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wednesday • december • 9 • 2009

issue 9



DNR fuelwood permits offer a budget-friendly home heating option

Looking for a budgetfriendly way to heat your home this winter? A fuelwood permit from the Department of Natural Resources may be the most economical option for those who heat with a woodstove or fireplace.

Available for only \$20, a fuelwood permit allows a family to gather up to five cords of wood from state land per year between April 1 and Dec. 31. With less than one month until the fuelwood season closes, the DNR has seen a surge in permit applications this fall as more people headed into the woods to stock up on wood for the winter.

"The DNR's fuelwood permit system started in the mid-1970s, with numerous requests to cut dead elm trees in the wake of Dutch elm disease," said Bill Sterrett, DNR Forest Management Resource section manager for the Forest, Mineral and Fire Management Division. "The program then greatly accelerated during the recession years of the 1980s."

The Lowell High School band marches down Main Street

during Lowell's nighttime parade on Saturday.

With today's economic problems and the rising costs of heating oil and LP gas, Sterrett said the DNR again is seeing much interest on the part of the consumer

looking for ways to save money.

"In many parts of the state, we are seeing nearly twice the number of permits being sold as in recent years," he said.

At only \$20 for five standard cords of wood -- a cord is measured by neatly stacking the wood in a line or row that is eight feet long, four feet wide and four feet high -- the savings for each family represents hundreds of dollars, versus buying the wood from a reseller. In addition to the low cost of the permit, any associated equipment costs to get outfitted for fuelwood

gathering also is relatively

"Not much investment is needed in equipment to gather fuelwood," Sterrett said. "A decent chainsaw and a wheelbarrow will make the work more efficient, plus we recommend the use of leather gloves, heavy boots, safety chaps, safety glasses, ear protection and a hard hat. "Fuelwood permits are sold at DNR field offices throughout Upper the Peninsula and northern Lower Peninsula for the gathering of only dead and down wood from state forest land -- no standing dead trees make be cut down.

applicant Each assigned a specific area of state forest land where they are allowed to gather the wood, which usually is the site of a previous timber sale where excess slash and unused tree tops can easily be accessed. Based on the condition of the site once the timber sale is completed, forest management unit foresters evaluate which closed timber sales are good candidates for fuelwood gathering and which should be closed to cutting.

The sites where fuelwood cutting is allowed also

> Fuelwood permits, continued, page 2



page 16

page 8

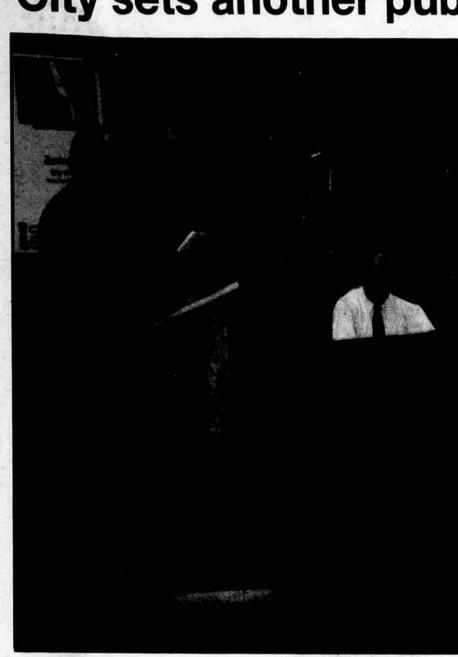
°lëdger

At Your

Local

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City sets another public hearing for hauler franchise



by Emma Palova

council. Monday, set another the city would bid out the waste hauler franchise for bid in June and start service

been rehashed for close to a year. Under a proposed this as unfair for smaller amendment to the ordinance, businesses, making it hard to the city would grant an compete with large haulers. exclusive franchise to one Also, the fact that the city hauler in order to save money would use carts rather than and cut down on the noise in the streets. The franchised for smaller haulers. hauler would use mostly carts which has caused some Beachum said the proposal is opposition due to the volume against free enterprise.

Currently, the city is he said.

of trash.

using several haulers, trash bags and curbside recycling. If the franchise is approved, contract in March, award a in November.

However, the local smaller haulers opposed bags would increase the cost

Local businessman Perry

"Vote for free enterprise,"

Perry Beachum speaks against hauler franchise.

But, other residents like to Schneider Manor for the Steve Doyle, in a letter to the council, supported the consolidation of trash pickup due to esthetics and The council approved the

more competitive rates. sale of old police vehicles, a 1998 Ford Taurus for \$900 "I can't support it without and a 1991 Chevrolet Lumina bags," said council woman Maryalene LaPonsie. for \$600.

The council will again

discuss the proposal on Jan.

4 and hear public input on

to grant front yard variance

Council woman Sharon Stephanie Libby, a Ellison was undecided. financial advisor for Edward "It's a catch 22, we don't Jones, will pay a fee of know how much we could \$300 and \$10 for a police save with this," she said. background check to perform

The council approved another three year contract with the Rotary to use In other business, the the chambers for weekly council set a public hearing

door to door canvassing.

Fuelwood permits, continued

proximity to existing roads and appropriate distance away from any waterbodies and other types of state land, such as campgrounds and wildlife management areas, which helps to reduce any environmental or social

existing roads and either need to carry cut wood from the site back to their vehicle, wheelbarrow or hand cart to transport the wood over

"The fuelwood permit

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or are allowed the use of a dead and down wood in the the permits forest to decompose and offer ground shelter for various familiar with the local state where fuelwood cutting is with their assigned permit allowed are close to existing

maximized." Lower Peninsula. Anyone be resold or traded. interested in purchasing a

holders may system is an example of permit should call ahead to use their vehicles only on finding balance in the use of their local DNR office to our resources," Sterrett said. be sure permits are sold at "There is habitat value to that location, since not all leaving a certain amount of offices are equipped to sell

> Field staff who species of animals, but there forest land will review is an undeniable benefit to the each permit and provide consumer who also is allowed the applicant with a map to make use of the resource. detailing the specific area under a firewood quarantine, Once a permit

roads where timber sales purchased, the applicant have already taken place, typically has 90 days we believe the ecological to complete their wood impacts are minimized while gathering (but a permit issued the benefits to our users are now is valid only through Dec. 31) and only one Fuelwood permits can be permit is allowed per family purchased in person at DNR per year. The wood may be rather is a service we provide field offices in the Upper used only for personal use at Peninsula and northern a home or camp and may not

ash borer, oak wilt and beech bark disease. Additionally, if wood is gathered in areas leave the quarantined area. DNR field office staff will provide local information to fuelwood permit applicants about any quarantined areas before the permit is sold.

"The fuelwood permit program is not a money generator for the DNR, but to our users, much like trail systems or campgrounds," Sterrett said. "In light of The DNR also asks that, we simply ask that

sticks to the rules to help of firewood and prevent the Because most of the areas where they can gather wood no wood is allowed to spread of forest pests and disease. This will help keep the program affordable for both the DNR and our users. In this economy, we all can appreciate things that are budget-friendly.'

> For more information about the DNR's fuelwood permit program and for a list of field offices where permits are sold, go online to www. michigan.gov/dnr and search for "fuelwood."



LUMINARY HIKE

Environmental Education Center to hike our trails in served. For more information call 897-8545. candlelight on Dec. 12 from 6-8 p.m. Reach the secret destination to hear an enchanted nature and Christmasthemed story and inside, create your own Christmas craft. Refreshments will be served. This event is free and open to the public.

CHRISTMAS IN FALLASBURG

Join us for our community celebration, a benefit for the continued preservation of our historic village sponsored by the Fallasburg Historical Society, on Sat., Dec. 12 from 6-8 p.m. at the Fallasburg Schoolhouse, 13944 Covered Bridge Road. Suggested donation: adult \$10. For additional information: www.fallasburg.org or 897-7161.

BOOK SIGNING

Laurie Kuna, English teacher at Lowell High School, has released a new book - Fate's Fortune (published under her pen name Laurie Carroll). Laurie will have a book signing at the Lowell Area Arts Council on Wed., Dec. 16 from 7-8:30

p.m. This is Laurie's fourth published book and all four books Come out to the Wittenbach/Wege Agriscience and will be available at the book signing. Refreshments will be

SENIOR TRIP

Lowell High School seniors - it is not too late to sign up for the senior class trip to Chicago. Fundraisers available and ongoing. Check our website at LHS10seniortrip@gmail.com or lowellschools.com

FROM CHRISTMAS ASSISTANCE

If your family could use some help this Christmas with food and/or toys and gifts, there is still time to come to the Food Pantry (during regular open hours) and sign up to receive assistance.

Feel free to send your event information to the Ledger for Along Main St. All submission requests for Along Main St. are subject to space limitations and The Ledger makes no assurances that they will appear in print. To ensure that an event notification will appear in the Ledger, it is best to place a paid advertisement. All efforts will be made to place suitable items in the Along Main St. column but they are printed at the discretion of the publisher. For profit events, church services, yard sales and the like, will not appear in this column.

Social Security serves those who serve America

the year, Americans in the armed forces serve our nation. At Social Security, we honor our nation's military personnel and all of America's veterans not only on Veterans Day, but every day of the year.

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In fact, military service members receive expedited processing of their disability applications from Social Security. Under an agreement initiated by Social Security, the Department of Defense transmits information that allows us to quickly identify

family members of military personnel also may be able to receive benefits, including dependent children and

> If you, or someone you know, were wounded while

military personnel injured

Operations Enduring

The expedited process

is available for any military

servicememberwhobecomes

disabled during active duty

regardless of where the

disability occurs. Depending

on the situation, some

on or after October 1, 2001

find out more about what Social Security can do for you by visiting our website designed specifically for our wounded veterans: www.socialsecurity.gov/

woundedwarriors

You'll also find links to useful Veterans Affairs websites. There are links to information about the "Operation Freedom Operation Iraqi Freedom Home," information on Survivors Benefits, the Task Force on Returning Global War

on active duty in the military, on Terror Heroes, a fact and the Veterans On-Line Application, known VONAPP.

Although the expedited service is relatively new. military personnel have been covered under Social Security since 1957. Vonda VanTil is the

children and families. public affairs specialist for West Michigan. You can write her c/o Social Security Administration, 50 College SE, Grand Rapids, 49503 or via email at vonda.

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Copenhagen climate change conference:

'Fourteen days to seal history's judgment on this generation'

climate change will ravage the poor world, or between politics, for the president blame, but how little time we have got left to limit the damage. Yet so far the world's response has been

feeble and half-hearted. · How the Copenhagen global leader came about

to make an impact

- Write your own editorial · Bryony Worthington: How
- newspapers around the world ran the editorial

Climate change has been caused over centuries, has consequences that will endure for all time and our prospects of taming it will be determined in the

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newspapers the representatives of the produce a fully polished world covering how the point out they did not cause

dangers have been becoming must be solved by everyone. Congress has done so. The science is complex Now the facts have started but the facts are clear. The Copenhagen can and must to speak: 11 of the past 14 world needs to take steps agree the essential elements so far. But the rich world is years have been the warmest to limit temperature rises to of a fair and effective responsible for most of the on record, the Arctic ice-cap 2C, an aim that will require deal and, crucially, a firm accumulated carbon in the is melting and last year's global emissions to peak and timetable for turning it into begin falling within the next a treaty. Next June's UN of all carbon dioxide emitted provide a foretaste of future 5-10 years. A bigger rise of climate meeting in Bonn 3-4C — the smallest increase should be their deadline. As the question is no longer we can prudently expect to one negotiator put it: "We follow inaction — would can go into extra time but we parch continents, turning can't afford a replay." farmland into desert. Half of all species could become extinct, untold millions of people would be displaced, whole nations drowned by the sea. The controversy over emails by British researchers

DENTIST

that suggest they tried to suppress inconvenient data has muddied the waters but failed to dent the mass of evidence on which these

believe Copenhagen can any longer

predictions are based.

