the lowell de l'éche l'

wednesday • march • 24 • 2010

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issue 24

troll project



page 8 spring equinox

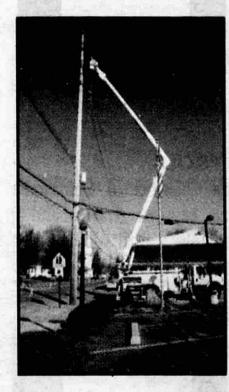


page 10 haiti photos



page 9

wires removed



page 3



Local doctor volunteers help in Haiti

Dr. James Lang of the Lowell Medical Center traveled to Haiti with a team of doctors and nurses from Orthopedic Associates of Michigan through Partners in Health affiliation.

The team spent a week, from Feb. 24 through March 3, on a farm, Double Harvest, approximately 20 minutes away from Port-au-Prince, the capital.

Lang worked in a triage area with physician's assistant Valerie Martin taking care of general medical needs of the earthquake victims. Also on the team were two orthopedic surgeons, Dr. Tom Malvitz and Dr. Karl Roberts, an anesthesiologist and nurses.

The team performed 60 surgeries on fractures and amputations and took care of medical problems of both adults and children.

The farm had been set up as a medical walk-in clinic. Here, Lang encountered diseases almost

unknown in the USA, such as malaria, dengue fever and typhoid fever, but also dehydration and lacerations.

The work in earthquake affected area was intense, from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., plus deliveries and emergencies at night.

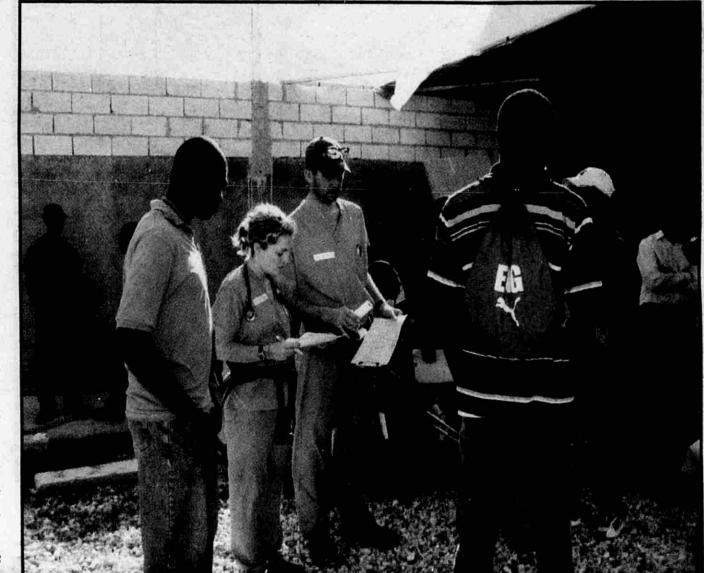
"The pathology down there is different with advanced and tropical diseases," he said.

The biggest impact on the rotating teams was seeing all the devastation and the tent hospitals set up because destroyed.

"There was a number of volunteers from all over the United States and the world working to make the situation better," said Lang. "It made me feel good about fellow volunteers."

In turn, the people of Haiti were very appreciative, according to Lang. The team used English and Creo translators. During their stay, they experienced an

Purchase of Lowell to Greenville railroad section



An orthopedic team and Dr. James Lang volunteered help in Haiti.

the main hospital had been aftershock at the clinic causing people to run out of the clinic in fear.

> ground "The was shaking," said Lang. "There is no infrastructure, just dirt roads."

People were living in tent cities in approximately 85-degree temperatures.

"It was incredible, the amount of damage," he said. "The people have a lot of fortitude; they are hopeful things will improve."

During the lapse of time from the actual earthquake to the team's stay, the distribution of food and water had improved, according to Lang.

The clinic had an X-ray, IVs and a limited lab, as well as drugs for infection. However, most diagnosis was done by examination and logical thinking.

"We were coming up with the most logical diagnosis," said Lang.

Some of the surgical equipment was donated. The orthopedic group has been sending teams to Haiti for the last six weeks.

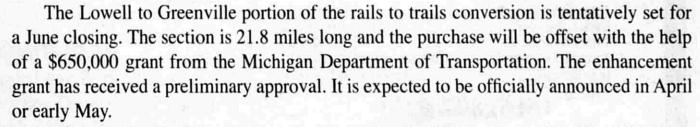
"They will still need help for a long time," he said.

Also, the medical school had been destroyed, so medical professionals are being trained in the USA in the meantime.

"It was a great experience," Lang said. "It's good to be back."

Rails to trails project set for June closing

by Emma Palova



"The grant is the key to making this happen," said Carolyn Kane of the West Michigan Trails and Greenways Coalition.

The group has been working for the last two years on the \$2.3 million purchase of the railroad bed from Mid Michigan railroad. The corridor has been rail banked.

"We have set the bar for other projects," said Kane.

The group expects to have an interlocal governmental agreement in place by early April. This agency will oversee the trail maintenance and the trail funds and it may contract for maintenance.

"We're heading into [the] right direction," said Ionia County administrator Mark Howe. Also, as part of the planning process, a survey may be sent out next month to get public

input on potential uses of the trail. The other section from Ionia to Saranac has been purchased and now it is a matter of

gifting the rest of the corridor to the DNR. The railroad cars will be removed. "We have interest from multiple users," said DNR representative Annamarie Bauer. "We go through an extensive design process to get a better understanding. We look at safety."

Bauer said DNR likes to stay away from shared corridors for motorized uses and nonmotorized uses.

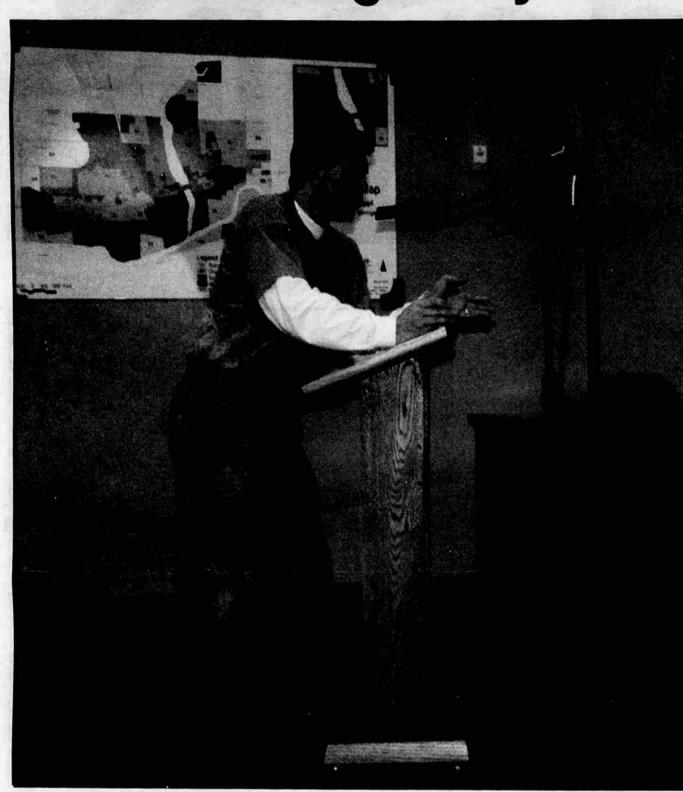
There is much more development here than up north." Usually there is also interest from the equine community and different sections of trails

"We try to achieve as much separation as possible," she said. "It depends on the interest.

can have different uses.

The group also collects railroad leases for an annual revenue of \$25,000. There are

Masonic Lodge may be used as a wrestling center



Dave Dean explains his proposal for the Masonic Lodge.

The Masonic Lodge on Lincoln Lake Avenue may be used as a wrestling center and dormitory for wrestlers.

Dave Dean presented the plan Monday night to the of the soft-sided temporary upstairs would be used as a training wrestling center, while the downstairs would have room to wrestle.

a business that will bring people to Lowell from out with 50 signatures. of town," said Dean.

The building, zoned as public facility, would the housing portion of it. The upstairs is 2,200 square would accommodate 20 bunk beds.

The idea, according to one vote. Opposing was to Dean, is to lower the wrestlers don't have to stay in a motel.

Don neighborhoods. It's an idea. Parking could be down the community. It feet.

provided in the vacant lot on should have never been

"We're not alone in our

opposition," said Fleszar.

commissioner Jim Hall.

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

However, after much the planning commission discussion, most of the recommended the approval commissioners were in favor. Maryalene LaPonsie garages to the city council said she could not find on after holding a public the Internet research that it would decrease property Opposing the proposal

were residents Steve Doyle Hard surface driveways and Chris Fleszar. Fleszar the structure would said they collected a petition have to be approved by the planning commission.

The council also approved the installation of "Fifty citizens have signed a radio antenna at Cherry the petition. This does not Creek Elementary for make Lowell a better place amateur club, as well as a to be. Stop trying to push 70-foot antenna for resident Robert Robinson.

The council approved a special use permit for a garages passed on a three second floor for a condo apartment as requested by Greg Canfield on the "I am totally against northwest side of the bridge. The space will accommodate three bedrooms with a view of the river. It is Green said it's a real neat embarrassment. It just tears approximately 1,600 square

Wolverine power line removed, poles topped

wednesday • march • 24 • 2010

Contractor Hydacker-Wheatlake Co. out of topped off the poles. The Reed city removed, last Lowell Light and Power week, old Wolverine lines run below and new Power Supply Cooperative poles will be set next to 69,000 V transmission the old ones to transfer power lines. They will no longer be needed since Lowell Light and Power is converting to the new 138,000 V Bowes Road

substation. energized," said utility foreman Tom Russo. "It has not been used since

The contractor also the power lines to the new poles. Twelve poles will be replaced next week.

"Then they will remove the poles from the system," said Russo.

There were four crews working in town on the lines. Lane shifts helped redirect the traffic to ease the work.



Lowell Light and Power will be putting new poles.

New Vergennes trustee appointed to the board

by Emma Palova

planning commissioner after Vern Nauta.



Rick Gillett

Gillett, who is a fifth grade teacher at the Goodwillie Environmental School, will serve his term until December and then run in the regular November election for a four year

Gillett served on the planning commission for 18 years.

"I've enjoyed planning, making Vergennes township a good place to live in," he said, "and helping maintain the rural character."

As a trustee, Gillett wants to continue the excellent job the township board has done by listening to the people.



the township as a place where you want to reside

communities, the biggest issue the township is facing is the cut of revenues from township include the lack

Currently, according to Gillett, since development as a township," he said. has practically stopped, the board and the planning it.' commission have been tweaking some ordinances.

