

# the lowell ledger

wednesday • december • 30 • 2009

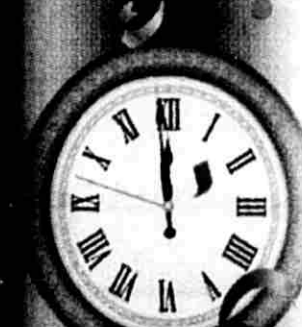
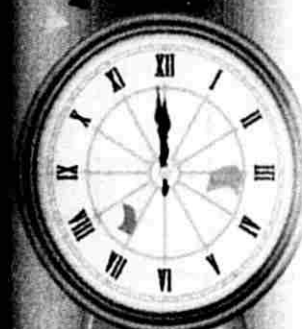
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2009  
*A  
Year  
In  
Review*

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## City leaders, business owners brace for bridge project in 2010

by Emma Palova

From the city hall to the post office and beyond, city leaders and local business owners expressed their expectations for 2010.

Most braced themselves for the upcoming downtown bridge replacement project. The \$3 million project will virtually affect everybody even though the downtown area will feel the major impact.

However, much like during the streetscape project 10 years ago, the city is prepared to tackle the scope and length of the bridge replacement as a team.

"We will all have to work together, the townships,

the city, the county and the state," said city clerk Betty Morlock.

Morlock said the city will encourage people to take the extra minute and to shop downtown.

"Don't go to Grand Rapids," she said. "Shop locally."

And although Morlock anticipates a rough year for the downtown area, she is confident about the overall success of the project.

"If we all pull together," she said, "we will survive. At least we're getting it done. In the long run it will be good for the city."

And the relatively new council will steer the city in

the right direction, according to Morlock.

"They will bring new ideas," she said, "They will listen to the people and do the best to give them what they want. They will be more cautious with tax dollars."

And even though city finances will continue to be tight, Morlock believes that with the conservative council, the city will still deliver the same level of services.

City manager Dave Pasquale seconded that feeling.

"It will be another tight year economically," he said. "But we hope for the starting of a turnaround where we see more growth of businesses."

Pasquale, who also went through the streetscape project in the late 90s, said he will be glad when the bridge work is done.

"It's nice to see it happen, we've been talking about it for a long time," he said.

A series of meetings with the merchants is being planned to keep everyone abreast of the project.

"We will mainly be getting the word out that businesses are still open by advertising," he said.

Pasquale anticipates



Betty Morlock

working closely with the Downtown Development Authority and the chamber.

The potential rerouting of downtown events has yet to be discussed.

"We need to talk how to accomplish this," he said.

Speaking on the business front, right from the

City leaders,  
continued page 2



Dave Pasquale



Cliff Yankovich

## Widow receives houseful of windows

by Emma Palova

For Ellen Miller Christmas came early this year, as she got selected to be the lucky recipient of \$15,000 worth of windows from All-Weather Seal.

It was a surprise and a much needed present for this widow who lives at 125 Center Street.

Miller has lived in the house for the last 60 years. And by now, the house with bright green siding is in need of a lot of replacements like the roof and the floor.

But new windows will keep the house warm and snug. They will be installed by mid January.

"I really, really appreciate this," said Miller. "The windows were leaking around."

Miller got picked out of 14 total individual nominations.

Her daughter Pat Mull and friends nominated Miller because of the need.

"We saw the need and narrowed it down," said office manager Cindy Kelsey.

The house was selected based on visual appearance. All-Weather Seal will replace 13 windows.

"We see it as a service to the community for supporting us all year long," said Kelsey. "It's something to give back."

Miller lives by herself, so she really likes her gift.

"I can't believe it," said Miller, "it's just wonderful."

All-Weather Seal plans to continue the tradition into the future as the need appears to grow. Last year, there were seven nominations.



Ellen Miller stands in front of her house and holds the giant check presented to her by All Weather Seal.

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# City leaders, continued

downtown area, Chimera owner Cliff Yankovich forecasted the continuation of the 'shop locally' trend. "We are ahead of the curve on this," he said. "We started preaching this some four years ago." Yankovich said that for the last two years, people have been spending money locally. "And they're making a point of saying it," he said. The chamber's marketing campaign 'Lowell the Next Place to be' including the billboard has worked well, according to Yankovich. "We have a great supporting community," he said. "I hope people will continue to shop locally when the road is torn up." All options, such as special signage and incentives to go past the construction and stop at the local stores will be considered by the merchants. "It has to be done and there is no easy way of doing it," he said. Having the best year

ever, Chimera's owners are hopeful to keep on rocking ahead into the new year. "Our combo of repairs and one of a kind custom designed jewelry makes us an interesting place to shop," he said. "We run lean." For Rodger Garner of Good Chevrolet, 2010 will mean a major switch to a used cars only business. As soon as the dealership sells out of new cars, the franchise will be terminated. "We will become the premier used car dealer in southwest Michigan," he said. The dealership will stay in Lowell and it will continue to support the Lowell community. "The community will find ways to overcome the impact of the bridge project," he said. "It will have to be a team effort. I am very confident because of the way the city reacts; it will turn out good for Lowell." Garner predicted a slow recovery for the economy in 2010, including the automotive industry. "I'd rather see a slow secured upswing than a

highly fluctuating economy up and down," he said. And Garner encourages the community to buy locally. "The marketing campaign has worked well," he said. "I hear about the theme all the time in Grand Rapids. "It is attracting businesses and people to live in Lowell." For others like the post office, the new year will mean looking for new opportunities to increase revenues. Due to the economy and the Internet, and slow down in construction, the post office has experienced a steady decline in mail volume. "We will search to capture more revenues from packages," said supervisor Marie Schweitzer. Currently, the post office has only five percent of the package business, with UPS having 90 percent and Fedex the remaining five percent. Other revenue opportunities will include more attractive stamps. The post office too, expects an impact from the bridge project. Stamps can be

federal agency, had to take concessions on prefunding of retiree benefits as a cost cutting measure. But on the other hand, the post office does not lay off people. Schweitzer does not expect the delivery days to be impacted in 2010. "We will keep the same delivery days. It may happen in the future," she said. "We're here to help you with all your mailing needs." The post office, as the only



Rodger Garner



Marie Schweitzer

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**LHS FINANCIAL AID NIGHT**  
Joann Litton, Financial Aid Officer from Grand Valley, will provide information about filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), on Thurs., Jan. 7, 7-8 p.m. at the Lowell Performing Arts Center. This is an important meeting for all college bound seniors and their parents.

**ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES**  
Sign up at the Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington St., on Sat., Jan. 9, 10 a.m. to noon. You may also order online using your debit or credit card. Go to www.angelfoodministries.com Any questions, call Esther, 897-7395.

**CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING**  
Looking for an environmentally friendly way to dispose of your Christmas tree? Bring it out to the Wittenbach/Wege Agriscience and Environmental Education Center on or before Sun., Jan. 10, to be shredded and used for mulch around the Center. Please remove ALL decorations before discarding. Trees will not be accepted after Jan. 10. If you have questions, please call 987-1002.

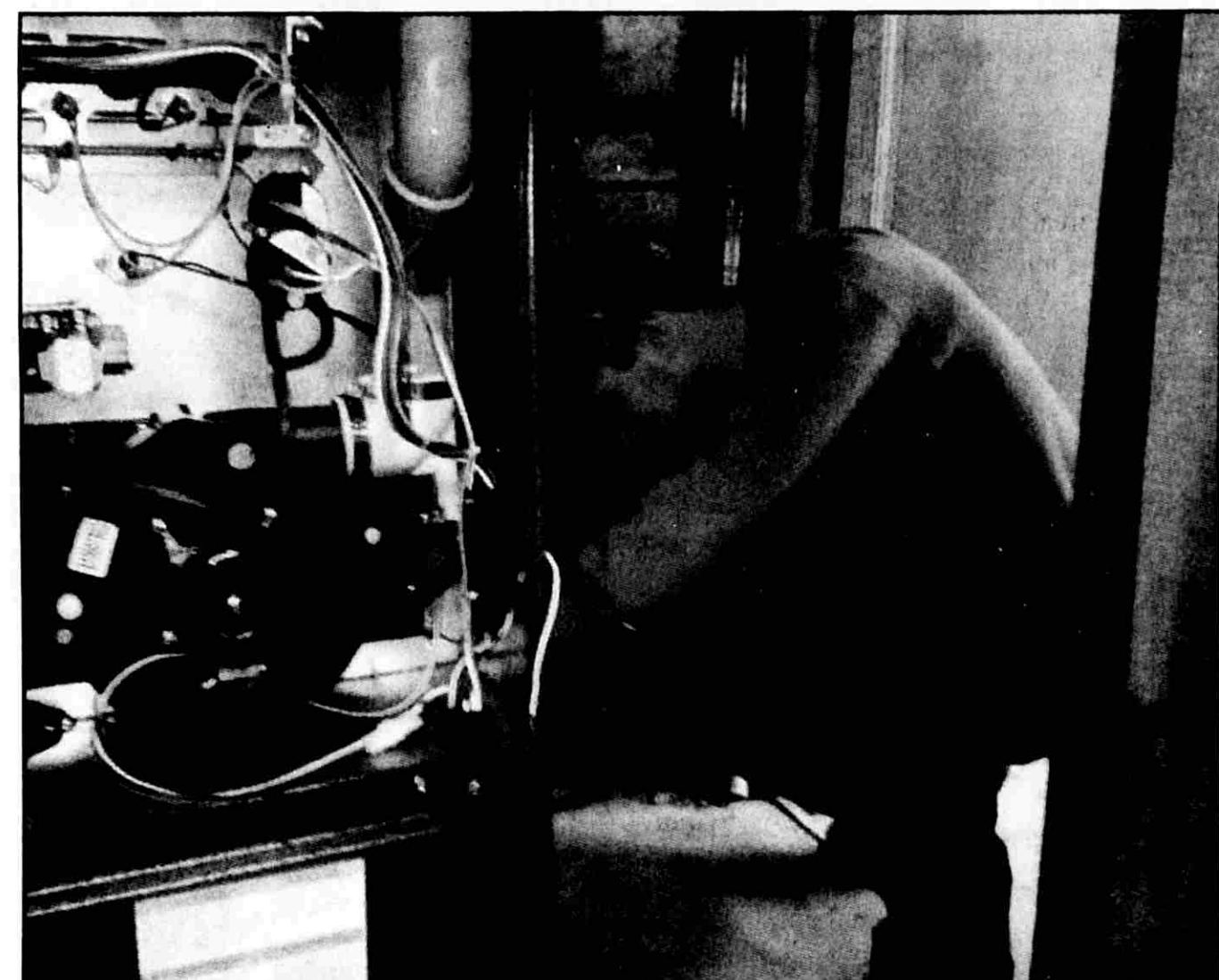
**FROM FOOD PANTRY**  
The food pantry is presently in need of cereals, soup, crackers, boxed potatoes, and hamburger and tuna helper.

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# Family receives a gift of warmth

by Emma Palova  
The Zemaitis family of Grand Rapids will now stay warm with heat from a brand new Goodman furnace donated by Arctic Heating & Cooling in Lowell. "They have no extra money to do anything," said co-owner Catharina Bek. The young Zemaitis family has just recently moved to Grand Rapids and they have a one year old child, Grayden Zemaitis. "Although times are difficult for a lot of people in the West Michigan area, only a few families were nominated by others to receive a free furnace," said Bek. This is the first year of the giveaway and Arctic Heating & Cooling plans on continuing the tradition. "We have been very fortunate," said Bek. Their existing furnace in the house was undersized. With the expense of moving and finding jobs here, there was not extra money for a new furnace. So, the gift from Evert and Catharina Bek came in handy at the right time. "It was definitely a surprise," said Kelly Zemaitis. "We've just moved from Chicago. It is a nice present with the move and everything." Mom, Linda Todd, helped the Zemaitis family get the furnace. "It's been so cold," said Kelly Zemaitis.



A service technician installs the donated furnace for the Zemaitis family.

# New sign for FROM



After a long time of planning and anticipation, and thanks to a grant from the LOOK Memorial Fund, Flat River Outreach Ministries has finally seen a new sign on Fulton Street proclaiming the location of the Thrift Shop and Furniture Store. A panel on the sign declares "OPEN" when a switch is activated in the store. "We think having the sign finally in place is a perfect way to begin a new year!" said Marge Rehl.



Pictured, Marilyn Lambson, director of the Thrift Shop; and Ann Dimmick, co-chairperson of FROM board of directors; activate the switch lighting the "OPEN" panel on the new sign.

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SHERLOCK HOLMES (PG-13) 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:55  
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKEL (PG) 12:10, 2:20, 4:20, 6:40, 8:55  
AVATAR (PG-13) 11:10, 2:40, 6:10, 9:35  
DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANST? (PG-13) 11:50, 2:10, 4:40, 7:00, 9:25  
THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG (G) 11:40, 2:00, 4:10, 6:50, 9:05  
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Thank You!  
A big thank you to each and everyone of you who made the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce December 16 breakfast meeting very special.  
You made us the recipients of the MVP award (most valuable persons) of 2009.  
The way it was presented to us was fun and so right on the dot. Those of you who went to all the effort to do this are truly wonderful people to know.  
We will keep up the hard work and do anything possible to make the Lowell Area Chamber ... The Next Place to be!  
- Evert & Catharina Bek  
Arctic, Inc. 897-4123  
(Yes! We are grandparents, baby Kole Johannes was born on December 19, 2009!)

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## Bushnell presents Student Opportunities for Success at statewide conference

Members of Bushnell's staff recently presented their Student Opportunities for Success (S.O.S.) process with Michigan's Elementary and Secondary Principals Association (M.E.M.S.P.A.). "Our team feels a professional responsibility to reach outside of Bushnell. It was an honor to be chosen to present at the annual conference and share our process with educational leaders throughout our state," shared Bushnell principal Karen Burd.

Bushnell's team shared their proactive process from the moment a concern is raised by a teacher or parent, through progress monitoring and concluding with positive growth of children. The focus is on early intervention and

review of resources which support behavioral/academic needs of early elementary children. Weekly, Bushnell's S.O.S. team meets supporting children, teachers and families. The team combines data and best practices to differentiate instruction, provide tier support, sensory interventions and resources to support behavioral/academic needs of early elementary children.

"I'm very proud of the dedication of the S.O.S. team. The entire Bushnell staff is committed to meeting the needs of all children on a daily basis. Our family support is a critical component towards the success of our children," concluded Burd.



Team members, left to right: Karen Burd, Tara DeRuiter, Lanie Rice, Susan Pomper, Suzie Almy, Cortney Duffner, Pat Sinen, and Rich Douglass.

## Patty Duke and the doctor ask you to help stop the spread

Academy Award winner Patty Duke and the former head of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, David Kessler, M.D., have teamed with Social Security to launch a flu prevention public service campaign. Duke and Kessler are featured in a new public service announcement letting people know some simple steps they can take to prevent the spread of the flu, as well as the fact that most business with Social Security

can be done online by visiting [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov).

You've probably heard some of the health tips they have to offer:

- cover your mouth and nose when sneezing or coughing and encourage those around you to do the same;
- wash your hands often with soap and water; and
- get a flu shot.

But Duke and Kessler have one health tip you may not

have heard: go online to conduct your Social Security business.

If you need service from Social Security, you don't have to visit an office. Many of our services are available online at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) and by phone at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

For example, you can visit [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) to:

- Apply for benefits;

- Use the Retirement Estimator to get a personalized estimate of your retirement benefits;
- Get answers to frequently asked questions; and
- Get a replacement Medicare card.

So do your part to stop the spread of the flu. Go online to [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) where you can view the new public service announcement yourself.

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# viewpoint

## outdoors *Changing Faces* Dave Stegehuis

When I was in high school, my future wife was the only girl in our class that hunted deer or anything else for that matter. Her guidance counselor informed her that a woman couldn't be a veterinarian. Fortunately, Gwen's dad taught her how to hunt, fish, and fix cars. Today women are veterinarians, and they not only fix cars, they sell cars, design and build cars, and race cars. You've come a long way ladies.

About that same time, the image of a Michigan deer hunter was an older man dressed in a red plaid wool coat, hat, and pants. He wore knee high leather boots, toted a lever action 30-30 rifle, while following the tracks

of a big buck through dense cedar swamps in the Upper Peninsula.

How times have changed. Today's big game hunter is often a thirteen year old girl dressed in the latest waterproof camo pattern wearing insulated pack boots and a blaze orange vest. She probably carries a scoped youth model shotgun which shoots sabot slugs down a rifled barrel and hunts out of a pop-up blind on the edge of a cornfield in southern Michigan.

Firearm and clothing manufacturers are now designing products to meet the demands of women and youth in a market which continues to expand. Changing social attitudes

and recruitment efforts by the Department of Natural Resources, as well as wildlife conservation organizations, have been successful in increasing the number of people involved with outdoor activities.

Recent changes in crossbow regulations have made it possible for those who, because of physical limitations, found it difficult or impossible to draw a bow to participate in the archery deer season. More folks are now able to get out in the woods and fields at a great time of the year.

Because the modern life style tends to separate us from the land and wild creatures that live there, it is easy to overlook our responsibility to be good stewards of our natural resources. The major source of funding

for wildlife management currently comes from license fees and federal taxes on firearms and ammunition. Increasing the number of hunters afield means more citizens will be aware of the issues facing wildlife and the environment and will provide more funding to meet the challenges ahead. So, if you thought you were too old, too young, or too girly, forget that and join the group.

If you decide hunting is not your thing, then keep abreast of natural resource issues, and support conservation efforts by voting and joining conservation organizations like the National Wild Turkey Federation or Ducks Unlimited. Times have changed and diversity in the hunting community is a change for the better.

## financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

### Start planning now to cope with estate taxes

Throughout your life, you strive to provide financial security to your family. And your efforts can extend beyond your lifetime — if you work to control estate taxes.

It's always challenging to create financial strategies that are somewhat dependent on tax laws, because these laws are always changing. In 2009, your estate could have passed up to \$3.5 million to your heirs before incurring federal estate taxes at a maximum rate of 45 percent. In 2010, the estate tax was scheduled to be repealed, but in 2011, it was supposed to return, with a maximum exemption of \$1 million and a top rate of 55 percent. But this may change, as Congress is considering extending the 2009 exemption and tax rate figures into 2010, 2011 and possibly even further.

You might think you'll never have enough wealth to incur these taxes, but virtually every asset — your home, cars, life insurance policy, IRA and 401(k) — may be included in your taxable estate. These assets could push your estate over the exemption amount, costing your heirs a substantial amount in estate taxes.

To help address this potential problem, you might want to think about some of the following estate considerations. For example, if you owned a \$1 million dollar life insurance policy, and it was subject to an estate tax rate of 45 percent, your beneficiaries would receive a death benefit of just \$550,000. But if you established an irrevocable life insurance trust (ILIT) with a new insurance policy, the trust would own the policy and distribute the proceeds to the beneficiaries you've chosen. By using an ILIT, you'd keep the life insurance out of your taxable estate.

consideration is a charitable remainder trust, which might be useful if you have a sizable amount of assets, such as stocks, that have significantly appreciated since you bought them. If you kept these assets in your estate, your heirs would inherit them on a "stepped-up" basis, which, in plain English, means the value of the stocks would be the same as their fair market value on the date of your death. (However, in 2010 — and 2010 only — the step-up basis is limited to \$1.3 million for your children or other heirs and \$3 million for your surviving spouse. Beyond those figures, your heirs would assume, or carry over, your basis — the amount you paid for the assets. In 2011, full step-up is scheduled to return.)

All stocks, and especially those that receive step-up treatment, could add to your heirs' estate tax burden. But you could remove the stocks from your taxable estate by placing them in a charitable remainder trust. Furthermore, you could receive an income stream for life once the trust sold the stocks. You could then use this income to make gifts to your loved ones, further reducing the size of your taxable estate. You can give up to \$13,000 per year to as many individuals as you like without incurring gift taxes, up to \$1 million over your lifetime.

Before making any decisions related to estate taxes, consult with your estate planning professional and your tax advisor. Vehicles such as life insurance trusts and charitable trusts are complex and don't lend themselves to "do-it-yourself" solutions. Start thinking soon about estate tax issues. By putting your estate plans in order early, you could be helping your loved ones far into the future.

stated that based on monthly costs, \$90,000 has been allocated for waste pickup. The offsetting revenue from sales of bags [\$61,000] results in a net cost of \$29,000 per year. Following an outcry from local haulers in a Dec. 9 council meeting, the council set another public hearing for Jan 19. Question - Is an exclusive franchise a denial of free enterprise? It should be up to the constituents if they want the service they have now or to change. And it should

be up to the city council, as the servant, to provide proper information so the constituents can render their decision. It has been said that this situation has been ongoing for almost a year. Why didn't the city council put it to a straw poll in our last election? Hopefully, everything will be brought to light in the Jan. 19 council meeting without the use of the words like - if, maybe or considering.

Sincerely, Jim Howard  
Lowell

## to the editor

Dear Editor,  
It stated in an Aug. 3 council meeting that a July 23 meeting was held concerning an exclusive franchise of residential solid waste collection. The following issues were reviewed: 1 - Providing carts only [95 gallon] and 2 - Considering an option for bags. During an Aug. 3 city council meeting, a council

member stated he has trouble going to a 95 gallon cart when he struggles to fill a 35 gallon one. The question is, would he and others in his position end up paying three times more for waste removal? Without the use of bags, would the elderly, financially depressed and low volume user pay more for what they don't need? A 2009-2010 budget summary



By Shelly MacNaughton

### 100 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger December 30, 1909

Last Thursday afternoon, just before time to quit work, a gang of men who were working for the Lowell Electric Light Co., at the dam south of Smyrna, were caught by a bank of earth caving in onto them. The heavy mass of stones and frozen earth imprisoned four: Mort Short, Fred Geiger Jr., Frank Loomis and Aden Covert. They were working below the bank in the early evening darkness when the sound of loosening earth was heard above them and Frank exclaimed: "Lookout, it's coming!" The words had barely left his lips when the bank of earth was upon them. The shouts of those who were able to shout, brought help speedily and in the darkness of the night that was fast closing about them, the rescuers worked fast to save their fellow laborers.

### 125 Years Ago The Lowell Journal December 31, 1884

The first newspaper advertisement appeared in 1652. It pays to advertise. The common council has decided to purchase a Mansfield Steam Engine. It is highly recommended by fire departments that have given it a thorough trial. Many Michigan streams are to be planted with Scotch trout. Friday morning, mercury registered in Lowell 20 to 25 degrees below zero. This was the coldest snap of the season so far.

### 50 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger December 31, 1959

Police are investigating the break-in at the Grand Truck Depot in Segwun on Wednesday night. Entry was made by prying the hasp off the warehouse door; nothing was taken from the premises. The same night, the depot at Saranac and Pewona were also broken into. Total loot from the three was only \$8, it was reported.

