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# the lowell ledger

wednesday • march • 2 • 2011

vol. 40 issue 21

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lowell ffa -  
on to state



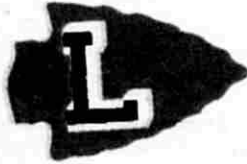
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CENTS



## City to extend life of DDA, purchases school property to continue improvements

by Emma Palova

The Lowell City Council set a public hearing for April 4 to extend the Lowell Downtown Development Authority (DDA) development and tax increment financing plans to June 2033.

The current DDA plan expires in three years and

many major downtown improvement projects have just barely begun.

The DDA was started in 1993 with two subsequent amendments of plans in 1999 and 2003

"The DDA is getting 20-years-old," said city manager Dave Pasquale.

"We're looking at extending it another 20 years."

At the same time as DDA expires, two bonds will be paid off giving the city an opportunity to be debt free.

"It's also an opportunity for projects along east and west banks," said Pasquale.

Currently, the main projects in the works are improvements in the amphitheatre area and the stabilization of the west bank.

In order to pursue improvements on the east side of the Flat River in the amphitheatre area, the city council approved a \$25,000 purchase of property from the Lowell Area Schools.

"The city will now have control of property along the river," Pasquale said.

However, disappointment resonated among the councilmembers, over the recent design proposal from Design Plus, for the amphitheatre site improvements.

"I am very disappointed," said mayor protem Sharon Ellison. "I was hoping for something better."

Ellison was surprised with the proposal to tear down the old amphitheatre and put in a new one.

According to Ellison, the idea of a new amphitheatre wasn't even on the list of

suggestions from residents who participated in the design charrettes.

And in spite of tweaking and adjustments to the design proposal, the taking out of the amphitheatre would be a major change.

"It's not money well spent," she said. "This is not what we paid for."

Councilwoman Maryalene LaPonsie expected a new design, instead the proposal incorporated suggestions from residents without continuity.

"I am disappointed they gave us a photocopy of the old design," said councilman Andrew Schrauben.

"There's a lot of questions," said Ellison. "We need to sit down with them; we don't want to throw out something that is good for the community."

A meeting with a quorum of the councilmembers will be posted in the Lowell Ledger.

## City approves \$14,529 for website upgrade

by Emma Palova

The Lowell City Council approved a \$14,529 proposal from i2Integration for the upgrade of the city website last week.

A total of 10 firms responded to a request for proposals (RFPs) from the city.

A committee, consisting of city and Lowell Light and Power (LL&P) representatives, interviewed three firms and recommended i2Integration for its expertise in design and installation.

According to the committee's report, i2Integration has the ability to train personnel to use the system and the capability to maintain the site.

The cost will be split between the city and LL&P.

"It is something long overdue," said city manager Dave Pasquale. "We are

going to be seeking grant funds."

However, even if the grants are not obtained, the committee will advance with the website upgrade.

"It is the face of the city and Lowell Light and Power," said mayor protem Sharon Ellison.

The advantages of the new website, according to Ellison and Andrew Schrauben, is that it is interactive. The councilmembers will be able to work on it.

In other business, the city council will place a property lien for unpaid electric charges in order to collect delinquent payments.

"It's the same like we do with utility bills," said city manager Dave Pasquale.

City business,  
continued, page 3

## Jumping for heart health



St. Patrick students participated in Jump Rope for Heart last week to raise money for the American Heart Association. Kindergarten through eighth-grade students jumped during their physical education classes.

## Former Lowell resident gets Ledger in the Windy City

by Emma Palova

Looking outside his office window, Bob Rice II can see the Sears Tower.

His interest in urban planning and environment took the small-town boy from Lowell to the architecture metropolis some 20 years ago. Unlike in Lowell, he doesn't even need a car.

"I love public transit, but I do have a car," he said.

Rice lives in the heart of downtown on Logan Square only about three to four miles from the loop.

The 1988 Lowell High School graduate went to Michigan State University and ended up with a graduate degree, from the University of Chicago, in urban planning in 1999.

Since then, he has held three different jobs with real estate consulting firms and most recently as the vice-president of debt for a Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) and Community Development Trust (CDT).

His connection with Lowell is through the

hometown paper, The Lowell Ledger. And even if Rice, hadn't received the paper as a gift, he would have subscribed anyway.

"I find it interesting to keep up with general goings in town," he said. "Both my parents were teachers, active in the community."

Mom Lanie retired, from Bushnell Elementary, less than two years ago and dad Bob Rice, as the high

Former resident  
enjoys The Ledger,  
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# along main street

### LMS FUNDRAISER

Build school spirit. Socialize with friends. Rock It at Rollaway Fri., Mar. 4, 7-10 pm.

### FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES

The FROM Food Pantry is presently in need of canned tomatoes & fruit, cereal, boxed potatoes, hamburger and tuna helper, toilet tissue and shampoo. Please help us help others in the community. 11535 Fulton St. E., Lowell, MI 49331. 616-897-8260.

### TOTS PRESCHOOL FAMILY FUN NIGHT

There will be an open gym, crafts, snack and puppet show on Tues., March 8, 6:30-7:30 pm at Runciman Gym, 300 High St. For additional information contact Lori Buys, 987-2532.

### LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM

The museum will present a program with local Civil War historian, Bruce Butgereit, on the Civil War and its 150th anniversary. Butgereit has been researching the Civil War since he was nine-years-old. This program will be presented on Tues., March 15 at the Lowell Township Hall at 7 pm. Free admission/donations accepted. Light refreshments served after the program. For information call Linda Barnes at 897-7688.

### LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

General Local Scholarship applications are available in the Student Services Center. To be fair to all students, applications will not be accepted after 3 pm on Fri., March 18. Don't forget to include two letters of recommendation, transcript and personal statement. For more information please call Lisa Nauta at 987-2913.

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## Lowell Centennial Eagle Scouts to be honored

The Boy Scouts of America Gerald R. Ford Council will hold its annual Building Character celebration dinner to recognize the previous year's class of Eagle Scouts on Tuesday, March 29. Two scouts from Lowell Troop 102 earned their Eagle Scout during the centennial year of the Boy Scouts of America - Keefe John Peter Riley and Daniel (Radar) Ruland. These boys represent Eagle Scout number 61 and 62, respectively, in Troop 102's 65-year history.

Riley is a Lowell High School graduate, class of 2010 and was preceded by his brother, Kyle Roy Patrick Riley (Eagle Scout class of 2008), as an Eagle Scout. During his first summer camp at Camp Rotary, he and three other boys made a pack to all "get their Eagle." Although he was the last to reach the goal - all four boys kept their word. Those boys are Parker Lui, Devon Chopp and Max Stormzand. After traveling around Europe for the summer, Riley plans to take a year off from school prior to furthering his education.

Alpha Women's Center in Lowell was in need of a shelving/hanging unit and benefited from his Eagle project. Riley started his scouting career in first grade as a Tiger Cub in Pack 3188 and has been active ever since. One of Riley's fondest memories was during the summer of 2009, when he participated in a high adventure trek at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico - 10 days of backpacking 86 miles with six other scouts from the Gerald R. Ford Council.

One of the other participants on that trek was the other Eagle Scout recipient for Troop 102 in 2010 - Daniel Ruland. When Ruland obtained his Eagle Scout, he became the fifth out of six boys from that trek to reach the rank of Eagle Scout. Reaching the top of Baldy Mountain (elevation of 12,441 ft.) provided him views of the surrounding area to last him a lifetime. Ruland began his scouting adventure as a Tenderfoot Scout in Troop 102. He quickly made it his goal to obtain the rank of Eagle Scout. Along the way, he not only went to Philmont, but participated in the Governor's Honor Guard on Mackinac Island for numerous years. He also served Troop 102 as Senior Patrol Leader for a year. While holding this position, he learned the skills of being a leader. These skills were put to practical use during his Eagle Scout project on the Lowell Showboat.

Currently, Ruland holds the position of Junior Assistant Scout Master in Troop 102.

## the lowell ledger

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## LMS Students of the Month



Lowell Middle School has announced the Students of the Month for January. The following students were chosen by their teachers for their outstanding citizenship, leadership and academic achievements: Seth Dee and Francesca Robinson, eighth grade; Maddie Emelander and Ryan Hessler, seventh grade; and sixth-graders, Olivia Nurmikko and Sam DeVito.

## City business, continued

This will allow for consistency in the city's policies. A budget workshop will be held on March 14.

The city council also approved a \$39,772 bid from Beachum Flooring for carpeting of the library. Applications for grants from the Lowell Cable Television Fund are due on April 15 at 5 pm.

The bids ranged from the lowest, DeGraaf Interiors for \$39,069, to the highest from D&M Designs at \$90,232. There is a \$220,000 spendable balance in the fund, according to Ellison.

Beauchum Flooring was the only responsive bid for the installation of new flooring and stair treads at the Water Treatment Plant. The cost of the new flooring is \$9,544. Councilmember Jeff Altoft questioned how the bids were sought out. In this case it was through conversation, according to superintendent George Reagan.

Beauchum Flooring was the only responsive bid for the installation of new requests to be put out for bids for consistency purposes. Add-on applications for additional funding will be considered on a case by case basis.

## In The Service

Marine Pvt. Christopher A. Bewell, a 2010 Lowell graduate, recently completed recruit training and obtained sharpshooter status at Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD) in San Diego, CA.

Pvt. Bewell is the son of James Bewell of Grand Rapids and Sandy Bewell of Lowell. He is currently attending School of Infantry at Camp Pendleton in California.



Pvt. Christopher A. Bewell

## business matters

At the annual Farm Bureau Insurance Multi-Line Marketing Convention, held at the Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City on February 27 through 28, Mark Johnson of Grand Rapids was recognized for superior sales and service during 2010.



Mark Johnson

"Mark Johnson was one of our top agents during 2010," said Jim Robinson, executive vice president of Farm Bureau Insurance, "and one of the main reasons is because Mark is an excellent insurance professional. Mark is very knowledgeable about insurance needs and products, but more than that, Mark earns the trust of his clients because he listens to them and makes sure that they get the proper coverage to protect all that they value. I'm very pleased that Mark Johnson represents Farm Bureau Insurance. Mark is

I would be the most content if my children grew up to be the kind of people who think decorating consists mostly of building enough bookshelves.

- Anna Quindlen (1953 -)

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**LCTV ENDOWMENT FUND GRANT APPLICATION**

The 2011 LCTV Endowment Fund grant application forms are available at Lowell City Hall, Lowell and Vergennes Township Halls, Lowell Area Schools Administration Building and the Englehardt Public Library.

LCTV Endowment Fund applications are due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 15, 2011.

