Volume 38 Issue 7

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, January 14, 2009

# Rail to trail group making steady progress

by Emma Palova

ith the pending acquisition of the Lowell to Ionia trail by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the splitting of the trail project into another piece, from Lowell to Greenville, the local group marked progress last week.

The group consisting of representatives from three counties, Ionia, Kent and Montcalm, made a \$50,000 down payment towards the purchase from the Meijer Foundation to continue the option to buy. In the meantime Belding will be applying for an enhancement grant from the Michigan Department of Transportation to complete the purchase of the Lowell to Greenville portion.

Both trails will connect into the existing trail systems in Ionia and Greenville. Due to upcoming participation

in the community expos in March, the group discussed the naming of the trails for marketing purposes. The Lowell to Ionia trail will be an extension of the existing trail in Ionia, and will carry its name.

"Separating the corridors helped move the project along," said chairwoman Carolyn Kane of West Michigan Trails & Greenways Coalition.

The Lowell to Greenville portion may be named the Flat River Trail, if Greenville agrees to the name. Also, a purchase agreement with the Mid Michigan railroad will have to be extended past April, along with the next down payment. Rail banking on the Lowell to Greenville trail has been renewed in December.

The question of the trail management again resurfaced. A single entity such as an interlocal agreement may manage the trail and apply for grants on behalf of all the involved parties.

Roger Sabine of Kent County Parks said a single agency will better position the group to apply for grants, rather than compete against each other.

"One agency will be responsible as the fiduciary," said Sabine.

Currently, crews are surveying the Lowell to Greenville portion, according to Dave Austin of Williams and Works.

A video, maps and a sign up sheet along with other information and giveaways will be available at the community expos in March, in Ionia, Greenville and Lowell. The Lowell Expo will be held on March 28.

# Tae kwon do teaches discipline, relieves stress

by Emma Palova

and Korean flags. A large outside of Lowell, is a grand Taekwondo Federation. banner states, "the House of master of the ancient old Discipline."

Thomas Young Hoon martial art of tae kwon do. lined with Park of Seoul, Korea, now Park has a seventh degree kwon do mean? A merican in residence in Ada, just black belt from the World Word by word, it means

What does exactly tae

kicking, punching and a way of life. Yes, that is Park's mission to teach the martial arts way of life to the free spirited American children and adults.

"Here kids are free, they lack sometimes discipline, respect," he said. "In Korea it's all about respect and discipline."

So, Park wants to use tae kwon do as an educational tool to others, maybe those who want to lose weight, learn discipline in eating and other lifestyle habits.

"It's like elementary school, you keep on training," he said.

Under his belt, Park has 36 years of training in tae kwon do. That translates into being a grand father of tae kwon do. He is also a marathon runner with medals from both California and Michigan. Park opened his tae kwon do academy at 9580 E. Fulton in September of last year.

takes approximately three months to master the basic skills of tae kwon do, and to lose weight and gain more muscle, according to Park.

"Kids become more respectful, positive," he said. "Adults become more flexible."

And the exercise does not necessarily have to be coupled with a diet, as long as the proposed regiment is at least three times a week for about an hour.

Throughout his years of training others and himself, Park has found out that women are more flexible than men, even though men are stronger in the moves.

"There is a difference in muscle," he said. "Men and women do the same exercises but gain different skills."

There is a certain ritual to each tae kwon do exercise. First, the students bow to the flag, and then to

He built a big pole barn the master. This exemplifies that serves as a gym for the that country comes first training and exercises. It before the individual. The attire is also important. The beginning student wears a white 'dobok' or uniform with a white belt.

> "That means vacancy," said Park.

Most exercises are performed barefoot to massage all the major points in the body, much like in acupuncture. The exercises also build up strong mentality and relieve stress.

Many people have asked Park the difference between tae kwon do and karate or kung fu. Tae kwon do has more kicking, approximately 80 percent, while karate and kung fu use more hand motions. Tai chi is a slower version of tae kwon do.

Park, who teaches tae kwon do full time, plans to study law at Thomas Cooley law school; that is why he moved from California.

Grand master Thomas Young Hoon Park teaches tae kwon do.

# Behind

... Pages 8-9

# January is School Board Appreciation Month

he Lowell School Board held its regular meeting Monday night. Hannah Oberlin, Treasurer for the Student Council, offered an update on student council activities. Over the holidays the student council adopted two families and purchased over two hundred dollars in gifts. A can drive was also

held by several clubs at the high school and donations went to God's Kitchen.

January serves as Board of Education Appreciation month and the administration presented certificates and gifts to the Board members. Serving the school board are members: Mark Lessens, Jim Turner, Pat Nugent, Maureen Fleet,

Y THE RESIDENCE TO

Brubaker, Peter Haefner, and Nancy Hopkins. "It is our pleasure to thank the school board for the work that goes on throughout the year; they have a difficult job with large decisions," said Superintendent Greg Pratt. "It is a tremendous honor to serve our community; we are here because we want to be," said Nancy Hopkins Board Member. "It

is good to be on this board of education," said Mark Lessens, Board President.

John Zielinski offered a budget update and report to the board. There were some minor adjustments to the budget, as more variables regarding state funding are

> School board, cont'd., pg. 4

#### **GELDERSMA**

Lillian Mae Geldersma, aged 83, of Lowell, passed away Wednesday, January 7, 2009. She was preceded in death by her husband, Russell E. Geldersma in 2008. She is survived by her children, Keith (Sandy) Geldersma, Jim (Kelly) Geldersma. Joling, (John) Mark Geldersma, Carol Geldersma; grandchildren. David, Timothy, Benjamin and Kyle Geldersma, Keegan (Brent) Folsom, Michael (Lisa) Joling, Brent Joling, Gus and Joshua Geldersma; great-grandchildren. Matthew, Nathaniel and

Elizabeth Joling; many, Dyke; sisters-in-law, Corrine U.S. Military Academy, the for acceptance, and Weeks, Marge Geldersma. Mary Ann Geldersma and Delores Geldersma. Lillian was a retiree from Amway Corporation where she worked in the Distributor Bonus Department. Funeral services were held Saturday Calvary Christian Reformed Church of Lowell. Interment Bailey Cemetery. contributions Memorial may be made to Calvary Christian Reformed Church of Lowell.

# FAXING



Sending or Receiving \$1 for 1st sheet, 50¢ each

> additional sheet The Lowell Ledger

105 N. Broadway, Lowell

# NOTICE

OF THE LAST DAY OF **REGISTRATION OF THE ELECTORS OF BOWNE TOWNSHIP FOR THE SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 24, 2009** 

All qualified electors of the Township of Bowne are hereby given notice that a Special Election will be held in the Township of Bowne on Tuesday, February 24, 2009. Electors who wish to vote in the Special Election must be registered to vote no later than Monday, January 26, 2009. Persons residing in the Township of Bowne registering after January 26, 2009 will not be eligible to vote at the Special Election. Person planning to register must determine when the office of the Township Clerk, the office of the County Clerk, or a Secretary of State Branch Office will be open for registration in person. Registration by mail may be used by obtaining and completing a Mail voter Registration Application and forwarding it to the election official as directed on the application by the close of registration deadline.

The February 24, 2009 Special Election will be conducted in the Township of Bowne for the purpose of voting on the following proposal:

> **Proposal for Bowne Township** Fire Department Millage Renewal

This is a proposal to renew the expired Bowne Township Fire Department millage at the rate of 1.7911 mills for 10 years.

The full text of the ballot proposal may be obtained during normal business hours at the Bowne Township Hall located at 8240 Alden Nash, SE Alto, MI 49302.

> Sandra L. Kowalczyk, Township Clerk **Bowne Township**

#### Ehlers nominates local students to U.S. Service Academies

The nominees will be Service Academies must into the 2013 class of the nomination to be considered

#### • LEGAL NOTICE •

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS **Decedent's Estate** File No. 08,186-201-DE

Estate of JOHN F. BROGGER, deceased. Date of birth 9/15/1913

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, JOHN F. BROGGER, who lived 1842 ORCHARD LANE NE. GRAND **RAPIDS, MICHIGAN died** 10/20/2008.

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

J. Ehlers has nominated U.S. Air Force Academy, admission. The nomination nominated by Congressman 34 students from West and the U.S. Merchant is a requirement of the Michigan for consideration Marine Academy. Students application process at each by U.S. Service Academies. who desire to apply to U.S. academy.

presented to BARBARA

AALDERINK, named

personal representative

or proposed personal

representative, or to both

the probate court at 180

Ottawa Ave NW, Suite

2500, Grand Rapids and

the named/proposed

personal representative

within 4 months after

the date of publication

1/9/2009

of this notice.

Craig Avery P10311

3875 W. River Drive

Comstock Park, MI 49321

Barbara Aalderink

Walker, MI 49534

2680 Hillandale NW

PO Box 327

616-784-5080

"I am pleased and many nieces and nephews; considered for acceptance receive a congressional honored to nominate these exceptional students for consideration by U.S. Service Academies," said Congressman Ehlers. "I offer of luck in the application process to attend these prestigious academies."

The following are students from Michigan's 3rd

Congressman Vernon U.S. Naval Academy, the nominees are not guaranteed Congressional District were

U.S. Military Academy - West Point, NY: Raymond

Lowell HS & Michigan State University U.S. Naval Academy - Annapolis, MD

Cheyenne Brown these future leaders the best Lowell HS; Raymond Seese - Lowell HS & Michigan State University; U.S. Air Force Academy - Colorado Springs, CO; Cheyenne Brown - Lowell HS

#### · LEGAL NOTICE ·

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS **Decedent's Estate** File No. 09,186-192-DE

Estate of BARBARA A. CONNELLY, deceased. Date of birth 5/10/1920

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: Thedecedent, BARBARA CONNELLY, who 616-443-8523 lived at 1055 Forest Hill SE. East Grand Rapids, Michigan, died 616-454-4119 12/23/2008.

> **Creditors of the decedent** are notified that all claims be forever barred unless

presented to WILLIAM J. CONNELLY named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave NW. Grand Rapids and named/proposed the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

1/9/2009

John T. Conroy P43709 410 Bridge Street NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504

> William J. Connelly 1227 Grand Canyon Brea, CA 92821

#### **PREPARATION** Individual/Business A Remembrance and 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE Celebration of the life of ...

DARL L. DECATOR

Please join friends and family to share stories, laugh and remember a truly great individual. He wore many hats: a husband, a father, a grandfather, a great-grandfather, a brother, an uncle, a fisherman, a hunter and last, but not least, a friend.

WHEN: Sunday, January 18, 2009 3-5 p.m.

WHERE: Keiser's Kitchen 700 E. Main St.

Lowell, MI 49331

The Lowell Ledger

(USPS 453-830)

Published weekly for \$2200 a year for

zip codes beginning with 493 or 495

\$3200 a year any other zip code.

(616) 897-9261

E-Mail: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com

Second Class Postage Paid at Lowell, MI

Published every Wednesday

POSTMASTER: Send address change to:

The Lowell Ledger

P.O. Box 128 • Lowell, MI 4933

www.lowellbuyersguide.com

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# **Troop #102 salutes Lowell's first Eagle Scout**

scouts who were on hand to the American Legion Post the forward RECON leader salute the first Eagle Scout #152, Dave Thompson, Post

helped Sam Yeiter celebra- earned that title as a thirteen veteran who fought through American front lines, spotte his 91st birthday at the year old boy back in 1931, the North American Cam- ting for American artillery, Legion-VFW the first to achieve that lofty paign in the 1st Armored Di- a job that was fraught with Hall on Friday, Jan. 3. Yei- goal from Troop #103. His vision against German Field many risks and dangers. who turned out to help him the Veteran's Center south on and up the boot of Italy, Army as a full Colonel in celebrate his 91st birthday. of Lowell by family, fri- where he received the Sil- 1978 and is seen every year The party was the idea of ends, and members of both ver Star for gallantry and in the parade in his military and was attended by Eagle mander, Herm Estate, and a young Lieutenant he was a WWII jeep.

