the nowell left of er issue 10

Christmas festivities gear up to grand finale

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wednesday · december · 15 · 2010

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shopping days till christmas

christmas at the museum



by Emma Palova

and arctic temperatures arrived just in time for Santa to embark on his magic sleigh pulled by his personal reindeer fleet.

Dancer, from GG Reindeer Farm in Caledonia, landed on the Riverwalk last Friday for all to admire. According to owner Greg Gorniewicz, available for pictures on Vixen is only a baby, three months old, and Dancer is a from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. year-and-a-half.

Gorniewicz family.

So, the atmosphere definitely

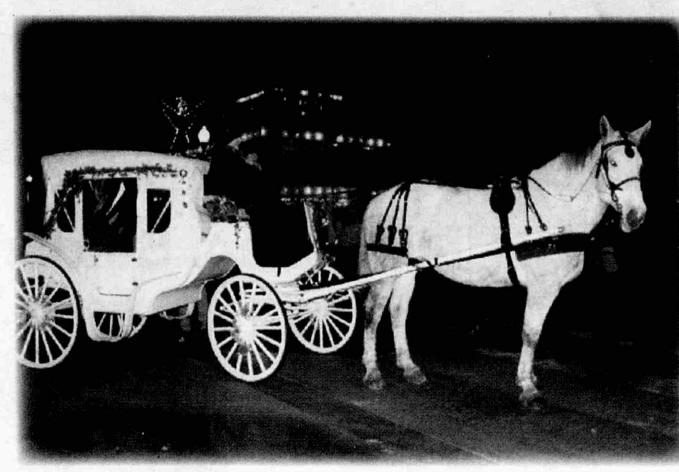
The snow on the ground cold as the young and the old queued in front of the Showboat to visit with Santa.

The miniature model of the Showboat was stationed Reindeer Vixen and right by the big boat, both decked out for Christmas with lights, garlands and red bows.

> Santa will still be Dec. 15, 18 and Dec. 22

Who wouldn't go for "They were bottle a festive ride in a Victorian fed and trained for safety carriage pulled by dapplepurposes," said Gorniewicz. grey Percherons? Another His daughter, Molly long line formed by the Gorniewicz, was taking Common Gentry loading care of them. It was the area at the end of the first year of showing for the Riverwalk for a ride around the block in the luxurious Christmas white carriages.

The carriages have been prevailed in spite of the refurbished and reproduced



AUTO*ALL FOR ADC 481

Connie Elsasser drives the Victorian carriage pulled by Pete.

Indiana for common use. won several awards for Best Owner Connie Elsasser of of Show and Best Turnout Ada started her carriage at the 2008 Gladwin County business in 1990. Since Carriage Festival.

by an Amish factory in then, Common Gentry has

Elsasser takes pride in her Percherons Tess, Pete and Princess, as well

> Christmas festivities, continued, page 9

page 7

a few laughs



page 8

LHS SPORTS



pages 10 & 11



Thrift Shop volunteer works to meet needs of community

by Emma Palova

Marilyn Lambson, a former nurse, has been working as the director of the Thrift Shop for the last nine years. Prior to that, she worked there as a store coordinator.

Lambson runs the Thrift Shop much like a business, like a real store, even though it's nonprofit.

"This has to be run like a business," she said.

Lambson has a lot of workers who have taken on a specific department, like the

boutique, children's wear, shoes, housewares, linens, pants and much more. all "I keep the departments working together," she said.

The major challenge is to decide what people want and when they need it.

"We don't want to give them Christmas stuff in July," she said.

And the crew makes pricing decisions together. So, nothing in the main store is more than \$4, including coats.



For many years, Marilyn Lambson has been a dedicated volunteer at FROM.

prices "We make affordable," she said.

The boutique is a different story. Even during sorting of the incoming goods, it gets top priority for the best product. But, even then the prices remain affordable.

Lambson and the Thrift Shop adhere to the regular mechanisms of store moving merchandise. After two weeks, the staff moves clothes, not to sales racks, but to a free rack.

"We try not to leave anything over two weeks," she said.

Lambson believes that their basic clientele doesn't want to look at the same merchandise over and over again.

There is a sign-up monthly schedule for store workers. Approximately 80 people a month volunteer on Mondays.

One group puts clothes on hangers, another group puts them in the right place. So, in a real store that would equal stockers and floor assistants.

And Christmas is the busiest time of the year at the shop. People mainly buy

> Volunteer, continued, page 8

Connections and trailheads on the docket for **Rails to Trails group**

by Emma Palova

Taking it easy after months of work and finalizing the purchase of the Midwest railroad corridor from Lowell to Greenville, and even contemplating disbanding, the Rail to Trail group discussed trail connectivity and trailheads.

At the same time, the corridor was being gifted to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), a common practice with converted railroad corridors.

The 25-mile long corridor from Lowell to Greenville was the last to be purchased in the Fred Meijer River Valley Rail Trails network, right after the Grand River Valley Rail Trail from Lowell to

Ionia.

This will make Lowell hub the of distinct three trail systems: Lowell Area Recreational Authority (LARA), Flat River Valley Rail Trail North and Country Trail Association

(NCTA).



Saranac has an established trailhead by the railroad depot.

The connectivity between the three trails and trailheads was at the core of last week's discussion at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce. An authority that will serve as fiduciary and to manage the river valley network has been formed out of two counties, Ionia and Shiawassee.

Rails to Trails, continued, page 3



""ledger



Murray Lake second grade teacher, Nancy Russell, has a son serving in Afghanistan at this time. Scott will not be home for Christmas this year. Russell decided that if Scott and other soldiers in his battalion could not be home. maybe she could help bring Christmas to them.

met Scott earlier in the year before he shipped out for Afghanistan. They all wanted to help. Other second grade classes at MLE also wanted to help. Hundreds of items were collected for Scott and his fellow soldiers. Everything from shaving cream to gum, to Christmas trees with decorations were collected.

The students were very excited to help. "This project has truly touched my heart," shares Russell. "It was a project that taught our students the true meaning of Christmas. I know that Scott and his buddles will really appreciate all of this."

MLE second graders with Christmas trees and decorations that will be sent to Afghanistan.

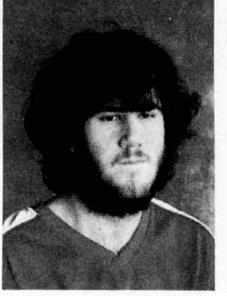
Lowell High School Students of the Month

Lowell High School has announced that Aaron Hall, 11th grade; Ben Hart, 11th grade; and Kallie Holzhueter, 12th grade, are the Lowell Students of the Month. In and convinced them that he order to be eligible for this honor a student must be following him stated that he nominated by a department. 'really didn't want to follow All the nomination forms Aaron's presentation,' and for the month are then the kids were still talking reviewed and voted on at about it the next day, and then calls the teacher selected based on academic and work ethic. There are persuade." 1241 students eligible for Hall, Hart and Holzhueter. The students receive a certificate.

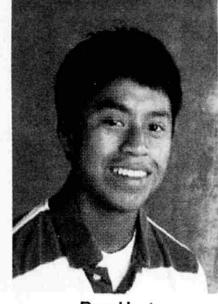
the English department and homework and to have a recommended Ben for that in choir for her enthusiasm they write, "For someone better understanding of the instead." that is normally quiet in the 'math du jour.' Ben enters classroom, Aaron shines the room, begins the lesson

In conjunction with the when he is in front of a group LHS Academic Boosters, of people. Aaron had to do a presentation for his borrowa-book project in english class and when he stood up, he took control of the room. No one took his/her eyes High School November off him as he moved, talked knew his book. The student

meeting and working after we had the 'Nicest Student as a role model and leader Technology. school on math until 4:00 with the Best Manners, in class. Kallie takes her \$20 movie gift card and a p.m. every night since week Greatest Smile, and Most job as choir president very three of the first trimester. Enviable Attitude in LHS' seriously and is respected Hall was nominated by He works to complete his award, then we would have by all of the other students



Aaron Hall



Ben Hart

Holzhueter was and work ethic."



Kallie Holzhueter

addition, Lowell In the monthly Department Aaron is considering a law over to help when necessary. nominated by the music High School would like to Chair meeting. Students are career and that is a definite Ben is perhaps the most department and they write, recognize Ryan Nanzer, 11th possibility for him given his polite young man in the "Kallie is one of the most grade. Kent Intermediate achievement, character intelligence and power to school. Ben says 'thank respectful and responsible School District has named you' every time he is helped. students in choir class. She Nanzer as the "October Hart was nominated by Then Ben says 'thank you' was elected president of 2010 Student of the Month" nomination, so this is quite the math department and again when he leaves the her choir this year and has at Kent Career Technical you may call Janine Mork at an accomplishment for they write, "Ben has been classroom at 4:00 p.m. If been doing a fantastic job Center for Automotive 897-5671.



CHRISTMAS ASSISTANCE 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.

Cookbooks are for sale for \$12 and all proceeds go to the Lowell Senior Center Building Fund. Lowell Area Historical Museum tour, Thurs., Dec. 16 at 12:45 p.m. Visit the new exhibit entitled Fabulous Furniture.

Christmas shopping Wednesdays, 12:45 p.m., the bus will leave for Meijer; or Fri., Dec. 17, the bus will leave for Woodland Mall at 12:45 p.m.



BE SURE AND GO TO thelowellledger.com AND VOTE IN **OUR WEEKLY POLL!**

the lowe	dger
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Published weekly for with 493 or 495	⁵ 22 ⁰⁰ a year for zip codes begir ⁵ 32 ⁰⁰ a year any other zip code.
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Rails To Trails, continued

"We are ready said Ionia County administrator Mark Howe. "We're working on a draft of bylaws. We are up and running and rolling."