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- HALL PASS (R) 4:45, 7:10, 9:25
- I AM NUMBER FOUR (PG-13) 4:55, 7:20, 9:45
- BIG MOMMAS LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON (PG-13) 9:10
- UNKNOWN (PG-13) 9:10
- JUSTIN BIEBER: NEVER SAY NEVER (G) 4:50, 6:50
- JUST GO WITH IT (PG-13) 4:25, 7:00, 9:30

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# health

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



**MRSA - What you should know**

Staphylococcus aureus, or staph, is a common type of bacteria. Antibiotics can usually cure staph infections. However, methicillin-resistant staph-aureus, or MRSA for short, is a type of staph infection that is resistant to many antibiotics, making it hard to treat.

Many of us have MRSA in our nose and throat, but do not get sick. If MRSA infects the skin, it can cause red, warm and even painful areas or fluid filled bumps called boils. Sometimes MRSA infects open sores on the skin. Your doctor can test a sample of the wound to find out if you have it.

If contracted, MRSA skin infections can spread to

other organs or to the blood. Serious MRSA infections often cause fevers and chills.

You can contract MRSA by touching an infected wound or something that has touched an infected wound. The best way to stop the spread of MRSA is by washing your hands with antibacterial soap or alcohol based hand sanitizer.

If you have MRSA infected boils, your doctor will probably drain them. He or she may also recommend antibiotics. If the infection does not get better with oral pills, you may have to be treated with IV medicines in the hospital.

# financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

## Need to boost retirement income? Consider variable annuities

Here's a sobering statistic: 46 percent of workers surveyed had little or no confidence that they will have enough money to live comfortably throughout their retirement years, according to the 2010 Retirement Confidence Survey, issued by the Employee Benefit Research Institute. So you may want to explore all possible retirement savings vehicles — including a *variable annuity*.

Generally speaking, when saving for retirement, it's a good idea to contribute as much as possible to your IRA and your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. But if you've fully funded those plans for the year, and you

still have some money left to invest, you may want to consider a variable annuity, which offers these benefits:

**Tax deferred earnings** — Your variable annuity's earnings have the opportunity to grow tax-deferred, which means your investment dollars can accumulate faster than if they were placed in an investment on which you paid taxes every year.

**Payout flexibility** — A variable annuity provides you with flexibility in gaining access to your money. You could, for instance, collect a lump sum. But you might find it more advantageous to take your payments over a specified number of years. You could even choose to

receive a lifetime income stream. **Guaranteed death benefit** — If you die, your beneficiary is usually guaranteed the amount originally invested, minus previous withdrawals. Some variable annuities offer death benefit options, which may increase the death benefit over time. Guarantees are based on the claims-paying ability of the issuing insurance company.

**No contribution limits** — Each year, you can contribute far more to a variable annuity than you can to your 401(k) and your IRA. In fact, you can contribute virtually unlimited amounts to your annuity.

**Financial Focus, continued, page 7**

Variety of investment options offer diversification

— Variable annuities allow individuals to invest in several different professionally managed investments, known as "subaccounts." You can choose the subaccounts that best fit your risk tolerance, time horizon and long-term objectives. Keep in mind, though, that diversification does not guarantee a profit or protect against a loss.

While variable annuities do offer some key advantages, there are also some considerations to discuss with your financial advisor before investing. For one thing, variable annuities are not suitable for everyone. A variable annuity is unquestionably a long-term investment. In fact, you may be assessed a surrender charge if you pull money out of the contract within the first

# viewpoint

## to the editor

### Explaining the function of the DDA and how it is funded

Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter to explain to the citizens of Lowell (and to one in particular) what exactly the function of the DDA is and how it is funded and why it is so important to the City of Lowell.

The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is an entity of its own. It has a board of its

own and has rules and restrictions that it must adhere to. The Lowell City Council can only approve or disapprove their actions.

The DDA was created years ago when Lowell underwent its major facelift. It is funded from taxes collected from our surrounding townships.

It is the only income the City of Lowell gets from its

surrounding townships, and Lowell provides things like convenience of shopping, festivals, concerts, museums, and library use. The purpose is to help fund projects in DOWNTOWN Lowell to make it a more inviting place to come to do business. The DDA can only fund things in the downtown city limits, so funding of street repairs can't be taken from that fund. Things like the taking apart of the old amphitheatre can, because, the amphitheatre is in the downtown district and has fallen into disrepair. It has

become a hazard and a liability to the city. It is the city's responsibility to keep its citizens safe. The city has no money to take it apart so the DDA is the perfect solution for this problem. No money from the city budget will be used to take apart the amphitheatre and make that space safe again.

I agree that the streets in Lowell are in serious shape. The problem is finding the money to fix them. The city council has been able to shave one mill from the

budget and use it for road repair. I know this sounds small and it is, however, the city (ten years ago) decided to build a new city hall without any fundraising. After the city hall was built and we were committed to a huge mortgage, many of our industries went out of business. All of the city's revenues come from taxes from industries, residents of Lowell, and revenue sharing for the state. The state is broke so revenue sharing

is down; we have fewer industries and businesses in Lowell so revenue from taxes are down; home values have gone down so tax revenue from property taxes are down. The city is in financial difficulty but it is meeting its responsibilities. The DDA helps us do things we could never otherwise do. We need the DDA, and we need to applaud them for a job well done.

Jeff Alfto  
Lowell

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By Shelly MacNaughton

### 50 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger March 9, 1961

Speedy action is being taken by the Lowell Board of Education to get construction started on the Bowne area elementary school for the five districts in the area that annexed last week.

The board approved the employment of the architects Robinson, Campau and Crowe, of Grand Rapids, to prepare the plans for the new seven-classroom and all-purpose room building to be patterned after the Runciman elementary school here.

### 25 Years Ago The Grand Valley Ledger March 5, 1986

The Lowell Antique mall opened for the first time on Saturday and enjoyed excellent traffic over the weekend. Owners, Ron and Laura McCullum, said over 300 people entered their door prize drawing and estimate that at least 400 people toured Lowell's newest business during its first two days.

### 125 Years Ago The Lowell Journal March 5, 1886

W.J. Carveth, of Hastings, was found guilty of an attempt to poison his wife and was sentenced to 18 years imprisonment at Jackson. He at last confessed that he had put poison in his wife's medicine.

H.M. Rose, the bright city editor of the Grand Rapids Telegram for many months, has accepted a position on the editorial staff of The Ledger.

### 100 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger March 2, 1911

Mrs. Ellen Linton returned home Monday from Alto where she was helping care for Mrs. John Linton and baby who were sick with the measles.

Hazel Kinyon has gone to Remus where she has a school.

### 75 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo February 27, 1936

Inventory filed with the Ohio probate court appraises the estate of Philip H. Schneider of Akron at a total valuation of 1,246,499.34. Village attorney R.M. Shivel has notified the common council. Under the terms of Mr. Schneider's will the township and village of Lowell will eventually receive a major share of this fortune.

## Letters To The Editor:

The Lowell Ledger welcomes your Letters to the Editor. Letters are required to bear the author's signature, phone number and address (for verification purposes only, not for publication). Letters will be published at the discretion of the publisher. All letters are subject to editing for length and grammar. Thank you letters, advertising or personal attacks will not be printed.

Letters may be submitted via email to: [ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com](mailto:ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com) ("to the Editor" in subject line) or dropped off or mailed to: **The Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell, MI 49331. Also, our website, [www.lowellbuyersguide.com](http://www.lowellbuyersguide.com) has a link to submit emails on the left side of the page.**

Michigan is home to several great lakes, hundreds of inland lakes, and miles of rivers and streams which provide world class fishing at our doorstep. This opportunity seems to be overlooked by many residents. If you find yourself in this group, it is a good time to consider getting out and doing some fishing. Frozen water limits angling opportunities this time of the year, but it is a good time to plan for warm weather action.

Mid-winter fishing shows are a good way to cure a case of cabin fever and generate enthusiasm for the coming season. Attending a show provides a chance to explore different types of fishing and gather information about techniques and equipment. Often there are deals on products if one is in the market for boats and tackle. Vendors and fellow anglers are usually willing to offer advice.

There are a bunch of reasons to consider fishing as a pastime. It is a way to become a participant rather than an observer of what is going on outdoors. Fishing will lead a person to new and interesting places to make direct contact with nature. The best thing about fishing for brook trout is where you find them.

Fresh fish provides a healthy source of protein for those who wish to take advantage of their rank in the food chain. Others release fish back to the water. Done

properly, releasing fish provides some good clean fun and nobody gets hurt. Take your pick. I personally keep some fish and release others for a variety of personal reasons. I do tend to fish more aggressively when seeking a frying-pan full of filets for dinner.

Fishing provides recreation for people of all ages. A shared outdoors adventure can bring family and friends together. Fishing seasons and best times for catching fish vary depending on the species and weather. There is something going on all the time, so it should be possible to find time to go fishing.

There is a type of fishing to suit everybody. Fly fishing for brook trout in a U.P. beaver pond is much different than trolling for king salmon in Lake Michigan. Even within a particular species, methods of fishing can vary greatly. Most fishermen pursue multiple species but usually have a favorite. There is a lot to learn, but most experienced fishermen like to talk and are willing to share information. Just don't expect them to give up their secret spots.

Fishing in Michigan can be as simple as casting a worm off a river bank or as complicated as running multiple lines from a 30-footer five miles offshore. Make sure you and your family and friends are not missing out on a great opportunity. It could change your life — it did mine.

## outdoors

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weddings college news

**Levy/Plattner**

On January 2, 2011, Holly Plattner, formerly of Peoria, IL were married. Holly is a graduate of Lowell High School and Illinois State University. She is a registered nurse in the NICU at St. Francis Medical Center. Kent is a graduate of Purdue University and employed as a mechanical engineer at Caterpillar Corporation. The couple resides in Peoria, IL.

Central Michigan University is pleased to announce the December 2010 graduates:

Audrey Fleet, Bachelor of Science in Education; Molly Gerst, Bachelor of Science in Education; Kathryn Nauta, Master of Science; and Shawn Witte, Bachelor of Science; all of Ada.

Matthew Wruble, Bachelor of Science, of Lowell.

Central Michigan University's fall semester honors list includes:

Brittany Burdick, Eva Helene Cooper, Erin Michael Gavigan, Taylor Brianna Hobbs, Brett Mitchell McMahon, Hannah May Messer, Erika L Murray, Jenna Marie Pope, Troy A Prill, Molly Przybycz, Gregory Eugene Roy, Kaely S Schlosser, Maria Danielle Schmieder, Matthew D Tevlin, Renee Leigh Vonehr, Scott James White, Kathryn Jeanne

Winer, and Shawn Leo Witte, all of Ada.

Macenzie Jordyn Baird, Cynthia Lynae Engerson, Lindsey Marie Forton, Claire Alden Johnson, Bridgette Lynn Smith, and Kimberly Rose Williamson, all of Alto.

