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new exhibit at lacc



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school board appreciation



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new assisted living facility



page 8

sports



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CENTS



Community charrette will explore design possibilities for amphitheatre area and west bank

by Emma Palova

A community charrette will be held at the Main Street Inn this Thursday from noon until 8 p.m. to explore design options for the old amphitheatre and west bank.

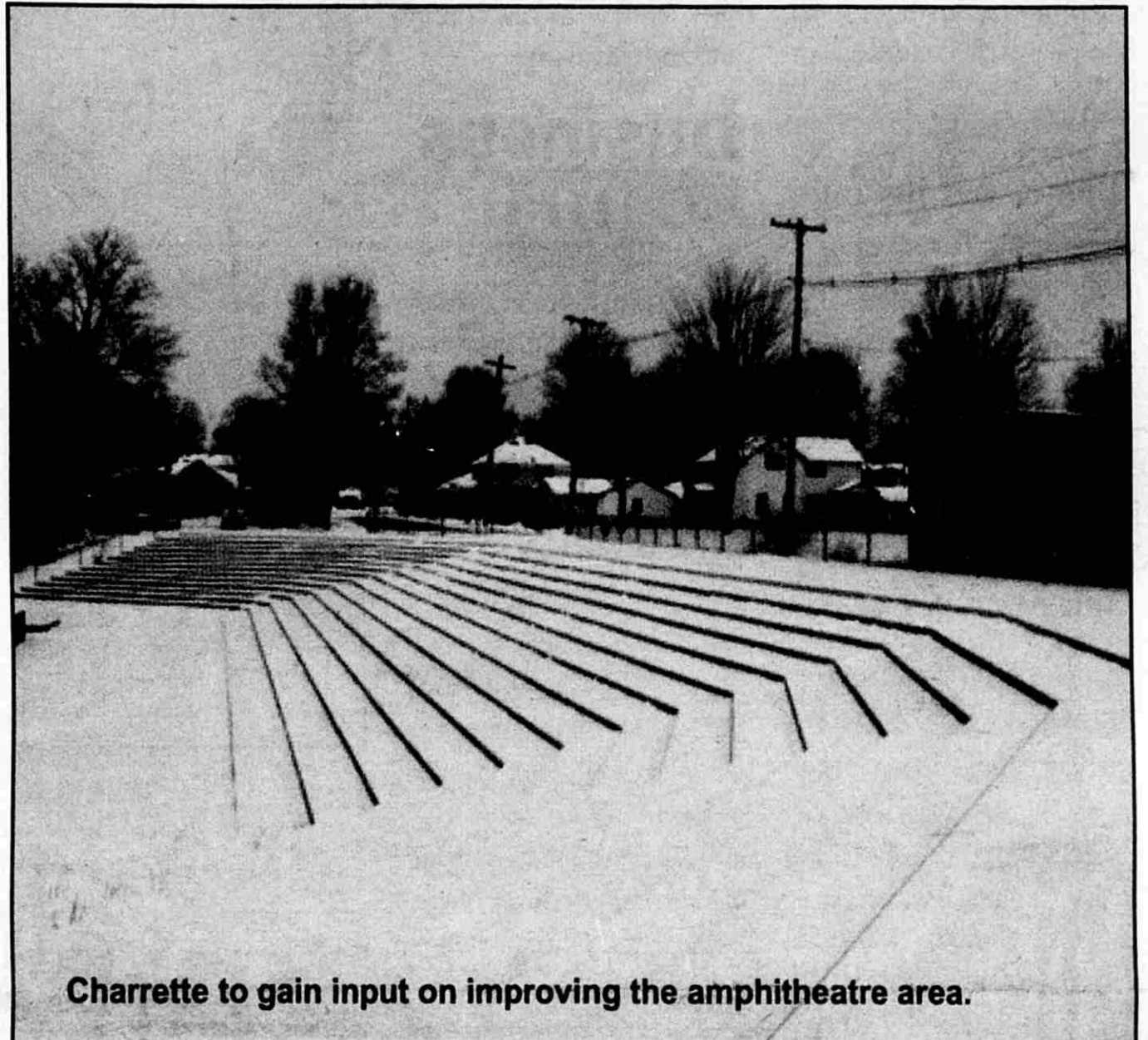
Consulting architects from Design Plus will be doing design right onsite. The project will expand the existing design of the Riverwalk and upgrade the amphitheatre site.

The public can come in at anytime during the eight-hour period.

"We will keep track of design elements," said Design+ partner owner Pete Lazdins, landscape architect.

Lazdins expects to track repeating themes. After Design Plus gathers input, the firm will make a presentation, to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and to the public, in approximately three to four weeks.

Community charrette continued, page 16



Charrette to gain input on improving the amphitheatre area.

Volunteers to honor King with service

On Monday, January 17, hundreds of volunteers throughout Michigan will devote themselves to service on behalf of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the day of service named in his honor. These citizens will make this national holiday a "day on, not a day off" as they look to reaffirm Dr. King's teachings of nonviolence and social justice.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Day was created by Congress in 1994 and has grown beyond a federal holiday honoring Dr. King into a national day of community service. Each year, service projects are planned across the country to share Dr. King's message of serving others.

Everyone is encouraged to participate in the King Day of Service and all types of service are accepted. The Michigan Community Service Commission (MCSC), a supporter of the annual King Day of Service, encourages individuals and/or organizations to search for opportunities in their community by visiting the official MLK Day website at www.MLKDay.gov

Township planning commission finalizes amendments to satellite dish ordinance, discusses 2011 goals

by Emma Palova

The Lowell Township planning commission finalized amendments to the satellite dish ordinance Monday. The amendments will now go to the township board for approval next month.

Under the regulation, the township allows satellite dish antennas without a

permit, except in the front yard but no dish antennas in the "required" front yard, unless reception is not available anywhere else. Then, residents may get a waiver or variance to place a dish in the front yard.

The planning commission approved the co-location of a

communication antenna by Fortune Wireless. Three existing antennas will be removed and replaced with new ones. The new antennas will have remote electronic tilt for safety of employees.

Planner Tim Johnson said this does not have Township. continued, page 2

Family remembers local businessman as hardworking and fair

by Emma Palova

Tom Tschannen started his septic business with a broken truck, a shoebox, an answering machine, and a great determination thirty years ago.

The business captured his interest when he needed some septic work done in Ada. A lifelong self-learner, Tschannen knew he could do that work himself. He bought the business from Joe Fuller and started it up with Dan Free, who owned excavating.

"He learned as he went. He just figured it out," said wife Jane. "He was a hard worker, a great entrepreneur and he loved

the community of Lowell. He was fair and honest."

Jane said Tom had x-ray vision so he could see the septic tank under the ground.

"He was very self-motivated," said Jane.

And as any great entrepreneur would, Tschannen started other businesses as well, which included T&T Tool in the late 80s, Ground Breaking Technology, Advance Plumbing, and portable toilets with Stoneybrook Sanitation.

Although all these have been sold, except for Fuller Septic Services

and the name Stoneybrook Sanitation, the businesses still exist.

And even though in recent years, due to illness, Tschannen could not be active in the business, he always managed to stop by and touch base with employees.

Jane will continue to run the business since she has been involved in it for the last 15 years.

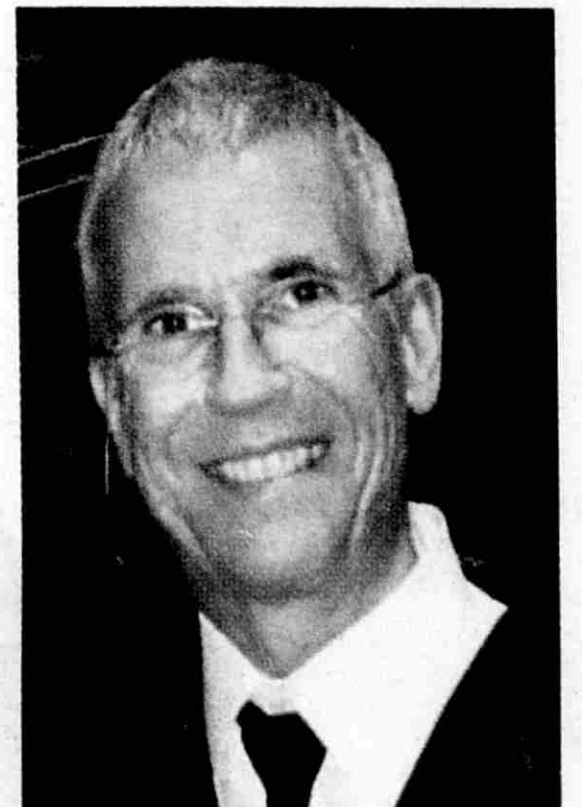
"I have no intention of selling it," she said. "I will keep it as it is. Even though Tom is gone, the business will continue to run. We have wonderful employees."

The business located on Bowes Road employs seven.

Gerri Holwerda has worked for Tom and Jane Tschannen for the last 16 years in customer service starting out of the basement in Ada. In 1998, the company moved from Ada to Lowell.

"He was the best," she said. "He was an all around great boss."

In the 90s, the company grew remarkably with more employees and



it branched out into other areas. This lasted until 2000.

Businessman remembered, continued, page 2

Township, continued

impact on the current land use.

"They're not changing the structure," said commissioner Mark Batchelor. "I am fine with it."

In other business, Lynn Richardson of Meijer operations requested site approval for a pharmacy drive-up window in Lowell Township due to an extensive interior remodel in the spring.

The planning commission approved the site plan with conditions of

having a defined driveway and no display of sale items in the island created by the new driveway.

Richardson said that most will be happening inside the store. "We're just changing the location of pharmacy and the window," she said.

This year, the planning commission will work on creating an outdoor furnace ordinance and on strengthening the existing mining ordinance pertaining only to new mines coming into the township.

"This will give us something to work on," said chairman Dave Simmonds.

The planning commission will also look at regulating parking for recreational vehicles, commercial vehicles and trailers based on dimensions rather than gross weight.

However, secretary Tim Clements said he was afraid of interfering in people's lives.

The panel will look at their existing home occupation ordinance. Also,

according to Johnson, the ordinance regulating cell towers and antennas needs to be revised and paired down.

"Cell towers should be allowed in more districts than you have," he said. "They follow roadways."

Johnson said cell towers should be allowed in agricultural 2 zone.

"You can have antennas

on anything," Batchelor said. "Put it on a structure, co-locate, co-locate."

The township will most likely extend the six month moratorium on medical marijuana by another six months. The township may prohibit dispensaries which would be like storefronts.

"If you allow it, it's retail use," said Johnson.

In some communities where dispensaries have been allowed, people have been breaking in and stealing, according to Johnson. Most communities, including the city of Lowell, have placed a moratorium on medical marijuana as they wait to see how the issue shakes out.

Businessman remembered, continued

"He loved the pumping truck," she said. "It was his therapy. He liked to hop on the biggest truck and do some pumping. It was his release working with other employees."

