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shopping days till christmas icy art



page 7 christmas

Annual nighttime Santa Parade ushers in holiday spirit, chamber names winners

by Emma Palova

A float with a nativity composed from the Peanuts characters was one of the attention getters at the annual Santa Parade last Saturday.

Unlike in previous years, the weather cooperated. In spite of the chill and wind, there was no snowstorm or freezing rain sweeping through the Main Street corridor.

The parade had 54 entries and it went smooth all the way from the opening emergency vehicles to the closing carriage ride into town with Mr. and Mrs. Claus aboard.

The theme "A Christmas Cartoon" lent

itself to a lively colorful stream of floats alternating with bands and mainstays, such as the calliope, the miniature Showboat and the Grinch with his flames.

A fire truck with a giant snowman representing the Lowell Area Fire Department glided down Main Street followed by other trucks.

The Lowell high school and middle school bands played Christmas music.

"We have heard this is our best ever parade," said Liz Baker, Lowell Area Chamber director.

It takes a lot of volunteers to organize the

Santa Parade, continued, page 15



Arrowhead Golf Course float with Peanuts nativity took first place.

pancakes



page 7

relay trees



page 3



LHS SPORTS Winter Preview

pages 10 & 11





Santa holds Liam VanderJagt for a photo pose.

Following Santa during Christmas festivities in Lowell

www.thelowellledger.com

by Emma Palova

As Mr. and Mrs. Claus make their grand entrance, through the decorated trellis onto the Showboat, for their annual Santa visits and picture session last Saturday, seven-year-old Austin Bartrum runs to hug Santa.

"I love Santa," he said with his face glowing in the winter chill coming from the Flat River.

The Showboat, with its Santa room on the lower deck, is decked out with garland, Christmas trees and lights. Mrs. Claus turns up the heater as the windows fog. It is immediately hot in the small cabin.

Elf Nancy Anderson smiles mischievously by the door.

"I escort them out," she laughed.

A line is forming outside on the frozen deck. There are grandmas and grandpas, moms and dads, and kids of all ages in the line braving the cold.

In the meantime Santa has settled down into his wooden chair. He's a busy man, nowadays. He just came back from the Grand Rapids Arts Museum and Santa has a busy schedule ahead of him, including the pancake supper and the nighttime parade.

The Lowell Santa takes his role very seriously. He grows a real beard.

> Santa, continued, page 2

City awards bid for tree clearing at airport

by Emma Palova

The Lowell City Council awarded a tree cutting project at the airport to the lowest bidder, Wonsey Tree Service of Alma, for \$41,848 on Monday night out of a total five bids received.

The project will clear trees near the end of runway 12/30 at the southeast intersection of Lincoln Lake and Vergennes. The process has been long in the works due to difficulty in obtaining air easements and resistance to the cutting of trees from some residents.

However, now that the air easements have been acquired, the city can move ahead. The airport fund will pay 10 percent into the total cost of the \$74,000 to clear runway approach and for threshold relocation.

Construction will start once a Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) grant and construction contracts are executed, and a preconstruction meeting must be held. This may take three to four weeks. The budget for the project, other than the tree clearing, includes consultant design, aero design, consultant inspection, aero inspection, aero administration, and contingencies.

In other business, the city council approved the sale of Downtown Development Authority (DDA) property, on the south side of Kent Street between South Monroe and South Washington, to Jice Pharmaceuticals for \$15,000. The property is

> City meeting, continued, page 3



Santa, continued

Phillips. "He visits all bring Christmas joy." over."

Mrs. Claus makes all the well as "I met Santa." costumes including the one for the elf. She also keeps Santa role so seriously an eye on Santa.

It keeps us out of trouble," summer because he believes too young. said Santa. "Mrs. Claus Christmas should be always knows where I am." yearround In the true spirit of needed, like in hospices.

"Anytime there is a

"He's a very popular need for Santa," he said. Santa," said Lowell Area "No matter what is going Chamber president, Cutter on in people's lives, we will

Santa's Phillips readied the card says, "Believe," and room for Santa with props. "Forever Christmas," as

Mr. Claus takes his that sometimes he plays "We're staying busy. Santa in the middle of

"This is the real deal," he Vander Jagt Christmas, Santa travels said. "We're going to have a had where ever he may be great season of Christmas. It first has been fast approaching." Santa especially likes Santa

seeing grandpas and grandmas in front of him business turn into little kids again. He believes that no one is ever too old to have a photo taken with him, or At weeks, Liam photo taken with

Austin Bartrum, 7, hugs Santa as Mr. and Mrs. Claus make their grand entrance on the Showboat.



LUMINARY HIKE

Sat., Dec. 11, 6-8 p.m. at Wittenbach/Wege Agriscience and Environmental Education Center. If there is snow on the ground, snowshoers are welcome. Afterwards, warm up inside with hot chocolate and make ornaments out of natural and recycled materials to take home. Free and open to the public. For information call 987-1002.

FALLASBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY

"Christmas in Fallasburg," a community celebration to benefit the continued preservation of our historical village. Sat., Dec. 11, 6-8 p.m. at Fallasburg Schoolhouse, 13944 Covered Bridge Rd. Music by the "Hawks & Owls" band, wine, cheese, cider, coffee. For more information, go to www.fallasburg.org or call 616-682-0785.

BASEBALL CLUB

Dec. 17, Youth Night, 6:30 to 9 p.m.; Dec. 18, Gamer Tournament, 9 a.m., Call of Duty Modern Warfare 2 at Spring Training Indoor Sports Center.

FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES

The FROM Food Pantry is in need of boxed mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, muffin mix, canned fruit, jello, pie fillings and pie crust mix. Please help if you are able.

CHRISTMAS ASSISTANCE

A CONTRACTOR OF THE OWNER OWNER OF THE OWNER OWNER

"ledger

There is still time to sign up in the FROM Food Pantry if your family can use assistance with food and/or toys for Christmas.

SENIOR NEIGHBORS

Cookbooks on sale for \$12. All proceeds go to Lowell Senior Center Building Fund.Lowell Area Historical Museum tour, Thurs., Dec. 16 at 12:45 p.m.; Lowell Middle School Holiday Orchestra Concert, Mon., Dec. 13. The bus leaves the center at 6:15 p.m.; Christmas shopping Wednesdays, 12:45 p.m., the bus will leave for Meijer; or Fri., Dec. 17, the bus leaves for Woodland Mall at 12:45 p.m.

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.

One of Santa's elves leads the way to a visit with Santa.

the lowell dger (USPS 453-830) Published weekly for \$2200 a year for zip codes beginning

with 493 or 495 \$3200 a year any other zip code. JON JACOBS JEANNE BOSS. EMMA PALOVA. THAD KRAUS ..

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LOWELL AREA **COMMUNITY FUND ACCEPTS GRANT** PROPOSALS

All proposals must be submitted online no later than DECEMBER 17, 2010, to be considered. Visit www.grfoundation.org/lowell to submit your application.

The Lowell Area Community Fund, a fund of Grand Rapids Community Foundation, awards grants to tax-exempt, nonprofit charitable organizations that have an impact in the Lowell area. The LACF funds innovative projects or programs that encourage community cooperation.

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Saturday. Two years ago, city manager Dave Pasquale, in his early 60s, had his first photo ever taken on Santa's lap.

"I don't ever remember having my photo taken with Santa as a kid." said Pasquale while waiting in a line on the deck two years ago.

The walls by Santa Room the are decorated with hundreds of photos with Santa. After all, Mr. Claus has been playing the role of Santa for the last seven to eight years.

"I like everything about the character." he said.



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Snowfresh Christmas trees sale to raise money for Lowell Relay for Life

by Emma Palova

smell of a fresh evergreen front of A1 Laser Die & beautiful pine and takes you Christmas tree reaching all Engineering, inside the out to the lot. The couple, limb," said Smith, "no pun something different." the way to the ceiling. And industrial park, with rows Lori and Rudi, one of Relay intended. We want to make even if the needles prickle, of beautiful trees ahead for Life's teams, decided the sensation coming from of you, makes you realize to sell Christmas trees as a We wanted to do our part." a real tree compliments the that Christmas is almost fundraiser to benefit A.C.S. holiday spirit.

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Trekking through here.

Al Laser co-owner Lori Lowell Relay for Life. This Nothing beats the the snow at the tree lot in Smith greets you in front of a year is their first year.

by Fisk Trucking, came wintertime. from Korson's family tree are Michigan Snowfresh Smith. guaranteed. This means that does not sell to big box stores.

growers in Michigan," said Smith.

And the selection of trees is amazing from Scotch pine to Fraser and Douglas fir, with Blue Spruce in between. The price range is from the cheapest Scotch pine for \$19.95 to the most expensive Fraser fir for \$88.

Fraser fir, which is towering above her head at 10 feet, Smith talked about her involvement with Relay for Life. Team captain Nannette Grim got the couple involved.

A1 Laser co-owner Lori Smith standing by a 10-foot tall Fraser fir tree hopes to raise money for Lowell Relay for Life.

City meeting, continued

approximately 35,310 square feet and DDA purchased it for a parking lot for the property. former Superior Furniture for \$30,000.

However, Furniture is no longer a driveway off of Kent of light on other people's design charrette sessions all in business, while Jice Street for easier access property, according to day seeking input from the Pharmaceuticals needed to for the semitrucks making councilwoman Maryalene residents. expand its operation with deliveries and pick ups. Jice LaPonsie. veterinarian supplies. Currently, the company located at 218 employees.

manager Dave Pasquale. "It for Jan. 3. will increase our tax base."

The city will get \$850

to 8,000 square feet to its is to keep light shining Superior facility. Also, Jice will add down and avoid trespassing Design Plus will hold wholesale anticipates adding new jobs in the future.

South Washington has nine set a public hearing for the the house under the new Discussions will also be approval of the outdoor regulation. This closes the held with the Lowell Area "We'd like to help Jice lighting ordinance and soft gap between the 200 square Schools. expand and grow," said city sided accessory buildings

Both issues have been in in tax income from the the works for a long time. The major intent of the

Jice needs to add 6,000 outdoor lighting ordinance

buildings, over 200 square amphitheatre project by The city council also feet, will have to match amending the master plan.

feet and the 600 square feet structures.

