# The Lowell Leager

Volume 37 Issue 52

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, November 26, 2008

# Cousins Hallmark celebrates 24 years in business

by Emma Palova

ometimes Karen Hale, the store proprietor Cousins Hallmark, breaks into tears with her customers. After all, she has journeved with them from the time

when a baby was born to when someone died.

"We live our customers' lives," she said. "It's been a hoot, the store means a lot to me."

customers and product innovation keeps the business exciting as it celebrates 24 years on Dec.

Hale remembers exactly The attachment to the the date of the opening as

well as the first customer. King Doyle bought the very first card, and Hale kept the first dollar to this day.

Sentimentalism everyday business

this shop with emotions. Nowadays, the business is more challenging than a quarter of a century ago. When she started the business with cousin Joanne Hale, the two had no retail experience, and naturally they made mistakes such as overbuying on inventory.

"We were green," Hale said. "We had no background in retail."

Prior to entering the retail business, Hale worked for the Wyoming police department as a records clerk.

It was a long road to today's thriving business, firmly anchored on Main Street. Hale now employs nine part-time employees between the two stores.

to give a good shopping experience," she said. "You want to have fun with the customers."

So, Hale instrumental in establishing Girls Night Out to show customer appreciation. And she has more plans, like the Wednesday Night before Halloween.

"I want to get the town in on this," she said.

For her efforts, Hale was named the business person of the year in 2006.

She likes the most, the people part of the business, and being a part of the downtown vibe. Hale has seven grandchildren who absolutely love seeing Christmas ornaments hanging in July.

"They reinforce the love of everything for me," she said.

Hale plans on having an anniversary party to celebrate both stores, Cousins and River Hollow. She credits creativity to the store's success.

"You never get creative until you get desperate," she "You have more events said. "I look at challenges as opportunities."

> Hale gets a lot of repeat business, so the whole enterprise is like a big family, literally. She loves the innovation coming from the Hallmark lines.

"You get attached to people," she said.



Karen Hale at sister store River Hollow.

# Lowell auto salesmen "deal" with the economy

### Relationships build business and sell autos even during economic crunch time

by Thad Kraus

arade floats, food drives, and the drivers education program are just a few of the fixtures that connect Lowell auto dealers to the local community.

That loyalty is matched only by the community support of patrons who have kept their auto dollars local for a good many years.

In an odd sort of way, during the good times and tough economic times, like we're currently experiencing, local financing institutions have been the conduit that has assisted in securing such a loyal relationship.

"After all these years the auto industry is still a relationship business," explained Good Chevrolet Buick general manager Rodger Gardner. "It's still a place or somebody I trust. We're up from last year while most others are down. Everybody

here lives in the community, plays in the community and goes to church in the community. That's huge."

Its community involvement has helped to nurture that loyal relationship. The friendly, convenient neighborly type service keeps residents returning.

The trust local auto dealers have been able to bank over the years has also drawn in local financial institutions.

because they know we're not going to send them someone who would be a risk or people who shouldn't be getting cars," Gardner said. "People who should be getting cars are buying cars. Right now, they are also netting low interest rates (5-6 percent) from local banking institutions."

While many banks, if not most, fall under the umbrella of a credit score lend-

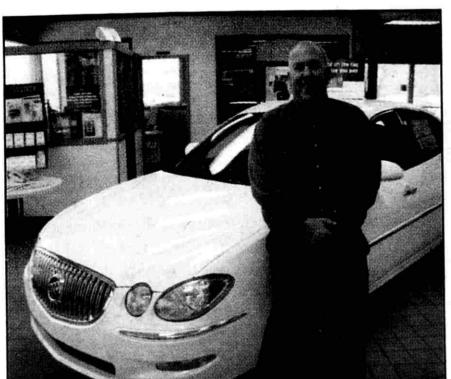
"Local banks trust us er, some community banks use credit as a criteria, but that alone does not determine whether a potential buyer secures a loan.

"We do not draw a line in sand as to where a credit score has to be. We're a community bank and have money to lend," said Firstbank assistant vice president, Kurt Lardie, "Yes, we do look at the credit score, but there are a lot of pieces that figure in our decision in determining whether a person is credit worthy."

Grand Wittenbach GMC Pontiac general manager Jerry Dykhuis warns that the loyalty between local auto dealers and potential buyers may be a generation thing.

The low local rates and the added warranties and incentives make it a good time to buy young or old.

> Auto dealers, cont'd., pg. 8



Rodger Gardner



Keith Kloostra



Jerry Dykhuis

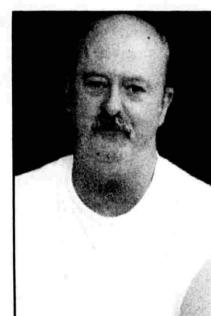




**ARENDSEN** 

Wilma Ford Arendsen, age 93, of Alto, passed away Monday, November 24, 2008. She was preceded in death by her husband, Stan; daughter, Bonnie K. Ford. She is survived by her children, Richard (Patty Veenema) Ford, Pat (Harry) Erickson, Stanley Ford, Bertha Erickson, and Tanzy Lawrence; 17 grand children; 24 great grand children; two great great grandchildren; brother, Don VanDyke; sister, Corrine Weeks. Funeral services will be 1 p.m. Wednesday, November 26, at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N Hudson with Rev. David

Sims officiating. Interment Alton Cemetery. Visitation Wednesday 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Michigan.



**SMITH** L. Smith (Smitty) passed away Wednesday, November 19, 2008. He is survived by his wife of 26 years, Lorena (Lori Miller) Smith; daughters, Amanda (Gabriel) Jimenez of Grand Rapids, Sarah (Mike) Meyers of Ionia, Rose Smith (Ryan Allen) of Grand

of Saranac; mother-in-law, Ellen Miller of Lowell; brother, Rich Smith of Ionia; sister Brenda Shoen of

Lowell; sisters and brothersin-law, Mary Ellen (Steb) Martin of Hastings, Virginia Conner of Saranac, Patricia (Allan) Mull of Lowell, Mel (Linda) Miller of Kentwood Shirley (Tim) Stevens of Lowell and Mike Miller of Lowell; Aunt Helen (Paul) Courbat of Florida, Uncle Ken (Pat) DeWispelare of New York, Uncle Dick (Marlene) DeWispelare of New York; many cousins, nieces and nephews; and extended family of many wonderful friends. Dave was a loving, dedicated husband, father, grandfather, son and brother. He was happiest when caring for his family and friends. He will be sadly missed by all. Funeral services were held Monday at the Roth-Gerst Funeral Home. Interment Oakwood contributions may be made

grandchildren.

Gabriel (Bito), Rosalia and

Carlos Jimenez, Austin, Levi

and Leah Meyers; parents,

Frank and Beatrice Smith



QUILLAN

William T. Quillan aged 80. of Alto, finished his long journey with Alzheimer's on Thursday, November 20, 2008. He was preceded in death by his wife, Betty Lou; brother, Daniel Quillan; sisters, ViAnn Stout, Virginia Ouillan; and grandson, Seth Lucas. He is survived by his children, Ginger (Bill) Lucas of Wyoming, David Quillan, Rick (Barb) Quillan of Caledonia, Terry (Laurie) Ouillan of Rockford, Tim Heidi (Andrew) Walma. Rachel (Tom) Wyatt, Derick of the US Navy. Funeral services were held Monday at the Roth-Gerst Funeral

Memorial Cemetery. contributions may be made to Michigan Facility, 3000 Monroe NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505.

Edward and Jessie Zalis and

Carl and Barbara Hemmer.

Scott will be greatly missed

by his wife of 19 years,

Evelyn Gitka; children,

Scott Edward, Joshua Ray

and Stephanie Ellen, all at

home; his parents, Barbara

Zalis of Wayland and

Edward Zalis of Branch; his

brothers, Steve (Julie) Zalis

of Holland, Dan (Teresa)

Zalis of Wayland, Kevin

(Pam) Zalis of Dorr; his

sister, Holly (Brian) Larsen

of Wayland; his mother-in-

law and stepfather-in-law,

Mary and Albert Kieffer

(Barrix) of Lawrenceville,

IL; his sister and brothers-

in-law, Terry (Jan) Barrix,



Debra (Robert) Dahlke, **ZALIS** Jack (Amy) Barrix, Susan Scott Michael Zalis aged 45, (Matt) Bach and Jason of Lowell, went to be with (Graciela) Barrix; several his Lord and Savior after aunts, uncles, cousins, and his courageous fight with many nieces and nephews. cancer, surrounded by his The family would like to entire family on Tuesday, thank Dr. Martin Bury, Deb November 18, 2008. Born VanEssen, RN, his "family" to Edward and Barbara from Koeze's, Spectrum Zalis on July 25, 1963 in Health Hospice, Dr. Suzanne Grand Rapids. Scott grew Howard and Connie Potter. up and went to Wayland RN, First Baptist Church High School, graduating in of Lowell and Lowell 1982. He went on to join Area Schools for all of the United States Navy their prayers, support, and from 1984 to 1988. He kindness during this journey. met his wife while in high Funeral services were held school and married in 1989. Saturday at the First Baptist Scott worked for Albertus Church of Lowell. Memorial Koeze's for 19 years. He contributions may be made was preceded in death by his to The Scott M. Zalis little brother, Shaun Patrick Childrens Memorial Fund Zalis; father-in-law, Ray or First Baptist Church of G. Barrix; grandparents, Lowell Building Fund.

Sleigh Bells & Holly at LAAC

The gallery at the Lowell Area Arts Council is now hosting the annual Sleigh Bells & Holly featuring more than 25 artists and artisans. On display, perfect for Christmas gifts, are pottery, paintings, beadwork, jewelry, textiles, fused glass, sculptures, woodcarvings, ornaments, beeswax candles and honey. Interim art director Barb Pierce is pictured by jewelry with Michigan stones. Prices are very reasonable, according to Pierce



## Food Bank receives donation from Advanced Eyecare - more help needed

Jay Tee Products

Sincerely thanks the Lowell Chamber of

Commerce for making Christmas through

Lowell such a wonderful event.

Thank you to all of you who visited

our location #16 at

14200 Spruce Forest Dr.

Due to the overwhelming requests

Jay Tee Products will be open

December 18 & 19 from 5-9 pm.

For that last minute Christmas gift.

Gratefully, John & Theresa Umlauf

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Unfortunately, in a time most, donations are hard to with come by. Food charities and Community Eyecare Day, families; 204 in the month organizations have realized the need and are helping to make a difference.

**EARLY** 

**DEADLINE** 

Deadline for

the Dec. 3 edition

of the Lowell

Ledger is

10 a.m., Mon.,

Dec. I.

Ads requiring a proof should

be here Wed., Nov. 26.

by 5 pm.

The Lowell Ledger

897-9261

PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.

Advanced when food banks are needed Professionals, in conjunction Lowell food banks are reporting had a fundraising garage have sale where all proceeds and FROM is in great need of long-standing left over items were donated declines; decreases that to Flat River Outreach

stock the bare shelves.

Eyecare average in 2008, 180 families FROM, stated will be used per month. The food pantry helped a record number of of October. Which is why

In total, Advanced may well continue through Ministry (FROM) Food Eyecare Professionals was the holidays, but some Bank in Lowell to help re- able to raise and donate which Kraig FROM has helped on Haybarker, the director of

to buy much needed meats

Food bank, cont'd., pg. 7





QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG-13) UE 11:10, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50 MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA UE 12:35, 2:40, 4:45, 6:50, 9:00 ROLE MODELS (R) MON 4:50, 7:05, 9:2

FREE 2002 DRINK

Kneem

\$1 for 1st sheet, 50¢ each additional sheet The Lowell Ledger

**Sending or Receiving** 

105 N. Broadway, Lowell

**FALL YARD WASTE PICKUP PROGRAM** 

yard waste will picked up on a weekly basis. Yard waste pickup will be on Thursday, the same day as your refuse/recycling pickup.

