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annual winter gathering



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LHS sports



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wrestlers move on to state meet



page 11

MDOT ready to roll out the downtown bridge replacement

by Emma Palova

The \$2.1 million downtown bridge replacement project is ready to start with March 15 through April 4 preparatory work.

In a shareholders' meeting last week, representatives from the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) gave an overview and a timeline for the project.

The prep work includes more relocation of utilities, sidewalks, lighting and streetscape. A lot of the utilities have already been relocated so no major power outages are expected.

The actual project is a

superstructure replacement of everything above the water, including beams, the deck and railing and will extend the life of the bridge by another 50 years, according to Art Green of MDOT Transportation Service Center in Grand Rapids.

There's approximately 19,000 cars a day traveling across the bridge and three percent of that is commercial traffic.

The construction work is phased out in two stages and entails the detour of westbound traffic. Stage one on the north side of the bridge will run from April 5 through July 5, slated for completion prior to Riverwalk. During



Darrell Hueker and Art Green of MDOT present an overview of the downtown bridge replacement project.

stage one, pedestrian traffic will be maintained on the south side of the bridge.

"The north side will be completed to the centerline by the festival," said Al Halbeisen of HH Engineering.

Stage two on the south side of the bridge will run from July 6 through Oct. 1. At that time, pedestrians will

be using the north side of the bridge. The banner poles will need to go down for the actual construction.

"We wanted to make sure people can move around and do business," said Green. "We diverted certain routes for parades and events."

The entire project has been scheduled around various restrictions, such as

downtown events and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) regulations for lowering the water level of the Flat River.

"It's not a typical project," said delivery engineer manager Tom Tellier. "We'll have some vibrations, dust and noise. We'll keep it minimal."

Bridge, continued, page 3

Planning commission readies final version of ordinance regulating soft-sided accessory buildings

by Emma Palova

In a painstakingly slow process, the planning commission readied the final version of an ordinance that will regulate soft-sided temporary accessory buildings.

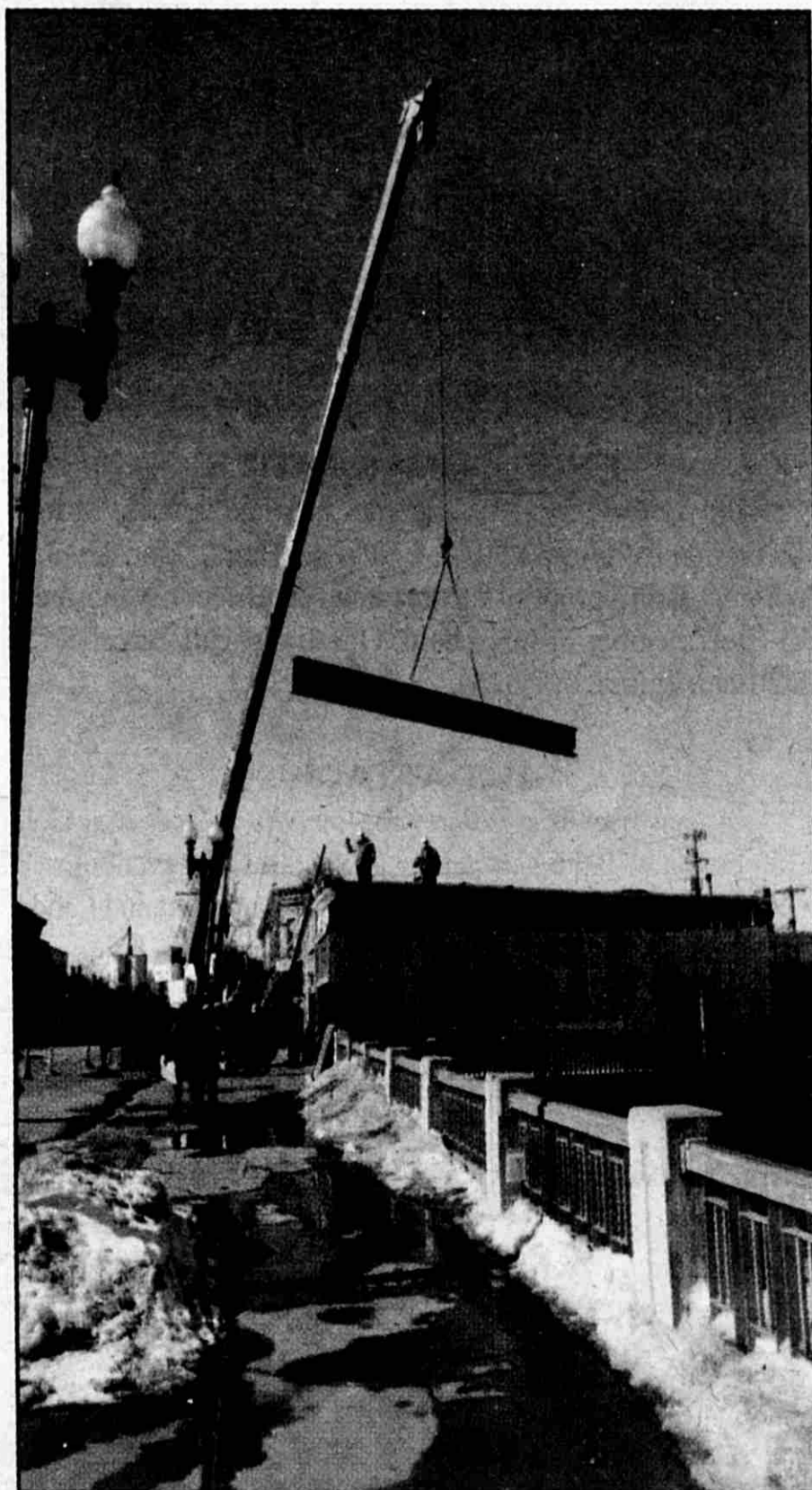
The issue came up based on a request from one resident, Bob Robinson. Since then, the planning commission has struggled with it on both sides.

Much opposition has been raised against the proposal because of the esthetics of these structures. If approved, accessory buildings will be allowed under 300 square feet with the following dimensions: 24'x14'x10'. The maximum height allowed would be 14 feet to the gable. The structures would be allowed for three years with one three-year extension.

Opposing the proposal were residents Chris Fleszar and Steve Doyle.

"It does not better our community," Fleszar said. "It lowers the standards and violates the rights of people who do not want soft-sided structures."

According to Fleszar, the



I-beams will serve as the new foundation for the back of the buildings being remodeled by Greg Canfield.

ordinance should be put to a test.

"I urge you to listen to the people and abandon the proposal," he said.

Steve Doyle said the proposal is a detriment to the city tax base.

The ordinance will come again in front of the planning

commission on March 22 and then in front of the city council for approval.

In related business, the council approved the installation of a radio antenna at Cherry Creek Elementary School.

Ordinance, continued, page 3

City waits on dispensing of medical marijuana

by Emma Palova

The city council passed a moratorium on the distribution and dispensing of medical marijuana last week.

According to police chief James Hinton, the additional six months will give the city officials time to decide whether to regulate medical marijuana.

Like many other surrounding communities, Lowell is taking a wait and see attitude on an issue passed by the voters two years ago.

Hinton said the initiative is coming from the International Association of Chiefs of Police to create a law to somehow control the dispensing of medical marijuana.

One of the avenues includes that marijuana could be allowed as a home based business. However, if dispensaries are in residential areas, Hinton said he wants to know about it to distinguish it from regular drug trafficking. The state law only requires such dispensaries to be registered with the Department of Health.

Medical marijuana, continued, page 3

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CENTS



Chamber dinner honors prominent residents

by Emma Palova

The annual Winter Gathering of the chamber members at the Grand Volute enjoyed a good turnout of approximately 200 people.

The main purpose was to recognize the business of the year and the person of the year. Moderated by Cliff Yankovich of Chimera's, the evening progressed easily with a full agenda.

After a great dinner consisting of steamed vegetables, salad, chicken, and beef tips on mushrooms, the stars took to the podium. Jim Reagan and his dental office were recognized as business of the year. Yankovich portrayed, jokingly, Reagan as Eminem, a rapper who liked to give different names to his many siblings, including Baba the baby. Reagan's staff and large family were present at the event taking up several tables.

The chamber honored Dave and Jan Thompson for their extensive volunteer contributions, spanning

decades, as person of the year.

Lowell is grateful and blessed with volunteers, according to chamber director

Liz Baker. The Thompsons have been involved in every organization in Lowell from the Lowell Area Arts Council, the gardening club,

to Flat River Outreach Ministries and most recently Gilda's Club. The volunteer team considers volunteering a responsibility.

Dave Thompson has long roots in the area with his predecessors being one of the first settling families in Vergennes Township in 1833.

He recognized important women in the area, Baker,

Lorain Smalligan, Judy Straub, Pat Allchin and Marcia Roth.

Last, but not least, state representative Dave Hildenbrand presented plaques to Reagan and the Thompsons.

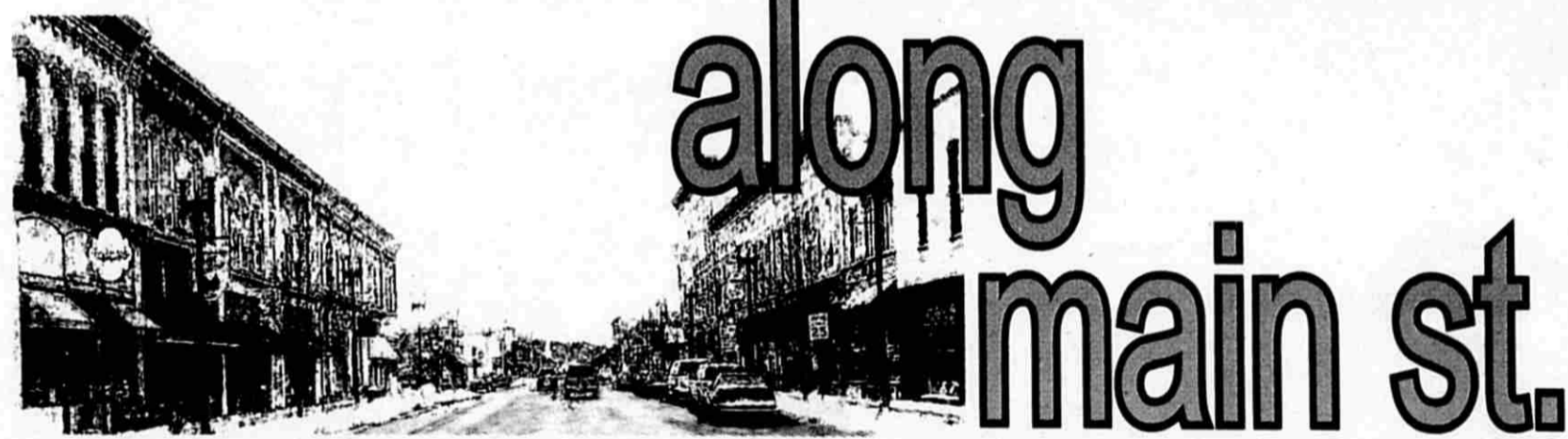
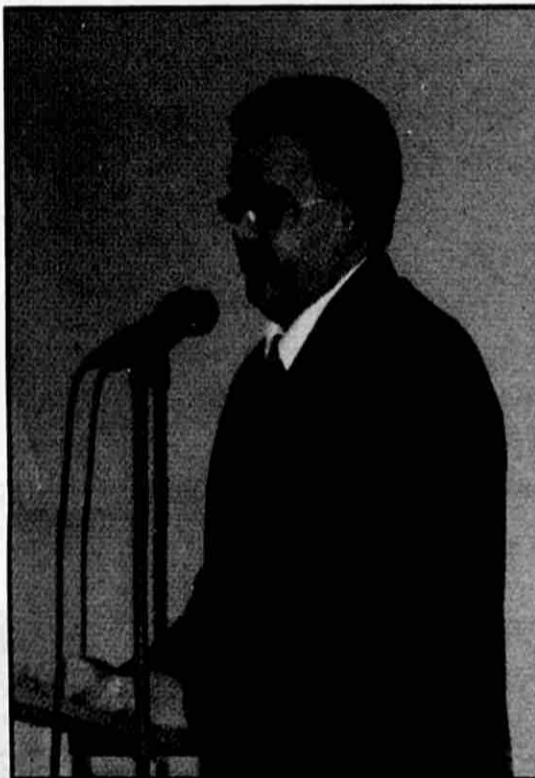


Liz Baker gave closing remarks and Dave and Jan Thompson kiss at the evening's finale.



Jim Reagan gets up from the table to receive the business of the year recognition for his dental office.

Moderating the evening program was Cliff Yankovich and Dave Thompson, far right, 'clowned' around a bit during his speech.



along main st.

FREE COMMODITIES

Food orders for low income families at the Moose Recreation Building, 1320 E. Fulton on Thurs., Mar. 4, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring proof of income and social security numbers for each member of household. Questions, call David, 745-8520 or Virginia, 897-8754.

ART ATTACK

Join your friends at A Party for the Arts at Deer Run Golf Club on Sat., Mar. 6 beginning at 6:30 p.m. The evening will include music performed by Roger MacNaughton and Cindy Kropf, games with great prizes, endless appetizer dining and desserts, and silent and live auctions. Art Attack benefits the Lowell Area Arts Council. Tickets are \$40 in advance and \$50 at the door. Call 897-8545 for more information.

BREAKFAST FOR THE YOUTH FAIR & SCOUTING

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. Patrick's 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.

FUNDRAISING TRUCK SALE

The Lowell Red Arrow varsity baseball team will be holding a Schwan fundraising truck sale on Wed., Mar. 10, 2-8 p.m. The truck will be parked at Spring Break Hitting Club, 11630 East Fulton, across from Goodwill on M-21. Proceeds will be used for their spring break training trip. For questions, call Doris at 540-3696.

