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Shopping in Lowell off to a good start

wednesday · december · 1 · 2010

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issue 8

# only

#### shopping days till christmas



### the final game



by Emma Palova

Shopping in downtown Lowell on Black Friday was slightly up, but followed an up and down pattern due to a Lowell football game.

It went from busier in were the hottest sellers. the morning, and lighter and then it picked back up again. But overall it was a mixed bag as far as in comparison to last year both in volumes of customers and sales.

start," Mike Sprenger of Springrove Variety said. "But then everybody went to the game."

Specials included sales throughout the store, toys and Christmas goods. Fleece was a hot sale.

"It was a little better than last year," said Sprenger.

At Cousins' Hallmark, Sue Mooney said business

"We were steady in the morning and picking up in the afternoon," said Mooney.

Christmas ornaments and the Night Before Christmas

At Larkin's, business picked up after the football game.

Further down west on Fulton, salesperson Sharon Miller of Bernard's Ace "We got off to a good Hardware said the store was busier last year. There were all sorts of sales, but the shop sold out of the shop vac and DeWalt drill.

> At Daisy Floral, now located on Main Street inside the Flat River Antique Mall suites, there was more traffic, mainly walk-in traffic at the old strip mall location.

> > Shopping in Lowell, continued, page 3



Karen Hale and Terri Chopp at Cousins' Hallmark were kept busy during the Thanksgiving holiday shopping weekend.

was the same as last year. The store had Hallmark specials.







pages 8 & 9



# **Farmers' Market** may move to new location in the spring

by Emma Palova

The Farmers' Market may move next spring from the fairgrounds to the parking lot in front of Tractor Supply for better exposure for the vendors.

Baker is hoping that the move will reinvent the market. The market has had a diminishing number of vendors.

"It is extremely hard to pinpoint the reason the market has diminished over the past couple of years, but here are some of the reasons we feel it has," she said.

The slowing economy and the bridge project may have been factors.

Also, the timing of the fair may have played its role.

"Fair, due to the fact that we have to close right when the crops are bumper, we have never gained our momentum back after the fair," Baker said.

Fair manager Ron Wenger was also the market master. Baker said it is time for someone to solely

dedicate time to the market. "Ron has too much on

his plate," said Baker. "It is time for someone to solely dedicate time to the market. Ron has been a wonderful Chamber director Liz market master."

> But times have changed and Wenger cannot dedicate hours to the market. His primary concern is for the well being of the Kent County Youth Fair and

the management of the fairgrounds.

"I have no regrets," he said. "I have too much to do."

The Lowell Area Farm Market committee decided to give the Tractor Supply parking lot a try due to the high visibility of the area and increased traffic. The

> Farmers' market, continued, page 4



Farmers' Market will move in front of Tractor Supply next spring.

# **Christmas** at Fallasburg raises money for historic preservation

by Emma Palova

The Christmas bonfire, 50 feet tall, held after the Christmas dinner at the Fallasburg schoolhouse can be seen all the way from town. It is the highlight of the annual fundraiser, according to president of Fallasburg Historical Society, Ken Tamke. The stack, made from tree trimmings collected from the area, is 15 yards long and 10 yards high.

The Christmas dinner on Dec. 11 is the second largest fundraiser after the July bike tour. Craig Wood is the firemaster who tends to the fire along with some diehards.

"The community gathers around the fire," said Tamke.

And even though the official time for the dinner is from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. fire diehards stay till 11 p.m.

The original dinner started as a pioneer dinner, but because it was catered, the historical society wasn't making any money on it.

"It was something that the pioneers might have had in the 1800s, like venison," said Tamke.

Tamke, whose family owned farm is locatedjust outside of Fallasburg, has a soft spot for the park and historic preservation. He became involved with the fundraiser in 2006 and gave it a new potluck version.

"Everybody contributes," he said. "You know



Christmas at Fallasburg, continued, page 7



ledge

### **Community Thanksgiving dinner a big success**

annual The second community dinner held at the First Congregational Church was a big success, according to pastor Chris Schwab.

The meal was Lowell sponsored by area churches with many volunteers serving food. Approximately 150 people were served.

"There was created environment on that day which offered hospitality and grace to one and all," he said. "All of the people who came to this time of food fellowship and much generosity. Thanks were spiritually, emotionally must be offered to all who and physically fed."

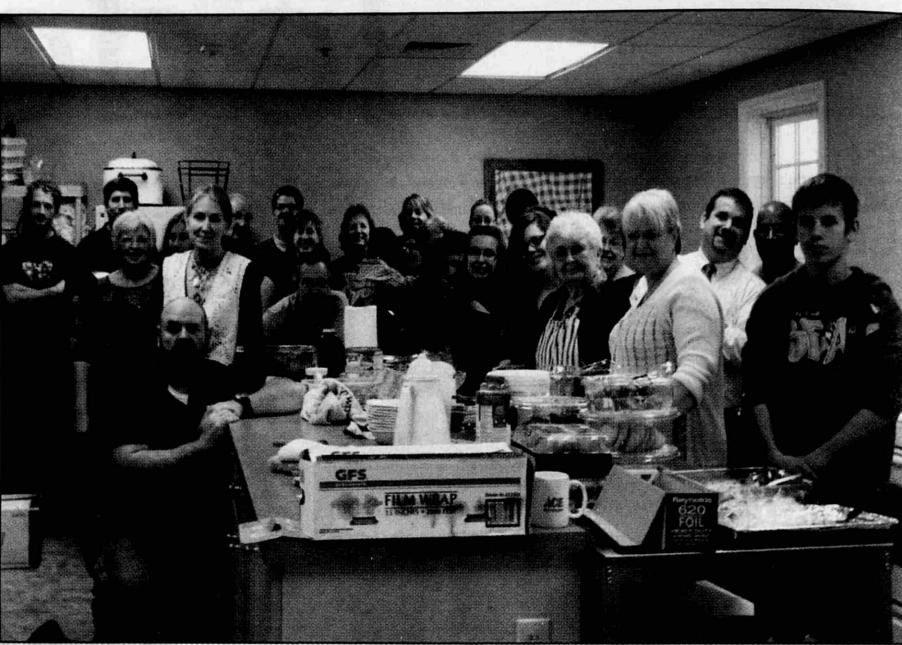
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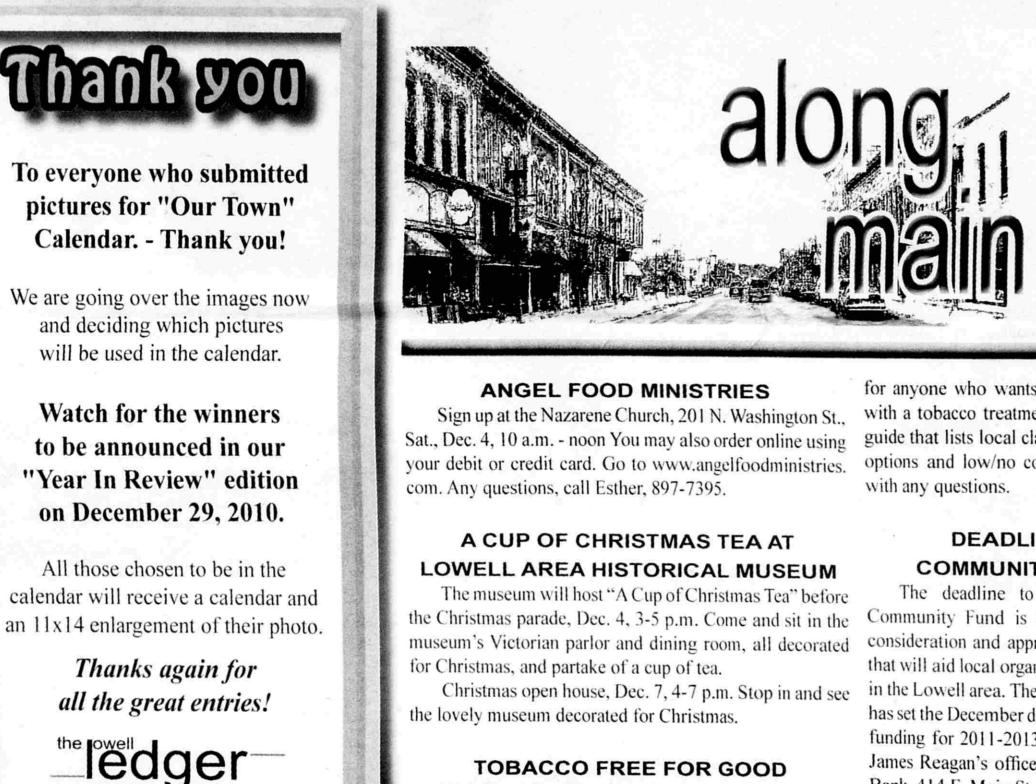
opportunities to meet new Thanksgiving people, as well as to connect with familiar faces.

> The net profit from this event was approximately \$250, all of which will be given to Flat River Outreach Ministries in order to assist the agency in helping others this holiday season. The amount of money that was collected this year was more than twice the amount that was collected at last year's event.

"This event was accomplished only through the efforts of many volunteers contributed or volunteered were their time," said Schwab.

Pictured are some of the many volunteers that helped make community dinner a success.





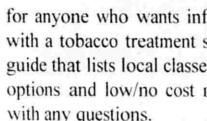
The museum will host "A Cup of Christmas Tea" before the Christmas parade, Dec. 4, 3-5 p.m. Come and sit in the museum's Victorian parlor and dining room, all decorated

Christmas open house, Dec. 7, 4-7 p.m. Stop in and see

#### **TOBACCO FREE FOR GOOD**

An informational meeting will be Wed., Dec. 8, 6-8 p.m. at Lowell Family Medical Center. This meeting is designed

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



#### DEADLINE FOR LOWELL **COMMUNITY FUND REQUESTS**

The deadline to request funds from the Lowell Community Fund is Fri., Dec. 10 at noon. To receive consideration and approval, all requests must be for funds that will aid local organizations in providing help to persons in the Lowell area. The Heart of West Michigan United Way has set the December date aside for those qualified to receive funding for 2011-2013. Request forms are available at Dr. James Reagan's office, 207 W. Main St., or at Huntington Bank, 414 E. Main St.

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Photo Contest

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# 311001

for anyone who wants information quitting tobacco. Talk with a tobacco treatment specialist and receive a resource guide that lists local classes. Internet and phone counseling options and low/no cost medications. Call 616-446-7058



### Shopping in Lowell, continued

Christmas and Thanksgiving table after the door buster deals, Bucks or custom couponing centerpieces.

The main sellers were At Meijer in Lowell, electronics, game systems, ornaments customers went mainly toys, iPods and Santa

depending on the type of purchase. "We were pleased with

### Students raise over \$2,400 for Leukemia and Lymphoma Society

student council was touched sick with cancer. We wanted by former student Anna to do something to help Organek when she came to these kids and we decided speak to the students during to participate in Pasta for the Pink Arrow Project. Her Pennies," commented MLE words sparked an interest for student council president, many of the student council Jake Nugent. students to do something to help kids with a blood borne distributed cancer. Organek has battled boxes and posters to help lymphoma for many years classrooms monitor their and is currently in remission progress. Following the two and attending Lowell Middle week program, the students School

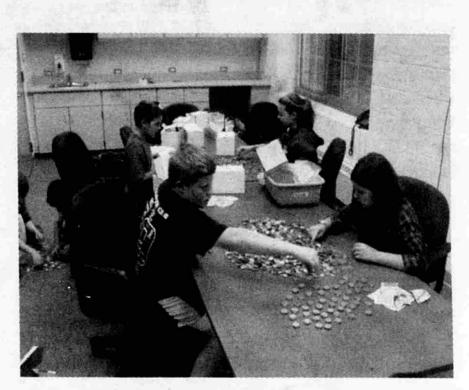
Pasta is a program that raises money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society accomplishment. We never of Michigan. The MLE thought we could raise that student council decided to much money. It feels good participate in the program. to be able to help other Darrow Goodspeed came kids who are suffering," to Murray Lake and did a said MLE vice president presentation for the student of student council, Bryan councilmembers about the Ashenbremer. program and its benefits.