Lowell Eagle Scouts from Troop #102. Yeiter Commander. He is a WWII who worked beyond the ter was the guest of many birthday was celebrated at Marshall Rommel and then Yeiter retired from the US his wife, Jeanette Yeiter the VFW #8303, Post Com- many other decorations. As uniform, now often riding in



Sam Yeiter, Eagle Scout 1931, salutes fellow Eagle Scouts, left to right: Del Rockwell III, 2008; Alex Brock, 2008; Aaron Sterling, 2004; Kyle Riley, 2008; Randy Jesberg, 1993; Del Rockwell, Jr., 1977; Rich Riley, not an Eagle; Dirk Ritzema, 1973.

# **Business Matters**

Greenridge Realty announced that of the Month in Dec.

This award recognizes Wittenbach outstanding success achievements.

Lowell has a new doctor in the community. Dr. Troy LeBaron is an experienced National Board of Examiners in Optometry Certified Optometrist that is joining the Advanced Professionals practice that has offices in Lowell, Ionia and Hastings.

Dr. LeBaron, originally from Greenville, started his Doctor of Optometry Program in Davie, Flor. at Nova Southeastern University and then finished the Doctor of Optometry degree in Memphis, Tenn. at the Southern College of Optometry in March of



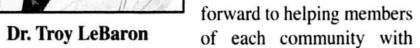
ON/WED/TH 4:20, 7:00, 9:40 MONWED/TH 4:50, 7:20, 9:35 MARLEY & ME (PG) UE 11:10, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50 TTON (PG-13) TUE 1:35, 5:00, 8:30

upon him because the men and women serving Shelby Ryan 2006. Dr. LeBaron is even an County felt he provided Wittenbach received Realtor Honorary Sheriff's Deputy them outstanding eyecare. in Shelby County, Tenn. An Dr. LeBaron is currently a times especially on Fridays.

member of the American Association, Optometric Optometric Michigan and the West Association Michigan Association.

honor that was bestowed

Dr. LeBaron is excited to be back in Michigan and working in all of Advanced Professionals Eyecare locations. Dr. LeBaron looks



UPS SHIP The Lowell Ledger

their eyecare needs. And

because of his addition to

the practice, the Lowell

office will now have more

availability for appointment

105 N. Broadway 897-9261

# Collage Concert

Thursday, January 22, 2009 7:00 PM **Lowell Performing Arts Center** 

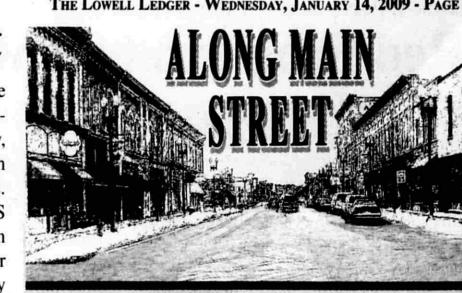
Select performances by members of the Lowell Area Schools Music Department Orchestras, Concert Bands, Choirs

A benefit for the Lowell Music Boosters

Suggested \$5 donation Tickets available at the Lowell Area Performing Arts Center or at the door

> **Silent Auction** 50/50 Raffle Refreshments available

Beginning at 6:00 pm in the High School cafeteria THE LOWELL LEDGER - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2009 - PAGE 3



#### THEBES PLAYERS

Call for auditions for Nunsense, a musical comedy Seeking five adult female actresses. Dates of production are Mar. 20-29. Audition dates are: Thurs., Jan. 15, 7-9 p.m.; Fri., Jan. 16, 7-9 p.m. and Sat., Jan. 17, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Lowell Area Arts Council, 149 S. Hudson St. For more information call or visit the LAAC, 897-8545.

#### PERSON OF THE YEAR

Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce is accepting nominations for Person of the Year. If you know someone who deserves this award, please submit in writing your nomination to LACC, PO Box 224, Lowell, MI 49331 or email to info@lowellchamber.org or fax to 897-9101. Deadline is Jan. 16.

#### LHS GYMNASTICS TEAMS

Looking for all former coaches and gymnasts of Lowell High School's gymnastics teams from the past. We are having an Alumni night at the first home meet on Monday, Jan. 19. Be at the LHS at 5:45 p.m. and RSVP to Michele at rayg.gymnastics@att.net. The meet starts at

#### LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM

The museum is opening its newest traveling exhibit entitled "Cutters to Corvettes," Wed., Jan. 21 at 6 p.m. at Good Chevrolet. This exhibit will provide a historical overview of the Lowell dealerships, gas stations and garages and how they impacted our community.

#### COLLAGE CONCERT

Select performances by members of the Lowell Area Schools music department will be held Jan. 22 at 7 p.m. at the Lowell Performing Arts Center. Tickets are available at the door for a suggested \$5 donation. This concert is to benefit Lowell Music Boosters. There will also be refreshments, a silent auction, and 50/50 raffle beginning at 6 p.m.

#### LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Please join the museum for an informative program about "Fur Trading - Yesterday & Today" in Michigan. This event will take place on Thurs., Jan. 29 at the Lowell Township Hall. Questions please call 897-7688.

#### COAT DRIVE FOR VETERANS

Please join the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and American Legion in Lowell area in collecting semi-new or used coats for our veterans in the Veterans Home located in Grand Rapids. Drop off locations are: The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, 113 Riverwalk Plaza; Curtis Cleaners, 1410 W. Main St.; and VFW Post #8303, 3116 Alden Nash (Tues. and Thurs. in Jan. from 2-4 p.m.) Women's coats are also needed.

#### LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM

The museum is pleased to announce "Family Tree Night" (Genealogy) at the museum. Beginning in Jan. on the second and fourth Thurs. of every month, from 4-8 p.m. Volunteers will be present to help with your search.

#### FROM FOOD PANTRY The FROM Food Pantry is presently in need of canned

fruit, soup, crackers, canned vegetables, paper products, juice, and boxed potatoes. Please help if you are able.

#### PRESCHOOL GYMNASTICS

Classes for 3 and 4 year old girls and boys are available through Red Arrow Youth Gymnastics. Classes are Wednesday nights and are held in the Runciman gym. Financial assistance is available for those who qualify. Call Michele at 318-4747 for more information.

#### LOWELL TAKES IT OFF

There's still time to register for the Lowell Takes It Off vs Greenville, community weight loss challenge. We can help you find a team and new teams welcome. Cost is \$20/person. Go to Good Chevrolet Buick on Wednesdays to join the fun. For info call Patty at 340-7781 or www. lowellcommunitywellness.org.

# Red Frog expands with new computer retail and service



Ron Bianchi and Kirk Gee at the new location of Red Frog computer service in the old Nextel building



#### WINTER ADVENTURE

The crunch of snowshoes breaking through a layer of crusty snow and the sound of labored breath interrupted the stillness of the early winter morning. Snow laden pine boughs insulated the tranquil scene from a brisk northwest wind. A dusting of new snow provided a fresh canvas upon which forest dramas were painted, leaving the observer to ponder what occurred before the human visitor arrived.

Tracks left by a red fox create a straight-line weaving through the landscape tracing the animal's path as it investigated the hiding places of burrowing rodents. A doe dashes for cover, her long white tail held high and wheezing loudly to announce the presence of the unexpected stranger. From under the snow-covered branches of a small pine tree, a large black form explodes into the air just feet from the startled hiker whose heart rate accelerates as fast as the wild turkey disappears into the snowy woods.

A more serious event took place earlier along the trail in an open area. Clear imprints of flight feathers from the outstretched wings of a large bird bracketed a pocket in the snow where bright red flecks were clearly visible on the

white background. There were no footprints leading to the spot, suggesting a winged predator had made a meal of a small bird. Everyone has to make a living.

The trail crosses a small stream which is still open despite the frigid temperature. Ice crystals clinging to stones, logs and overhanging branches create a scene which appears to be made of glass. The sound of flowing water and the distant call of a pileated woodpecker completes the

Around another bend in the trail, a rustic cabin sits near a swamp. There are no roads or power lines visible in the area. Could this be a trapper's cabin surviving from the days when Michigan was wilderness and fur was king?

Was the hiker in this story exploring the backwoods of the Upper Peninsula or Alaskan wilderness? The answer is no. I was the hiker and this all took place over time just outside the city of Lowell near residential areas where the trails of the Wittenbach Wege Agriscience Environmental Center provided the backdrop for this adventure.

There are other local venues which can provide a quality outdoor experience. County parkland and state recreation areas offer easy access. Venturing out on non-holidays or weekdays in the early morning increases the chances of being the only stranger in the woods and discovering the secrets of nature.

Take it slow and quiet, and be observant, so you can be part of the drama that unfolds everyday in places where nature has been allowed to take its own course.

for Your Business!

home of Dogs & Suds, later Pizza Hut and Nextel is now the fully renovated Red Frog store on M21.

Owners Ron Bianchi and Kirk Gee are excited about the new location. When they moved in, there was still grease on the walls from the former restaurants.

"We redid the supports and took down some walls," said Gee.

debris from the tech room, the most important room in room. And now, they're with a completely new computer retail line. The business sells new and used computers, as well as parts, hard to find cables and inter-

net services, broad band DSL, wireless broad band, and high speed dial up. To service and give a choice," provide Internet out in the he said.

country, Red Frog has dish-So, what used to be the es on three towers on Biggs, Alden Nash and Downes

Their newest gig is outcomputer retail and service fitting hot spots or apartment complexes with wireless Internet as an amenity. So far, they've done Stoneridge and Key Heights, and Red Frog will be working on getting wireless Internet to Valley

The company does component repair and printers, as well as house calls and They had to clean the network setting with five independent contractors.

Their plans include gothe house. The meat locker ing nationwide, but staying was made into a conference in a small town like Lowell

"We're like a small ready to do business again town Radio Shack, only for computers," said Bianchi "We want to provide a big town service at a good price. We expect to grow."

Gee said the company plans to expand the Internet Red Frog offers Inter- through the entire city and to the outskirts.

"We want to provide a

# School board, continued ... From Page 1

are now known. John also approved the purchase of drivers.

there are still no MEAP results from Lansing; he hopes to have them in the next few weeks and will offer a report to the board in an upcoming meeting. There are several training teachers and administrators regarding technology use. An igoogle tools training for teachers will take place January 14 at the middle school. Administrators will be receiving training on use of RSS feeds.

The school board also said Pratt.

three new buses from Capital contract talks soon with bus 
City International. All three buses are 2010 models and Roger Bearup reported will arrive in time for use in the 2009-2010 school year. Recommendations for the purchase came with approval from the transportation supervisor, bus drivers, as well as mechanics.

Greg Pratt gave a opportunities coming up for Superintendent's report. He announced there would be some upcoming community forums regarding Young 5's. "The work of our team is amazing; the teachers are well rested from Christmas Break and have now returned to the classrooms,"

There will be 127,000 births and 85,000 deaths in Michigan this year... A lot of good and bad things happen to

Michigan families every year. Fortunately, your Farm Bureau Insurance agent has seven new life insurance plans that will help your family face whatever life may bring. Get the security you need. Call today.

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Mark

Johnson



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# Viewpoint-

# To The Editor

Dear Editor.

I would like to comment on an article in the Jan. 7 edition of the Lowell Ledger. In the article it stated that the City Council turned some challenges in 2008 in to accomplishments specifying the Cable TV Fund and creating the North Washington St. park.

I believe in giving credit where credit is due, but believe that statement is just plain hooey. It all depends on what you consider an accomplishment.

The City Council, from almost day one, was against a LCTV Endowment Fund Advisory Board and if it wasn't for a private group and their lawyer, an advisory board would not have come about.

After a two year long controversy, the City Council demanded the final say in how the funds will be spent and also makes the decisions who will be on the advisory

I believe that shows the council's dictatorial form of

Now let us talk about the North Washington St. property being considered a park. A two year long controversy was about the preservation of the North Washington St. property and not about making it into a park. It is now a park by name only and if the truth be known, the North Washington St. property isn't any closer to being preserved than it was at the By Shelly MacNaughton beginning of day one.