A major meeting will be held on January 13 at 7 p.m. to discuss the amphitheatre.

The city has taken the The soft sided accessory first step toward any future







Standing by the showy

"Everybody has lost somebody to cancer," said "We're going out on a Smith. "We want to do

Since Relay for Life money for Relay for Life. is held in the heat of June, Smith wanted The 225 trees, trucked do something different in

farm in Sidney. The trees money in winter," said

the tree has received years potential from the sale of the Lake. The hours are Monday of care in carefully observed Christmas trees is anywhere through Friday from 9 a.m. fields for plenty of nutrients from \$3,000 to \$4,000. And and water. In order to receive A1 Laser does not have a a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday the Snowfresh seal each tree lot of competition in selling from noon to 5 p.m. The must be inspected. Korson's Snowfresh trees in the area. sales will go through Dec.

They also sold garland and wreaths at the Lowell "They're the best Area Chamber of Commerce will be held on June 24 and during Christmas through Lowell.

"We did really well," said Smith

Even if all the trees are not sold, Smith said A1 Laser will do the fundraiser again.

"One year wouldn't be fair," she said. "You got to give it at least two to three years."

But, she remains "We wanted to raise hopeful that the sales will break even.

The Christmas tree lot The fundraising is located at 677 Lincoln to 7 p.m., Saturday from 9

> Relay for Life 2011 June 25 from noon to noon at the Lowell High School.



financial focus

Still time for year-end financial moves

The holiday season is always a busy time of year, so But it is important to take some time now to evaluate year-end financial moves that may be beneficial in preparing for your financial future.

financial advisor and tax and you're probably pretty busy. legal professionals first, but here are a few ideas to get vou started: Boost vour

contributions. You have until April 15, 2011, to fully fund your IRA for the 2010 Which year-end moves tax year, but the sooner should you consider? You you finish with your 2010

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your IRA, the more time assets. you give your account the opportunity to grow.

ledger

money in before year-end. earned in other investments. gift However, this must be If your loss is greater than accomplished by year-end. \$3,000, you can "carry over"

deduction on your 2010 tax sale" rules. return. For example, if you donate \$100 to a charitable In 2011, the tax rate on organization or one that has scheduled to increase to 20 Service], and you're in the it's been the last several 25 percent tax bracket, you years. If you have stocks or can deduct \$100 (with a tax other appreciated assets that benefit of \$25) when you you were thinking of selling file your taxes for 2010, in the near future, you might itemize. If you donate stocks or other types of assets, you

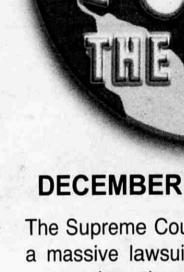
contribution, the quicker may also be able to save on you can get started on your capital gains taxes, because it 2011 contribution — and the will be the charity, not you, earlier in the year you fund that eventually sells those

• Sell your "losers." If you own investments that • Put more money into have lost value since you college savings plans. If you purchased them, you can sell have a 529 college savings them before 2010 ends and will want to talk to your plan for yourself or someone then use the tax loss to offset else, consider putting more capital gains you may have You can gift up to \$13,000 If you don't have any capital (\$26,000 per married couple) gains, you can use up to IRA per person per year without \$3,000 of your tax losses to tax consequences. offset other ordinary income. • Be generous. If you've the excess and deduct it from been thinking of making your taxes in future years. . charitable gifts, don't put However, if you then want them off any longer. As long to repurchase the investment as you make a donation to a you sold, you'll need to wait qualified charity before the at least 31 days to avoid year ends, you can claim a violating the IRS' "wash

> • Take capital gains. group [either a religious long-term capital gains is received 501(c)(3) status percent for most investors, . from the Internal Revenue up from the 15 percent rate providing, of course, that you want to do so before the year .

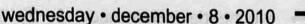
> > **Financial Focus**, continued, page 6

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DECEMBER 2 - DECEMBER 7

The Supreme Court will consider throwing out a massive lawsuit that claims Walmart pays women less than men and promotes women less frequently. The case could involve 500,000

WikiLeaks publishes a secret document listing locations the U.S. considers vital to its national

Washington - Top senators from both parties indicate Sunday that a deal is likely soon on temporarily extending Bush-era tax cuts for all Americans, along with unemployment benefits

New York - Activist investor William Ackman offers to finance a \$16 per share Borders-led takeover bid for rival bookseller Barnes & Noble



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Shopping locally is important — and simple

There's been a great deal of publicity this year help their communities about the importance of through a multiplier effect: shopping locally. You only \$1 spent at a locally owned have to look around as you business will return five travel throughout West times that amount within Michigan or Kent County to the community through notice the growing number city taxes, employee wages, of empty stores and realize and purchases of materials how important it is for all of and supplies from other us to support our community independent merchants.

According to a recent businesses also report released from those dollars back to the the Michigan Retailers community through school Association, shoppers are funding, social services and turning online in growing contributions to non-profit numbers, putting even more pressure on independent businesses and their survival. Yet most consumers don't 40 percent - and at times realize the threat this trend poses to their communities store sales - back to the your local hospital. and the real cost residents face as neighborhood chains often are given tax retailers close down.

independent leaves a social and economic retail and service businesses businesses decide to pack competitors.

locally owned A business independent the returns. U.S. Department of Labor, up tools or supplies from the

independent businesses businesses in the community. These turn organizations.

Chains and franchises tend to contribute roughly as little as 20 percent of community. Plus, large breaks by cities that smaller The loss of local independent businesses businesses don't get, so the smaller brick-and-mortar more than their "big box"

Local independent merchants are the fabric of our community. They are the places where you have community, approximately a cup of coffee, buy a gift 45 percent of each dollar for a friend, enjoy lunch or spent. According to the dinner, buy groceries, pick

local hardware or lumber more consumers store. You can get a haircut, community have your taxes prepared, actively supporting the on the state's ability to They are the people that have a prescription filled small businesses of their or apply for a loan or a communities, trying to avoid mortgage at a local bank the closing of shops along start with, state and federal or credit union. These Main Street. independent businesses A program supported provide all the services you by the U.S. Department of appropriate sales tax - all investing in the vitality of use throughout the year, from Labor announced its support levels of government need our community in the years vehicle repairs, to painting, of the 3/50 Project -a the additional revenue, plus to come. It's simple: pick remodeling, electrical work program to save the brick- it would level the playing three, spend \$50 and join a and plumbing. They will and-mortar businesses of field for local businesses. replace your furnace, install our nation. The project an air conditioner, insure encourages shoppers to pick to remain strong in the your home or help you three independently owned sell it. If you're concerned businesses and spend at about your health, these least \$50 a month at them. local, independently owned independent businesses By doing so, local residents businesses. Local owners are provide eye care, dental, cam strengthen the impact surgical services along with small businesses have on a list of procedures from our community.

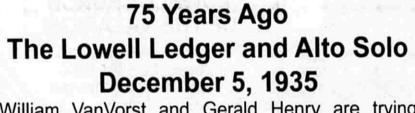
each time you choose to U.S. officials are starting spend money locally, you add to promote the importance to the strength and vitality of supporting community of our community. Without businesses. Internet sales these local businesses, much provide an unfair advantage void that may not feel real end up contributing far of our community's character over would be in jeopardy. businesses because they They are the people who can take an order from help support local schools, a computer in another sports, music programs and country, avoid hiring local churches, nonprofit groups, merchandise from a depot community vouth ocal programs and more

> Since the economy went

and groups are

With a growing threat The list goes on - and offered by Internet sales, brick-and-mortar much more. They give to employees while distributing located in a state offering the best tax benefits. Plus, when you buy online, Michigan

into a tailspin.



William VanVorst and Gerald Henry are trying to locate the bald eagle aerie along Flat River from which the six-foot, two-year-old eagle, shot by David Garfield last week, was hatched. Their object is to secure photographs of an eagle brood from the egg stage through the hatching and fledgling periods.

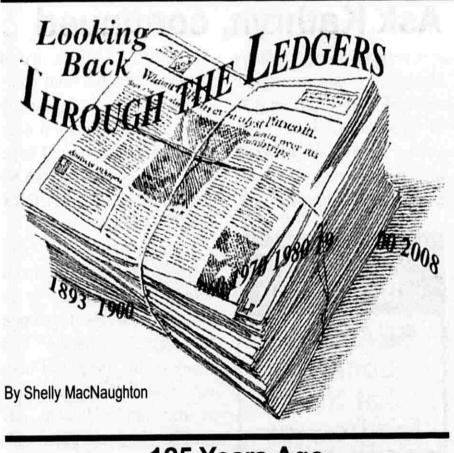
50 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger **December 8, 1960**

The State Savings Bank announced this week that for the convenience of Christmas shoppers they will be open on Friday evenings until Christmas.

The Michigan Department of State posted the names of two local area drivers whose licenses have been revoked: Sherman P. Reynolds, 83, 2190 Snow Avenue, Lowell, Nov. 1960 license revoked for failure to appear for re-examination; and Norman W. Stukkie, 7131 Bronson St., Ada, license revoked Nov. 17 for unsafe driving record and failure to report for reexamination.

25 Years Ago The Grand Valley Ledger **December 11, 1985**

The Lowell Rotary Club was treated to an internationally recognized guest speaker last Wednesday, Famous runner, Greg Meyer, was the quest of Rotarian Dr. James Lang. Meyer won the prestigious Chicago Marathon in 1982 and the famous Boston Marathon in 1983. Meyer holds the third fastest time for an American marathon and currently holds the feelings to others frees us record for the fastest 10 mile run. p filling i se statut i si ti si si ta



125 Years Ago **The Lowell Journal** December 11, 1885

G. Kropf is sinking an artesian well. Good prospects for much water.

There will be a Christmas party at the Ada Rink Christmas night and a New Years party at the Ada hotel New Years night. All cordially invited.

Mrs. A. Pillen was taken to the Kalamazoo asylum this week.

100 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger **December 8, 1910**

The annual meeting and rabbit pie supper of Camp No. 1154, Monday evening, Woodman December 5, was a record breaking event in local fraternal history: 180 banqueters enjoying the big spread which followed the election of officers.



