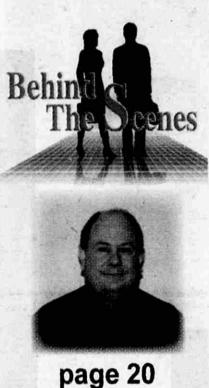
## 127 Railroad St Springport MI 49284-9769 the nowell de la company de la issue 19

Dentist's practice named business of the year

Springport Book Bindery

wednesday · february · 17 · 2010

for over 116 years • today - tomorrow - your lowell area news source



elementary

olympics

### by Emma Palova

at a dentist's office?

Well, for James Reagan it's like a snow day. Nobody shows up. On the other hand a good day is when everybody shows up.

said.

Reagan credits his staff for the Business of the Year recognition from the Chamber of Commerce.

coming to work and putting expects that same love for work." work from his staff.

"When you get a business recognition it's a joint effort on the part of the whole staff," he said. "I don't see everybody. We all should celebrate what helps make this office successful."

building right downtown by

For Reagan, whose dad ' So, what is a bad day like Robert Reagan was a dentist until he retired in 1994, the transition from dental school to work was easy. He worked with dad for 10 years.

"Our biggest conflict was just the radio station we "It goes by faster," he played," laughed Reagan. "We worked well together."

year, Reagan Last celebrated 25 years in business, ironically with a broken arm because he fell Every day he enjoys off his bike in the driveway.

"Every day is different," people out of pain. He also he said. "I enjoy coming to

Nothing is more rewarding than getting a patient out of pain on a Friday night or a Saturday. Reagan has a clientele of approximately 4,000 to 5,000 patients, some regulars and some who only come once or twice. But, The office, located in a that is a standard for a dental



www.thelowellledger.com

նվորներիությունըությունը

page 7

the town clock, has had a dentist in it since 1935.

Business of the year, continued, page 3

Lorri vanheulen, Gall Inomet, Jean Getzen, Cara Haines, Jim Reagan, Julie Spaans and Sue Hessler.

### LHS sports





## **Group needs** authority to manage funds



pages 14 - 15

by Emma Palova

In a series of road blocks, it becomes obvious that the Rails to Trails group needs a fiduciary to manage its funds. The group has \$425,000, held by the Friends of the Meijer Heartland Fred Trail, plus money coming from the railroad leases. The leases will generate \$15,000 to \$20,000 for trail maintenance, also held by the friends.

"I want to see the authority happen," said chairwoman Carolyn Kane from the West Michigan Trails and

Coalition. Greenways "We need an authority or a governmental unit, so we do not have to use someone else."

Discussions have started about forming an interlocal agreement between several units of government. Once formed, the authority could hold the money since there is more money coming pending the Michigan Department of Transportation grant for the

> Rails to Trails funding, continued, page 2

### Snow storm blankets area

Last week's storm dumped 10 more inches of snow on the existing white cover. Area landmarks in Fallasburg Park, including the covered bridge, were embellished by the snow in the icy-like kingdom. Roads and driving became treacherous again, but the ice cover on the area lakes remained strong enough for fishermen to continue to enjoy ice fishing for bluegills.

In the dead of winter, birds appreciate having the feeder full with sunflower seeds.



## LHS plans 'green' prom

submitted by, Samantha Hagerman, LHS student council

Lowell High School has decided to put on a green prom this spring for its junior and senior classes. The students want to promote helping the Earth by using environmentally friendly practices for this year's prom.

The theme for the prom is "Enchanted Forest" and it will be held at the Felt Mansion in Saugatuck. The student council is organizing

a dinner catered by Keiser's to promote local business and they are getting busses to carpool for the drive to Saugatuck.

But the big plan to make prom green, is a plate donation by the community for dinner at the Mansion. These plates will take the place of paper or Styrofoam plates that will just be thrown out.

After the dance, some of the plates will be given to the high school art classes and made into a mosaic to remember this historic event. The rest will be donated to Flat River Outreach Ministries.

The school is asking anyone with extra plates in their homes to donate them to the high school. The school will be accepting plate donations in the main office of the high school.

For more information, contact Ms. Ellis at sellis@ lowellschools.com

## **Rails to Trails funding, continued**

purchase of the Greenville to Lowell piece.

"We will be billing for leases formaintenance."Kane said. "We need somebody to this on corridor basis." hold the funds."

Much in connection with Drive on the Lowell to Ionia piece. However, the club has a shooting range on the south side of the property, if they're going to have They may be granted an landlocked property," Bauer easement so the land is not said. landlocked.

with hunting on the trail include the Flat River Game up MDOT grant money to the Area on the Lowell to group for the purchase of the Greenville piece.



representative Annamarie Bauer. "We need to deal with

DNR or friends groups property. However, the case their leverage. We cannot Sportsmen's Club of DNR granting easements landlocked area on Riverside for vehicle crossings of the trail is more restrictive due to potential conflicts

"We're concerned

However, it is precisely Other areas concerned because of a class A lawsuit over easements that is holding Lowell to Greenville piece.

"The enhancement office is waiting for the general attorney's response," said Belding grant writer Julianne

Burns also questioned why the railroad company has tied an additional purchase





## the lowell dger (USPS 453-830)

Published weekly for \$2200 a year for zip codes beginning with 493 or 495 \$3200 a year any other zip code.

...PUBLISHER

LEAD REPORTER

...CLASSIFIED/ACCOUNTING

... ADVERTISING SALES

SPORTS/SALES

JON JACOBS
EMMA PALOVA
THAD KRAUS
TAMMY JANOWIAK
JON JACOBS

### (616) 897-9261

E-Mail: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com Second Class Postage Paid at Lowell, MI Published every Wednesday POSTMASTER: Send address change to: The Lowell Ledger

P.O. Box 128 • Lowell, MI 49331 www.lowellbuyersguide.com

hunting needs," said DNR Greenville to the entire deal. "Time is running out on the grant," she said. "Our concern is Ionia to Lowell and Lowell to discussion was may grant easements to Greenville - no connectors. project devoted to hunting on the prevent landlocking of Our leverage is bigger than

"We are sensitive to the of a 2.8 mile connector by go back and renegotiate the enhancement application. We cannot rewrite the grant it's pending."

Cane said the 2.8 mile connector is not the group's

requested to be reimbursed by the group for the grant writing due to the large March 27. The next meeting volume of work throughout will be held on March 11 at the process and budget the Lowell Area Chamber. concerns for the city of Belding.

However, Burns also



Carolyn Kane, Annamarie Bauer and Julianne Burns engage in fierce discussion over the prospect that an MDOT grant may need to be re-written if tied to a 2.8 mile connector in Greenville.



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

### **CLASS OF 2014 ORIENTATION**

Orientation will be held at Lowell High School on Wed., Feb. 17 at 7 p.m. in the Lowell Performing Arts Center. Parents and students are invited to learn about high school policies, requirements, and opportunities. Teachers as well as group/activity leaders will be available for questions.

### **IRISH SETTLERS WORKSHOP**

The Lowell Area Historical Museum will hold an Irish Settlers Workshop for youth on Sat., Feb. 20 at the Wittenbach/Wege Center from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Each student will choose to participate in two of four classes. An Irish lunch will be served. Class size is limited. Call Linda to register, 897-7688.

### **UKRAINIAN EGG DECORATING**

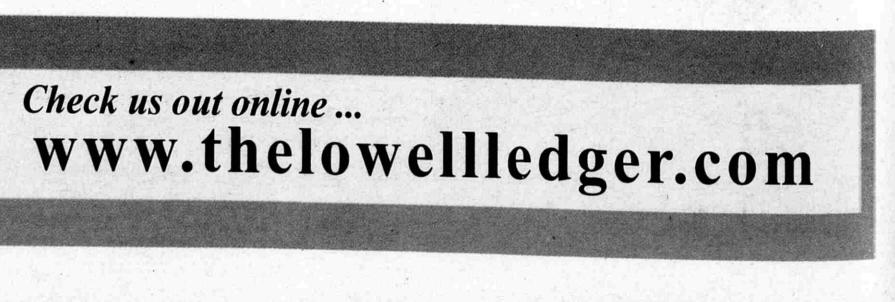
The Lowell Area Historical Museum will have a class on Ukrainian egg decorating for adults taught by Linda Busman on Feb. 27 from 10-2 p.m. Call Linda at the museum to register, 897-7688.

### **YOUTH FAIR & SCOUTING BREAKFAST**

The Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a breakfast in support of the Kent County Youth Fair, Mar. 7, 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. at St. Patricks' Parish Center, 4351 Parnell Ave., Ada. Donations requested at the door. Serving from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. includes eggs, pancakes, sausage, ham, hash browns, coffee and juice. Seventy-five percent of donations will go to the youth fair and 25 percent will go to the Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts who help serve and clean up. For further information contact Dennis and Diane Brown, 897-7611.

### **ART & THEATRE CLASSES FOR YOUTH** Lowell Area Arts Council is offering 'Let's Draw'

with Sandy Bartlett; 'Create Like An Egyptian' with Mary Pastor; 'The Art of Japanese Braiding' (Kumihumo) with Janet Krueger; 'The A, B, C's of Theatre' for middle school students; and 'Beginning Improvisation for the Theatre' for grades 2-5 with Mary Beth Quillin. Classes will be held in March and April. Call 897-8545 for more information or visit www.lowellartscouncil.org



ledger

wednesday · february · 17 · 2010

The trail group will be present at the Lowell Expo on

### wednesday · february · 17 · 2010

## **Business of the year, continued**

office his size, according to Reagan.

receptionists, three hygienists and two assistants. The fact that Reagan comes from working without gloves," he the area from a big family has also helped, as well as the influx of young patients moving into Lowell and the townships

"I either grew up with them or they knew my family," he said.

Reagan has learned a lot from dad, such as chairside manners, which also comes with experience.

Some of the early challenges included the His staff too, has grown integration of computers into over the years from an the office and getting used associate of early years, Joe to rubber Playtex gloves. Kirkwood, one hygienist Dentists were not required to and one receptionist to four wear gloves until the AIDS scare around 1986.

"Now, I can't imagine said

But, the integration of computers also meant faster processing of insurance claims, patient charting and people will still need to take record keeping.

"We see a lot more patients because we're faster," said Reagan. "This is not a one man operation."

He attributes his success to good stable staff with

turnover minimum convenient downtown location.

"I know my patients," he said. "I know their families and extended families."

only had a slight impact on the dental office that less people are moving into the

"We've been established." he said. "After the economic downturn. care of their dental needs. We hope to be here another

Reagan's involvement chair of the Downtown

Development

ledger

The recent economy has

well 25 years."

community includes:

Arbor board member and First Bank of West Michigan Board of Directors. His hobbies and interests are bow deer hunting and golfing.

golfer," he said. Reagan said he would do it all over again.

"I like different patients that we see," he said. "It's nice to get them out of pain. They are forever grateful." Reagan will be presented with his award at the annual Winter Gathering of the chamber membership on Feb. 18 at the Grand Volute.



Pacific Intercultural Exchange (PIE) is looking responsible for board, room for caring host families for and guidance. The students foreign exchange students have their own medical for the September 2010 to insurance and spending June 2011 high school year. money. There is no typical Now is the time to select host family. Empty nesters, your student from many single parents, large families, who are already waiting for or retired parents may apply a host family. You will be PIE can help you match able to communicate with your student by e-mail, telephone, and mail and get to know each other before age and will attend the high family school in your community. The students will come from Germany, Venezuela, Hong Kong, Brazil, South Korea, China, Russia, Netherlands, etc. PIE has students from 48 countries available.

erage, casts, restriction

wability, Assurant Health

or ouderwritten and issu

if the State Farm family o s is financially responsible

ese products, Assurant, Assuran

h and Time Insurance Compar

The host family is a student for your family. There are students that are into sports of all kinds, the

**LMS Students of the Month** Lowell Middle School is proud to announce that Maddie Falkenstern. Nate Kyburz and Ashton Pallotini were the December Students of the Month. Falkenstern is an eighth grade student who loves to read and ride horses. He favorite subject is English and her favorite part about school is all of her friends. Kyburz is a seventh grade student who is involved in basketball, football, gold and lacrosse. Because he enjoys sports, his favorite class is gym. He really likes his teachers and friends at LMS. Pallotini is a sixth grade student who enjoys challenging classes like Algebra. When not in school, he likes sports, fishing, hunting and video games. The best part of being at LMS is the fact that classes switch Pictured, from left to right: Ashton Pallotini, Nate Kyburz and during the day.



Authority

"I am a better hunter than



Jim Reagan

"ledger

## Lowell Middle School students nominated for honors band

percussion. Brinks, percussion.

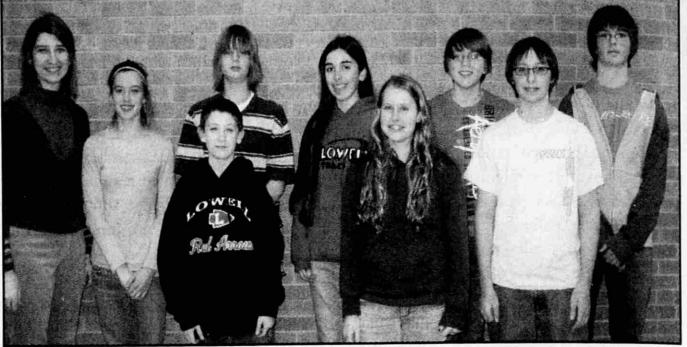
District 10 of the 2008 and Townley in 2009. School Band Michigan

On Sunday, Jan. 31, eight comprises most of Allegan, piece of music performed Lowell Middle School band Barry, Ionia, Kent, and by the eighth grade honors students participated in the Ottawa counties. Students band, "Tribute" was written MSBOA District 10 Middle from over 30 middle schools by David Wells, the retired School honors band. The in District 10 participated middle school band director students were nominated by in the concert which took from Northview. It was their band directors, Kate place at the Holland West written in memory of Kristen Bredwell and Dale Latva. Ottawa School's Performing Bielski, the former band Participants in the seventh Arts Center. Marc Townley, director at Pinewood Middle grade band were Emily Byron Center High School School in Kentwood, who Judd, flute; Dan Onan, tenor band director, conducted the passed away at age 43 from saxophone; and Nate Gibas, seventh grade honors band. Participants Conducting the eighth grade in the eighth grade band honors band was James which occurs every other were Jess Graves, flute; Ross, band director at East year, was organized by Emma Blough, clarinet; Kentwood High School. Lowell Middle School band Ben Peterson, trumpet; Josh Both gentlemen have been director Kate Bredwell. This Theisen, tuba; and Randy named as District 10's band was her second time chairing director of the year: Ross in the event and her fifth time

The concert featured committee. and Orchestra Association the world premier of a new

cancer in September 2008.

The honors band event serving on the organizing

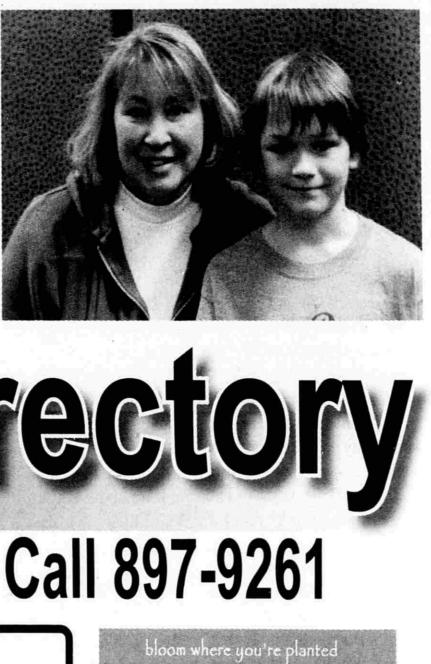


Pictured, front row, left to right: Dan Onan, 7th grade tenor saxophone: Emma Blough, 8th grade clarinet; and Randy Brinks, 8th grade percussion: back row, left to right: Kate Bredwell, LMS band director and District 10 honors band chair; Emily Judd, 7th grade flute; Nate Gibas, 7th grade percussion; Jess Graves, 8th grade flute; Josh Theisen, 8th grade tuba; and Ben Peterson, 8th grade trumpet.

