

Merry Christmas
from everyone at the

lowell ledger

wednesday • december • 22 • 2010

vol. 40 issue 11

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city talks streets



page 2

caring cafe



page 8

L sports



pages 10 & 11

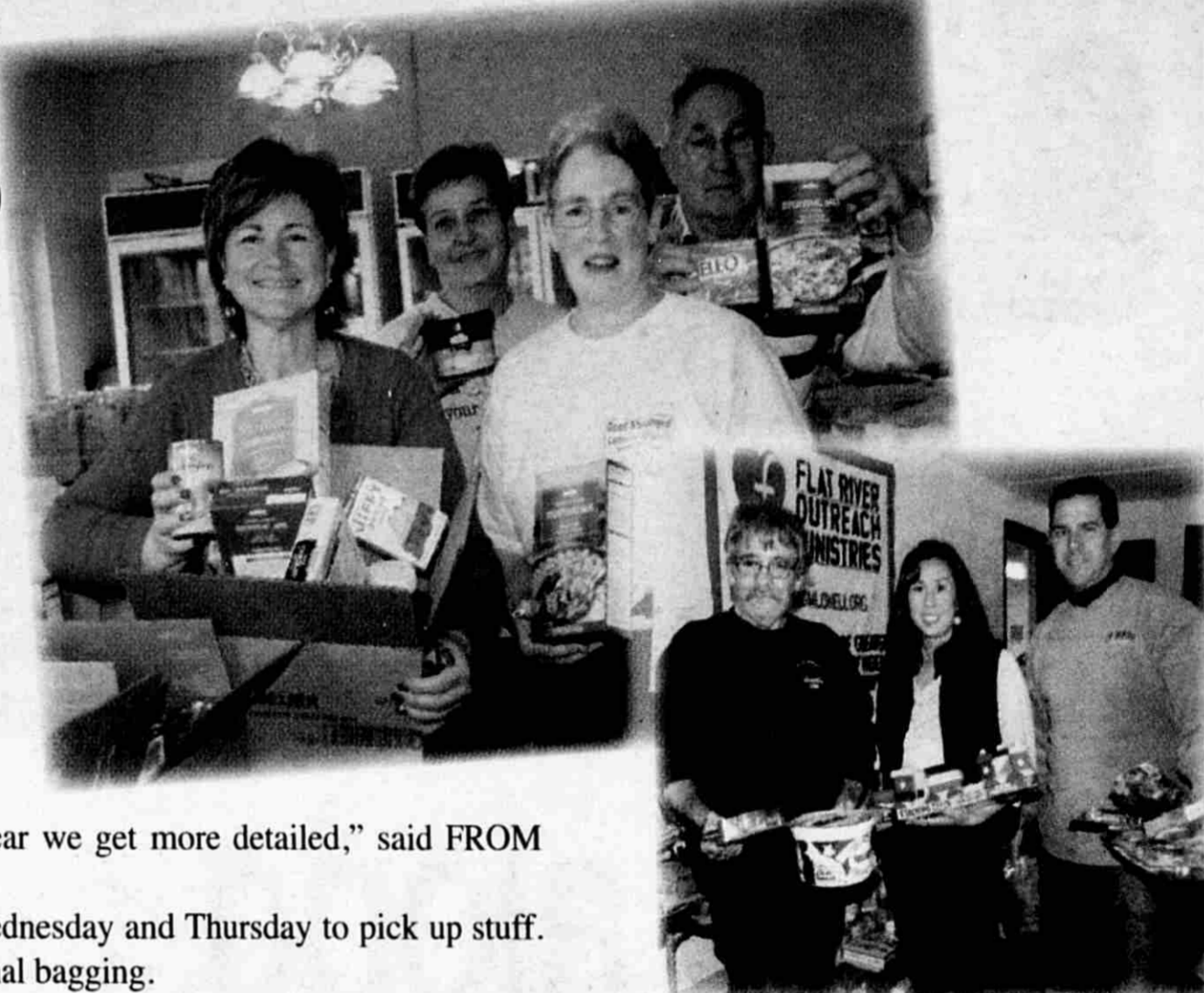
Volunteers pack food boxes, stock toy shop

Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) volunteers Sylvia Taylor, Carole Sanock, Sjana Gordon and John Stencil pack food for the big Christmas giveaway last Saturday at the food pantry. Each box had the following items: meat, fresh fruit, canned fruit, vegetables, pie filling, applesauce, cranberries, yams, sweet potatoes, gravy, mashed potato flakes, stuffing, pie crust mix, muffin or bread mix, jello and candy or cookies.

This year FROM handled 415 orders compared to last year's 385. Approximately 40 volunteers worked on two shifts last week.

Volunteers Sue and Michael Wilterdink and Rich Polderdyk stocked shelves of the toy shop. They collected 800 stuffed animals, new clothes, mittens and gloves, and hats. "Every year we get more detailed," said FROM volunteer Diane Kleczynski.

Whoever could not make it Saturday can still come out Wednesday and Thursday to pick up stuff. The city donated old orange garbage bags to FROM for additional bagging.



Local organizations disperse monies to Gilda's, community wellness

by Emma Palova

In the spirit of the holidays, the Pink Arrow Pride and local organizations handed over checks with raised funds for Gilda's Club last week at the Senior Neighbors center.

Due to the unbelievable response from the community, the Pink Arrow Pride project and various organizations have raised a total of \$135,753 this year.

The mastermind behind the entire Pink Arrow project, coach Noel Dean, passed a check for \$81,000 to Gilda's

Club CEO Leanne Arkema Tuesday.

"We treasure and value

the hard work of coach Dean and his team," said Arkema. The Pink Arrow Pride project annually raises money through the fall

football game and t-shirt sales.

"All the money stays locally here in Lowell," said Arkema.

The \$81,000 will directly benefit the programming at the Lowell Gilda's Club. This may include counseling for any type of grief, speakers and social events for children through adulthood.

"This means the whole world to us," said Arkema. "It allows us to operate the program."



Noel Dean gives a check for \$41,000 to Teresa Beachum of Lowell Community Wellness.

Local organizations, continued, page 9

All-Weather Seal gives the gift of warmth in time for the holidays

by Emma Palova

This year, All-Weather Seal donated a houseful of windows worth \$15,000 to Tom and Diana Whitelock of Ionia. They were nominated by sales representative Leonard Whitelaly, who met the couple in May on a sales call.

"I feel they deserve these windows because they believed in our company and our products," wrote Whitelaly in his nominating letter. "As hard off as they are financially they were willing to buy from All-Weather Seal."

Tom has been diagnosed with colon cancer, and he could no longer work which resulted in a series of hardships.

"This makes them perfect candidates for our windows," writes Whitelaly.

Gift of warmth, continued, page 3



Leonard Whitelaly, Tom and Diana Whitelock and Kaitlin Hoines.

50 CENTS



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Public hearings scheduled to grant tax abatement to Litehouse, to select streets for improvements

by Emma Palova

The Lowell City Council set a public hearing for Jan. 3 to grant tax abatement to Litehouse for the \$4.9 million expansion of the existing facility located on Foreman. The addition of a 43,000

square foot facility with machinery and equipment qualifies Litehouse for a 50 percent abatement for 12 years. This according to the application will retain 161 existing positions, and add 25 new jobs within two years.

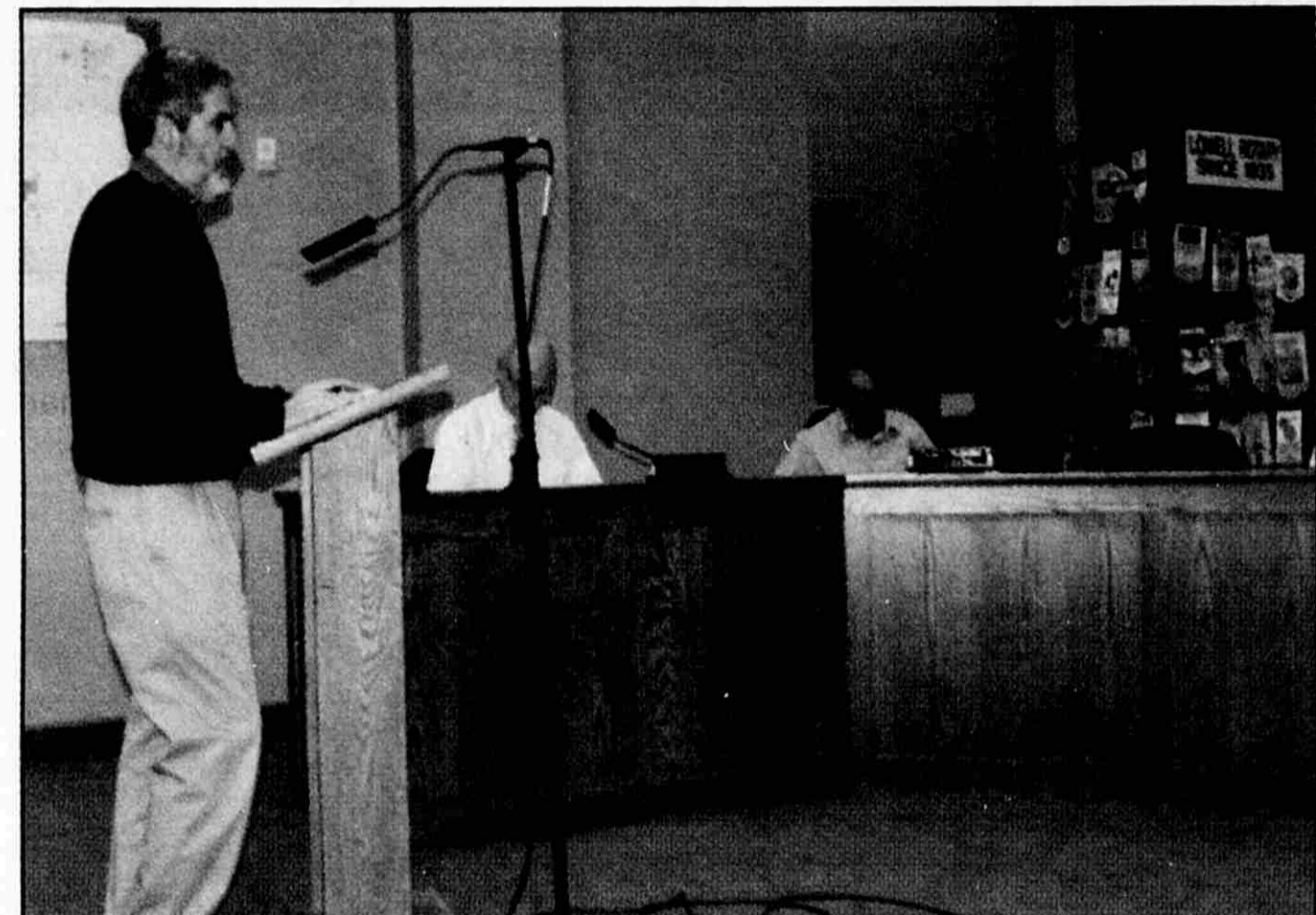
"It's a significant improvement," said city manager Dave Pasquale. "It shows their faith in our community." The expansion includes new employee parking, docks at the existing facility and at the new addition, new bulk receiving and various land improvements. In other business, the council set a public hearing for Jan. 3 for street improvements funded partly by the Federal Community Development Block Grant. (CDBG)

The streets in question were North Center Street from West Main Street to north of Heffron at Laurels of Kent or Sibley from Valley Vista Drive to west of Ridgeview. Cost estimates for water main, milling, grading and resurfacing of North Center Street are \$241,000

including engineering and narrowing of the street, and installing new curb on the east side. The cost for the final leg of Sibley will be similar work being done is \$194,000. However, if North Center Street is selected for improvements, Sibley will need \$15,000 in patchwork.

"North Center Street has a worse rating," said mayor pro-tem Sharon Ellison. "Center is also business. It has a lot of traffic from Laurels of Kent." The financing of the North Center Street project is a mix of the following components: \$73,650 from CDBG, \$100,000 or one mill allocation to the local street construction fund for 2011-2012, \$6,886 balance in local street construction fund, reallocation of \$18,684 from the local street construction fund to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) for the

Dave Austin of Williams & Works discusses street improvements while police chief James Hinton and Department of Public Works director Dan DesJarden take notes.



GILDA'S CLUB LOWELL CLUBHOUSE

Cancer - New Member Meeting, Tuesdays, Jan. 11 and 25, 2:30-3:30 p.m. and Jan. 11, 7:15-8 p.m.

Felted Soap Making, Tues., Jan. 11, 2-4 p.m. Use different colors of wool to give your soap its own unique look. All materials provided.

Oncology Skin Care Workshop, Tues., Jan. 11, 3-5 p.m. Receive a facial and learn tips about skin care.

Teen and Tween Talk, Tuesdays, Jan. 4 and 18, 6-7:15 p.m. This group is for youth in middle school and high school and includes discussion about cancer and grief as well as activities and social time.

For additional information call 897-8600 or visit info@gildasclubgr.org.

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.

SPRING TRAINING

Looking for something to do over Christmas Break? Spring Training is accepting new/gently used winter clothing and nonperishable food to help FROM this winter season. Stop in at 1250 Main St. to drop off and get discounts on cage rentals, golf, whiffle ball, dodgeball, hitting leagues, pitching leagues, and PS3 gamer tournaments. Call 616-560-8889 or visit www.yourstraining.com

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.

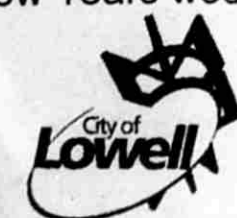
CITY OF LOWELL

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE NOTICE

Lowell City Hall, Department of Public Works, Police Office and Light and Power office will be closed on Friday, December 24 and Monday December 27, 2010 for the Christmas Holidays and Friday, December 31, 2010 for New Year's Day.

Those who participate in the City of Lowell refuse program with blue bags will have their refuse picked up on their regularly scheduled day of Thursday for both the Christmas week and New Years week.

Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk



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City meeting, continued

work on South West and South Pleasant Streets within the DDA.

For North Center Street, the DDA share is \$36,501. The water main project on Heffron and Center would contribute \$40,000 for street restoration, and the water fund would pay \$220,000 for the water main.

The city council agreed

on option two for the city manager search. This sets interviews for April 30, 2011.

A charette design session with Design Plus has been set for Jan. 13 at Main Street Inn from noon until 8 p.m. for amphitheatre improvements. The DDA will also meet on Jan. 13.

The main idea according

to Pasquale is for the entire property to be owned by the city. An updated master plan has been sent to the state to qualify for grants.

The planning commission will hold a meeting on Jan. 24 for a special use permit for the Farmer's Market in front of Tractor Supply at 7 p.m.



Mayor pro-tem Sharon Ellison, mayor Jim Hodges, council woman Maryalene LaPonsie and council man Jeff Altoft.

Crash takes the life of Lowell graduate

by Thad Kraus

It is often said you can tell the type of person someone is by what they do when no one is watching.

Whether it was a ride, a shoulder to cry on or helping someone out, Caitlin Baker was a very good friend to many.

That's how family and friends remembered the 2010 Lowell graduate who was killed in a crash on East Fulton on Wednesday (Dec. 15) evening at the intersection of M-21 and Cumberland.

"Caitlin was a very good friend to so many people and did so many things for others," said Lowell girls tennis coach Bonnie Wall, who coached Baker for four years.

The 19-year-old was a four-year letter winner and played number one doubles for Lowell.

"Caitlin was a real tiger on the court," Wall noted. "I tried to talk her into playing tennis at Grand Rapids Community College."

Baker was unable to commit to tennis due to her work schedule.

"I said at our banquet back in the spring that



Caitlin Baker

Caitlin was the best girls' doubles player that I've coached while at Lowell."

The 19-year-old Baker was driving east on M-21.

The other driver, a 38-year-old Lowell woman was going west.

According to police, evidence shows that the westbound vehicle crossed the center line causing the two cars to collide head-on near Cumberland Drive.

Baker was driving east on M-21 after leaving her home a short distance away and tried to avoid the oncoming vehicle, police said. She was also wearing a seat belt.