Kristin Darlene Bouwhuis, Heather Ann Burger, Dylan Jackson Dues, Kenneth David Garrett Hayes, Joshua Joseph Kleczynski, Kelsey L Koevers, Ryan Joseph Lane, Kelsey E Ligman, Matthew Thayer Schloop, Taryn Patricia Schumacher, and Taylor Leigh Schumacher, all of Lowell.

University officials have announced the following students have received academic honors for the semester that ended in December 2010 at Ferris State University and Kendall College of Art and Design:

Charles Alm, Anthony Amato, Alison Bedi,

Benjamin Biondo, Theresa Buist, Emily Ciosek, Darcie Clements, Kyla Cole, Spencer Flory, Thomas Hall, Brett Lesiewicz, Pearce Liversedge, Daniel Mooney, Cameron Raterink, Benjamin Scudder, Kasey Stowell, Nicholas Szymanski, Patricia Miller, Brooke Hanson, Daniel Van Otteren, Nicole Finch, and Justin Holmes, all of Ada.

Lucas Emrich, Bachelor of Science in Business; Tyler Flory, Bachelor of Fine Arts; Debra Howell, cum laude, Bachelor of Science; Greg Huyser, Associate in Applied Science and Bachelor of Science; and Britney Wurm, Bachelor of Fine Arts; all of Ada.

Kristie Kurth, Bachelor of Fine Arts, of Alto.

Crیده Cussimano, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Travis Gillan, Bachelor of Fine Arts; and Eric Mundt, cum laude, Bachelor of Science in Business; all of Lowell.

Amanda Ezinga, Travis Gillan, Karen Hysell, Abbot Kastanek, Jacob McVey, Eric Mundt, Maranda Ruegsegger, Courtney Wierzbicki, Megan Willemstein, Jonathan Woods, Parker Liu, Tammy Garcia, Andrew Pfaller, Kaylyn Koza, Brian Langlois, Karol Burnham, Michah Tawney, and Chelsey Treglia, all of Lowell.

Zach Noskey made the University of Michigan's fall dean's list with a 3.692 GPA in the engineering school. Noskey was also recently elected to the engineering program's honor council. His parents are Brent and Lisa Noskey of Lowell.

Ferris State University, Kendall College of Art

**Lowell Rotarians host annual interclub meeting**



The Lowell Rotary Club hosted their annual interclub meeting which involves eight clubs from the area. Nearly two hundred Rotarians and spouses were on hand at the Grand Volute last Wednesday to hear Tom Rademacher speak. Pictured, from left to right, are the club presidents: Gabriell Warner, Cedar Springs; Sharon Steffens, Comstock Park; Richard Schroder, Rockford; Joel Jason, Grand Rapids North; Thomas Dupont, Sparta; Jeff Wilterink, from the hosting Lowell Club; John Van Nieuwenhuzen, Greenville; and Patrick Conran, Coopersville.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 11-189863-DE

Estate of ELIZABETH STEIMLE, Date of birth: 11/15/1915.

TO ALL CREDITORS: 02/22/2011

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

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

**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  
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Kirby and Harrison  
Alto • 616-691-8011  
Worship.....9:30 A.M.  
Children's Church.....9:30 A.M.  
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WEDNESDAYS:  
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Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M.  
AWANA/EXCITE-TEENS.....Wed. 6:15 P.M.  
Contact Church Office for Prayer Meeting Times  
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**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

**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Fr. Eugene Okoll  
402 Armitay St. • 897-9820  
www.stmary-lowell.com  
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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  
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Sunday School.....Sunday, 9:00 A.M.  
(Nursery available)  
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**CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
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1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI  
Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M.  
Sunday School.....11:20 A.M.  
Evening Worship.....8:00 P.M.  
Nursery available at both services  
Barrier-Free

**SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell  
Pastor Dr. Mike Canklin  
9:45 A.M. ....Sunday School  
10:30 A.M. ....Fellowship  
11:00 A.M. ....Worship  
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- MARCH 2**  
Mary Vezino, Roger MacNaughton, Anna Kline, Lisa Schoen.
- MARCH 3**  
Sarah Newell.
- MARCH 4**  
Scott Vashaw, Bryce Tulppo, Patrick N. Johnson, Art Warning, Jared Brzezniak, Dawn Emelander.
- MARCH 5**  
Don Silvis, Michael Nearing, Brandy Washburn.
- MARCH 6**  
Pat Covell, Darlene McClure.
- MARCH 7**  
Carrie Metternick, Marshal Mooney, Michael Barnes, Shirley Canfield.
- MARCH 8**  
Amber Rittersdorf, DJ Main, Charles Drake, Colleen Lally.

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WWW.IMPACT-CHURCH.ORG

**Financial Focus, continued**

several years after you purchase it. However, some variable annuities allow you to withdraw a portion of your investment, such as 10 percent of your purchase payments without incurring a surrender charge, while others allow full withdrawals. Another point to keep in mind is that if you tap into your annuity before you reach age 59-1/2, you may be hit with a 10 percent early withdrawal penalty.

features and fees, so, before investing, you'd better shop around. Consult with your financial advisor to determine which variable annuity is most appropriate for your needs. Ultimately, though, you may well find that a variable annuity may be the final piece to your retirement income puzzle. This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

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KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
**NOTICE OF ADOPTION AND SUMMARY OF AN ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 22, "ELECTRIC UTILITY RATES AND CHARGES," TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LOWELL**

The Lowell City Council adopted Ordinance No. 11-03 adding Chapter 22, "Electric Utility Rates and Charges," to the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell on February 22, 2011. Ordinance No. 11-03 adding Chapter 22 provides that delinquent electric service rates and charges shall be a lien on the property for which service was provided collectible in the same manner as delinquent *ad valorem* real property taxes. Ordinance No. 11-03 further provides that, subject to applicable State of Michigan law, service may be discontinued if such rates and charges are not paid when due and that a user may request a hearing before such discontinuance is effective. A copy of Ordinance No. 11-03 is available from the City Clerk at City Hall, 301 E. Main Street in the City during regular business hours.  
Ordinance No. 11-03 is effective 10 days after this publication.  
Betty R. Morlock  
City Clerk

# The Hammock offers yoga classes for relaxation

by Emma Palova

The Hammock offers yoga classes at Dery Physical Therapy on West Main Street at two different levels and a mixed level.

Sarah Ryder, occupational therapist and manager, discovered the full benefits of yoga while dealing with the challenges of her daughter Jessica's learning disability.

"It has driven me to look for alternative ways and a holistic lifestyle," said Ryder.

Jessica, who is working to be a missionary, is both a success story and a guinea pig for Ryder.

As an occupational therapist, Ryder has always wanted a business. So, she took further trainings and

she also worked with kids with autism. Now, she wants to add a learning component to the occupational therapy business.

At first Ryder did yoga as a social event with friend Sue Stankus, but later she got more serious. She became a certified yoga instructor at training level one and two for yoga and therapeutic yoga.

"It has become deeper," she said.

Ryder started giving classes out of her basement three years ago, then went to community education and most recently at Dery. Now, she is looking for an existing building in the area to integrate occupational therapy, yoga and learning

*"I am on that journey. I can breathe, relax and face the next day."*

- Sarah Ryder on the definition of yoga

under one wellness umbrella.

"I am looking for something that encompasses everything," she said.

Ryder defines yoga her very own way.

"It's about taking time out of a busy super day to be able to focus, to be aware of what your body is doing and to come out as a stronger person," she said. "I am on that journey. I can breathe, relax and face the next day."

Andyogaisforeveryone from tots to adults. She's had a student who was 89 years old. Ryder incorporates plenty of modifications to achieve what feels really good. Yoga is quite often individualized.

But, the greatest benefits of yoga are the same for all.

"Yoga is a stress reliever. It creates balance, integration, flexibility and quiet," Ryder said. "It enhances flexibility, balance and strengthening. It's noncompetitive."

To create an atmosphere of relaxation, Ryder turns down lights and uses candles.

"Yoga is not hard on joints," she said.



Sarah Ryder demonstrates various yoga poses.

And the results can be felt within a month or two. People with arthritis and fibromyalgia benefit as well.

Ryder stressed that yoga is noncompetitive and that it is not religious or meditational or an intellectual process.

"It's good for men and women," she said. "You can do anything you want to do. You will feel your balance better."

Ryder recommends comfortable clothing and the use of mats. She uses mostly layman's terms instead of Sanskrit.

The yoga offered by The Hammock is Hatha yoga, which means physical with flow moving through the poses fluidly, with the breath, from one to the next. Linking the poses creates strength, flexibility, endurance and balance.

Some of the benefits of yoga are a relaxed and clear mind, strengthened immune system, decreased physical effects of aging for the brain and the body, increased flexibility, stronger muscles, better body tone, naturally defined physique, reduced stress, increased body awareness, natural weight loss, improved posture, reduced risk of injury through greater mind-body connection, more effective metabolic exchange through better breathing, a workout for all muscle groups, increased endurance, willpower and discipline. Yoga can be done anywhere.

The class format focuses on breathing, movement through all range of motion of joints and muscles, strengthening by holding poses, deep relaxation stretches, balance and relaxation.

For class schedule go to: [www.hammocklearning.com](http://www.hammocklearning.com) or call 1-616-893-5661.

Classes are four for \$20, eight for \$40 and unlimited for \$50.