This motivated the students to a pennant to hang in their promote the event. The councilmembers did a short speech to each classroom an Olive Garden (corporate to get them excited about the program. "When Anna spoke to us, it made us think December.

The Murray Lake about all the kids who are

The students also collection counted up over 300 pounds Pennies of coins. The donations added up to over \$2,400. "We felt very proud of our

Classrooms that raised presentation over \$100 will be given classroom. Kori Grooter's/ Julie Fuss' class will receive sponsor of Pasta for Pennies) pasta lunch later in





Lake Elementary Murray councilmembers adding up their profits.

### Family shocked by young woman's sudden death

by Emma Palova

shocked by the unexpected death of Sheila Walling, 22. She had been babysitting for Bryony and Dominic Lowe, teachers at East Kentwood, since September. She was also a part-time waitress at Keiser's Kitchen in Lowell. A cleaning lady found Walling on the kitchen floor

last Tuesday. The autopsy results are expected within four to six weeks. Her best friend Malley

Cahoon said she was a loving person who always thought of everybody else first. Cahoon went to school with Walling since



The whole family was 2006 graduates of Lowell process. High School.

> "She sweet was and wholehearted," said Cahoon. "Everybody was devastated.'

> Owner Cahoon of Keiser's Kitchen said Walling was reliable and healthy

"It was a shock for the entire family," she said.

**LOWELL AREA** 

**COMMUNITY FUND** 

**ACCEPTS GRANT** 

PROPOSALS

All proposals must be submitted

online no later than

**DECEMBER 17, 2010,** 

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to submit your application.

kindergarten. Both were "It's totally impossible to

She volunteered as a Big Sister and she was a Red Arrow fan. Her father called her "My Big Girl" and "She-She" by her friends. She was Trudy also going to college.

Funeral services were held Monday at Ada Bible Church



Hall for rent

student



the way customers reacted to our promotions and sales," said Meijer public relations director Frank Guglielmi.

As far as Cyber Monday, people bought 50-inch TVs. netbooks, furniture and laptops.

Thirty percent online sales are expected between Cyber Monday and Christmas Day.

At Chimera Design, the main promotion is coming big deal. The promotion will run from Dec. 11 through cards. Christmas.

Each day, a different item will be featured on the blog and facebook.

"They will be a steal,"

Cliff Yankovich said. "It's a fun way to stimulate shopping."

However, Black Friday is not necessarily a gauge for the rest of the holiday shopping season. Most shoppers keep putting off holiday shopping and online shoppers are gaining momentum. And shoppers. due to economy, are changing habit and patterns, according to consumer reports. They up, with 12 Days of Holidays, have started buying for since Black Friday is not a themselves using cash and layaways instead of credit

> Meijer online promotions through December include free shipping and returns on purchases over \$50.

My husband gave me a necklace. It's fake. I requested fake. Maybe I'm paranoid, but in this day and age, I don't want something around my neck that's worth more than my head. - Rita Rudner, comedian



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#### page

### Farmers' market, continued

vendors will have a black top area to work on, which is easier for people with challenges to access.

people to leave the market, Downtown Development

they can simply take the Authority wanted it to be back way out." Baker said. The market wasn't making but money.

"It's also easier for the committee and the

self-sustaining. This year no DDA monies were requested from the authority.

fedger

In the past, vendors paid \$10 for a daily and \$150

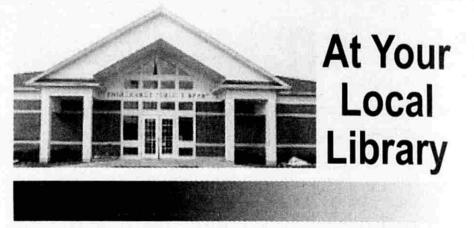
are subject to change. The market will begin in June this year and run through the end of September if we get the go ahead from the

public hearing January 24, & Gardens.

market will depend on the community of Lowell. In order for the market support.

said Baker.

The new market masters Market. will be Dave and Betty



Pokemon! Yu-gi-oh! Bakugan! Calling all experienced players to join our gaming group to play, trade and meet with other fans of these popular games. Wednesdays, December 15, January 19 and February 16 at 6:30 p.m.

**Bookworms Adult Book Discussion** Friendly, informal book discussion for adults. Tuesday,

**Baby Boomers:** apply online for Medicare

a historic moment: our within three months of are turning 65.

retirement benefits, most people should start getting Medicare coverage at age Medicare? Because it's fast, 65.

coverage when you first or in line. As long as you application, visit www. vantil@ssa.gov become

Nation's first baby boomers reaching age 65. Don't worry about the time and For many baby effort it will take to apply boomers, it is time to hit the for Medicare — it's fast and computer. Even if you have easy! You can do it online decided to wait until after at www.socialsecurity.gov/ 10 minutes. Why apply online for

easy, and secure. You don't If you would like need an appointment and you

and submit your online there, take a look at the Patty Medicare application.

People who started receiving Social Security retirement or disability benefits before age 65 do not need to apply; they will you are age 65 to apply for medicareonly in as little as be automatically enrolled in Medicare.

To learn more about Medicare benefits, visit www.Medicare.gov.

eligible, it's have ten minutes to spare, socialsecurity.gov/

This January marks important that you apply you have time to complete medicareonly. While you're Duke Show reunion video as they talk about turkey, pie, and Medicare online.

> Happy birthday to all the baby boomers turning 65 in 2011!

Vonda VanTil is the public affairs specialist for West Michigan. You can write her c/o Social Security Administration, 50 College To learn more about SE, Grand Rapids, MI to begin your Medicare can avoid waiting in traffic Medicare and the online 49503 or via email at vonda.



#### wednesday · december · 1 · 2010

for a seasonal. These rates planning commission at the Deans of MeadoWood Farm

The Farmers' Market The future of the committee consists of Ron Wenger, Kent County Youth Fair; Liz Baker, Lowell Area Chamber to survive it will need its of Commerce; Dave and Betty Deans, MeadoWood "Last year the market Farm & Gardens; Duane was not supported well," Rasch, Rasch Farms; and Gary Blough, Heidi's Farm

### outdoors tradition

wednesday • december • 1 • 2010

it a number of traditional activities and celebrations. Fall seems to have more than its share of happenings.

and blaring brass horns tailgate parties and armchair draw fans to athletic fields in towns and cities across the state when football rivals face off on cool Friday evenings and sunny Saturday afternoons. Travelers from near and far tour the colorful Michigan countryside, a hundred years. stopping now and then at roadside stands to stock up on fresh picked produce and sip apple cider. Families gather at Thanksgiving time to celebrate the harvest and received.

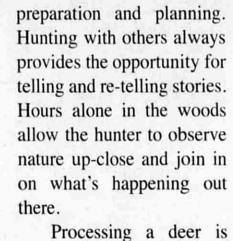
participation in additional deer camp involves more

Each season brings with activities which are in some way related to the main event. For example, band and football practice take more time and effort than the game Booming bass drums itself. Fans look forward to

**Dave Stegehuis** 

quarterbacking. The season of harvest is also when hunters go afield to pursue wild game. Hunting whitetail deer has been part of the cultural fabric of Michigan for over

Deer hunting requires much preparation and a number of other tasks which most hunters look forward to as much as the hunt itself. Clothing and gear must give thanks for blessings be located or purchased. Firearms must be inspected Fall traditions invite and sighted-in. A trip to



also an important part of the hunt for many hunters. Field dressing and moving an animal over rough terrain is hard work, but seems much easier if it is your deer. At our house, skinning, cutting,

and packaging deer is as much a tradition as carving pumpkin or hanging Christmas lights.

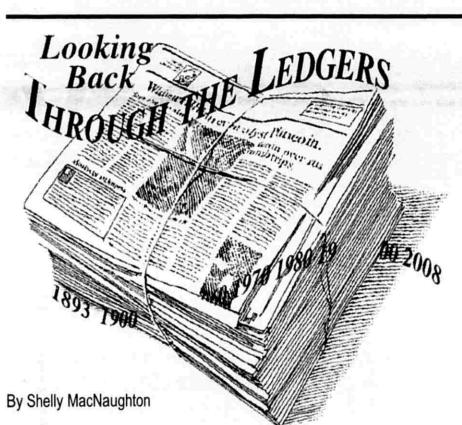
"ledger

If you would like to share **TOCUS** venison with someone in need who would appreciate some low fat high protein meat, consider donating it to Sportsmen Against Hunger. The meat must be processed by a designate facility which can be located at www. sportsmenagainsthunger. org. Donating will make the hunting tradition in Michigan even more special.

### 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 page.



### 125 Years Ago The Lowell Journal **December 4, 1885**

A new switchboard and other improvements are seen at the central telephone office.

The Rochester lamp beats all other lamps. Call a the store of H.B. Church and see it shine.

Little Minnie Wright, about 9-years-old, daughter of F.C. Wright of this town, is said to be a very brilliant musical genius. She plays the organ beautifully and reads difficult music readily.

### 100 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger **December 1, 1910**

Chauncev H. Freeman and Miss LaVanch E. Wright both well-known young people of Vergennes, were married last Wednesday at noon at the parsonage of Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, Grand Rapids, Rev. Russell H. Bready officiating. Mr. and Mrs. Freeman will make their home in Lowell where Mr. Freeman has a position in the Specialty Company.

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

From Main St. bridge last Friday morning, we saw

the first ice of the season on Flat River. It was a thin skin yet at times it creaked and roared like great guns. The mercury was 14 degrees below freezing, which means that it stood 18 degrees above zero.

Rudolph VanDyke will not be a candidate for postmaster at Lowell. Mr. VanDyke's name frequently has been mentioned as a likely candidate, but he informs The Ledger that he positively is not an aspiran for the place.

### 50 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger **December 1, 1960**

Tax bills are going out this week to property owners in the five surrounding townships and the City of Lowell for a total billing of \$771,233. This includes all school taxes, county operating taxes, county voting building tax, airport tax, special education tax and township operating and in some case special township voted taxes for fire protection.

In Lowell city, Mrs. Esther Fahrni said tax bills would be in the mail by next Monday. This is the first year the city has collected the school and county taxes; the tax rate in Lowell city is \$45.20 per thousand of assessed valuation.

### 25 Years Ago The Grand Valley Ledger **December 4, 1985**

It appears likely that the City of Lowell is preparing to adopt some sort of a snow removal ordinance. There has been pressure from various sources over the years to institute an ordinance that would require homeowners and merchants to keep their sidewalks clear of snow. Mayor James Maatman is a strong proponent of such an ordinance.

Would you like to be paid for hanging up those Christmas lights? Surely you wouldn't mind winning some cold cash for searching for those extension cords or balancing from your step ladder, would you? Well here's your chance. The Lowell Chamber of Commerce along with Lowell Light and Power is sponsoring a Christmas lighting and decorating contest for Lowell homeowners on the 11, 12, and 13 of December.



# financial



Christopher C. Godbold

Take steps to help "immunize" your portfolio

almost here, you probably fluctuations in your portfolio, see "Flu Shots Available" signs at many of your local your risk tolerance. If you pharmacies. Whether or not familiarize yourself with you decide to get a flu shot your investments before situation, of course, but you should - then you probably may benefit from the idea of shouldn't be surprised at immunization in other areas how they perform. So, if of your life — such as your you own growth-oriented investments.

want to help "immunize" financial markets over the temporary setbacks, you past couple of years. How may be taking on too much few suggestions:

own stocks, your portfolio would, at times, see some big gains — but at other cash reserves. Having times, you'd take some sufficient cash in your big hits. If you just owned portfolio can help you fewer fluctuations than if two ways. First, since cash you just owned stocks - essentially doesn't fluctuate but you'd almost certainly in price - though it may to help achieve your goals. to inflation - its very in cash instruments, you'd your portfolio. And second, ground to inflation. In short, may be less likely to dip into investor by putting all your to pay for short-term needs, these categories, you need toward your goals. to diversify. For example, try to own a mixture of shield your investments growth stocks and income- from volatility all the producing stocks; short-term time. But by taking the and long-term bonds; and a steps described above, and downturns that, at any given invest. time, primarily affect just

tolerance. If you frequently Financial Advisor. find yourself surprised, or

one asset class.