Please note if a holiday falls during the week, Thursday pickup will be delayed to



### LEGAL NOTICES • LEGAL NOTICES • LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT **COUNTY OF KENT** 

NOTICE TO CREDITORS **Decedent's Estate** File No. 08,186-002-DE

Estate of DOUGLAS T BALZESKI, deceased. Date of birth 1/10/1957

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: Kent City, MI 49330. Died 11/14/2008.

Creditors of the decedent 2500, Grand Rapids and Grand Rapids and the date of publication of this notice.

November 24, 2008

John D. Flynn P27413 1275 Hawthorne Hills SE Ada, Mi 49301 616-897-6632

> Richard T. Balzeski 234 Thurston SW Wyoming, MI 49548 616-240-6540

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT **COUNTY OF KENT** 

NOTICE TO CREDITORS **Decedent's Estate** File No. 08-185,988-DE

**Estate of HENRY** DEMOTS, deceased.

Date of birth 1/15/1911

TO ALL CREDITORS:

Thedecedent, DOUGLAS The decedent, HENRY T. BALZESKI, who lived DEMOTS, who lived at 12720 Wegal Ave, at 2121 Raybrook SE, 702 Fourth Street NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49546 Grand Rapids, Michigan, died 10/23/2008.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all are notified that all claims claims against the estate claims against the estate against the estate will will be forever barred will be forever barred be forever barred unless unless presented to presented to WILLIAM GLENN DEMOTS named GLENN DEMOTS named DOMBROWSKI, named personal representative personal representative personal representative or proposed personal or proposed personal representative, or to both representative, or to representative, or to both the probate court at 180 both the probate court the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave NW, Suite at 180 Ottawa Ave NW, Ottawa Ave NW, Suite named/proposed the named/proposed the personal representative personal representative within 4 months after within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

November 20, 2008

Craig A. Bruggink PLC P29358 429 Turner NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 616-456-5048

**Glenn DeMots** 2121 Highbluff NE Grand Rapids, MI 49505 616-454-0232

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT **COUNTY OF KENT** 

to Hospice of Michigan.

1260 Ekhart NE, Grand

Rapids, Michigan 49503.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS **Decedent's Estate** 

File No. 08-185,994-DE Estate of STEFANIA

KOSIBA Date of birth 10/9/1923

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, STEFANIA KOSIBA, who lived at died October 12, 2008.

> Creditors of the decedent 2500, Grand Rapids and named/proposed the date of publication

of this notice. November 18, 2008

John D. Mitus P31244 410 Bridge Street NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 616-774-4001

William Dombrowski 616-794-1220 744 Pine NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate** File No. 08-185,974-DE

**Estate of DOROTHY VANWOERKOM** date of

birth 10/25/1920

TO ALL CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent DOROTHY VANWOERKOM Woodrow NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan died 10/31/2008.

Creditors of the decedent

are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to HELAYNE TICHELAAR named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave NW, Suite 2500, Grand Rapids and named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

November 11, 2008

Karen S. McFadden P57043 403 W. Main Belding, Mi 48809

> Helavne Tichelaar 9771 Foreman Rd. Ada, Mi 49301

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# The Lowell Ledger

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# CITY OF LOWELL

THE LOWELL LEDGER - WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2008 - PAGE 3

LAS ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB

meeting in the high school staff lounge on Mon., Dec. 1

FREE COMMODITIES

families at the Moose Recreation Building, 1320 E

Fulton on Thurs., Dec. 4, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Bring proof of

income and Social Security numbers for each member

of household. Needed bags and volunteers to help.

Questions call David, 616-745-8520 or Virginia, 897-

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES

Church, 2275 Main St. are Fri., Dec. 5, 4-6 p.m.

and Sat., Dec. 6, 10:30 a.m. to noon. For info call

IlaJean 897-6609 or visit www.angelfoodministries.

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES

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

**ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS** 

gift idea. They are being offered by Lowell Women's

Club to raise funds for Senior High School girls

scholarships and local projects. The books are \$20 and

can be used through Oct. 2009. They are available at:

Brenda's Hair Design, Huntington Bank, Lowell Area

Arts Council, Salon 206 and any club member or call

FAXING

2009 Entertainment books are a great Christmas

Esther at 897-7395

Mari, 897-8107.

Sign up at the Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington

Angel Food Ministries order days at First Baptist

Free commodities food order for low income

at 7 p.m. Please come and help support our athletes.

The athletic boosters will hold their regular business

For the months of October and November

If you have any questions, please contact City Hall (897-8457).



Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

### Planning commission approves special use permit sets agenda items for Dec.

by Emma Palova

The planning commission Monday approved a Lake. It is proposing greater special use permit for Ignite Church to establish at Larkin's Other Place.

from Impact Church cur- ing to city manager Dave spaces within the city hub. It rently located on Lincoln Pasquale.

The use is compatible Ignite Church is an au- with the zoning as central

**COATS FOR KIDS** 

Curtis Cleaners, 1410 W. Main, has collected, cleaned and donated over 60 coats

this winter season for kids in the community. The coats were donated to the Flat

River Outreach Ministries. The first annual event will continue through the end of

December. "We are very happy to be able to help those in need during this holiday

season. We are also extremely pleased with the response we've gotten from the Lowell

community," said Curtis Cleaners' Andy Curtis. Pictured above, from left to right, are

"The foot print will not foot and bus traffic due to its Pasquale. involvement in downtown increase, but parking is an

> issue," he said. Pastor Phil Struckmeyer

said the church will require tonomous body, a spin-off business or C-2, accord- approximately 105 parking

use of Larkin's Other Place. The planning commission recommended the decision for approval to the city

will probably generate both

orientation towards families

church will not present much

of a change from the current

However, overall, the

with teenagers.

The special use permit review, but will not be revoked.

Obvious renovations would take place in the former theater. With 120 to 200 people utilizing the building parking could be a combina-

In other business, the planning commission set agenda items for the Dec. 8 work session including further discussion of the lighting ordinance, street names, said.

"The special use goes portable garages and master with the property," said plan implementation.

Police chief Jim Valentine gave an overview of the municipal infractions ordinance, which will be added to the code of ordinances. According to Valentine, citations should be handled tion of municipal and priat the 63rd District Court. while the fines will still come back to the city gen-

To The Editor

A pro bono election analysis by someone who petitioned

for Proposal 08-2 in two counties. I am big on biological

research but humble in gear. Lowell Townshipians do

not share my enthusiasm: a) The educrats at Lowell High

School are absolute planks, b) a Township official pointedly

failed to sign my petition, but more from cowardice than

the alledged "Republican war on science." Warning. Data

Proposal 2 lost in Kent County by - 25,000 votes.

As stated before, there is a photograph of Jonas Salk

in our living room, our god and my old lab partner. His

picture is diagonally across the room from the Renaissance

painting of the shepherds calling on baby Jesus. Dr. Salk

looks appraising and a little contemptuous, staring out the

There are many people in the city of Lowell who have

yet to discover everything that it has to offer. One of its

many undiscovered sites is the Wittenbach/Wege Center, a

nature preserve located across the street from Lowell High

School. The 140 acre forest is filled with beautiful wetlands.

days a year from dawn until dusk, so get off the couch and

discover what the Wittenbach Center has to offer. For more

information, a calendar of events, or volunteer opportunities

visit the Wittenbach/Wege page at lowellschools.com. And

while exploring the trails, always remember to take nothing

So it has come down to this for General Motors: 100

years of living, breathing American industrial and social

history is on the precipice of total disaster, with the once-

glittering corporate icon facing certain collapse if some sort

of government financial aid package is not put together in

The company that basically powered this nation

through a century of progress and helped this country

muster the strength to fight world wars - while contributing

immeasurably to the fabric of America and the development

of our vast middle class - is on the verge of filing

fractured America, the ones who fill the Internet with bile

and who project such a level of viciousness and unbridled

glee at the thought of the collapse of our domestic automobile

industry as if it were amazingly enough - some warped

opportunity for celebration, there are countless towns, big

and small, scattered all across this nation that have grown

up with GM as their main employer and the main source of

income for thousands of American families.

Unbeknownst to the legions of people out there in

Think about that for a moment.

Mrs. Tammy Coleman's

but pictures, and leave nothing but footprints!

Lowell Tnp. Pct. 1 - 829 Yes; 917 No

Lowell Tnp. Pct. 2 - 617 Yes; 638 No

Lowell City Pct. 1 - 515 Yes; 480 No

Lowell City Pct. 2 - 405 Yes; 447 No

Dear Editor.

are coming.

front window.

Dear Editor.

Dear Editor,

the next 60 days.

bankruptcy.

"There is only a limited number of citations," he

Editors note: There has apparently been some confusion concerning Larkin's Other Place, also known as the old Strand. It has not been sold. Mike Larkin states that he is still renting space. They have also started a new event called Friday Night Bands at the Strand. Larkin's is still booking events and can be reached at 616-897-5977.

### Happy "calorie controlled" holidays

without eating too much of ary bounty. But before you know it, Thanksgiving and Christmas with all their calorie-laden meals and parties, mings are tempting your senses in

While recently discussing this topic with one of the YMCA's Fitness Testing

Thanksgiving through New Year's Day is five pounds. ber one New Year's resolution – losing weight.

Turkey & All the Trim-

Traditionally, the average American consumes tions 4.500 calories and 229 grams of fat on Thanksgiving Day. Thanksgiving dinand Assessment Specialists, ner alone can carry a load of they shared with me that the 3,000 calories. And most of average weight gain from us will nibble our way (while

watching parades and football games) through more than another 1,500 calories

Combined, that's the equivalent to more than 2 1/4 times the average daily calorie intake, and almost 3 1/2 times the fat.

Healthy Holiday Tradi-

First and foremost, you need to be in a "weight prevention" (and not "weight

Calorie controlled holidays, cont'd., pg. 13

#### And it should be no surprise that this gain goes hand in from snacks and drinks. vour children's confectionhand with our nation's num-

### LOWELL'S WOMEN'S CLUB SAYS THANK YOU TO YEARBOOK ADVERTISERS

Advanced Eyecare Specialists Michael J. Flohr, M.D. Kyle R. Booher, O.D. All Weather Seal Alpha Women's Center of Lowell

Addorio Global Innovations

Andy Curtis and Cindy Cornell.

Alto Heating & Cooling Alto Marathon Altogas

Animal Hospital of Lowell Bruce Langlois, D.V.M. Auto Zone

BC Pizza Backwater Cafe Ball's Ice Cream **Banner Collision** Beachum Flooring Benedict, Mary, PC Bieri Auto Body, Inc. Bernard's Ace Hardware BHTD Financial Group B.J. Roark & Co., Inc.