## Weight Loss Challenge & Nutrition Class

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(based on percentage body weight lost)

**Fee:** \$35 one-time fee, \$20 of which goes into the Cash Pot OR \$15 one-time fee for Nutrition Class Only option.

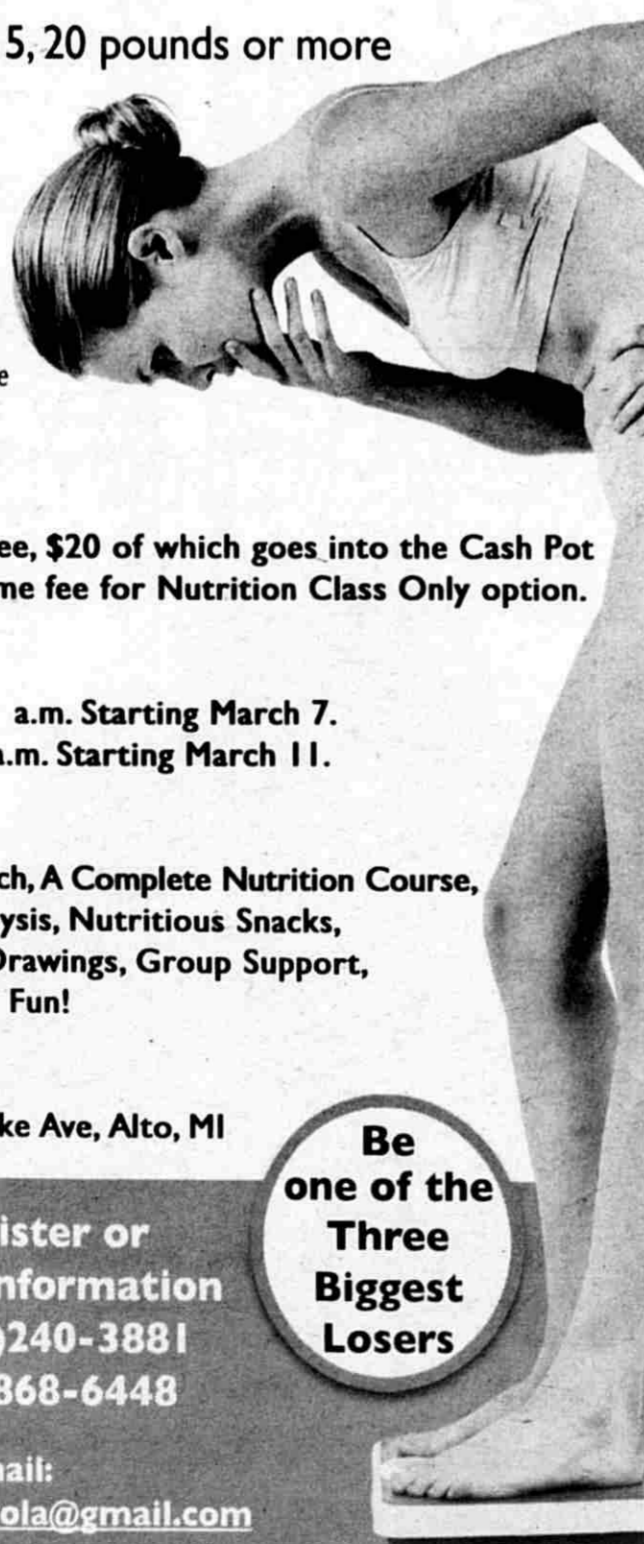
**Classes:** Mondays, 10-11 a.m. Starting March 7. Fridays, 10-11 a.m. Starting March 11.

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email: [robinpaavola@gmail.com](mailto:robinpaavola@gmail.com)



Be one of the Three Biggest Losers

## Behind The Scenes



Larry Mikulski

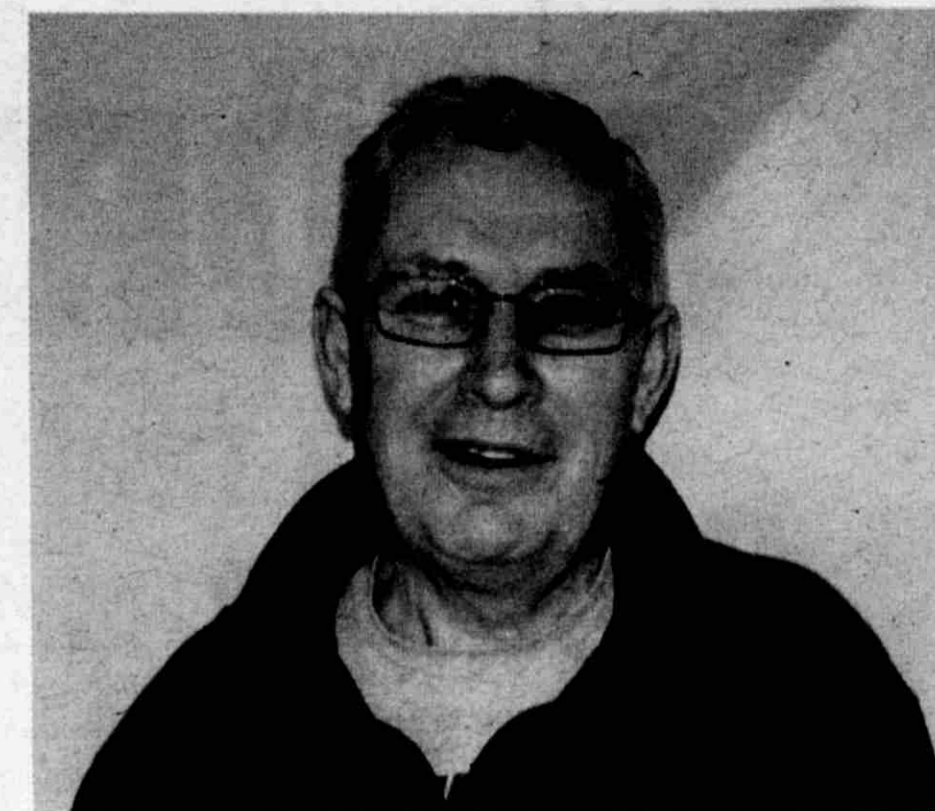
**Position:** retired director of operations from LAS, Expo board member

**Residence:** Lowell

**Education:** Davenport and Grand Rapids Community College; bachelor's in liberal arts, certificate of supervision

**Experience:** US Navy; DeKorne Furniture, head of operations, store manager; Lowell Area Schools

**Family:** Daughters, Cara, Michelle; son, Scott  
**Hobbies:** golf, trails



## Lowell resident known for involvement in schools and Expo

by Emma Palova

You can call Larry Mikulski an inconspicuous go-getter.

Whether in the schools or behind the scenes of

was instrumental in all the major school projects.

He was an integral part of forming the school district, always trying to find the middle road.

remembers that snowy day at the end of January. Kids were supposed to be taking exams.

The snow was blowing hard and the backroads

Mikulski shrugged, "Well, it looked a lot worse earlier."

And he stayed for the challenges working his way through them.

"I've always worked with enjoyable people," he said.

It was the little things that he appreciated the most, when parents called about a great driver or noticed a renovation.

"It made you say, tomorrow I will do a better job," Mikulski said.

The school and the community were always first on his mind. Mikulski's goal was always presenting a positive image of the school system and Lowell.

How did Mikulski accomplish that tough goal at a time when the school district was growing with the community?

"You learn all you can," he said. "You listen and shut up for a while. People are the customers of the schools. You adapt their needs with your needs."

Mikulski has always been open to suggestions with a positive outlook.

"We need to be on top of things, not following but leading," he said.

The district, according to Mikulski, followed the progression of demographics with a renovated elementary school in Alto.

The district started sprawling from 92nd Road south to 7 Mile North. It was a challenge to keep the image still as a community school.

He considers his greatest contribution to the schools and the community, the implementation of the Safe Walks to School program in Lowell.

"It was successful because the people, the businesses and the program all were a good fit," he said.

Mikulski's contributions to the community continue as an Expo board member.

He stood at the roots of the Expo 15 years ago, just as the new high school was built. The city needed a venue, so why not show off the school?

Mikulski became the school representative for the Expo.

The Expo started

with 15 booths and a great attitude. It was one of the first expos in the area.

"What do we do to attract more people," said Mikulski. "How do we grow?"

Last year, Expo had 156 booths and an entertainment stage.

So, how did they do it? Well, Mikulski answers, "Through advertising and communications from the schools."

The target to this day remains the Lowell community and what it can offer to all.

"First, we were first," he said. "The community is going to grow. We need more people with more ideas and greater business participation."

Everyone should be able to use the Expo to their advantage and to show their wares, says Mikulski.

How about the future of the Expo?

Mikulski predicts even though the structure of the event may change, the school will be able to show off more vendors without needing more space.

Expo, you can always recognize Mikulski's staple work with the good of the community always on his mind.

Even today, at 65, Mikulski, a retired director of operations for Lowell Area Schools (LAS) and a current Expo board member, wishes he had done more.

"What I did, I tried to do the best with emphasis on the community," Mikulski said.

Working under four superintendents, Mikulski

"I always thought about what can the school district do for the community and what the community can do for the schools," he said.

The toughest part of his job was to make the decision whether to close the school on a snowy day.

"In school, you are fluid," he said. "Transportation is everything."

Did he always make the right decision?

Today, sitting behind his kitchen table adorned with flowers, Mikulski

always worried him.

He headed out at 4:30 am to check the roads himself.

"Backroads always scared me the most," he said. "I was nervous about putting buses on the road."

Mikulski called superintendent Bert Bleke to close the schools.

But, by 10 am the sun was out and the kids were at home or making angels in the snow.

"Are you crazy," Bleke asked.

## Former resident enjoys The Ledger, continued

school band teacher five years ago.

Rice likes to read about his friends and just keeping track of things.

"When I was younger I wanted to get out," he said. "I will consider moving back as I get older."

Rice enjoys reading about the progress Lowell has made since his high school years, like the opening of the Flat River Grill and the new hotel, the Main Street Inn.

"It's come a long way," he said. "It still has the small community feel with wonderful amenities."

And he absolutely loves reading about the social things, such as retiring teachers and the obituaries.

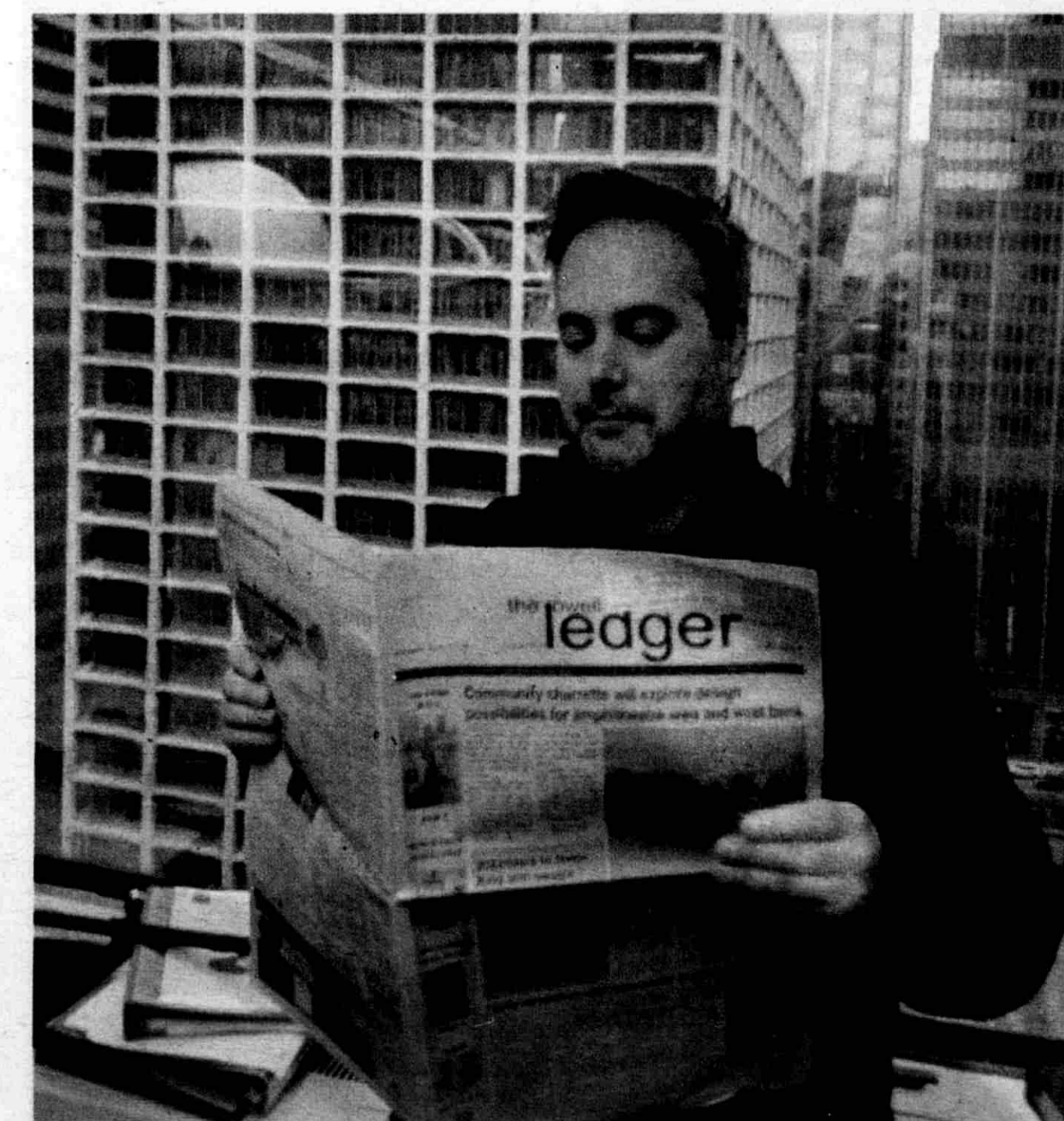
"It just keeps me connected," Rice said. "I love the Sound-Off."