### Volunteer of the month

Alice Bush pictured with her son Josh was named Volunteer of the Month at Murray Lake for the month of January. "I know she does not want this nomination, but Alice continues

to go above and beyond. She does so many things around our



### Lowell students care about their global neighbors

Assistance for Haiti earthquake victims has happened through the efforts of staff and students at Cherry Creek Elementary and Lowell Middle School. The schools held separate challenges to support the American Red Cross' International Response Fund. Both schools combined totals were more than \$2700 for the organization.

addition to the \$1621.62 collected for Haiti, students also submitted over 1,000 examples of kind acts they have done to help others.



wednesday · february · 17 · 2010



wednesday · february · 17 · 2010 ledger view Joint to the editor

Dear Lowell Community.

write to the citizens of our refund. We have gone so far honest in their business family-owned business gift given by owner Scott community to make you as placing a complaint on the dealings and practices. The probably feels he is going McDowell. In spite of these aware of a situation my Better Business Bureau site, sole reason I am writing this to get away with taking difficult economic times, husband and I have found submitting a police report to ourselves in since mid the Sheriff's Department and November. We spoke with a taking the tree contractor to hire an independent, private community to learn a lesson gift that will save her a lot of prosperity. local private tree contractor Small Claims Court, all in an to remove three trees from attempt to just get our money any company for that matter cautious and smart when our property. There was back. The ruling in Small a verbal arrangement to Claims Court was in our remove these trees within favor, with no one showing three days. To make a long from the tree company. and dragged out story short, However, all this means is Bureau site at http:// after many promises to come that the court will send out a westernmichigan.bbb.org and cut down the trees and a letter instructing the company check written in good faith, to make arrangements to pay the trees still have not come us our money. There will down, yet the check was be no support or follow-up cashed the day it was written, from the court to make this registered against them All Weather Seal (a window back in November. We had happen. made arrangements for the was able to be home on the letter. My intent for writing requires this, and say the rest day arranged.

getting our money refunded. even though in phone calls I feel compelled to the owner has agreed to our to work with and fair and who runs and operates this This is a very generous

This tree company, which this letter is not for slander We no longer want this or to dissuade people company on our property, but from using local, private we have been unsuccessful in contractors. My husband and

I are very much supportive of be done. That way, payment Ellen was selected to be the local businesses and business can be made in person, after recipient of All Weather owners and we know the satisfactory work has been Seal's house full of windows great majority are wonderful completed. The young man giveaway. tree-cutting company - or from our naivete. Please be money on utility bills. - to protect themselves in the making arrangements for following ways:

Check out the company or business. on the Better Business before agreeing to have work done at your home. (I Dear Editor, discovered this tree company within the last three years.)

will be paid when the job is widow. completed.

And if at all possible, be installed free of charge after at home when the work is to

I'd like to bring attention had three complaints to one of Lowell's businesses. and door business located Never, ever pay in full in downtown Lowell) has tree cutter to come during operates locally, as well as in before work is begun. It is just completed installing 13 the week, but because of our surrounding communities, better to pay a small portion beautiful, weather efficient work schedule, neither of us will not be named in this up front, if the company windows in the home of Ellen Miller, an 80 year-old

# Looking EDGERS Back HROUGH

By Shelly MacNaughton

### 125 Years Ago **The Lowell Journal** February 18, 1885

Saturday was the first comfortable day we have had in Lowell for sometime. Our streets were crowded with teams and the post office with valentines.

The Michigan Argonaut, of Ann Arbor, says of one of Lowell's brightest girls: Miss Bessie West has decided to leave college at the end of this semester. We hope to see her back next spring much improved in health.

### 100 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger February 17, 1910

Mrs. George N. Fletcher died at her home in this village February 14, 1910, of pneumonia, aged sixty-four years. Lucina (Godfrey) Fletcher was born in the township of Vergennes, Kent Co., Michigan July 23, 1845, being the sixth in a family of eight children, of the late Newcomb and Rachel Godfrey. Mrs. Fletcher was a woman of sterling character. She was a member of the Baptist church and of the W. C. T. U. and took as much interest in the work as her health would permit.

### 75 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo February 21, 1935

Headline: Would Put Lowell On Trans-State Canal A trans-Michigan ship canal, which would cut 400 miles off the lake route to Chicago through the straits of Mackinac, is advocated by Saginaw officials.

Admitting that the canal, to be built by federal funds through PWA allotments, might cost as much as the Panama Canal, city engineer Herman Eymer said it could be built with only one lock. The route would be from Bay City through Saginaw, St. Charles, Ionia, Lowell, Grand Rapids and reach Lake Michigan at Grand Haven.

### 50 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger February 25, 1960

One Lowell High School senior, Robert Thaler, has been named a finalist in the 1959-60 competition of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation program and has been awarded a Certificate of Merit, principal Stephen Nisbet announced. Bob is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Orion Thaler of Lowell

Over 550,000 students were tested in the 1959-60 National Merit Scholarship competition which began last April. The test results have pared the competitors down to 10,000 finalists from which the Merit Scholars will be selected and announced this spring.

### 25 Years Ago **The Grand Valley Ledger** February 20, 1985

December saw the Lowell area Javcees most successful project ever. Over 10,000 dollars were raised at a concert featuring the Osborn Bros., a popular bluegrass band. The people of the area were very receptive and made it possible for hundreds of handicapped and elderly to see the concert - at no cost.

work to be done at your home

Carol Briggs

These windows were

is to urge all community our money and maybe he Scott chose to bless my persons who may decide to will. However, I want our mother with a wonderful

The windows are excellent quality and the quality of the installation was superb.

Let's all do our very best to support our local businesses, especially All Weather Seal.

May God bless Scott McDowell's company with

Patricia Mull

page 5

Lowell financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

When evaluating investments, look at value - not just price

great deal of attention to the price of their investments - yesterday's price, today's investment's "value" next year's price and so on. And that's understandable, because we always want the prices of our investments to rise. Yet, if you focus too much on prices, you could mistakes.

Why? Because pricebehavior — and as an investor, you're much better off making decisions with your head, not your heart. Suppose, for example, that in the price of one of your investments. After a while, you may feel that you just can't take it anymore and you \* decide to "cut your losses" by selling the investment. Conversely, you may have an investment that has gone up and up — and to grab even bigger gains, you buy more shares.

Both these decisions could backfire on you. When vou sold the investment whose price had fallen, you might find yourself on the investment "sidelines" if that same investment starts to turn around. And when you throw more money at an investment whose price has skyrocketed, you're betting which may be valuable to you against history - because no investment goes up forever. Furthermore, in both cases, your emotions will have led you to violate one of the guidelines of investing: buy low and sell high.

But apart from the tactical errors you may make when you over-concentrate on price movements, you're Financial Advisor. also ignoring another key

Most investors pay a characteristic of investments their value.

Traditionally. has price, tomorrow's price, been largely defined as whether or not it's considered "expensive" or "cheap." That's why many investors take a close look at a stock's price-to-earnings ratio (P/E). Generally speaking, a high end up making some costly P/E means a stock is more expensive, relative to its earnings, than a stock with driven behavior is emotional a low P/E. Investors may be willing to pay more for the high P/E stocks because they feel these companies will be worth more in the future.

But P/E doesn't tell the you've seen a steep decline whole story of investment value. Any individual investment may have value to you because it can help you diversify your holdings. And while diversification, by itself, can't guarantee a profit or protect against a loss, it can help you reduce the effects of volatility on your portfolio. For instance, if your portfolio is heavy with stocks, the presence of some bonds - even those whose market price has fallen because interest rates have risen — can help reduce the impact of a downturn that primarily affects stocks.

Clearly, the value of any investment has several dimensions — any or all of as your pursue your goals So, as you build, maintain and adjust your portfolio over time, keep an eye on the changing prices of your investments - but don't overlook their true value.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones

# **K**In The Service

Class Robert P. Karasiewicz graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included School. training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four

Air Force Airman 1st credits toward an associate Individual training or on to in applied science degree their first assignment. through the Community College of the Air Force.

Joe Karasiewicz of Ada.

graduate of Lowell High lasts five weeks instead of

Army National Guard Pfc. Adam J. Youngs has completed the Warrior Transition course at Fort Sill, Lawton, Okla. The course teaches

necessary for integration into Army for all prior-service fully ervicemembers to prepare them for Advanced

Soldiers undergo much of the same training developed He is the son of Deb and in basic combat training, except it is developed in a Karasiewicz is a 2007 program of instruction that

### college news



**Tiffany Taylor Venneman** of Lowell graduated from Lowell. Western Michigan University. occupational therapy.

and Mrs. Leonard Venneman 2009. of Lowell.

Calvin College has science. announced its fall 2009 on the Dean's List requires biology/physiology. a student maintain at least a

nine. To complete the course, soldiers must complete the Army Physical Fitness test, with a minimum of 60 points in each event, M-16 weapon qualification, tactical foot marches, tactical field and situational training, and the land navigation course.

ledger

Youngs is a 2002 graduate of Northview High School, Grand Rapids.

3.5 grade point average for the semester and have at least a 3.3 cumulative grade point average.

following The students were recognized: Alexander Boelkins. Alissa Goudswaard, Lukas Leisman, Carla Nelson. Jonathan Rasmussen Nichole Smith, and Jessica Wilbur, all of Ada; Katherine Baker, Jonathon Klanderman, and Rebecca Schmidt, all of Alto; and Elena Brubaker, Chad Drenth, Kelly Malling, Tiffany Taylor Venneman and Brook VanEck, all of

Northern Michigan summa cum laude, with University announced that a bachelor's degree in Chelsea Smit and Abigail Debiak, both of Lowell, She is the daughter of Mr. graduated in December

> Smit graduated cum laude with a BA in political

Debiak graduated summa Dean's List. To earn a spot cum laude with a BS in

# health

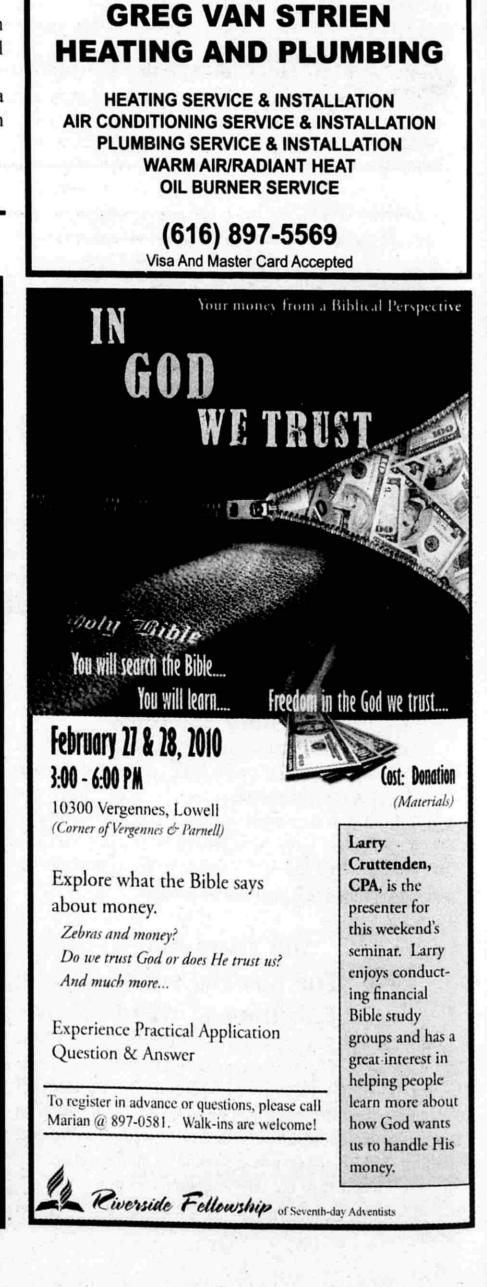
With Drs. Paul Gauthier, Jim Lang, Wayne A. Christenson III, John G. Meier & Tracy Lixie

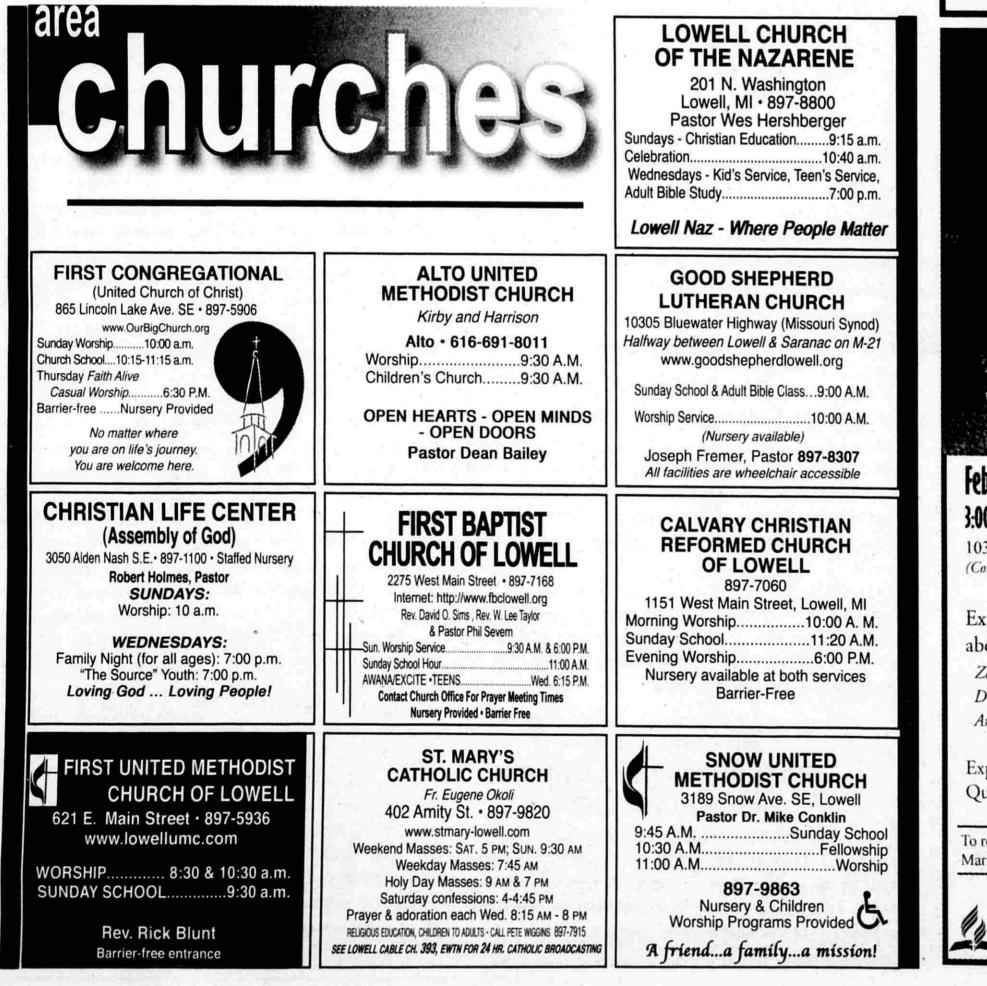
Colorectal cancer is the so health care providers third most common type of cancer in the body. Every person has approximately a Those individuals with a six percent lifetime risk of developing colorectal cancer. Fortunately it can be treated

and in most cases cured, if you catch it early. Most colorectal cancers digital rectal exam and one

start out as a small growth on tests: Yearly Fecal Occult the colon or rectal wall that in the shape of your stool, years (a tiny camera that stomach, or a feeling of is no need to have one.