Blue Ribbon Feed Co. Capital Nails Canfield Plumbing Chimera Design Christian Counseling Center City of Lowell

Clark Financial Clean Cut Lawn Care CDG Design Crystal Flash Collectors Korner Curtis Cleaners

Curves D'Agostino Builders D & D Fabricating

D & D Trucking Daisy Floral deKeiser deSigns Dependable LP Gas Dery Physical Therapy Dirt Cheap Excavating **Durkee-Linton Lumber Edward Jones** Elite Auto Body

Family Denistry of Lowell Farm Bureau Insurance Mark Johnson Farmers Insurance

Fifth/Third Bank Firstbank Flat River Cottage Flat River Grill Flat River Outreach Ministries Flower Farm

Forest Hills Foods Fountain View of Lowell Fry Daddy's Galaxy Signs - Neil & Lisa Mills

Gary's Country Meats Gerst Funeral Homes Glass House Designs Godwin Hardware

Good Chevrolet Buick Grand Dodge Jeep Grand Volute Ballroom Green Acres Retirement Greenridge Realty

Ann Wittenbach Harold Zeigler Ford **Huntington Bank** Ice Cream Caboose JB Harrison Insurance

Keiser's Kitchen Keller Williams Realty **Bonnie Baird** 

Kerkstra Septic Tank Cleaning Kerkstra Portable Restrooms King Milling Company L.A. Auto Trim Lacey's Too Foster Care Home Larkin's

Laurels of Kent Litehouse Little Ceasars Lowell Area Art Council

Lowell Area Historical Museum Lowell Area Trailway Lowell Family Medical Center Paul R. Gauthier, D.O.

James C. Lang, D.O. Wayne A Christenson, D.O. John G. Meier, D.O. Tracey L. Lixie, D.O. Julie Drake, P.A.-C

Lowell Granite Lowell Ledger Lowell Vision Center David Durkee, O.D.

Heather Buist, O.D. Lowell Water Works Lowell YMCA M & M Drafting Mary Kay Cosmetics Cathy Dykstra

Kathy Horsch Sue Raimer Metric Manufacturing

Michigan Wire

Midwest Concepts MTA Services, Inc. Noon Equipment North Country Trail

Noon Tire Oak Hill Counseling Ostrander Siding & Roofing Pauly's Beer & Wine Porter Hills

Raymond James Financial Serv. Reagan, James E., D.D.S. Regal Insurance

Rich's Service Co. Risner Roofing River Valley Credit Union Salon 206

Showboat Auto Sneakers Special FX Inc. Springrove Variety Stanford Vaughn

State Farm Insurance Deborah Wilks Stormzand Asphalt The Garage of Lowell The Hanger Trombly Chiropractic Timpson Transport Two Seasons Greenhouse Vanguard Voyages Coffee Shop Vredeveld Haefner LLC Ward Electric

William J. Wheeler CPA Wild Flowers Whistle Stop Mini Storage Zook Farm Equipment

I am absolutely convinced that the people who hate Detroit and want it to implode have not even the faintest of clues as to what it really means if it were allowed to happen. To those instant experts out there who are reveling at the

thought of a major part of our country's industrial fabric collapsing, I say be careful what you wish for - because if GM is allowed to fail, it will take the entire domestic auto industry down with it - meaning thousands of suppliers and dealers in towns making up a cross-section of America will go under too.

For the record, there are around 14,000 domesticoriented dealers in the U.S. employing approximately 740,000 people with a payroll of around \$35 billion, that's billion with a B. But that's just the dealer side of the equation. When

you add in the suppliers and all of the associated businesses that either directly or indirectly depend on Detroit for their livelihoods, we're talking almost three million people who would be out of work in a matter of just a few months, adding up to a \$150 billion loss in personal income.

I really don't know why it's so easy for people out there to dismiss the collapse of the domestic automobile industry as being some minor event that won't affect them in the least, because each person who is part of that figure of three million represents a real family and real human story, all across this nation. It's the mom and pop diners, stores and peripheral neighborhood businesses that depend on the workers who toil at these factories and plants for their livelihoods too. There are towns all across America that would simply dry up and blow away if the local GM or supplier plant shut down. That's not an exaggeration, that's a simple fact.

I have been vilified of late by numerous critics for shifting my commentary to a more political tone over this election year, but I don't offer any apologies. This country is not only in the throes of a financial crisis, it's in the throes of a fundamental identity crisis as well. We as a nation have Mrs. J. at No. 239 for this service, the oftener the better. been lulled into thinking that things will work out and that any unpleasantness headed our way will be mere speed bumps on our journey to becoming a state of perpetual creeks and ponds that provide homes for a wide range of wildlife from cardinals to deer. The trails are open 365

Well, it just doesn't work that way, folks.

We live in a global economy that isn't big on history or what we as a nation once did or stood for. We have to compete, or else we will arrive at a point when our national future will transition from being one of destiny to one being dictated to us by an unsavory set of circumstances and interests not in line in the least with our hopes, our dreams Ecology Students

In order to compete in this global economy we have to get smarter in our schools and with our educational policies. A high school graduation rate of 50-60 percent should be anathema in our inner cities instead of too often the rule. Remedial classes for kids entering college (who are not able to handle freshman classes) should become a thing of the past. And our teachers need to be compensated realistically and properly so more of our brightest people can sign up to help shape our kids' futures.

In short, this nation needs a wake-up call.

Anyone who thinks this country will not be thrown into a full-blown depression if the domestic automobile industry is allowed to fail is simply kidding themselves. We are facing a perfect storm of events that could spell disaster if we as a nation don't act and act fast. And it would take years for this country to recover too. As I've said repeatedly, the time for all of the idyllic, 'let the free market run its course' hand-wringing is over. It's far too late for that. This country's leadership needs to get these loans to GM and the rest of the domestic automobile industry in the next 60 days, or life as we've come to know it in this country, and I mean every part of this country, not just here in the Motor City, will be severely and unequivocally altered.

That tick, tick, tick you hear?

It's the time running out on the future of America. Let's hope that what needs to get done will in fact get done, before it's too late.

> By Peter M. De Lorenzo Submitted by Brad Potter



#### 125 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL JOURNAL **NOVEMBER 28, 1883**

The new Flat river bridge will soon be completed if the work goes on without too many stops.

The JOURNAL wants new items from Ada, Bowne, and Cascade, and proposes to have them, too. Good correspondents wanted one from each town. Paper and stamped envelopes furnished to correspondents who will send items weekly.

#### 100 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER **NOVEMBER 26, 1908**

Notice-The boys who broke my shop window Monday night are known. They had better come and settle and save

Phone your local news items to THE LEDGER call

#### 75 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AND ALTO SOLO **NOVEMBER 30, 1933**

Lowell people have been made the recipients of a most generous gift. Frank T. King, president of the King Milling Company, has presented to the village of Lowell the islands in Flat River north of the Main Street bridge. Mr. King's gift now makes it possible for the village to proceed with its plans for the improvement and beautification of the islands and river banks.

#### 50 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER **NOVEMBER 27, 1958**

Clarence Meines, 7720 60th Street, Alto, discovered the remains of a human skeleton while hunting in the upper peninsula at Big Bay West of Marquette, last week.

All that was left of the body was a few leg and arm bones, the boots, belt and knife. Authorities thought the body was that of a disturbed person who disappeared some

#### 25 YEARS AGO THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER **NOVEMBER 30, 1983**

This Saturday marks the official start of the Christmas shopping season in Lowell when Santa arrives in the Chamber of Commerce's annual Santa Claus Parade.

As a part of the Thanksgiving program held at the Lowell Senior Center on November 22, 1983, Thelma Roth presented to the center a Memorial Plaque in memory of Ed Fitzgerald.

Everyone is talking about the Ledger! Get your subscription today! 897-9261





#### Lai/Robinson

Katrina Robinson and Mauro Lai were joined in holy matrimony on August 23, 2008 in an outdoor ceremony at the Grand Volute Ballroom in Lowell. Rev. Rick Blunt and Father Julian Reginato officiated. joyous reception was held in the ballroom reception area after the ceremony.

Katrina is the daughter of Ray and Beth Wolfe of Lowell and Gil Robinson of Minneapolis, MN. She is a graduate of Lowell High School, Western Michigan eymoon in Hawaii.

WEDDING

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University, and Pacific Lutheran University. She is a counselor/advisor and instructor at Tacoma Community College.

Mauro is the son of Giorgio Italo Lai and Leana Pasta of L'Aquila, Italy. He graduated from Universita' degli Studi di L'Aquila and University of Missouri - Rolla. He is an analog en-

The newly married couple is living in Tacoma, Washington after their hon-

Mauro Lai and Katrina Robinson



**NOVEMBER 26:** John Erickson.

**NOVEMBER 27:** Vezino,

### Alpha Women's Center of Lowell would like to thank LITEHOUSE INC.

for underwriting our 2nd annual banquet and helping to make our event a success!

> We also thank Meijer for their donation.

We would also like to thank Qua-ke-zik Sportsman's Club for hosting our 1st annual Skeet and Trap Shoot in August.

Chad Uzarski, Elizabeth Roudabush, Harding, Marty Chambers, Burrows, Aaron Rittersdorf, Spencer, Aiden Malone.

> **NOVEMBER 28:** Hildenbrand Richmond, Lee Miller.

**NOVEMBER 29:** Gail Thomet, Kelly Sauber, Scott Swanson, Tara Propst.

**NOVEMBER 30:** Jason Craig, Todd Ryder, Joe Kiczenski, April McClure.

**DECEMBER 1:** Travis Briggs, Nate Schoen, Deb Anchors, Denny Brenk

II, Joyce Watrous.

**DECEMBER 2:** Chelsey Treglia, Kari Bergy,

..11:00 A.M.

#### Force Reserve Airman 1st Class Emily G. Temple has graduated from basic military training at San Antonio, Texas.

organization, core values,

courtesies; performed drill

training exercises, and

special training in human

relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate in applied science Lackland Air Force Base, degree relating through the Community College of the During the six weeks of Air Force.

training, the airmen studied She is the daughter of the Air Force mission, Thad Temple of Alto.

Temple graduated in 2000 from Caledonia High and military customs and School and received a and ceremony marches, and bachelor's degree in 2007 received physical training, from Grand Valley State rifle marksmanship, field University.

### Lowell composer chosen for international CD compilation

piano CD by Lowell native, compilation CD representing commercial

One track from the 2006 CD was released in Nov. in

MacNaughton, "Delicate Dancer" appears of All" airing Nov. 26 on alongside nineteen tracks WGVU. of "Music In Motion." The



### Ask Kathryn In The Service

With Kathryn DenHouter Ph.D.



Celebrate the holidays with a real Christmas tree

Shakespeare's Macbeth had it right when he said, "sleep knits up the raveled sleave of care." Also, Shakespeare referred to sleep as the "chief nourisher of life's feast."

Having a good night's sleep can help you start your day by feeling well-rested. This has a huge effect on your quality of life.

to relax and have a good night's sleep. Your bed actually becomes a "torture chamber" because you find yourself thrashing about and turning over and over trying to fall asleep.

If that happens, get out of bed and read or do a crossword puzzle or something that will make you tired. Then, when you are tired, go back into bed to sleep.

It is important to mentally "pair associate" your bed or on the web at www.kathryndenhouter.com. with sleep rather than with a state of angst and thrashing

Also donated were two one day worth of food for

shopping carts full of canned a family and make a meal

soup that was collected and plan for breakfast, lunch,

several carloads of donated and dinner. Then send each

clothes and toys that were team out having volunteers

donated from the garage go around the community

need consists of boxed and old shirts that they deem

canned potatoes, soup, paper unwearable are recycled and

Professionals would like to 11535 Fulton St. and is

challenge all local business always in need of volunteers.

to think of how they can help 
If you would like to donate

the community. One idea or get more information stop

that Haybarker suggested by or call (616) 897-8260.

was a scavenger hunt for a

used for making rugs.

FROM is located at

Haybarker states, "the plan.

food pantry is always in

products and canned fruit."