But, his favorite section is Looking Back Through The Ledgers for its historical facts value and a slice of nostalgia.

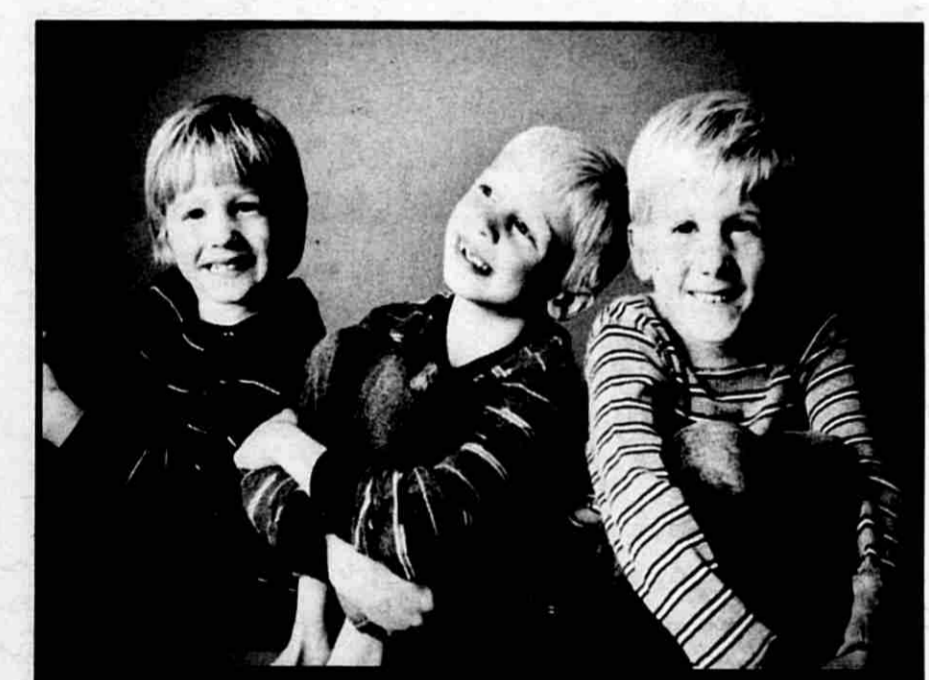
"I suggest more arts and culture stories," he said. "I've seen other small papers, but Ledger is the best one of small-town papers."

Rice visits Lowell five times a year to catch up with his grandmother, aunts and the entire family.

"Lowell has come to its own from a fledgling town to a fantastic community," Rice said.



Bob Rice II reading The Lowell Ledger in the heart of Chicago.



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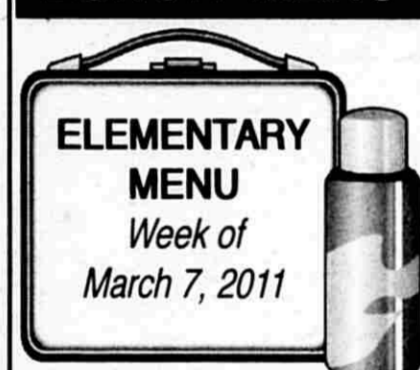
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### LUNCH MENU



**ELEMENTARY MENU**  
Week of March 7, 2011

**MON:** Tony's pepperoni pizza (rib BQ on wheat bun also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), Tossed romaine salad w/lite dressing, pears, milk.

**TUES:** French toast sticks or cereal w/graham crackers, each w/cheese omelet, orange juice, banana, milk.

**WED:** Pasta Marinara w/cheese & Bosco stick (Jr. ham/cheese sub also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), green beans, pineapple, milk.

**THURS:** Soft taco w/shredded cheese/lettuce (cheese quesadilla w/salsa also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), fiesta brown rice/diced tomatoes, applesauce, milk.

**FRI:** No School. Professional Development Day.

# Red Arrow SPORTS

## Spotlight On Sports

With Shane Beach

Each week, Shane Beach will visit Lowell High School athletes to find out a bit more about each one and get a closer look at the kids we're all so proud of in the community.

### What are your biggest high school wrestling achievements?

**GB:** State title 2009 and second in individual.  
**JS:** State qualifier this year and looking forward to state this year.  
**DF:** State title 2009 and third place individual.

### When did you start wrestling and what attracted you to it?

**GD:** Started when I was five-years-old. I was always around it when my dad coached at (Michigan) State. I really grew to love it.  
**JS:** Probably six-years-old wrestling with my younger brother all the time. One day my dad asked me if I wanted to join the wrestling team.  
**DF:** I didn't really get involved with it until middle school. My family was involved and I grew up around it more and more and really liked.

### What have you improved upon most since entering high school?

**GD:** Getting in better shape, being more physical gaining leadership from coaches and other players. Better leadership skills really helped me a lot.  
**JS:** Toughness from coach Dean. Teaching me to get ready for the next level.  
**DF:** Overall everything! I've improved in everything and learned a lot from so many.

### What does coach Dean stress to each of you more than anything?

**GD:** Mental toughness, working through the pain and getting better. Being a good role model. Mental toughness can work through anything.  
**JS:** Staying focused mentally and always thinking positive. Know the specific job at hand.  
**DF:** It's not all about wins, but working hard and being able to outwork everyone else.

### What are your college goals?

**GD:** I will make my decision after wrestling next season.  
**JS:** Football or wrestling I hope. Just depends how everything goes next year. Where ever I go I will always come back to Lowell to help others.  
**DF:** Planning on wrestling in college, considering some different schools right now.

**This Weeks' Athletes:** *Gabe Dean, junior  
Dan Fleet, senior  
Jake Stehley, junior*

**Sport:** Lowell Varsity Wrestling

### How much time do you put into wrestling?

**GD, DF and JF:** (almost all simultaneous) After football to the start of football. They went on and all agreed, "it's great, it's a lifestyle we all choose."

### What's the key to being a great wrestler?

**GB:** It's a mind set of no fear. Stay determined.  
**JS:** Effort and hard work.  
**DF:** Work ethic and hard work.

### Who's your toughest match against?

**GD:** A kid from Linden (Michigan) and Garrett Stehley (Jake's brother). All good skills.  
**JS:** No one specific. They're all the toughest until you beat them.  
**DF:** Jordan Wolfort of St. John's probably. We've not wrestled yet this year, but he's ranked number one in our weight class and I'm number two.

### What do you want the Lowell Community to know about you and the wrestling team?

**GD:** We are Lowell kids that have grown up together and are here for one another. We care about each other and we stick together.  
**JS:** We work very hard and our effort is put into everything we do, every practice and every match.  
**DF:** This team is full of great guys and I'll go to bat for any of them. We've all been together in multiple sports.

### Parents? Brothers and sisters?

**GD:** Father, Dave; mother, Bethny; brother, Max; and sister, Cassie.  
**JS:** Father, Rob; mother, Sherry; brother, Garrett; and sister, Lindsey.  
**DF:** Father, Jim; mother, Susan; sisters, Hannah and Audrey.

## - HOCKEY

# Bitterman nets hat trick on parent's night against the Warriors

by Shane Beach

On Friday, Feb. 25, Northwest jumped out to a quick 1-0 lead on the Lowell/Caledonia (L/C) team, but that seemed to be the wake-up call they needed. Three minutes later L/C scored as Adam Hubert (Sr - LOW) touched the net and was assisted by Dennis Echelbarger (SR - CAL). L/C added three more goals, leading 4-1 after the first period. The next goal was scored by Justin Pinto (FR - CAL) assisted by Karson Arnold (SR - CAL). The third L/C goal was an unassisted goal scored by Tyler Bitterman (SR - LOW). The final goal of the period for L/C was scored with just fifteen seconds remaining by Bitterman with an assist

to Braden McGillicuddy (JR - LOW). The second period started just as the first ended for L/C as Jake Rossman (SO - CAL) scored. Hubert got his second goal of the game on a nice pass from Bitterman halfway through the period. L/C continued with the pressure and were able to score again when Tage Green (JR - CAL) scored. Thirty-seven seconds later, Rossman scored his second goal of the night with assists by Arnold and Pinto. Bitterman scored again, this time shorthanded with just 45 seconds remaining in the period. This sealed the win for L/C as the game ended after two periods because of

the Michigan High School Athletic Association mercy rule. "This was a great game for the team on senior/parent night," coach Beurer added after the game. A few of the seniors stepped up big in helping the team net a win on their final home game of the season. Bitterman scored a hat trick (three goals) and added one assist for four points on the evening. Hubert chipped in with two goals of his own and Arnold had three assists on the evening. It was a great way for them and the entire team to end the home portion of the season with a win in front of the fans. The players even provided

Hockey, continued, page 11

# Red Arrow - Wrestling SPORTS

## Lowell's run for state title ends just short

submitted by Nancy Dood

State championship hopes for the Lowell Red Arrow wrestlers came to an end when they lost to the number one seed and eventual champion, St. Johns. They suffered a 48-10 defeat in their semi-final match of the team state final at Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek.