The 38-year-old woman's name has not been released pending potential charges.

Police were investigating the possibility that alcohol was a factor in the crash.

Investigating the crash proved complicated for authorities because original witnesses were wrong about the direction of the vehicles.

Some Social Security resolutions

It's that time of year: out with the old and in with the new. You may be thinking about your list of New Year's resolutions for 2011. There are many important things to consider. May we suggest a few? Each of these will take only a matter of minutes.

Get an estimate of your future Social Security benefit. In just a few minutes, you can have an instant, personalized estimate of your future Social Security benefit.

Our online Retirement Estimator gives estimates based on your actual Social Security earnings record. This is valuable to know when you're making plans for your future. Check it out at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator.

Read your mail. Be especially careful about looking at mail that arrives from Social Security. About two to three months before

your birthday, you should receive your annual Social Security Statement. Your Statement is a concise, easy-to-read personal record of the earnings on which you have paid Social Security taxes during your working years and a summary of the estimated benefits you and your family may receive in retirement, survivors or disability benefits as a result of those earnings.

Visit the ballpark. Not that one; the Ballpark Estimator. It will help you do a better job of saving for your future. It's true that times have been tough lately. But no matter how much you earn, it's a good idea to try to save. Check

out the Ballpark Estimator for a projection of how much you should save for a comfortable retirement. Go to the ballpark at www.choosetosave.org/ballpark.

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

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TRON: LEGACY (PG)
11:05, 1:45, 4:30, 7:10, 9:55
YOGI BEAR (PG)
11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER (PG)
11:10, 1:35, 4:10, 6:50, 9:20
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Regional patent office shows Michigan means innovation



As 2010 comes to a close, Michigan has gotten some great news for our economy and the strength of technical innovation in our state.

Commerce Secretary Gary Locke announced on Dec. 16 that Detroit would be home to the first-ever satellite office of the U.S. Trade and Patent Office, the government agency that grants the patents and trademarks that give legal protection to the innovations that help make our economy grow. This decision will bring more than 100 high-skill jobs to our state in the first year, and it will help Michigan businesses and innovators get their new ideas and products to market more quickly.

Gov. Jennifer Granholm, the entire Michigan congressional delegation and many others worked hard to make sure Secretary Locke and others who made this decision were aware of Michigan's many strengths.

Midland; and from furniture makers such as La-Z-Boy in Monroe.

It's also an endorsement of Michigan workers and education. Commerce Department and USPTO officials cited the high percentage of scientists and engineers in the local workforce, and the great access to institutions of higher education that Detroit offered as factors that made Michigan a good choice for the satellite office.

This decision gives Michigan a first-in-the-nation opportunity to enjoy the benefits of this office for local companies and inventors. The office is part of a pilot program by USPTO to reduce the time needed to process patent or trademark applications. The faster innovators can get protection for their work, the faster they can get it to market.

Why are patents and trademarks so important? Michigan companies have learned, at times painfully, why they matter. A patent allows a company with a new product to market that product without the fear that competitors will steal their idea. Without patent protection, there is less

incentive to research and develop new ideas, because competitors could benefit just as much as innovators from all the time and effort spent in developing that idea.

Under Secretary Locke and USPTO Director David Kappos, patent and trademark officials have reduced a backlog of about 750,000 patent applications

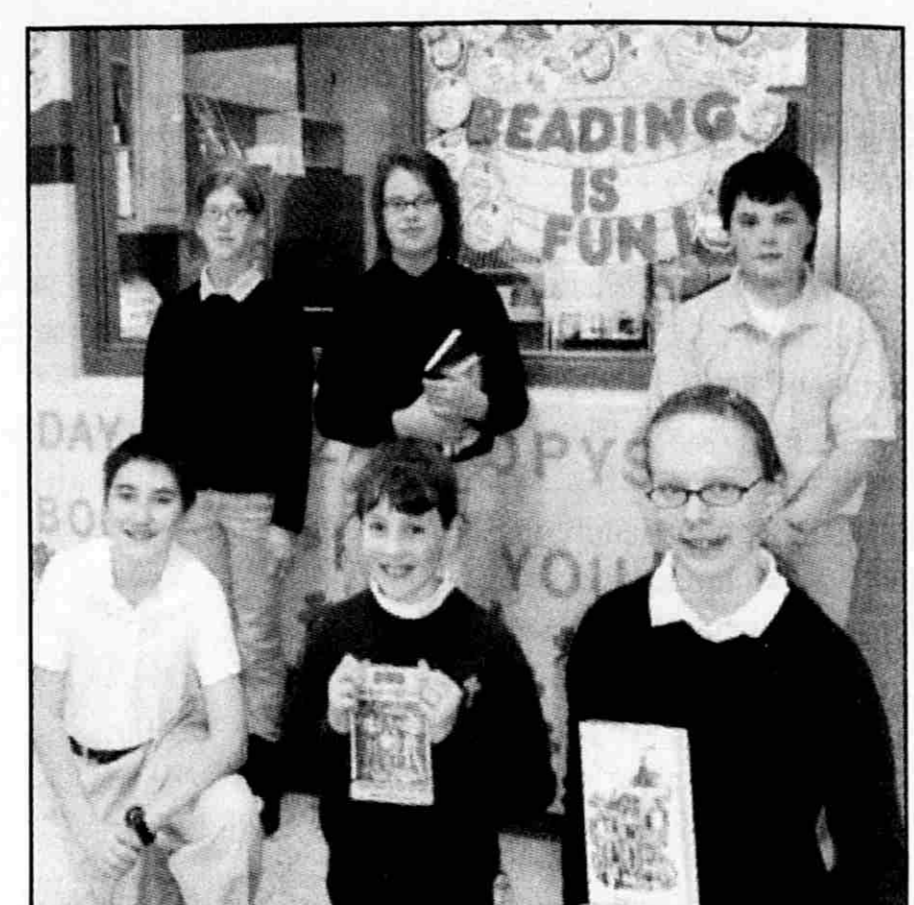
to under 700,000 in just a year. By adding new patent examiners, and by putting them in regional offices in centers of innovation such as Michigan, USPTO believes it can reduce that backlog more quickly.

Michigan's selection for the first regional satellite patent office is a testament to the wealth of engineering talent and innovation in

our state. There was plenty of competition, from more than a dozen cities across the country, and this choice shows just how much respect there is nationally for the important and groundbreaking work that happens every day in Michigan. Michigan companies and Michigan workers will gain important benefits from this decision.

St. Pat's accelerated readers

Students at St. Patrick School will tell anyone who is listening that reading is extra fun when Accelerated Reader (AR) provides points and rewards. Students read books that interest them and take an online quiz to test their comprehension. They are then awarded points based on the length and difficulty of the book as well as their performance on the quiz. Students are required to earn a specific number of points each quarter depending on their grade level. An apple with the student's name appears in the hallway as goals are met and prizes are awarded each quarter based on the reader with the highest points. We all know reading is fun, but reading is extra fun with AR.



Back row, left to right: Angie Mauric, Madeline LaPonsie, and Ryan Morris; front row, left to right: Seth Salinas, Maggie Camp, and Nicole Mitchell.

viewpoint

sharing the vision



Superintendent Greg Pratt

"It's a Wonderful Time of the Year...to Unite"

In our community we are big on honoring traditions, celebrating those who have served our country, maintaining agricultural history, and respecting one another. As we reflect upon each of these things, a natural peace comes over us like a quiet falling snow.

We are fortunate to have an increasing diversity of children and families in our school district and community. Each of them may have different ideas, beliefs, or traditions with regard to the celebration of holidays. Human nature can cause us to view these diversities as cultural or religious differences. Rather than celebrating divisions, we can celebrate togetherness and the rich dimensions of diversity

contained within each individual.

It is a great privilege for the staff at Lowell Area Schools to have an opportunity to prepare all students, help them understand the people around them, and appreciate the world they live in. Doing so will enrich the lives of our precious students; it will help them to value our differences, similarities, and the variety of human culture. We know that people across the globe and in our community celebrate a variety of holidays during this special time of year such as Christmas, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, Ramadan, Diwali, and the Chinese New Year, only to name a few. There is so much we can learn about customs and the traditions that are used as a means to preserve historical

roots. Willingness to put forth effort and take interest in the traditions of others is respectful and a way to unify, rather than to break apart. That willingness does not mean that we abandon one's own beliefs; it means that we broaden our knowledge of the world around us.

The mission of the Lowell Area Schools passionately states that:

"Lowell Area Schools, in the spirit of high expectations, ensures all students will master essential skills, empowering them to become lifelong learners and contributing, responsible members of our global community."

Our mission to ensure that all students will become successful global learners can

only happen by expanding knowledge and integrating diverse perspectives and traditions in our everyday lives. We set a powerful example for our students through our mission to learn a little about others' values and practices.

I am incredibly proud to live and work in Lowell with people who individually and collectively honor those around them throughout the year. On behalf of the Lowell Area Schools Board of Education and staff, I wish every child and every family a special holiday season, filled with peace, meaningful memories, rest, and togetherness. And, may the New Year bring exciting opportunities and abundant joy!!

financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

Three keys to estate planning

When people hear the words "estate planning," they often assume it's an activity only for retirees or near-retirees. But if you have a family, it's never too soon to create your estate plan.

Of course, estate planning can seem like a daunting task. But you'll find it easier to handle if you break it down into three key areas: *distributing your assets, protecting your family and reducing estate taxes.* Let's look at these topics:

- Distributing your assets** — Obviously, it's essential that you let your family know just how you'd like to see your assets distributed, and to whom. At the very least, you'll need to draw up a will. If you were to die without one, the state could end up distributing your resources, and it might do so in a way you wouldn't have wanted. But even a will may not be sufficient. Many people design a *living trust*, which provides them with more flexibility in distributing assets — for example, you could direct your living trust to disperse assets to children or grandchildren at specific ages — and allows assets to be distributed without going through the time-consuming, and public, probate process.

- Protecting your family** — Estate planning isn't just about dollars and cents — it also involves taking the necessary steps to preserve the welfare of your family if you are not around or become incapacitated. Consequently, you'll need to name a guardian for your minor children — someone who can step in and raise them should anything happen to you and your spouse. And when your children are adults, you'll want to help them with decisions that could prove agonizing. For example, by creating a *living will*, you can state whether you want your life prolonged if you

ever face a terminal illness or catastrophic brain injury and are no longer able to make decisions for yourself. And by drawing up a *health care power of attorney*, you can name someone to make health care choices for you if you are unable to do so.

- Reducing estate taxes** — Depending on the size of your estate, your heirs may never have to worry about estate taxes. But that's hard to predict, especially given the fact that federal estate laws have gone through several changes in recent years, and may do so again. Your best bet is to stay informed about the exemption level — the amount you can pass on to your heirs, free of estate taxes — and look for ways to reduce the size of your taxable estate. You could, for instance, make charitable gifts, thus moving these assets from your estate. You may also want to consider arrangements such as an *irrevocable life insurance trust* — under which you can transfer a life insurance policy out of your estate and have the trust distribute the proceeds to the beneficiaries you've chosen — or a *credit shelter trust*, which allows both you and your spouse to take full advantage of both your estate tax exemptions.

A trust can be a complex instrument, so before establishing one, you'll need to consult with your tax and legal advisors. In fact, you'll want to consult with them on *all* aspects of estate planning. It will take time and effort, but it's worth it to leave the type of legacy you desire.

Edward Jones, its associates and financial advisors are not estate planners and cannot provide tax or legal advice. Please consult your attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.

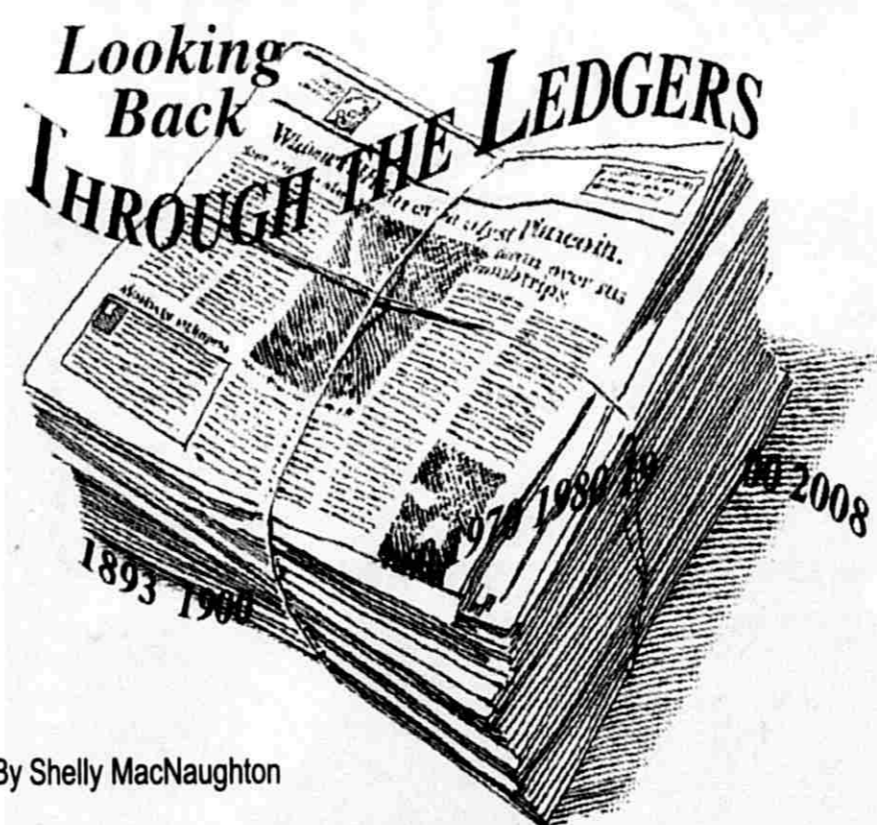
This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

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should not miss of all the year. They mean more to you than all other events combined.



By Shelly MacNaughton

75 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo December 19, 1935

The old avenue blazed gloriously Saturday night with a thousand twinkling gems as the Christmas trees, two to a lamp post, were officially lighted. Few communities offer prettier and more cherry seasonal decorations. As usual, there has been some petty piffing of the blubs by persons with an inexplicable cast of mind.

50 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger December 22, 1960

Members of the Civics Affairs committee of the Lowell Order of the Moose were busy over the weekend delivering Christmas baskets of food and toys and clothing for children to deserving families in this area.

The committee prepared this annual project over several months, obtaining toys and putting them in good repair. They packed over 50 baskets with groceries, chicken, candy and other goodies.

25 Years Ago The Grand Valley Ledger December 24, 1985

The Lowell Chamber of Commerce sponsored candlelit carriage rides last Tuesday. Karen and Joann Hale from Cousins Cards and Gift Shoppe, along with a little help from their husbands and Bob Pfaller, lined Riverside Dr. with candles inside milk cartons for those taking advantage of the rides. The route took the carriage north along Riverside for a breathtaking view of the illuminated Showboat.

100 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger December 22, 1910

Next Sunday is Christmas day. Let me urge that the churches not be neglected this day. Two days you

local business directory

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In The Service

Matt Persons, a 2010 Lowell High School graduate, entered the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California in June 2010.

On December 6 he made Private First Class and will be stationed in North Carolina.

He is the son of Pat and Barb Persons of Lowell.

Matt Persons



DECEMBER 15 - DECEMBER 21

- The military's prohibition of openly gay people serving within its ranks is one step closer to ending, after the senate voted to repeal the armed force's 'Don't ask don't tell' policy.
- U.S. tourist murdered in Israel. Christian missionary, Kristine Luken, was hiking with a friend when she was stabbed to death.
- Good news for Madoff victims: \$7.2 billion has been recovered.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING

FILE NO. 10-189522-GA

In the matter of **FREDDIE BATES.**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including: **Gary Bates, Ryan Bates, and Michael Bates** whose address(es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

12/14/2010

John D. Flynn (P27413) 1275 Hawthorne Hills SE Ada, MI 49301 616-897-6632

Emily Pierce 121 Franklin SE Grand Rapids, MI 49507 616-248-1335

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing

area churches

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
(United Church of Christ)
865 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE • 897-5906
www.OurBigChurch.org
Sunday Worship.....10:00 a.m.
Church School.....10:15-11:15 a.m.
Thursday Faith Alive
Casual Worship.....6:30 P.M.
Barrier-free.....Nursery Provided
No matter where you are on life's journey, You are welcome here.

ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Kirby and Harrison
Alto • 616-691-8011
Worship.....9:30 A.M.
Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.
OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS
Pastor Dean Bailey

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod)
Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21
www.goodshepherdlowell.org
Worship Service.....Saturday - 5:00 P.M.
Sunday - 10:00 A.M.
Sunday School.....Sunday, 9:00 A.M.
(Nursery available)
Joseph Fremr, Pastor 897-8307
All facilities are wheelchair accessible

CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God)
3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery
Robert Holmes, Pastor
SUNDAYS:
Worship: 10 a.m.
WEDNESDAYS:
Family Night (for all ages): 7:00 p.m.
"The Source" Youth: 7:00 p.m.
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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL
2275 West Main Street • 897-7168
Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org
Rev. David O. Sims, Rev. W. Lee Taylor & Pastor Phil Severn
Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M.
Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M.
AWANA/EXCITE-TEENS.....Wed. 6:15 P.M.
Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times
Nursery Provided • Barrier Free

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL
621 E. Main Street • 897-5936
www.lowellumc.com
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
.....7:30 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.
WORSHIP - Dec. 26, 9:30 a.m. only
Rev. Rick Blunt
Barrier-free entrance

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
Fr. Eugene Okoli
402 Amity St. • 897-9820
www.stmary-lowell.com
Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 P.M.; SUN. 9:30 AM
Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM
Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM
Saturday confessions: 4-4:45 PM
Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 8 PM
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETER WIGGINS 897-7915
SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 392, EWTN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING

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

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

dry skin

Dry, itchy, skin is a common condition this time of year. As the weather gets colder, the air gets drier and your skin becomes dry and itchy. Humidifying your home can help to keep your skin moist. You can either get a stand-alone portable humidifier, or have one added on to your furnace. Excessive hand washing and bathing can also cause your skin to become dry. Limiting the number of times you wash your hands can help. Using a waterless hand sanitizer is just as effective at killing germs, but won't dry your skin as much. Limiting the time you spend in the shower or tub can also help. People with dry skin, should consider bathing every other day in the winter. Taking quick, lukewarm showers will also help to minimize the drying effects of hot water. Mild, hypoallergenic soaps are less drying than scented and colored soaps. Moisturizers are an important part of treating dry skin. They should be used 2-4 times daily. A moisturizer should also be hypo-allergenic. They work best when they are applied to the skin right after bathing or hand washing. If a hypo-allergenic cream or lotion moisturizer does not seem to be helping, other over-the-counter treatments can be tried. A one percent Hydrocortisone cream is available over-the-counter and could be used for up to one week. Another option is a 12 percent lactic acid based lotion which may help some severe forms of dry skin. If none of these treatments seem to help, see your health care provider for an evaluation.

happy birthday!



DECEMBER 22
Jason Seeley, Cody Soyka.

DECEMBER 23
Norma Stevens, Marie Doyle.

DECEMBER 24
Jeffrey Pfaller.

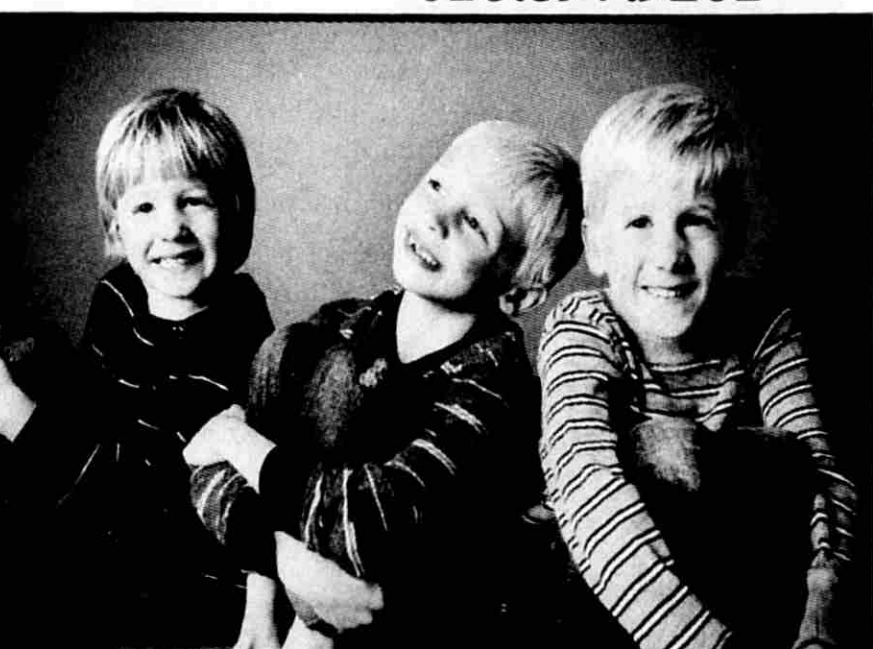
DECEMBER 25
Scott Shindorf, Chris Woolfenden, Chris Treglia, Jeni Clouser, Peggy Hayes, Star Daverman.

DECEMBER 26
Margaret Gasper, Shay Hacker, Stephanie Peel, Butch Landman, Kaitlyn Callihan.

DECEMBER 27
Mark Nyp, Linda Aksamitowski, Jay Clark.

DECEMBER 28
Lisa Stormzand, C.J. Sokolowski, Matt Francisco, Randy L. Smith.

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Ricards provides painter's touch for nursery/toddlers room

by Thad Kraus
Charlene Ricards was asked to create a painting for the nursery and toddler room at the United Congregational Church of Lowell.

"I wanted to create something for the kids and for their parents as well," Ricards explained. "At first I thought about Michigan wildlife because of its many different characters."

Ricards eventually chose a scene with John the Baptist.

"He baptized many people and many were witnesses," Ricards said.

The painting of John the Baptist baptizing a child also illustrates other children and adults as well as sheep and a donkey.

Holy Baptism is considered the door of the spiritual life.

Ricards started the acrylic mural in May and finished in August.

It was created in three 10 foot x 4 foot panels,

together creating a 10 foot x 12 foot mural.

"The difficult part was fitting the people into the mural and making them the right dimensions," said Ricards, who has been painting much of her life.

She has been attending the Congregational Church for six years. "I've enjoyed it a lot. It is a very involved group of people which I really like," she concludes.



Charlene Ricards stands in front of the 10' by 12 foot mural she created for the United Congregational Church of Lowell.

Lowell High School first trimester honor roll

First trimester term GPA must be a 3.000 or higher to qualify and is based on final grades

9TH GRADE

- Isobel Alberts
- Kelvin Anderson
- Sidney Anderson
- Shelby Antel
- Kiersten Ashenbrenner
- Lauren Baker
- Zachary Bauman
- Kortney Beachler
- Joshua Bearup
- Connor Bergin
- Austin Bieri
- Benjamin Bigham
- Kyler Bishop
- Ashley Bitely
- Kaeziyah Bladey
- Michael Blake
- Lauren Blanchard
- Brie Blattner
- Emmalee Blough
- Kyle Blough
- Kristine Bobko
- Alexia Bocskey
- Christopher Bodus
- Hayleigh Borton
- Kailey Botma
- Ciera Bowden
- Brittany Branagan
- Tristen Bray
- Isaac Brenner
- Randal Brinks
- Travis Brubaker
- Monica Bussell
- Casey Cahoon
- Katherine Canfield
- Blythe Carvajal
- Brianna Casarez
- Makela Chapman
- Sarah Chappel
- Adam Charon
- Levi Churches
- Abigail Cummings
- Abigail Cummings
- Jason Cupp
- Alyssa Darby

- Kayleigh Davies
- Justin Davis
- Bethany Dean
- Kanon Dean
- Luke DeBoer
- Kaelobb Decker
- Kevin DeKraker
- Ryan DenBraven
- Alexander Dlouhy
- Kerri Donselar
- Leah Drake
- Delaney Droog
- Allyson Dubisky
- Erin Duma
- Isaac Duma
- Hunter Engels
- Haley Epema
- Max Everhart
- Jordan Kazen
- Liam Kelley
- Luke Kloosterman
- Alexander Kornoelje
- Derek Krajewski
- Mallory Kramer
- Austin Krebill
- Colleen Lally
- Tristan Larson
- Matthew Lazar
- Devan Lesky
- Ryan Lubbers
- Vanessa Lubitz
- Spencer Lyon
- Jordan Lytle
- Catherine Majinska
- Brittany Martin
- Alyssa McCormick
- Kennedy McCready
- Paige McGruder

- Paige McKenna
- Catherine McNaughton
- Heaven McQueen
- Joshua Menzel
- Andrew Metternick
- Adrian Mitchell
- Ethan Hedlund
- Brittney Heikkila
- Nicholas Hess
- Mackenzie Hewett
- Madison Holmes
- Jeffrey Houston
- Grace Inda
- Bailey Jack
- Zachary Jahnke
- Alex Kaminski
- Joseph Kargl
- Zachary Kaywood
- Jordan Kazen
- Liam Kelley
- Luke Kloosterman
- Alexander Kornoelje
- Derek Krajewski
- Mallory Kramer
- Austin Krebill
- Colleen Lally
- Tristan Larson
- Matthew Lazar
- Devan Lesky
- Ryan Lubbers
- Vanessa Lubitz
- Spencer Lyon
- Jordan Lytle
- Catherine Majinska
- Brittany Martin
- Alyssa McCormick
- Kennedy McCready
- Paige McGruder

- Sean Ritsema
- Bailey Roberts
- Paige Rozell
- Joseph Ryder
- Samantha Sage
- Jenna Saunders
- Cody Selli
- Brett Senneker
- Austin Sherrill
- Kyler Shurlov
- Jackson Simmons
- Austin Sirowatka
- Christian Sirowatka
- Mark Slaktoski
- McKenzie Slupe
- Julia Smelt
- Brook Smith

- Karah Smith
- Michelle Smith
- Nicholas Smith
- Rachel Sova
- Cassandra Speck
- Madison Stadt
- Danielle Starkey
- Michelle Starkey
- Hailey Stasiak
- Aubrey Steed
- Garrett Stiehl
- Jacob Stephens
- Forrest Stoffers

LHS honor roll, continued, page 11

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THANK YOU

The Alto Lions Club Would Like To Thank The Following Businesses & Individuals For Their Donations To The 2010 Children's Christmas Party

- Heidi's Farm Stand
- Ice Cream Caboose
- Mark Johnson/Farm Bureau Ins.
- Kentwood Sales Corp.
- Lowell Area Schools
- Meijer - Cascade
- Plains L.P. Gas Marketing
- Richardson Machine
- Skyline Electric
- Stedfast Construction
- Swiss Lane Farms
- Pat Thomet
- (in memory of Stewart Thomet)
- United Bank - Clarksville
- Vanderziel Machines
- Chris Wenger
- Weeland Farms
- Zook Farm Equipment
- Alto Area Lions Club

HEIDI'S FARM STAND

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(Corner of Cascade Rd. & Alden Nash)

Merry Christmas
THANK YOU FOR A GREAT YEAR!
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Backwater Café staff adopts troops in Afghanistan



The customers and staff of Backwater Cafe are remembering The 1430th Vertical Engineer Company, currently deployed in Afghanistan, this holiday season with gifts. Pictured above from right to left, are Ken, Kelly, Kelli and Bif (owner).

by Emma Palova

The staff of Backwater Café started the tradition of giving last year in lieu of having a Christmas party. Instead of throwing a party the Café adopted a needy family for Christmas.

This year, waitress Kelly Stanger suggested adopting the 1430th Vertical Engineer Company in Afghanistan since her cousin, David Corey, is in the unit.

"We adopted the unit instead of a family," said Stanger.

The company with 147 men and 17 women just left for Afghanistan in December.

"We made a poster

letting our customers know what we're doing," said Stanger. "Our customers are very giving and very patriotic. We knew they would embrace the project."

The Christmas project started during the Thanksgiving weekend with a box and a money jar. The café contacted Lowell Middle School if students could make Christmas cards for the company in Afghanistan.

Since, then the gifts just kept pouring in, everything from toiletries, snacks, books and Wii. The box will be shipped sometime this week and the café is accepting donations for shipping.

"We will keep the unit until they come home," said Stanger.

The unit is based in Gladstone, MI.

The staff of café is also planning on giving the soldiers some things for Valentine's and other holidays.

"I am inspired by the giving nature of our customers," said Stanger. "You won't find a better group of people."

The café will adopt the unit next year if they're still in Afghanistan. If not, then they will adopt another family.

The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little.

- Franklin D. Roosevelt

LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS BOARD BRIEFS

Regular Meeting of December 13, 2010

Reports

- Summer Moore, Student Representative, provided an update on high school and student council activities.
- Mr. Zielinski presented a review of the 2009-2010 audit conducted by Hungerford, Aldrin, Nichols & Carter, P.C.

Action Items

- The Board accepted the following gift to the district:
 - 20 Side Chairs for Use in School Office Areas at Cherry Creek Elementary, donated by Crandall Office Furniture, Valued at \$750.00.
- Adopted Budget Amendment
- Authorized Superintendent to Sign and Execute Lowell Area Recreation Authority Trail Easement Agreement

Consent Items Approved

- Minutes for the November 8, 2010 Regular Meeting; November 16, 2010 Special Meeting; November 16, 2010 Closed Session Meeting, and the November 22, 2010 Board Work Session Meeting.
- The following payment of bills for November, 2010:

1. GENERAL FUND.....	\$ 798,380.17
2. SCHOOL SERVICES FUND	
A. Food Service Fund.....	\$ 577.17
3. TRUST AND AGENCY FUND.....	\$ 13,989.26
4. 2004 DEBT FUND.....	\$ 1,781.25
5. 2007 CONSTRUCTION FUND.....	\$ 35,189.40
TOTAL EXPENDITURES.....	\$ 849,917.25

- Hired Landon Graham, Social Studies Teacher, High School
- Adopted 2010/2011 Great Start Readiness Program Participating Resolution
- Approved West Michigan Risk Management Trust Insurance Pool Resolution

Budget Update

Mr. Zielinski summarized the budget status reports for the month of November. Mr. Zielinski

stated that Mr. White, Energy Manager, issued reminders regarding energy conservation in our buildings over the winter break. Mr. Zielinski offered holiday wishes to all.

Curriculum Update

Mr. Bearup extended appreciation to the teams of teachers and administrators who spent significant time and energy last week meeting and working on common core standards. Mr. Bearup added that when administrators and grade level teachers engage in curricular discussions, powerful things happen. This week, the Kent Intermediate School District is hosting Common Core Coaches Network meetings. Several Lowell teachers are in attendance. Our common core coaches will learn about resources available to help teachers implement common core standards and technology integration in the classroom. Mr. Bearup informed the Board that after winter break, work will continue on essential knowledge and skills at each grade level, common core standards, and envisioning the big picture in relation to K-12. Other initiatives on schedule for the second half of the year include the district-wide pyramid of intervention model, and work on behalf of the Students with Disabilities Ad-Hoc Committee.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Pratt expressed appreciation to the maintenance and support staff for their hard work on snow days to ensure that students and staff can return to school on clear, safe sidewalks and parking lots. He added that he is grateful to Lowell bus drivers for their daily work to transport students safely to school, especially during the trying conditions of winter. Superintendent Pratt acknowledged the work of staff to keep young students focused as they approach the winter break. Superintendent Pratt reviewed the extensive list of school holiday events including spectacular orchestra, band and choir performances, school plays, etc., and encouraged the school community to attend. Superintendent Pratt congratulated Mr. Zielinski

and the business office staff on a job well done in relation to the audit. Superintendent Pratt wished everyone a very safe and happy holiday season.