Advanced Eyecare

Another tip is to avoid exercising in the evening before bed since exercise is stimulating and can put you in a wide awake state and unable to sleep.

Also, make sure that you use good "sleep hygiene." By this I mean, that your bedroom is the right temperature and that it is sufficiently ordered and rest-inducing. Clean sheets can also help create good "sleep hygiene."

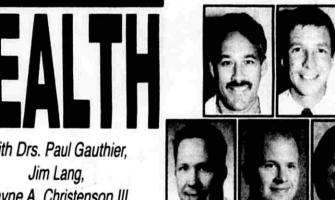
Another tip is to avoid alcohol before you go to bed. Although it may help you to relax and go to sleep, its effects are only short term, and the net result is less sleep overall. Most people find that taking nightcaps result in waking up at two or three in the morning. An alcohol induced sleep is not all that restful.

Another tip is to establish a program that will reduce the anxieties in your life. Being free of constant stress and It is distressing to be completely exhausted and unable worry during the day is a necessity for happy living, and for a good night's sleep.

Finding a therapist that can help with these worries through the use of Cognitive Therapy can be extremely

The next article will be about dreaming and REM sleep. Once again, I appreciate your questions so keep them coming. You can email me at kathryndenhouter@gmail.com

THE LOWELL LEDGER - WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2008 - PAGE 7



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

#### **KNOW YOUR** FAMILY MEDICAL HISTORY

Medical conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, cancers and clotting disorders develop as the result of many factors. Some are caused by environmental factors such as poor diet, lack of exercise, smoking, drinking, and chemical exposures. Some are caused by genetic factors that are passed from one generation to another. While some are the result of both environmental and genetic factors.

Diabetes Mellitus Type 2 (adult onset diabetes) has a strong genetic component. This means that relatives of Type 2 diabetics have a high likelihood of becoming diabetic in their lifetime. This can often be prevented with proper diet, exercise, and weight control.

Heart disease often has a strong genetic component and tends to run in families. People with a family history of heart disease should be sure to control their blood pressure, control their cholesterol, not use tobacco, and control their weight with diet and exercise.

Hypertension (high blood pressure) often developes as a result of many factors, but the biggest factor is family history. If you have family members with hypertension, it is important that you control your cholesterol, not use tobacco, and control your weight with diet and exercise.

Many cancers tend to run in families. The most common ones are breast, colon, and prostate. If you have a family member with one of these cancers, it is important that you begin a cancer screening program sooner, and more regularly then the average person.

Clotting disorders are often hereditary. Clotting disorders can place a person at increased risk of a blood clot which can travel to the lung and cause a pulmonary

Health, cont'd., pg. 12

The Arbor Board forest thinnings or -- more as well, but fraught with "Cold-Hearted Orb" solo Mittweida, Germany. of Lowell and the Arbor commonly -- grown for the problems of keeping them Day Foundation urge the purpose. The Foundation alive. Roger MacNaughton, has full-time composer and community to consider also encourages planting been plucked from the performer, has penned ranks of new-age piano four instrumental CDs in music by the producers of a addition to composing for artists from North America, film and video projects. New Zealand and Europe. Most recently, he scored The MacNaughton original the documentary "The Gift





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Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307

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...... 8:30 & 10:15 a.m.

..9:00 A.M.

Kirby and Harrison Alto • 616-691-8011

Children's Church......9:30 A.M.

- OPEN DOORS Pastor Dean Bailey

Nursery & Jr. Church Provided Rev. Frank Lattimore, Pastor "A Nondenominational Ministry With A Blended Word Centered Service!"

**CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER** (Assembly of God)

Robert W. Holmes, Lead Pastor John King, Youth Pastor SUNDAYS: 10:00 a.m - Worship & Evening: Family Night: (for all ages) 7:00 p.m.

www.stmary-lowell.com Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETE WIGGINS 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 49, EWTN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING

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10:15-11:15 A.M Thursday Faith Alive Worship. Rev. Terry Tessari. Interim Pasto ..C.E. Directo ..Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise & Worship





# AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

**DAY BIBLE CHAPEL** 

9305 Centerline, Saranac

897-6332



**ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** 

.9:30 A.M.

**OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS** 

Loving God ... Loving People **FIRST BAPTIST** SNOW UNITED

**CHURCH OF LOWELL** Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Lee Taylor Sun. Worship Service......9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. AWANA/EXCITE •TEENS. Wed. 6:15 & 6:30 P.M. **Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times** Nursery Provided · Barrier Free

Sunday School.

3050 Alden Nash S.E. · 897-1100 · Staffed Nursery LIFE home Groups & "The Source" Youth

-METHODIST CHURCH 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Rev. Vance Dimmick Jr.

.Worship/Fellowship 1:15 A.M. .Sunday School 897-9863 or 897-9588 Nursery & Children Worship Programs Provided (5) A friend...a family...a mission!

#### CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH **OF LOWELL** Rev. Randy Meyers - 897-7060

1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship. .10:00 A. M Sunday School. ..11:20 A.M Evening Worship. ..6:00 P.M. Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free

ST. MARY'S

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Fr. George J. Fekete

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Sunday Worship.



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An Erie Metal Roof will keep your home cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter.

Call today to see if you qualify. Not only will you receive the best price possible, but we will give you access to no money down bank financing with very attractive rates and terms.

An Erie Metal Roofing System will provide your home with unsurpassed "Beauty and Lasting Protection"!

Don't miss this opportunity to save!

www.ErieMetalRoofs.com

help preserve open · are biodegradable and

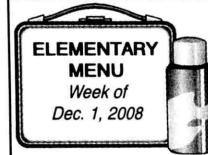
recyclable.

selecting a real Christmas lawn trees strategically and National Christmas Tree tree this holiday season using young conifers for Association, 85 percent Wittenbach-Wege center has instead of purchasing an outdoor decorations. Using of artificial trees begin in once again offered to recycle artificial one. It is more potted or ball and burlap overseas factories where Christmas trees. Bring trees environmentally friendly to trees and then planting working conditions are less to the WWC on or before use trees that are either from them is certainly acceptable than ideal. They are made Sunday, Jan. 4 between 1 with metals and plastics that and 4 p.m. Trees will be Food bank, cont'd. ... From Page 3 sometimes include PVC shredded and used as mulch or lead.. The Foundation's around the Center. stance on supporting the traditional Christmas tree industry is based on many reasons, including the fact that Christmas trees that come from farms:

According to

and try to collect the meal • provide jobs in rural areas. provide the usual benefits He also mentioned of trees, inluding oxygen, need of help and I hope more that FROM not only helps CO2 uptake, erosion businesses like Advanced locally, but also globally. control, and wildlife Professionals Some of the donated items habitat. and individuals alike will are even shipped around the donate. Currently, the world to be used. In fact,

LUNCH MENU



MON: Tony's cheese pizza (egg salad sandwich also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake). green beans, applesauce,

TUES: Cheeseburger on bun (taco salad w/tortilla chips also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray lettuce/fresh vegetables, assorted fruit

WED: Chicken nuggets w dinner roll (3 meat sub also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake) mashed potatoes/gravy assorted fruit, milk.

THURS: Bosco sticks w dipping sauce (stacked ham/cheese on a bun also offered at Alto Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), mini carrots/dip, pineapple, milk.

> FRI: Chicken patty on bun (tuna salad on wheat also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake). French vegetable pasta salad, applesauce, milk.

LOOK AT ME NOW!!! The Laurels of Kent Congratulates Doris Norton Dolores Alexander and Vivian Rice for reaching their therapeutic goals returning them home!

> Congratulations! ivian Rice says "The therapy was great and I vould return if needed"

Dolores Alexander says "The food was good Doris Norton says "Everyon was always nice and helpful'

# Y LAURELS

A Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center 350 N. Center St. • Lowell, MI 49341 • (616) 897-8473

### DENTIST

Pictured left to right: Rebekah, Jay, Doris Norton,

Dolores Alexander, Missy, Vivian Rice, and Laura





At the Family Dentistry of Lowell you're more than a patient. You're part of my family.

That's why I want you to be comfortable

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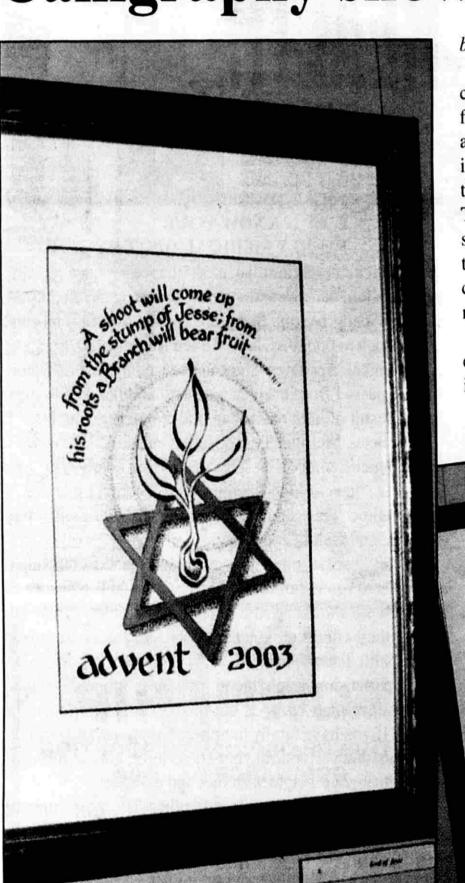
I've been serving families like yours since 1991 Aren't you ready for a better dental experience?

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147 NORTH CENTER STREET, LOWELI

# Calligraphy show combines written word with art



by Emma Palova

comes in many forms and an illumination of a column in gold and red to highlight the beginning of a text. the Bible. All that can be combined with fine art for a year in honor of one of the masterpiece delight.

From the above mix. comes an exhibit unique Grand Rapids, Sue Haney.

Beautiful penmanship Process Center. The show 'Rejoicing in the Simple & the Profound' combines the written word with art.

> Marketing director Kacey Cornwell hopes to make the show into an annual event. The first calligraphy exhibit was last founding members of The Calligraphic Society of

at the Franciscan Life modern to traditional, some their own hand-made paper.

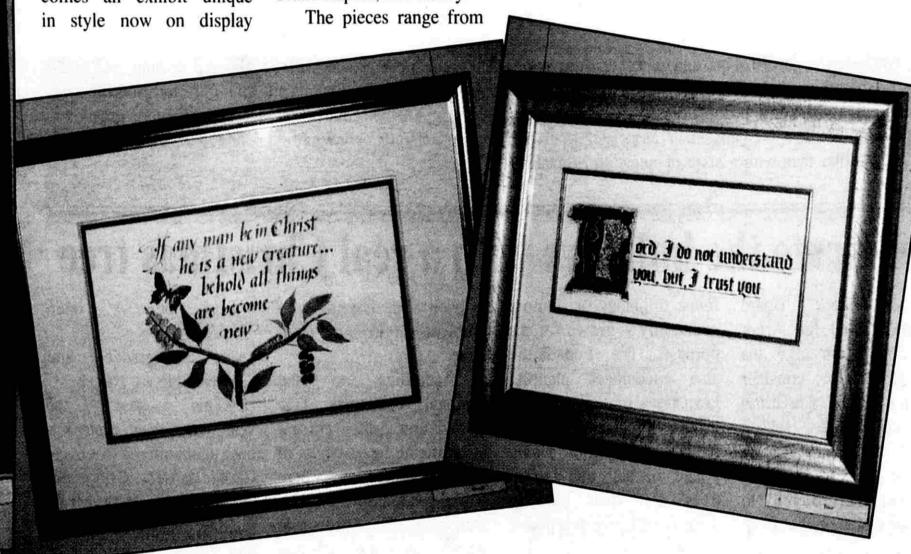
> of the first letters," said Cornwell. "I am thrilled to

as timeliness. Most of the themes of the texts are tied

using old English font. Some Cindy Bowles, Karen artists like Mike Linden in Cornwell, John Knight, his 'Christmas Story' use Bonnie Walker, Mike Linden, Hope Luurtsema, "They do illumination Sue Haney, Marv Huizinga and Sandra Sicard.

