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wednesday • march • 31 • 2010

issue 25

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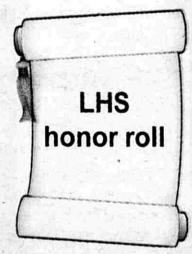
Behin

page 16

treadmill challenge



page 3



page 10



Lowell Community Expo 2010 attracts thousands

by Emma Palova

If a batch of missing ink pens is a gauge of attendance, then Deb Canfield of Canfield Plumbing & Heating can attest that the 2010 Expo was bigger and better than last

"We had 570 ink pens and they're all gone," she said. "We had an excellent turnout."

The Canfield booth had a toilet and a furnace, plus information about new tax credits for furnaces.

"It was definitely bigger than last year," she said. "It was fun to be there."

And Canfield said a lot of the visitors were from different areas, such as Belding and Saranac.

With all the vendor

booth space being sold out, visitors. It was a steady stream of visitors flowing in and out of the Lowell High School last week.

At times, the booths got slammed with so many interested customers that it was impossible to talk to all. Right up front was located the major sponsor of the event, The Lowell Ledger and Lowell Litho.

The chamber booth was further down the hallway, as well as Operation Christmas Child staffed by Judy Folsom and Linda Bramble.

There were musicians, such as young pianist Derek Mohr, 7, and the ubiquitous Easy Idle.

But, probably the most interesting was the demonstration by the Red Arrow Robotics Club with their robot who plays soccer. The captain of the team Derek Chopp. For more information go to our weekly podcasts at www.thelowellledger.com

Lowell The the event attracted a lot of Historical Museum staffed by Ardie Barber had a comprehensive display explaining the museum's special exhibits and rentals of the Victorian room and the garden for dinners.

"You can even have a small wedding here," said Barber.

CaterCat, a division of Grand Volute Ballrooms staffed by Jan Herb, offered delicious pieces of steaks with Grand Volute owner Kent McKay present as well.

Trombly Chiropractic with massage demonstrations looked so relaxing that you wanted to get into the massage chair. Angie Uhen, awakened in her massage chair, said the massage was great. Kate Stokes was one of the masseuses.

> Expo story and pictures, continued, page 8



Alto fourth graders get down to business

Alto Elementary fourth graders set up businesses that competed for a profit. Students determined the cost of the capital resources, took out a loan, set the price of their products, set up production and enlisted human resources, advertised, sold product and paid back the loan, and

determined their profit. The purpose was to role-play as entrepreneurs and not to be a fundraiser. Alto students had a choice between chocolate covered pretzels (\$.60), spider cookies (\$.60), or chocolate fudge (\$.65). Products were on sale at school during the lunch hour.





Pictured above, students selling chocolate covered pretzels; and below, two fourth grade students "producing" fudge.

Area trailways announce reaching their fundraising goal

The Lowell area trailways had a large presence at the Lowell Community Expo last Saturday. Three booths side by side represented the area trails.

The three distinct trails included the Lowell Area Recreation Authority Trailway (LARA), the rails to trails group and the North Country Trail Association.

Former superintendent Bert Bleke made an announcement, on behalf of the LARA group, at the Expo about reaching its capital fundraising goal. They have raised \$1,092,330 for the

building of phase 1 of the trail. Bleke was one of the original visionaries who saw how a trail would benefit the community.

"Lowell is the place to be, not the next place to be," he said. "What a great gift this trail will be to the people of Lowell. Lowell is a very generous community. You worked hard; you were persistent and you pulled this off without raising taxes, which is critical in this economy."

Betsy Davidson, a co-chair of the fundraising campaign, said it was a community effort that will benefit the Lowell area for generations to come.

"It is so exciting to look back at where we started and realize how far we have come," she said. "All the planning



Betsy Davidson and Liz Baker make the announcement about raising more than one million for the construction of phase 1.

and work has paid off. The Lowell community will have safe connections to schools and the community parks as well as pathways for recreational activities."

officer John Zielinski, Lowell

specifically to the treadmil

Granite Company, Lowell

Area Schools, Harold Zeigler

donations can be made online

Strong Kids Campaign

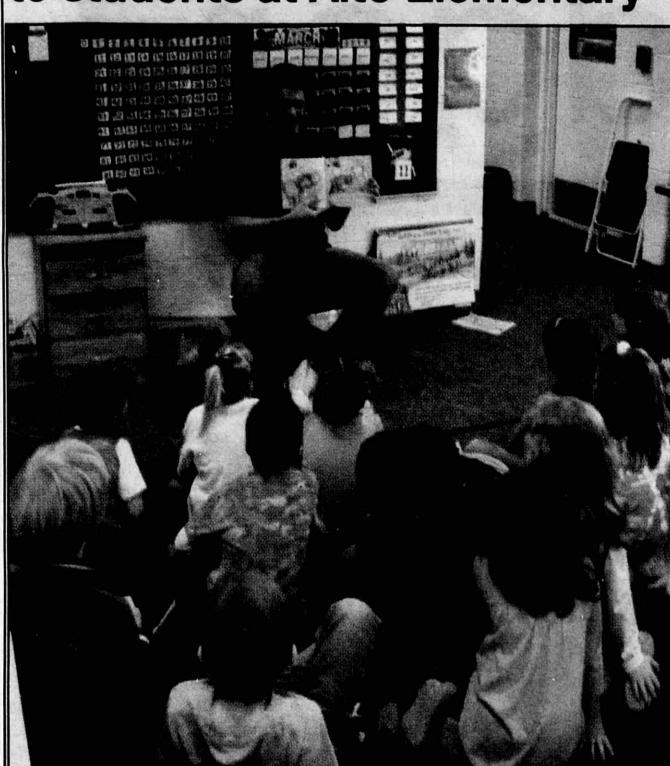
www.ystrongkids.org

were the Lowell

Businesses

and Harvest Health.

Baseball team members read to students at Alto Elementary



As part of Alto Elementary's March Is Reading Month activities, coach Juston Miller and members of the Lowell varsity baseball team visited the school and read to various classrooms. This annual reading month tradition is highly anticipated by students and baseball players alike. Alto Elementary students and staff were grateful to Miller and the team for taking the time to share their love of reading with the students. Pictured, Kaleb Ort reads to a kindergarten class.

Trailways, continued

is Coalition and Al Rumbaugh Department strategically located to of Grattan Township. ntersect with other local trails. It will serve as a hub to rail corridor acquisition is larger regional and national complete in June, the group trail systems.

And that was the message from Lowell to Greenville, at all of the trail booths: to approximately 23 miles long. connect communities along Depending on what the users the trailways and to bring want, portions of the trail economic viability to the may be used by equestrians.

The rails to trails group leverage grants from the was represented by Carolyn Michigan Department of Kane from the West Michigan Transportation and Michigan and Greenway

Resources. These agencies Rumbaugh said once the distribute state and federal funds earmarked for trail construction. Lowell's plan will pursue paving the trail was ranked no. 1 of those meeting the key funding

> For more of the coverage about Lowell trailways, check our weekly podcasts at www.thelowellledger.com

criteria and was awarded

more than \$650,000.



Englehardt Branch, 200 N. Monroe St. For additional information call 616-784-

Drop-in Craft Time -

children ages 6 and under with a caregiver. Mondays, April 5 to 26, 2 to 4 p.m.

Local funding for the

LARA trail was used to

Captain Underpants Extra Crunchy Library Program - Celebrate our favorite underwear-clad hero, Captain Underpants. some creative fun with this and have an extra crunchy good time with games and creative activities. Tuesday, April 6, 3 p.m.

Creative Playtime Meet your friends for a play date at the library with fun activities that encourage creative play and early literacy. For children ages 6 and under with a caregiver. Friday, April 9, 10 a.m. to 12

Bookworms Adult Book Discussion - Join us for a friendly, informal book discussion. Tuesday, April 13, 10 a.m. - Infidel by Ayaan Hirsi Ali.

the ledger

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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.

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES

Angel Food Ministries sign up at the Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington St., Sat., Apr. 10, 10 a.m. - noon. You may also order online using your debit or credit card. Go to www. angelfoodministries.com Any questions, call Esther, 897-

RELAY FOR LIFE

meetings will be held Apr. 20 and May 25 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the conference room at the administration bldg., 300 High St. Relay for Life is June 11-12 from 3 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Lowell High School. For more information visit www. relayforlife.org/lowellmi or contact Carol Briggs at 897-5501 or cbriggs@lowellschools.com Sign up your team today.

FREE PRESCHOOL

If your family resides within Lowell Area School district, your preschooler may qualify for a free preschool program. If your child turns three- or four-years old on or by Dec. 1, 2010, call our automated number at 987-2699. Leave your information and an early childhood specialist will be in contact with you.

COUNTDOWN TO KINDERGARTEN

Parents of children who will be five-years old on or before Dec. 1, 2010, are invited to a parent informational meeting on April 20 at Murray Lake Elementary; April 22 at Bushnell Elementary; and April 15 at Alto Elementary. A kindgergarten information packet should be requested prior to the parent meeting. Please call the school in the area which you reside to have an enrollment packet mailed to you.

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

Check us out online ...

www.thelowellledger.com

Treadmill Challenge walks off with just under \$3,500



Evie Marron, Rheta Persha, Dee Bonn, and Sharon Crandell

Lowell earns high marks at band and orchestra festivals

wednesday • march • 31 • 2010

for which the ensemble is Rapids High School. given only seven minutes to review. Ensembles are rated hosted by Lowell High on a scale of 1 to 5. Those School on Friday, Feb. 26. visit the MSBOA website at earning an overall superior A total of sixteen middle and http://msboa.org and the Red rating of one are qualified to high school bands performed Arrow Orchestra website at compete in the state MSBOA bringing hundreds of visitors redarroworchestra.org

The Lowell band and the Lowell High School and Symphonic bands all orchestras participated in orchestra and Lowell Middle earned a one ranking for and Orchestra Association performed for the festival at Middle School's seventh festival is an opportunity a one and the eighth-grade a two rating. performances include three Middle School seventh- will be performing at the pieces rehearsed in advance grade orchestra earned a one Music Boosters Collage and two sight-reading pieces performing at East Grand concert March 30 at 7 p.m. at

The band festival was Center. festival in late April or early to our district. The Lowell

the Michigan School Band Schooleighth-gradeorchestra their performances. Lowell (MSBOA)Region 10 festival. Caledonia High School. The grade band earned a one and The band and orchestra high school orchestra earned eighth-grade band took home for ensembles to perform orchestra earned a two. The Several of the school for a panel of judges. The following week, the Lowell orchestras, bands and choirs

On Thursday, Feb. 25, High School Red, White,

the Lowell Performing Arts For more information,

college news

In recognition of her Anne Johnson was placed College for Creative Studies in Detroit. She is a 2006 graduate of Lowell High School and the daughter of Marcae Manting Johnson.

The following students are December 2009 graduates of

VanSpronsen, Bachelor of Science in Education, all of

Rebecca DeLiefde and Central Michigan University: Andrew Gerig, both of Samantha Glover, Bachelor Lowell, have been named of Science in Business to the Dean's List for the Administration, of Alto; 2009 fall semester at Bethel Jamie Cardani, Bachelor College in Mishawaka, Ind. of Science in Education, Eligibility for the Dean's List Tara Ormiston, Bachelor requires a 3.50 GPA with 12 of Science, and Brittany or more semester hours.

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Lowell YMCA's 24hour Treadmill Challenge garnered 66 walkers/runners, raising \$3,493.57.

"The money raised through this event stays in Lowell and is used to help Lowell families," said YMCA director Staci Chambers. The treadmill challenge is

part of the Lowell YMCA's Strong Kids Campaign. Funds and donations are also received through corporate and individual donations and through a pledge campaign. This year's Strong Kids

Campaign goal is \$35,000.

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THE BOUNTY HUNTER (PG-13)

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currently at \$24,000.

Area Chamber of Commerce The 66 participants in the director Liz Baker and Mayor Treadmill Challenge walked/ Jim Hodges. ran 329.97 miles.