I see nothing there that makes me believe that our City Council is the servant to the community.

Jim Howard



### **Exploring** Nature

With Meggan Johnson, Director of the Wittenbach/Wege Center

#### **BRING YOUR BEST FRIEND** TO THE WITTENBACH WEGE CENTER

There's nothing I enjoy more than taking my dog for a walk. Not only is it good exercise for both of us but it's also relaxing and a good time to ponder the days events and think about the days ahead. Plus, I love watching how excited my dog gets when I say those six special words - "Want to go for a walk?"

As a dog lover, I'm thrilled that so many of you bring your dogs out to the Center for walks. Many of you come prepared with your dogs on leashes and poop bags in your pockets and I appreciate your cooperation. Unfortunately their visit to the Center. Dog waste can also spread diseases there are some people who either don't realize or choose not to follow the etiquette of dog walking here at the Center. In dogs. order to clear up any potential confusion, I thought I would take this opportunity to inform everyone of the dog rules here on the property.

We have two main rules:

- Please keep your dogs leashed.
- Please clean up after your dogs. Unleashed dogs can pose a potential threat to wildlife evening.
- living here at the Center through the following ways: Disturb the nests of ground nesting birds and
- Trample rare wildflowers
- Spread undesirable seeds throughout the property Potentially injure and/or kill wildlife.

They can also be a potential threat to other visitors and their canine companions they encounter on the trail. Keep in mind not all visitors, especially children, are dog lovers. For some children, encountering an unleashed dog while on a field trip here could be a nightmare and that is not the experience we want them to have while visiting.

Nothing puts a damper on a field trip like stepping in dog poop. I'm fortunate that none of my students stepped in dog poop this fall but unfortunately I did twice! Just ask the kids how great my shoes smelled - I'm sure they'll remember and that's not exactly what I want them to remember about to other dogs and wild animals so please pick up after your

By working together to be responsible pet owners, we can all help keep the WWC a fun and safe place to walk



# A year for progress

With Senator Carl Levin

are beginning 2009 with an unparalleled sense of urgency and anticipation. The new Congress and the Obama Administration are committed to shaping an economic policy are working on viability plans that they will complete by that creates jobs and helps our nation's working families get back on their feet and to changing the way business is done in Washington.

In the past year, as the global credit crisis dragged the entire nation into recession, leaders across the country have recognized the urgent need for a strong, coordinated government response, which we in Michigan have been evening, January 19, the projected plans of the school board advocating for so long.

emergency bridge loans extended to help American automakers survive the credit crisis. Because so many consumers lost access to credit, auto sales fell off a cliff After the worst economic year in recent memory, we in 2008 and automakers, already in the midst of major restructuring efforts, were hit hard and were unable to borrow money in private financing markets. The companies

Levin, con't., pg. 14

# Writing to the editor ...

The requirements are:

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



#### 125 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL JOURNAL **JANUARY 16, 1884**

The Saranac Local has changed its name for the better. A number of Lowellites will go south soon to see what

Mrs. I. E. Strong will sing in the "Spy of Shiloh" each

#### 100 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER **JANUARY 14, 1909**

Mrs. Laura Mattern, wife of Jacob A. Mattern, disappeared from her home in this village between 5:30 and 6:30 yesterday morning, and up to the hour The Ledger goes to press has not been located.

Mrs. Mattern left her bed early that morning leaving her husband and daughter Ruth still sleeping in the rooms

#### 75 YEARS AGO THE LOWELL LEDGER AND ALTO SOLO **JANUARY 18, 1934**

A safety patrol is being organized at the Central School building for the protection of the children attending school.

A boy from the seventh or eighth grade will be on duty at Monroe and High Streets, and Monroe and King Streets, each morning, noon, and afternoon during dismissal.

#### **50 YEARS AGO** THE LOWELL LEDGER **JANUARY 15, 1959**

At the meeting of the Lowell School P.T.A. on Monday will be presented for the erection of more elementary school We began to make progress in December with the facilities. Drawings and specifications for an addition to the present Runciman Elementary School of 8 classrooms prepared by school architect Pat Crowe, will be shown to the group and a discussion of the needs for the future will

#### 25 YEARS AGO THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER **JANUARY 18, 1984**

On January 2, 1984 a special committee of Scouters, past and present, met to finalize the bylaws that will govern the William J. Nowak Memorial Fund that has been set up at the State Savings Bank of Lowell.

With the establishment of this fund in Mr. Bill's memory, it represents Bill's ongoing commitment to the youth of Lowell.





We would like to thank our customers and friends for their loyalty and support throughout the past 15 years. We couldn't have been so successful without you!

411 E. Main • Lowell, MI PH 616-897-0887

FAX 616-897-0867

# Weddings

Poehlman/Gingerich

Jennifer Gerald and William Poehlman united in matrimony on June 28, 2008 at St. Robert Newminster in Ada. Parents of the couple are Bob and Kathy Gingerich of Lowell and Jerry and Rosemarie Poehlman of Madison Heights.

Maid of honor was Josie DeJong. Bridesmaids were Amy Hamel and Michelle Seymoure.

Best man was Michael Melton. Groomsmen were Brian Dishman and Bobby Gingerich. Ushers were Thomas Fleet and Tim Gingerich.

The couple currently reside in Casa Grande, Arizona. Jennifer is an elementary school teacher at Cottonwood Elementary Jerry is a senior correctional officer at Correction Corp of America.



Jennifer and Gerald Poehlman

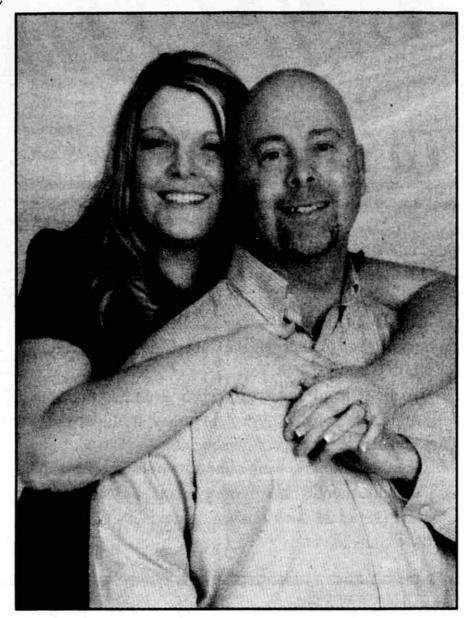
# Engagements

#### Des Jarden | Jean

of DesJarden Lowell are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Kelli Beth to Severin Joseph Jean Severin is the son of the late Harold and Frances Jean of Holt. The couple currently reside in Lansing. The May 9, 2009 nuptials will be held at the First Congregational Church of Lowell.

By all means marry; if you get a good wife, you'll be happy. If you get a bad one, you'll become a philosopher.

- Socrates (469 BC - 399 BC)



Kelli DesJarden and Severin Jean

We all experience it...and enough time has already passed this New Year to have reneged on our resolutions we made as we hung up our fresh calendar! Or did vou make any resolutions? Someone told me that his only New Year's resolution was to NOT make any resolutions, then he wouldn't have to worry about breaking any! But, under the sovereign hand of almighty God, resolving to advance or recommit is actually a good thing.

Yes, resolutions can be good. I'm glad that Luther resolved to discuss his 95 thesis. I'm grateful that Paul the Apostle did not back off from going to Rome. I am glad that the Pilgrims and our forefathers resolved to begin again in religious freedom. I am glad that the Wright brothers didn't give up in attempting flight. I am glad that Joshua

resolved that he and his family would serve the Lord. I am encouraged by King David who resolved not to fail again by God's grace. I'm indebted to those brave Allies who resolved not to lose the Battle of the Bulge. I'm thankful for leadership resolved to prevent another 9-11. Everything we are and have has been affected by someone else's resolve of was decisions that made the faithful into heroes: Joseph said,

every decision, everything we resolve to do, has impact. that transforms trials into joy: Job said, "Yet I will praise Someone reminded us that just a thought leads to an action. Actions lead to habits. Habits lead to lifestyle. Lifestyle "I will remain true." And it is determination that turned sad leads to reputation. Reputation leaves behind your legacy. Such is life. Life is a compilation of choices, a montage of David said, "I will confess my sin." The once-deserting motivations, a collage of considerations, which determines disciples said, "We will obey God rather than men." The our ultimate direction. It is true, that on our own, we will once-persecuting Paul said, "I will forget what is behind and never be truly successful (Is 64:6-7; Prov 16:25). And it is press on to what is ahead." true that only with God can we make successful choices we resolve to let truth inform our choices in every way this something beautiful this year! year. That is the way to real success.

Resolved! Take up the cause again. It was resoluteness that elevated the biblical Patriarchs to honor: Noah said "I will build and preach." Job said, "I will make a covenant with my eyes," and "I will trust God regardless." Abraham said, "I will go anywhere, 'and' I will sacrifice my best." It "I will not offend God." Caleb said, "I will drive the enemy Everything we do is important in God's sight, because out." Esther said, "I will risk my life." It is commitment the Lord," David affirmed, "I will yet trust." Daniel said, failures into our good examples: The once-immoral King

Friends, life is a patchwork quilt of our resolutions (Prov 16:1,2,3,4,9; 19:21). But it is also true that we must designed by the pattern of our desires and tied together by choose, and we are responsible for our deciding. Thus, may the threads of our decisions. Let's all be resolved to make

# AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY



**ALTO UNITED** METHODIST CHURCH Kirby and Harrison

Alto • 616-691-8011 ...9:30 A.M. Children's Church......9:30 A.M.

**OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS** - OPEN DOORS **Pastor Dean Bailey** 

**FIRST BAPTIST** 

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.

AWANA/EXCITE •TEENS. Wed. 6:15 & 6:30 P.M

Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times

Nursery Provided · Barrier Free

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street - 897-5936 www.lowellumc.com .. 8:30 & 10:15 a.m Rev. Rick Blunt

Barrier-free entrance

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH** 0305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 www.goodshepherdlowell.org

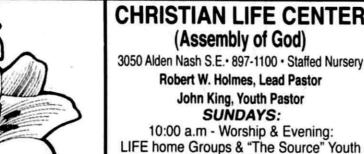
.10:00 A.M. Worship Service. ..9:00 A.M. Sunday School.

(Nursery available) Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible



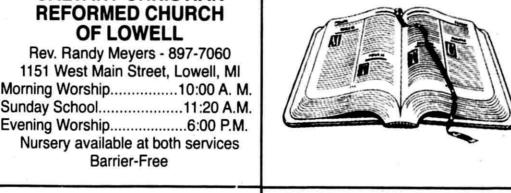
897-6332 .9:45 A.M. Worship.. Sunday School. .11:00 A.M Nursery & Jr. Church Provided

Rev. Frank Lattimore, Pastor "A Nondenominational Ministry With A Blended Word Centered Service!"



WEDNESDAYS: Family Night: (for all ages) 7:00 p.m. he Source" Youth: 7:00 p.m. Loving God ... Loving People SNOW UNITED -METHODIST CHURCH 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell

Rev. Vance Dimmick Jr. ..Worship/Fellowship .Sunday School 897-9863 or 897-9588 Nursery & Children Worship Programs Provided A friend...a family...a mission!



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CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fr. Eugene Okoli

402 Amity St. • 897-9820

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

Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (United Church of Christ) 865 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE • 897-5906

10:15-11:15 A.I Thursday Faith Alive Worship Come Join Us For Praise & Worship



# Gospelmen concert this weekend

Do you enjoy fresh and exciting Gospel music? Be it the latest in Southern Gospel or the hymns of the church, the Gospelmen do it all. The Gospelmen began "presenting the gospel through song" in 1985. They are from Genesee, which is approximately 10 miles northeast of Flint.

While there are several denominations represented in this group, each member proclaims, "Jesus Christ as Lord" and each member is also a born again Christian. Also, each member feels a definite call on his life to serve and work diligently for the cause of Christ. The Gospelmen also work full time jobs through the week, then travel throughout the Midwest on the weekends. They are also members of the Midwest Quartet Association (MWQA).