Board Communications

- Mr. Nugent stated that representatives of the district's audit firm formally presented the audit at the Board work session. Board members were afforded the opportunity to engage in discussion and pose questions regarding specifics of the audit. Mr. Nugent emphasized that an unqualified opinion on behalf of the auditors is the best rating possible and, as a Board member, it is reassuring to know that the Lowell Area Schools business department is a leader with regard to piloting new processes and procedures. Mr. Nugent added that quality audits and implementation of sound financial procedures are a testament to the district and the work of the business office staff.
- Mr. Brubaker congratulated the district for the positive financial audit and wished everyone a happy holiday season.
- Mrs. Hopkins commented that she is impressed with the continuous efforts of staff to work on curriculum and improve teaching and learning to ensure that Lowell students receive the very best education possible. Mrs. Hopkins expressed appreciation to administrators and teachers for their work in this area.
- Mr. Blough welcomed Landon Graham to the Lowell staff and shared gratitude for taking the time to attend the Board meeting.
- President Lessens thanked principals and directors for helping the administration to work within budgets and commented that it requires a team to maintain a balanced budget. President Lessens offered holiday wishes to the entire school community.

**Board of Education Regular Meeting
January 10, 2011
7:00 p.m.**

Local organizations, continued

This year Gilda's Club served 300 people and 500 school children.

"We hope to increase that number," said Arkema. "It's more than just a medical journey. It's social, educational and emotional support. The free programming has been growing."

However, without the funding the program wouldn't be here, according to Arkema.

The philosophy of the club is that when cancer happens, it happens to everyone. So, the clubhouse located in the Senior Neighbors Center, serves the entire family and friends.

Teresa Beachum on behalf of Lowell Community Wellness accepted a check for \$41,000 from Dean, which has been earmarked for financial family assistance.

Community Wellness administrators Pink Arrow

funds to families who live within the Lowell Area School district. (LAS)

"The nucleus of the family must live in the school district," said Beachum, "but we have broadened the specifics to be entitled to this money."

In order to qualify for the monies, the family must be dealing with an active form of cancer. The help is not based on financial need.

"They must be walking the cancer journey," said Beachum.

In the past the program has assisted families with mortgage payments, utilities, taxes, but the most coveted assistance remain Meijer gift cards. These can be used to purchase gas for travel to treatments, automotive, hardware and groceries.

Over the last three years, the program has served hundreds of families.

There is a simple application available on the LAS website

with a link to Community Wellness.

The Pink Arrow money is also used for the Dr. Donald Gerard scholarship fund for students who have been accepted into medical school, as well as for the Kathy Talus scholarship fund for student athletes upon graduation from Lowell High School.

"We're proud of the community to fund this in tough economic times," said Beachum, "because everyone knows somebody that has dealt with cancer."

The money is also used to fund educational grants requested by teaching staff of LAS to teach benefits of better health from kindergarten through high school.

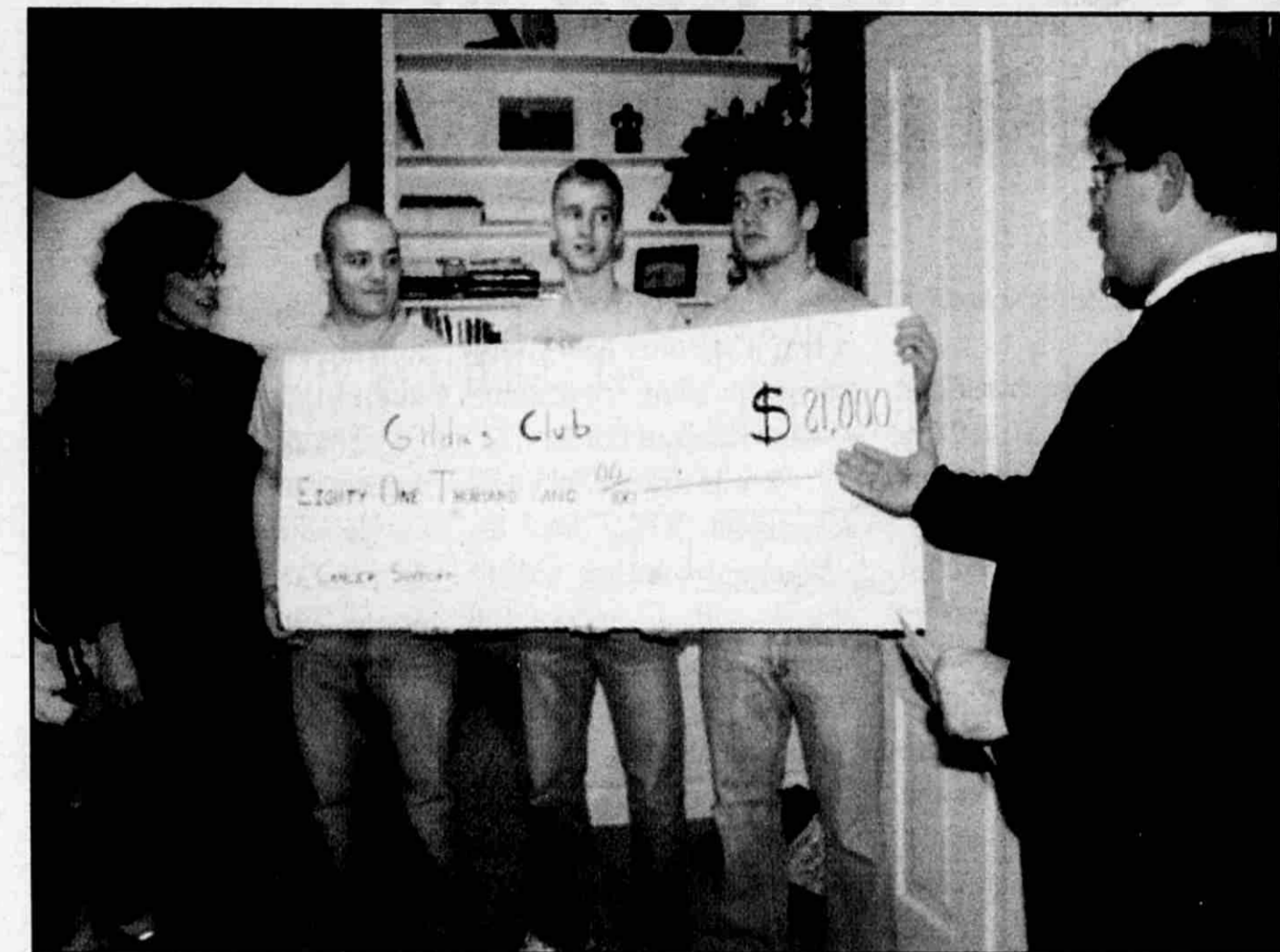
The wellness committee has just recently awarded grants to Alto Elementary and to Wittenbach Wege Center.

The Lowell Moose Lodge also presented a check to Gilda's for \$1,500 raised through a poker game.

The Grattan Twilight Cancer Walk held in August raised \$11,253 for Gilda's Club.

"This is an incredible amount equaling about one and a half months operating support for the Lowell program," said Louise "Punky" Edison of Gilda's Club.

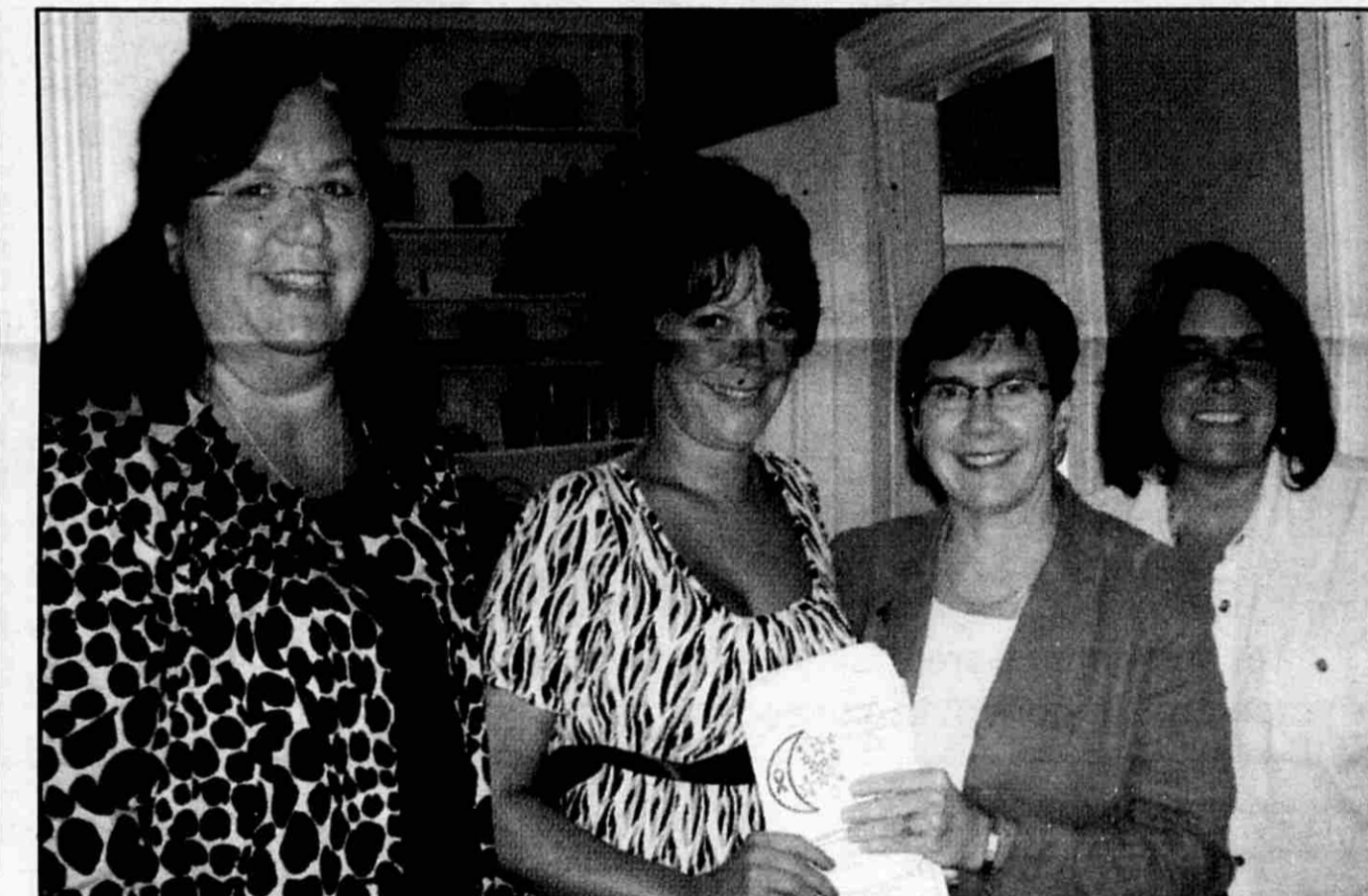
More than 300 people from Grattan, Belding and Greenville participated in the walk, some had tribute flags and signs to honor someone with cancer. Edison accepted the check on Sept. 21.



Noel Dean hands a check for \$81,000 to Gilda's Club CEO Leanne Arkema, while football captains Nick Crook, Matt Houston and Sam Young hold the check.



Chris Baird, Bruce Monroe and Ross Starkweather present check for \$1,500 to CEO Leanne Arkema.



Twilight walkers, pictured from left to right: Pam Stebbins, Donna Gundrum, Punky Edison (of Gilda's), and April Kole.

Looman named Volunteer of the Month at Murray Lake

Heather Looman was named Volunteer of the Month at Murray Lake. Looman is currently the co-

chair of the Murray Lake Family Links and can be seen throughout the week at MLE helping within

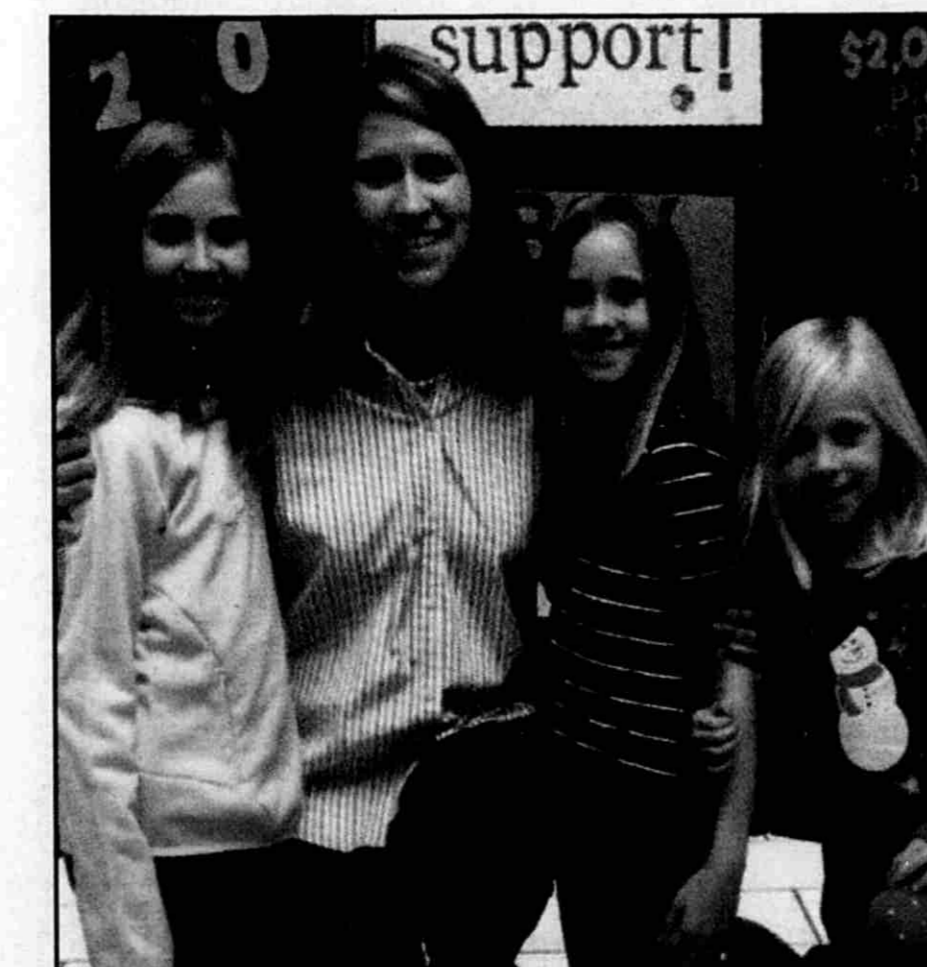
classrooms and on other building wide activities.

"Heather has been very helpful in my class this year. I also know that she does many other things for our building. I am truly grateful for all the time she donates to Murray Lake," commented kindergarten teacher, Karla Byrne.

Looman and husband Mark moved to the Lowell area in 1993. This is the one and only year that all three of their daughters, Chloe, Phoebe and Elly, will attend Murray Lake together. "My husband and I feel very

blessed to be part of this community. It has been such a rewarding experience for me volunteering at MLE. There is no greater joy than to be able to participate and make a difference in my daughters' school and in my community. I want to thank MLE for giving me the opportunity. We have a great team, which makes all the volunteering that much more fun."

In Looman's spare time she enjoys spending time with family and friends, reading and scrapbooking.



Heather Looman with her three daughters, Chloe, Phoebe and Elly.

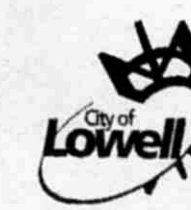
CITY OF LOWELL

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council will conduct a public hearing at its regular scheduled meeting of Monday, January 3, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. at the City Council Chambers, Lowell City Hall, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan. The purpose of said hearing will be to receive comments on the following:

Litehouse, Inc. (applicant) has petitioned for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate (P.A. 198) on real and personal property (located at 1400 Foreman Road). The applicant qualifies for twelve years of abatement for improvements of \$4,926,317 in facilities and machinery.

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



Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

Red Arrow SPORTS

- WRESTLING

Freshmen help lift Lowell past Mishawaka

by Thad Kraus

The wrestling season is a long one.

Between December and March there are a plethora of changes and adjustments teams go through.