Now that winter is perhaps dismayed, at the you may be overestimating depends on your individual you buy them - and you stocks, you need to accept Specifically, you may the inevitable short-term volatility in exchange for your portfolio, as much as potential gains over the possible, against some of the long term. But if you're volatility we've seen in the constantly worried over can you do this? Here are a risk for your comfort level. If this happens, you may need • Diversify, diversify, to rebalance your portfolio diversify. If you were to only to better accommodate your true risk tolerance.

 Maintain adequate bonds, you'd probably see combat volatility in at least never get the gains you need lose value over time, relative If you kept all your money presence can help stabilize protect your principal, if you have enough cash in but you'd eventually lose your investment mix, you you can't succeed as an your long-term investments money in one type of asset. such as a major car repair, You need to spread your a new furnace and so on resources among stocks, - and the less you disrupt bonds, and cash investments. your investments, the more And even within each of progress you can make

It's not possible to fully variety of cash instruments. by maintaining a long-While diversification, by term perspective, you can itself, can't guarantee profits strengthen your portfolio's or protect against loss, it resistance, and improve can give you opportunities your own responses, to the for potential success and effects of price fluctuations. help shield you from severe And that's a healthy way to

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

### college news

officials University have announced that the Blake Spoelman, Megan following local students received Academic Honors for the semester that ended Burnham, all of Lowell. in August 2010 at Ferris State University and Kendall College of Art and Design.

To be eligible for Honors. Academic undergraduate students must have accumulated at least a 3.5 GPA in no fewer than 12 credit hours of coursework Kendall College of Art at the 100 level or higher and Design, and the during the given semester. College of Professional while part-time students and Technological Studies must have accumulated at least 12 credit hours of graded coursework at the 100 level or higher with a Ada, graduated with a 3.5 semester GPA and a 3.3 Bachelor of Science (BS) in cumulative GPA.

Spencer Flory, Angelo Tech. Franchi, Debra Howell, Pearce Liversedge, Graham Otten, and Nancy Wright, all of Ada.

Jackson Botsford. Lauren Clements, Allen Devoll, Kristie Kurth, John Wilder, Kristine Huberts, Brian Schultz, and April Beresford, all of Alto

Amanda Ezinga, Kastanek, Thomas Pfaller,

ledger

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Maranda Ruegsegger Willemstein, Lee Wirick, Lisa Drust, and Karol

The following students were among 733 who completed the requirements for certificates, associate, bachelor's master's and doctoral degrees at State University. Ferris during the semester that ended in August 2010.

James Biesbrock, of Prod. Design Engineering

Allen Devoll, of Alto, graduated with an Associate in Applied Science (AAS) in ManufacturingToolingTech. and a Bachelor of Science in Manufacturing (BS)Engineering Tech.

Mark Keely, of Lowell, graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Business (BB) in Hysell, Abbot Business Administration.

OFFICE HOURS

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**K**In The Service

ledger

D. Reed graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.



happy **birthday!** 

DECEMBER 1 Travis Briggs, Nate Schoen, Deb Anchors, Denny Brenk II, Joyce Watrous

DECEMBER 2 Chelsey Treglia, Kari Bergy, Karly Batt, Olivia Starkweather

**DECEMBER 3** Chambers, Chris Christine Gillies, Amanda Sterzick, Richard Kline.

DECEMBER 4 Tennille Bryant, Autumn French, Casey French.

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

> Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Reed earned distinction as an honor graduate. He is the son of Bill and

Tammy Reed of Alto. Reed graduated in 2010 from Caledonia High

**DECEMBER 5** 

Christopher Vickers.

**DECEMBER 6** 

Kristopher Vezino, Phi

Seese, Maria Blough,

Christopher DeBold, Marc

**DECEMBER 7** 

Jennifer Berry.

Katie

Wernet

Blough

School

health

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

Eczema is a condition of the skin which causes dryness and itching. It is a long lasting condition which also associated with is asthma and other allergies.

Symptoms include:

- Red to brownish-gray colored patches • Itching, which may be
- severe, especially at night Small, raised bumps,
- which may leak fluid and crust over when scratched
- Thickened, cracked or scaly skin
- Raw, sensitive skin from scratching

Other things can worsen eczema, such as:

- Long, hot baths or showers
- Dry skin
- Stress
- Sweating
- Rapid changes
- temperature Low humidity
- Solvents, cleaners, soaps
- or detergents
- Wool or man-made
- fabrics or clothing Dust or sand
- Cigarette smoke
- Certain foods, such as eggs, milk, fish, soy or wheat



CAUFCA FIRST CONGREGATIONAL ALTO UNITED (United Church of Christ) METHODIST CHURCH 865 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE • 897-5906 Kirby and Harrison www.OurBigChurch.org Alto • 616-691-8011 ....10:00 a.m. nday Worship. Church School .... 10:15-11:15 a.m. .9:30 A.M. Worship. nursday Faith Alive Children's Church......9:30 A.M. Casual Worship ... ...6:30 P.M. arrier-free ......Nursery Provided **OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS** - OPEN DOORS No matter where you are on life's journey. **Pastor Dean Bailey** Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 You are welcome here All facilities are wheelchair accessible CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER FIRST BAPTIST (Assembly of God) CHURCH OF LOWELL 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery **Robert Holmes, Pastor** 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 SUNDAYS: Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org Worship: 10 a.m. Rev. David O. Sims , Rev. W. Lee Taylor & Pastor Phil Severn WEDNESDAYS: .9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Worship Service Family Night (for all ages): 7:00 p.m. Sunday School Hour. .11:00 A.M. "The Source" Youth: 7:00 p.m. AWANA/EXCITE • TEENS Wed. 6:15 P.M. Loving God ... Loving People! Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 www.lowellumc.com

WORSHIP ..... 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL ......9:30 a.m

**Rev. Rick Blunt** 



402 Amity St. • 897-9820 www.stmary-lowell.com 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 Praver & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETE WIGGINS 897-7915 SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 393, EWIN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING

LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 201 N. Washington Lowell, MI • 897-8800 Pastor Wes Hershberger ndays - Christian Education......9:15 a.m.

10:40 a.m. Wednesdays - Kid's Service, Teen's Service, Adult Bible Study. .7:00 p.m. Lowell Naz - Where People Matter

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 0305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 www.goodshepherdlowell.org

Worship Service..... ...Saturday - 5:00 P.M Sunday -10:00 A.M. ....Sunday, 9:00 A.M. Sunday School ... (Nursery available)

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

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

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"ledger



Treatment focuses on reducing inflammation and itching.

- Medications can include: Corticosteroid creams or ointments
- Oral antihistamines
- Oral corticosteroids Immunomodulators

- Self-care
- measures include: Apply an anti-itch cream or calamine lotion to the affected area
- Try to identify and avoid triggers that worsen the inflammation
- Avoid scratching whenever possible Apply cool, wet
- compresses • Take a warm bath.
- Sprinkle the bath water with baking soda. uncooked oatmeal or colloidal oatmeal
- Choose mild soaps without dyes perfumes
- Moisturize your skin Wear cool, smooth-

textured cotton clothing Prior to seeing your doctor, try the above home care remedies. If your skin appears infected, seek care sooner.

### Christmas at Fallasburg, continued

good chicken."

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attended the fundraiser. It raises approximately \$600 It's very satisfying." to \$800. The annual bike tour raises \$3,000.

historical society is finally moving ahead with projects after working through financial challenges.

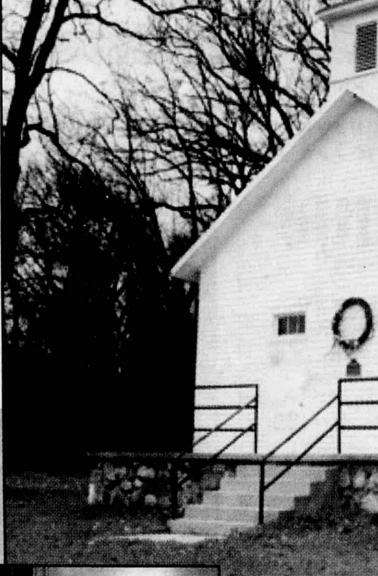
"I believe in historic Christmas dinner.

country cooking, preservation," he said. We've had every casserole "I have a soft place for you can think of and fried Fallasburg and the covered bridge. We're solvent now. Last year, 80 people Our membership has grown. We're getting things done.

The society has repaired and painted roofs, one But, Tamke said the termite work and they are getting ready to renovate the Tower Farm.

> The society asks for a \$10 donation for the

The annual Christmas dinner is held at the one room schoolhouse in Fallasburg Historical village. Below is a picture from last year at the schoolhouse.





### Use credit wisely when shopping for the holidays

With the holiday season upon us, shoppers across the nation are gearing up for another season of swiping their credit cards. And if statistics are any indication, more people could be swiping those credit cards this season than ever before.

According to the United States Census Bureau, the number of credit cardholders in the U.S. is growing. In 2000, there were 159 million credit cardholders in the U.S., a figure that had risen to 173 million by 2006 and was expected to grow to 181 million by the end of 2010.

cardholders across the country, it's no wonder during the holiday season so many swipes are seen. While it can be tempting to put it all on plastic when holiday shopping, it can also be dangerous -- leading to nearly unmanageable debt that can result in serious consequences down the road. To manage credit wisely this holiday season, consider the following tips.

\* Avoid shopping sprees. Shopping sprees are especially common during

holiday season, when parents are tempted to go overboard and get their kids more gifts than they can afford. While most parents

> Use credit wisely, continued, page 14

Serent .

Join the growing number people that are using our Holiday Loan to get their shopping done early and enjoy the holidays!

At 6.99% APR and a 12 month repayment plan, it gives you flexibility for the things you need.



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\*\*\*

### There's nothing sadder in this world than to awake Christmas morning and not be a child."

- Erma Bombeck (1927-1996), American author and humorist.

Will the Internet kill your community paper? Did instant coffee kill coffee?

New technologies change many things. But not everything. You may tweet, blog, surf, shop, or search online but you continue to read your community paper. You just proved it.

Readership of community papers is now higher than paid daily papers, and continues to grow. Rather than being replaced by "instant" media, your local community paper has become an important part of our neighborhood.

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in fact, the local content and power of your paper makes advertising even more effective. We are the number one medium for driving purchases. That's important in every product category.

the lowell dger

Including coffee.



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### **Second-half turnovers** turn Red Arrows' title dreams upside down by Thad Kraus

Four

chance of a second straight Detroit, as Lowell lost the of it for a while." title game to Farmington Hills Harrison 38-28.

possessions that resulted in well-rested crew. But that four consecutive turnovers has plagued us all year. We enemy proved to be itself. erased an 11-point lead and have been kind of an under with it washed away any experienced team that has played above itself toward Division 2 state title for the end of the year. Then we the Lowell football team got into the finals and played on Friday at Ford Field in a great team and made a go interception, turning its lead

A Red Arrow scoring drive of 64 yards to open the that will be the one that will "You can't play a third quarter gave Lowell team like Farmington Hills a 21-10 advantage and its Harrison and expect to faithful hope that a second get away with that kind of straight championship was stuff," said Lowell coach more than possible. Lowell series of turnovers. I don't playing like a team that think we used our punt could upend the number one

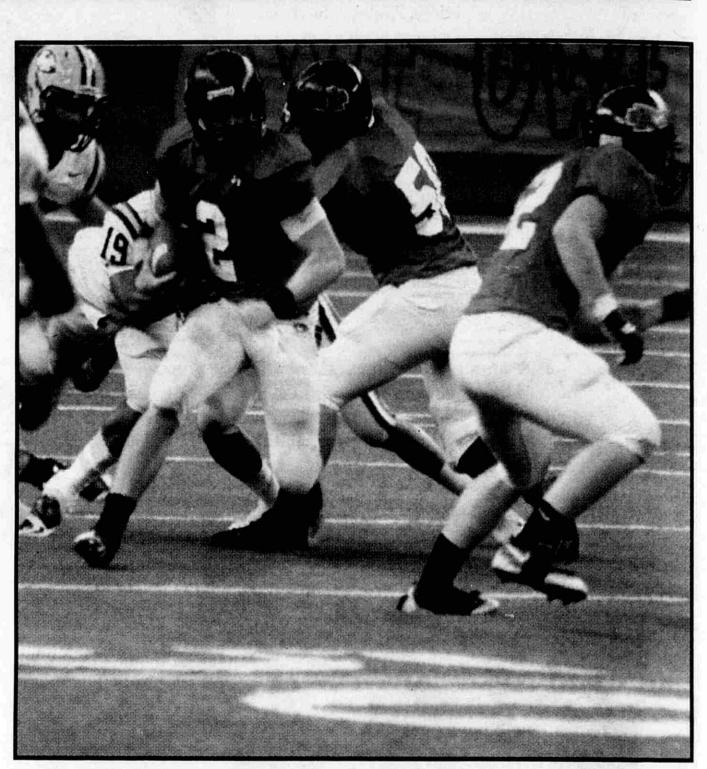
second-half team today - that was a ranked Hawks. On this day though, Lowell's biggest

Over the following 11 minutes of football, Lowell was guilty of a fumble, an interception, a fumbled kickoff return and a second into a 38-21 deficit.