The Red Arrows wrestled in the quarter-finals against Stevensville-Lakeshore on Friday evening coming away with the win, 45-21, putting them in the semifinals versus St. Johns on Saturday. Winners for Lowell against Stevensville-Lakeshore were Gabe Morse (140); Dan Fleet (145); Andrew Morse (152); Jake Stehley (160); Garrett Stehley (189); Gabe Dean (215); Luke Stephens (285); Calvin Meyer (119) and Zack Jeffries (125).

The Arrows knew going in to the semifinal match against St. Johns would be a tough battle. St. Johns has been ranked number one in Division II all season and

was undefeated for the year, but the Arrows gave it their all. There were some very close and exciting matches.

Head coach Dave Dean did some juggling of the line-up with hopes of winning some of those close matches and giving the Arrows a chance to get to the finals.

Senior Dan Fleet dropped down from 152 pounds to 145 pounds and junior Andrew Morse moved up from 145 to 152 pounds, giving the Arrows the matchups they hoped would give them the best chance to win. Unfortunately, the Arrows came up just short in those matches. Fleet lost his match 4-2 in overtime to Travis Curley. Morse lost his match to Jordan Wohlfert, 7-6. Both of the St. Johns' wrestlers were undefeated during the season. "Danny and Andrew wrestled their tails off and came up just short; those kids they both wrestled are very good wrestlers," Dean explained. Lowell lost the other close matches as well. Wade

Schlosser at 171 pounds, 4-2, Garrett Stehley (215), 6-5 and Luke Stephens (285), 4-2. "We needed to win the close ones today and we just didn't get it done," Dean said. "We went after them and did what we had to do and they came out on top." "Credit to them, they handled the adjustments."

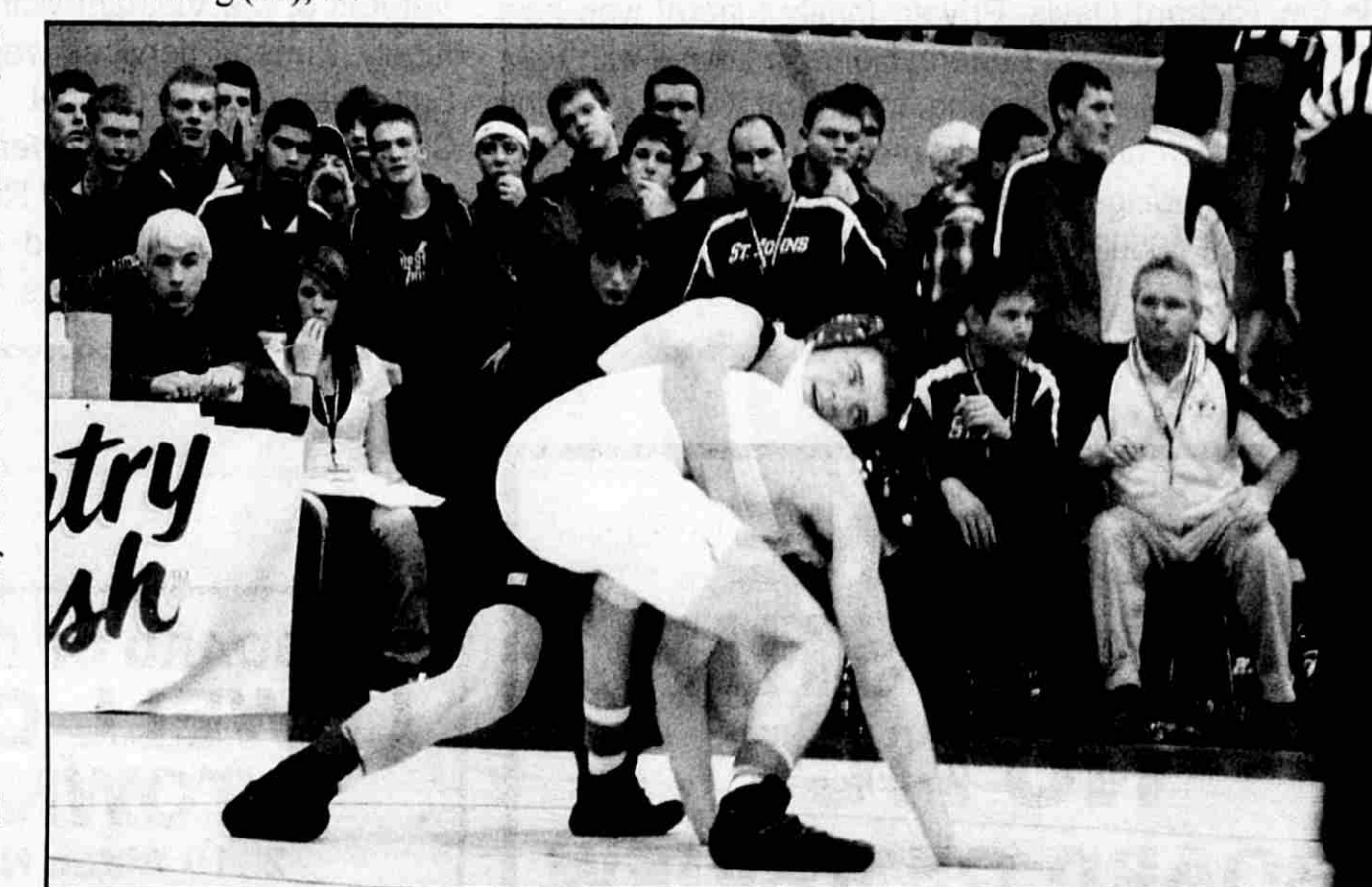
Winning their matches for Lowell were juniors Gabe Morse (140) and Gabe Dean (189). Morse major decisioned his opponent, Payne Hayden, 11-3 and Dean pinned his opponent, Adam Young, in just seven seconds of the first period. Coach Dean added, "It was a great season for us. The boys gave us everything they had." The Red Arrows ended the team portion of their season with a 25-7 record.

**Match by Match Results:**  
130 - Josh Pennell (SJ) fall Jake Stephens (L), 1:34  
135 - Rory Bender (SJ) dec. Kanon Dean (L), 7-2  
140 - Gabe Morse (L) major

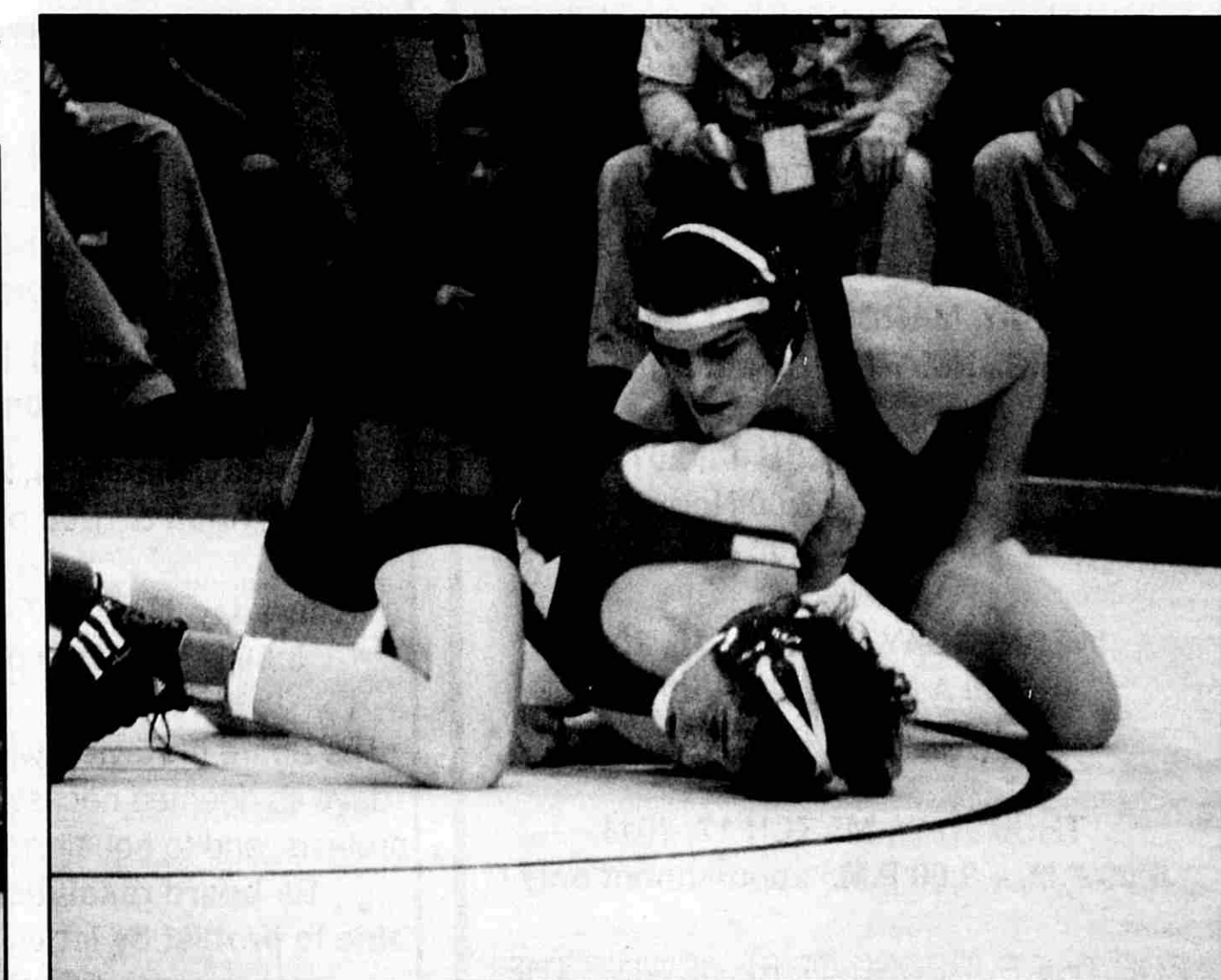
dec. Payne Hayden (SJ), 11-3  
145 - Travis Curley (SJ) dec. Dan Fleet (L), 4-2 overtime  
152 - Jordan Wohlfert (SJ) dec. Andrew Morse (L), 7-6  
160 - Taylor Massa (SJ) tech. fall Jake Stehley (L), 18-3, 4:14  
171 - Mike Schafer (SJ) dec. Wade Schlosser (L), 4-2  
189 - Gabe Dean (L) pin Adam Young (SJ), :07

215 - Conrado Dominguez (SJ) dec. Garrett Stehley (L), 6-5  
285 - Taylor Pemberton (SJ) dec. Luke Stephens (L), 4-2  
103 - Zac Hall (SJ) tech. fall Bailey Jack (L) 24-9, 5:50  
112 - Jacob Schmitt (SJ) fall Scott VanOosten (L), :57  
119 - Brant Schafer (SJ) tech. fall Calvin Meyer (L), 16-1, 3:59