Members Gospelmen are Tim Herbert, tenor; Brian Wright, lead; Eddie Crook Company and invited to attend this free Gregg Martin, baritone and record exclusively on the 4 music ministry. A free wil manager; R.W. Hammond, Square label.

bass; and Todd Brewer, In June 2007, the 18 from 9:30 - 11 a.m. at contact First Baptist Church a the First Baptist Church at 897-7168. signed recording contract with the of Lowell. The public is

offering will be taken to The Gospelmen will help cover expenses. If you be in concert Sunday, Jan. have any questions please

shellfish react to the meat, not the shell, people with these allergies should still be careful when taking Glucosamine. If you have asthma, it could make your symptoms worse. Talk to your doctor before taking Glucosamine, especially if you are sick or if you are taking other Afternoon with the arts celebrates Latin music medications (including herbs or vitamins). You should tell



#### LA MUSICA DE LATINOAMERICA also includes a Latin Each year the Franciscan Life Process Center Music dance performance by a Cook Arts Center dance troupe. All will take place Saturday, March 7, from 1 to 4 p.m.

sound engineer.

Department holds a benefit harp concert to support its community-wide programs. This year's benefit concert will feature music from Latin America, interpreted by a harp ensemble and additional musicians. Afternoon with the Arts:



**JANUARY 14:** Angie Nowak, Ryan Burns, Tim Yonker.

**JANUARY 15:** Dennis Burns.

**JANUARY 16:** Alex Stuckey.

**JANUARY 17:** Kevin Rasch, Joe Potter.

**JANUARY 18:** Margie Potter Sullivan, Shelby Weston.

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#### **JANUARY 19:**

Tim Stencel, Susan Cook, Tim Schuitema, Trevor Mooney, Mark Ries.

**JANUARY 20:** Shelby Baird, Josh Rinard,

The Center's curriculum includes pottery, dance, visual arts, voice and instrumental music, sewing, photography, gardening, theatre and creative writing.

Tickets for the afternoon are \$20/person and gift certificates are available. The price includes appetizers and beverages. For further information, visit the Franciscan Center's website at www.lifeprocesscenter.org or call (616) 897-7842, or e-mail registrar@lifeprocesscenter.org. The student art show will be on display from Jan. 31 through Mar. 29 in the Center's Bonaventure Gallery.

#### illegal drugs. Glucosamine can be taken by mouth. The dose is usually 500 mg three times a day. If you don't have side effects, you should take the supplement for at least two months before Decorating the walls of the concert space in the deciding that it is not for you. Bonayenture Gallery is an on-going art exhibit by young students from the Cook Center. Formerly Grandville Academy, Cook Arts Center works with Grandville Avenue neighborhood youth ages six to sixteen, providing a facility 897-4123 where they can celebrate their community's cultural heritage.

THE LOWELL LEDGER - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2009 - PAGE 7

GLUCOSAMINE AND OSTEOARTHRITIS

Glucosamine is a natural substance that is found in

cartilage, which is the padding between the bones of a joint

(for example, your hip or knee). When the cartilage in your

joints starts to wear away, the bones begin to rub against

each other. This is called osteoarthritis. Glucosamine is also

a supplement that may help to reduce osteoarthritis pain and

stiffness, and improve movement, especially in the knee. It

supplements. Although using glucosamine to treat

osteoarthritis has been tested, there is no guarantee that it

works or is safe. Different brands may be made with different

ingredients. You should always read the label. It is not

known if it is safe to take glucosamine if you are pregnant.

Side effects from glucosamine are usually minor (stomach

pain, heartburn, or diarrhea). Glucosamine is made from the

shells of shellfish. Even though people who are allergic to

your doctor if you drink alcohol or caffeine, smoke, or use

The U.S. government does not strictly regulate

can be found at most drug or health food stores.

Jim Lang,

John G. Meier & Tracy Lixie

Wayne A. Christenson II

Heating & Cooling Heating & air-conditioning • Wall hung bollers & water fleaters
 Geo Thermal systems • Radiant floor heat • Snow melt systems
 Natt •Whole house generators • Duct work • Humidifiers SALES, SERVICE AND INSTALLATION, UPGRADES, NEW HOMES

# College News

Alto, Andrea Converse of College. Lowell, and Rebekah Woods

Stacey Underwood of 09 school year at Hope

To be named to the of Lowell have been named Dean's List a student must to the Dean's List for the have a minimum 3.5 grade first semester of the 2008- point average on a 4.0 scale.



celebrate with Sam on his 91st birthday. Especially a BIG THANK YOU to past/ present local Eagle Scouts and leaders. That surprised Sam on his birthday. It was very heartwarming and meant a lot to Sam. He will never forget!

John, Renee, Judy, Herm, Jan, Dave Thank you for your part in making this possible.

> Much love and thanks Sam and Jeannette Yeiter

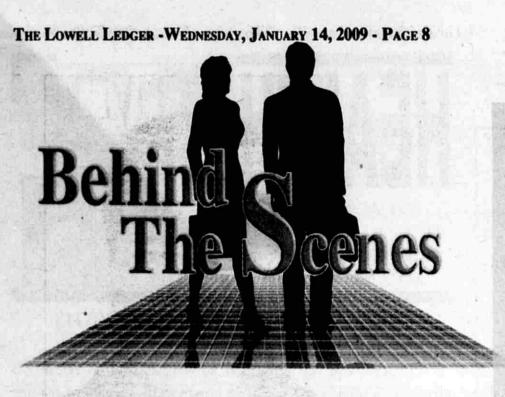
# Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc. From wedding gowns to woks, from furniture to flannel nighties -The FROM Thrift Shop/Boutique/Furniture Store has it all!

We are located at 11535 Fulton St. E - Lowell (Between Goodwill and Key Heights Trailer Park)

**STORE HOURS ARE:** Wed., Thurs., Fri. 10:00 am- 6:00 pm Saturday: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

> PHONE: 897-8567

GREAT SHOPPING -**GREAT CAUSE!** 



- TOM ALBERTS

Position: Owner of TJ's Sports Bar & Grille

Residence: Whites Bridge Road

Education: West Catholic Hight School

Two years at Davenport College

Experience: 27 years at Steelcase

as machine operator, two years in bar management

Family:

Children Matt, Kevin, Tom Jr. and Jessie

Hobbies: Golf, bowling, pool



# Sports bar owner loves the hospitality business

Tom Alberts, owner of for himself, he decided TJ's Sports Bar & Grille, to buy the bar, that had a likes the TV show 'Cheers.' "It's really like that," he and frequent fights.

took early retirement from

says about the bar business. For three years before it, give something to people he bought the bar, Alberts to do in Lowell," he said. "I had been reading in the wish I had done it earlier."

Lowell Ledger that there was Alberts hasn't regretted nothing to do in Lowell. He since.

Steelcase, after working people person to thrive in there for 27 years. Since he the hospitality business,

had always wanted to work according to Alberts. Coming every day to work at 8:30 a.m., getting ready history of brief ownerships to open at 11 a.m., can get monotonous, but not for "I was going to make Alberts. He looks forward to his regulars, and transients passing by the bar en route

> to other locations. Location, yeah, that can be a problem or an advantage. Most bars in Lowell are saturated in the downtown area. TJ's is

located on the eastern most onion rings, and has a big outskirts of town in Lowell selection of brews on tap.

Alberts, who used to addition to the kitchen for play in the band 'Weekender' the coolers, and a long term for 25 years, naturally offers goal is to create a sports live bands on weekends complex on the 10 acres. from September to June as a Alberts wants to put in special draw to customers.

"You learn as you go," beach volleyball court and a he said. "You try to make as concession stand within two many people happy as you to three years. Right now, he

So, he hand dips his he used to coach football and

Alberts is an easy-going boss to his eight to 10 part time employees.

basketball.

two softball diamonds, a

coaches varsity bowling, and

"I am one of the easiest bosses that anybody can get along with," he said. "Our pricing is fair, the food is excellent and we service everybody to the best of our

Alberts calls the bar, a family type of deal, since he has made so many friends through the place. It is not unusual for people to just stop by, and help out with whatever is needed, like shoveling snow.

"Everybody around here helps out," he said.

Whenever, he faces a big project, such as last year's chamber dinner or New Year's Eve, Alberts plans ahead of time, and gets good local deals on meat.

Every day, he has a happy hour from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and runs specials on beer and food. Closing basically depends on the people. Alberts won't close the bar if there are patrons

"When you try to run something, you give a little bit of a deal to make people come in, like on band nights, we have mixed drinks," he

Of course a lot of the business is trial by error, and learning as you go. He hopes to work a little less in five years, and to hire more people.

"It's been a pleasure to wait on people," he said.

His goal is to put an The bar business has changed over the years. Even though slightly impacted by the economy, the clientele itself has changed.

> "It isn't as rough as it used to be," he said.

Aim Hi provides organized school carnivals, churches and companies, Martinez with co-owner Dave Haines events. are professionals.

wherever they go with shooting 25 feet high was 5.

by Emma Palova

typical "carnie" that wears

tattooed on his biceps and

a cigarette hanging from his against each other.

Jay Martinez is not your inflatables and music. They even invented a game called

Unique company delivers fun to all

"We bring Walt Disney Although his company to schools," said Martinez.

- JAY MARTINEZ

That is the entire idea fun and entertainment for behind Aim Hi to bring organized fun, often to help schools raise money at their in their garage. They made

The duo delivers fun experiment with mentos that later ran at Ada Lowell April of 2006. Looking back

a big success at the Forest

"The Pork Chop Speedway" Martinez met Haines at a pep where colorful pigs race rally at Holy Spirit School gymnasium three years ago carnival company. through a Reader's Digest

the duo formed a carnival company, Aim Hi starting a need." a carnival commercial at was a full service carnival Their geyser scientific Blessed Sacrament Church, for Knapp Charter School in service and high integrity.

The fun started when enough space in the garage, and

comfortable with

Hobbies: Baseball, gardening, baseball coach

Position: Owner of Aim Hi

Education: Bachelor's degree in

Experience: 3 years with Aim Hi

political science from Eastern Illinois University

Residence: Ada

"We realized there was a need for somebody to entertainment for a family," Within two weeks, organize school carnivals," Martinez said. "We identified

Wife Laurie, children Zackary, Noah and Tara

getting customers games, set-up of a prize the tickets. room and then dismantling of everything. "It is the least expensive

said Martinez.

Martinez sets for himself and Martinez. Their first big project the company is providing

> "We want to provide the best experience," said standards for ourselves.

Technology music videos and screen shows. projections of comedians for prizes.

When Martinez faces in five years. a big project like a large parent group to define their goals for the program.

may include inflatables, food, games, prizes or game

In a typical program, earn chips as they play, then 8 p.m. they turn them in for prizes.

The first challenges today, Martinez, said it was Every game has a certain on the job included not the easiest project ever. The value. The school makes carnival included 15 carnival money, as the parents sell Sometimes, Martinez

may pick a family to play a game in front of everybody at pep rallies.