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

KALEIDOSCOPE OF FLAVORS

The Kaleidoscope of Flavors steering committee is announcing a new event to the community and other nonprofits. The purpose of this event, "Kaleidoscope of Flavors," is to help the community learn about our nonprofit organizations. The Kaleidoscope group wants to extend the invitation to all local nonprofit organizations to participate. The event date is September 9. Please fill out an application by visiting www.discoverlowell.org

Bridge, continued

Also, the timing of the signal on the westbound detour on Grand River Drive and Hudson will be monitored and tweaked to the volumes of traffic. Northbound traffic on Hudson will have additional left turn lanes that will disappear after the project is done.

"We want to make sure we have efficient movement," said Tellier.

The contractor, according to Tellier, will be stationed behind the city hall for less visibility.

"We're going to try to be as invisible as possible," said Tellier.

The water will be lowered in April and then after July

15 by two feet in order to get to the substructure.

"It will be interesting to see what's down there," said Tellier, "that is the biggest unknown. You'll be able to see a lot of timber in the water."

The lowering of the water level will bring it dry up to the seawall where the Showboat is stationed, according to Halbeisen.

"There's only two feet of water there," he said.

The Showboat sits on the bottom of the river by the seawall.

The project overall is on an expedited schedule, according to Tellier.

"We got the best

case scenario with the restrictions," said Tellier.

Since the contractor will be working close to buildings, vibrations may be of concern.

But, the contractor will be meeting face to face and videotaping those buildings that may be impacted by vibrations.

The only fairly shallow sheeting will be done in the middle of the roadway.

The decks will have to be poured at night, but a nighttime variance is in place.

"We're leaving the substructure," said Tellier.

"The supports will be patched. There will be no

foundation work or drilling." Green said the project has not been the easiest job.

"Water presents unique challenges," Green said. "It is an asset, but it's not just concrete, steel and mobility but also environmental concerns."

Green said once the stages are in place, it will be business as usual.

"It's just getting

everything in place," said Green.

The project entails a lot of stakeholders' coordination between MDOT, city, Lowell Light & Power and the historic commission.

And MDOT is determined to keep lines of communication open. A project brochure will be available both online and in print version. A blog will be

maintained on the chamber site at www.lowellchamber.org. MDOT's website www.michigan.gov/drive will inform about closures. Progress meetings will be held on site and at the chamber office. The contact person for the project is Darrell Hueker at 1-616-464-1802, cell 1-616-262-4293 or huekerd@michigan.gov

Medical marijuana, continued

"Unless we inquire about it, we won't know," said Hinton.

Under the law, medical marijuana growers can have up to five patients and 12 plants per patient. So, theoretically, this person could grow a maximum of 60 plants.

"The moratorium will allow us to look at

possibilities of what we should be doing," said Hinton. "It's kind of a time-out for us. The state doesn't regulate where marijuana can be grown."

Hinton said the whole issue is a land use issue that will come up in front of the planning commission and the city council.

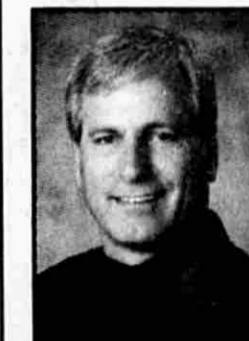
According to Hinton,

the main concern is if communities like Grand Rapids do not allow dispensaries then it will put them into the rural areas like Lowell.

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It is dangerous for a national candidate to say things that people might remember.

- Eugene McCarthy (1916 - 2005)

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VALENTINE'S DAY (PG-13) 4:20, 7:00, 9:40
PERCY JACKSON & THE OLYMPIAN: THE LIGHTNING THIEF (PG) 4:15, 6:50, 9:25
THE WOLFMAN (R) 5:05, 7:20, 9:35
DEAR JOHN (PG-13) 4:50, 7:10, 9:30

ROTARY CLUB OF LOWELL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Since 2000, over \$87,000 in college scholarships have been granted to Lowell area high school seniors.

Application deadline is Friday, March 19, 2010

Eligibility guidelines and scholarship application can be found under the Foundation tab at: www.lowellrotary.org

Applications can also be obtained at the Lowell High School Guidance Office.

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business matters

American Society for Quality (ASQ) has awarded "Fellow" status to Kurt Roudabush of Lowell and 20 other ASQ members. These individuals were elected Fellows by ASQ's board of directors in November 2009. Fellows are recognized as having achieved professional distinction and preeminence in the technology, theory, education, application, or management of quality control. ASQ has awarded Fellow status to a total of 600 members to date. Roudabush is a consultant in the Enterprise Processes

group of Siemens Corporate Research in Princeton, New Jersey. He is a coach for Siemens process improvement teams in the areas of product development and project management; a trainer in the use of models (e.g. CMMI) and tools; and an assessor of process maturity. In these roles, he helps organizations plan, implement, and evaluate the effectiveness of process improvement efforts.

Lowell Pizza Hut closes

"It is with sadness that we announce the closing of our Lowell Pizza Hut restaurant," said Joyce Lunsford, owner. The last day of business for the restaurant was Sunday, Feb. 21. Lunsford continued, "We have enjoyed being part of your community for the past 17 years. We have appreciated each and every one of our customers. The decision to close was a business decision and one that we wrestled with. We hope our loyal customers will stop by when in Grand Rapids or Ionia. We extend

our thanks to Lowell for your support." The restaurant employs 12 people. All of them have been offered positions at Grand Rapids area Pizza Hut locations. The Lowell restaurant is the only area Pizza Hut being closed. The other businesses in the shopping center where the restaurant is located are also unaffected by the closing. Pizza Hut came to Lowell in 1993 with a restaurant opened by Pizza

Hut, Inc. In 1997 Pizza Hut, Inc. sold the restaurant. The franchise owners relocated the restaurant to its current leased space in 2000. The Lowell restaurant is owned by Lunsford's company, St. Joseph-based Trigo Hospitality. Lunsford began her Pizza Hut career in 1971. Trigo Hospitality owns 29 Pizza Hut locations in West Michigan. They also franchise two other restaurant brands. The company provides jobs for approximately 2,000 people.



At Your Local Library

Kent District Library spring programs at Englehardt Branch, 200 N. Monroe St. For additional information call 616-784-2007.

Family Storytime - Share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement as a

family; develop early literacy skills and encourage a love of reading. For children ages 6 and under with a caregiver. Thursdays, March 4 and March 18 to May 6, 10:30 a.m.

Japanese Manga Club - Calling all experienced

Pokemon, Yu-Gi-Oh, and Bakugan players, join our Japanese Manga Club to play, trade and meet with other fans of these popular games. Refreshments and door prizes. Wednesdays, March 10 and 24, April 14 and 28, May 12 and 26, 6:30 p.m.

Bookworms Adult Book Discussion - Join us for a friendly, informal book discussion.

Tuesday, March 9, 10 a.m. *The Madonnas of Leningrad* by Debra Dean.

viewpoint

Economic equation: stimulus equals jobs



Sen. Carl Levin

We recently reached the one year anniversary of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, commonly known as the stimulus plan. Some have attacked this important legislation as ineffective, but a host of independent economists disagree. The stimulus package has translated into jobs for millions of Americans, and thousands of Michiganders, who would otherwise be without work, and it was one of the important moves that kept the worst recession in decades from becoming a second Great Depression.

The largest component of the stimulus, almost \$290 billion, was in tax cuts. Amazingly, recent polls show that most Americans are not even aware of this. But the average couple received about an \$800 tax

cut, money that can shore up their finances and put money in their pockets they can spend, thus boosting the economy and creating jobs.

The next largest component was about \$224 billion for spending on extended unemployment benefits and aid to state and local governments - aid that means thousands of Michigan teachers, police officers, firefighters and others are providing vital services today instead of standing in unemployment lines. That's important for them and their families, and also for the Michiganders who depend on them for protection and education.

The final third is money for government grants and contracts, such as spending on road and bridge projects, including more than \$1.6 billion in infrastructure

projects statewide. These projects will provide both a short-term boost to local employment and the long-term benefits of better infrastructure. And keep in mind, much of the stimulus money is yet to come. As of December, just a little over half of the stimulus package had been spent.

There are those who would argue that although we passed the stimulus, unemployment continued to rise, so therefore the stimulus has failed. This is badly faulty logic. The question is: Are we better off than we would have been without it? On this question, independent, nonpartisan economists are in widespread agreement.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimates that without the stimulus, unemployment in the first quarter of this year would be 1.3 percentage points higher. Economist Mark Zandi, an adviser to Sen. John McCain's presidential campaign, estimates that 2.5 million more Americans will

have jobs at the end of this year than would have been working if we had not passed the stimulus plan. They are 2.5 million very important reasons we did the right thing. And other independent economists - from firms that are paid not for their political

leanings, but for the quality of their analysis - have reached the same conclusion.

It's not just economists who see the importance of the stimulus, it's the business community. One local real estate agent told the Kalamazoo Gazette in

December: "One of the things driving our market right now is the stimulus."

It's especially important for Michigan that the stimulus package was not just a quick fix, but included

Levin, continued, page 14

outdoors

Boat fever

Dave Stegehuis

Because of below average temperatures and steady snowfall, spring seems a long way off. If anyone has drilled a hole through the ice lately, it may be difficult to imagine open water on area lakes, but before we know it, we will need a boat to go fishing.

Attending boat and fishing shows can shorten up the winter and build enthusiasm for spring and summer fishing. Shows which display a number of brands and models make it convenient to compare options when planning to purchase a new or used fishing boat.

Fishermen who pursue almost everything that swims in Michigan could use at least three different boats, each with features which meet the requirements for specific fishing conditions. A small light boat powered by a small gas engine or electric motor affords portability for getting on small lakes and ponds. A 16 to 18 footer with a mid-range outboard would be more suitable for larger bodies of water. Finally, a large high-power boat is needed for safe offshore fishing. There is no one craft which can do it all.

For most fishermen, owning several boats is not practical for a number of reasons. If one must choose only one boat, it should be one which meets the need most of the time. A 16-foot boat with a mid-range motor will handle most fishing conditions, is relatively affordable, can be stored in a garage, is trailerable, and is comparatively economical to operate and maintain.

The boat can be controlled from a console or steered with a tiller. A forty or fifty horsepower, two or four stroke outboard motor will get the hull on plane for traveling between spots. Storage for rods, tackle, and other gear will keep decks clear for action. An electric trolling motor will move the craft quietly to likely spots for catching fish. Electronic fish-finders can help locate fish and define fish holding structure. When loaded on a matching trailer, the craft can be launched off any decent ramp.

This combination would be effective for panfish in small inland lakes, and with special rigging it could be used for near shore salmon fishing and anything in between. It is a good idea to do some research and consider a number of options before making a final decision. It is unusual to find two setups alike even at a busy launch site. It is always fun and interesting to look at the latest models and dream a little about fishing out of a new boat when the ice thaws.

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By Shelly MacNaughton

Mrs. Vining came to Lowell with her parents in 1858 from Allegheny County, N.Y., when she was ten years old. Part of the journey was made by stagecoach and they traveled from Grand Rapids to Lowell on board an old side wheeler up Grand River. Mrs. Vining's cousin, Able Avery, was the man who bought the land east of Flat River from the Indians and plotted it out for village lots. Mrs. Vining, who was always ready and willing to talk of the interesting days of pioneer times, told many tales of Lowell when it was young. She remembered when Lowell had a street railway, while the long Main St. bridge was being constructed, and dirt was poured into the river to form an Island support. Trackers were laid and horse drawn trams carried away the whole gravel hill behind the Methodist Church and dumped it into the Grand River.

125 Years Ago
The Lowell Journal
February 25, 1885

"Bostwick" is the name of a new post office established in Cannon Township. Marcus Johnson is postmaster. Two of the Grandville robbers, Richard Sligh and Wm. Madden, were sentenced to ten years of imprisonment at Jackson.

100 Years Ago
The Lowell Ledger
February 24, 1910

Charles Stocking, member of the physics class, recently made a Barker's mill by which the whirling motion of lawn sprayers may be explained. Will Stinton, class of '08; and John Rhodes, class of '09; were recent callers at the high school.

75 Years Ago
The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo
February 28, 1935

One of Lowell's oldest residents, Mrs. Lura Avery Vining, 87, passed away last Thursday after a few days of illness.

financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

Time to take retirement plan distributions?

You may not have the pictures, sultan or souvenirs to show for it, but if you're at least 70-1/2, you've just finished a "vacation." And that means you'll have to do some work - on determining how much to take out of your retirement plans this year.

Typically, when you reach 70-1/2, you must start taking withdrawals ("required minimum distributions," or RMDs) from your traditional IRA or your employer-sponsored retirement plan, such as a 401(k), 403(b) and 457(b). However, the sharp decline in the financial markets in 2008 led Congress to give you a one-year vacation from

taking RMDs in 2009 so that you wouldn't have to cash out assets whose value had fallen significantly.

But 2009 is over, and so is your RMD vacation. So if you must take distributions this year, you'll need to do some planning.

For starters, you'd probably like to know how much you'd have to withdraw. You can calculate your RMD by dividing the last year's retirement account balance, as of December 31, by a life expectancy factor, found in the Internal Revenue Service's Uniform Lifetime Table. Your

Financial Focus, continued, page 14

In The Service

Army National Guard Spec. Nicholas D. Gregaitis is returning to the U.S. after a deployment to Iraq or Afghanistan in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom or Enduring Freedom, respectively.

The soldier returns to Fort Dix, N.J. for debriefing, evaluations and out-processing procedures before returning to his regularly assigned Army Reserve or National Guard units.

The specialist served in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in the Iraq Theater of Operations.

Gregaitis, a medium helicopter repairer, is assigned to Company B,

628th Aviation Support Battalion, Fort Indiantown Gap, Anville, Pa. He has served in the military for two years.

He is the son of Michelle Gregaitis and David Gregaitis, both of Lake Odessa.

In 2003, Gregaitis graduated from Lowell High School.

Army Pvt. Thomas R. Hieftje has graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier received training in drill and ceremonies, weapons,

map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, and Army history, core values and traditions. Additional training included development of basic combat skills and battlefield operations and tactics, and experiencing

use of various weapons and weapons defenses available to the infantry crewman. He is the son of Sandra Bannister of Belding and James Hieftje of Alto. Hieftje is a 2004 graduate of Belding High School.

happy birthday!