If you expect Lowell back - locally! coming years, then it's Fred Jacobs, vice president, up to you to support your

importanceoflearninghowto

included

manage stress. The different

have

nformation on what stress

does to our bodies and to

with stress. Salvatore Maddi

Executive: Health Under

Stress, studied healthy

executives to discover the

stress. The following traits

were found in the hardy

. Interest in their job -

you are and this helps you

2. Capacity for playfulness

it has been found that

when you have a good time

vou loosen up and reduce

3. Balance - we spend most

of our day at our jobs that

require rational, "linear"

thinking. However, we need

to spend more time using our

4. Curiosity - it is healthy

for us to explore new ideas

5. Expressiveness - being

able to express our ideas and

and get excited about life.

creative thought process.

thev

survived

attributes by which

successfully

executive:

stay stress free.

tension.

loses the taxes on the sale, essential to the growth and putting even more pressure stability of our community. provide good schools, roads donate to local projects, and public services. To serve on area boards and support community causes. legislators should demand When you spend your that all online sales pay the money locally, you're grassroots effort of giving

J-Ad Graphics



Kathryn Denhouter Ph.D

For several months from the stress of repressing now we have discussed the who we are. 6. Comfort with competitors

- we have less stress when we can handle criticism and not let our competitors throw us "off center."

our attitudes about life. We 7. Perspective with one's have learned how to manage true abilities - an honest stress through relaxation appraisal of the self keeps us (i.e. progressive muscle "grounded" and strong.

relaxation and autogenic 8. Being flexible - gives us relaxation). Today, we will the ability to switch roles look at "stress survivors." and to adapt well to changes Most of the time, studies are This ability decreases our done on people with diseases stress.

who have not learned to deal 9. Sense of wholeness - you become secure in the face in his book. The Hardy of stress knowing that you can return to your center (spiritual self).

Integrity - clear 10. values produce behaviors that feel right in most situations

Work, love, and play - working at balancing these three aspects of living, when you like what you're reduces stress. It is important doing you can express who to make sure that you aren't concentrating on one and ignoring the others.

Finally, here is a brief summary of what you can do to make yourself one of "hardy survivors" of the stress. You can exercise, walk, grow a garden, get active in activities that "use up" that stress reaction. You can communicate, talk it out, share your burden and leave it behind you. You can learn compromise because to when you give a little you gain a lot. You can become a philosopher and learn to

> Ask Kathryn, continued, page o

Financial Focus, continued

tax consequences. If your capital gains rate. appreciated assets are still a

comes to a close. However, part of your overall financial before the year ends may it's generally not a good strategy, you may be better idea to make investment off holding them for the long decisions strictly because of term, even with a higher

business Matters

Greenridge Realty announced that Siggi Winsor received Realtor of the month in November.

This award recognizes Winsor for her outstanding success and achievement.

the ledger 897-9261 **OFFICE HOURS** Monday - Thursday: 8 am - 5 pm Friday: 8 am - 2 pm Closed Sat. & Sun.

from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.



help you better prepare to address you financial picture in 2011

"ledger

area

Lyon

births

and

(May) Lyon are pleased to

announce the birth of their

son, Nolan James. He was

born on October 24, 2010,

are Jay and Oranda May

of Lowell and Charlie and

Denise Lyon of Ithaca.

weighing 7 lbs. 14 oz.

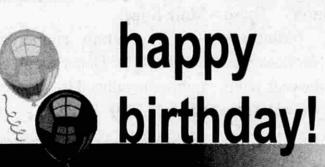
Proud

Tabitha

grandparents

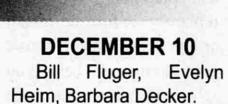
Edward Jones, Considering these moves employees and financial advisors are not tax advisors and cannot give tax advice. Please consult your qualified tax professional regarding our situation.

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



DECEMBER 8 Mike Cummings.

DECEMBER 9 Allen Metternick, Sara Triplett, Deb Schuitema Alison Nugent, Ben Nugent, Noah VanLaan.

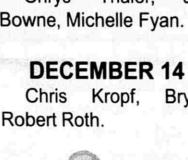


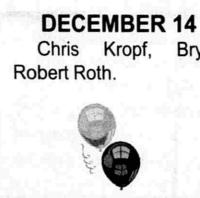
DECEMBER 11 Dave Rhodes, Kathryn Zalewski, Amber Waldron, Mike Kline.

DECEMBER 12 Brad Briggs, Joyce Stormzand. Matt Newhouse, Sally Hacker, Charlie Young.

DECEMBER 13 Chrys Thaler,

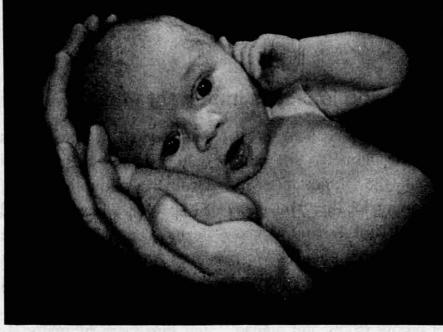
DECEMBER 14 Chris Kropf, Bryan





3	LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 201 N. Washington Lowell, MI • 897-8800 Pastor Wes Hershberger Sundays - Christian Education
) RCH 1 0 A.M.	GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 www.goodshepherdlowell.org
MINDS	Worship ServiceSaturday - 5:00 P.M. Sunday -10:00 A.M. Sunday SchoolSunday, 9:00 A.M.
у	(Nursery available) Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible
ELL 68 9 . & 6:00 P.M. 	CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH <i>0F LOWELL</i> <i>897-7060</i> 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship





health

With Drs. Paul Gauthier, Jim Lang, Wayne A. Christenson II.

John G. Meier & Tracy Lixie

migraines

Migraines are the "king" of headaches. They typically are unilateral, throbbing, incapacitating headaches. Light and sound worsen the headache. It may become so painful that it causes one to often come on without any warning. Other migraines called "migraine with aura" may be preceded by an unusual sensation or smell.

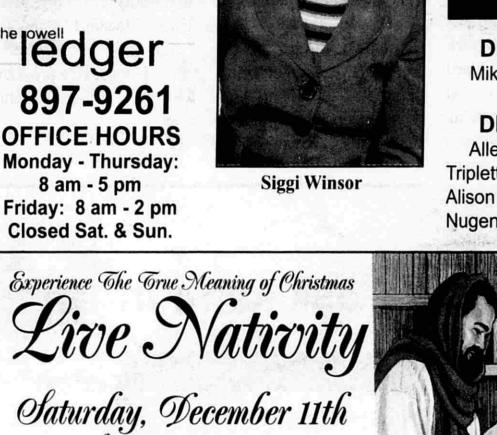
Multiple factors can trigger a migraine such as: lack of sleep

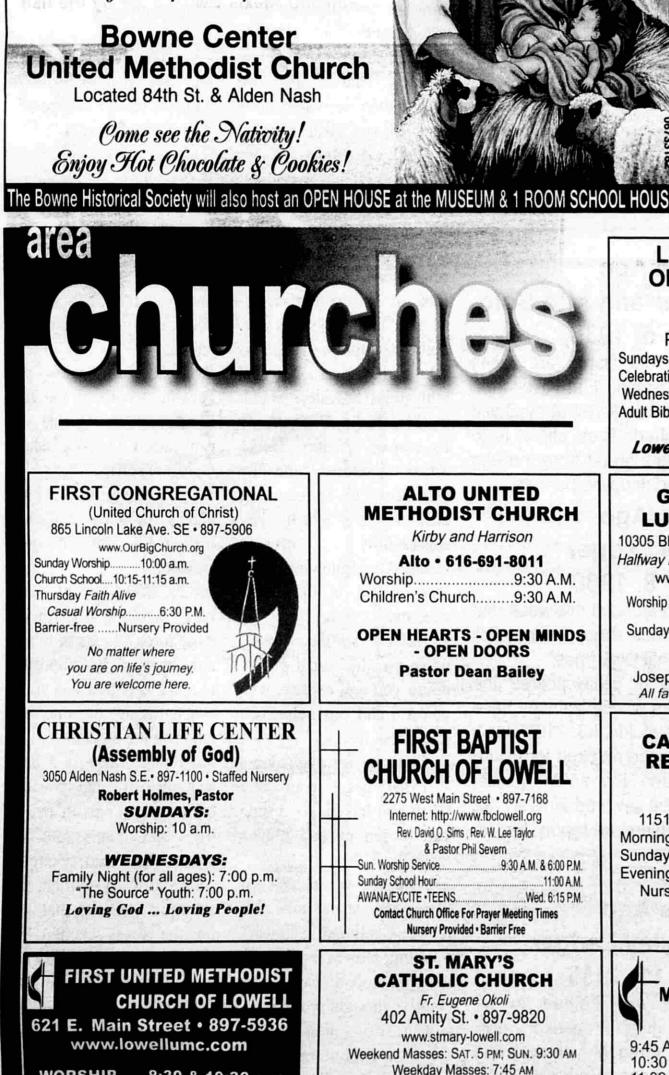
- · skipping meals
- stress

Ask Kathryn, continued

accept that which you cannot eat nutritious foods, avoid in a positive way. You can take time to relax and play,







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WORSHIP..... 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL......9:30 a.m.

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Nolan James Lyon



· certain foods alcohol

menstrual cycles

Usually, a combination of factors trigger a migraine headache.

Treatment consists throw up. These headaches of ibuprofen/Motrin, a dark, quiet room and rest. Typically the headaches will resolve in hours. Other medicines prescription may be required to cure the headache. If migraines occur more than once per week, a daily medicine may be prescribed to prevent these from occurring.

change. You can get enough tobacco, alcohol and selfrest and sleep. You can give medicating. You can enjoy of yourself, share your your family and take it easy skills, and think and talk over the holiday. And I hope you do have a STRESS FREE and a truly MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Next month we will

by Emma Palova

In So when Lowell moved pancake supper.

supper.



Derek Warren eceived honorable penguin. Pictured uin is Austin

butterfly carved right.