This holds true for Lowell also, in fact, in Friday night's 39-27 win over Mishawaka (defending Indiana state champion and currently 4th ranked in the state) one of those changes occurred on the bench. The usually calm and docile Lowell wrestling coach, Dave Dean was electric and all charged up as he watched

his young Red Arrow squad defeat a talented and young Caveman team from south of the Michigan border.

"It was time to make an adjustment. It was time for a change. I want the kids to wrestle with an energy and passion. They should also see that in their coach," Dean explained.

With Lowell, having lost the schools' first two meetings, Dean and his Red Arrows were also interested in changing the direction of this border rivalry.

"To get a win against

Mishawaka is a big step forward for the boys," Dean said.

The mindset and tempo was set early as Zack Jeffries answered a Caveman major decision at 112 with a second period pin against Lymen Stoneburner, giving the Red Arrows a 6-4 advantage.

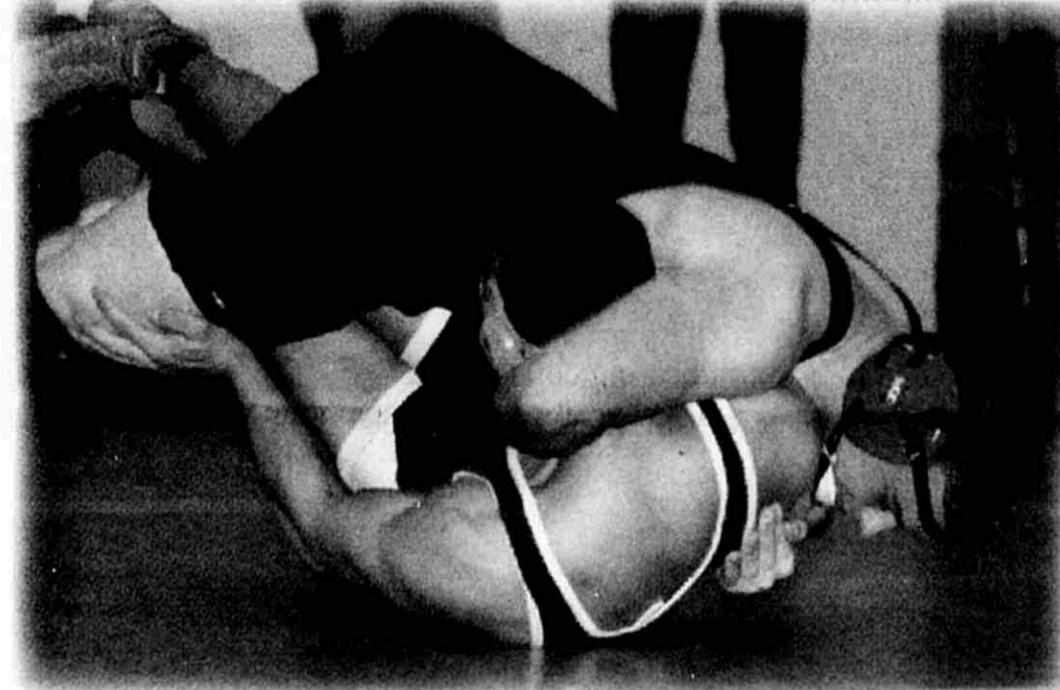
"Zack showed us tonight about what it will take for him to be consistent," Dean explained.

Mishawaka won the next three matches to pull out to a 16-6 advantage.

Kalvin Meyer (125) lost a 19-7 major decision; Zac Graves (130) fell 17-2; and Jacob Stephens (135) lost 5-3.

Graves was wrestling Indiana's number one 130 pounder. "He went out there and just refused to get pinned," Dean explained.

The match's



Lowell freshman Garrett Stehley dominated at 189 as he pinned his opponent in 33 seconds.

- BASKETBALL

Arrows feel the need for speed

by Thad Kraus

Executing against the quickness and pressure of a Grand Rapids Union or

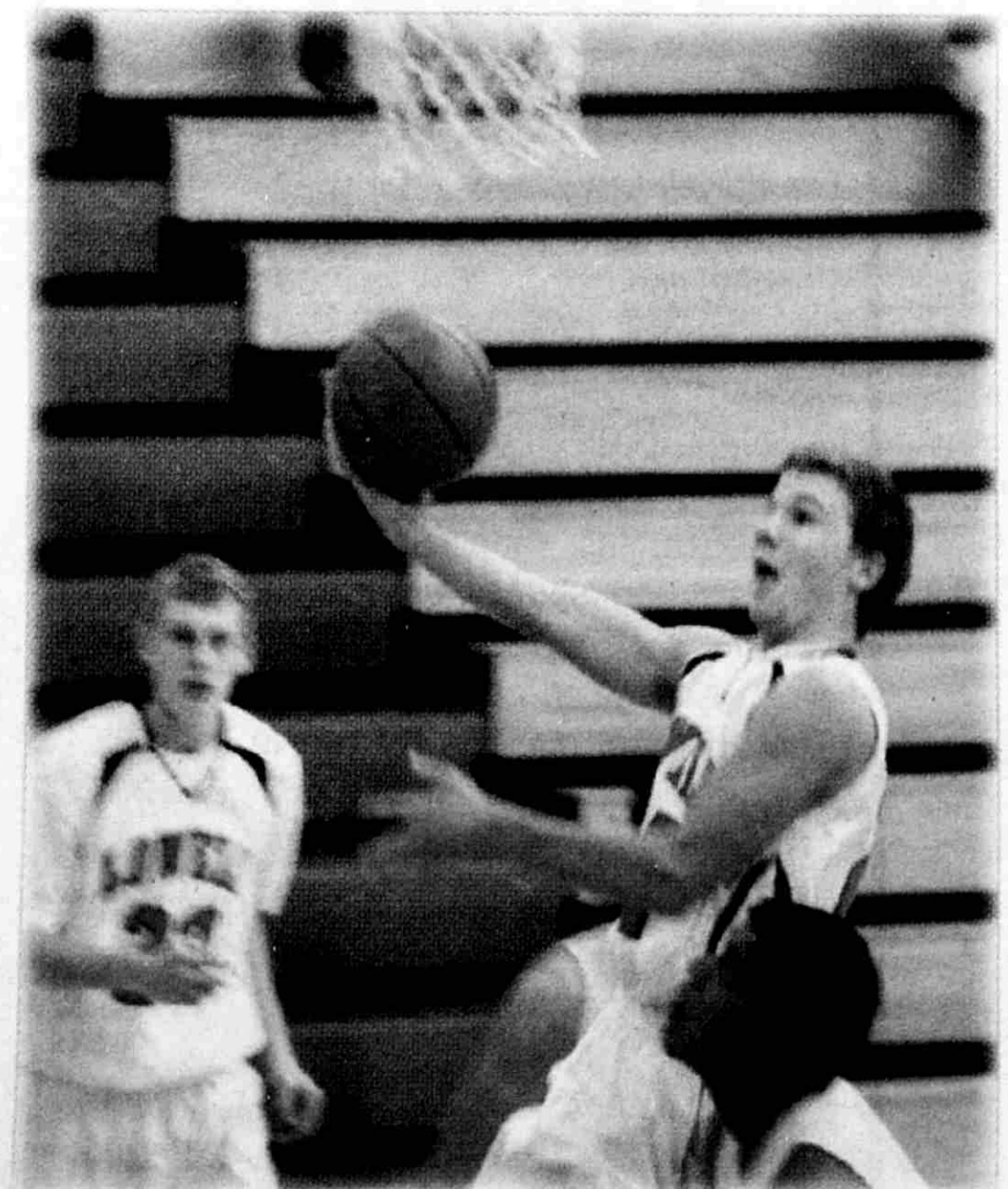
Creston is difficult anytime, but without your starting two point guards it becomes monumental.

"It's difficult to simulate that athleticism in practice," said Lowell boys basketball coach Jeff McDonald.

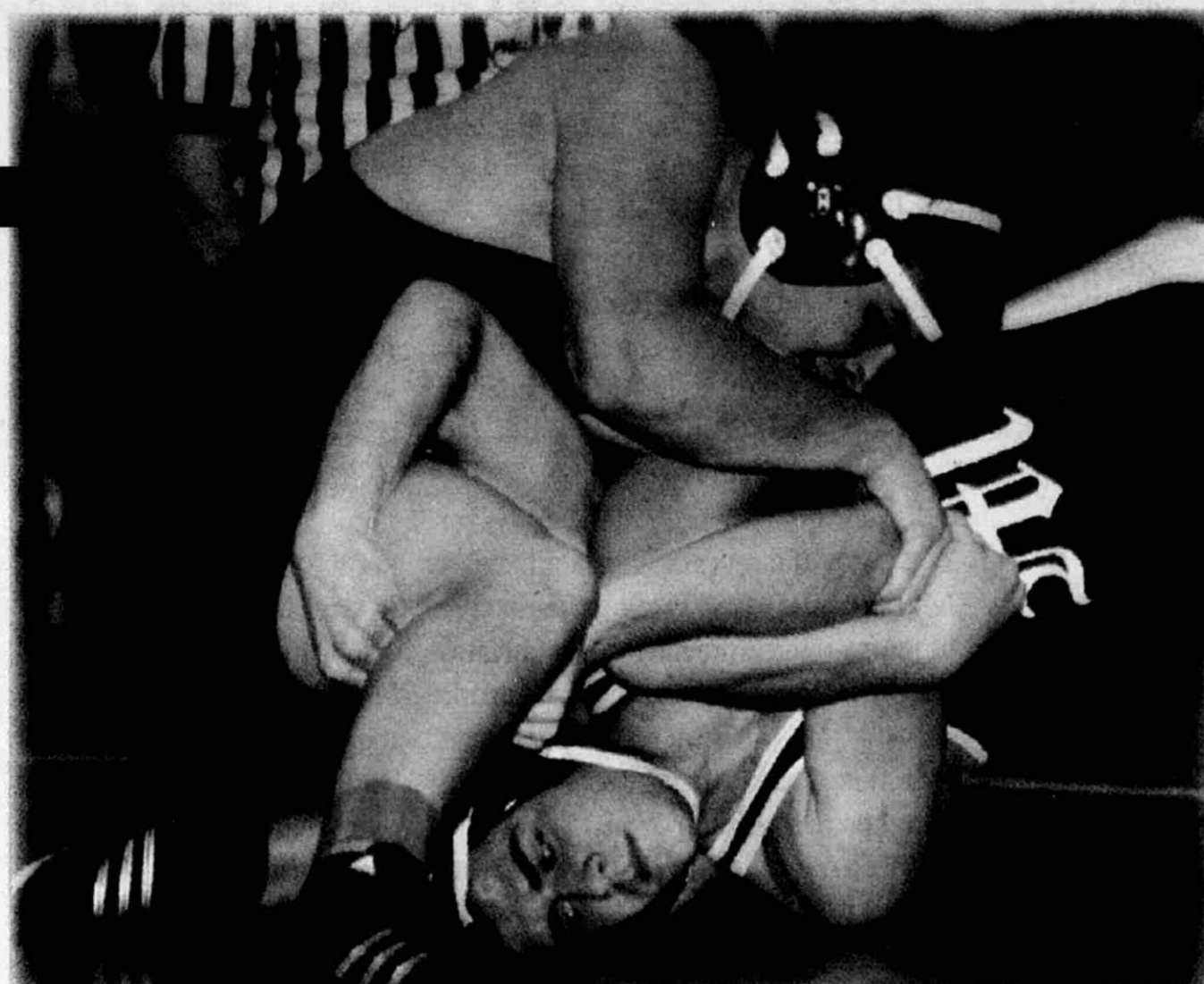
It does provide good experience for his young players. "Those are the two quickest teams we'll face all year," McDonald said. "I think the two weeks over Christmas will be huge for us. It will be equivalent to preseason practices."

It will also bring the Red Arrows closer to fielding a healthy and full roster.

"These boys have had to fight through a lot of adversity already this season. I'm proud of the way they've handled it," McDonald explained. "We've had two players



Lowell's Blake Lyman tallied a team-leading eight-points against Grand Rapids Union.



Red Arrow Jake Stehley captured a dramatic overtime win in the 171 pound weight class.

momentum changed at 140 pounds.

Lowell freshman Kanon Dean trailed Mishawaka's Kyle Jones in the final minute of their match before rolling the Caveman onto his back in the final seconds for a dramatic pin.

"That was the big match. We're up a point and our kid makes a mistake and Lowell's kid capitalized," said Mishawaka coach Darrick Snyder.

Mishawaka came into the match fresh off a huge 30-22 win over Northern Indiana Conference rival Penn. "We wrestled in front of about 2,000 fans the other night and came away with a huge victory," Snyder said.

"Our kids, however, look

forward to this trip. We have built a nice camaraderie with Lowell. It is a well-coached, classy program."

The Caveman forfeited their match against Andrew Morse (145). Mishawaka then posted wins at 152 and 160 to take a 23-18 lead.

Lowell countered with its Stehley daily double. Jake Stehley (171) won a thrilling 10-8 overtime decision against Tyler Reinhoel. His freshman brother Garrett Stehley (189) followed with a pin at 39 seconds of the first period, giving Lowell a 27-23 lead.

"Garrett wrestles with confidence and Kanon just outfought his opponent tonight. Because he's young and talented we're asking

him to grow up fast."

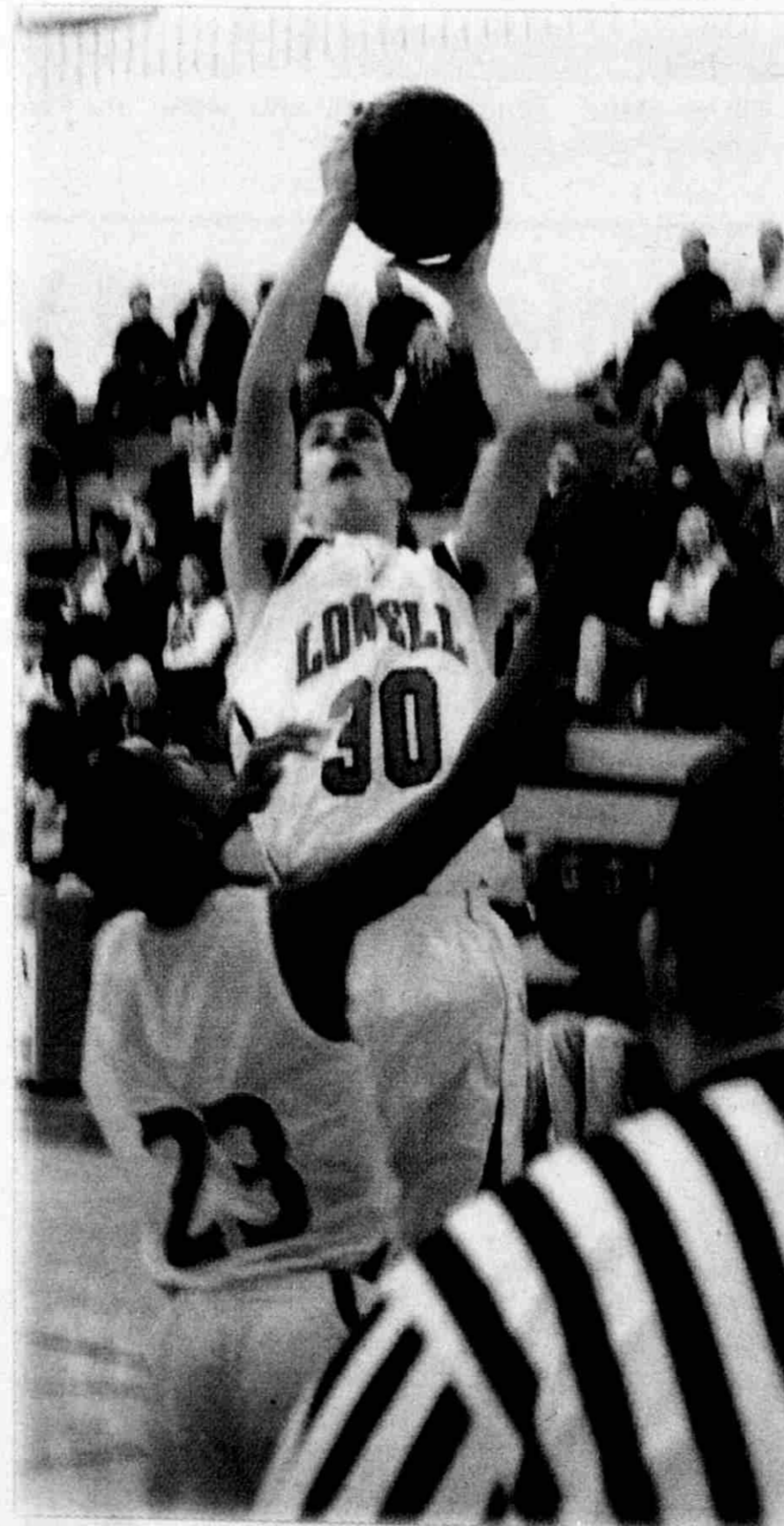
Gabe Dean (215) then recorded a pin at 3:33 of the second period which was followed by Jake Lynema's (HWT) pin at 1:22 of the first period, ballooning the Red Arrow lead to 39-23.