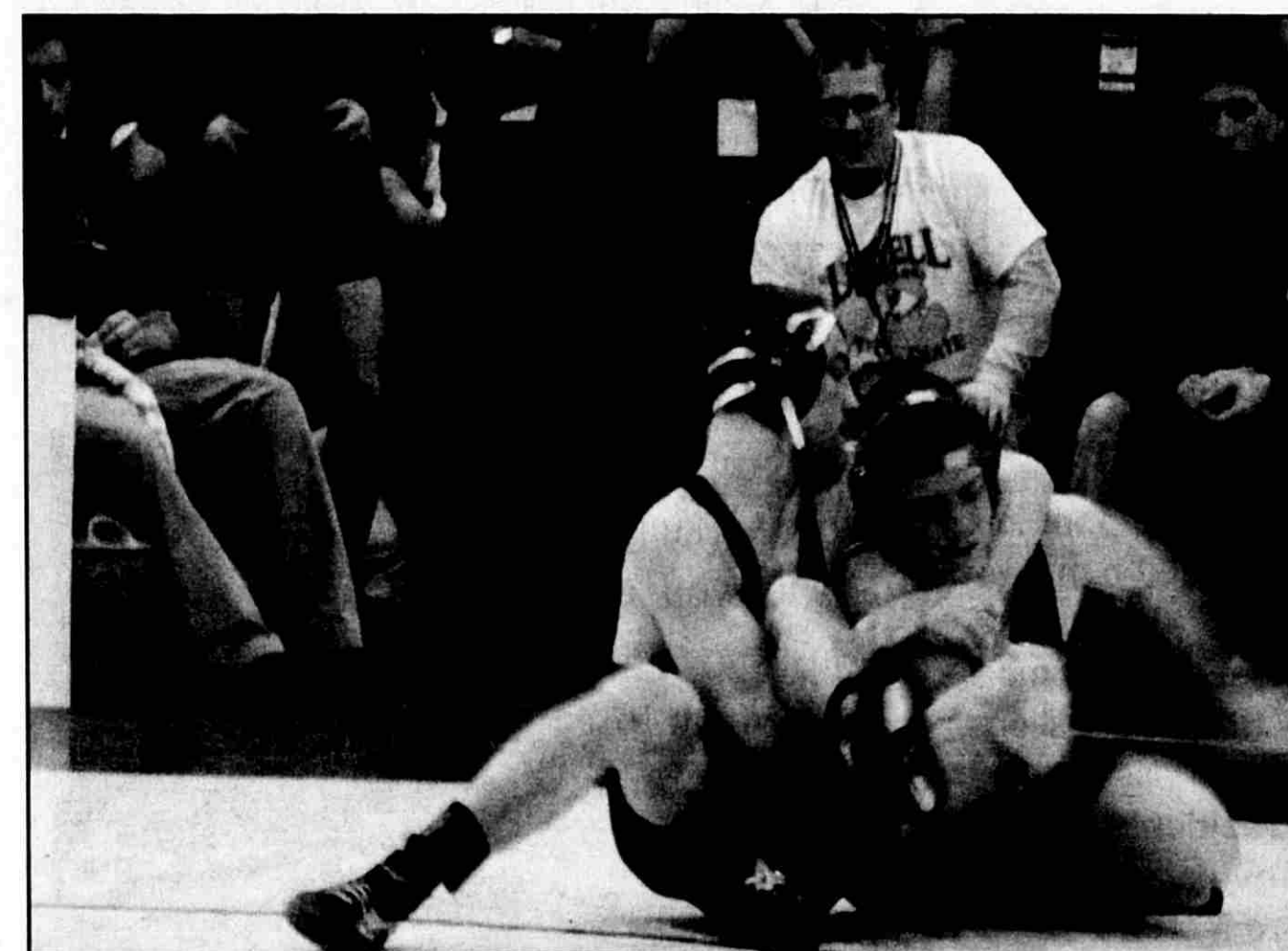
125 - Cameron Bender (SJ) dec. Zack Jeffries (L), 10-3  
Ten Red Arrow wrestlers will continue their season next weekend at The Palace of Auburn Hills at the individual state finals. Action will begin on Thursday at 2:30 pm.



Dan Fleet working to take down Travis Curley of St. Johns.



Jake Stehley won his match by technical fall over Matt Reynolds of Stevensville-Lakeshore.



Andrew Morse pinned his opponent J.P. McDougall of Stevensville-Lakeshore.

## Hockey, continued

a great salute to their fans, at the end of the game, as a way of saying "thank you" for their support all season.

On Saturday, it was another slow start by Lowell/Caledonia as they found themselves down by three goals to West Ottawa. West Ottawa controlled the play in the period, but L/C did manage to get on the board when Arnold (SR - CAL) got one past the West Ottawa goaltender with an assist by Bitterman (SR - LOW).

L/C picked up the pace in the second as they were

able to get a quick goal when Bitterman scored with an assist by Dennis Echelbarger (SR - CAL). Unfortunately for L/C, West Ottawa answered right back with three goals of their own before L/C was able to get another one on the scoreboard. L/C, now in a huge hole, decided to go to work. Down by four goals late in the second period L/C scored with another goal by Bitterman with an assist to going Echelbarger and McGillicuddy (JR - LOW). Twenty-one seconds

later, L/C scored again when Arnold found the back of the net with an assist by Jordan Swift (SR - CAL) and Bitterman. The score after the second period was L/C (4) and West Ottawa (6).

L/C scored in the first two minutes of the third period when McGillicuddy got it past the West Ottawa goalie with an assist by Bitterman. Three minutes later, Echelbarger found the back of the net while shorthanded to tie the score at six goals a piece. The momentum in the hockey

game definitely favored L/C and the team could finally realize it.

Coach Beurer stated, "We would play a lot of back and forth hockey for several minutes in the third period with both teams having several scoring chances." L/C goalie, Nate Propst (SR - LOW), came up big for his team, when they needed him most, to keep the score tied. With just under five minutes remaining in the game, Bitterman scored for L/C for the third time with assists by Swift and Echelbarger. The

remaining minutes were played very close with more scoring chances by both teams. In the end, L/C would win this game by playing tough defense down the stretch. It was another strong performance by several players for L/C as Bitterman would get three goals (hat trick) and three assists (playmaker) for six points in the game. Arnold found the back of the net twice. Echelbarger had three assists and Swift had two assists. Propst played

well down the stretch for L/C in goal.

Lowell/Caledonia starts its playoff match this Tuesday against East Kentwood. The game is at the Kentwood Ice Arena and will start at 7:30 pm. Coach Beurer added, "the playoff is one loss and you are done. Assuming we can pull out a win on Tuesday, we will play the next game on Thursday against Grand Rapids Public who got a bye in our pre-regional."

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obituaries

DOEZEMA

Cornelius (David) Doezema, aged 67, of Lowell, went home to see Jesus, his precious Lord and Savior on Saturday, February 5, 2011. He was married to his high school sweetheart, Carolyn Davis, for 46 years. He will be deeply missed by her and daughters, Heidi Jo Doezema, Mollie (Jim) Sullivan and Julianne (Dion) Ulrich; grandchildren, Anna, Jim Jr., Ben and Sterling; sisters, Julie Van Solkema and Willa (Bill) Helphingstine; nieces, nephews and father-in-law Richard Davis. Private family funeral was held Friday at Roth-Gerst Funeral Home in Lowell with Rev. Lew Vander Meer officiating. Interment will be at Bailey Cemetery. Contributions in memory of David may be made to Guiding Light Mission, 255 Division S., Grand Rapids, MI 49503.



VASQUEZ

Nieves Vasquez, age 64, of Lowell, passed away Monday, February 21, 2011. He was preceded in death by his parents Pedro and Cecilia Vasquez and brother, Luis Vasquez. He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Dora; daughter, Maria Vasquez of Lowell; godchildren, Samantha Graham, Charles Graham Jr.; grandchildren, Alicia, Zeke and Jade; brothers, Daniel Vasquez, Lorenzo Vasquez, and Pedro Vasquez Jr.; sisters, Manuela Lopez, Elena, Rosie; and many nieces and nephews. Nieves was a Veteran of the Vietnam War and was dedicated to his family. Funeral services were held Friday at O'Brien-Eggebeen-Gerst Chapel. Interment Resurrection Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to VFW Flat River Post 8303, 3116 Alden Nash, Lowell or Disabled American Veterans, 3000 Monroe NW, Grand Rapids.



Social Security's final four services

This time of year basketball fans are gearing up for March Madness -- a time when the final four teams in the NCAA fight for the title of national champion. While basketball fans are excited about March Madness, Social Security already has a winning "final four" of online services to cheer about, check them out.

The Retirement Estimator is an easy way to get an instant, personalized estimate of your future Social Security benefits. Just key in some basic information and the Estimator will use information on your Social Security record, along with what you input, to give you a benefit estimate on the spot. Check it out in English at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator or in Spanish at www.segurosocial.gov/calculador.

The Benefit Application is the most convenient way to apply for Social Security retirement benefits. You can apply from the comfort of your home -- it's fast, easy, and secure. There are no forms to sign and usually no documentation is required. Social Security will process your application and contact you if any further information is needed. Try it out when you're ready to retire at www.socialsecurity.gov/applyonline. The online Extra Help application is an easy way to save about \$4,000 a year on your prescription drug costs. To qualify for the Extra Help, you must be on Medicare, have limited income and resources, and live in one of the 50 states or the District of Columbia. Learn more about it at www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp. Business Services Online is our one-stop shop for small businesses. The site allows organizations and authorized individuals to conduct business with and submit confidential information to Social Security. You even can use it to file your W-2s the fast, convenient, and paperless way -- online. Visit Business Services Online at www.socialsecurity.gov/bso.

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

"Snowball" Alexander 6/12/27 - 2/28/07

We miss talking to you, laughing with you, and just having you nearby. But we're thankful for each moment & memory we've shared. You'll forever be in our hearts. Forever missed, Your Family

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Life, Home, Auto, Farm, Business, Retirement, and more... your Farm Bureau Insurance agent brings you peace of mind in so many areas of life. Mark Johnson, 6095 28th St., Ste. 4 Grand Rapids 940-8181 www.MarkJohnsonAgency.com

classifieds

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

for sale

OUTDOOR FURNACE - Features automatic power ignition & can heat multiple buildings. MAXIM by Central Boiler burns wood pellets & corn. Winter Sale. Call SOS your "Stocking Dealer" Dutton, MI 616-554-8669 or 616-915-5061.

BED & MATTRESS SET - queen (complete) \$95 includes frame. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main, Carson City, 989-584-1600. Delivery available.

MOVING SALE - Broyhill sofa, coffee & end tables, 2 lamps, entertainment center/WTV, wool area rug, electric stove, country dining table, country cabinets, treadmill w/weights, futon-black, black coffee table, computer desk-black metal, recliner. All in great shape. 987-3105.