Trail authorities or the state can apply for grants, but not multiple units of government, according to Carolyn Kane of the Rail to Trail Group. The entire 125-mile network will carry the Fred Meijer name as the major contributor of funds for trail maintenance along with other agencies.

from LARA were also money as a match for bigger present at the trail meeting grants. and discussed possible connections to Rails to Valley Rail Trail needs a Trails.

next phase is connections," said Al Halbeisen, "and crossing the Grand River and Flat River."

ahead with endowment fund applications and trust fund applications, but overall the grant funding is shrinking.

Representatives DNR does provide seed Trails fit the use of NCTA.

However, the Flat River master plan that will outline "The priority for our necessary improvements.

"We could be utilizing NCTA as a connector," said Kane. "We'd be glad to share the corridor to get A trail authority can go the connection to NCTA to get them wherever they're going.'

Howe said the Rails to depot and Belding too, has

Foreman Road by Cherry Creek Elementary could connect the trail network between LARA and Rails to Trails, and Safe Routes to Schools.

Give the gift of preparedness this holiday

With the onset of winter weather statewide and the holiday season upon us, the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) is offering gift ideas that will help keep your family and friends prepared throughout winter.

Purchasing preparedness items can serve as a great starting point to ensuring loved ones are ready when an emergency happens, such as being "snowed in" from a severe snowstorm or being stranded

ADA LOWELL 5

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\$4.50 BARGAIN TWILIGHT DAILY 4:00-6:00 PM

SHOWTIMES 12/15 - 12/16 ONo passes

O THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE

OYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER (PO

O TANGLED (PG) 4:20, 6:40, 8:50

D BURLESQUE (PG-13) 4:30. 7:10

HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY

MOVIE GIFT CARDS

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1:10, 6:50, 9:20

:40, 7:00, 9:30

FASTER (R) 9:45

10, 9:10

MORNING GLORY (PG-13)

HALLOWS PART 1 (PG-13)

616-897-3456

On M-21, 5 Minutes East of Amway H.Q

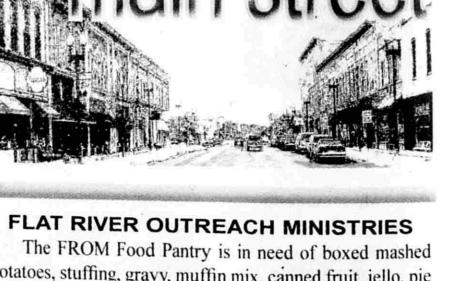
preparedness gifts, the holiday season provides an opportunity for families to discuss what they will do during an emergency and to develop or update an emergency communications plan.

preparedness is one of during an emergency."

on the side of the road. citizens can do to ensure ideas that may be of use In addition to purchasing the safety of their family during and friends," said Capt. W. include: Thomas Sands, commander of the MSP/EMHSD. "Being paredness kit for home and prepared can be as simple as office (i.e., food, water and storing an extra supply of prescription medications water and canned goods, or for 72 hours; first aid kit, discussing with family and flashlight, friends where you will meet contact information and "Giving the gift of if you become separated extra clothing)

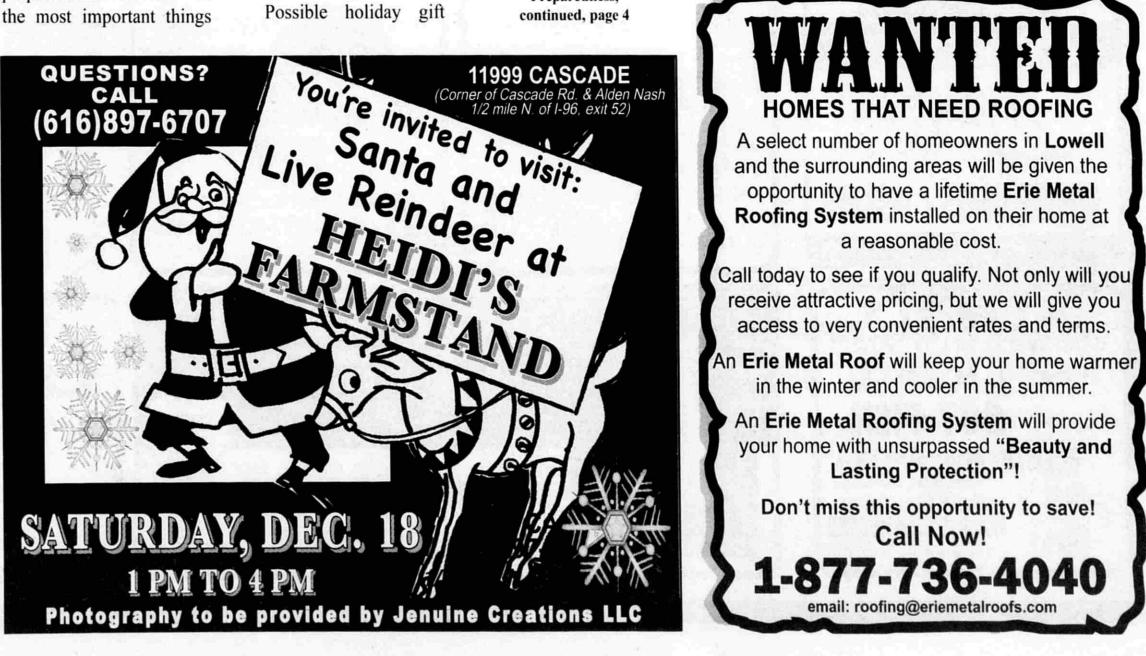
 Emergency emergency

Preparedness.



potatoes, stuffing, gravy, muffin mix, canned fruit, jello, pie fillings and pie crust mix. Please help if you are able.

SENIOR NEIGHBORS





This program is made possible by the support of the LHS Academic Boosters who support the high school in many ways. If you are interested in helping support the LHS Academic Boosters

Foreman Road bv Cherry Creek Elementary to the Montcalm County line could be used as a connection between LARA and Rails to Trails, however, portions of it are being used

Chinese restaurant on Dexter Street as a trailhead. Saranac also has an established trailhead by the railroad

by King Milling.

an existing functional depot with restrooms.

However, each site for a trailhead gets designed individually with utilities and parking. A potential trailhead for both LARA and Rails to Trails could be the intersection between Ionia is using an old Division and Grand River Drive by the riverbend. But the uses for the trail should be identified first. A master plan would delineate the potential uses of the trail and the design of the trailhead.

The baseline for a trailhead is a gravel parking lot with 14 spaces and

The Rail to Trail friends group launched a newsletter at the beginning of December covering the Fred Meijer River Valley Rail Trails and a website is being developed.

The next LARA meeting will be held on Jan. 12; the Rail to Trail meeting will be held on Jan. 13.



an emergency



At Your Local Library

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

Cultural Awareness -

Focus on Southeast Asia Experience the culture, music, geography, crafts and food of Southeast Asia at this drop-in activity focusing on such countries as India, Malaysia, Korea, Thailand and China. No registration required. For families. Tues., Dec. 21, 2 p.m.

Experience Egypt

Come play games and make crafts related to all things Egyptian as we dress like a pharaoh, make ourselves mummies, and create a pyramid to celebrate Rick Riordan's Kane Chronicle series first title, The Red Pyramid. Registration is required and participation is limited. For ages 6 and up. Tue., Dec. 28, 2 p.m.

Pajama Storytime

For families who can't come to the library during the day. Pajama Storytime offers an evening of stories and fun. Bring your teddy bear or other snuggly friend; pajamas optional. For children ages 6 and under with a caregiver. Wed., Dec. 29, 6:30 p.m.

KDL Teen Film Festival

Go beyond YouTube! Teens in 6th - 12th grade are invited to meet the challenge of producing a real film for the Kent District Library Teen Film Festival. The top ten entries will be shown on the big screen at Celebration Cinema North. Prizes go to three winners. Additional information and applications can be found at www.kdl.org/teens. Sat., Feb. 12, 10:30 a.m. Film submissions due Sat., Jan. 8.

"ledger

Lowell Middle School offers safety classes

in conjunction with the Department, hosted an Class. The class was held three consecutive days beginning November 30 after school from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Students were

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The Lowell Ledger

105 N. Broadway, 897-9261

Lowell Middle School, given instruction and the an opportunity for students In the spring there will be no charge for either class.

opportunity to earn a safety to take a Boater's Safety Kent County Sheriff's certificate upon successful Class. More information for completion of the classes and that class will be available Off Road Vehicle Safety a passing score on the test. closer to the date. There is

> Ted Albrecht from the Kent County Sheriff Department conducted the safety class.

 Vehicle emergency kit(emergency flares, shovel, ice scraper, flashlight, car)

 Battery-powered or (food, water, leash, dishes) hand crank NOAA weather and carrying case or crate) For

flashlight Smoke detectors

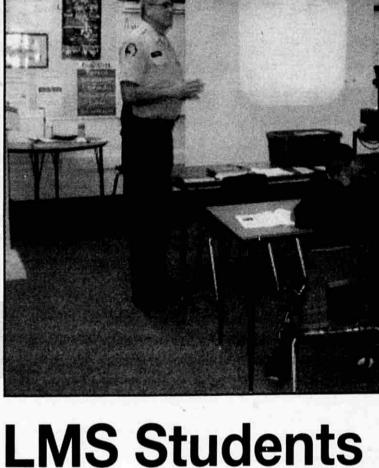
blanket, food and water)

Hand

radio

 Fire extinguishers (for kitchen, garage and • Pet disaster kit

additional crank information visit the MSP/ EMHSD website at www. michigan.gov/emhsd



Preparedness, continued LMS Students of Month



nominated by their teachers for their excellent academic, leadership and citizenship qualities. Lowell Middle School Students of the Month receive a certificate and have their photos posted on the main bulletin board in the front entryway.

McLarty.