Mishawaka won the final match of the night at 103 pounds.

"Several of the matches could have got away from us but the kids pushed through," Dean said.

Lowell wrestled without the services of Gabe Morse (135) and Dan Fleet (152)

The Red Arrows will push on to Rockford Wednesday (Dec. 22) to wrestle in a quad where they will face Lakeshore and Rockford.



Kyle Rogers poured in 17 points against the Polar Bears on Friday night.

Red Arrow SPORTS

- BASKETBALL

Lowell snaps streak with win over Creston

by Thad Kraus

Lowell girls basketball team snapped a four-game losing streak in grand fashion Friday night as it blasted Creston 53-17.

Ten Red Arrows scored in Lowell's 36-point victory.

Lowell (1-4) recorded its highest scoring output

of the year, which included a 21-point third quarter.

Amber Martin and Katie Tompkins led the way with 10 points each and Lauren Kurtz added seven.

Two of Martin's field goals were from three-point range.

Creston's D'asia Ingram and Kania Sims led the Polar Bears in scoring with six points each.

The Red Arrows led 19-6 at half time before ballooning their lead to 29 (40-11) with its 21-point third quarter outburst.

Lowell fell behind by 12 in the first half to Grand Rapids Union (3-1) before battling back to make a game of things in the second half of a 41-40 defeat.

The Red Arrows were aided in their comeback by Martin's (three) and

Stephanie Stevens' (two) three-point baskets from the arc.

Stevens and Tompkins led all Lowell scorers with 11 points. Martin added nine.

Lowell was outscored 28-16 in the first half. It outscored Union 24-13 in the second half.

Lowell's next game is Tuesday, Jan. 4 against Forest Hills Northern.

- HOCKEY

Lowell/Caledonia can't overcome slow start

by Thad Kraus

Lowell/Caledonia's hockey team was not able to overcome a slow start in its 8-5 loss to Milford at the Waterford/Kettering Holiday Tournament.

Trailing 4-0 early in the second period, Lowell/Caledonia rallied, outscoring Milford 4-1 over a 15-minute span to cut the deficit to one at 5-4 early in the third period.

Milford, however, skated out the game on a 3-1 burst.

Lowell/Caledonia's goals were secured by Tyler Bitterman (2), Tage Green, Dennis Echelbarger and Cam Steger.

Recording assists were Echelbarger (2), Zack Hoffman, Bitterman and Braden McGillicuddy and Jordan Swift.

Lowell/Caledonia closed the week with a record of 2-5.

Someone had to say it!



Thad Kraus

Only one entry in the Lowell Ledger Bowl Pick Bonanza correctly selected winners in all of the initial three bowl games played.

It was returning champion Dale Dawson. The reason I remember Dale is returning champion is Mr. Dawson wrote it on his entry form.

I think I can speak for

everyone competing against Dale when I say "We're Happy for You, Dale!!!!"

There were four entries who correctly picked two of three; two who picked one of three and two entries who swung and missed on all three games.

For those who failed to hand in a sheet with their picks, the games I speak

about are BYU defeated UTEP 52-24; Northern Illinois defeated Fresno State 40-17; and Troy bested Ohio U. 48-21.

One final note or two:

Did you watch the Monday night game in Minnesota. It was moved to the outdoor stadium where the Minnesota Golden Gophers play because the roof at the Metrodome collapsed.

The college field does not come with heating coils for the field. Therefore, they had to bring in heating coils to put on top of the field to keep it from freezing.

However, when they took the tarp and heating elements off the field Monday it was snowing.

Question for you! If the turf/surface is warm and the snow melts when it hits the field what happens to the water in the 20 degree temperature?

So what was gained? That said, I watched much of the game and it didn't seem to have that big of an affect.

I guess they knew what they were doing?

Finally, Merry Christmas everyone. Enjoy and celebrate your time with family and friends.

LHS honor roll, continued

Brandon Strzyzewski
Quinn Summerfield
Jacob Sweet
Trevor Taylor
Joshua Theisen
Alexandra Tremblay
Marc Vandenberg
Sydney vanOverbeek
Kimberly VanOverloop
Evelyn VanTil
Rachael Walters
Ryan Walters
Jeremiah Wenger
Garret White
Jacob Wielinga
Madelynn Willemstein
Rachel Wittenbach
Kaylee Wold
Alexander Woodman
Jonathan Wyckoff
Shelby Young
Katelyn Yuhas

10TH GRADE

Sabrina Antcliff
Timothy Antel
Micah Babcock
Michael Bachmann
Alanna Bancroft
McKensie Barnes
Justin Barrett
Amy Bartkus
William Baughn
Perry Bencker
Jorie Bennett-Walsweer
Paige Berends
Rebekah Betts
Cody Bieri
Corryn Bieri
Derek Bitterman
Kevin Blanchard
Skylar Bowne
Kaleb Brown
Haley Buck
Quinton Bunn

Mikayla Burke
Hannah Burr
Dean Chittenden
Hyeon Jin Cho
Paige Coble
Jacob Collins
Scott Collins
Alejandro Cortes
Daniel Cowden
Zachary Crawford
Sarah Crosby
Jacey Culross
Nicole Cummings
Hannah Daumann
Jacob Davenport
Zachary Dawson
Emilyn Dec
Molly Denison
Heather Dimmick
Kennedy Dodde
Justin Doll
Jack Dues
Joshua Elliott
Abigail Ellis
Delainey Ferguson
Licia Feuerstein
Collin Finkhouse
Abigail Flentje
Carissa Flier
Christina Folkersma
Jonathan Fox
Joseph Gauck
Zachary Gibas
Gabrielle Gibbs
Austin Gildea
Nathaniel Gomez
Gabriel Gorman
Zachary Graves
Hannah Green
Madison Hacker
Bailey Haefner
Anthony Hanson
Taylor Harrison
Evan Hedlund

Lukas Henderson
Jacob Hess
Cory Heykoop
Brianna Higgins
Marissa Hills
Brett Hindley
Alexandra Hinton
Nicholas Hoff
Bryce Hrusovsky
Ashley Huber
Jennifer Huffman
Zachary Huver
Philip Janowski
Jordan Johnson
Kaitlyn Johnson
Maranda Johnson
Katelyn Kaczanowski
Christianne Kargl
Annette Kehoe
Jacob Khodl
Sean Khodl
Kolby Kloosterman
Sophie Kohtz
Haley Kyburz
Austin Lemke
Maxin Ligman
Jordan Lillie
Brendan Lobbezoo
Bailey Loughlin
Dakotah Lytle
Matthew Majinska
Kelli Malcolm
Jason Malling
Johnathon Mark
Tobias Marks
Chad Martin
Shannon Massey
Bruno Mattos-Rubeiz
Delaney McCarrey
Nicholas McCormick
Keaton McGregor
Alexander McIntire
Breana McKendrick
Morgan McVey

Emily Milstead
Jacob Mitchell
Jessica Montgomery
Aaron Morris
Foster Nethercott
Samantha Newell
Mattie Newman
Alexis Noonon
Doug Nordman
Grant Noskey
Danielle Ordway
Audrey Pearson
Megan Perkins
Emily Peterson
Nicole Platz
Andrew Potter
Tyler Prill
Hunter Race
Audrey Rasch
Alexis Rife
Abigail Rogalke
Rebecca Roth
Tyler Roth
Mark Russo
Ryan Schaefer
Leah Schlosser
John Schramm
Emily Schreur
Justin Scott
Janelle Sebela
Matthew Shade
Siyi Shen
Trentin Sheppard
Nichole Slupe
Julie Smith
Maxwell Spoelstra
Brianna Steiner
Hope Stepek
Raechel Stougaard
Kyle Stubbins
Ethan Sutton
Gregory Blanton
Michaela Blough
Alec Bobko
Leigha Boogaard
Erin Bramble

Alexander Tobin
Emma Tompkins
Famke Van Der Molen
Gabrielle Vandenberg
Taylor Vanderhorst
Scott VanOosten
Lars Wachter
Nicholas Walker
Brad Walling
Pierce Watson
Lauren Weaver
Gabriel Wehby
Taylor Whaley
Ashley White
James Wierenga
Kyle Wierzbiicki
Jenna Wilder
Briec Wingerter
Maggie Wissman
Ashley Worthington
RaeAnn Zachow
Joshua Zalis
Yuting Zhong

11TH GRADE

Chloe Aalsburg
Brandi Aikens
Lindsay Anderson
Nicholas Aranowski
William Athmann
Danielle Bagin
Jeffrey Baker
Kirsten Baker
Justin Ball
Kyle Bassin
Kendra Belile
Joshua Bellie
Zoe Beloncis
Luke Bigham
Sydney Bishop
Gregory Blanton
Michaela Blough
Alec Bobko
Leigha Boogaard
Erin Bramble

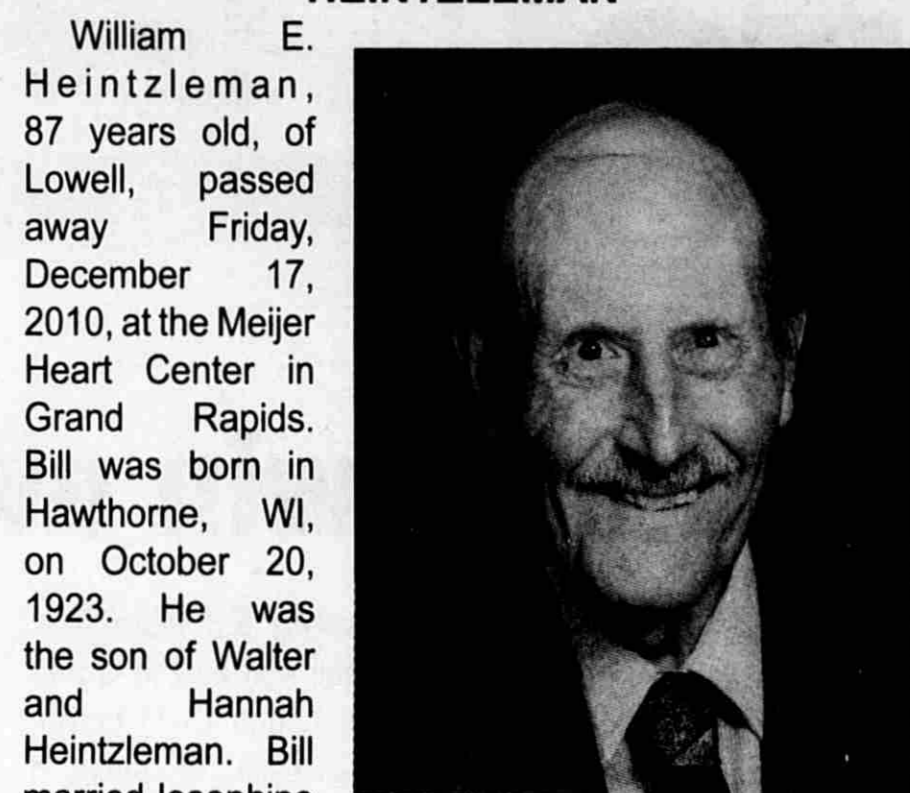
Grant Breuker
Martin Brubaker
Dillon Buck
Austin Buckius
Casie Burr
Joseph Carter
Matthew Charrout
Caitlin Clover
James Collins
Lindsey Crawford
Gabriel Dean
Moriah Dee
Quincee Denault
Nora Donahue
Justin Douma
Elizabeth Downing
Jordan Drake
Laura Droog
Ryan Durkee
Jordan Ervin-Wakefield
Kaitlin Fisher
Caitlin Fitzpatrick
Joshua Flier
Collin Foehr
Alexandra Fotis
Hannah Fowler
Mackenzie Fox
Dana Franklin
Amber Geldersma
Melody Gerig
Nicholas Gibson
Andrea Gilbert
Erika Golden
Travis Gordon
Bailey Groendyke
Morgan Groom
Casey Gross
Matthew Haan
Aaron Hall
Pauline Harrington
Benjamin Hart

obituaries

BAKER

Caitlin A. Baker, age 19, of Lowell, passed away unexpectedly Wednesday, December 15, 2010. She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Edward (Jean) Winogrocki. She is survived by her parents, Jeffrey T. (Catherine) Baker; sisters, Nikki and Tanya; brothers, Jeffrey C. and Collin; grandparents, George (Joan) Baker; several cousins and extended family. Funeral services were held Monday at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2700 E. Fulton, Grand Rapids, MI 49506. Pastor Paul Krupinski officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to Pink Arrow Pride, PO Box 246, Lowell, MI 49331 or Lowell Area Schools - Tennis Program, 300 High Street, Lowell, MI 49331.

HEINTZLEMAN

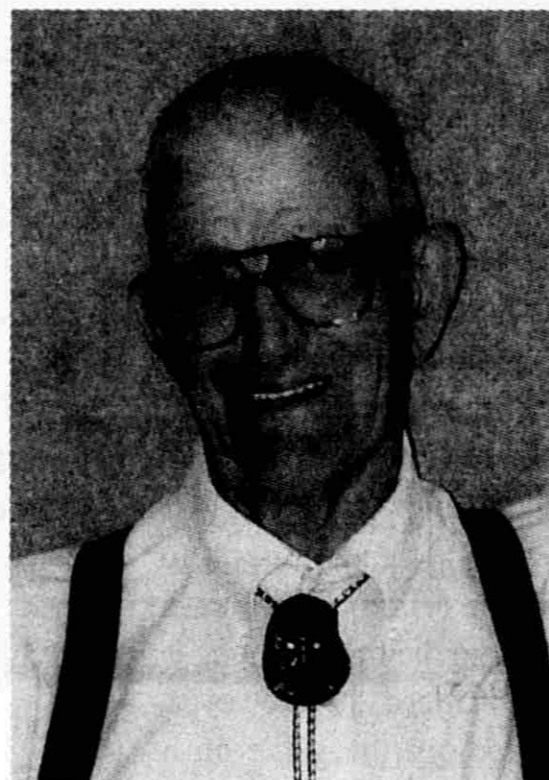


William E. Heintzleman, 87 years old, of Lowell, passed away Friday, December 17, 2010, at the Meijer Heart Center in Grand Rapids. Bill was born in Hawthorne, WI, on October 20, 1923. He was the son of Walter and Hannah Heintzleman. Bill married Josephine Mooney on November 6, 1948, and recently celebrated their 62nd anniversary. Bill served in World War II, and the Korean Conflict. He retired from the Army Reserve as a Lt. Colonel. Bill also retired from the City of Grand Rapids. He enjoyed golfing, bowling, and spending time with family and friends. Bill is survived by his wife, Josephine; sister, Lucille (Wes) Meyers; daughter-in-law, Lucy Heintzleman; children, Pat (Dan) Nowak, Nancy (Dale) Triplett, Tom (Debra) Heintzleman, Bill (Susan) Heintzleman, Michele (Mark) Hemstreet, Douglas Heintzleman, and Teresa (Jerry) Cummings; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Bill was preceded in death by his son, Dan Heintzleman; his parents; and other siblings. A funeral was held on Monday, December 20 at St Robert's Catholic Church in Ada. Donations may be made, in lieu of flowers, to: The American Heart Association, or a charity of your choice.