"The show varies from simple calligraphy to the Truly, the show strikes written word combined with its originality, as well with other media," said

The show is on through



Beautiful calligraphy works are now on display at the Franciscan Life Process Center.

## Auto dealers, continued ... From Page 1

"Actually, it's the best time ever. Auto manufacturers are doing everything they can to push inventory," said Keith Kloostra, finance manager at Grand Chrysler, leaner." Dodge and Jeep. "With low interest rates, incentives and he believes has been mis- ergized talk of hybrids and low prices, consumers can purchase new cars at nearly half the price of a few years admits sales are down, re- more and more people are

ed the focus of many buyers ated. from new to used.

tra explains.

bach concurs with Kloostra. even stronger." "The economic times are

leading reporting by the electric cars. national media. While he ports of the death of the auto looking to hybrids and elec-The economy has shift- industry are greatly exagger- tric cars," Kloostra said.

"Our sales used to be auto industry is going out of ler has a mid size sporty car half and half, now the shift business. There will be no coming out with its new leans toward used," Kloos- liquidation just reorganiza- product line."

Jerry Dykhuis, general tion. GM is a strong com-

While the slow ecoforcing all of us to operate nomic times have amped up the sales of used cars, the explains. Dykhuis warns of what volatile oil market has en-

"With the gas scare, government subsidies. "Electric cars are probably "Don't believe that the two years out. I know Chrys-

manager at Grand Witten- pany and this dealership is technology has not all been worked out.

> enough to produce yet," he SUVs. puzzle is pricing. Much of

Dykhuis said the electric car will not replace but instead will supplement.

need for gas pulsation vehicles. Electric cars won't be able to do what large vehicles are capable of doing."

nomic times, hybrids and the eventual electric car may "It's just not good be the end of larger vehicles/

The sales of SUVs and The other part of the pickup trucks declined when gas prices were \$4 a gallon. that will be answered by However, the desire for the

truck is still prevalent. "I'm selling more trucks than cars right now," explains "There will still be a you had was the auto in- time to buy. dustry was too heavily into

A casualty of the eco- the SUV market, creating a

Kloostra and Gardner see an end to the larger

"I think the need for the big SUV is gone. We're seeing a switch to the crossover vehicle," Gardner says.

Whether it's an economy, hybrid, truck or SUV the local auto dealers consensus Dykhuis. "The problem is now, more than ever, the

### GM attempts to dispel some common myths concerning the auto industry

Myth: The demise of the American auto industry won't really • The cost to local, state, and federal governments could affect the American way of life.

Fact: What happens to the U.S. auto industry matters on Main Street.

From plants to parks. From dealerships to driveways. From gas stations to grocery stores. What happens in the automotive industry affects each and every one of us. In Myth: With the largest workforce in the auto industry, 2008 Car of the Year. In 2007, the Saturn Aura and Chevy fact, the collapse of the U.S.-based auto industry wouldn't just impact the nearly 355,000 Americans directly employed Fact: GM has cut its payroll drastically, by 45.8 percent in by the Big Three. One out of of every 10 people in America the U.S. alone since 2000. is employed in a service that is related to the U.S. auto industry. If a plant closes, so does its suppliers, the local stores, the hot dog vendors, and the local restaurants.

never have thought:

- Nearly 3 million jobs would be lost in the first year alone - with another 2.5 million to follow over the next two automaker.
- than \$150.7 billion in the first year.

- reach \$156.4 billion over three years in lost taxes, and unemployment and health care assistance.
- Domestic automobile production would more than likely date in 2008. fall to zero - even by international producers, due to supplier bankruptcies.

General Motors has far too many people working for it.

In fact, GM is far from the largest employer in the industry. With 252,000 employees worldwide, GM ranks fifth overall behind Volkswagen (373,400 employees), The effect would be devastating in ways of which you Renault/Nissan (316,121 employees), Toyota 316,121 employees) and Daimler (272,382 employees). Yet GM sold more vehicles worldwide last year than any other

Myth: GM doesn't make cars that people want to buy. • Personal income in the United States would drop by more Fact: 9.3 million people worldwide bought GM vehicles last year. That's more vehicles than any other automaker in the

world sold. And in the U.S., which is the world's largest market, GM sold more vehicles than any other manufacturer in 2007, and it has sold more than any other automaker to

In 2008, the Chevy Malibu was named North American Car of the Year, and the Cadillac CTS was Motor Trend's Silverado won North American Car and Truck of the year. Those awards are given and judged by automotive

Customers have responded just as enthusiastically as the critics. Although total U.S. vehicle sales are down almost 15 percent so far this year (through October), a number of GM cars and crossovers have enjoyed significant sales increase: Chevy Malibu +39 percent

- Pontiac Vibe +36 percent
- Pontiac G6 +4 percent
- Cadillac CTS +15 percent
- Saturn Aura +7 percent GMC Acadia +2 percent
- Buick Enclave +88 percent

# Mainline Coffee will offer their customers specialty brews

A bright red trolley for her license. When the

red and blue trolley with offered help as needed. golden decals stating chai, latte, and mocha.

be," said owner Wendy them. Lawrence.

Rapids can't wait to open Jet's develop into a plaza. her Mainline Coffee drive-

"I want to learn about here," said Faba. the coffee business," she start of a little chain."

through a lot of hoops, but

transported from Seattle construction started in June. to Grand Rapids made it the trolley was just sitting on to the outskirts of Lowell the ground, so the foundation at the west end of Fulton for it had to be constructed. Matt Garrison of

Driving into town one Ridgeline was the contractor, cannot help but notice the while Paul Faba of Pauly's "I am very excited about

the project," she said. "I've "It's as cute as it can had superb help from both of Garrison would like to

Lawrence, who is see the existing complex currently working at B&B of businesses including "There is synergy

thru with specialty brews. between the businesses

said. "Maybe to have a synergy that attracts a mix the business, Lawrence will 6 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Monday of customers, even after She had to jump shopping at big box stores.

\*\*\*

Don't go around saying the world

Lawrence will be she plans to hire part-time 1:30 p.m. now she is only waiting offering normal hot coffee

HAPP

THANKSGIVING

Matt Garrison, Wendy Lawrence and Paul Faba in

front of Mainline Coffee.

shop menu," she said. Until It is specifically that she learns the inside out of be the only worker.

Liquor Store in Grand Mainline Coffee, Pauly's and cold coffee drinks, frozen hot help. "I am very much chocolate, fruit smoothies, looking forward to begin," baked goods and brownies. she said. "People have been "I will have a full coffee curious. Lowell has been

> very positive, supportive." She will be open from However, in the future Saturdays from 7 a.m. to

Board held on November 17, 2008 Ordinance 1-08 was adopted. through Friday, and on Ordinance amended the Bowne Township Zoning Ordinance to amend the landscaping and screening requirements of Article 3 General Provisions, and Article 17 Signs and Billboards. A summary of this Ordinance

Section 3.27. C. 2 requires plantings within a greenbelt to be as to follows;

- E and

BOWNE

**TOWNSHIP** 

**NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION** 

**ORDINANCE NO. 1-08** 

At a regular meeting of the Bowne Township

The distance between shrub plantings shall be spaced 5 feet on center and shrubs shall reach an ultimate height of not less than 3

Parking facility screening must additionally meet the requirements of Section 16.05 A.

Section 3.27. H allows the Planning Commission to modify the requirements for screening and landscaping during the review of a site plan according to certain criteria such as the amount of existing landscaping, the use on the adjacent property, the topography of a site and other similar criteria.

Section 17.02 allows non-residential uses to have a freestanding sign and a wall sign, subject to setbacks required by Article 17. Setbacks for freestanding signs is 10 feet from any road right of way and any property line. Setbacks for ground signs is 10 feet from any side property line. Freestanding, wall and ground signs are permitted for permitted non-residential uses and special uses in residential zoning districts.

This Ordinance shall become effective seven days after publication.

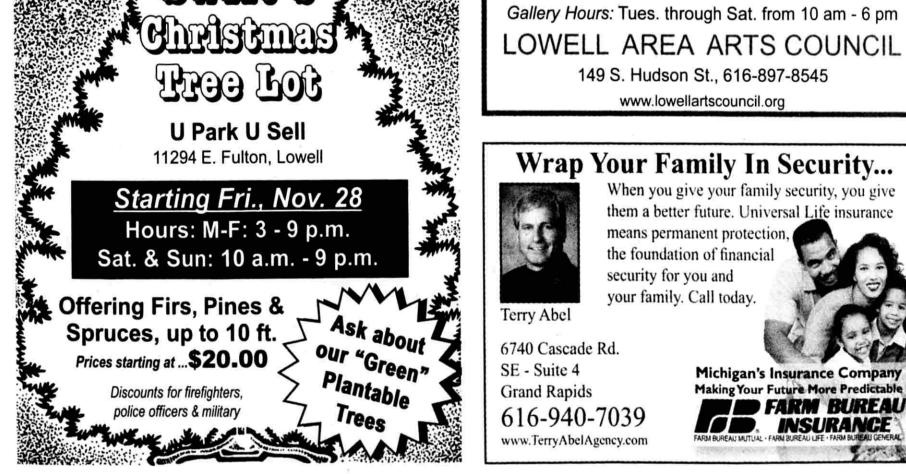
Ordinance 1-08 is available for review at the Bowne Township offices, 8240 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Alto, Michigan, 49302 during normal office hours on Wednesday & Thursday from 9 AM to Noon and 1 PM to 5 PM and on Friday from 9 AM to Noon or by calling 616-868-6846.

> Sandra Kowalczyk, Clerk **Bowne Township**



owes you a living. The world owes you nothing. It was here first. - Mark Twain a Gallery of Fine Art & Gifts 

Open November 13th - December 23rd Gallery Hours: Tues. through Sat. from 10 am - 6 pm LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL 149 S. Hudson St., 616-897-8545 www.lowellartscouncil.org



The Firstbank of Lowell November food drive brought in an excess of 100 pounds of food and donations of \$117. The proceeds from the food drive will be donated to the Flat River Outreach Ministries Food Pantry. Pictured above, from left to right, Firstbank employees, Barb, Erni, Denise, Ginny, Tanya and Kurt.

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# CITY OF LOWELL

### **PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING OF BOARD OF REVIEW**

The Lowell City Board of Review will meet to correct the various Assessment Rolls for 2008 at City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan on:

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2008 10:00 A.M. TO 11:00 A.M.