And the Tschannens were always accommodating to their employees creating mutual respect.

"It's been quite a roller coaster over the years," she said. "We always had a good time. Jane will be taking over the business. She is great."

Tschannen was an avid reader and he loved water. The couples sailed on Portage Lake and Tschannen liked to kayak and canoe all over Michigan.

He was known to always lend a helping hand whether plowing someone's driveway or getting somebody out of a ditch.

"He loved to help the community, to provide jobs," said Jane.

Tschannen liked his big dogs: English mastiffs, Buddy and Izzy.

"He liked to keep in touch with employees," she said.

Even though he hasn't been driving, he sometimes would operate the truck.

"We have a wonderful family," said Jane.

The Tschannens have four daughters, Karla, Gretchen, Corey, and Shelby.

Fuller Septic Services and Stoneybrook Sanitation pump septic systems, do repair work, install new tanks, and do pipe and pump repairs.

business matters

Greenridge Realty announced that Don Reedy was Realtor of the Year in 2010 for the Lowell office.

This award recognizes Reedy for all his hard work and achievements.



Don Reedy

*** Remember not only to say the right thing in the right place, but far more difficult still, to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.

- Benjamin Franklin (1706 - 1790)

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ART EXHIBIT

Lowell artist, watercolorist and illustrator, Jan Y. Johnson, presents "A Celebration of Life" Jan. 8 - April 9 at the Lowell Chamber of Commerce. A variety of techniques, media and subjects, including animals, chickens, florals and local scenes will be on display.

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.

BLOOD DRIVE

Mon., Jan. 24, 3-8 p.m. at Vergennes United Methodist Church located at Bailey Dr. NE and Parnell. The public is welcome. Appointments are encouraged, but not necessary. Call 897-6141 for appointments.

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January is School Board Appreciation Month

By Shelly MacNaughton

At its regular monthly meeting Monday night, the Lowell School Board's

student representative, Summer Moore, briefed the board on student council activities.

Currently at the high school, preparations are underway for the winter dance which will be held

Feb. 12. Parent teacher conferences will be held next week on Jan. 17 and 19.

Moore also mentioned a charity project done by two high school students: Rachael Nora and Kaylie Petroelije. The two have been selling Red Rage t-shirts for \$10 to students and in return the students give \$3 instead of \$5. All proceeds go to an orphanage in Haiti.

Meggan Johnson offered an update on happenings at the Wittenbach Wege Agriscience and Environmental Education Center. Events held throughout the past year included Halloween/Night Hike, Astronomy Nights and a Luminary Hike. Winter Fest is coming up in February and maple syrup in March, Earth Day in April and Fun on the Farm in May.

The center has also begun to host summer family programs and will continue to do so. New programs will include hobby farm classes, honey bee talks and beekeeping and tree tapping and making maple syrup.

The center has received various grants including a grant to purchase snowshoes. Several Eagle Scout projects have benefited the center. They now have signage and trail maps thanks to the Scouts. Teachers, Trish Miller

and Ryan Conlan from the science department, demonstrated how teachers in the high school are using technology in the classrooms. Teachers are sharing use of four sets of Mobi Boards (Mobile Interactive White Boards) and 32 clickers. Clickers are handheld electronic devices that are assigned to students. This technology allows students to take electronic quizzes and participate with the teachers during class; the results are immediate for teachers. This is a very interactive learning tool that the teachers are very excited about. "It allows teachers to go paperless," said Conlan.

"I'd like to thank our staff for great presentations tonight," said superintendent Greg Pratt. January is also School Board Appreciation Month. "I thank the board of education for their work," said Pratt.

Board member Mark Lessons added, "There are two board seats open for election this year, the seat I hold and the seat Nancy Hopkins holds. If you are interested in serving on the board, it is a four year term. The Kent County Clerk's office has the forms and documentation for nominating petitions."



The Lowell Area School Board members pictured are, front row: Summer Moore, Nancy Hopkins, Jim Turner, Maureen Fleet, and Dan Brubaker; back row, Gary Blough,

State offices to close for Martin Luther King holiday

Secretary of State Ruth Johnson reminds residents that all branch offices and the Office of the Great Seal will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday, Jan. 17.

The Department of State mails notices to motorists 45 days before their driver's license or license plates expire to give them ample time to renew. Licenses and plates that expire on a day when state offices are closed, such as a holiday or weekend, can be renewed the following day without

penalty. Motorists renewing license plates can "skip the trip" to the branch office and do business by mail, or if eligible, by Internet. Easy to follow instructions can be found with the renewal notice. License plate tabs will arrive by mail within seven business days.

License plate tabs can also be renewed at Self-Service Stations, many of which are available 24/7. Visit the Branch Office Locator at www.Michigan.gov/sos to find a Self-

Service Station near you. With the exception of holidays, branch offices are open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Smaller branch offices may close for the lunch hour. On Wednesdays most offices are open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., with those in city centers

open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. PLUS offices and SUPER!Centers are open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesdays. SUPER!Centers also provide Saturday hours from 9 a.m. to noon.

For more information visit the web site at www.Michigan.gov/sos.

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION
 Applications for Lowell Area Schools free and/or tuition-based
 Preschool Programs are being accepted January 11, 12 & 18 from 9:15 -11:15 a.m. at Bushnell Elementary, 700 Elizabeth. Registrations are taken on a first-come-first-serve basis. A non-refundable \$35.00 deposit (tuition based programs only) will be collected at this time. Placements will be made by March 25, 2011.

Registrations will continue to be accepted until classes are full. Waiting lists will be created if needed.

The following preschool programs: Head Start, Great Start Readiness Program, Curiosity Corner and TOTS are housed at Bushnell Elementary, 700 Elizabeth for children who are three, or four, (depending on program) by December 1st. Options for 1,2,3 or 4 times per week sessions are available.

For information about registration, schedules, fees (if applicable) Call Joanne (Bushnell Office) 987-2650

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financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

How to choose a financial professional

As you navigate the financial world, you'll most likely deal with a wide array of investment choices, constantly changing tax laws, estate-planning issues and other areas. And then, to make things even more complex, you'll have to consider your own risk tolerance, time horizon and individual goals. If you're like most people, you don't have the time and expertise to create, monitor and adjust your investment strategy by yourself, so you'll need to get some help. But how can you choose a financial professional who is right for you?

You'll need to do some research, possibly by interviewing a few candidates. Here are a few questions you may want to ask:

- *Do you have experience working with people like me?* Ideally, you'd like to work with someone who has experience in helping people like you — that is, people with similar income and asset levels, family situations, goals and so on. The more familiar a financial professional is with people like you, the better that person will be at helping you identify the appropriate investment moves.
- *Do you have a particular investment philosophy?* Look for someone with a thoughtful, reasoned philosophy on investing. As a general rule, be suspicious of anyone promising you big, quick gains. The best financial professionals seek to help their clients achieve positive

long-term results through disciplined, persistent and sensible investment moves.

- *How often will you communicate with me?* If you're going to entrust your hard-earned financial resources with someone, you'll want that person to communicate with you regularly as to how you're doing and what changes you may need to make. How often will you receive investment statements? How many times a year will you meet to review your progress? Can you have face-to-face consultations whenever you need them? These are the types of questions you'll want to ask any prospective financial advisor.
- *Will you be my primary contact?* If you seek a one-on-one relationship with a financial professional, you'll want that person to be your main contact, if not your exclusive one. You deserve the attention and expertise of a financial professional, so if you're interviewing someone who seems as if he or she might try to "pass you along" to subordinates in the office, keep looking.
- *What services do you offer?* If you want your

financial professional to help you create a unified investment strategy, you'll also want that person to help you implement it — which means he or she needs access to a full range of investment and money management products and services.

- *How are you paid?* Financial professionals are compensated in any of a number of ways. They may work strictly on commissions, or they may work on a fee-only basis, with the fee either agreed upon in advance or based on the level of assets under management. And some financial professionals work in a combined fee-and-commission arrangement. From an investor's point of view, one method of compensation may not be "better" than the others; nonetheless, it's important for you to fully understand how your financial advisor will be paid.

By doing your homework in advance, you can develop a solid relationship with a qualified financial professional — someone who will be with you far into the future.

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

We must build on past successes in 2011



Sen. Carl Levin

The past two years have been one of the most challenging, but productive, periods of my time in the Senate.

The early weeks of 2010 were dominated by the continued debate

and secure care, and as it takes effect, it will provide affordable care to millions who now lack it. It will protect families with health insurance from arbitrary caps on coverage, from arbitrary denial of coverage by insurance companies, and from denial of coverage for pre-existing conditions.

In 2010, we had successes on the job-creation front. In March, we passed the HIRE Act, which includes tax incentives for businesses to hire people who lost their jobs in the recession and small business tax cuts. And in September, we passed the Small Business Jobs and Credit Act, which will help small businesses get the capital they need to hire workers. The bill included language I authored to fund state and local programs that help small businesses meet

Levin, continued, page 12

viewpoint

to the editor

Glad to see licensing moratorium

Dear Editor,

I am writing in regard to your headline article in last week's Ledger, "City Places Moratorium on Licensing Ordinance for Professional Snowplowers." I was glad to see the council place this moratorium to give several small businesses an opportunity to voice their concerns.

Mr. Lehigh has a valid grievance to dispute the ordinance requirement that he divulge his customer list. The city should build their own list based on complaints received, as Chief Hinton suggested.

Sincerely,
Sharon Ellison
Mayor Pro tem

While I do own a business in Lowell and we do subscribe to The Ledger, where does this become a requirement as Betty Morlock suggests? Councilwoman LaPonsie stated that communication is an ongoing problem. I found just seven plowing contractors in the Lowell Directory. I'm sure it would have taken just a few minutes to contact these contractors and invite them to the meeting to discuss an ordinance that would directly affect their businesses. To expect they all would see the notice is a bit of a reach, however, I'm glad Mr. Lehigh spoke up on behalf of his industry and others in

it. I'm just as pleased that our council was responsive and will consider these voices of small business as they put together this new ordinance.

Sincerely,
Nancy Stroosnyder
Lowell

Appreciating our service men and women

Dear Editor,

On January 13, 2010 the world changed. Your local media and your nation's military possibly told you about it. SGT. Lucas T. Beachnaw, 23, was killed in action in Afghanistan. He was hit by small arms fire during a fire fight. That's what the news will tell you. SGT. Beachnaw was a sniper in the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team; he shot Top Gun during Sniper School, earned a Pathfinder Badge, and was a world-class warrior. That's what the army will tell you. What neither will tell you is that if Luke could describe himself as a color, he would be green. Or that in his next line of work he wanted to become a professional uncle because of how he loved his niece and nephews. What they couldn't tell you is he was keenly aware of the two things in life that sustained him. Long Island iced teas and air. And only we could tell you that when he smiled he really meant it. Our media and army won't say to you that although this man was indeed one of our barrel-chested freedom fighters, he was also a son, a brother, an uncle, a best friend, and a brother-in-arms. As far as the news and the army are concerned, this battle ended just as the sun set on January 13, 2010. What we can tell you is it didn't. The war wages on for those of us who wait to see blue eyes and a contagious smile. What this heartbreak left us with is the gratitude and relief that we, who knew him, said out loud, we loved him and missed him while he was still here, while he could hear it and know it. We also thanked him for his service to our country and our freedoms and we thanked Luke for being all the things he was besides a

soldier. So don't wait for it. Don't express gratitude to members of your military after they're gone. Don't show compassion for them or their families when it's too late for them to know it. Say it today, do it yesterday. As it nears the one year mark since Luke has ambled among us, we will carry with us always that our soldier knew he was loved, missed and appreciated while he was here. And since he's been gone.