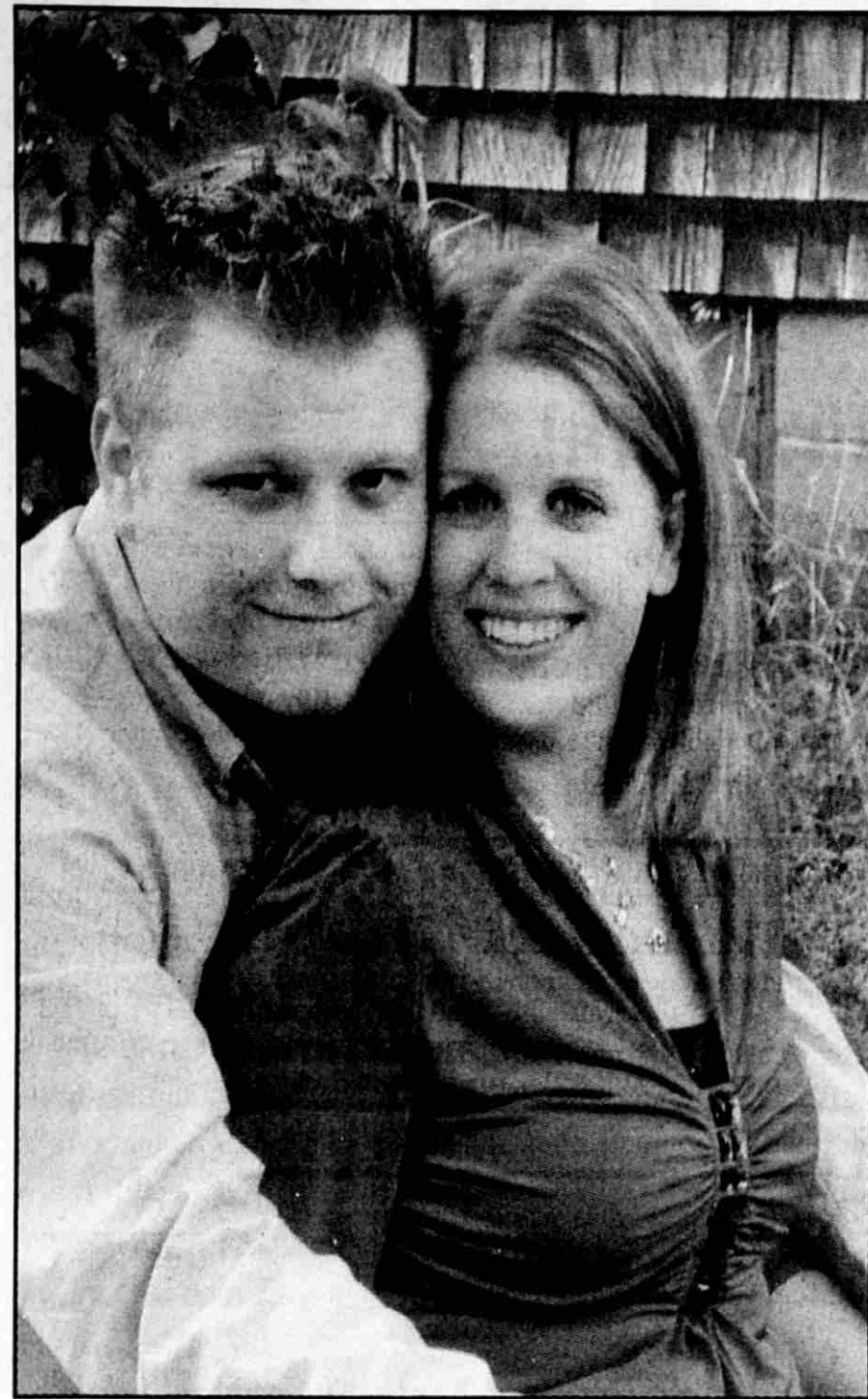
### 75 & 25 Years Ago

The entries are missing from the files for this week.



# engagements

## Gerard/Thomas



Josh Thomas and Liz Gerard

Liz Gerard and Josh Thomas will be wed January 9, 2010. Parents of the couple are John and Lori Gerard, of Lowell, and Dave and Becky Thomas, of Cape Cod, MA. The future bride is a 2002 graduate of Lowell High School and a 2008 graduate of Cedarville University. The future groom is a 2001 graduate of Nauset Regional High School and a 2008 graduate of Suffolk University. The couple will reside in the Boston, MA area following the wedding.

\*\*\*

**Doubt is not a pleasant condition, but certainty is absurd.**

- Voltaire (1694 - 1778)

# college news

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

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

Hewitt is a first-year majoring in political science. She is the daughter of Gregory and Barbara Hewitt, of Lowell, and a graduate of Lowell High School.

The University of Northwestern Ohio is proud to acknowledge that Matt Burton, of Lowell, has made the Dean's List for the October 2009 session in the College of Technologies. Full-time students must receive a grade point average of 3.5 or better to be named to the Dean's List.

Burton is the son of Howard and Carol Burton, of Lowell.



## DECEMBER 30

Stacy Thomas, Ben Hodges, Kyle Triplett, Joe Hunt, Stacey Craig, Joshua Gee, Maliree Trierweiler, Matthew Trierweiler.

## DECEMBER 31

Marcie Page, Bill DeHaan, Charles Boerema.

## JANUARY 1

Tory Abel, John Wenger, Alice Hesche, Carolyn Yonker, Amanita Fahmi, Bea Hoekstra.

## JANUARY 2

Rose Nead, Helen Kuiper, Angie Sloan.

## JANUARY 3

Jon Vezino, Agnes Kent, Audrie Olszewski, Lloyd Callihan, Jane Lally, Rick Fyan.

## JANUARY 4

Nicholas Knonenwetter, Donna Johnson, Ruth Wood.

## JANUARY 5

Ryan Sauber, Craig Carpenter, Pauline LaDue, Genie Southwick, Jody Ann Young.

# health



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

## Actinic Keratoses

Actinic keratoses appear on the skin as rough, scaly, pink or red patches. They occur on areas of the skin that are exposed to sunlight, such as the face, neck, arms and hands.

Actinic keratoses are considered a precursor or the earliest stage of skin cancer. They appear more commonly in men than women and more frequently in elderly persons due to cumulative sun exposure. People with fair skin and those that work outside are more likely to develop actinic keratoses. Adults with a history of frequent sunburn during childhood are also more likely to have actinic keratoses.

Your doctor makes a diagnosis of actinic keratoses (A.K.) by simple skin examination and occasionally a biopsy will be performed which is simply done in the office under local anesthesia.

Treatment usually depends on the number and location of the actinic keratoses. The simplest treatment is cryotherapy (spraying the A.K. with liquid nitrogen to freeze them) which destroys the abnormal cells allowing regrowth of normal tissue. For multiple A.K.'s, you may be prescribed a gel that you apply for a period of several weeks. This causes an inflammatory reaction which destroys the abnormal tissue. After application of this medication your skin may be red, sore and irritated for several days. This is normal and part of the inflammatory response. This form of treatment may be cosmetically unacceptable to some patients, but it is one of the best modalities available, especially in those with multiple A.K.'s.

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Sponsored by Riverside Fellowship of Seventh-day Adventists  
Cost: \$60\* per person Check out [www.fullplatediet.org](http://www.fullplatediet.org)  
\*Attend all sessions, get a \$30 refund  
Cost includes:  
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Log book  
Pedometer  
Cook-N-Eat Food & Recipes  
Body Composition 1x per week  
Exercise Around the World  
Come and enjoy a new way of eating and hands-on cooking!

# Murray Lake names Grooters as Staff Member of the Month

Although she has only taught at Murray Lake for three months, Kori Grooters has already made her presence felt. Several staff members nominated her to be Murray Lake's Staff Member of the Month for November.

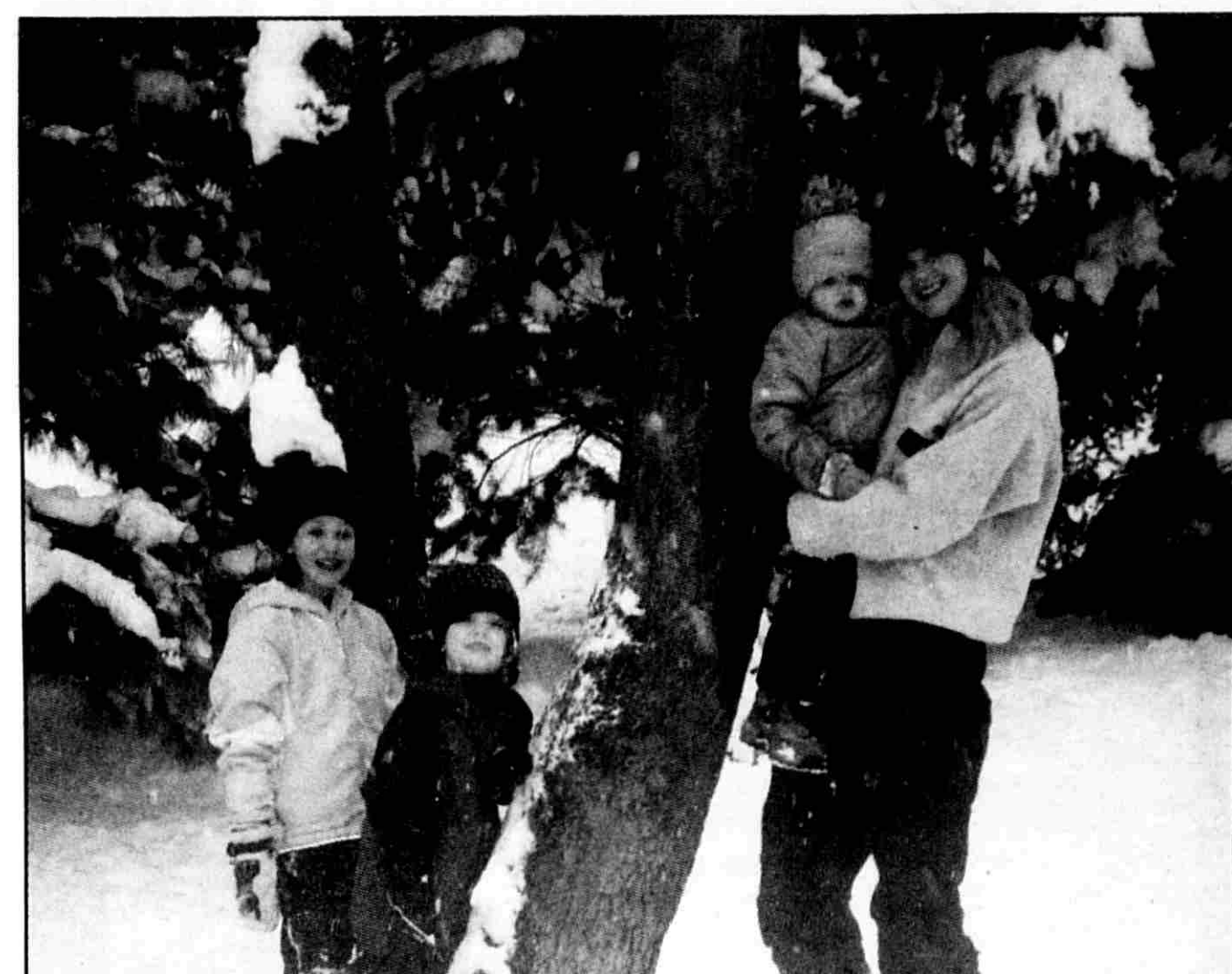
Grooters was hired late in August as Murray Lake's fifth grade numbers grev over the summer to a point where a fourth section of fifth grade was needed. After going through over 450 applicants, Grooters was hired for the position. She has been the perfect fit.

"Kori has fit perfectly into our fifth grade teaching team. She has a lot of experience and is a wonderful person and friend," commented fellow fifth grade teacher, Julie Fuss.

Grooters and her family, husband Jeff and kids Chloe, Nick and Tessa, moved to Michigan from Colorado last year. Jeff Grooters' business transferred him to Michigan. She was born and raised in Omaha Nebraska and taught one year there before moving to Denver. Grooters taught 6th and 7th grade students near Denver for ten years.

"We traded the mountains for the lakes and spent this past summer taking full advantage of being on the water," says Grooters. "I feel very lucky to be a part of MLE. Everyone has been so welcoming. The atmosphere at Murray Lake is the most positive and encouraging that I have experienced during my 11 years of teaching. I love it here!"

In her spare time, Grooters enjoys reading, writing, crocheting, photography, watching and playing many different sports, and spending time with family and friends.



Pictured, are Grooters and her three children outside enjoying our recent snowfall.

# New year, new health goals - want to quit smoking?

Many people make New Year's resolutions and over half of those made will involve our health, such as losing weight or quitting smoking. Studies show that the psychology behind keeping these resolutions is in the preparation.

"Establishing genuine confidence that one can keep a resolution, despite occasional slips, seems to have the biggest impact on the success of the resolution," according to Dr. John Norcross, Psychologist and Distinguished University Fellow, University of Scranton. "We call this self efficacy. That's not general self-confidence, rather it's a specific conviction that you can change the behavior."

"This is particularly true when quitting smoking," explains Jodie Seese, a tobacco treatment specialist. Another free class is coming to Lowell, which starts next Saturday, January 16, 9-11 a.m. "Preparation reinforces confidence. A class helps you focus on your own smoking habits, those that are unique to you and that allows you to create an individual plan to become smoke free. The phrase 'knowledge is power' definitely applies to smoking cessation."

Accessibility is also a key and having classes available locally means Lowell residents don't have to drive into Grand Rapids to participate. The January class is provided at no cost to participants thanks to Lowell Community Wellness which uses funds earmarked for community support from the Pick Arrow Project. Free classes in Lowell begin at 6 p.m., Saturday, January 16 at Lowell Family Medical Center. The class runs from 9-11 a.m. for six weeks. Registration is encouraged, as seating is limited. Call 616-975-0123 or go to [www.tobaccofreepartners.org](http://www.tobaccofreepartners.org)

Quitting smoking is similar to losing weight in that there's no one, right way that works for every person. What worked for your neighbor or co-worker may not be the best plan for you. In addition to preparation is readiness to quit. Maybe you have all the tools in front of you, but you're not ready to undertake the challenge. The key is getting accurate information to the people when they are ready.

In this case, Seese recommends taking smaller steps toward the goal.

"Rather than say 'I should quit smoking this year, you could say 'This year I'm going to research what would be the best way for me to quit.' That way, you know what to do when you are ready." That could mean talking to your doctor about options, including medications, going to a website for

Quit smoking, continued, page 9

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**Those who can make you believe absurdities can make you commit atrocities.**

- Voltaire (1694 - 1778)



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# area churches

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(United Church of Christ)  
865 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE • 897-5906  
[www.OurBigChurch.org](http://www.OurBigChurch.org)  
Sunday Worship.....10:00 a.m.  
Church School.....10:15-11:15 a.m.  
Thursday Faith Alive  
Casual Worship.....6:30 P.M.  
Barrier-free.....Nursery Provided  
No matter where you are on life's journey, You are welcome here.

**ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
Kirby and Harrison  
Alto • 616-691-8011  
Worship.....9:30 A.M.  
Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.

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Pastor Dean Bailey

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod)  
Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21  
[www.goodshepherdlowell.org](http://www.goodshepherdlowell.org)  
Sunday School & Adult Bible Class...9:00 A.M.  
Worship Service.....10:00 A.M.  
(Nursery available)  
Joseph Fremet, Pastor 897-8307  
All facilities are wheelchair accessible

**CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God)**  
3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery  
Robert Holmes, Pastor  
SUNDAYS: Worship: 10 a.m.  
WEDNESDAYS: Family Night (for all ages): 7:00 p.m.  
"The Source" Youth: 7:00 p.m.  
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**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
2275 West Main Street • 897-7168  
Internet: <http://www.fbclowell.org>  
Rev. David O. Sims & Rev. W. Lee Taylor  
Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M.  
Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M.  
AWANA/EXCITE \*TEENS Wed. 6:15 & 8:30 P.M.  
Contact Church Office for Prayer Meeting Times  
Nursery Provided • Barrier Free

**CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
Rev. Randy Meyers • 897-7060  
1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI  
Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M.  
Sunday School.....11:20 A.M.  
Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.  
Nursery available at both services  
Barrier-Free

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
621 E. Main Street • 897-5936  
[www.lowellumc.com](http://www.lowellumc.com)  
WORSHIP.....8:30 & 10:30 a.m.  
SUNDAY SCHOOL.....9:30 a.m.  
Rev. Rick Blunt  
Barrier-free entrance

**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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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  
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11:00 A.M. ....Worship  
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# Lowell area schools varsity winter sports schedule

This page brought to you by **the lowell ledger**

## Boys Varsity Basketball

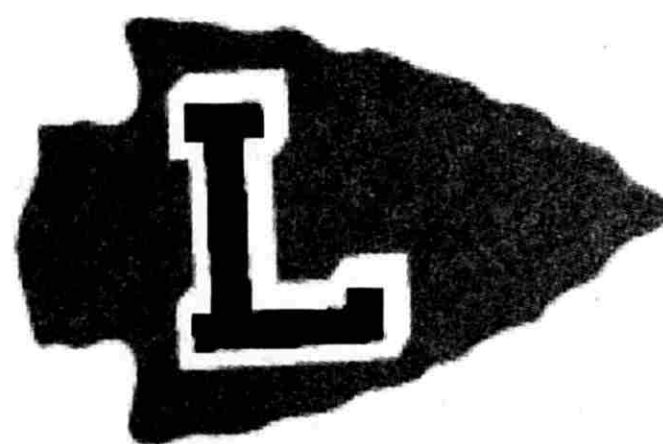
\* Indicates a home game at LHS Main Gym. Games begin at 7:30 p.m. unless indicated.

- 1/5 Lakewood\*
- 1/8 at Creston
- 1/12 at Union
- 1/15 Grand Rapids Christian\*
- 1/19 Forest Hills Central\*
- 1/22 at East Grand Rapids
- 1/29 at Northview
- 2/2 Greenville\*
- 2/5 Creston\*
- 2/9 at Kenowa Hills
- 2/12 at Grand Rapids Christian
- 2/16 at Reeths Puffer
- 2/19 East Grand Rapids\*
- 2/23 Mona Shores\*
- 2/26 Northview\*
- 3/2 Thornapple Kellogg\*
- 3/4 at Forest Hills Eastern

## Girls Varsity Basketball

\* Indicates a home game at LHS Main Gym. Games begin at 6 p.m. p.m. unless indicated.

- 1/8 at Creston
- 1/12 at 7:30 p.m. Union\*
- 1/15 Grand Rapids Christian\*
- 1/19 at 7:30 p.m. at Forest Hills Central
- 1/22 at East Grand Rapids
- 1/29 at Northview
- 2/2 Greenville\*
- 2/5 Creston\*
- 2/9 at 7:30 p.m. Kenowa Hills\*
- 2/12 at Grand Rapids Christian
- 2/16 at 7:30 p.m. Reeths Puffer\*
- 2/19 East Grand Rapids\*
- 2/23 at 7:30 p.m. at Mona Shores
- 2/26 Northview\*



## Varsity Bowling

\* Indicates a home game at Lowell Lanes. Games begin at 3:30 p.m. unless indicated.

- 1/4 at Reeths Puffer
- 1/5 Forest Hills Eastern\*
- 1/6 Union\*
- 1/9 Pre-conference at Creston (time TBA)
- 1/11 at Kenowa Hills
- 1/13 Creston\*
- 1/14 Grand Rapids Christian\*
- 1/16 Reeths Puffer Tournament (time TBA)
- 1/20 at Northview
- 1/23 at 9 a.m. Union Tournament
- 1/27 Forest Hills Central\*
- 1/28 NorthPointe Christian\*
- 2/1 Mona Shores\*
- 2/3 at Creston
- 2/8 at Grand Rapids Christian
- 2/9 at NorthPointe Christian
- 2/15 Northview\*
- 2/20 Conference at Northview (time TBA)

## Boys Varsity Wrestling

\* Indicates a home meet at LHS Main Gym. Matches begin at 6 p.m. unless indicated.

- 1/6 at 7 p.m. at Greenville
- 1/9 at 10 a.m. New Lothrop Invitational
- 1/13 at 7 p.m. at Creston
- 1/20 at 7 p.m. at Grand Rapids Christian
- 1/23 at 12 p.m. Lakeshore Tournament
- 1/27 at 7 p.m. at East Grand Rapids
- 2/3 at 7 p.m. Northview\*
- 2/5 Conference at Northview (time TBA)

## Varsity Gymnastics

\* Indicates a home meet at LHS Auxiliary Gym. Meets begin at 7 p.m. unless indicated.

- 1/9 at 10 a.m. Rockford Invitational
- 1/11 at 6:30 p.m. Portage Northern\*
- 1/13 Kenowa Hills\*
- 1/20 Forest Hills Northern\*
- 1/23 at 10 a.m. Mona Shores Invitational
- 1/27 at Rockford
- 1/30 at 10 a.m. Kenowa Hills Invitational
- 2/3 at East Kentwood
- 2/8 Mona Shores\*
- 2/20 Conference at Rockford (time TBA)

## Varsity Hockey

\* Indicates a home game at Kentwood Ice Arena.

- 1/8 at 9 p.m. Northview\*
- 1/9 at 3:30 p.m. West Ottawa\*
- 1/15 at 9 p.m. at South Christian
- 1/16 at 7:30 p.m. at Grand Rapids Christian
- 1/22 at 9:30 p.m. Durand\*
- 1/23 at 4 p.m. Wayland\*
- 1/29 at 8 p.m. at Northview
- 1/30 at 4 p.m. SWMHSHL Showcase
- 2/1 at 5 p.m. Creston\*
- 2/6 Kalamazoo Blades Tournament (time TBA)
- 2/10 at 7 p.m. at Kenowa Hills
- 2/13 at 3:30 p.m. Portage Northern\*
- 2/19 at 9 p.m. South Christian\*
- 2/20 at 4 p.m. Holt\*
- 2/26 at 8 p.m. City League at Griffs Ice House
- 2/27 at 5 p.m. at West Ottawa

## Competitive Cheerleading

\* Indicates a home meet.

- 1/9 at 10 a.m. Cedar Springs Invitational
- 1/14 at 6 p.m. at East Kentwood
- 1/23 at 12 p.m. at Lakewood
- 1/27 at 6:30 p.m. at Reeths Puffer
- 2/3 at 6:30 p.m. at Kenowa Hills
- 2/6 at 1 p.m. Lowell Invitational\*
- 2/10 at 6:30 p.m. OK White/Black Meet\*
- 2/13 Conference at Northview (time TBA)
- 2/20 at 11 a.m. Districts at Mt. Pleasant

For More Information on School Athletics or for Directions to Area Schools visit: [www.lowell.k12.mi.us](http://www.lowell.k12.mi.us) Under Athletics.