"It's a modified version Among the goals of a game show," said

And the economy, so

a high level of customer far, has not touched this business. "As long as the schools

are in business, we are in Martinez, "we set the business," said Martinez. The duo is well known

and for bringing into schools, innovation has entered the cows for a milking contest, fun business as well, with entertainers and BMX His long range plan, such as W.C. Fields to create if Martinez doesn't find

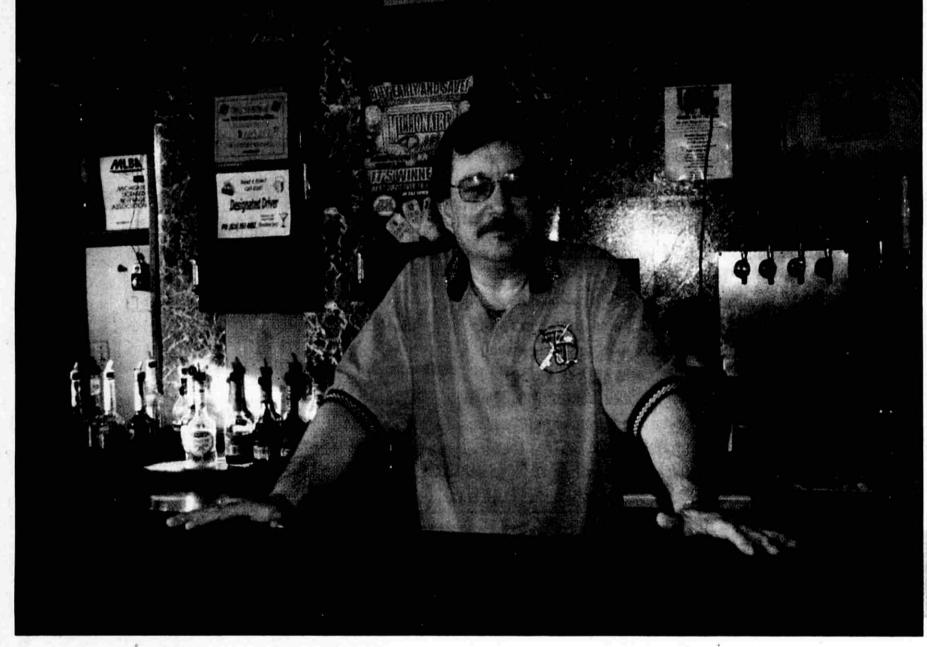
a backdrop while kids wait national partners, is to be in the entire state of Michigan school carnival, he meets company to partner to

Then he designs the

with the group, quite often a become a national company headquarters in Michigan," said Martinez.

The company was one program based on what a of the sponsors of last year's specific group wants. Options Riverwalk; they work with the Grand Rapids Griffins Youth Foundation and Helen DeVos Children's Hospital.

An open house will be Aim Hi brings in games and held on Jan. 15 at 1250 W. sets up a food court. Kids Main Street from 8 a.m. to





#### Success in business requires training and discipline and hard work. But if you're not frightened by these things, the opportunities are just as great today as they ever were.

- David Rockefeller (1915 - )



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#### WILL NEW ADMINISTRATION **AFFECT YOUR INVESTMENT MOVES?**

Next week, President-elect Obama will become President Obama. Like people across the country, you will no doubt be greatly interested in how his actions will affect a wide variety of domestic and foreign-policy issues. But legislation and its aftermath. from a personal point of view, you may also be thinking about what an Obama Administration will mean for your Administration and Congress will allow the Bush tax cuts investment strategy.

have only a limited impact on the financial markets. In our complex, interconnected world, a variety of factors — from actions of the Federal Reserve to corporate profits to oil prices to political instability abroad — all play a key role in determining the fortunes of the stock and bond markets.

on your investment strategy — and avoid getting caught up in the potential ramifications of who's in charge in Washington. Nonetheless, you may still want to pay some attention to potential changes introduced by the new administration. Here are a couple of areas to consider:

progress of new legislation proposed by the Obama Administration. For example, will a successful push toward "green" energy benefit renewable energy companies? Right now, no one can answer this question. In fact, even if these changes are enacted, it will take some time to sort them out to determine what, if any, impact they could have on various

on capital gains and dividends to expire. While you need to future years. In reality, the actions of any administration generally be aware of this development, you don't necessarily have to make major changes to your investment strategy. In the case of capital gains taxes, you can delay them by simply holding on to your stocks for the long term — which you should be doing anyway, as stocks are a long-term investment.

Consequently, you need to take a truly global perspective stocks may still be good investment choices, because they usually represent solid, profitable companies that seek to reward their investors. However, if you are concerned about the effect of higher capital gains and dividend taxes, you might want to consider an investment such as tax-exempt municipal bonds. You'll benefit most from these "munis" if • New legislation - You may want to follow the you're in one of the higher tax brackets.

As you review possible changes in your investment strategy due to moves made by the new administration, you may want to take the opportunity to "rebalance" your portfolio by adjusting your investment mix. Under normal circumstances, such rebalancing could involve capital gains considerations, since you might be selling appreciated market sectors. So, your best bet is to watch the course of assets. However, given the steep market decline of recent months, it's quite possible that you can now sell part of your • Investment taxes - It seems likely that the Obama assets at a loss to offset any gains you might have — and if you don't have any gains, you can carry the loss forward to

So, pay attention to what's happening in Washington, and, at the same time, look for opportunities to rebalance. But keep in mind that your long-term investment strategy should be based on your individual needs, goals, risk tolerance and time horizon. And that's true in all political And even if the dividend tax increases, dividend-paying and economic environments.

# Angel Baby campaign runs through February 22

The fourth annual Angel Baby campaign has begun. custodians, maintenance educational opportunities Angel Baby was created workers, and teachers. to disadvantaged children. through a partnership with the Donations will be accepted LESPA and LEA volunteers Lowell Education Support through Feb. 22, 2009. (LEA), the Salvation Army's Army, 1215 E. Fulton, Children's Museum and to Early Childhood program, Grand Rapids. and other Kent County school employees. The goal of the partnership is to provide early childhood care and educational activities to infants and young children in need in Lowell and throughout Kent County.

The local campaign, which began Jan. 5, is coordinated by the Lowell Area Schools' food service workers,

sionals, school secretaries, program is to provide Association Donated items may be school or at the Salvation

variety of things for infants through five years of age. High priority items include educational toys and games, books, infant clothing, diapers, formula, baby food, blankets, baby soap and shampoo, and infant furniture (car seats and high

A unique component our community." the Angel Baby

will also collect tickets to area attractions such as John dropped off at any Lowell Ball Zoo, Frederik Meijer Gardens, Grand Rapids local theatre and events. Needed items include a "Infants and young children are often especially impacted during difficult economic times," said Vicki Fredline, President of LESPA. "We are thrilled that our partnership with the Salvation Army for the Angel Baby initiative will positively impact the quality of life for so many needy children in and around



Lowell teachers and support personnel presented donated items to the Salvation Army after Angel Baby's 2008 campaign



# OKAY -

Someone Has To Say It ...

A wise man once said it is better to remain quiet and be times, but the number is still nine. thought a fool than to speak up and remove all doubt!

Well, let it be said I did not read that wise man's book. I spoke up foolishly back on Dec. 10, brashly declaring my innate college football bowl-picking wisdom.

It went something like this: "I believe I can correctly pick the winner of all 34 games. At the very least pick more winners than any of those who dare do the same."

Thirteen Lowell Ledger subscribers read my picks, chuckled, and said "Game On."

were any participants who chose more games correctly (17), Jon Jacobs (16), Darwin LaLone (15), and Doak Dean than I, their names would be put into a hat and one winner (15). would be picked. That lucky person would receive a \$50 gift certificate to the Victory Club.

Of the 13 who mailed or dropped off an entry form, He entered because my column annoyed him so! nine selected more winners than I did. It's hard to believe; I checked and rechecked the totals a half dozen or more

The bar I set for everybody to beat was 14 of 34 (41 percent). It sounds more like I was playing limbo! Bad for me, good for just about everybody else.

Before I continue, I would be remiss if I did not thank those who tried but failed to beat that magic number. My debt of gratitude goes out to Cathy Acker (10), Nancy Stroosnyder (13), and Jeanne Boss (14).

The laundry list of those who surpassed 14 were Jim Sowle (20), Don DeHaan (19), Dave Clements (18), Zeth Further into my Dec. 10th column I noted that if there Dean (17), Ann Sowle (17), Kanon Dean (17), Darby Dean

Yes, that makes 10, however, Jon Jacobs, Buyers Guide/ Lowell Ledger publisher extraordinaire, was not eligible.

One last thing before I disclose who won the \$50 gift card from the Victory Club.

Let it be said I too fade faster than: Phil Michelson on a Sunday afternoon at any of the four majors; the Chicago Cubs in the post season; the Super Bowl loser; and the Detroit Lions' Super Bowl hopes.

The winner of the \$50 Victory Club gift card is Lowell's Darwin LaLone.

To all the rest who kicked my tail, a hardy hand shake and a pat on the back will have to do. Thanks to all who participated and we will do this again.

I may even try a more humble approach next time!



ORLANDO - Welcome to OR - LAND - O.

First a perspective. The bigger the bowl, the bigger the stage and therefore the greater and broader the interest. A Jan. 1 bowl is a pretty big draw. National and local interest is peaked. For example, college friends I have not talked with for 38 years are calling. These same kind of lifetime relationships probably resurfaced for hundreds of other close football fanatic friends. On a local scale, I actually ran into three Lowell coaches at or near the stadium on game day... Dean, Ingram and former coach Kemp. Their attraction to this Jan. 1 Bowl was Florida 750, a Lowell Senior fullback, the anticipation of what the quarterback play might be next fall and a much improved Spartan football program...yes, a nationally televised FOOTBALL game, Jan. 1 on ABC prime time 1 p.m., second fiddle this day only to the Rose Bowl at 5 p.m. on ABC.

Yes, football at all levels from youth football to high school football to college football to the Super Bowl is to put things in perspective.

my friends. I tell you the truth, football is one of the many experiences in our present society that in some ways prepares

the human race for the ultimate bowl game. What date is that game? Jan. 1...No. Jan 6? No, when then? The ultimate bowl game is at eternity time. Yes, Heaven. So enjoy football, faith, friends, family and vocation and keep it in perspective.

Onward. The bowl games generally have interesting pregame activities. Here in Orlando, I went to a Spartan football team practice with other parents on Tuesday. Then we went to the Spartan press conference that followed the Georgia press conference. Much of the local Orlando media and some outstate media asked the four Spartan captains a variety of questions. In fact, I caught much of Georgia's captains' press conference. It was all good. The Spartans and the Bulldogs were set for a great fight called The Capital One Bowl. Yes, year, it could be two years, who knows - it will definitely be

Now a brief recap of the Big Ten Bowl results. As you all know, Iowa is the only Big Ten team that was victorious. Ohio State darn near pulled off a win, except for the last play of the game. The rest were overmatched.

In week one, I wrote that the format of this column fall would not be to focus on one team or one or two players. The rest of this final column will be devoted to the Spartans and two Lowell athletes. Keith Nichol was in Orlando. Keith told me that he couldn't be happier at MSU. "It's the greatest place to go to school and play football at the same time. Jeff (McPherson) and I like being at Michigan State." Nichol, as most of Lowell and West Michigan know, recently transferred all conferences. from Oklahoma in June and was red shirted this past season. spring Keith will compete for the quarterback job. Look for will win eight to 12 regular season games this fall. So, "I tell you the truth" said Jesus in Matthew. So, Keith and Kirk Cousins from Holland to have a lot of fun

The other Lowell player, as much of Lowell knows is

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5th year senior fullback Jeff McPherson. "It's been a long, very fun trip for me, coming from being a walk-on and being awarded a scholarship. I'm very grateful and this last game means everything to me," said McPherson in Orlando prior to the Jan 1st game.

Coach Dantonio is the first Spartan head coach to win seven or more games in each of his first two seasons. In my opinion, his leadership of staff and the team has been outstanding. In fact Coach D invests a lot of trust in his seniors. Said McPherson in an Orlando interview with the media, "I have to thank last year's seniors for their leadership. And somewhere down the road - it could be next very satisfying to look back and think that my senior class, and all the underclassmen, were part of something special at MSU." To this point, Dantonio said, "I'll remember last year's seniors forever, same for this year's."

Next let's take a general preview of the Big Ten this

Look for Michigan to improve. I'm really going out on a limb on that one aren't I?

Look for the Buckeyes and Penn State to be tough.