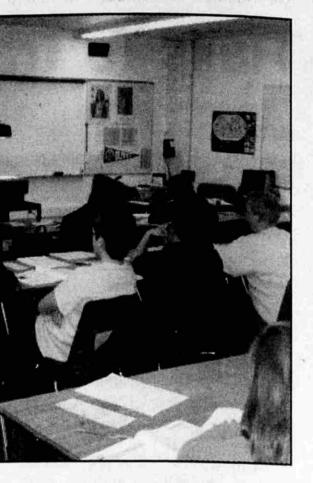


Rasch and Kenzie McLarty.

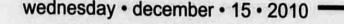




wednesday • december • 15 • 2010



Pictured, back row: Nick Higgins, Katie Holzhueter, and Jarrod Melle; front row: Mark



to the editor

Answer is not so simple

Dear Editor.

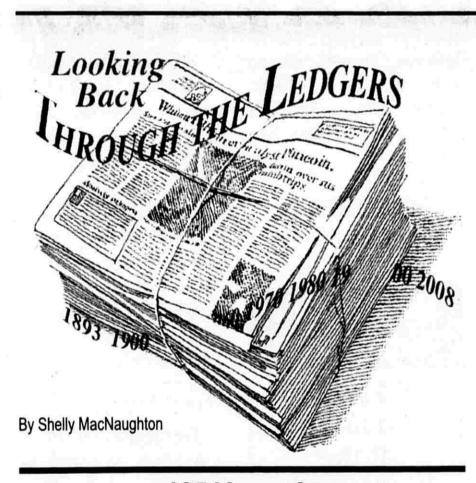
to Fred Jacobs' article in the ViewPoint(Shoppinglocally is important - and simple). It is a very compelling article why residents should shop within the community. I will agree shopping locally is important, but simple it's not. It's all about competing. You can go back 50 years and look at the downtown area and the types of businesses that occupied it. There was a grocery store, two hardwares, three drug stores and I can go on and on, but the fact is that most of those businesses do not exist today in the downtown area.

Now you have to go out of the city just to go to a grocery store. The the capability to compete. small community retailer hit its prime many years

ago and has been falling I'm writing in answer by the wayside ever since because bigger has become better in the eyes of the consumer. Michigan, along with our nation, has been in a recession producing stagnating wages along with rising cost. This has caused the consumers' purchasing power to shrink. Sadly to say, spending on something people don't need at a price that may not be competitive or spending time doing so is not in the future.

> Lowell tried to revitalize the downtown area some years back with a million dollar Riverwalk with little success. It just comes back to the fact that it's all about the individual business and if they have

It sounds simple, but



125 Years Ago **The Lowell Journal December 18, 1885**

Chas. H. Owens has been dismissed from the soldiers' home for disobeying orders.

Russell Higgins of Ada was arrested by Sheriff Kinney for stealing a buggy from an Ionia man.

Goodrich Kopf's artesian well is a success. Its depth is 110 feet and it throws out about 60 barrels of excellent water in 24 hours.

Vanderbilt had some soul, after all. He left a million dollars out of his \$200,000,000 for charity's sake. Which is equivalent to a bequest of \$100 from a man worth \$20,000. The biggest mistake we ever made was in not hiring out as an heir to Mr. Vanderbilt.

100 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger December 15, 1910

Orren Ford died at the old homestead in Grattan. December 10, aged 72 years and 8 months. Alton church service conducted by Pastor W. D. Ogg. Burial at Alton cemetery.

Orren Ford was born in Clark County, Indiana, April 10, 1838. At the age of one year he moved with his parents to Grattan Township, Kent County, where he

retailing or everyone would comes to competing. be doing it. No, Mr. Jacobs, the answer is anything but

ledger

it's not when it comes to simple, especially when it Sincerely, Jim Howard Lowell

understanding insurance

Think you don't need life insurance? Think again

pleasant scenario to think about, but not doing so can have serious consequences. The fact is, most

life Americans need depends on you financially, vou need life insurance. It's

If you died tomorrow, that simple. Unfortunately, how would your loved ones roughly 70 million adult fare financially? It's not a Americans have no coverage at all, and most of those who do have far less coverage financial experts recommend.

insurance. If someone cash to your family after

lived until Aug. 11, 1862, when he enlisted in company B, 25th Michigan Infantry and served his country until the close of the war. He received an honorable discharge and returned home.

Being of a kind and jovial disposition and always ready to help those in need or distress, he leaves a large circle of friends to mourn his loss.

75 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo December 12, 1935

Nine-year-old spruce trees from Sault Ste. Marie were tied to the boulevard lights along Mina St. Monday to add to the cooking pot or of living through another afternoon under the direction of William Christiansen of the Board of Trade Christmas decorations committee of which Wesley Roth is chairman.

50 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger **December 15, 1960**

The Lowell Ledger welcomes your Letters to Mr. and Mrs. Lee Hall of Vergennes St., 2 1/2 miles the Editor. Letters are required to bear the author's north of Lowell in Vergennes Township, spotted a bear signature, phone number and address (for verification at their trash barrel early last Saturday morning. This purposes only, not for publication). Letters will be was the first time that a bear has been reported in published at the discretion of the publisher . All letters Vergennes are subject to editing for length and grammar. Thank you letters, advertising or personal attacks will not be 25 Years Ago printed.

The Grand Valley Ledger **December 18, 1985**

Carl Kloosterman, a senior defensive back on the Central Michigan University football team, was recently honored at the CMU annual football banquet. Kloosterman was named to the first team of the MAC conference "all conference" defensive squad. Kloosterman was also selected as the team's "most valuable player" by his teammates. Besides team and conference honors, Kloosterman also received an "Honorable Mention" on the Associated Press "All-American" team.

Carl is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Berwyn Kloosterman of 13886 Oberly Dr., Lowell. He is a graduate of Lowell High School and was a standout football player during his years here. Congratulations Carl!





Life insurance provides

continued, page 12

outdoors what's next?

anticipate the Christmas snowfall. holiday. Excitement will daily routine.

Except for retired snowbirds and others who some sort of contraption follow their feathered friends south for the winter, the rest of us are facing several Downhill months of gray skies and satisfaction in remaining in cold temperatures. But don't control of their seemingly despair; the season also perilous decent. Crossyou are wondering what's next

Deer hunting designated areas special conditions will continue to the end of the month. Consult a current deer hunting digest for details. A group of extremely trails. A road-trip to revisit lucky hunters drew elk tags and will be tracking down will reveal a much different elk in the Pigeon River mood when the landscape is Country. Squirrel hunting continues until March 1 for want to share the excitement of the hunt with a youngster.

Dave Stegehuis

Making plans and Beagle owners can look checking off tasks on a forward to listening to their long list of preparations bellowing hounds as they keeps everyone busy as we run rabbits after a fresh

Frozen lakes dra w continue to build through hardy souls looking for a Christmas day and then New skillet full of sizzling panfish Years celebrations will carry fillets. Skaters can clear off us into the next decade. snow cover for a hockey After that, reality sets in and rink or just enjoy gliding we find ourselves back to a along to the rumble of steel blades on ice.

Sledding downhill on has been a favorite winter pastime for generations. skiers find brings with it a multitude country skiing affords a of opportunities to generate slower pace but provides interest and excitement in lots of exercise and time our lives. Here are some to observe nature in quiet suggestions to consider if solitude. Tramping about on a pair of snowshoes will accomplish the same results in with added mobility to visit under out-of-the-way places.

> For those who prefer to explore larger pieces of real estate, Michigan is laced with miles of snowmobile summertime destinations cloaked in snow and ice.

Now is the time to make those in search of something plans to get the most out Michigan winter.

Letters To The Editor:

Letters may be submitted via email to: ledger(a) 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.

the lowell dger Write us online at... thelowellledger.com

area births

Richmond

 Gianna Katherine Richmond was born December 2, 2010, weighing 8 lbs. 2 oz. and measuring 19 inches. Proud parents Elizabeth; and grandparents, are Benjamin and Karen John and Pierrette Olinger Richmond of Lowell.

health

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

Carbon monoxide poisonin

Carbon gas that's poisonous produced by the incomplete

of people die from carbon portable fuel burning monoxide produced from camping equipment inside their household furnaces, a home, garage, vehicle ranges, water heaters, and or tent. Never use gas space heaters. Thousands appliances such as ranges, has been promoted to the of Beckie N. Anderson of more are treated each year ovens or clothes dryers rank of private first class in Kentwood and James A. in the emergency room to heat your home. If you the U.S. Army. for accidental poisonings. suspect that you may have Anderson is a small The initial symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning, arms/artillery carbon monoxide poisoning get outside into the fresh air assigned to the 1st Battalion, Thornapple Kellogg High are similar to the flu (but immediately and then call 19th Field Artillery at Fort School, Middleville. without the fever). They 911.

Welcoming her home were big brothers, Alex, John-Luc and Sam; big sisters, Olivia, Anna and of Lowell.



and dizziness.

Appliances and engines that monoxide detectors in your other factors. Fortunately, have the opportunity to contributed to a SEP IRA run on natural gas, liquefied home, RV and/or boat. Have petroleum (LP gas), oil, your home heating system, kerosene, coal or wood may including chimneys and produce carbon monoxide. vents, inspected annually. Each year, hundreds Never burn charcoal or



Christopher C. Godbold **Consider establishing**

are a few to consider:

a business retirement plan

you've got a lot to think about: attracting new customers, maintaining cash n place.



Kimberly M. Anderson

Sill, Lawton, Okla.

She is the daughter Anderson of Alto.