"On behalf of the Lowell YMCA we would like to each and every person who has given of their time and effort to make this event successful," Chambers said.

Kicking off the challenge on Friday were Rheta Persha, Lowell football coach Noel Dean, Lowell Area Schools chief financial

(designate Lowell as your recipient) or at the Lowell YMCA office.

For more pictures of the Treadmill Challenge continue to page 9

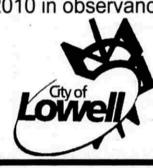
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CITY OF LOWELL **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Lowell City Hall Offices, Police Offices, Light and Power Offices and the Department of Public Works will be closed on Friday, April 2, 2010 in observance of Good Friday.



Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

REMINDER NOTICE REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR THE SCHOOL ELECTION **TO BE HELD ON MAY 4, 2010**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT ANY QUALIFIED ELECTOR OF BOWNE TOWNSHIP, LOWELL TOWNSHIP, VERGENNES TOWNSHIP AND THE CITY OF LOWELL, WHO IS NOT ALREADY REGISTERED, MAY REGISTER TO VOTE AT THE CITY OR TOWNSHIP OFFICES. AT ANY SECRETARY OF STATE BRANCH OFFICE, OR OTHER DESIGNATED PLACES FOR THE SCHOOL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2010.

THE LAST DAY FOR RECEIVING REGISTRATIONS WILL BE MONDAY, APRIL 5, 2010.

QUALIFICATIONS TO REGISTER TO VOTE: CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES

Sandra Kowalczyk Bowne Township Clerk (616) 868-6846 9am to 12pm

Betty Morlock Lowell City Clerk (616) 897-8457 8am to 5pm

AT LEAST 18 YEARS OF AGE ON OR BEFORE MAY 4, 2010

Linda S. Regan Lowell Township Clerk (616) 897-7600 9am to 5pm

Mari Stone Vergennes Township (616) 897-5671 9am to 3pm

financial focus



given it adequate time,

replacing it and using the

proceeds to purchase another

you went through everything

find several items that do the

same thing. Do you really

need two toaster ovens? And

portfolio in this same way,

Getridofduplicates. If

investment.

Time for "spring cleaning" of your investments

Spring is here — time vacuuming vacuum cleaner to spruce up your house, or a treadmill that lost its get rid of clutter and get grip back when "the Web" things organized. But this was reserved for spiders. year, go beyond your home we all own things that are and yard when you do your no longer useful. And the spring cleaning and look same may be true of some for ways to rejuvenate your of your investments. If one investment portfolio. hasn't performed the way Of course, you don't you had hoped, and you've

have to take an "out with the old, in with the new" approach just for the sake of changing things up. But to consistently make progress toward your financial goals, you may need to make adjustments in response in your house, you might to changes in the financial markets, the economy and your personal situation. And springtime is as good a time how many radios can you because she likes writing and as any to take a fresh look at listen to at one time? If you the friends she has at LMS your investment situation. So looked at your investment keep her smiling. consider these suggestions:

similar companies that make Over time, and inadvertently, similar products? This might not be a problem when the stock market is booming. Perhaps you have too many but it could be a definite affects the industry to which or protect against loss, it can of volatility.

several stocks issued by • Put things back in order. the spaces in your home

can get "out of balance." situation could undermine reflects your current needs chairs in one corner, your flat-screen television crowding out your family pictures, or your new desk your holdings have become to get near the dust cloths or Always look for ways to takes up too much space in too conservative to provide furniture polish. diversify your holdings. your home office. With some the growth you need. So While diversification, by rearranging, however, you look for ways to restore your by Edward Jones for use by itself, can't guarantee profits can usually get things back in portfolio to its proper balance your local Edward Jones order. And the same need for — one that reflects your risk Financial Advisor. help you reduce the effects rearrangement may apply to tolerance, time horizon and your portfolio, which might long-term goals.

By giving your portfolio too much of one investment an annual spring cleaning and too little of another. This you can help make sure it your financial strategy, and is positioned to help you especially if the imbalance make progress toward your means you are taking on too key financial objectives. much risk or, conversely, if And you won't even have

This article was written

Middle school Students of the Month

Ashenbremer, and Bancroft.

Ashenbremer is an 8th grade student who enjoys the outdoors. She likes to swim and has been involved in gymnastics for six years. Her favorite subject is English

Yomtoob is a 7th grade · Dispose of things that you might be surprised to student whose favorite aren't working. Whether it's find some redundancies. classes are math and ELA. a burnt-out computer, a non- For example, do you own She is involved in many

Lowell Middle School extracurricular activities, students are her favorite part bike. He enjoys math and proud to announce such as Almost Home winter of LMS. February Students guard, honors choir, youth

Bancroft is a 6th grade enjoys his friends and thinks you may be better off by of the Month: Kiersten gymnastics and Girl Scouts. student who likes football, the LMS teachers are pretty Rachael The friendly teachers and basketball and riding his cool, too.

working with numbers. He



have become unbalanced with

Pictured, from left to right: Riley Bancroft, Kiersten Ashenbremer, and Rachael Yomtoob.

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to the ... editor

wednesday • march • 31 • 2010

Dear Editor.

still shocked and disappointed of our community; and as of one nonproperty owner 897-8457. by a recent decision by a result, certainly do not outweighed the desire of 50 I have also started a of Michigan's deficit? I read complete 7th grade orchestra the Lowell Planning increase the value of our taxpaying property owners. Facebook page to discuss a recent article stating that receiving two brand new overwhelming opposition to commissioner opposed to an ordinance allowing 'soft- the ordinance stated, "This sided' garages on city lots, ordinance will tear down the needed. If you wish to stop place to live. Search Lowell insurance while teachers the orchestra these two the planning commission community." If you are like this ordinance from passing, Neighborhoods Leading the on the average contribute songs and they were graded approved the ordinance three my family, our home is our you need to act. Despite our Way on Facebook. I have also around four percent to their on how well they did. The to one. If you are not familiar biggest investment and we best efforts, our voices have included pictures of 'soft- own health care premiums results were amazing. with a soft-sided garage, it want that investment to grow, not been heard. We have sided garages.' is essentially a tent garage. not falter as a result of a poor presented our signatures It can be made of clear or planning decision. colored plastic, canvas or a tarp and is usually supported ordinance change came from commission. Email city by aluminum poles. The new one individual who wanted a leaders to tell them you are Dear Editor, ordinance would allow these tarp-style garage in his yard. opposed to this ordinance garages to be installed on He is not a property owner. (be sure to sign it or it'll Vision) in the March 17 Michigan is in a depression are continually reminded of city lots, within three feet He rents the residence and be ignored) and attend the Lowell Ledger stated - "What and health care insurance shortcomings of the schools

planning commission why across the city. All of these call home. these are not good for our people were opposed to the community. First, they do not ordinance. A half dozen fit the historic nature of many individuals wrote letters in soon as you can. Email clerk state level. I would like to

outside your window on a

windy summer night.

these flapping in the wind in the property.

Despite homes. As Jim Hall, the lone In our minds, this does not this issue and others in our Michigan taxpayers now pieces of music that they had make sense.

at several meetings and The request for this it has meant little to the of a lot line. Imagine one of therefore has no investment next public hearing on this is of troubling concern is the continues to spiral out of in Michigan. I am proud issue on April 19 at City 2010-2011 school year, where control? Even half of that \$2 to say that I am part of the With the help of another Hall at 7 p.m. We realize we will once again be faced billion a year would go a long Lowell school system and

meeting and send an email as school funding problems at

at any job he tackles.

opposition, and still in the Betty Morlock at bmorlock@ comment on that statement did a phenomenal job and end, the commission passed ci.lowell.mi.us and city and Michigan's deficit which were awarded top points.) the ordinance sending it to city manager Dave Pasquale at is causing the lack of funding. The second part of the of our neighborhoods; they do council for final approval. I dpasquale@ci.lowell.mi.us for its school system. Could competition was called "Site As I write this letter, I am not improve the appearance want to emphasize the desire You can also call City Hall at it be that Michigan's school Reading" - this competition

> neighborhoods. The goal spend \$2 billion per year for never seen before. Tenney Now, your help is is to keep Lowell a great school employee health care had seven minutes to teach

I have made several signatures from citizens but we are talking about our economic issues." Regardless its school system back on the about the great programs attempts to explain to the and property owners from neighborhoods, the place we of our unending work to run right track. that our school system offers

a leaner organization, we are Please attend the next still left with disconcerting

system is part of the cause consisted of Tenney and the

compared to the state average I wanted to take a Chris Fleszar contributions of 22 percent, moment to introduce our Lowell If those figures are right, I Middle School orchestra to believe the question should our community. We are very be, can Michigan continue fortunate to have such a great to offer paid health care to program within our schools. The article (Sharing the its school teachers while In today's environment, we citizen, I have collected 50 everyone has busy lives, with astronomically dryer way in putting Michigan and cannot tell enough people

To the Lowell Community, wanted to share a 7th grade orchestra (some Gerald (Sam) Yeiter leaves on Sunday for Alma where he 80 students strong), led by Wendy Tenney, participated in an orchestra competition at East Grand Rapids High Twenty big tank trucks working 24 hours a day go School. The class competed thundering through Main St. loaded with crude oil from against a number of schools the big gusher brought in last Thursday near Crystal Lake in the area. The competition Montcalm county. The oil is being delivered to the Kent consisted of the orchestra Thank you for all that you Refinery in Grand Rapids. Workers are afraid to shut down playing three songs that they do. the controls for fear of the well blowing up on them because have rehearsed throughout the year. (The students

Jim Howard and how these programs help produce a well-rounded and adjusted young adult into the world. Our children have unique educational opportunities provided by instructors that truly love what they are doing (and is shown through participation and success) whether it is in math, science, reading,

> Sincerely. Brian Krajewski

english, music,

plastics (through shop),

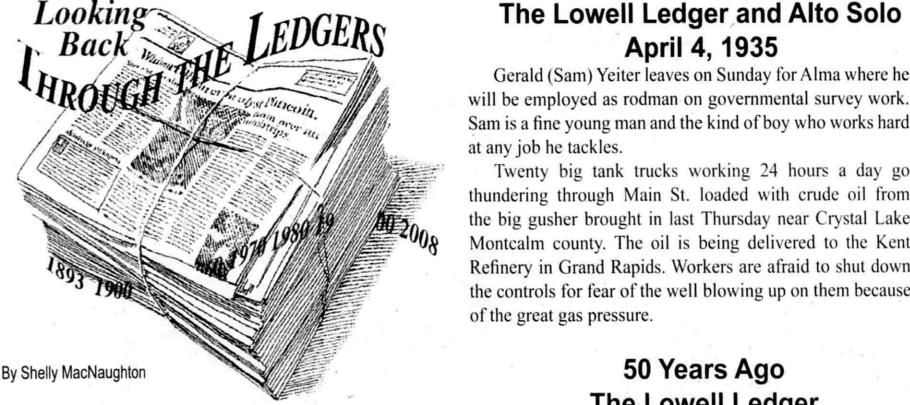
language arts or sports. Our

school system stands out as

leaders in our industry of

providing a great education

and a great experience.



125 Years Ago The Lowell Journal April 8, 1885

There should be good plank or timber crossing in front of the post office.

Village property is now in better demand than it has been William Horabrook, who wandered away from home,

was found at Ionia. Lorenzo Pavne was brought before Justice Hunter last Wednesday for examination, charged with obtaining money under false pretenses. He was bound over for trial in the

> 100 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger March 31, 1910

circuit court.

The Morse Lake vacancy in our list of scribes has been filled. If there is still unoccupied territory covered by THE LEDGER that needs a reporter we would be glad to learn

A. W. Weekes' store is headquarters for belts, bags, combs, barrettes, hair turbans and hair rolls

of the great gas pressure. 50 Years Ago

The Lowell Ledger

75 Years Ago

The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo

April 4, 1935

Sam is a fine young man and the kind of boy who works hard

March 31, 1960 Lowell school authorities announced this week that Robert Thaler, son of Mr. and Mrs. Orion Thaler of Lowell is valedictorian and Diana Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs Russell Smith of 3 Mile Rd., Ada, is salutatorian of the 1960

Lowell High School graduating class.