Melissa Horner
Bozeman, MT

Breath of fresh air at council meeting

Dear Editor,

Headline in January 5, The Lowell Ledger "City places moratorium on licensing ordinance for professional snowplowers." Wasn't it just recently that the city council made an ordinance to have trash haulers licensed also? The question is why the licensing now when the community has gotten by so many years without it. It's not like the city has gotten any larger or is going to. Also, in the article was a breath of fresh air when a councilmember spoke about the regulation of soft sided garages. The councilmember said, "We're trying to micromanage people's properties. I think it's too much. Government should be hands off." Myself, I think they're trying to micromanage people's lives. The community isn't that much bigger than it was forty years ago, but its ordinances have multiplied. Sometimes an ordinance is needed, but other times they make a mountain out of a mole hill. There always seems to be room for one more ordinance. Are we trying to justify a police department that cost the city about \$800,000 a year or one third of the city budget? Whatever our problems are, do we want to be a big bad city or a friendly rural community?

Sincerely,
Jim Howard
Lowell

Public input requested

Dear Editor,

The City of Lowell is seeking a plan to enhance the area around the Flat River. This project has been referred to as the amphitheatre update, but it is much more than that. Stabilizing the west riverbank is needed, but we are also interested in adding recreational features to the riverbanks as well. Some ideas I have heard are a boardwalk along Riverside Drive, fishing and wildlife viewing platforms and a kayak/canoe portage around

the dam. I know there are more good ones out there. This is where you come in! On January 13, a design charrette is being held at the new Main Street Inn from noon to 8 p.m. It's your chance to give us your ideas/wish list. Don't leave it to "someone else" to decide what your city looks like. Please take the time to stop in, we need everyone working together. Thanks and see you there.

Sincerely,
Sharon Ellison
Mayor Pro tem



By Shelly MacNaughton

50 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger January 12, 1961

Keith Avery has been employed for the rest of the school year to teach agriculture, conservation and handle some study hall duty. Mr. Avery recently returned to Michigan from New Mexico, where he had taught. Mrs. Ralph Kirch has resigned effective at the end of this semester. Her husband, former Kent 4-H leader, is joining the National Foundation in Washington, D. C.

25 Years Ago The Grand Valley Ledger January 15, 1986 The "Ottawa Treasure"

Was the first sizable grant intended for the benefit of the people living in the area, which later was to become the Village of Lowell, made by a chief of the Ottawa Indians, perhaps nearly 200 years ago? If so, the treasure was lost to posterity, according to legend.

An article in The Lowell Ledger for April 27, 1939 tells of the discovery, during a sewer project on North Division Street north of the Methodist Church, of a skeleton buried six and one half feet below the surface in an upright position in its grave. In excellent condition, the skull still bore some black hair which showed signs of having been braided, but no particles of clothing or personal effects remained. After examination by the coroner, it was decided that the skeleton was that of an Indian, certainly buried long before the streets were first put through and that it should be given to the Grand Rapids Public Museum.

This discovery gave credence to a legend from the days when land in the area was bought by white men from the Ottawa Indians residing here. Fearing that the tribe might misuse the money, one of their chiefs decided to bury it. When he refused to distribute it to the tribe, or even upon torture to reveal its location, he was exiled and soon died. The Ottawas realized that their leader had been acting for their own good and they buried him in honor under a pine tree on a side hill. They purportedly placed his body in a sitting position so that he might continue to watch over the tribe. The treasure was never found, as far as anyone knows. The legend remains with only the tantalizing finding of 1939 to lend it an aura of truth.

125 Years Ago The Lowell Journal January 15, 1886

Lowell needs more school room.

Will M. Hine has put in circulation a library of choice books at the post-office newsstand.

John Kopf, of the firm of Taylor and Kopf of this village, attended the state Convention of Undertakers held in Kalamazoo this week.

100 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger January 12, 1911

The general delivery system used by merchants in many other places will be adopted by the grocers and butchers of Lowell beginning about February 1.

75 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo January 9, 1936

A new Lowell product — King's Golden Brown Self-rising Pancake Flour — was placed upon the market January first of this year and is enjoying an enthusiastically favorable reception.

The formula was devised after a year's experimentation here with repeated tests in Chicago through the laboratories of the Victory Chemical Company.

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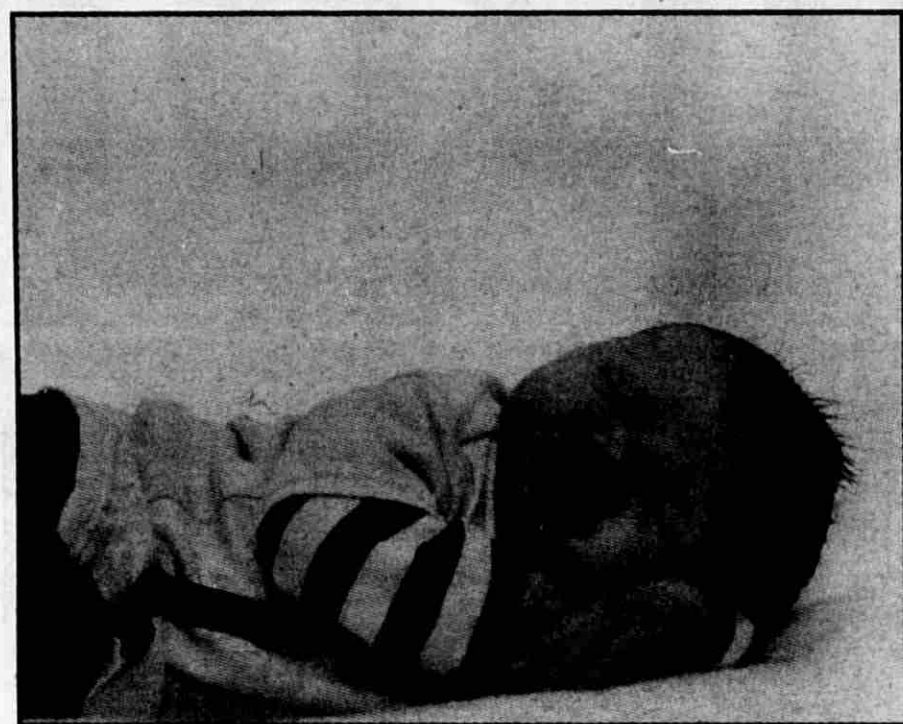
Burnham



Cody Harper Burnham

Bryan and Shay Burnham of Virginia Beach, Virginia are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Cody Harper Burnham. She was born on December 14, 2010, weighing 6 lbs. 15 oz. Proud grandparents are Mike and Karol Burnham and Jim and Sally Hacker, both of Lowell.

Reynolds



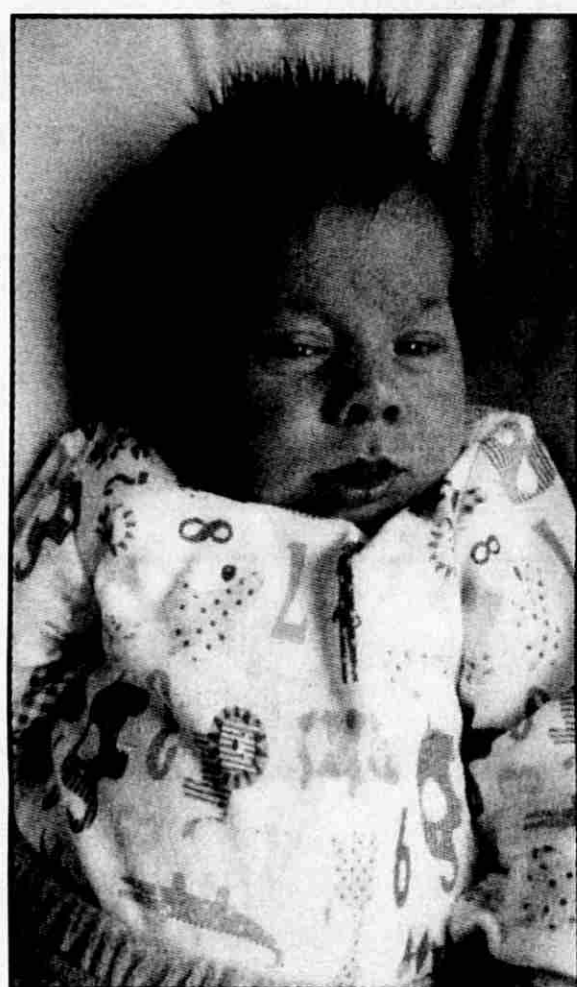
Gordon Michael Reynolds III

Gordon and Karie Reynolds of Lowell are proud to announce the birth of their son, Gordon Michael Reynolds III. He was born January 1, 2011 at 4:44 p.m. weighing 9 lbs. 4 oz. and measuring 22 inches.

Stauffer

Landon Donald Stauffer was born December 24, 2010 at 9:25 a.m. to proud parents Ken and Michele Stauffer of Lowell. He was 9 lbs. 1.5 oz. and measured 23 inches.

He was welcomed home by siblings, Katie and Kyle; grandparents, Don and Cathie Bott of Kingsley and Sandy and the late Dave Stauffer of Lowell.



Landon Donald Stauffer

health

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

smoking cessation

Quitting smoking is one of the most important things you can do to improve your health. People who stop smoking decrease their risk of cancer, heart disease, stroke, and early death. Women who stop smoking before or during pregnancy reduce their risk of infertility or having a low birth-weight baby. Most smokers in the U.S. report they want to stop smoking, but kicking the smoking habit can be difficult. Most people try to quit several times, often as many as eight to ten times, before they are successful. The results are definitely worth the effort.

Be committed to quitting. Keep in mind why you want to quit and stay motivated. Get help from your doctor and continue to follow up regularly. Choose a firm date and mark it on the calendar.

Begin to cut back prior to your quit date. Consider joining a stop-smoking program. Many doctor's offices have information on local programs. Remove smoking from your environment. Avoid places where people congregate to smoke. Remove cigarettes from your car, home and work. Eat a healthy diet and stay active to help with stress and to minimize weight gain.