# Couple finds new energy volunteering

Lowell residents Gary and Linda Gidley say they have found a new way to "get our energy level up" — through volunteer work each week with second and third graders at Cherry Creek Elementary. The Gidleys, otherwise known around Cherry Creek as "Mr. and Mrs. G," are sharing their love of reading three days each week for nearly two hours a session. Students visit the Gidleys in groups of eight for thirty minutes and spend the time practicing ways to read words faster.

Volunteering at Cherry Creek came about after the couple decided to join Experience Corps, a volunteer program through Kent County's Gerontology Network. The program pairs adults with children for reading assistance. Typically, volunteers are placed in Grand Rapids Public Schools, but the Gidley's local connection made the match with Cherry Creek a natural fit. The Gidleys find that volunteering at Cherry Creek provides them with lots of pleasant dinner conversation. "The children are so sweet



Gary and Linda Gidley enjoy helping out with Cherry Creek students.

and we look forward to seeing them each day. It gives us a lot to talk about at night," Linda remarked. Shelli Otten, Cherry Creek Principal, noted that the students also look forward to the sessions with the Gidleys and that teachers are seeing increased reading scores for students in the Gidley's groups. Gary says that, "We are great believers in reading. As readers ourselves, we know what opportunities it can give you."

# Quit smoking, continued

tips or considering phone counseling. Maybe you need to find the right people to support you in this goal before you just jump in.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (the CDC), taking a class increases your chances of quitting smoking by 70 percent. The class addresses such topics as nicotine addiction, the role of medications and nicotine replacement products, weight gain, nutrition and relapse prevention. Participants develop their own individual plan to quit. The class is facilitated by a certified tobacco treatment specialist and features former smokers and past graduates as guest speakers.

Classes are small enough to give each participant individual guidance, no matter what their motivation is. "Motivation is, scientifically speaking, a series of small behaviors that lead to success," says Norcross. "And there are ways to enhance your chances of success: Track your progress by recording or charting the behavior. Reward your success - reinforce yourself for each step or perhaps create a contract for yourself or with a loved one to keep your focus. You may need to arrange your environment to help, rather than hinder you - limit your exposure to high-risk situations and create frequent reminders in your environment."

**Happy Birthday**  
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### DRAFT SYNOPSIS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOWELL CITY COUNCIL MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2009

Mayor Hodges and Mayor Emeritus Shores called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2009 as corrected and the accounts payable was approved.

Motion to approve the resolution collecting the summer property taxes for 2010 for Kent Intermediate School District at no fee but able to keep the interest earned during the bank deposit before distributing these monies.

Motion to approve a three year extension (July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2012) of the Lease agreement with the Rotary Club of Lowell for the second floor City Hall meeting space as presented.

Motion to establish a public hearing for Monday, January 4, 2010 to consider the Federal Community Development Block Grant for 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 allocations of funds.

Motion to approve the Northeast Reservoir Tank Cleaning and Drain line improvements change order as presented.

Motion to approve the 2010 City Council Meeting Dates as follows:

JAN.	4	JULY	6
		(TUES) Independence Day	
	19 (TUES) Martin Luther King Day		19
FEB	1	AUGUST	2
	16 (TUES) Presidents Day		16
MARCH	1	SEPTEMBER	7 (TUES) Labor Day
	15		20
APRIL	5	OCTOBER	4
	19		18
MAY	3	NOVEMBER	1
	17		15
JUNE	7	DECEMBER	6
	21		20

Recognition and honoring our Mayor Emeritus Jeanne Shores for her 28 years of service to the City of Lowell.

Motion to adjourn at 8:08 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, January 4, 2010.

Complete minutes will be available after approved on January 4, 2010 on the City's web page at [www.ci.lowell.mi.us](http://www.ci.lowell.mi.us) or at City Hall.

Betty R. Morlock, City Clerk



obituaries

ROTH

Richard "Rick" John Roth, aged 55, of Lowell, passed away Tuesday, December 22, 2009. He was preceded in death by his father, Dick Roth; mother, Nita Baker; step dad, Red Baker; and sister, Vickie "Tootie" Comdure. He is survived by his daughter, Ryan (Mike) Golczynski; grandson, Adam; brothers, Mike Roth and Bryan Roth; and sister, Brenda (Eric) Traetz. Rick was a volunteer fire fighter. He worked 25 years at the Lowell U.S. Post Office. Funeral services were held Monday, December 28, at Roth-Gerst Funeral Chapel with Rev. Terry Tessari of First Congregational Church of Lowell officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to Huntington Bank of Lowell - Adam Golczynski College Fund or Hospice of Michigan, 989 Spaulding Ave. SE, Ada, MI 49301.



**ANDERSON**  
Kevin Joseph Anderson, aged 29, of Lowell, passed away unexpectedly, Sunday, December 27, 2009. He is survived by his parents, Daryl and Barbara Anderson; brother, Brian (Becky) Anderson; sister, Melissa (Roger) Pate; nieces and nephews, Mitchell, Kyle and Dylan Anderson, Nicholas and Maddie Pate; many aunts, uncles and cousins. Memorial Mass will be offered Thursday at 11 a.m. at St. Patrick Church, 4351 Parnell Ave. NE, with Rev. Mark Peacock presiding. Visitation will be Wednesday 6-8 p.m. at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell and Thursday 10-11 a.m. at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the family.

**GIRLS SOFTBALL CLINIC**  
Lowell Arrow Dynamics Softball Club is holding a softball skills clinic for girls ages 10 years old and younger. The clinic will cover all basic softball skills from beginners to advanced.  
The clinic begins Friday January 8, 2010 at 7:00 pm at Bushnell Elementary Gymnasium. This will be an 8-week clinic with a cost of \$40.00 and includes a t-shirt.  
For more information call 366-3783

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate  
File No. 09-187,832-DE  
Estate of EUGENE HORACE BARNABY.  
Date of birth: April 19, 1922

TO ALL CREDITORS: NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, EUGENE HORACE BARNABY, who lived at 6474 Cascade SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan died August 26, 2009.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to MARY ELLEN TRUSZKOWSKI, 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.  
12/28/2009

Daniel Blaw (P37283)  
1515 Michigan NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
616-336-5098

Mary Ellen Truskowski  
6474 Cascade SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
616-957-2289

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To vote on the current poll question go to: [thelowelledger.com](http://thelowelledger.com)

last week's poll result:  
Which public figure were you most disappointed with in 2009?  
25% Tiger Woods  
50% John Edwards  
25% John & Kate  
0% David Letterman  
Apparently no one is upset with Letterman.

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ELEMENTARY MENU  
Week of Jan. 4, 2010  
MON: Hot dog on bun (chicken patty on bun also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), fresh mini carrots, assorted fruit, milk.  
TUES: Belgian Waffle sticks w/syrup or cereal w/ graham crackers & scrambled eggs, fresh fruit/ applesauce, milk.  
WED: Beef & cheese nachos (rib BQ on bun also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), tossed salad, pineapple, milk.  
THURS: Pepperoni pizza (burrito w/cheese sauce also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), broccoli, cinnamon apple slices, milk.  
FRI: Chef Boyardee ravioli w/cinnamon roll (fishwich w/cheese on bun also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), fresh tossed salad, assorted fruit, milk.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

The Lowell Charter Township Board will hold a public hearing to consider comments for the application to the Kent County Community Development Block Grant Fund for the East Fulton Street Pedestrian Sidewalk Construction Project.

The hearing will be held as follows:  
WHEN: MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 2010  
TIME: 7:00 P.M.  
WHERE: LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL  
2910 ALDEN NASH SE  
LOWELL MI 49331

Linda S. Regan, Clerk  
Lowell Charter Township



classifieds

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HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER - Nice Ada walkout ranch, 3 BR/2bath. Large detached 2 stall garage, lot 100' X 325'. 633 Alta Dale, \$155,000, 616-881-2623.  
CHIHUAHUA PUPPIES - \$100 - \$400, variety of colors, 616-693-2806 or 269-838-2398.  
BED FRAME W/SIMMONDS PILLOWTOP MATTRESS - full size, best mattress they make, 3 years old. Paid \$1,250, asking \$500. Call 897-8327.  
UGG'S BOOTS - womans size 10, never worn, \$90 obo. 897-7883.  
MATTRESSES - Large selection of name brand mattresses starting at \$79. All sizes. Never used. Call 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160.  
KEYCARDS MAKE GREAT GIFTS! - Help support the LHS Academic Boosters & save money at the places you shop in Lowell and in Grand Rapids. Cards are \$15. Stop by & get your card today. Lowell Ledger 105 N. Broadway. Cash or check only please.  
FREE AD! - Place & pay for an ad in the Buyers Guide & Lowell Ledger for 3 weeks & receive the 4th week FREE! You must mention the special in order to receive this offer. Valid only with new ads, and must be paid for when ad is placed. Call 897-9555, fax 897-4809 or email to: [classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com](mailto:classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com), Lowell, Ph. 897-9261.  
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HIGH EFFICIENCY - Central Boiler Classic Outdoor Wood Furnace, 25 year warranty, Dual fuel models. Maxim Corn & Pellet burner also available. Call today SOS your "Stocking Dealer" Dutton, MI 616-554-8669 or 616-915-5061.  
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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/floor-to-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/plenty of space to play. Only a 3-minute walk to historic downtown Lowell. No smoking please. 312-203-7350.  
LOWELL MOBILE HOME PARK - Under new management. Nice 1, 2 & 3 bedroom trailers for rent. Rent from \$350-\$550. For info call George at 616-754-0276 or 616-813-8041.  
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CENTER COURT APT - 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.  
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**lost**  
LOST CAT - Corner of Hudson & Elizabeth. Four white claws & belly, gray & white tiger stripes & white spot on top of right shoulder. Check your sheds & garages. 897-7976 or 821-3203.

**misc.**  
NEW YEAR'S EVE FAMILY PARTY! - Bowl, skate, laser tag, food, prizes & fun! 7 p.m. - 1 a.m. Check out: [www.Rollaway.Biz](http://www.Rollaway.Biz) & click current events. 897-0001.  
FUND RAISING MADE SIMPLE! - Make money while having fun. Check out: [www.Rollaway.Biz](http://www.Rollaway.Biz)

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NEED TREES CUT OR TRIMMED? - Over 13 years experience. Call Nick at 616-558-9817.  
WOOD GASIFICATION - Boilers use half the wood as our competitors. 85% plus efficiency. Boilers in stock. [www.woodboilers.com](http://www.woodboilers.com), 616-893-2264 Nate Kinsman or 616-292-8801 Derrick Borup.

**services**  
HANDY REPAIR SERVICE - All kinds of service work: locks rekeyed, deadbolts installed, screen & window repair. Call Bob Ford, 299-3198.  
SNOWPLOWING - Gravel accounts welcome. Seasonal or per time. Salting available. Serving Ada & Lowell area. Call Gilchrist Concrete Construction, 616-893-1569.  
BE HEALTHY - HAPPY YOGA CLASSES - Tu. & Th., 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., Fr. 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. 901 W. Main. \$6 per class. 616-893-5661. [hammocklearning.com](http://hammocklearning.com)

**services**  
LITTLE MONKEY'S CHILDCARE - accepting full time/part time before and/or after school children. In town, close to schools. Beginning of year special 20% off full time only until April. Space is limited. Call for information, 421-8182.  
NEED SNOW REMOVAL OFF YOUR ROOF OR ROOF REPAIR? - Call 616-477-1566. Insured, reasonable price. [flippo@sprint.blackberry.net](mailto:flippo@sprint.blackberry.net)  
LAMINATING SERVICE AVAILABLE - Next day service. Drop off & pieces will be available by 9 a.m. the next day. Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

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Community Calendar

**PLEASE NOTE** - Coming Events are for non-profit organizations. They are ran on a space available basis & are not guaranteed to 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. All Coming Events or changes to coming events should be submitted by fax: 897-4809, email: [classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com](mailto:classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com), by mail: PO Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or in person: 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

**LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL GALLERY HOURS** - Tues. - Fri., 12-6 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m.; Monday & mornings by appt.; 149 S. Hudson. Visit [www.lowellartsouncil.org](http://www.lowellartsouncil.org) or call 897-8545.

**LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM** - open Tuesday, Saturday & Sunday - 1-4 p.m.; Thursday: 1-8 p.m. Families: \$10, individual \$3; ages 5-17 \$1.50; members free. 897-7688.

**ST. MARY'S PREGNANCY CRISIS CENTER** - 402 Amity. Mondays: 5:30-7:30 p.m. Non-denominational. Help for pregnant women/adolescents in need. Provides support, referrals, food, clothing/infant items. Lowell area. 897-9393.

**ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES** - Sign up at Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington, Sat., Jan. 9 a.m. - noon. You may also order online using your debit or credit card. Go to [www.angelfoodministries.com](http://www.angelfoodministries.com). Call Esther 897-7395.

**ADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY** - second Saturday of every month at 10:30 a.m. at the Averill Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley, Ada.

**COFFEE WITH THE LOWELL CITY COUNCIL** - First Saturday each month, 8 a.m. - 10 a.m. at Chamber office, 113 Riverwalk Plaza. Concerns & ideas welcome.

**LOWELL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB** - meets the 2nd Saturday at Flat River Outreach Ministries, 11535 E. Fulton, 9 a.m. social gathering; 10 a.m. meeting. LARC sponsors 145.27 MHz area radio repeater system.

**FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES THRIFT STORE** - is open Wed. - Fri., 10-6 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at 11535 Fulton St. E. Thrift Shop, 897-8260, Food Pantry 897-8260, Emergency Services, 897-8260.

**ALPHA WOMEN'S CENTER** - 2251 W. Main. Hours: Mon. 11-5 p.m.; Tues. 6-9 p.m.; Thurs. 10-6 p.m. 987-9533. Diapers, formula, clothing & free pregnancy testing available.

**AVERILL HISTORICAL MUSEUM OF ADA** - 7144 Headley, is open every Friday, Saturday & Sunday from 1 - 4 p.m. Also by appointment. 676-9346.

**ALTO LIBRARY HOURS**: Tues. & Wed., 12-8 p.m.; Mon. & Sat., 9:30-1:30 p.m.; Thurs., 1-5 p.m. Info., call 647-3820.

**ENGLERHARDT LIBRARY HOURS** - Mon.-Wed., noon - 8 p.m.; Thurs. & Fri., 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sat., 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. 647-3920.

**LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL GALLERY HOURS** - Tues. - Fri., 12-6 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m.; Monday & mornings by appt.; 149 S. Hudson. Visit [www.lowellartsouncil.org](http://www.lowellartsouncil.org) or call 897-8545.

**ST. PATRICK PLAYGROUP** - Thursdays 10 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. St. Patrick's preschool room. Stories, games, crafts, music & snack. Parents with young children welcome. Call Jennifer Post, 897-0251 or Sally Goffer, 863-4952 with any questions.

**STORYTIME AT THE SARANAC PUBLIC LIBRARY** - Tuesdays at 10 a.m.

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

**BLUEGRASS JAM** - 1st and 3rd Thursdays. Country Korner of Alto, 6077 Linfield. Call 868-6370.

**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 ADDICTIONS SUPPORT GROUP** - Socialization & peer support for recovering addicts. Meets every Thursday at 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Raya 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.

**LA LECHE LEAGUE OF ADA, CASCADE, LOWELL** - 2nd Thurs. 7 p.m. meeting. Support for pregnant/breast-feeding women. Church in Ada. 752-8300.

**AMERICAN LEGION CLARK-ELLIS POST 152** - meets the fourth Monday at 3100 Alden Nash S.E. at 7:30 p.m.

**ALTO AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY** - meets the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Alto American Legion Post.

**V.E.W. POST #8303** - meets the first Monday at 7 p.m. at 3116 Alden Nash S.E.

**LOWELL SHOWBOAT GARDEN CLUB** - meets the 3rd Monday in the Church of the Nazarene Fellowship Hall, 211 N. Washington St. at 7 p.m.



# Red Arrow SPORTS

## 2009 sports many wonderful high school moments

by Thad Kraus

A new year being shuffled in this week makes for an appropriate time to remember some of the moments that authored the sporting memories that are 2009.

We start with spring. **Richelle Kimble** completed her Lowell athletic career setting new standards in the pole vault.

The senior set a new school record in the state meet, clearing 11-8, surpassing her previous mark of 11-7.

Kimble finished second in the state for a second consecutive year.

Teammate, **Kallie Holzhueter**, eclipsed Lisa Wojciakowski's 800-meter record of 2:25 with a school record time of 2:24.2.

The sophomore also surpassed Sarah Swab's school record in the 1600-meter run with a time of 5:23.

For the first time since 1972-73, the **Lowell baseball team** won back-to-back conference titles.

The Red Arrows did it in dominating fashion as it clinched its second championship in as many years with a 14-0 shutout against East Grand Rapids.

Lowell sophomore tennis player **Kelly Trapp** (22-6) upends South Christian's top ranked singles player Andrea Meyerling.

Red Arrow tennis players, **Erin Brechbiel** and **Caitlin Baker** surprise the first flight tennis team from league champion, EGR.

**Megan Willemstein**, Lowell's fourth singles, also added a big win against the Pioneers.

The Lowell girls' tennis team received the Michigan High School Team Coaches Association's All-Academic Team award. The Red Arrows posted a team accumulative grade-point-average of 3.92.

The fall season will be a memorable one for achievement on and off the fields of play.

None more than the excitement of a **third state championship in football**, still fresh in the minds of most.

Lowell was dominating in its 27-6 win over Inkster.

Gabe Dean and Austin Graham combined for 290

yards rushing while the Red Arrow defense held Inkster to just 32 yards on the ground and 166 overall.

It was Ford Field, the season's final game and no one wanted to miss it as evidenced by the **3,000-plus Lowell fans** who attended the game.

The football program started its year with its second Pink Arrow contest.

The Lowell community event raised \$115,000 in net profit toward the awareness and fight against breast cancer.

But there was more!

Through wondrous community support roughly another \$200,000 (in-kind and cash) was raised for the renovation of a Lowell

Gilda's Club satellite office.

**Lowell's volleyball team** hosted the first-ever outdoor sanctioned high school volleyball game. The Pink Arrows didn't disappoint the 3,000 or so fans packed into Red Arrow Stadium as they defeated Forest Hills Northern.

**The boys' tennis team** earned the All-Academic award for its cumulative 3.41 grade-point average.

The 2009 season also saw the Red Arrow netters defeat Grand Rapids Christian for the first time in school history.

**Torsten Boss** is honored with the first-ever Metro PCS Player of the Year award.

The winter season is highlighted by **Lowell's**

**third state championship in wrestling.** Lowell defeated Oxford in the Division 2 championship match at Kellogg Arena.

**Lowell girls' bowling team** earns its second consecutive O-K White conference championship. The Red Arrows also qualified for the state bowling tournament.

**Liberty Clark** and **Tom Alberts Jr.** qualified for the state individual bowling tournament.

Gymnasts, **Kelsey Teft** and **Richelle Kimble**, qualify for state.

Kimble qualified on the beam and in the vault exercise. Teft qualified on vault and in the floor exercise.

## Eagles skate past Lowell

Lowell/Caledonia's hockey squad has completed the first portion of their schedule with a 1-6 record.

Lowell/Caledonia started out with two very competitive games in which they lost to Bay Area Thunder 6-5 in overtime and then 3-2 to Tier I Forest Hills NE. Other non-league losses have

come to Kentwood, Milford, Waterford-Kettering and Muskegon Catholic Central.

Lowell/Caledonia has played two league games so far splitting the contests. It defeated the Unity Knights 4-3. League favorite Grand Rapids/Caledonia a 5-0 loss.

The L/C squad, with a full lineup for the first time this season, plays seven

league games in its next nine contests. The stretch begins after the holiday break with Northview and West Ottawa at home (Kentwood Arena) on Jan. 8 and 9.

The following weekend Lowell/Caledonia takes on South Christian on Jan. 15 and Grand Rapids Christian on Jan. 16 at Jolly Roger.

## Someone had to say it!



Thad Kraus

Grand Valley State football coach Chuck Martin turned down the previous two offers tendered him by Brian Kelly. It appears Kelly's third offer, this one to join him in South Bend, will not be turned away by Martin.

That surprises no one and it shouldn't. With success in South Bend, Martin's next stop will be a head coaching position at a big time Division I school.

Martin is leaving to become the defensive backs' coach at Notre Dame.

As for Grand Valley, it must now find a replacement. Not an easy task. However, think back a few years ago when Kelly left, there was hand-ringing then, but how did things work out for the Lakers?

Matt Mitchell, an assistant for six seasons and defensive coordinator the last two seasons at Grand Valley, is the leading candidate to succeed Martin.

Martin went 74-7 in six seasons as head coach and led the Lakers to national championships in 2005 and 2006 and a runner-up finish this past season. He was an assistant for four seasons under Brian Kelly at Grand Valley (GVSU), defensive

backs' coach when the Lakers won the title in 2002 and defensive coordinator when they repeated in 2003.

Let's not forget, Martin has taken GVSU to national prominence. GVSU won't have to go looking, coaches, good ones at that, will come a calling. That doesn't ensure

success, but it definitely helps. In addition, GVSU is now viewed as a springboard into Division I coaching.

With two coaches from West Michigan, who have achieved a high level of success, now in South Bend and who have the eyes and ears of Michigan high school football players, what are the long-term recruiting effects? Are you listening Michigan State? The Spartans recruiting base is regional, how will Notre Dame's hiring affect MSU?

**Bowl Bonanza:** A college football bowl update. I have shocking news to report. After 10 games, with 24 to play, this sports writer isn't on the bottom looking up at the rest of the field. It's hard to believe.

I have picked five of 10 correctly. Dale Dawson leads the pack with seven. There are a couple at four, a few more at three and one at two.

The prize is a \$50 gift card to Larkin's.