25 Years Ago The Grand Valley Ledger April 3, 1985

A temporary renovation of Riverside, between Main and Elm Streets, got a nod of approval from the Lowell City Council Monday evening. The plan calls for the installation of traffic diverters at Main Street allowing only northbound traffic to enter at Riverside. More diverters at the east end of the municipal lot just north of Main would direct southbound Riverside traffic into the lot and eastbound traffic in the lot would be sent north up Riverside. The plan has two purposes: to allow for more parking in the area by making Riverside angle parking on both sides near Main and to eliminate the hazardous Riverside exit on to Main Street.

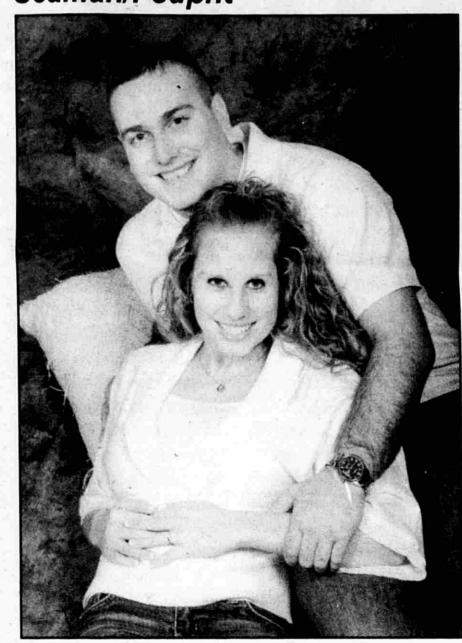
Letters To The Editor:

The Lowell Ledger welcomes your Letters to the Editor. Letters are required to bear the author's signature, phone number and address (for verification purposes only, not for publication). Letters will be published at the discretion of the publisher. All letters are subject to editing for length and grammar. Thank you letters, advertising or personal attacks will not be printed.

Letters may be submitted via email to: ledger@ lowellbuyersguide.com ("to the Editor" in subject line) or dropped off or mailed to: The Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell, MI 49331. Also, our website, www.lowellbuyersguide.com has a link to submit emails on the left side of the

engagements

Seaman/Foupht



Chris Foupht and Kimberly Seama

Wedding vows will be the daughter of Randy and exchanged on July 24, 2010, Peggy Seaman of Lowell by Kimberly Seaman and The future groom is a 2001 Chris Foupht. The brideto-be is a 2003 graduate of School and a 2008 graduate Lowell High School and of Ferris State University. a 2007 graduate of Ferris He is the son of Jim and Joni State University. She is Maile of Newaygo and Rich

Hall for rent with kitchen

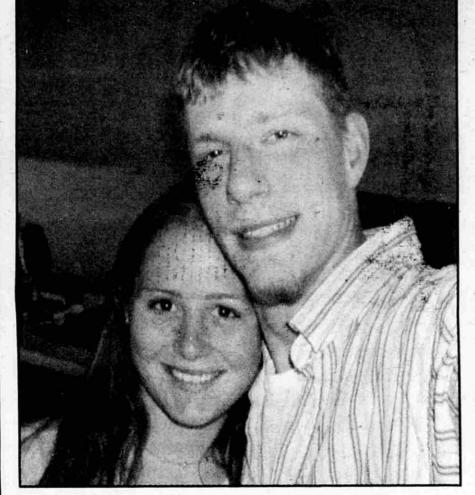
SEATS 150 Located at the fairgrounds Call 897-6050



graduate of Tri-County High

and Rhonda Foupht of Elgin





Darcie Banfill and Bradley Corbit

The ceremony which Robbie Banfill of Rockford will unite in marriage Darcie and Roger and Penny Rybicki Marie Banfill and Bradley L. of Lowell. The groom-elect Corbit will be performed on is the son of Diana and Orley July 9, 2010. The bride-to-be Kranenberg of Elmdale. is the daughter of Brian and

The fact that a great many people believe something is no guarantee of its truth.

> - W. Somerset Maugham (1874 - 1965)

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eekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM Saturday confessions: 4-4:45 PM Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETE WIGGINS 897-7915 EE LOWELL CABLE CH. 393, EWTN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING

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health

Latex allergy

Latex allergy is a reaction urinary tract problems, and you get from contact with people who have had many Latex comes from tropical including balloons, bandages, and rubber gloves.

skin reactions (rashes or hives), runny nose, cough, tight chest, or watery eyes. A bad latex allergy may cause shortness of breath. dizziness, confusion, loss of consciousness, or a rapid or carry an epinephrine pen to weak pulse. These reactions may be life-threatening.

allergy, but some people are latex gloves, use the powderat a higher risk than others. These people include health care workers, patients with

latex products. The allergy is surgical procedures. People usually caused by the natural who work in the rubber rubber proteins in latex, industry are also at higher risk. Some food allergies rubber trees. It is used to have been linked to latex make everyday products allergy. You may be allergic and medical equipment, to latex if you are allergic to bananas, avocados, chestnuts. diaphragms, elastic, pacifiers, kiwis, apples, carrots, celery, papayas, potatoes, tomatoes, A mild allergy may cause or melons. You should avoid using

latex products if you have a latex allergy. If you have a severe latex allergy you should wear a medical alert bracelet. You should also use if you have a bad reaction. Use non-latex gloves when Anyone can get a latex possible. If you have to use free kind to lower the risk of reaction.



MARCH 31

Tera Raab, Rudy Smith Michaela Blough.

APRIL 1 Christopher Vollink, Denny McClure, Kurt Wernet, Doug Klahn. Blanche Mullen.

APRIL 2

Bergy, Nicole Wilcox, Alex Taylor Milstead. Hazard.

APRIL 3

Katelynn Fonger, Jennifer Hayleigh Borton, Jamie McCaul, Ben Lobbezoo, Barnes, Darwin Lambert.

APRIL 4 Troy Pethers, Nick Corbeil.

APRIL 5

APRIL 6

BradYonker, Connie Vaughn Geldersma, Ron Pearl Peckham, Malley Metternick, Alec Newhouse, Cahoon, Carol Hovinga, Chris Rittersdorf, Blake Fran Clouser, Cheryl Foster,



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1 - 2 YR. ----- 11:00 A.M. 3 YR. ----- 11:00 A.M. 4-5-6 YR. ----- 11:45 A.M.

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TOP PRIZE

EACH GROUP

"lëdger

Fisher knew she had finally found the community of

wants others to experience Gilda's Club Lowell Program

has til Oat Gilda's Chub

wednesday • march • 31 • 2010

coach Dean had, along with

Pink Arrow Project II, was

to provide a place where

families could gather to

support each other through a

cancer or grief journey. After

four months of hosting this

almost entirely by herself and I was recently sharing raising her 13-year-old son, with a group of people in Lowell, how the Gilda's Bradley. Fisher's husband, a longhaul truckdriver, is only Club program in Lowell is able to come home once or growing and reaching more and more people. The dream twice per month. "He wanted to quit his job all of those involved in The

In This Together... Learn. Share. Laugh.

Lowell resident

to be by my side throughout my treatment, but we needed the health insurance. He's a wonderful husband and has been as supportive as he can. We talk 20 times a day." Fisher also had support

throughout her treatment free program, Gilda's Club is from community members. reaching that dream. We'd like to share a Neighbors helped with lawn story with you about one of the people participating in our program - Janet Fisher. supplies so she could make Fisher recently shared her crafts to donate to Operation story with us and, with her Santa Claus, something she permission, we're sharing it said kept her mind healthy Some of you may know with all of the support from Fisher. She has lived all family and friends, Fisher but 10 years of her life in says she was still looking for

Lowell. She loves the town something more: to share her and says she is even more proud of where she lives now that there is a Gilda's Club right down the road Grand Rapids Clubhouse to from her house. Fisher wants join Gilda's Club, but I just more Lowell residents, those didn't feel up to making she knows who have been another trip to Grand Rapids impacted by cancer and grief, every week. I was already to come for support available driving back and forth to just inside the signature Red treatments. There was the Door at 314 South Hudson cost of gas, plus the wear

"All the walls are down. It's the one place I know I not be judged. It's that kind Clubhouse, although she

Fisher was diagnosed with breast cancer in January 2009 and has been through chemotherapy, radiation, a mastectomy, and is now in physical therapy for both of her arms and shoulders. journey, Fisher has also been running her household

care and snow removal and church members donated

throughout 2009. Yet, even journey with others going

through the same thing. "I wanted to go to the and tear on my car."

When the Gilda's Club Nobody has to worry about Lowell Clubhouse opened what they're going to share. in September 2009, Fisher knew she had to see what can go in a small town and was going [on] at the new of an open acceptance," she admits she was a little apprehensive at first.

"I thought it was going to be a lot more discussion about doctors and paranoia. I didn't want to dwell on cancer and get down. I wanted to keep a positive outlook." After just one laughter-filled visit that left her smiling and feeling welcomed and encouraged,

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from scheduled support she was looking for. information from "It's so nice to have members who are there

somebody else that really understand journeys.

ask a doctor. You need more in-depth information after

major part of it." Fisher has noticed change in her son, Bradley, who attends Gilda's Club with her each week. They "Supper Together" with other families and then Fisher attends an adult cancer support group while Bradley attends a support

"It gives them someone school deadlines, helping out enjoy it."

talking about their cancer extra at home and worrying about their family all at the "It helps to know what to same time. They really need someone else to talk to."

Fisher helps to welcome you've gone through the the new members who join and notices a difference in their attitude after just one or two visits. "After a couple of times, they are just more chipper. It really rubs off on

Now, Fisher's goal is to share this message, hoping it reaches others in Lowell impacted by cancer. She group for teens. She sees the wants to see them every value of teenagers getting Tuesday at the Lowell Clubhouse.

"It's a lot of fun! Come else to talk to. They have on down with me, you'll

Secretary Land and partners promote April as 'Donate Life Month'

Do you have a heart on service dentification card?

If you do, that means you have signed up to be an organ, tissue and eye donor.

If you don't, then Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land and her partners at Gift of Life Michigan, the Michigan Eye-Bank and Hospice of Michigan want

April is nationally recognized as "Donate Life

announcements spring campaign will include our driver's license or state and a Shining Star award. a new associate - Hospice of A Shining Star is given to Michigan. A news conference to acknowledge outstanding efforts to promote organ, celebrate April as Donate

can touch so many lives."

to encourage you to get one Organ Donor Registry, visit individuals whose lives have want to motivate as many adding your name to the Department of State Web been affected by the miracle the Michigan Organ Donor site at www.Michigan.gov. sos or visit any Secretary of State office.

Month," and Land and her from Gift of Life Michigan and e-mail messages, public April. This year's annual

On Wednesday, April 7,

Your Michigan home needs

Life Month is scheduled tissue and eye donation. "One organ donor can for Tuesday, April 6 at the bring the gift of life to nearly Founders Bank & Trust in 50 people," Land said. "It's Grand Rapids. Information amazing how one simple act about the critical need for organ donors will be shared

of organ donation.

Secretary of State offices will Officials and volunteers host Buddy Day from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. "Buddies" are Gift partners will be promoting and the Michigan Eye-Bank of Life Michigan, Michigan organ, tissue and eye donation have worked for years with Eye-Bank, Lions Club in Michigan with a news the Secretary of State's and Hospice of Michigan conference, Secretary of office to promote organ, volunteers who promote State "Buddy Day," Twitter tissue and eye donation each the importance of organ,

Many are organ and tissue recipients or members of donor families. Buddy Day provides the public with a unique opportunity to meet people involved with organ donation and learn more about becoming a donor.

"We're excited about our plans for Donate Life To enroll on the state along with stories from Month," Land said. "We people as we can to become organ, tissue and eye donors. Signing up is easy. Show us your heart by becoming an organ donor."