It's the first interception stick in the craw of Lowell fans.

After holding the Hawks to three plays and a punt on its first possession Noel Dean. "Four straight looked the part and was of the second half, Lowell's

Title dreams, continued next page



Gabe Dean rushed for 100 yards and threw for 111 in Lowell's 38-28 loss to Farmington Hills Harrison.



Lowell High School's marching band performed the National Anthem prior to the start of the Division 2 championship football game.

Below the Arrows make their way onto the field prior to Friday's game.





The Red Arrow cheerleaders were standing tall and proudly during first-half action.



Lowell cheerleaders were dancing and having a good time at halftime of Friday's game.

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# Title dreams, continued

SPARTS

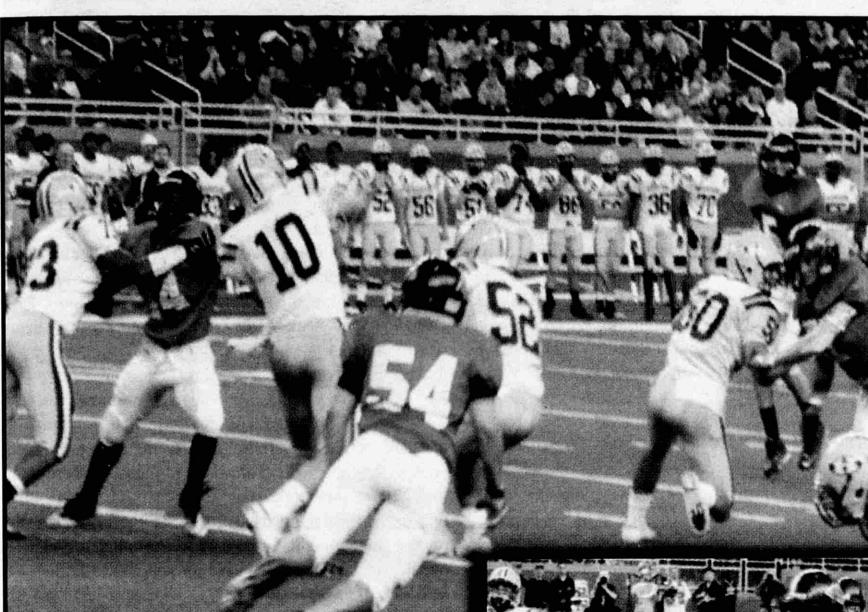
Gabe Dean, on a second and Field, with the exception 14 from its own 28, had his of the back judge, that the pass picked off by Lamarr ball bounced off the turf Marshall. It appeared to just before going into the arms about everybody at Ford of Marshall.

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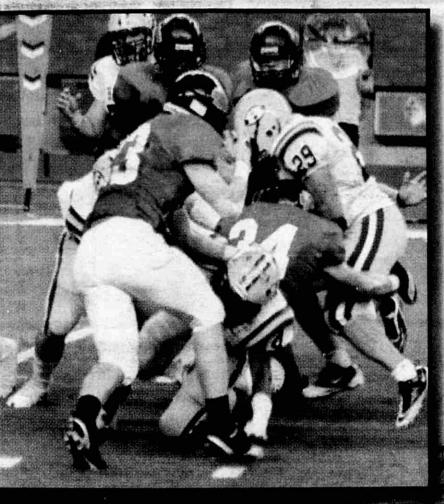
Red Arrow

"The first interception ... I'm not really sure, I have to by the call. It caught me off- had his back to the official, go back and look at the film before I have any comment ground, bouncing around. It watch it because I have to on it," said Lowell coach

Noel Dean. "I was surprised escalated from there. The kid



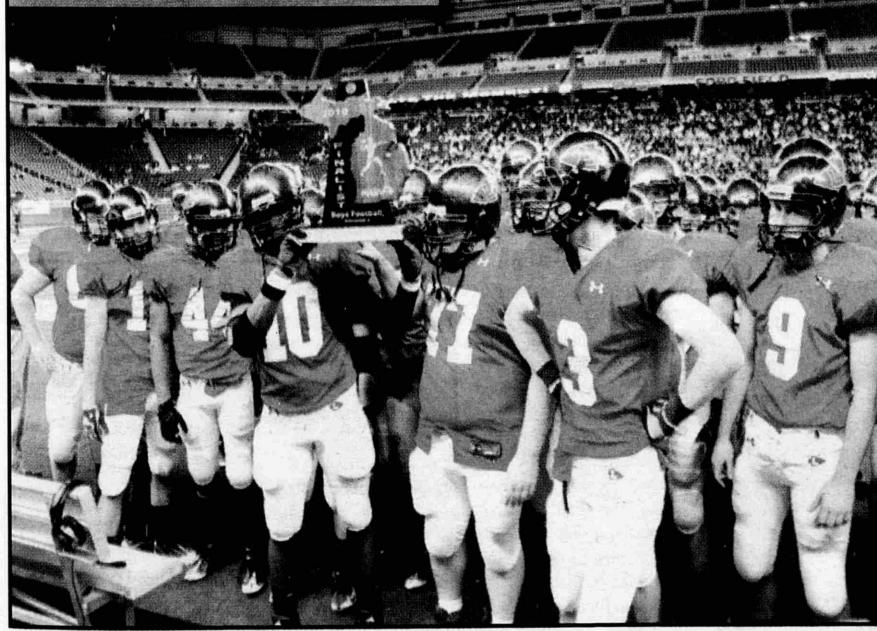
Lowell's defense pressures Hawk quarterback Jake Vento.





Leighton Watson led all rushers with a game-leading 146 yards on the ground.

Lowell's defensive front, left, held the Hawk rushing attack to 111 yards.



Red Arrow players hold up the runner-up trophy to Red Arrow fans.

guard. The ball was on the but I have to go back and be careful with what I say right now because I want to be polite. I know how that stuff happens in real time, but it would have been nice maintain one of those ossessions."

Farmington Harrison turned controversial turnover into a six-play, 45-yard touchdown drive, cutting its deficit to five at 21-16.

"Turnovers were the big part of the game," explained Farmington Hills Harrison coach John Herrington. "Once we got the turnovers, we had to capitalize on them. We knew if they got the ball back, they would be able to run it, run it and run it. Once we got the lead, it changed Dean. the game a little bit."

view of the controversial "It wasn't interception, controversial." "Lamarr got three to give Lowell a 14-10 the pick," he explained with the slightest of smiles.

Lowell started its third possession of the second half on its own 45. Two plays in, a great game plan. Their the Hawks recovered a Red Arrow fumble at midfield. From there it took Harrison (Dean) is just a tremendous seven plays to march 50 player. He has a wrestler's yards with quarterback body and doesn't go down Tommy Vento busting in easily," Herrington said. from the one-yard line, giving the Hawks a 24-21 a short week is difficult advantage.

Lowell then fumbled away the ensuing kickoff. Harrison turned that mistake into a three-play, 51-yard touchdown drive, extending its lead to 31-21.

On its first possession of the fourth quarter, Lowell was intercepted by Hawks' Derek Head at the Lowell 42. Five plays later Austin Hunter dashed in from 11 yards out, building a 38-21 lead for Farmington Hills.

page 9

Lowellansweredwithan eight-play, 70-yard scoring drive. Gabe Dean connected with Blake Lyman on a 27yard touchdown pass-andcatch.

The Red Arrows played a mistake free first half which enabled them to build a 14-10 half-time advantage.

Harrison took the openingkickoff59yards with Tommy Vento connecting with Aaron Burbridge on a 26-yard touchdown pass.

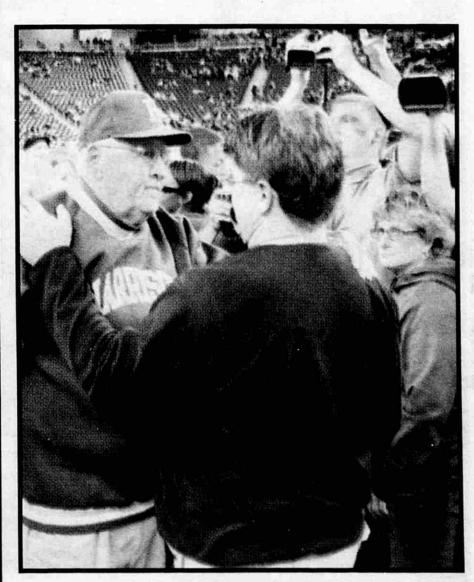
Lowell tied the game early in the second quarter on a three-yard run by

The Red Arrows then As to Herrington's took the lead on a 14-play, 80-yard march with Dean bursting through from the lead.

> Lowell rushed for 246 yards and passed for 111.

"Noel put together fullback ran in hard against us and their quarterback "Preparing for Lowell in because they throw a lot of formations at you, making it tough to adjust."

The Hawks ran for 111. and passed for 310 yards.



Football coach Noel Dean congratulates Hawk head coach John Herrington moments after Farmington Hills Harrison claimed victory.

- HOCKEY

ledge

# Lowell/Caledonia skates to season-opening 4-2 win

by Thad Kraus

A strong effort combined with hat trick performance by Cam Steger led Lowell/ Caledonia's hockey team to against West Catholic.

"I was real happy with the way we moved our feet and with how the boys filled said zone," Caledonia hockey coach Arnold) found the net Tim Beurer.

crease the net at 13:11 of the two periods of play. first period.

into the second before West Connor Kelbel on an assist the game at 1-1.

Lowell/Caledonia

defensive Braden McGillicuddy and a Collin Echelbarger, wristed one past Falcon goalie Peter marker. Hansknecht.

Spinkics

Red Arrow

A Falcon goal by Kelbel, a 4-2 season-opening win 30 seconds later, tied the score again at 2-2.

Lowell/Caledonia pressured the West Catholic goalie in the final minute the lanes in the defensive before Steger (assists from Lowell/ McGillicuddy and Karson second time to give Lowell/ Steger was first to Caledonia a 3-2 lead after Lowell/Caledonia 9-3 and

"The first game out I upended them 11-4. The 1-0 lead held up thought we played well,' period Beurer explained. Catholic's thought we controlled the East Kentwood," Beurer game for the most part said. "It was 1-1 after one from Caleb Teachout tied and took advantage of our period and we trailed 5-2 opportunities."

The only goal scored in regained the lead seven the third period came off the minutes later when Jake stick of Steger (completing Rossman, on assists from the hat trick) with assists

2010 Holiday Gift Guide

Dec. 5th in Buyers Guide

Dec. 8th in Lowell Ledger

from McGillicuddy and

Lowell/Caledonia hockey team. senior goalie Nathan Propst said no to 34 of 36 shots on goal.

Lowell/Caledonia dropped a pair of games at the Thanksgiving Day Holiday tournament in East Kentwood.

Forest Hills Central , a tier 1 team, defeated East Kentwood (tier 2 club)

"I thought we played "I well and competed against after two."