Nicotine replacement therapy helps relieve the withdrawal symptoms that many smokers say prevent them from quitting. There are several formulations available, including lozenges, gum, patches, and inhalers. There are also prescription medications to help stop smoking. Talk to your doctor about appropriate therapy for you.



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happy birthday!

JANUARY 12 Judy Ellison, Stuart Sauber, Mike Vezino.	JANUARY 16 Alex Stuckey.
JANUARY 13 Jake Sterzick, Stephen Rutherford.	JANUARY 17 Kevin Rasch, Joe Potter.
JANUARY 14 Angie Nowak, Ryan Burns, Tim Yonker.	JANUARY 18 Margie Potter Sullivan, Shelby Weston.
JANUARY 15 Dennis Burns.	

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The Lowell Ledger
105 N. Broadway, Lowell

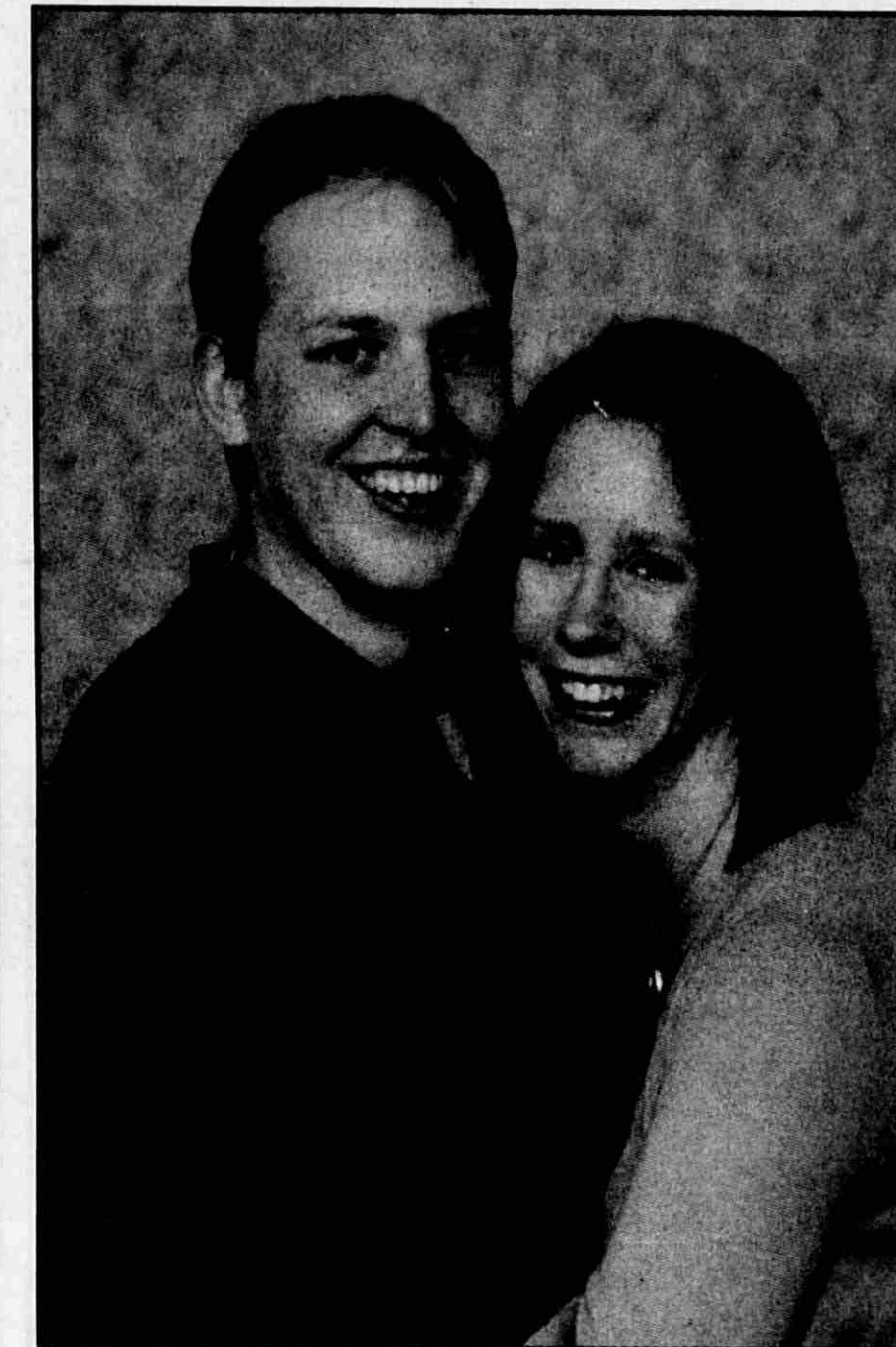
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engagements

Nagelkerk/Den Houter



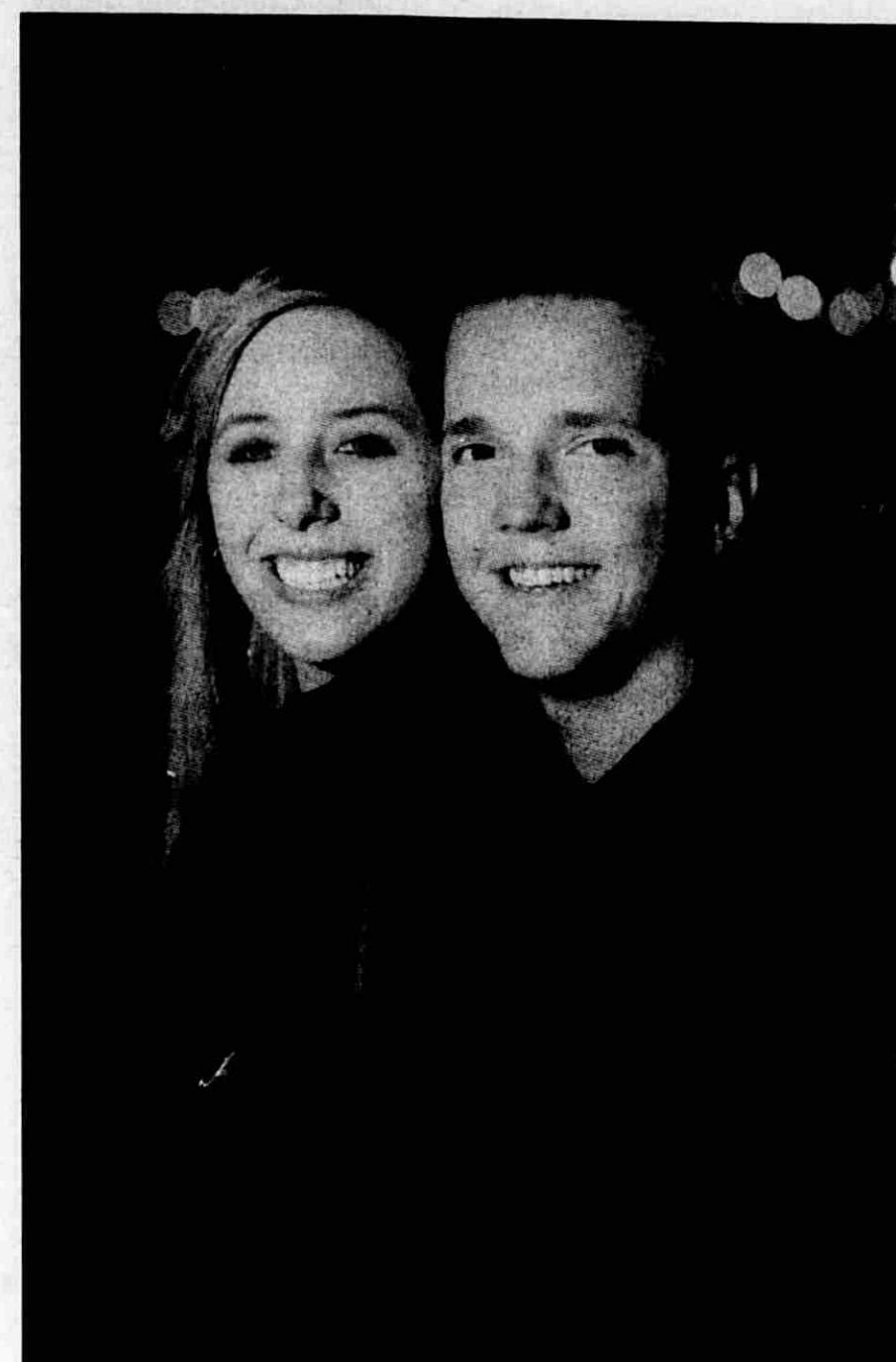
Jonathan Den Houter and Heather Nagelkerk

Heather Nagelkerk and Jonathan Den Houter have announced their engagement. Jonathan is a graduate of Calvin Seminary in Grand Rapids where he received a Masters of Divinity and Heather received a masters degree from Grand Valley State University in Higher Education Administration.

Heather is the daughter of Bill and Harriett Nagelkerk of Grand Rapids and Jonathan is the son of Kathryn Den Houter and the late Leonard Den Houter of Lowell.

They are planning a July 16, 2011 wedding at Harderwyk Christian Reformed Church in Holland.

Nauta/Katona



Tasha Nauta and David Katona

Tasha Marie Nauta and David Ferenc Katona will exchange wedding vows on March 19, 2011. The future bride is a graduate of Lowell High School and is attending Grand Valley State University. The future groom is a graduate of Lee

High School and is stationed in North Carolina as a lance corporal marine.

Parents of the couple are Stephen and Brenda Nauta of Lowell and Ferenc and Valeria Katona of Grand Rapids.

college news

Michigan Technological University honored the achievements of nearly 400 graduates Saturday, Dec. 11, at midyear commencement.

Among the honorees was Daniel Brinks of Alto who earned a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering.

Kenneth Sanborn, Michael Spees, and Aaron Wallace, all of Alto.

Andrea Converse, daughter of Gregory and Marsha Converse of Lowell, was named to the dean's list for the first semester of the 2010-11 school year at Hope College. To be named

to the dean's list, a student must have a minimum 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

Matthew A. Kurtz, a junior at Grace Bible College, was named to the dean's list for the 2010 spring and fall terms. Kurtz is a 2008 Lowell graduate. His parents are Jeff and Debbie Kurtz of Lowell.

Davenport University has announced that several local students have been named to the dean's list for the fall 2010 semester. To achieve the Dean's List, a student must maintain a minimum 3.5 grade point average while enrolled in at least nine credits of regular coursework.

Following is a list of local students that have been named to the Dean's List at Davenport University:

Gabriel Delnick, Kayla Gildea, Paula Grooms, Sarah Hauff, Catherine Howard, Jennifer Johnson, Lindsey Jousma, Lisa Kenworthy, William Mullins, Teresa Palmitier, Brett Pnazeck, Britney Shellenbarger, Amy VanEns, Amy Vander Ziel, and Janel Yoder, all of Lowell.