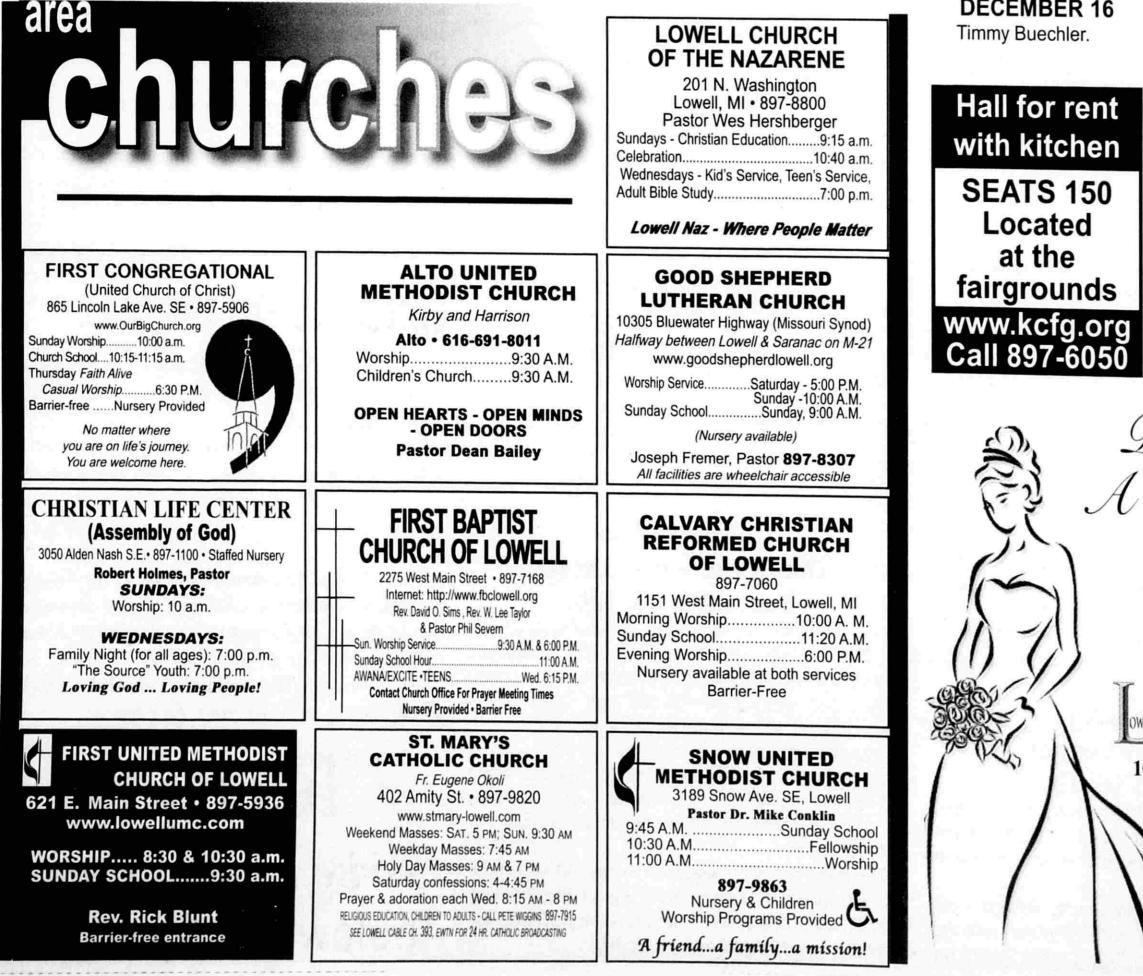
The private first class repairer is a 2010 graduate of it will need to be set up prior to Dec. 31, 2010.

 Solo defined benefit plan - Generally speaking. • SEP IRA — If you this plan, which is similar to If you're self-employed you have some good plans have just a few employees a traditional pension plan. or you own a business, from which to choose. Here or are self-employed with may be suitable for you if no employees, you may you have relatively high • Owner-only 401(k) want to consider a SEP earnings and can afford - If you are self-employed IRA. For the 2010 tax year, to take advantage of the flow, upgrading equipment with no employees other you can put in the lesser of high contribution limits. and facilities - the list goes than your spouse or a \$49,000 or 25 percent of which are determined by on and on. Yet, as busy as partner, the Owner-only your compensation, which an actuarial calculation. you are today, you can't 401(k) may be an option is capped at a maximum Your contributions are tax which means you need to individual 401(k), an owner- plan with tax-deductible In choosing a have a solid retirement plan only 401(k) offers you many contributions, and you must retirement plan, you may of the same advantages of a cover all eligible employees want to consult with your All retirement plans traditional 401(k): a range - at a minimum, those who tax adviser. But don't wait offer some features in of investment options, tax- are at least 21 and have any longer to get started. common, such as tax- deductible contributions been with your company for The future will be here soon monoxide include headache, fatigue, deferred growth of earnings. and tax-deferred earnings three out of the immediately enough - so you'll want to is a colorless, odorless, shortness of breath, nausea So how can you pick the growth. You may even be preceding five years. be prepared for it. plan that's right for you? able to choose a Roth option (Employees themselves This article was written To protect yourself and You'll need to consider your for your owner-only 401(k), cannot contribute.) Keep by Edward Jones for use by combustion of solid, your family from carbon business' annual income, which allows you to make in mind, though, that the your local Edward Jones liquid and gaseous fuels. monoxide gas, install carbon number of employees and after-tax contributions that percentage of compensation Financial Advisor.



DECEMBER 17 DECEMBER 15 Bill Ellison, Jerry Scott. Karen Latva, Tammy Baird, Roger Brown, **DECEMBER 18** Kathryn Duiven, Kristin Ellis, Danielle Brenk, Danielle Anchors. Marea Hillary Graves, Cliff Borg, Kimberly Kline, Kelly Potter, Tom Walling, Julie Alberts, Kehoe. Heather Walendzik.

DECEMBER 16 Timmy Buechler.



ledge

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grow tax-free. For 2010, you must be the same for you can contribute up to \$16,500 and your employees. If you as a deferral, and total don't get a plan set up prior contributions cannot exceed to year-end, the SEP IRA is \$49,000 or \$54,500 if you're the only plan that you can 50 or older. But you must set up and fund, up until plan ahead to take advantage your tax filing deadline. to of this plan for 2010 because get a 2010 tax deduction.

happy **birthday!**

> **DECEMBER 19** Lori Moore, Carol Chamberlain.

DECEMBER 20 Ed Mohr, William Henry Burtt, Jackie Spencer, Rob Lombardo.

DECEMBER 21 Al Smith, Brooke Page, Zachary Tykocki, Debbie Walendzik, Eric Koppel.

Planning A Wedding?

We offer the Carlson Craft line of invitations.



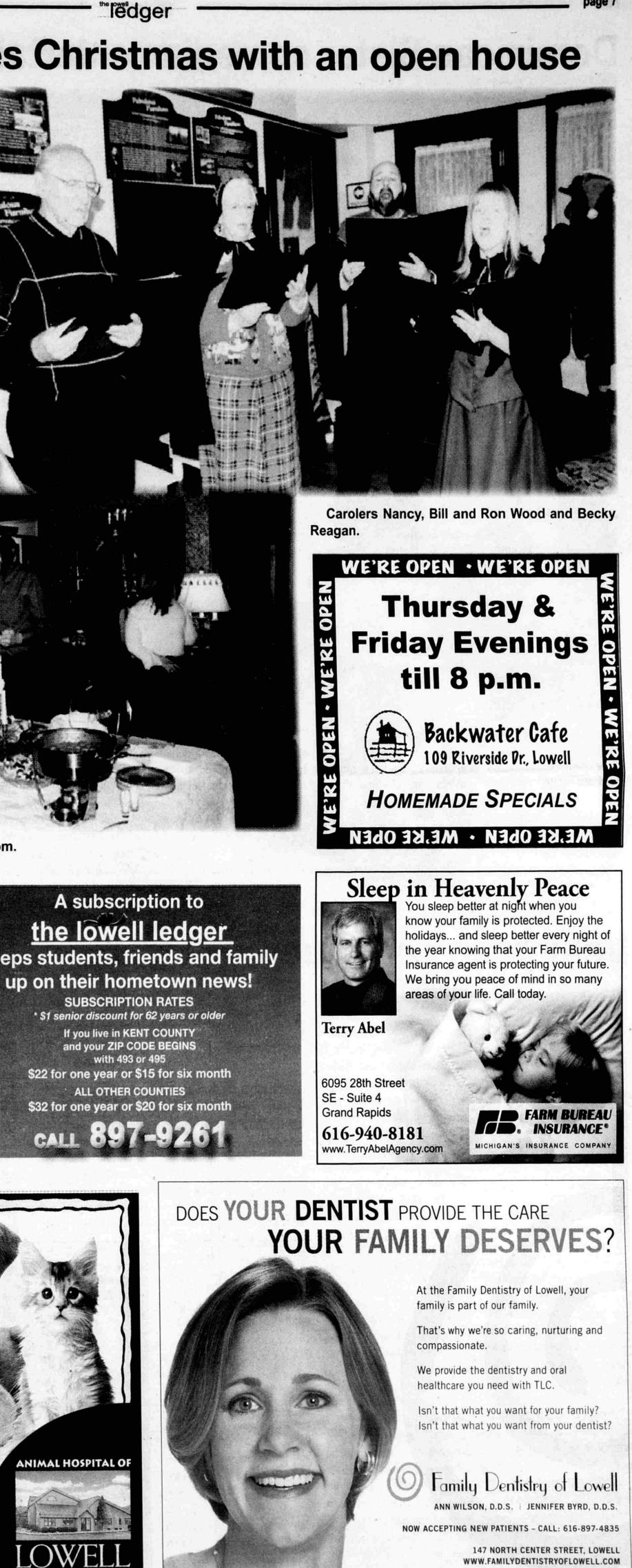
616.897.9261

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appetizers

Reagan sang Christmas

The main purpose of the







Dominican Sister comedian entertains women's club



presentation. Above she is introduced by Marj Harding.

Volunteer, continued

Christmas decorations and various knickknacks.

But, the store keeps regular inventory plus the Christmas stuff. And the socalled Christmas stuff keeps coming in all year-round.