"We have no major issues on the planning becomes a necessity. plate," he said.

entire board, wants to be "We don't have enough receptive to the community homes for Comcast to put and to make good decisions cables in. We're hoping as for the people.

township government is that ways to access high speed [it] is one of the last places Internet. It depends on the where [you] can face your density of housing." government official and

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Dr. Bruce Langlois, D.V.M

Along with other of living that is being township.

of high speed Internet. "We're in a dead zone "But we do have to look at

As more people work Rasch. out of their homes, high speed Internet access

"It's a frustration, a Gillett, much like the tough question," said Gillett. technology develops there "The beauty of will be more innovative

An important issue in

"We want to maintain have a good discussion," he the township remains the preservation of farmland as Gillett takes his trustee in the case of preserving the appointed to the township and raise your family," he position as a stewardship to entire Parnell corridor in keep the excellent standard the northwest section of the

> "It's a tremendous Other issues in the way to protect and allow agriculture and farmers to keep their land and get some retirement plan out of it," he said.

> > The planning new commissioner is Duane

> > > fairgrounds

Call 897-6050

Hall for rent senior assisted living facility and a seven unit specialized senior care facility on the same with kitchen parcel. The vacant property consists of 4.02 acres and is zoned AG-2, Rural Agricultural. **SEATS 150** Located at the

Property Address: 11440 East Fulton Street SE. General Location: South side of East Fulton Street (M-21) on the

The public is invited to attend this hearing which will be held as follows:

west side of the Lowell Lanes bowling alley

NOTICE OF PUBLIC

HEARING

LOWELL CHARTER

TOWNSHIP

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Lowell Charter Township Planning

Commission will hold a public hearing to

consider a Special Land Use and site plan

request from Arlin Maas to establish a 20 unit

WHEN: TIME: WHERE: **MONDAY, APRIL 12, 2010** 7:00 P.M. LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL 2910 ALDEN NASH **AVENUE SE LOWELL, MI 49331**

The proposed site plan and other materials pertaining to this project 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

The Lowell Ledger

approximately 30 leases on the Ionia to Lowell corridor.

Ionia County may serve as a fiduciary for the funds until an

at the Lowell Expo on March 27. They are also looking for

people from the involved communities to form a Friends

The group will be at the Belding Expo on March 25 and

"People like to be involved at their community level,"

(USPS 453-830)

Rails, continued

authority is established.

said Kane.

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LOWELL WOMEN'S CLUB

profit events, church services, yard sales and the like, will not appear in this column.

The Lowell Women's Club is accepting grant requests from Lowell Community Organizations. This application does not apply to LWC Scholarships. Access application form at the website: www.lowellwomensclub.org or call Karen Thomure at 897-9862. Deadline for requests is March 25.

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

Lowell Boy Scout Troop 102 dropped off bags for the annual Scouting for Food event. If you will leave them on your porch on Saturday, Mar. 27, the scouts will come by between 8 a.m. to noon to pick them up and deliver them to Flat River Outreach Ministries. Huntington Bank bags can be dropped off at the bank; these will be picked up Friday, Mar. 26 by closing time.

LHS HELPS HAITIAN EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS

Lowell High School partners with Rays of Hope for Haiti to collect needed supplies, such as food, water, overthe-counter medical items, personal hygiene items, and funds to aid earthquake victims in Haiti. This event ends March 27. For more information contact RJ Boudrou, 987-2978.

BLOOD DRIVE

Michigan Blood will be at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on April 6, 3 to 7 p.m. To schedule a donation time call 1-866-MIBLOOD (642-5663).

BUILD A TROLL

Drop by the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce building, 113 Riverwalk Plaza, anytime April 8 and 9 between 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. and build a troll to showcase at a Lowell business during the Troll Project. For more information call 897-9161.





8, 1910, Boy Scouts of America was born.

79 years ago, 1931. Lowell's first Eagle Scout earned his award - congrats Sam Yeiter.

born.

58 years ago, Boy Scouts, leaders, parents, and community members all the other advancement Troop 102 will open the from Troop 102 and Lowell worked together to build the scout cabin.

Quite a history, quite a Lowell tradition.

active ever since then. In those years, Troop 102 has produced 61 Eagle Scouts. Already this year another scout has earned his Eagle they are better young men for the experience they community pride.

community is better because of the scouts.

these young men have worked countless hours of community service. Each 68 years ago, 1942, Eagle Scout has planned, Boy Scout Troop 102 was organized and managed a project that benefits some organization outside of scouting, not to mention requirements. Many hours go into the planning of the projects and many more hours go into the work. all led by a young man in a scout uniform. A young man, anywhere from age

scouts and adults. parades, working at the Lowell Expo, putting out Scout rank, the highest rank flags in the cemetery and fun. There will be outdoor scout cabin, come on out in scouting. In 2008, six along Main St. putting up flags for fallen heroes. the most ever for Troop helping out the food bank with Scouting for Food. is much more to Troop 102 and helping out the 4H Fair. than just the Eagle Scouts All this and still going to they produce. Whether a meetings and camping at and lunch will be served scout earns Eagle or not, the scout cabin, learning throughout the afternoon cooked Boy Scout style in life skills, citizenship and

get here in Lowell and the Over the years,

Recently, the fate of the scout cabin was up in the air. There were questions about whether or not the scouts would be able to keep it. But the people of Lowell stood up for the scouts and said they wanted it to stay. When Troop 102 needed the community, it came through for them.

scout cabin doors and the property around the cabin from area veterans over to the Lowell community. the years. There are several From noon to 4 p.m. there former scouts, some Eagle will be demonstrations of activities that scouts participate in on campouts. 14 to 17, managing other Historical displays will be of the VFW and American set up to show scouting in Legion that the scouts want You also see them in Lowell over the years: Eagle to honor. projects, community service and scouts just having see what happens at the demonstrations of scouting on April 10. The scouts activities and skills, such as pioneering, first aid, and the cabin and grounds, map and compass. A model campsite will be set up, Lowell community. Come as will a survival shelter

cast iron Dutch ovens.

the area are invited to the cabin at 5 p.m. A Boy Scout dinner using Dutch ovens will be prepared showing the cabin and grounds, the skills of our scouts, past accomplishments and history of the scouts.

Around dusk, the troop will perform one of the On Saturday, April 10, most solemn duties, a Flag Retirement ceremony. The troop has gotten support Scouts, on active duty in the Armed Forces right now, as well as members

> If you would like to and leaders are proud of and proud to be part of the out and experience the best Boy Scouting around - Boy Scouting of Lowell.

Lowell Relay for

Lowell will celebrate the fifth year of hosting a Relay for Life on Friday and Saturday June 11 and 12 from 3 p.m. to 3 p.m. This is a 24 hour event to raise cancer awareness and money for research by the American Cancer Society.

or even ones made up from friends and family walking the

track at Red Arrow Memorial stadium having people on the track for the entire time. Hundreds of people take part n the event each year.

Each person participating has their own reason for walking with stories that are very moving. The reasons range from having been

through cancer themselves to a dear friend or family member has been affected. For myself, my husband has been through cancer, in fact two types. He went through treatment and has thankfully been in remission for coming up on four years. Each person has a story of going through their time of illness with the support of friends, family, and their medical team. There is camaraderie among cancer patients which is kind of a special bond in some way only they can share. It is always interesting to sit back and listen to them as they talk about what it means to have been through cancer and keeping track of how they are doing. It is things like how were your latest test results, how long have you been in remission, or perhaps sharing their stories. There is also sadness when someone has relapsed.

All the people who attend have the purpose of

Life June 11 and 12

The goal is to have teams from businesses, organizations

RELAY

FOR LIFE American Cancer Society*

working to someday find a cure for cancer. We are in the process of signing up teams for Relay for Life right now. If you have any questions please contact Carol Briggs at cbriggs@lowellschools.com or visit us online at www.relayforlife.org/lowellmi. Come help us celebrate, remember, and fight back.

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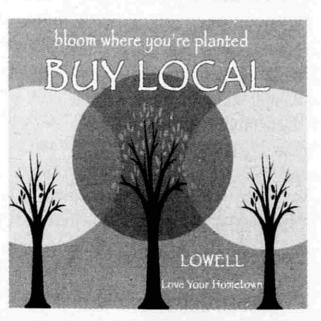
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view Doint

financial focus

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Christopher C. Godbold Put your tax refund to work

It's Tax Refund Season again. This year, if you're going to get a check from your Uncle Sam, why not put it to work to help you meet your financial goals?

Last year, the average tax refund was more than \$2,700. according to the IRS. The size of your refund, or whether you will get one at all, depends on your individual circumstances. But if you are going to get a refund, plan ahead for what you'll do with it. Here are a few possibilities:

 Pay down some debts. In these difficult economic times, you may be carrying a higher debt load than usual. If so, you may want to use some of your refund to pay down some of these debts. The lower your debt payments, the better your cash flow and the more money you'll have to invest for the future.

• Build an emergency fund. If you don't already have an emergency fund containing six to 12 months' worth of living expenses, you could use your tax refund to start one. Without such a fund, you may find yourself constantly dipping into your long-term investments to pay for unexpected costs, such as a new furnace or an expensive car repair. Keep your emergency fund in a liquid account one that you don't draw on for your day-to-day expenses

• Help fund your IRA. In 2010, you can put in up to \$5,000 to your IRA. Consequently, if you received a \$2,700 refund, you'd have more than half of what you need to fully fund your IRA for the year. (If you're 50 or older, however, you can contribute up to \$6,000 per year.)

You might not think that your \$2,700 would make much of a difference in the long run. But by investing your refund and giving it many years of growth potential, you could end up with a sizable amount. Consider the following:

· If you put \$2,700 in your IRA, and you earned, on average, seven percent a year for 30 years, you'd end up with about \$20,000, even if you never invested another

• If you put \$2,700 every year in that same IRA, again earning an average seven percent annual return, you'd end up with more than \$270,000 after thirty years.

(These examples are hypothetical illustrations and do not represent any currently available investments.)

You'd eventually have to pay taxes on your earnings, typically when you make withdrawals at retirement. And if you qualified for a Roth IRA, you'd never have to pay taxes on your earnings, as long as you had your account for at least five years and didn't start taking withdrawals until you were at least 59-1/2.

• Contribute to a Section 529 plan. If you have children or grandchildren, you may want to establish Section 529 plans to help them pay for college. You can contribute virtually any amount, and the earnings grow tax-free, provided the money is used for higher education expenses. (Withdrawals used for expenses other than qualified education expenses may be subject to federal, state and penalty taxes. Contributions are tax-deductible in certain states for residents who participate in their own state's plan. Please note that a 529 college savings plan could impact a beneficiary's ability to qualify for financial aid.)

You may be tempted to spend your tax refund on things you want today - but, with a little planning, you can use it for things you need tomorrow.

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

Winning the jobs fight, one battle after another



Sen. Carl Levin

The industrialist John D. Rockefeller believed that "the world owes no man a living but that it owes every man an opportunity to make a living." Far too many Michiganians these days are being denied that opportunity, but Congress has taken some important steps to boost job creation and put people back to work.