FEBRUARY 24
Cliff Mulder, Amy Aksamitowski, Tarah Essich, Lizzy Decker.

FEBRUARY 25
Susan Miesal, Mike Nearing.

FEBRUARY 26
Jeremy Goff, Barry

Vezino, Bob Ford, Nancy Porter, Leslie Rash.

FEBRUARY 27
Joshua Soyka, Justin Soyka.

FEBRUARY 28
Mark V. Ritzema, Connie Roth, Scott Denton, Claressa Guastavino, Skylar Brown, Sarah Hoag.

MARCH 1
Barak Brown, Jill Callihan, Laura Christiansen.

MARCH 2
Mary Vezino, Roger MacNaughton, Anna Kline, Lisa Schoen.

Hall for rent with kitchen

SEATS 150
Located at the fairgrounds
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health



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

Vitamin D and your infant child

Vitamin D plays an important role in many functions throughout the body, including the development of bones.

Infants need an adequate supply of vitamin D on a daily basis to grow properly and maintain strong bones. It is recommended that infants receive 400 international units (I.U.) per day of vitamin D. Vitamin D is not only obtained through diet, but is also made in the skin when exposed to sunlight. Having adequate exposure to sunlight would, in theory, provide infants with enough vitamin D, however, the risks of sun exposure, including sunburn and skin cancer, outweigh the benefits. Therefore, adequate

dietary intake of vitamin D is important, especially for infants.

Most processed (store bought) breads, cereals, cow's milk, and formulas are fortified with vitamin D. Infants who are raised on formula and infant cereals, and then transition to whole cow's milk, should receive plenty of vitamin D.

Breast milk, despite all of its beneficial advantages over formula, does not contain adequate vitamin D. Therefore, breast-fed infants should receive supplemental vitamin D. One readily available over the counter preparation is Poly Vi Sol oral infant drops.

Planning A Wedding?

We offer the Carlson Craft line of invitations.

LITHE

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IN GOD WE TRUST

Your money from a Biblical Perspective

February 27 & 28, 2010
3:00 - 6:00 PM

10300 Vergennes, Lowell (Corner of Vergennes & Parnell)

Explore what the Bible says about money. Zebras and money? Do we trust God or does He trust us? And much more...

Experience Practical Application Question & Answer

To register in advance or questions, please call Marian @ 897-0581. Walk-ins are welcome!

Larry Crutenden, CPA, is the presenter for this weekend's seminar. Larry enjoys conducting financial Bible study groups and has a great interest in helping people learn more about how God wants us to handle His money.

Riverside Fellowship of Seventh-day Adventists

January Students of the Month

In conjunction with the LHS Academic Boosters, Lowell High School has announced that Sara Nagy, 12th grade, and Chelsey Treglia, 12th grade, are the Lowell High School January Students of the Month. In order to be eligible for this honor a student must be nominated by a department. All the nomination forms for the month are then reviewed and voted on at the monthly department chair meeting. Students are selected based on academic achievement, character,

and work ethic. There are 1283 students eligible for nomination, so this is quite an accomplishment for Nagy and Treglia. The students receive a \$20 movie gift card and a certificate.

Nagy was nominated by the science department, and they write, "Sara is an exceptional young lady both in the classroom and out. She is an outstanding student academically maintaining near perfect grades. Her work is impeccable - always carefully completed with great detail. Sara has a

positive energy about her that is contagious to those



Sara Nagy

around her. She is one of the finest students I have had the



Chelsey Treglia

pleasure of teaching in my career at LHS thus far."

Treglia was nominated by the art department and they write, "Chelsey is an amazing student in art class and well deserving of Student of the Month. First, her artwork is beautifully thought out and executed. She surpasses class expectations in everything she does - the thought behind her work, the love, the dedication, and the drive she exhibits for her art. She is a leader in class as demonstrated by her actions

and work. She strives to do her personal best in whatever she tries, whether it is school work, playing saxophone for the band, creating art or interacting with others."

This program is made possible by the support of the LHS Academic Boosters who support the high school in many ways. If you are interested in helping support the LHS Academic Boosters you may call Janine Mork at 897-5671.

college news

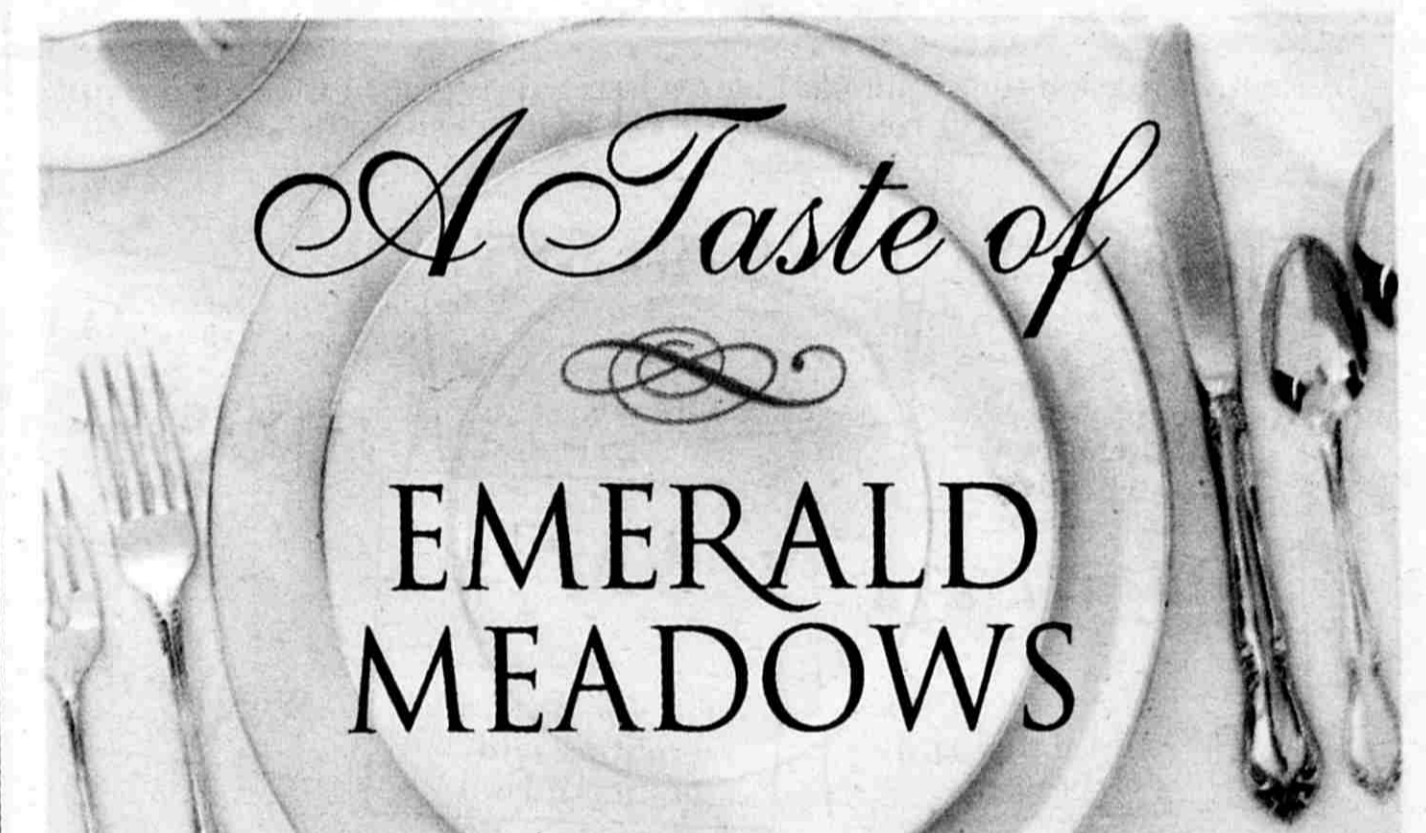
Beth Wyckoff has been named to the fall 2009 Dean's List at Cornerstone University. She is the daughter of Mike and Ruth Wyckoff of Belding.

Jonathan Ferris of Ada has been recognized on the Dean's List at Norwich University for the fall 2009 semester.

Nothing in all the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity.

- Martin Luther King Jr. (1929 - 1968)

Check us out online ... www.thelowelledger.com



PLEASE JOIN US
Thursday, March 11, 2010, 2:00 - 5:00 pm

FREE FOOD REPRESENTING A VARIETY OF CULTURES!

On Thursday, March 11, Our own Emerald Meadows chef will prepare a smorgasbord of dishes that celebrate our diversity. We'd love for you to celebrate with us!

SEATING IS LIMITED - RSVP by March 8!
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Grand Rapids, MI 49546
A PROVIDENCE LIFE SERVICES COMMUNITY

www.providenceliveservices.com

Pay all Social Security money back for a higher monthly amount

Question: I read somewhere that you can file for retirement benefits at 62 and then, at your full retirement age, pay all that money back and re-file to receive the full amount. Is this true?

Answer: Several articles describing various retirement strategies have appeared in the media. One strategy to increase monthly benefits advises Social Security beneficiaries who elected reduced retirement benefits to withdraw their retirement application,

repay all Social Security benefits received, and reapply for benefits at full retirement age or later. Reapplying at full retirement age or later allows beneficiaries to take advantage of higher benefit amounts payable to people who wait longer to start receiving benefits.

A beneficiary can request to withdraw his or her retirement application at any time. Before we can approve a request to withdraw an application, all benefits paid based on that application, including Medicare Part B

premium deductions, must be repaid.

Since a person only has 60 days to cancel a withdrawal request, he or she needs to consider loss of any possible entitlement for the period covered by the original application (except for any retroactivity allowed under a subsequent application); the repayment amount; the new benefit amount; the effect of the withdrawal for others on the record and the effect on

BOWNE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF REVIEW NOTICE

THE BOARD OF REVIEW OF BOWNE TOWNSHIP WILL MEET IN THE NEW TOWNSHIP OFFICE BUILDING at 8240 ALDEN NASH SE., ALTO ON:

FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2010 10:00 A.M.
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2010
9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon
1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2010
9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon
6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.**

****EVENING HOURS-BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVIEWING THE TAX ROLL AND HEARING ALL CLAIMS. YOU MAY APPEAL YOUR ASSESSED VALUATION ONE OF (2) WAYS: BY LETTER ADDRESSED TO THE BOWNE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR AND RECEIVED BY HIM PRIOR TO MARCH 5, 2010 OR BY APPEARING IN PERSON ON ONE OF THE DATES THE BOARD OF REVIEW MEETS.

THE TENTATIVE REAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AND ASSESSMENT MULTIPLIER REQUIRED BY PA 165 OF 1971 ARE:

Agricultural Ratio	50.37	Multiplier	.9926
Commercial Ratio	52.90	Multiplier	.9451
Industrial Ratio	50.77	Multiplier	.9848
Residential Ratio	53.66	Multiplier	.9317

DENNIS MCKELVEY-ASSESSOR
CHRISTIAN WENGER-SUPERVISOR

area churches

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

ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Kirby and Harrison
Alto • 616-691-8011
Worship.....9:30 A.M.
Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.
OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS
Pastor Dean Bailey

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

CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God)
3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery
Robert Holmes, Pastor
SUNDAYS:
Worship: 10 a.m.
WEDNESDAYS:
Family Night (for all ages): 7:00 p.m.
"The Source" Youth: 7:00 p.m.
Loving God ... Loving People!

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL
2275 West Main Street • 897-7168
Internet: <http://www.fbcloowell.org>
Rev. David O. Sims, Rev. W. Lee Taylor & Pastor Phil Seveem
Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M.
Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M.
AWANA EXCITE - TEENS.....Wed. 6:15 P.M.
Contact Church Office for Prayer Meeting Times
Nursery Provided - Barrier Free

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

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

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
Fr. Eugene Okali
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 WISING 897-7915
SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 393, EMTV FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING

SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell
Pastor Dr. Mike Conklin
9:45 A.M.Sunday School
10:30 A.M.Fellowship
11:00 A.M.Worship
897-9863
Nursery & Children
Worship Programs Provided
A friend...a family...a mission!

Kid Scoop

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

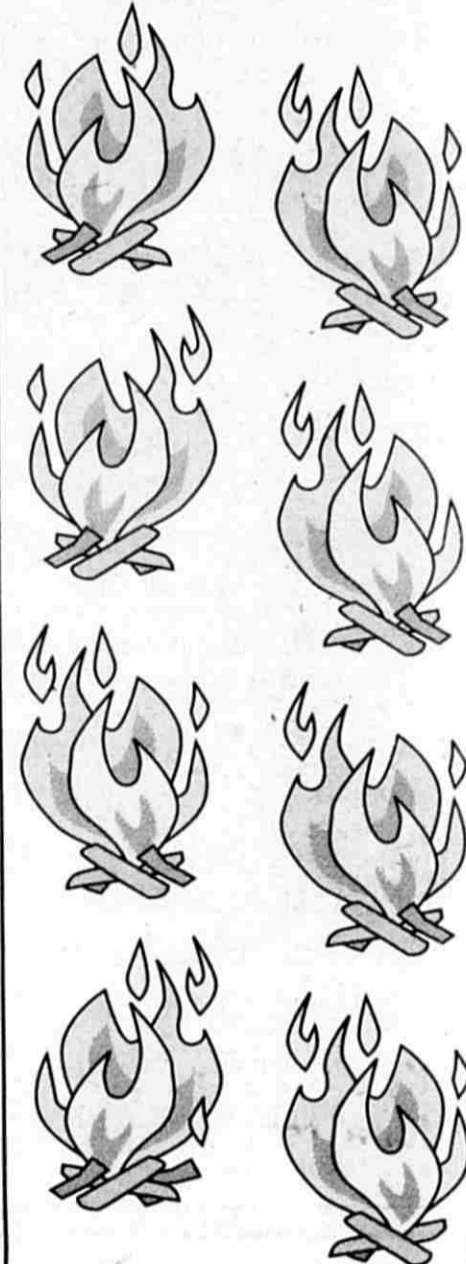
Kid Scoop Together:

Bonfire Celebration

Imagine a holiday that combines Thanksgiving, Mardi Gras and Valentine's Day with the colors of Easter. But instead of the color landing on Easter eggs, it lands on people! Now you have some idea of why children in India look forward to this holiday.