So, two girls sort it all year long. The hottest sellers all throughout the year are blue jeans and snow boots.

"We have a hard time keeping boots in for children," Lambson said.

For people who are facing hard times, the Thrift Shop gives out vouchers for boots. Also recently, there has been a big need for beds. The staff put a bug bomb in the room, just to make sure, because of the bedbug scare.

And the shop also deals with a lot of recalls brought in by people. It's hard to tell what's a recall and what's not.

"People have to be responsible," Lambson said. "It's just hard to know."

At first, Lambson thought they would run out of stuff and should put

things aside. But, to her surprise, the shop never runs out of stuff.

It's a constant exchange of goods in and out. Sherri Jahnke comes in seven days a week, twice a day, to take care of the intake.

Some things the shop cannot use, so the Salvation Army comes and picks up the stuff and takes it away.

The store coordinator is now Diane Kleczynski. Sue VanderMolen takes care of the pricing of housewares. Donna Gerard runs the children's department Marge Rehl is in charge of marketing, making signs, placing ads and news items.

Most of the volunteers are retired. "We needed something

to do," said Lambson, "and feel to be needed."

The environment of Lambson. the store is very social. The volunteers make friends amongst each other and bring their friends, who in turn become volunteers.

in common," said Lambson. shopper herself.

The friends may knit together or go out and eat from the sales goes toward installed. together.

can do this," said Lambson, "that I have the health and the time. I think I am doing something worthwhile, not the future, plans to enlarge and the Thrift Shop? just sitting around and doing the main store to make it things you don't need to do. one sales floor instead of

six days a week, four hours in separate rooms and in the a thrift shopper you have a day, does have her own main store can sometimes two places to go." separate hobbies like sewing be a problem, even though and going to bible studies.

volunteers themselves shop at the store. Once they all showed up at the Lutheran Church candlelight service, all dressed up.

As everyone wondered where they got their clothes, they revealed the secret.

"At the Thrift Shop, where else," laughed

Lambson was a nurse and she worked at the same facility she works at now for 10 years. Having six daughters and living on "We all have something a budget, she was a thrift

In a record turnout, the Lowell flocked Schneider Manor monthly dose and entertainment fellowship time.

Most sported Christmas embroidered and themed attire and overall the atmosphere was jovial. The lunch prepared by the club women consisted of hot potato salad, tossed salad with grapes, cheese and broccoli Amish cole slaw, plus desserts.

The annual cookie exchange generated endless at a funeral home," she said. travs of cookies of all sorts.

But, the highlight of the luncheon was the featured speaker, Sister Sue Tracy, OP (Order of Preacher), who was introduced by Marj Harding. Tracy presented her HaHa's and HoHo's program for the holly-daze. She was scheduled

to speak last year, but the event got snowed out.

"Now I had a year to prepare for this," she laughed. Changing costumes and

props, Tracy rattled one joke prune. after another, never pausing for a minute.

"I am the only Sister in Spectrum," she said. "People expect you to be funny.'

Tracy is a staff chaplain at the Spectrum Health Butterworth Campus in Grand Rapids, where she offers spiritual care to those coping with cancer and their families.

She explained the difference between a nun and a Sister.

"A nun couldn't be here," she said. "They stay in a monastery."

At 70, Tracy is a four time survivor of cancer, twice she had breast cancer, once non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and several skin cancers. The second time, she lost hair after chemotherapy. Waking up from a surgery, Tracy was hoping she would wake up with red hair. She was glad not to see any white lilies or callas in the room.

"At least I knew I wasn't

Tracy stressed the importance of laughter, as it reduces stress and enhances creativity. She shared the following jokes, puns, ponderisms and one-liners that may be used on bumper stickers.

A gentleman stopped eating natural foods, once he found out that most people die of natural causes.

A guy fell into a glass grinding machine and made a spectacle out of himself. Start a movement, eat a

and invisible woman had children. Their kids aren't much to look at either. If not for stress, some days I'd have no energy at

Sporting a red hat, Tracy made fun of men who formed groups similar to the Red

Hat Society group. "They

The money raised emergency services to "I am thankful that I help people pay their bills, insurance, doctor bills and closer to the sales area. eyeglasses.

The Thrift Shop, in between the nearby Goodwill it." Lambson, who works separate rooms. Attendance other," she said. "If you are

donated cameras are

Other plans include moving the drop off area And is there competition

Absolutely not.

"We compliment each



wednesday • december • 15 • 2010

named themselves Recycled Roosters or Romeos," she laughed.

Then, Tracy unleashed an entire slate of Norwegian jokes known as Lena and Oli.

Well, once Lena went swimming in a breast stroke competition. She was the last one, and whined, "But they were using their arms," she said.

There are several ages of life, according to Tracy, they are spills, drills, bills, ills, pills and wills. And then there are different stages of life: grow up, fill out, hold in and heck with it.

Here are Santa Claus phases of life: first you believe in Santa Claus; then you don't believe in Santa Claus; then you are Santa Claus; and finally you look like Santa Claus.

A telepathic answering device takes a call with the following response: "I'll think about calling you back.

"If vou laugh. endorphins are helping you," laughed Tracy. Laughter takes on a new

meaning in anticipation of The invisible man the first LaughFest coming to Grand Rapids in March to celebrate Gilda's Club 10th anniversary.

Tracy is a contributing author in "Chicken Soup for the Surviving Soul" and "Praying through Cancer: Set Your Heart Free from Fear."

she plans to stay. "I am still," she said. "It seems to be working. When

the job for two years. Now,

Initially, Lambson took

it works, we don't change She stressed the mission and the goal of the Thrift

Shop. "We're doing our best to meet the needs of the community," she said. "It takes a lot of people to do this. I feel like we have a lot

of missions." The number one mission is helping people get rid of stuff and in return provide the merchandise for others to come and buy.

Number two is giving people a worthwhile job to

"It's work, but I don't mind doing it. I like doing everything," Lambson said. "I would do it all over again."

Marilyn Lambson sorts through winter clothing.

a meat auction, and he has lived happily ever after.

flirts with himself like a

so sexy."

he is so loved.

Her fleet of vehicles includes a reproduction of an 1880 town coach with brass lanterns and iron warmers, two carriages, two wagons, a sleigh and a cart.

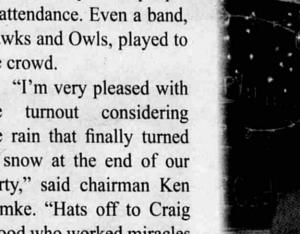
be offering sleigh rides on the farm in Ada.

go to www.commongentry.

On Saturday, just a its own celebration

"I'm very pleased with Tamke. "Hats off to Craig

burnt to ash.



At 10 p.m. the fire was





ledger

- BASKETBALL

Red Arrows show improvement

SPORTS

by Thad Kraus

It's a look the Lowell girls' basketball team had not given in its opening two games, but comfortable and confident was on display in its 45-28 loss to Byron Center.

"The girls played hard and executed our game plan in the first half against a good, physical basketball team," said Lowell girls' basketball coach Kevin Brechting. "All five of Byron Center's starters have signed to play in college."

The Red Arrows, who struggled out of the gate Kentwood and against Cedar Springs, started fast against the Bulldogs. Lowell built a 10-5

first-quarter lead.

"You don't go from inconsistent to consistent overnight, but we played a great first half," Brechting said. "Now we need to spread that over a full 32 minutes "

pulled in the second half. floor." Byron Center outscored 16 minutes.

Red Arrow

"Tonight I think the each. girls peaked around the

Lowell trailed 20-16 at think the girls were more club committed against the halftime before the Bulldogs confident at both ends of the Bulldog press.

Lowell 25-12 over the final Flanagan led all Red Arrows in scoring with six points

The Lowell coach Brechting concluded. corner," Brechting said. 'We was pleased with the low changed something and I number of turnovers his

"I told the girls if we Lauren Kurtz and Taylor want to improve and hit our goals, then the games coming up (Union and Creston) are 'games we should win,"





Amber Martin pulls up for a short jumper in Lowell girls' basketball early season action.

Stephanie Stevens works inside the paint for a short jumper off the glass.

Grandville upends Lowell 49-38

by Thad Kraus

Ascrappy, hardworking effort wasn't enough to overcome scoring and rebounding inefficiencies in Lowell's season-opening 49-38 loss to Grandville.

and unselfish in their effort," the opening eight minutes. said Lowell basketball coach Jeff McDonald. After trailing on the offensive end in the 11-0, the Red Arrows rallied second quarter as its deficit

"The boys were valiant to within four (11-7) after Lowell then struggled

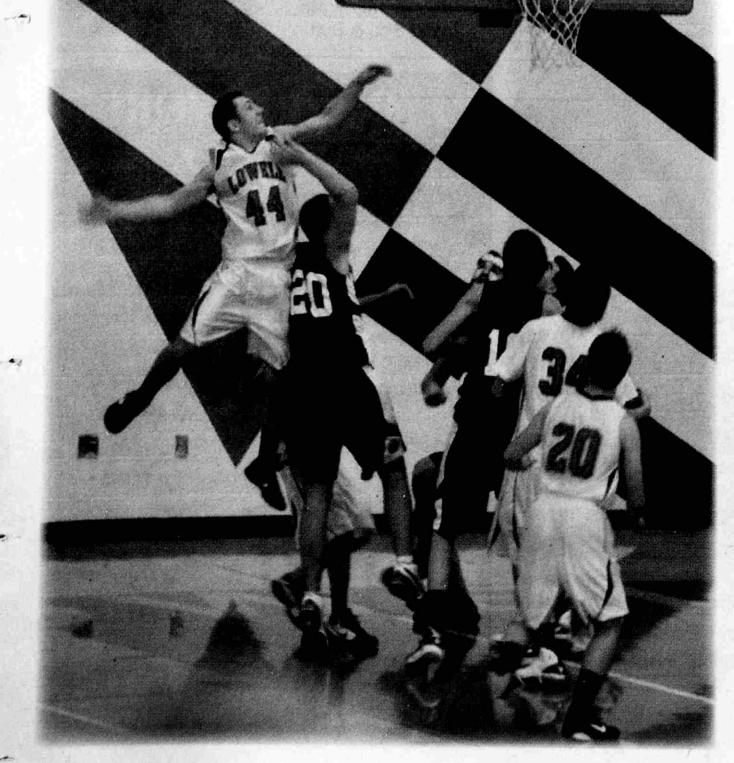
ballooned to 14 (29-15 at quarter advantage, which halftime) as Grandville outscored the Red Arrows 18-8

"We played very unselfishly, but missed a bunch of shots. We couldn't overcome that," McDonald explained.