President Obama recently signed the Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act, the first of what will be several job-creation measures Congress will take up. This legislation includes a number of important provisions that will help businesses begin hiring again.

Following up on that bill, the Senate and House have each approved the American Workers, State, and Business Relief Act, and I am optimistic we will soon reach agreement on a final version of that bill to send to the president. Later this spring, we plan to pass a third piece of legislation that will give businesses the greater access to credit they need to survive and grow.

No individual bill, by itself, will solve our jobs problem. Unfortunately, the depth of the crisis we face means solutions aren't simple or easy. We'll reduce unemployment with a series of small wins, not in one sweeping move, and these bills are important successes in that larger battle.

The bill the president signed in mid-March, for example, does a number of things to boost employment. It provides a tax credit to companies that add new workers, a credit that

Levin, continued, pg. 12



125 Years Ago The Lowell Journal March 25, 1885

Burglars took \$440 from Loren Tyler's home in Bowne. No clue.

The Lowell cornet band furnishes excellent music for the Rink.

Lorenzo Pavne's examination adjourned un Thursday at 10 a.m.

100 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger March 24, 1910

Rose Anna Harris was born in Cayuga county, town of Conquest, state of New York, on Jan. 5, 1830. With her parents she moved to Brunso, Mich., in 1831; they built the first log house in the county. When about 19 years of age, she traveled alone the distance of 1100 miles to visit at the home of Edrak Clark in North Rochester, Mass. There she secured a common Company.

school education and came back to Hillsdale where she taught school for some time. On Feb. 20, 1856 she was married to Lewis Warner. There were born to this union twelve children: seven of whom survive her. In 1869, they moved from Coldwater to near Grand Rapids in midwinter in sleighs, with a family of six children, to a farm in Walker Township on Alpine Ave. Those were true pioneer days for the family. They moved to Keene Township in 1875 where they lived until they left the farm and bought a home in the village of Alto in 1892. Here she united with the Baptist Church. She was a true devoted Christian.

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

Earl Cole has been busy the past week or two making a number of improvements to his store.

We stop the press to announce that word has just been received from Suttons Bay stating that the 1935 Lowell Showboat has come through the rigors of winter unscathed despite the worst ice jam of recent years. A man by the name of Munchasen is the authority for the statement that upon one occasion the Showboat came very near being crushed like an eggshell between two of the largest icebergs ever seen by the travelers of the deep. The Showboat is scheduled to arrive in the Flat River in the early summer and will be in the home port at Lowell the first Thursday, Friday and Saturday in August as scheduled.

50 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger March 24, 1960

At a meeting of the directors of Lowell Showboat, Inc. last Wednesday evening, it was voted to purchase the land known as the Boyenga property near the north city limits and present it to the Attwood Brass

Director Dan Wingier made the motion that the Showboat Corporation donate \$6,000 of the \$7,000 needed for the purpose of providing a 10 acre site on Flat River for the establishment of the new Attwood Brass factory. The motion was seconded by Roger Bieri, commander of the American Legion. The motion was voted unanimously by the directors present.

25 Years Ago The Grand Valley Ledger March 27, 1985

Roger Kropf thinks it's high time for some positive talk about agriculture. Kropf is a partner with his father Carl and brother Ken in Kropf Orchards and Kropf Chemical Co. An open house at Kropf Chemical last Friday drew well over 200 area farmers and growers. Kropf says, "They aren't ready to throw in the towel, or they wouldn't be here."

Representatives from five chemical companies were on hand at the open house to pass out literature on their products and to answer any questions that the farmers and growers had about the various fertilizers

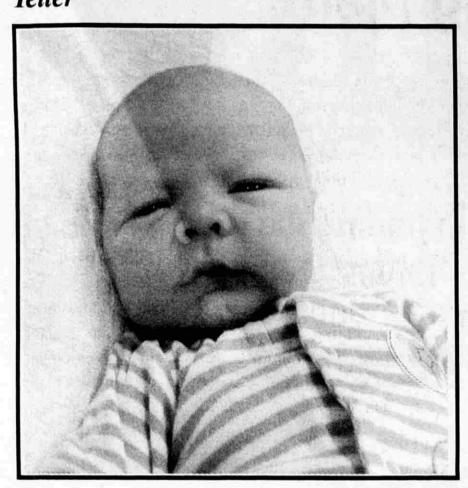
Letters To The Editor:

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new arrivals

Yeiter



Ryan Franklin Yeiter

Bruce and Michelle Yeiter welcomed Ryan Franklin to their family Feb. 11, 2010. He weighed 9 lbs. 7 oz. and measured 21 inches. He joins big sisters Alicia and Kara at home. Proud grandparents are Teresa and Mark Trunpower of Ross, North Dakota and Cora Yeiter of Lowell; and greatgrandparents Henry and Kellie Fellerhoff of Gowen.

college news

University has announced Justin A. Wassenaar, BBA; that the following students all of Ada. graduated at the conclusion December:

Drew M. Clouse, BS: of Alto. Geoffrey N. Dominczak. BS; Michelle H. Harper, Jared A. Hay, BSE; John M. MED; Emily R. Henk, BS; Huston, BBA; and Amber Amer Kahrimanovic, BBA; L. Osborne, BSN; all of Linda M. LeSage, MBA; Lowell. Shannon M. Page, BA;

State Laura E. Schuler, MED; and

of the fall 2009 semester in Brubaker, BS; Christin Carigon, Sari VanKeulen, J. Buchanan, BS; Joel E. Andy Quada, Troy Sloan. Bryan T. Avery, BBA; Koning, BBA; and Andrew Brian C. Boyce, BBA; S. Vanderschaaf, BBA; all

Mara L. Crawford, BA; Maynard

churches

Postmaster **Brown retiring**



Brown, retiring March 31, has 35 years service with the United States Postal Service. Brown came to Lowell as postmaster in 2001 to complete his career. He is a graduate of Northern Michigan University. He served in the U.S. Army including a tour of duty Vietnam. Besides serving as Lowell's

MARCH 28

MARCH 29

VanWeelden, Judith Schafer

Eiseman, Laura Rasch, Carl

Rasch, Robin Burns, Casey

MARCH 30

Delores Ellison, Laurinda

Horsley, Patrick Drake.

Deb Maxim, Erin Wade,

Priscilla Nearing.

John Ellison, Sandra

Kastanek, Beck Butler.

Amie Thaler, Aaron

postmaster, Brown is the past president of the Lowell Rotary and an active member of the VFW.



MARCH 24

Joe Vezino Jr., Candy Speerstra, Isobel Edwards, Angela Titcombe, Marian Rutherford.

MARCH 25

Chris Yeiter, Shirley

MARCH 26 Margaret Hoats, Carol

MARCH 27

Joel Roudabush, Kelly

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10:00 A. M.

.11:20 A.M.

..6:00 P.M.

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Rev. Rick Blunt

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Pastor Dean Bailey

.9:30 A.M.

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PINK EYE

Pink eye is an inflammation of the tissue that covers the eyeball and the inside of the eyelid. Pink eye is also called conjunctivitis. It is usually caused by a mild infection that isn't serious. Most pink eye is caused by a virus, but it can also be caused by other germs (such as bacteria or fungi) or allergens (such as pollen or dust).

Symptoms commonly seen with pink eye are redness and burning of the eye, watery or yellow discharge that can cause the eyelids to stick together, blurred vision or sensitivity to light, swollen eyelids, and tenderness around the eyes. You should see a doctor if any of the above symptoms last more than three days.

Treatment of pink eye depends on the cause. Pink eve caused by a virus goes away in about a week without treatment. Pink eye caused by bacteria also goes away without treatment, but if the infection is severe, antibiotic drops or gels may be used. If pink eye is caused by allergens, staying away from the things that trigger the reaction will help. Eye drops may be used to help soothe redness and

Pink eye caused by allergens is not contagious, but pink eye caused by germs may be very contagious. You can get it by having direct contact with a person who has it. You can also get it by sharing personal items with someone who has pink eye, such as towels or makeup.

It is important that you wash your hands well and use tissues and paper towels. Don't share personal items. Don't wear contact lenses if eyes are red or inflamed. It may be a good idea to keep children home from school or daycare if Yonker, Brianna Homrich, they have pink eye

service news

Navy Seaman Recruit Timothy M. Howard, son of Linda and Gary Howard of Lowell, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

During the eight-week program, Howard completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

The capstone event of boot camp is "Battle Stations." This exercise gives recruits the skills and confidence they need to succeed in the fleet. "Battle Stations" is designed to galvanize the basic warrior attributes of sacrifice, dedication, teamwork and endurance in each recruit through the practical application of basic Navy skills and the core values of Honor, Courage and Commitment. Its distinctly "Navy" flavor was designed to take into account what it means to be a Sailor.

Howard is a 2006 graduate of Forest Hills Central High School of Forest Hills.





Bridge bucks, part of a community-wide business marketing plan

As part of a community-wide effort to embrace the upcoming bridge replacement project, bridge bucks will be issued to continue to motivate people to shop in the torn up downtown.

The investment of \$300 spread over the project from April through September will provide the following: name on detour/parking map, individual businesses will

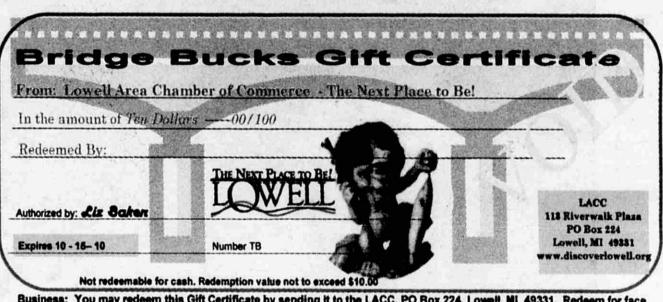
be highlighted in the weekly troll story published in the Lowell Ledger, a two by two custom made troll for businesses, name on the bridge bucks, bridge construction blog and chamber website, 26 weekly drawings of bridge bucks at the participating businesses, Girls' Night Out (GNO), on April 15 and October 14.

wednesday • march • 24 • 2010

To celebrate the end of the project there will be a Bridge Celebration, also known as the Harvest Celebration, and a giant troll sculpture will be erected.

There will be four direct mailings throughout the project, GNO, one troll project and one Harvest Celebration, as funding from the DDA and LACF to market Lowell. well as increased marketing targeting Lowell.

The bridge investment is part of a larger pot of funds the Marketing Committee of the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce is working on. The plans include seeking funding from the DDA, LACF, Look Fund and possibly from the Lowell Cable TV fund.



For the last three years, the chamber has received The result of this funding was the billboard on I-96 and a variety of ads. The chamber website has been redesigned so it is user friendly for visitors and members. With the funding promotional materials have been purchased. These include magnets t-shirts, canvas and Kraft paper shopping bags and water with the Lowell slogan on it. The chamber

has given more than \$6,000 in Shop Lowell Gift Certificates, while redeeming \$2,000.