Jeffrey Huizing, Alex Ohlrich, Kelli Pflug, Christopher Prins, Linda Radashaw, Trent Rummelt,



At Your Local Library

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

Friends of the Englehardt Library Winter Used Book Sale

Need some good books for the long winter? Come shop our Winter Used Book Sale - good reads at great prices. On Monday a bag of books is only \$4. All proceeds go to support library programming. Fri., Jan. 28, Sat., Jan. 29 and Mon. Jan. 31 during open hours.

Pajama Storytime

For families who can't come to the library during the day. Pajama Storytime offers an evening of stories and fun. Bring your teddy bear or other snuggly friend; pajamas optional. For children ages six and under with a caregiver. January 26 at 6:30 p.m.

WE SHIP UPS

The Buyers Guide

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FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Thank You!

Flat River Outreach Ministries would like to thank all of our friends in the community who supported us in 2010. We hope you have a blessed and Peaceful New Year! Your donations of food for the Food Pantry and gently-used goods for the Thrift Shop were very much appreciated.

We especially want to thank all of the businesses in the Lowell Area who hosted an Angel Tree or Toy Barrel for the collection of toys for the FROM Christmas toy and food distribution. When you shop locally you are supporting these very caring and involved establishments!

Thanks to all who donated towards the 400 boxes of food given out and for the toys and gifts for 811 kids. Christmas was made a little brighter for 1,450 people because of your generosity!

Thanks, too, for the volunteers who packed the food boxes and helped distribute the toys and gifts.

We can only do what we do because of you!

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 Framer, 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.
"Loving God ... Loving People!"

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL
2275 West Main Street • 897-7168
Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org
Rev. David Q. Sims, Rev. W. Lee Taylor & Pastor Phil Severin
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
WORSHIP.....8:30 & 10:30 a.m.
SUNDAY SCHOOL.....9:30 a.m.
Rev. Rick Blunt
Barrier-free entrance

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402 Amity St. • 897-9820
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Weekday Masses: 7:45 A.M.
Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM
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Green Acres assisted retirement living to offer caring environment

by Emma Palova

Lowell has long had a need for a new retirement facility. Arlin Maas purchased former Cumberland Manor in early 1980s.

Having foreseen the trend toward assisted living, Maas Development started building homes for seniors in 1998. The development company has built homes in 11 cities throughout Michigan since then.

"We're continuously developing, we're doing great and having fun," said Doug Maas, owner partner of Maas Development. "We like smaller towns."

The assisted living facility, located on M21 in Lowell Township, is slated for a May or June opening.

The land on four acres goes to the Grand River and is connected with sidewalks

to the neighboring bowling alley. Due to wetlands, there is a retaining wall.

The square footage of the facility is 17,000 square feet and it has a total of 20 rooms. The plans are to expand the facility by seven rooms to the east. The homes are licensed as adult foster care homes.

Some of the unique

features include a town square complete with a pharmacy, a beauty shop, a restaurant, a laundry facility, and a café. Down each hallway there is a streetscape with street lamps, park benches and 12-foot tall trees.

Each resident's room has a kitchenette that looks onto the streetscape. There

is a large activity room with a big screen TV. An outdoor patio overlooks the woods in the back.

Activities include therapeutic outings in the company's own vehicle to the museum or Keiser's. The assisted living homes offer exercise classes, daily devotions and a game of bingo.

The target population is seniors who need assistance with activities of daily living.

"This will benefit Lowell that needs new assisted living," said Maas.

Maas said many residents have expressed interest in coming back to Lowell to live in the facility.

Prices depend on the level of care needed.

Maas expects to create 20 new jobs ranging from the main administrator to direct care workers, maintenance, housekeeping and food staff.

"We're hoping for a fantastic opening in Lowell and looking forward to serving the town of Lowell," said Maas.

The facility will be

in communication with physicians and will work with an internal pharmacy.

"This is for seniors who are no longer safe to live at home by themselves," said Paul Wyman, director of operations.

The facility can accommodate both singles and couples. It is also important from a socialization standpoint. Approximately 300 people live in assisted living facilities built by Maas Development.

"We see there is a need in Lowell for great elderly care," said Wyman. "We will help fulfill that need. The technology has improved for the assisted living market. The building is bigger. The rooms are bigger. We have a good caring staff."

Hiring will start in mid April. An office is located across the parking lot from Fountain View.

"We are a part of [the] Lowell community," he said. "We want to bring great service in elderly care to Lowell."

General contractors are Johnson & Neuhof.



Green Acres will offer caring environment.

Artist shows love for life in a variety of paintings

by Emma Palova

In her 'Celebration of Life' show now on display at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, artist Jan Johnson shows her varied interests in subject matter, style and media.

Her mantra is, "I see, I paint, I am."

After a decade of painting realistic, Johnson has discovered the beauty in painting abstracts, such as in her 'Shell Game' depicting flowers and shells and 'Music Madness.'

Any artist can testify that abstracts are hard to create.

"I discovered the thrill of abstract," she said. "I have been fortunate to have the friendship and influence of many fine artists in my lifetime."

Johnson has been influenced by a local abstract artist, the owner of Fire & Water Art Gallery, Kathleen Mooney.

"I've painted abstracts off and on," she said. "They're hard."

Her abstract of 'Spring' makes one feel like spring.

She joined a group led by Harry Haefner from Western Michigan University. Johnson still paints with them in the spring and fall.

"I've learned abstracts in watercolor from great artists," she said. "They're good at what I want to do. We hold critiques. They help you see composition, where to add or subtract something."

Johnson said her art kept her alive when her husband Phillip died in 2004.

But, art has been Johnson's steady companion her entire life. To this day she nurtures her animal drawing skills acquired at the Ringling School of Art in Sarasota.

In 1950, she worked



Artist Jan Johnson shows versatility in her paintings.

as an extra on the set of "The Greatest Show on Earth" about the Ringling Brothers circus. Using an old photo, she painted performing elephants in soft beige hues.

"Every once in a while I dig out old pictures," she said.

Johnson loves painting animals from wild jungle beasts to safari giraffes or chicken in the backyard.

But she also likes to do plein air with acrylics. Just last fall, she painted the bridge under construction sitting on Main Street.

"I love painting the light on buildings," she said. "It's possible that I have a recognizable watercolor style."

Her enormous portfolio boasts paintings with varied subjects, old and new. One of her oldest Lowell scenes is a painting 'The Levy of a hamburger shop from the

1960s that no longer exists in town.

In fact, Johnson likes to combine the old with the new. Looking around the Riverwalk Gallery inside the chamber, Johnson said most of her paintings have some sort of a memory attached to them.

Her more recent watercolor painting of 'Freighters & Lighthouse,' painted from a photo of a freighter and the Little

Point Sable Lighthouse, sold before Christmas.

"That was my happiest Christmas," she laughed.

Johnson likes to paint beaches in Florida and probably just about anything.

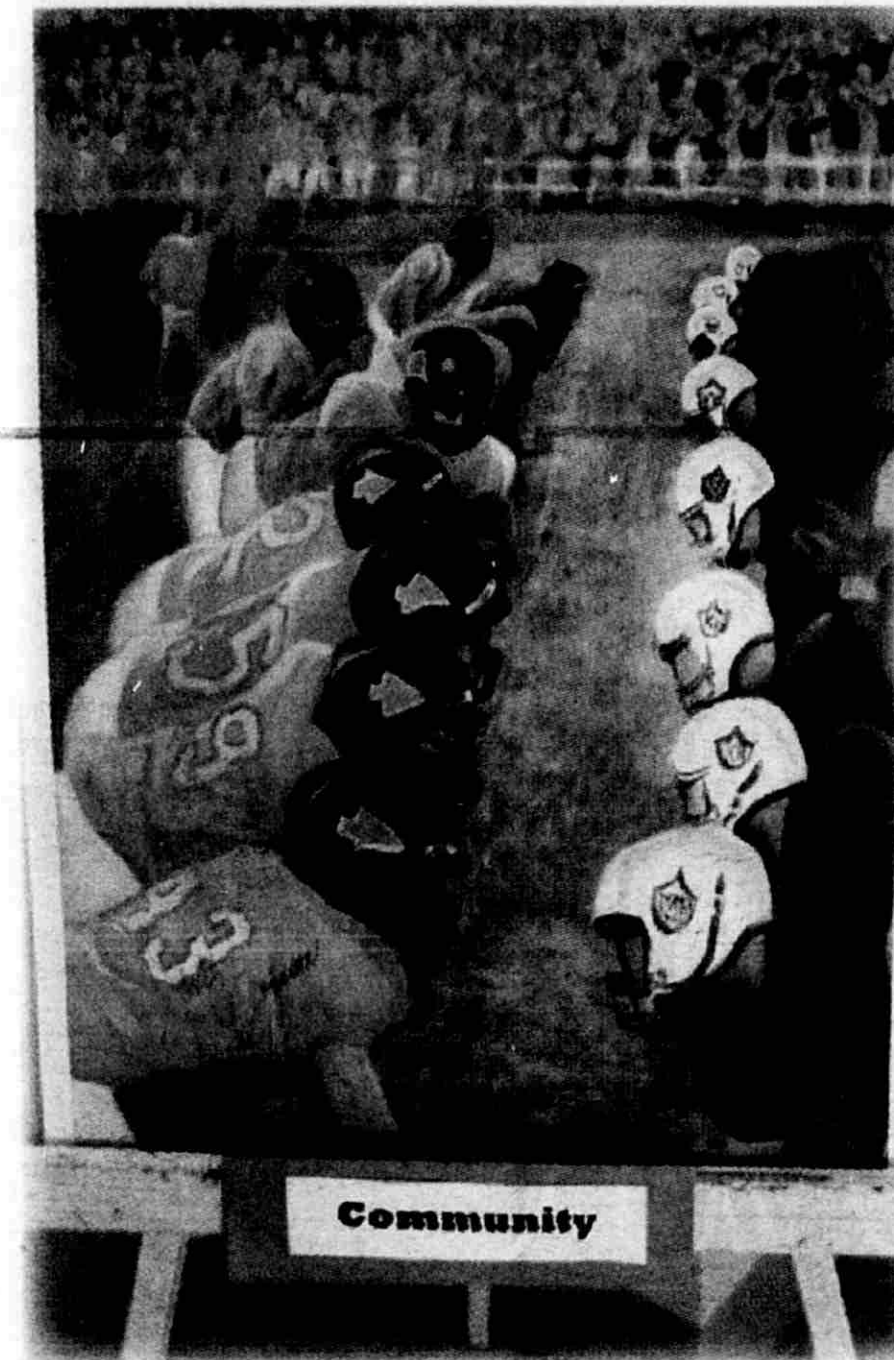
"This is a show of my varied interests," she said. "I plan to do more abstracts."

Locally, Johnson is probably most known for her acrylic cover for the Pink Arrow Football game

last fall. The original painting was raffled off.

'Celebration of Life' will be on display until April 23.