Gift of Life Michigan is the state's federally certified, full-service organ recovery organization. The agency acts

> Eye-Bank, continued, page 12

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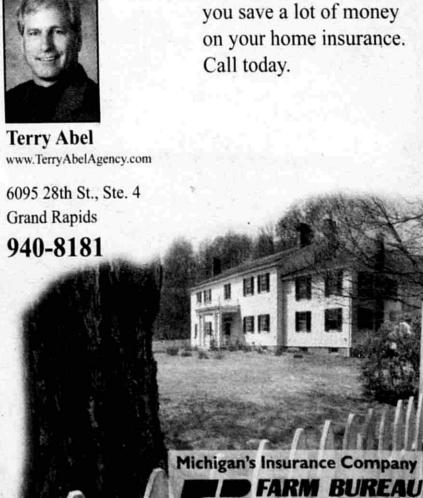
company, we know

hazards they face.



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If you have a dress you no longer need but would like to donate, please give me a call. Free local pickup





Golden retriever Justin with Pawsitive Canine.

Expo story and pictures, continued

Fran Mendez, John Sanchez and Janet Bailey. and Doug Shassberger.

come here from now on." Eckman hosted several

massage to Angie Uhen.

REACH MINISTRIES

Among other non-profit Jon Jacobs announced

The Lowell Ledger publisher downtown."

Kate Stokes of Trombly Chiropractic gives a

Marge Rehl and Janet Bailey working the Flat

Nora Goote hangs on to Ludek Pala's

pants tightly seemingly lost in this world

at the annual Expo as mom calls to her:

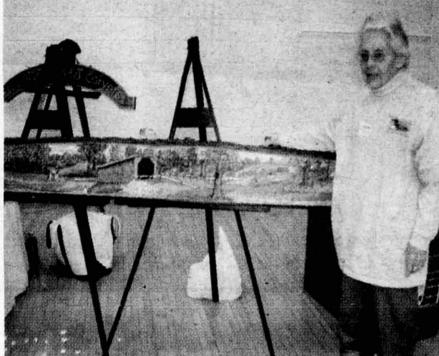
River Outreach Ministries booth.

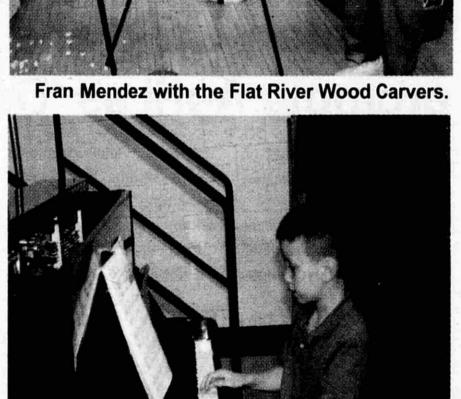
And then there were first organizations at the Expo important timers at the event like the were the Flat River Outreach about the community-Flat River Wood Carvers with Ministries with Marge Rehl wide Troll Project that will upcoming downtown bridge replacement project.

said Shassberger. "It took us announcements. At noon, clear: "Keep on shopping lowellchamber.org

vellow construction hats

on the Troll Project go to Cliff Yankovich's blog at The message was the chamber website: www.





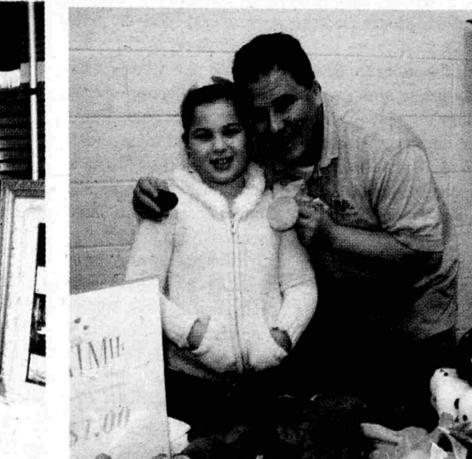
Young pianist Derek Mohr entertains during



Derek Chopp is the team captain for Red Arrow the Expo. Robotics high school team.

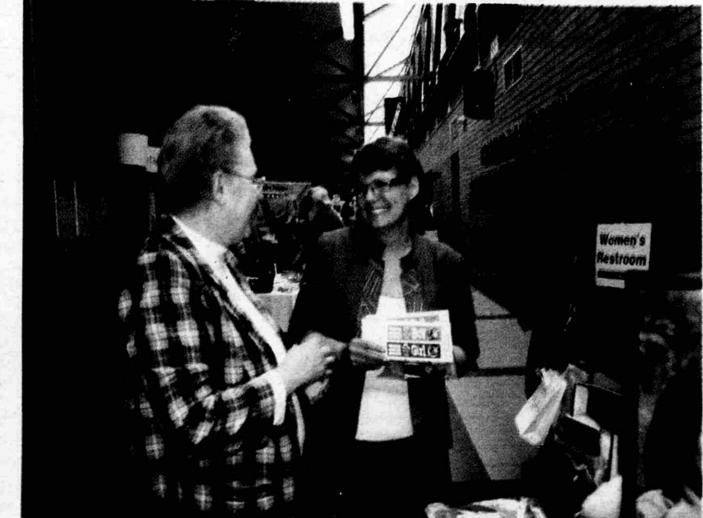


Ardie Barber staffed the Lowell Area Historical Museum booth.



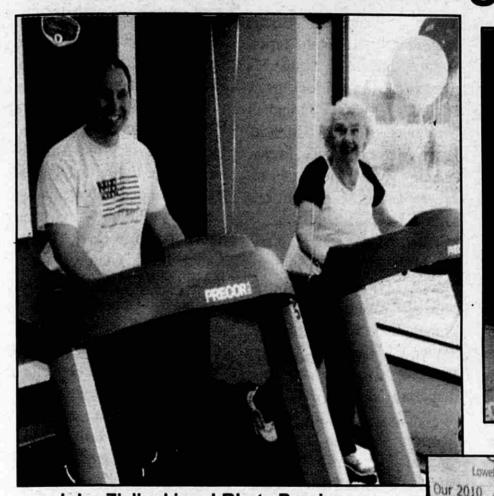
Jay and Tara Martinez at the AIM booth.





Linda Bramble from Operation Christmas Child chats with Debra Kowalczyk.

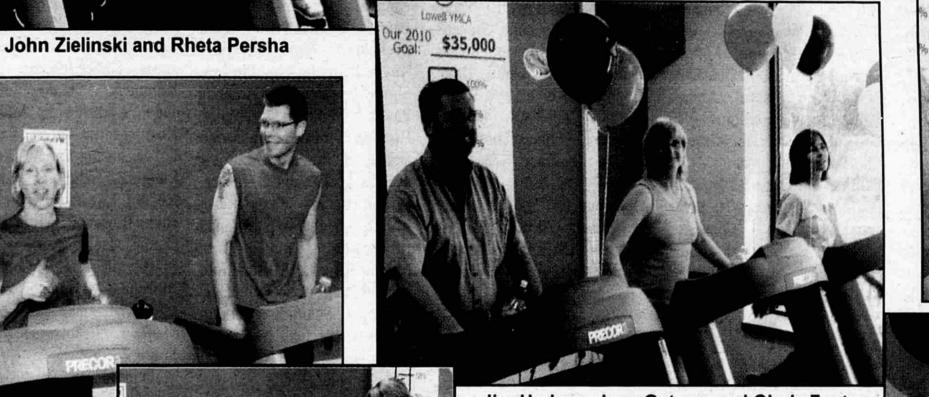
Treadmill Challenge raises funds for Lowell families



wednesday • march • 31 • 2010

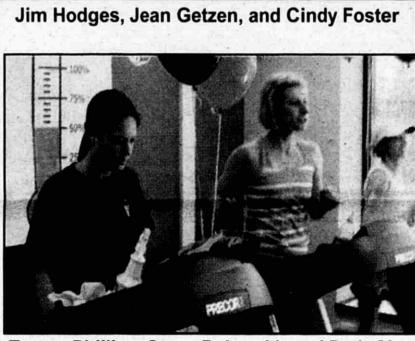




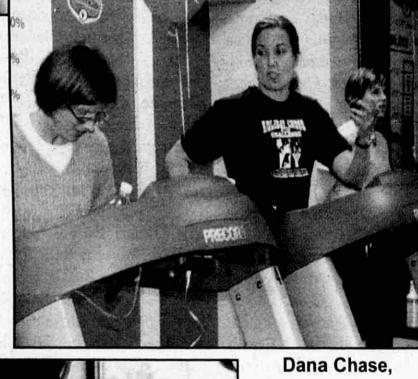




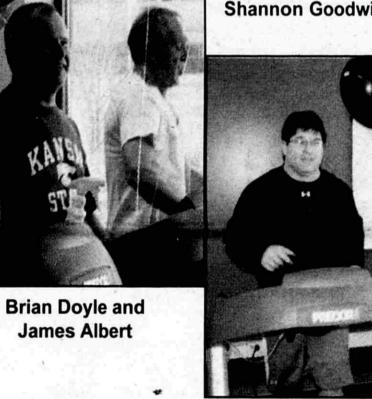
Jonathan and Lynn Draigh



Terese Phillips, Stacy Pniewski, and Beth Ciangi



Nicole Hawley, and Shannon Goodwin



Noel Dean

Red Arrow

Arrows net second-place finish at Fruitport

Overtime bounce lifts Lowell past Maroons

said Lowell lacrosse coach transition.

a spring chill were all part of the thumbnail snapshot Lowell girls' tennis coach Invitational.

The Red Arrow netters finished second in a six-Lowell was four back at 30.

"It provided a little bit of a measuring stick for us," Fruitport.

Lowell's lacrosse team to an

exciting season-opening 8-7

Collins' goal became

Christian rallied from a 6-3

third-quarter deficit to tie

Lowell at 7-7.

win over Holland Christian.

Wall said. "I saw some good movement, hard work and hustle, good movement and singles, placed third. our doubles teams did a good job poaching."

What Wall did not view (fourth singles) did not with Saturday at the Fruitport Mankel who missed the matches. tourney due to a band

In singles play, the Red doubles, won a tourney team field. Fruitport took Arrows' top player, Kelly championship with a 6-3, 6-3 top honors with 34 points. Trapp, netted top honors victory over Whitehall. with a 6-4, 6-3 win in the Lowell's third doubles league foe Greenville on championship match against team of Brynlee Pomper April 14.

A Jim Collins' goal 90 defense played well in

Eric Bredin.

shot beat the goalie.

June Ramsay, third Taylor Mankel (second

Bonnie Wall walked away was the play of Kelsey place as they lost tough first three matches.

and Zoe Beloncis, playing

limiting the number of goals to offset Holland Christian's goals before the half, cutting

Collins' winning goal was transition goals. Seven of our scoring two goals in the final

"It wasn't the shot we Lowell led 5-1 in the Lowell scorers with three

uncorked from the top of the eight goals were assisted and 1:13 of regulation to tie the

offense," Bredin said.

Holland was able to score," ball control style with its the deficit to 5-3.

box. The long outside bounce that shows the quality of an game at 7-7.

"I was happy with our were hoping to get, but it second quarter before a non- goals and two assists. Colin

offense and I thought our went in," Bredin explained. releasable penalty enabled Morgan netted two goals.

their three matches.