> Beurer likes the challenging nonconference schedule his club is facing. "I believe this helps to

prepare us for league (tier started quickly, build a 5-1 Rossman at the 10:47 3) play," he says. "East Kentwood is a skilled, quick

> A slow start spelled doom in Lowell/Caledonia's loss to Central. The Rangers we settled in and played

first-period advantage. FHC outscored Lowell/

Caledonia 4-2 over the final two periods.

"After that first period

### Herrington's Hawks use gamechanging turnover to claim 13<sup>th</sup> title

Farmington venerable football coach John Herrington knew something big needed to happen in the second half for his Hawks to win Friday's Division 2 championship football game.

He didn't know and didn't care who delivered the big play as long as there was one.

Lowell helped as it gift wrapped four consecutive game-changing turnovers in the second half to help propel the Hawks to victory.

in any game and today we needed them more than ever," said Harrison head coach, John Herrington, in his 40th season on the sidelines.

Herrington watched Lowell open the second half with a 64-yard touchdown drive fueled by Lowell running back Leighton Watson (5 carries 58 yards). The score gave Lowell a 21-10 lead.

(on its first possession of three that followed. the second half) to three plays and a punt, the first biggest momentumand changing play took place when Lamarr Marshall intercepted Lowell at the Red Arrow 45-yard line.

"There's no question that pick was a major turning point in the game," Marshall said. "I saw their tight end release and I just jumped the route. I was telling the team on the sidelines the whole second half, we're still in a bunch."

Marshall's play not emotional tilt, but it stirred conversation afterwards.

that didn't matter. What coach Noel Dean. mattered is what Harrison



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Without the help of the change the sudden shift in twinkle in John Herrington's momentum. Instead, the eye afterwards or a replay three turnovers that followed on the JumboTron at Ford served only to rev it up. Field, I knew there was more to that first interception than Herrington, except for a the wrong interpretation that short telephone conversation came from the back judge.

a replay shown to fans in my intuition is correct, a attendance at Ford Field was a clear indication that the INT was indeed no INT at all. A clear undisputed lining in what was a difficult interception would have loss for Lowell. been replayed for fans a couple times over.

Not so fast! I am not saying the first of four Lowell turnovers cost the Red Arrows the game, but loss. West Catholic, Grand I do think it redirected the emotional tilt of the game. Unlike the Hawks,

I don't know John

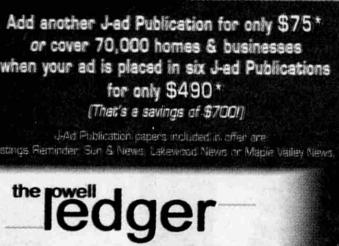
Thad Kraus

and the press conference The fact there wasn't following the game, but if nicer high school football coach you will not find.

For me that is a silver

#### Post high school football final nuggets...

West Michigan did not go without despite Lowell's Rapids Catholic Central and East Grand Rapids all came home with championship Lowell was unable to hardware.



Exciting New Format for 2010

vednesday • december • 1 • 2010

our game and executed our. defensive scheme," Beurer explained.

Lowell/Caledonia skates against Hudsonville Saturday at the Georgetown Ice Arena.

After holding Harrison did with the turnover and the The Hawks turned them

into 28 unanswered points. "We had to have something big happen to get things back moving in our direction. Those turnovers did the trick, mostly because we were able to capitalize on them and turn them into points," Herrington explained.

The result was the Hawks claiming the school's 13th state football title.

"We have just been the this thing and we just need roller coaster boys all year, "Turnovers are huge to make one big play to turn and we just kind of let the it around. Instead, we made game get away from us. We were holding a pretty powerful program to 10 only changed the game's points in the first half, then came out and have our first drive and go down the field Replay would show the and pop it in. Things were controversial interception in going good at that time, but fact was not an interception. then it kind of escalated from In real time on Friday there," said Lowell football

> Friday's loss marked the first time in four attempts Lowell failed to win a championship.

> There was a noticeable absence from Ford Field this weekend, Grand Rapids Press high school sports editor Jane Bos was not in attendance. Here's hoping Jane feels well and is back on the beat soon!

I was 3-5 with my football final selections. My only winners were Hudson, West Catholic and Catholic Central.

I finished the year at 95-39.

Thad's Top 10 (Final)

EGR Rockford Lowell Zeeland East West Catholic **Catholic Central** West Ottawa **Grand Haven** Muskegon Greenville

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exploring our national parks

International

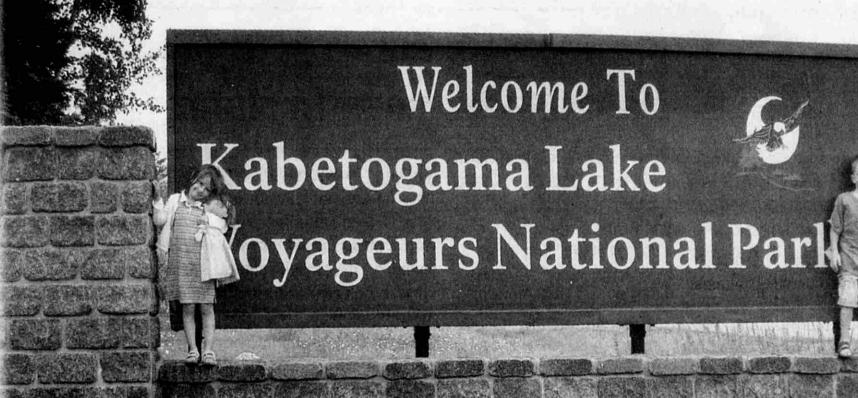


Twelve miles east trip. Voyageurs is closest to Falls Isle Royale National Park Minnesota is Voyageurs so it made sense to combine National Park. This border these two parks for one trip. region with Canada is made It was the fact that water up of over 80,000 acres of was the common element water and over 130,000 between both Voyageurs acres of land. Within the and Isle Royale that made

### we were off. The quickest would be spent in a tent in US 2 you could turn east tours, interactive displays way to Minnesota is across four different campgrounds. Wisconsin. The quickest room began before the boat way across Lake Michigan was tied to the dock. After is the Lake Express ferry. casually telling the kids,

on the Badger out of the road was to be in a motel destination. That would be Leinenkugel's Leinie Lodge.

ledger with a pool," I was quickly Having already sailed out-voted. The first night on Ludington, the Lake Express room. I got to pick the city.



land mass there are over pulling the travel trailer a 500 islands. Needless to say, bad idea. So for this trip, Voyageurs is best explored it was decided that we must by boat. Established in 1975 use a tent. to help preserve the northern Lake Superior.

head back to Michigan. eat and dress in it. A halfto change!

As with all our National multiple parks on the same than we would ever need,

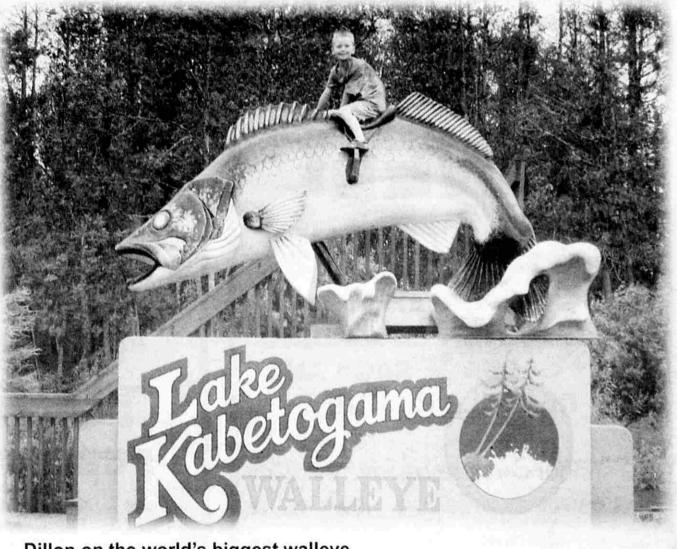
fur trading routes of North gets used to camping in a America, Voyageurs is the travel trailer it can be a bit the lake be rough? These mid point on the water route tricky to downsize back to from Lake of the Woods to a tent (especially for mom). And, since I would be the Without access to a one to carry this tent on a boat, our plan was to spend backpack later in the trip at one night at the state forest Isle Royale, it had to be as campground, stop in at the small as possible. But, as visitors center to get our my wife pointed out, four passport book stamped and people still had to sleep, However, when traveling inch sleeping pad would with the Hieshetter family, have to replace my queen you can be assured of one size mattress and this (1 thing - all plans are subject thought) was going to be the greatest challenge of all.

With the car and the car Park trips, we try to stop at top carrier packed with more

When a family of four travel on a bouncing, high speed, catamaran? Would were all unknowns when we left Lowell.

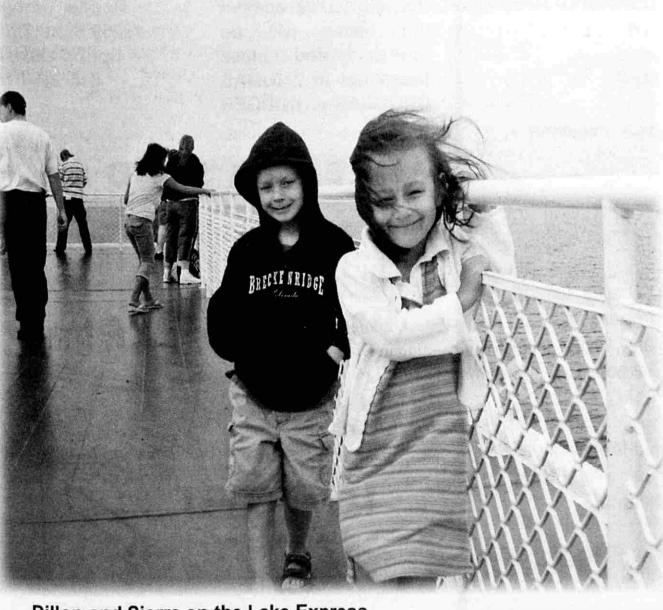
> A calm overcast sky meant the lake would be relatively calm. No need for Dramamine today. The theater-like seating was very comfortable and we settled in quite quickly. Once the ship is past the pier head in Muskegon it is full speed ahead. With very small swells on the lake, this boat makes the trip to Milwaukee very enjoyable.

On the way over to Wisconsin my wife realized that the next four nights



but if the kids can collect from a divided highway. rain and my wife decided Chippewa Falls and not visit - are in walleye country. the Leinie Lodge?

of Chippewa Falls on day Kabetogama on the south begins to descend, Lake passport book stamped. Superior comes into view. At the intersection with Visitors' Center offers boat



Dillon and Sierra on the Lake Express.



and head to the Apostle Lake Michigan through The lobbying for a motel Islands National Lakeshore. This also will take you to Ironwood, MI.

Going west on US 53, Thus, this would be our first "maybe we can find a motel US 2 takes travels along the lake toward Superior, WI and Duluth, MN. The drive is eerily similar to driving through Benton Harbor to if the weather did not look would be a new experience. One look at the map showed St Joseph, MI. Superior, WI like it was going to change. Shaving an hour and a me there was no question, has definitely seen better very quickly. We decided half off the crossing time we would stay in Chippewa times. There are many it was time to find our would get us closer to our Falls, WI. The home to the vacant buildings standing just a few feet from one of an added benefit. But what Now, you may be thinking the most beautiful lakes in the world. Duluth, MN, with its landmark lift bridge, has a revitalized downtown with lakefront walkways and museums. Needless to say, short distance from the one could spend a lot of time visitor center. As we pulled in this city.

61 travels northeast out of downpour. This presented Duluth to the town of Grand quite a dilemma for us. Our Portage, MN. This is one choices were to (1) sit in possible route to Isle Royale the car and wait for the rain National Park. Two boats to stop to set up our tent as operate out of Grand Portage darkness sets in; (2) sleep with the shortest distance in the car; or (3) drive back from the mainland. We, US 53 towards International Falls and Voyageurs National Park. Some fifty miles out of Duluth is the little town about the stories we had that this is starting to sound you will find the US Hockey of the year. They get nearly would two six-year-olds on route to National Parks, 53 turns into a two-lane road was turning into a longterm

history displays, a gift shop and great wildlife displays. If time is short and you do not have a boat, this visitors' center is able to give you a snapshot of just how vast Voyageurs National Park is. The boat tour would have been on our itinerary campground.