192 countries gathered in treaty; real progress towards burden of fighting climate the bulk of the problem, Copenhagen not to hesitate, one could only begin with the change will be divided — and also that the poorest not to fall into dispute, not to arrival of President Obama and how we will share a regions of the world will blame each other but to seize in the White House and newly precious resource: the be hardest hit. But they will We do so because humanity opportunity from the greatest the reversal of years of US trillion or so tonnes of carbon increasingly contribute to modern failure of politics. obstructionism. Even now that we can emit before the warming, and must thus This should not be a fight the world finds itself at the mercury rises to dangerous pledge meaningful and between the rich world and mercy of American domestic levels. Rich nations like to point own. Though both fell short our planet, and with it our east and west. Climate cannot fully commit to the to the arithmetic truth that prosperity and security. The change affects everyone, and action required until the US there can be no solution for, the recent commitments

cuts which will reduce their emissions within a decade to

At the deal's heart must be very substantially less than a settlement between the rich world and the developing

until developing giants to emissions targets by the But the politicians in such as China take more since 1850. It must now take a lead, and every developed country must commit to deep

Developing countries can



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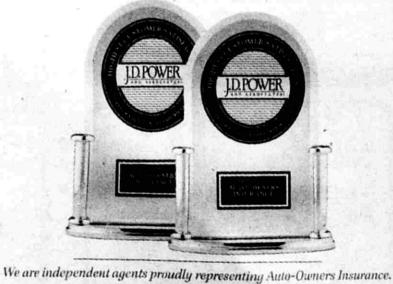
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world's biggest polluters, the United States and China were important steps in the Climate change,

> continued, page 4 Collector's

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0

ask kathryn

our time management skills. It

is the time of year that we all

It is the season for baking.

calling on friends and family.

to estimate how much time

involves a sense that time

Dawson and Guare's book

Looking

By Shelly MacNaughton

is important." (taken from environment.

much about that age is that 3. the ability to estimate how

they had very little sense long it will take to complete

of time. A child at that age a task; 4. and the ability to

would spend all day building, monitor the task so that it

125 Years Ago

The Lowell Journal

December 10, 1884

Farmers get low prices this year but they had big crops.

Alex McKay goes to Ionia prison for three years for

A lantern explosion caused Hon. Milan Willett of Ionia

The game of polo is played in Lowell occasionally. It is

100 Years Ago

The Lowell Ledger

County to lose a barn, 29 fine sheep, 40 tons of hay and

a very exciting game. We always play it by proxy in order to

Old papers, five cents a dozen, for sale at this office.

embezzling \$1000 from his employer in Muskegon.

This article is about time painting, or drawing. They

management. Christmastime would become so engrossed

often stretches and challenges in the activity that they

Kathryn Denhouter Ph.D.

would become unaware of

time and oblivious to their

surroundings. As the child

grows and becomes involved

in the adult world, the

Most importantly, they learn

the value of not wasting time.

routine that maximizes the

financial focus



Here's your year-end investment checklist

We've pretty much seen it all this past year— a bear contributions. If your market, a long rally and employer permits it, try to even a period of neither-up- add more money to your nor-down. But even though 401(k) or other retirement we've only got a few weeks plan before the year ends. left of 2009, you still have By increasing your 401(k) time to make some moves contributions, you can that can pay off for you in lower your adjusted taxable 2010 — and beyond. Here are a few suggestions build more resources for

to consider:

· "Max out" on your vehicle.

• Increase your 401(k) income while you potentially

Christopher C. Godbold

retirement. Convert

IRA — and make regular traditional IRA to a Roth IRA. contributions next year. For Depending on your individual the 2009 tax year, you can situation, a Roth IRA, which contribute up to \$5,000 to a offers the potential for tax traditional or Roth IRA, or free growth, provided you \$6,000 if you're 50 or older. meet certain conditions, And you have until April may be a better choice for 15, 2010, to fully fund your you than a traditional IRA, 2009 IRA. Of course, it's not which offers the potential always easy to come up with for growth on a tax deferred lump sums of money, but do basis. Consequently, if whatever you can to make you meet eligibility limits, up for any shortfalls in your you may want to convert IRA for 2009. And in 2010, your traditional IRA to a consider setting up automatic Roth IRA. However, this monthly contributions to conversion is likely going your IRA—it's a much more to be a "taxable event," so efficient way to maximize you'll need to have money a great retirement-savings available outside your IRA for the tax bill. You'll want to

tax advisor.

ledger

tax losses. If these losses a tax loss. exceeded your capital gains

amount on which you must consolidate all your assets • Sell your "losers." pay taxes. And if you lost with one provider. That way, If it's appropriate for your more than \$3,000, you can you'll be better able to align portfolio balance and long- carry over the excess into all your assets with a central, term goals, you may want to subsequent years. Consult sell some investments that with a tax advisor before have lost value to take the selling investments to claim coverage. Over the course of

your significant changes in your Consolidate from selling appreciated *investment accounts*. Instead life: marriage or divorce, the stocks, you can deduct of having an IRA with one birth of a new child or the up to \$3,000 (or \$1,500 firm, some other investments departure of an older child for married couples filing with another and a cash- from your home, the start of separately) against your value insurance policy with

discuss this move with your other income, reducing the a third, you might want to a new job or retirement from an old one, and so on. That's why you'll want to make sure you have the right amount and type of insurance to unified investment strategy. protect your family and your financial future. Review vour insurance

By making these moves, a year, you could experience you can close out 2009 on a positive note — while

Climate change, continued

between those who produce polluting products and those your who consume them. And fairness requires that the burden placed on individual developed countries should take into account their ability to bear it; for instance newer poorer than "old Europe". must not suffer more than their richer partners.

be costly, but many times less than the bill for bailing out costly than the consequences from fossil fuels. of doing nothing.

Many of us, particularly in the developed world, will have to change our lifestyles. The era of flights that cost

be more equitably shared travel more intelligently. We of conflict and competition, will have to pay more for our energy, and use less of it. But the shift to a low-

carbon society holds out the prospect of more opportunity than sacrifice. Already some countries have recognized that embracing the transformation bring growth, jobs better quality lives. The flow of capital tells its own story: last year for the first time more was invested in renewable forms of energy global finance — and far less than producing electricity

Kicking our habit within a few short decades will require a feat of engineering and innovation to match anything in our less than the taxi ride to the history. But whereas putting airport is drawing to a close. a man on the moon or We will have to shop, eat and splitting the atom were born

the coming carbon race must be driven by a collaborative effort to achieve collective did nothing to avert it. We

Overcoming climate change will take a triumph of optimism over pessimism, of visionovershort-sightedness. of what Abraham Lincoln called "the better angels of It is in that spirit that 56

newspapers from around the world have united behind this editorial. If we, with such different national and political perspectives, can agree on what must be done then surely our leaders can

The politicians Copenhagen have the power to shape history's judgment on this generation: one that

saw a challenge and rose to it, or one so stupid that we saw calamity coming but implore them to make the right choice.

Filed by Lila Shapiro on the Huffington Post, this editorial will be published tomorrow by 56 newspapers around the world in 20 languages including Chinese. Arabic and Russian. The text was drafted by a Guardian team during more than a month of consultations with editors from more than 20 of the papers involved. Like the Guardian most of the newspapers have taken the unusual step of featuring the editorial on their front

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December 9, 1909 The repairs, extensions and improvements of the Lowell City Light & Power plant, authorized by a large meeting of

divide up the enjoyment as much as possible.

much other valuable property.

is moving along at the most efficient pace. For students who find it hard to manage their time, here are some strategies that can help them

Wiew Doint

1. Give the child a schedule to follow and prompt them at each step of the way.

learn this skill:

2. Impose time limits and give them reminders as to how much time is left.

3. Use cuing devices such as clocks, bells, alarms, or stove timers.

importance of time is learned. holiday, maybe could practice this time have the proper equipment. game with a reward of a try snowshoeing? learning agenda. Once the freshly frosted cookie at the and how to stay within time child learns how to manage end. Anyhow, I wish you which is a great activity but limits and deadlines. It also their time, the more they all a Merry Christmas as it can cost a fortune and can excel in the academic your "multitasking" goes skis require regular upkeep. during the colder months. experiences and learning Time management skills article will be about working tricky and time-consuming. that the entire family can do Children and Adolescents.") a student because it includes it is and how you can help hand, looks complex but a person burns 45 percent your method. What I enjoyed so ability to plan and organize; have any questions, please how many other sports can feel free to contact me at my email: kathryndenhouter@

be mastered in minutes?

they hear the word "exercise"

representative taxpayers and which will about double the earning capacity of the plant, will cost in excess of \$15,000. At the July election, the village voted to bond for \$5000, which it was hoped with the amount then on hand would be D despite fortified foods and sufficient to complete the work. However, it has turned out as extensive building enterprises almost invariably do; work and expenses unforeseen have about doubled the cost and new machinery and equipment alone have cost more than some imagined the entire job might have been done for.

75 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo **December 13, 1934**

The biggest shipment of beans ever to be made from Lowell, within the space of one week's time, was made last week when the C. H. Runciman elevator shipped a total of 15 carloads of beans during the six day period ending Saturday,

The prediction made a year or two ago that Lowell was destined to become the bean capital of the U.S.A. Seems to be coming true. Boston may be noted for its baked beans, but Lowell's the place where they pick 'em.

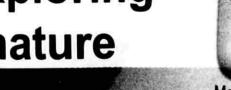
50 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger **December 10, 1959**

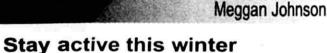
Frank L. Stephens, who has been a full time police officer for the Village of Lowell since May of 1951 and police chief most of that time, announced this week that he will retire as chief this month in a letter to the council.

25 Years Ago The Grand Valley Ledger **December 12, 1984**

Joanne and Karen Hale have pulled off a minor miracle in getting their new "Cousins' Cards and Gift Shoppe" open in just two months and in time for the holiday season. Make it a point to stop by, we're sure you'll be impressed.







In Michigan, winter can but exercising doesn't mean mean months of fitness- you have to hit the gym. quashing frigid temperatures, There are plenty of ways to snow and endless hours in exercise without "working front of the tube. Many people out" and one of those ways is During this Christmas assume they can't be active snowshoeing. In Michigan, you outside because they don't many of us hibernate with the groundhogs and ground management skill while they If you are looking for a fun squirrels until warm weather From the day they enter first are doing a craft or frosting and inexpensive way to stay returns. This long period grade, they become part of a cookies. It might be a fun active this winter, why not of dormancy isn't doing anything beneficial for our

Many people enjoy skiing bodies.

People often cringe when

wonderful way to "exercise" into hypermode. The next Learning to ski can also be It is a total body workout opportunities. weighing 70 pounds can burn 242 calories an hour. What a great workout!