The Red Arrows Bulldogs outscored the 23-20 in the second half, including a 17-13 fourth-

saw them pull to within eight late in the game.

"The game was a tale of two halves. We did a nice job of grinding it out and manufacturing points in the first half, but made mental mistakes in the second half," said Grandville coach Kyle VanderWall. "Lowell's a scrappy, hardworking team.



Red Arrow coach Jeff McDonald diagrams some second half strategy in Lowell's 49-38 loss to Grandville.

Lowell's Jacob Meyer elevates for a rebound against Grandville.

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- WRESTLING

wednesday · december · 15 · 2010

Red Arrow

Lowell grappiers battle back to defeat Mustangs

y Thad Kraus

St. Rita's Shakir Spells didn't know what he was getting into with the match on the line and his Mustangs leading 29-28.

That's no slight on Spells. Lowell heavyweight Jake Lynema does that to people.

Lowell wrestling coach Dave Dean knows.

what meets the eye with 90 seconds of the first period news that came out of Friday Jake," Dean notes.

possible based on the size 34-29 win. (280 lbs.) of Lynema

SPORS

what's on his inside. There's wrestling team. They are a lot more than meets the eye," Dean explains. "Jake has a tremendous upside. He growth.

Lynema put Spells on (215). "There is more than his back within the opening

"That's a nice win for "People don't know us against a much improved ranked fourth or fifth in Illinois," Dean said. Lynema's heroics were

keeps getting better and has set up with victories by Jake shown great maturity and Stehley (171), Gabe Dean (189) and Garett Stehley

There was some bad

wrestling at 140, fractured his forearm and will be out two to three weeks.

the injury list. Fleet is out with a high ankle sprain. Fleet finished third in

the state last year and Dean placed seventh. "With those two out,

it's time for others to step up," Dean explained. The Red Arrows.

Icers' early lead killed by penalties in loss to Knights

by Thad Kraus

- HOCKEY

Penalties snuffed out a fast start in Lowell/ Caledonia's 6-3 league loss to Kenowa Hills.

"We came out quick and scored early," said Lowell/Caledonia hockey assists on the first goal. coach Tim Beurer.

Caledonia fell victim to Cam Steger and Tyler Holiday Tournament this their own penalties as they Bitterman were given assists weekend played much of the first and second periods working on its penalty killing.

The Knights used their man (sometimes two men) advantage to skate their way back into the contest.

Kenowa Hills scored two goals over the final three minutes of the first period to cut its deficit to one at 3-2.

- BOWLING

Lowell/Caledonia's first period goals came off the sticks of Jake Rossman (2) and Braden McGillicuddy.

Karsen Arnold and McGillicuddy recorded McGillicuddy was awarded Leading 3-0, Lowell/ the assist on goal two while in the Waterford/Kettering on the third goal.

3-2 until Kenowa Hills scored 24 seconds into the overmatched Grand Rapids second period to tie the city squad. game.

lead (4-3) at the 4:47 mark of the second period.

Kenowa Hills added

complete the scoring.

"Penalties do not help to create a great flow," Beurer explained. "We need to play three complete periods to be

successful." Lowell/Caledonia plays Lowell/Caledonia (2-4)

Lowell/Caledonia led opened the week with a 10-0 shutout against an

"The boys worked well The Knights took the on and executed what we do in practice," Beurer said. "It's important that in games

two third-period goals to like this that your play is an extension of practice." Netting goals Lowell/Caledonia



We've arrived at that time of year, our annual Lowell Ledger Bowl Pick Bonanza There are 30 some odd

games to choose from, all leading up to Auburn and Oregon.

Here are the Bowls and the participants. My selections are in bold. Entries must be received by Dec. 18 either by mail or drop them off at The Ledger office. You also have the option of e-mailing your selections to reporter(a) lowellbuyersguide.com

Kraft Fight Hunger Nevada **Boston College BBVA** Compass Pittsburgh Kentucky Cotton Bowl Texas A&M LSU Go.Daddy.com Miami Ohio Tenn. State Gator Bowl Michigan **Mississippi State** TicketCity Bowl Northwestern **Texas Tech Outback Bowl Penn State** Florida Capital One Bowl Alabama Michigan State

scoring by Blake Lyman's 11 points. Alec Roerig tallied 10 and Jason Malling added six. "We had some young

Lowell was led in

play well tonight kids and that's encouraging," McDonald said. Caleb Cook led

Grandville with 14 points and Steve Haan added 11.



bakers game. They pulled it together in those last few games and we struggled," Geldersma explained.

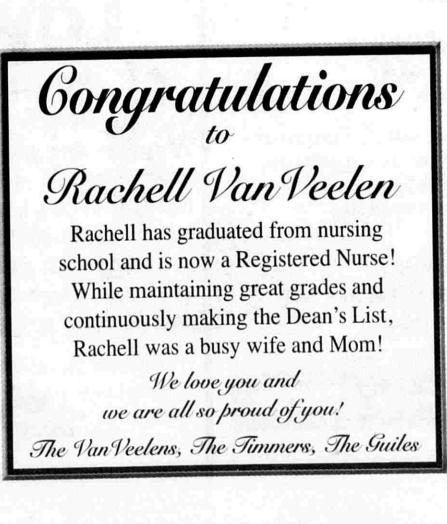
The Lowell coach

I saw. The girls caught a lot five pin," Geldersma said.

Jessie Alberts rolled a club high 189. She followed that up with a 160 and a game scores were 163-158-147. Sammi Geldersma 139-125-133-154.

penciled in a 161 to go along with a 148 and a 131 "I was happy with what Amber Geldersma recorded a 166 along with a 150 and of bad breaks with five-seven 121. Shelby Mitchell rolled splits and with leaving the games of 113, 158 and 149. Melissa Mosher tallied games of 124 and 139.

The Red Arrows' baker



Lowell 4th at own invitational by Thad Kraus ball well in its first outing of Saturday's Lowell the year.

Invitational was the Red Arrows' first match of the year with its second not coming until Jan. 5.

The wait between the two will give Lowell an opportunity to wrestle away some of its struggles.

"The girls need their mprovement in baker game performance. They struggled there," said Lowell girls' bowling coach Eva Geldersma.

Lowell finished fourth in its own tourney over the weekend. Wayland claimed top honors followed by Grandville, Kelloggsville and then Lowell (3013).

"We were in front of Wayland until the last couple

thought her club threw the

He joins Dan Fleet on

win, traveled to Davison on of Saturday. Lowell finished Davison.

The Red Arrows lost in the semifinals to Tecumseh on the eight tiebreaker (total first points scored, 16-10) in a match that finished tied 28-28.

a lot of young kids that will

That doesn't seem to give the Red Arrows a night's fight. Gabe Morse, coming off the exciting get better with a number good, older, mature wrestlers," Dean said. "The third behind Tecumseh and team you see in February will be much different than the one that's wrestling now.

page 11

Lowell defeated Lapeer West and Dearborn Fordson before losing to Tecumseh. The Red Arrows then "We have a mixture of defeated Midland for third.

Collin (2),Bitterman Echelbarger (2), and for Brandon Jamieson, Andrew all tallied a goal apiece. were Light, Karsen Arnold,

Thad Kraus

Chick-fil-A Bowl Florida State South Carolina Sun Bowl **Note Dame** Miami Fla. Liberty Bowl Central Florida Georgia Meineke Car Care Clemson South Florida Holiday Bowl Washington Nebraska Armed Forces Bowl SMU Army Music City North Carolina Tennessee Pinstripe Bowl Syracuse **Kansas** State Military Bowl Maryland East Carolina Alamo Bowl Arizona **Oklahoma State** Texas Bowl Illinois Baylor Insight Bowl Iowa Missouri **Champs Sports** N.C. State West Virginia Independence Bowl Air Force Georgia Tech Little Caesars Bowl Toledo

Dennis Echelbarger, Zack Hoffman and Alec Grinage

> FIU Sheraton Hawai'i Bowl Hawaii Tulsa Poinsettia Bowl San Diego State Navy Maaco Bowl Utah **Boise State** Beef O'Brady's Bowl Louisville Southern Miss. New Orleans Bowl Troy Ohio U. Humanitarian Bowl N. Illinois **Fresno State** New Mexico Bowl BYU UTEP Fiesta Bowl Oklahoma Connecticut Rose Bowl Wisconsin TCU Orange Bowl Virginia Tech Stanford Sugar Bowl Arkansas Ohio State **BCS** National Auburn Oregon

Participants who choose more games correctly than I do will have their names dropped in a hat. A winner will then be selected. Good Luck!

FYI - Monday night marked the first time in nine years that a Monday night football game has been played in Detroit. The punch line is - the Lions weren't one of the teams playing!