C. Jeanne Shores, Mayor James Marfia, Assessor

# Community food drive raises food for local food pantries

Michigan raised 587 pounds been donated to eight food wholly owned subsidiary of food and \$650 for local pantries in the bank's local of Firstbank Corporation food pantries during its communities. annual Community Food Drive held October 20 Michigan is a diversified

through November 7, 2008. financial services company Contributions made by providing a wide range of customers, friends and staff banking services. Firstbank

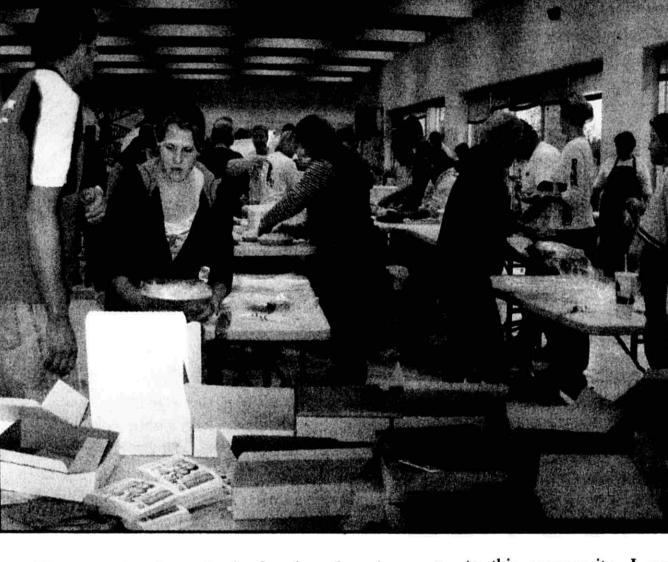
West at the bank's 10 offices have - West Michigan is a operating offices in Ionia, Belding, Hastings, Lowell, Sunfield, and Woodland, Michigan. Firstbank Corporation, headquartered

financial services company using a multi-bank-charter format with assets of \$1.4 billion and 53 banking offices serving Michigan's Lower Peninsula.

### Lowell wrestling teams hold fundraiser

With guidance from "A Piece of the Pie Company," the Lowell Wrestling Program held a fundraiser making apple pies from scratch. This year the program went a step further and offered the option to donate apple pies to the Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM).

The goal at the start the event was to donate at least 100 pies to freeze then include with Thanksgiving dinners. Once again, the response from the Lowell community was impressive and over 200 pies were donated. "Our wrestlers and their parents took a lot of pride in this aspect of the event," said varsity coach, Dave Dean. "They really worked hard at selling, making, and distributing pies. We will keep this feature in the fundraiser for future years as it is excellent for our young athletes to always be a part of giving back.



pies donated so Alto Meats

The pay it forward is freezing the pies until concept cannot be ingrained they can reach their final enough." FROM could not destinations. Dean added, even hold the number of "Once again, I tip my hat

truly amazed." The event is planned again for October and November of 2009.

### Most popular babies invite you to their crib

by Vonda VanTil, Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

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If you have children Jacob or an Emily. They've example, you can search and Emily for 10 years.

babynames.

The Popular Baby

Names website features the don't just share their page ten most popular names for with other baby names. boys and girls in 2007. You There is a lot of information can also see other lists of on the page that is of interest popular baby names. For to babies and the parents who



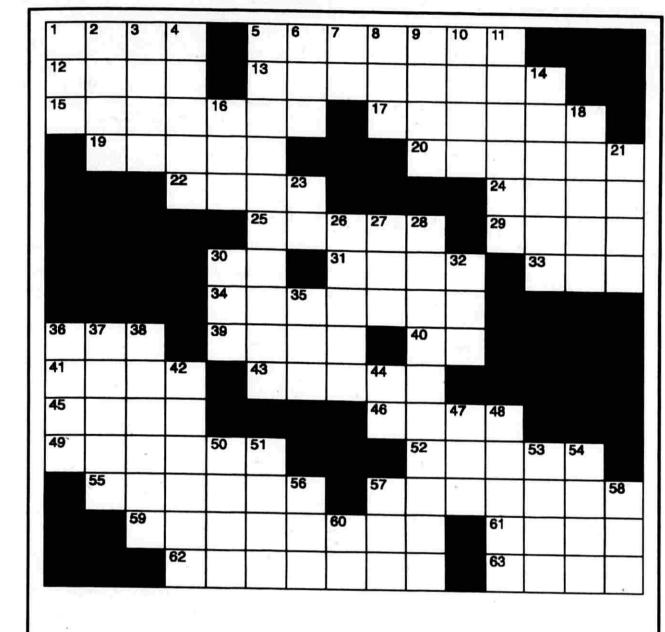
or know people who do, been the most popular baby for the 1,000 most popular chances are you know a names for a boy and a girl names of a decade, the five for years - Jacob for 9 years most popular names of the past century, or search for This year, Jacob and the most popular names in Emily continue to reign at the your state. You can even top of the lists. You can visit get popular baby names for them in their online "crib" twins. Plug in any name to at www.socialsecurity.gov/ see where it comes in on the But Jacob and Emily

care for them. Find out about getting a Social Security number for your baby, and what parents should know about Social Security. Learn about benefits for children and grandchildren. Plan your family's financial future and find out about Social Security's future.

When people think about Social Security, they often think of the retirement years. But Social Security is there throughout your life. Social Security's popular Baby Names page has a lot to offer.

Whether you have a grandchild on your knee or you're contemplating your first child, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/ babynames today

# PAUSE, PONDER & PASS SOME-TIME!



#### **CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. The front of the head 5. 4th C. Latin Bible
- 12. Seasonal yield
- 13. Ectoblast
- 15. Anterior portion of brains
- 17. Run off the tracks 19. '41 film "Abdul the Bulbul
- 20. Bahamian capital
- 22. Formed by sewing 2 pieces 24. Popular shade trees
- 25. Gaming character
- 29. 1/100 W. Samoan tala 30. Wizard of \_
- 31. \_\_\_\_igine native
- 33. Father
- 34. Emit radiation

32. Confederate soldier

37. Red fluorescent dye

36. Millisecond

obliquely

42. Induces vomiting

35. W. India island annexed in '62

38. Conveys a meaning

36. Japanese apricot

39. Children's author Blyton

41. Clusters of sporangia

43. European blackbird

46. Sign for adding

49. Movie complex

55. Actress Kidman

57. Swaziland's capital

59. Tunneled burial place

52. 3rd stomachs

63. Thin tin plate

61. Upon

62. Flue

40. Charlotte's Web author

45. Employee stock ownership

- 1. Licenses TV stations
- 2. Space on a surface

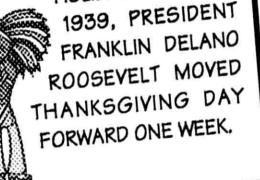
CLUES DOWN

- 3. Gladiolus bulb 4. Fencing swords
- 5. Longest NYC bridge6. Fiddler crabs
- 7. Lieutenant
- 8. The most exalted being
- 9. Arabian Gulf
- 10. Biu-Mandara
- 11. Rubs off 14. Informed wrongly
- 16. Honey producer
- 18. Salmon shark genus
- 21. Second hand 23. 24th state
- 26. Forays
- 27. Don't know when yet
- 28. Usual concierge location
- 30. Metal-bearing mineral
- 44. The "King's" initials 47. Actress Thurman 48. Wooden shoe
  - 50. Lepidopteran 51. Jai \_\_, sport

  - 53. Capital of Yemen
  - 54. Opposed to a policy
  - 56. Electronic countermeasures 57. Woman (French)
  - 58. A long division of geologi-
  - cal time
  - 60. Not off

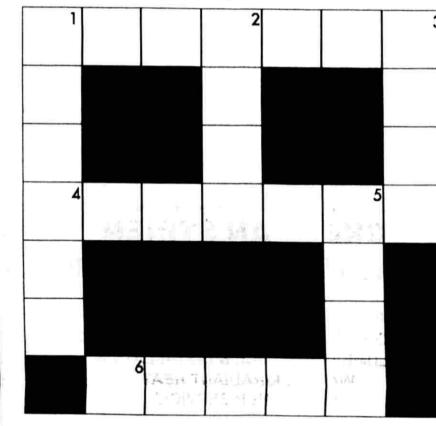
#### A M E E NASSAU SEAM LMS N O R T H SENE ABOR D A D RADIATE E N I D O U S E SORI E | S | O | P | OMASA N I C O L E M B A B A N E C A T A C O M B ONTO CHIMNEY

PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN PRO-CLAIMED THANKSGIVING A NATIONAL HOLIDAY IN 1863. IN 1939, PRESIDENT





### **Thanksgiving Crossword**



#### **CLUES ACROSS**

Fun By The

Like puzzles?

mind-bending

puzzle will have

you hooked from

the moment you

square off, so

sharpen your

pencil and put

Then you'll love

Numbers

1. Game birds 4. American Indians

6. Vegetables

L. Thanks 2, Kiwi 3, Seas 5, Ears

I. Turkeys 4. Natives 6. Crops

WAS TURKEY ACTUALLY

SERVED AT THE FIRST

THANKSGIVING?

EATEN AT THE MEAL.

CALLY MENTIONED AS A FOOD

ANSWER: TURKEY IS NOT SPECI

- 1. Showing appreciation
  - 2. Not a fruit at the first Thanksgiving

**CLUES DOWN** 

ATTENTION

READERS

Are You Feeling

GREATIVES

If you would like to

submit a poem,

verse, cartoon,

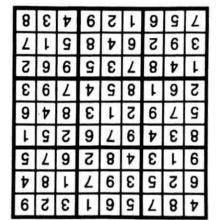
for the

- 3. Oceans
- 5. \_\_\_ of corn

### SUDOKU



Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!



: HAWSNA

drawing or recipe your sudoku Reader's Corner, we'd like to print it.

Not all will be accepted and submissions will not be returned unless a self-addressed, stamped envelope is included.

You may bring your signed creations to the Ledger office 105 N. Broadway, OR mail them to: Ledger/Readers Corner P.O. Box 126 **Lowell, MI 49331** OR E-mail: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com

Subject: "Readers Corner"



# by Mac McPherson

#### STATE COLLEGE, PA

First, congratulations to The Big Ten Co-Champions, Penn State and Ohio State. I'll tell you what friends... Penn State put on a show at Beaver Stadium Saturday afternoon. I do want to make a point for the benefit of Michigan State and any Big Ten team that aspires to be the conference champion as an inspiration to become the champion sooner rather than later.

Great Americans have learned from their failures. Abraham Lincoln lost at least two elections before being elected President of the USA. How many tests and experiments did Thomas Edison conduct until the light bulb actually worked? Right here in Lowell there are businesses that fell short of the mark and kept going to later succeed at championship-like levels.

So congratulations to the co-champions and learn from 3. Maybe a guest columnist. their excellence. By the way, Penn State's stadium is another great Big Ten stadium. Of the 11 Big Ten stadiums, Spartan Stadium is my clear favorite. Probably Beaver Stadium is my second favorite stadium, a great structure built, I believe, in the 50's. Capacity with additions is about 105,000.

So now onto the bowls. There are six or seven teams champion again. When you lose to the champion, view the that will be bowl bound: Penn State, The Buckeyes, The

Spartans, The Wildcats, The Hawkeyes, and The Gophers or the Badgers. Big Ten Talk may run for four more prints before Christmas and then I'm thinking one more following the January bowls.

- Those five columns might consist of:
- 1. A list of all quotes of the week. 2. A preview of the bowl games.
- 4. Maybe comments from former Big Ten players.
- 5. Recap of Bowl Games and a preview of 2009 season. So, have a great family Thanksgiving week and get your

fill of turkey and college and NFL football all weekend. Quote of the week: "My Momma said there would be days like this." Noel Dean (Nov. 15, 2008) and The

Shirelles (the 1960's).

### Health, continued ... From Page 7

embolism, or to the brain and cause a stroke. People with clotting disorders often develop blood clots easier than the average person as the result of trauma, surgeries, or prolonged immobilization.