Many areas celebrate with huge bonfires that have different meanings depending on the local legends.

Can you find two identical bonfires?



HOLI

INDIA'S FESTIVAL OF COLOR

The Indian festival called Holi is known as the Festival of Colors. It celebrates the coming of Spring.

This year, Holi will be celebrated February 28 through March 1.

To celebrate Holi, people have fun by smearing each other with paint and pelting each other with colorfully filled water balloons. Often, white clothes are worn, which makes the paint more obvious.



Use crayons or watercolors to cover this boy in color for Holi.

Arjun Mishra is 13 years old and writes for Education Edge, India's premier newspaper for children. He shares his thoughts about Holi on this page.

Work your way through these water balloons by moving from even-numbered balloon to even-numbered balloon. You can only move up, down, left or right, not diagonally.

START

2	3	7	4	2	4	8	1	5	8	2	4
8	5	4	2	5	6	1	8	7	6	3	8
4	9	1	8	9	8	5	4	9	2	7	3
2	6	8	6	7	6	3	8	5	4	9	2
5	1	9	4	3	2	7	3	8	5	4	9
7	6	4	2	5	2	7	3	8	5	4	9
1	2	5	1	9	2	7	3	8	5	4	9
5	4	6	2	4	2	7	3	8	5	4	9
3	7	5	5	6	2	7	3	8	5	4	9
9	1	6	7	2	6	4	2	8	9	2	9
3	2	9	3	7	5	9	1	8	4	8	4

FINISH

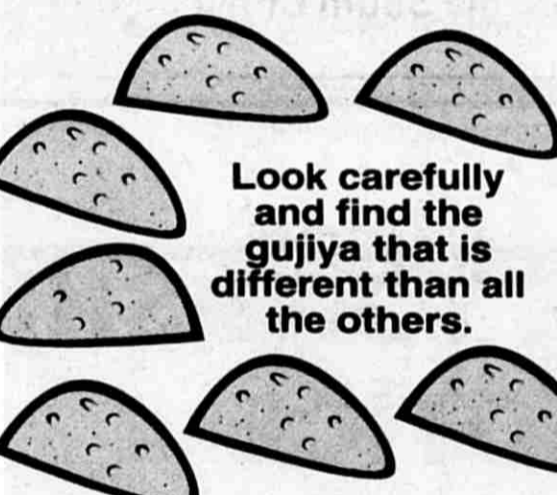
Tasty Treats

By Arjun Mishra

I enjoy preparing **gujiyas** (goo-jee-ah: a sweet, stuffed pastry) and **mathris** (maw-treeez: a fried cracker) with my mother and sisters. My mother fries them in the pan, while we siblings do the rolling, cutting and filling part of it.

My favorite job is to do the filling, which gives me a chance to steal the tasty **khoya**, which is full of dry fruits.

Eating the gujiyas, as they come out of the pan is another cherished moment of the festival.



Look carefully and find the gujiya that is different than all the others.

Describe Holi

Look through the newspaper for 5 to 10 adjectives that could describe Holi. Use these to write a paragraph about the festival.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Identify adjectives; use descriptive words in writing.

Rearrange each set of jumbled letters into words that fit the clue provided. Write the correct words on the blanks above the clues.

WORTH _____
What you do with colored powders at a Holi celebration.

LEWLOY _____
A bright color.

DOL THECSOL _____
What you should wear for a Holi Festival Day.

NPSIRG _____
The season that Holi celebrates.

HBTIA _____
What you need after celebrating with the colors of Holi.

Standards Link: Spelling: Spell grade-level appropriate words correctly.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Color the even numbers RED and odd numbers BLUE. In India, the lunar month Phalunga falls during February to March. Holi is celebrated on the day after this:

9	7	3	8	6	2	3	8	7	8	3	4	1	9	5	8	7	9	7	5	3
9	1	9	2	7	9	1	4	9	2	9	8	9	7	3	2	5	3	1	7	9
7	9	9	4	2	3	5	2	1	4	7	2	5	1	9	8	9	7	5	9	7
5	9	7	4	1	5	9	6	5	6	1	4	5	3	5	2	1	3	9	5	1
1	5	9	2	5	3	9	4	2	4	9	8	2	4	1	2	8	4	3	9	7
3	5	9	3	7	1	3	9	5	1	3	9	9	5	3	1	9	1	5	7	9
5	8	3	5	9	4	7	8	2	4	9	2	8	4	5	6	3	9	8	1	3
9	6	2	9	4	8	9	2	7	2	3	6	9	6	9	2	4	5	8	3	9
3	4	5	4	3	2	5	4	9	4	5	4	5	4	7	6	7	2	6	7	5
1	2	7	7	9	8	3	6	5	2	1	2	9	2	1	4	6	9	2	5	9
3	2	1	3	5	4	7	8	2	4	9	8	4	2	9	8	1	7	4	9	3

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

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

FESTIVAL
SMEARING
CELEBRATES
WHITE
PAINT
OBVIOUS
SPRING
MATHRIS
GUJIYAS
KHOYA
TANK
HOLI
COLOR
BATH
WATER

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

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

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **SIBLINGS**

The noun **siblings** means two or more people having one or both parents in common: a brother or sister.

Emma has two **siblings**, one brother and one sister.

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

Write On!

My Favorite Color

Write about your favorite color. What does this color represent to you?

Red Arrow SPORTS

Lowell skates past Sailors into second place in league

by Thad Kraus

In the battle for control of second place in Tier III, the Lowell/Caledonia hockey team battled back from a one-goal, first-period deficit to skate past South Christian 8-3 at the Kentwood Ice Arena on parent night and hawaiian night for students.

Trailing 2-1, Lowell/Caledonia took control in

the second period, outscoring the Sailors 4-1 to take a 5-2 advantage heading into the final period.

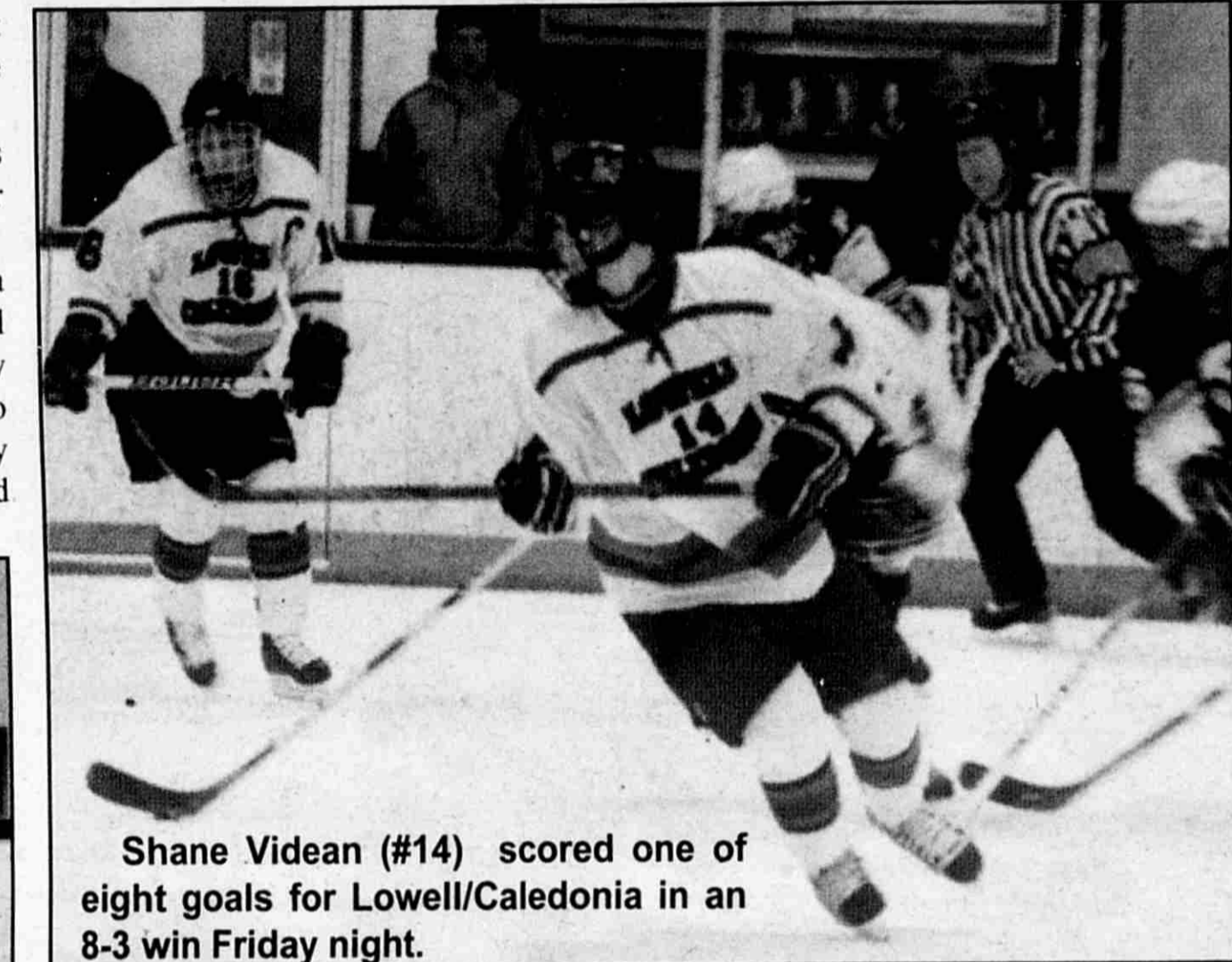
Lowell/Caledonia's final goal of the second period came on a power play just nine seconds after a Sailor shorthanded goal by Karson Arnold.

Lowell/Caledonia added three goals in the third period

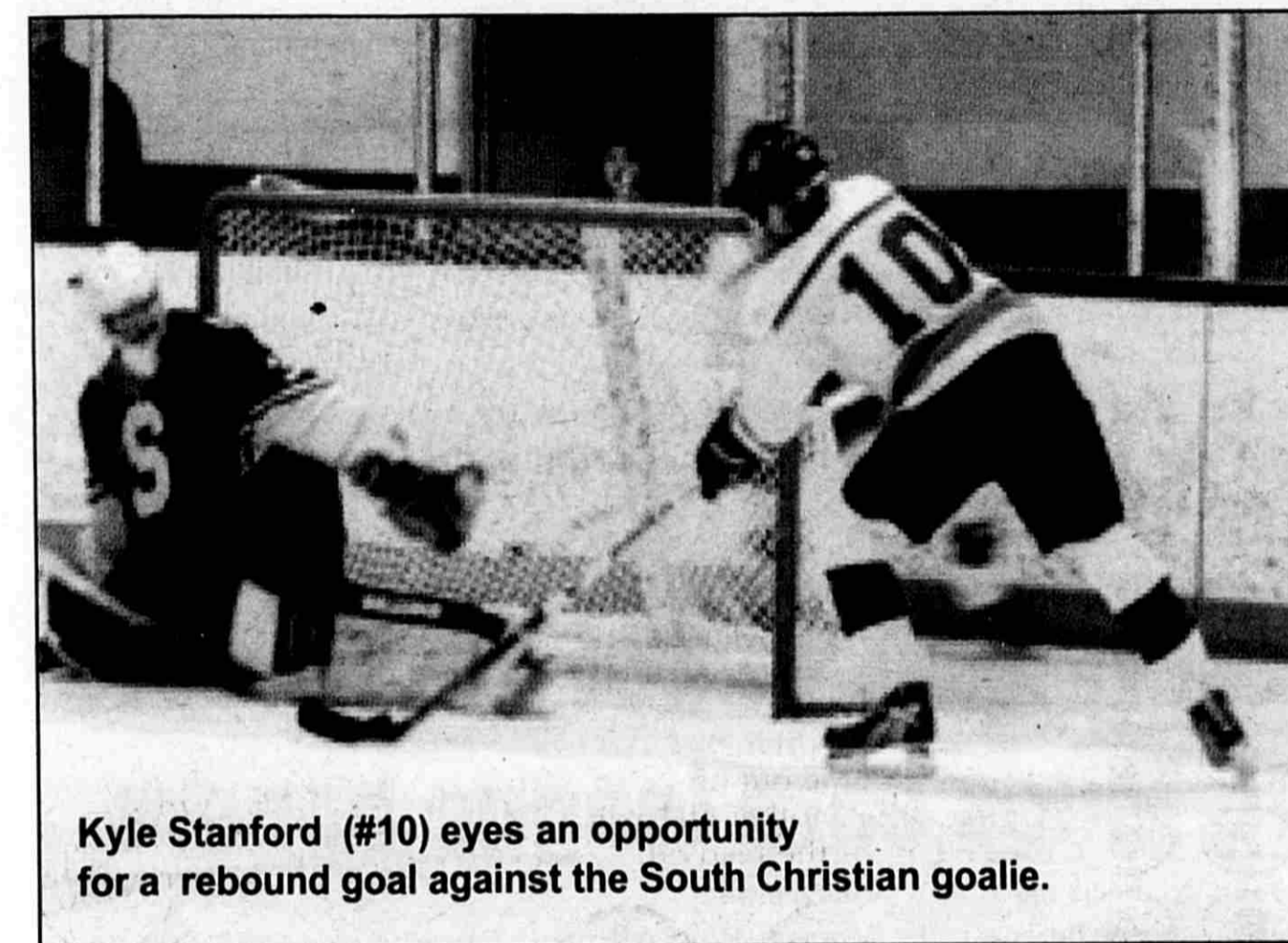
with the exclamation point (final goal) coming with one second remaining.

In all, seven players shared in on the scoring for Lowell Caledonia.

Shane Videan tallied a goal; Arnold netted a goal and recorded an assist; Billy Watson had two goals and two assists; Braden McGillicuddy contributed with one goal and



Shane Videan (#14) scored one of eight goals for Lowell/Caledonia in an 8-3 win Friday night.