Woodenfrog campground is one of only two Minnesota State forest campgrounds that are accessible by car. A light rain began as we drove the into the campground, the Minnesota Highway light rain had turned into a down the road and hope for however, continue north on someplace to stay before it gets too dark. Unfortunately for us, one thing that we did not know before arriving at Voyageurs was that June and of Eveleth, MN. It is here July are the wettest months heard about how sick people like a common theme, Hall of Fame and not much four inches on average each get on this catamaran. How visiting little microbreweries else. North of Eveleth, US month. We decided that this

#### Dillon on the world's biggest walleye

Our plan was to As we drove north out travel to the resort town of had planned. two, pristine dairy farms shore of Kabetogama Lake. fifty miles back to Duluth began to transition into This is on the edge of the gave us a lot of time to find northern woodlands. We National Park and near the a low cost hotel room, but of drive through towns like state forest campground course, it had to be one with Rice Like and Trego, the called Woodenfrog. One of a pool! That is one of the latter being on the St. Croix the three land-based visitor great things about a GPS, National Scenic Riverway, centers is also located here. you are able to find out all which is part of the National Every National Park visit you need to know about Park system. From Trego, must include a stop at a where you are going before North US 53 is considered visitor center. This is where you arrive! And, I got my a scenic byway. As US 53 you are able to get your park wish, spending more time

The

Junior Ranger badges, then It is now when you begin that putting up a tent was out dad can collect a bottle to notice the abundance of of the question. Especially from as many micro-pubs boats. Every southbound since in a few days, we still as possible! Besides, how truck is pulling a fishing boat had to take that same tent can anyone drive through and you now realize that you over to Isle Royale and sleep in it there. Our stay was going to be shorter than we

The one hundred and in Duluth and a good night's Kabetogama sleep before Isle Royale.

### obituaries

#### KORZEN

Timothy Mark Korzen, aged 44, of Ada, died unexpectedly Friday, November 26, 2010. He is survived by his wife of 19

years, Peggy; Adam sons, and Jason; parents, Gerald and Joyce Korzeniewski Beth sisters. (Brad) Striegle Pam and (Doug) Simon; mother-in-law. Alice Feigel; sister-in-law, Renee (AI)Davis; brotherin-law, Greg (Kyung-Ran) Feigel. Tim workedatMetric Manufacturing. Funera services were held Tuesday at St. Matthew



Lutheran Church, Pastor Robert Appold officiating Memorial contributions may be made to St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 5125 Cascade Rd. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546.

the ledger P.O. Box 128 Lowell, MI 49331 897-9261

**OFFICE HOURS** Monday - Thursday: 8 am - 5 pm Friday: 8 am - 2 pm Closed Sat. & Sun.



#### PURCEY

Kristie Rae Purcey, age 32, of Grand Rapids, passed away Monday, November 22 and is now enjoying eternity in the

presence of her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. She is survived by her nusband. Rick; step-daughters, Faythe and Kennedy; parents, and Renee John VanderWilp of owell: brothers. (Kris) Mike rWilp. Vande David (Tanya) VanderWilp; and sister. Jessica VanderWilp; niece, Natalie: mother-inlaw, Sue Purcev: father-in-law, Larry

(Carol) Purcey. Kristie was a 15 year Amway employee Hospital Foundation, 100 Michigan Street N.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

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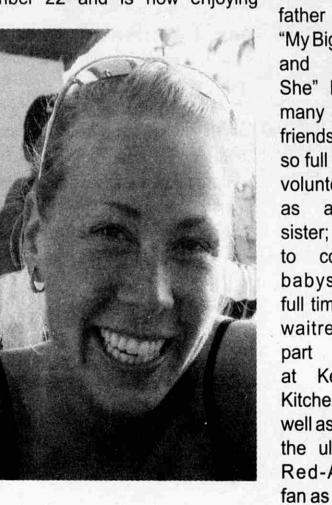
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TOWNSHIP

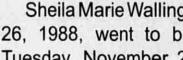
**PUBLIC HEARING** 

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2010

Linda S. Regan, Clerk

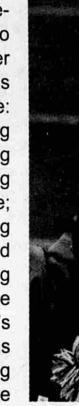


(Donna) Purcey; brothers-in-law, Tim (Marci) and Scott whose engaging spirit and bright smile brought joy to everyone she worked with. Funeral services were held Monday at Ada Bible Church. Rev. Jeff Manion officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Helen DeVos Children's



as

"My Big Girl," "Sheand She" by so many of her friends, was so full of life: volunteering as a big sister; going to college; babysitting full time and waitressing time part at Keiser's Kitchen: well as being the ultimate **Red-Arrow** 



fan as a 2006 Lowell graduate. "She-She" will be greatly missed by her parents, Ronald and Susan (Himebaugh) Walling; brothers, Jason (Jackie) Walling and Justin "Bud" Walling; grandmothers, Dorothy Walling and Sharyl Walling; niece, Lilly Anna Marie Walling; and many other family members and friends. Sheila was a member of Ada Bible Church, 8899 Cascade Road, Ada. where a celebration of her life was held Tuesday. Rev. Timothy Nelson officiating. Interment Bowne Center Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made, to help with expenses, to the Sheila M. Walling Memorial Fund at area Fifth Third Bank branches. 



STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

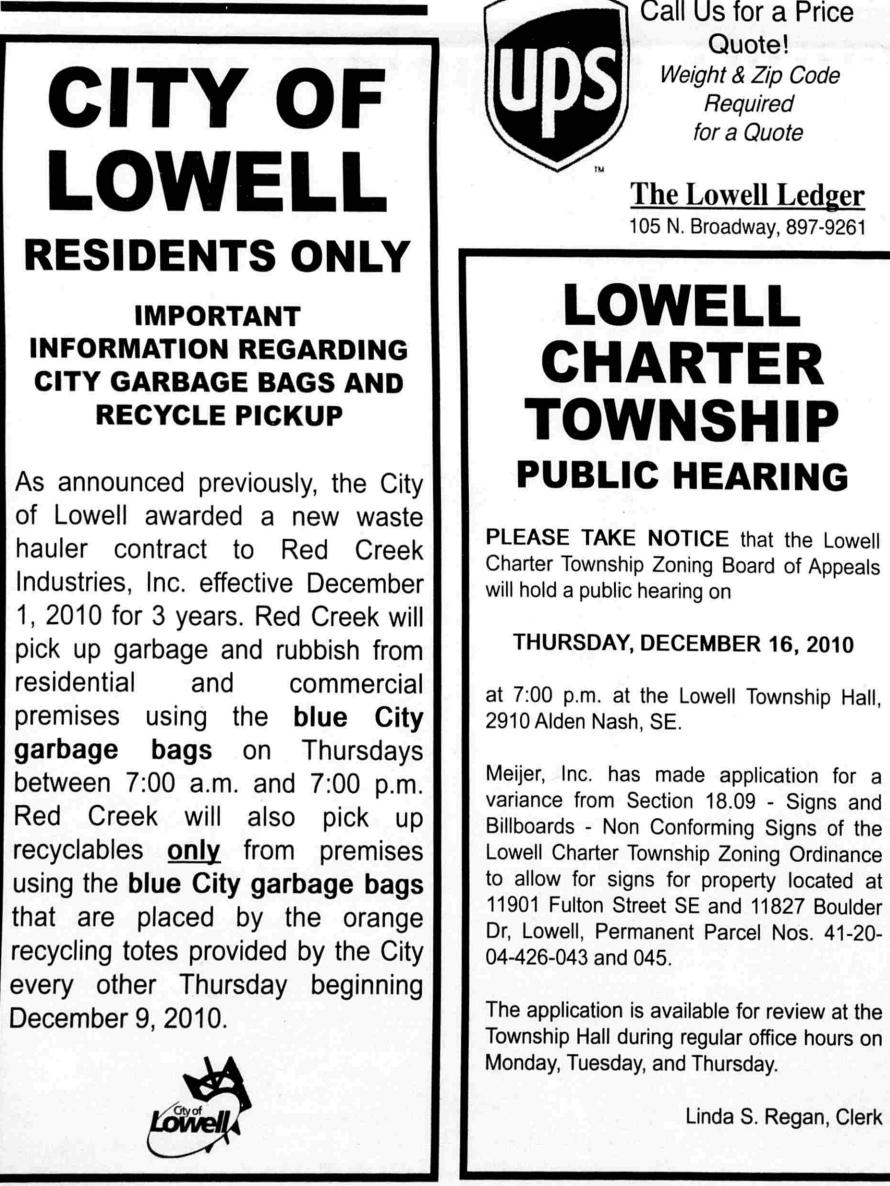
or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court NOTICE TO CREDITORS at 180 Ottawa Avenue. NW, Suite 2500, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice. 11/24/2010 то Steve Cook (P34376) 4550 Cascade Rd., SE The Suite 102 Grand Rapids, MI 49546 Thomas Drooger 1034 Alger SE of the Grand Rapids, MI 49507 Rodger Drooger **19059 Sioux Drive** Spring Lake, MI 616-245-0189 A BLA We CAN HELP! # 105 N. Broadway Lowel

**Decedent's Estate NEED TO SEND A** 

the lowell dger

FILE NO. 10-189405-DE Estate of REANNE M. DROOGER, Date of birth: 10/13/1914. TO ALL CREDITORS: NOTICE CREDITORS: decedent, REANNE M. DROOGER, who lived at 2528 Raymond, Grand 616-940-9991 Rapids, Michigan, died 06/08/2010. Creditors decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to THOMAS DROOGER or RODGER Sending or Receiving Only \$1 for the first sheet (each additional 50¢)





wednesday · december · 1 · 2010

#### WALLING

Sheila Marie Walling, age 22, of Lowell, born February 26, 1988, went to be with The Lord unexpectedly Tuesday, November 23, 2010. Sheila, known by her



### LEGAL NOTICE

DROOGER

personal representative

-

named

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

### for sale

MATTRESSES - All new FOR RENT - 1,800 sq. ft sets. Twin \$100, full \$125, queen \$150, king \$175 & up. Waterbed replacements \$60 & up. Bunkbeds \$195. Futons w/i.s. pad \$325. Candeliver. 616-682-4767 or 293-6160.

BOB'S 13TH ANNUAL CHRISTMASBIRDHOUSE SALE - Great gifts for familly, friends, & neighbors. Good selection of bluebirg wren, & bat houses, also bird feeders. Many with clean outs & self hanging. Best prices anywhere thanks to my loyal customers who have come back year after year for my Christmas & spring sales. Bob's Birdhouses, 12279 60th St., Alto, near Alden Nash. 616-868-6633.

WOOD FOR SALE - Split. seasoned, oak, \$150/cord Call Dan, 970-3832.

BOXER PUPPIES FOR SALE - Call 897-7365.

LAND CONTRACT - low down, 2 bedroom single wide mobile on very nice wooded lot. Newer well & septic system. \$64,900. Call Ron at 616-291-1413.

**MEMORY FOAM MAT-**TRESS - Queen, never used, Tempurpedic "Deluxe," price \$2699, will sell \$1100. Brand new. Can deliver. 616-682-4767 or 293-6160.

MAKE SURE YOUR BUSI-NESS IS LISTED - in the 2011 Lowell City Directory! If you run a business out of vour home & do not have a business phone number in the Grand Rapids phone book, there is a charge to put your phone number in the Lowell City Directory. There will also be a charge if you would like your cell phone listed or for an out of the area listing. The cost is \$15. Your business name & phone number will be listed in the red pages & under 1 category in the yellow pages. Please call Tammy at 897-9560 or email: citydirectory@att. net for further info or to place your order.

**KEYCARDSMAKEGREAT** GIFTS! - Help support the LHS Academic Boosters & save money at the places you shop in Lowell and in Grand Rapids. Cards are \$15. Stop by & get your card today, Lowell Ledger 105 N. Broadway. Cash or check only please.