The mission of the community wide-business marketing plan is to strengthen the greater Lowell community through the development of a community wide business marketing plan. This plan promotes Lowell as an attractive place to work, start a business, relocate a plant, go to school, raise family, shop, dine and enjoy the

Fast facts about **Social Security**

When you think of Social Security, you probably think about a monthly payment for retired and disabled workers. Social Security has a rich history full of interesting facts. The program has been around for almost 75 years, so there has been ample time to put together a list of fun facts and

Social Security paid benefits to about 55.8 million people in 2008. Fifty-six percent of adult beneficiaries were

Here is some trivia about wages over the past few years. In 2007, the average annual wage was \$40,405. In 2008, it went up to \$41,679 (estimated) and in 2009, the average wage was \$42,041 (estimated). Looking at the average wages, it's plain to see how easy it is to reach your full Social Security credit each year. For example, in 2009, a wage-earner needed to earn and pay taxes on \$4,360 of wages to earn the full four credits of Social Security coverage for the year.

Social Security is the major source of income (providing at least 50 percent of total income) for 53 percent of aged beneficiary couples and 73 percent of aged single beneficiaries. Social Security makes up 90 percent or more of income for 21 percent of aged beneficiary couples and 44 percent of aged single beneficiaries.

Then there's Supplemental Security Income (SSI), a program that provides income to needy people aged 65 or older, or who are blind or disabled. Payments under SSI began in January 1974, with 3.2 million people receiving federally administered payments. As of December 2008, the number of recipients was 7.5 million.

To learn more, read our online publication Fast Facts and Figures About Social Security, 2009 at www.socialsecurity. gov/policy/docs/chartbooks/fast_facts

Vonda VanTil is the public affairs specialist for West Michigan. You can write her c/o Social Security Administration, 50 College SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 or via email at vonda.vantil@ssa.gov

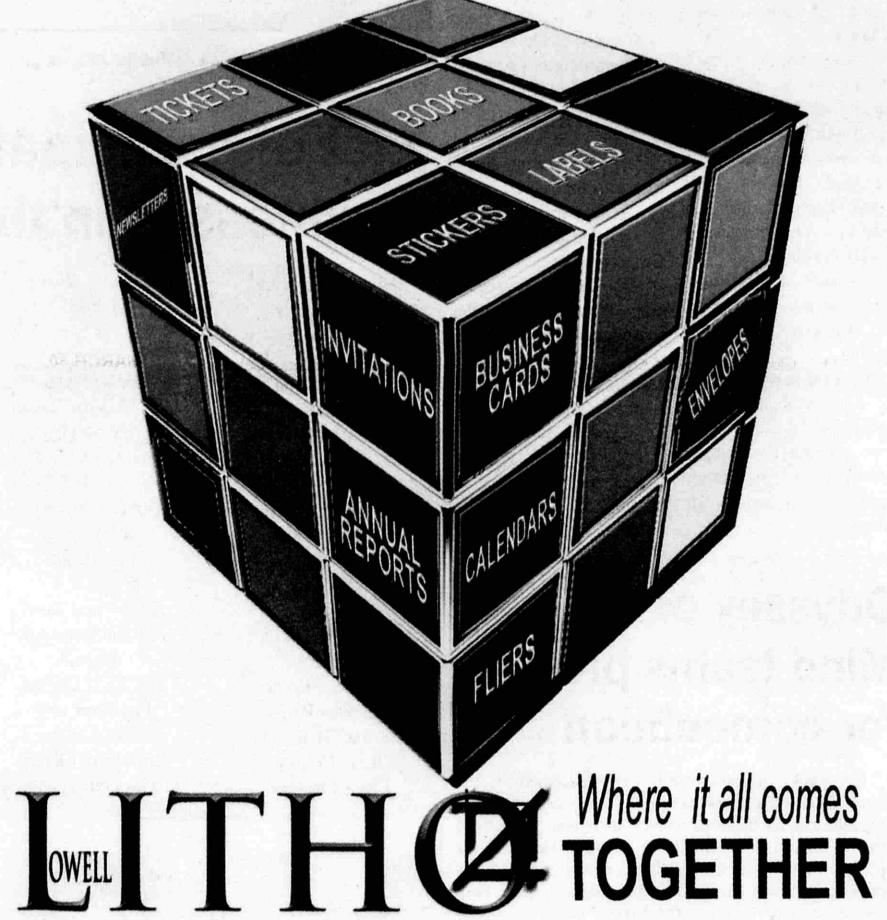
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Building trolls for business, part of marketing

replacement project.

Lowell Chamber of Commerce will talked about "Troll Project" at this year's Expo at noon.

The "Troll Project" while it is being torn up with construction.

chamber board Cliff Yankovich

The signed up bridge investors have each put in \$50 a month for a six month period. The deadline to enter is March 31.

bucks," said Yankovich.

Anytime shoppers do business at the participating merchants between April 5 and October 1, they can enter to win bridge bucks in be available at the Expo and weekly drawings.

In addition to retailers, insurance agencies and businesses like Arctic Heating & Cooling participating as well.

And what about the trolls? Well the trolls will serve as tool to keep people interested in supporting businesses in downtown Lowell.

Businesses along M-21 have adopted trolls and Lowell High School art students made some trolls from paper mache.

Each business will have

A troll drop is plan ned for Saturday, April 17 "The goal is to have \$200 worth of bridge bucks

Springrove Variety found

Yellow hard hats will

There will be weekly progress meetings during the construction at the Chamber of Commerce building every Thursday from 1 to 2:30pm beginning March 25th. Bring your questions.

Odyssey of the Mind teams prepare for competition



Cherry Creek and Murray Lake students, left to right: Braydon Schramm, Jacob Holmes, Abigail Kastanek, Maria DeCator, Katrina Droski, Shannon Hoekstra and Logan Smith.

More trolls were built this Saturday in a troll building marathon held at

their very own personalized troll with a mischievous troll story like the story of the Hanger troll divaDaisy, who likes to talk too much on her cell phone. She carries a purse with her cell phone

at the fairgrounds. Along with trolls, candy bars and will be dropped from Greg VanStrein's paraglider.

Mike Sprenger of 250 trolls for the troll drop.

The latest tally of

participating businesses in the troll project is 55. Here Hardware Jewelry

Last week, ten teams from Lowell Area Schools met at Cherry Creek Elementary to show off their creativity in a dress rehearsal for their upcoming competition. The Lowell teams will travel to Greenville on Saturday, March 20 for the Region 13 Odyssey of the Mind Competition. The teams will perform a long term performance that they have been working on since October. The Lowell teams have been working on long term performances that include a humorous performance about a surprise party for something that is not usually celebrated, an original performance that portrays the discovery of two archeological treasures, a humorous performance where a food item is accused of being unhealthy and must defend itself among its food peers, and a series of aircraft that will complete a variety of flight plans. On the day of competition, the teams will also be judged on how well they solve a spontaneous problem.



Preparing for their "FOOD COURT" are Alto students, front row, left to right: Connor Smithee and Eric Judd; back row, left to right: Steven Tripp, AJ Brandt, Robin Schultz, Sydney Tripp, and Erin



Liz Baker and Jessica Galusha rebuild and build trolls for businesses participating in the Troll

List of participating businesses in the Troll Project

Advanced Eyecare Professionals **AIC Insurance Services** All Weather Seal Alliance Financial and

Insurance Arctic Inc. Heating & Backwater Café Ball's Softee Crème Bernard's Ace Canfield Plumbing & Heating Inc. Chimera Design Fine

Collector's Korner Computer Rehab Cousins' Hallmark/ River Hollow **Curtis Cleaners**

Curves for Women-Lowell D & L Tax Service & Bookkeeping Daisy Floral Dery Physical Therapy Services PC Digital Image Signs & Graphics **Dovetail Antiques**

Friends of the

Englehardt Library

Gary's Country Meats

Edward Jones Investments eja` Salon, Inc. Fifth Third Bank Fire and Water Art! Firstbank Flat River Cottage Flat River Grill

Hearthstone Design Studio, LLC Hunan Garden's La Te Da's Hu sntington Bank Keiser's King Milling Company L.A. Trim

Glass House Designs

Harding Enterprises

Larkin's Fine Food & Cocktails Commerce Lowell Area Historical Museum Lowell Beer Store

Lowell Showboat Garden

Club

Modern Photographics Nightforest Jewelry Pep Talk River Valley Credit Rookies Sportcards Plus Salon 206 **Showboat Automotive** Sneaker's

Springrove Variety

The Hanger

YMCA - Lowell

James E. Reagan D.D.S. Lowell Area Arts Council Lowell Area Chamber of

For weekly updates go to Cliff Yankovich bridge blog at the chamber web site www.lowellchamber.



Dancing to their chicken rap in their "FOOD COURT" are Murray Lake students, front row, left to right: Thomas Hubert, John Russell, and Tim Baerwalde; back row, left to right: Angie Baerwalde, Brianna Roest, Isabelle Fleszar and Alyssa Roest.



Images from Haiti, two months after the earthquake



Signs of spring

In spite of last Saturday's light snowfall, spring is finally here. The signs of spring are all around. Some spring sightings include white and purple crocuses in front of the Post Office, a gorgeous male duck swimming in the flood waters of the Grand River, birds feeding in bird feeders, irises peeking out of the ground, fishermen back out on Murray Lake, and people out and about basking in the spring sun. The spring, or the March, equinox marks the end of winter days. On the March equinox, the day and daylight and 12 hours of darkness. This is because the sun is exactly vertical above the Equator.



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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 2 to 8 p.m.

and is available by appointment only. To register, or to see if your family is eligible, please call 897-8260.

Wade named **Volunteer of the Month**

Tammy Wade was named Murray Lake's Volunteer of the Month for February. Wade is a parent of Justin, a second grader, and John, a fifth grader, at Murray

Wade was nominated by several staff members. She can be seen frequently throughout the building helping out. Her biggest contribution to Murray Lake is running the school's book fair twice a year. "Tammy has been doing our Book Fair for a few years now. She does an outstanding job with this. She puts in countless



Pictured is Tammy Wade with her sons, John and Justin.

hours toward our book fair," commented Lowell Area Schools' Media Center Coordinator Christine Beachler.

"I really enjoy working the book fair. It is so neat to see the kids get so excited to pick out a book. I feel fortunate to be able to help out at Murray Lake. It is such a great school that is filled with such positive teachers and staff. I am honored to be nominated for this award.

Wade and her husband John run two small businesses that keep both of them quite busy. Wade tries to squeeze in volunteer time at the school whenever she can.