Colorectal cancer is more begin testing for it. common in older individuals.





will celebrate their **50<sup>TH</sup> WEDDING** ANNIVERSARY with an **OPEN** HOUSE

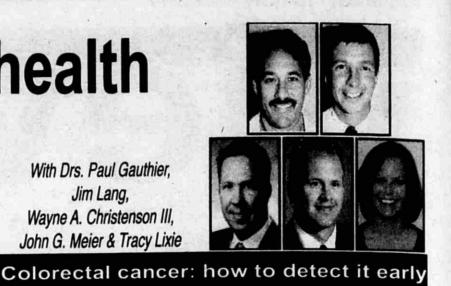
Saturday, February 27, 2010 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

**GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY** 

CLYDE & EULA (Vermilya) CURTISS

Please join us in honor of our parents for Dinner at the All Purpose Building of the West Berlin Wesleyan Church 5110 Portland Road Lake Odessa, Michigan. No gifts please. Cards greatly appreciated. RSVP can be sent to Clyde & Eula

5415 Portland Road, Lake Odessa, MI 48849 or send e-mail: clydeandeula50th@gmail.com vednesday • february • 17 • 2010



usually begin screening

people after the age of 50.

family history of colorectal

cancer should begin their

Screening for colon

cancer involves a yearly

screening at an earlier age.

begin as a polyp. Polyps or more of the following

Blood Tests (tests stool for can take years to develop blood you can't see), Flexible into a cancer that grows and Sigmoidoscopy every five spreads. You should see your years (a tiny camera that health care provider if you views the lower half of the have any of these warning colon), Double Contrast signs: bleeding from the Barium Enema every five rectum, blood in your stool years (X-rays to detect or in the toilet after you have abnormal spots in the colon), a bowel movement, a change or Colonoscopy every ten

cramping pain in your lower views the entire colon). Talk to your health care discomfort or urge to have a provider about your potential bowel movement when there risk of developing colorectal cancer and when you should

### wednesday · february · 17 · 2010

In honor of the winter Olympics, St. Patrick School students participated in a series of events to "Go for the Gold" as part of Catholic Schools' Week.

The annual weeklong celebration began with a Saturday carnival, Under the Big Top, featuring circusinspired games, prizes and treats. School and community members alike enjoyed an evening of family fun.

Then teams St. Killian, St. Brendan and St. Brigid competed for bronze, silver and gold shamrock medals. In events such as the egg and spoon short track, dog sledding cross country and the sledding slalom.

On Friday, students Association said, "Catholic were treated by International World high expectations and daily Champion Martial Arts experience of faith. In these expert, Mariah Moore. The challenging times, the theme assembly concluded with a also reminds parents that medal award ceremony.

week included the collection prepared in faith, knowledge, of food and items to be morals and discipline - last donated to the Casa de la a lifetime. There is no better Paz charity; a school-wide way to invest in a child's bingo competition; visits to future - or the future of our the Franciscan Life Process world." Center and Haitian Solidarity projects.

Reflecting on the 2010 theme of Dividends for Life, Karen Ristau, president of the National Catholic Education

to a schools provide good things demonstration for students and families the dividends of a Catholic Other highlights of the school education - students

> riaht. students participate in "dog sledding" and bottom Moore left, Mariah demonstrates for the class.



## To tax or not to tax: a Social Security question

When it comes to Social Security benefits, you may be wondering who must year and is used to find Security benefits and what pay taxes on them and who out whether any benefits forms you may need, now does not. Let's look at the are subject to tax. You will you know the simple facts. numbers.

If you file a federal tax return as an "individual" and your total income is more than \$25,000, then the received your SSA-1099 for can write her c/o Social answer for you is yes: you'll tax year 2009 in the mail Security Administration, 50 have to pay federal taxes on your benefits. If you file mailed to all beneficiaries MI 49503 or via email at a joint return and you and by January 31, 2010. If you vonda.vantil@ssa.gov your spouse have a total receive Social Security and income more than \$32,000. you'll be expected to pay federal taxes as well. If your taxable income is below those thresholds, there is no need to pay taxes on your Social Security benefits.

If you need to pay taxes on a portion of your benefits, you will need your SSA-1099. This form shows

**FEBRUARY 23** Joe Ellis. Heather Essich, Sharon Miles.

**FEBRUARY 22** 

Powell, Rob Tulecki, Julie

Shaffer, Jessy Dale Abel,

Krista Foster.

Kevin Gerard, Lloyd

FEBRUARY 19 Jerrica Foss, Bruce Baird, Betty Newhouse.

happy

**birthday!** 

Stephanie

Claypool,

Horsley, Deb

**FEBRUARY 17** 

Ellison, Reatha Johnson,

**FEBRUARY 18** 

Richard

Courtney Phillips.

Stanford.

Lynda

Tulecki.

Chris Hodges, Justin

Mike Rivers, Gary Kemp, Barbara Carpenter, Sara Soyka, Madison Emelander, Nate Sloan.

**FEBRUARY 20** 

**FEBRUARY 21** Betsy Vezino, Ashton VanDerWarf, Kimberly Sterzick, Robin Martin, Luke Landman

### \*\*\* I never vote for anyone; I always vote against. - W. C. Fields (1880 - 1946)



The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2010 are as follows: .49.78%. ...1.0044 Commercial. ..50.44%. ..0.9912 Residential. Industrial. .53.56% ..0.9335 ..50.00%.. ...1.0000 Personal Property....

American with Disabilities (ADA) Notice The City will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 3 days notice. Contact: Dave Pasquale - City Manager, ph. 616.897.8457

ledgei

the total amount of benefits whether or not you'll need need to submit it when you complete your federal income tax return.

- they were automatically College SE, Grand Rapids, have not vet received a Form SSA-1099 for 2009, you can request a replacement online at www.socialsecurity.gov/ onlineservices. You can also call Social Security's toll-free number. 1-800-772-1213 and ask for a replacement SSA-1099 to be mailed to you.

If you've been wondering

received in the previous to pay taxes on your Social

Vonda VanTil is the public affairs specialist You already should have for West Michigan. You



## **2010 BOARD OF REVIEW NOTICE** City of Lowell **2010 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE**

The City of Lowell Board of Review for 2010 will be held at the Lowell City Hall, 301 E Main St, on the following dates:

Tuesday, March 2nd, 9:00 a.m. - Organizational Meeting Tuesday, March 9th, 3:00 p.m. -9:00 p.m - Appeal Hearing Thursday, March 11th, 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. - Appeal Hearing

The Board of Review will meet as many more days as deemed necessary to hear questions, protests, and to equalize the 2010 assessments.

By City Charter, residents are able to protest by letter, provided protest letter is received prior to March 5th, 2010.

# **K**In The Service

Air Force Airman 1st Class Robert P. Karasiewicz graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included School. training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four

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

Joe Karasiewicz of Ada. Karasiewicz is a 2007

graduate of Lowell High lasts five weeks instead of

Army National Guard values, physical fitness, and Pfc. Adam J. Youngs has completed the Warrior Transition course at Fort Sill, Lawton, Okla. The course teaches

necessarv for integration into Army for all prior-service ervicemembers to fully prepare them for Advanced credits toward an associate Individual training or on to

ledger

Soldiers undergo much of the same training developed He is the son of Deb and in basic combat training, except it is developed in a program of instruction that

### college news



**Tiffany Taylor Venneman** Tiffany Taylor Venneman of Lowell graduated from WesternMichiganUniversity, summa cum laude, with a bachelor's degree in occupational therapy.

and Mrs. Leonard Venneman of Lowell.

announced its fall 2009 on the Dean's List requires biology/physiology. a student maintain at least a

nine. To complete the course, soldiers must complete the Army Physical Fitness test, with a minimum of 60 points in each event, M-16 weapon qualification, tactical foot marches, tactical field and situational training, and the land navigation course. Youngs is a 2002

graduate of Northview High School, Grand Rapids.

3.5 grade point average for the semester and have at least a 3.3 cumulative grade point average.

following The students were recognized: Alexander Boelkins, Alissa Goudswaard, Lukas Leisman, Carla Nelson, Jonathan Rasmussen Nichole Smith, and Jessica Wilbur, all of Ada; Katherine Baker, Jonathon Klanderman, and Rebecca Schmidt, all of Alto; and Elena Brubaker, Chad Drenth, Kelly Malling, and Brook VanEck, all of Lowell.

Northern Michigan University announced that Chelsea Smit and Abigail Debiak, both of Lowell, She is the daughter of Mr. graduated in December

> Smit graduated cum laude with a BA in political science. Debiak graduated summa

Dean's List. To earn a spot cum laude with a BS in

.....9:15 a.m.

10:40 a.m.

...7:00 p.m.

..10:00 A.M.

10:00 A. M.

.11:20 A.M.

..6:00 P.M.

Sunday School

.Fellowship

.Worshin

LOWELL CHURCH

**OF THE NAZARENE** 

201 N. Washington Lowell, MI • 897-8800

Pastor Wes Hershberger

Wednesdays - Kid's Service, Teen's Service,

Lowell Naz - Where People Matter

**GOOD SHEPHERD** 

LUTHERAN CHURCH

10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod)

Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21

www.goodshepherdlowell.org

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

(Nursery available)

Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307

All facilities are wheelchair accessible

**CALVARY CHRISTIAN** 

**REFORMED CHURCH** 

OF LOWELL

897-7060

1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI

Nursery available at both services

Barrier-Free

SNOW UNITED

METHODIST CHURCH

3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell

Pastor Dr. Mike Conklin

897-9863

Nursery & Children

A friend...a family...a mission!

Sundays - Christian Education

dult Bible Study.

Worship Service ...

Morning Worship.

Sunday School.

**Evening Worship** 

9:45 A.M

10:30 A.M.

11:00 A.M.

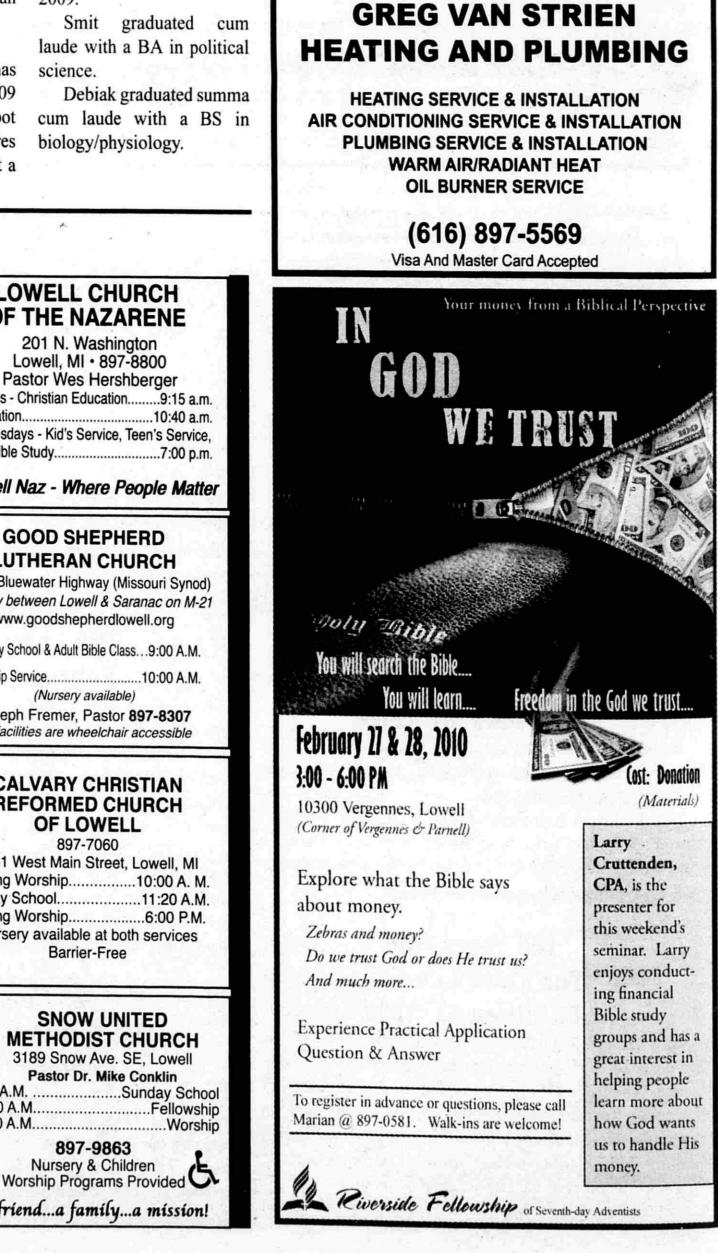
# health

With Drs. Paul Gauthier Jim Lang, Wayne A. Christenson III, John G. Meier & Tracy Lixie Colorectal cancer: how to detect it early

Colorectal cancer is the so health care providers third most common type of cancer in the body. Every person has approximately a Those individuals with a six percent lifetime risk of developing colorectal cancer. Fortunately it can be treated and in most cases cured, if

you catch it early. begin as a polyp. Polyps or more of the following start out as a small growth on tests: Yearly Fecal Occult the colon or rectal wall that can take years to develop blood you can't see), Flexible into a cancer that grows and Sigmoidoscopy every five spreads. You should see your years (a tiny camera that health care provider if you views the lower half of the have any of these warning colon), Double Contrast signs: bleeding from the Barium Enema every five rectum, blood in your stool years (X-rays to detect or in the toilet after you have abnormal spots in the colon), a bowel movement, a change or Colonoscopy every ten in the shape of your stool, years (a tiny camera that cramping pain in your lower views the entire colon). stomach, or a feeling of discomfort or urge to have a provider about your potential bowel movement when there risk of developing colorectal is no need to have one.

common in older individuals.





FIRST CONGREGATIONAL (United Church of Christ) 365 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE • 897-5906 www.OurBigChurch.org unday Worship ..... ...10:00 a.m. hurch School .... 10:15-11:15 a.m. ursday Faith Alive ..6:30 P.M Casual Worship ...

No matter where you are on life's journey. You are welcome here.

rrier-free ......Nursery Provided

CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God) 050 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. Loving God ... Loving People!

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street · 897-5936 www.lowellumc.com VORSHIP.. ..... 8:30 & 10:30 a.m SUNDAY SCHOOL......9:30 a.m.

**Rev. Rick Blunt** 

Barrier-free entrance

FIRST BAPTIST **CHURCH OF LOWELL** 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org Rev. David O. Sims , Rev. W. Lee Taylor & Pastor Phil Severn ....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M Worship Service. Sunday School Hour. ...Wed. 6:15 P.N AWANA/EXCITE • TEENS ... **Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times** Nursery Provided • Barrier Free

ALTO UNITED

METHODIST CHURCH

Kirby and Harrison

Alto • 616-691-8011

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

**OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS** 

- OPEN DOORS

Pastor Dean Bailey

Worship..

.9:30 A.M.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Fr. Eugene Okoli 402 Amity St. • 897-9820 www.stmary-lowell.com Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM Saturday confessions: 4-4:45 PM Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETE WIGGINS 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 393, EWTN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING

Calvin College has

wednesday · february · 17 · 2010



usually begin screening people after the age of 50. family history of colorectal cancer should begin their screening at an earlier age.

Screening for colon cancer involves a yearly Most colorectal cancers digital rectal exam and one Blood Tests (tests stool for

Talk to your health care cancer and when you should Colorectal cancer is more begin testing for it.

wednesday · february · 17 · 2010

## St. Patrick students participate in Olympic themed celebration

In honor of the winter Olympics, St. Patrick School students participated in a series of events to "Go for Schools' Week.

The annual weeklong celebration began with a Saturday carnival, Under the Big Top, featuring circusinspired games, prizes and treats. School and community members alike enjoyed an evening of family fun.

Then teams St. Killian, St. Brendan and St. Brigid competed for bronze, silver and gold shamrock medals. In events such as the egg theme of Dividends for Life, and spoon short track, dog Karen Ristau, president of the sledding cross country and National Catholic Education the sledding slalom.