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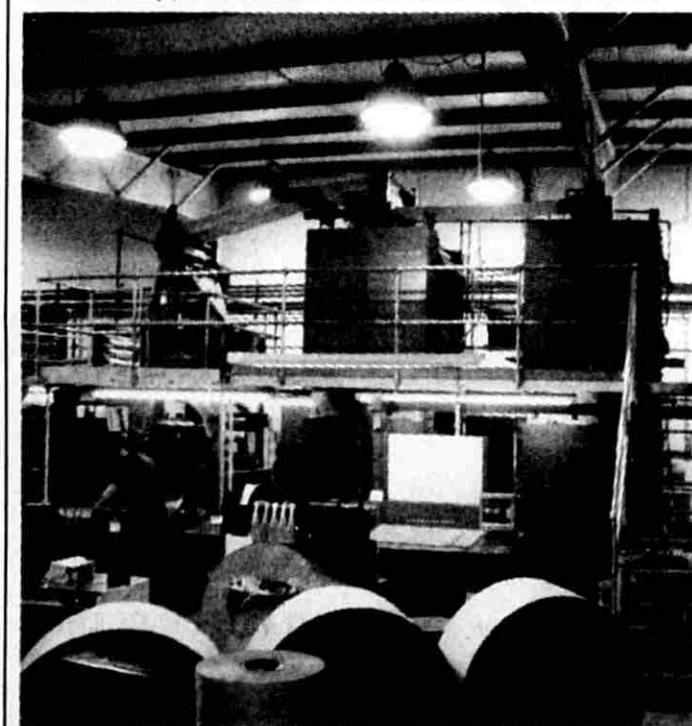
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the lowell ledger

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<b>BATTLE CREEK snapper NEWS</b>	Distribution <b>52,691</b> Published every Thursday
<b>The Reminder</b> The People Paper	Distribution <b>36,000</b> Published every Saturday
<b>ad-visor</b> The People Paper	Distribution <b>19,065</b> Published every Wednesday
<b>buyers guide</b> The People Paper	Distribution <b>14,075</b> Published every Saturday
<b>The Sun and News</b>	Distribution <b>13,160</b> Published every Saturday
<b>news</b>	Distribution <b>7,480</b> Published every Saturday
<b>THE HASTINGS BANNER</b>	Distribution <b>7,000</b> Published every Thursday
<b>MAPLE VALLEY news</b>	Distribution <b>4,530</b> Published every Saturday
<b>The Lowell Ledger</b>	Distribution <b>3,000</b> Published every Wednesday
<b>CHRONICLE</b>	Distribution <b>2,000</b> Published every Monday
<b>Total Weekly Circulation: 159,001</b>	

*2009 A Year In Review*



# The 2009 Elliot Awards

With a little laughter we offer our lighthearted end of the year awards

**Better Late Than Never Award** - to Betty Morlock for her Tuesday notices.

**Retread Award** - to Bill Flueger for retiring over and over.

**Marquee Award** - to Mike Larkin for exposing elderly Ledger employee's ages.

**Conditioner Award** - to Marilyn McClure for keeping the salon tangle-free.

**Shaker and Salt Award** - to Rodger Garner for his summer Buffet parties



**Pink Pantie Award** - this year the coach shares his award with Perry Beachum.

**The Coonskin Cap Award** - to Emma (P-Dog) Palova for her fashion sense.

**Group Rate Award** - to Tiger Woods and David Letterman so they can appear on the Dr. Phil and Oprah shows.

**You're Not That Important Award** - to the people who don't know enough to hang up their cell phones when entering a business or driving a car.

**The Beaded Door Award** - to Cliff Yankovich for remodeling his bathroom.

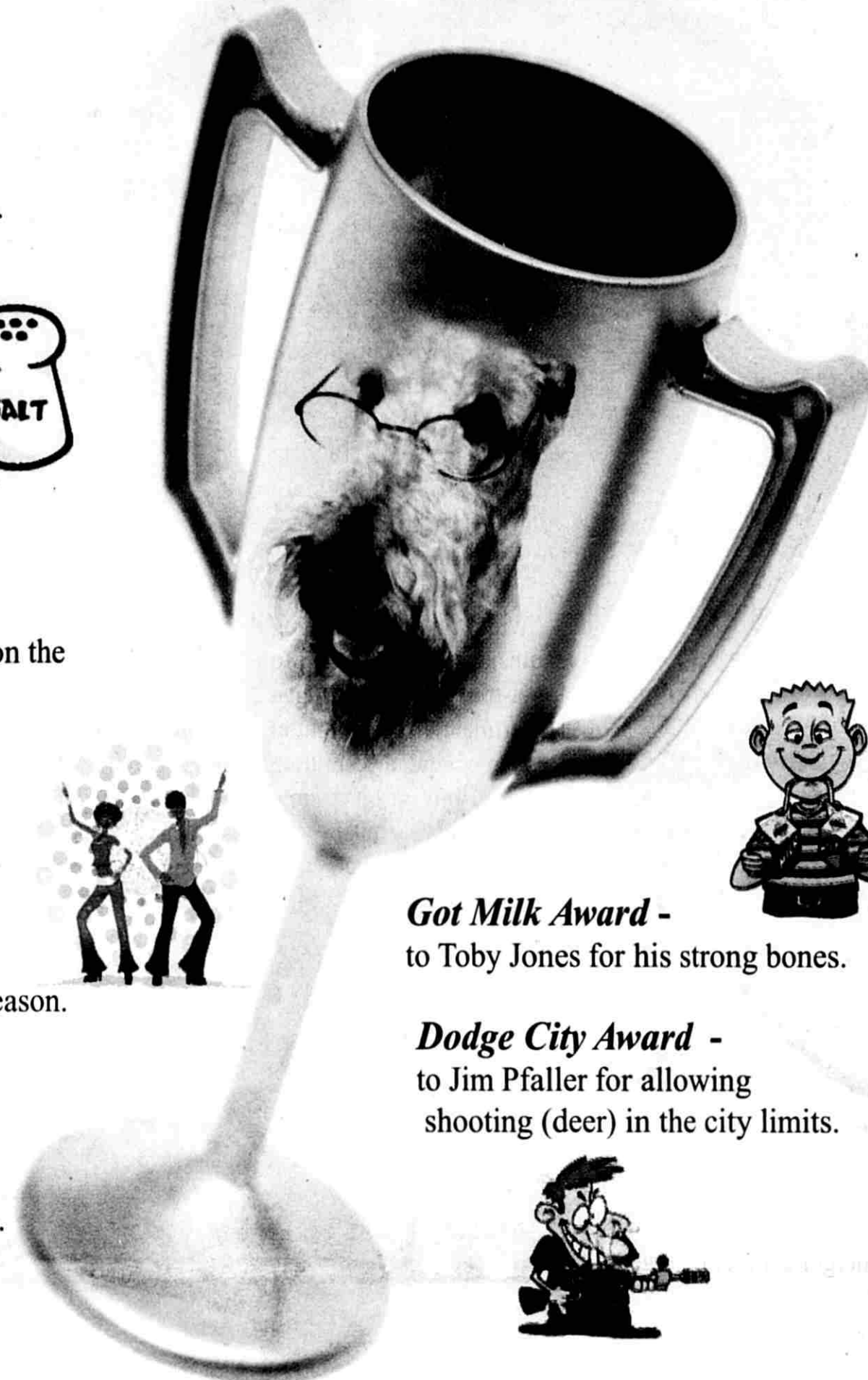
**Pacifist Award** - to Scott Kooistra for allowing the deer to live during hunting season.

**A DVD of the movie 'Wedding Crashers'** - to the couple that invited themselves to Obama's first state dinner.

**The Seal It Award** - To Joe Biden - Comes with a three-year supply of duct tape.

**A One Way Airline Ticket** - to Jennifer Granholm for all of her hard work and a free ticket for the seat next to her for Pete Hoekstra (includes booster chair.)

**The Get Along Award** - To the U.S. Congress. Includes a CD of the single "Why Can't We Be Friends"



**Got Milk Award** - to Toby Jones for his strong bones.

**Dodge City Award** - to Jim Pfaller for allowing shooting (deer) in the city limits.

**Come Back Tomorrow Award** - To Tim McCormick for his prompt ad copy.

## JANUARY

Looking ahead to 2009, community leaders in Lowell expressed their hopes for a better year while bidding farewell to a year full of upheaval.

A major change at the city council level took place in July of 2008 when mayor Jeanne Shores



Jim Hodges steps in to fill Jeanne Shores' mayor shoes.



James Hinton is the new interim chief.

was hospitalized and had undergone a major surgery. That was only the beginning of Hodges stepping in to fill Shores' mayor shoes for a long haul.

At the Lowell Police Department, Sgt. James Hinton took over as the interim chief replacing

police chief Jim Valentine. Valentine has retired and he has accepted a director position at the Ionia County Central Dispatch.



Ron Wenger is the new fair board president.

The new fair board president Ron Wenger is facing an exciting year. This year, the fair will celebrate its 75th anniversary. "We are going to have the biggest and best fair yet," said Wenger.

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

The group consisting of



Lowell Eagle Scouts helped Sam Yeiter celebrate his 91st birthday at the American Legion-VFW Hall on Friday, Jan. 3. Yeiter was the guest of many who turned out to help him celebrate his 91st birthday.

representatives from three counties, Ionia, Kent and Montcalm, made a \$50,000 down payment towards the purchase from the Meijer Foundation to continue the option to buy.

Both trails will connect into the existing trail systems in Ionia and Greenville.

In a historical moment Barack Obama was sworn in as the 44th president of the United States Tuesday during a high-noon inauguration ceremony on Capitol Hill.



Barack Obama pictured at an appearance in Grand Rapids last fall.

A crowd of a million people packed the National Mall to witness the event in frigid temperatures with a wind chill of 14 degrees. Many traveled thousands of miles from all over the



Christine Simmons at an energy conservation workshop.

country to Washington D.C. to watch history in the making.

No more dust, cobwebs, squeaking floors and dark corners, instead elegant condos with tall ceilings and French doors have emerged from what used to be the famous Flat River Antique Mall.

The old building at 216 West Main Street has been completely revitalized and restored to new life.

After weeks of major snowfalls, the city and chamber officials encourage residents and business owners to keep on shoveling sidewalks in front of their properties for pedestrian safety.

State Rep. Dave Hildenbrand took the oath of office at a Capitol ceremony beginning his third term representing part of Kent County in the Michigan House of Representatives.

The second workshop on energy conservation held at the Chamber of Commerce last week outlined tips for cost savings over an extended period of time.

Jim White, consultant for Lowell Area Schools, explained the entire effort to save on energy is a matter of changing habits.

"Conservation is using less energy," he said, "efficiency is doing things better or something new."

**FEBRUARY**  
A \$6 million YMCA facility could be built off Alden Nash if the money is

raised prior to the start of the project.

Over the last few years the Wege Land Committee, consisting of the townships, city, Lowell Area Schools and the YMCA, has been exploring options for the best use of land located on Alden Nash.

A feasibility study has shown some potential interest for a new Lowell YMCA.

A proposed ordinance may allow hunting in the city with bow and arrow on large parcels. The ordinance amendment came under much fire during the city discussions creating a rift in the council. The effort was spearheaded by mayor pro tem James Pfaller, while council woman Sharon Ellison headed the opposition. Acting police chief James Hinton presented the proposal Monday. "My main concern is public safety," he said.

For 26 years, Christine Simmons has done a little bit of everything at the Lowell Light and Power. She started working for the cable TV company and most recently ended up as accounting and

Walgreens has broken ground in Lowell Township on the corner of Fulton Street and Bowes Road. The construction is slated for completion by late summer or fall.

John Stencel, an avid volunteer in the community, has been named the Person



Mary Sawka, Amanda Geiger, Christine Simmons, Gail McQueen and Kathy Kalm pose Friday with retiring Simmons.

administrative assistant doing accounts payable, receivables and billing.

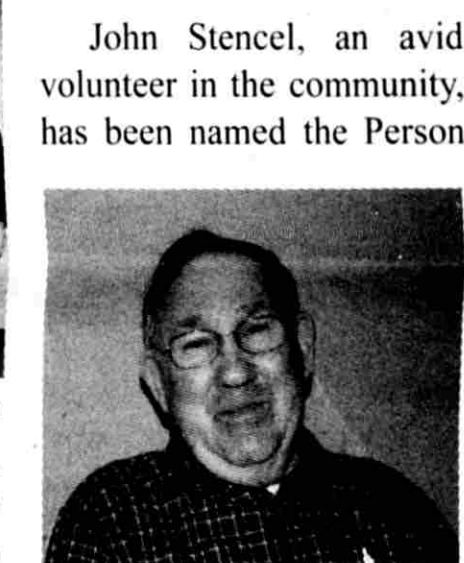
Help is on its way to families impacted by cancer. Thanks to the fundraising efforts of the Lowell High School football team and the entire community last fall, monies are available for disbursement.

The community piece of the Pink Arrow Project that has raised a total of \$93,000 includes providing resources and support for families in need.

Three buildings located on the north side of the bridge in downtown Lowell may be demolished, if their owners fail to repair them within ninety days.

"The foundations are deteriorating," said city manager Dave Pasquale. "The buildings were built over the river; they're in poor shape. We have safety concerns."

John Stencel, an avid volunteer in the community, has been named the Person



John Stencel

## Top 10 Music & Movies of the Decade

In no particular order - we offer these suggestions

Jon Jacobs:

**Movies:**

1. Slumdog Millionaire
2. Charlie Wilson's War
3. Gladiator
4. Lost in Translation
5. Big Fish
6. The Departed
7. Almost Famous
8. No Country for Old Men
9. Munich
10. The Royal Tenenbaums



**Songs:**

1. Rehab - Amy Winehouse
2. Beautiful Day - U2
3. Hurt - Johnny Cash
4. Clocks - Coldplay
5. Yellow - Coldplay
6. The Rising - Bruce Springsteen
7. Boulevard Of Broken Dreams - Green Day
8. Lose Yourself - Eminem
9. Viva La Vida - Coldplay
10. Mr. Brightside - The Killers

**Best Miniseries:**

1. Band of Brothers
2. John Adams

(Like we asked him)

Thad Kraus:

**Movies:**

1. Gran Torino
2. Walk the Line
3. The Green Mile
4. Pursuit of Happyness
5. Reservation Road
6. Shrek
7. Cinderella Man
8. Million Dollar Baby
9. Lost in Translation
10. 3:10 to Yuma

**Songs:**

1. When Loves Comes to Town - U2/B.B. King
2. Time of your Life - Green Day
3. All Summer Long - Kid Rock
4. Riding with the King - Eric Clapton/B.B. King
5. What Am I to You? - Norah Jones
6. It's Five O'clock Somewhere - Alan Jackson/Jimmy Buffett
7. Bubbly - Colbie Caillat
8. Be Here to Love Me - Norah Jones
9. Bama Breeze - Jimmy Buffett
10. Goodbye Earl - Dixie Chicks

Cathy Acker:

**Movies:**

1. Shooter
2. Gran Torino
3. Seabiscuit
4. Pirates of the Caribbean
5. National Treasure
6. Best in Show
7. Signs
8. The Italian Job
9. Shrek
10. Finding Nemo

**Songs:**

1. It's Five O'clock Somewhere - Alan Jackson/Jimmy Buffett
2. Hurt - Johnny Cash
3. Hey There Delilah - Plain White T's
4. Remember When - Alan Jackson
5. Picture - Kid Rock/Sheryl Crow
6. I Hope You Dance - Lee Ann Womack
7. Sissy's Song - Alan Jackson
8. Suds In The Bucket - Sara Evans
9. Before He Cheats - Carrie Underwood
10. Cha Cha Slide - DJ Casper

Jeanne Boss:

**Movies:**

1. Mystic River
2. Illusionist
3. The Kite Runner
4. The Departed
5. Toy Story
6. Up
7. The Green Mile
8. Brokeback Mountain
9. Slumdog Millionaire
10. No Country for Old Men

**Songs:**

1. Working on a Dream - Bruce Springsteen
2. Not Ready To Make Nice - Dixie Chicks
3. Dear Mr. President - Pink
4. Get the Party Started - Pink
5. Lucky - Colbie Caillat/Jason Mraz
6. Single Ladies - Beyoncé
7. Viva La Vida - Cold Play
8. Remember When - Alan Jackson
9. Country Grammar - Nelly
10. I Loved Her First - Heartland

Top 10 Names for Girls for the Decade:

1. Emma
2. Olivia
3. Ava
4. Emily
5. Abigail
6. Grace
7. Madison
8. Sophia
9. Hannah
10. Elizabeth

Top 10 Names for Boys for the Decade:

1. Jacob
2. Ethan
3. Andrew
4. Logan
5. Benjamin
6. Tyler
7. Noah
8. Joshua
9. Samuel
10. William

**What do you do during Christmas break when there is no school.**  
I'm grounded. I won't be going anywhere on christmas break.

**Seth Salinas, 10**  
St. Patrick School  
Mrs. Vezino

**What are your family's special Christmas or holiday traditions.**  
We always go to my aunt's house. We also make lots and lots of cookies and candies, like yesterday my mom made 300 cookies!

**Terese Kane, 10**  
St. Patrick School  
Mrs. Vezino

**Lowell Granite Co.**  
306 E. Main, Lowell  
Phone 897-7191

**Write down what you feel is the true meaning of Christmas.**  
Having out with your family, and eating tons of food, one time my grandma ate a whole turkey!

**Trevor VanDyke, 11**  
Murray Lake  
Kori Grooters

**Write down what you feel is the true meaning of Christmas.**  
I think the true meaning is the birth of a baby, 7 lbs, 7 oz, guess who?

**Collin Bowers, 10**  
Murray Lake  
Mr. Fillman

**Happy Holidays from**  
**VERGENNES TOWNSHIP**  
10381 Bailey Drive • 897-5671

**Write down what you feel is the true meaning of Christmas.**  
I think the true meaning of Christmas is having family around the Christmas tree, opening presents and drinking but then wearing your third cup of hot cocoa because your brother tipped your cup a tad to much.

**Preston Dull, 10**  
Cherry Creek  
Mr. Kovack

**What are your family's special Christmas or holiday traditions.**  
Eating the ghost of Christmas past.

**Dylan White, 10**  
Murray Lake  
Mr. Fillman

**Showboat**  
AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLY, INC.  
1450 W. Main, Lowell  
897-9231  
800-798-9973



of the Year for his relentless service.

And although most people don't know he exists, Stencil quietly does things for the community without any hesitation.

"I don't do it for the recognition," he said. "It's just something that needs to get done and I have fun doing it."

"I will volunteer until I can't do it anymore," he said.

Heavy rains, thaw and temperatures around 59°F last week caused flooding in the low laying areas or the floodplains around the Grand River. The river spilled out at the fairgrounds by the boat launch. Most of the snow completely melted with just a few dirty banks left. However, that quickly changed with Friday night's snowfall and freezing temperatures again. More snow is on the way this week.



Cliff Yankovich moderated the annual Winter Gathering event.

The American Saga Productions may be filming a movie in Lowell from March through summer this year. The \$10 million movie 'Genesis Code' with screen play written by Michael Leighton is mostly set in Lowell, according to one of the producers, Jerry Zandstra.

The Kent County Sheriff's Department is investigating potential violation of the Open Meetings Act in Grattan Township.

The complaint was filed by Marc Middlestadt, of Sierra Consultants, a consultant and operator of the township's extensive and outdated sewer system built in the 70s. According to Middlestadt, the township prevented the consultants from attending a special meeting on Oct. 27, 2008, due to lack of adequate posting.

Happy New Year!

A survey determining the needs for high speed Internet will be sent to Vergennes Township residents. A task force met Monday to discuss the availability of Internet in the township.

Chrouch Communications removed all unused antennas and cables from the city tower, as well as microwave dishes and lines from the top of the building, for a total cost of \$8,620. The project also included relamping and the replacement of strobe heads.

Boiled' by Matt Large, the show is a mix of traditional and modern themes.

Lowell High School athletes will once again have an opportunity to purchase athletic apparel and gear from Under Armour's outlet store at reduced rates.

The store will be complete with cashier registers and credit machines.

For Hayley Jones and Ashley Middleditch, recycling is an important way of preserving our planet.

Jones and Middleditch are members of the Lowell High School Environmental Club that carries out the message of preservation of the earth for the future generations.

The club has partnered with Planet Green, a printer cartridge and cell phone manufacturing and recycling company out of California, to start a new recycling program in Lowell.

The program will also help raise funds for other



For the third time in eight years Lowell claimed a state wrestling championship.

The most recent one came Saturday at the Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek as the Red Arrows overpowered Oxford 35-20 in the Division 2 state final.

"The boys stuck with it. This is their reward for all their effort and hard work," said Lowell wrestling coach Dave Dean. "I am proud of them."

MARCH Most will agree that the best artwork involves the viewer as in the case of the 23rd West Michigan Regional Competition.

The show now on exhibit at the Lowell Area Arts Council features diverse works of art that entice the viewer instantly.

From first place mixed media 'A Million Little Pieces' by Ann Morgan to bronze sculpture 'Hard

activities sponsored by the environmental club and WWC such as Earth Day activities.

Rain and temperatures of up to 60°F caused the snow to quickly melt practically overnight last week. And the sun was out with more sunshine over two days in March than the entire month of December. Even though it is hard to believe, the forecasts predict, "The winter is not over yet."

What started out as a wireless technology class designed for short distance communication has grown into an Internet radio vehicle which broadcasts over 70 events a year.

From football games to graduation; from wrestling to concerts; and from baseball and softball to the arts; all have been broadcast live on the Internet and/or recorded and played back.

"It's grown from a 1/4-watt station that could send a signal to the bus garage to where we are now," explained Al Eckman.

The significance of a building's history can be lost as time rolls on.

Efforts, therefore, to transcribe and record history

before things are radically transformed is paramount. A class project was conceived last spring to document the history of Unity High School.

The building is tied to a larger history that dates back to the early 1900's.

The touch and reviewing of old documents enabled students to see the landscape differently.

The information their research turned up can be found on sites.google.com/site/riversideorg.



Students, over two trimesters, gathered historical data as part of a Riverside history project.

Although the assessments in the city of Lowell have gone down by six percent, the taxable values and property taxes are up due to the rate of inflation set at 4.4 percent.

Jodi Sobota of Lowell appealed her assessment and taxable values last week at the board of review in Lowell.

However, city assessor Jim Marfia said in general the assessments have gone down by six percent due to the declining house sales.

Overall the taxable values and property taxes have gone up by the 4.4 percent rate of inflation.

Taxable values can never be higher than the assessed values. The taxable value will continue to increase at the CPI until the SEV falls below capped value.

With spring just right around the corner, the Lowell Expo will showcase area businesses and organizations at the Lowell High School on March 28.

"It is one of the choice networking opportunities the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce offers," said director Liz Baker.

A steering committee will hammer out the differences between Greenville and the rest of the Ionia Lowell Greenville rails to trails group.

The group last week uncovered a disconnecting piece of the trail north of M57 on the Lowell to Greenville part of the rail corridor.

"At what point do you stop adding pieces," said Kent County Parks director Roger Sabine.

Mayor of Greenville, Kenneth Snow, said if the

trail doesn't connect into the city trails, it doesn't do any good to Greenville.

Lowell may become the hub of trails with its unique meeting point of the three distinct trails systems by Cherry Creek Elementary.