SOUND OFF LINE

897-0787 Voice your opinion! (good or bad)

### wanted

CA\$H PAID FOR OLD STUFF - I buy retro furniture, toys, games, military, sporting goods, baseball cards, advertising signs, premiums, jewelry, brochures, maps, fishing lures, and much more! it's old, I want to see it Call 616-550-0521.

### for rent

country home, 4 bedroom No smoking, no pets. \$775 per month plus utilities. References. Saranac schools. 642-0462.

MOBILE HOME LOT - near Deer Run Golf Course \$300 per month includes trash removal, storage water & sewer. 989-732-2136.

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

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

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

### help wanted

ledger

NOW HIRING - and training for career positions with West Michigan's leading real estate company. Call Rick Seese, Greenridge Realty. Inc. for a confidential interview. 616-437-2576

or 616-974-4250. DIRECT CARE WORKER - Staff needed to work w/a voung man w/a developmental disability. Includes community involvement & home living skills training. Experience required Please send resumes to Amber Dale, 401 W. Jolly Rd., Lansing, MI 48910

or to amber@mooreliving connections.org. lost

PLEASE NOTE - All ads in this category must be prepaid.

NOT FOUND YET -SEARCH CONTINUES! **REWARD!** Hoping to find closure for missing longhaired, ALL black, male named BLACKIE. cat, He has a "feather duster" tail, BRIGHT light vellow round eyes. Age 2 1/2. VANISHED on 10/28/09 from Ryan Ridge/Alden Nash area, near Twp. offices. ANY INFO please call

### sales

MRS. CLAUS ANNUAL **BAZAAR & CRAFT SHOW** - 100 booths. Sat., Dec. 4, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Ionia Middle School, Union St. & Lincoln Ave. (M21, 4 blocks east of M66). Breakfast. lunch & snacks available. FREE ADMISSION. Door prizes all day. Sponsored by the Ionia County Commission on Aging.

FAITH COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOI HOLIDAY CRAFT & BAKE SALE - Sat., Dec. 4, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Soup & sandwich lunch fundraiser served 11:30 to 2 p.m. 9614 W. Fisk, Belding, 616-794-3451. www.faithccs.com

9 to 4 p.m. at Lowell Farm & Wildlife Rescue, 12494 Vergennes.

### services

SHIP YOUR UPS PACK AGES WITH US & SAVE! Call us for a price comparison. We will need: weight zip code & dimensions of the box. No Hazardous materials or firearms accepted at the is location. Daily UPS pickup at 3 p.m. Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadwav. 897-9261.

Community Calendar

are for non-profit organizations. vou are charging admission for an event - it is considered an advertisement. Coming events are ran on a space available basis ARE NOT GUARANTEED TO RUN. If you would like to make sure your event is placed in the paper, please call our office & place it as a classified ad. We will not run ANY Garage or Rummage Sales as a coming event. All Coming Events or changes to coming events should be submitted by fax: 897-4809, email: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide. com, by mail: PO Box 128, Lowell MI 49331 or in person: 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

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

STORYTIMEATTHESARANAC PUBLIC LIBRARY - Tuesdavs t 10 a.m.

VERY THURSDAY - Free ouper supper at First Congregational United Church of Christ 365 Lincoln Lake Ave SE at 6:30 o.m. Public welcome.

NEW CLASSES FOR EVERY ONE - children - adults at Christian Life Center, 3050 Alden Nash SE, Lowell. Every Wednesday 7-8 p.m. Bible-centered classes for children through 5th grade. youth group for 6th grade thru high school & adult prayer & Bible study. Everyone is invited to attend.

ST. PATRICK PLAYGROUP Thursdays 10 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. St. Patrick's preschool room Stories, games, crafts, music & snack. Parents with young children welcome. Call Jennifer Post, 897-0251 or Sally Goffer 363-4952 with any questions. OOD PANTRY - at Lakeside Community Church, 6201 Whit-

neyville Rd. Free frozen, perish- ANGELFOOD MINISTRIES-First Saranac Public Libary. See staf able food. First Friday. Registra- Baptist Church of Lowell has made for details. tion 2:30, distribution 4 p.m. Bring available new sign up times for this own container.

MOMS IN TOUCH INTERNA-TIONAL - Thursdays 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. at Friendship Country or online with your debit or credit Chapel, 10200 Grand River Ave. Moms & grandmas come pray for our kids & schools. Contact Missy at 308-7920 or at 897-7168 or Angle at 897-0420 jakooistra@comcast.net with any

ORIGAMI - Each Tuesday, 2-3 p.m. Learn the ancient art of paper folding. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell. **GRIEF - ADULT GROUP - Each** Tuesday, 2-3 p.m. & second &

fourth Tuesdays 5:30 - 7 p.m. A 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 n first - fourth grade on a grief journey. Incorporates curriculumbased activities, dicussion & fun. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

**GRIEF - NEW MEMBER MEET** ING - Call the clubhouse to schedule 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.

FREE ADDICTIONS PROGRAM every Friday, 7 p.m. at Bible Believers Church, 404 N. Hudson St., Lowell. For more information call 616-485-2385.

#### great savings opportunity! Signups are first 2 weeks of each month. Tues. - Fri., 9-5 p.m. at the church office with cash or Bridge Card; card at www.angelfood ministries. com, First Baptist Church, 2275 W. Main, Lowell. Call the church office with auestions.

NOOGIELAND - Tuesdays 5:30 - 7 p.m. Supervised play for children kindergarten or younger. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell, 897-8600. www. gildasclubgr.org /pinkarrow

HOOKER CHAPTER #73 - of the Royal Arch Masons, serving the committed group for adults who Belding, Ionia, Lowell & Saranac areas, will hold its stated convocation on Wed., Dec. 8 at 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Temple, 211 East Main St. Belding. Dinner will precede the meeting. All Royal Arch Masons may attend!

> TOTS PLAYGROUPS - Birth- 5 years. Weekly during the school year, 8:30 a.m. or 10 a.m. T, W, Th, Bushnell Elementary, room 106. \$1 per child per session - babies free! ALTO Playgroup weekly too. Call Lori 987-2532.

for preschool - 8th Grade. GEMS for girls meets in the Church uilding, Cadets & Kingdom Kids neet in the ministry center. Call 397-7060 for info.

COATSFOR KIDS & VETSDRIVE RUNS THROUGH DEC. 1 - Donate your coat(s) at Lowell Area Chamber or at Curtis Cleaners 2007 ocations. All coats collected will be donated to Flat River Ministries, Trotter and Health Care for omeless veterans.

FOOD FOR FINES & THE GIVING TREE BEGIN - at the



### wednesday · december · 1 · 2010



CRAFTSALE-Sat., Dec. 4

services

SNOWPLOWING - Ada, Cascade, Lowell area. Residential & commercial, insured, seasonal or per time. Call Jon at Scenic Expressions, LLC, 240-4464.

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

PROFESSIONAL TREE CLIMBER NEEDS WORK - Fully insured. Removals, trims, chipping, stump grinding. Call Dan for free estimate at 616-970-3832.

COMPUTERREHAB-\$65 all repairs - Virus & Spyware removal. No diagnostic fees! Mon. - Sat., 505-B West Main, Lowell 616-828-5346, www. computerRehab.ws

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



MASONIC LODGE #355 - serving the Belding, Ionia, Lowell & Saranac areas, will hold its regular communication, 7:30 p.m. Mon., Dec. 6 at the Masonic Temple, 211 E. Main St., Belding, Dinner will precede the meeting. All Masons may attend.

DORIC CHAPTER #75 - Order of the Eastern Star, will hold its regular communication on Tues., Dec. 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Temple, 211 E. Main St., Belding. Dinner will precede the meeting. All Stars may attend.

**IONIA-MONTCALM CHAPTER** #6 - of the State Employee Retiree's Association, serving Montcalm & Ionia Counties & the Lowell area. will hold its Christmas meeting, noon on Wed., Dec. 8 at the Administration Building of the Ionia Intermediate School District, 2191 Harwood Rd., Ionia.

Luncheon reservations are necessary. Call 616-527-1825 by noon, Mon., Dec. 6. All State of Michigan Retirees may attend. If Ionia Public Schools are closed, there will be no meeting

MASONIC LODGE #355 - Serving Belding, Ionia, Lowell & Saranac areas will hold its 2011 Officers' KINGDOM KIDS, CADETS & Installation on Sat., Dec. 11 at 2 GEMS - meets every other p.m. at the Masonic Temple, 211 Wednesday, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at E. Main, Belding. Refreshments Calvary CRC, Lowell. Programs will be available following the ceremony. The public is invited.

> LET'S MAKE A PRESENT WORKSHOP - You & your preschooler can craft easy presents for the upcoming holiday season. For ages 6 & under. Sat., Dec.18, 10 a.m. at the Alto Branch Library, 6071 Linfield Ave. 616-784-

WEIGHT WATCHERS - Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. at Impact Church, 1070 N. Hudson. New members invited. 1-800-651-6000.

GENEALOGY ALTO FAMILY

### services

HOME REPAIR - Carpentry, drywall, laminate countertops, furniture repair, cabinet work. Ron Anderson Woodworking & Construction, 616-430-8511.

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

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

SLEIGH RIDES WITH SANTA - (Carriage rides also available). Your place or ours. For more information call 676-2895 or 616-204-3190.

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

CLASSIFIEDS ARE NOW ON OUR WEBSITE ALSO www.lowellbuyersguide. com.

TREE CLUB - second Thursday

at the Alto Library at 2 p.m.

LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Members in good standing may

POKEMON! YU-GI-OH! BAKU GAN! - Calling all experienced Pokemon, Yu-Gi-Oh and Bakugan players, join our gaming group to play, trade, & meet with other fans of these popular games. For ages 6 & up. Wed. Dec. 16, 6:30 p.m. at Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell. 616-784-2007.

**EXPERIENCE EGYPT** - Play games & make crafts related to all things Egyptian: dress like a pharaoh, make yourself into mummies, & create a pyramid. Tues., Dec. 28, 2 p.m. at the Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell. 616-784-2007.

**TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBL** TOPS MI #372 - every Tuesday at Key Heights Mobile Home Park Community Building. Weigh-ins at 5:45 p.m.

QUA-KE-ZIK SPORTS- MAN'S CLUB - meets second and third Tuesdays at 8 p. m. at 8731 West Riverside Dr. Go to www qua-ke-zik.org for information New members welcome.

CULTURAL AWARENESS FOCUS ON SOUTHEAST ASIA - Experience the culture, music geography, craft & food of South east Asia at this drop-in activity focusing on such countries as India, Malaysia, Korea, Thailand & China. No registration required For all ages. Tues., Dec. 21, 2 p.m. at the Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell 616-784-2007.

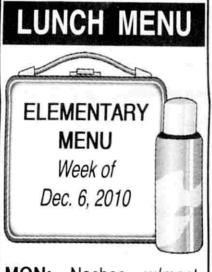
ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES SIGN UP - At the Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington St Sat., Dec. 4, 10 a.m. - noon. You may also order online using you debit or credit card. Go to www angelfood ministries.com. Cal Esther with any questions, 897

### 'Tis the season for holiday safety - Remain alert to suspicious activity

travelers and during the holiday season, While entering buildings and unauthorized areas. citizens are reminded to be moving around the facility, . Individuals alert and report any activity remember where you are quickly leave when seen or physical description, what that seems suspicious or located, what floor you are approached. out of the ordinary to law on and where the nearest . Someone tampering or location, date and time. enforcement officials. Citizens play a significant stairwells. role in preventing crimes, acts of violence and terrorism their environment.

stays safe this holiday season, one that appears out of place, it is important for citizens to especially in crowded or . Exposed wiring or other activities to law enforcement remain vigilant and aware public areas. of their surroundings, as . Individuals these simple measures can help prevent violence from behavior. occurring," stated Col. Eddie · A strong odor coming reminded to include as much michigan.gov/emhsd L. Washington, Jr., director from a building or vehicle. of the Michigan State Police and State Director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. "If an individual witnesses something that seems suspicious or out of place, they should immediately notify law enforcement."