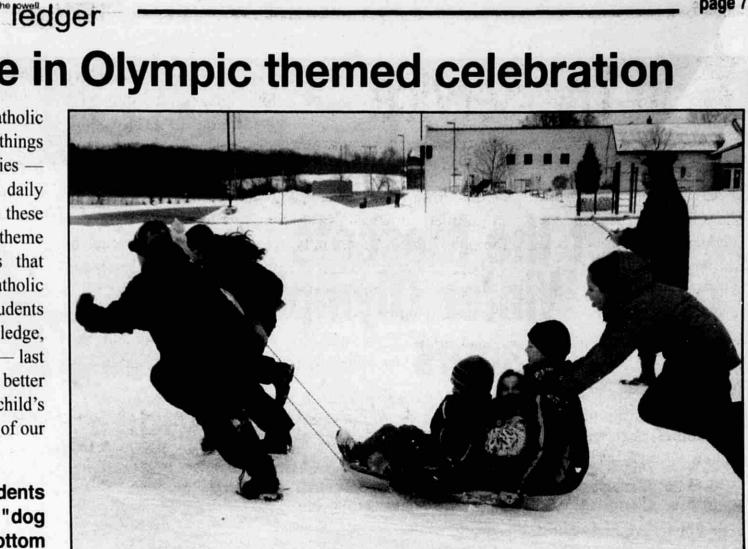
On Friday, students Association said, "Catholic were treated special by International World high expectations and daily the Gold" as part of Catholic Champion Martial Arts experience of faith. In these expert, Mariah Moore. The challenging times, the theme assembly concluded with a also reminds parents that medal award ceremony.

> week included the collection prepared in faith, knowledge, of food and items to be morals and discipline - last donated to the Casa de la a lifetime. There is no better Paz charity; a school-wide way to invest in a child's bingo competition; visits to future - or the future of our the Franciscan Life Process world." Center and Haitian Solidarity projects.

Reflecting on the 2010

to a schools provide good things demonstration for students and families the dividends of a Catholic Other highlights of the school education - students

> right. students participate in "dog sledding" and bottom Moore left, Mariah demonstrates for the class.



## To tax or not to tax: a Social Security question

Security benefits, you may received in the previous to pay taxes on your Social be wondering who must year and is used to find Security benefits and what pay taxes on them and who out whether any benefits forms you may need, now does not. Let's look at the are subject to tax. You will you know the simple facts. numbers.

If you file a federal tax return as an "individual" and your total income is more than \$25,000, then the received your SSA-1099 for can write her c/o Social answer for you is yes: you'll tax year 2009 in the mail Security Administration, 50 have to pay federal taxes on your benefits. If you file mailed to all beneficiaries MI 49503 or via email at a joint return and you and by January 31, 2010. If you vonda.vantil@ssa.gov your spouse have a total receive Social Security and income more than \$32,000. you'll be expected to pay federal taxes as well. If your taxable income is below those thresholds, there is no need to pay taxes on your Social Security benefits.

If you need to pay Kevin Gerard, Lloyd taxes on a portion of your benefits, you will need your SSA-1099. This form shows

**FEBRUARY 23** Joe Ellis. Heather Essich, Sharon Miles.

**FEBRUARY 22** 

Powell, Rob Tulecki, Julie

Shaffer, Jessy Dale Abel,

Krista Foster.

American with Disabilities (ADA) Notice The City will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 3 days notice. Contact: Dave Pasquale - City Manager, ph. 616.897.8457





**FEBRUARY 17** Chris Hodges, Justin Stephanie Stanford. Ellison, Reatha Johnson, Horsley, Deb Lynda Tulecki

**FEBRUARY 18** Claypool, Richard Courtney Phillips

FEBRUARY 19 Jerrica Foss, Bruce Baird, Betty Newhouse.

Mike Rivers, Gary Kemp, Barbara Carpenter,

**FEBRUARY 20** 

## FEBRUARY 21

Betsy Vezino, Ashton VanDerWarf, Kimberly Sterzick, Robin Martin, Luke Landman.

\*\*\*

### Sara Soyka, Madison Emelander, Nate Sloan.

When it comes to Social the total amount of benefits whether or not you'll need need to submit it when you complete your federal income tax return.

- they were automatically College SE, Grand Rapids, have not yet received a Form SSA-1099 for 2009, you can request a replacement online at www.socialsecurity.gov/ onlineservices. You can also call Social Security's toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213 and ask for a replacement SSA-1099 to be mailed to you.

If you've been wondering

Vonda VanTil is the public affairs specialist You already should have for West Michigan. You



## **2010 BOARD OF REVIEW NOTICE** City of Lowell **2010 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE**

The City of Lowell Board of Review for 2010 will be held at the Lowell City Hall, 301 E Main St, on the following dates:

Tuesday, March 2nd, 9:00 a.m. - Organizational Meeting Tuesday, March 9th, 3:00 p.m. -9:00 p.m - Appeal Hearing Thursday, March 11th, 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. - Appeal Hearing

The Board of Review will meet as many more days as deemed necessary to hear questions, protests, and to equalize the 2010 assessments.

By City Charter, residents are able to protest by letter, provided protest letter is received prior to March 5th, 2010.

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2010 are as follows: ..49.78%.. ..1.0044 Commercial. ..0.9912 Residential. ..50.44%. .53.56%. ..0.9335 Industrial. ..50.00%.. Personal Property... ..1.0000

fedger

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

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

ANCOUVER 2010 Meet the Mascots of the Winter Olympic Games vancouver 2010 Ś The mascots love winter sports! Can you match each mascot to the name of the sport he or she is enjoying? Do the math to check your work. 31 = Alpine Skiing24 = Snowboarding19 = Bobsledding38 = Wheelchair curling 18 = Luge27 = CurlingMiga QUATCHI SUMI Miga is a young sea Sumi is an animal Quatchi is a young \_\_\_. She is spirit who lives in sasquatch who part killer whale and comes from the the part Kermode of British Columbia forests of Canada. bear-a rare white Quatchi is He wears the hat of but loves to explore bear that only lives the orca whale, flies in British Columbia. with the new places and meet 22 + 16 =47 - 23 = According to of the mighty new friends. Pacific Northwest thunderbird and runs The sasquatch is an First Nation legend, on the strong furry animal legend of the legs of the black orca whales Pacific Coast. He is into bear. a reminder of the sea bears when they Sumi's name comes that arrive on land. from the Salish still exist in the **MYSTERIES** word "Sumesh," natural world, and TRANSFORM which means makes us wonder 42 - 24 = 58 - 27 = SHY WINGS BEAR about the possibility "guardian spirit." Sumi of undiscovered PROTECTS the land, water and creatures in the great MOUNTAINS Canadian creatures of his homeland. wilderness. - 13 A storm has blown some of the words out of these descriptions. Can you find out where the words belong? Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Use context clues to determine the meaning of words. 18 + 9 =40 - 21 = **Complete the Clocks** Logo There are different time zones in North America. Language If it is 8:00 a.m. in Vancouver, it's 11:00 a.m. in New York. Complete the clocks using the map below. Organizations have logos designed to Vancouver MOUNTAIN CENTRAL represent them. Lool through today's newspaper to find logos that: EDMONTON use words and VANCOUVER QUEBEC images ICHICAGO Vancouver • triggers a good feeling SAN DENVER NEW you don't recognize FRANCISCO YORK • use only an image or symbol DALLAS Standards Link: Language Arts: Understand the use and meaning of symbols in visual media. Vancouver Chicago Kid Scoop Puzzler Double Word Search hle Can you follow Woodword's ice skating pattern by tracing it Find the words in the puzzle. MASCOTS with your pencil? Start at the big dot. Then look for each word in this week's SASQUATCH Kid Scoop stories and activities. PACIFIC NGENIPLAHA **GUARDIAN** AALOGOSCCC CURLING ISBOTZTRP ZONE DOPRDAOARH DESIGN RUTOUECNAP LOGOS AHOQRISEEA GRAPHIC ALPINE UGSRFTAIBR SPORT GAAIPMMEGG Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions. PROUD SSCURLINGN If you could be in any Olympic sport, which would it be? See this week's poll at: BEAR www. kidscoop.com/kids Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns. ORCA OM THE COOP LESSON LIBRARY What happens Sports Symbols when a snowman Sports teams often use names and mascots to gets angry? give personalities to their teams. Look through today's sports section and make a list of characteristics you think a team wants to convey with its name.

Standards Link: Labguage Arts: Understand the use and meaning

of symbols in visual media.

### wednesday • february • 17 • 2010

Kid Scoop Together: **Mystery Spo** The 2014 Winter Olympic Games will be held in Russia.

To find out where in Russia, use the words below to fill in the blanks. In each word, one letter is circled. Write that letter in the circle that matches the number of each sentence.

COUNTRIES HAS FIRST WORK IN

1.80 \_\_\_\_\_ will participate in the 2010 Winter Games.

40 countries will participate (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the 2010 Paralympic Games.

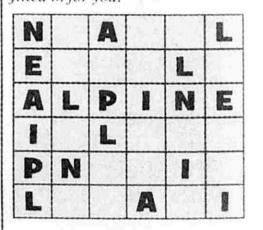
About 25,000 volunteers will \_\_\_\_\_ at the Games.

- 4. The \_\_\_\_\_ Winter Olympic Games were held in Chamonix. France in 1924.
- 5. Nobody O\_\_\_ won more medals at the Winter Games than cross-country skier Bjorn Daehlie of Norway, with 12.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Use context clues to locate information.

13161 Scoo-2101.50

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



Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS ( This week's word: MASCOT

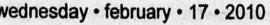
The noun mascot means an animal, person or thing that is considered to bring luck.

Ouatchi is one of the mascots for the 2010 Winter Olympic Games.

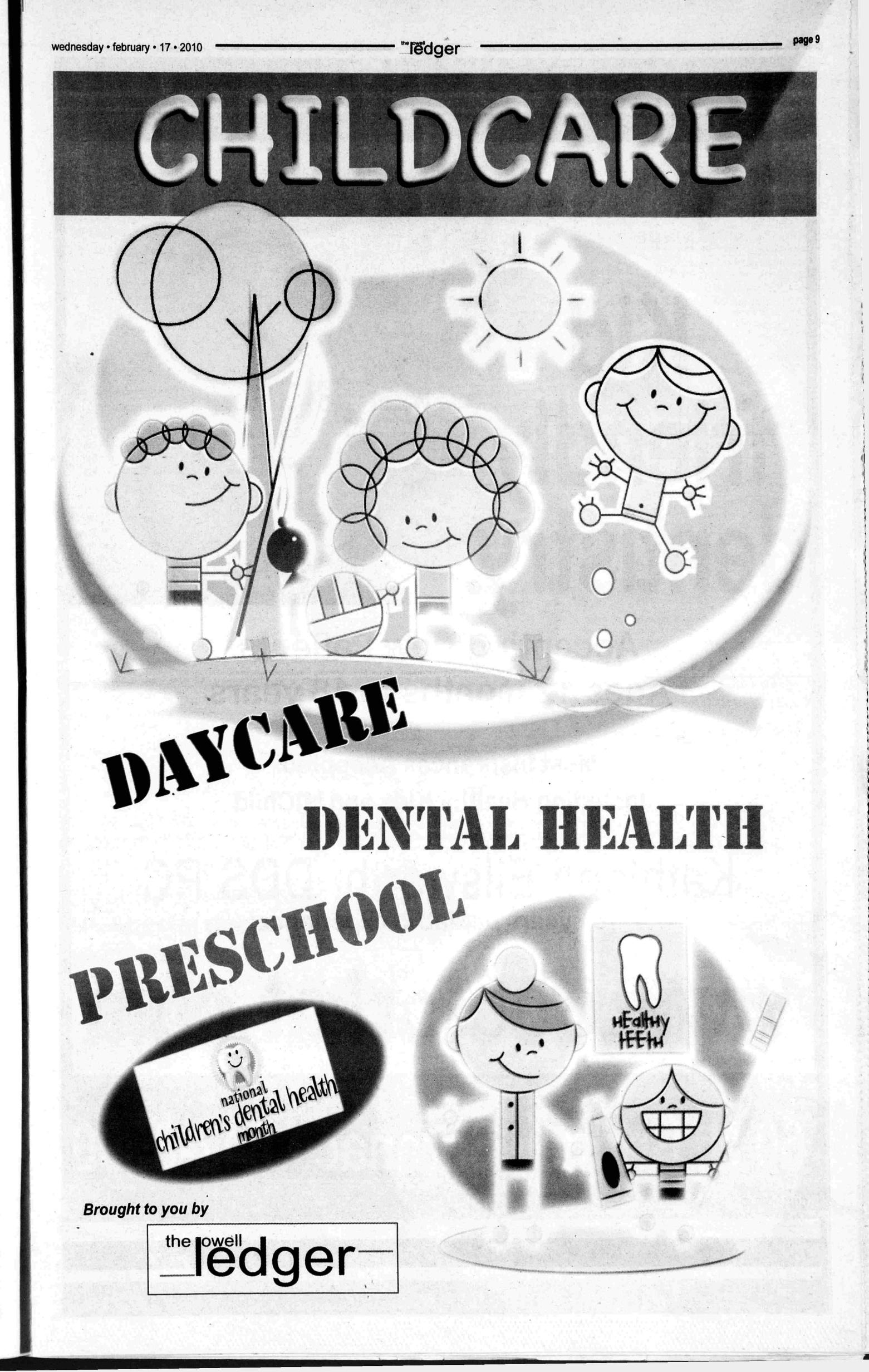
Try to use the word mascot in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

Write On! <==== Olympic Spirit Some people talk about the "Spirit of the Olympics." What do you think that means?

.nwob flem listot a total melt down.







# Kid friendly dentistry.

# **Accepting New Patients** Ages 12 months to 18 years

fedger

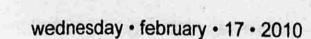
**Most Insurances Accepted Including Healthy Kids and MIChild** 

# Kathleen Ellsworth, DDS PC 15+ years pediatric experience



# 60 N. Bridge • Saranac • 642-3500

wednesday · february · 17 · 2010



ends meet. If those adults are care can be provided at a requirements. parents to young children, convenience to parents who the time may come when have to work. they must consider childcare options.

its personnel will be in charge of overseeing your properly child's health, welfare, feeding, comfort,

to solidify anything, it could may offer care from birth (\$366 to \$1,221 monthly). and centers are in very high very well be reinforcing the through kindergarten age. You will have to do your need for two working adults Early morning and evening research to find a place that in a household to help make hours are common, ensuring fits your budget and other

> According to the National Association for the Education Because the center and of Young Children, children enrolled in programs that stimulate

> > voung

"ledger

If this economy is helping center. Schools and centers \$4,388 to \$14,647 a year Start early. Some schools O Does the place smell and demand, especially those with an established, solid reputation. Many prestigious schools have waiting lists. For new parents, look for care well in advance of the deadline to return to work. This way you have ample time to visit and consider several centers and won't feel rushed into a decision because of a time crunch.

> 2. Place calls to centers in your area. A lot can be determined by how promptly and in what manner your call is answered. Ask to speak to the school administrator to learn a little more about the center'sprograms and policies. Find out about setting made a strong first

impression

3. Ask for recommendations from friends and programs may be able to point you in the right direction or tell you, from their experience, what places to avoid.

40 Visit your narrowed down list without your child Without the distraction of your child, you can properly take in the school/center's environment. Consider these auestions:

be live-in; asking a relative to data from the National or friend for help; or looking into a childcare center.

many

8100 East Fulton, Ada

616-682-8300

www.bigstepslittlefeet.org

Amway

Village of Ada

Licensed for ages

Remote Internet

Monitoring

Serving the

Community

for 16 years

Big Steps

**Little Feet** 

6 weeks to 7 years

Many employees offer education, it is very important child's mind will be more maternity leave or family to choose a place you feel adequately prepared by the family. Parents who have medical leave for up to 12 you can trust. Additionally, time they start school. So children enrolled in certain weeks. After the 3 months childcare is a large financial apart from the convenience are up, parents will have to investment. On average, care factor of a childcare center decide how to accommodate costs for babies and toddlers their childcare needs. Options in the United States equal they're also laying include hiring a private \$8,150 per year, per child building blocks for a strong nanny, who may or may not (\$679 a month), according career as a student. Association of Child Care Resource & Referral (NACCRRA). Agencies their child up in a childcare the range is anywhere from decision.

parents can rest the

0

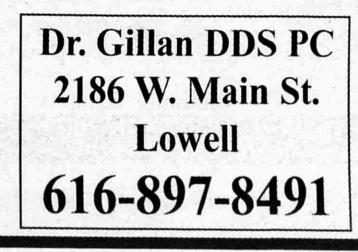
For those investigating

and perhaps even the child's



We've been treating children from 2-20 years successfully for 28 years. We also monitor their growth and dental alignment for orthodontics.