Kyle Stanford (#10) eyes an opportunity for a rebound goal against the South Christian goalie.

two assists; Tyler Bitterman had a goal and an assist; Cam Steger posted a goal and an assist; Kolin Morgan netted a goal; while Jake Anderson and Tyler Morris each had an assist.

Morris, the netminder, also recorded 24 saves in the victory.

Ben Kadau, Michael

Buckhart and Calvin VanOpstall had assists for South Christian and Matt Kraker faced 39 shots in the net for South Christian.

Blake DeVries put the Sailors up just 1:56 in and scored his second of three goals at the 14:24 mark of the first period for a 2-1 South Christian lead at the end of

period one. Shane Videan scored the lone first-period Lowell/Caledonia goal.

In a nonconference game on Saturday, Lowell/Caledonia lost to Holt, 5-4.

Holt scored two late goals to steal a win. The last goal came with six seconds left on the clock.

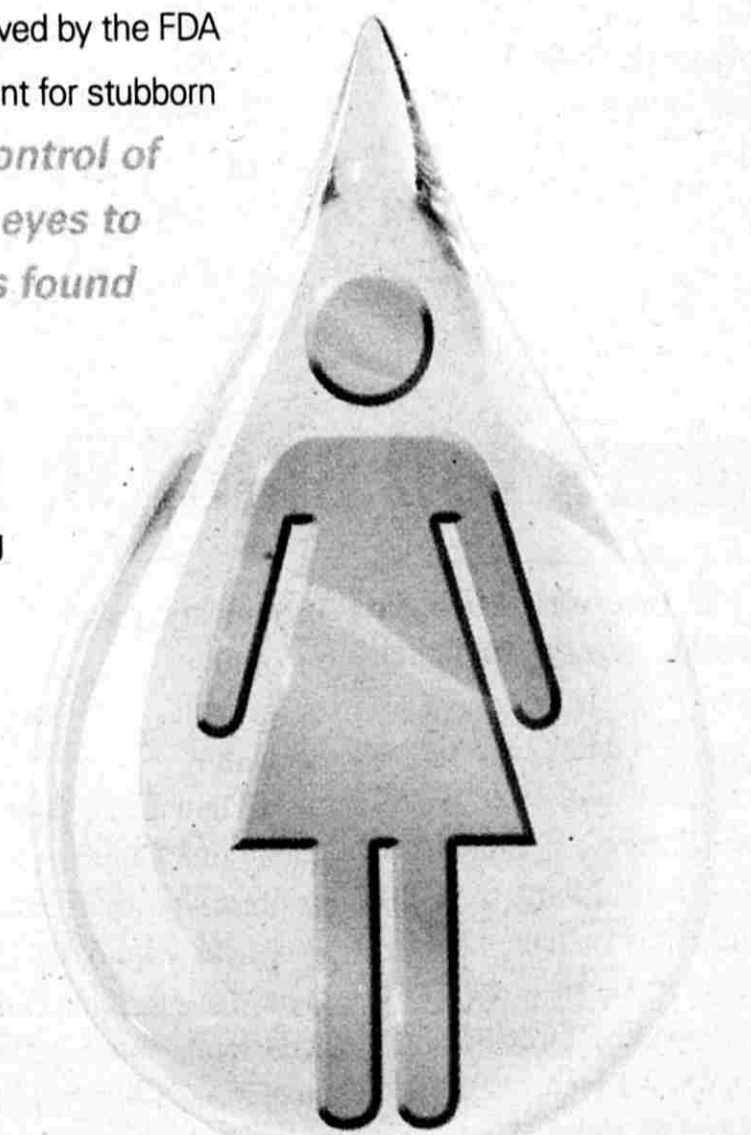
Is your bladder holding you captive?

Sometimes surgery simply fails to stop embarrassing leakage. Don't continue to be held captive by your problem.

Dr. Jason Bennett, an advanced urogynecologist providing services at Saint Mary's in Grand Rapids, can help you find relief with InterStim® Therapy.

This outpatient procedure approved by the FDA provides safe, effective treatment for stubborn urinary incontinence. Take control of your life and open your eyes to the innovative solutions found only at Saint Mary's.

Call 616.685.4171 or visit www.smadvancedurogyn.org to learn more and to set up your confidential screening.



SAINT MARY'S HEALTH CARE
Expect something more.

Lowell High School Presents

WILLY WONKA

BY ROALD DAHL

Fri, March 5 7:00pm
Sat, March 6 7:00pm
Sun, March 7 3:00pm
Fri, March 12 7:00pm
Sat, March 13 2:00pm
Sat, March 13 7:00pm

\$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

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

www.kidscoop.com

News Art
Obtain a photograph from today's print or electronic edition of the newspaper. Cut the photo in half. Glue one half onto a blank piece of paper. Use crayons or markers to draw the missing part of the photo.

Standards Link: Visual Arts: Use a variety of media to express ideas.

What happened when the red boat crashed into the blue boat?

ANSWER: Both crews were marooned.

Write about your favorite color. What does this color represent to you?

Red Arrow SPORTS



Strong finish at district for Lowell cheer team

by Thad Kraus

Feeling a little shorted by its opening round two scores, Lowell's competitive cheer team had two options, pack it in for the difficult third round or pick itself up and finish strong.

The Red Arrows did the latter, recording their highest third round total (296.8) of the year.

"The girls were incredible. Their execution earned them the highest number of bonus points this season," said Lowell competitive cheer coach Kari Dawson. "At the end of the day, the girls did their best and have no regrets."

Lowell graduated 13 seniors last year, leaving a big void to fill. With a big core of sophomores and juniors this year, Dawson is feeling optimistic about the future.

"I'm very proud of the girls. They have a lot of motivation going into next year," she concludes.

Lowell's team total of 684 points placed it seventh in a 12-team district field. Mt. Pleasant won the district with 785 points.

Lowell has averaged a little over 400 points for rounds one and two throughout the year. Saturday's score (387) was below that average.

"We knew going into

The Red Arrows were seventh at Saturday's district with 684 points. It tallied a season-high 296.8 points in round three.

CHECK OUT OUR SPORTS
thelowellledger.com

Lowell fourth at conference; Teft, Miles earn league honors

by Thad Kraus

Led by the confidence and grace of its seniors, Lowell's gymnastics team finished fourth at the conference meet in Rockford on Saturday.

The Red Arrows tallied 129.325 points.

Senior Kelsey Teft took fifth overall in the floor exercise and earned all conference honors.

Cassie Miles was named as an honorable mention all conference gymnast.

"Overall, a great way to finish our conference dual season," said Lowell

gymnastics' coach Michele DeHaan. "We will now prepare for the regional in two weeks. Our goal is to score 130 or more points and to have our team represented in the state tournament."

The Red Arrows' performance on Saturday was highlighted by an excellent showing on the vault. Lowell tallied five scores over eight for the first time this year.

"Every girl twisted or flipped. It was our best team meet overall for the vault," DeHaan explained.

Teft led the way with an 8.4, followed by Sarah Piell

8.4, Morgan McVey 8.3, Abby Rogalke and Jorie Bennett with marks of 8.25.

Teft tallied a 9.35 in the floor exercise.

"Kelsey made some changes to her routine. She added two connected front tucks for her front tumbling pass which gives her more in the composition area of the scoring. She also added a twist in one of her jumps in her tumble/dance/tumble series for more difficulty," DeHaan said.

McVey, while not figuring in the team score on the uneven bars, did however, execute her kip for the first time this year.

Teft recorded the team's highest score on the bars with a mark of 8.5.

Despite each girl counting at least one fall on the balance beam Lowell continued to show progress.

"Steadily improving routines, though still very high scores for us without sticking the routines. Kelsey and Cassie stood out with such confidence and grace," DeHaan said.

Individual scores:
Vault
 Jorie Bennett 8.25
 Abby Rogalke 8.25
 Morgan McVey 8.3
 Sarah Piell 8.4
 Kelsey Teft 8.6

Uneven Bars
 Morgan McVey 6.0
 Lauren Trasky 6.7
 Sarah Piell 7.2
 Abby Rogalke 7.25
 Kelsey Teft 8.5

Balance Beam
 Lauren Trasky 5.9
 Abby Rogalke 7.575
 Morgan McVey 7.75
 Cassie Miles 8.45
 Kelsey Teft 8.9

Floor
 Emma Bencker 6.8
 Abby Rogalke 7.6
 Sarah Piell 8.05
 Morgan McVey 8.45
 Kelsey Teft 9.35
 - 5th place.



Cassie Miles was named to the O-K Rainbow's honorable mention all conference team.

Lowell grapplers fall short in regional final

by Thad Kraus

Both Lowell and Rockford entered the Division I regional at East Kentwood as defending state champions.

Only one left Wednesday night as a regional champion with an opportunity to defend its title.

The Rams, on the strength of Jake Dorulla's 12-1 major decision over Lowell's Keith Williams, secured a dramatic 27-25 win over the Red Arrows.

"The difference was bonus points. Rockford did a better job of managing bonus points," said Lowell wrestling coach Dave Dean. "That's a result of good preparation."

The two West Michigan wrestling powers split their 14 matches.

Jackson Morse's 3-0 win over Jake Johnson (160) gave Lowell a short-lived 25-23 lead going into the night's final match.

The Red Arrow won two of the opening three matches to take a 7-3 lead.

Ryan Olep defeated Zack Banaszak 14-5 and Connor Kruse (285) decisioned Jake Banaszak 4-2.

Sandwiched in between the two victories was a matchup between two of the area's best wrestlers, Joe Stefanski and Gabe Dean. They battled to a 4-4 tie

in regulation with Stefanski recording a take down in overtime to earn a 6-4 decision.

"I knew Dean (Gabe) was good and keeping in good position would be important," Stefanski explained. "I feel great that our team will have been represented in the state meet in each of my four years at Rockford."

Trailing by four, Rockford won four of five matches in the lower weights to take a 20-11 advantage.

Lowell's only win between 103 and 130 pounds came at 119 where Calvin Meyer posted a 15-6 major decision against Chris Barrentine.

The Red Arrow's comeback started at 135 with Gabe Morse's 15-6 major decision against Drew Scogg.

Following Austin Scogg's 4-2 decision over Jake Gould at 140, Lowell's Dan Fleet (145) recorded an 18-4 major decision against Peter Nugent to pull the Red Arrows to within four at 23-19.

Andrew Morse (152) followed with a 4-0 decision over Bruce Carlstrom,

Wrestling, continued, page 15

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP Notice of Annual Meeting and Budget Hearing

The residents of Vergennes Township will hold an Annual Meeting on Monday, March 15, 2010, at 6:30 p.m., followed by the Regular March Board Meeting at 7. There will be an opportunity for residents to comment on any issue regarding the state of the township. The proposed 2010-11 budget will be reviewed and considered for adoption during the Regular Meeting. Copies of the proposed budget are available at the Township offices.

The Annual Meeting, Budget Hearing and Regular Meeting will all be held at the Township offices located at the intersection of Bailey Drive and Parnell Road, address of 10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell, MI 49331.

Red Arrow SPORTS

Offense stalls in loss to East; Lowell trips up Reeths-Puffer

by Thad Kraus

In a five-point win over Reeths-Puffer, Lowell tallied 44 points.

In a nine-point loss to East Grand Rapids, the Red Arrows netted just 18 points.

So goes the roller coaster ride known as girls' basketball.

"I'm not sure if it's a hesitancy to shoot, a lack of energy or desire, but we couldn't get anything going

offensively against East," said Lowell basketball coach Danielle Gallert.

"We spend half of our practice shooting."

Lowell tallied just nine first-half points against the Pioneers, however, it held EGR to eight first-half points. The Pioneers outscored Lowell 19-9 in the second half.

"We try to play an up-tempo style but it's hard to run and press when you're not scoring," said Pioneer coach Kevin Brechting. "Lowell plays good defense and we struggled with that."

Stephanie Stevens led all Lowell players with six points.

Lowell 44
Reeths-Puffer 39

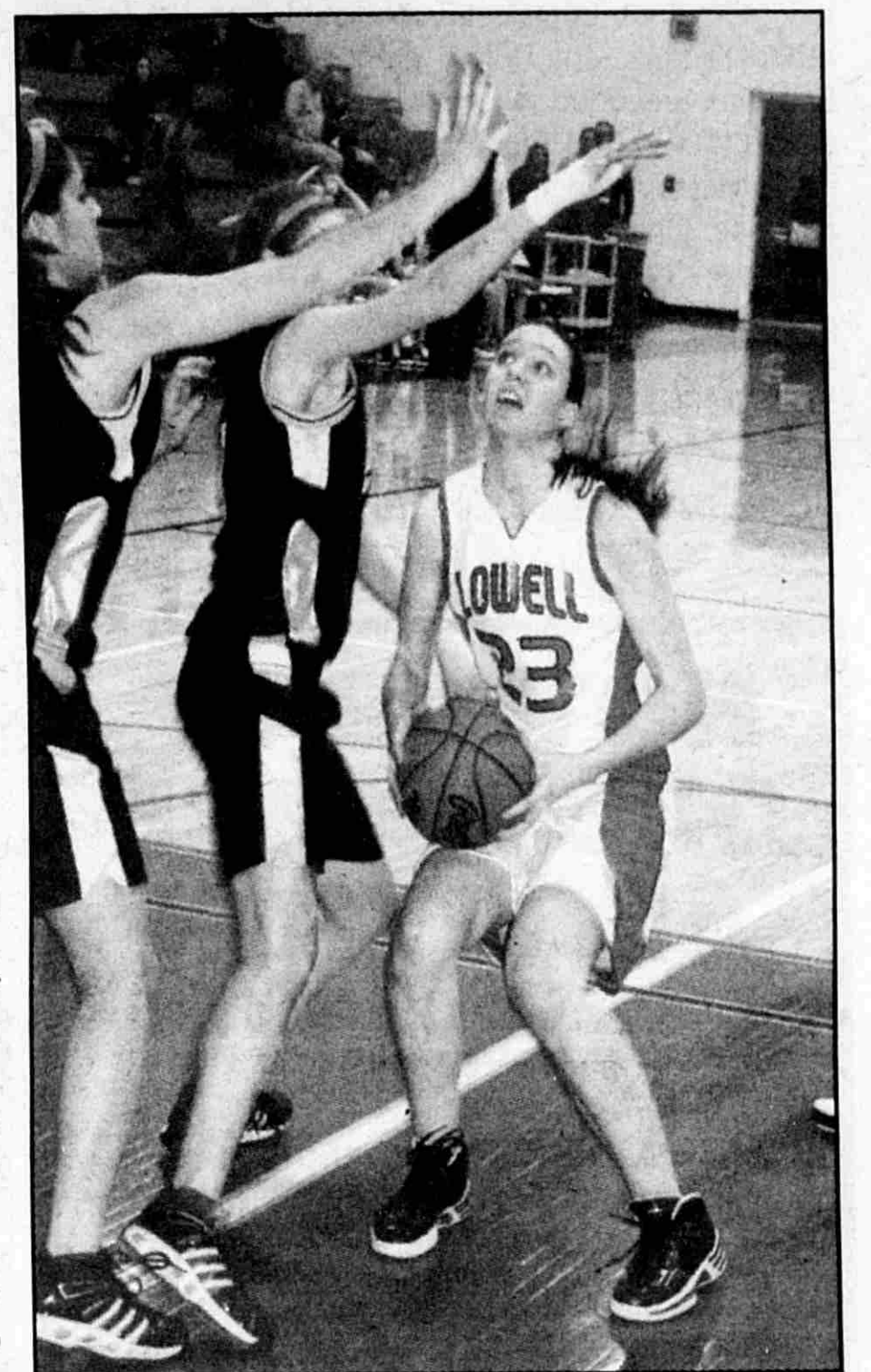
The Red Arrows' 23 first-half points were more than they scored the entire game against the Pioneers.