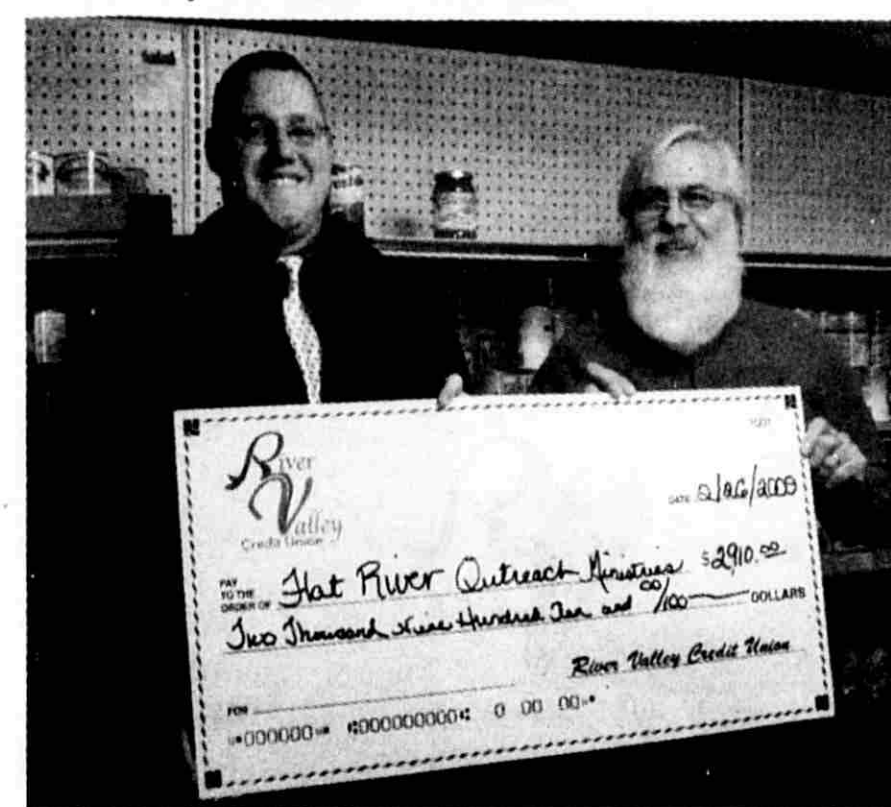
The Lowell Area Recreation Authority (LARA) adopted a recreation plan and grant application Wednesday at the Lowell Township Hall.

If funding is awarded from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), the construction of phase 1 would start next year. Phase 1, spanning 2.5 miles, will connect Cherry Creek Elementary to Wege/Wittenbach Center.

The trail, partially paved and partially boardwalk, will run mostly along the road right-of-ways and through a few easements.

Lowell will keep its streets clean and roofs patched in good times or bad times.

After much ado, the city council approved five street sweeps to keep Lowell clean for the upcoming activities in spite of a cheaper proposal.



Cutter Phillips from River Valley Credit Union, left, is shown presenting a check to Kraig Haybarker from the Flat River Outreach Ministries. River Valley Credit Union raised \$2,910 from its annual Skip-A-Payment promotion and donated it to Flat River Outreach Ministries.

For Marsha Wilcox and Bonnie Robinson preserving their farmland at a time of economic downturn was not only the right thing to do, but also the smart thing to do.

They no longer receive endless phone calls from developers to sell their land, and their taxable values have gone up.

That was just one of many topics discussed during the land preservation forum held at the Wittenbach/Wege Center last Saturday.

The event "Caring for your Land" was well attended by the citizens, the township representatives and various agencies. The discussion topics included forest management, donating

conservation easements, selling development rights and farmland/open space preservation issues in the townships.

The Lowell-Caledonia junior varsity hockey team skated back from a 2-0 first-period deficit to win the Tier 2 championship.

The Red Arrows defeated regular season champion Traverse City, 5-3.

"This has been, by far, the most successful junior varsity season in the history of the Lowell-Caledonia hockey program," said Red Arrow JV hockey coach Steve Anderson.

APRIL The 13th annual Lowell Community Expo hosted 150 booths while welcoming roughly 5,000 patrons.

A group of 32 students from Lowell High School attended the Detroit Institute of Arts on a field trip to review the works of famous Spanish artists, Diego Rivera, Salvador Dali and Pablo Picasso.

Astronomers from around the world, including Lowell, observed the spring sky with their telescopes as part of the "100 Hours of Observing"



Ashley Hathaway and Jim Foerch marvel at the spring sky at the Wittenbach/Wege Center.

event during the International Year of Astronomy.

Led by Jim and John Foerch of Grand Rapids Amateur Astronomical Association and hosted by center director Meggan Johnson, a group of amateur astronomers gathered at the Wittenbach/Wege Center (WWC) last week.

The city council, on Monday, approved the appointment of James Hinton as the new Lowell Police Chief.

The Kent County Board of Public Works invites all kindergarten through grade five schools in Kent County to participate in the Earth Day Recycle Challenge to promote an awareness for Earth Day (celebrated April 22nd each year) and to encourage recycling at an early age.



Blanche Mullen, formerly of Lowell, turned 100 years old on April 1, 2009. Currently she lives with her daughter and son-in-law, Brooke and Frank Transue, of Elgin, IL.

Michigan schools administered the MEAP test in October and were told their district results would be available in December.

December came and went. January came and went. February nearly came and went before the test results were delivered.

The state's reason for delaying the release of the information was so school districts could look at scores and data and have an opportunity to appeal if they felt something was not right.

While county and state writing scores continue a



A bench has been placed along Main Street in front of Lowell Family Medical Center. The local Rotary Club purchased the bench from the Lowell Granite Company with the inscription "In memory of the Lowell Rotarians, 1935-2000 who lived by the motto: 'Service Above Self.'" Pictured are: Richard Bryan, Betty Morlock, Jeff Witterink, Paula Blumm, Eric Lundstrom and John Sterly.

trend of decline, Lowell saw consistent improvement in writing with few exceptions. Fourth grade writing slipped from 60 to 59 percent proficiency. Third grade fell from 76 to 73 percent and sixth grade proficiency dropped from 85 to 80 percent.

District writing scores in grades five, seven and eight increased by an average of five percent.

"The MEAP is still a good test and provides useful information," said curriculum director Roger Bearup.

The Lowell Township Planning Commission approved Heidi's Farm Market expansion Monday night under an existing special use permit.

The farm market located at a business intersection on Alden Nash and Cascade Road has experienced steady growth since 2006.

Under the special use permit, the market will also have a petting zoo of up to 10 animals that must be caged.

Sisters Melissa Roche and April May have bonded forever. May has saved Roche's life by donating a major portion of her liver.

During a routine life insurance blood test, Roche was diagnosed with primary biliary cirrhosis.

"There is no medication for that," said friend Angie

Reedy. "She started getting really sick; she needed a new liver."

Roche, 38, a Lowell resident and a mother of four, now has at least 20 years or more of life.



Sisters Melissa Roche and April May.

The annual Girls' Night Out with this year's theme '27 Dresses' brought out the best in downtown Lowell.

It was a beautiful spring evening as women browsed the streets all dressed up in prom and bridal dresses carrying the new green and blue Shop Lowell bags.

The city tabled a request from the arts council to hold a fundraiser 'River Revelry' on the Riverwalk and the Showboat on July 25.

Mayor pro tem Jim Pfaller requested the city receive 10 percent of the proceeds from the event to maintain the boat.

Advertisement for Lowell Township Hall featuring a handwritten note about family traditions and contact information for Kiauna Woods.

Advertisement for Sneakers featuring a handwritten note about a shoe store and contact information for Ben Smith.

Advertisement for Chimera Design featuring a handwritten note about the true meaning of Christmas and contact information for Kenneth J. VanOosten.

Advertisement for Chimera Design featuring a handwritten note about the true meaning of Christmas and contact information for Nina Vulpetti.



The Rails to Trails group last week amended an application for a grant from the Michigan Department of Transportation to include a 5.5 mile piece on the trail north of Lowell to Greenville.

The portion of the trail from Foreman Road to Three Mile Road can now be purchased for approximately \$300,000 by a Friends Group to guarantee the entire project goes through.

Explore the ambience of a more simple era inside museums located in the vicinity of three rivers, the Flat, the Grand and the Thornapple, this summer.

The Spring into Past tour will showcase the museums of the Tri River network on May 2 and May 3.



Lowell Area Historical Museum located in the Graham home on Main Street.

Local organizations celebrated Earth Day with different events ranging from tree plantings in downtown Lowell to the conservation

expo held at the Wittenbach/Wege Center last week.

The Lowell City Arbor Board members, including Jim Reagan and Dana Chase, along with Unity School students and members of the Lowell High School Environmental Club planted a green mountain sugar maple behind the city hall.

The tree will replace an old sugar maple tree whose root system was stressed out by the adjacent parking lot.

Advance detour work will start this fall to prepare for the 2010 downtown bridge replacement.

The approximate time frame for the project is from March 2010 to mid September 2010 completion.

The total project cost is \$2 million.

**MAY**

The Third Historical Walk through Oakwood Cemetery, authored by sexton Don DeJong, explores Lowell's late businessmen and women as well as civic leaders.

DeJong has completed his third historical book highlighting the characters of Lowell's past buried at the Oakwood Cemetery.

The Genesis Code movie will start filming in Lowell in mid June due to slow preproduction, bonding,

legal stuff, budget and script refining.

Also, the final agreements with the main actors have not been completed. However, Jerry Zandstra, vice-president of America Saga Productions, said the cast may include two Academy Award winners and several Emmy Award winners.

Although the Downtown Development Authority is already seeking bids to demolish three structurally unsafe buildings on the north side of the bridge, resident Greg Canfield purchased two of the buildings for \$8,500.

Canfield, Monday night at the city council meeting, requested financial assistance to repair the buildings. This, according to Canfield, would be cheaper than if the city was to tear the buildings down and esthetically smooth the area. The cost to the city to demolish the buildings and fix the area would be well over \$100,000.

The Lowell Township Planning Commission approved rezoning from agricultural to rural agricultural to allow a split for an existing home on Morse Lake Avenue.

If developed, the 31.6-acre parcel could be split into seven more lots with 200 feet frontage.

The Lowell Area Arts Council and the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce are once again bringing music to West Michigan with the Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concerts.

This summer the Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concerts will continue with a ten-week series on Thursday evenings from June 11 through August 20.

For 22 years in a row the city has honored the tradition of mayor exchange days. This year, Lowell hosted a delegation from Mason located south of Lansing. Although Mason is larger both in population and square miles, the delegation was impressed by Lowell.



Lowell Women's Club awarded a total of \$2,800 to several local organizations.

Pictured with their checks are, back row: Lorain Smalligan, Deb Karasiewicz, Pat Allchin, Madelyn Pfaller, Steve Flohr, Staci Messersmith, and Frank Martin; front row: Marge Rehl, Liz Baker, and Kathy Horsch.

Asparagus, rhubarb, baked goods and mushrooms started off the season at the Lowell Area Farmers' Market last Thursday.

Vendors from all over flocked to the fairgrounds hauling their wares on colorful trucks.

Hundreds of people lined up Main Street for the Memorial Day parade Monday, on a beautiful crisp morning. The city council marched in the parade behind the veterans. The parade briefly stopped at the veterans' memorial on the east side of the bridge for a firing salute and a floral wreath was dropped into the Flat River to honor

those who perished at sea. Both bands, middle and high school, played patriotic music during the ceremonies.

On May 6, Murray Lake Elementary students, parents, and teachers made a trip to the banks where the "two rivers meet." Thirty-seven young salmon (smolts) were released into the Flat River by the students.

The Pink Arrow Project committee is inviting local artists and art students to create an artwork for the cover of the commemorative Pink Arrow program.

These pieces of artwork will be judged with the winning piece being on the

cover. It will also be raffled at the September 11 football game.

**JUNE**

Lowell Salutatorian, Hailey Novak, challenged her graduating Class of 2009 to go forward and be not afraid to break the chains of normality.

Lowell Valedictorian, Megan Willemstein, encouraged her classmates to be not afraid to stick their neck out as they move forward from their high school days.

Last year Marilla Marks made \$174 in premium money from still exhibits at the Kent County Youth Fair.

This year, she'll be lucky if she makes half of that due to state cuts in premium funding for fairs. A recent Gov. Jennifer Granholm executive order eliminated \$1.46 million for premiums for county and state fairs.

Annually, the Kent County Youth Fair pays out \$25,000 in premiums for livestock showing and still exhibits on a sliding scale.

The state provided 54 to 56 percent of that sum, as it has for the last quarter of a century. But, that all disappeared with the May 5th executive order.

An amended bow and arrow hunting ordinance may allow hunting in the city limits if adopted by the council. The city council, Monday, set a public hearing for the ordinance for July 6.



Alto Elementary student, Sophia Fuss, 6, donated 11 inches of her hair to Locks of Love on Saturday, May 30, 2009.

Good Chevy Buick is asking the community for support due to a recent termination of the franchise agreement with GM.

But the franchise is fighting back with an appeal of the decision.

"We plan on fighting this to the end," said the general manager. "We are open for business and will be for the foreseeable future."

LifeWalk is Alpha's biggest fundraiser of the year, accounting for the majority of operating expenses. On average, about 100 people participate in the walk each year. Walkers gather pledges from family, friends and community to help raise money and awareness for the center.

A recent MSU student feasibility study assessed the viability of the Moose and Roger's properties to determine the best use.

Jim Hall has been thinking about the use of the city-owned properties for the last 20 years.

He has a clear vision for it now as an ideal RV park.

The study also listed alternatives to an RV park, and Hall wants to proceed with at least two of them.

"I will proceed with it in some fashion," he said.



Not even the rain could put a damper on the opening night of the Sizzlin' Summer Concert series last Thursday. The Rusty Wright Blues Band rocked the stage as concertgoers trickled in. It was solid good music for two hours.

Can teachers retire, a school district not replace them and students' education not be affected?

That is the question a \$1.5 million cut in the 2009-

2010 Lowell school budget (\$34.1 million) raises.

With the early teacher retirements and support staff cuts, the district will save \$600,000.

With declining diesel costs, the district is in position to use \$250,000 from the fuel budget to cover next year's shortfall.

"Some of this will probably change. This is the current budget we have associated with the general fund," said Greg Pratt.

The 22nd annual city address delivered by manager Dave Pasquale has set the course for the next year.

Although overshadowed by economic events locally and globally, Pasquale said the city has valuable assets, and it must never give in to negativity.

"To this end, Lowell will strive to maintain and improve as a business friendly city," Pasquale said. "Financially, the municipality will seek efficiencies in operation of this government."

The Flat River Grill may expand its outdoor seating next year during the MDOT bridge replacement project. To accommodate the expansion, the entrance to the Riverwalk would have to be moved west. Manager, Chris West, said it's a good proposal. The expansion will give her an additional eight tables. Downtown Development Authority vice-chair, Brian Doyle, said Flat River Grill is a tremendous asset to the community.

The Lowell Senior Neighbors have partnered with Gilda's Club of Grand

Rapids to bring to Lowell, a satellite office for cancer programming.

The satellite center will offer programming on Tuesdays in five separate rooms upstairs and two rooms downstairs. Norm and Rosemary Byrne have donated \$25,000 for the renovations, challenging the community to match that. The partnership dovetails with the Pink Arrow Project which enables funding for families with an active form of cancer.

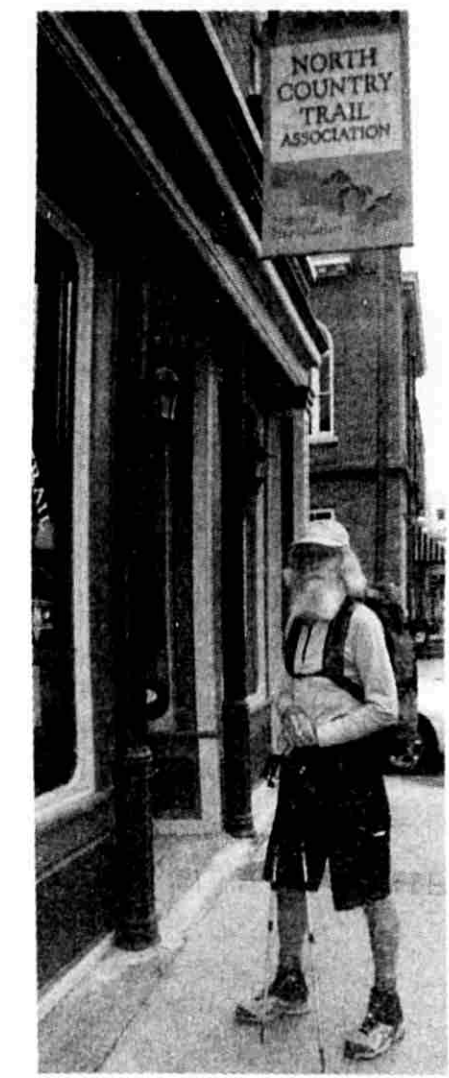


Marcia Roth in front of the center.

His trail name is Niblewill Nomad. At 70, Eb Eberhart can be found hiking in the snow, sunshine or rain. When he arrived in Lowell, the headquarters of the National Scenic Trail, last week ahead of his schedule, it was cold and rainy.

But nothing stops Eberhart from reaching his goal of walking all eight of the National Trail systems. This year, he is walking his Odyssey 2009 trek from North Dakota to New York State. "I wanted to hike all the national trails," he said.

Eberhart walks 25 to 30 miles a day.



Walker Eb Eberhart stopped in Lowell at the National Scenic Trail headquarters.

**JULY**



Jan Thompson, Jeannette Yeiter and Renee VanderWilp pose by desserts collected for God's Kitchen at the American Legion. Desserts were collected at the Lowell Veteran's Center.

The annual Riverwalk Festival will be bigger

and better this year. At least that is the hope of the festival organizers who have expanded the festival to four days.

With highlights such as the duck race on the Grand River, the dunk tank, the FROM the Heart Parade, Grilling and Chilling on Avery Street, and the Brian Mead Memorial Cruise-in, the festival is action packed.

You can't coach quickness.

That appears, however, to be the difference in the early stages of the F.R.O.M. the Heart Food Fight.

The North Lowell Red Arrows have jumped out to a sizable 84 foot item lead.

"Both teams have all the tools to win and it should be close, but the team with the most heart will collect the most food," said coach Noel Dean. "The North Team may be quicker, but the South Team is bigger."

The North squad leads 845-761. It has been led by a strong starting Curves. The North business brought in 191 items.

The planning commission has reviewed the capital improvement plan (CIP) for the next five years. Some of the highlights include street improvements to Bowes, Sibley and Grindle roads with federal funds and water distribution system improvements.

A new storage building, located behind the DPW garage, would provide needed space for the vehicles, equipment, sand and salt, as well as flammable materials, posts, street signs, fencing and lumber. The estimated cost is \$225,000.

**Write down what you feel is the true meaning of Christmas.**

The true meaning of Christmas is giving. You can never give too much unless you sell your house. I have never given my house up, but if I did, that would be giving too much up.

Jesse Edwards, 10  
Cherry Creek  
Mr. Bredin

**EJA SALON** 204 W. Main • Lowell • 897-1700

**What are your family's special Christmas or holiday traditions.**

On Christmas we go down to Indiana, where my moms parents live. I get to see cousins, grandparents, uncles, and aunts. Before we go down there we celebrate Christmas at my house. Mom buys all the supplies, and we make PIZZA!

Maria DeCator, 10  
Murray Lake  
Mr. Fuss

**ZEIGLER** 11979 E. Fulton, Lowell  
897-8431

**Write down what you feel is the true meaning of Christmas.**

I feel that the true meaning of Christmas is not to get presents, but to be with your family and rejoice because it is the day our savior Jesus Christ was born into this very world. That's the true meaning of Christmas.

Alex Richmond, 10  
St. Patrick School  
Mrs. Vezino

**What are your family's special Christmas or holiday traditions.**

We burn a candle that has #'s 1-24 on it. Each day we burn a number.

Jakob Thompson, 10  
Cherry Creek  
Mr. Kovach

**CURTIS** CLEANERS • LAUNDRY  
Lowell • Cascade • Grand Rapids  
Free Pickup & Delivery

**Write down what you feel is the true meaning of Christmas.**

To trap Santa Claus in my basement. Step 1: get him to come out the cookies and drink the mixed milk (so he passes out). Step 2: Drag him to the special cage you built. Step 3: give the reindeer Red Bull instead of water. Step 4: steal the sleigh and the toys. That is the true meaning of Christmas.

Hayden Schneider, 11  
Cherry Creek  
Mr. Kovach

**B.C. PIZZA**  
1335 W. Main • 897-9776

**Your own idea - or your teacher's suggestion**

The best thing I have done for someone else at Christmas was giving my little sister a stuffed dog. I could not find exactly what she wanted, but she loved it anyway. The two dogs were very similar. They were both black and white. That was one of the best things I have done for someone else at Christmas.

Jasmine Peters, 11  
Cherry Creek  
Mr. Stevens

**Daisy Floral & Gifts**  
505 W. Main St.  
897-2588





Relay for Life, a life-changing event that brings together more than 3.5 million people each year to celebrate, remember and fight back against cancer.

The American Cancer Society's signature fundraiser celebrated its 25th anniversary.

The Lowell Relay For Life, in its fourth year, fielded 22 teams and 175 participants, and raised \$62,000 to be used for education, advocacy, research and services.

A new cemetery office/maintenance building for \$100,000 would replace the old shed with an outdoor restroom.

In baseball terms, Nancy Richardson was a highly valuable and serviceable utility player.

Over a 28-year span, if the Lowell School District had a void, Richardson filled it. She retires this year from Lowell Area Schools.

The annual St. Patrick Parish Festival featured good music, food and games all weekend long.

It was also the last festival and Sunday mass for Father Rock Badgerow, who is leaving for parishes in Pentwater, Mears and Weary.

Regulated hunting with bow and arrow in the city limits will become a reality.

The city council, Monday night, approved an ordinance that will allow bow and arrow hunting to reduce deer population on a 3:1 vote. Opposing was councilwoman, Sharon Ellison.

"I still don't agree that we allow hunting in the city," said Ellison.

However, the majority of the council favored the ordinance that will be up for review in three years.

"It needs to happen," said mayor pro tem Jim Pfaller.

"We've had a lot of landscape and crop damage."

Local excavator, Stormzand Asphalt, helped state officials by removing the concrete patio.

The Lowell Chapter of Rotary International is giving Richards Park a makeover on Saturday, August 15. The existing playground equipment at Richards Park, at Lincoln Lake and N. Hudson in the city of Lowell, is at least 50 years old.

The newly extended Riverwalk Festival attracted thousands of people to the



For Nancy Moore and Karen Myers, the recent unsupported bicycle trip to Kentucky was just one thing off their bucket list. The two friends, who graduated in 1972 from Lowell High School, set out on a 460-mile-long journey from Lowell to Frankfort, KY on June 4.

downtown area and the fairgrounds last week, from as far as London, Canada.

Temperatures in the mid 70s created a fabulous backdrop for all the outdoor events, including Saturday's parade.

Paul's Brew B-Q Throw-down, the newest addition to the Riverwalk, worked its magic as the ducks raced to the finish line at the nearby Grand River.

"It exceeded our expectations," said co-organizer, Paul Faba, proprietor of Paul's."

In an epic see-saw battle between two very determined teams, North Lowell held onto a slim lead to win the first annual F.R.O.M. the Heart Food Fight, benefiting Flat River Outreach Ministries and its food pantry.

By a margin of only 88 items, the North Lowell team outscored the South Lowell team 4,292 to 4,204, for a total of 8,496 items collected for the food pantry.

The Lowell Area School Board held its regular meeting Monday night. Larry Mikulski, armed with photos and diagrams, presented construction updates to the board. Virtually every school in the district is undergoing construction of some sort this summer.