And expect every head coach in the Big Ten to want to do their very best to be contenders. It's a tough league. Everyone wants to win every game. That is not the case in

My forecast for the Spartans, as it is every year, is 12-0. inspiring and to the football enthusiast, the idea called He was selected by the coaches as Scout Offensive Player of I figure 12 - 0 will happen two to three times this century. So, "football" can be down right intoxicating. That is why I like the Year at the 2008 Spartan Football Banquet this fall. This it might as well be this fall. I'm confident that the Spartans

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Big Ten Talk, cont'd., pg. 11

# Red Arrow SPORTS

# Rockford tourney leaves Lowell gymnasts with challenges

by Thad Kraus

Saturday's Flip Flop Invitational at Rockford left the Lowell girls' gymnastics team with plenty to work

definitely will the season," said Lowell gymnastic Fisher. "The good news is we had inexperienced gymnasts, who battled their

did what was needed."

Morgan Freshman Rogalke, a prime example, of the pack with 108.40. competed on the bars for the first time.

front, Lowell senior Andrea throughout Coffey pinched a nerve exercise and on the vault.

"That was a big loss. Rockford Black was fifth

jitters and came through and Andrea is one of our highest scorers," Fisher said.

> Lowell finished in back 134.20. Normally the Red

Arrows would score On the not so good news somewhere between 120 and 130 points. Farmington won the She will be strong for us all 8.0 (placing her 10th).

in her back and was only event with 143.85 points. able to compete in the floor Kenowa Hills/Grandville placed fourth at 136.50. Richelle Kimble led all Red

with 136.05 while Forest Hills finished sixth at

earned eighth overall in 7.15. the all-around with 33.225 "Kelsey had a good day.

year," Fisher said.

came off the apparatus with at 7.6. Lowell's Kelsey Teft a 7.8. Sarah Piell recorded a

> Kimble was the only Red Arrow to place on the uneven bars with a mark of

In the floor exercise, On the vault Teft and Teft finished in a three-way tie for first with a score of

Arrows with an 8.7, tying 9.175. Kimble tallied an them for ninth place. Coffey 8.375 while Coffey finished

> Teft and Kimble led all Red Arrows on the balance beam with marks of 7.8 and 7.65 respectively.

Lowell travels to Kenowa Hills on Wednesday (Jan. 14) to battle the Knights and Forest Hills.

# Lowell/Caledonia hockey team loses two

Lowell's hockey team dropped a pair of games this past week.

The Red Arrows lost decisively to Grandville,

Lowell/Caledonia then lost 4-3 later in the week to West Catholic.

"Though we lost 9-1 to Grandville, it was the most disciplined game we've played this year,"

said Lowell/Caledonia coach Mike Ballard.

The Red Arrows fell behind 4-0 to West Catholic at the 39 second mark of the third period before rallying with three third-period goals.

"The team gathered itself and responded before falling a goal short," Ballard said.

# Youth wrestlers find success in Ionia

They competed against five other schools in the round-robin tournament.

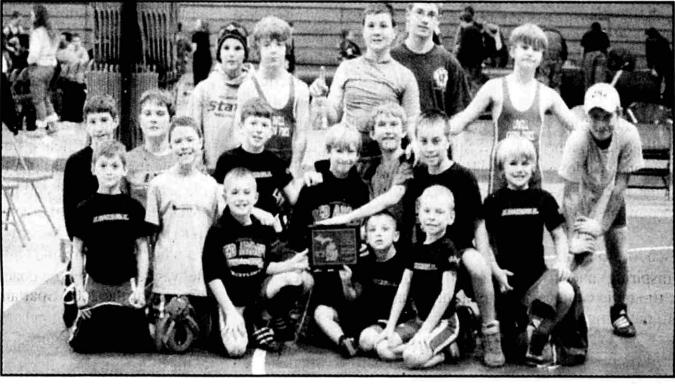
The teams included Bronson, Ionia, Sparta, Springport, Belding and Lowell. Lowell Middle School also wrestled on Sunday placing third. Both teams will be traveling to New Lothrop on Sunday, Jan. 18 for Team Duals.

Pictured, at right, front row, left to right: Mutchler, Sage Serbenta,

Elementary's Doak Dean, and Matt Taylor, Nate Stephens, and Mills, Eli Boulton, and Baily VanAmburgh, Jason Bigham, Max Dean, Forrest

Nagy, Jake Denison, Garret

Dual Wrestling team placed Stephens; second row, left Jared Hough; back row, left Logan Blough. Not pictured: first at the Ionia Duals on to right: Bradon Churches, to right: Zeth Dean, John JohnLuc Richmond.



Senior Jeff McPherson and Red Shirt Keith Nichol at the 2008 MSU Football Banquet.

### Big Ten Talk, continued ... From Page 10

Finally, thanks to The Ledger for publishing Big "Being back home and close Ten Talk. Also, thanks to to friends and family is great you the readers. It has been I look forward to them being fun chatting with you all on the street and in the stores. I personally really enjoyed sharing the up-close point of view that a parent of a together as players and men player has, in particular after witnessing the university experience for 10 seasons from many different perspectives and brotherhood within the including athletic, academic team." Jeff McPherson. and administrative. Thank you and keep looking up.

First quote of the week:

at games." Keith Nichol. Second and final quote of the week:

"Learning and growing is a natural process which makes football such a special game. We really value family

Rather than love, than money, than fame, give me truth.

- Henry David Thoreau (1817 - 1862)

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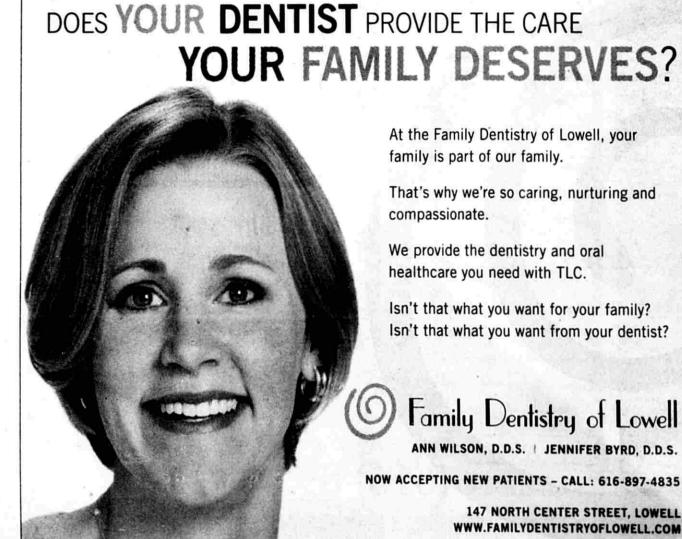
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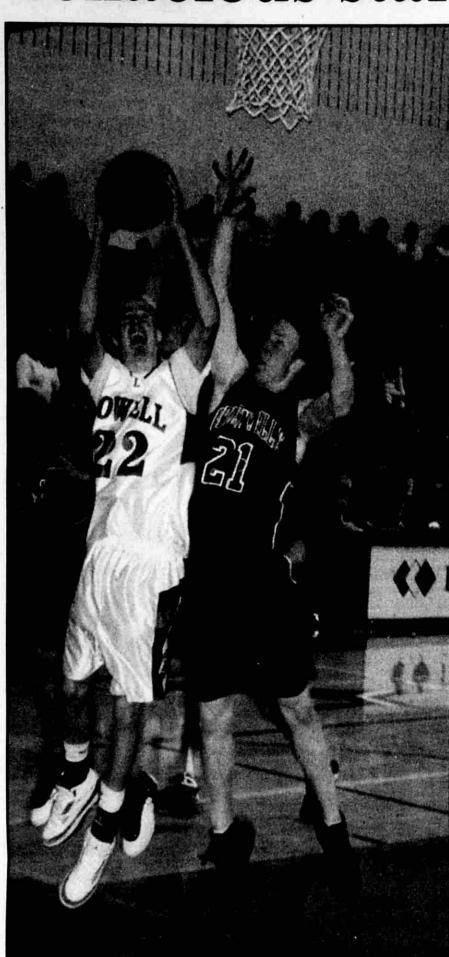
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# Red Arrow SPORTS

# Tenacious start lifts Lowell past Greenville



Daniel Lane works the offensive boards in a game-high 15 points. Jon second half action against Greenville Friday night.

by Thad Kraus

Lowell was anxious to 13. put a 20-point defeat behind it, and it showed.

a 13-2 lead over the visitors MacDonald said. "I was from Greenville, en route to so happy with the way we Greenville a 54-46 O-K White win over played tonight in terms of its neighbors to the north.

Lowell never trailed and never saw its lead drop below eight in lifting its record to 3-2 overall and 1-1 in the O-K White.

A kick in the seat of the pants to boot may have inspired its attack mode style of play.

"Our first two games of the season, we were the kind of personality and team I want our kids to be," said Lowell basketball coach Jeff MacDonald. "The last two games we were passive and not attacking.'

Lowell opened with a 13-2 burst and led 16-8 after one quarter of play. The Red Arrows grew the lead to 10 (27-17) at half time.

"Lowell came out ready Greenville basketball coach Mark Haist. "Just when we thought we were going to make a run Lowell hit a big shot." Lowell's Derek Cornish led all scorers with

"When we win the floor burn battle and those kind The Red Arrows' boys of stats we have a chance

effort and rebounding."

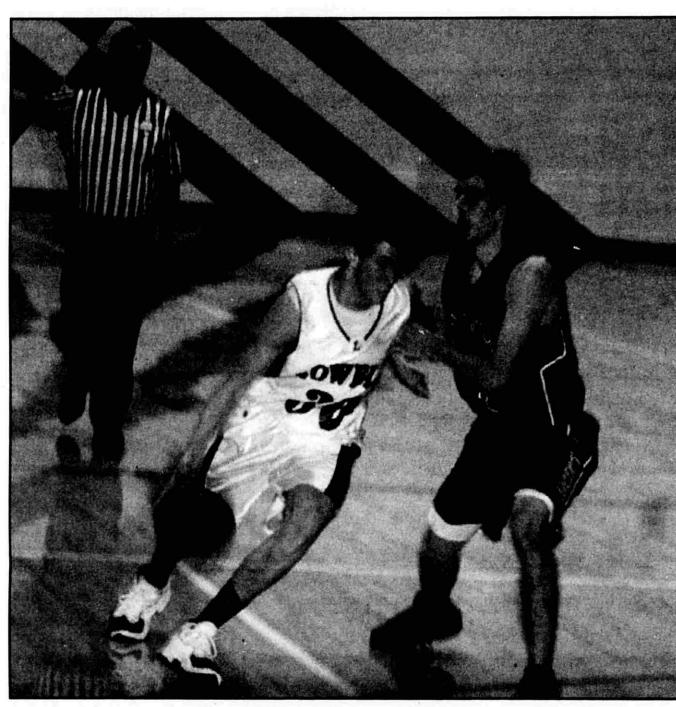
tenacity to start the game came out ready to play basketball team raced out to to be in all of our games," helped build the Red Arrow and we didn't. We have to lead as it turned over put together 32 minutes of

"Lowell always plays Jared Hinken led all we execute our options the O-K White.

Yellow jackets with 14 in our offense I think points. Mitch Barker chipped we're able to counter their aggressiveness," Haist said. Lowell's defensive "The bottom line is Lowell

With the loss Greenville aggressive defense. If slip to 2-5 overall and 0-2 in

basketball."



Jon Hanson drives past a defender on his way to the basket. Hanson finished with 13 points.

# Lowell's intense approach too much for Creston

by Thad Kraus

Lowell girls basketball team reached the .500 plateau with a 55-15 win over a struggling Creston squad

The win improved the face Union early in the week Red Arrows to 4-4 overall and 2-0 in the O-K White.

The win sets up an Friday. important stretch of games

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conference favorite Grand Rapids Christian on

"We came out with with for Lowell. The Red Arrows intensity and played good

defense," said Lowell coach Dani Gallert. "Once we got the lead the girls got lazy. I told the girls to compete against better teams we have to be ready to play an entire 32 minutes."

Red Arrows get good offensive output from Kara Rasch. The Lowell senior tallied a game-leading 17

"Kara is beginning to make the 15 footers," Gallert

Holzhueter chipped in with nine points.

"We got to play everyone tonight and we also had an opportunity to work on our press," Gallert explained. "We also keep improving on our turnovers. Game to game that number keeps getting better."



Katie Tompkins netted six points in Lowell's win over Creston.