Molly Willemstein and singles) and Morgan Rogalke Katy Mork, playing third doubles, also won two of Lowell's fourth doubles

Kelsey Wittenbach and team, Jessica Lewis and Caitlin Baker, playing first Abby Rogalke, earned top honors with a 6-3, 6-2 win

The Red Arrows play

The Maroons followed up

Alec Downing led all

The Red Arrows were able Holland Christian to net two

"We had a number of two late first-half goals by



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Lowell High School second trimester honor roll

Brubaker, Dillon

Blough, Alec Bobko, Leigha

Boogaard, Grant Breuker,

Carrascal De La Pisa, Justin

Clover, Robert Coffey,

James Collins, Drew Corson,

Dean, Mathilde Delorme,

Quincee Denault, Aleesha

DenBraven, Kaylyn DeWaard,

Karis Dilly, Nora Donahue,

Caroline DosSantos, Elizabeth

Downing, Jordan Drake,

Wakefield, Caitlin Fitzpatrick,

Fowler, Mackenzie Fox,

Amber Geldersma, Melody

Daniel Geurkink,

on final grades

9TH GRADE

Micah Babcock, Shelby Baird, Barnes, Justin Barrett, Amy Bartkus, Perry Bencker, Jorie Bennett-Walsweer, Berends, Rebekah Betts, Cody Gauck, Joshua Gee, Zachary Gabriel Gorman, Zachary Bailey Haefner, Anthony Heffron, Lukas Henderson, James Herb, Emily Hessler, Joshua Hewitt, Cory Heykoop, Brianna Higgins, Marissa Hills, Alexandra Hinton, Nicholas Paul Hommowun, **10TH GRADE** Bryce Hrusovsky, Ashley Huber, Jennifer Huffman.

Huver, Jordan

Kaitlyn Johnson,

Maranda Johnson, Katelyn

Kaczanowski, Christianne

Kargl, Annette Kehoe, Jacob

Chloe Aalsburg, Joshua Addington, Brandi Aikens, Lindsay Anderson, William Athmann, Danielle Bagin, Baker, Beloncis, Analyse Bencker, Luke Bigham, Sydney Bishop,

Kayleigh Lambert, Ian Larson, Austin Lemke, Lytle, Castro, Micah Chapin, Caitlin Majinska, Kelli Malcolm, Kimberly Malcolm, Jason Malling, Johnathon Lindsey Crawford, Gabriel Shannon Massey,

McGregor, Alexander McIntire, Breana McKendrick, Morgan McVey, Emily Milstead, Sarah Misak, Laura Droog, Shawn Dulin, Jessica Montgomery, Baylie Ryan Durkee, Jordan Ervin-Mooney, Aaron Morris, Foster Nethercott, Samantha Santiago Focinos Mantecon. Mattie Newman, Collin Foehr, Dianna Foster, Doug Alexandra Fotis, Hannah Nordman, Grant Noskey, Page, Audrey Pearson, Emily Gerig, Peterson, Logan Phenix, Nicholas Gibson, Andrea Nicole Platz, Andrew Potter, Gilbert, Travis Gordon, Bailey Hunter Race, Audrey Rasch, Groendyke, Morgan Groom, Louis Raymond, Alexis Matthew Haan, Aaron Hall. Rife, Joshua Rocco, Abigail Pauline Harrington, Benjamin Rogalke, Rebecka Roth, Tyler Hart, Austin Hause, Nicholas Mark Russo, Leah Hawks, Kyle Hendrick. Schlosser, John Schramm, Zachary Hofman, Matthew Emily Schreur, Justin Scott, Hoogenboom, Lee Hovey, Trentin Sheppard, Nichole Ashlyn Hussey, Helen Jacobs, Slupe, Julie Smith, Brianna Kylie Jean, Hannah Johnson. Steiner, Raechel Stougaard, Adam Jones, Lukas Kampf. Kyle Stubbins, Ethan Sutton, Michaela Kehoe, Young Hwa Ryan Kim, Stephanie Kline, Hanna Timmers, Madeleine Tlapek- Kole, Samantha Kooiman, Lavean, Alexander Tobin, Julia Kopp, Lauren Kurtz, Emma Tompkins, Taylor Matthew Kyllonen, Alan Wingerter, Maggie Wissman,

Vanderhorst, Scott VanOosten, Lally, Meredith Lane, Andrew Erin Wade, Brad Walling, Light, Alexander Ligman, Evan Hedlund, Alexander Lauren Weaver, Taylor Sage Maliepaard, Kelsey Whaley, Ashley White, James Mankel, Kyra Marks, Christin Wierenga, Jenna Wilder, Brice Marsalese, Amber Martin, Taylor Martin, Dominique Ashley Worthington, Joshua Martinez, Drew Mayhew, Wesley McDannold, Braden McGillicuddy, McLane, Kendra Merriman, Jorge Mexicano, Allison Meyers, Torie Milks, Derek Mixon, Sarah Mogor, Bravot Morris, Taryn Morris, Andrew Gerrit Morse, Gabriel Morse, Arielle Baumhauer, Kendra Belile, Zoe Nausieda, Ian Newhouse, Jonathan Niemann, Alexis Noffke, Alicia Noffke, Kristina

Nurmikko, Jeffrey Renn Osborne, Hope Oudbier, Carissa Paiz, Karlie

Paulin, Jelena Petricevic, Joseph Potter, Caleb Pratt, Tyler Putney, Halley Reed, Miranda Regenold, Judith Reuter, Kiran Riley, Emma Roderick, Alec Roerig, Kyle Rogers, Shannon Rose, Tara Rowley, Anna Rozema, Alejandro Ruiz Medina, Carlos Ruiz Moliner, Cory Russell Cassandra Rybicki, Juliana Sanchez, Hannah Schlenker, Michael Schwarz, Eli Scoby, Joseph Senneker, Madeline Simmons, Tanner Slotsema, Connor Smith, Jenna Smith, Kelsey Smith, Kendall Solon, Melissa Southwell, Jacob Stehley, Stephanie Stevens, Shelby Strah, Joseph Sweet, Haley Talcott, Yanni Tapia, Hannah Tawney, Skye Thebo, Thomas, Felicia Thompson, Jordan Timmer, Madeline Chase Treglia, Tome, Catherine Tremblay, Anne Vanderson, Allyson VanTil, William Velting, Amanda

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Mackinzie Whaley, Rachel

White, Jake Will, Amanda

Willson, Kelsey Wittenbach,

Jeremy Wodarek, Kelsey

Wold, Kasey Woodhead.

Kelsey Aiken, Corinne

Alberts, Bailey Allen, Aubrey

Ardis, Gerrid Ball, Katherine

Bassin, Robert Becker, Blake

Bergy, Jennifer Betts, Joel

Bieri, Corey Bilski, Tyler

11TH GRADE

Bitterman, Daniel Blake, Sarah Bocskey, Griffin Brenk, Treasure Bristol, Amber Caitlin Brown, Kelsey Brown, Michael Brown, Parker Buck, Chase Bueche, Whitney Bunn, Noah Burtt, Jill Callihan, Bradley Canfield, Benjamin Carlson, Carvajal, Rebecca Chamberlain, Derek Chopp, Emily Churches, Cameron Clark, Brianna Clarke, Chelsea Comdure, Alexandria Cowden, Timothy Creighton, Nicholas Christine Zvirzdinis. Crook, Dayna Crumback, Brooke Curtis, Sarah Cyrocki, Alexis DeLeon, Jone Destine Jonathan Dixon, Marie Dollar, Olivia Doty, Molly Doyle, Elliott Drain, Kaitlin Drudy, Andrew Drust, Connor Duiven, Nicole Bagin, Caitlin Baker, Emma Duvernay, Devyn Earls, Taryn Endres, Heather Barr, Conor Barr, Nicholas Ferris, Aaron Fetzer, Ellen Bauer, Jacob Bennett, Kari Fitzpatrick, Taylor Flanagan, Bergy, Christopher Bewell, Foley, Maxwell Forton, Blough, Kaitlyn Bocskey, Lee Franklin, Marcus Fron, Mark Bodus, Anthony Hannah Geelhoed, Nicholas Bogardus, John Bogardus, Getz, Melissa Grasman, Seth Boogaard, Dakota Both, Kimberly Green, Justin Hall, Kristin Bouwhuis, Samantha Jennifer Hartley, Blake Hayes, Braman, Sean Andrea Herrera, Kendall Samantha Brock, Madelyn Hewitt, Martin Hewitt, Kallie Brower, Sarah Buist, Deanna Holzhueter, Claire Hopkins, Bunn, Alexander Calvi, Thomas Houlihan, Matthew Danielle Carigon, Valentyna Houston, Craig Huber, Adam Chernysh, Devon Chopp, Hubert, Jalen Humphreys, Erik Alyssa Churches, Malorie Ingebretson, Miah Jackson, Coble, Samuel Collins, Brent Krysta Jankowski, Zackry Cone, Trenton Cooke, Derek Jeffries, Emily Jelsma, Jillian Cornish, Joshua Corteville, Johnson, Shannon Johnston, Annalisa Crain, Christian

Manszewski, Rebekah Martin, Brady Maughan, Katherine Maycroft, Conor McCarrey. Nicholas McKay, Mitchell McKenna, Monica McRae. Paige McVey, Jessica Mertz, Meyer, Lucas Miles, Brittney Mitchell, Megan Montgomery, Moore, Taylor Moore, Forrest Mundwiler, Colin Murray. Skyler Nauta, Kyleigh Newman, Jonathon Nichols Noall, Rachael Nora, Emily Katelyn Oudhoff, Brandy Parrish, Thomas Pastor, Eleni Peckham, Troy Petersen Kaylie Petroelje, Neil Phillips Brynlee Pomper, Jacob Porter, Benjamin Proefke, Matthew Proefke, Courtney Race, Megan Racine, Paige Rash, Kailee Richards, Brianna Richardson, Jenna Ries. Morgan Rogalke, Allison Roth, Julie Russo, Wade Schlosser. Courtney Schmidt, William Schmidt, Kristen Schramm. Caleb Schultz, Anna Scudder, Kate Scudder, Torrey Slocum, Shelby Snyder, Samuel Steed, Conner Swift, Olivia Taber, Madison Tawney, Kelsey Taylor, Danielle Thomas Cort Thompson, Katherine Tompkins, Nicholas Toomey, Joshua Tozer, Kelly Trapp, VanDerWarf, VanNoord, Samantha Visscher, Crystal Vosburg, Erica Walendzik, Tyler Wallner, Kelsey Ward, Warren, Brandy Washburn, Katherine Weaver, Daniel Wernet, Alex Westdorp, Eliot Westdorp, Molly Willemstein, Jared Williams, Ethan Willison,

12TH GRADE

Cody Acker, Anastacia Adams, Jillian Alexander, Andrew Amidon, Kacy Anderson, Brittany Anthony, Nathan Baker, Alexander Braydon Samantha Billock, Paula Jones, Harley Crist, Christian Crook, Robert Kaminski, Jessica Kansman, Crosby, Kait Cummings, Alyssa Kargl, Evan Kohtz, Chelsea Davidson, Megan Morgan Kornoelje, Sarah DeFouw, Hailey DeGrote, Kramer, Kristyn Krey, Noelle Katie DeKraker, Marc Destine, Justin Lehman, Jessica Lewis, Dlouhy, Molly Doering, Young. Jasmine Lillie, Rebecca Lauren Dood, Alec Downing, Lorentz, Bryleigh Loughlin, Linsey Dykhouse, Christopher

Lauren Ferguson. Feuerstein, Kyle Fitzpatrick, Erin Fleet, Sara Fosburg, Joseph Foy, Leigha Frisbie, David Fron, Amanda Geldersma, Emily Geldersma. Joshua Geldersma, Benjamin Gerig, Phillip Getzen, Samantha Gibbs, Kayla Gildea, Kaily Gillan, Gina Giuliano. Jacob Gould, Austin Graham Kortney Grames, Carly Greenhoe, Sean Greenhoe, Matthew Griffioen, Dylan Grim, Torin Hacker, Samantha Hagerman, Matthew Hanks. Keegan Hanrahan, Jonathan Hanson, Shelby Herb, Randa Hogan, Kati Hoseth, Alison Huffman, Ashlie Jahnke, Anna Jakubielski, Kevin Jones, Tracy Jones, Katie Jousma, Britni Kammers, Stanley Karas, Jacob Karasiewicz, Matthew Keen, Mattie Kropf, Connor Kruse, Joshua Kyburz, Kelsey Langlois, Anthony Larkin, Kendra Lawley, Parker Liu, Elissa Lorentz, Kevin Luyk, Dylan MacDougall, Thomas Mark, Robert Marsalese. Julieann Marsman, Patrick Martin, Mercedes Mason, Kyle Mayhew, Nicholas McQueen, Travis Meade, Brooke Mellema, Brooke Merrill, Ashlea Middleditch, Morgan Mikesell, Cassie Miles, Scott Mooney, Trevor Mooney, Kolin Morgan, Jackson Morse, Jillian O'Haire, Dylan Olin, Kaleb Ort, Nichelle Ortowski, Sarah Piell, Chelsea Pipkins. Michael Plite, Kathryn Plutschouw, Katie Postema. Nicholas Poulias, Brennan Prill, Troy Prill, Britteny Kendra Rasch, Linnea Rash, Erica Raymond, Jennie Reeser, Zachary Rhodes, Kristofer