Jeff Marr received





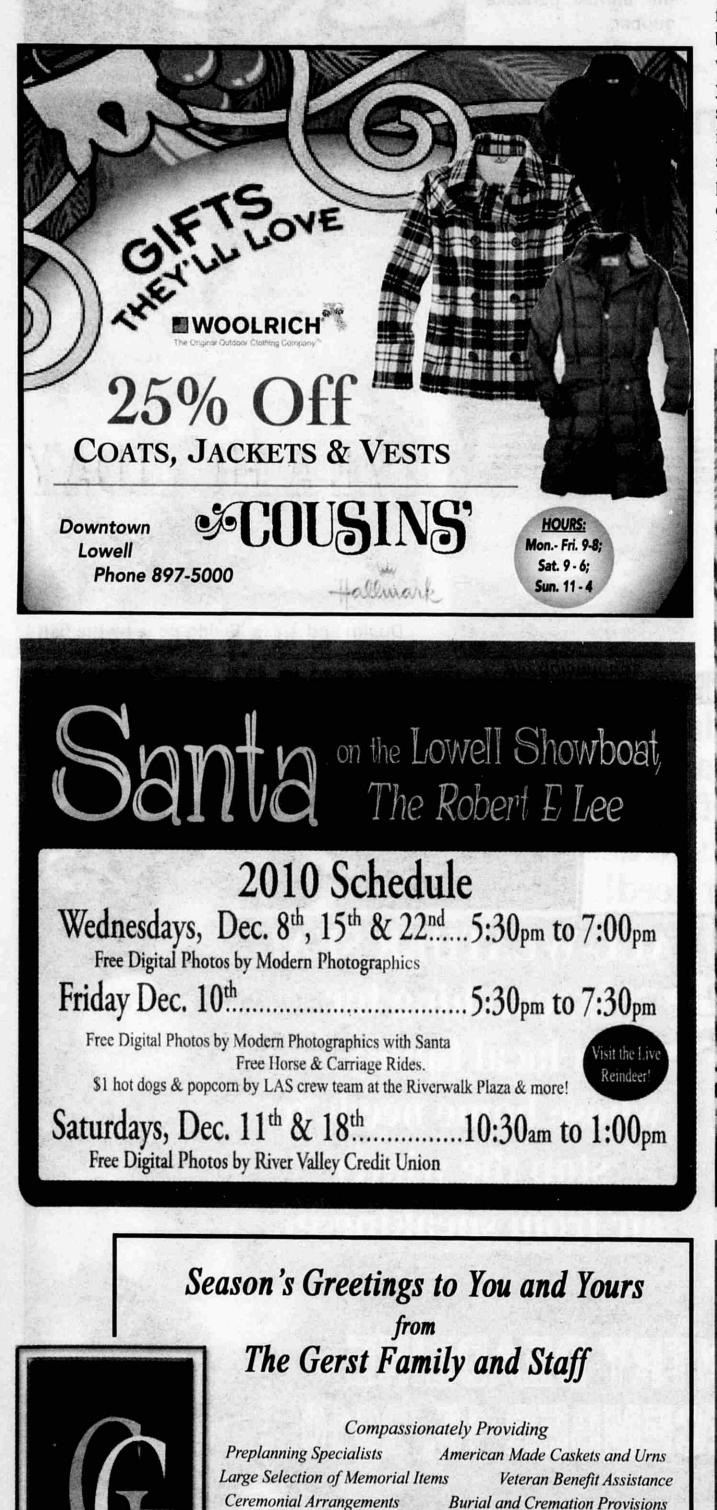
ledger



be a daunting task. Many rather than risk damaging anything safely. people simply give up and it by shipping it across the

Transporting a large or hang on to an heirloom country. It is, however, office handles UPS and

The Lowell Ledger items to ship:



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unusually shaped item can armoire or antique dollhouse possible to ship just about offers some tips for people with large or unwieldy

* Wrap it. Protect items from scratching or breaking by wrapping them in bubble wrap, tissue or plastic. If you're using one box to ship several items, wrap each item individually. There should be two inches of packaging materials around each item and between the item and the box. If you're



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"ledger

shipping artwork, use non-acidic paper.

* Pack it. To help absorbshockandvibration during shipping, use foam or rubber as a second layer of packaging. Make sure that items are secure. Most damage occurs when items shake or move in their packaging. * Make it secure. Choose a cardboard box

that is sturdy. If you choose to package your shipment in anything besides a cardboard box, you may incur extra charges when shipping in this type of container.

* Get a guarantee. Insure your items when you ship them. Make sure that you have each item's tracking numbers so you can watch their progress.



616 897-0564

wednesday · december · 8 · 201

Safety first when stringing holiday lights

Perhaps no holiday tradition is more visible than decorative lights. Whether on the house or on the tree in the front picture window, holiday lights help create a festive mood for all.

While aesthetically appealing, holiday lighting displays can also be quite poorly planned lighting projects can quickly turn tragic. However, this much beloved holiday tradition does not have to cease and desist. Instead, some simple safety precautions are all it takes to ensure this year's lighting display is both stunning and safe.

- Make sure exterior outdoor use. Not all lights can handle the elements, so those old Christmas tree lights might not be are visible. Don't bury able to enjoy a second life as part of a home's exterior lighting decor.

- Plug lights directly into the electrical sockets rather than relying heavily on extension cords. Employ surge protector strips if there are not enough outlets available. Before plugging anything in, consult the fuse box to determine how much each circuit can safely handle.

- Don't use damaged lighting sets, including those with frayed strings, unstable connections, exposed wires, or broken or cracked sockets.

- Make sure all external lights are securely attached. Wind can do significant damage to bulbs, which can lead to

additional safety risks. As a precaution, attach all lights firmly to walls or anything else that will not blow away when a stiff wind arrives.

- Inside the home, be extra careful when using an artificial Christmas tree. Electric lights should never be used on a metallic tree.

- Routinely check all dangerous. Older lights or cords' temperatures. If a cord feels too hot, unplug it and find a replacement.

- Don't leave the lights on when no adults are home. If the home is empty or if just kids are home, make sure the lights are off. Avoid using timers that automatically turn the lights on, as it's possible they will turn on when no one is home. lights are designed for Unplug all cords when going away for the holidays just to be safe.

- Make sure all cords



Holiday lighting displays are a beloved tradition but one homeowners must carefully consider and layout to avoid accidents.



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cords underneath rugs or floor mats to avoid personal injuries.

lights Hanging shouldn't be a solo project. Whether hanging lights inside or outside, never do so alone. A stiff wind might come along and blow the the reach of children. ladder away or an unstable ladder might lead to a fall. Accidents happen when hanging lights indoors as well, so make sure to have an adult partner on hand to avoid injury.

- Make sure kids cannot reach lighting displays. Kids often adore holiday lighting displays and their natural curiosity is to reach for lights. Avoid potential accidents by keeping lights well beyond



GIVE A HOLIDAY oi soris

*6****6**

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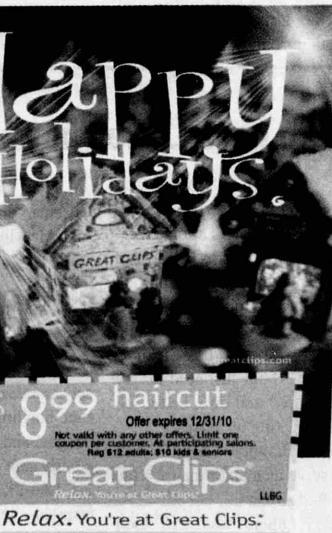
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page

ledger

Winter Preview

- GYMNASTICS

Excitement surrounds youth infused gymnastic team

by Thad Kraus

Lowell gymnasts new to the varsity lineup it may sound odd to some to hear the term familiar faces in new places.

That is, however, where Michele DeHaan's program is at. "They're new to the varsity level but they've grown up with me through our youth program, DeHaan explains. "They not only know me, but they

and seniors."

CDM**P**TC

Red Arrow

DeHaan, in her 14th season as the Lowell gymnastics coach. has made the program what she envisioned - like family."

that family competes together, also practiced together this summer.

"Every gymnast took lessons this last year," DeHaan explains. the beam," DeHaan said.

They are seniors Lauren Trasky and Becky of our top vaulters." Chamberlain (captains); junior Vonda Kyes; and sophomores Morgan McVey gymnasts. Bailey Roberts' This year, a gymnastic and Jorie Bennett.

> will highlight their craft on the uneven bars and balance exudes power and is solid returning beam respectively.

summer. They are all better tremendously on the bars

With seven of the 12 are friends with our juniors than when the season ended and Becky will help us on a strong freshman season. "Jorie, I expect, will be one

> The Red Arrows will field three all around power lends itself to the Trasky and Chamberlain floor exercise and the vault

> Kaize Bladey also on the beam. Sophomore "Lauren has improved Morgan McVey returns from

"I'm excited about the

talented vounger gymnasts. We will be a much deeper team than we've been in a couple of years," DeHaan said. "Last year we had one really skilled gymnast in more balanced."

contribute expected to through the vear are Maranda sophomores Rebekah and Johnson Meghan Betts; freshmen Plutschouw, Kaylee Wold and Rachael Walters.

-skiing Two of areas' best lead co-op ski team

by Thad Kraus

Two of West Michigan's top skiers will once again don the colors of the Lowell/ Kenowa Hills/Comstock Park ski team.

Sophomore Abi Ellis and senior Spencer Gillette will lead a thin roster of skiers. Ellis is one of four skiers on the women's team and Gillette is one of just five on the men's team.

Ellis, a junior olympian who competed in Vail last year, on most weeks will be the areas' top skier.

"Abi is a strong kid with a great attitude and a

- COMPETITIVE CHEER

head to go with the body," said coach Jaime Hagerman. "She is coming off a fabulous "She is strongest in the giant freshman vear.'

Gillette and experience good technique.

skier in both the giant slalom as they go, according to Association. and the slalom," Hagerman Hagerman. explains.

Aubrey Gillette. "Mork

was started and now is in the and over four years has

upper third of West Michigan skiers," Hagerman said. slalom. She just needs to combines work on her technique."

Both Marks and Aubrey Gillette are green "Spencer is a top five experience and will learn

Ellis will be joined on out the boys' roster will be Grand Rapids are the league the girls' roster by Katy Gabor Halisz, D.J. Mixan, top four schools. Hagerman Mork, Kyra Marks and Kaeleb Brown, and Sean said Lowell's co-op team Florian.

"Gabor had inexperienced when she experience when he started

improved into a top 20 Hagerman said skier." "Florian, Brown and Mixan are all just starting."