In October of last year, Michigan's Lt. Governor, John D. Cherry, announced that Lowell's Cherry Creek Elementary would be the only Kent County school to receive 'Safe Routes to School' funding.

Work began on Monday to open up entries on the east side of Cherry Creek Elementary so that buses can get through the channel to leave the school.

The 15th annual Covered Bridge bike tour drew 150 registered participants from all over Michigan, last Sunday.

The tour options ranged from the shortest 12-mile long route to the longest 100-mile tour. One of the most popular tours is the 28-mile route from the Fallsburg Covered Bridge, along Grand River Drive, to the Ada Covered Bridge.



Bill, Mike and Matt Morrow in front of the Fallsburg schoolhouse.

"This important partnership not only raises awareness of the importance of screenings and early detection of breast cancer, but has also created a lot of positive energy in Lowell," commented Tara Geror, Marketing Director of Saint Mary's Health Care and Lowell resident. "We're proud to be a part of it, and as a resident of Lowell, I'm especially proud because I see the effect that it's having."

This year's Pink Arrow Project will not only turn the

football team and fans pink on September 11, but has been expanded to include two other athletic events to be held on that day.

The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) approved \$30,000 to assist in repair of buildings located on the northwest side of the bridge across the Flat River.

The buildings, purchased by Greg Canfield, located at 115, 117 and 119 W. Main, were originally slated for demolition due to foundations falling into the river. However, Canfield offered to repair the buildings that would provide more retail space in the future for the downtown area.

The Attwood Corporation will be expanding with 51 new jobs and a \$1 million investment in Motor Guide operation equipment consolidated from a plant in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Although the city is expected to grant a 50



As a part of the Memorial Day activities, flags for veterans were put in the Lowell Oakwood Cemetery in mid-May by members of the Lowell American Legion, Post 152. The Lowell Boy Scouts step up in mid-July to retrieve 529 flags from the Oakwood Cemetery in Lowell. The scouts, left to right: Jake Davenport, Freddy Griffith, Devon Chopp, Derek Chopp, and Gerard VanHill.

percent tax abatement for 12 years on the equipment, taxed as personal property, Attwood's consolidation will still benefit the city tax base.

The plant, with 61 employees in Tulsa, will be shut down and its machinery that makes trolling motors for fishing boats will be transferred to Lowell by Oct. 30.



Attwood president Chris Drees by the trolling motors.

The Wittenbach/Wege garden is flourishing this year with the new Children's Garden and the community plots.

The Children's Garden with a vine barn and a sunflower house is framed by an ABC garden. Each letter is represented by a plant that starts with that same letter.

The garden has teaching plots with commodities grown in Michigan, such as corn and wheat. There is also a fourth grade garden that was planted this year by each fourth grade classroom from the Lowell Area School District.



Volunteer Sheryl Helmus works on the ABC garden at the Wittenbach/Wege community garden.

If you're one of 20-plus students heading off to third grade this fall, missing from your third grade experience will be that summer visit from Lani Rice.

A teaching staple in the Lowell School District for the past 22 years (36 in all), Rice announced early this year she would not be returning in the fall of 2009 and with it came the end of her summer visits to the homes of the future third grade class.

An open casting call was held last Thursday during the Sizzlin' Summer concert for the movie Genesis Code. Genesis Code will be needing hundreds of extras for many scenes in the movie that is being filmed in Grand Rapids. The big crowd scenes include a hockey game at the Patterson Ice Arena. The crew, which has production offices in Lowell, will be shooting in Lowell in August. Hopeful extras are asked to bring a head shot.

AUGUST

The 75th Kent County Youth Fair opened this weekend with an anniversary parade on Sunday.

During the ceremonies, 4-H alumni Joe Oesch and Jim Fales will be introduced along with the royal court coronation. This year's theme is '75 Years and Beyond.'

"I am hoping we're going to do well," said fair manager Ron Wenger. "We will provide affordable entertainment right at home."

The 75th anniversary 4-H Fair parade, was fashioned in



The first River Revelry 2009, a fundraiser for the Lowell Area Arts Council, delivered a good mix of music, food and fun on the banks of the Flat River. In spite of scattered showers, the revelers stayed and enjoyed themselves, some even dancing on the Showboat. Easy Idle String Band was on hand to help raise funds for the LAAC.

the spirit of agriculture. The parade featured 4-H clubs such as the Cherry Valley Livestock 4-H Club, horse drawn shuttles, antique cars, even the Riverwalk duck mascot, Gilda's Club, the traditional Showboat and calliope floats, tractors and trucks. This year's fair theme is "75 Years & Beyond."

A line of trucks, hauling in wheat from all over Michigan to King Milling, formed last week at the fairgrounds. Although the harvest is usually wrapped up by the end of July, this year due to cold and damp weather, the harvest was late. The crop suffered from bad conditions in quality and yield. "We had to turn down wheat that was too sprouted," said president Brian Doyle. "The crop had a hard time maturing. It started sprouting, growing into the head." King Milling has, so far, taken in approximately one million bushels of wheat, compared to two million bushels last year. But, the company has to make up for the lower yield, by purchasing wheat from storage or elevator businesses. "Last year was

As the city council approved a \$5,000 grant from the Lowell Cable Television Endowment Fund for upgrades at Richards Park, many area residents complained about the ongoing vandalism at the park. The park, which has both a play set for little children and a concrete slab for skating, has attracted many teens involved in dangerous activities, according to some residents.

Council member Jeff Altoft said it's only a few kids that do the bad stuff.

"Fixing up will help," said mayor Jim Hodges. "It will add respect to it and it will bring back the park for the neighborhood."

Local car dealers cannot say enough about the dynamite 'cash for clunkers' federal program designed to get gas guzzlers off the road and scrapped, while helping car dealers emerge from the recession. Most dealer lots have been wiped out with recent car sales.

a phenomenal year," said Doyle. "We had the best crop."

Frost/freeze conditions damaged state crops in 27 counties. Governor Jennifer M. Granholm officially requested federal disaster assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The celebrity, Stumpy bear on Bowes Road, has recently disappeared. The bear started rotting due to extremely wet conditions. "We had to cut him off. Right now, he's drying out in the barn," said owner Mark



Michigan Stearman pilots from Owosso, Brighton, Howell, Fowlerville, Kalamazoo, Mason and Fort St. Lucie, Fla., flew up and out of the Lowell City Airport Friday as part of an annual weekend fly-in. Roger Brown stands next to his 1941 Army Stearman which has been custom painted.

Mundt. But don't cry yet, because Mr. Bear will be back in the spring after he dries out.



Shooting a movie in the area is not just about the glamour and the glitz, but also about having a positive impact on the local businesses. Local residents like Dave Thompson and Sharon Ellison, are stand-ins for actors Ernest Borgnine and Louise Fletcher.

The Safe Routes to School project is on target for September completion. The project includes sidewalk construction in front of Cherry Creek Elementary, paving of areas by the school and the bus garage, and the construction of a 10-foot wide nonmotorized path along Gee Drive, which will connect into the Lowell Area Trailways.

It was a brief summer filled with both traditional events such as the Sizzlin' Summer concert series, as well as the new fundraiser for the arts council, the River Revelry. Last to play on the Riverwalk stage was the Crossroads Blues Band who performed for a nice size audience relaxing in lawn chairs or on the Showboat.

The Pink Arrow Project 2009 officials are warning the public about a possible scam to solicit donations, for a different organization with doubtful credibility, under the false pretense of the successful venture. Teresa Beachum said a copycat may be using the success of last year's project.



The Lowell Showboat Garden Club (LSGC) held its 60th anniversary celebration in July. Pictured are past presidents of the Lowell Showboat Garden Club, first row, left to right: Betty Dean and Avis King; second row, left to right: Donna Jean Ford, Dee Gabriion, Donna Smit, Tina Cadwallader, and Regina Grover; back row: Lowell city manager, Dave Pasquale.

Who I spend Christmas with. Your own idea - or your teacher's suggestion. I have two families my dad's side and then my mom's side I spend time with both sides of my family we switch through the years whahouse my Mom, Dad, Me, and my sisters go to first. This year where going to my grandma Mariens first. then the second house we will go to is my grandma sucies. The important thing about christmas also is getting to see your families no matter how big or small they are. Thats why we visit both of out. Remington Phillips, 11 Cherry Creek Mrs. Young

Write down what you feel is the true meaning of Christmas. I think that the true meaning of christmas is not about the presents. It's about giving and celebrating the birth of Jesus. Some kids think it's about getting, getting, getting, when it's about being with the people you love. Tiana Petricevic, 10 Cherry Creek Mrs. Young

Your own idea - or your teacher's suggestion. The best thing I have done for others was during the holiday was I gave money to Salvation Army. I have also donated to Angel tree, Mahenzies no kill dog sanctuary, and also the food pantry and the outre admihistries, that is what I donated to -Victoria Cherry creek Elements Victoria, 10 Cherry Creek Mr. Stevens

What are your family's special Christmas or holiday traditions. Well on Christmas eve we use to go to my Grandmas house but she died this year so I dont know what we are going to start doing. Bailey Inda, 11 Cherry Creek Eric Bredin

What are your family's special Christmas or holiday traditions. My family tradition is me and my mom bake a million cookies... or seems like it at least. Also we make reindeer food and mix it with square sparkels and throw it outside and some of it on our roof. Katianna Ember Young, 10 Cherry Creek Mr. Rob Stevens

Lowell Family Medical Center Paul R. Gauthier, D.O. • James C. Lang, D.O. John G. Meier, D.O. • Wayne A. Christenson, D.O. Tracy L. Lixie, D.O. • Julie Rathbun, P.A.-C 2550 West Main, Lowell • 616-252-5600

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The Lowell High School Class of 1940 held its 69th class reunion at Schneider Manor on Thursday, Aug. 13 at noon. Top row, left to right: King Doyle, Bill Lalley, John Jasperse, John Scripps and Jack Tornga; front row, left to right: Carroll Kyser, Barbara Dawson Schaeffer, Helen Clark Blow, Esther Kamp and Marjean Fonger Brillhart.

The city planning commission tabled the much discussed ordinance that would regulate temporary garages in the city limits.

The filming of Genesis Code has taken center stage in downtown Lowell, as the movie crew worked on set arrangements at Larkin's.

The crew put up a screen in front of Larkin's to create a winter-like atmosphere with Christmas decorations inside.

SEPTEMBER

The Lowell Chapter of Rotary International installed the new playground equipment at Richards Park on Friday and Saturday, August 14 and 15.

About 70 volunteers worked to remove the existing 50+ year old equipment, prepare the site, and install the new equipment over several days.

Due to the tough economy and the necessity of the athletic department to cut costs and/or increase revenues, a policy change has occurred for the 2009-10 season. In the past, for varsity football games, superfans and football season ticket holders could enter at either of the main gates. The new policy will require superfans and season ticket holders to enter through the pass gate located to the west of the main entrance.

"With what others are going through, I think it would be hard to come into this game and not be focused." Dean explained after Lowell's 47-0 shutout over Union.

Before a crowd of nearly 9,000 spectators suited in pink, the football game was the perfect exclamation to the inspirational Pink Arrow event.

The Pink Arrow event is expected to surpass the \$93,000 total raised a year ago. All proceeds go toward cancer awareness and education.



The first grade teacher of half of Lowell's students from the mid-1950s to 1970 celebrated her 95th birthday this month. Lila Thaler celebrated her birthday with an open house at Clark Retirement Community in Grand Rapids.

In May, Lowell senior Britteny Ramirez learned that her aunt, Debbie Austin Videau, was diagnosed with breast cancer.

The Lowell senior sent letters out into the community three weeks ago to family, friends and people who don't even know her aunt, explaining to them the purpose of the Pink Arrow Project and how cancer had touched her life.

Within a few days, Ramirez began getting feedback and receiving donations to the Pink Arrow Project in the name her of aunt.

At the jersey auction, Ramirez purchased the jersey of Lowell varsity football player, Kyle Fitzpatrick, for \$1,400, the sum of all the donations sent to Ramirez by those compelled to through her letter.

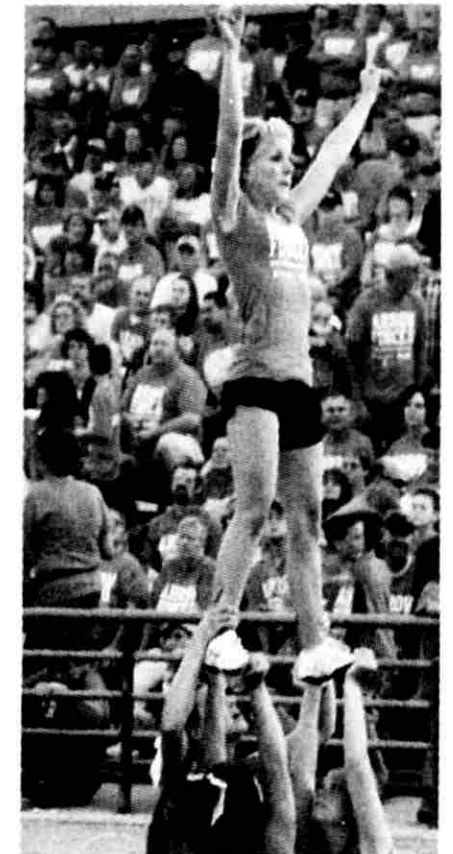
that Lowell had a whole community "playing for the cause."

The symbolic moment, when 400-plus community members joined hands around the Senior Neighbors' Center/Gilda's Club, spoke to how a community has joined the journey of what cancer patients endure in an effort to bring compassion, awareness, education, and prevention.

Over 7,800 Arrow Force II t-shirts were sold, surpassing last year's mark of 5,400.

Five hundred people gathered Sunday on South Hudson for the dedication of the new shared clubhouse for the Lowell Senior Neighbors and Gilda's Club.

Special guests in attendance were: State Senator Bill Hardiman, State Representative Dave Hildenbrand, Lowell Mayor Jim Hodges, Councilwoman Sharon Ellison, fire chief Frank Martin and assistant chief Ron VanOverBeek, both in their dress blue uniforms with dazzling pink shirts for the occasion. Recognized were the lead donors, Norm and Rosemary Byrne, and Bob and Paulette Israels who provided furniture for the opening.



Lowell cheerleaders kept the crowd going during Pink Arrow games.

Lowell volleyball coach, Gi Gi Peal, talked about how great it was to be asked to play for something beyond the sport and the scoreboard - to play for the cause.

Following Friday's Pink Arrow event and the Grand Open House of the Gilda's Club and the renovated Senior Neighbors' Center on Sunday, it can be said



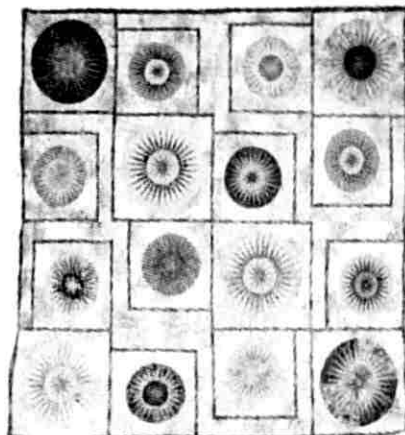
The First Baptist Church of Lowell will celebrate 155 years in the Lowell community on Sunday, Sept. 20.

Staff Sgt. Jonathan Lyons served as one of the pallbearers for the late Sen. Edward Kennedy at Arlington National Cemetery. Lyons serves with the 3rd

Regiment, more commonly known as the Old Guard, at Fort Myer in Arlington.

Lyons was handpicked by the base commander for the special duty.

The 15th annual Tony's Toy Run brought West Michigan bikers together once again for children who will spend their Christmas in local hospitals. The event was founded by Dave Stevens and Doug Morrel in memory of Stevens' son Tony who died from cancer in 1990.



This year's 41st annual Fallasburg Fall Festival is expected to draw thousands to the historical setting of the Fallasburg Park. The highlight of the festival weekend is the raffle drawing for a handmade quilt titled 'Quilt Flowers' made by Dawn Ysseldyke.

Pumpkins, scarecrows, chili, and ghost stories read at the Reath Barn during this year's Harvest Festival will close a busy season in the Lowell area on Oct. 10. New this year is the old fashion Barn Dance fundraiser for Gilda's Club.

Fallasburg Fall Festival last weekend. The festival was complete with food by local churches and service organizations such as the Lowell Area Firefighters and the Lowell Rotary.



Members of the team moving on are: Cassie Balfour, Kari Bergy, Kendra Black, Corryn Bieri, Leigha Frisbie, Gina Giuliano, Zac Graves, Kendall Hewitt, Karlie Paulin, Mackenzie Roerig, and Emma Roderick.

After much ado, the Lowell Planning Commission will continue to work on an ordinance that will regulate temporary garages in town.

OCTOBER

The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) purchased a parking lot adjacent to the Shell gas station on Main Street for long term use for \$60,000. The parking will be unrestricted, mainly for employees. City manager Dave Pasquale said the new lot will take parking off Main Street.

An old fashion barn dance at the Richard Reath building this Saturday during Harvest Festival will raise funds for Gilda's Club.

Lowell Area Schools (LAS) is facing imminent cuts in per pupil foundation as soon as the final budget is passed by the end of October. The lawmakers passed an interim budget to avoid government shutdown last week.

Under cloudy, cold, and mostly wet conditions, the Lowell Equestrian team competed to take home the Regional Reserve championship over the weekend.

Coach Deb Biggs commented, "I didn't realize this was such a young team. There are a lot of freshman and sophomore riders in this group. They pulled together when they needed to, cheered each other on, and rallied into a solid second place behind Caledonia." They will be riding against ten teams at state.



What makes the best chili in town? Some say it's passion, others will argue it's the ingredients, the heat of hot peppers, or secret family recipes handed down from generation to generation. Yet, another fraction will doubt the judges' taste buds, the sanity of the People's Choice, or the placement of the booths on Broadway Street. That is what the eighth Annual Larkin's Chili Cook-Off was all about: passion for cooking, camaraderie, bonding and fun. This was the view from atop the Ledger building as the crowd gathered to sample chili.

The city may raise fees for parking violations by the end of this month. Following a presentation by police chief James Hinton, the council leaned toward hiking fees that have not been raised since 1991. According to Hinton, approximately 200 to 300 citations are issued annually.

The Lowell Downtown Development Authority (DDA) approved \$5,000 for this year's Christmas budget for the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce.

The budget for a month worth of Christmas activities is the same as last year, according to chamber director Liz Baker.

It's official. The 'Clubhouse' at 314 South Hudson is open - for both the Lowell Senior Neighbors' program and the new Gilda's Club Lowell program.

Neil Kirby braved freezing temperatures, lack of oxygen, and nausea. But in the end it was all worth it for a good cause. He reached the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro in six days. "The hardest part of the climb was summit day," said Kirby. "But I was fundraising for a stellar cause and pushing my body to its limits," he said. "Kilimanjaro was the adventure of a lifetime."

In the first of four Project EverGREEN events, 100 students from the Lowell elementary schools planted 800 trees on Friday at the Wege Agriscience Center.

The trees (red and white oak and sugar maple) were planted on the logged area part of the Wege and school properties.

Lowell Township will be able to connect Key Heights to Alden Nash

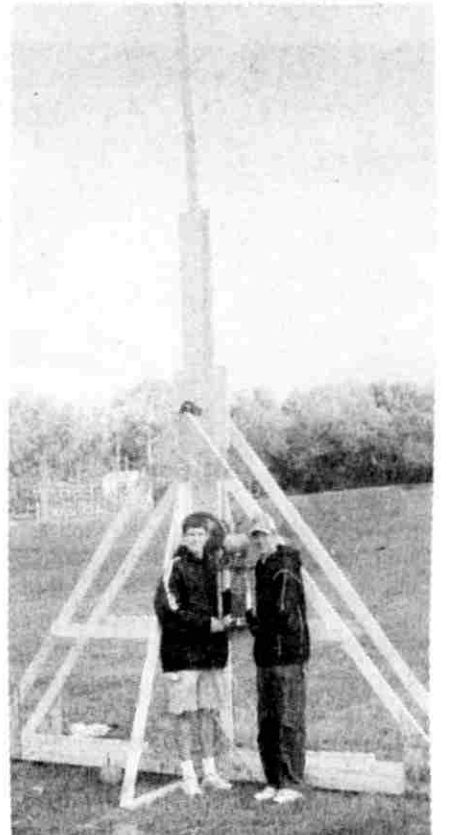
The total estimated cost of the project is over \$53,200 with \$4,000 coming from the Look Memorial fund and \$4,000 from the Cable Television fund.

Glad Fletcher, of Lowell, had never worn her yellow wool felt Winkleman's hat.

She stored it away high atop in a closet with the original tissue.

When Girls' Night Out rolled around last week with the Hats theme there were all sorts of hats that night, from altered stetsons, red cowboy hats, straw hats, fedoras, baseball caps, witches' hats, dressy hats with feathers, to even paper hats. All the participating merchants enjoyed a great turnout. The stores were packed with women buying all sorts of jewelry and Christmas gifts.

Most merchants said the turnout was about the same as last year.



The winners of the 2009 Pumpkin Chuckin contest are Nick Lane, 15 and Grant Pell, 15 of 'Team Locked and Loaded.' (Not pictured is Matt Bigford, 16).

With the impending downtown bridge replacement project hanging in the air like Damocles sword and the economy in deep trenches, surprisingly, three candidates have stepped up to fill three open seats on the Lowell City Council:

Incumbent mayor Jim Hodges, 59; newcomer Andrew Schrauben, 33; and councilwoman Maryalene LaPonsie, 32.

NOVEMBER



Longtime Vergennes Township Board trustee Vern Nauta has resigned effective Dec. 31.

In preparation for the downtown bridge replacement project, the city council, Monday, approved a variance to the noise ordinance allowing the crews to work overnight between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m.

The second annual Witches' Night Out attracted good and bad witches to the participating downtown merchants the Thursday before Halloween.

Also that night, the scarecrows disappeared from Main Street. Ray Zandstra and Dave Harding picked them off the sidewalk.

The city council approved an increase in fines for parking violations Monday. The fines go up from \$5 to \$15 for time and meter limit violations, if paid within two weeks. After 14 calendar days, the fines go up to \$25, after one month they increase to \$50.

Alto Elementary students participated in the third annual Walk-A-Thon fundraiser put on by the Alto PTO. This year, \$8,500 was raised. Principal Randy Fleenor put the challenge to the students that if they raised \$12,000, they could turn him into a human sundae.

PROJECT EVERGREEN

Sponsors: DELL INC., MI. GREEN, LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS



Pictured, front row, left to right: Sydney Munson, Madison Alcalá, Hannah Schmidt, Emma Parsons, Autumn French, Brooke Meijer and Tyler Groeneweg; back row, left to right: Michigan GREEN's Brian Zapligny, Smokey, Sue Vitale, Pat Hug (DELL), Meggan Johnson (Wittenbach/Wege Center director) and Greg Mulder.