Sara Nagy, Zachary Noskey, Casey Oster, Courtney Phenix. Rinke, Hannah Ritzema, Shelby Roberts, Samantha Robinson, Zachary Robinson Mackenzie Roerig, Megan Rachel Wold, Samantha Woody, Molly Wright, Kelly Rogers, Kelly Roth, Moriah Wyckoff, Allison Young, Rowley, RachaelRowley, Nicole Ruesink, Shane Ryan, Samuel Young, Scott Zalis, Jessica Ryder, Joseph Schreur, Dylan Seese, Samantha Shank, Seth Shattuck, Melissa Shepard, Brenton Sirowatka, Lauren Smit, Hannah Smith, Todd Smith, Jeffrey Sova, Kassondra Spaulding, Joshua Spratt, Kyle Stanford, Lindsey Stehley, Jordan Sterly, Amanda Sterzick, Kelly Stevens, Joshua Stewart, Maxwell Stormzand, Molly Story, Jennifer Susan, Austin Tackmann, Isaac Tawney, Kelsey Teft, Hallie Thomas, Lukas Thompson, Steven Tichelaar, Haleigh Timmers, Chelsey Treglia, Steven Trierweiler, John Trupke, Michael Underwood, Shantee VanOverbeek, Eric VanSledright, Shane Videan, Justene Vogl, Mary Walsh. Amanda Ward, Sarah Weaver, Jack Weeber, Jessica Wehby. Jessica White, Zachary White. Leah Whorley, Heather Wieberdink, Courtney Wierzbicki, Jordan Wilder. Kayla Williams, Keith Williams, John Williamson, Evan Wilterink, Stephanie Winsor, Thomas Wodarek, Matthew Woodhead, Bryon Kyes, Maggie Lancaster, Kara DeVries, Annelyse Yakes, Charles Young, Megan

Your Hometown Heroes

wednesday • march • 31 • 201

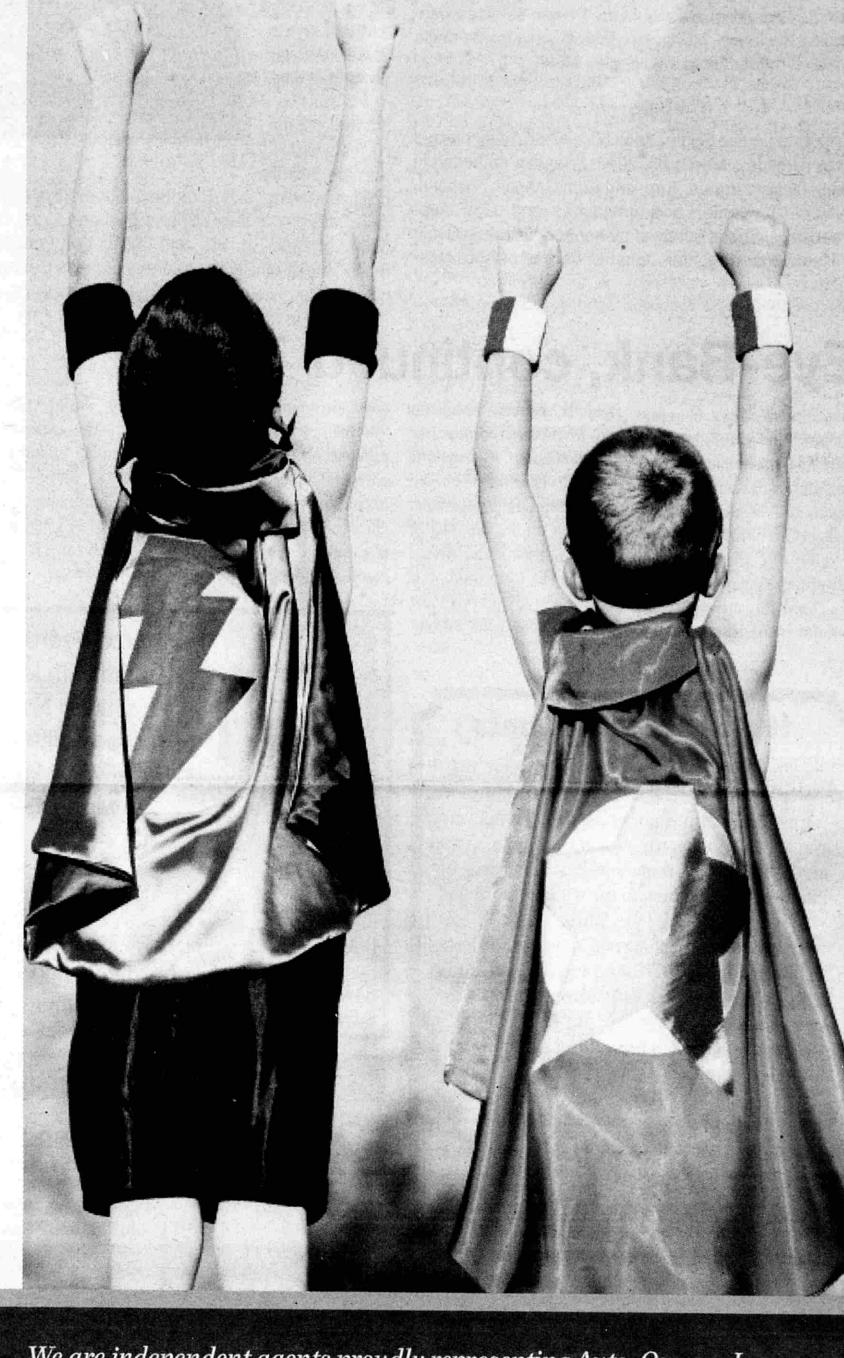
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incentives

obituaries

GREEN

Barbara Jean Green, aged 87, of Alto, passed away Monday, March 22, 2010. She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles J. Ellis; daughter, Sharon Lee Ward; and son-in-law, Terry Dintaman. She is survived by her daughters, Judith (Tom) Jorgensen, Kathleen Sue Dintaman, and Jane (Larry) Sherlund; son-in-law, Richard C. (Carol) Ward; half-brother, Rick (Merry) Harrold; 13 grandchildren, 37 great-grandchildren and two great-great-granddaughters. Private services were held by the family. Memorial contributions may be made to Alto Library, 6071 Linfield, Alto, MI 49302.

SPRITE

Norma Louise Sprite, aged 89, of Caledonia, passed away Tuesday, March 23, 2010. She was preceded in death by her parents, Terry and Ruth Connell; husband. Edward J. Sprite; one grandchild and one stepgrandchild. She is survived by her son, Charl G. Oviatt of Kentwood; daughter, Janet L. Varney of Alto: step-

With Grateful Thanks

The family of Allen J. Wisner would like to thank

all of you who came to show and share your love,

support and respect for our father. Thank you

also for the kind words, thoughts, prayers, visits,

cards, flowers and donations during his time of

illness and homegoing to the with his Lord and

Savior Jesus Christ.

We would like to offer special thanks to Rest

Haven Homes, Dr. Huang and the staff and

Lemmen-Holton, Spectrum Health Hospice and

Angel Care and their wonderful and caring staff.

Also special thanks to Dave and Jan Thompson,

Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, Pastor Ken Ford and

Ralph Van Ryn. All of you have touched our

hearts; this has meant so veery much to our entire

family. We appreciate each and everyone of you.

Sincerely,

The Wisner Family

son, Larry Sprite of Spring Lake; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; five step-grandchildren; 25 step-great-

grandchildren; and nine stepgreat-greatgrandchildren. retired the Girl Scout Council, Caledonia Timers Campau Lake Association. She enjoyed cooking, linedancing



puzzles, history, politics, reading, and gardening. Funeral services were held Saturday at the O'Brien-Eggebeen-Gerst Chapel, 3980 Cascade Rd. SE, with Pastor Ken Ford of Alton Bible Church officiating. Interment Alaska Cemetery.

Eye-Bank, continued

donors, physicians, hospital and distributes corneas for staff and transplant centers. transplantation, supports provides giftoflifemichigan.org.

The Michigan Eye-Bank's (800) 247-7250 or visit the mission is the restoration of organization's Web site at

donation. To learn more, call comfort and peace to each www.hom.org.

as an intermediary between sight. It recovers, evaluates www.michiganeyebank.org. patient during his or her Hospice of Michigan end-of-life experience and specialized, to provide support for the For more information about eye and vision research and compassionate care to patient's loved ones. For offers public and professional people living with advanced more information, call (888) contact Gift of Life Michigan education on the importance chronic illness. Its mission 247-5181 or visit the Hospice at (800) 482-4881 or www. of eye, organ and tissue is to ensure quality of life, of Michigan Web site at



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and

Millions of disabled and work with Social Security or Supplemental Security (SSI) payments. Some receive both. Most also have help in paying medical bills from Medicare or Medicaid.

Many of these individuals would prefer to be working. MAXIMUS, Inc., at 1-866-But taking that leap can be a 968-7842 (TTY, 1-866challenge — especially with 833-2967). MAXIMUS is the risk of giving up much- a private company working needed medical insurance with Social Security. They and sustaining disability cash can answer most of your

If you're in that situation - you want to work but don't want to risk losing benefits — Social Security networks" or the state has just the ticket for you: the vocational Ticket to Work program. The Ticket to Work program may be able to help you obtain information about Social rehabilitation. training, job referrals, and other employment support The Work Site at www. services free of charge.

When you use your Ticket, you can get help finding a public affairs specialist for iob, vocational rehabilitation or other assistance. These services are provided at no cost to you by employment SE, Grand Rapids, MI networks, which are private 49503 or via email at vonda. organizations or government vantil@ssa.gov agencies that have agreed to

We have been told we cannot do this by a chorus of cynics. They will only grow louder and more dissonant in the weeks to come. We've been asked to pause for a reality check; we've been warned against

offering the people of this nation false hope. But in the unlikely story that is America, there has never been anything false about hope.

- Barack Obama (1961 -)



Lawn Maintenance



TOWNSHIP 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

wednesday • march • 31 • 2010

office hours:

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

- ledger classifieds

for sale

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

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 buyersquide.com, Lowell. Ph. 897-9261.

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 Alden Nash. Ideal building site. rolling, partially wooded, near the Lowell Township offices. Call Dan, 856-9100. Continental Realty.

MINIATURE HORSE FOR SALE - Buckskin mare w/ blacktail & mane. 28 inches tall. Call 987-4279.

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.

HAY - 1st cutting, \$3 per bale; 2nd & 3rd cutting \$3.50 per bale. Straw, \$2 per bale. 616-889-3311.

BOAT TRAILER - Galvanized 12' - 20', like new, \$375; Century cargo cover for short box pickup, \$200. Call 897-1721.

MINIATURE DACHS-**HUNDS FOR SALE-Pure**bred. Ready to go April 5. Call 987-4279.

BUFFALO MEAT FOR SALE - Call for more information, 642-9206.

NEW LISTING - The feeling of country living but still close to town, Ionia Schools, 3 bedroom, 2 full bath with newer kitchen cabinets & counters, 2 8303.TFN stall attached garage on full basement. Large yard with covered front porch. Just \$89,900. Call for your showing today. Call Sharon Conley, 616-446-6578 or Melinda Robison. 616-648-0151 or visit us at www.GoMelinda.com Five Star Real Estate, 616-791-

sales

1500.

GARAGE SALE - Fri., April 2, 9 to 6 p.m. corner of Riverside & Foreman.