Lowell/Kenowa Hills/ Comstock Park compete in the Greater Grand Rapids High School Ski

Grand Haven, Rockford Helping Gillette fill Forest Hills Central and East is probably somewhere no between five and eight (middle of the pack).

Pushing the envelope in hopes of pushing up league standing

by Thad Kraus

cheer team can't control how years. its competition does, but what it does control is how it executes and performs

finish in the O-K Black and said White conference the goal, higher level of skill into its down into three rounds, routine.

envelope of skill difficulty," and tumbling and stunting. said Lowell's seventh year coach Kari Dawson

That approach Lowell will field its strongest their round two routine.

- BOWLING

Lowell's competitive round two routine in many

"We will have a higher skill level and a higher number of girls performing With an upper echelon back handsprings," Dawson

cheer Competitive the Red Arrows will insert a competitions are broken leadership (presence and flat "We're going to push the cheer), 10 counts/five skills, From what Dawson has

seen in practice, the coach is is pleasantly surprised by how possible, in part, because the girls have stepped up

success by our placement that in 2010-11. Saturday tourneys, in meet to meet, and the ability to control what we do," Dawson explained

Defending champion, Kenowa Hills, is pegged as the favorite by Dawson with a challenge Grand from Rapids Christian

effect," Dawson said.

last year, Dawson and her

"We will measure our squad are pushing to better

"It all comes down to bettering our scores from what you bring with your score sheet," she said.

> The Red Arrows will be led by the senior trio of league Kate and Anna Scudder and Ericka Claypool.

"The girls blend well together and bring a cohesiveness," Dawson said. "They have stayed together "Kenowa has a new for four years and have coach, that may have an provided us with a physical and mental strength needed Lowell finished fourth to perform stunts."

Experienced youth have Lowell boys rolling for league title by Thad Kraus

A young but seasoned Red Arrow boys' bowling team returns for the 2010-11 season.

"We're young but more experienced. The boys put in practice time over the summer," said Lowell boys' bowling coach Rocky Eickhoff.

There's still room for improvement and Eickhoff says that will be necessary if Lowell is to overthrow defending O-K White champion, Northview.

ago is the Red Arrows' top Ritsema, Josh Rocco and group of bowlers here,' five bowlers: Dillon Buck, Jake Merklinger. Logan Phenix, Jordan Denning, Jake Hornbrook and Alec Bobko.

"They all average in the mid to upper 170s," Eickhoff said. "They just need to stay focused and do a better job of picking up spares."

Brandon Segal will serve as a sixth man for the Red Arrows.

Others who will look to add depth to the roster

Returning from a year are Carl Mitchell, Sean

Girls look to extend state streak

by Thad Kraus

A fifth straight appearance in the Division 2 state bowling tournament is the goal and it appears to be a fairly safe one at that.

Lowell girls' bowling team has qualified for the tourney in each of the last four years.

"We have a good little Eickhoff said

The Red Arrows were as a forward/defenseman 13th last year in a field of and Justin Lehman as a

Four bowlers return from its 9-4 team a year

"The goal is to make it Propst has been solid for us to state. With four of our top early," Beurer says. Girls' bowling, continued, page 11

- - ---

season. We have a lot of

Other gymnasts

- HOCKEY **Icers skating for** top prize in Tier 3 by Thad Kraus

to get the Lowell/Caledonia captured this year. hockey team to the top of division.

games of the season we've of assists. only been able to play two Beurer. "We're close, on the cusp of breaking loose. Our periods of hockey."

(11-11-2) finished second to Tier 3 in 2010-11.

"I believe Jenison, South Christian and us favorites." Beurer said. 'Jenison would have to be from last year."

Lowell/Caledonia us." graduated 10 players from just two starters. Junior defenseman

Beurer adds that one of the clubs two goalies from a year ago returns. "Nathan

Contributions from a

wednesday · december · 8 · 2010

"ledger

The Lowell coach identifies Kenowa Hills as the team to beat in the O-K Rainbow conference. "After that I think it's Rockford and

There is one subtle Red Arrow change gymnastic fans will notice. Kelsey Teft, this year we're Lowell begins its season in December. The Red Arrows will compete at Rockford on Dec. 18 and against Kenowa Hills on Dec. 29. "In my 14 years this is the first time we've competed before January," DeHaan said.

Two of three isn't bad, number of new kids will but it won't be good enough be necessary if success is Jake Rossman, forward.

the O-K conference's Tier 3 has stepped up in the first four games to record a "In our opening four couple of goals and a handful

'We will need a nice of three periods," said first- blend of new and returning year hockey coach Tim players to mix together," Beurer explained.

In preparation for league goal is to finish at the top of play, which begins this week. the division. It's attainable Beurer's club has faced but we have to play three some strong competition in Kentwood, Forest Hills Lowell/Caledonia Central and Hudsonville.

"I created a schedule last year to Grand Rapids that challenges our players Christian. With a league title, but are against teams we can the Eagles were bumped up compete against," Beurer to Tier 2 and Jenison, last in said. "By challenging them Tier 2 last year, is dropped I think it helps prepare the boys for conference play."

At least early on, Beurer says his offense is ahead of would have to be considered its defense. "Our offense is ahead right now, but not where I'd like it to be. If a favorite considering they we play sound defense, were a Tier 2 team last year. however, we're going to be South Christian returns two okay on the offensive side. real good players returning Sound defense will create offensive opportunities for

Lowell/Caledonia's last year's squad and returns (1-3) only game last week was against Hudsonville. Braden McGillicuddy is back Penalties and mental breakdowns paved the way for a 4-0 Hudsonville second period and eventually a 6-2 victory

"We didn't play in that second period. The boys skated evenly with them the other two periods," Beurer said.

- WRESTLING

Strong returning core leads Lowell grapplers into 2010-11 v Thad Kraus

are eight grapplers who started a year ago and four who placed at state in 2009-

- BASKETBALL

by Thad Kraus

The

two games.

because I am

to get the hang of it.'

gate.

Redhawks.

talented

aggressive play Lowell first-

year basketball coach Kevin

Brechting remembers seeing

from the visitor's bench last

year was missing in action

through the season's first

individuals," Brechting said.

"We are doing some new

games against Kentwood

and Cedar Springs, Lowell

has struggled out of the

behind 17-2 in the first

quarter against the Falcons

"It's been surprising

group

think the girls are struggling Springs.

coaching

of

In its opening two 11 season are six players

The Red Arrows fell Schmidt. Brooke Curtis and

wednesday • december • 8 • 2010

Red Arrow

Dotted Sprinkled in the lineup the program over the last decade are three state titles, 10 district titles and seven conference championships.

aggressive, confident approach

off as aggressively as our

the stripe against Kentwood

Returning for the 2010-

who enjoyed time as starters

last year. They are Bryleigh

Loughlin, Taylor Flanagan,

Katie Tompkins, Courtney

what to do during game

New coach searching for

Springs.

opponent."

explained.

PARS

optimism for the future, it's for success in 2010-11. wrestling for six minutes, staying disciplined and While those numbers wrestling smart in tough

throughout are glamorous and provide situations which are elements "I appreciate those not giving up bonus points, who do the hard stuff. You Jake Mitchell (130), Jake can see the kids with that predisposition, the fighters," said Lowell wrestling coach

Dave Dean. Division 1 regional final loss to Rockford. Dean believes he has a deeper, stronger club this year.

"We have a number of wrestlers who saw varsity action last year. We also have four wrestlers returning who placed at state," Dean explained. "That gives us a good core group to build

block. Gabe Morse (140).

last year. And there is Zach with it.'

119 pounds.

Geldersma.

Anchoring

Lowell, 0-2, plays

the best basketball team we will play all year," Brechting concludes.

"Right now the girls are the confident and aggressive and 16-6 against the struggling with processing approach.

Thin roster to present early season challenges

Sam Visscher.

by Thad Kraus Challenging is usually a word reserved for describing the O-K White basketball slate.

This year, Lowell boys' basketball coach Jeff McDonald broke it out early to describe the practices leading up to Friday's against season-opener Grandville. Why is that?

Absent for the Red Arrows opener will be starting point guards Jacob Meyer and Justin Castro along with starting forward Elliott Drain.

The injuries will force Lowell to suit up just eight players against the Bulldogs.

will Our identity change as we become healthy and eligible to play," said McDonald. "We will metamorphosis into a different team as we begin to get bodies back.'

Until then the Red Arrows will have to change things up schematically.

The guard positions will be filled by senior Sam Steed and junior Blake Lyman.

"They will be asked to step in and bridge the gap until we get healthy," McDonald explained. "We will change things up schematically so its not their sole responsibility."

Lowell's front line will be filled by senior center Griffin Brink and forwards Dan Wernet and Alec Roerig.

"Griffin gives us physical presence inside while Roerig runs the floor well and his long, lanky build allows him to change shots," McDonald said. "Wernet gives us energy and played great in a recent scrimmage.

The Red Arrow coach

says the club will run a more fluid offense in hopes of Geldersma; and juniors

developing player instincts. "Defensively we will pressure because of our foot speed and quickness, McDonald said. "I like this club's chemistry. They play

hard and are unselfish." The O-K White is led by Grand Rapids Christian. McDonald says the Eagles are loaded and loaded for years to come.

Northview returns two the BCS bowl games? of the league's top players in Darren Kaputska and Kevin be a whole lot of WOW. Rich.

a plethora of athletes and Greenville is blessed with size.

for something bigger than son's football services? themselves," McDonald concludes.

that he will have the Heisman

Brechting with anyone." Grand Rapids Christian The Red Arrows have will once again be favored also struggled to net their for league honors. East shots from the line. Lowell Grand Rapids is expected to netted just 8-of-22 shots from challenge. "I think both of those things at both ends and I and 9-of-21 against Cedar clubs are probably heads

build confidence and trust.

aggressive they will play

Lowell battled back situations," Brechting said.

"In both of those Once the girls get from slow

fourth quarter against Cedar coaches. It takes time to

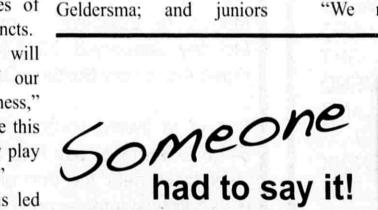
games we did not start and timid to confident and

confident, to within one to start the "It's a new system and new

above the rest of the league,' Brechting said.