Snowshoeing is

Staying active and spending time outdoors in the winter can have other positive effects on our health. Recent research shows many

this vitamin. Through its effects on vitamin D, sunlight helps prevent cancer, bone disease, depression and many other illnesses that are now beginning to be understood. Spending time outside snowshoeing should increase an individual's vitamin D levels making their bones stronger and their bodies healthier.

Snowshoes are also a great tool to expose people to the wonders of nature during the winter. A fresh blanket of snow can make a winter walk breathtaking. Activities such as animal tracking and bird watching are best done in winter. Without snowshoes, heavy snow would prevent us from exploring nature during the colder months and we'd miss out on so many great

If you'd like to snowshoe entitled "Executive Skills in are the hardest skills to teach memory. We will look at what Snowshoeing, on the other together. It's estimated that but don't want to purchase I had the opportunity to a number of components: your child and/or yourself it is basically walking. more calories snowshoeing you've tried the sport to work with preschool aged 1. the ability to make and gain the skills needed for a Individuals are able to master than walking or running see if you enjoy it, come children using the Montessori follow a schedule; 2. the good working memory. If you the sport in just minutes - at the same speed. A child out to the Wittenbach/ Environmental Education Center. We have snowshoes in sizes preschool to adult

> It's a great family activity and a wonderful way to enjoy a gorgeous winter day. If you Americans are low in vitamin have your own shoes, come on out and hike our trails supplements. Sunlightgreatly from dawn until dusk. We'd increases the abundance of love to have you!

Stopping Abusive **Overdraft Fees**



Not long ago, a mother insufficient funds was less from Fort Gratiot, near Port than \$20," this worried mom Huron, wrote to my office. Her son, she wrote, had opened a bank account and ATM withdrawals and day-

But then they noticed the young man's bank statement. He was racking up fees – big fees – because he had overdrawn his bank account by small amounts when making debit card purchases.

"On several occasions, generated over \$100 in overdraft fees where consumer asks for it. the actual amount of the

wrote. "We would observe that he had just bought the world's most expensive cup gotten a debit card to use for of coffee for example, if a \$3 charge generated a \$35 to-day purchases - a cup of overdraft fee, so that cup coffee, gas at the local filling of coffee ended up costing Charging \$100 in fees for a \$20 shortage is nothing

short of abusive. That's why I've joined Sen. Chris Dodd, Chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, on a bill to rein in the excessive fees banks charge for often tiny overdrafts, and to prevent banks from imposing overdraft coverage unless a

Levin, continued, page 7

all counties will concentrate

on the five target groups to

receive the H1N1 vaccine

as recommended by Centers for Disease Control and

focusing solely on subsets of vaccinated;

Prevention (CDC)

necessary.

for vaccination.

weddings

Case/Cunningham

The ceremony which united in marriage Ashley Laine Cunningham and James Thomas Case was performed at First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak on October 10, 2009. Parents of the couple are Richard Cunningham, Robin Cunningham, and Darryl and Heidi Case.

Maid of honor was Cunningham. Bridesmaids were Jennifer Zanella, Jennifer Williams, Tammy Campbell, Susan Kloet, and Heather Delamar. Flower girl was Lauren Hutnik.

Best man was Stephen Case. Groomsmen Jeff VanderWerff, Michael Maslowski, Jeff Edgerton, Chris Miller, and Todd Emmons. Ushers were Matt Schuck, Shawn Nekouei, and Scott Felice. Ring bearer was Christian Hutnik.

Air Force Airman Jerry

L. Boomers graduated from

basic military training at

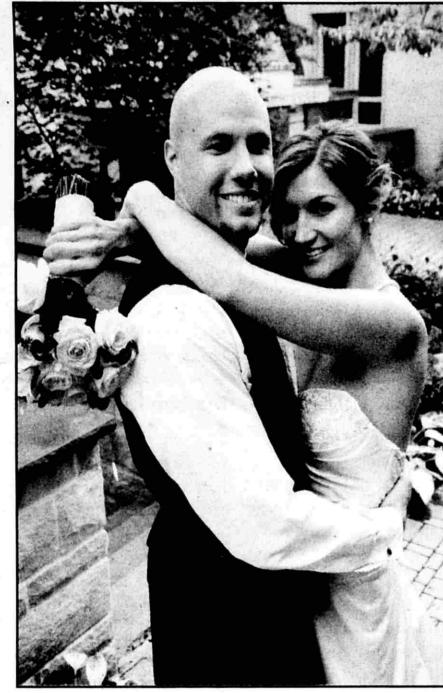
Lackland Air Force Base.

he ledger

area

San Antonio, Texas.

In The Service



James and Ashley Case

There can be many

Heim, Barbara Decker.

DECEMBER 11

DECEMBER 12

Newhouse, Sally Hacker, Charlie Young.

Chrys Thaler, Jeff Bowne, Michelle Fyan.

DECEMBER 14 Chris Kropf, Bryan Robert Roth.

Baird, Roger Kathryn Duiven, Kristin Danielle Brenk. Marea Borg, Kimberly Kline, Kelly Potter.





www.ignitelowell.com



With Drs. Paul Gauthier Jim Lang, Wayne A. Christenson II John G. Meier & Tracy Lixie

Heavy periods

Menorrhagia is having the cause. The most serious each month. It can cause stress for many women. It can also result in anemia, a condition in which you don't have enough red blood cells. Some women have heavy periods in the years when they first begin their periods or in the years right before

causes for heavy periods including hormonal changes or problems with blood clotting. Benign muscle tumors (fibroids) or polyps in the uterus can also be

Now there are more overweight people in America than average-weight people. So overweight people are now average. Which means you've met your New Year's resolution.

- Jay Leno (1950 -)

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and

credits toward an associate

in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Russell Slater, of Ada: and nephew of Jamie Boomers. of Grand Rapids.

Eastern High School, Ada.

included

Airmen who complete basic training earn four

Boomers is a 2009 graduate of Forest Hills

Your doctor may want to

available for heavy periods including hormone pills and surgery. Surgical options include procedures that freeze or heat the uterus and, if all else fails, a hysterectomy, where the uterus is completely

rednesday • december • 9 • 2009

happy birthday!

DECEMBER 9

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

DECEMBER 10 Bill Fluger, Evelyn

Dave Rhodes, Kathryn Zalewski, Amber Waldron Mike Kline.

Brad Briggs, Joyce

DECEMBER 13

DECEMBER 15

Karen Latva, Tammy





Candlelight Celebration: Thur. 12/24 11:00pm-12:15am. Ignite artists present "Journey of Faith, Hope & Love" A modern interpretation of the Christmas Story

We meet Sundays @ Ignite at 10am and Tuesdays at 6:15pm. Located next to Ada/Lowell 5 Theater wednesday • december • 9 • 2009

Successful deer hunters all in the Mundt family



The Mundt family, left to right: Mark, Eric, Samantha and Paul went deer hunting during the weekend of Nov. 20 and returned home with a deer each to show wife/mother Theresa. They were unable to head out at the beginning of deer season because of college classes, but this was the most productive year for them. Mark got a six-point buck; Eric, a ten-point buck; Samantha, a doe; and Paul was the champ getting a 12-point buck. Because of the large amount of meat they donated 150 pounds to the Flat **River Outreach Ministries.**

Levin, continued

Card Responsibility. Disclosure Act of 2009, to increase the number of year and which targets unfair often charge several times credit card practices. Just as in a single day. The fees banks have sought to squeeze they charge can be far out exorbitant fees out of their credit card customers, they overdraft fees on debit cards to boost profits while unfairly punishing consumers. These tactics are all the more unfair have turned to debit cards as a way to safely and coverage, and prohibit giving conveniently make purchases customers who decline

credit card entails. down overdraft coverage and charge to no more than one will not stop accepting debit a month and six a year, and charges after a consumer's require those fees to be charge overdraft fees on costs. transactions that the bank

could easily decline, such as ATM withdrawals. Some manipulate the order in which and they process transactions fees. President Obama overdrafts for which they notify customers when they signed into law earlier this can charge fees - fees they overdraw an account by the

of proportion to the cost of covering an overdraft. Sadly, that \$38 cup of coffee is all

The bill to end such

abusive practices would: · Require banks to get consumers' consent before enrolling them in overdraft without the risk of debt that a coverage less favorable terms on their accounts.

Many banks refuse to • Limit the number of allow consumers to turn overdraft fees banks could

CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

Advent Welcome

Dr. Paul M'Pindi, Radio Revivalist in Africa Presents:

"The Coming of Jesus into Our World"

Sunday Services 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM

Children's Christmas Program

December 20 • 6:00 PM

Christmas Day • 10 AM

of manipulating the order in which transactions are processed in order to increase

 Require banks to choice - e-mail, text message · Require a warning to

consumers about to overdraw their account at an ATM or bank branch. The bill would not require such warnings in ordinary store transactions, but would direct the Government Accountability Office to study whether such warnings are feasible.

· Require banks to clearly disclose the fees they

Families are facing plenty of economic hardship already They should not have to deal with outrageous overdraft fees and deceptive practices. funds are exhausted. Many proportional to the bank's This is one more set of abusive banking practices Prohibit the practice that Congress should end.

Michigan everyday, we still have to Department of Community be sure we have an adequate months through 24 years of Health (MDCH) and the 45 supply for the target groups age; local health departments in before opening the vaccine to the state have agreed that the general public."

These target groups are: Pregnant because they are at higher risk of complications and can in close contact with each potentially provide protection other in school and day care

Local health departments hope

general public by end of the year

to make vaccine available for

 Household contacts and the target groups is no longer and caregivers for children The MDCH and local younger than six months of 19 through 24 years of age departments began the new age because younger infants because many cases of plan on Tuesday, Dec. 1. are at higher risk of influenza- 2009 H1N1 influenza have Vaccination for the general related complications and been seen in these healthy population possibly may cannot be vaccinated. begin in a few weeks but only Vaccination of those in live, work, and study in after data from local health close contact with infants close proximity, and they departments and healthcare younger than six months old partners assures that target might help protect infants by population; and, groups throughout the state "cocooning" them from the have had an adequate chance virus;

 Healthcare of the vaccine," said Dr. of infection for vulnerable Eden Wells, state medical patients. Also, increased epidemiologist. "While more absenteeism in this population see www.michigan.gov/flu and more vaccine is coming could reduce healthcare into the state more quickly system capacity;

All people from six

 Children from six months through 18 years of age because cases of 2009 H1N1 influenza have been seen in children who are to infants who cannot be settings which increases the likelihood of disease spread

> Young adults young adults and they often

have health "We must be sure emergency medical services associated with higher risk that the population most personnel because infections of medical complications vulnerable to the H1N1 flu among healthcare workers from influenza, such as is safe and protected before have been reported and this asthma, diabetes, heart, lung we expand the availability can be a potential source or kidney problems or a weakened immune system.

For more information,

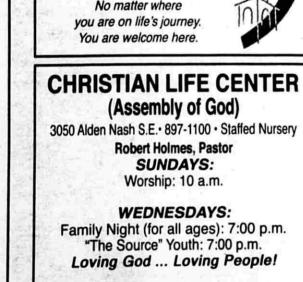
Our company is very thankful for another successfull year doing business in Lowell and the surrounding area and we would like to give back by providing a FREE furnace with FREE installation.



can be sent to Arctic Heating & Cooling, by Dec. 22, 2009 by mail to: P.O. Box 181, Lowell or email:

info@HeatingCoolingOnline.com

(616) 897-4123 Heating & Cooling



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

(United Church of Christ)

865 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE • 897-5906

Sunday Worship......10:00 a.m.