Our professionally trained staff has always treated children with the best of care.





## Making the choice for childcare

- look clean?
- Are the rooms well-lit?
- Do the teachers or caregivers seem friendly and in control?
- Is the center licensed?
- Are the bathroom sanitary?
- . Are the ratios of children to staff agreeable?
- Do the children seem content and relaxed?
- Does the care correlate with your values?
- Is the center safe? What is done to safeguard your child?
- 0 Are the toys cleaned regularly?
- What are the attendance policies on sick children?

These are just up tour appointments. preliminary questions to Visit only the centers ask and consider. You can compile a more complete list to narrow down your choices further.

SoVisit your top choices with your child, if he or she is old enough to provide input. Witness your child's reaction to the surroundings and view how staff interacts with him or her. See if you can have a "test day" to see how things go. Anticipate that it may take a few weeks for your child to seem comfortable in the new surroundings and cope with separation issues.

Show up at the center at a time when parents are dropping off or picking up their children. Ask the parents what they think of the school and any concerns. This will provide a more unbiased assessment than asking the school for a referral list.

Meet with the teacher or staff member who will be caring for your child. Talk specifically about your wants and fears and develop a relationship with this person for the best childcare possible.



CILA



something many parents are teach children effective tooth concerned about year-round, but there are also several times around the holidays, when during the year when oral care is especially important. consuming more sweets For example, Halloween, the than usual," says dentist and winter holidays, Valentine's mom Dr. Jennifer Salzer. Day and Easter are all large candy-eating times in the a top priority for children year, making it essential to and teeth cleaning may even take the time now to teach be considered a chore to of maintaining good oral important for parents to get health.

common chronic childhood oral care early on in their

DOES YOUR DENTIST

Children's oral care is disease, so it's important to brushing habits, especially children are typically

Oral care isn't usually the importance kids, which is why it is so involved and teach children "Tooth decay is the most the importance of proper

MAKE YOU COMFORTABLE?

Heated neck pillows.

The music you like.

Natural lighting.

At the Family Dentistry of Lowell you're more

I've been serving families like yours since 1991

Aren't you ready for a better dental experience?

) Family Dentistry of Lowell

NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS - CALL: 616-897-4835

147 NORTH CENTER STREET, LOWELL

WWW.FAMILYDENTISTRYOFLOWELL.CON

than a patient. You're part of my family.

That's why I want you to be comfortable

children's lives. To make oral care more fun for children. Dr. Salzer offers some of her best tips:

- Parents should brush their teeth with their child to set a good example. It also helps children to learn by watching and imitating . For younger children, their parent.
- Sing your child's favorite song, like "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star," or play a song from their

favorite singer for the two minutes while they are brushing their teeth.

- Give your child a toothbrush that is designed to appeal to a toddler who is learning to brush and whose baby teeth are growing in.
- when their first teeth begin to appear, parents should brush teeth using a child-sized, softbristled toothbrush with a cushioned head to help protect babies' tender gums.
- It's important that children two and older usefluoridatedtoothpaste to help prevent decay astheir teeth continue to develop.



## Easier dental visits

Trying to get kids to go to the dentist can yield results that range from silent anxiety and fear to major crying jags and temper tantrums.

The Chicago Dental Society offers the following tips for parents to make dentist trips easier on little ones: start dental visits early; don't make it such a 'big deal;' entertain while you wait; and relax. Your child can pick up on your anxieties. Remember, this is an

important part of your child's health.

# Appletree Ghristian Learning Genter

11770 Fulton SE, Lowell, MI 49331 616-897-3057 lowell\_director@appletreekids.cc www.appletreekids.cc

### **Quality, Christian Child Care**

Full-time, Part-time, and Before/After School care for children 6 weeks to 12 years of age

Open Monday-Friday, 6am-6pm

Preschool &

Daycare

Internet Cameras in each classroom and a secured entrance for your peace of mind

Nutritious breakfast, lunch, and snack provided

Baby Signs®, Zoophonics®, and Pinnacle® curriculums promoting age-appropriate daily lessons

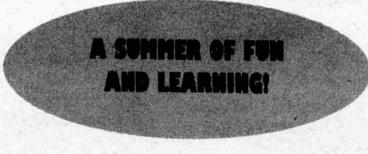
Availability in most rooms, call for more information or to set up a tour of the center!

Charles and the second second second

### **A Summer Filled With Adventure!**

Each year, our Summer Camp Program engages your child in various themes that are guaranteed to build teamwork skills, enhance lasting friendships, challenge your child, and teach them about life's adventures. Some of our favorite past fieldtrips include: Meijer Gardens, Gymnastics Unlimited, Mini Golf, Sprinkler Parks and Splash Pads, Bowling, Strawberry Farm, 5/3rd Ball Park, Holland Aquatic Center, Air Zoo, plus so much more!

Summer Camp is open to all children who have completed Young 5's or Kindergarten through 12 years of age!



wednesday · february · 17 · 2010



Preschool adds to the pressures of potty training

Summer is crunch time for millions of parents whose fact that, according to the toddlers must be potty-trained Children's Hospital Guide before they can be admitted to Your Child's Health and the fall. In the U.S., there 3-year-olds still use diapers, are about 20 million parents and the rush is on. But how with children under the age can you tell whether a child of 4, and more than 4 million is ready? Here are 5 signs in nursery or kindergarten selling author of Potty Train to preschool until they are Pro. potty-trained.

wednesday • february • 17 • 2010

Combine that with the to preschool programs in Development, 40 percent of of those children are enrolled provided by Teri Crane, best programs where children are Your Child in Just One Day: not permitted to move up Proven Secrets of the Potty

He's/She's interested in trying to do things "by him or herself."

- He/She understands the meanings of using the potty and no more diapers and can discuss the subject.
- His/Her diaper is staying dry for longer.
- He/She frequently wakes up with a dry guidelines: diaper.

He/She stops playing movement

™lëdger

that a child is ready for potty and your child) that entails training, you can do it in a playing games, reading single day. Crane, who has books, and "potty training" developed the "One-Day the doll Potty-Training Party" and taught the method to parents focus to potty-training your in her Potty-Training Boot child. Reward your child for Camp, offers these party his or her success.

### All Kent County health department locations offering H1N1 vaccination

So you don't need the H1N1 vaccination. Isn't "swine flu" over? Not so, says Cathy Raevsky, novel H1N1 flu shots by Administrative Health Officer for the Kent of its clinic locations. County Health Department Clinics are in Wyoming, (KCHD).

flu season could be over," locations. Appointment said Raevsky, "we don't times for each location know what we'll see this vary, but appointments can winter or spring. Another be made by calling 2-1-1 wave of illness is feasible (459-2255 if not using a and a flu shot is the best land line) or by visiting way to protect people www.stickittotheflu.com. from the flu. I encourage vaccination to make an

think you doctor, a pharmacy, or appointment and KCHD the Kent County Health can bill your insurance if the Department."

appointment at all Kentwood, Rockford, and "While the worst of the multiple Grand Rapids

There is no up-front cost for vaccination, but those with insurance cards appointment with their should bring them to the

### The right breakfast can help you excel at school

Whether you have a big day at work or are about to take an important test at school, the right breakfast can improve energy and concentration.

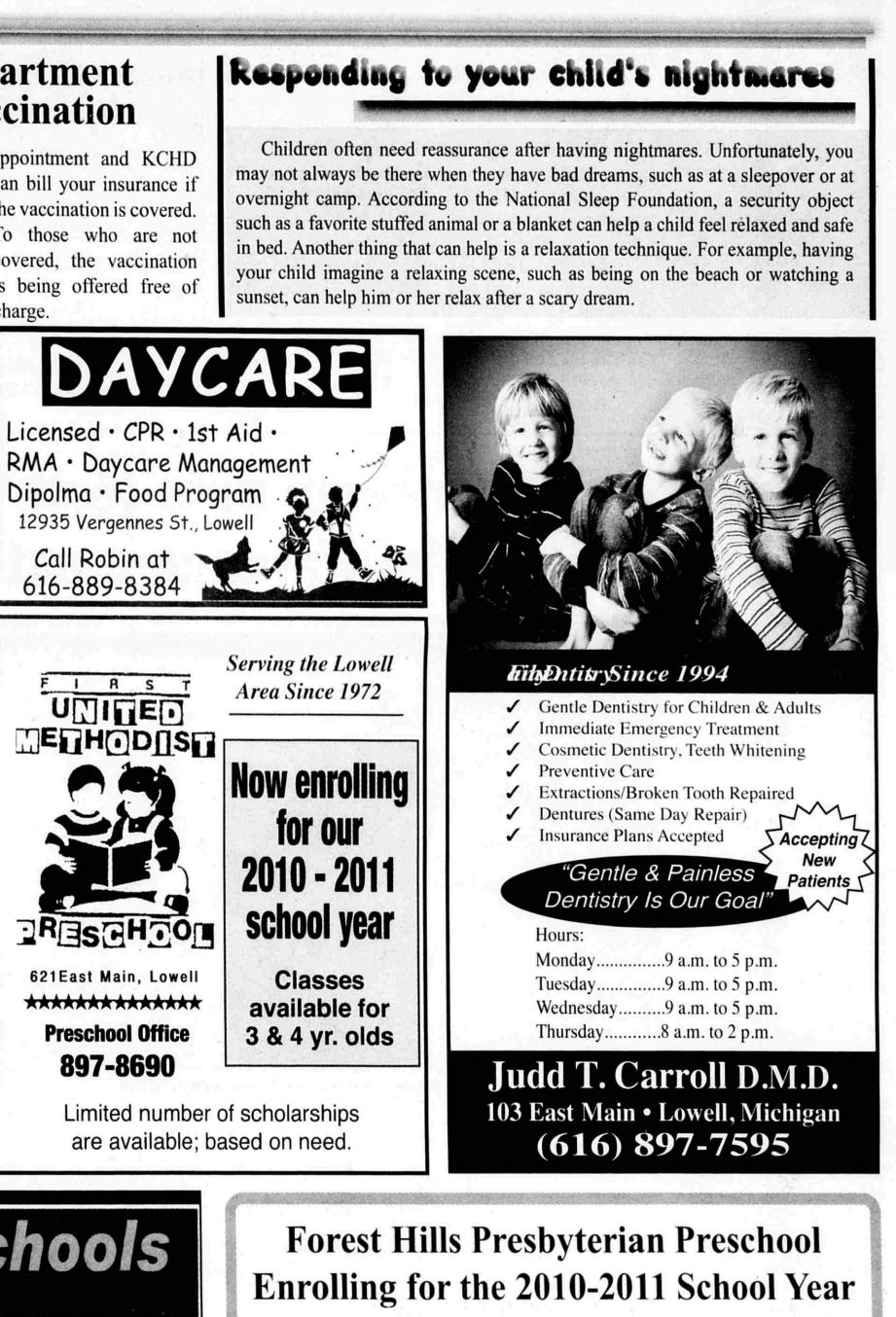
According to the Dietitians Association of Australia, the right breakfast can help on that big day.

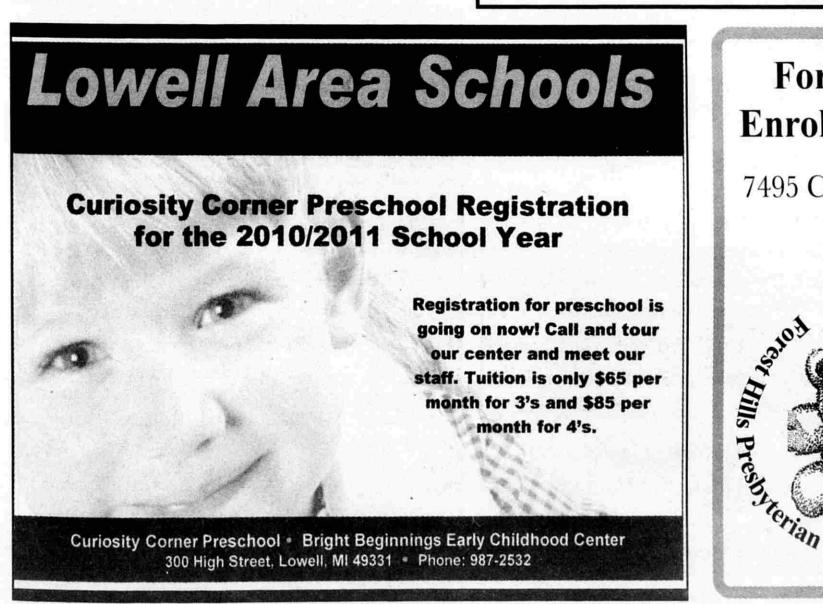
Breakfast provides your brain with carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals. Try cereal with reduced-fat milk, topped with fruit and a sprinkle of almonds. Also beneficial is wholegrain toast with reduced-fat cheese and tomato, and a small fruit juice.

Drink plenty of water to hydrate your body, reduce fatigue and help your brain work. Limit coffee or caffeinated soft drinks. Caffeine can act as a mild stimulant, boosting alertness, but too much can make you feel nervous and restless.

KCHD is now offering To those who are not covered, the vaccination is being offered free of SIX charge.

the vaccination is covered.





STEP ONE: Give your to squat for a bowel child a new doll (preferably one that "wets"), and have a When you've determined two-person party (just you

STEP TWO: Shift the

THREE: To STEP your child's celebrate success, the party expands to include his or her other parent, siblings, grandparents and other close relatives. of whom offer their all congratulations.

7495 Cascade Rd. • Grand Rapids, Michigan 49546 957-3239 • www.fhpcusa.org



- NAEYC Accredited
- Christian Based
- Zoophonics/Handwriting w/o Tears
- 27th Year In Operation
- Field Trips/Guest Speakers
  - Family Events
  - 3's, 4's and Young 5's Programs
- <sup>a</sup> Preschool
- Staff Hold College Degrees

by Thad Kraus

regional.

one took fourth.

"I'm really

Lowell's

its team district field.

on Saturday and into the

2010 Division I individual

came home as district

considering the difficult

district we were in," said

Lowell wrestling coach Dave

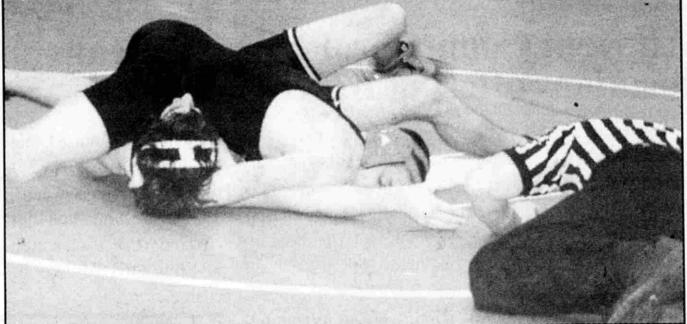
Five Lowell wrestlers

pleased

ledger

**Consolation Round** Lowell will advance to 171-JakeDorulla(Rockford) 4:02

125 - Matt Griffioen dec. Marcos Diaz (Hudsonville)



Lowell's Kalvin Meyer records a pin in Lowell's district championship win over Caledonia.

### why you do the preparation wrestling work."

SPORTS

Red Arrow

team did not make any big Winning impression blasting through championships in their weight class were Gabe High School. A few unsuspecting eyes, Morse (135), Andrew Morse though, may have been (145), Jackson Morse (160), averted when 11 Red Arrows advanced out of the district Kruse (HWT).