"The girls displayed some energy and were aggressive to the basket," Gallert said. "They were looking to score."

Lowell led 23-18 at halftime and 32-25 after three quarters of play.

Stephanie Stevens led all Red Arrows with 13 points. Bryleigh Loughlin contributed with eight.

Lowell finished the week at 9-9 overall and 4-5 in league play.



Katie Tompkins works inside the paint for a shot in Lowell's 27-18 loss to EGR.

Talented Pioneers too much for Red Arrows

by Thad Kraus

Lowell boys' basketball team got a first-hand look at what a fine tuned auto runs like with all of its pistons firing.

East Grand Rapids, with the return of A.J. McEwen, played like it was ready for another post-season run with its 56-33 win against the Red Arrows Friday night.

When McEwen wasn't draining a perimeter jumper or penetrating in the lane, there was 6-8 center Colin Voss on the inside to clean

the third quarter.

"That's the best pressure we've seen all year," Lowell coach Jeff McDonald said. "Chris Anderson is a freak of an athlete. You can't guard him with one guy."

Anderson netted 24 points, including four dunks along the way.

McDonald called Reeths-Puffer's Don Treal-McKinley the best point guard his club has faced this year.

"He's really quick and penetrates extremely well," McDonald said.

The Red Arrows also took decent shots, but missed shots East turned into points at the other end.

Voss led all scorers with 19 points.

Derek Cornish and Isaac Tawney led Lowell in scoring with 11 and 10 points respectively.

Reeths-Puffer 59
Lowell 44

The Red Arrows started strong, but Reeths-Puffer's quickness, size and pressure turned a two-point half-time deficit into double digits in

Eight Lowell wrestlers advance to state

by Thad Kraus

Some may have questioned how Lowell wrestlers would fair at the Division I individual regional championship coming off the team's regional loss to Rockford three days earlier.

"I told them if they don't come ready to wrestle, they'd regret it the rest of their lives," said Lowell wrestling coach Dave Dean.

They not only listened to their coach, but they acted on it. Eight of 11 Lowell wrestlers advanced to the individual state tournament.

Three Red Arrows claimed regional championships. Andrew Morse (145 pounds) defeated Nick Bohn (East Kentwood) 8-2. Jackson Morse (160) defeated Jake Johnson (Rockford) 7-1 and Gabe Dean (189) defeated Caleb Rivera (Grandville) 3-1.

Losing their matches in the championship round were Gabe Morse (135) and Ryan Olep (171). Morse lost 4-2 to Caledonia's Tanner Zych and Olep fell 3-2 to Rockford's Jake Dorulla.

In the consolation round, Jake Fillingham (130) defeated Christian O'Guinn (Grand Blanc) 2-1, while Connor Kruse (285) defeated Chad Cook (Grand Blanc) 1-0. Dan Fleet (152) lost his match to Grand Blanc's Drew Morris 4-3.

"A subpar performance at the individual regional would have added insult to injury," Dean explained. "The boys came to wrestle. They came to compete. This was a statement about their pride."

Someone had to say it!



Thad Kraus

On the list of things that I could do without - professional, collegiate and high school basketball are you listening?

Stop with the shutting off of lights for the introduction of players. It's unnecessary. No, it's over the top.

If my memory serves me well, that was ushered in with Michael Jordan, the greatest basketball player of all time.

He's loooong gone. Let the light dimming go too, already!

If you will be so kind and allow me to beat my chest just a little, my beloved

Eddies have advanced to the Division 3 state wrestling tourney this weekend in Battle Creek. It's been 19 long years.

FREE to the public!

Weight Loss & Stop Smoking Hypnotherapy
 Friday March 5, 7:30pm
 Knights of Columbus Hall
 115 S St.
 Tuesday March 9, 7:30pm
 VFW Hall
 1324 E. Bridge St.
 PORTLAND
 Wednesday March 10, 7:30pm
 VFW Hall
 3116 Alden Nash SE
 LOWELL
 HealthAwarenessClinics.org

Health Awareness Clinics is providing therapists to administer weight loss, stop smoking, and stress relief group hypnotherapy. For many people, this therapy reduces 2 to 3 clothing sizes and/or stops smoking.

Funding for this project comes from public donations. Anyone who wants treatment will receive professional hypnotherapy free from charge.

An appointment is not necessary. Sign in and immediately receive treatment.

Health Awareness Clinics is a non-profit organization. They rely on donations to make treatment available to those in need. A modest \$5.00 donation when signing in is appreciated.

Only one 2 hour session is needed for desirable results.

Sign in 30 min. early

obituaries

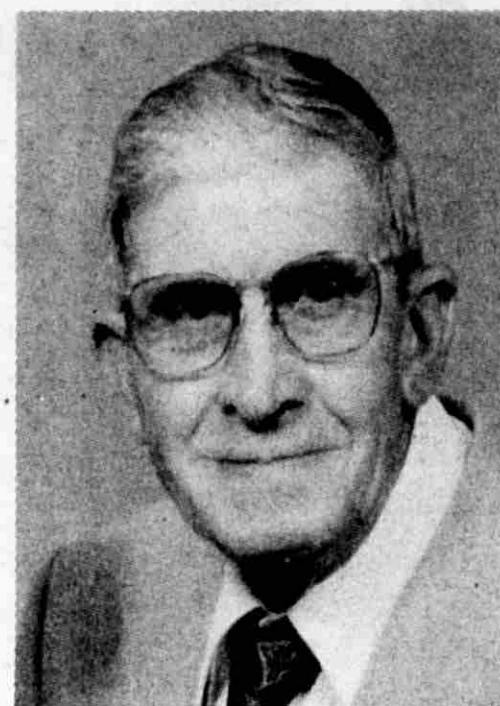
GILL

Tressa Gill, aged 98, of Lowell, passed away February 20, 2010. She was born May 28, 1911, the daughter of Foster and Lucy (Helmus) Bishop. She is survived by her five children, Gerald (Annette) Gill Jr. of Arizona, Arlene Boris of Grand Rapids, Wayne Gill of Arizona, Sharon (Jay) Duursma of Grand Rapids, and Lorraine (Cy) Floyd of Lowell; 13 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by six brothers and four sisters. Cremation has taken place and there will be no services. Arrangements by Lake Funeral Home in Saranac. Online condolences may be made at www.lakefuneralhomes.com

the ledger OFFICE HOURS Monday - Thursday: 8 am - 5 pm Friday: 8 am - 2 pm Closed Sat. & Sun. P.O. Box 128 • Lowell, MI 49331 897-9261

LYONS

Mr. Glenn Lyons, age 89, of Grattan Township, Lowell, passed away on Friday, February 12, 2010. Mr. Lyons was drafted into the U.S. Army shortly before Japan attacked Pearl Harbor and participated in most major battles from Africa to Germany. Mr. Lyons was a member of Bostwick Lakes Congregational Church, U.C.C. since 1950. He is survived by his children, Glenna and Gerald Parker, John Lyons and Paula Guernsey, Ronald and Dianna Lyons, all of Lowell; grandchildren, Denise Jensen, Shaun and Dawn Parker, Gerald Parker, Jr., Kathleen and Dale Wilson, Kevin Lyons, Brad and Lisa Lyons, and Brent and Carly Lyons; seven great-grandchildren; sister-in-law, Dorothy Lyons of Greenville; several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife Florence on February 10, 2007. Interment in Blythefield Memory Gardens. Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider memorials to the Bostwick Lake Congregational Church.



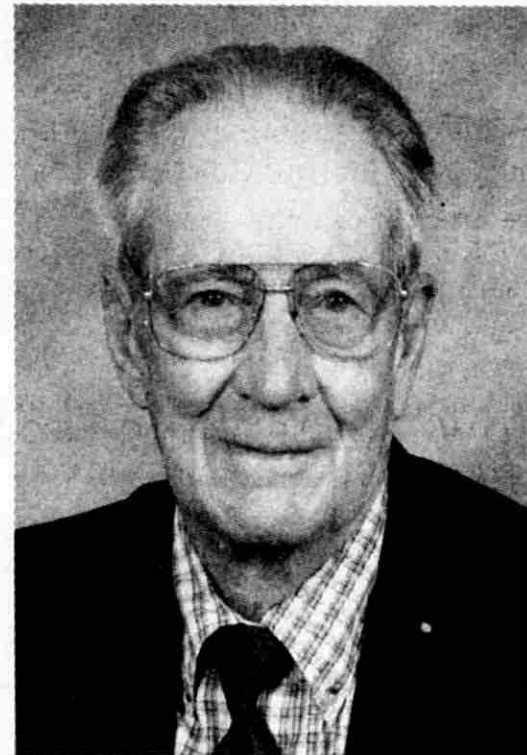
MANKEL

Kenneth Earl Mankel, age 93, of Ada, formerly of Grand Rapids Home for Veterans, passed away Wednesday, February 17, 2010. He was preceded in death by his wives, Betty Mankel and Eva Mankel; brothers, LaVern, Richard; and sister, Rozella Bier. He is survived by his daughters, Kathleen (John) Sullivan, Peggy (Garth) Snyder, Donna Cody; sister, Barbara King; grandchildren, John Paul and Michael Sullivan, Lori (Brent) Mundwiler, Garth Allen (Marian) Snyder, Tracy Snyder, Stacey Irwin, Shawna Bennett; eleven great-grandchildren; and his beloved dog "Pudgie." He retired from Metalcraft. Funeral services were held February 20 at Roth-Gerst Funeral Chapel with Rev. Nathaniel Johnson of Vergennes United Methodist Church officiating. Interment Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens. Memorial contributions may be made to American Cancer Society, 129 Jefferson SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.



MULDER

Louis C. Mulder, age 90, of Lowell, passed away Sunday, February 21, 2010. He was preceded in death by his wife, Florence. He is survived by his wife, Ella; daughter, Judy (Victor) Heim; grandsons, David and Steven Heim; great-grandchildren, Abigail, David, Jacob, Ann Heim; stepdaughters, Janet (Larry Shear) Allison, Judy (Bob) Purdy; sister, Marian Lachniet; many nieces, nephews, step-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren. Funeral service will be Thursday, February 25 at 11 a.m. at Calvary Christian Reformed Church, 1151 W. Main St., with Dr. Paul M'Pindi of Calvary Christian Reformed Church and Rev. Greg Freed of Elmdale Church of the Nazarene officiating. Interment Cascade Cemetery. Visitation will be Wednesday 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, 305 N Hudson. Memorial contributions may be made to Calvary Christian Reformed Church.



In loving memory of our son, brother, uncle, great uncle and friend who left us one year ago on Feb. 24.

In a quiet cemetery, where the gentle breezes blow, lies a man we loved so dearly who left us one year ago.

His place of rest we visit, place flowers there with care, but no one knows our heartache, as we turn and leave him there.

His memory is our keepsake, with which we will never part. God has him in his keeping and we hold him in our hearts.

We love you and miss you so much our Sweet Jeffy.

Joanne Childs, Lori Ryan, Meg, Nicole, Mackenzie, Zach, Andrew, Hagen and Elaine

Experience is not what happens to a man; it is what a man does with what happens to him.

-Aldous Huxley (1894 - 1963)

NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that at the regular meeting of the Lowell Charter Township Board held on February 16, 2010, the following ordinances were adopted: Ordinance 01-2010 to re-establish the Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission, and Ordinance No. 02-2010 to add Section 4.37 for required setbacks from future roads. Summaries of each follow:

Ordinance No.01-2010 - An Ordinance to re-establish the Planning Commission for Lowell Charter Township as authorized by P.A. 33 of 2008, as amended, being the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, M.C.L. 125.3801.et.seq. for the purpose of having planning and zoning in the Charter Township of Lowell, and to create, organize, and enumerate the powers and duties of the Planning Commission, to provide for the regulation and subdivision of land and for coordinated and harmonious development of Lowell Charter Township; and to function in cooperation with other constituted authorities of incorporated and unincorporated areas within the state where Lowell Charter Township exists.

Ordinance No. 02-2010 - an amendment to the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Ordinance to add Section 4.37 for required setbacks from future roads. The amendment will require setbacks and yards for a development project to be measured from any future public road recommended in the Township Master Plan. The amendment will require the location of the future road right of way to be determined by the Planning Commission with final approval by the Township Board.