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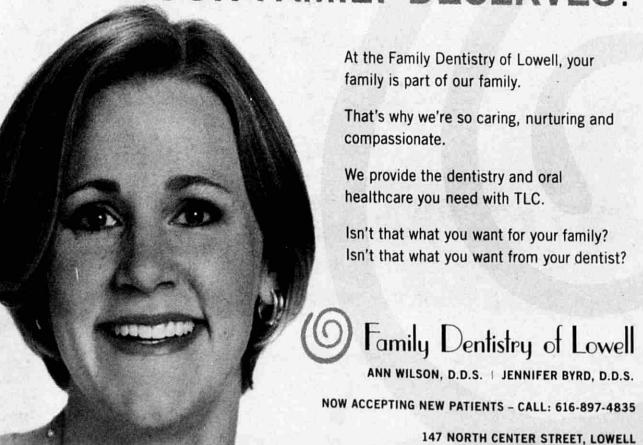
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Ski season and ice fishing are behind us and signs of spring are everywhere if one looks close enough. Buds are popping out on trees, and the sound and smell of spring is in the air. Just in case winter went by too quickly for you, there's good news — rabbit hunting season is open through March 31.

Rabbits can be hunted by busting through dense cover and kicking brush piles or moving slowly while intently looking for a black eyeball or a motionless brown form. Hunting jackrabbits and cottontails with beagles is a

longtime tradition for many hunting families in Michigan. When the little hounds cut a fresh track they are off and running. The dogs yip and howl as they attempt to stay on the trail. The rabbit generally runs in a large circle, sometimes making short detours to fool the dogs, before eventually returning to the area where the chase began. Getting a look at the rabbit is a matter of posting somewhere in the loop while absorbing the ambiance of the swamp or woods and enjoying the music of enthusiastic hounds.

Deep snow in late winter made it tough going for the short-legged beagles, but conditions are now favorable for the dogs to run quickly through the brush and brambles. My beagle, Andy, has been bugging me about getting out and chasing cottontails. I had been ignoring his pleas and spent lot of time on a series of non-productive fishing trips before

the ice went bad. Most of the snow has disappeared now and rabbits should be spending warmer days hanging out on south facing hillsides.

With time growing short, Andy and I are hoping for a cold snap and a dusting of new snow. (Sorry about that.) If that doesn't happen, we will go anyway because this will be our last chance to get out one more time.

Rabbits have been scarce where we hunt. There are coyofes in the area, therefore we may be in competition with other predators. So, don't let Andy know that I will pretend not to spot the rabbit if one passes by my stand, thus giving the bunny a chance to hole-up somewhere. That way we can all do it again another day. Besides, turkey season is coming up soon and there is still a package or two of venison in the

Cater, Colleen; Chapdelaine,

Alexandra; Chapin, Tess;

Chumney, Brendan; Clark,

Jay; Clay, Mitchell; Cook,

Amber: Cornell, Emily:

Corner, Alexus; Cornish,

Coxon, Kennedy:

Kailee; Dean,

Curtis,

Maxwell; DeHaan, Lauren;

Diamond, Zachary; Doane,

Margaret; Downing, Abigail;

Doyle, Caitlin; Draigh,

Hannah; Erhardt, Anthony;

Everitt, Justin; Fallstrom.

Hanna; Fife, Ann; Fron,

Danielle; Garcia, Alexia;

Gauck, Caitlyn; Gee, Megan;

Austin; Gordon, Zachary;

Gorman, Shannon; Grieves,

Veronica; Hale, Riley;

Hankiewicz, Andrew; Hart,

Louis; Hays, Jacob; Higgins,

Nickolas; Hindley, Rachel;

Hoekstra, Dirk; Hoevenaar,

Tayler; Hofman, Megan;

Holzhueter, Katie; Hoofman,

Jacob; Hovey, Todd; Jacobs,

Kelliann; Johnson, Chloe;

Johnson, Jessica: Johnson,

Jocelyn; Judd, Emily:

Kaczanowski, Bethany; Klap,

Dallas; Krajewski, Danielle;

Kyburz, Nathen; Lambert,

Hannah; Launer, Montana;

Laux, Jared; Leasure, Mary;

LeBarre, Cole; Lee, Andrew:

Lehman, Nicole: Limmex.

Nathan; Longway, Newton:

Mahalic, Thomas; Mankel,

Mata, Selena; McCormick,

Dylan; Mason,

Gibas,

Nathan; Goos,

Someone had to say it!

The wild ride known as the NCAA men's basketbal tournament certainly rolled out plenty of excitement and

Three double digit seeds advanced to the sweet

I wrote last week that the Izzo effect is dead because the Spartans were not that good. Looks as though I was hasty with my proclamation of MSU's demise.

The Spartans won two close games and now face Northern Iowa in the sweet 16. I'm now thinking there is a good chance we will see MSU in the elite eight.

However, Northern Iowa is the team that beat the tournament's top seed, Kansas.

Of the teams advancing, I'd say Kentucky, Duke, Syracuse and Cornell look like the goods. How a team plays in round one and two is no indication as to how they may play on Thursday or Friday.

Two of those teams, Kentucky and Cornell, will face off against one another.

The double digit seeds still alive are Cornell, Washington and Saint Mary's.

As for the Bracket Brigade contest, there were 33 entries (including mine).

Grab a hold of your seat, 19 of the 32 entries have higher scores than me after the first two rounds. Only those who finish with a higher score than I have a shot at the \$35 gift certificate to Larkin's.

Here is the list of the scores (first names only):

Mary JO 45	Cheri 44	
Daniel D. 44	Tim 43	
Chris V. 43	Tony 41	
Bill 41	Don 40	
Tyler 40	Kyle 40	
Jack 40	Shawn 40	
Marilyn 40	Andy 39	
Josh 39	Cristina 39	
Mason 39	Dan 39	
Mark 38	Terry 38	
Jéff 38	Dirk 37	
Landon 37	Alex 37	
Derek 37	Cats 37	
THAD 35	Chris G. 35	
Chris V. 35	Logan 34	
Craig 34	Dale 32	
Vavin 20		

If you find yourself below the Thad line, don't despair, the next three rounds of games are worth four (sweet 16), eight (elite eight), 16 (final four) and 32 (championship)



Trimester middle school honor roll

6TH GRADE Aalsburg, Maya: Anes. Justine: Bancroft, Riley. Jessica; Basinger, Kenneth; Bates, Ethan; Bell, Bishop, Logan; Amanda; Briggs, Lauren; Brzezniak, Jared; Buckius, Avery; Buechler, Timothy; Campbell, Ethan; Chappell, Alina; Coble, Elle; Commire, Grace; Cooke, Jack; Copeyon, Logan; Dean, Zeth; Dec, Sarah; Delgado, Veronica; Depew, Bradly; DeWaard, Austin; Dickson, Billy; Dickson, Elizabeth; Doane, Tyler; Domanski,

Winter Guard

Almost Home and Exit 52 competed in the Interplay

Almost Home performed in flag line class and

Exit 52 received second place, scoring 71.5 points

Both teams will compete next week in the MCGC

Guard championships at Saginaw Valley State University

Last year Exit 52 received top honors and came home

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received third place, only 1.7 points behind second place,

ompetition in Grand Blanc on Saturday, March 20.

only 1.9 points behind first place, Lake Shore Aria.

competes

Reeths Puffer Green.

with the State championship.

Jennifer; Grim, Kellen; Gustafson, Autumn; Harper, Cameron; Hendrick, Justin; Justin; Holloway, Maranda; Huber, Lance; Hull, Talitha; Huver, McKenzie; Igel, Austin; Islamcevic, Haris; Jakubiak, Aaron; Kaminski, Madison; Reece; Kelley, Kline, Joseph; Kloosterman, Kole, Kayla; Kopecek, Kalie; Kayleigh; Duvernay, Hannah; Laird, Allyson; Lavallee, Reed, Elaine; Regenold, Kiah; Litchfield, Anna; Majinska, Maxwell; Mankel, Fallstrom, Levi; Fisk, Kaleb; Kyle; Marks, Adam; Marks, Fox, Rachel; Frederickson, Alexis: Gable, Eric; Gaskin, Marilla; Massey, Brianna;

Massey, Derek; Maughan, Austin; Grover, Kyrsten; Mayhew, Sarah; McGee, Collin; Greta; Haefner, Katie; Bryndal; McQueen, Jennifer; Haehnel, Brandon; Hamilton, Merritt, Zachary; Mexicano, Diana; Meyer, Jordan; Havlik, Jessica; Hemingsen, Mierendorf, Evan; Miller, Elizabeth; Misiak, Mason; Hessler, Ryan; Higley, Ki; Mixon, Jordan; Mongar, Raeanna; Moomau, Aleecea; Mooney, Allison; Morris Ellinor; Murley, Karson: Mutschler, Shelby; Nauta, Garrett; Nies, Abigail; Noskey, Carter; Olesko, Sawyer; Paiz, Alexander; Cole; Khodl, Megan; King, Pallottini, Ashton; Paulus, Frances; Kinsley, Joshua; Brendan; Pearson, Brendan; Petersen, Kenneth; Peterson, Nicholas; Kloosterman, Sara; Liam; Petrovich, Samantha; Koster, Mallory; Kramer, Jocelyn; Pollock, Anthony; Hunter; Kruse, Daniel; Propst, Logan; Rasch, Mark; Cody; Leake, Aubrey; Lee, Logan; Richards, Brittany; Roest, Schuitema, Sara; Jacob; Gabriel; Steffen, Katie; Thalison, Jamie-Lynn; Micaela; Courtney;

Philo, Cameron; Polinskey, Richardson, Tess; Ritchie, Roberts, Skielynne; Rodgers, KaRaeFreeman: Schoon, Douglas: Samantha; Senneker, Karen; Serbenta, Ashley; Shurlow, Kyle; Smith, Madison: Stevens, Rvan: Stormzand Andrew; Sutton, Havden; Timmerman, Devan; Urban, VanderMark Kenneth; VanEnk, Morgan; VanLaan, Breanna; Vescolani, Isabella; Warning, Calvin; Washburn, Kyle; Watson, Courtney; Webster, Amanda; Weed, Douglas; Donelle; Wester, Whitsett, Brian; Wilterdink Morgan; Worsley, Christian; Yates, North; Ysasi, Alysia; Ziomkowski, Mallory.