Red Arrow SPORTS

# Lowell subdues Wildcats; eyes No. 1 Yellow Jackets

a well-coached, physical Lowell's way to a 47-22 O- the early matches. K White win.

wave of emotion that comes Olep winning via a forfeit. with wrestling the number matches to build a 16-11 advantage.

"We weren't looking

a well coached, physical Zach Keur (103) decisioned group," Lowell wrestling Aaron Nowak 10-6. Wednesday's coach Dave Dean said.

At the very least, the decisioned Zach Jeffries 12strength of the Wildcats' Northview squad righted lineup matched up well

The match started at Northview, riding the 189, with Lowell's Ryan

Trailing 6-0, Northview two team in Division II, laid strung together wins in four claim to four of the first six of the next five matches to take a short-lived 16-11 advantage.

Jay Whitley (215)

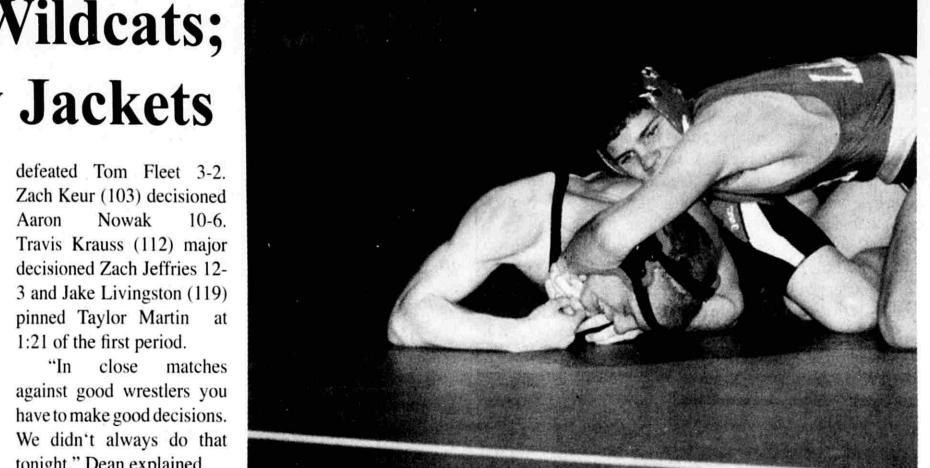
past Northview. They are defeated Tom Fleet 3-2. Travis Krauss (112) major

the Red Arrow wrong on against the Red Arrows in 1:21 of the first period. "In close matches against good wrestlers you have to make good decisions. We didn't always do that

> What Lowell did do was flex its muscle in the middle

tonight," Dean explained.

The Red Arrows won



Dan Fleet earned a 12-3 major decision against Northview's Evan Kovaly.

seven of the final eight matches including the last six in a row.

Four of those matches were via the pin and one was by way of a technical fall.

Posting pins were Tyler Jack (125), Andrew Morse (140), Ryan Dean (145), and Jackson Morse (171).

DanFleet(135)recorded a 12-3 major decision against Evan Kovaly.

(152) penciled in a 3- in the O-K White. We just 2 decision against Luke want people to know that Preston while Tim Gingerich Northview is here." earned a 23-8 technical fall against Northview's Skylar Callendar.

relaxed

bowled well."

Other

were handed in

by Red Arrow

Jessica Alberts

(189) and Sammi

Geldersma

Competing

Lowel

schools,

Northview earned top

Creston was fourth at

Lowell's top bowler for

2795 and East Grand Rapids

finished fifth with a 2360.

by Grand Rapids Christian,

3012 and Lowell, 2926,

hardworking Gingerich said. "We all stepped it up tonight."

came at 130 pounds. Dyllon ranked second in Division Churchard pinned Gabe II Morse at 5:56 of the third

Northview coach B.J. Lowell's Rocky Pabon and Lowell are the Goliaths we came back.

The Lowell win sets up much anticipated match between Greenville, the defending state champion The Wildcats only win and number one team in over the last eight matches Division II and Lowell

"Northview did a good job of taking advantage of "We're getting better," our issues," Dean said. "We had some kids falter tonight. Schroder said. "Greenville but nobody got down and

Andrew Morse picked up a pin against Wildcat Jake Burns.

# Lowell girls roll to victory at tourney; Red Arrow boys finish third

by Thad Kraus

coach how his two teams are doing and he has to stop and

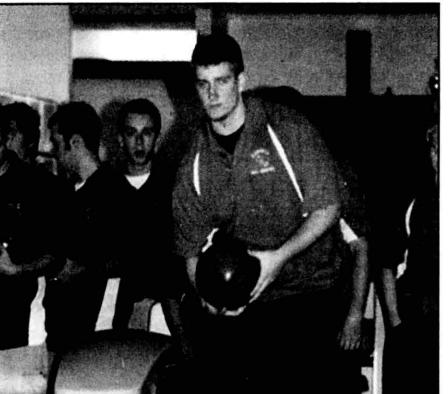
Arrow rollers haven't been able to get onto the lanes.

"The pre-conference tournament was only our a 2820. Northview was second match/tournament

of the year," Tom Alberts Ask Lowell's bowling explained. "We've had two matches canceled due to the weather.'

The inactivity didn't Yes, he's been paying hinder the Red Arrow girls as they easily out rolled both Northview and Grand Rapids Christian in the preconference tournament.

Lowell finished with



Tom Alberts Jr. rolled a 562 series in the preconference tournament.



Liberty Clark's high game was a 170. against four other

a distant second at 2489 boys' team placed third. followed by Grand Rapids Christian's 2465. honors with a 3321 followed Kristin Bouwhuis and

Liberty Clark, co-captains, battled for the top spot. Bouwhuis' earned the

honor with a 555 series. She rolled a 212, 176 and a 167. Clark finished with

the day was Tom Alberts 477 rolling games of 170 Jr. He rolled a 562 series 160 and 147.

"Those two (172-211-179). Brian Hook mark. We're young and finished with a 526 (181- gaining experience and 172-173). Dillon Buck that's what is going to make rolled a 484 with games of us better," Alberts said 166, 164 and 154. Jacob Hornbrook was another," Alberts Lowell's fourth man with a explained.

473 series (186-145-142).

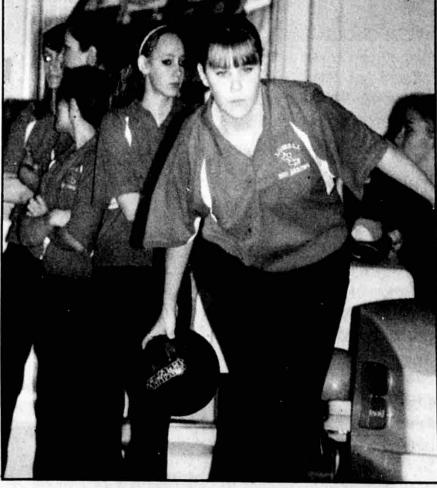
league match on Friday remains our big question against Creston.

bowlers."

"Matches and tournaments

Lowell rolls in its first

can be intimidating to young



Kristin Bouwhuis led all Lowell bowlers with a 555 series.



### Testing Michigan homes for radon is easier than ever

With Rep. Dave Hildenbrand

Representative Dave Hildenbrand reminded Michigan homeowners today to start the new year off right by testing their home for radon. Governor Granholm proclaimed January to be Radon Action Month in Michigan, noting that radon is believed to be the second leading cause of lung cancer and the leading cause among nonsmokers.

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas found in almost any kind of soil or rock. It travels through the ground, and is quickly diluted when released to the atmosphere, however when it seeps into homes through openings in the foundation floor or walls, it can build up to unhealthy levels.

"Radon is tasteless, odorless, and colorless, which too often makes it easy to ignore," said Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Director Steven Chester. "The reality is that nearly one in eight Michigan homes could have an indoor radon problem and the only way to know if your family is at risk is to test your home."

The DEQ is partnering with local health departments to ensure a source of low-cost test kits in every county this year. Most local health departments offer the kits for \$15 or less,

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birders and scientists, armed

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both make a difference and

to experience the beauty of

people to leave the comfort

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#### Bird count results

Rapids Audubon Club sponsored Christmas Bird Count on Jan. 3. The Wittenbach/Wege science and Environmental Center was our base station.

Fifty-four participants observed 56 bird species on count day with three additional species during count week. If you missed this year's count, consider joining us on Jan. 2, 2010 for next year's count. See nature has driven dedicated Table one for results.

From Dec. 14, 2008 through Jan. 5, 2009, tens



**ELEMENTARY** MENU Week of Jan. 19, 2008

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

TUES: Cheeseburger o bun (taco salad w/tortilla chips also offered at Alto Cherry Creek, Bushnell & Murray Lake), lettuce/fresh vegetables, fruited gelatin salad, milk.

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 stuffed (cheese w/pizza breadsticks) dipping sauce (stacked ham/cheese on bun al offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake) green beans, applesauce

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

and many will be selling them at discounted prices during the month of January. Kits obtained from the local health departments include the postage to mail the device to an outof-state laboratory, the fees for having the device analyzed, and a report sent back to the user.

during normal business hours, kits can be obtained online at http://mi.radon.com. Like the local health department kits, these kits include postage and lab fees in the price.

Test kits may also be available from some hardware stores or home improvement centers, but not all include postage and analysis, so citizens are urged to read the packaging before making their purchase.

The National Academy of Sciences estimates that packet of information.

about 15,000 Americans die annually from radon-related lung cancer, and a Michigan Public Health Institute report estimates more than 600 new lung cancer cases in Michigan are attributable to indoor radon each year.

Radon tests should be done in the lowest livable level of For those who cannot get to their local health department the home during the cooler months of the year, when windows and doors are normally kept closed. If the test indicates an elevated radon level, more testing should be done to confirm the problem and appropriate actions taken to reduce the levels

> To find out more about radon, visit the DEO web site www.michigan.gov/degradon or call the DEQ Radon Program at 1-800-RADON-GAS (1-800-723-6642) for a free

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### ONLINE POLL RESULTS Are you going to watch the Inauguration on January 20?

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This week's online poll question: What do you consider President Bush's biggest failure in office?

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# Levin, continued ... From Page 5

March – these plans and the completion of other future of our industrial base in America. restructuring efforts can help our domestic automotive industry once again lead the world in innovation and fuel job creation and economic growth in America.

The auto industry is not the only sector of our economy that is suffering right now. That's why Congress is already working on an economic recovery package that we are hoping to complete quickly for President Obama to sign into law in his first weeks in office. The package needs to infrastructure projects that will help create jobs and strengthen our communities for future economic growth. It should also include assistance for homeowners threatened by foreclosure and for state governments so that schools, health care, public safety and other state and local budget items are not slashed as tax revenues decrease during this recession.

It is also critical that we renew our commitment to manufacturing and vastly increase our efforts to encourage the development of advanced technologies. For example, ending our nation's dependence on foreign oil will require a new generation of advanced batteries for consumer and commercial use – and this same technology has vital military applications. I will continue to push for funding to help manufacturers establish domestic manufacturing capability

for this and other critical technologies that will determine the

The club web is: http:// www.glsga.org/grac.htm

Another problem that demands our attention is the increasing cost of health care, along with the gaps in our health care system that leave too many Americans with inadequate insurance or without any insurance at all. I am hopeful that this year we can finally make progress on measures like expanding the Children's Health Insurance Program and moving towards universal health care.

Just as health care is critical for our economic include tax cuts for working families as well as funding for competitiveness, achieving sustained prosperity for future generations of Americans requires that we start investing more in education for our children. Far too often, our education system is falling short for our kids, and, despite progress in the last Congress to improve federal financial aid, too many families cannot afford the college or technical training that is so important for success in the 21st century economy. I am hopeful that we can continue this year to move towards a system that provides resources to meet high standards for all of our children's academic progress.

While our immediate focus is necessarily on economic issues, protecting our nation's security will require a significant re-engagement with the world community, matching our military might with visionary diplomacy to restore our nation's standing as a beacon of freedom and hope around the world. As Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee I will work with the new administration to bring most of our troops home from Iraq promptly and safely, and to formulate a strategically sound approach to our military engagement in Afghanistan and elsewhere around the world.