Insurance, continued

"ledger

HUCKLEBEURY

obituaries

Barbara J. Hucklebeury, age 85, of Lowell, passed away December 9, 2010. She was preceded in death by her husband Kenneth and brother, Bryce Post. She is survived by her sister, Mariorie Geldersma; nephews, Jim (Barbara) Austin, Don (Cricket) Kelley, Rick Kelley; nieces, Sandy (Jim) Feutz, Lee Ann (Roger) Bruursema. Nancy (Jim) Leach, Pat (Jack) Lindholme; and many great-nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held Monday, December 13 at Roth-Gerst Funeral Home. Dr. Michael Conklin of Snow United Methodist officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Spectrum Health Hospice, 100 Michigan St. N.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49502.



NOTICE TO

CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

Estate of ROBERT H. ZIMMER, deceased Date of birth: 08/22/1925.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO The **CREDITORS:** decedent, ROBERT H. ZIMMER, who lived at 3515 Leonard St. NW. Grand Rapids, Michigan, 616-454-4119 died 10/28/2010.

of the Creditors decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless

ZIMMER, named or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Avenue, NW, Grand Rapids, MI FILE NO. 10-189486-DE 49503 and the named/ proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

12/06/2010

John T. Conroy (P43709) 410 Bridge St. NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Daniel R. Zimmer 3640 84th St. SW Byron Center, MI 49315 616-868-0986

funeral and other final expenses, eliminate creditcard balances and car loans. provide loved ones and with income to live on for a period of time.

life insurance depends on way. your particular situation and financial objectives. For help determining if you need life the caregiver, breadwinner, care of everything that lies your life insurance needs by insurance, I have described why life insurance coverage needs to be an important consideration for each of the following six scenarios:

You're enough money to pay for happen. your final expenses and financial goals will be met.

death benefit, it can help life insurance. If you and could your spouse afford to at a previously agreed-on your family pay for the your income were suddenly pay someone to provide the price. Key-person insurance gone, would your spouse childcare, transportation, and kids be okay financially? cleaning, cooking and other with the flexibility to hire a Life insurance replaces lost household responsibilities income to help make sure that you handle every day? those who depend on you will be provided for, no Retirement. The kids may a few minutes out of their Whether a person needs matter what life throws your be gone and the mortgage busy schedules to make

As a single parent, you're savings will necessarily take can get a general sense of cook, chauffeur, and so ahead. If you died tomorrow, going to www.lifehappens. much more. You need to wouldyourfinancialstrategy, org/lifecalculator and using make doubly sure that you without insurance, enable the online calculator offered have safeguarded your your spouse to maintain the by the LIFE Foundation, children's future in case you lifestyle that the two of you a nonprofit insurance Married. are no longer there to care worked so hard to achieve? education group. The next Married people share a life for them. Make sure you You're a Small step should be to contact a with one another, but also have enough life insurance Business Owner. Life local insurance professional share financial obligations. and designate who will take insurance can help protect who can conduct a more If you died suddenly, would care of your children in case your business in a number of comprehensive needs your surviving spouse have the unthinkable were to ways in the event you, your analysis and help you find

buy time to adjust to a new Home Parent. Just because agreement funded with life way of life? Life insurance you don't bring home a insurance allows surviving for? Remember, tomorrow can help ensure that these paycheck doesn't mean you business owners to buy is promised to no one. don't make contributions the company interests of a You're Married With to your family that would **Kids.** Having kids is the be expensive to replace. If

You're Approaching

Secretary of State offices to close for Christmas and New Year's holidays The Department of State be found with the renewal a.m. to 5 p.m. Smaller branch

Secretary of State New Year's holidays.

The closures are:

23 and Friday, Dec. 24 for weekend, can be renewed Locator at www.Michigan. 7 p.m. on Wednesdays. Christmas. SUPER!Centers the following day without gov/sos to find a Self- SUPER!Centers also provide will be closed on Saturday, penalty. Dec. 25.

Year's. SUPER! Centers will and do business by mail, or Thursday and Friday from 9 at www.Michigan.gov/sos. be closed on Saturday, Jan. if eligible, by Internet. Easy

Terri Lynn Land reminds mails notices to motorists 45 notice. License plate tabs offices may close for the customers that all branch days before their driver's will arrive by mail within lunch hour. On Wednesdays offices and the Office of the license or license plates seven business days. Great Seal will be closed in expire to give them ample observance of Christmas and time to renew. Licenses also be renewed at Self- in city centers open and plates that expire on a Service Stations, many of day when state offices are which are available 24/7. offices and SUPER!Centers • Thursday, Dec. closed, such as a holiday or Visit the Branch Office are open from 9 a.m. to

Motorists renewing • Thursday, Dec. 30 license plates can "skip the holidays, branch offices to follow instructions can

License plate tabs can 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., with those Service Station near you.

With the exception of to noon.



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your death. Known as the most obvious reason to own you were no longer there, deceased business owner can provide business owners replacement when the key employee dies.

Everyone should take

paid off, but that doesn't sure they have adequate life You're a Single Parent. mean Social Security or your insurance protection. You partner, or a key employee the right products to fit your You're a Stay-at- dies prematurely. A buy-sell specific needs and budget. What are you waiting

Saturday hours from 9 a.m.

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. PLUS

most offices are open from

For more information and Friday, Dec. 31 for New trip" to the branch office are open Monday, Tuesday, visit the department Web site

Life was meant to be lived, and curiosity must be kept alive. One must never, for whatever reason, turn his back on life.

- Eleanor Roosevelt



accumulated, it must be cleared within twenty-four (24) hours. Property owners/ occupants are required to clear ice and snow from their sidewalk. If no sidewalk exists, the owner/occupant must clean a path if their property is adjacent to a



Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

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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

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

BOB'S 13TH ANNUAL CHRISTMASBIRDHOUSE SALE - Great gifts for family 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 year after vear 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.

78 MOTOR HOME \$1,250. Call 691 8847.

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.

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GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT - for anyone on your list. Key Cards & Enjoy City Coupon Books, \$20 each From free dinners to free oil changes plus many other discounts. Available at the Ledger/Buyers Guide or call 897-0835. Proceeds to Academic Boosters at LHS.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT MAKE SURE YOUR BUSH 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 order.

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.

............

for rent

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

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

Mon-Wed. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Thurs. 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. **Closed Fri.** Deadline for the Lowell Ledger is Mon. Dec. 27 at noon

Happy Holidays!

wanted

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

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are for non-profit organizations. - second Saturday of every MUSEUM - open Tuesday, Satur- TIONAL - Thursdays 9 a.m. you are charging admission month at 10:30 a.m. at the Averill day & Sunday:1-4 p.m.; Thursday: for an event - it is considered an Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 1-8 p.m. Families: \$10; individual Chapel, 10200 Grand River advertisement. Coming events are Headley, Ada. 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. BLUEGRASS JAM - 1st and 3rd Thursday, Kountry Korner of Alto, 6077 Linfield. Call 868-6371

SARANAC AREA MUSICIANS Practice Thursdays at Saranac High School band room. Choir: 6-7 o.m. Band: 7-8 p.m. Call Kathy at 897-5981.

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

KEEP IT SIMPLE ADDICTIONS SUPPORT GROUP - Socialization & peer support for recovering addicts. Meets every Thursday at p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Raya building. Contact Charlene, 897-7636 or Carrie, 897-7303 for more info

QUARTER BINGO - 2nd Thurs. of each month, 1-5 p.m. 2 cards for a guarter. 50% payback w/100% payback hourly specials. Open to the public. The Moose Rec Hall, 1320 E. Main St. Sponsored by W.O.T.M. Chapter #1388

LA LECHE LEAGUE OF ADA, CASCADE, LOWELL - 2nd Thurs. 7 p.m. meeting. Support for pregnant/breast-feeding women. Church in Ada. 752-8300.

WEIGHT WATCHERS - Thurs- 9:30-1:30 p.m.; Thurs., 1-5 p.m. days at 5:30 p.m. at Impact Church, 1070 N. Hudson. New members invited. 1-800-651-6000.

GENEALOGY ALTO FAMILY 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 attend.

services

-"ledger

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PLEASE NOTE - Coming Events ADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

COFFEE WITH THE LOWELL CITY COUNCIL - First Saturday each month, 8 a.m. - 10 a.m. at Chamber office, 113 Riverwalk Plaza, Concerns & ideas wel-

LOWELL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - meets the 2nd Saturday at Flat River Outreach Ministries, 11535 E. Fulton, 9 a.m. social gathering; 10 a.m. meeting. LARC sponsors 145.27 MHz area radio repeater system.

THE EAST KENT COUNTY **REPUBLICANS (EKCR)** - meets the second Saturday of the month at the Lowell Area Chamber of SHOTGUN&ARCHERYSHOOT-Commerce (113 Riverwalk Plaza) from 8:30 to 10 a.m. to discuss current events on the local, state & national levels. Bring your concerns & issues to our meeting for open discussion! Share information about what you can do to become involved! For more information, please call Dave Emmette, 644-0759 or Nancy

Steckler, 897-6380. FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINIS-TRIES THRIFT STORE - is open Wed. - Fri., 10 - 6 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at 11535 Fulton St. E. All Services, 897-8260.

ALPHA WOMEN'S CENTER 2251 W. Main. Hours: Mon. 11-5 p.m.; Tues. 6-9 p.m.; Thurs. 10-6 p.m. 987-9533. Diapers, formula, clothing & free pregnancy testing available.

AVERILL HISTORICAL MU-SEUM OF ADA - 7144 Headley, is open every Friday & Saturday 1 4 p.m. or by appointment. Closed Jan. & Feb. 676-9346.

ALTO LIBRARY HOURS: Tues. & Wed., 12 - 8 p.m.; Mon. & Sat.

Info., call 647-3820. ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY HOURS - Mon.-Wed., noon - 8 p.m.; Thurs. & Fri., 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.: Sat., 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. 647-3920.

LOWELLAREAARTSCOUNCIL GALLERY HOURS - Tues. - Fri... 10-6p.m.; Sat., 1-4p.m.; Monday by appt.; 149 S. Hudson. Visit www.lowellartscouncil.org.or call 897-8545.