Reception for the artist will be held at the chamber on March 3 from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. and at the Fire & Water Art Gallery on March 3 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Johnson is the featured artist at Fire & Water Art Gallery in March.



Johnson has supplied the artwork for the covers of two Pink Arrow Project programs.



2011 Bridal Guide

Your search is over...this special section will be filled with local businesses specializing in everything you'll need to make planning your big event easier. Don't miss this special section in the January 29 issue.

REACH OVER 14,000 AREA HOUSEHOLDS WITH OUR BRIDAL SECTION. FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS SPECIAL ISSUE, CALL 897-9555

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Deadline is Thurs., Jan. 27 at 5 p.m.

Please feel free to email your ad to: displayads@lowellbuyersguide.com or fax to: 616-897-4809

The Hastings Reminder will also be running a Bridal Section. Call for rates.

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*EPIC-MRA November 2007

the ledger

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obituaries

PECKHAM

Dolores Mae Peckham, age 74, of Lowell, passed away January 8, 2011 after a courageous fight with cancer. Born May 5, 1936, the daughter of William and Lena Peckham, youngest of 12 children, she follows five brothers and two sisters into heaven. She is survived by sisters, Margie Lowry and Cora Yeiter; brothers, Howard Peckham and Oscar (Shirley) Peckham; sisters-in-law, Margaret Peckham and Helen Peckham; special nephew, Douglas Webster; and many nieces and nephews. She retired from Armay after 28 years and spent her winters in Florida. Dolores was a sports lover and very active in golf, bowling, hunting and softball in her younger years. Funeral service will be Wednesday at 1 p.m. at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell. Rev. Robert Roush of Friendship Country Chapel officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to Pink Arrow Pride, PO Box 246, Lowell, MI 49331.



Levin, continued

collateral requirements and get loans. Our domestic auto industry continued its emergence from painful restructuring. Grants for production of advanced batteries bore fruit, as several Michigan plants began producing these next-generation components. GM and Chrysler have made progress in repaying the taxpayers' investment. I am more confident than ever that this backbone of the U.S. economy is on track to thrive and grow. Congress also succeeded in reforming Wall Street. Hearings before the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, which I chair, showed that the financial industry helped bring on the crisis by taking reckless risks in pursuit of higher profit. The Wall Street reforms we passed will help rein in those risks. In December, Congress passed tax legislation negotiated between the President and congressional Republicans. Despite its provisions to extend the middle class tax cuts and

important Michigan victories in 2010. We won new funding for extending unemployment benefits, for advanced manufacturing and energy technologies, and for high-speed rail projects in the state. We won increased funding for Great Lakes restoration; we preserved important wilderness areas; and we strengthened protections to keep Asian carp from entering the Great Lakes. These successes do not change the fact that far too many Michiganders, and too many Americans, are still struggling to find work. In 2011, we must continue to look for every opportunity to create jobs and grow the economy. That means we must continue to support the growth of domestic manufacturing, including of course the auto industry; and we must end tax incentives that encourage employers to move U.S. jobs overseas. We also must continue making progress in Afghanistan to facilitate a responsible reduction of our military involvement. And we must defend the Great Lakes from continuing threats, including Asian carp. While none of these will be easy, perseverance in the face of challenges is the common thread that runs through our history. Carl Levin is the senior U.S. senator from Michigan.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE FILE NO. 10-189576-DE

IN THE MATTER OF ESTATE OF MARY ANN DUNNEBACKE.

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: including James Jarvis, formerly known as James Jaworowicz, whose address(es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC HEARING

The Lowell City Planning Commission-Citizen Advisory Committee will conduct a public hearing on Monday, January 24, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowell City Hall Council Chambers, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

To consider a Special User Permit (Open Air Business) from Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce who wishes to establish an open air business of a farmers market at 2111 West Main Street. Under Section 17.04 (W), open air businesses are considered special uses in the C-3 General Business District thus a Special Use Permit is required.

Interested persons may submit written comments to City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331 or email bmorlock@ci.lowell.mi.us prior to the meeting or appear in person.

CITY OF LOWELL KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN

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

The Lowell City Council adopted Ordinance No. 11-02 amending subsections I and J and adding new subsections J and K to Section 4.08, "Accessory building and uses;" to Chapter 4, "General Provisions," amending Section 12A.03, "Special land uses," of Chapter 12A, "I-L Light Industrial District," and amending Section 13.03, "Special land uses," of Chapter 13, "I - Industrial District," of Appendix A - Zoning Ordinance" to the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell on January 3, 2011. Ordinance No. 11-02 prescribes the requirements for soft-sided or non-permanent accessory buildings and the location of nonconforming accessory buildings in I-L Light Industrial and I - Industrial zone districts as special land uses. A complete copy of Ordinance No. 11-02 is available at City Hall, 301 E. Main Street, Lowell, Michigan, during regular business hours.

Ordinance No. 11-02 is effective 10 days after this publication.

CITY OF LOWELL KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN

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

The Lowell City Council adopted Ordinance No. 11-01 adding the definition of foot candle to Section 2, "Definitions - F," of Chapter 2, "Definitions," adding Section 4.24, "Outdoor Lighting Requirements and Restrictions," to Chapter 4, "General Provisions," and amending Section 20.04, "General Sign Provisions," of Chapter 20, "Signs" of "Appendix A - Zoning Ordinance" of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell on January 3, 2011. Ordinance No. 11-01 regulates and restricts the use of outdoor lighting including internally-lit signs within the City of Lowell. A complete copy of Ordinance No. 11-01 is available at City Hall, 301 E. Main Street, Lowell, Michigan, during regular business hours.

Ordinance No. 11-01 is effective 10 days after this publication.

Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

Betty R. Morlock City Clerk



classifieds

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

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SEASONED SPLIT MIXED HARDWOOD - \$150 per cord. 893-5774.

NEWSPAPER ENDS ROLLS AVAILABLE AT THE BUYERS GUIDE - Many uses, table cover, art projects, packaging, etc. \$3-\$5 each. Stop by & grab one today! 105 N. Broadway.

FREE AD! - Place & pay for a classified ad in the Buyers Guide & Lowell Ledger for 3 weeks & receive the 4th week FREE! You must mention the special in order to receive this offer. Valid only with new classified ads, and must be paid for when ad is placed. Call 897-9555, fax 897-4809 or email to: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell. Ph. 897-9261.

BUNK BEDS - 78 Different choices starting at \$199. Futons & day beds also. All new. RCD Wholesale, 616-682-4767 or 293-5188. Can deliver.

for rent

FOR RENT - 8761 Bailey Dr., Ada. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, large 2 stall garage is 24' x 28', 16' x 20' shed for your mower. No pets. Rent \$850, deposit \$850. Call Chuck, 616-437-6614.

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.

APARTMENT FOR RENT - 1 bedroom apartment in historical downtown Lowell, newly remodeled, all utilities included, including central air, \$625 per month. 897-9074 or 914-0828.

FOR RENT - Lowell 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Storage, trash, carport, water & sewer included. Has AC & on-site laundry, \$500/mo. \$300/deposit. No smoking, no pets. 897-4829.

for rent

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

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.

wanted

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.

services

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.

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

services

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

FOR QUALITY CARPET INSTALLATION - and/or free quote, call Phil Ritchie, 616-485-4416 11 yrs. of experience.

FRESH START YOGA CLASSES - Tues. & Thurs. 6:30 p.m., Fri. 8 a.m. Dery Physical Therapy, \$6 walk-in. Info 616-893-5661 or www.hammocklearning.com

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

services

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

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.

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.

NOW HIRING - a manager for a dog kennel. Computer skills, Quickbooks, good with dogs. 616-293-5653.

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 run 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.

EVERY THURSDAY - Nighservice at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 865 Lincoln Lake SE at 6:30 p.m. Public welcome.

ALTO LIBRARY HOURS: Tues. & Wed., 12-8 p.m.; Mon. & Sat., 9:30-1:30 p.m.; Thurs., 1-5 p.m. Info., call 647-3820.

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

LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM - open Tuesday, Saturday & Sunday 1-4 p.m.; Thursday 1-8 p.m. Families: \$10; individual \$3; ages 5-17 \$1.50; members free. 897-7688.

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

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

MOVIE NIGHT - Jan. 18, 6:30 p.m. showing Despicable Me. Free popcorn. Saranac Public Library.

SHOTGUN & ARCHERY SHOOTING LEAGUES - at Caledonia Sportsman's Club (Alto/Freepoint). Contact Al Pootas 698-2051 or email shooting@csc.us.com

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

EVERY THURSDAY - Nighservice at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 865 Lincoln Lake SE at 6:30 p.m. Public welcome.

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

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

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

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

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

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

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES - First Baptist Church of 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.

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

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

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.

AMAX & 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.

EXPERIENCE EGYPT - Play games & make crafts related to all things Egyptian: dress like a pharaoh, make yourself into mummies, & create a pyramid. Sat., Jan. 29, 10:30 a.m. at the 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., Jan. 19, 6:30 p.m., at the Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell. 616-784-2007.

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES - sign up at the Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington St., Sat., 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.

GAME DAZE - Jan. 17, noon - 4 p.m. at the Saranac Public Library.

MASONIC LODGE #355 - serving the Belding, Ionia, Lowell & Saranac areas, will hold its regular communication, 7:30 p.m. Mon., Jan. 3 at the Masonic Temple, 211 E. Main St., Belding. Dinner will precede the meeting. All Masons may attend.

HOOKER CHAPTER #73 - of the Royal Arch Masons, serving the Belding, Ionia, Lowell & Saranac areas, will hold its stated convocation on Wed., Jan. 12 at 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Temple, 211 East Main St. Belding. Dinner will precede the meeting. All Royal Arch Masons may attend!