Christmas or holiday tradition
Our family tradition is that we put a pickle ornament on our tree. Our Dad hides the pickle in the tree on the night before Christmas. In the morning, whoever finds the pickle first, gets to opt their stocking first. It is...

Write down what you feel is the true meaning of Christmas.
I think Christmas is about giving and being with your family.
• Alvin and the chipmunks,
• Boogie after eating too much,
• presents,
• reindeer.
Griffen Prestch, Cherry Creek, Mr. Kovach

Write down what you feel is the true meaning of Christmas.
The true meaning of Christmas is getting cool presents, like toys and money. NOT clothes.
• Spending time with my family
• Giving and Sharing
• (Maybe Taking too)
• Being with people you love
• Having a good time
• Celebrate Jesus's birth
Tiana Peavey, 10, Cherry Creek, Mr. Kovach

Your own idea - or your teacher's suggestion
SNOW blowing growing white light all over
Travis White, 10, Cherry Creek, Mr. Bredin
City of Lowell
301 E. Main • Ph. 897-8457

What do you do during Christmas break when there is no school.
I sled yeah I usually crash in to trees!! Sometimes my old fart dog gets in the way then that makes me crash in to rocks!!
Kelsie Jurmo, 10, Murray Lake, Mrs. Grooters
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'Genesis Code,' first movie filmed in Lowell, is wrapping up for mid to late December release. A showing in Lowell is in the works as a thank you to the community.

The city of Lowell is looking for new uses of the former Cable TV building located on the Riverwalk.

There's a new athletic trainer at Lowell High School and her name is Patti Beggs.

The 2005 Central Michigan graduate was contracted out to Lowell through Dery Physical Therapy in Lowell.

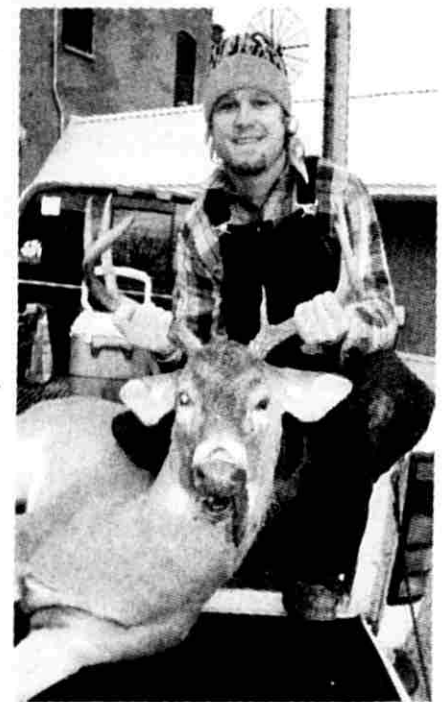


Lowell trainer Patti Beggs with junior Lowell football player Jacob Murray on rehab of his torn meniscus/MCL.



It was another work day at Richards Park on Oct. 20 as volunteers installed a granite bench. The bench was installed inscribed on the back with the names of some of the major donors. On the front are the words "Lowell Rotary Club Playground Service Project 2009." Rotarians working on the playground are pictured, left to right: Jeff Wilterink, Richard Bryan, John Gruzenza, Jim White and John Sterly.

By being the first hunter in for The Lowell Ledger's First Deer Contest, Josh Anderson won free processing from Jones Country Meats, free oil changes for a year from



Josh Anderson

Grand Chrysler-Dodge, a gift certificate from GOOD Chevrolet-Buick and a gift card from Bernard's Ace Hardware.

This year marked a change in contest rules. Hunters could bring in either a doe or a buck and be eligible for prizes.

Lowell's Chris Huver was second and the third hunter in Sunday morning was Darren Dockery.

This year's Sleigh Bells & Holly exhibit at the Lowell Area Arts Council showcases original art by more than 30 local artists. Newcomers as well as mainstays like Sandy

Bartlett, Gary Dietzel and Robin White are among the many featured artists. Maria Bajema, former treasurer of Grattan Township presented her nature photography.

Local veterans, who wore the uniform, shared their personal stories and artifacts from their years of service with Lowell Middle School eighth-grade students as part of a Veterans Day celebration.

After spending time researching what Veterans Day is and what it means, students were treated to firsthand accounts of what it was like to have served in World War II, the Korean and Vietnam Wars and Desert Storm.



Sharing stories and artifacts about their military service were, left to right: retired colonel, John Bedard; Herb Rice (Navy), Louie Dudeck (Marines), Glenn Marks (Navy), Don Souser (Navy), Ron Thomure (Army), and Dean DeGrote (Army).



Eric Wsolek of Watertap Inc. works on a 12" main line stop as part of the utilities relocation project. Michigan Department of Transportation along with the city are readying for the upcoming downtown bridge replacement project - slated for spring start.

The city hall will only be available for professional and civic group meetings and not to individuals. That is the final decision of the council

after a study committee presentation by councilwoman Sharon Ellison.

"The city hall has been provided by the taxpayers of Lowell for government purposes," Ellison said.

The purchase of Lowell to Greenville rail to trail section may be completed by the end of the year, although the trail group is still waiting on a grant from the Michigan Department of Transportation. Saranac resident Mary Lamphere has expressed a concern about the railroad cars being stored on the tracks in the vicinity of a nature preserve. According to Lamphere, deer cannot get to their water source and the cars are interfering with their natural habitat.

This year's Christmas Through Lowell tour flaunted variety. The jam packed tour got off to a great start with people roaming the streets of Lowell steadily from Friday morning and well into the weekend.

With speeds exceeding 100 mph, the Lowell Police Department (LPD) pursued a woman in a 1999 Chevrolet Impala last week. The police car chase ensued after officer Erika Evans attempted to pull over the car for speeding. The car took off on Grand River Drive, headed through Saranac and then eastbound on M21 toward Ionia. The driver finally gave up west of Ionia on M21. The driver is facing felony charges of fleeing and eluding 3rd degree, receiving and concealing a stolen vehicle, possession of a stolen license plate, driving with a suspended license and a habitual offender.

Curtis Cleaners is having a coat drive for kids and adults. Coats can be dropped off at the dry cleaning shop in Lowell, as well as at the other store locations in Grand Rapids and Cascade. Independent Bank and Impact Church are also collecting coats.

"It's a way to give back to the community," said manager Andy Curtis.



Marge Rehl, of FROM, arranges coats on a rack.

**Your own idea - or your teacher's suggestion**

When i did something for someone during the holidays. Oh thers this one time when my dad and me shuved a freinds yard. Her name is Mae and she is 87 years old. But she still gets arouns verey good. Although she cant drive. Plus ever before that and after that my dad and me shuvels her yard and drive way. And we visit her after. So thats what i did when i bid something for someone during the holidays when there was no school.

**PARKIN'S RESTAURANT**  
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897-5977

Jessica James, 11  
Cherry Creek  
Mr. Rob Stevens



Lowell won its third state championship in eight years. Gabe Dean, what are you going to do next? "I'm going to go into the locker room and go up to all my buddies and give them a pat on the back, especially my seniors - I'll give them all hugs." Dean said. "It's been a good day." For Dean and his Red Arrow teammates, this good day served as the backdrop to a 27-6 win over Inkster in the 2009 Division 2 state final.

**DECEMBER**  
Students at Unity High School kept their traditional November community service project alive by raking the grounds at the central office. Unity and the Nazarene Church which provided a kitchen and seating for a staff/student Thanksgiving lunch.

With the town decked out for Christmas, Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus ushered in the holiday spirit during the annual nighttime parade. The couple rode into town in their carriage pulled by a galloping horse as the last ones in the parade. This year's theme

**Your own idea - or your teacher's suggestion**

The nicest thing I did for some one was I send shoe boxes to kids in africa. I put in toys, games and dental items. I is relly fun when they send you back a letter. I think it is better to give.

**James Reagan, D.D.S.**  
207 W. Main • 897-7179

Nate Whittum, 11  
Cherry Creek  
Mr. Stevens



Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus usher in the holiday spirit during the annual nighttime parade.



Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus usher in the holiday spirit during the annual nighttime parade.

was 'A Christmas Story.' Following an outcry from local haulers, the city council, Monday, set another public hearing for a proposed waste hauler franchise for Jan. 19. The issue, now, has been rehased for close to a year.

The council approved the sale of old police vehicles. The council approved another three year contract with the Rotary to use the chambers for weekly meetings.

The Lowell Area Recreation Authority (LARA) has received a



Approximately 300 people from all over West Michigan gave a hearty welcome to Sgt. Shane Scherer at the Gerald Ford International Airport on Monday evening. Sgt. Scherer is pictured shaking hands at the airport.



The Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) gave out food baskets for 410 families during the big Christmas giveaway last week. Pictured are: Carole Sanocki, Dawn Broenc and Barbara Boland; also helping out were Carol Devito and John Stencil.

"This news is exciting for the entire community of Lowell, but especially for the LARA board and the campaign cabinet of the Lowell Area Trailway," said board member Mari Stone. "Some of us have been dreaming this dream since 2000 and when we are watching the construction next year, I for one will need a good pinch to prove it is real."

After a surprisingly warm November, the winter swept in swiftly last week dumping up to a foot of snow, creating havoc, traffic jams and grounding airplanes. In its wake came bitter cold freezing temperatures.

But, as the storm subsided, the winter wonderland emerged making way for a white Christmas.

In an emotionally charged atmosphere, the city council, family and residents recognized former mayor Jeanne Shores for her 28 years of service to the city and the community on Monday.

She is known for her passion for public service having served on most of the city committees and boards.

"Thank you for being yourself," said city clerk Betty Morlock.

Shores said she misses the most, the people she had served and worked with.

**Write down what you feel is the true meaning of Christmas.**

I think the true meaning of christmas is giving to others and being kind and celebrating what you have.

Maddie Burt, 10  
Murray Lake  
Mr. Fillman

209 W. Main  
Lowell  
897-8200

**the hanger**  
Affordable Boutique  
hot clothes cool prices

**Write down what you feel is the true meaning of Christmas.**

In my opinion the true meaning of christmas is about Jesus' birthday. Celebrating Jesus' birthday is really fun, but the presents help make it enjoyable. Especially for kids.

Alyssa McIntire, 11  
Cherry Creek  
Mr. Bredin

**What are your family's special Christmas or holiday traditions.**

our family tradions is open one present on chris mas eve then on the day before chris mas we allway get the same presents each year.

Matt Nelson, 10  
Cherry Creek  
Eric Bredin

**L.A. TRIM**  
Custom Automotive Interiors  
897-6546

Since 1980

**What are your family's special Christmas or holiday traditions.**

In my family we usually open one present on Christmas Eve. We open the rest on Christmas morning. We also go to both of my grandparents houses. The last place we go is Valparaso, Indiana.

Alex Dommer, 10  
Cherry Creek  
Mrs. Young

**METRIC MANUFACTURING CO.**

**MMC** 1001 Foreman  
Lowell  
897-5959

**Happy New Year!**





2009

- Obama in his first three days takes action to close Gitmo, freezes the salary of his top staff, proposes a stimulus package and goes to Capitol Hill to try and persuade Republicans on the plan.
- An avalanche kills 10 hikers on Mount Zigana in Ankara, Turkey.
- President Obama begins to reverse Bush climate policies.
- FDA approves world's first embryonic stem cell study.
- Merrill Lynch CEO resigns after it was discovered he spent \$1 million to decorate his office.
- Louis Farrakhan visited Kwame Kilpatrick in jail.
- Microsoft plans to layoff 5,000 people in the next 18 months.
- Over 68,000 jobs lost in the last week of January.
- Superbowl 43 - Pittsburgh Steelers beat the Arizona Cardinals 27-23.
- Colin Montgomerie named next Ryder Cup captain for Europe.
- Blagojevich tossed out as governor of Illinois.
- The Michigan Senate votes to repeal the business tax surcharge.
- Mount Asama erupts and showers Tokyo with ash.
- Moammar Gadhafi of Libya is elected as leader of the African Union.
- Michael Phelps is pictured smoking pot-his endorsement contracts are in jeopardy.
- Worst snowstorm in 18 years in England.
- Iraq denies Blackwater an operating license.
- Exxon posts a record \$45.2 billion profit.
- Russia and China blame capitalists for economic crisis.
- Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg is hospitalized with a pancreatic tumor.
- President Obama takes his first flight on Air Force One. He also visits Indiana and Florida to generate support for his stimulus plan.
- California woman who gave birth to eight infants is already the mother of six fatherless children. All 14 children were conceived through artificial insemination.
- Massive fires in Australia have killed over 170 people.
- 19-year-old, R&B singer Chris Brown faces assault charges involving his girlfriend singer Rihanna.
- Suicide car bomber kills four American soldiers in Iraq. The deadliest single attack against U.S. forces in nine months.
- Nissan to eliminate 20,000 jobs worldwide.
- Bernie Madoff's client list is made public in a massive 162 page document.

- Alex Rodriguez admits to using performance-enhancing drugs.
- Huge ice storm in Kentucky.
- Division 1 basketball coach Pat Summit, of Tennessee, becomes the first coach to win 1,000 career games.
- Calvin College in Grand Rapids suspends student for Facebook entry.
- Two nuclear submarines from Britain and France collide in the Atlantic ocean at low speed.
- Japan's finance minister resigns after he falls asleep on camera. He says it was too much cold medicine.
- Microsoft offers \$250,000 bounty for worm creator.
- For the first time, a United States communications satellite collides into a Russian satellite.
- The cost of a first-class stamp will go up two cents in May.
- British rail stations ban kissing before boarding and on trains.
- In Connecticut, a woman is attacked by her friend's 14-year-old chimpanzee.
- George Bush steps by a hardware store (invited by the manager) and jokes, "I'm here for a job."
- Stocks fall to a level not seen since 1997.
- President Obama to pledge troop drawdown in Iraq by 2010.
- Pentagon permits photographs of the coffins of fallen soldiers as they return.
- Paul Harvey, longtime radio personality, dies at 91.
- Republican National Committee Chairman Michael Steele calls Rush Limbaugh's comments incendiary and ugly.
- The real-life 'Cheers' bartender, Eddie Doyle, 66, was laid off after 35 years tending bar at the Boston tavern that inspired the television show.
- Iraqi shoe-throwing reporter was sentenced to three years in jail.
- David Letterman marries his longtime girlfriend Regina Lasko.
- Japanese test small-free underwear in space.
- Alaska's Mount Redoubt volcano erupts six times.
- A study (the largest to date) shows eating large amounts of red and processed meat put people at greater risk of heart disease and cancer.
- Palm Springs welcomes back virtually banning them in the eighties.
- Somalian pirates still a huge problem for oceangoing cargo ships and their crew.
- Government forces GM CEO Rick Wagner to resign.
- The long-running television series ER will air its finale.
- Three boys in southwest

- Michigan have unearthed a mammoth bone.
- U. S. soldier is convicted of murdering four Iraqi people and sentenced to 35 years.
- The United States advises against travel to Mexico as the swine flu spreads. American swine flu cases climb to 40.
- GM will shed 21,000 U.S. factory jobs. GM also announced the phasing out of Pontiac, Hummer, Saab, and Saturn. GM hopes to sell Saturn and Hummer.
- A WWII fighter plane was brought to the surface after 60 years at the bottom of Lake Michigan.
- Bea Arthur, 86, dies.
- David Souter resigns as supreme court justice.
- Music lovers mark 40 years of Jazz Fest in New Orleans, LA. The celebration expects to draw well over 400,000 people.
- Republican Senator Arlen Specter leaves his party and joins the Democrats.
- A Dallas Cowboys' training facility collapses during high winds.
- Jack Kemp, dies at 73.
- Mine That Bird wins the Kentucky Derby. The horse was a 50 to one long shot.
- U.S. to require new cars get 42 mpg starting in 2016.
- Spacewalkers give hubble its last hug.
- N. Korea prepares long-range missile weapon believed to be capable of reaching Alaska.
- General Motors Corporation files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy.
- New passport rules in effect at U.S. borders.
- Conan O'Brien takes over The Tonight Show after Jay Leno leaves after 17 years.
- Susan Boyle came in second at the conclusion of the talent competition.
- The price of oil rises to nearly \$68 a barrel.
- Los Angeles Lakers win NBA Championship, 4-1.
- Ryan O'Neal says he will marry terminally ill Farrah Fawcett.
- Two Washington D.C. Metro subway trains collide.
- Ed McMahon, 86, dies.
- Heavy rains and a flooded fairground forces the cancellation of an annual free concert in Ionia MI.
- Michael Jackson, at the age of 50, dies suddenly.
- Alaska Gov., Sarah Palin, steps down with 18 months left in her term.
- Former Defense Secretary, Robert McNamara dies at the age of 93.
- Walter Cronkite, 92, passed away Friday, July 17.
- One giant leap 40 years ago - Apollo 11 celebrates landing on the moon.
- Author Frank McCourt dies at the age of 78.
- Coca-Cola prepares to launch fizzy milk.
- Farrah Fawcett leaves fortune to troubled son, not longterm partner, Ryan O'Neal.
- The government 'Cash for Clunkers' program lifts Ford sales up two percent in July.
- Sonia Solomayor won confirmation - first Hispanic Supreme Court Justice.
- A small plane and a sightseeing helicopter collided and plunged into the Hudson River in New York, killing all on board.
- Up to 400 people missing in Taiwan as Typhoon Morakot hits Asia.
- Unice Kennedy Shriver dies at 88.
- Tiger Woods wins the Bridgestone Invitational but

- is fined for an angry response to his opponent being timed.
- At least 615 children suffer lead poisoning in China.
- Les Paul dies at the age of 94.
- Lockerbie bomber, Al Megrahi, 57, gets a hero's welcome in Libya.
- Don Hewitt, creator of 60 Minutes, dies at the age of 86.
- Congress and President Obama have declared Sept. 11 a national day of service and remembrance.
- Actor Patrick Swayze dies at the age of 57.
- Kanye West disses singer Taylor Swift at MTV's Video Music Awards.
- After Rep. Joe Wilson's rude shout out during President Obama's address to Congress, his own party forced him to apologize.
- Venus Williams blows up and screams profanities - fined \$10,000. She's apologizing.
- Three teenagers were tossed from a New Jersey ballpark for refusing to stand during the song "God Bless America" and are suing the Newark Bears. Apparently they are not apologizing.
- Nobel prize winning scientist Norman Borlaug, the father of the "green revolution," has died at the age of 95.
- Jay Leno began his new 10 p.m. show.
- After a 19-game dry spell, the Detroit Lions win against the Washington Redskins.
- David Letterman revealed an extortion attempt on his "Late Show" program.
- A 37-year-old woman died after being mauled by her 350 pound pet black bear.
- Chicago cab service is asking the city council for a 22 percent rate increase due to individuals who get sick in their cabs.
- President Barack Obama has won the Nobel Peace prize.
- Golf has been approved as an Olympic sport along with rugby in the 2016 games.
- The President's Cup golf tournament concluded with the Americans winning 19 1/2 to 14 1/2 with Tiger Woods going 5-0.
- The Miss America pageant selects Rush Limbaugh as a judge for the 2010 contest.
- A judge in New Orleans refused to issue a marriage license to an interracial couple.
- 'Balloon Boy' drama was a hoax.
- Three runners die competing in Detroit marathon.
- President Obama declared the H1N1 flu outbreak a national emergency.
- Comedian Soupy Sales, 83, died.
- A Northwest jet flying into Minneapolis missed its stop by 150 miles. All signs point to the pilots both napping - they say they were having a heated discussion.
- The Michael Jackson bio "This Is It" was released.
- For the first time since 1982 an American man won the New York City Marathon.
- Ford reports a nearly \$1 billion third quarter profit.
- Iran is charging three American hikers with espionage.
- The 20th anniversary is being celebrated of the fall of the Berlin Wall.
- The number of text messages in the U.S. grew by more than 80 percent - there were 135.2 billion text messages sent in 12 months.
- Oprah Winfrey is leaving her popular daytime talk

- show in 2011 as the show's 25th season ends.
- A Chinese man critical of the government's response to the 2008 Sichuan earthquake was sentenced to three years in prison.
- Sarah Palin holds her first book signing in Grand Rapids, MI.
- In Anchorage, Alaska, the volunteer "elves" are trying to counter a decision by the U.S. Postal Service to discontinue a program, begun in 1954, in the small Alaskan town of the North Pole. They were opening and responding to thousands of letters addressed to "Santa Claus" each year.
- Global warming could wipe out \$28 trillion worth of assets in the world's largest coastal cities as melting ice caps push sea levels higher, a new report warns.
- The ultra low interest rates the U.S. has been paying on its colossal debt may not last much longer. The White House estimates that the tab will exceed \$700 billion a year in 2019.
- Faced with the sudden collapse of its plan to sell Saab to Sweden's Koenigsegg Group AB, a disappointed General Motors must now confront the possibility of shutting Saab down.
- Toyota hits the brakes on four million gas pedals. Automaker recalls four million gas pedals after problems with it getting stuck in the car's floor mat.
- Pro golfer, Tiger Woods, was in a single vehicle crash early Friday morning. Woods suffered minor injuries; Woods also denied talking to the police department.
- An oil tanker bound for the United States was hijacked off Somalia with a crew of 28 aboard, maritime authorities said. Pirates have captured more than 50 ships this year off Somalia.
- Two people without invitations crashed President Obama's first White House state dinner, the U.S. Secret Service stated. The couple also had their photo taken with the president and vice president.
- Chelsea Clinton announced her engagement to longtime boyfriend.
- NASA scientists have produced the most compelling evidence yet that bacterial life exists on Mars. Microscopic worm-like structures were found in a meteorite.
- Las Vegas' CityCenter and Aria Resort & Casino is pinning its biggest bet ever - \$8.5 billion - on a 67-acre six-tower complex. The complex of 5,900 rooms opens this December.
- 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. By midweek the toys were deemed safe.
- 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 prosperity and security.

- Billionaire adventurer Richard Branson reveals the latest in space tourism - the first-class space tourist's wonder machine at the core of Virgin Galactic's suborbital fleet.
- The largest and most important U.N. climate change conference in history opened Monday with diplomats from 192 nations.
- Comcast announced the purchase of 51 percent of NBC Universal.
- In Italy, Amanda Knox, a college student from Seattle, was found guilty of murder and was sentenced to 26 years in prison. The family says they will appeal the verdict.
- A strange, blue, spiraling light was seen last week over the Norwegian sky. There was plenty of speculation including, meteors and aliens, but some experts are saying it was most likely a Russian missile.
- President Obama collected his Nobel Peace Prize saying, "I receive this honor with deep gratitude and great humility."
- General Motors Co. confirmed Buick GMC general manager Michael Richards quit after nine days on the job.
- Michigan will become the 38th state to ban smoking in public places on May 1. Exceptions include the gaming floors at the three Detroit casinos, cigar bars, specialty tobacco shops, home offices and motor vehicles.
- Detroit may be closer to a light-rail system after the U.S. House passed a provision in a bill Thursday clearing key funding for the city. The \$430 million project would run along Woodward downtown to Eight Mile.
- Japan is providing up to a \$2,830 tax cut for scrapping a car 13 years or older toward the purchase of a new car. Excluded from this program are any U.S. made vehicles for the new car purchase.
- The 2009 Heisman Trophy was awarded to Mark Ingram of the University of Alabama. Ingram is a resident of Flint, MI. This is the first Heisman for Alabama.
- NASA is launching a new telescope to scan the cosmos for undiscovered asteroids. This includes asteroids and comets that might threaten Earth.
- The Copenhagen climate talks are suspended in chaos as countries walk out of the conference.
- Senate Democrats might meet their goal of passing health care reform by Christmas. The bill passed a crucial test setting up for a final vote on Christmas Eve.
- Government tests nation's top hackers. Elite young group competed in the U.S. Cyber Challenge. The idea is to recruit help to defend the government against cyber attacks.
- The Mayon Volcano, in the Philippines, is at level four and is ready to erupt within days. Tens of thousands of people have been evacuated from the area.
- Actress Brittany Murphy dies at the age of 32 apparently from natural causes.
- James Cameron's sci-fi epic "Avatar," the most expensive movie made, soared to number one at the box office raking in \$232.2 million worldwide.