Jill (Todd) Bruinekool; five grandchildren, Kolby, Luke, Nick, Sara, and Kambry; sister, Joanne (Aldon) Durham; brothers, Ray (Lynne) Pollock, Greg (Donna) Gunderson; brother-in-law, Vic Frost; sister-in-laws, Josie Pollock, Reathel (Austin) Waldron, Kathryn Wingeier. Shirley was best known for her easy laughter, good sense of humor, feisty attitude and for being an excellent mother and grandmother. Everyone was welcome in her home and no one was a stranger for long. Shirley enjoyed her grandchildren above all, an occasional game of golf in her younger years, the Detroit Lions, and spending time with family. Funeral service will be held Thursday 11:00 a.m. at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell. Rev. Eugene Okoli of St. Mary Catholic Church officiating. Interment South Boston Cemetery. Visitations will be Wednesday at 2-4:00 and 6-8:00 p.m. at Roth Gerst Chapel. In lieu of flowers, please make contributions to Hospice of Michigan, 989 Spaulding Avenue S.E., Ada, MI 49301.

WIELAND

William (Bill) C. Wieland, age 89, of Freeport, passed away Saturday, December 18, 2010 at the Eaton County Medical Care Facility. He was born on November 4, 1921 in Freeport to Charles and Cletus (Winey) Wieland. He and his wife, Ayleen (Broadbent), were married for almost 65 years and had four children. Bill enjoyed playing softball, bowling, crafts, dancing the Polka and listening to music. He and Ayleen enjoyed spending winters in Arizona for 22 years. Surviving are his wife, Ayleen; sons, Terry (Cynthia) Wieland, Bob (Pam) Wieland and Rich Wieland; daughter, Diane (Don) Geese; six grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, December 21, at the Calvary Grace Brethren Church, 13700 84th St. SE in Alto with Pastor Brian Auten, officiating. Interment followed at Bowne Mennonite Cemetery. Memorial contributions in Bill's name may be directed to the Alzheimer's Association or Calvary Grace Brethren Church.



KLOOSTERMAN

Shirley May (Pollock) Kloosterman, age 75, of Lowell, known affectionately as "Grandma Cake" by her grandchildren, passed away on Sunday, December 19, 2010. Shirley was born in Belding on June 5, 1935. She was preceded in death by her husband, Berwyn, in 1993; brother, Gordon Pollock; sister, Alana Frost. She is survived by her long-time friend and companion, Joe Laveque; and dearest friend, Barb Grim; children, Gail Kloosterman, Lois Kloosterman, Carl (Stacy) Kloosterman, Mark (Heather) Kloosterman,



LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 10-189557-DE

Estate of HELEN D. OLEJNICZAK, Date of birth: 05/02/1921.

TO ALL CREDITORS: 12/17/2010

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, HELEN D. OLEJNICZAK, who lived at 39 Garfield NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan, died 11/06/2010.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to RAYMOND R. OLEJNICZAK JR. or CHRISTINE K. DAVID c/o

John D. Mitus (P31244) 410 Bridge St., NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 (616) 774-4001

Raymond R. Olejniczak, Jr. 1700 Robbins Rd. Lot 01 Grand Haven, MI 49417

Christine K. David 7757 Pinehurst, SW Grand Rapids, MI 49548



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the weekly ledger OFFICE HOURS Monday - Thursday: 8 am - 5 pm P.O. Box 128 Lowell, MI 49331 897-9261 Friday: 8 am - 2 pm Closed Sat. & Sun.

LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENTS SATELLITE DISH ANTENNAS

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on proposed amendments to the Township Zoning Ordinance regarding regulations for satellite dish antennas. The proposed amendments would among other requirements:

- 1. Create new definitions for satellite dish antennas and antennas.
2. Allow satellite dish antennas and other antennas in any zoning district without a permit.
3. Not allow satellite dish antennas and other antennas to be placed in the required front yard.
4. Require certain set backs from the side and rear lot line.
5. Allow the Zoning Administrator to grant a waiver from the set back requirements in order to achieve reasonable reception.

The hearing will be held as follows: WHEN: MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2011 TIME: 7:00 P.M. WHERE: LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL 2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE LOWELL, MI 49331

The proposed Zoning Ordinance amendments are available for review at the Lowell Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue SE, Lowell, Michigan 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday or by calling 897-7600.

Tim Clements, Secretary Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission

office hours:

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

classifieds

for sale

GIVE THE GIFT OF SAVING! - With a Key Card! And you help support the LHS Academic Boosters. Cards are \$20. Stop by & get your card today, Lowell Ledger 105 N. Broadway. Cash or check only please.

BOB'S 13TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BIRDHOUSE 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 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.

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

A GIFT THAT WILL LAST FOREVER - For sale American Campground - Spring Lake Resort & RV membership. 2 sister parks in MI & PA (near Gettysburg). Affiliated w/Coast to Coast. \$1,500. For information call 676-0231.

2001 DODGE NEON - 4 door sedan, new brakes, new tires, 95000 miles, runs perfect, asking \$2,700 obo. 446-0923.

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.

LAST CHANCE TO MAKE SURE YOUR BUSINESS 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.

HOLIDAY HOURS

Weeks of Dec. 20 & Dec. 27 Mon-Wed. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Thurs. 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Closed Fri. Deadline for the Dec. 29 edition of the Lowell Ledger is Mon., Dec. 27 at noon Happy Holidays!

for rent

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.

FOR RENT - House, barns, pasture. Horse lover's dream. 3bedrooms, 10906 Finn Rd., Lowell Schools. 616-897-5807.

FOR RENT - 1,800 sq. ft. country home, 4 bedroom. No smoking, no pets. \$750 per month plus utilities. References. Saranac schools. 642-0462.

PRICELESS STORAGE - Indoor/outdoor. New Units on Alden Nash, 1 mile South of I96. 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.

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.

EDUCATIONAL SPECIALIST FOR ALL AGES - flexible, creative, original thinker, for new program. Check www.hammocklearning.com

misc.

LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS - administration office will be closed December 24, 2010 through January 2, 2011 for the holiday.

in memoriam

DAVID WHEELER Died December 6, 1986 Ahusband, a father, a brother & son. When you left us our world came undone. A gaping hole where you used to be, an emptiness inside us, we hoped never to see. You drew people to you like rays from the sun. Everybody loved you, you were so much fun. You were kind and generous a heart made of gold. You lived life to its fullest, you made every minute count. We will love you forever and miss you too, but you'll always be with us, your light shining through. Sonja (Wheeler) Ryan & family

wanted

WALNUT TREES WANTED - All kinds of service work: locks rekeyed, deadbolts installed, screen & window repair. Call Bob Ford, 299-3198.

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

card of thanks

THANK YOU to those who stopped and helped out me and my girls at the accident on Flat River on Dec. 2. Happy Holidays. Jessica, Macy & Ella Curtis

services

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

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

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

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

services

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

COMPUTER REHAB - \$65 all repairs - Virus & Spyware removal. No diagnostic fees! Mon. - Sat., 505-B West Main, Lowell. 987-1155, www.computerRehab.ws

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

services

BECOME A FAN OF THE LOWELL LEDGER ON FACEBOOK - Go to www.thelowellledger.com, scroll down & click on the Facebook icon.

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

LAMINATING SERVICE AVAILABLE - Next day service. Drop off & pieces will be available by 9 a.m. the next day. Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

personals

WOULD THE PERSON WHO TOOK - my floral cane please return it to Meijer service desk.

Community Calendar

PLEASE NOTE - Coming Events are for non-profit organizations. If you are charging admission for an event - it is considered an advertisement. Coming events are 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.

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

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.

NOOIGELAND - 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.gildaslub.org/pinkarrow

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 girls meets in the Church building, Cadets & Kingdom Kids meet in the ministry center. Call 897-7060 for info.

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

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

TEEN GROUP - CANCELS 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.

A MAX & RUBY PARTY! - Based on these lovable characters, will have bunny games, bunny crafts & other book-related bunny fun. Wed., Jan. 12, 6:30 p.m. at the Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell. 616-784-2007.

FREE ADDICTIONS PROGRAM - 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 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 Lowell 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 online with your debit or credit card at www.angelfoodministries.com. First Baptist Church, 2275 W. Main, Lowell. Call the church office at 897-7168 or Angie at 897-0420 with questions.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES - Fri., Dec. 24, 7 p.m. Family service, 11 p.m. Candlelight service. First Congregational United Church of Christ, 865 Lincoln Lake SE, Lowell.

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES - sign up at the Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington St., Sat., Jan. 22, 10 a.m. - noon. You may also order online using your debit or credit card. Go to www.angelfoodministries.com Any questions, call Esther, 897-7395.

STORYTIME - Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25 at 10 a.m. at the Saranac Public Library.

KNITTING 101 - Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, 10 a.m. - noon Any level of knitting welcome. Saranac Public Library.

BOOK WORM BOOK CLUB - Jan. 17, 6 p.m. at the Saranac Public Library. Discussing Charles and Emma by Deborah Helligman.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE LIGHT WORSHIP NIGHT - at Ignite Church, 2173 W. Main St., next to Ada-Loell 5, 11 p.m. to 12:15 a.m.

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

POKEMON! YU-GI-OH! BAKUGAN! - Calling all experienced Pokemon, Yu-Gi-Oh and Bakugan players, join our gaming group to play, trade, & meet with other fans of these popular games. For ages 6 & up. Wed., Jan. 19, 6:30 p.m. at the Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell. 616-784-2007.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES - Fri., Dec. 24, 7 p.m. Family service, 11 p.m. Candlelight service. First Congregational United Church of Christ, 865 Lincoln Lake SE, Lowell.

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES - sign up at the Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington St., Sat., Jan. 22, 10 a.m. - noon. You may also order online using your debit or credit card. Go to www.angelfoodministries.com Any questions, call Esther, 897-7395.

STORYTIME - Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25 at 10 a.m. at the Saranac Public Library.

KNITTING 101 - Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, 10 a.m. - noon Any level of knitting welcome. Saranac Public Library.

BOOK WORM BOOK CLUB - Jan. 17, 6 p.m. at the Saranac Public Library. Discussing Charles and Emma by Deborah Helligman.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE LIGHT WORSHIP NIGHT - at Ignite Church, 2173 W. Main St., next to Ada-Loell 5, 11 p.m. to 12:15 a.m.

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

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

NOOIGELAND - 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.gildaslub.org/pinkarrow

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 girls 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 Library. See staff for details.

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

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.

KDL-VILLE RIBBON CUTTING PARTY - Celebrate with Katie L., the elephant, as she cuts the ribbon & welcomes you to KDLville. KDL's new early literacy play space. Play & learn w/crafts, games, balloon animals & KDLville cake. For ages 6 & under. Mon., Dec. 6, 10:30 a.m. at the Alto Branch Library, 6071 Linfield Ave. 616-784-2007.

MEXICAN STORYTIME - Stories & folktales, crafts & snacks highlighting Mexico's culture. Mon., Dec. 13, 10:30 a.m. Alto Branch Library, 6071 Linfield Ave. 616-784-2007.

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

Grandpa's Christmas Adventure part III

by Dave Thompson

Well, let's get caught up. Last week Grandpa heard from Oscar about an auto that was stranded down a dead end road, made inaccessible by a large old maple that had been blown down at the open end of the road. Santa had cancelled his final check of boys and girls in Lowell that evening to aid in their rescue efforts. They were now safely back at Grandma and Grandpa's.

The radio had been reporting all day how others were coping with the storm. Most of those stuck on the expressway near Lowell were now in town and Lowell's two Traffic Directors for Human Souls, Liz Baker and Roger LaWare, had placed the last folks in safe havens around town, thanks to the help from local churches. Everyone knew it going to be at least a four or five day stay over Christmas and all had accepted their fate.

Meanwhile, back at Grandpa's, Santa had left to prepare for his regular Christmas Eve run and Grandma's guests were settling in. Everyone had collected in the kitchen when she served some of her famous hot chocolate made with her own secret recipe, (using chocolate milk as the base, something she had learned from Dorla down at Keisers Kitchen), with a hint of cinnamon and spoon full of malt powder, which were her additions. The plate of big sugar cookies had all but disappeared when one of the children noticed seven or eight birds perched on the window sill, peering in on the activities. "Oh, look, Mom," called out eleven-year-old Elizabeth as she pointed to the window. "Oh, pay them no mind," Grandma said. "They're there all the time. They are almost like family to us. Maybe we'll invite them in on Christmas as we celebrate this very special day. They enjoy that so much. If they are in a good mood, maybe they will even talk to Grandpa!"

Elizabeth's eyes focused on Grandpa. "Grandpa," she asked, realizing she was calling him Grandpa even though he was not her real Grandpa. "Can you really talk to those birds?" Grandma laughed softly. "Oh, yes, child," she began, "Grandpa talks to all of our animals. And, yes, they talk to him. However, only Santa and I have ever heard any of those conversations.

But who knows, maybe on Christmas you'll get a chance to hear them for yourself."

The next day Grandpa went out into the yard with the three kids in tow. "If you'll watch the sky, soon old Edgar, our eagle friend, will come swooping down to visit with us. Sure enough, a few minutes later, down he came, landing on a shoulder high branch close to

seems to be so unusual about that? You can speak, can't you? Then why shouldn't I be able to speak, too?" Edgar snapped back.

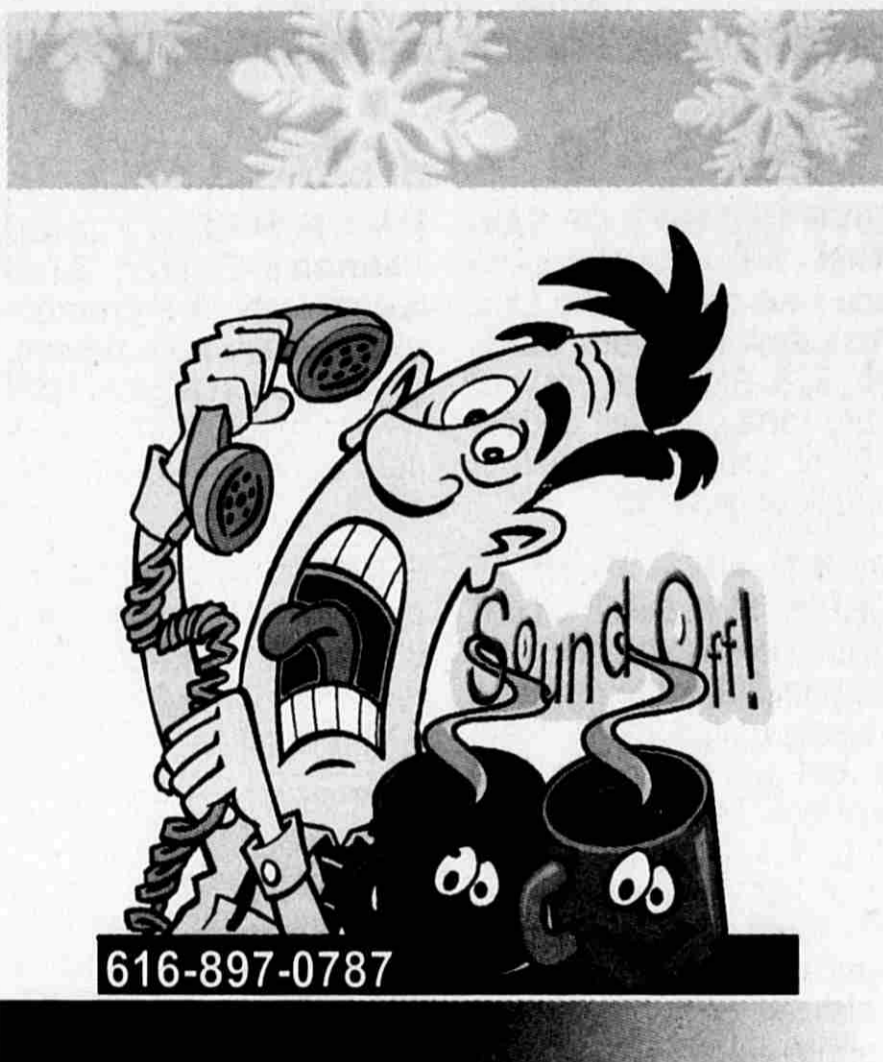
"Weeelllll," Elizabeth began, jumping into the conversation. "Animals aren't supposed to be able to speak. It just doesn't seem right!" Edgar was not happy with her comment either. "You seem to have thoughts about humans that apparently

nodded and shuffled about, when one of them, Carl the Cardinal, asked Grandpa if they were relatives? "Oh, no, Carl. These are some nice folks who were stranded by the storm. They'll be with us for a few days and then be on their way when the roads are open again. Having them stay with us is the sort of thing that people do when others need help. I would guess there must be a couple hundred others like them in Lowell, staying in homes just like our guests. It's going to be so nice having someone here over Christmas."