7TH GRADE

Alderink, Annable, Allison; Barber, Maxwell; Barnes, Bazen, Rachel; Bigham, Bladey, Blattner, Nathan; Blough Bonney, Michael; Boulton. Santana; Bozman, Mikayla; Branagan, Josh; Breimayer, Riley: Briggs. Bronkella, Laurel; Buechler, Joshua; Bush,

Carter; McGlamery, Marissa; McLane, Emma; McQueen, Tara; Meade, Jillian; Milks. Haley; Milstead, Matthew; Misiak, Esme; Mokma, HeavenLeigh; Montgomery, Kathryn; Moore, Sage: Landon: Newhouse, Brooke; Nolan, Kristen; Norder, Anna; Samuel; Oesch Breanna; Onan, Courtney; Onan, Daniel; Onan, Hannah; Organek, Anna; Passeno, Robin; Patterson, Nicholas; Peterson, Anna; Polsgrove, Jacob; Potter, Kyle; Price, Jason; Quiggle, Grace; Read, Colin; Reed, Parker; Reynolds, Anna; Rich. Breana; Rife, Adrienne; Rife, Austin; Ritchie, Zachary; Roberts, Jonathan; Robinson, Francesca; Rood, Morgan; Rose, David; Ross, Alexia: Russell, Victoria; Schaafsma, Madalin; Schmidt, Jesse; Schmidt, Samuel; Schreur, Rebecca; Schultz, Robert; Serne, Caitlyn; Sheldon. Krystal; Skibbe, Hannah: Smith, Logan; Spencer,

obituaries

BROWER

Lucille "Lucy" Brower, aged 87, of Lowell, went to be with her Lord on Monday, March 1, 2010. Lucy was a bright and unique spirit who made everyone laugh. She will be missed by many. A memorial service was held at the O'Brien-Eggebeen-Gerst Chapel on Saturday, March 20. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the March of Dimes.



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of

to

49525, died 9/13/2009.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE

Creditors

the

CREDITORS:

NOTICE LEGAL

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

NOTICE TO **CREDITORS Decedent's Estate**

File No. 10-188-080-DE

Estate of STACY **WEBB AHEARN. Date** of birth: 5/21/1917

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE **CREDITORS:** The decedent, STACYWEBB forever barred unless AHEARN, who lived at presented 13385 Burroughs Street, STAEVEN, Lowell, Michigan died 2/14/2009.

decedent are notified that all claims against NW. Suite 2500, Grand be Rapids, MI 49503 and forever barred unless the named/proposed presented to LINDA AHEARN, named personal representative the date of publication or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave. John D. Flynn (P27413) NW, Suite 2500, Grand 1275 Hawthorne Hills Rapids, MI 49503 and SE the named/proposed Ada, MI 49301 personal representative 616-897-6632 within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

3/19/2010 Grand Rapids, MI 49525

6440 East Fulton Street Suite 201 Ada, MI 49301 616-676-3850

Terry E. Heiss (P36687)

Linda Ahearn 13403 Burroughs Street Lowell, MI 49331 616-897-0326

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

File No. 10-188-184-DH

Levin, continued

could make the difference between making new hires or holding back when companies analyze the costs and benefits of boosting their payrolls. It allows businesses to write off investments more quickly, saving them tax expenses and freeing up more money for payrolls.

"ledger

The bill also includes funding for important highway programs, and it continues the Build America Bonds program, which Michigan schools and local governments have used to finance more than \$1 billion in investments These two programs will help provide important public infrastructure while keeping construction workers on the

When we send the American Workers, State, and Business Relief Act to the president, we will make additional progress. Significantly for Michigan, this legislation will extend unemployment and COBRA health insurance benefits until the end of this year. We have passed a series of shortterm extensions of these programs, but extensions of only a few weeks have left families worrying that their benefits will soon expire. This lifeline will help families keep food on the table and shelter overhead.

We will also extend a number of provisions giving tax relief to businesses, freeing up more resources they can use

to retain or add workers. And we will continue offering expanded aid to state Medicaid programs. The economic crisis means more people are drawing Medicaid benefits, at the same time that states are facing tremendous budget

Michigan small businesses are struggling to get access to the credit they need. Even businesses with good credit records and plenty of customers often can't get the capital they have traditionally relied upon to operate. One of the big problems is that, just as the value of our houses have declined, so has the value of business property and equipment. That means businesses have less to offer as collateral when they apply for loans, sharply restricting their access to credit. If we tackle this problem in the coming weeks, we can make a big difference in businesses' ability to keep and add workers.

The fight to restore opportunity for every American to make a living will not be easy. The economic crisis hit us like a hurricane, and just like a hurricane, the cleanup will last longer than the storm. But working families need us to act, and act quickly. Each step we can take to restore jobs will be an important step in giving every American worker the opportunity they deserve.

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

Isobel;

Honor roll, continued

Brendan; Stanton, Dylan; Stark, Sean; Steiner, Jessica; Sterly, Colleen; Sterzick, Marissa; Stewart, Bethany; Stiles, Mackenzie; Stowell, Connor; Strawser, Mitchell; Striplin, Desiree; Stump, Catherine; Swartz, Samantha; Tarchala, Ryan; Tawney, Lydia; Taylor, Calib; Taylor, Morgan; Thomas, Jace; Thompson, Anna; Towns-

Logan; Spencer, Bull, Naomi; VanAmburgh, VandeKopple, Bailey: Gavin; VanderLaan, Ashley; VanNoord, Collin; Velting, Clayton; Viviano, Alexander; Vulpetti, Morgan; Warner, Brice: Weaver, Rebecca; Wester, Maxwell: Wetherbee. Philip; Whaley, Danielle; White, Gabriel; Wilcox, Logan; Wilson, Paige; Wilterdink, Chase; Winchell,

LAWSON and TRACEY LAWSON

whose address(es) are unknown and whose interestinthemattermay be barred or affected by the following:

hearing will be held on April 15, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. at 180 Ottawa NW. Grand Rapids, MI 49503 before Judge David Murkowski (P35026) for the following purpose:

to grant personal representative powers **Budden-Bronskink**

John D. Flynn (P27413) STATE OF MICHIGAN 1275 Hawthorne Hills PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT Ada, MI 49301 CIRCUIT COURT -

STATE OF MICHIGAN

PROBATE COURT

COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO

CREDITORS

Decedent's Estate

FAMILY DIVISION Julie Budden-Bronsink PO Box 208 **PUBLICATION OF** Macatawa, MI of this notice. NOTICE OF HEARING 49434616-554-9594

File No. 87-145588-CA

In the matter of: CHARLES LAWSON

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including:*

KELSEY LARSON. SALLY SPYKERMAN. PEGGY ECKERT, HEIDI File No. 10-188-204-DE

JOHN SPRUIT. Date of birth: 8/20/1926. TO ALL CREDITORS:

Estate of WILLIAM

NOTICE CREDITORS: WILLIAM decedent, TAKE NOTICE: A JOHN SPRUIT, who lived at 349 York View Lane NW, Comstock Park, Michigan, died 2/13/2010.

> Creditors of decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to FREDERICK SPRUIT, named personal representative proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave. NW. Suite 2500, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication

3/17/2010 John D. Flynn (P27413) 1275 Hawthorne Hills SE Ada, MI 49301

616-897-6632

Frederick Spruit 1451 Winslow NW Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Hunter; Winogrocki, Mark; Woodworth, Coryn; Woody, Rachel; Worst, Sydney; Yomtoob, Rachael; Yost, Anthony; Ziegler, Morgan.

> 8TH GRADE Alberts,

Anderson, Kelvin; Anderson,

Sidney; Anible, Michael: Antel, Shelby; Ashenbremer, Kiersten; Baker, Lauren; Barton, Nickolas; Bauman, Devin; Zachary; Beachler, Kortney; Catherine; Menzel, Joshua; Joshua; Beers, Metternick, Dominic: Bergin, Connor: Mitchell, Carl: Mohr, Athena: Bertone-Haywood, Patrick; Moody, William; Mullin, Bieri, Benjamin; Bitely, Ashley; Nelson, Hannah; Niemeier, Bladey, Kaeziah; Blake, Micah; North, Michael; Blanchard, Lauren; Oesch, Sarah; Paffhausen, Blattner, Brie; Blough, Emily; Page, Brooke; Paiz, Emmalee; Blough, Kyle; Mallory; Perkins, Morgan; Bocskey, Alexia; Borton, Perry, Paige; Petersen, Hayleigh; Botma, Kailey; Jacob; Peterson, Benjamin; Dylan; Brubaker, Travis; Tonya; Platz, Christopher; Canfield, Katherine; Carey, Meghan; Poll, Jacob; Pomper, Taylor; Carvajal, Blythe; Keaton; Proefke, Nicholas; Chapman, Makela; Chappel, Ritsema, Sean; Roberts, Sarah; Churches, Hannah; Bailey; Rozell, Paige; Sage, Churches, Levi; Creighton, Samantha; Saunders, Jenna; Brock; Cummings, Abigail; Cupp, Jason; Damian, Raul; Senneker, Brett; Sheldon, Darby, Alyssa; Davies, Sarah; Sherrill, Austin; Kayleigh; Davis, Justin; Shurlow, Kyler; Simmons, Dean, Kanon; DeBoer, Jackson; Sirowatka, Austin; Luke; Decker, Kaelobb; DenBraven, Ryan; DeVito, Nicholas; Walker, William; Dlouhy, Smith, Carl; Smith, Karah; Alexander; Donselar, Kerri; Smith, Michelle; Smith, Dubisky, Allysen; Duma, Nicholas; Smoes, Tyler; Erin; Duma, Isaac; Engels, Sova, Rachel; Spaulding, Hunter; Everhart, Max; Kourtney; Speck, Cassandra; Falkenstern, Madeline; Stadt, Madison; Starkey, Fitzpatrick, Hannah; Flentje, Danielle; Starkey, Michelle; Caleb; Flier, Cassandra; Stasiak, Hailey; Steed, Fogarty-Thomas, Michael; Aubreigh; Stehley, Garett; Fotis, Zachary; Fox, Sydney; Stephens, Jacob; Stoffers, Frederickson, Makenzie; Forrest; Stormzand, Ashlee; Fuller, Morgan; Garter, Tyler; Strzyzewski, Gordon, Garrett; Graves, Summerfield, Quinn; Sweet, Jessica; Griffioen, Michelle; Jacob; Taylor, Trevor; Groendyke, Morgan; Groom, Theisen, Joshua; Tremblay, Parker; Grover, Noel; Haan, Kathryn; Haehnel, Scott; Hale, Paige; Harris, VanTil, Evelyn; Walters, Taylare; Hayden, Charlotte; Rachael; Walters, Ryan; Heikkila, Brittney; Helpap, Madyson; Hess, Nicholas; Thaddeus; Hewett, Mackenzie; Holmes, Madelynn; Wise, Cuerstan; Madison; Houston, Jeffrey; Wold, Kaylee; Woodman,

Kenya; Kaminski, Alex; Yuhas, Katelyn.