# Kid Scoop

For puzzle answers, games, opinion polls and much more go to: [www.thelowellledger.com](http://www.thelowellledger.com) AND CLICK ON KIDS SCOOP BUTTON

## Championship Training

Five-time Olympic medalist, Apolo Anton Ohno knows that regular, repeated practice is what keeps him a world champion speed skater.

On a typical training day, he wakes up at 7:00 a.m., eats a light breakfast, and heads to the rink about 45 minutes later for practice.

He starts practicing on the ice at 8:45 and continues for two hours. He then has lunch and rests until the next workout from 2:30 till 5:00.

After that he heads to a sports medicine clinic for an ice bath and a special massage.

He eats dinner at 7:00. At 7:45 he sharpens his skates and watches skating videos.

If he has time after that, he reads and calls friends.

Find the two images of Apolo that are the same.

Read about a typical training day for Anton Ohno. Then complete the schedule below to show where he is at different times during the day.

7:45 a.m.
9:30 a.m.
2:30 p.m.
3:15 p.m.
4:30 p.m.
7:15 p.m.

Standards Link: Measurement: Understand the concept of time and how it is measured.

Why do athletes practice so much, when they already know how to do their sport? Repeated practice makes athletes stronger and improves their endurance, or lasting power. Repeated practice also builds muscle memory.

## Kid Scoop Puzzler

**Speed Skaters**

To find the number of seconds it took each skater to complete a lap around the rink, add up the numbers next to each skater. Which skater won?

Standards Link: Number Sense: Calculate sums.

**The Online Scoop**

Play an online game to learn more about the human body and find out all about the Winter Games 2010 mascots at [kidscoop.com/kids](http://kidscoop.com/kids)

## FROM THE KID SCOOP LESSON LIBRARY

**Make a Date**

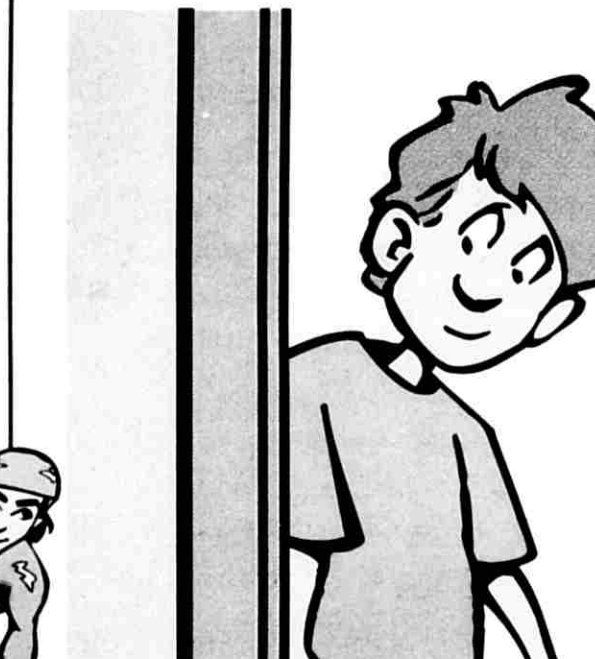
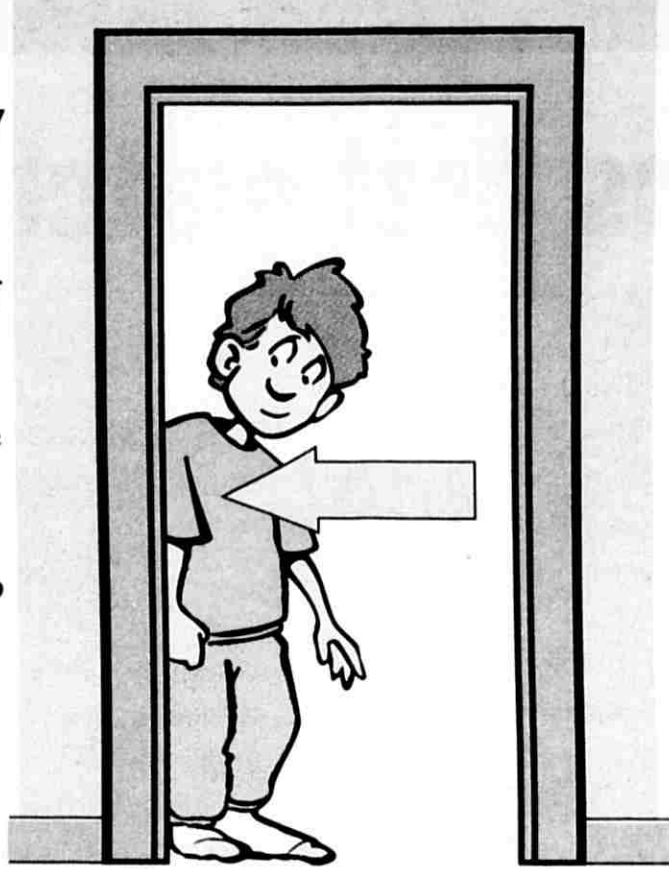
Look through the newspaper for the date and time of three things you would like to do. Draw three pictures of clocks and show the time of each event. Then find the date for each event on a calendar.

Standards Link: Measurement: Understand how time is measured using a clock and a calendar.

## Muscle Memory

Stand inside the doorframe with one arm directly against one side of the frame.

Attempt to raise the arm against the doorframe and away from your body, as if you were going to flap your arm like a wing. It will be stopped by the doorframe, as in this picture:



Now, keep pushing! And push some more! Count slowly to 30, pushing your arm out against the frame the entire time.

Then, step away from the doorframe. Relax both your arms, and let them hang limp at your side.

But watch what happens: the arm you were pressing against the doorframe will start to rise!

## What's going on?

Your muscles have memory: when you press your arm against the frame for so long, your arm muscles get so used to pushing, they continue to push, even after you've stepped away. And since your arm muscles are still working, your arm raises up into the air. Eventually, your arm muscles will realize you are no longer asking anything of them, and your arm will lower back down.

Standards Link: Physical Education: Uses movement concepts and principles.

## Extra! Extra! Action Shots

Select a photograph of an athlete in today's newspaper. Try to imitate the pose in the picture. How long can you hold the pose?

Standards Link: Physical Education: Uses movement concepts and principles.

## Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

APOLO PRACTICE SHARPENS MASSAGE TYPICAL CLINIC POWER MUSCLE MEMORY FRAME ENTIRE RINK POSE RISE

M U S C L E E S T R  
T R A H S G C T E I  
E Y G O A I Y C E S  
F Y P S N R I F R E  
R O S I O T P R I T  
A A L M C L W E T A  
M C E A I A O N N K  
E M R I N K L P E S  
N P O W E R I N A G

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



## What gets harder to catch the faster you run?

ANSWER: Your breath!

## Kid Scoop Together: Family Fit

How many steps do you and other family members take every day? Fitness experts say people should take at least 10,000 steps every day—that equals about five miles of walking.

You can start by counting steps in your daily routine. How many steps is it from:

- Your bedroom to the front door?
- Your front door, around your house or building and back to the front door?
- Your home to a friend's home?
- The entrance of your school to your class?
- One end of the playground to the other?

Here are some easy ways to sneak extra steps into your day:

- Get up and walk around during commercial breaks while you're watching TV.
- If you walk to school, take a longer route or maybe walk on the way home, so you're not late!
- Take the stairs more often.
- Become a part-time pet walker.
- If you go shopping with a parent, have them park farther than usual from the store entrance.
- Walk around while you're brushing your teeth or on the phone.

Standards Link: Physical Education: Know about opportunities for participation in physical activities both in and out of school.

## Kid Scoop-ohm!

Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word TRAIN in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you.

	A	T
N		R
	R	A
		R
I		N

## Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **ENDURANCE**

The noun **endurance** means the ability to continue something for a long time.

Speed skaters need a lot of **endurance** to practice for hours at a time.

Try to use the word **endurance** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

## Write On! FITNESS EXERCISE

Write a page about an exercise that you do, either to stay fit or to warm up before a sporting activity.



# Red Arrow SPORTS

## Lowell wins first match against state power Rockford

by Thad Kraus

Rockford, Stevensville-Lakeshore and Lowell will remember Tuesday night's quad for different reasons.

Stevensville-Lakeshore, a week after suffering a tough loss to Allegan, produced an impressive 37-23 win over Rockford.

The Rams finished a stretch of three matches against Hartland, Lakeshore and Lowell, a pretty tough trio by anyone's standards.

"Unfortunately we wound up 0-3 against those guys," said Rockford first-year head coach Brian Richardson.

Lowell, who will test the Division I playoff waters for the first time this year, discharged a volley to area Division I schools with its 33-23 win over Rockford.

Lowell wrestling coach Dave Dean viewed it more as a deposit into his kids' open bank account.

"Winning builds confidence. When kids win, they build confidence. We're just trying to fill up their account," Dean explained.

Martin Brubaker and Jake Lynema may have made the biggest deposit into their confidence accounts.

Brubaker posted a 6-0 decision against Rockford's Pat MacGregor.

"Martin is a bright kid who has learned so fast and gotten better so quickly," Dean explained. "It's exciting to think where he will be down the road."

Lynema, heavyweight, put Rockford's Zack Nelson to his back at 3:32 of the second period to push Lowell's lead to double digits at 24-13.

"Jake is a gamer and he's athletic. He's gone through some tough times at school, but he's worked hard and is doing great now," Dean said.

"I'm extremely proud of Jake."

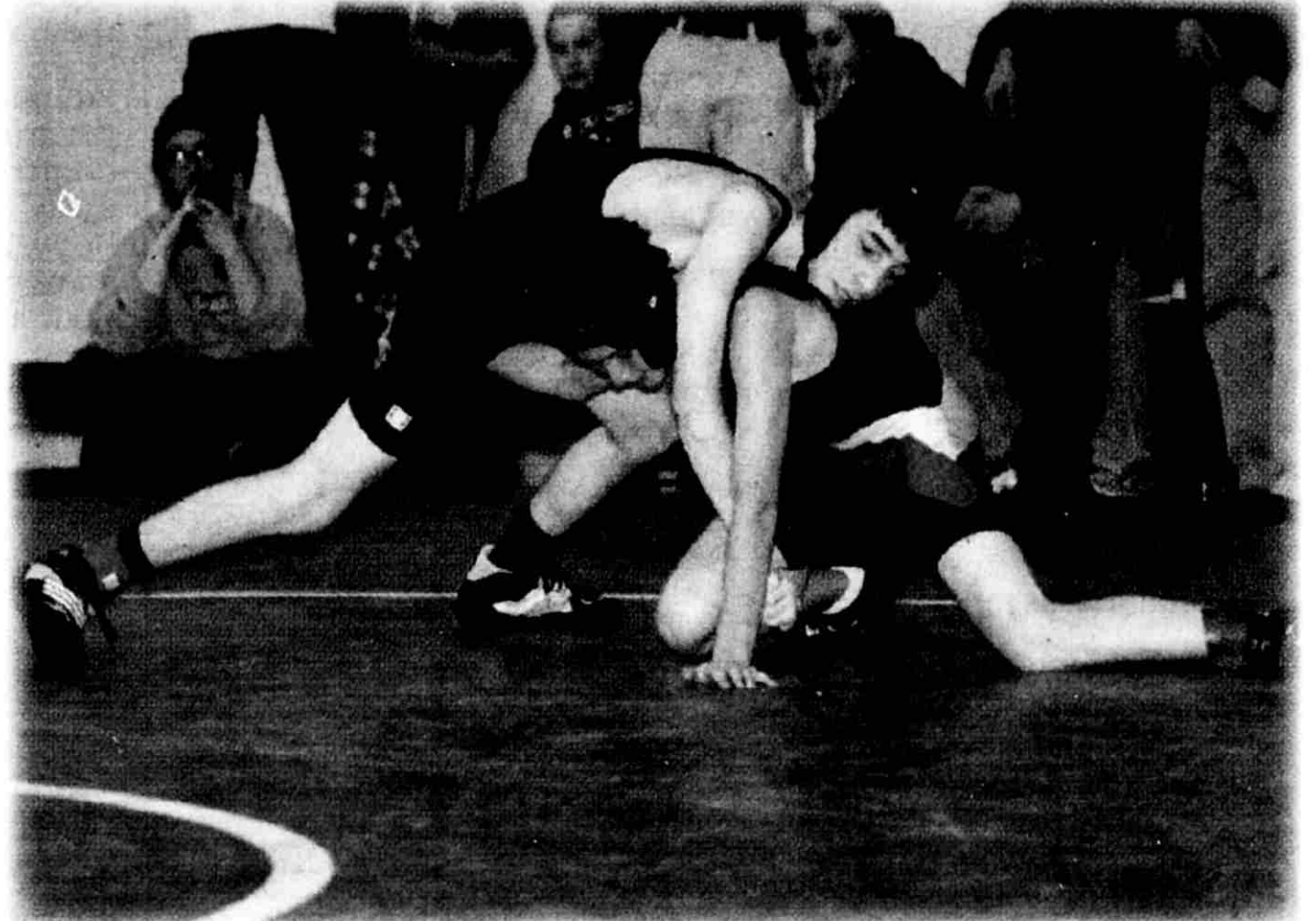
Lowell never trailed in a match that was tied just once at 3-3.

"No doubt wrestling these talented teams will benefit us down the road," Richardson said. "If we can take care of business in our conference first, and once that is over, maybe we can take another shot at Lowell provided we both make it into the regional."

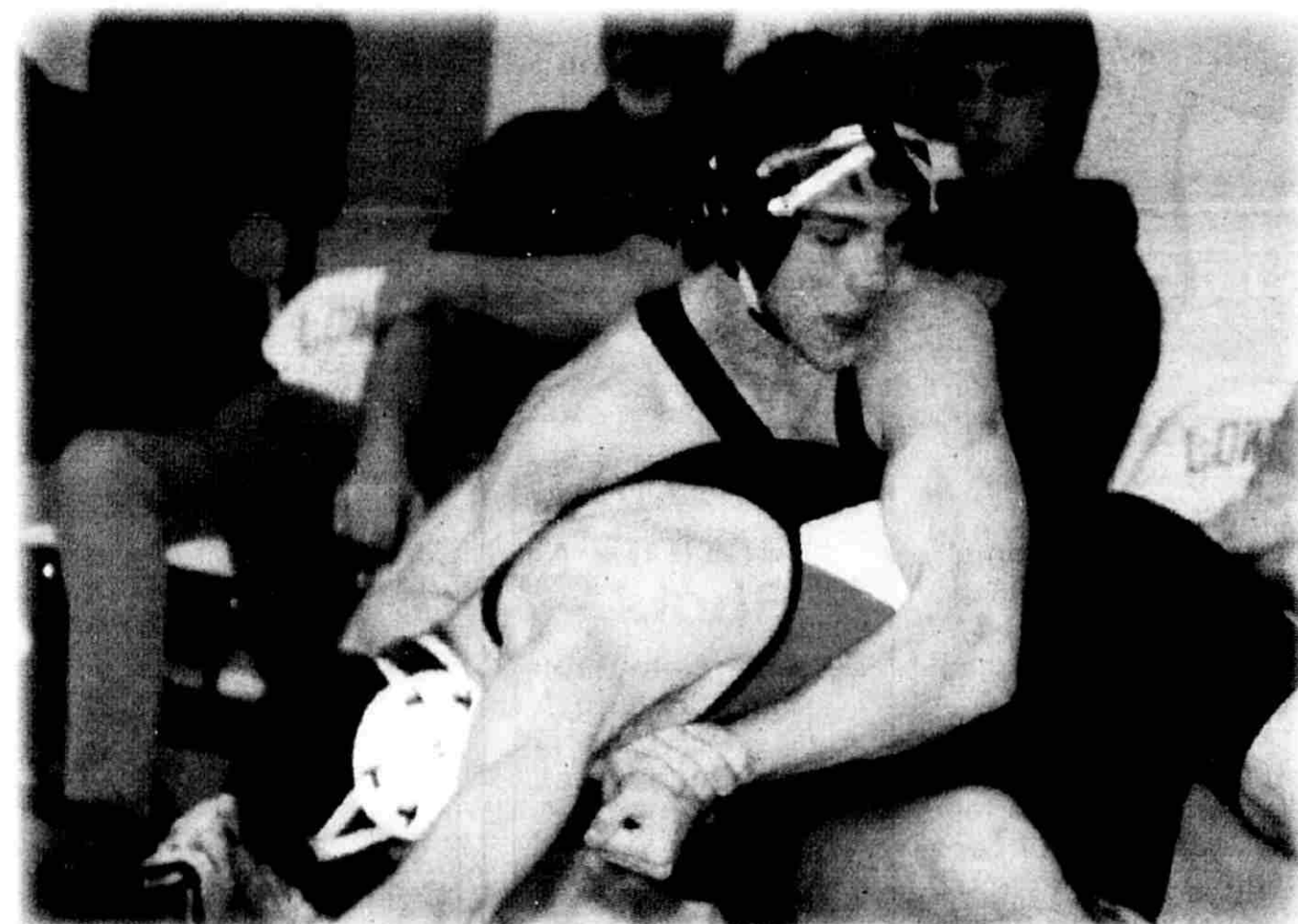
Lowell, in a match it never trailed, opened with a 12-7 major decision by Gabe Dean (135) over Rockford's Drew Scogg.

Andrew Morse, 145, earned a 20-5 technical fall against Bruce Carlstrom to break up a 3-3 tie.

Dan Fleet, wrestling at 152, recorded a 16-5 major decision over Sam Williams.

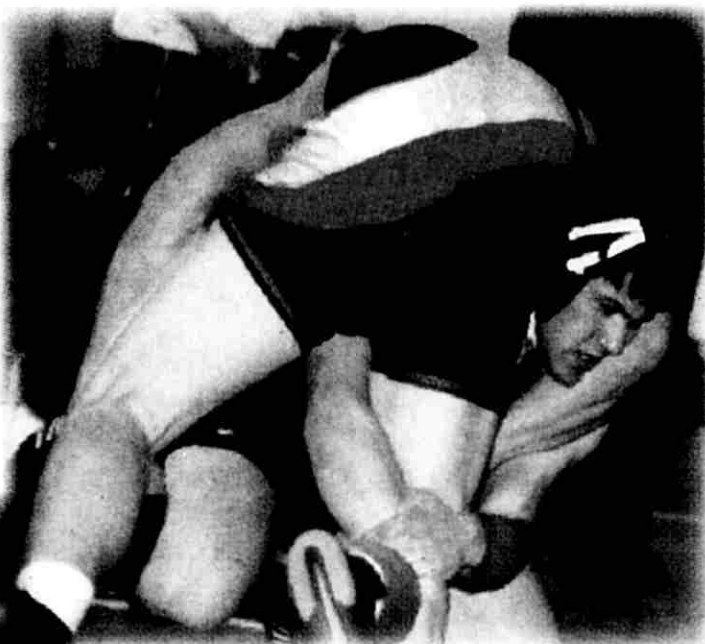


Martin Brubaker earned a 3-0 decision in the 103-pound match against Rockford.



Lowell's Andrew Morse was dominant in his 20-5 technical fall at 145 pounds.

Ryan Olep lost 7-6 to Division I, 215 pound state champ Joe Stefanski.



Lowell's Dan Fleet escapes the clutches of Sam Williams in his 16-5 major decision.



Jackson Morse, 160, followed with a pin at 55 seconds of the first period against Robbie Gorton extending the Red Arrow lead to 18-3.

The Rams cut the Lowell lead to five at 18-13 with wins at 171, 189 and 215.

The Red Arrows answered with wins by Lynema and Brubaker, building a 27-13 advantage.

Lowell's Matt Griffioen (125) added a pin at 1:36 of the first period against Chris Barrintine getting Lowell to 33.

"In November and December you build," explained Dean. "After Christmas is a new season; that's where you take what you did in November/December and turn it into gold."

### Wrestling Sidebar:

Stevensville-Lakeshore coach Bruce Bittenbender recorded wins number 736 and 737 on Tuesday. He is the winningest high school wrestling coach in the state's history. He set the record with win 735 against St. Joseph last week.

It's a safe bet his 7-1 Lancers are going to add a few wins to that total.

"It's what we got (talking about his team) and what we've got is pretty good," Bittenbender said.

His Lancers revisit Lowell in January for the Gary Rivers Memorial Tournament.

### Weight Class results:

#### 103 lbs

Martin Brubaker, Lowell def. Pat McGregor, Rockford; Decision, 6-0

#### 112 lbs

Tyler VanRooyen, Rockford def. Zach Jeffries, Lowell; Decision, 3-0

#### 119 lbs

Cullen Maksimowski, Rockford def. Calvin Meyer, Lowell; Decision, 5-1

#### 125 lbs

Matt Griffioen, Lowell def. Chris Barrintine, Rockford; Pin, 1:36

#### 130 lbs

Jake Byers, Rockford def. Jake Fillingham, Lowell; Major Decision, 10-2

#### 135 lbs

Gabe Morse, Lowell def. Drew Scogg, Rockford; Decision, 12-7

#### 140 lbs

Austin Scogg, Rockford def. Jake Gould, Lowell; Decision, 5-4

#### 145 lbs

Andrew Morse, Lowell def. Bruce Carlstrom, Rockford; Technical Fall, 20-5

#### 152 lbs

Dan Fleet, Lowell def. Sam Williams, Rockford; Major Decision, 16-5

#### 160 lbs

Jackson Morse, Lowell def. Robbie Gorton, Rockford; Pin, 0:55

#### 171 lbs

Jake Dorulla, Rockford def. Gabe Dean, Lowell; Decision, 5-3

#### 189 lbs

Jake Johnson, Rockford def. Wade Schlosser, Lowell; Technical Fall, 28-12

#### 215 lbs

Joe Stefanski, Rockford def. Ryan Olep, Lowell; Decision, 7-6

#### 285 lbs

Jake Lynema, Lowell def. Zack Nelson, Rockford; Pin, 3:32

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