About nine o'clock, the children were sent off to bed, although sleeping was going to be difficult because their rescuer would be returning with his bag full of Christmas sometime during the night. Tomorrow was, after all, Christmas day. Grandpa had taken the birds out into the garage for a final snack of sunflower seeds before they were sent on home, too. However, before Grandma and Grandpa and their Mother and Dad went to bed, they helped set up the garage with a couple of long tables and enough chairs for seven where they were going to have Christmas dinner. Grandpa had a wonderful system for heating the garage and that way some of the animals could join them for dinner. (Grandma, however, had made it clear she did not want that whole herd of animals in the house on her clean carpet!) Before the snows came, Grandpa had fresh cut some tender branches for the beavers, he'd stored some sassafras roots for the woodchucks and chipmunks and he had some raw hamburger on hand for the owls, hawks, eagles and possibly even a friendly neighborhood Bobcat and plenty of seed for the birds. He even had a bag of shell corn for the ducks and deer.

Grandpa. "Well, Edgar, I see you got all that ice off your wings. Are you still planning to visit relatives down near Saugatuck over the holidays?" he asked the big bird. His head twisted back and forth but no words were spoken. "It's okay, you can talk in front of these friends of ours. Go ahead. Talk to me, Edgar," Grandpa urged him, but still there were no words. Grandpa smiled at the kids and said that Edgar could be a little shy at times and at others just plain stubborn. In fact, sometimes I think he is almost afraid of children." With that, Edgar's head snapped back and he frowned at Grandpa, looking very annoyed. Grandpa continued, "Never mind, kids, all eagles have that frowning look about them. It's almost as if he's embarrassed that he has this ability to talk, but I don't understand why he's afraid to talk to you?" Again, the head twitched in a couple of directions before, looking right at Grandpa, saying clear as any thing, "I'm not shy, I'm not afraid of anything and I am certainly not stubborn. Have you forgotten, I am an eagle," he blurted out. Grandpa only smiled at Edgar and then at the children. All three stood in the deep snow with their mouths hanging open. Finally the youngest one, Albert, who is almost six, said, "WOOOOW! Did you hear that?" as he spoke haltingly. "The, the eagle just spoke to Grandpa! He actually said words, just like us."

After a wonderful dinner of chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans and corn bread, Elizabeth noticed five or six birds, perched outside the kitchen widow. Grandpa went to the window sill and coaxed the birds to come in and meet the family. Eventually, all of them came in and sat together on the mantle of the kitchen fireplace where it was nice and warm. "Clarice, can you say 'hello' to our friends?" Grandpa asked. Preening her feathers and stretching up to her maximum height of three and a half inches, she chirped twice and then said, "Hello, everyone!" The children were astounded. "It's nice to meet them, isn't it?" she asked of the other birds. All chirped and



616-897-0787

The new trash bags are slightly smaller than the old ones so, I need to buy more. We also need to put our recycling in the same bags - even more money. How was this a better deal?

- Mark Schmalz

I wish Lowell would have put a little more into their town Christmas tree. I think it's a great idea and so is the tree lighting ceremony but I have more lights on my six-foot tree than that thing does. Lowell used to decorate it with more lights and also decorate the trees going down Main Street and it looked very nice. Now they do hardly anything and it looks cheap. If Lowell's the next place to be then make it look that way.

I enjoyed seeing the Andrews Sisters and their famous guests. Great Job!

To the snowmobilers who assume it's okay to trespass onto private property - Don't worry about my seedling trees. You took those out last year and I didn't replace them.

Mrs. Tenney's middle school and high school orchestras are awesome. Great Christmas program.

- Thanks, Denise Domner

The LHS Academic Boosters would like to give the Lowell Ledger a big thank you for helping us out this year and in years past with selling the Key Cards. The cards are one of our biggest fundraisers and the money goes toward \$200 to \$500 scholarships to seniors every year.

BE SURE AND GO TO thelowelledger.com AND VOTE IN OUR WEEKLY POLL! This week's poll question - Do you believe in Santa?

Check next week to hear what happened and how our story ends...

LHS honor roll, continued

Zachary Hofman
Matthew Hoogenboom
Lee Hovey
Ashlyn Hussey
Helen Jacobs
Amanda Jakubiak
Hannah Johnson
Adam Jones
Lindsey Karasiewicz
Michaela Kehoe
Austin Kempker
Stephanie Kline
Lauren Kurtz
Vonda Kyes
Matthew Kyllonen
Alan Lally
Meredith Lane
Andrew Light
Jacob Litchfield
Hanna Liu
Blake Lyman
Emma MacDonald
Sage Maliepaard
Kelsey Mankel
Kyra Marks
Christin Marsalese
Amber Martin
Taylor Martin
Dominique Martinez
Drew Mayhew
Alannah McBryde
Wesley McDannold
Braden McGillicuddy
Hannah McLane
Forrest McRee
Jacob Merklinger
Kendra Merriman
Jorge Mexicano
Allison Meyers
Derek Mixon
Sarah Mogor
Bravot Morris
Taryn Morris
Andrew Morse
Gabriel Morse
Melissa Mosher
Cassandra Mullins
Arielle Nausieda
Alexis Noffke
Alicia Noffke
Allyson Nora
John North
Jordan Nurmikko
Jeffrey Odland
Jeffrey Onan
Renn Osborne
Hope Oudbier
Carissa Paiz
Shelby Perkins
Jelena Petricevic
Joseph Potter
Caleb Pratt
Tyler Putney
Halley Reed
Kiran Riley
Emma Roderick
Alec Roerig
Kyle Rogers
Shannon Rose
Tara Rowley
Anna Rozema
Cory Russell

Cassandra Rybicki
Joseph Senneker
Connor Smith
Jenna Smith
Kelsey Smith
Kendall Solon
Melissa Southwell
Jacob Stehley
Lucas Stephens
Stephanie Stevens
Shelby Strah
Joseph Sweet
Alexa Szura
Haley Talcott
Yanni Tapia
Hannah Tawney
Skye Thebo
Brandi Thompson
Jordan Timmer
Chase Treglia
Catherine Tremblay
Anne Vanderson
Allyson VanTil
William Velting
Amanda Vietzke
Stephanie Vosburg
Alexandra Wabeke
Mackinzie Whaley
Samuel Whaley
Rachel White
Nicole Wilcox
Jake Will
Amanda Willson
Kelsey Wittenbach
Jeremy Wodarek
Jacob Wold
Kasey Woodhead
Ryan Woodhead
Hunter Zuk

12TH GRADE

Kelsey Aiken
Corinne Alberts
Bailey Allen
Aubrey Ardis
Gerrid Ball
Katherine Bartholomew
Jonathan Bassin
Robert Becker
Blake Bergy
Jennifer Betts
Corey Bilski
Tyler Bitterman
Daniel Blake
Audrey Blodger
Brandon Blough
Sarah Boeskey
Griffin Brenk
Treasure Bristol
Amber Brown
Michael Brown
Parker Buck
Ashleigh Buckius
Chase Bueche
Whitney Bunn
Noah Burt
Jill Callihan
Bradley Canfield
Benjamin Carlson
MacKenzie Carlson
Mia Carvajal
Rebecca Chamberlain
Derek Chopp

Emily Churches
Cameron Clark
Brianna Clarke
Kohlton Clouser
Chelsea Comdure
Alexandria Cowden
Timothy Creighton
Nicholas Crook
Dayna Crumback
Brooke Curtis
Sarah Cyrocki
Joshua Depew
Jone Destine
Marie Doty
Olivia Dolar
Molly Doyle
Elliott Drain
Kaitlin Drudy
Andrew Drust
Connor Duiven
Emma Duvernay
Joshua Dykman
Devyn Earls
Andrea Elmer
Taryn Endres
Heather Ferris
Aaron Fetzer
Ellen Fitzpatrick
Taylor Flanagan
Daniel Fleet
Braydon Foley
Maxwell Forton
Marcus Fron
Hannah Geelhoed
Nicholas Getz
Melissa Grasman
Kimberly Green
Eric Grove
Justin Hall
Jennifer Hartley
Gabrielle Hause
Blake Hayes
Andrea Herrera
Andrew Heshner
Spenser Hewett
Kendall Hewitt
Martin Hewitt
Kallie Holzhueter
Claire Hopkins
Matthew Houston
Craig Huber
Adam Hubert
Jalen Humphreys
Erik Ingebreton
Krysta Jankowski
Stevie Jarecki
Emily Jelsma
Jillian Johnson
Shannon Johnston
Marina Jones
Jessica Kansman
Alyssa Kargl
Evan Kohtz
Cody Kooiman
Sarah Kramer
Maggie Lancaster
Justin Lehman
Jessica Lewis
Jasmine Lillie
Rebecca Lorentz
Bryleigh Loughlin
Matthew Majestic

Asher Maliepaard
Taylor Mankel
Rebekah Martin
Reese Mason
Brady Maughan
Katherine Maycroft
Conor McCarrey
Joseph McCorkle
Audrey McKay
Nicholas McKay
Mitchell McKenna
Monica McRae
Paige McVey
Ashley Metternick
Jacob Meyer
Lucas Miles
Katy Miller
Brittney Milton
Aaron Minnie
Shelby Mitchell
Tyler Mitchell
Megan Montgomery
Mariah Moore
Summer Moore
Taylor Moore
Forrest Morris
Amanda Mott
Kayla Mullin
Sarah Mundwiler
Colin Murray
Kyleigh Newman
Jonathan Nichols
Benjamin Nickson
Kimberly Noall
Rachael Nora
Alexander Nurmikko
Emily Oberlin
Allison Oesch

Brandy Parrish
Eleni Peckham
Troy Petersen
Kaylie Petroelje
Neil Phillips
William Plummer
Brynn Plumber
Jacob Porter
Benjamin Proefke
Matthew Proefke
Courtney Race
Megan Racine
Kailee Richards
Brianna Richardson
Jenna Ries
Morgan Rogalke
Allison Roth
Julie Russo
Wade Schlosser
Courtney Schmidt
Kristen Schramm
Caleb Schultz
Anna Scudder
Kate Scudder
Steven See
Torrey Slocum
Elizabeth Smith
Shelby Snyder
Samuel Steed
Jennifer Stevens
Brandon Strick
Conner Swift
Olivia Taber
Kathryn Tackmann
Madison Tawney
Kelsey Taylor
Bradley Theel
Shannon Theisen

Danielle Thomas
Cort Thompson
Katherine Tompkins
Nicholas Toomey
Joshua Tozer
Kelly Trapp
Lauren Trasky
Krystal Troyer
Matthew Vandenberg
Hannah Vanderhorst
Mackenzie VanDerWarf
Courtney VanNoord
Samantha Visscher
Crystal Vosburg
Erica Walendzik
Tyler Wallner
Kelsey Ward
Brianna Warren
Brandy Washburn
Leighton Watson
Katherine Weaver
Daniel Wernet
Eliot Westdorp
Kaylee Westerhuis
Molly Willemstein
Jared Williams
Ethan Willison
Rachel Wold
Samantha Woody
Molly Wright
Kelly Wyckoff
Jian Xue
Allison Young
Samuel Young
Scott Zalis
Christine Zvirzdinis

Place your personal or business holiday greeting in the **The buyers guide** "The People Paper" this year!

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year's or both!

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ANIMAL HOSPITAL OF LOWELL

Business provides venue for year-round athletic training

by Emma Palova

Main Street West now has a complete indoor training facility located right behind the former GOOD dealership.

Co-owners Shane Beach and Toby Alderink opened Spring Training in November after a brief stint at a smaller location west of town.

"We wanted to have a larger facility to give the kids more opportunities," he said. "We brought everything in."

And the hope is to grow into a larger facility yet in the future.

The 5,000-square-foot building is equipped with batting cages, which are available for rent.

The facility targets kids in the Lowell Area School system, as well as the serious athlete. The target age group is seven through college.

The programming includes baseball, softball training, team practices,

lessons, golf, dodgeball leagues and whiffle ball tournaments.

In addition to the main programming, Spring Training also offers golf, camps, gamer tournaments, parties, coaching clinics, meetings and mentoring programs.

The facility has a 100-inch screen with Playstation 3 that can be used by kids or adults.

One of the games available is "A Call of Duty Modern Warfare."

There is an entry fee to play which funds the prizes for first and second place.

"Kids can win money," said Beach.

And of course there are fun nights or Open Gym Time, during which parents can drop off their kids to get stuff done.

Kids can play ping pong, basketball, baseball, dodgeball, watch movies, or hit golf balls.

A fun night is currently was held on Dec. 17. The facility will accommodate 40 to 50 people.

"Team practices can be held here," said Beach.

Cage rentals and golf area are available either per time or as package deals.

In order to fit any need, the time increments can be as short as half an hour.

"Anybody and everybody are welcome to participate in these activities," said Beach.

What is unique about the facility is that it helps the serious athlete reach the next level and it caters to the recreational athlete as well. And coaches are available.

"We want this to be a place where people want to hang out, be with friends and take advantage of all the venues we have," said Beach. "Toby and I are open to listen to coaches and the public about other ideas."

The facility can be rented for soccer and Lacrosse practices and field hockey. Beach has a badminton team.

"I'd love to hear from the community," he said. "It has been about what we expected so far, a little slower. I don't think the word is out there."

So, Beach invites the



Co-owner Shane Beach shows around the Spring Training facility.

community to come on in and check out the facility with all its programming potential.

"Toby and I, we love this community," said

Beach. "We want to offer as many things as possible to give all the families as much opportunity as possible. Take advantage what is in our backyard."

The facility is located at 1250 W. Main Street. For more information contact springtraining@rocketmail.com or call 616-560-8889.

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF LOWELL, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CITY OF LOWELL'S PROPOSED USE OF 2009-2010, 2010-2011 AND 2011-2012

KENT COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS

A public hearing will be conducted by the Lowell City Council on Monday, January 3, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. at the City Council Chambers, Lowell City Hall, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan.

Public comments will be received during the hearing, orally or in writing, regarding the City of Lowell's proposed use of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Funds for the following projects:

North Kent Transit assistance to senior citizens and handicapped riders \$6,000.00


North Center Street from W. Main to north of Heffron at Laurels of Kent ~~\$73,650.80~~
\$79,650.80

The County of Kent has allocated approximately \$24,689.40 of its 2009-2010 federal entitlement Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to the City of Lowell, \$31,186.00 in 2010-2011 fiscal year and \$28,067.40 in 2011-2012 fiscal year. The primary objective of the federal CDBG Entitlement Program "is development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income". Activities using CDBG funds must meet one of the following National Objectives: benefiting low and moderate income persons; addressing slums or blight; or, meeting a particularly urgent community development need.

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



Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk



FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES

www.fromlowell.org

The entire staff at FROM wants to wish you and your loved ones a Blessed and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with love, laughter and peace!

Thanks to all of our faithful shoppers in the Thrift Shop, Boutique and Furniture Store and to all of you who have donated to us in the form of gently-used merchandise or cash.

(Watch for the big, store-wide sale after Christmas!)

Without you we couldn't do what we do in the community!

God Bless You All!

Holiday Hours

Thurs., Dec. 23 - 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. • Closed Fri., Dec. 24
Deadline for the Dec. 29 edition is Mon., Dec. 27 at noon

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

the lowell
ledger