Church School....10:15-11:15 a.m.

Casual Worship......6:30 P.M. Barrier-freeNursery Provided

Thursday Faith Alive

Caurens

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street · 897-5936

.... 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL......9:30 a.m. Rev. Rick Blunt

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Fr. Eugene Okoli 402 Amity St. • 897-9820

eekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM Saturday confessions: 4-4:45 PM Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETE WIGGINS 897-7915

ALTO UNITED

METHODIST CHURCH

Kirby and Harrison

Alto • 616-691-8011

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.M.

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

Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times

Nursery Provided · Barrier Free

..9:30 A.M.

SNOW UNITED

10:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M.. Nursery & Children A friend...a family...a mission!

LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

201 N. Washington Lowell, MI • 897-8800 lednesdays - Kid's Service, Teen's Service,

Lowell Naz - Where People Matter

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21

www.goodshepherdlowell.org Sunday School & Adult Bible Class...9:00 A.M.

..10:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible

CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL

Rev. Randy Meyers - 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI .10:00 A. M. Morning Worship. .11:20 A.M. Sunday School. ..6:00 P.M. Evening Worship.

Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free

> **METHODIST CHURCH** 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell Pastor Dr. Mike Conklin ..Sunday School

Worship Programs Provided

times it can't be found.

take tissue from inside your uterus to see if you have cells that may lead to cancer. Your doctor might also do an ultrasound to take a closer look inside the uterus with a special scope. There are cause of heavy bleeding is cancer of the uterus. Your doctor will try to help you find the cause, but many

Rose Mitchell co-authors book with granddaughter

by Emma Palova Both Rose Mitchell and Kayla Obenchain, 10, enjoy the great Michigan outdoors

and spending time together. Their stay last summer at Silver Lake inspired a book, 'Wet Willie.

"It developed as a bond between me and my granddaughter," said Mitchell. The entire family, including Obenchain, likes to tell stories. So Obenchain invented a creature, 'Wet Willie,' who lives in the dark waters of the lake, a little bit like the Lochness Monster.

The children's illustrated book published by Xlibris will be released this Wednesday, and will be available at amazon.com, at www.silverlakecreature. com, at the Aquinas College bookstore and any online bookseller.

Wet Willie pretends to be friendly, but he is dangerous and scary.

"You can't trust him," said Mitchell. "We wanted to make kids aware of dark and light water; that dark water is

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any promotional

items, sale items

and layaway,

can't combin

Take an Extra

15% any sale

item.

develop the creature.

if it becomes well-known, Health,' the life story of her

illustrations and helped publishing the book is also "We got a book made and for her upcoming adult book the fact that it's done, and projects, 'In Sickness and in

Rose Mitchell holds a copy of her book "Wet Willie"

with purchase

Anniversory Celebration

Now Tree Christmas Story Nativity

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Box Cards

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Buy 3 get 30 % Off

a way of testing the waters that would be great," said father and 'The Meaning of Life,' her own life story.

simple," she said

have a computer in order not

contains insights from hiking That's why she picked Xlibris Health. She lives in Lowell; and spending time in the to do computer work and the Obenchain lives in northern

"I want to keep my life She started writing as an English major at the Aquinas for \$12.99, hard copy for Mitchell doesn't even College, since then she has \$20.50.

'The Meaning of Life' to waste time on the Internet. become an LPN at Metro

The soft copy sells

Murray Lake reading award winners

Pictured, at right, are Murray Lake \$10 gift card winners for the month of November. Each time a student earns 10 Accelerated Reader points, his or her name goes into a drawing. The Murray Lake Family Links purchases gift cards from local businesses to use as prizes. Murray Lake students have now accumulated over 8,000 AR points this school

left to right, were:



Ben Fabiano, Logan DeKok, Alyssa Roest, Cameron Poll, and Christian Davis.

college news

The University of made the Dean's List for the Northwestern Ohio is proud October 2009 session in the to acknowledge that William College of Technologies. B. Zigmont, of Lowell, has Full-time students must

receive a grade point average of 3.5 or better to be named to the Dean's List.

His parents are Al and Helen Zigmont, of Lowell.

Catalogs

• FLIERS/COUPONS

• BROCHURES

LOWELL AREA COMMUNITY FUND **ACCEPTS GRANT PROPOSALS**

All Proposals Must Be Submitted **Online No Later Than December** 18, 2009 To Be Considered. Visit www.grfoundation.org/lowell to submit your application.

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



Lowell

IN THE MIDDLE of a major life change WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE? you're between jobs, in school, or starting your own business, don't sweat it. I have plans from Assurant Health designed with your needs in mind. To find out more about short term, student or individual medical coverage, call me today. Deborah A Wilks, Agent ell, MI 49331 is on coverage, costs, restrictions NEIGHBOR renewability. Assurant Health STATE FARM lucts are underwritten and issued me Insurance Company, sukce. Wi, which is financially nonsible for these products. No mber of the State Farm family of INSURANCE ranies is financially responsible these products. Assurant, Assurant STATE FARM IS THERE.® lealth and Time Insurance Company



Parade, continued

champs. The Grinch made center stage with different his great entry on a float with icy creations. Joe Pearson flames shooting out of his created an animated Venus

wednesday • december • 9 • 2009

Then there were the second place. mainstays of the parade like the Lowell bus drivers' float and the Lowell Area Historical Museum.

The parade was preceded by a full slate of activities on the Riverwalk and Santa himself on the Showboat in his room with Mrs. Claus. A line formed in front of the Santa room.

photo shooting schedule from now on through Dec.

on track," he laughed as he the Ice Sculpture Challenge photographed with three were: first, Michael Dewicki

Sculpture Challenge took Adam Devers - Gargoyle.

Fly Trap that earned him the

And the picture sessions will continue Wednesdays from 5:30 to 7 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 11 with free carriage and horse rides, as well as pictures from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.; and Sat., Dec. 12 and Dec. 19 from 10:30 a.m. to

The winners of the nighttime parade: first place, Santa discussed his busy Lowell bus drivers'; second place, Arrowhead Golf Course; and third place, Lowell Area Historical "Mrs. Claus keeps me Museum. The winners of - Australian Frizzled Lizard: Outside on the Riverwalk, second, Joe Pearson with the annual Flat River Ice Venus Fly Trap; and third,



Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive on the scene. Photo by Bruce Doll



4-H float. Photo by Bruce Doll



The Grinch with his fiery float.



Lowell Area Historical Museum's horse-drawn float.



The LHS band, above, and the 2009 State Champs show school spirit.



the **∎**owell Séche Viral!
catch a safe bug-Watch for our weekly podcasts

www.thelowellledger.com

Dan Fleet to wrestle at 125

Jake Fillingham, senior

injured a year ago, will fill

sophomore, will wrestle at

and Nick McKay will

compete for honors at 215.

and Tyler Daystar vying for

position at 103. Sophomore

Calvin Meter will wrestle at

wrestle battling for spots,"

Dean said. "This will help

provide us with some

"We have kids who can

Juniors Wade Schlosser

It will be Martin Brusker

the void at 130.

119 pounds.

Red Arrow GDARTS



Sound Off! The Ledger's "Almost" anything goes column!

When submitting your opinion to Sound Off!, we ask you to follow a few guidelines. Sound Off! is meant to be a way for you to something off your chest or spread a little kindness

signing your name to your comment does increase the odds of seeing it in print. Threatening or deliberately cruel comments will not be accepted and, of course, no advertising a product or service please. So basically, submit anything - but not everything will make

The Ledger reserves the right to choose what is printed, and reminds the public that views expressed in Sound Off!, unless otherwise stated, are not the opinions of The Ledger staff or its publishers.

Best parade I've ever seen in Lowell - thank you to all the organizers and participants!

If you must work on the RXR tracks please cover the crack.

I would love to have seen a writeup regarding our fantastic band and the support they were able to give by cheering on our football team. The band spends many hours outside the games practicing songs and marches. Great job LHS bandmembers.

Why do snowmobilers assume it's okay to drive their sleds through one's private property? I don't do that with my car on their property. There wasn't even enough snow, so I'm guessing my turf got a bit chewed up. Thank you, you thoughtless bunch!

Thank you, thank you to a very nice lady (I wish I knew your name but you know who you are) and Carolyn an employee at the Lowell Post Office. I'm temporarily on crutches, it was extremely icy on Saturday, Dec. 5. These two ladies assisted me getting packages into the building for mailing. I truly appreciated your assistance and wanted to let you know. Happy Holidays to you both.

- Dawn Puehler

poll result:

Do you agree that we should send more troops into Afghanistan? 42% ••••• Pull all troops out 25% YES 33% NO

To vote on the current poll question go to: thelowellledger.com

THIS WEEK'S POLL -This Christmas are you spending more or less than last year?

Lowell's Division I status will deliver new wrestling rivalries

learning what we could

we will put our best team

Arrows will be anchored

by returning starters Zach

Jeffrey's (112). Gabe Morse

(135), Dan Fleet (140).

Jackson Morse (152), Gabe

Dean (171), Ryan Olep

(189), and Connor Kruse

The rest of the weight

classes will be a mixture of

underclassmen and a couple

The high-powered Red

forward," Dean said.

for the regional. This year pounds.

Morse (145),

by Thad Kraus

Team goals and staff prepares for will change in 2009-10.

its focus had to be Greenville on Saturday at the Warren if it was going to achieve a Woods Tower Invitational. Division II state title.

been replaced by Rockford, Hartland and Detroit Catholic Central if Lowell is going to win a Division I state title.

The Red Arrows will wrestle both Rockford (Dec. 22) and Detroit Catholic Central (Dec. 11).

good, but I think Division I is one who believes the change a touch deeper," said Lowell wrestling coach Dave Dean. "The schedule we've put danger of growing stale. together gets us prepared for the top level competition."

Find us

online at

DRAFT SYNOPSIS OF THE

REGULAR MEETING OF

THE LOWELL CITY COUNCIL

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2009

Motion to excuse the absence of

Motion to approve the agenda as presented

Motion to approve the minutes of the

November 16, 2009 meeting as corrected and

Motion to establish a public hearing for

January 4, 2010 to consider a front yard

variance request from Schneider Manor (725

Bowes) to construct a 76' x 36' office-

Motion to accept the bids to sell the 1998

Ford Taurus for \$900 and the 1991 Chevrolet

Motion to adjourn at 8:26 p.m. The next

regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday,

Complete minutes will be available after approved on December 21, 2009 on the

City's web page at www.ci.lowell.mi.us or at

Betty R. Morlock

City Clerk

the accounts payables was approved.

thelowellledger.com

Councilmember Altoft.

maintenance building.

Lumina for \$650.

December 21, 2009.

Lovvell

City Hall.

I, are equally imposing.

"We will be wrestling Allegan(#1, Division II) and Richmond (#1 Division III).

The Red Arrows lost to Dundee (40-21), Division Last year, Lowell knew III semifinalist last year, Lowell enters the year

This year, Greenville has second in the preseason Division I rankings, behind Rockford, but ahead of Hartland (#3) and Detroit Catholic Central (#4). "Competing at the

> Division I level's exciting and we're excited about the challenge," Dean explained. shadows of Gabe Morse and

The Lowell coach is not in Divisions will put the Lowell-Greenville rivalry in

"It will still be a fun and interesting dual," Dean said The Lowell coach notes "Last year when we wrestled that some of the teams Lowell Greenville it was about

HOOKING YOU UP WITH TH

Wrestlers win 4-of-5 in Warren

After being snowed out in its home-opener against Byron Center, Lowell traveled east to the Warren Woods Tower Invitational on Saturday.