Kaywood, Zachary; Kazen, Jordan; Kelley, Liam; King, Jordan; Kloosterman, Luke; Krajewski, Derek; Kramer, Mallory; Krebill, Austin; Landheer, Brianna; Larson, Tristan; Lazar, Matthew; Ligman, Matthew: Lubbers. Lubitz, Vanessa; Ryan; Lytle, Jordan; Majinska, Catherine; Marsman, Robert; Martin, Brittany: Martin, John; McBride, Brianna; Alyssa; McCready. Kennedy: McKenna, Paige; McKinney, McNaughton, Austin; Bigham, Kelsey; Murray, Sarah; Brittany; Bray, Peterson, Chase; Peterson, Brenner, Isaac; Grant; Petrovich, Steven; Randal; Brower, Phelps, Rachel; Phillips, Richard; Plunkett, Jacob; Plutschouw, Selli, Cody; Sellner, Casey; Sirowatka, Christian: Slaktoski, Mark; Slupe, Dewhurst- McKenzie; Smelt, Julia; Brandon; Alexandra; VandenBerg, Marc; vanOverbeek, Sydney; White, Garret; Whorley, Willemstein. Inda, Grace; Jack, Bailey; Alexander; Jahnke, Zachary; Jones, Jonathan; Young, Shelby;

for rent

FREE AD! - Place & pay for classified 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@lowell buyersguide.com, Lowell.

for sale

wednesday • march • 24 • 2010

office hours:

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

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

closed Sat. & Sun.

Ph. 897-9261. BUNKBEDS - All new. 58 models, wood, metal or futon, \$199 & up. Also sofa beds, daybeds & futons. RCD Wholesale, 682-4767 or 293-5188. Can deliver.

ANTIQUE SHOW - March 27 & 28, Barry County Fairgrounds. A large variety of antiques. Show located on M-37 South of Middleville. Sat., 9-5 p.m. & Sun. 10-3

FOR SALE - Freezer beef. from small family farm. Grain fed, \$1.60 lb. hanging weight + processing. Ca 897-6754.

BLUEBIRD SCOUTS ARE ON THE WAY! - Welcome them back to a fresh new bluebird house. Also easy hang wren houses, bat houses, squirrel feeders & bird feeders. Get them before they're gone at Bob's 12th Annual Spring Birdhouse Sale, 12279 60th St., Alto, 868-6633.

2.85 ACRES - 2601 Alder Nash. Ideal building site rolling, partially wooded near the Lowell Township offices. Call Dan, 856-9100 Continental Realty. 2008 KYMCO PEOPLE 50

SCOOTER-49cc excellent condition, windscreen, storage box, 45 mph, 70 mpg 600 miles. Call 897-7724. HAY - 1st cutting, \$3 per

bale; 2nd & 3rd cutting. \$3.50 per bale. Straw, \$2 per bale. 616-889-3311. FOR SALE - 5 mos. old white iron bed w/king mat-

tress: dinette set, table

& 4 chairs. Call 616-350-

MATTRESSES - New. Twin set, \$100; full, \$125; Queen, \$150; king, \$175. 8303.TEN Pillowtop sets starting at \$175. Waterbed mattress. \$60 & up. 682-4767 or 293-5188.

KEY CARDS STILL AVAILABLE AT THE LOWELL LEDGER

Only \$15 Support the Lowell Academ Boosters & Save Money! 105 N. Broadway, Lowell Cash or check only please.

wanted

LOOKING FOR WORK - Lowell area. I love the elderly & handicapped. Am willing to run errands, like post office or food shopping, clean houses or keep someone company. I have experience in them all. Ask for Lona 897-1194.

FREE BEAGLE/MIX - to MUIR/IONIAAREA-3bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage, the right family. She is 9 vear old, up-to-date shots, full walkout basement, 3/4 acre. Rent w/option, \$800+. license, etc. No calls after 520-742-7706. 8 p.m., 868-5287

1ST MONTH FREE - Pebble Beach Lakefront Apts. Starting at \$540, utilities & carport included, EE. The best apartment value in Lowell. 897-6880.

LOWELL MOBILE HOME PARK - Under new management. Nice 1, 2 & 3 pedroom trailers for rent. Rent from \$350-\$550. For info call George at 616-754-0276 or 616-813-8041.TEN

FOR RENT - House on Murray Lake, 1 bedroom no pets, quiet, serene setting on the lake. References required. \$700/mo. + utilities. Call 897-7347.

PRICELESS STOR-AGE - Indoor/outdoor. New Units on Alden Nash, 1 mile South of 196. Call for specials 558-2900.

BIRCHWOOD GARDEN APARTMENTS - 765 Hunt St., Lowell, MI, between Foreman & Lincoln Lake. Offering 1 & 2 bedroom apartments. Rent based on income for those who qualify. Professionally managed by Medallion Management Inc. www.medallionmgmt. com Financed by Rural Development Housing This institution is an equal housing opportunity provider. 616-897-8049 TTY: 1-800-649-3777 Equal Housing Opportunity & Barrier Free Units.

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

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-

lost

STILL VANISHED! -Blackie, an all black, long-haried male, 2 1/2 year old cat w/BRIGHT vellow eyes. Last seen 10/28/09 on Ryan Ridge/ Alden Nash SE, South of Lowell near twp. offices. ANY INFO - please call 897-8385. REWARD!

MISSING DOGS - Tan female Pomeranian & black/white male Blue Heeler missing from the Hotchkiss Rd. area about 10 minutes Southeast of Lowell between Ware Rd. & Peck Lake Rd. REWARD. Please call 616-240-6053 or 616-821-6311.

SOUND OFF PHONE LINE 897-0787.

free

misc.

LAST CHANCE - to signup for spring soccer with LASSO. Boys or girls. Call Bob 616-990-2995 by

DIGITAL IMAGE - Randy congratulations on your new home. Thanks for the business. Joice Smith

FOOD DISTRIBUTION at Lakeside Community Church, 6201 Whitneyville Rd. Free frozen & perishable food. First Friday. Registration 2:30. distribution 4:00. Bring own containers.

services

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

services

HOME REPAIR - Cabinet work, laminate, countertops, woodwork, drywall power washing & exterior spray painting. Ron Anderson Woodworking & Const., 430-8511.

BURIED IN DEBT? We can help. Financial wellness begins with a plan designed by you; not your creditors. Davis Legal Advocates of

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

Lowell. 897-7010.

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

PROFESSIONAL TREE CLIMBER NEEDS WORK Fully insured. Removals, trims, chipping, stump grinding. Call Dan for free estimate at 616-970-

services

INCOME TAX PREPARA-TION - in your home starting at \$29. Electronic filing, direct deposit available. Wil come to you. 856-9100. Continental Tax Service.

NEED A DUMP STER? - Dudlev's Dumpsters. Dumpsters priced to get rid of your trash & save you cash! Garage. attic, household cleanup, roofing, trash, junk etc. 14 to 20 yards available. Call for free estimates. Contact

Doug 616-295-6640. NEED YOUR HOUSE OR **BUSINESS CLEANED?** - call us, the girls you can trust, S&ACleaning, we are insured, 616-835-3392.

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

services

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

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

card of thanks

THE FAMILY OF ISOBEL (RAYMOR) EDWARDS would like to thank friends and family for the cards and flowers sent and the kindness shown at the time of her passing. The lovely care given to Isobel at Metron of Belding and the nice lucheon served at Alto American Legion is greatly appreciated.

Isobel's Family of Several nieces and nephews & great-neices & nephews

are for non-profit organizations. Tweens & teens (ages 10 & up), - Wednesdays at LAAC 2-4 p.m. CASCADE, LOWELL - 2nd They are ran on a space available Wed., May 5, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the New members welcome. basis & are not guaranteed to run. Englehardt Library. Participants If you would like to make sure will view anime films, discuss your event is placed in the paper, anime & Japanese culture. Replease call our office & place it as a freshments & door prizes. 200 N. classified ad. All Coming Events or Monroe, Lowell. changes to coming events should

N. Broadway, Lowell. those 60 or better. Mon., Wed., Monroe, Lowell. & Fri. at 10 a.m. at the United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main DROP-IN CRAFT TIME - Mon-St., Lowell. Class offered by Senior days, April 5 to 26, 2-4 p.m. For

FOOD PANTRY - at Lakeside Community Church, 6201 Whitneyville Rd. Free frozen, perish- 2nd Tuesday at Schneider Manor able food. First Friday. Registra- Community Rm., 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. tion 2:30, distribution 4 p.m. Bring 897-2760 or 897-9160. own container.

MOMS IN TOUCH INTERNA-TIONAL - 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

MARCH 31 - Winter Reading

Adults/Teens ends today. Get

your 10 punch card filled to enter

the drawing at the Saranac Public SPA NIGHT - Tues., March 30. 5:30 - 7 p.m. Activities include massage, aromatherapy, yoga & health snacks. Gilda's Club, owell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hud-

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

son, Lowell.

be submitted by fax: 897-4809 . PAJAMA STORYTIME - For ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION email: classifieds@lowellbuyers families who can't come to the guide.com, by mail: PO Box 128, library during the day. Offers an Lowell, MI 49331 or in person: 105 evening of stories & fun. Bring your teddy bear; pajamas optional! For 1 p.m. Call 897-8413. children 6 & under w/a caregiver. ENHANCEFITNESS CLASS-An Wed., April 21 & May 19, 6:30 activity program especially for p.m. Englehardt Library, 200 N.

Neighbors, Call 233-0283 for more children 6 & under w/a caregiver. Englehardt Library, 200 N. Mon-

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #7719

DIABETIC SUPPORT GROUP -

- second and fourth Tuesday at St. Mary School, 7:30 p.m.

day and Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at 897-5981. 865 Lincoln Lake, Lowell. Closed AA meetings. Non-smoking. LOWELL AREA TRAILWAY

meets 2nd Wednesday at 6 p.m. at alternate locations. Visit www. lowellareatrailway.org or call Mari

p.m. Lowell First United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main St. (Use west entrance off Jackson St.) 897-7303 for more info.

Wednesday at 11:45 a.m. in Sch- a quarter. 50% payback w/100% neider Manor Community Room. payback hourly specials. Open to 725 Bowes Rd.

PLEASE NOTE - Coming Events SPRING ANIME FESTIVAL - for FLAT RIVER WOOD CARVERS LA LECHE LEAGUE OF ADA

KENT COUNTY YOUTH FAIR

BOARD - 2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. at King Memorial Center at Fairgrounds. 897-6050. OF WEST MICHIGAN - Support

View of Lowell, 11535 E. Fulton, ROYALARCH MASONS - Hooker 7:30 p.m.; dinner at 6:30 p.m.

St., Belding. MICHIGAN HEPATITIS C FOUNday, 7 - 8:30 p.m. at 250 Cherry, Lacks Cancer Center, Grand Library. All ages welcome. Use our

at Masonic Temple, 211 E. Main

Thursday. Kountry Korner of Alto, 6077 Linfield. Call 868-6371.