Byron Center this week. "The Bulldogs may be

A good time to break out



to gloss over the pairings for There doesn't seem to

You have Oregon and

East Grand Rapids has Auburn for the national championship. As a sidebar, does anyone believe that Cam "The league could be Newton didn't know about challenging. Our boys will the payment scheme his have to play hard and play father concocted for his

Winter Preview

Jeffries who did not place but was a state qualifier at

Those who will bring a credible amount of varsity action to the mat include Stehley (160), Jake Lynema (HWT), Tyler Mitchell Wade Schlosser (171).(171), Nick McKay (215), Lowell finished 29-5 Kalvin Meyer (125) and a year ago with a 27-25 Martin Brubaker (112).

Mixed in with the proven and tested will be the young and inexperienced: Derek Krajewski and Barley Jack (103 pounds), Andrew Metternick and Scott VanOosten (112), Ryan Walters (119), Canon Dean 140, and Garet Stehley (189-215).

Every town has a different culture and football In reality it's more of a has a huge influence. Just ask foundation than a building Dean and Lowell basketball coach Jeff McDonald.

"We have eight wrestlers Andrew Morse (145), out who play football. They Dan Fleet (152) and Gabe will need a break to recover Dean (189) all brought both physically and mentally

> month for building the 54-16. skills and conditioning

foundation.

"In January we will turn that foundation into gold," Dean says.

school Changing enrollments will drop Lowell back down to Division 2 after spending one year in Division 1. That will bring back some added zest to its conference rivalry with Greenville.

"The O-K White will be a two-horse race between Greenville and us," Dean explained

Overall the Lowell coach has the defending Division 2 state champs still atop the mountain.

"St. Johns is number one till proven otherwise. Then it's us. Greenville, Lakeshore, Allegan and Tecumseh.

In its first action or the mat at Detroit Catholic Central, Lowell, without eight starters, got battered home hardware from the from a long season," Dean The Red Arrows lost to individual state tournament explains. "We will be patient Catholic Central (#1 in Division 1) 66-12 and December will be a Oxford (#2 in Division 1)

Girls' bowling, continued

Lowell finished second in league play to Northview last year. However, the Red Arrows finished ahead of the Wildcats at the regional.

year's squad are seniors Jessie Alberts and Sammi

five bowlers returning, we Shelby Mitchell and Amber as a team, have fun and appear to be strong," said Geldersma. "They all Lowell bowling coach Eva averaged between 150-170 last year," Geldersma noted.

> The Lowell coach anticipates Melissa Mosher filling the fifth spot.

Vying for that fifth spot along with Mosher are this Paige Rozell, Mia Carvajal, Annlyse Bencker, Casie Burr and Jodi Carvill. "We need to play

competitive at the be time," Geldersma same explained.

Onthealleys, Geldersma notes the importance of picking up spares and improving its play in Baker games.

"We did okay picking up spares last year, but there is room for improvement," the Lowell coach explains

It gets better, there's Ohio State and Arkansas in the Sugar Bowl. Maybe Tressel's sweater will inspire you if the game doesn't.

I bet the Sugar Bowl wishes it were the Capital One Bowl. Then it would have the intriguing matchup between Michigan State and Alabama

At last there is the Rose Bowl between Wisconsin and TCU.

The Badgers' bowl record is 3-4 over their last seven bowl appearances.

The solution, at the very least, is to do away with automatic bids for conference winners who are not worthy. A one-loss a team (Hokies) who lost Boise State club is far better than Connecticut or Virginia

Look for the College season, it's highly unlikely the football challenged Bowl Challenge coming in next week's Ledger.



Thad Kraus

Did vou have a minute Trophy taken back from him when there is further damning evidence. Back to the BCS

> bowls. What does Oklahoma and Connecticut in the Fiesta Bowl do for you? Is that must see college football?

Okay, then what about Virginia Tech and Stanford in the Orange Bowl? Does 21-16 to James Madison has given its approval for deserve to play in the BCS? Tech Newton to play out the I don't care if they did win ACC.

Now that the NCAA

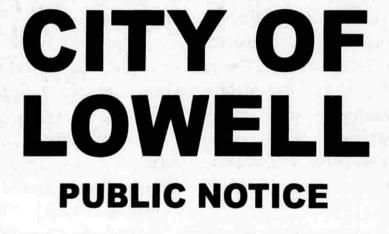


obituaries

DEZWAAN

Robert Paul DeZwaan, passed away December 2, 2010. He was born February 9, 1940. Robert was preceded in death by his parents and one sister. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Patricia Ann DeZwaan; children, Jeff (Sharon) DeZwaan of Howard City, Paula (John) Hunt of Saranac, Paul (Shelley) DeZwaan of Ionia, Lorraine (Matt) Tait of Lowell; three grandsons, three granddaughters; and brother, Ed (Linda) DeZwaan of Gulfport. Funeral services pending.





The Lowell City Council will conduct public hearings at their regularly scheduled meeting of Monday, January 3, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lowell City Hall, Council Chambers, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowel for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

AN ORDINANCE TO ADD A DEFINITION OF "FOOT CANDLE" TO SECTION 2.04. "DEFINITIONS - F" OF CHAPTER 2, "DEFINITIONS": TO ADD SECTION 4.24, **OUTDOOR** LIGHTING **REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS**" "GENERAL TO CHAPTER 4. PROVISIONS"; AND TO AMEND SECTION 20.04. "GENERAL SIGN PROVISIONS" OF CHAPTER 20. "SIGNS" OF "APPENDIX A - ZONING ORDINANCE" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LOWELL.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SUBSECTIONS I AND J AND ADD NEW SUBSECTIONS J AND K TO SECTION 4.08, "(SOFT SIDED) ACCESSORY BUILDING AND USES": TO CHAPTER 4, "GENERAL PROVISIONS" AMEND SECTION 12A.03, "SPECIAL LAND USES" OF CHAPTER 12A, "I-L LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT" AND AMEND SECTION 13.03, "SPECIAL LAND USES" OF CHAPTER 13, "I -INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT" OF "APPENDIX A - ZONING ORDINANCE" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LOWELL.

Copies of the ordinances are available for inspection during normal business hours at City Hall and the Englehardt Public Library or on the City of Lowell's web page at www.ci.lowell.mi.us

Interested persons may submit written comments to City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331 prior to the meeting or appear in person.



Betty R. Morlock **City Clerk**

ledger PARKER

preceded her in death, raised two daughters, Marea Mansfield, TX. Berniece later married Robert Parker who passed away in 1988. She will be lovingly remembered by her sister. Marea Kirkbride: her daughters, sons-inlaw, and grandchildren, Suzanne (Dean) Olin, Kimberly (Dan) Morrison, Clay Shepard, John (Emily) Borg, Chris (Smokey) Shepard, and Jenny Borg. She also had four great-grandchildren, Morgan and Dylan Olin, Nathan Morrison, and Donovan Shepard. Berniece worked most of her adult life for Wolverine World Wide in the Sales and International Division. The funeral was held Tuesday at Pederson Funeral Home in Rockford. Memorial contributions may be made to Mel Trotter Ministries or Santa Claus Girls.

POULIAS

George K. Poulias, 92, of Lowell, died peacefully Tuesday morning, November 30, 2010, at Metron of Belding. George was born on September 5, 1918, in Big Rapids, the son of Anthony and Mary Willcome Poulias. He graduated from St. Patrick High School in Parnell, was a longtime member of St. Patrick Catholic Church, Catholic War Veterans, the TPA, American Legion, and the Knights of Columbus at St. Patrick Church. George was a proud veteran of World War II serving in the US Navy. After many years of working in the insurance industry, George later worked at several area funeral homes. He enjoyed working on his farm and socializing with his many friends and family. He was married April 24, 1948 at St. Patrick Catholic Church to Lottie M. Janowski who survives him along with their children. John and Marcia Poulias of Lowell, Mary and Ed Krupiczewicz of Grand Rapids and Claudia Groeneweg of Zeeland. George is also survived by his grandchildren, Alice, Brent, Paula, Sheila, Paul, Arend, Mark, Nick and Bill; great-grandchildren, Hannah, Daniel

DRAFT SYNOPSIS OF THE REGULAR MEETING **OF THE LOWELL CITY COUNCIL MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2010**

Motion to approve the agenda as presented

Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 14, 2010 as corrected.

Motion to approve the accounts payables as presented.

Motion to establish a public hearing for Monday, January 3, 2011 to consider an Outdoor Lighting Ordinance.

Motion to establish a public hearing for Monday, January 3, 2011 to consider a Soft Sided Accessory Building Ordinance.

Motion to award contract to the low bid of \$41,848 from Wonsey Tree Service of Alma to clear trees near the end of runway 12/30 at the southeast intersection of Lincoln Lake and Vergennes.

Motion to accept the bid of \$15,000 for the purchase of 320 Kent Street from Jice Pharmaceutical with the proceeds going to the General Fund.

Motion to adjourn at 8:03 p.m. The next regular scheduled meeting will be Monday, December 20, 2010.

Complete minutes will be available after approved on December 20, 2010 on the City's web page at www.ci.lowell.mi.us or at City Hall.



Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

Berniece (Streeter) Parker passed away at the age and Adalaid; his siblings, Eugene and Joan Poulias of of 92. Berniece and her husband, Glenn Streeter, who Ada, Germaine and Richard Kaminski of Belding, and Gerald and Barb Poulias of Rockford. He was preceded (John) Borg of Lowell and Glenna (Tom) Shepard of in death by many good friends and family members. Mass of Christian Burial will be 11:00 a.m. Saturday, December 11, 2010 at St. Patrick Catholic Church with Father Mark Peacock presiding. Rite of Committal will follow in St. Patrick's Cemetery. Visitation will be one hour before mass at church. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Education Fund at St. Patrick Catholic School. To sign the online register book or leave a message of condolence for the Poulias family please visit the website of the funeral home www. iffh.com.