Wrestling against some quality programs, the Red Arrow grapplers finished

Lowell Goodrich, Warren Woods Tower. Canton and Walled Lake Northern before losing to Dundee at the end of the

"We wrestled through some matches against quality programs, but we broke down

in the finals. Our legs just weren't moving," Lowell wrestling coach Dave Dean

Lowell entered Saturday's competition without the services of Jacob Stahley, Keith Williams, Gabe Dean, Ryan Olep and Connor

"Even with all of those guys in the lineup, the Dundee match would have been a nail-biter," Dean explained. "I thought our kids stepped up and did a great job. For some of them, it was on one good day of practice."

I bought some batteries, but they weren't included.

- Steven Wright (1955 -)

Randal²o

Septic Tanks Cleaned

 Home Sale Evaluations 3 Months Free Additives

Year Supply Of Custom Bio Bacteria OR \$15 Off Septic Pumping.

wednesday • december • 9 • 2009

Red Arrow SPORTS

Versatile Red Arrows look to feed the fire in 2009-10

by Thad Kraus

personalities.

Kentwood 42-34.

effort on the defense meshed

motioned, unselfish offense

With its desire to play scrap, excitement is expected to return to Lowell girls' basketball in 2009-10.

"I'm excited about this year and am going to enjoy coaching this group of girls," said Lowell basketball coach Danielle Gallert.

her big girls from the basket

and play her guards inside as

"Our inside girls can

well as outside.

explained.

good outside shot and plays with an aggressiveness to the basket.

shoot from the outside and our guards can play inside and outside," Gallert

games of the season, defense. Our help-side scoring threat and tonight she Our shooting was horrible. It

Red Arrow basketball players

even-steven after initial two

"The girls played great

Danielle Gallert. "We also

girls moved the ball well

Kallie Holzhueter led all

In its first game of the played well on offense. The tournament, Lowell

A more versatile squad will enable Gallert to pull

Bryleigh Loughlin is a not afraid to drive it to the

in the form of more scoring

Versatility will also come Gallert said.

physical player. "She's not afraid to beat people up and is not afraid to get beat up,"

Katie Tompkins brings a Lowell's biggest scoring the time," Gallert said. "The

back court will be Courtney to beat in the O-K White.

Holzhueter's Flanagan. "We'll be playing with three guards most of key offensively will be our

Stephanie Stevens is a ability to feed the fire. To get

decent shooter who's also The third-year Lowell coach identifies Grand Joining Holzhueter in the Rapids Christian as the team

"East Grand Rapids has a lot of young players returning from a year ago. They should do fairly well this year," Gallert explained

Gallert concludes that her Red Arrow squad should be in the mix for a top three finish in the conference.



rearview mirror, but I found

In all the talk about

Lowell's offensive line, the

running of Gabe Dean and

Austin Graham, and the

that would be Jacob Meyer.

few years, but it all came

together for him against

defensive coordinator, Jason

said

Lowell

a giblet that I didn't want to



I know that the things are cleaned up and Thanksgiving Day weekend patched up, as well as they and the high school football can be, if for no other reason championship weekend are than the children. nearly two weeks in our Has anyone's reputation

> so far, so fast in recent memory? So will any of Tiger's sponsors cut their ties with

and public stature fallen

the golfer? Read their slogans and pursuit of Lowell's defensive you decide.

line and linebackers, there Gillette - The best a man was a Red Arrow player who

had the game of his life, and Nike - Just do it! Gatorade - Is it in you?

The defensive back was AT&T - Reach out and iust outstanding against touch someone.

American Express "He was right there all Membership day. Jacob suffered through

some hard knocks the last AE Sports - Get in the

Quick Hits:

 The College Bowl pick contest will be in next It was one heck of a moment week's Ledger.

2. Lowell's wrestling team will host a number of If it all came together big wrestling meets during the month of December.

> the Red Arrows will host Allegan, Detroit Catholic Central and St. Rita's of

Lakeshore, and Maine South will visit Lowell.

On Dec. 29, Lowell hosts Richmond, Davison, Grand Ledge and West Ottawa at a Super Duals meet along with Zeeland East, Paw Paw, and

For all your home care needs Shawn Flippo 616-477-1566 162 S. West St. flippo@sprint.blackberry.net

SUBMITTIN

that we only keep photos on file for 6 months.

If you would like your photo returned, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

The Lowell Ledger

MARIE OF THE

"Kallie is our biggest "Our defense was horrible.

basketball team may think boxed out extremely well," from the perimeter," Gallert Katie Tompkins led all Lowell scorers with 12 In the Ottawa Hills points in the Red Arrows'

the Falcons.

"The girls just didn't come

fans of the Lowell girls' defense was good and they hadahigh shooting percentage was just an ugly game."

and

points better than we are,"

unable to match the elements "Ottawa Hills has a and eight of our nine players of success it enjoyed against good basketball team, but I wouldn't say they are 19

to the game," Gallert said. Gallert explained.

LMS wrestlers start the season in third

Lowell Elementary and Middle School Wrestlers started their season with a third place finish at the Lowell Red Arrow Classic Myway Duals on Sunday, December 6. The Middle School Team placed third after wins against Dakota (33-20), Hartland (33-30), New Lothrop (29-28 tie breaker criteria) and Walled

their Red Arrows have two said Lowell basketball coach

as the Red Arrows defeated scorers with 18 points.

Lake (54-0) and losses against Flint Kearsley (24 - 35) and Elyria (24-38). The Elementary Team placed third after defeating Walled Lake (57-15), Ionia (45-27) and Brighton (38-32) and losing a close one to Sparta (33-36) and a loss to Hartland (12-43).

If all the year were playing holidays; To sport would be as tedious as to work.

- William Shakespeare (1564 - 1616)

PHOTOS

Please remember

Katt. "This game has been 22-23 games in the making. for it to come together for

> unhinged for Tiger Woods? The greatest golfer of all time, a sports figure that has transcended all of sports, has Illinois stumbled from his perch. Maybe it's been a free fall.

It's hard to understand now someone who seems to have everything, money, game, beautiful wife and

One can only hope that Newberry.

On Friday, Dec. 11,

On Dec. 22, Rockford,

for Meyer, is it wrong to think things may have come

HAMMOND

Margaret Madeline (Foster) Hammond. 5/24/27 12/1/09. Margaret died on Tuesday, December 1, 2009 after a long battle with emphysema. Margaret grew up in Detroit and, after Cooley High, went on to graduate from Michigan State University. Her first career was as an elementary school teacher. She left teaching to raise her four children - her most challenging pupils. An accomplished seamstress, Margaret designed and made countless costumes for Halloween, theater productions, and other events. She also made magnificent quilts of every size and shape, most of which she gave to family, friends, and charity. When her children were grown, Margaret returned to work as the Text Book Manager at Grand Rapids Community College. She also returned to school and earned her Associate degree in business management. Margaret was a committed, life-long volunteer. She was involved in the PTA, church charities, and school functions when the kids were younger. Later, Margaret was a docent at the Grand Rapids Public Museum for over fifteen years and gave time at Meijer Gardens and the Franciscan Life Center in Lowell. She is survived by her sister, Jane

CITY OF LOWELL

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council, acting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, will conduct a public hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting of Monday, January 4, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lowell City Hall Council Chambers, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street. The purpose of said hearing would be to receive comments on the following variance request:

725 Bowes Road - Schneider Manor wishes to construct a 76' x 36' office maintenance building. The property is zoned R-3 (Multiple Family Residential) and requires a 30 foot front yard setback from the Grand Street right of way. Schneider Manor wishes to provide a 15 foot setback, thus a variance is requested.

Interested persons may submit comments to the Lowell City Hall prior to the meeting or appear in person.

Family Doctor.

Call 897-8484



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Dr. Bruce Langlois, D.V.M.

Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

Johnston: her children, John, Martha, Matt, and Tom; and her grandchildren, Marcus, Ivy, Katie, and Ian. Her children are planning a memorial service in the spring (to be announced later). In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Grand Rapids Public Museum in Margaret's name. Pictures and other memories can be sent to hammonster@sbcglobal.net

RAYMOR

John W. Raymor, of Fenton, age 94, passed away

2009 at his home. and Evah (Knee) Sept. 16, 1946 he married Alice Godden in Toledo, and then moved to Fenton preceded him in He joined

and served in the Pacific during World War II. He was employed by Central Specialty in Ypsilanti from 1936-1942 and G.M. at the V-8 engine plant until his retirement on Jan. 1, 1977. He enjoyed being a gentleman farmer and was a member of the Fenton VFW 3243, Eagle Lodge 4135, First Presbyterian Church of Fenton and Tyrone Township Historical Society. He is survived by his daughter, Pat Whittaker; grandchildren, Tammy and Rocky (Diana) Whittaker; five, great-grandchildren; sister, Isabel Edwards, of Lowell; nephew, Ferman (Barbara) Rohroff, of Salem; and many other nieces, nephews and friends. Visitation will be Wednesday

from 2-7 p.m. and Thursday from 9:30 a.m. until the time of his funeral service at 11 a.m. at Temrowski Family Funeral Home, 500 Main St., Fenton. Interment will follow in Tyrone Memory Gardens Cemetery. Share memories at temrowskifamilyfuneralhome.com

SORENSEN

Jacqueline "Jackie" V. Sorensen (Marr), age 77, of

Lowell Monday, December 2009. She was preceded death by her husband, Stanley grandson, Dane O. Carver; and granddaughter, Kyra Sorensen. Surviving are her sister. Lois (Marvin) Colby; Randall (Peggy) and children.



Brad, Jerrad, Hannah; son, Rick and his children, Damascus, Theodore, Zacharia; daughter, Candace (Donald) Carver and their children, Ingrid, Kirsten (Dane); daughter, Heidi Sorensen and her children, Bronson, Eric, Benjamin and Emma Ward; also seven great-grandchildren; cousins, nieces and nephews. Funeral services will be 11 a.m. Friday, December 11, at Roth-Gerst Funeral Chapel, 305 N Hudson. Family will meet with family and friends one hour prior to funeral service. Interment Fort Custer Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Faith Hospice, 2100 Raybrook SE, Suite 300, Grand Rapids, MI 49546.

NOTICES



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STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO **CREDITORS Decedent's Estate**

File No. 09-187,740-DE P29358

Estate of RICHARD R. FELGATE, deceased. Date of birth: 6/20/1926

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE CREDITORS: The decedent, RICHARD R. FELGATE, who lived at 2676 Deli Ct., NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505 died 10/16/2009.

Creditors of decedent are notified that all claims against estate will be forever barred unless presented to JEANNE BOTWINSKI personal representative L. VERRELL, deceased. 616-456-5048 or proposed personal Date of birth: 3/11/1929. representative, or to both the probate court TO ALL CREDITORS: at 180 Ottawa Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, MI NOTICETOCREDITORS: 49503 and the named/ The decedent, CAROL proposed

of publication of this

Craig A. Bruggink

429 Turner Ave NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 616-456-5048

Jeanne Botwinski 8120 Vinton Ave NW Sparta, MI 49345 TO 616-887-2968

> STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

> > **NOTICE TO** CREDITORS **Decedent's Estate**

File No. 09-187,482-DE

Estate of CAROL L. 429 Turner Ave NW NIELSEN, aka CAROL Grand Rapids, MI 49504

personal L. NIELSEN, who lived

months after the date Dr., SE, Apt. 1109, Grand Rapids, MI 49512 died 7/24/2009.