MOVING SALE - 945 Lincoln Lake, April 2, noon - 6 p.m. & April 3, 8 - 2 p.m. Girls, women's, men's clothes, TV stand, office & other furniture.

misc.

FOR RENT - Lowell, Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, trash, sewer/water with single carport included Laundry on-site. \$600/mo \$300 deposit. No pets, no smoking. 897-4829.

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.

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.

for rent

CLARKSVILLE COUNTRY HOME FOR RENT - 3 bedrooms, 2 full bath, garage \$750/mo. + utilities. Nicole

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

LOFT STYLE APART-MENT FOR RENT - 2 bed, 1 bath. Spacious loft style apartment, downtown Lowell, new carpet & paint, central air, laundry hookup & off street parking. Call 293-2581 for details/tour.

SMALLHOUSEFORRENT On Grand River Dr. One mile east of Lowell. Very efficient, studio floor plan. Pets negotiable. \$550. Call 616-745-1587.

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

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

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

wanted

LOOKING FOR TEAMS American Cancer Society Relay for Life, Lowell, June 11-12. Celebrate! Remember! Fight Back! www.relay forlife.org/lowellmi. Signup: cbriggs@lowellschools.

lost

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

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

BALL'S SOFTEE CREME You're open! Had my first turtle sundae. Thanks,

services

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

COMPUTER REHAB -\$55 all repairs - Virus & Spyware removal. No diagnostic fees! Mon. - Sat., 505-B West Main St., Lowell, 616-828-5346, www. computerRehab.ws

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services

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

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

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

BURIED IN DEBT? We can help. Financial wellness begins with a plan designed by you; not your creditors. Davis Legal Advocates of Lowell. 897-7010.

services

CHIMNEY SWEEP SPRING SPECIAL - Have your chimney inspected and swept for the spring special price of \$100. Call 616-897-4146.

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.

AFFORDABLE TREE 8 LANDSCAPE SERVICE STEVEN R. SIMKINS, AT- - Tree work, landscaping, mowing, full season work

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basis & are not guaranteed to run. the library w/fun activities that If you would like to make sure encourage creative play & early your event is placed in the paper, literacy. For children 6 & under please call our office & place it as a w/a caregiver. Englehardt Library, classified ad. All Coming Events or 200 N. Monroe, Lowell. changes to coming events should be submitted by fax: 897-4809 email: classifieds@lowellbuyers guide.com, by mail: PO Box 128, owell, MI 49331 or in person: 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

BINGO - Every Sunday, 2 p.m. The Moose Rec Hall, 1320 E. Main St. Sponsored by W.O.T.M. Chapter #1388. Open to the public.

TIONAL - Thursdays 9 a.m. - 10 pel, 10200 Grand River Ave. Moms - Serving Belding, Ionia, Lowell & & grandmas come pray for our Saranac areas, will hold its requkids & schools. Contact Missy at lar communication at 7:30 p.m. 308-7920 or jakooistra@comcast. on Mon., April 5 at the Masonic

MOMS IN TOUCH INTERNA-

SPRING ANIME FESTIVAL - for All Masons may attend. Tweens & teens (ages 10 & up),

are for non-profit organizations. April 9, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Meet p.m. at Good Shepherd Lutheran BROTT - Tues., April 27, 1-3 p.m. hey are ran on a space available your friends for a play date at Church.

> have an extra crunchy good time w/games & creative activities. Tues., April 6, 3 p.m. For children 6 & up. Englehardt Library, 200 N.

BOOKWORMS ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION - Tues., April 13, 10 a.m. Infidel by Ayaan Hirsi Ali; FOOD PANTRY - at Lakeside Tues., May 11, 10 a.m. The Sea-Community Church, 6201 Whit- sons of the Emma Lee; On the Waneyville Rd. Free frozen, perish- ters of Northern Michigan, a Great able food. First Friday. Registra- Ship Changes the Course of Lives tion 2:30, distribution 4 p.m. Bring Through Generations by Michael Lindley. This discussion will be led by the author. Englehardt Library,

a.m. at Friendship Country Cha- THE MASONIC LODGE #355 Temple, 211 E. Main, Belding. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m.

200 N. Monroe, Lowell,

Wed., May 5, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the DORIC CHAPTER #75 - Order Englehardt Library. Participants of the Eastern Star will hold its will view anime films, discuss regular communication beginanime & Japanese culture. Re- ning at 7:30 p.m. on Tues., April freshments & door prizes, 200 N. 13, at the Masonic Temple, 211 E. Main St., Belding. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. All Stars PAJAMA STORYTIME - For may attend.

library during the day. Offers an HOOKER CHAPTER #73 - of evening of stories & fun. Bring your the Royal Arch Masons, servteddy bear; pajamas optional! For ing the Belding, Ionia, Lowell children 6 & under w/a caregiver. & Saranac areas, will hold its Wed., April 21 & May 19, 6:30 stated convocation, beginning at p.m. Englehardt Library, 200 N. 7:30 p.m. on Wed., April 14 at the Masonic Temple, 211 E. Main St., Belding. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. All Royal Arch Masons

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES - sign N. Washington St., Sat., April 10, 10 a.m. - noon. You may also order online using your debit or **ORIGAMI** - Each Tuesday, 2-3 CAPTAINUNDERPANTS EXTRA credit card. Go to www.angelfood CRUNCHYLIBRARYPROGRAM ministries.com. Any questions, call folding. Gilda's Club-Lowell Club-

MSU EXTENTION PRESENTS Public Library, April 6, 10 a.m. (no Storytime today)

MSU EXTENTION'S WIGGLES & WAGS ACTIVITY - April 7 & 8. 10 a.m. at the Saranac Public MOVIE MATINEE - April 8 at the Saranac Public Library, 2

p.m. Showing Alivin and The Chipmunks The Squekel. FREE movie & popcorn. (no chess club STORYTIME - April 13, 20 & 27

10 a.m. at the Saranac Public **BUILDING FITNESS: AGENTLE** APPROACH - Tuesdays, April

13 & 27, 1-2:30 p.m. at Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S Hudson, Lowell. Join a certified athletic trainer for low impact fitness activities. Class is adapted to your abilities with a focus on fun & fitness.

SPRING TIME PARTY - Sat. April 24. 1-3 p.m. Come & help us welcome spring! Bring the whole family to enjoy a delicious lunch & activities for adults & kids! Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S

PLEASENOTE - Coming Events CREATIVE PLAYTIME - Fri., BLOOD DRIVE - April 6, 3-7 GARDENING WITH JOHN grounds for some basic gardening & landscaping projects. Gilda's

> p.m. Learn the ancient art of paper house, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

EASTER PROGRAM - April 3, CANCER-KIDS&TWEENTALK 10 a.m. at the Saranac Public GROUP - First & third Tuesdays. 5:30 - 7 p.m. A committed group for children in first - eighth grade on a cancer journey. Incorporates curriculum-based activities, discussion & fun. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hud-

> **GRIEF - ADULT GROUP - Each** Tuesday, 2-3 p.m. & second & fourth Tuesdays 5:30 - 7 p.m. A committed group for adults who have experienced the death of a family member or friend. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S Hudson, Lowell.

> GRIEF - KIDS GROUP - Second & fourth Tuesdays, 5:30 - 7 p.m A committed group for children in first - fourth grade on a grie journey. Incorporates curriculumbased activities, dicussion & fun. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

GRIEF - NEW MEMBER MEET ING - Call the clubhouse to sched ule your introductory meeting for grief support groups. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell, 897-8600.

TEEN GROUP - CANCER AND GRIEF - First & third Tuesdays 5:30 - 7 p.m. A committed group for teens in ninth - twelfth grade on a cancer or grief journey Incorporates curriculum-based activities & discussion. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

BOWNE REQUESTING BIDS

MARCH 24 - MARCH 30

- History is made as the health reform bill is signed into law on Tuesday, March 23, 2010.
- President Barack Obama pays a surprise visit to troops in Afghanistan.
- Two female suicide bombers kill at least 37 people in a Moscow subway.
- After beating Tennessee, the Michigan State Spartans will make their sixth final four appearance in 12 years. The rest of the final four: the Blue Devils from Duke University, the Butler University Bulldogs and the Mountaineers of West Virginia University.
- Another group killing for their deity A Christian militia group calling itself "Hutaree" (Christian warrior) has had several members in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana detained on criminal charges. The nine members arrested apparently planned to "levy war" on the U.S. by killing law enforcement officials and then attending their funerals where larger groups of law enforcement would assemble that they could then bomb.
- In the no-news to anyone department Ricky Martin has "come out" as a "fortunate homosexual man' on his official website.

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Someone had to say it!

Spartans!

Not only have they on many of your backs as I found a way to win again in March, but this year it seems they have benefitted from some outside help.

third seeded Hoyas from fall Georgetown; Northern Iowa beats top seed Kansas; and Tennessee upends second seed Ohio State.

fifth-seeded Spartans have made it to the final four playing just one team seeded higher than them.

Call it lucky, but luck always seems to be on the side of teams who win.

Of the 33 entries in The Ledger Bracket Brigade, one participant has Butler (west region) and Michigan State (midwest region) making it through all the way to the final four. Congratulations Tony Dommer. Unfortunately, he whiffed in the east and south

were 29 participants who shot an selections in the midwest and west regions.

Lam at 55 going into the weekend. I am one of seven entries who have West Virginia in the championship game, however, my bracket is the only one which has West Virginia winning the

whole thing. If that is what transpires I will be stepping climb up the ladder. Then again, if the Mountaineers lose I could fall even further. Being on one of the lower Ohio U. defeats the rungs, it is sure to be a short

Here is the list of scores through the elite eight:

Mason 75 Mary Jo 73 Tyler 72 Chris V. 71 Tony 69 Daniel D. 68 Tim 67 Cheri 64

Kyle 64 Andy 63 Cats 61 Marilyn 60 Cristina 59 Josh 59 Craig 58 Mark 58 Terry 58 Jeff 58 Bill 57

Alex 57 Derek 57 Landon 57 Shawn 56 Jack 56

THAD 55 Dan 55 Logan 54 Dirk 53 Chris V. 51 Chris G. 47 Kevin 41



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

Sound Off poll result:

Which of these 20th Century innovations has had the biggest influence on our lives?

Interstate Highway System	25%
Television	12%
Internet	63%

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

THIS WEEK'S **POLL QUESTION ...**

Health Care -

- Glad it's finally passed and we can move on
- Hope the Republicans can repeal it
- Still don't feel like I have enough information
- I'm writing Sound Off!

The sun is amazing!

I was brought up to trust the police and that they are here to help us. So why do they write things down that you didn't say? To make you look

Yes! Finally the health care bill is passed!

Troll adoptions have been all the rage, New homes for every size, shape and age, So look high and look low, At local businesses you know,

And one you may find, we will wage!

We would like to send a special "Thank You" to the super nice couple that purchased Girl Scout cookies at our cookie booth outside of Walgreens on Sunday. When you returned later with the hot cocoa for us we were so surprised and thrilled! We appreciate your support so much.

- Girl Scout Cadette Troop 2158

CITY OF LOWELL RESIDENTS ONLY

YARD WASTE PICKUP SCHEDULE FOR

SPRING AND SUMMER 2010

The City of Lowell's Spring and Summer yard waste program is scheduled for the second and fourth Thursday of each month through September unless there is a holiday in that week and then the pickup day will be Friday. Yard waste bags are \$20.00 for a bundle of ten (10).

YARD WASTE PICKUP SCHEDULE April 8th and 22nd May 13th and 27th June 10th and 24th July 9th* and 22nd August 12th and 26th September 10th* and 23rd

*PLEASE NOTE THESE DATES ARE A FRIDAY PICKUP DUE TO A HOLIDAY DURING THE WEEK.

If you have any questions, please contact City Hall (897-8457).