> championship match at 171 cannot be peaking and come pounds

Winning their matches in 11," Dean said. the consolation round were **Division I regional results**: champions: one as runner- Matt Griffioen (125), Jake Championship Round up; four finished third; and Fillingham (130), Jake Gould (140) and Dan Fleet (152).

> his consolation match and Nick Bohn (East Kentwood) finished fourth.

Dean. "We expect to take Griffioen and Zack Jeffries, I Jake Johnson (Rockford) 7-2 steps in the right direction thought, all had really good at this time of year. That's days," Dean explained.

the individual regional meet district on Saturday in Saginaw (Feb. 20) at Saginaw Heritage

"This is the toughest district I have ever been part Gabe Dean (189) and Connor of as a competitor or as a coach. The kids are starting Ryan Olep (171) lost his to peak and I don't think we to this tournament and place

135 - Gabe Morse dec. Tanner

Zych (Caledonia) 7-4 Zack Jeffries (112) lost 145 - Andrew Morse dec.

3-0 "Gabe Morse, Matt 160 - Jackson Morse dec.

dec. Ryan Olep 5-2 189 - Gabe Dean dec. Caleb Rivera (Grandville) 6-5 HWT - Connor Kruse dec. Willie Coulter-Hill (Muskegon) 6-3

112 - Anwar Munye (East Kentwood) p. Zack Jeffries

5-4



by Thad Kraus Lowell's competitive

cheer team handed in one of its top performances of the year in Saturday's conference meet at Muskegon Reeths-Puffer.

pleased "I'm very with the effort; it was our second highest team total of the year," said Lowell competitive cheer coach Kari Dawson. "The girls put together an inspired effort and will look to add a few more elements for the district in Owosso (Saturday)."

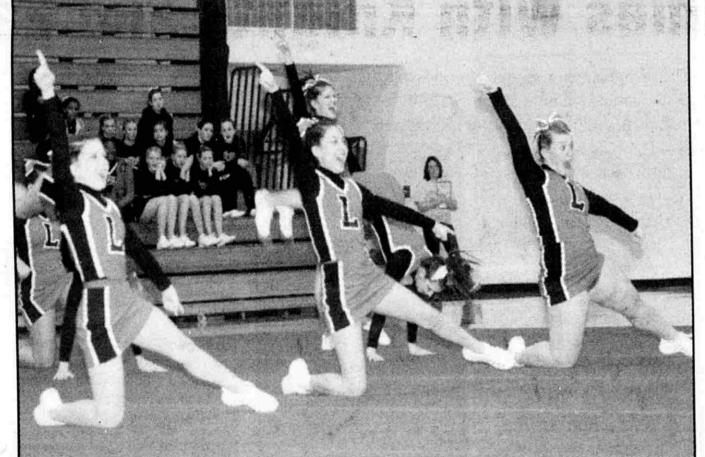
Lowell finished with 683.672 points, placing it fifth overall.

The Red Arrows strung together strong scores in all three rounds.

Lowell tallied its highest second-round score (198.47) of the year.

"All of our jumps and walkovers all came together," Dawson explained.

Lowell preceded that with a strong 207.2 in round one. "Our jump and voice scores continue to climb." Dawson said.



Jump and voice are strong elements of Lowell's routine.

The Red Arrows fielded 13 competitors in round three, delivering them bonus points for the skills performed by the additional team member. The result was a score of 278, the second highest roundthree score of the year.

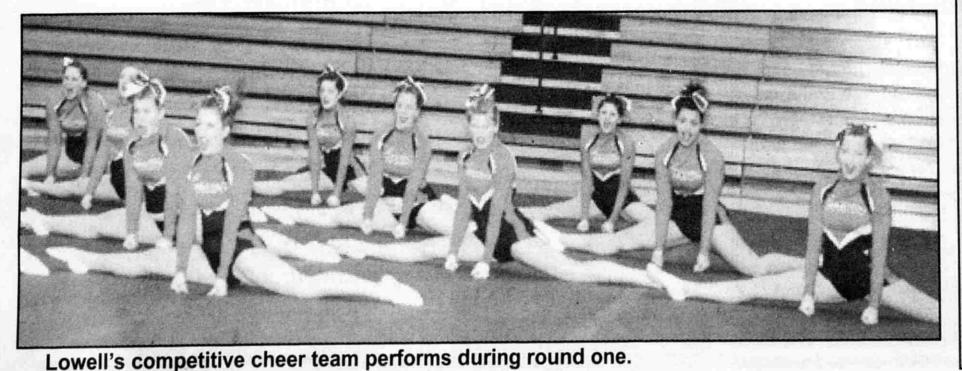
Lowell hosted the final regular season meet on Wednesday. The Red Arrows finished fifth

Kenowa Hills, conference with Grand Rapids Christian round three. 742.4; Mona Shores 713.7; 655.9 and Northview 639.3.

The Red Arrows started strong with a 204.7 score in round one for its strong jump and voice execution.

however, Lowell, champion, won the event struggled in rounds two and 751.5 points. The three as it scored 180 in the Knights were followed by second round and 270.6 in

"We struggled with our Reeths-Puffer 692.2; Lowell 10-count precision and with our choreography," Dawson concluded.



## Senior gymnasts honored at final home meet

Mona Shores marked Lowell's final conference meet of the year and with it a triumphant and bittersweet "thank you" to all of its seniors for all their time and hard work over the many years.

"It's emotional, it is that point when the girls realize all the practice hours and hard work that they have put in for so many years, all the bumps and bruises, tears and triumph, has now come to an end," Lowell gymnastics coach Michele DeHaan explained. The coach and the Red Arrow program said goodbye

Sarah Piell.

erformance.

and vault respectively.

back of the Sailors' 134.125.

"Sarah had an outstanding floor routine. It's nice when senior has a strong routine and has fun too," DeHaan said. "Emma also had one of her highest scores of the year on the beam. Her jumps have improved so much." Lowell tallied four scores of eight or more on the vault.

Teft scored an 8.75 while Piell finished with an 8.35. orie Bennett recorded an 8.2 and Abby Rogalke and Vonda Kyes tallied marks of 8.0.

Freshman Morgan McVey continued to impress as she posted her third straight beam routine without a fall and her third score of above eight.

Vonda Kyes also stuck her first beam routine. Lauren Trasky landed her first fly away dismount on

the uneven bars. "Her hard work is paying off," DeHaan said. Lowell now looks ahead to the conference meet on aturday at Rockford The meet starts at 12:30 pm

Kelsey Teft	8.750	<b>Uneven Bars</b>	
Sarah Piell	8.350	Morgan McVey	8.400
Jorie Bennett	8.200	Abby Rogalke	7.500
Abby Rogalke	8.000	Cassie Miles	7.500
Vonda Kyes	8.000	Lauren Trasky	7.100
Beam		Floor	
Lauren Trasky	7.400	Morgan McVey	8.075
Sarah Piell	7.400	Sarah Piell	7.675
Abby Rogalke	6.200	Abby Rogalke	7.500
Morgan McVey	6.000	Vonda Kyes	7.125

wednesday • february • 17 • 2010

"ledger

# **Eleven Lowell wrestlers advance to Division I regional**

130 - Jake Fillingham dec. Evan Zych (Caledonia) 9-6 140 - Jake Gould p. Kyle Pawloski (Mona Shores) 3:20

152 - Dan Fleet dec. Zach VanEss (Hudsonville) 8-2

to seniors Emma Bencker, Cassie Miles, Kelsey Teft and

All four seniors did so with a strong final

Bencker recorded her strongest beam routine of the year. Piell delivered one of her strongest floor routines while Miles and Teft had a good night on the uneven bars

Lowell finished with a team score of 121.175 well in

# Red Arrow SPORS **Red Arrows hang on for** two-point win over Knights

### by Thad Kraus

Nothing has come easy for the Lowell boys' basketball team.

Wins nor defeats.

A nonconference road win at Kenowa Hills appeared as though it might come easy Meyer led all Red Arrow with Lowell winning 37-24 and just eight minutes to play.

Over the final quarter an apparent win began to few of those this year.

unbroken with a 52-50 win.

"There were a number of moments where we led Kenowa Hills with 16 tallying 22 points to take a played great," Lowell boys' basketball coach Jeff

McDonald said. "Then things G.R. Christian 71 got a little ugly toward the Lowell 44 end. The boys hung in there and found a way to win. It was ugly, but it's a win and we will take it."

Elliott Drain and Jacob scorers with 11 points each. pace," McDonald Derek Cornish and Isaac Tawney contributed with nine and eight respectively.

Lowell led 16-11 after one take the shape of a possible quarter of play and outscored agonizing defeat. The Red Kenowa Hills 8-5 in the Arrows have experienced a second stanza to take a 24- behind early trailing 12-2 said. 16 half-time lead. The Red less than three minutes into The Knights rallied to Arrows held a 13-8 scoring the game. However, the Red Eagles with 19 points. Isaac net 26 fourth-quarter points advantage in the third quarter Arrows finished the quarter Tawney led Lowell with 11 before time ran out and before the Knights roared on an 8-3 run closing the gap and Derek Cornish added the Red Arrows escaped back on a 26-15 fourth- to five at 15-10. quarter surge.

Stephen points.

A pace not conducive to Lowell success enabled the we played five possessions Eagles, the top team in the that killed us," McDonald O-K White, to run away and hide in a 27-point victory.

said. "Tonight the boys didn't show the discipline to play at our pace. The game turned into a track meet and 'got has size, speed and shooters. away from us."

The Eagles picked up the Thompson pace in the second quarter, 37-27 halftime lead

"We had eight or nine possessions where we played the way we had to, but then said

The third quarter was all "We cannot play at that Grand Rapids Christian as the Eagles netted 22 points and built a 59-36 lead. "They are the quickest

team we've played. Christian They were at the rim the The Red Arrows fell whole night," McDonald

Javin Hardley led the

**Isaac Tawney led** all Lowell scorers with 11 points in Friday's loss to the Eagles.

## **Lowell splits games with Knights and Eagles**

### by Thad Kraus

Lowell girls' basketball team saw a 10-point halfand earning a 34-28 victory 10-7 in the second quarter. against Kenowa Hills.

and fight tonight."

lull, before righting the ship to 10, outscoring the Knights the final eight minutes.

played with more confidence The Knights enjoyed their Knights with nine points. best quarter output of the The Red Arrows jumped night, tallying 13 points to time lead evaporate during out to a 12-5 first-quarter lead. Lowell's four and cutting the a third-quarter offensive They enlarged the advantage deficit to one at 26-25 to start heartbreaking

Leading 22-12 to start the limited the Knights to just getting back to their winning "It was a physical game," third stanza, Lowell's offense three points in the final stanza ways. said Lowell basketball coach slowed to a crawl while while netting eight of their Danielle Gallert. "The girls Kenowa Hills' accelerated. own in securing the win.

G.R. Christian 50 Lowell 28

The Eagles, after a doubleovertime loss to Forest Hills The Red Arrow defense Central, wasted little time in They did so with defense.

Katie Tompkins led all little tonight, but defensively scorers with 14 points and you have to be happy when program. They were more with six points apiece. Stephanie Stevens added six. you hold a club to just seven aggressive to the bucket

Rachel Palmer led the first-half points," said Grand



I have always had a great admiration and appreciation for those who start from ground level, from scratch and are able to build something.

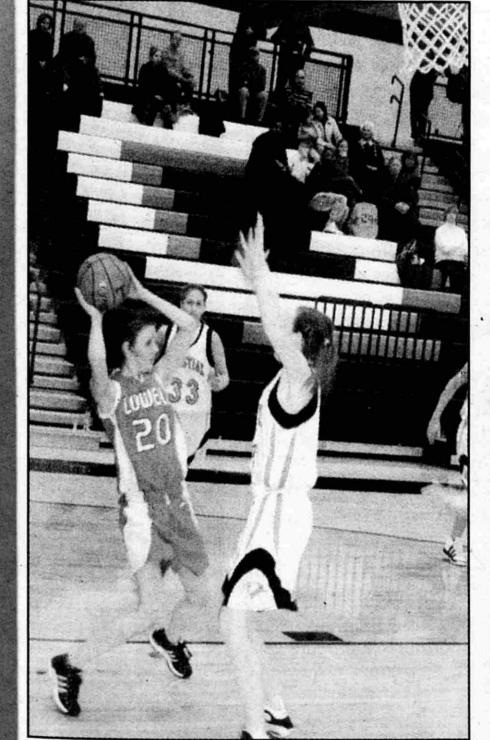
I have witnessed this occasionally in my 20-plus years of covering high school sports.

Within the last couple of weeks a Lowell coach was honored with her induction into the Michigan High School Tennis Coaches Hall of Fame for virtually That initial year brought 75 building a team, a program from nothing and making it that.

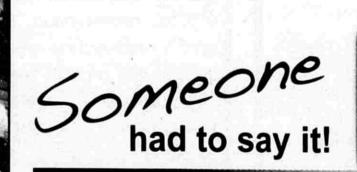
You know by now I'm talking about Lowell's tennis coach Bonnie Wall.

In this day and age of school of choice and high school athletes bouncing from one program to another, cultivating cries of recruiting; it is refreshing to witness a program built from nothing with all of its players from within the community.

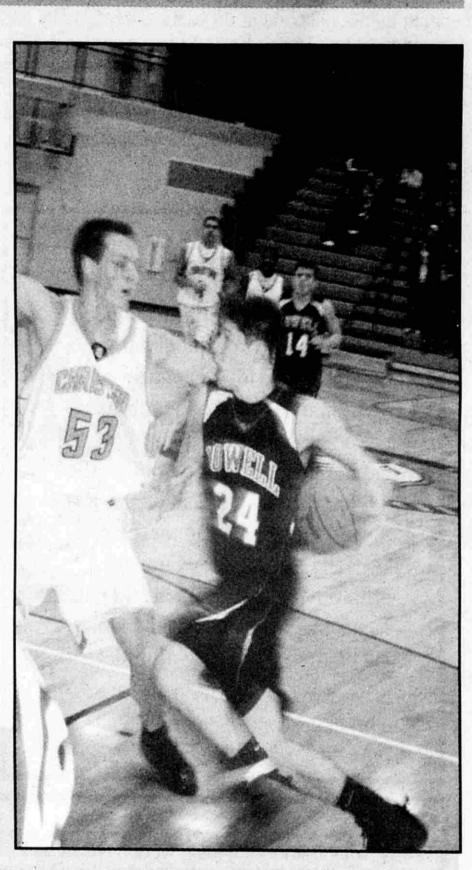
I was here when Wall first started her Lowell tenure and started a summer program. players. The program now hosts up to and over 170



Stephanie Stevens looks for a cutting Red Arrow during second-half action against Grand a force. A respected one at players every summer. Rapids Christian.







Rapids Christian girls' tonight," Lowell coach Muller.

over the opening eight hands." minutes and trailed 11-0 after one quarter of play.

number two and trailed 18-7 10 points each. "Our offense struggled a at half-time.

basketball coach Charlette Danielle Gallert said. "Defensively, I thought we Lowell was held scoreless did a lot of reaching with our

page '

Lowell was outscored 28-21 in the second half.

The Red Arrows were Bethany Bates and Britt outscored 11-7 in quarter Bruinsma led the Eagles with

Megan Montgomery and "Christian has a tough Stephanie Stevens led Lowell

Thad Kraus

spurred on to play the game Rockford) in the final. recreationally each summer. Not surprisingly, Wall, 27 years, still plays the game at a competitive level.

Congratulations tennis coach Bonnie Wall!

Wednesday night's regional wrestling match which will Eddies!

This doesn't include likely pair two of the states the many adults Wall has top four teams (Lowell and

If you haven't seen a wrestling match, this would who has been coaching for be a great way to introduce yourself to the sport. Even if you know nothing about wrestling, I guarantee you will be entertained.