Emma J. Weeks, 92, of Grattan Township, Belding passed away peacefully Friday morning December 3, 2010, at home. Emma was born on September 15, 1918, in Lowell, the daughter of Leon and Helen Becky Weeks. Emma had retired from Wilson's golf ball factory after 22 years as an inspector. She was married on January 28, 1936 in Parnell to Harold Weeks and he preceded her in death on May 16, 1976. She was also preceded by three sisters, Norma, Lorna and Marjorie; and one brother, Allen. Emma is survived by her children, Marilyn and Richard Rasch of Lowell, Irene and Robert Gasper, and Jean Albert all of Belding, Norma and Duane Johnson of Howard City, Gerald Weeks of Lowell, William and Leslie Weeks, Thomas and Karen Weeks, Raymond and Iris Weeks, all of Belding. Emma is also survived by 30 grandchildren; 73 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; and her sister, Ella Hurley of Lowell; and several nieces and nephews. In keeping with her wishes, no visitation or services will take place. Private committal prayers for her family will be at St. Patrick Catholic Cemetery, Parnell, Memorial contributions may be given to ALS Society of West Michigan, 678 Front St, Suite 159, Grand Rapids, MI 49504. Envelopes will also be available at Johnson-Feuerstein Funeral Home in Belding where funeral care has been entrusted. To sign the online register book or leave a message of condolence for the Weeks family, please visit the website of the funeral home www.iffh.





wednesday · december · 8 · 2010

WEEKS

Call me and I'll help you get the right life insurance for you and your family.

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office hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. Fri. 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

closed Sat. & Sun.

for sale

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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.

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

GIVE A FRY DADDY'S GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR CHRISTMAS!

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

AMERICAN GIRL DOLL CLOTHES - homemade outfits \$10 & under. Come to my home & see. 6 miles E. of Lowell. 642-6097.

NEW HOME/HIGHLAND HILL-Spacious3bedroom. Over 1500 sq. ft. Many extras/upgrades. Stainless appliances. Open Sun. Dec. 5 & 12, from 1-4 p.m. \$145,900. Crown Realty, 616-262-6490.

'78 MOTO	DR H	OME
- \$1,250. 8847.	Call	691-
7.747.54 (A.)		

POKER TABLE - new. 72"x40", 3 tops w/cover Great Christmas gift, \$200 obo. Call 897-7743.

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

TIME IS RUNNING OUT! MAKE SURE YOUR BUSI-NESS IS LISTED - in the 2011 Lowell City Directory! If you run a business out of your 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. Please call Tammy at 897-9560 or email citydirectory@att.net for further info or to place your

KEYCARDSMAKEGREAT GIFTS! - Help support the LHS Academic Boosters & save money at the places you shop. Cards are \$20 Stop by & get your card today, Lowell Ledger 105 N Broadway. Cash or check only please.

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for rent

COUNTRY HOME FOR RENT - Three bedroom country home North of Lowell for rent. Two bathrooms. Two stall attached garage. Three season closed in porch, full partially finished basement. Lowell Schools and close to Murray Lake Elementary. Non-smoking Rent is \$900 per month plus utilities. Please contact Beckie at 616-245-3388 M-F; 8-5.

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



TUES: French toas sticks or cereal w/graham crackers each scrambled eggs, orang uice, banana, milk.

WED: Footlong on bun (meat sub also offered Alto, Cherry Creek Murray Lake), oven baked beans, peaches, gelatin/whipped topping, milk.

THURS: Pasta marinara w/cheese & bosco stick (j ham & cheese sub also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake green beans, pineapple milk.

FRI: Tony's pepperoni pizza (Rib BQ on bun also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake ossed romaine salad w/lite dressing, pears, milk.

help wanted

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.

MASSAGE THERAPIST NEEDED - Certified massage therapist needed for chiropractic office in Lowell. Part-time with full-time potential. Email resume to: maria 6131@hotmail. com

HELP WANTED - responsible & detail oriented person w/strong leadership skills. No experience necessary, will train. Call Pamela 616-318-8455.

EDUCATIONALSPECIAL IST FOR ALL AGES Flexible, creative, original thinker, for new program. Check www.hammock learning.com



LOWELL YOUTH WRES-TLING SIGN-UPS - Sign up your wrestlers at Cherry Creek Elementary on Tues. 12/14 & Thurs. 12/16 from 6 to 8 p.m. Regular Club ages 7 & up, \$75 (includes MYWA membership & tshirt); Mighty Arrows ages 6 & under \$50 (includes singlet).

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 Rum-

mage Sales as a coming event.

to coming events should be sub-

mitted by fax: 897-4809, email:

classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.

com. by mail: PO Box 128, Lowell,

MI 49331 or in person: 105 N.

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

ST. PATRICK PLAYGROUP

Thursdays 10 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. St.

Patrick's preschool room. Stories,

games, crafts, music & snack, Par-

ents with young children welcome.

Call Jennifer Post, 897-0251 or

FOOD PANTRY - at Lakeside

Community Church, 6201 Whit-

neyville Rd. Free frozen, perish-

able food. First Friday. Registra-

tion 2:30, distribution 4 p.m. Bring

Sally Goffer, 863-4952 with any

Broadway, Lowell.

invited to attend.

auestions.

784-2007.

own container.

wanted

- ledger

WALNUT TREES WANT-ED - Cash paid, insured work. Bob Savers, Ionia. MI, 616-527-4142.

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! I it's old. I want to see it. Call 616-550-0521.

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 cat. named BLACKIE He has a "feather duster" tail. BRIGHT light yellow round eyes. Age 2 1/2. VANISHED on 10/28/09 from Ryan Ridge/Alden Nash area, near Twp. offices. ANY INFO please call 897-8385.

WEDDING

INVITATIONS Available at Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell Ph. 897-9261

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are for non-profit organizations. TIONAL - Thursdays 9 a.m. - 10 First Baptist Church of Lowell has ing the Belding, Ionia, Lowell If you are charging admission a.m. at Friendship Country Cha- made available new sign up times & Saranac areas, will hold its for an event - it is considered an pel, 10200 Grand River Ave. Moms for this great savings opportunity! advertisement. Coming events are & grandmas come pray for our Signups are first 2 weeks of each ran on a space available basis & kids & schools. Contact Missy at month, Tues. - Fri., 9-5 p.m. at the ARE NOT GUARANTEED TO 308-7920 or jakooistra@comcast. church office with cash or Bridge net with any questions.

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

GRIEF - KIDS GROUP - Second & fourth Tuesdays, 5:30 - 7 p.m. A committed group for children in first - fourth grade on a 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 **MEXICAN STORYTIME - Stories** every Friday, 7 p.m. at Bible & folktales, crafts & snacks high-Believers Church, 404 N. Hudson lighting Mexico's culture. Mon. St., Lowell. For more information Dec. 13, 10:30 a.m. Alto Branch call 616-485-2385. Library, 6071 Linfield Ave. 616-

> MOTHERSWHOHAVEORHAVE HAD - sons/daughters serving in the military. We are meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. For more info call Sally 616-761-2042.



services

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

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

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

YOGA CLASSES - Tues. Thurs. 6:30 p.m.; Fri. 8 a.m. at Dery Physical Therpy. Cost \$6: www. hammocklearning.com or call 616-893-5661

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

SNOWPLOWING - Ada, Cascade. Lowell area. Residential & commercial, insured. seasonal or per

services

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

FREE EAR PIERCINGATA KPARRISH SALON - Free with purchase of starter earrings. Fridays 1-7 p.m. in December. Full-service Salon & Make-up Studio. 216 W. Main St., Ste 4, downtown Lowell, 616-822-5205



A&N CONSTRUCTION - ON SALE: pole barns roofing. We also provide new construction, remodeling, commercial, steel, concrete, brick. Free estimates. 616-822-5074.

STEVEN R. SIMKINS, AT-TORNEY AT LAW - I am a lifelong resident of the Lowell community offering time. Call Jon at Scenic superior legal representa-Expressions, LLC, 240- tion at affordable rates. Call 350-0909 for your free consultation.TEN

PLEASE NOTE - Coming Events MOMS IN TOUCH INTERNA- ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES -Card; or online with your debit or credit card at www.angelfood ministries.com. First Baptist Church, 2275 W. Main, Lowell, Call the church office at 897-7168 or Angie at 897-0420 with questions.

> 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 Belding, Ionia, Lowell & Saranac areas. will hold its stated convocation on Wed., Dec. 8 at 7:30 p.m. tion Building of the Ionia Interat the Masonic Temple, 211 East Main St. Belding. Dinner will precede the meeting. All Royal Arch Masons may attend!

TOTS PLAYGROUPS - Birth- 5 vears. 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.

KINGDOM KIDS, CADETS & GEMS - meets every other Wednesday, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at Calvary CRC, Lowell. Programs for preschool - 8th Grade. GEMS for airls meets in the Church building, Cadets & Kingdom Kids meet in the ministry center. Call 897-7060 for info.

FOOD FOR FINES & THE GIVING TREE BEGIN - at the Saranac Public Libary. See staff for details.

MASONIC LODGE #355 - servregular 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 lues., 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-MONTCALMCHAPTER #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 Administramediate 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 8 Saranac areas will hold its 2011 Officers' Installation on Sat. Dec. 11 at 2 p.m. at the Masonic Temple, 211 E. Main, Belding Refreshments 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. 616-784-2007.

ledger page 1 Grandpa's Christmas Adventure part 11

by Dave Thompson

one might assume that they ramp on the I-96. had been seeking direction the other vehicle roared to microphone began to speak, shoulder to Exit 52. life as the first one slowly "Now listen up, people!