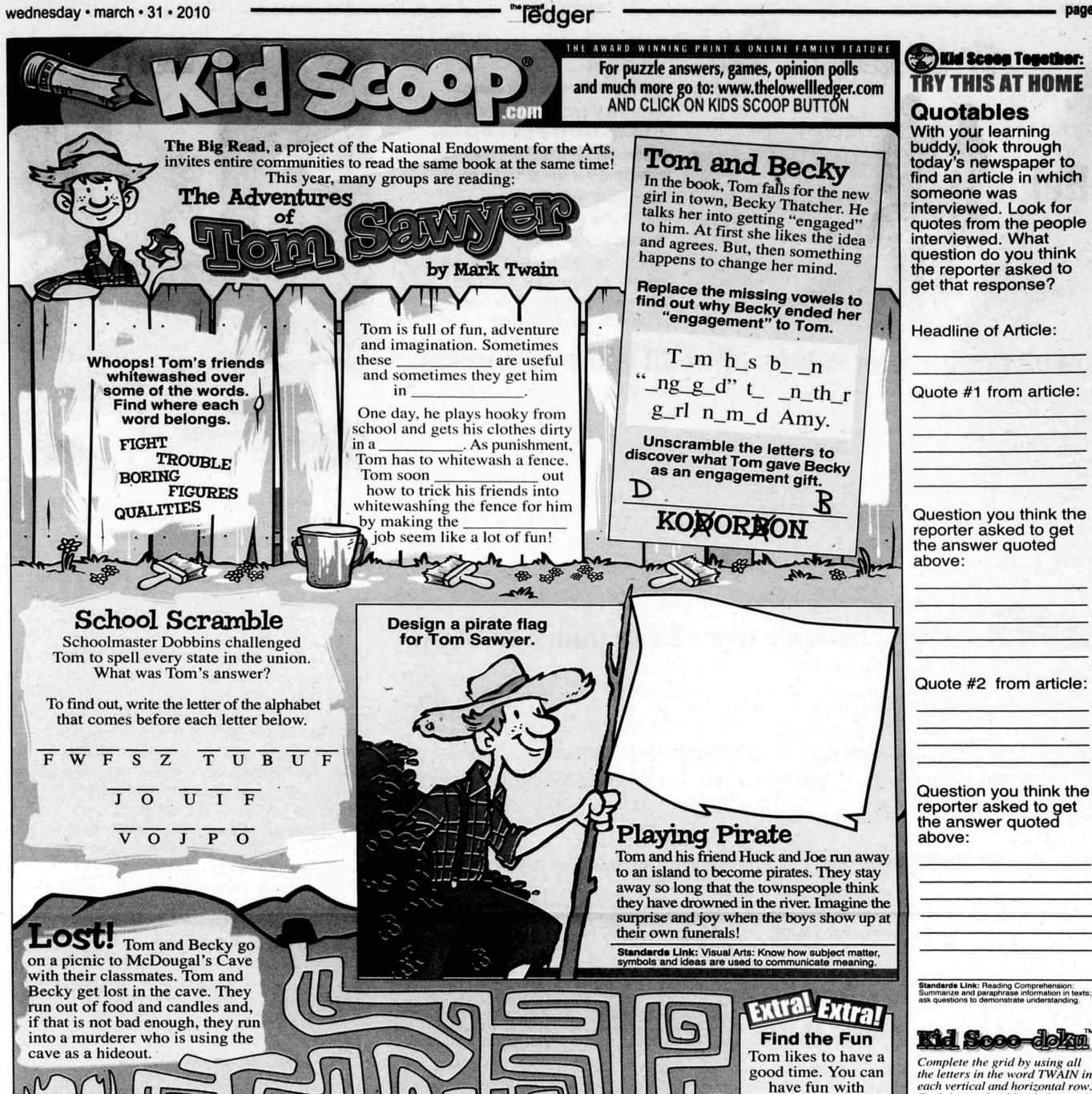


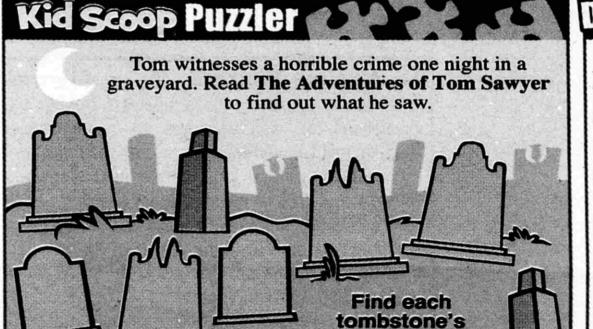
When submitting your opinion to Sound Off!, we ask you to follow a few guidelines. Sound Off! is meant to be a way for you to compliment or vent your feelings with civility. A healthy way to get something off your chest or spread a little kindness.

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 please.

So basically, submit anything - but not everything will make

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





Can you escape from the cave?

Find more about The Big Read and color in some Tom Sawyer pictures. Go to www.kidscoop.com/kids

Find the words in the puzzle.

Then look for each word in this week's

today's newspaper.

Simply look at the

headlines in the

how many you can

change to mean just

the opposite.

ADVENTURES. THATCHER Kid Scoop stories and activities. **ENGAGED** SESSENTIWH WHITEWASH EREAEMIRCS HOOKY **PIRATE** SERUTNEVDA **ESCAPE** CYNODHESOW CRIME AKMGCTCKBE WITNESSES POTTAHAIBT CAVE EOARIGVPI **BECKY** TOM SHIYKCEBNH **DOBBINS** TPNOINUDSW UNION

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

Each letter should only be used

once in each row. Some spaces

have been filled in for you.

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS This week's word: **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.



Adventure Time

Find an article in the newspaper about a person you think is adventurous. Read the article and then make a timeline showing the order of events in the article.

Standards Link: Reading: Sequence main ideas to summarize.



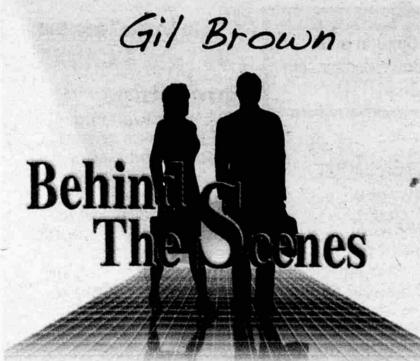
SKIP

Why is it so hard to talk to a pirate?

ANSWER: Because they love to arringue!

Write On! Reading Rocks

Explain why you like to read and what you enjoy reading.



Position: Residence:

Family:

Hobbies:

Service:

Education:

Postmaster
Lake Odessa

Bachelor of Science from Michigan Technical University, master's degree in management from Aquinas College

Experience: Postmaster since 2001 in Lowell;
management in Grand Rapids post

office since 1981
Wife Shirley, children:
Richard, Erin, and Sam

Fishing, Harley bike riding, and gardening 1969-1971 Vietnam and Cambodia infantry; 2005 rotary president; 2006 member of Veterans of Foreign Wars



by Emma Palova

Lowell postmaster Gil Brown, 61, will retire at the end of March. Brown started working in the postal service as a city carrier in Grand Rapids in the early 1980s. He worked himself up to a management position overseeing 40 carriers and a window operation.

Since Brown resides in Lake Odessa, he transferred to Lowell to be in a smaller town.

The early challenges of the job were mainly the management of the mail flow due to high volume. However, the window operation hasn't changed.

The big change over the years has been ebay and Internet. People are buying more and more online and shipping more.

"It has grown tremendously," he said.

And today, the challenges mean the decrease in volume

of letter and flat mail which means declining revenues. In order to handle new tasks, the postal service has made the routes bigger and gotten rid of an auxiliary route that was absorbed.

Brown manages 24 employees including part-time.

"It's been a good job,"
Brown said. "People of
Lowell are wonderful. They
come here and visit."

Brown said he will miss the interaction with the people.

His short term goals always included making the budget on a daily basis and making sure the window was fully staffed, as well as getting the mail delivered.

The long term goal for Brown has always been becoming a postmaster and he has accomplished his goal through diligence, perseverance, a work ethic learned from his parents, and discipline, which he had learned in the army.

Brown has been viewed by his peers and employees as a professional and a friend.

And what sets the postal service apart from the competition?

"We deliver to every mailbox in the county six days a week," Brown said.

But, he does envision a change to a five-day delivery with the letter volume continuing to drop.

"Computersandmachines sort all the mail that used to be hand sorted," he said. The conversion to machinery sorting started in the 1970s. To find new revenues, the postal service will do passports as well as sell greeting cards.

To thrive in these economic times, Brown said the postal service will continue to reduce work hours, eliminate positions throughout the country and downsize the workforce.

"The computers will do most of the work and the people will get eliminated," he said.

A good day at the post office is when everybody shows up. And a bad day means, who's going to sort and deliver?

"Sometimes it's me, the clerk, the custodian or the combination of all of us," he said. "It's gotta get done. We've never had a day that we didn't deliver all the mail. It has to be delivered every day."

And even on a stormy wintry day out in the country, the carriers go out and deliver.

"They go out in bad storms," he said.

As far as retirement plans, Brown wants to volunteer in national parks out west.

DAZ

Who benefits from those public notices?

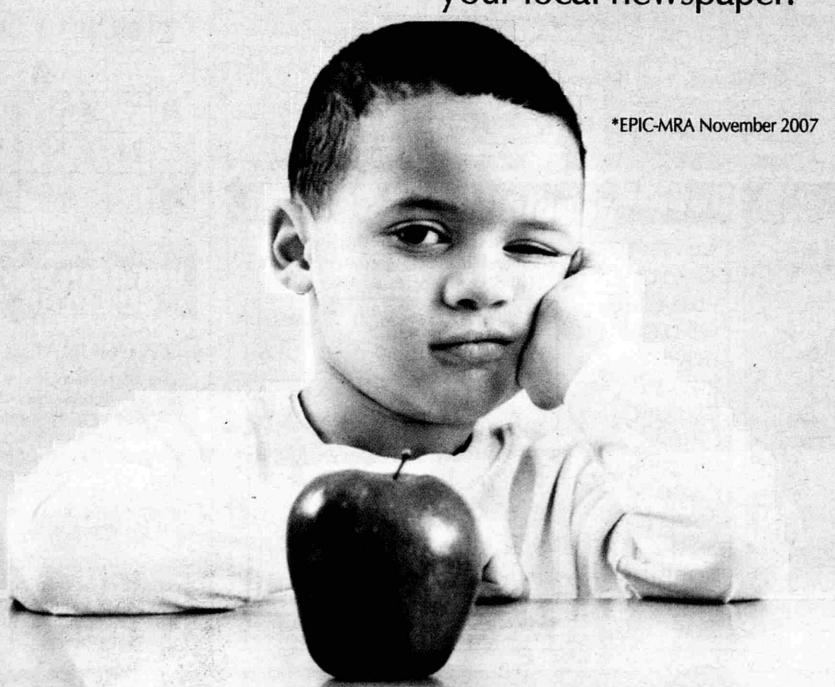
You do.

Hardly a week passes without some small notice being printed in this newspaper. These legal advertisements affect you, your family and friends.

They show how your government is being run, how much money is being spent and where. Through this newspaper, they keep you in touch with your government

That's the whole idea.

More than two-thirds of active Michigan voters think legal notices should continue to be placed in your local newspaper.*



the lowell dger

This newspaper supports your right to know.

Direct Care Workers - We are a non-profit Christian organization that empowers people with disabilities or disadvantages to achieve their highest level of independence. Are you a caring individual seeking a job where you can make a difference in others' lives? We are seeking people with a positive attitude, patience and compassion for others to join our team. We have on-call, parttime and full-time positions available on all shifts. We are also consistently looking for candidates to fill on-call positions. We utilize on-call staff to fill open shifts, this is a great way to work your way into a part-time or full-time position. Requirements include: HS Diploma/GED required, valid driver's license with acceptable driving record required, demonstrated written and verbal communication skills, ability to pass physical/drug screen, lift 50 pounds, and pass criminal background check. Starting pay is \$10.00 per hour. Paid training is provided!

Interested candidates can apply online at www.hopenetwork.org or in person at:

Hope Network Career Center 775 36th Street Grand Rapids, MI 49509 H/V/M/F, EOE, Affiliate of Hope Network