Remaining vigilant can be as simple as paying more attention to where you are



MON: Nachos w/meat shredded cheese, diced tomato (3 meat sub also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake tossed salad w/romaine pears, milk.

**TUES:** Chicken drumstick w/wheat bread (tuna salad sandwich also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek Murray Lake), mashed potatoes w/gravy peaches, milk.

WED: Chicken patty or wheat bun (fish sandwich w/cheese on bun also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake) green beans, oranges milk.

THURS: Egg, cheese & sausage on English muffin (quesadilla w/salsa also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake) coleslaw, grapes, milk.

FRI: Tony's cheese pizza w/crackers also (chili offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake broccoli w/ranch, warr baked apple slices, milk.

With an increase of and knowing how you would . Someone shoppers react if something happened. or exiting blocked or

the look out for several by paying close attention to indicators of suspicious . Someone taking photos, activity, including:

exhibiting strange or abnormal

entering

emergency exit is, including interfering with surveillance cameras

Citizens should be on • An overloaded vehicle or government's national threat one that seems out of place. videos or drawings of high-"To ensure everyone • An unattended object or profile or highly populated of their surroundings and buildings or structures.

> abnormalities. When reporting

suspicious activity to law enforcement, citizens are

information as possible such as the description and number of people involved, who including gender, age and a the individual(s) was doing,

> While there is no current threat to Michigan, the U.S. level remains elevated so citizens are reminded to stay vigilant, take notice report suspicious items or authorities immediately.

Additional information about indicators of suspicious activity can be found at www.

### Use credit wisely, continued

be what's under the tree but who was sitting around it.

Avoid juggling credit cards. According to a 2010 survey from the Boston, the average credit cards. And in many cases, successful means to using

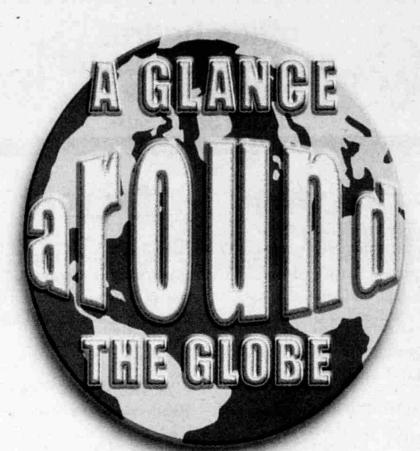
LOW COST SPAY & NEUTER BALTES For feral, barn and at colonies, and for dogs and cats of low income families **AS LOW AS \$10** Call 897-8865 www.spayneuterexpress.com

overboard won't do the on one card. However, this the available balance, which family or the kids any good isn't really a solution as is listed on the statement as come January when the bills much as it is a way to mask well. are due. What's more, most the problem of accruing too adults who remember the much credit card debt during offers "return protection." they received as gifts, but debt is piling up in shorter "return protection," that and friends. So the lasting card doesn't mean it's not back items in new condition with the lowest interest rate at the time of purchase.

> same credit limit, which can all that is typically required. lowering lines of credit and, early shoppers should call histories. Check the most for return protection. recent statement to learn the

can relate to that, going opposed to putting it all card limit and to determine

\* Determine if the card holidays don't recall what the holidays. Just because When a credit card offers do recall how those holidays stacks on three cards instead means the card issuer, and were spent with family of one large stack on one not the retailer, will take memory won't necessarily a problem. If a credit card up until 90 days after the must be used, use the one original purchase. This is done to protect buyers when the retailer will no longer \* Always know the accept returns. The original card's limit. As mentioned receipt, the item itself and Federal Reserve Bank of above, many people have the name and location of more than one credit card. the merchant from whom cardholder has 3.5 credit But not all cards have the the item was purchased is cardholders feel the most be confusing for holders of In general, the dollar limit multiple cards. To avoid for return protection is \$300 credit during the holidays going over the limit, which per item. Those who often is to evenly distribute debt can result in penalties and need return protection the over each of their cards as a negative mark on your most are early shoppers credit report, view your who buy gifts for loved ones most recent statement before in advance of the typical using a given card. As a holiday shopping season. result of the recession, many Many retailers only offer full credit card companies began cash refunds for 30 days, so in some instances, even their credit card companies closing accounts with poor to determine their eligibility



### **NOVEMBER 24 - NOVEMBER 30**

- between 1966 and 2010.



Netflix wants to change to "instant streaming." Everyone I know experiences problems with this. Constant stopping and retrieving - why pay to be frustrated? Little kids complain, too!

We at Key Heights would like to thank Lowell Township Supervisor Jerry Hale for all of his effort to have the sidewalk finished between the city and our community. We realize this took hours of work to organize, oversee and obtain the funding. Jerry has made sure that we now have a safe route to walk to access all that beautiful Lowell has to offer. Bless you Jerry and everyone else involved in this project.

Goodbye and thank you to the crew at Allied Waste. Your courteous service has been much appreciated.

Congratulations to the Lowell Light & Power staff for their quick work in securing five electric vehicle recharging stations for the Lowell area. This is one more way of increasing the positive impression guests have of our city.



**DENTIST** PROVIDE THE CARE YOUR FAMILY DESERVES? At the Family Dentistry of Lowell, your family is part of our family. That's why we're so caring, nurturing and compassionate.

> We provide the dentistry and oral healthcare you need with TLC.

Isn't that what you want for your family? Isn't that what you want from your dentist?

Tamily Dentistry of Lowell ANN WILSON, D.D.S. JENNIFER BYRD, D.D.S. NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS - CALL: 616-897-4835 **147 NORTH CENTER STREET, LOWELL** WWW.FAMILYDENTISTRYOFLOWELL.COM

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Top U.S. officials blast WikiLeaks for releasing thousands of secret documents. The website says it has 251,288 diplomatic cables sent

Lelsie Nelson of 'Naked Gun' and 'Airplane' fame dies at the age of 84.

· Seoul, South Korea - President Lee Myungbak warns Monday that North Korea will face severe consequences if it launches another military attack across its southern borders.

European Union finance ministers on Sunday agree on an 85 billion euro (in U.S. dollars \$113 billion) bailout package for Ireland

Paris - A retired French electrician and his wife come forward with 271 undocumented, neverbefore-seen works of Pablo Picaso estimated to be worth at least \$80 million dollars, according to an administrator of the artist's estate.

#### - Don Silvis

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Once again, Dave Thompson offers his Christmas story.

The Lowell Ledger will publish the continuing story "wrapping" it up on Dec. 29.

#### v Dave Thompson

It had been in Lowell wonderful fall the and colors outstanding. But we were past Thanksgiving



and Grandpa was wondering when first really big snowstorm would finally arrive. While Grandpa was snoozing during the news a couple of nights ago, George Lessens. our crack meteorologist at TV-13, had said we had all better "look out!" He was hinting at the possibility that we were due to get hammered with a big storm sometime in the next couple of days. Weatherman George is a local boy, you know, and has always provided us with the weather in Lowell since he was a kid. And, he never got it wrong. Some of the coffee

Kitchen called him old phenomenal forecasting accuracy.

Actually. the first conditions snowstorm came to Grandpa from Edgar Eagle (vou

> remember old Edgar last in River of iust south town near whenhiswings

up! He knew immediately Lowell and wait out the her, she wished him and his storm. His planned trip family a Merry Christmas could wait

kitchen with the telephone her to be careful on her nestled tightly between way home. "Don't worry," her ear and her shoulder she called back to him as as she talked to her daughter in Denver while home okay!" multi-tasking at her stove. "Do you have any snow was snowing even harder vet?" her daughter, Jenny, had asked her.

just a little bit, mind you. I Chimera Design Limited as it will to get home," she flatbed semis painted in with all of this snow? mean, it snowed much of (that's our fancy jewelry mumbled to herself as she a strange camouflage

drinkers up at Keiser's the day," she was saying store downtown), waved picked up the windshield as she wiped her hands "Bull's-eve George" for his on her apron. She had just taken an apple pie from the oven, one of those big delicious pies that were confirmed report of any made by Lowell's wrestling As Grandma passed the out to be a nightmare team and some of the mothers. "Betty Morlock, the City Clerk and a huge wrestling fan, cornered me at City Hall a Grandma back." story) who had went on, "and we ended planned to fly up buying six pies from the "closed" sign in the coming. Just that fast, Kalamazoo use all six pies ourselves, Saugatuck of them over to the Flat visit River Outreach Ministries relatives over for their food pantry and Christmas. the Christmas Food Drive. he It seemed like a nice thing ran into some to do with Christmas and all coming on and with so many families struggling the to make ends meet in our expressway area," she said.

Later. was off to Gary's Meat and ventured out into the Grandma stood in her growing blizzard. He told she left his store, "I'll get

> Outside the market it and traffic was definitely beginning to thin out.

to her as he leaned on his shovel trying to catch his breath while he watched helplessly as the snow continued to accumulate. Flat River Grill, she was and the roads, although greeted by Chris West who already once plowed, and menu board back the inside. As Chris closed her door, she waved to Grandma as she hung impassable. As under the Riverwalk arch, "Well, there, my dear, by a strong north wind. a couple of miles north of Gary had just wrapped for if the roads were going to you home, Grandma." be slick on the way home, as she heard a couple of expressway things were snowplows off somewhere not nearly so comfortable. in the distance plowing

> parking lot. "Oh. dear!" she exclaimed to when she saw her car. It appeared to have at least four or five inches already seemed to be hurt and accumulated on both the no cars had collided. but



scraper that had lain unused in her backseat for about six weeks. waiting for this day.

Driving home turned was carrying her welcome were indeed, slippery and windshield wipers trouble were having volume handling the of snow that just kept down to the her. Oh, no, we couldn't window. Grandma figured nothing could be seen out maybe she was closing of the completely snowed mercy no! We sent four up early so that her help in rear window. Grandma could get home before the fishtailed her way home streets and roads became and Grandpa was waiting she for her in the garage to turned the corner, passing help with her packages. a gust of cold arctic wind he joked, "looks like you hit her head on. The were almost a casualty of snowy ice crystals, driven this storm. You have little water droplets all over whipped down the ice your hair and clothes despite the covered river stinging her from the snow that must began to ice- threatening weather, she forehead. The snow was have melted in your warm now beginning to stick to car," he said as he gently it would be the smart thing Market to pick up some her clothing, her hair and brushed some of the melt to do to turn around and last minute items. As she even on her eyebrows. from her hair and coat. come back to his home gathered up the packages Grandma wondered aloud "It's comforting to have

> Meanwhile, out on the In fact, traffic was no the streets or perhaps a longer moving. Cars were turned every which way; some of them had even slid into the median or off on the shoulders. Fortunately no one

and two of them had slid into the median. Four or five soldiers in uniform were standing along the side of the road looking at their trucks, wondering how they were going to get them back on the highway. Unlike many of the travelers in the cars. the soldiers seemed to be dressed for the weather. snug in their heavy white and light tan camopatterned parkas and fur lined hoods, and warm as they began to take the large green tarps off a couple of the vehicles on the flatbeds.

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Back at Grandpa's, Edgar had glided down to a branch close to where Grandpa was filling some of his feeders out along the river. "Well, Grandpa, we seem to have a real mess on our hands," Edgar observed as he tried to shake the rest of the snow and ice from his wings. "There must be at least a hundred cars or more out on the expressway that can't move with at least two or three hundred people stuck inside them. understand that old "Whatshisname" Lessens is now saving that we might get as much as 36 to 40 inches of snow before it's over." The record for one storm, someone said. was about 34 inches back in the 1930s, so this really was a huge storm that was trunk and hood and on the nobody was venturing out bearing down on Lowell. "Well, it began to snow Across the street Cliffy windows. "It will take as of their warm cars either. In How will Lowell manage vesterday morning. Not Yankovich, the owner of long to brush off the snow one spot there were three to get through Christmas

To be continued ...

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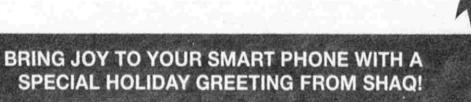
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