bearing down on Lowell like a traffic cop, directed can clear the road and the passengers filed out of perch just above Grandpa. and many travelers stranded the eight-wheeled vehicle moved the stalled vehicles. the back door and into the Once landed, he stretched out on the expressway and as it backed off the flatbed. We are going to use our warmth of Heidi's, unsure up and vigorously flapped surrounding back roads. But Suddenly the trailer shook APCs, aaahh, that stands for how long they might be his wings, shaking off all three of the flatbed trucks and lurched as this tank- Armored Personnel Carriers. "customers." The second of the wet snow and ice that near the Lowell exit were like contraption rocked We call it a Stryker, folks. APC dropped its human had accumulated, finally Army-type trucks from the backward and touched the Which will take you to a cargo off at the Mobil folding them back neatly Indiana National Guard.] ground, slowly moving free place of shelter and later station where a few other into place. Suddenly, there Some of those motorists of the semi trailer. By now, into a town, which on our travelers had stopped earlier, was a second "whooshing stuck in the snow on the people were out of their satellite earth-map system uncertain about the roads sound" as Oscar the Owl expressway began to notice cars and standing to watch tells us is Lowell. Please and driving conditions. some activity among the this strange performance. stay in your cars until we By now, Greg Pratt, Edgar. He too, stretched soldiers around one of the Slowly, this motorized pull up alongside of you. No the schools' superintendent, and flapped his powerful flatbed trailers. Three of vehicle, called a Stryker, sense in standing out here had been called and three wings. He eventually folded the soldiers were pulling moved up to the north side in this freezing cold wind or four school buses were them and did a double take the canvas cover off the last of the road, spitting up grass and blowing snow. We will commandeered to shuttle at Edgar who was glaring vehicle chained to the flatbed and snow from beneath its get to all of you. I'm Lt. stranded passengers on into at him. "Whhhaaaaat?" as another man moved inside heavy tread wheels, before Doberman and thank you Lowell, four miles north Oscar asked innocently. and moments later had it stopping on the shoulder; the for your cooperation!" With of I-96. As the roads from "Hey!!!" should Edgar, fired up. A large plume of other vehicle moved to the that, both vehicles began the expressway became like a little kid complaining black diesel smoke belched south side of the expressway. moving, stopping at each car clogged, Danny DesJarden, to Grandpa. "He does that angrily from its engine's All of this was happening to pick up passengers. One Lowell's DPW director, all the time, Grandpa, and exhaust. Those vehicles had less than a mile east of Exit of the crew members helped kept a plow moving back then he pretends he doesn't been there over an hour and 52 which was the closest off people get their belongings and forth between the realize what he's doing," into the large rear door of expressway and town in this Edgar whined. "Come on Over a loud speaker the APC before it moved on emergency situation and boys, we have work to do. from headquarters, getting on this tank-like vehicle, to the next car. Once an APC private plowing companies, Enough of that!" replied clearance to take some a man with a different hat had loaded about eight or like Zack Beachum's, helped Grandpa. Oscar reported action. A few minutes later and uniform holding a ten people, it moved up the the DPW to keep some key that there were a number

> the season on Christmas of refuge before nightfall. Eve, became the first haven night. Once a Stryker had on his old boots, his hat with scouting the back roads and unloaded, it quickly returned "ear flappers" and his heavy to the expressway to retrieve coat and trudged down to the is stranded. At that point more stranded families. The river to fill the other feeders storm had earlier chased for his animal friends who away any regular customers didn't hibernate during the in." And, so the plan was Heidi's might have had and winter. As he was filling Aaron and Pat, who were the last feeder, he heard a both working that morning, sound louder than the wind stood together peering howling across the river, out into the blowing snow that "whooshing sound" of hospitality forces" trying to determine what big wings. There is nothing was making such a terrible else like it in nature. Tipping racket, when the first APC, his head back and sheltering up places for the stranded emerging from a virtual wall his eyes from the storm,

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NIMAL HOSPITAL OF

LOWELL

SPAY &

NEUTER

streets and parking lots of cars stranded on back Heidi's Farm Market, cleared so travelers could roads, especially where it

616-897-0787

this week's

flew up and landed next to for a minute, his left hand With Grandma finally massaging his chin as he reporting back to me who we can direct some rescue crews to help bring them hatched. Oscar covering the west side of Lowell and Edgar, the east side.

> Lowell. already sprung into action and Liz Baker was lining guests to stay. Well,



Call 897-8484

Dr. Bruce Langlois, D.V.M.

poll result: Are you putting up

Yes a real one of course ••••••••••22% Yes an artificial one of course •••••••• 39% No not putting up a tree or decorating •••• 17% Decorating but not putting up a tree •22%

a tree this Christmas?

wednesday · december · 8 · 2010

[We left off last week A sergeant standing behind and will be for at least a few of snow, rumbled up to their Grandpa spotted Edgar as everybody knows how it is in with a terrible snowstorm the trailer, using his arms days until heavy equipment south entrance. One by one he glided down to a sturdy Lowell, once the first couple of calls were made, well, the news spread through the town like wild fire. As one person called another. soon phones across town were abuzz, indicating that volunteers were answering the call. Rather than Liz Baker closing the Chamber of Commerce office because the storm, she was remaining open because of the storm! The churches were the first to respond, First Baptist, Calvary Christian Reformed Church, Church of the Nazarene, First Congregational, First Methodist, Impact, and St. Mary's Catholic Church all were lined up to help. (Please note: they are listed in alphabetical order.) Most of the outlying and smaller churches chimed in also, wanting to know where they could help as well. As one caller who volunteered space commented, "Well, we won't have any of our family coming home for began to back off the trailer. This expressway is closed which was due to close for get to their assigned places was hilly. Grandpa thought Christmas, they all live too far away to travel here, but, it appears we will have a for travelers. Later it would home safely, Grandpa thought. "I have an idea. family with us afterall, even be decided where these folks unloaded shopping items Why don't you two make if it's a borrowed one." Their would be put up for the from the car and then pulled a sweep outside of town, three extra bedrooms were quickly filled.

As is customary, a few nights before Christmas. Santa always made his last minute "Check Up Flights" to see how all children were behaving. This was the night, two days before Christmas. He put Rudolph and the others in their working harnesses, attached had to the big old sleigh, ready to visit the Lowell area. He could see the mess on I-96 and decided to stop first at Grandpa's and get the latest word on what was happening. As his sleigh glided to a stop near the river, Grandpa stood upright and waved to Santa. "How are you doing, Santa?" he called out. "No questions about a White Christmas this year, huh?" Santa laughed, brushing snow from his beard. The "whooshing" overhead announced the return of Oscar from his surveying of stranded cars

west of Lowell. Oscar was troubled "Grandpa, we have a real serious problem! There is a car down a dead end road and a huge old maple has fallen over the road, a casualty of the wind, totally blocking any vehicles from even getting close to it and there are small children in that car. When I flew over it, it was nearly buried in the deep snow and it's really getting cold." Maybe, just maybe, Santa had arrived at just the right time.

To be continuea

Santa Parade, continued

parade on an annual basis, winning float with Peanuts from seeking entry fees, characters. His wife Kristen making sure the parade route made the papier-maché is safe, to final naming of the characters for the nativity winners.

wednesday • december • 8 • 2010

happen without many who were on the float. hands, so many thanks to Last year, Arrowhead Golf our volunteers who endure Course took second. the cold every year to make this happen," said Baker.

And the winners were

manager of Arrowhead wonderful floats, according Golf Course, entered the to Bruwer.

scene. She also got clothes "Great parades don't for the neighborhood kids "We do it for the fun,"

said Bruwer.

Although they wanted to win, they didn't expect Josh Bruwer, general to win after seeing all the

"We will be back next vear," he said. "We have a tough act to follow." Volunteers put more

than 100 man hours into the three to four feet tall papiermaché heads and the nativity was placed on a trailer used at the golf course. "It paid off to be

recognized and that the business is associated with the golf course," Bruwer

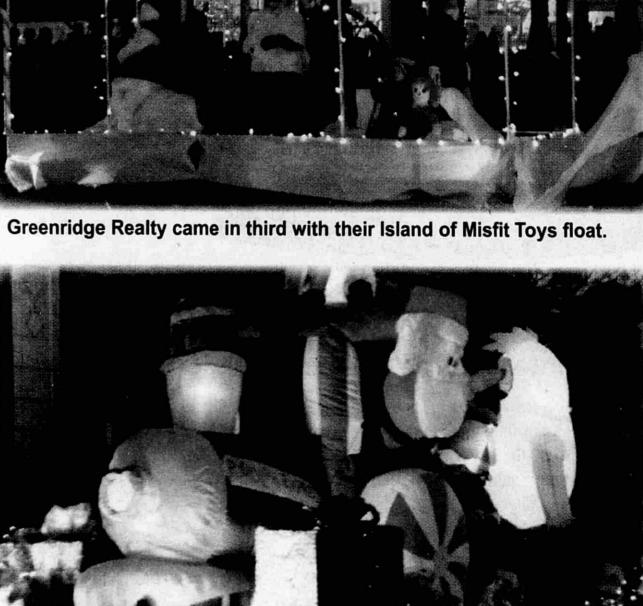
Equally happy were the Lowell bus drivers with their second place. Their the third place with Rudolph scene from Frosty the Island of the Misfit Toys. Snowman.

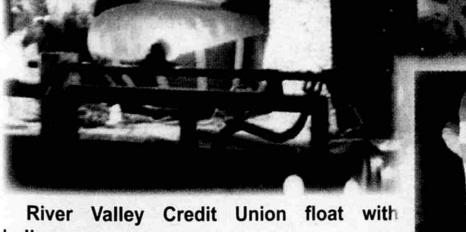












balloons.

Giant snowman presented by the Lowell Area Fire Department.

Mr. and Mrs. Claus in their carriage.



Greenridge Realty took second was \$100, third was certificates.

\$75, and the honorable float represented a complete the Red-Nosed Reindeer, mention went to Tom Burri of Caledonia who received The first prize was \$150, \$50 in Shop Lowell gift

The color guard and Lowell's eighth-grade band students. FLAT RIVER CHRISTMAS OUTREACH BOX MINISTRIES DONATIONS Flat River Outreach Ministries will be collecting new, unwrapped toys and gifts through December 16, 2010 **TOY BOXES OR BARRELS** will be in place at the following locations beginning Friday, Nov. 19: Brenda's Hair Design, Curves, Dollar General,

Fifth Third Bank, Grand River Veterinary Hospital Rite Aid, Showboat Automotive, Springrove Variety, Walgreens, Ada/Lowell 5 Theater and B.C. Pizza **ANGEL TREES**

> will be in place at the following locations: Firstbank, Ella's Coffee Shop, Huntington Bank, Huntington Bank (branch) and Englehardt Public Library

> > FOODS, TOYS & MONETARY DONATIONS can be dropped off at the FROM Food Pantry, 11535 Fulton St. E. on Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 15 and 16, between 10 am and 4 pm. Food and toys will be distributed on Saturday, Dec. 18 from 9 am to 2 pm.

If we can be of assistance to your family with food and/or toys, please come to the Food Pantry to sign up.

REMEMBER This program is for members of our community ledger

wednesday · december · 8 · 2010

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Shaquille O'Neal

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