Many people fail to realize the importance of knowing their own family medical history. They often do not realize that they may be at risk of developing the same conditions that their siblings, parents or grandparents have been diagnosed with. It is very important that everyone learn not only their immediate family medical history, but also their distant family history and share that information with their health care provider. Having regular physical exams and sharing your family's medical history with your health care provider is the best way to prevent your family's medical problems from becoming your own.

## **Siblings** each bag their bucks

Kelsey Taylor shot a 4-point. She is 15 years old and this is her third year hunting and her third

Calib Taylor shot a 6-point He is 12 years old and this is his first year hunting.

They were out hunting with Jon Francis in the Lowell area.



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The Lowell Ledger

your home.

research (via the Internet) to

find low calorie alternatives

This news about ESPN purchasing the BCS rights will

loss") mindset throughout to traditional family favor- - Avoid the guilt trips. Well my experience, I have found tionary delights will only the holiday season. Below ites.

are a few ideas that you and your family can imple- - Whatever you do, don't ment to help create new and immediately return to the healthy holiday traditions in sofa or easy chair after your meal! Get everyone in the Plan the Menu - Don't family involved, even if leave this task to one per- that means going to one of son (most likely Mom), re- Grand Rapids area shopping Talk about favorite dishes, event that it's too cold outhealthiness of each item, side. And if you are going to and possible alternatives. someone else's home, make You might even do some sure and pack the appropri-

ate clothes/shoes.

Psychological Warfare

fall prey to comments like; acceptable. Slow down and ment.

Calorie controlled holidays, continued ... From Page 4

meaning relatives and their that over indulgence at holi-Plan to Exercise "off the cuff" comments day parties can be a constant more food later. can make your calorie-con- struggle. You can counteract trolled consciousness take this battle by adhering to the Limit your alcohol intake, an unwanted detour. Don't following:

Eat something before plenty of clear fluids. "You want more don't you go. Like going to the you?", "Is that ALL your grocery store on an empty eat out of boredom. Mingle going to eat?", and "I slaved stomach, by going to a party about, or ask the host if you view the menu as a family. malls for a brisk walk in the all day to prepare this meal, without something on your can help. Remember that the and this is the thanks I get?" stomach, you are setting socializing, not the food, is thought. Not cleaning your plate is yourself up for disappoint- what makes a party fun, not enjoy the food. Watch your sugar in-

Holiday Parties - From take. Too many confec- vation to keep those pounds

increase your cravings for son? Think about it this way.

Drink plenty of water. or at least balance it with

Socialize. Many of us to mention memorable.

off during the holiday sea-

Remember the 3,000-calorie meal I talked about earlier? To burn off that entire meal, a 160-pound person would have to run at a moderate pace for four hours, swim continuously for five hours,

Now that's food for

or walk for 30 miles.

Staci Messersmith is the Executive Director of the Looking for more moti- Lowell and Ionia YMCA



The news that ESPN bought the rights to the Bowl Championship Series starting in 2010 didn't get a lot of

Most people don't really care. As long as the games are televised, the carrier is a non issue for the general public.

For some odd reason I've always paid attention to that sort of thing. Who's carrying the games and who's broad- cable companies. casting them matters to me.

eventually matter to you too!

Here's why. For the first time ever those bowl games, that matter, will not be televised on network TV, but instead on cable. For those who make the bowl games must see television, they probably have cable and therefore get ESPN. No problem. For those casual viewers, if you don't subscribe to ESPN now, you will have to in the future to watch business increase. the big four bowl games.

ESPN is paying \$125 million a year to televise these games some \$5 million more than FOX (the current carrier) offered to maintain the rights.

How does ESPN pay for this?

History shows that one mode of income is raising the cable carrier fee. That's right, ESPN hikes its rate to local basis to help determine its rate.

Strapped with increased expenses for doing business, the local cable companies in turn raises your monthly basic cable rate or takes ESPN off basic cable and puts it on one

however, we are shifting our focus to understanding how

students learn. We are compiling, studying and using data

and interventions to better meet our students' needs. To name

a few examples, our staff will begin using a program called

EPIC, which is an after-school credit recovery program. On

November 24, our staff members participated in a number

of professional development activities to learn about

differentiation through technology, and work continues in

and hard. We care about educating our students. Therefore,

not only do we strive to change in order to produce students

who will master essential skills, empowering them to become

lifelong learners and contributing, responsible members of

our global community, but we endeavor to model and teach

well positioned to address the learning needs of all students.

We know that "We cannot discover new oceans until we

have the courage to lose sight of the shore." Change we

Be assured that in times such as these, our district is

Staff members of the Lowell Area Schools work long

the area of power standards and ACT.

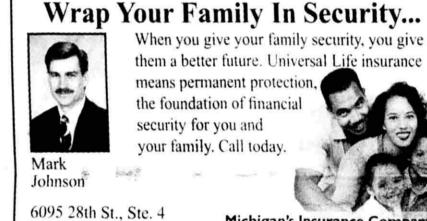
students to adapt to change.

of its tier levels enabling them to charge more for the sports network programming. Either way, it means more money out of your pocket.

I can guarantee you that in 2010 it will cost you more to watch sports on ESPN, beyond the annual way of doing

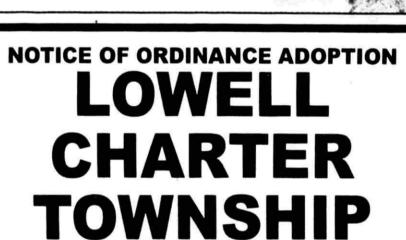
I contacted the local cable carrier for what the average annual increase for ESPN sports programming has been? It would not share that number. It did offer that sports programming in general is more expensive on an annual basis than other general programming categories and that it evaluates its pricing of programming products on an annual

So next time you hear or read that ESPN is purchasing the rights to some major sporting event, grab your wallet.



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PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that at the regular meeting of the Lowell Charter Township Board held on November 17, 2008, the Board adopted Ordinance 04-2008 and Ordinance 05-2008, summaries of which follow:

Ordinance 04-2008 adds Section 4.9 Wind Energy Systems (WES) to the Zoning Ordinance to establish standards and procedures by which the installation and operation of a Wind Energy System (WES) shall be regulated within the Township, in order to promote the safe, effective, and efficient use of wind energy.

Ordinance 05-2008 adds Section 4.10 MET (Meteorological) Tower to the Zoning Ordinance to allow MET towers as a Special Use in certain zoning districts and provide requirements for review by the Planning Commission.

The ordinance shall become effective December 3, 2008. A copy of the complete text of the ordinances can be obtained at the Lowell Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash SE, during regular office hours or by calling 897-7600.

Linda S. Regan, Clerk



Sharing With Gregory Pratt

Change We Must...

It's no secret that educational excellence has become a moving target. The basic skills such as reading, writing and math will presumably remain the core curriculum; however the skills that are an extension of this foundation continue to evolve with our society. And, as our society adjusts to these changes, they look to education for assistance. Further, we have seen the demand for advanced educational and technical skills as members of our society join the work force. As a result, expectations for achievement that have been placed upon our educational system have significantly increased. Our parents and community members in today's workplace are looking to schools to offer an education which will prepare their student for the rigors of a competitive and global work environment. Change we must.

It is clear that school districts have a great responsibility for educating students from early childhood to graduation. Educators today, more than ever, understand that we must be willing to evolve and move with change. We acknowledge that change is all around us: the economy has drastically changed, families have changed, the pace of technology changes, and most important, our students' needs have changed. Change we must.

At a recent Board of Education meeting, Mr. Roger Bearup, Director of Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction, shared some very intentional changes as they pertain to curriculum, teaching and learning. As a district, we have been keenly focused on improved student achievement,

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### THE LOWELL LEDGER - WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2008 - PAGE 14



Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold **EdwardJones** Serving Individuals Investors Since 1871

#### TIME FOR ANNUAL 401(K) REVIEW?

and funded it with investments that are appropriate for your your 401(k) holdings annually — and when this year is may need to periodically "rebalance" your 401(k). winding down is as good a time as any to see what you've got, where you've been and where you might be headed.

What should you look for when you review your begin your career, you may decide to invest more aggressively savings.

to help reach your retirement goals - or that you're at least retire. Consequently, you have time to potentially overcome putting away as much as you can possibly afford. Next, the "down" markets that will inevitably occur. But as you evaluate whether your investment mix is still suitable for get closer to retirement, you obviously have fewer years your individual goals, risk tolerance and time horizon. You to make up for lost ground, so you might decide to lower without you having done anything to them. For example, based accounts into more conservative ones. Still, you could based accounts may have risen substantially, and you might find that these accounts now make up a greater percentage of Once you've started contributing to your 401(k) plan your portfolio than you had originally intended. As a result, you're now taking on more risk than you'd like. Conversely, needs, you might think you're in good shape and that your during a bear market, the percentage of conservative 401(k) is now on "autopilot." But that type of thinking can investments in your plan — such as bonds and other fixedactually be counterproductive, because to get the maximum income vehicles — may grow to such an extent, relative to benefits from your 401(k), you'll need to revise it over time your stocks, that your 401(k) may not be providing you with to reflect changes in your life and in the investments that the growth opportunities you need to pay for the retirement make up your plan. That's why it's a smart move to review you've envisioned. To prevent either of these scenarios, you

reason to review your 401(k)'s investment mix. When you

401(k)? First and foremost, make sure you're saving enough in your 401(k) because you have many years to go until you might be surprised at how much your holdings can "evolve" your risk level by shifting some of your assets out of stockduring long bull markets, the value of your 401(k)'s stock- be retired for two or three decades, so you will still need some growth elements in your 401(k) to help stay ahead of

As you review and rebalance your 401(k) over time, become familiar with the rules governing your plan. Your 401(k) might allow you to reallocate your investment dollars as often as you like, but if you change investments too frequently, you could be charged redemption fees. If you rack up a bunch of these fees, you may well end up lowering your overall rate of return.

So, review your 401(k) at least once a year and make changes whenever necessary — but don't go overboard. By Your life's circumstances provide you with another making the right moves at the right time, you can help ensure that your 401(k) will be a key element of your retirement

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#### **ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**

#### BID PROPOSAL

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 4, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.

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

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.

#### SITE INSPECTION

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-bid meeting at Cherry Creek other facilities will be visited and other appointments can be made as needed. All bidders are encouraged to attend.

The Bidding Documents may be obtained at Owen-Ames-Kimball Co., 300 Ionia N.W. Grand Rapids, Ml. 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.

#### BIDDER QUALIFICATIONS

- Bidders submitting a Bid for this Project shall have qualifications as follows: a. Shall be a reputable, recognized organization, with at least five (5) years successful
  - experience on work of this type and scope of this project.
- Shall have a license where required by public authorities having jurisdiction.
- c. Shall have ample financial resources for work of this magnitude.

#### **BID SECURITY - PERFORMANCE BONDS**

Each bid shall be accompanied by good and sufficient bid security or bid bond in an amount not less than 5% 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 accepted by the Owner.

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 Contract

### Financial safeguards from Social Security

by Vonda VanTil, Social Security

Public Affairs Specialist

Each stage of life youth, middle age, retirement - comes with its own set of financial concerns. Luckily, just by having a better understanding of the Social should be able to calm some of those concerns.

need to know is that Social

Security is much more than

a retirement program. Of

receiving Social Security

benefits, nearly one-third

are not retired workers or

their dependents. They are

severely disabled workers

and their families, or the

survivors of a deceased

worker covered by Social

husband, wife or parent is

emotionally devastating,

it can often be financially

devastating as well. Social

While the death of a

Security.

protection equally valuable. Relatively few workers have an The first thing you

continue on.

survivor benefit to help the insurance policy that would of pre-retirement earnings. family of a deceased worker pay monthly benefits to both the worker and his or her Statement that you receive Security family, based on his or her in lifetime earnings

you do work and retire as disability insurance benefits. employer-provided, long- planned, Social Security is Be sure to look over the term disability policy. With the foundation for a secure protection that Social Social Security; however, retirement. For the average Security provides you and the average worker has the wage earner, Social Security your family.