The crises America faces today are like none we have confronted in generations, making this a challenging and historic time for our nation. This year it will be critical to set aside partisan differences and pass significant legislation to get our nation back on track. With new leadership and a bipartisan commitment to working together for change, I am confident that we can emerge from our current economic troubles stronger, safer, and more prosperous than ever

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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.TFN

**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.

HIGH EFFICIENCY - Central Boiler Classic Outdoor Wood Furnace, 25 year warranty, Dual fuel models. Maxim Corn & Pellet burner also available. Call today SOS your "Stocking Dealer" Dutton, MI 616-554-8669 or 616-915-5061.

### INSULATION - All types available, including blown in. Durkee Lumber, Alto.

PLOW TRUCK FOR SALE 1993 Dodge 3/4 ton with front & rear blades, 94,000 orig. miles. Asking \$3,400

MI 616-868-6026.

or best. 755-2922.

WEDDING INVITATIONS We offer Carlson Craft wedding invitations! Stop by & check out a book today! Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell. 897-

VEHICLES FOR SALE -04 Dodge Ram, 1500 SLT, 109K. Power everything, topper, bed mat, hitch, good condition; '03 Buick Rendezvous CX, 81k, good condition. Asking \$9,000 for both Ram & Buick; '98 Chrysler Town & Country LX, 135k, asking \$5,000. Call 616-299-0906.

**UPS SHIPPING** COPY SERVICE. (black & white & color!) FAX SERVICE, LAMINATING,

& MUCH MORE **AVAILABLE AT THE** LOWELL LEDGER **BUYERS GUIDE** 

105 N. Broadway **HOURS** M-Th. 8-5 p.m. Fri. 8-2 p.m. Closed Sat. & Sun. Ph. 897-9261 Fax 897-4809

email: ledger@lowellbuyers guide.com

SOUND OFF **PHONE LINE 897-0787** Leave your message on the machine.

# **FOR RENT**

PARK - Under new management. Nice 1, 2 & 3 bedroom trailers for rent Rent from \$350 - \$550. For info call George at 616-754-0276 or 616-813-

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

HALL FOR RENT - with 897-6050. TEN

### WANTED

# The Lowell Ledger

TO PLACE AN AD

In Person: 105 N. Broadway, Lowell By Mail: PO BOX 128, Lowell, MI 49331 By Phone: 616-897-9261

# Classified ad rates:

20 words...\$4 each additional word 10¢ Bold \$1 each or Box \$2 each

#### **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!**

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Everyone is talking about the Lowell Ledger! Don't miss out on all the news! Get your subscription today! 897-9261 Credit Card required with phone order

**EVENTS** 

month at 7 p.m. at the Alto

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

Christian Ref. Church

6655 Cascade Rd. Free

perishable food. 1st Mon-

day. Register: 4:30 p.m.

COFFEE WITH THE LOW-

ELL CITY COUNCIL - First

Saturday each month, 8

a.m. - 10 a.m. at Cham-

ber office, 113 Riverwalk

Plaza. Concerns & ideas

STORYTIME AT THE

CLARKSVILLE AREA

LIBRARY - Thursdays at

Distribution: 6 p.m.

welcome.

at Cascade Fellowship

American Legion Post.

LOWELL MOBILE HOME

kitchen, seats 150. Call

**BUYING ANTIQUES** Collections, toys, games, advertising items, fishing & hunting things, jewelr & lots of other "stuff." Cal 616-550-0521 today!

# **EVENTS**

COAT DRIVE - Lowell VFW ALPHA WOMEN'S CEN-& the American Legion in TER - 2251 W. Main Hours: Mon. 11-5 p.m.: Lowell area are collecting semi-new or used coats for Tues. 6-9 p.m.: Thurs. 10-6 p.m. 987-9533. Diapers our Veterans in the Veterans Home located in Grand formula, clothing & free Rapids. Drop off locapregnancy testing availtions are: The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce PRESCHOOL PLAY-113 Riverwalk Plaza; Curtis

**GROUP** - Every Thursday Cleaners, 1410 W. Main from 9-10:30 a.m. at St St.,; VFW Post #8303. Patrick School. Stories, 3116 Alden Nash (Tues. songs, crafts, games & a & Thurs. in Jan. from 2-4 snack. Open to all. Come p.m.). Women coats are with your children ages 0-5 for a little adult interaction ALTO AMERICAN LEwhile your children make **GION AUXILIARY - meets** new friends, 691-8833. the second Monday of the

LOWELL AREA TRAIL-WAY - meets 2nd Wednesday at 6 p.m. at alternate locations. Visit www.lowellareatrailway.org or call Mari 897-5671.

OWELL WOMEN'S

CLUB - 2nd Wednesday at 11:45 a.m. in Schneider Manor Community Room, 725 Bowes Rd.

### **CARD OF THANKS**

THE DECATOR FAMILY WOULD LIKE TO THANK our kind friends, neighbors and all the guys at the round table at Keiser's and at the Backwater!

#### **HELP WANTED**

PART-TIME HELP FOR AFC HOME - for seniors. perience, local references Must be experienced in using gait belt & need to know Slow time of year gets the now to cook. 897-2656 or

THE LOWELL LEDGER - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2009 - PAGE 15

GOVERNMENT JOBS - \$13.64 - \$29.45/hr. Now hiring. Many positions available. For application & government job info, call American Assoc. of Labor. 1-913-599-8290, 24 hrs. emp. serv.

**GENERAL HOME HELP** - Assistance with personal care, housekeeping, meals, nutrition, excercise, pet sitting, snow removal - snow blower. Previous training & experience in Nursing Assistant, Home Health Aide, Adult Foster Care, arthritis exercise & pet care. Call Marge Rash 581-

EARN \$1,000 - \$3,200 A MONTH - to drive new cars with ads. www.YouDrive-Cars.com.

NOW HIRING - and train ing for career positions with West Michigan's leading real estate company. Cal Rick Seese, Greenridge Realty, Inc. for a confidential interview. 616-437-2576 or 616-974-4250.

**HELP US DELIVER** THE PAPER...please DIG OUT around your newspaper tube, mailbox, steps, walkways

& porches! The U.S. Mail carriers and the folks who deliver your Buyers Guide would appreciate your help! Let's all try to HELP EACH OTHER survive the Winter.

#### **SERVICES**

DRAIN CLEANING & OTHER HOUSEHOLD SERVICES - Roof shoveling, sidewalks, handyman services. Call 450-1132.

PAYROLL & BOOKKEEP-ING SERVICE - by certified Quickbooks advisor. Call Kathy 897-6351.TFN

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 Color & black & white copiers! Excellent quality! Stop by our office, Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway.

ALTO DAYCARE HAS 2 OPENINGS - planned weekly art activities, fencedin backyard, accepts DHS payments. Call 868-0752.

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

**SERVICES** PAINTING - DRYWALL FINISHING - 28 years ex-

best pricing, Spring is right around the corner (The Painters) 616-340-6221. DUCK DUCK GOOS DAYCARE HAS OPENINGS! - Licensed, loving, learning enriched envi-

ronment that is fun for your little person Structured activities include art, music, stories, early math & science experiences & early language 8 literacy development Call 897-9444 COMPUTER TROUBLE-SHOOTING - PC opti

mization performed your location. Semi-retired. Microsoft Certified, computer consultant. 26 years small computer experience. Reasonable prices. 676-0416. BRENDA B'S DAYCARE HAS OPENINGS - Chris-

tian home. We have lots of fun! Call today, 987-9351. 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. **HANDY REPAIR SERVICE** - All kinds of service work: locks rekeyed, deadbolts installed, plumbing, electrical, screen & window repair. Call Bob Ford, 299-

3198.TEN 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

SNOW & ICE MANAGE-MENT - Snowplowing shoveling, salting. Commercial & residential, season or per time. Quotes. one time plows. Experienced & insured. Scenic Expressions LLC, 240-4464 or 240-6215.

DRIVER'S LICENSE SUS-PENDED OR REVOKED? - Don't get sucked into \$100-\$300 evaluation fees...I NEVER charge for your record evaluation & consultation! Driver's license RESTORATION: \$2500 incl. all filing fees AND FREE consultation & evaluation of your case. Have a question? Call Attorney Martin Mead (616)

CARPET INSTALLATION Residential & commercial. patches, restretch. Free estimates. Call Kevin at 616-813-4299.

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COMPLETE SERVICES:

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Preventive Care Extractions/Broken Tooth Repaired Dentures (Same Day Repair) Insurance Plans Accepted

✓ Day & Evening Hours: Monday......9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday...........9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday......9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Thursday......8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Community Wellness Weight Loss Challenge Weigh-In Every Wednesday at Good Chevrolet



BUICK CHEVROLET

GMAC IS BACK LENDING MONEY - 0% IS BACK.

WARRANTY S-YEAR POWERTRA

Drive Beautiful

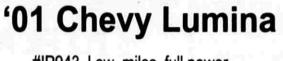
See Representative Today or Rebates up to \$7,000

Loyalty Rebate \$2,000

'09 Chevy 3500 Crew

#9T029, W/T, Duramax, HD trailer equip., cruise. Was \$44,700

Now \$38,272



#IP943, Low miles, full power, nice car. Was \$7,497

Now \$6,795



Loyalty Rebate



'09 Chevy 1500 Reg. Cab

#9T039, 4x4, Z71, 5.3 V8, full power, trailer tow. Was \$32,205

Now \$27,349

'05 Buick Terraza CX #9B015A, 1 owner, local trade, great family

hauler. Was \$9,795

Now \$9,595



Loyalty Rebate



'09 Chevy 1500 W/T

#9T018, air, auto., 4.3 V6, cruise. Was \$20,530

Now \$17,232

'08 Toyota Prius

#UP947, 1 owner, the best in MPG, SAVE BIG from new. Was \$19,475

Now \$18,995



Loyalty Rebate



'09 Chevy HHR

#9T001, full power, On-star, XM radio, 5 star crash rating. Was \$18,590

Now \$16,983

'05 Chevy Trailblazer Ext.

#IP906, 4x4, GM certified, 7 pass, very nice unit. Was \$12,995

'06 Pontiac G6

#IP885, low miles, very nice,

GM certified. Was \$12,995

Now \$11,995

Now \$12,475



Loyalty Rebate

Loyalty

Rebate

\$1,000

Loyalty

Rebate

\$1,000



'09 Chevy Traverse 1LT

#9T028, Bose sound, chrome assist steps, trailer tow, On-star, XM radio. Was \$33,170

Now \$29,650

Loyalty Rebate \$1,000



#9C042, full power, 2.4L, cruise, air, On-star, Was \$22,505

Now \$20,700.60

'05 Chevy Impala LS #IP883, low miles, 3.8 V6, full power

Was \$11.995



Now \$10,995

'09 Chevy Cobalt LS #9C019 2 dr. cpe., rear spoiler, XM radio,

On-star, protect. pkg. Was \$16,240 Now \$13,998

#9B008, 6 pass. seating, 50,000 bumper to

bumper warr. Was \$30,325

Now \$28,178

'07 Ford F150 Super Crew One owner, local trade, very nice, only 5,500 miles

Now \$21,975



'05 Chevy 1500 **Crew Cab** 

4x4, Z71, XM, 6 passenger



Now \$17,745

'97 GMC Sierra SLE

Ext. cab, 4x4, one owner trade, low miles, a real bargain

Now \$5,997



Loyalty Rebate \$1,000



'09 Buick Lacrosse CX

'09 Buick Lucerne CX

#9B011, 6 pass. seating, On-star, 50K warr., heated seats. Was \$27,335

Now \$24,995

\*plus tax, title & state fees

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



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**Rob Stehley** Sales 16 Years



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Kurt Hieshetter

HOLIDAY HOURS: Dec. 31 'til 5 p.m. · Jan. 1 - Closed SERVICE: Open 'til 8 p.m - Dec. 29th

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