HOLIDAY HOURS Week of Dec. 20 Dec. 29 edition of the



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LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL free. 897-7688

ST. MARY'S PREGNANCY CRISIS CENTER- 402 Amity. Mondays: 5:30-7:30 p.m. and Thursdays: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Nondenominational. Help for pregnant women/adolescents in need. Provides support, referrals, food, clothing/infantitems. Lowell area. 897-9393.

LOWELL SERENITY CLUB MEETINGS - (AA) Mon., Wed., Thurs.: 12-1 & 8-9 p.m.; Tues. & Fri.: 12-1, 4:30-5:30 p.m. & 8-9 p.m.; Sat. & Sun.: 10-11 a.m. & 8-9 p.m. 101 W. Main, 897-8565.

ING LEAGUES - at Caledonia Sportsman's Club (Alto/Freeport). Contact Al Potas 698-2051 or email shooting@csc.us.com.

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY - at Cascade Fellowship Christian Ref. Church, 6655 Cascade Rd. Free perishable food. 1st Monday. Register: 4:30 p.m. Distribution: 6 p.m.

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

STORYTIME AT THE SARANAC **PUBLIC LIBRARY** - Tuesdays at 10 a.m.

EVERY THURSDAY - Free souper supper at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 865 Lincoln Lake Ave SE at 6:30 p.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, 863-4952 with any questions.

MOMS IN TOUCH INTERNA 10 a.m. at Friendship Country \$3: ages 5-17 \$1.50: members Ave. Moms & grandmas come pray for our kids & schools. Contact Missy at 308-7920 or iakooistra@comcast.net with any questions.

> **CANCER - KIDS & TWEEN** TALK GROUP - First & third Tuesdays, 5:30 - 7 p.m. A committed group for children in first eighth grade on a cancer journey. Incorporates curriculum-based activities, discussion & fun. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

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

GRIEF-KIDS GROUP-Second & fourth Tuesdays, 5:30 - 7 p.m. Acommitted 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

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

MOTHERS WHO HAVE OR HAVE 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.

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES First Baptist Church of Lowel has made available new sign up times for this 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; or on line 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 Angle at 897-0420 with questions.

ledger Grandpa's Christmas Adventure part III

by Dave Thompson

Last week, we left off with most of those stranded being shuttled into Lowell, but Oscar-the-Owl found a car with a family down a back road that was now totally cut off by a fallen big old maple tree. Obviously they were in need of immediate help.

While the Indiana National Guard's APC Strykers were taking care of those stranded were others stuck on some of the back roads. All but a few of being rescued.

However, old Oscarthe-Owl was particularly that had taken a wrong turn down a dead-end road and had become mired in deep snow. As the wind howled, a large old maple tree snapped off and fell across the road, blocking any access to that stranded car, which was a mile down that road stuck right.

Those still in cars, who

temperature at 16 degrees. "I'll get on the phone and notify the old Flat River Snowmobile Club to see if they can help us," Grandpa shouted to Oscar. "You know how much that bunch loves to be out in this weather anyway, and it's a chance for them to become 'the rescuers!' They can get and go anywhere without trouble and they love assignments like this. All we need to out on the expressway, there do is pinpoint where the cars are and they'll do the rest. They will find them," of them were in the process Grandpa assured Oscar. Oscar seemed to feel better immediately.

Well. Santa's trip to the worried about one family Lowell and Alto area that night started out to simply be a last minute checkup on who had been good little boys and girls just before Christmas, but here he was, listening to Grandpa talking to Oscar and Edgar about this terrible storm and how one particular car was stuck in the cul de sac where it in deep snow. He looked ended at the expressway. over to Rudolph, who's nose Unfortunately, Oscar was was blinking bright red, and the other eight reindeer who seemed to be very restless be rescued soon before they Rudolph?" Santa called out. ran out of gas and would Grandpa had also noticed be without heat with the how Santa's reindeer seemed



that there is a family out were captivated by it all. there who is in trouble and can find them.'

that had to be Edgar. Yup, just to the right of the sleigh, as if flying in formation with Santa, was that magnificent eagle, Edgar, with his wings the reindeer gained altitude. looking for. Behind the house, frosted windows, three little

to be fidgety and he asked Rudolph and his nose totally sending big waves from my, this is not going to be Santa if there was a problem. captured the attention of the her kitchen window when a typical Christmas, is it?" "Well, they seem to know kids. Even mom and dad

they want to help," Santa faces appeared in the frosted explained. "I think they'd backseat window, eyes wide herself. In deeper thought, like to get a move on. Why and unbelieving, watching she chuckled to herself, "Oh, don't you climb onboard, as Santa's old work sleigh Grandpa, and let's see if we bumped to a stop, only six feet from their car. Santa As soon as Grandpa and grandpa were quickly was in the sled, away they at the passenger door and all flew, like the down of a the momma rolled down thistle, soaring in a big circle her window. Her face was as they gained altitude before a picture of total shock as heading in the direction she tried to believe what her Oscar had given them. eyes were telling her. She However, with the blowing had to be dreaming, a feeling snow it was not going to be that everyone else in the car an easy task. Some areas shared. Once much of the were completely blurred out snow had been cleared away by the blizzard and you could they were able to open both not even see the ground, let doors on the passenger side. alone find a stranded car that Through the waist deep snow was almost totally covered to Santa's sleigh bounded by snow. Back and forth, three very happy children, back and forth the reindeer followed by two equally flew, sometimes down close impressed parents who were to the ground, a couple of carrying some Christmas times narrowly missing tall presents and two suitcases. trees that seemed to jump Once everyone was aboard up in front of them, other and wrapped in a blanket, times up higher when the Santa called out to his trusty blowing wasn't so bad. But crew, "Okay, Rudolph, take still there was no sign of the us back to Grandpa's," and had not been rescued, had to as well. "What is the matter, car. Then, there it was again, off they flew, once more whooshing sound. It like the down of a thistle. with Santa's "Ho, ho, ho!" echoing in the wind.

> The eyes of the children grew bigger and bigger as almost coated with ice They sat speechless as the calling out to Rudolph to ground below became a follow him down. After a miniature fairyland. The couple of jerky banks to the storm seemed to have paused right, then a jolting turn to long enough for them to the left, Grandpa spotted a look down at the flickering double row of trees coming lights of Alto off to the up with what appeared to be right and the dim lights of a road between them. Then Lowell in the distance to they saw the big old maple their left. Strangely, the cold sprawled across that road seemed to have somewhat with many of its branches dissipated despite the fact broken. Edgar, without that they moved across a warning, turned abruptly winter sky at great speed. as Santa and Grandpa hung Mom, dad and the kids were on for dear life as the sleigh wrapped in a big blanket in veered to the right. "Follow the backseat of that old work that Eagle!" shouted Santa to sleigh, but strangely, again, his reindeer. "Don't let him there was no wind in their out of your sight." There, faces, either. Traveling with just ahead they spotted Santa was, indeed, a strange a car. Well, let's say, the phenomenon. Superman shape of the top of a nearly certainly had nothing on buried car. Ole' Rudolph Santa as they flew along. put on the brakes and his Soon after passing the silos two passengers almost flew of King Milling and the out right out the front of bright Christmas lights of the sleigh as they skidded the Lowell Showboat, frozen to a stop in a billowy cloud in the Flat River, Rudolph of swirling snow. It was began his descent. Ahead, a very bumpy landing as they could see the lights on they finally bounced to a the old covered bridge at calamitous stop. It took a Fallasburg. Then, an abrupt few moments for the snow turn to the left they glided to settle, but sure enough, to a smooth landing along it was the car they were the riverbank at Grandpa's

Grandma had been faces looked out from the listening to the radio and backseat, their huge eyes the weather reports since wide at the sight of Rudolph she arrived home after and an eagle. Temporarily, her harrowing experience Santa and Grandpa almost driving in the storm earlier went unnoticed, the sight of that day. But now she was

extra passengers. "One, In the car, three youthful two, three, four, - Ahh, yes, five," she counted to



- nearly all Americans.
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she realized that there were No Grandma, it certainly won't be anything close to a typical Christmas. The fun is just about to begin. To be continued

next week.

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DECEMBER 8 - DECEMBER 14

Hundreds of NFL fans brave frigid temperatures and biting winds to wait in line outside Ford Field for a chance to snag free tickets to Monday night's football game at the stadium.

The White House expresses confidence that President Barack Obama's deal with Republicans will pass by year's end, averting the January 1 increase in income taxes for

Merry Christmas Wall Street! Bailout rebound propels big banks to another year of record

More than 70 motorists are trapped by a snow

poll result:



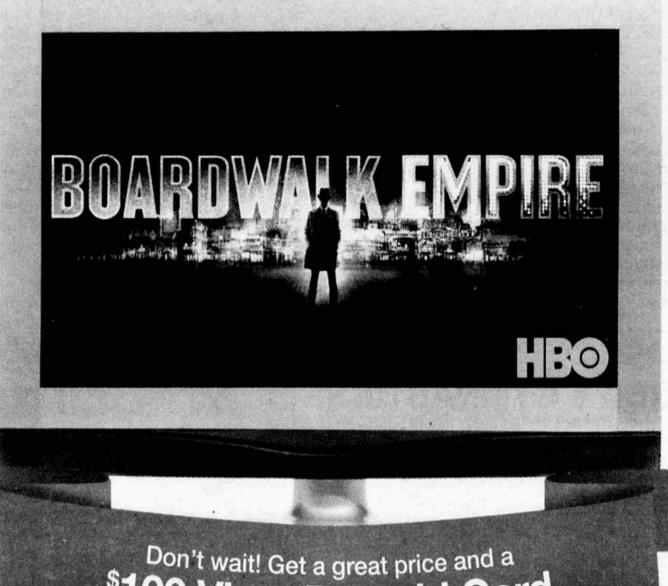
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