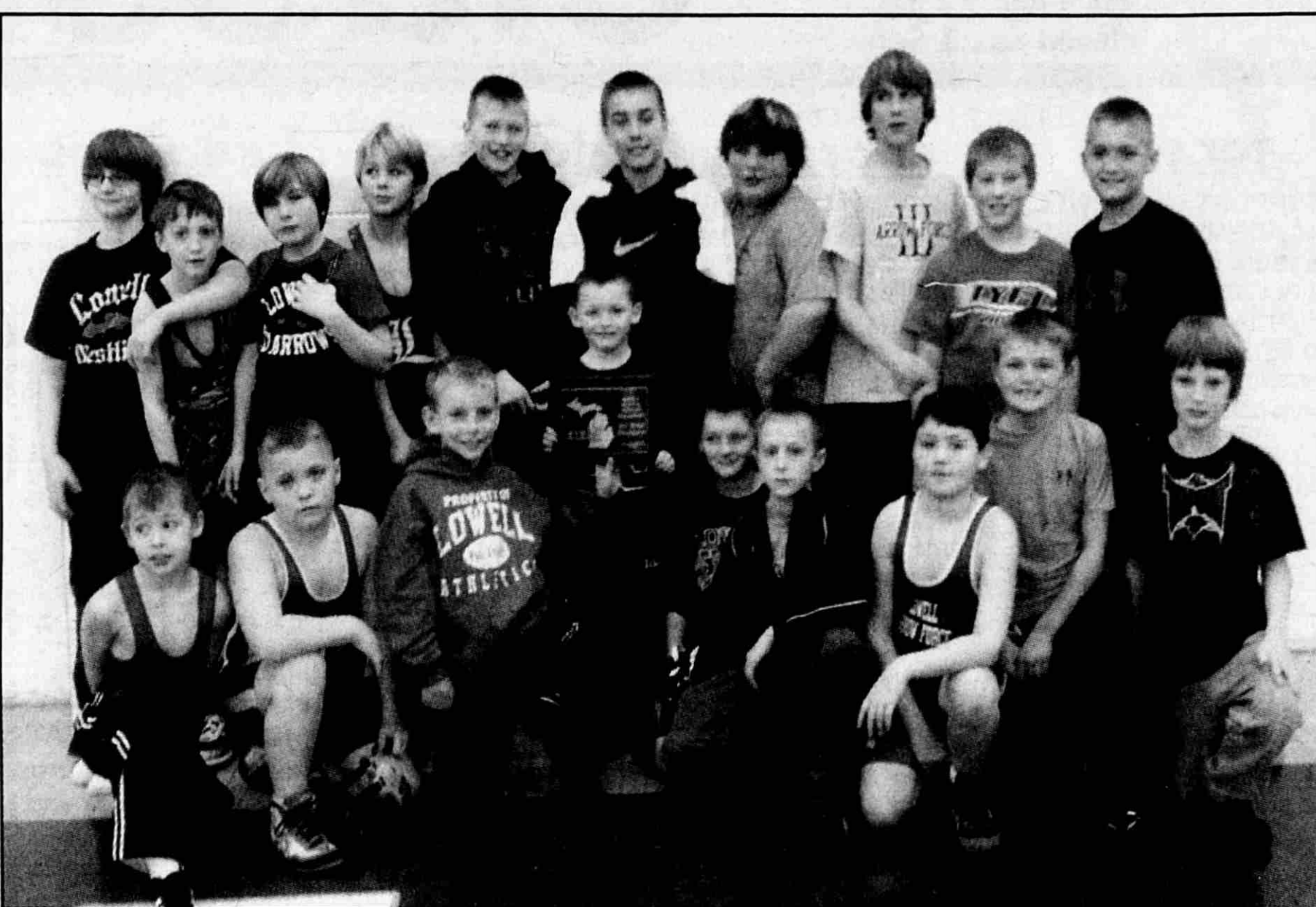
Lowell youth wrestling team takes first at regional qualifier

The Lowell elementary dual wrestling team competed on Sunday, January 9 at the Michigan Youth Wrestling Association (MYWA) regional qualifier at Ionia High School finishing first out of six teams.

Lowell's first round included a 66 to 15 win over Lakewood. Round two was against Ionia which Lowell defeated 60 to 15. Lowell dominated Belding and Byron Center

in rounds three and four with victories of 81 to six and 72 to 18. The final round came down to some very close matches against undefeated Allegan and undefeated Lowell. Lowell ended up triumphing over Allegan 48 to 28.

Qualifying teams will compete at the MYWA state championships held at the Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek on Sunday, February 27.



Pictured are, front row: Zach Ward, Grant Pratt, Matt Stephens, Ramsey Mutchler, Avry Mutchler, Hayden Barry, Lane Ryan, Jared Hough, and Tyler Lynch; second row: Eli Boulton, Zeth Strejc, Jarod Hough, Austin Engle, Keigen Yuhas, Nate Stephens, Max Bishop, Garret Taylor, Channing Perry, and Garret Pratt. Missing is: David Kruse.

lend a hand

volunteering opportunities

Host families needed for 2011-12 school year

Pacific Intercultural Exchange (PIE), a nonprofit Government designated program is looking for host families to share their home with Foreign exchange students for the September 2011 to June 2012 high school year. Now is the time to select your student from many who are waiting for a host family. You will be able to communicate with your student by e-mail, telephone and mail and know each other before

& Study) program which concentrates on students from the Middle East and Africa. The Flex (Future Leaders Exchange) brings students in from the former Soviet Union. Both are scholarship programs. They will also participate in community service.

We aim to foster understanding and peace between our country and theirs. With the elections coming this fall, what a wonderful time for foreign students to witness the democratic process firsthand.

PIE has students from 48 countries available. The host family is responsible for board, room and guidance. The students have their own medical insurance and spending money. There is no typical host family. Empty nesters, single parents, large families, or retired parents may apply. PIE can help you match a student for your family. There are students that are into sports of all kinds, music, the arts, etc. They all want to learn about our culture and share their own with a host family.

If you are interested in being a host family or have questions please call your regional manager, Trish Blundy at 616-527-0012 or 1-800-382-7439.

Hall for rent with kitchen
SEATS 150
Located at the fairgrounds
www.kcfg.org
Call 897-6050

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 11-189638-DE

Estate of EUGENE R. ZIMMERMAN. Date of birth: 03/06/1929.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, EUGENE R. ZIMMERMAN, who lived at 2161 Leonard, NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan died 10/22/2010.

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

JOHNSON or STEPHEN ZIMMERMAN, named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Avenue NW, Ste. 2500, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

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

Christine Johnson 1750 - 4th St. NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Stephen Zimmerman 161 Sligh Blvd. NW Grand Rapids, MI 49505

Road group urges caution on snowy roads

A winter storm is on its way today, and white-knuckled motorists will be reminded that the state lacks the necessary resources to mount an aggressive response to a winter wallop. Unfortunately, because of continuing budget cuts by the state legislators and shrinking county road commission budgets, the ability to respond to winter storms is weak and limited. In 2010, Michigan legislators cut the budget for snow plowing in order to meet federal matching fund requirements for highway construction.

"Blame the problem on a perfect storm of circumstances," said Mike Nystrom, executive vice president of Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association. "The cost of salt, sand, snowplows and blades all continue to skyrocket; county road crews responsible for plowing and salting the roadways continue to dwindle in Michigan; and the state has been forced to cut back on funding for snow removal and other traditional road maintenance responsibilities."

While the cost of all things associated with roads has risen dramatically in recent years, the state's 19-cent-a-gallon levy has been frozen since 1997. The harmful impacts on winter road-clearing efforts are clear and sobering. In Wayne County (Detroit) the road commission has lost 40 percent of its staff since 2007. Neighboring Oakland County has 50 fewer plow and salt truck drivers than it did three years ago. Ingham County (Lansing) road officials said in December

that while in recent years it took an average day, maybe 36 hours, to clean up after a major winter storm, it would likely take two or three days to get the job done this winter season because of workforce reductions. The shoe-string budgets county road commissions exist on today have shrunk their buying power to 1980s levels. Michigan dodged a bullet last year by virtue of experiencing a relatively mild winter. But with wintry weather already upon us, the state may not be so lucky this time around. If a harsh winter gobbles up a large share of the yearly pot of road maintenance money, road crews may find themselves hard pressed to do much beyond patching the bumper crop of potholes that will introduce themselves next spring.

funding for road maintenance - including plowing and salting in winter - is four percent less than a year ago. Road commissions say that salt prices have climbed to \$61 a ton (about the same as asphalt) which is about 25 percent higher than two years ago and an almost unimaginable increase of more than 130 percent over the cost in 2000 - helping to explain why road officials are often miserly in spreading the salt.

The money that pays for our transportation system - including winter cleanups - comes from the Michigan Transportation Fund, which has \$100 million less available today than it did a decade ago. That's because the fund is fed by gasoline and diesel taxes and vehicle registration fees. Gas tax receipts have fallen for six consecutive years due mainly to more fuel-efficient vehicles and decisions by cost-conscious motorists to trim the number of miles they drive. The postponement of new vehicle purchases by cautious consumers also means registration fees have taken a negative hit.

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JANUARY 5 - JANUARY 11

- Arizona congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords continues to fight for her life in a Tucson hospital as her alleged would-be assassin prepares for his first day in court.
- Tens of thousands of people across Southern Sudan vote in a referendum that likely will split Sudan into two separate nations.
- After years of cutting billions and billions in spending, California has to do it again. New Governor Jerry Brown is facing a \$25 billion shortfall that must be addressed by June 30.
- Don't underestimate the power of a spilled cup of coffee. A United flight from Chicago to Germany is diverted to Toronto after the pilot spills a cup on the plane's communications equipment.
- F. Lee Bailey says he has documents that were undisclosed during O.J. Simpson's trial that may convince doubters that he is indeed innocent of two murders.
- The entertainment site MySpace has cut their worldwide staff by half - about 500 employees.

last week's **poll result:**
Sound Off

Do you make New Year's Resolutions?

Yes 17%
 No 83%

BE SURE AND VISIT thelowelledger.com AND VOTE IN OUR WEEKLY POLL!

This week's poll question -

Should the government provide security for members of Congress?

Ionia County Literacy Council to host grown-up spelling bee

On Tuesday, March 29, the Ionia County Literacy Council will host its first ever Great Grown-up Spelling Bee at the Ionia County Intermediate School District building. A sit-down dinner and silent auction are also planned for this fun-filled fundraiser.

As its name implies, the spelling bee is for adults. Teams will consist of three members each. All teams will be on the "stage" at the same time spelling the same word.

Team members have 20 seconds to discuss among themselves the spelling of the word presented by the pronouncer and then will need to write that word on a marker board. All marker boards must be shown to the judges at the same time. Judges will determine correct/incorrect spellings.

Each team will be given two flags, one of which will be removed each time a word is misspelled. The last team standing is the winner and will take home the spelling bee winner's trophy for a year. The trophy will pass from winning team to winning team each year.

The cost to enter a team is \$200 and businesses are encouraged to sponsor a team. Businesses entering teams will receive free advertisement.

In addition, local businesses will be encouraged to supply goods/services for the silent auction. Names of participating businesses will be included in a thank-you in local newspapers, as well as on the literacy council website. This will be an excellent way of getting new customers into your business.

The cost of participants to attend the fundraiser dinner is \$20. Team members eat free. The dinner begins at 6:00 p.m. and the spelling bee begins at 7:00 p.m., followed by a break at 8:00 for the silent auction.

Adult spelling bees are held all over the country and have proven to be successful fundraisers for literacy councils, not to mention the jolly good time had by all attending.

For more information about the spelling bee and how you can participate, call the literacy council at 616-527-1360, ext. 116.