> of Creditors decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to LEEANN LADRONKA. named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/ proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

> > 12/3/09

Craig A. Bruggink P29358

LeeAnn LaDronka 401 Friant Grand Haven, MI 49417 616-846-4581

P.O. Box 128 **Lowell, MI 49331** 897-9261

OFFICE HOURS 8 am - 5 pm Closed Sat. & Sun.

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Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. Fri. 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. closed Sat. & Sun.

classifieds

for sale

MEMORY FOAM MAT-TRESS - Tempurpedic style visco memory foam. Never used. Queen \$595 king \$795. 616-682-4767 or 293-6160.TEN

BOB'S 12th ANNUAL BIRD HOUSE SALE - Bird houses & feeders make great Christmas gifts. Good selection of blue bird & bat houses, glass jar squirrel feeders, regular bird feeders. Wren houses, great as they are or buy & decorate to give away, comes with hanger, just hang in tree Solid construction, excellent prices. Bob's Bird Houses, 12279 60th St., Alto, 868-6633.

CHRISTMAS TREES Colorado Blue, Norway, white Spruce trees. Pre-cut & U-cut trees. 8700 Morse Lake Ave., Alto. Open Fri., Nov. 27, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturdays 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. & Sundays noon - 5 p.m.

SEALY MATTRESS SALE - Full, queen or king, \$95 per set. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St. Carson City, MI.

CHIHUAHUA PUPPIES - \$100 - \$400, variety of colors, 616-693-2806 or 269-838-2398.

1989 FORD PICKUP - 6 cyl. w/stick, rusty but runs

FEMALE CHIHUAHUA PUPPY - Brindle, 1st set of shots. Ready to go Dec 26. Call 616-401-8761.

LOWELL/SARANAC SCHOOLS - Clean, 3 bed-room, 2 bath, 1392 sq. ft. double wide home, 24x16 garage, shed & deck on .83 acre rectangular lot for \$79,000! Call Nancy Steckler 616-450-5192/Midwest Properties, 2355 Belmon Center Dr., Belmont.

MATTRESS - Replace your worn out mattress for as little as \$79, all sizes. Name brand. Never used. 616-682-4767 or 293-6160.TFN

LAST CHANCE TO MAKE

SURE YOUR BUSINESS IS LISTED - in the 2010 **Lowell City Directory** Prices as low as \$10 to be listed. Call Tammy at 897-9560 or email: citydirectory@att.net for further info or to place your order.

2007 RONDEVOUS CXL Luxury package, smart track, automatic, V6, very clean, non smoker, silver w/black trim. 63,000 highway miles. \$16,200. Ca 897-5178.

wanted

CA\$H PAID FOR OLD STUFF!-Buying advertising items, military related, toys & games, jewelry, knives, lighters, hunting & fishing & MUCH MORE. Call 616-550-0521.

WANTED TO BUY - Walnut trees for timber. Call Bob Sayers at 616-527-4142,

for rent

HALL FOR RENT - with LOWELL MOBILE HOME kitchen, seats 150. Call PARK - Under new man-897-6050. TEN agement. Nice 1, 2 & 3 bedroom trailers for rent. 2 BEDROOM DUPLEX Rent from \$350-\$550. For 153 N. Center. No pets. \$575/mo. includes water.

Call 252-5611.TF FALLASBURG PARK Newly remodeled 4 bedroom, 2 bath historical home. Hardwood floors. ceramic tile flooring, family room w/fireplace, located just over the covered bridge on 2 acres w/river access. \$1,100/mo. Call Appleland

FOR RENT - House, pasture, barn, 3 bedroom ranch, Lowell Schools. Will not rent house only. 616-

Rentals, 800-810-7030.

for rent

Security deposit required.

RENOVATED (2009) - 2 bedroom Victorian (circa 1870) home for rent in Lowell. \$950/mo. 8 rooms (original woodwork/stained glass) in total including a separate pantry w/floorto-ceiling built-in cabinets & bonus room. New kitchen/bathroom cabinets & fixtures. New fridge. Washer & dryer included. New gas furnace & central A/C. Utilities (except water) included. Newly

painted inside & out. Yard maintenance provided. Sits on a one-acre wooded lot w/pienty of space to play Only a 3-minute walk to

> historic downtown Lowell. No smoking please, 312-203-7350. HOUSE FOR RENT - 1264 Valley Vista, Lowell. 3

bedroom, 2 stall garage New appliances, paint & carpet. \$650/mo. Call 616-HOUSE FOR RENT IN LOWELL - on Grand River Dr. Clean house for rent, 2

bedroom, 1 bath includes washer, dryer, refrig, AC and 2 stall attached garage. Good size front yard, pets are welcome. \$875/month. Horse boarding optional for add. cost. Kat, 616-690

FOR RENT - Lowell, bedroom, 1 bath apartment utilities included. \$600/ month. 112 N. Jefferson Call 897-4829.

FOR RENT - 3 bedroom

2 bath home near the city of Lowell. Vaulted ceiling family room, 2 car garage, pole barn, large deck Newly redone. All new paint & flooring. All appliances including washer & dryer & dishwasher provided. Ávailable immediately. Deposit & references required. \$900 per month plus utilities. Call for showing at 897-6186.

FOR RENT - Campau Lake 2 bedroom furnished, year round home w/garage \$600 per month 'til May 30 Year lease, \$800+ utilities. 616-531-2268.

HALL FOR RENT - Lowel Veteran's Center, 3100 Alden Nash. Newly remodeled, smoke-free, private, great location & great rate! www.vfw8303.org. Call John at 299-0486 or 897-8303.TEN

info call George at 616-754-0276 or 616-813-8041.TEN

CENTER COURT APT one who's called so far! - first month rent free! (w/12 month lease.) 2 bedrooms, \$600; 1 bedroom, \$500; on-site laundry & cats allowed. Center Court Apt. 201 N. Center St., Lowell. Call CB Richard Ellis/Grand Rapids, 877-780-2200.TEN

help wanted

MARKETERS NEEDED Apply Monday through Friday, 9-5 p.m. at 319 E. Main St., Lowell 49331.

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

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS BEEN DENIED? - Are you being told you need to repay benefits you were already paid? Need help appealing? It's time to speak to an experienced claimant representative. Call Now! 1-231-773-8529 or 1-800-305-2899. Free consultation!

BABYSITTER - Our Lowell home. After school, snow days, vacations. Girls 9 & 13. Varying hours, steady pay. Must have reliable trans. Call 616-293-0175.

sales ANNUAL WARE-

HOUSE SALE - Tamarack ATV ACCES-SORIES in Lowell is having a warehouse blow-out sale of factory scratch & dents, as well as misc. items such as shop TOOLS, office FURNITURE, wood PALLETS & old COMPUTER equipment. Warehouse sale will take place on Sat. Dec. 12 from 9 a.m. 4 p.m. Call 897-9803 for directions. Near Lowell airport, www. tamarackatv.com.

HOME BASED BUSI-NESS & CRAFT SHOW - Sat., Dec. 12, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Rather Elementary School, 380 E. Tuttle Rd. Ionia. Door Prizes & Free

lost

NOT FOUND YET - All black cat w/long hair & yellow eyes, 2 yrs old, neutered male. Name Blackie. Missing since 10/28, Alden Nash/Ryan Ridge, Lowell Twp area. Please call 897-8385. Thank you to every-

LOST-Long-haired female Calico cat from Maple Street. Missing since 12/7. May come to Fantasia. 551-7654 or 551-9010.

misc.

ONE IN NEED OF A NEW FURNACE? Arctic Heating & Cooling Inc. would like to help out with a new furnace & installation (all labor & materials included) Please submit your nominations with explanation by Dec. 22 to info@HeatingCoolingonl ine.com or mail to: POBox 181, Lowell, MI 49331

DO YOU KNOW SOME-

THEEASTKENTCOUNTY 616-890-6740. REPUBLICANS (EKCR) will be meeting on Sat.. Dec. 12, 2009 at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce (113 Riverwalk Plaza) from 8:30 to 10 a.m. to discuss current events on the local, state & national levels. Bring your concerns & issues to our meeting for open discussion! Please join us & share information about what you can do to become involved! For more information, please

MARK YOUR CALEN-DARS - for Dec. 12, 6 p.m. - ? Fallasburg Historic Village Christmas party. Great food, live music & an epic bonfire. It's a really good time. \$10 donation requested for adults.

call Dave Emmette, 644-

0759 or Nancy Steckler,

897-6380.

services

HANDYREPAIR SERVICE - All kinds of service work: locks rekeyed, deadbolts installed, screen & window repair. Call Bob Ford, 299-3198.TEN

ALTO DAYCARE - has two openings, 1st, 2nd & 3rd shift, on the food program, CPR trained, planned activities, animal friendly house, \$80 per week. 868-0752. www.amyskidsdaycare.

TAXES, PAYROLL QUICKBOOKS, & AC-COUNTING SERVICE by certified Quickbooks advisor. Call Kathy 897-

OVERWHELMED BY **DEBT? WE CAN HELP** - A beacon of light cutting through the fog of debt. Davis Legal Advocates, give us a call 897-7010, 1151 Bowes Road, Lowell.

NEED SNOW REMOVAL OFF YOUR ROOF OR ROOF REPAIR? - Call 616-477-1566. Insured, reasonable price. flippo@sprint. blackberry.net

services

LITTLE MONKEYS CHILD CARE - has Part-time & fulltime before & after school openings. Close to schools transportation provided for preschoolers. Opening Dec. 7. Call 421-8182.

COMPUTER REHAB \$55 all repairs - Virus & Spyware removal. No diagnostic fees Mon. - Sat., 100 W Main St., Lowell. 616-828-5346, www.computerRehab.ws

FIELDSTONE FARM AN-TIQUES - for all your antique and collectible shopping come visit the farm! A full line from primititive to fine porcelain and everything in between. Shop open Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. & Sun. 1-4 p.m. or by appointment, now through Dec 18. Also, appraisals 9449 Wingeier Ave SE, Alto (1/2 mile south of M-50)

SNOWPLOWING - Gravel accounts welcome. Seasonal or per time. Salting available. Serving Ada & Lowell area. Call Gilchrist Concrete Construction 616-893-1569.

services

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HOT TUB SERVICE - Every make & model, covers. supplies, maintenance Call the HotwaterDr. 616-874-3385 or contact hotwaterdr.com.TEN

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card of thanks

THANK YOU to everyone who sent cards for my 90th birthday. Gert DeHaan

PLEASENOTE - Coming Events ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION are for non-profit organizations. OF WEST MICHIGAN - Sup-They are ran on a space availto run. If you would like to make sure your event is placed in the paper, please call our office & place it as a classified ad.

A.D.D./A.D.H.D ISSUES GROUP - meets every third Tuesday, 7-9 p.m. at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 32156 4-Mile N.E. (at E. Beltline). Call Linda at 874-5662.

FLAT RIVER WOOD CARVERS Tuesdays at LAAC 6:30 - 8:30 o.m. New members welcome.