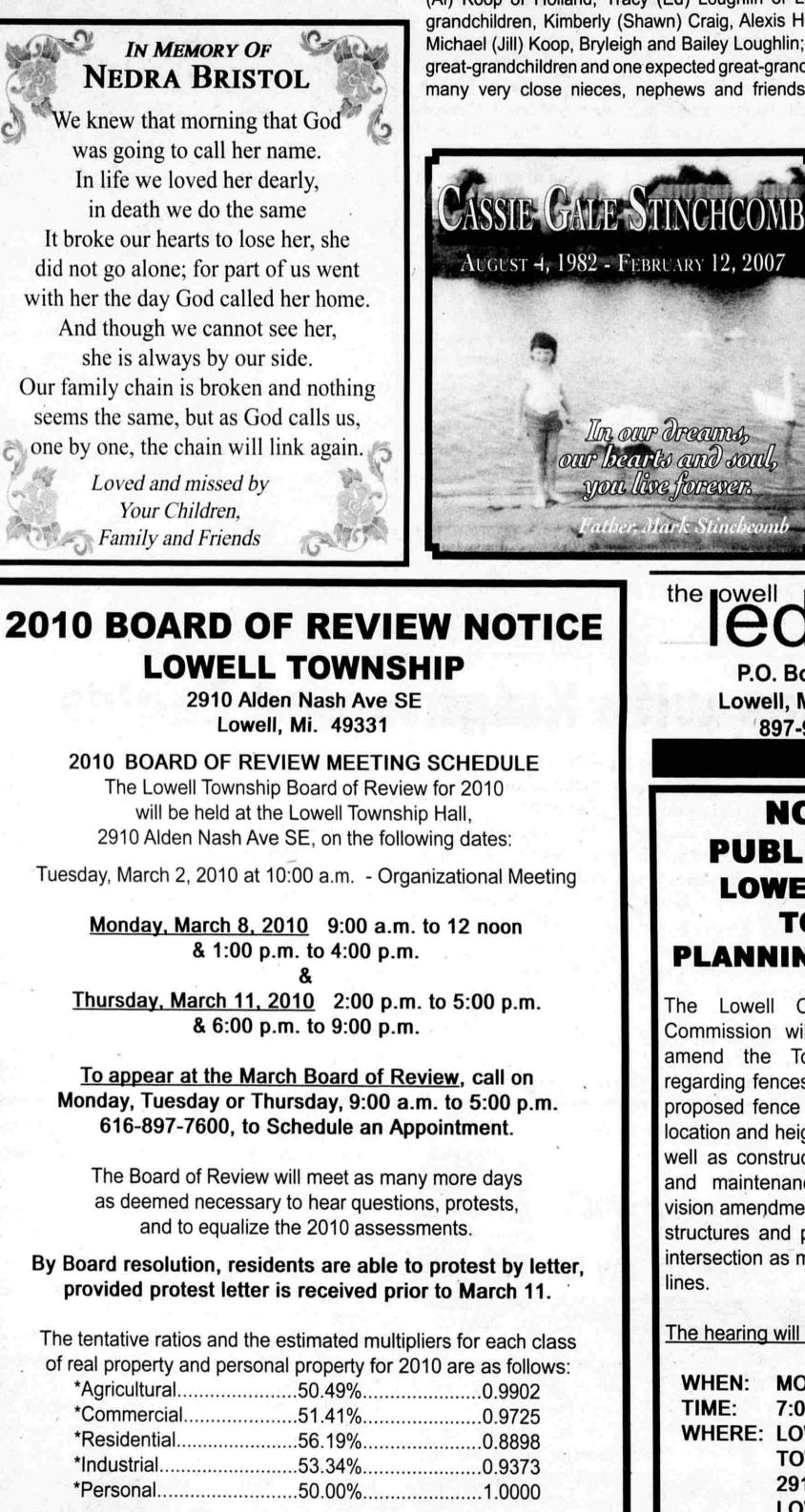
Finally, Edwardsburg has A quick shout out for also advanced to the team regional in Division 3. Go



### obituaries

### KELLY

Joan M. Kelly, age 78, of Gowen, passed away Monday, February 8, 2010. She was preceded in death by her husband of 56 years, John E. Kelly and granddaughter, Tracey Kelly. She is survived by her children, Mark Kelly of Waterford, Jeff (Debra) Kelly of Belding, Sandy (Dave) Warren of Ann Arbor and Kathleen (John) VanderBoon of Plainwell; sister, Patricia Suttorp; brother, James (Gerry) Stellard; grandchildren, Ruth Jones and Margaret McMahon. She is survived by



American With Disabilities (ADA) Notice The Township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities

at the Board of Review meetings upon 2 days notice. Contact: Supervisor Jerry Hale, 2910 Alden Nash Ave SE 616-897-7600

Board of Review Members: Dave Simmonds, Barbara Tremblay & James Foerch. Jerry Hale, Township Supervisor, Secretary of Board of Review.

### "ledger

Alexandria, Jacob, Daniel, John and James Kelly, Erin Kara, and Scotty Bowers, Jessie, Leah, Megan, Audrey and Nate VanderBoon; great-granddaughters, Taylor and Julia Kelly; also many nieces and nephews. Mass of Women's Christian Burial was offered February 11 at St. Margaret Catholic Church with Fr. Philip Salmonowicz presiding. Interment St. Margaret Cemetery.

### THOMPSON

Elizabeth (B.J.) J. Thompson, age 87, of Lowell, passed away Sunday, February 14, 2010. She was preceded in death by her grandson, Allen Marshall Horder; sisters, her children, Richard (Mary) Horder of Alanta, GA, Robin (AI) Koop of Holland, Tracy (Ed) Loughlin of Lowell; grandchildren, Kimberly (Shawn) Craig, Alexis Horder, Michael (Jill) Koop, Bryleigh and Bailey Loughlin; three great-grandchildren and one expected great-grandchild; many very close nieces, nephews and friends. B.J.

you live forever

a member of the Lowell Club, former member planning the commission Lowel and

retired from teacher Lowell Public Schools. B.J. an avid was crossword puzzle solver. golfer and cribbage player. She had wonderfu

of

sense humor. She loved to travel and enjoyed all the unique trips with her family. Funeral service will be Friday, February 19 at 11 a.m. at Roth-Gerst Funeral Chapel 305 N Hudson with Rev. Dean Bailey of Alto-Bowne United Methodist Church officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Visitation will be 4-7 p.m. Thursday. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Lowell Women's Club, Lowell Area Arts Council or Gilda's Club of Lowell

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

the lowell dger P.O. Box 128 Lowell, MI 49331

897-9261

### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LOWELL CHARTER** TOWNSHIP **PLANNING COMMISSION**

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to amend the Township Zoning Ordinance regarding fences and clear vision areas. The proposed fence amendments would establish location and height requirements for fences as well as construction, type of fence materials and maintenance requirements. The clear vision amendments would restrict the height of structures and plantings within 15 feet of an intersection as measured from the right of way lines.

The hearing will be held as follows:

MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2010 WHEN: TIME: 7:00 P.M. WHERE: LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL 2910 ALDEN NASH AVE. SE LOWELL, MI 49331

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

> Tim Clements, Secretary Lowell Charter Township **Planning Commission**

wednesday · february · 17 · 2010 graduated from Northwestern University. She was





和非常常的 化化合物 化合物 化合物 化合物

wednesday · february · 17 · 2010

Your Hometown Heroes

As your local independent insurance agent, our mission is to provide the best service in the universe.

Looks like doing the right thing is still what matters most to the people in West Michigan.





Thank you for rating Auto-Owners Insurance "Highest in Customer Satisfaction with the Auto Insurance Claims Experience, Two Years in a Row" according to J.D. Power and Associates.

uto Owners Incurance ranks highest among auto insurance providers in the J.D. Power and Associates 2008 Auto Claims Study.<sup>55</sup> Study based on n.677 responses from auto insurance customers who filed a claim from July 2007. July 2008. Excludes those with claims only for glass/windshield, theft/stolen, roadside as sistance or bodily injury claims. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of consumers surveyed July to August 2008. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpswer.com.

"ledger

We are independent agents proudly representing Auto-Owners Insurance

# **AIC INSURANCE** SERVICES

219 E. Main Street Lowell • 616-987-8000

7275 Bronson Street SE Ada • 616-676-4000

-

ledger

## **NOTICE OF REVIEW OF** APPORTIONMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on Friday, the 26th day of February, 2010, at the Kent County Drain Commissioner's Office, 1500 Scribner Ave., N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49504, County of Kent, or such place and time, I, William R. Byl, Kent County Drain Commissioner, may adjourn, the apportionment for benefits and the lands comprised within the "HOWARD, DOYLE & HOWARD COUNTY DRAIN", and the apportionment thereof will be subject to review on the above specified date only, from 8:30 A.M. until 4:30 P.M. Also on this date, the computation of cost for said drain will be open for inspection by any interested parties. You may also review your apportionments by phone at (616) 336-3688.

WHEREAS, You are further advised that, pursuant to Section 155 of the Michigan Drain Code of 1956, as amended, any owner of land within the Drainage District or any city, village, township, district or county feeling aggrieved by the apportionment of benefits made by the drain commissioner, may appeal the apportionment within ten (10) days after the Day of Review of Apportionment by making an application to the Kent County Probate Court for the appointment of a Board of Review. If there is no appeal, the roll will be confirmed ten (10) days after the Day of Review of Apportionment. The confirmed roll may be slightly different from the roll presented at the Day of Review due to arguments made at the Day of Review.

### AS A PROPERTY OWNER WITHIN THE DISTRICT, YOU ARE SUBJECT TO A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR A PORTION OF THE COST OF THIS PROJECT.

The following government units and permanent parcel numbers of the parcels of land within the Special Assessment District of said drain will be assessed:

41-12-31-

200-015; 400-014, -026, -030, -032, -035 thru -039;

41-12-32-300-003

14.1

642

41-16-05-

100-006 thru -008; 300-001, -004, -005; 400-002;

41-16-06-

200-002, -004 thru -008; 300-009; 400-001, -002, -005 thru -007;

<u>41-16-07-</u>

200-005, -008 thru -015; 289-001; 400-008, -009;

<u>41-16-08-</u>

100-004, -006, -007, -009, -012 thru -017; 200-002; 300-001, -002; 400-002, -003, -010, -015, -020;

41-16-17-100-001, -002;

Grattan Township and Vergennes Township at large, and the County of Kent on account of roads.

NOW, THEREFORE, All unknown and non-resident persons, owners and persons interested in the above described lands, and you: Mary Hollinrake - Clerk of Kent County, Franklin Force - Grattan Township Supervisor, Tim Wittenbach - Vergennes Township Supervisor and Jon Rice - Kent County Road Commission Managing Director, that at such time and place, as stated above, the apportionment for benefits and the lands comprised within the Howard, Doyle and Howard County Drain Special Assessment District will be subject to review.

AND EACH OF YOU, owners and persons interested in the above referenced parcels of land, are hereby given the opportunity to appear at the time and place noted above to review the apportionments and be heard with respect to such special assessments and your interests in relation to them, if you so desire.

Dated this 2nd day of February, 2010.

William R. Byl Kent County Drain Commissioner



### Sound Off!

The Ledger's "Almost" anything goes column! The Ledaer reserves the right to choose what is printed, and reminds the public that views expressed in Sound Off!, unless otherwise stated, are not the opinions of The Ledger staff or its publishers. A big thank you to the two guys with the

snow blower and shovel on N. West Street. They product or service please. snowblowed and shoveled my driveway and walkway then, went on to the neighbors. Just to will make it to print. prove there are some good guys in Lowell.

Don't you just love it when you've spent an hour shoveling the sidewalks and driveway entry and then the snowplow blasts by and you have to or its publishers. start all over again?

To the individual accusing Emma Palova of being a terrible writer- Maybe it would be a good idea to broaden your vocabulary and understand the English language before bashing someone. Next time, when you feel a moment of expression keep it to yourself because you're a fantastic example of ignorance.

I'm dreading my visits to Laurels of Kent every week. Please tell me that Center Ave. will be resurfaced before the spring thaw.

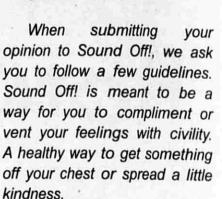
LUNCH MENU		
ELEMENTARY MENU Week of Feb. 22, 2010		R
MON: Walking taco w/ lettuce & tomato (tuna salad sandwich also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), Fritos corn chips, green beans, assorted fruit, milk.	-	
TUES: Cheeseburger on bun (yogurt & cracker stackers: ham, cheese & crackers) oven French, fries, mixed fruit, milk.	•	Forme Friday to rest arterie
WED: Baked chicken nuggets & dinner roll (turkey & cheese on bun also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), mashed potatoes, peaches, milk.	•	Rhode annour 42 yea Two co
THURS: Chef Boyardee Ravioli w/cinnamon roll (stacked ham & cheese on	•	Belgiu
bun also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), tossed salad w/lite dressing, pineapple, milk.		Repub 21 yea practic
FRI: Cheese pizza (BBQ ribbette on bun also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), peas & carrots, fruited		Directo getting becaus Airlines

gelatin salad, milk.

tor, actor, Kevin Smith was delayed ng from Oakland to Burbank Saturday night use he was "too wide" to fly on Southwest Airlines. Southwest has a "customer of size" policy requiring passengers to buy a second seat if they cannot fit between arm rests

wednesday · february · 17 · 2010

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



We welcome your comments. with or without signatures. but signing your name to your comment does increase the odds of seeing it in print. Threatening or deliberately cruel comments will not be accepted and, of course, no advertising a So basically, submit

anything - but not everything The Ledger reserves the

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

> To vote on the current poll question go to: WWW.

the Iowell ledger. com



### -ebruary 10 - February 16

er President Bill Clinton left the hospital after doctors performed a procedure store blood flow in one of his coronary

le Island Congressman Patrick Kennedy unced he is not seeking reelection. The ar-old rep. is in his eighth term in office.

commuter trains collided head-on in Halle, um killing at least 11 people.

McMurray won the Daytona 500.

blic of Georgia luger Nodar Kumaritashvili ears old, was killed going 90 mph in a ice run at the Olympics.

### for sale

wednesday • february • 17 • 2010

office hours:

Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Fri. 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

closed Sat. & Sun.

FREEAD! - 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@lowell buyersguide.com, Lowell. Ph. 897-9261.

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

HOME FOR SALE - 3 bedroom, 2 stall attached garage, Ratigan Lake, neighborhood. \$70,000+. Call 647-8896.

LAND FOR SALE - 10 acres, beautifully wooded. All buildable. Borders Saranac/Lowell in Keene township. Frontage along Sayles & Pinckney Roads. Wildlife galore! \$69,900. Very motivated. Call owner at 897-2750.

eBAY DROP-OFF STORE FOR SALE-Great business in local area. Very busy. Super low price of only \$50,000. 616-291-0039. First come first served.

SHIHTZU-CHIN PUPPIES - \$350 each, 4 males & 4 females. 318-4204, after 3 p.m.

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

HELP US DELIVER THE PAPER...please DIG OUT around your newspaper tube, mailbox, steps, walkways & porches! Let's all try to HELP EACH OTHÉR survive the Winter.

### misc.

FOOD PANTRY - at Lakeside Community Church, 5201 Whitneyville Rd. Free frozen & perishable food. First friday. Registration 2:30, distribution 4:00. Bring own container.

**GLASS HOUSE DESIGNS** - My daughter loves her original designed necklace. Thank you, Joice Smith.

### sales

TACK SALE - New, used items. Saranac High School, March 20, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. \$1 door charge. Vendor info, 868-6042 or crclrflctn@aol.com

### lost

STILL MISSING - A longhaired ALL black male cat named Blackie. Has bright yellow eyes. 2 years old. Last seen 10/28/09 on Ryan Ridge & Alden Nash SE in Lowell Twp. ANY INFO, please call 897-8385. REWARD.

### for rent

ALTO - 2 bedroom apartment, pond view, \$500 deposit, \$550 per month includes trash removal, water/sewer, hookup available for stackable washer & dryer. 616-868-6411.