The ordinances shall become effective March 3, 2010. A complete copy of each ordinance can be obtained at the Lowell Charter Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash SE, Lowell, Michigan, 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday or by calling 897-7600.

Linda S. Regan, Clerk Lowell Charter Township

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The Lowell Ledger 105 N. Broadway, 897-9261

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

classifieds

for sale

FREE AD! - Place & pay for an ad in the Buyers Guide & Lowell Ledger for 3 weeks & receive the 4th week FREE! You must mention the special in order to receive this offer. Valid only with new classified ads, and must be paid for when ad is placed. Call 897-9555, fax 897-4809 or email to: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com, Lowell, Ph. 897-9261.

AIR BED - Selecta comfort firmness for each of you. Dual chambers. Digital remote. Never used. \$795. Call 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160.

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.

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.

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

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

NOW ACCEPTING BRIDGE CARD EBT - Gary's Country Meats, 205 E. Main, Lowell. Hours: Tu-Fri, 8-6 p.m. & Sat. 8-5. Closed Sun. & Mon.

CHEVY LUMINA - '97 or '98 great heat & AC, new tune up. \$1,200. Call 616-893-5955.

MATTRESSES - Large selection of name brand mattresses starting at \$79. All sizes. Never used. Call 616-682-4767 or 616-293-6160.

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

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 crclrlctn@aol.com

misc.

TRACTOR SUPPLY - From peanuts to pickles & hay testers to drain tile, you always have what we need. Thanks, Joice Smith.

LEDGER OFFICE HOURS: MON. - THURS. 8-5 FRI. 8-2 Closed Sat. & Sun. 105 N. Broadway, Lowell. Phone 897-9261 Fax 897-4809 www.lowellledger.com

for rent

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

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.

APARTMENT FOR RENT - Studio apartment in historical downtown Lowell, newly remodeled, all utilities included, including central air, \$550 per month. 897-9074 or 914-0828.

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.

PRICELESS STORAGE - Indoor/outdoor. New Units on Alden Nash, 1 mile South of I96. Call for specials 558-2900.

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.

ROOM FOR RENT - 4 year old home, fully furnished, own bath, WIFI, heat, air, quiet neighborhood, satellite TV, no pets. \$550/month. 897-5382.

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.

lost

NOT FOUND YET! - An ALL black, long haired, male cat, 2 years old, with bright yellow eyes, named Blackie. Last seen 10/28/09 on Ryan Ridge SE & Alden Nash, South of Lowell, near the Twp. office. Please call 897-8385 with any info. Reward.

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.

WEDDING INVITATIONS Available at Lowell Litho, Ph. 897-9261. Stop by & check out one of our books. Many different styles & price ranges to choose from. Hours: M-Th. 8 - 5 Fri. 8 - 2

services

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

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.

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

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

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

services

LOSE WEIGHT NOW! ME HOW! - Lose up to 30 pounds in 30 days! Lose Weight Gain Energy! All natural! Save 15% today. Call Deb 676-2504.

BE STRONG, POWERFUL, 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

AFFORDABLE TREE & LANDSCAPE SERVICE - Tree work, landscaping, mowing, full season work available. Free estimates. 897-8220.

TAXES, PAYROLL, QUICKBOOKS, & ACCOUNTING SERVICE - by certified Quickbooks advisor. Call Kathy 897-6351.

STEVEN R. SIMKINS, ATTORNEY 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.

services

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.

IN & OUT REMOVAL - Wanted appliances, cars, trucks, etc., farm equipment, mower motors. Free removal. 616-890-5210.

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

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.

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.

services

JIM'S FLOOR COVERING - Carpet, vinyl, & laminate, 10% over distributor cost. 8 a.m. - 8 p.m., 897-0737, leave message.

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

DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENDED OR REVOKED? - Don't get sucked into \$100-\$300 evaluation fees...I NEVER charge for your record evaluation & consultation! Driver's license RESTORATION: \$2500 incl. all filing fees AND FREE consultation & evaluation of your case. Have a question? Call Attorney Martin Mead (616) 235-0330.

RISNER ROOFING - serving you since 1961. Licensed & insured. Free estimates. New & re-roofs. Ice & snow removal. Call Steve, 868-6015 or Terry, 897-7968.

Community Calendar

PLEASE NOTE - Coming Events are for non-profit organizations. They are ran on a space available basis & are not guaranteed to run. If you would like to make sure your event is placed in the paper, please call our office & place it as a classified ad. All Coming Events or changes to coming events should be submitted by fax: 897-4809, email: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com, by mail: PO Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or in person: 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.
CHESS CLUB AT SARANAC PUBLIC LIBRARY - March 4, 11, 18 & 25, 3-4 p.m. All ages & level of play welcome.
SHOTGUN & ARCHERY SHOOTING LEAGUES - at Caledonia Sportsman's Club (Alto/Freeport). Contact Al Potas 698-2051 or email shooting@csc.us.com.
MOBILE FOOD PANTRY - at Cascade Fellowship Christian Ref. Church, 6655 Cascade Rd. Free perishable food. 1st Monday. Register: 4:30 p.m. Distribution: 6 p.m.
DIABETIC SUPPORT GROUP - Tues. 7 p.m. at Elmdale Church, located just 3.3 miles E. of M-50 on 64th St. Phone 868-7690 & leave a message if interested or if you would like to meet at another time or location.
BREAKFAST TO BENEFIT YOUTH FAIR & SCOUTING - March 7 at St. Patrick's Parish Center, 4351 Parnell Ave., Ada. Donations are required 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.
FUNDANGO CANCER WALK 2010 - March 13 at GRCC Ford Fieldhouse, 7 a.m. - 1 p.m. (strollers welcome after 8 a.m.) Form a team, raise pledges & enjoy this 5K walk to raise money for Gilda's Club GR/Lowell. Large indoor track, live music, free family games & entertainment, silent auction, carnival treats, raffle items, supervised children's play area. Free parking in GRCC ramps at the corner of Bostwick & Lyon or Ransom & Lyon.
NEW CLASSES FOR EVERYONE - children - adults at Christian Life Center, 3050 Alden Nash SE, Lowell. Every Wednesday 7-8 p.m. Bible-centered classes for children through 5th grade, youth group for 6th grade thru high school & adult prayer & Bible study. Everyone is invited to attend.
MOMS IN TOUCH INTERNATIONAL - Thursdays 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. at Friendship Country Chapel, 10200 Grand River Ave. Moms & grandmas come pray for our kids & schools. Contact Missy at 308-7920 or jakooistra@comcast.net with any questions.
ST. PATRICK PLAYGROUP - Thursdays 10 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. St. Patrick's preschool room. Stories, games, crafts, music & snack. Parents with young children welcome. Call Jennifer Post, 897-0251 or Sally Goffer, 863-4952 with any questions.
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.
FOOD PANTRY - at Lakeside Community Church, 5201 Whitneyville Rd. Free frozen, perishable food. First Friday. Registration 2:30, distribution 4 p.m. Bring own container.
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.
MARCH 1 - Saranac Public Library has GR Children's Museum FREE passes available for patrons. You must have an in-good standing library card. See library staff for details or call 642-9146.
STORY TIME - at the Saranac Public Library, Tuesdays at 10 a.m.
GAME DAZE - March 15 at the Saranac Public Library, noon - 5 p.m. Wii & board games.
MOVIE NIGHT - March 16 at 6:30 p.m. Showing Disney's The Princess and the Frog at the Saranac Public Library. FREE movie & popcorn.
WOMEN FOR SOBRIETY - meets every Monday, 7-8 p.m. at Bowne Center United Methodist Church, fellowship hall, 12051 84th St., corner of Alden Nash. Call Sue at 868-6219 or www.womenforsobriety.org.
LEGO CONTEST - March 23 from noon - 5 p.m. at the Saranac Public Library. All ages welcome. Use our legos or bring your own.
MARCH 31 - Winter Reading Adults/Teens ends today. Get your 10 punch card filled to enter the drawing at the Saranac Public Library.
WEIGHT WATCHERS - Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. at Impact Church, 1070 N. Hudson. New members invited. 1-800-651-6000.
LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE - second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Members in good standing may attend.
ADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY - second Saturday of every month at 10:30 a.m. at the Averill Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley, Ada.
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 information, please call Dave Emmette, 644-0759 or Nancy Steckler, 897-6380.
FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES THRIFT STORE - is open Wed. - Fri., 10 - 6 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at 11535 Fulton St. E. Thrift Shop, 897-8260, Food Pantry 897-8260, Emergency Services, 897-8260.

Financial Focus, continued

financial advisor or tax professional can provide you with this figure.

Once you know your RMD, you can then decide whether to take this amount or to withdraw more. Obviously, during your retirement years, one of your key financial goals is to avoid outliving your income, so you may want to try taking the minimum distributions for as long as you can. Also, these distributions are taxable, so the less you take out, the lower your tax bill may be. But if you need the money, won't you be forced to take more than the minimum amount?

Not necessarily. In addition to your IRA, 401(k)

and whatever other accounts might trigger RMDs, what other sources of income do you have? You've probably already started taking Social Security, so you can't change that amount, though you will normally receive cost-of-living adjustments. (In 2010, however, there will be no such adjustment.) Consequently, if you want to avoid taking more than minimum distributions, you will need to look at your investments held outside your RMD-triggering accounts.

First, consider your Roth IRA, if you have one. Unlike a traditional IRA, a Roth IRA is not subject to RMD rules, so your money can potentially keep growing. But if you want to minimize your taxable distributions, you may want to tap into your Roth account.

Next, review your other investments. Specifically, consider your mix of investments. Can you adjust this mix to possibly provide you with enough income to

help you avoid exceeding your RMDs? For example, can you add income-producing investments, such as bonds, without depleting your portfolio's growth potential? Even in retirement, you'll likely need growth opportunities to help you stay ahead of inflation. You may also want to consider dividend-producing stocks. While you don't want to take on too much risk in your retirement years, you can find many quality stocks that produce, and even increase, their dividends year after year. (Keep in mind, though, that companies can reduce or eliminate dividends at any time.)

The RMD vacation was nice while it lasted. But now that it's over, consider taking the steps necessary to provide you with sufficient income today without draining your resources for tomorrow.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.



616-897-0787

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

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

To vote on the current poll question go to:

**www.
the
lowell
ledger.
com**

last week's poll result:

What is your opinion of the Tiger Woods' apology?
 14%Hole-in-one
 29%Par for the course
 29%Totally shanked it
 28%No opinion

Levin, continued

items that will be important to our state years from now. For example, the act included \$2 billion in grants for companies to pursue advanced auto batteries and other electrical components. Michigan companies will

receive \$1.3 billion of this money, money that positions our companies at the forefront of a revolution in auto technology, one in which cars with electric hearts will help our environment and reduce our dependence on foreign oil. This is one of the big reasons why, after a long dark night for the domestic auto companies and the suppliers who depend on their business, I believe a new dawn for them is breaking.

The stimulus package did what it was intended to do: prevent a depression and establish the building blocks for recovery. There is no question that we have much more work to do. But it's important as we begin the debate on new job-creation measures that we keep in mind what has already worked.

Carl Levin is the senior U.S. senator from Michigan.



February 17 - February 23

- After winning his seventh medal, short-track speed skater Apolo Ono becomes the most decorated winter Olympian.
- Young upstarting American Olympic hockey team stuns hockey superpower Canada, 5-3.
- President Barack Obama will propose giving federal authorities the power to limit rate hikes by health insurance companies as part of a new health care overhaul plan he will unveil this week.
- Bush administration lawyers who wrote "torture" memos are cleared of allegations of professional misconduct after a Justice Department internal investigation recommends no legal consequences for their action.
- A Toyota executive boasts of the company saving over \$100 million by negotiating a limited recall of Toyota Camry and Lexus ES cars over a problem that could cause unintended acceleration.
- Former Secretary of State, Al Haig, passes away at the age of 85.
- The Obama administration develops a five-year blueprint for the Great Lakes.

Tennis coach honored for elevating the game in Lowell's community and high school programs

by Thad Kraus

Bonnie Wall's coaching years at Forest Hills may look more successful on paper, however, when her coaching is done it is the work she has completed in Lowell which will provide her with the most satisfaction.

In fact, the elevation of tennis as a high school sport and its community involvement in Lowell are the key and significant elements which landed Wall, a first ballot, unanimous selection, into the Michigan High School Tennis Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Wall was inducted on Friday Feb. 5 in Troy, Michigan, making her one of 105 inductees.

"It has been the last 10 years in Lowell where Roger (husband and co-coach) and I feel we have done the most for the game and the community," Wall explained.

When Wall and Roger started coaching in Lowell there was no summer program. Wall changed that when she wrote a proposal to the Harold Englehardt Foundation to start a five-week program for kids ages five-18.

The first year of the program 75 kids enrolled. This year there were over 170.

"Many families and students now fill our courts on summer evenings. It's a great sight to see," Wall

Island to learn how to teach tennis better.

Wall has coached tennis for 27 years, the last 10 at

excessive hard work that this transformation has been possible," said Portland tennis coach Jim Niebling.

With respect has also come great growth and strides for the high school program.

"I am very proud of the fact that Lowell is competitive in tennis and its program has gained respect," Wall said. "Tennis is a sport these young kids can enjoy and play all their lives."

Wall notes that her love for tennis and coaching has enabled her to see kids in a different light.

"I have more compassion and understanding for what they go through," Wall said.

Both Wall and Roger held national rankings in their earlier years and have played many age level tournaments in their retirement years.

What Wall hasn't done is taken a Lowell girls' or boys' team to the state tournament.

That has not been lost by the venerable coach.

Both the girls' and boys' have missed qualifying by a mere point or two.

She points to Brett Hobla's and Travis Trapp's regional win against Forest Hills Central in 2006 and Kelly Trapp qualifying for the state tournament as a

freshman two years ago as proud coaching moments.

"Bonnie and Roger have done a great job of elevating our tennis program and community involvement in tennis," Lowell athletic director Barry Hobla explained. "She literally has built a tennis program in Lowell."