DIABETIC SUPPORT GROUP-2nd Tuesday at Schneider Manor Community Rm., 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. 897-2760 or 897-9160. KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

BACK TO BASICS - every Tuesday and Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at 865 Lincoln Lake, Lowell. Closed

ROLLAWAY LTD. SENIOR BOWLING - Wednesdays, 1 o.m., 55 and over.

AA meetings. Non-smoking.

LOWELL AREA TRAILWAY meets 2nd Wednesday at 6 p.m. at alternate locations. Visit www. owellareatrailway.org or call Mari

ALANON - Wednesdays at 8 p.m. Lowell First United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main St. (Use west entrance off Jackson St.) 897-5936.

LOWELL WOMEN'S CLUB 2nd Wednesday at 11:45 a.m. n Schneider Manor Community Room, 725 Bowes Rd.

KENT COUNTY YOUTH FAIR BOARD - 2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. at King Memorial Center at Fairgrounds. 897-6050.

port Group 3rd Wednesday a able basis & are not guaranteed Fountain View of Lowell, 11535 E. Fulton, 1 p.m. Call Cindy Meyer at 897-8413. ROYAL ARCH MASONS

Hooker Chapter #75, 2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.; dinner at 6:30 p.m. at Masonic Temple 211 E. Main St., Belding.

PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY SUPPORT GROUP - meets second Wednesday for the month 4 p.m. at St. Paul's Anglicar Church, 2560 Lake Michigan Dr. NW. Dorothy 897-9794.

MICHIGAN HEPATITIS C FOUNDATION SUPPORT - 1s Thursday, 7 - 8:30 p.m. at 250 Cherry, Lacks Cancer Center Grand Rapids.

#7719 - second and fourth BLUEGRASS JAM - 1st and Tuesday at St. Mary School, 3rd Thursday. Kountry Korner of Alto, 6077 Linfield, Call 868-

SARANAC AREA MUSICIANS - Practice Thursdays at Saranac High School band room. Choir: 6-7 p.m. Band: 7-8 p.m. Call Kathy at 897-5981.

ALTO LIONS CLUB - first & third Thursday at United Methodist Church in Alto at 7 p.m.

> KEEP IT SIMPLE ADDIC TIONS SUPPORT GROUP Socialization & peer support for recovering addicts. Meets every Thursday at 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Rava building. Contact Charlene. 897-7636 or Carrie, 897-7303 for more info.

QUARTER BINGO - 2nd Thurs of each month, 1-5 p.m. 2 cards for a quarter. 50% payback w/100% payback hourly specials. Open to the public. The Moose Rec Hall, 1320 E. Main St. Sponsored by W.O.T.M. Chapter #1388.



Monday - Thursday: Friday: 8 am - 2 pm

Kid Scoop Together:

Proof It!

This is Part II, of a four-part Christmas story, by Dave Thompson. The Ledger will print the subsequent sections, each week, finishing with the Dec. 25th edition.

Week Two Begins

[When the story ended he couldn't deliver. "I must Santa and Grandpa were trying to figure out what happened to the missing family and where were they? Santa had his map but said their house had completely disappeared. As we continue the story. Santa was about to ask Grandpa for some help.]

Santa was saying, "Right after last Christmas I had heard that the father, John Peterson, had been hurt in a train wreck and couldn't work. Then, on top of that just a few months ago, they had a bad fire and their house burned down." Now Santa couldn't find them anywhere and they were to have been his last stop. Santa bet they can help us!" knew how upset Mrs. Claus would be if he returned to and twitched and his head the North Pole with presents

deliver all these gifts tonight," Santa said woefully.

Grandpa's left foot was tapping nervously along on the runner of the sleigh. Yes, Santa missing family in the middle of the Christmas Eve? Then it came to him. He sort softly, "Of course, I'll call on my

friends in the woods. I'll

December 2 - December 8

Little robotic hamsters called Zhu Zhu Pets are

the under \$10 hot toy this year. A consumer group

said they may have higher than normal levels of

the chemical antimony in them. But by midweek the

Bruce Springsteen and Robert De Niro were invited

to the White House as Kennedy Center Honorees.

Today, 56 newspapers in 45 countries take the

unprecedented step of speaking with one voice

through a common editorial. The group states

unless we combine to take decisive action, climate

change will ravage our planet, and with it our

Billionaire adventurer Richard Branson reveals

the latest in space tourism - the first-class space

tourist's wonder machine at the core of Virgin

The largest and most important U.N. climate

change conference in history opened Monday with

Comcast announced the purchase of 51 percent of

Seattle, was found guilty of murder and was

sentenced to 26 years in prison. The family says

In Italy, Amanda Knox, a college student from

toys were deemed safe.

prosperity and security.

Galactic's suborbital fleet.

diplomats from 192 nations.

they will appeal the verdict.

NBC Universal.

Santa's nose wiggled

the woods can help? What on earth are you talking about, my good man? Who are 'these friends' of yours in the woods?" Santa asked, looking somewhat skeptical. "Speak up, my friend! Talk

to me, Grandpa!" Grandpa was a little bit embarrassed. Oh dear, how can I ever explain all of this to Santa Claus so he would should Santa? Again Santa spoke, "Who are these friends of yours, Grandpa, and do you really think they could help me locate this family before dawn in time for Christmas morning?"

good place to share a little secret with you that was revealed in chapter one of Grandpa's story. You see, Grandpa has a big garden between his house, the river and the woods. Well, one was working in the garden, he happened to hear what sounded like a little voice leaves, he observed a little animal down on the ground, a something negative to add to staying with relatives in Tyrone, and he was singing his heart out in words that Grandpa could understand! Grandpa couldn't believe his

eves nor his ears, but he was about to learn that something magical was happening right there in his garden. Since that unbelievable moment. he learned a number of the animals could actually talk. But, how that all happened is really part of another chapter. Maybe you'll get

happened later!] Grandpa began to look around for Oscar the Owl. "Doggone that Grandpa muttered to himself, "... where had he gone when his help was really needed?"

you

Have

to discover how that all

snapped up. He looked experienced a large bird blew a couple of the birds that old barn some of straight at Grandpa over the flying close to you? If you off their perches. "Well," he you rim of his little spectacles have, they also make a sort began in his biggest voice, "I perched at the very end of his of "whooooooshing" sound did see Santa and we aren't little cherry red nose, saying, when their big wings flap. going to argue about that "What? What's that you say, Swansandeagles and geese all IS that understood??!" The stare at her. She paused once Grandpa? Your friends in make that sound. Oh, nothing assembled group muttered

> like the "whoooooshing" briefly and then became very go on. sound of the sleigh and quiet. Oscar is a really big the nine reindeer he'd bird and when he speaks, heard earlier. That's especially after he flutters completely different. But his huge wings like that it was at that moment everyone gets quiet in a that Grandpa heard hurry. He went on ... "Santa "bird has finished his rounds whooshing sound" as except for just a few Oscar went zipping packages he was unable to past him. Old Oscar deliver. They were to go to a had been listening to very poor family but he can't Grandpa and Santa's seem to locate them. Santa conversation and now has asked for Grandpa's help

he circled the garden only come in!" once and then disappeared into the woods, saying over listening, he went on, his wing that he would be "So, okay, here's the deal back as soon as possible.

In the next few minutes, listen up good," Oscar said Oscar would be disturbing in a somewhat scolding the sleep of more than a tone that prevented any few of Grandpa's closest further interruptions or woodland friends. Hearing disagreements. "Grandpa is and playing in the yard as he the screeching sounds of everybody's friend, right?" Oscar's "call to arms," sleepy Everyone nodded or chirped eyes blinked open all through in agreement. "And, he's they must have moved into the forest. The animals all always looked out for us! knew that Oscar's screech He and Grandma have cared was an alarm. Moments later for many of us when we've they had all scampered out of needed help or been hurt. This will he believe me? Grandma their warm beds to learn what is our chance to return some this noise was all about. After of that kindness. So here are The farm house itself no my animal friends, so why a few minutes, everyone had your marching orders!! I assembled at the base of the want you to find this family tallest oak tree and Oscar was whose house burned down about to tell them what had last fall so Santa can deliver their Christmas presents on

quiet time. Someone among you everybody," Oscar the Owl must know where they've and someone could possibly said. "This is a really serious gone! Now, who can help live in there, Oscar continued [Well, maybe this is a business and I need your Grandpa?" help ... well, that is, Grandpa needs our help. First of all, where to begin, so no one saw Santa Claus earlier

"Aaaaaah, ya did not!!" shouted that mouthy Wogger- Unfortunately, no one the-Wabbit, annoyed at being seemed to know exactly awakened from his sound where they'd gone. Finally, sleep and now shivering a bit after the conversations had in the cold night air.

absolutely Scents-Worth, who was the no way, did ya?" chimed know-it-all-of-the-woods, in Two-Scents-Worth, the- spoke up saying he thought forest-skunk, who always had that they probably were any conversation. "No one another town many miles has ever really seen Santa! away. More chatter arose That's why some folks don't again in the group and he added sarcastically.

.... nobody has ever actually even to another town far, far seen Santa, so I don't think away. you did neither, Oscar!!" said Wilber-the-Woodchuck with that followed that an excited a tone of disbelief! "Besides, we're all tired and we wanna Clarice, seemed to have go back to our warm beds. If an idea where they might you have to wake us up, next be. "They're they're time wait until morning when it's daylight, will ya? I nearly began excitedly, her wings sure to look for the next part tripped and fell walking fluttering nervously. "Well around in the dark, okay?"

An angry Oscar stretched out his mammoth six foot owl wings and fluttered them furiously. The wind currents from his flapping stirred up a snow storm that almost

.... well, you know the as all the assembled faces leaned around each other to more, a little embarrassed to

"Yes? Yes?" Oscar's voice boomed, "So go on, Clarice!!!'

almost sure they are living in the old dairy farm's barn. The one with the Robinson's name written in shingles on the roof ... the one with the tattered silver silos at each end of the barn. I know the Robinson family left that farm and moved into the city he was off on a mission as and that's where all of us a long time ago. You know the one I'm talking about, don't you?" She paused before she went on, "It's just out of town a few miles from here." Clarice further explained that she had just talked to her traveling cousin, Chalmers, who said he'd recently seen the children doing chores

With everyone carefully

everybody. Listen up and

No one knew quite

spoke up immediately, but

there was a lot of chattering

going on within the group.

quieted down again, Two-

family had probably moved

Chickadee, named

"That's right, Two-Scents, somewhere else, maybe

flew over the farm. Oscar thought to himself, that abandoned old barn on the Robinson farm soon after their house fire. The barn and milk house had been vacant now for seven or eight years. because some young boys empty house had broken all the windows. But, the milk house was still pretty snug thinking.

Satisfied explanation, he thanked everyone, told them to go back to bed and off he flew, back to Grandpa and Santa who were waiting for his return. He relayed to them what he'd heard about the family from his woodland friends. An excited Santa said to Grandpa, "Hop on and let's go see for ourselves." With a wave and a thank you to Oscar, in a flash and as quick as a whistle, away they all flew like the down off a thistle. Santa and Grandpa were both holding on for believe there really is one," they seemed to agree the dear life as Rudolph led the way. Once more Santa called out into the cold night air, "Mer-r-r-r-y, Mer-r-r-ry Christmas," followed by a It was during the silence hardy "Ho-ho-ho!!" They were on their way!