DRAFT SYNOPSIS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOWELL CITY COUNCIL MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2011

- Motion to approve the agenda as corrected.
- Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 20, 2010 meeting as corrected.
- Motion to approve the accounts payables as presented.
- Motion to put a moratorium on enforcement of Ordinance 10-04 "Requiring Licensing of Snow Plow Operators" until February 15, 2011 with a report from the Committee at the February 7, 2011 meeting.
- Motion to approve the annual authorization of signatures for City Bank Accounts and Designation of Depository Banks as presented.
- Motion to approve the resolution collecting the summer property taxes for 2011 for Kent Intermediate School District at no fee but able to keep the interest earned during the bank deposit before distributing these monies.
- Motion to adopt the Outdoor Lighting Ordinance as presented.
- Motion to adopt the Soft Sided Accessory Building Ordinance as presented.
- Yea: 4. (Altoft, Schrauben, Ellison and Hodges)
- Nay: 1. (LaPonsie)
- Absent: 0
- Motion carried.
- Motion to approve the resolution authorizing signatures for a Contract of Transportation involving approach clearing on Runway 12/30 at the Lowell City Airport.
- Motion to approve the resolution regarding Community Development Block Grant application for North Center Street improvements and assistance for the Elderly and handicapped through North Kent Transit.
- Motion to approve the application for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate under Public Act 198 for Litehouse, Inc. (1400 Foreman).
- Motion to go into Closed Session at 8:54 p.m.
- Motion to adjourn at 9:26 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, January 18, 2011.
- Complete minutes will be available after approved on January 18, 2011 on the City's web page at www.ci.lowell.mi.us or at City Hall.

Betty R. Morlock
 City Clerk

CROSSWORD

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- CLUES ACROSS**
- Smallest mergansers
 - Minute floating marine tunicate
 - Made from genus quercus
 - Bored feelings
 - Spoke
 - Cry
 - Played the chanter
 - Lash
 - Shoots a marble
 - Dentist's group
 - Trees in 11 across
 - Prince Hirobumi
 - Opposite of capitalism
 - Facial twitch
 - Central English river
 - Sound wave reflection
 - Goalless
 - Central processing unit
 - Wings
 - Million barrels per day (abbr.)
 - Noah's oldest son (Bible)
 - Tenet
 - "Rocky" actress Talia
 - Bullocks
 - Repeated product phrase
 - A roofed patio
 - "Police station" in South Asian countries
 - Cosmogony matter (pl)
 - 1967 Nobel chemist Manfred

- CLUES DOWN**
- Bouncing Bess
 - Australian friends
 - Supplemented with difficulty
 - Take in marriage
 - Tin
 - Antimony
 - Linen liturgical vestment
 - A country in SE Asia
 - Photocopy
 - Place of Hindu retreat
 - Ocular
 - Lasso
 - Acorn tree
 - Wife of Saturn
 - Behave in a certain manner
 - Cease living
 - Swiss river
 - Painting on dry plaster
 - Not off
 - 6th tone of the scale
 - Pre-Columbian Indians of Peru
 - Bit-by-bit
 - The 26th state
 - Hour
 - Original Equipment Mfg.
 - Bachelor of Laws
 - Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
 - The most electropositive metal
 - Classical music for the stage
 - Spirit presiding over thing or place
 - In a wise way
 - Promotions
 - A piece of land
 - What the sun did yesterday
 - "Rule britannia" composer
 - Scum at the surface of molten metals
 - Adams, early US patriot
 - Chinese term for poetry
 - Present tense of be
 - Atomic #52

Community charrette, continued

The project will tie into the existing walkway along the riverbank with an

upgrade of the existing boat launch on the south side and extend the walkway with

accent stripes of brick and trees on both sides.

Currently, there are no

trees on the site. Parking will be screened with evergreen plantings. There

with some seating. There may be an arch at the entryway made of either metal, brick or some type of masonry. The parking lots will stay the same.

"This is a nice addition, it increases green space along the river," said Lazdins. "It continues accessibility to the edge of the river and it extends pedestrian

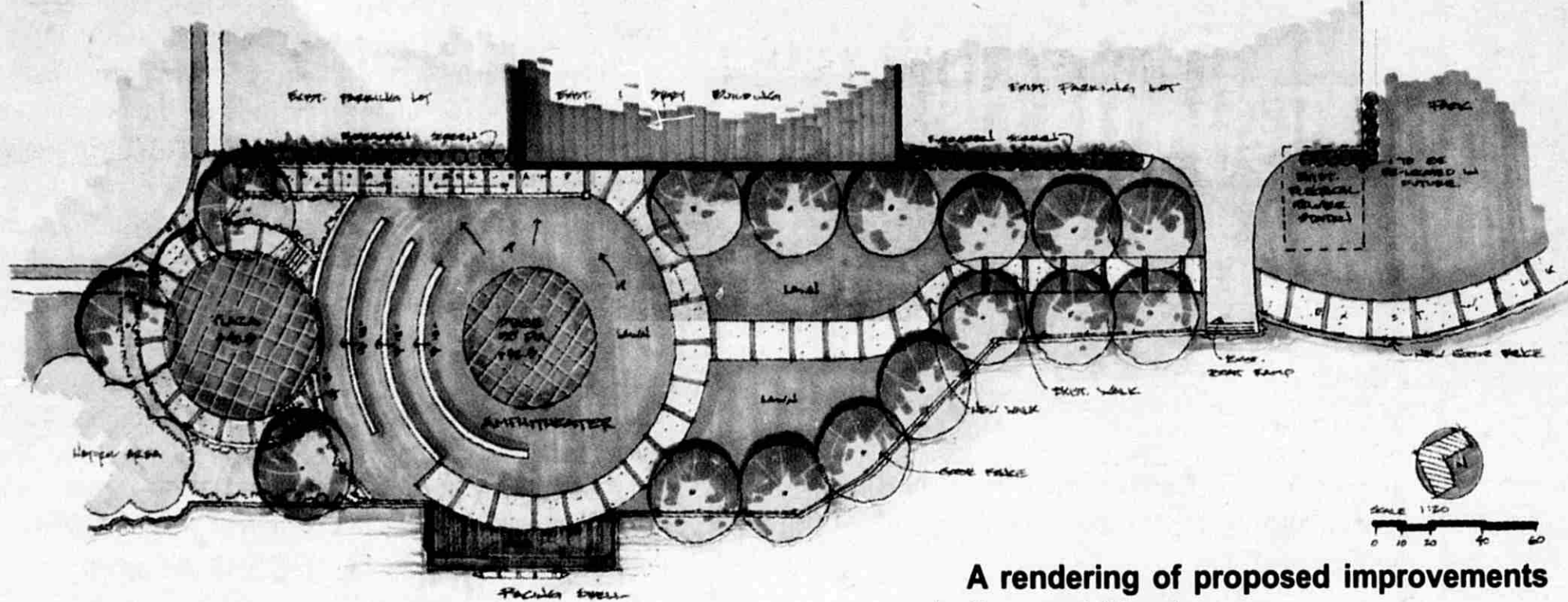
In any case scenario, the river edge will be improved with either sheet piling or stone.

Approximately two years ago, a feasibility study was conducted. The improvement project is estimated to cost \$400,000 to \$500,000. It would be funded, according to city manager Dave Pasquale, by a mix of funding through the state Department of Natural Resources.

The masterplan, that takes into account new improvements, was amended in November and it positions the city for grants. And even though some time will be dedicated to the west bank, the major focus will be on the east side.

"It gives everyone an opportunity to have your voice heard," said Pasquale. "People should come to say what they think should be done."

The DDA held a design charrette in the early 90s in regard to the streetscape project. In the late 2000s, a charrette was held at the Wittenbach/Wege Center seeking input on Wege property.



A rendering of proposed improvements to the amphitheatre area.

SENIORS AND HEALTH

ADVERTISEMENT

Making a Healthier New Year Possible

— that's Providence Style!

EMERALD MEADOWS "January is a good time to start a series like this," says Kathy Higgins, Community Manager at Emerald Meadows in Grand Rapids, Michigan. "People are thinking about health, and they want to start the new year right, so we're offering resources to help them succeed."

Higgins is referring to a three-part Wellness Series hosted by Emerald Meadows. Part 1 — "Making the Most of Your Doctor Visits" — is scheduled for January 13, right around the time, says Higgins, when people are losing enthusiasm for the health resolutions they've made.

The series continues with a February 10 "Heart Health" presentation and a March 10 "Diet and Nutrition" session.

"These sessions are ideal for seniors to attend with their children," says Higgins. "We've seen it over and over — families who focus on wellness together often stay healthier. And they have fun doing it!"



The Wellness Series at Emerald Meadows is ideal for seniors to attend with their children. Sessions are scheduled for January, February, and March. The first installment, on January 13 at 2:00pm, is "Making the Most of Your Doctor Visits."

THIS MONTH'S EVENT

Wellness Series

January 13, 2:00pm — "Making the Most of your Doctor Visits" (RSVP to Emerald Meadows by January 10)

Emerald Meadows is located at 6117 Charlevoix Woods Court in Grand Rapids.

Call (616) 954-2366 for more information or to RSVP.

will be a handicapped access from the lower part of the walkway.

The center of the amphitheatre may be engineered or lowered for a small ice rink and there is potential for outdoor seating. Even the Sizzlin' Summer concerts could be held in the upgraded amphitheatre area.

Part of the project is a new kayak or canoe launch and a perched area overlooking the Flat River

connection to the north."

The project continues the masterplan and opens up the river for greater use, according to Lazdins.

"It gives additional space and an option to extend Sizzlin' Summer venue along the river," he said. "It's a win win situation for the community. It takes advantage of the riverfront which is surrounded by civic buildings and it is used by a lot of people."

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
FILE NO. 10-189609-DE

Estate of KAY ZIEGLER a/k/a KATHRYN ZIEGLER a/k/a CATHERINE ELEANOR ZIEGLER, deceased. Date of birth: 03/18/1919.

TO ALL CREDITORS AND UNKNOWN DESCENDANTS OF BERTHA DAVIES, DECEASED:

The decedent, KAY ZIEGLER a/k/a KATHRYN ZIEGLER a/k/a CATHERINE ELEANOR ZIEGLER,

who lived at 1409 Quarry Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan died 11/04/2010.

Creditors of the decedent and unknown descendants of Bertha Davies are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to LARRY R. BAILEY, named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Avenue,

NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/ proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

01/06/2011

John T. Conroy (P43709) 410 Bridge St. NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 616-454-4119

Larry R. Bailey 5700 Wellman Rd. Parma, MI 49269 517-531-5475



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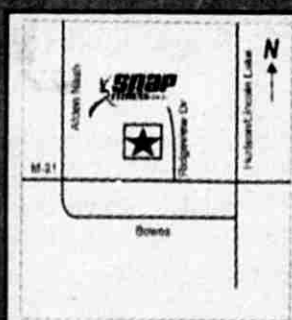


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CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE OF DESIGN CHARRETTE

The City of Lowell, through its Downtown Development Authority, is scheduling a design charrette for the east and west sides of the Flat River riverbank north of Main Street. The firm of Design Plus Inc. will be at the Main Street Inn, 117 West Main Street, Lowell on Thursday, January 13, 2011 from 12 noon to 8 p.m. to receive public input on design alternatives for the above areas.

Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