SARANAC AREA MUSICIANS Practice Thursdays at Saranac High School band room. Choir: 6-7 BACK TO BASICS - every Tues- p.m. Band: 7-8 p.m. Call Kathy at

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

KEEP IT SIMPLE ADDICTIONS SUPPORT GROUP - Socialization & peer support for recovering addicts. Meets every Thursday at ALANON - Wednesdays at 6:30 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Raya building, Contact Charlene, 897-7636 or Carrie,

QUARTER BINGO-2nd Thurs. of LOWELL WOMEN'S CLUB-2nd each month, 1-5 p.m. 2 cards for the public. The Moose Rec Hall, 1320 E. Main St. Sponsored by W.O.T.M. Chapter #1388.

Thurs. 7 p.m. meeting. Support for pregnant/breast-feeding women Church in Ada. 752-8300.

Church, 1070 N. Hudson. New members invited, 1-800-651 GENEALOGY ALTO FAMILY

WEIGHT WATCHERS - Thurs

days at 5:30 p.m. at Impact

TREE CLUB - second Thursday at Alto Library, 2 p.m. Chapter #75, 2nd Wednesday, ADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY - second Saturday of every

month at 10:30 a.m. at the Averill

Historical Museum of Ada, 7144

Headley, Ada. DATION SUPPORT - 1st Thurs- LEGO CONTEST - March 23 from noon-5 p.m. at the Saranac Public

legos or bring your own.

BLUEGRASS JAM - 1st and 3rd LOWELL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - meets the 2nd Saturday at Flat River Outreach Ministries 11535 E. Fulton, 9 a.m. socia gathering; 10 a.m. meeting, LARC sponsors 145.27 MHz area radio

> 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 meet ing 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 MIN-ISTRIES THRIFT STORE - i 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.

repeater system. THE EAST KENT COUNTY



MARCH 17 - MARCH 23

- · Landmark health care reform heads to Obama's desk. President Obama will sign a landmark \$875 billion health care reform bill into law on Tuesday.
- · The Fiat 500 will be the first electric vehicle that Chrysler Group LLC will offer for sale, the automaker announces. An electric version of the car will go on sale in 2012.
- Angry shareholders are the largest group to sue Toyota in the wake of it's recall of 8.5 million vehicles worldwide over sudden acceleration concerns. The suits could cost the automaker billions and are likely to drag on for years.

- · The Supreme Court turns down a second request to immediately close shipping locks to prevent invasive Asian carp from infesting the Great Lakes.
- New York CBS News turns down an interview with Tiger Woods after being told the network would be limited to five minutes of questions.
- Elbert Lewis Thompson, a fugitive wanted in an Oakland County armed robbery, is in custody in Pennsylvania after police say he walked out of a Pittsburgh hospital and into a bar. He was still wearing the hospital gown and the IV needle was still in his arm. He was pulled over after fleeing a traffic stop and was hospitalized after complaining of feeling ill and passing out.
- Northern China had sandstorms blow in over the weekend. Beijing had an air quality index set at Level 5, the most serious, on Saturday. The sand is expected to linger though midweek.
- Minnesota Twins agree to extend Joe Mauer's contract eight years and \$184 million. The deal begins with the 2011 season and extends through 2018. There is also a notrade clause.



Sound Off! The Ledger's

"Almost" anything goes column!

When submitting your opinion to Sound Off!, we ask you to follow a few guidelines.

Sound Off! is meant to be a way for you to compliment or vent your feelings with civility. A healthy way to get something off your chest or spread a little kindness.

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 product or service

So basically, submit anything but not everything will make it to print.

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 The Ledger staff or its publishers.

The Trolls, they came from the U.P., Arrived in Lowell for the first Showboat partee, A day of dancing and song, Here they knew they belonged, In Lowell, The Next Place To Be.

Now Trolls can be misunderstood, Stay hidden they would, if they could, But homes they all need. "Among the 'Byggers'," they plead, And promise, for all this is good.

Lowell High School Robotics Club - congratulations on your success at the Grand Valley robotics competition last weekend earning trophies for Highest Rookie Seed award and Rookie All Star award.

that old furniture... **ADVERTISE** Call 897-8865 IN THE ww.spayneuterexpress.com **CLASSIFIEDS!**

Unload your unwanted items & pick up some quick cash!

One Call Moves It All - 897-9555

There's a better way to move

Buyers Guide Classifieds 20 words for \$6, each additional word is 15¢ Lowell Ledger Classifieds 20 words for \$4, each additional word is 10¢

SPECIAL OFFERS

4 weeks for the price of 3 When ad is placed in both Buyers Guide & Lowell Ledger & paid for in advance! Must mention special to receive discount. Only 1 discount offer per ad.



the lowell dger

105 N. Broadway, Lowell • 897-9555 email: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com



Show COST

LUNCH MENU

ELEMENTARY MENU Week of March 29, 2010

MON: Cheeseburger on bun (yogurt & cracker stackers - ham, cheese, crackers - also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), oven baked French fries, mixed fruit.

TUES: Walking taco w/ lettuce & tomato (tuna sandwich also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), Fritos corn chips/corn. assorted fruit, milk.

WED: Chef Boyardee Ravioli w/cinnamon rol (stacked ham/cheese on bun also offered at Alto. Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), tossed salad/lite dressing, pineapple, milk.

THURS: Cinnamon glazed pancakes or cerea & scrambled eggs, fresh fruit, fruit juice, milk.

FRI: Spring Break begins.

GREG VAN STRIEN HEATING AND PLUMBING

HEATING SERVICE & INSTALLATION AIR CONDITIONING SERVICE & INSTALLATION PLUMBING SERVICE & INSTALLATION WARM AIR/RADIANT HEAT OIL BURNER SERVICE

> (616) 897-5569 Visa And Master Card Accepted

BOWNE TOWNSHIP REQUESTING BIDS NOTICE

Bowne Township is accepting bids for 3 areas needing maintenance of our buildings, specifications are available at the Township Office, 8240 Alden Nash SE, Alto, MI 49302 or by calling 616-868-6846 during regular office hours: Wednesday, Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Deadline April 15, 2010.

Bowne Township Board

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

washed laundry.

writing.

 $B = \bigcirc$

Money Troubles

Louisa's family did not have much money. To help out, Louisa

started taking on as many jobs as a young girl could find. She read for an elderly man and his sister.

Louisa and her sister Anna taught young children and mended and

In 1852, Louisa's first poem was

published in a magazine, and she

Use the code to find out the name

of Louisa's first published poem.

+022020

SECRET CODE

G= L = T =

H= 🕸 N= 🔈 U= 🖸

1 = 🔵 S = 🕂

made her first money from



19 + 7 =

LITTLE

WOMEN

GOOD

WIVES

21 - 9 =

Louisa May Alcott

Louisa May Alcott was born on November 29, 1832. She was the second oldest of four girls. Her love of her sisters helped her to become one of America's most beloved children's book

If she were alive today, how old would she be?

2010 - 1832 =

"Ib l_ve sch__ls sh__ld be a pl_ce wh_r_ ch_ldr_n enj_y rn_ng!

Two of the books below were not written by

Louisa. Do the math and cross out the two with

odd-numbered answers.

18 - 5 =

LITTLE

HOUSE ON

PRAIRIE

LITTLE

MER

12 + 14 =

Responsibility

Though poor themselves,

Louisa's family always tried to

help people who were worse off

than they were. Look through the

newspaper to find a person or

Teacher in the Family

As a child, Louisa and her family moved to Boston, Massachusetts where her father, Amos Alcott, set up a school based upon his beliefs about education.

Put the vowels back in this sentence to find out what Amos Alcott believed about education.

14 + 8 =

JO'S

BOYS

16 - 7 =

Writing Success

In 1855, her first book, Flower Fables was published

In 1862, Louisa went to Washington, D.C. to serve as a Civil War nurse. Like many other nurses, Louisa contracted typhoid fever. Although she got better, mercury in the medicine caused her suffering for the rest of her life. In Washington, Louisa continued to write and published two more books.

Her publisher, Thomas Niles, asked that she write "a girl's story." Having spent her life with three interesting sisters, Louisa wrote Little Women based on her own experiences. The novel, published in 1868, was an instant success. It has now been a favorite book for generations.



Rights for Women

Louisa worked hard to help women get the right to vote. She wrote articles about equality for women and went door-to-door encouraging women to register to vote. In 1879 Alcott became the first woman in

Concord, Mass. to register to vote people you could help. when she cast a ballot for the Standarde Link: Civics: Understand how naracter traits help fulfill personal responsibility village school committee.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

jobs were available to women. Look through

the newspaper and make a list of all of the

Standards Link: Career: Understand general preparation for

Women in the News

training could get today.

Louisa's parents encouraged her to follow her dreams and to hold on to her freedom in life. Her father Amos had very advanced ideas about childhood and education. In fact, many people believe he is the founder of this part of the school day.

Assemble these puzzle pieces to reveal the answer.



Here is an activity to help you find creative writing ideas. For more information go to www.kidscoop.com/kids

Find the words in the puzzle. LOUISA ELDERLY

TYPHOID MERCURY MEDICINE **INSTANT** VOTE BALLOT WORSE **VOWELS** LAUNDRY **POEM FEVER** NOVEL

CAST

Then look for each word in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

BCEYLEVONS TANYRDNUAI NSLAJUOYYE ATLLSVCELW TYPHOIDRRO SPATRTUNEV NOESROWODM IEIREVEFLN GMENICIDEM Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Modern day poet Austin Kleon came up with an idea for creating poetry with a newspaper, a black marker and creativity.

Kid Scoop Together:

Newspaper Blackout

Poetry

Louisa Alcott loved poetry.

She loved to read it and to

Here is an example of a poem he made by clipping an article from the newspaper and crossing out all the words, except for the ones he wanted in his poem:

BEFORE

The home needed extensive refurbishment. Jim Meadows, a local architect, was hired to supervise the project. He designed the award-winning Laurel Street Library in 2003.

Meadows worked with local historian Yolanda Henderson, who said,"Tradition and style were essential on this project.



Make a Newspaper **Blackout Poem**

- Grab a newspaper.
- Grab a marker. Find an article.
- Cross out words, leaving behind the ones you like.
- Pretty soon you'll have

To learn more about Newspaper Blackout poetry, visit:

www.kidscoop.com/kids Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow multiple-step directions.

Kid Scoo-doku

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

L	0	ح		S	A
0	7				
J		4			
S			C		
A				0	
1			1		0

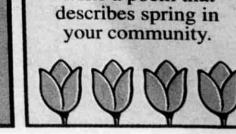
Kid Scoop VOCABULĀRY BUILDERS This week's word: **ENCOURAGE**

The verb encourage means to give support or advice to a person to do something.

My teacher likes to encourage us to keep our backpacks organized.

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

Write On! < **Spring Poems** Write a poem that



by did the waiter put ice fingers in the When Louisa May Alcott was alive, not many Signal Jacianicia jobs a woman with the right experience and ANSWER: She was searching for the right words

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