Security provides a monthly equivalent of a disability will replace about 40 percent

The Social Security the mail each year provides an estimate of your On the other hand, if retirement, survivors and

UNLINE

**POLL** 

RESULTS

Would you

the 50 million Americans

> 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 comments that can be regarded as helpful, congratulatory, thankful and informational. We will not print any comments that are offensive or libelous. Direct aims at individuals, political gures and businesses will not be printed. For direct opinions on a subject (including, but not imited 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 by the public and do not necessarily represent the views of the Ledger.

www.lowellbuyersguide.com and Click "Sound Off" under "Contact Us" to submit comment.

What a great place to take your dog! Too bad I couldn't enjoy it on Sunday afternoon with my dog. I was too busy picking up 17 piles of dog poop that other owners were too lazy to do. The rule/law is pick up after your dog! The area between the parking lot and the fenced area is all part of the park.

eat a road kill deer? 56% YES 44% NO Be sure and check us out online and participate next week!

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### **FOR SALE**

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.TFN

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

FRIDAY NIGHT WITH A BAND AT THE STRAND Nov. 28 Rock & Roll with PRIMALURGE. Doors at 7, music 8 -12. No Cover!

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

NEW BANDS AT THE STRAND - Friday, Nov. 28, PRIMAL URGE. Watch for

HORSE FOR SALE Chestnut blanket Appaloosa, 18 year old mare, excellently trained. \$800. Call 794-9929.

THE BUYERS GUIDE/ LOWELL LEDGER OF-FICE WILL BE CLOSED -Thurs., Nov. 27 & Fri., Nov. 28. Happy Thanksgiving!

FOR SALE - Chevy pickup truck, 1/2 ton, 2 WD, runs great, very good condition. 897-0369.

HEAVY DUTY SNOW-BLOWER - fits John Deere mower. \$400 obo. 868-

**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.

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

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.

#### **FOR SALE** The Lowell Ledger **CLASSIFIEDS ARE NOW** ON OUR WEBSITE ALSO - www.lowellbuyersguide.

TO PLACE AN AD

In Person: 105 N. Broadway, Lowell **AVAILABLE AT THE** LOWELL LEDGER By Mail: PO BOX 128, Lowell, MI 49331 **BUYERS GUIDE** By Phone: 616-897-9261 105 N. Broadway

M-Th. 8-5 p.m. Classified ad rates: Fri. 8-2 p.m. Closed Sat. & Sun. 20 words...\$4 Ph. 897-9261 Fax 897-4809 each additional word 10¢ ledger@lowellbuyers Bold \$1 each or Box \$2 each

### **FOR RENT**

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

guide.com

small ads

**UPS SHIPPING** 

COPY SERVICE,

(black & white & color!)

FAX SERVICE.

LAMINATING.

& MUCH MORE

HOURS

CAMPAU LAKE MOBILE Cascade) - 2 bedroom \$400 mo.: 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, \$550 mo. First & last required. Call 868-6950.

CENTER COURT APT. - First Month Rent Free! (with 12 month lease). Two bedrooms at \$600. On-site laundry. Small dogs & cats allowed. Center Court Apt. 201 N. Center St., Lowell Call CB Richard Ellis/Grand Rapids, 877-780-2200.

FOR RENT - Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment in Historic Downtown Lowell. \$640 per month utilities. \$500 deposit. No pets. 897-0222

MORRISON LAKE - newly remodeled furnished cottage w/lake front access Available immediately Includes 2 bedrooms, bath, garage. No smoking no pets. \$550 per month \$550 security deposit, year lease required. Call 616-642-6870 for more information. Shown by ap-

pointment only. FARMHOUSE - w/2 stall garage for rent. Alto area near I-96. \$950 per month. Call Steve 868-1111.

2 BEDROOM HOME - on Big Pine Island Lake, \$600 utilities. No pets. 691-HALL FOR RENT - with

897-6050. TEN 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.TFN

kitchen, seats 150. Call

SOUND OFF LINE 897-0787 Voice your opinion! (good or bad)

## **OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Closed Saturday & Sunday

### **CLASSIFIEDS NOW POSTED ONLINE!** www.lowellbuyersguide.com

**EVENTS** 

QUARTER BINGO - 2nd

Thurs. of each month, 1-5

p.m. 2 cards for a quarter.

50% payback w/100% pay-

back hourly specials. Open

to the public. The Moose

Rec Hall, 1320 E. Main St.

Sponsored by W.O.T.M.

**THANKSGIVING EVE -8** 

p.m. Don't miss Larkins Tur-

FREE COMMODITIES

FOOD ORDER - for low in-

come families. Thurs., Dec.

4, 9-4 p.m. at the Moose

Recreation Building, 1320

E. Fulton, Lowell. Bring

proof of income & Social

Security numbers for each

member of household.

Bags & volunteers needed

to help. Call David 616-745-

8520 or Virginia 897-8754

BREAKFAST WITH ST.

NICHOLAS - Sun., Dec. 7.

9 a.m. - noon. Visit with St.

Nicholas, bring your cam-

era. Knights of Columbus

breakfast-pancakes, eggs

sausage, potatoes. Make

a St. Nicholas craft, bring

food donation. Children

of all ages welcome. St

LOWELL MUSIC BOOST-

**ERSMEETING DATES-**All

meetings are on Tues. in the

Lowell Middle School Band

Room & begin at 3 p.m.

Jan. 20, Feb. 17, March 17

BINGO - Every Sunday

2 p.m. The Moose Rec

Hall, 1320 E. Main St.

Sponsored by W.O.T.M.

Chapter #1388. Open to

April 21 & May 19.

Patrick Parish Center.

with questions.

key Party. Music & Fun.

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### **HELP WANTED**

TELEMARKETERS - setting appointments from our local office, hourly plus commission. Call Scott at

616-648-7036. NOW HIRING - & training for career positions with West Michigan's leading real estate company. Call Rick Seese, Greenridge Realty, Inc. for a confidential interview. 616-437-2576

or 616-974-4250. GOVERNMENT JOBS - \$12.73 - \$29.45/hr. Now hiring. Many positions available. For application & government job info, call American Assoc. of Labor, 1-913-599-8290, 24 hrs.

WEDDING **INVITATIONS** Available at Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway.

Stop by & check out one of our books for the weekend. Wide variety of invitations & prices. For personalized service call 897-9261

### WANTED

ANTED - Dec. deer lease for polite, respectful hunter + occassional guest. 60-120 acres. Call David at 706-9958.

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

#### **FAST DIALUP INTERNET** Bring your computer into our full service repair shop for a new high speed modem installed, computer tuned for dial up, first month

897-5814. PAYROLL & BOOKKEEP-**ING SERVICE** - by certified Quickbooks advisor. Call

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HANDY REPAIR SERVICE All kinds of service work: locks rekeved, deadbolts installed, plumbing, electrical, screen & window repair. Call Bob Ford, 299-3198.TEN

Kathy 897-6351.TEN

**COPIES COPIES - Color** & black & white copiers! Excellent quality! As low as 10¢ per copy for black & white. Stop by our office, Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway.

ART GALLERY and CUS-**TOM FRAMING - Fire** and Water Art! 219 W. Main St., Lowell. Open Wednesday thru Sunday. 890-1879.TEN

**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

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

ZOOLAND DAYCARE HAS OPENINGS - on 1st & 2nd shifts. Call 897-8386 or 308-0195.

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

PIANO LESSONS - Improve your child's school performance, concentration & confidence by learning Jazz, Blues & Classical Piano & Music Notation. Ages 6-18. \$15 per half hour. Experienced, patient, caring teacher who is a seasoned, professional performer. 897-9485 or email MissMeowsic@msn

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

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

LAMINATING SERVICE AVAILABLE - Next day service. Drop off & pieces will be available by 9 a.m. the next day. Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell

#### **SERVICES SERVICES**

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

ADVERTISE YOUR SMALL BUSINESS IN THE LOWELL PHONE BOOK! - Rates as low as \$130 (that's for the whole vear, not a per month price!) Deadline is Dec. 1 Call Tammy, 897-9560 for an informational packet or email your request to citydirectory@att.net.

CLASSIFIEDS ARE NOW ON OUR WEBSITE ALSO www.lowellbuyersguide.

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

ADVERTISE YOUR SMALL BUSINESS IN THE LOWELL PHONE BOOK! - Rates as low as \$130 (that's for the whole year, not a per month price!) Deadline is Dec. 1 Call Tammy, 897-9560 for an informational packet or email your request to citydirectory@att.net.

**UPS SHIPPING AT** THE LOWELL LEDGER!

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

SNOW & ICE MANAGE-MENT - Snowplowing, shoveling, salting. Commercial & residential, season or per time. Quotes one time plows. Experienced & insured. Scenic Expressions LLC, 240-

### **SALES**

4464 or 240-6215.

**RAGESALE-1sttime** multi-family sale in large heated garage. Antiques (small buffet, dresser, trunks, old blue jars, hand pump, anvil, farriers box & much more). rustics, primitives, household & Christmas items, lots of wonderful unique items. A lifetime of collecting, name brand baby girl, womens & some mens clothes. Garage is full, new bathroom. kitchen & laundry sinks, bathtub & plumbing fixtures. It's worth the trip if you love collecting old stuff. Homemade cookies & coffee. 4249 Jackson Rd., Fri. & Sat., Nov. 28 & 29, 8 a.m. -4 p.m. 616-642-9382.

**HUGE HOLIDAY GA-**

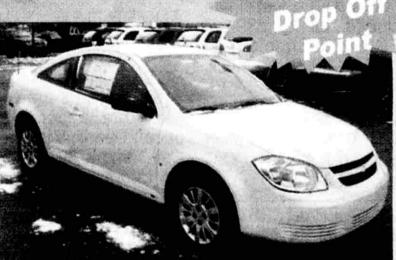


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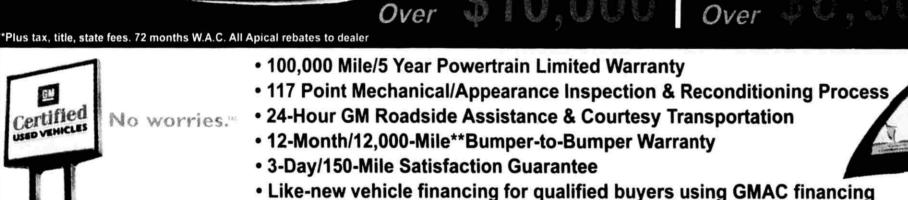
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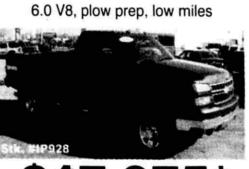
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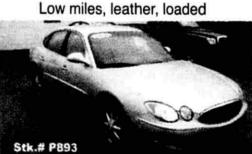
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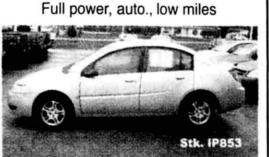
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Plus tax, title & state fees.

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**TUES, THURS** & FRI - 8-6;

**SAT - 9-1** 



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Charlie Craig



**Kurt Hieshetter** Sales Manager 31 Years

HOURS: MON & WED - 8-8; TUES, THURS & FRI - 8-6; SAT - 9-1

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