> well, they're" she for Christmas morning? Be I think they're living in Lowell Ledger.





Go to www.kidscoop.com/kids to

learn how you can join a Christmas Bird

Count for Kids.

LESSON LIBRARY

Standards Link: Investigation: Find identical patterns.

Look through the newspaper for words or

these onto a sheet of construction paper to

pictures related to the holidays. Cut and paste

Standards Link: Visual Arts: Use a variety of media to convey meaning.

Holiday Images

make a collage poster.

 \Box

5

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

For puzzle answers, games, opinion polls and much more go to: www.thelowellledger.com AND CLICK ON KIDS SCOOP BUTTON

different.

Are you an eagle-eyed reader? Read the articles below and correct the eight spelling and grammar errors you find. The first one is Welcome to Holiday

Towers, an apartment

building in the big city.

Take a look at how the

neighbors are alike and

THE MILLERS

celebrates Kwanzaa, a

week-long celebration

honoring African culture.

They light red, green and

olack candles in a kinara

and have a feast at the

end of Kwanzaa. They

Mrs. Miller wears

kaftan during Kwanzaa. Hold this

page up to a mirror

to find out

what this is.

KAPTAN

NA SA BASAL

ROBE

celchrations are allic

Find the words in the puzzle,

then in this week's Kid Scoop

stories and activities.

TRKSGNOSDN

SNFAMILYEE

HEEJFOVICG

AFOMBTGEON

RIEMTHAHRA

OEYABRONAH

NSDOSMACTC

ETREETEPEX

MSKWANZAAE

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

What does a

snowman eat for

breakfast?

ANSWEH: Frosted flakes. (Joke by Kid Scoop reader, Rayne.)

Holiday Dot-to-Dot

Find the letters that spell each

of the following words on

one page of the newspaper.

Use different color crayons

to connect the letters in order

to spell each word.

CANDLES

FEAST

LIGHTS

FAMILY

CELEBRATE

Standards Link: Spelling: Spell grade-level appropriate words correct

NEIGHBORS

APARTMENT

DECORATE

MENORAHS

KWANZAA

KAFTAN

SYMBOLS

FEAST

SONGS

TREE

HOME

FAMILY

GIVE

RED

EXCHANGE

also give each other

small gifts.

celebrations of these

APT. 15A:

The Miller family

Every yeer for over a century, Christmas Bird Counts (CBCs) have been run acrost America during the holiday season. Counting the birds every year at the same time and in the same location gives scientists important

Counting Brids

information about burds and the environment.

In 2007, Tom Rusert of Sonoma, CA had the idea to include kidz in this important "citizen science" effort.

He launched the first Audubon CBC for Kids. It was so successful that now

organizations around the country are started their own

CBCs for Kids programs, following Rusert's model.

This is a wonderfully simple, healthy, hollyday celebration for almost any school, youth group or community organization.

Lurn more about how you could start or join a CBC for Kids at

www.kidscoop.com/kids.

ndards Link: Civics: Students understand the ortance for individuals and society of commonly-responsibilities such as being attentive to public

Ed Seco-dolo Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word GIFTS in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces ave been filled in for you.

6

Kid Scoop VOCABULĀRY **BUILDERS** This week's word: CULTURE

The noun culture means th language, customs, art and

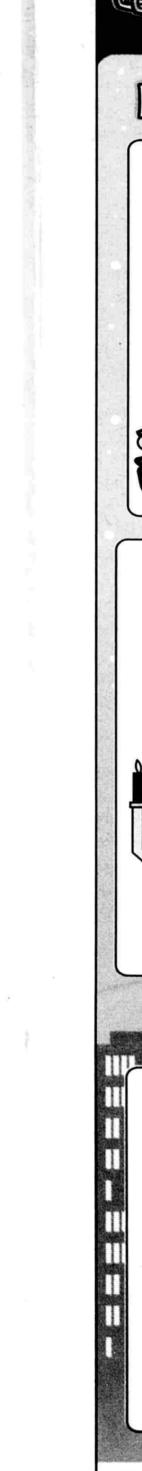
practices of a group of people Our teacher explained some

ways our culture is similar to that of other countries. Try to use the word culture in sentence today when talking with your friends and family

members.

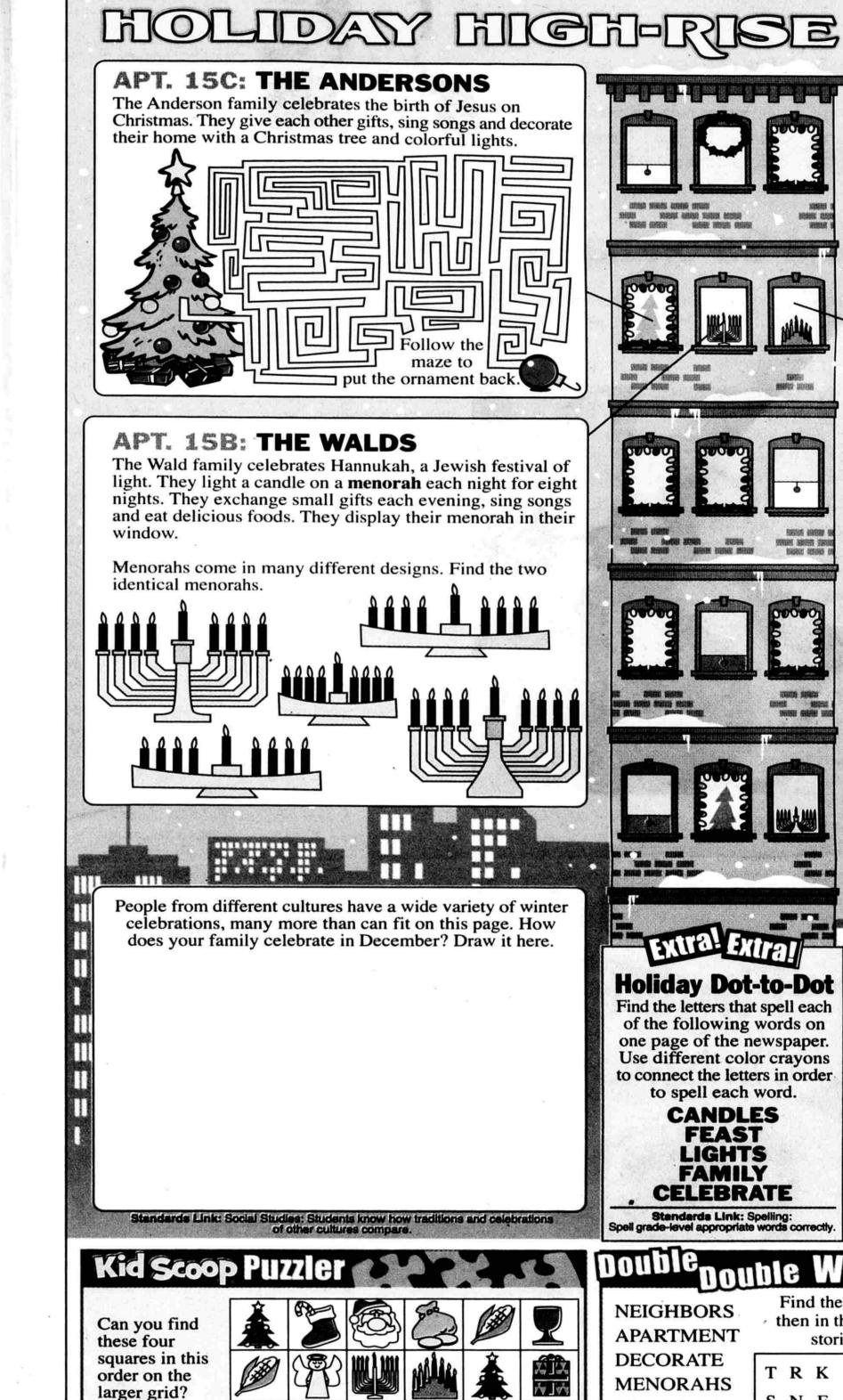
Write On! My Holiday

You get to design the perfect holiday. What would you celebrate? What kind of raditions would it involve? What sort of decorations would you display?



Coming next week: Will they find the family and will they do it in time of this story in next week's







Position: Age:

Residence: **Education: Experience:**

Family:

Marilyn McClure

Receptionist at Eja Salon

Lowell

Lowell High School Regal Insurance,

Family Fare, receptionist

Daughters April and Misty, grandchildren

Chase and Ruthie, husband Greg

Shopping, Elvis fan club & Thursday Nite

Card Club, volunteers at KIDS Food Basket



McClure has been with the salon for two and a half years since it moved from Grand Rapids to Lowell. She once helped out at the salon in Grand Rapids and then her daughter asked her to come back to Lowell.

Some of the early challenges included time management on making appointments because the time to do hairstyles varies from stylist to stylist.

"I had to get to know the stylists and their clients," said McClure.

McClure Sometimes, matched different clients with wrong stylists.

Another challenge for McClure was working with her daughter April as the boss.

"She has a strong personality, but we only work together one day a week on Monday," McClure laughed.

On other days, she works with business partner Jen Baylis.

Deadline for entries is Dec. 15, 2009

Submit entries to:

All Weather Seal Christmas Giveaway

319 E. Main Street

Lowell, MI 49331 or

E-mail kaitlin@awswest.com

"That's easier," she said.

"I always try to make the salon a friendly, happy place to come relax and have your hair done."

The salon constantly upgrades with new products, computers and beverage offerings like hot chocolate.

The economy also impacted the beauty business.

"Clients are stretching their color and cut time from the average six weeks to eight weeks," said McClure.

McClure started the reminder phone calls that cut down on no shows.

"She always goes above and beyond," said Baylis, "making sure the stylists' days are running smoothly. She is always smiling."

In five years, McClure still plans on working at the salon.

She was caught off guard when asked about her hobbies and interests.

"Now, you're going to think I am boring," she laughed.

But, there is never a boring minute with McClure, a well-known Lowellian. She is the secretary of the local Elvis Presley fan club. The six members usually get together on his birthday in January and go see an Elvis impersonator.

She is also a member of the Thursday Nite Card Club, but that's another story.

Receptionist keeps Eja Salon happy

by Emma Palova

Chatting with clients and stylists in between taking phone calls, bubbly Marilyn McClure is a typical multitasker.

She takes notes to stylists, brews the coffee and tea, takes in orders and refills supplies. McClure is known for her efficiency.

On a busy day before the holidays, it can get pretty hectic at Eja Salon.

But, that is what McClure likes about the beauty salon business, and its clients.

"I like the people," she said.

Her main goal is to keep everybody at the salon happy. That can be a challenge or a motivator at a place where mostly women work.

"I am going to have a good attitude and a smile for our clients," she said. "When we're running behind, I keep everything filled."

Clients like Pam Slater from Caledonia come to the

of why that family

deserves this special

gift this holiday season.

beauty shop precisely for the superb service, where the stylists bend backwards to make everything work.

"They go out of their way to accommodate you," said Slater. "They arrange their schedules."



Marilyn McClure enjoys her job at Eja Salon.

It's II hat Mear Agains Christmas will soon be here! All Weather Seal is looking for a family in the Lowell area whose house could use a little extra care this year when the cold air starts to settle in. We would like to give away a houseful of windows to a family in need. This Year's Winner Please submit Congratulations! your nominations with an explanation