Longtime assistant Sue Beute adds, "Bonnie has worked tirelessly to instill in her players the love and passion for the sport of tennis that she displays. It has been a joy working with her all these years. She has been such an inspiration."

Wrestling, continued

cutting the deficit to one at 23-22 going into the final two matches.

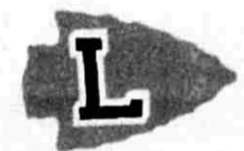
"We did not give up a technical fall or pin against a heck of a wrestling team," said Rockford wrestling coach Brian Richardson. "Lowell is a well-coached team. I have all the respect in the world for that program."

While disappointed in defeat, Dean told his club to keep its chin up.

"The boys worked hard and wrestled like a championship caliber team tonight," Dean said. "This is not a match we lost where you feel upset afterwards. Rockford is a good wrestling team who came in here with a really good lineup."

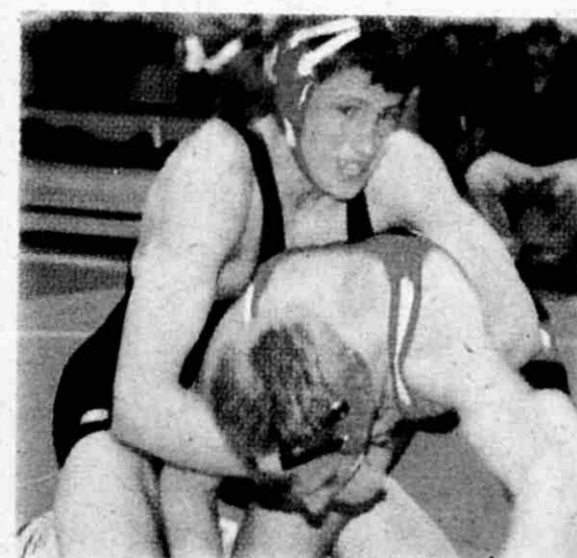
Rockford avenged an early season 33-23 loss to Lowell. A win the Red Arrows would have traded in for a win in the regional final.

"I hope we honored the sport tonight and gave Grand Rapids everything it wanted to see," Richardson concluded.

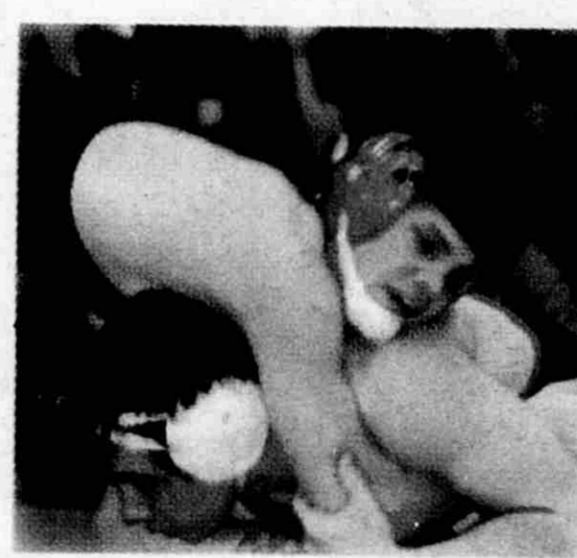


CONGRATULATIONS

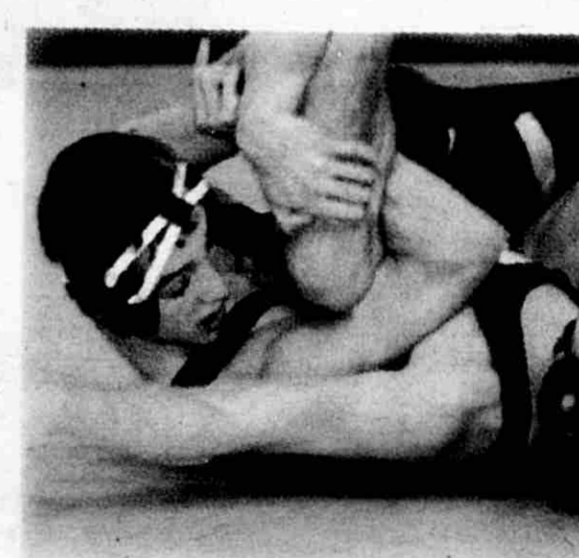
To The Division I Individual State Qualifying Red Arrow Wrestlers!



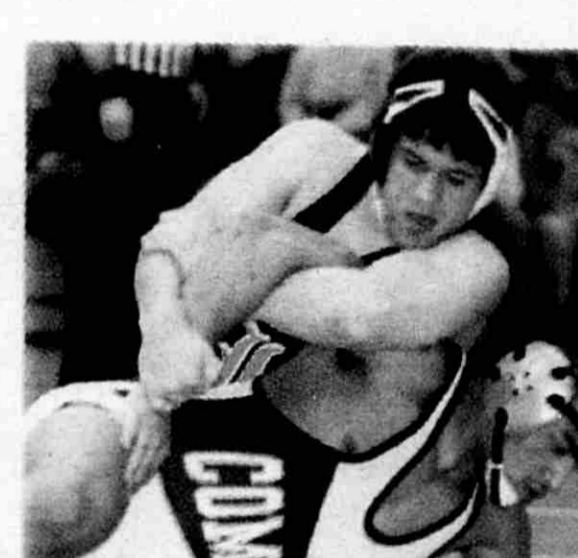
Jake Fillingham



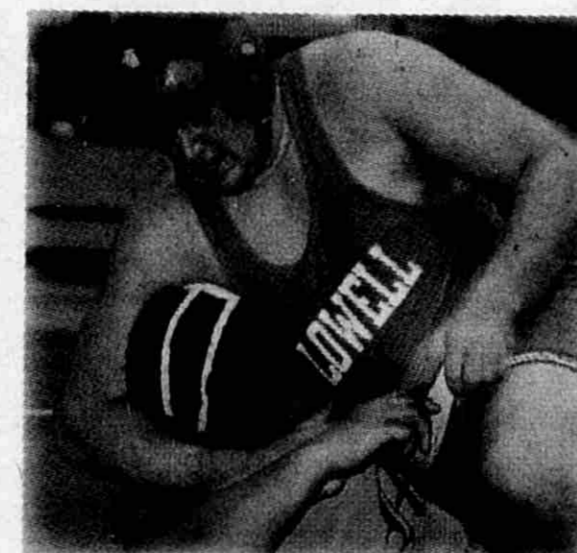
Dan Fleet



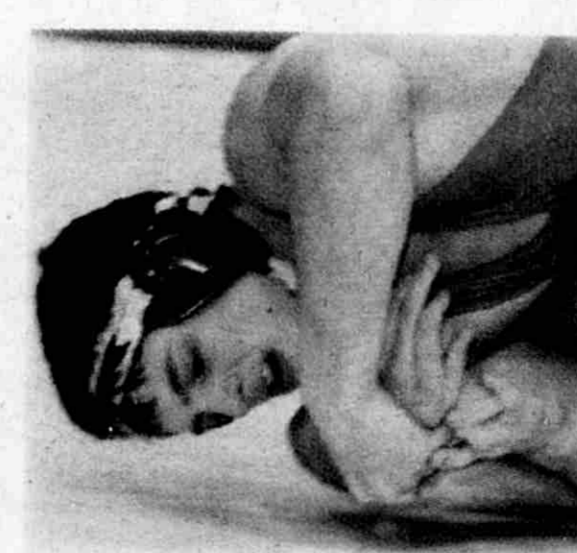
Andrew Morse



Ryan Olep



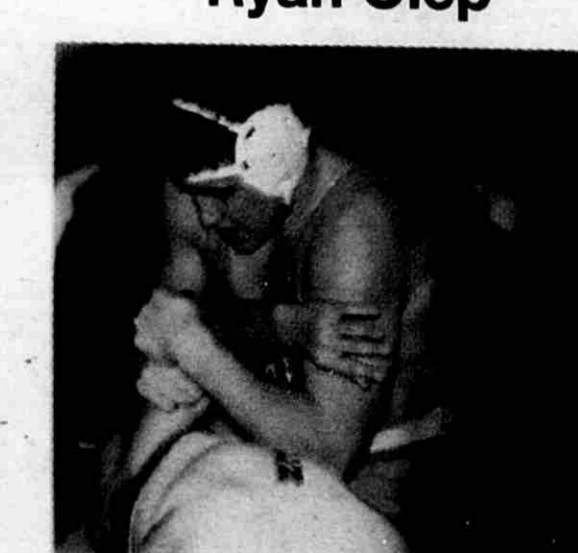
Connor Kruse



Jackson Morse



Gabe Morse



Gabe Dean

GOOD LUCK AT STATE!

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

File No. 10-188-056-DE

Estate of GEORGE FRENCH, Date of birth: 5/13/1921

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, GEORGE FRENCH, who lived at 4610 Meryton NW, Comstock Park, Michigan died 11/27/2009.

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

2/12/10

Jennifer L. Lambourne
P73407
3875 W. River Dr.
PO Box 327
Comstock Park, MI
49321
616-784-5080

Norma Patterson
4610 Meryton NW
Comstock Park, MI
49321
616-304-2664

2010 BOARD OF REVIEW NOTICE LOWELL TOWNSHIP

2910 Alden Nash Ave SE
Lowell, Mi. 49331

2010 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE

The Lowell Township Board of Review for 2010 will be held at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash Ave SE, on the following dates:

Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. - Organizational Meeting

Monday, March 8, 2010 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon
& 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 11, 2010 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
& 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

To appear at the March Board of Review, call on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. 616-897-7600, to Schedule an Appointment.

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

By Board resolution, residents are able to protest by letter, provided protest letter is received prior to March 11.

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2010 are as follows:

*Agricultural.....	50.49%	0.9902
*Commercial.....	51.41%	0.9725
*Residential.....	56.19%	0.8898
*Industrial.....	53.34%	0.9373
*Personal.....	50.00%	1.0000

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

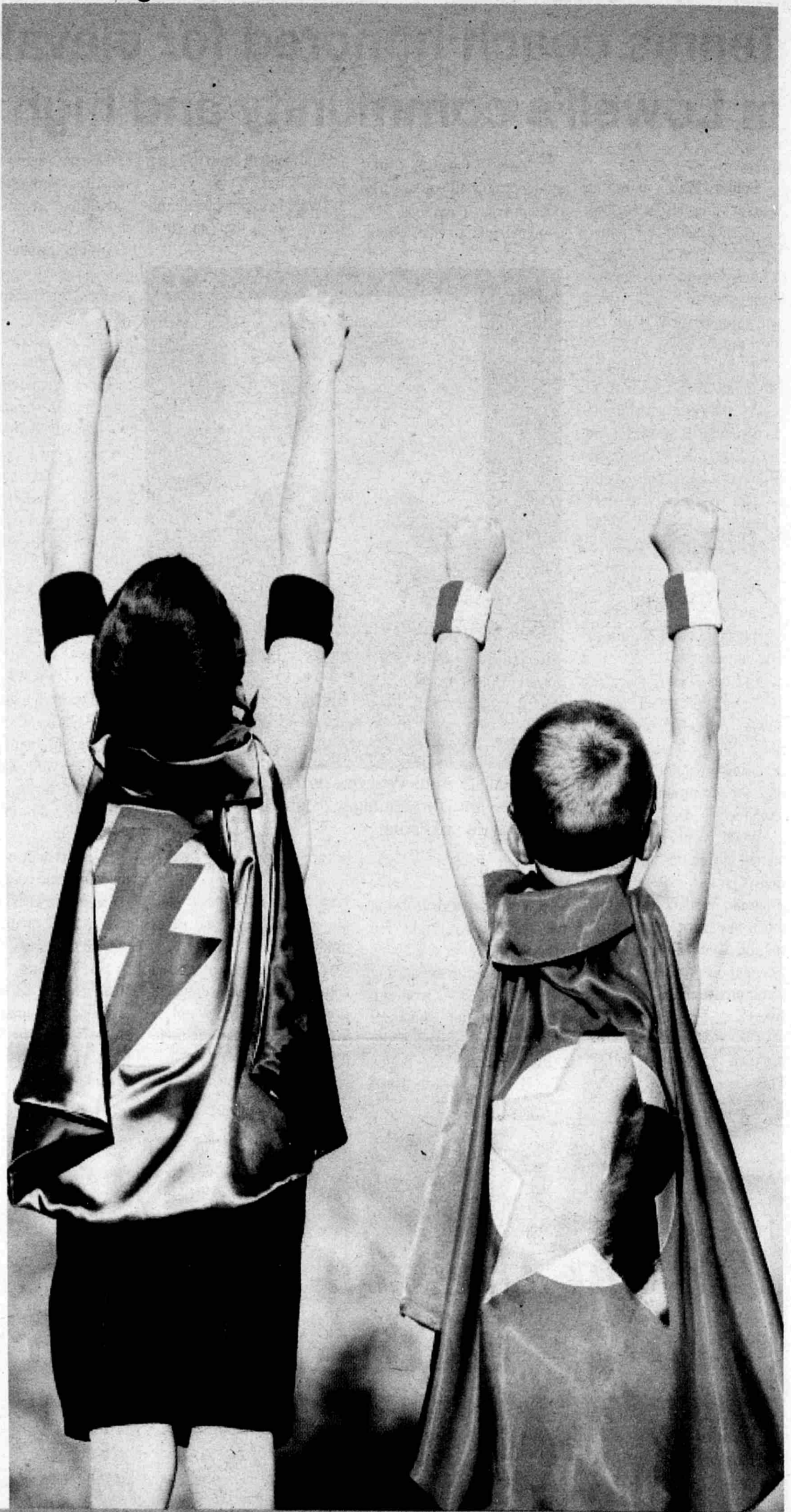
Board of Review Members:

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

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J.D. Power Insurance rated highest auto insurance providers in the J.D. Power and Associates 2009 Auto Claims Study. Study based on survey responses from auto insurance customers who filed a claim from July 22, 2008 to July 22, 2009. Excludes those with claims only for glass, windshield, theft, auto, mobile, or maintenance bodily injury claims. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of consumers surveyed July 15 to August 22, 2009. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com.