add new definitions of sign types; amend existing sign definitions; permit portable signs (currently prohibited in all zoning districts) according to regulations for type, size, number, duration and location including off premise farm product signs; provide new rules for wall signs and reader board signs in commercial and industrial zones; allow signs for home occupations and; amend the list of prohibited signs.

The hearing will be held as follows:

WHEN: MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2008

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

WHERE: LOWELL CHARTER

TOWNSHIP HALL

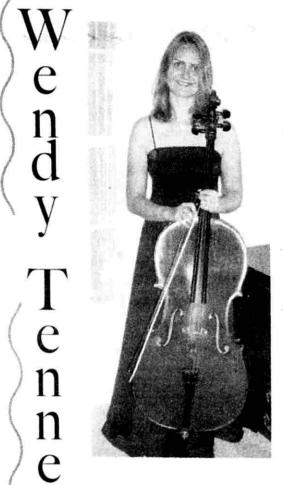
2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE

LOWELL, MI 49331

The proposed amendments are available for review at the Lowell Charter Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Lowell, Michigan, 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday or by calling 897-7600.

Tim Clements, Secretary Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission

Cello Recital



A free will
offering will be
taken at the
door for the
Lowell Music
Boosters and
for Dr. Debra
Walker,
missionary in
Kenya.

Sat., Nov. 22, 7 p.m.

Lowell Performing Arts Center

Levin, continued ...

From Page 5

whatever it takes to improve care and support for the men and women who have bravely sacrificed in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere around the world.

We must stay focused and resolute until we have a seamless, safe system that provides great care for our troops at every step along their journey from the battlefield back to civilian life.

Throughout the debates in our current wars, unlike the past, the citizens of our country have steadfastly supported our troops. That supportive spirit will continue this Veterans Day and into the years ahead, and as we continue our efforts to care for our nation's wounded warriors.

College News

Local student Timothy
Wernet has been accepted
this fall into the Albion
College Carl A. Gerstacker
Liberal Arts Institute for
Professional Management.

Students are chosen annually for the Gerstacker

Institute through a highly selective process based on academic achievement and demonstrated leadership abilities. Gerstacker members must complete degree requirements in economics and management, along with courses in ethics, writing, speaking management, and fulfill at least two internships in a wide range of business settings.

Wernet is a first-year at Albion College. He is the son of Timothy and Suzanne Wernet of Rockford and a graduate of Lowell High School.

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

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