FOR RENT - 1 bedroom house on Murray Lake. Quiet, serene setting on the lake with 45 ft. of sandy beach. References required. \$700 per month plus utilities. Call 897-7347.

OFFICE RETAIL SPACE FOR RENT - Large room & bathroom, storefront, main street Alto. \$300 per mo. + \$300 dep. Call 868-9915.

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

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.TEN

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.TFN

### help wanted

ATTENTION - NOW HIR-ING - Customer Service reps \$550 to start. Paid weekly. For interview call after 11 a.m. 616-698-2019.

## in ·

### memoriam

IN MEMORIAM In loving memory of our parents: Emma E. Kropf, June 17, 1909 -February 24, 1958; Bertha M. Weir, October 24, 1901 February 20, 1968 James W. Weir, October 7, 1899 -March 20, 1973; Carl Kropf, September 13, 1909

January 18, 1993 Those we love remain with us; for love itself lives on, and

cherished memories never fade. because a loved one's

Those we love will never

be more than a thought for as long as there is

memory, they'll live on in our hearts.

Lovingly, your family

### services

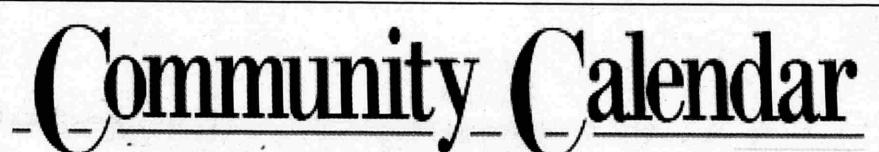
HANDY REPAIR SERVICE All kinds of service work: locks rekeyed, deadbolts installed, screen & window repair. Call Bob Ford, 299-3198.TEN

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

IS YOUR CHILD STRUG-GLING IN SCHOOL?-I can help. Certified teacher with 30+ years experience working with students who have challenges with learning attention, and motivation. Call Jessica at 897-7513.

CORE CONDITIONING CLASS - classes begin the week of March 1st. Mon. & Wed., 4 weeks, 5 p.m. - 6 p.m. Mon., Wed., & Fri., 6 weeks, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. For more information contact Dery PT, 897-7055.

HOME REPAIR - Cabinet work, drawers repaired. laminate counter tops. woodwork, doors, drywall. Ron Anderson Woodworking & Const., 430-8511.



PLEASE NOTE - Coming Events ALPHA WOMEN'S CENTER - MOBILE FOOD PANTRY - at IONIA - MONTCALM CHAPTER They are ran on a space available p.m.; Tues. 6-9 p.m.; Thurs. 10-6 Ref. Church, 6655 Cascade Rd. basis & are not guaranteed to run. p.m. 987-9533. Diapers, formula, Free perishable food. 1st Monday. If you would like to make sure clothing & free pregnancy testing Register: 4:30 p.m. Distribution: your event is placed in the paper, available. please call our office & place it as a guide.com, by mail: PO Box 128, appointment. 676-9346. owell, MI 49331 or in person: 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

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. a Chamber office, 113 Riverwalk Plaza. Concerns & ideas welcome.

CLUB - meets the 2nd Saturday org. or call 897-8545. 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.

THE EAST KENT COUNTY **REPUBLICANS (EKCR) - meets** the second Saturday of the month at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce (113 Riverwalk Plaza) from 8:30 to 10 a.m. to discuss current events on the local, state & national levels. Bring your concerns & issues to our meeting for open discussion! Share information about what you can do to become involved! For more LOWELL SERENITY CLUB ST. PATRICK PLAYGROUP information, please call Dave Emmette, 644-0759 or Nancy Steckler, 897-6380.

FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINIS-TRIES THRIFT STORE - is open Wed. - Fri., 10 - 6 p.m.; Sat., 10 SHOTGUN&ARCHERYSHOOTa.m. - 4 p.m. at 11535 Fulton St. E. Thrift Shop, 897-8260, Food Sportsman's Club (Alto/Freeport). DORIC CHAPTER #75 - Order Services, 897-8260.

<sup>™</sup>ledger

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

ASSISTED LIVING - Country Lane Assisted Living has immediate openings. Female only. Private/Medicaid accepted. Brochure & tour available. 616-581-3276.

CLEANING - Home or business. Very thorough, 14 years experience. References. Please call 616-633-9195.

STEVEN R. SIMKINS, AT-TORNEY AT LAW - I am a lifelong resident of the Lowell community & I offer superior legal representation at affordable rates. Call 350-0909 for your free consultation.

BUSINESS CARDS - Before you order your cards from somewhere else checkourrates! Call Lowell Litho, 897-9261.

ALTO LIBRARY HOURS: Tues. & Wed., 12 - 8 p.m.; Mon. & Sat., ADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY 9:30-1:30 p.m.; Thurs., 1-5 p.m. Info., call 647-3820. ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY #1388. Open to the public. HOURS - Mon.-Wed., noon - 8 p.m.; Thurs. & Fri., 9:30 a.m. - 5 STORYTIME AT THE SARANAC p.m.: Sat. 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. PUBLIC LIBRARY - Tuesdays

647-3920.

LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL free. 897-7688.

women/adolescents in need. clothing/infantitems. Lowell area.

897-9393. p.m. 101 W. Main. 897-8565.

ING LEAGUES - at Caledonia email shooting@csc.us.com.



### services

### services

BE STRONG, POWER-FUL, FLEXIBLE YOGA CLASSES-Tues. & Thurs., 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. & Fri. 8-9 a.m. Dery Physical Therapy (Lowell). \$6 per class. 616-893-5661, www.hammocklearning.com

TAXES, PAYROLL, QUICKBOOKS, & AC-COUNTING SERVICE 10% over distributor cost. - by certified Quickbooks advisor. Call Kathy 897-6351.

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

HOME REPAIR - Cabinet work, drawers repaired, laminate countertops woodwork, doors, drywall Ron Anderson Woodworking & Const., 430-8511.

CUSTOM CABINETRY Handcrafted, solid wood kitchens, baths, entertainment centers, etc. at pre-built prices. Personal Choice Cabinetry, 897-1130

### services

WOOD GASIFICATION Boilers use half the wood as our competitors. 85% plus efficiency. Boilers in stock. www.woodboilers com, 616-893-2264 Nate Kinsman or 616-292-8801 Derrick Borup.

JIM'S FLOOR COVERING - Carpet, vinyl, & laminate, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m., 897-0737. leave message.

**BIG STEPS LITTLE FEET** - Christian Childcare & Preschool in Ada now enrolling. 616-682-8300.

### SOUND OFF PHONE LINE 897-0787

### wanted

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

6 p.m.

classified ad. All Coming Events or AVERILL HISTORICAL MU- DIABETIC SUPPORT GROUP changes to coming events should SEUM OF ADA - 7144 Headley, - Tues., 7 p.m. at Elmdale Church. be submitted by fax: 897-4809 is open every Friday, Saturday & located just 3.3 miles E. of M-50 on email: classifieds@lowellbuyers Sunday from 1 - 4 p.m. Also by 64th St. Phone 868-7690 & leave a message if interested or if you would like to meet at another time

> BINGO - Every Sunday, 2 p.m. The Moose Rec Hall, 1320 E. Main St. Sponsored by W.O.T.M. Chapter

at 10 a.m.

LOWELLAREAARTSCOUNCIL DIABETIC SUPPORT GROUP GALLERY HOURS - Tues. - Fri., - Meets 7 p.m. the first Tuesday 12-6p.m.;Sat., 1-4p.m.;Monday of every month at the Elmdale & mornings by appt.; 149 S. Hud- Church, 11830 Drew Rd. (same LOWELL AMATEUR RADIO son. Visit www.lowell artscouncil. as 64th), Alto. Just 3 1/3 miles E. of Marathon Station on M-50. For info call 868-7690.

> MUSEUM - open Tuesday, Satur- EVERY THURSDAY - Free souper day & Sunday:1-4 p.m.; Thursday: supper at First Congregational -8 p.m. Families: \$10; individual United Church of Christ, 865 Lin-\$3: ages 5-17 \$1.50; members coln Lake Ave SE at 6:30 p.m. Public welcome.

ST. MARY'S PREGNANCY NEW CLASSES FOR EVERY-CRISIS CENTER- 402 Amity. ONE-children-adults at Christian Mondays: 5:30-7:30 p.m. and Life Center, 3050 Alden Nash SE, hursdays: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Non- Lowell. Every Wednesday 7-8 p.m. denominational. Help for pregnant Bible-centered classes for children through 5th grade, youth group for Provides support, referrals, food, 6th grade thru high school & adult prayer & Bible study. Everyone is invited to attend.

MEETINGS - (AA) Mon., Wed., Thursdays 10 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. St. Thurs.: 12-1 & 8-9 p.m.; Tues. & Patrick's preschool room. Stories, Fri.: 12-1, 4:30-5:30 p.m. & 8-9 games, crafts, music & snack. Parp.m.; Sat. & Sun.: 10-11 a.m. & 8-9 ents with young children welcome. Call Jennifer Post, 897-0251 or Sally Goffer, 863-4952 with any auestions.

Pantry 897-8260, Emergency Contact Al Potas 698-2051 or of the Eastern Star, will not meet in February.

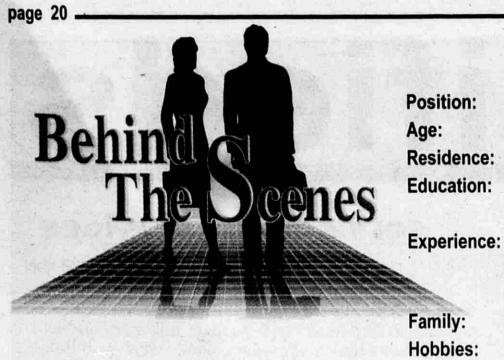
are for non-profit organizations. 2251 W. Main. Hours: Mon. 11-5 Cascade Fellowship Christian #6 - of State Employee Retiree's Association, serving Montcalm & Ionia counties & the Lowell area. will hold its monthly meeting beginning at noon on Wed., Feb. 24 at the Administration Building of the Ionia Intermediate School District (ISD), 2191 Harwood Rd. Ionia. Luncheon reservations are necessary. Please call 616-527 1825 by noon Feb. 22. All State o Michigan Retiree's may attend. I Ionia Public Schools are closed, here will be no meeting.

> ENHANCE FITNESS CLASS-An activity program especially for those 60 or better. Mon., Wed. & Fri. at 10 a.m. at the United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main St., Lowell. Class offered by Senior Neighbors. Call 233-0283 for more information.

MOMS IN TOUCH INTERNA TIONAL - Moms and Grandmas come pray for our kids and schools at Friendship Country Chapel, 10200 Grand River Ave. every Thursday, 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. Child care provided. Call Missy at 308-7920 or jakooistra@comcast.net with any questions.

BLARE'S BEARS DRIVE - to give kids on Haiti something to hug. Drop new or gently used teddy bears off at Curtis Cleaners, St. Mary Church or St. Patrick School, Parnell from now until March 1. Bears will be shipped to Haiti through Rays of Hope in Grand Rapids. Call 691-8833 for more information.

BREAKFAST TO BENEFIT YOUTH FAIR & SCOUTING March 7 at St. Patrick's Parish Center, 4351 Parnell Ave., Ada. Donations are requred for breakfast which is served from 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Includes: eggs, pancakes, sausage, ham, hash browns, coffee & juice. For more info call Dennis & Diane Brown, 897-7611.



""ledger

### Dave Emmette

Agency producer for AIC Ada Insurance Center 36

ce: Vergennes Township

n: Bachelor's degree in political science, bachelor's degree in international studies, minor in German

e: Three years in political arena: legislative aide and political consultant for Senate majority; 2005 insurance Wife Cheryl Fishing, hunting, scuba diving, politics, languages and culture complex insurance industry were many, mainly learning the trade and the products and moving from Ypsilanti to Lowell.

"I was starting from

He maintains a 'to do list' every day and a management system to keep everything organized. Emmette said he gets energy from other people.

wednesday · february · 17 · 2010



Dave Emmette is a lifelong learner and loves working with the public.

scratch, building up the clientele in five years," he said, "learning the different types of billing. There's a lot to learn."

But, Emmette is a firm believer of lifelong learning. Currently, after earning an LUTCF professional designation, he is determined to get CIC (certified insurance

the "We consider ourselves he insurance professionals and risk managers," he said. "It's not what we do, but how we do it. We're the highest

technology

there." The agency also stays on top of innovations to be the most efficient and effective. Emmette breaks big projects

agency out

## AIC insurance agent loves working with public

by Emma Palova

Switching from a salaried job to being a commissioned insurance agent wasn't exactly easy. Dave Emmette had political experience and two bachelor degrees in political science and international studies, and a stint in Vienna, Austria on his resume prior to coming to Lowell in 2005.

"For the first six months, I thought what did I get myself into?" he said.

But, his wife Cheryl was a pillar of support.

So, Emmette started building up clientele, one client at a time.

Since then, Emmette, a Yooper, fluent in German, with an Irish and Italian background, has become a fixture in the' community. He is known as a jovial agent, friend and neighbor involved in the community

from chamber board to founding the grassroots organization East Kent County Republicans.

"I wanted to stay in the service industry," he said. "People need insurance."

Emmette got a realtor's and insurance license in 2005 and started with Farmer's Insurance. Last year he switched to an independent insurance company, AIC, representing several different

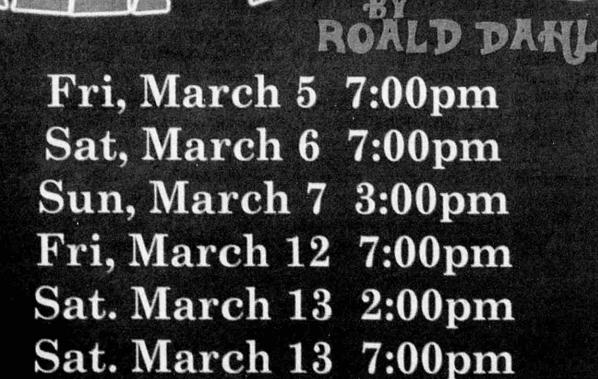
companies. "We can write everything from autos to airplanes," he said.

Emmette likes the smaller independent agency whose owner, Mark Vickery, is more in sync with his values. There is only a staff of six between the offices in Ada and Lowell.

"It's more of a family atmosphere," he said.

The challenges of a





\$5 Students / Seniors \$7 Adults \$8 All Tickets at the Door

Lower Level Seats Reserved, Upper Level is General Admission. All tickets on sale in the LHS Main Office General Admission also available at Pep Talk. Tickets on sale starting February 18

Lowell Performing Arts Center 987-2956 www.lowellschools.com counselor) designation.

"I love working directly with people and being able to help people," he said.

Emmette sets for himself long-term goals and then works them backwards, these include financial and educational goals.

"I want to maintain and develop the image of doing the right thing the first time," he said. "I want us to be an agency of integrity. We're about building relationships, not just a transaction but to provide a piece of mind."

Emmette is proud that the agency covers everything and fills every gap.

"We want to make it a good experience, to educate clients and understand the coverages," he said. into smaller pieces to not waste time.

In a bad economy, he stays focused on his goals and bringing value to the customer and to the industry.

"I have a passion for helping others, doing the right thing," he said, being the best in what I do."

And there are a lot of choices in the insurance industry, so being better and different is essential.

Emmette's long-term goals include business growth and attaining the professional designation of certified risk manager. The agency offers comprehensive annual reviews and competitive prices.

"I am very flexible," said Emmette.



### FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRY SITE FOR FREE TAX PREPARATION ASSISTANCE

United Way's Kent County Tax Credit Coalition is providing free tax preparation and the FROM Building, located at 11535 Fulton Street East, Lowell, is one of the sites offering this service.

This service is being offered on **Tuesdays from 4 to 8 p.m.** and is available by appointment only. To register, or to see if your family is eligible, please call 897-8260.