COUCH FOR SALE - 2 end tables & 2 lamps, \$280 for all plus free recliner. 616-328-7353.

LAPTOPS - REFURBISHED - IBM R61 and HP 3270 XPro. Open Office, MS Antivirus etc. \$250 and up. Call 616-901-8515.

PRICE REDUCED - low down, 2 bedroom single wide mobile on very nice wooded lot. Newer well & septic system. \$58,800. Call Ron at 616-291-1413.

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. Must be paid for when ad is placed. Call 897-9555, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell, Ph. 897-9261.

BUNKBED SET - oak, with mattresses, complete, \$89 for all. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600. Delivery available.

NEW PRICE! - \$10,000 less! Ranch style home with a spacious master bedroom with bathroom, a large country kitchen and living room with a bay window! Home sits on a lovely country setting! Don't miss out on this great opportunity for just \$59,900! Call Melinda Robison at 616-648-0151 or visit www.GoMelinda.com Five Star Real Estate 791-1500.

DAISY FLORAL OPENING SOON - at 505 W. Main, 897-2588 w/original owner, Stephanie Heaton. Store to open second week of March.

SELL AVON - Only \$10 to start your own business. Contact me, 897-5086, AvonbySherry@gmail.com, or www.youravon.com/sgrimm

DANCE CLASSES - Line Dancing, you don't need a partner, 6-7 p.m., \$8/class; Ballroom Dancing, singles and couples welcome, 7-8 p.m., \$8/class; Open Dance, single or a couple, 8-9 p.m., \$5/person or \$8/couple; on Wednesdays at Cherry Creek Cafeteria. For information call 987-2550.

LITTLE LEAGUE SIGNUPS - www.llmi.com

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.

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PEBBLE BEACH APARTMENTS - Lakefront, private deck, carport, 1 & 2 bedroom, starting at \$580. lowellmichiganapartments.com 616-897-6880.

APARTMENT FOR RENT - in Lowell. 2 bedroom, utilities included. \$700/mo. Available immediately. Call 897-7176 or 299-3198.

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.

services

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

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BUSINESS CARDS - Before you order your cards from somewhere else - check our rates! Call Lowell Litho, 897-9261.

LEDGER OFFICE HOURS: MON. - THURS. 8-5 FRI. 8-2 Closed Sat. & Sun.

services

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

FRY DADDY'S - 608 W. Main St. Lent Specials coming soon! For now, check out our daily specials! 616-897-3474.

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.

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BIG STEPS LITTLE FEET - Christian Childcare & Preschool in Ada now enrolling. www.bigstepslittlefeet.org 616-682-8300.

services

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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 Rumage 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. TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY TOPS MI #372 - every Tuesday at Key Heights Mobile Home Park Community Building. Weigh-ins at 5:45 p.m. CUB SCOUT PACK 3188 - meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main. QUA-KE-ZIK SPORTS - MAN'S CLUB - meets second and third Tuesdays at 8 p.m. at 8731 West Riverside Dr. Go to www.qua-ke-zik.org for information. New members welcome. MICHIGAN HEPATITIS FOUNDATION SUPPORT - 1st Thursday, 7-8:30 p.m. at 250 Cherry, Lacks Cancer Center, Grand Rapids. BLUEGRASS JAM - 1st and 3rd Thursday, Country Korner of Alto, 6077 Linfield. Call 868-6371. 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. SARANAC AREA MUSICIANS - Practice Thursdays at Saranac High School bandroom. Chorus: 6-7 p.m. Band: 7-8 p.m. Call Kathy at 897-5981. ALTO LIONS CLUB - first & third Thursday at United Methodist Church in Alto at 7 p.m. KEEP IT SIMPLE ADDICTIONS SUPPORT GROUP - Socialization & peer support for recovering addicts. Meets every Thursday at 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Raya building, Contact Charlene, 897-7636 or Carrie, 897-7303 for more info. QUARTER BINGO - 2nd Thurs. of each month, 1-5 p.m. 2 cards for a quarter. 50% payback w/100% payback hourly specials. Open to the public. The Moose Rec Hall, 1320 E. Main St. Sponsored by W.O.T.M. Chapter #1388. LA LECHE LEAGUE OF ADA, CASCADE, LOWELL - 2nd Thurs. 7 p.m. meeting. Support for pregnant/breast-feeding women. Church in Ada. 752-8300. WEIGHT WATCHERS - Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. at Impact Church, 1070 N. Hudson. New members invited. 1-800-651-6000. GENEALOGY ALTO FAMILY TREE CLUB - second Thursday at the Alto Library at 2 p.m. LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE - second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Members in good standing may attend. ADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY - second Saturday of every month at 10:30 a.m. at the Averill Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley, Ada. COFFEE WITH THE LOWELL CITY COUNCIL - First Saturday each month, 8 a.m. - 10 a.m. at Chamber office, 113 Riverwalk Plaza. Concerns & ideas welcome. MAGICAL CREATURES - Sat., March 26, 10:30 a.m. Bring the whole family to enjoy crafts & games, welves, gnomes, fairies, unicorns or other fabulous creatures! Imagination & creativity required. Alto Branch Library, 6071 Linfield Ave, 616-784-2007. LOWELL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - meets the 2nd Saturday at Flat River Outreach Ministries, 11535 E. Fulton, 9 a.m. social gathering; 10 a.m. meeting. LARC sponsors 145.27 MHz area radio repeater system. THE EAST KENT COUNTY REPUBLICANS (EKCR) - meets the second Saturday of the month at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce (113 Riverwalk Plaza) from 8:30 to 10 a.m. to discuss current events on the local, state & national levels. Bring your concerns & issues to our meeting for open discussion! Share information about what you can do to become involved! For more information, please call Dave Emmette, 644-0759 or Nancy Steckler, 897-6380. FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES THRIFT STORE - is open Wed. 10 - 8 p.m.; Thurs. & Fri., 10-6; Sat., 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at 11535 Fulton St. E. Thrift Shop, 897-8260, Food Pantry 897-8260, Emergency Services, 897-8260. ALPHA WOMEN'S CENTER - 2251 W. Main. Hours: Mon. 11-5 p.m.; Tues. 6-9 p.m.; Thurs. 10-6 p.m. 897-9533. Diapers, formula, clothing & free pregnancy testing available. AVERILL HISTORICAL MUSEUM OF ADA - 7144 Headley, is open every Friday & Saturday 1 - 4 p.m. or by appointment. Closed Jan. & Feb. 676-9346.

BOWNE TOWNSHIP NOTICE BOARD OF REVIEW THE BOARD OF REVIEW OF BOWNE TOWNSHIP WILL MEET IN THE NEW TOWNSHIP OFFICE BUILDING - 8240 ALDEN NASH SE., ALTO ON: TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2011 1:00 P.M. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2011 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon 1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2011 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon 1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M. THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2011 6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. appointment only FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVIEWING THE TAX ROLL AND HEARING ALL CLAIMS. YOU MAY APPEAL YOUR ASSESSED VALUATION ONE OF (2) WAYS: BY LETTER ADDRESSED TO THE BOWNE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR AND RECEIVED BY HIM PRIOR TO MARCH 8, 2011 OR BY APPEARING IN PERSON ON ONE OF THE DATES THE BOARD OF REVIEW MEETS. THE TENTATIVE REAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AND ASSESSMENT MULTIPLIER REQUIRED BY PA 165 OF 1971 ARE: Agricultural Ratio 49.41 1.0119 Multiplier Commercial Ratio 51.80 .9652 Multiplier Industrial Ratio 52.55 .9514 Multiplier Residential Ratio 50.04 .9992 Multiplier DENNIS MCKELVEY-ASSESSOR CHRISTIAN WENGER-SUPERVISOR BOWNE TOWNSHIP

2011 BOARD OF REVIEW NOTICE LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP 2910 Alden Nash Ave SE Lowell, Mi. 49331 2011 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE The Lowell Township Board of Review for 2011 will be held at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash Ave SE, on the following dates: Tuesday, March 8, 2011 at 10 a.m. = Organizational Meeting Monday, March 14, 2011 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon & 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. & Thursday, March 17, 2011 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The Board of Review will meet as many more days as deemed necessary to hear questions, protests, and to equalize the 2011 assessments. By board resolution, residents are able to protest by letter, provided protest letter is received prior to March 14. The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2011 are as follows: \*Agricultural..... 50.14 ..... 0.9972 \*Commercial ..... 53.10 ..... 0.9416 \*Residential..... 50.18 ..... 0.9964 \*Industrial..... 49.10 ..... 1.0183 \*Personal ..... 50.00 ..... 1.0000 American With Disabilities (ADA) Notice The Township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 2 days notice. Contact: Supervisor Jerry Hale, 2910 Alden Nash Ave SE 616-897-7600 Board of Review Members: Dave Simmonds, Barbara Tremblay & James Foerch. Jerry Hale, Township Supervisor, Secretary of Board of Review.

# Red Arrow SPORTS

## BASKETBALL

### Boys play Holland tough but turnovers make the difference

by Shane Beach

Lowell traveled to Holland to take on the second place OK Black team on Tuesday and lost 75-60 on the road.

Lowell poured in 19 points in the first quarter with Alec Roerig accounting for eight points. Dan Wernet and Jacob Meyer each added a basket and Blake Lyman hit a triple. Coach McDonald added, "I was proud of how

Alec Roerig attacked the rim while guarded by Coreontae DeBerry, their 6'8" kid."

"It clearly was Al's best game of the season in terms of being aggressive.

We made a choice to deny Windmuller who has over 60 triples on the season. This allowed driving lanes for Meadowcraft to get to the rim. You have to pick your poison when a team has numerous threats."

In the second quarter, Castro and Malling each nailed a triple as Lowell outscored the Dutch 15-12. "It was, by far, the best first half we've played this season," said coach McDonald.

Numerous Arrows scored baskets in the third quarter but the Arrows gave up 29 points, falling behind 50-39 heading into the fourth. Coach McDonald

stated, "I can't remember ever giving up 29 points in a quarter, but turnovers led to easy baskets."

Malling accounted for seven of the 11 points in the fourth, but Colin Meadowcraft scored nine himself and pulled away to seal the victory for the Dutch, 75-60.

"Holland has four kids who play upper level AAU basketball year around. It

was pretty obvious. They're very good. But I'm as proud as I've been about some things we did tonight in this game," said coach McDonald.

Meadowcraft led Holland with 29 points Roerig was a force inside scoring 17 points with Jason Malling chipping in 12. Blake Lyman and Kyle Rogers each scored eight apiece.

on a 14-1 run in the second quarter to go up 29-21. After a Yellow Jacket timeout, Greenville cut the lead to two going into the half. Sam Steed hit two triples and a pull-up jumper. Meyer hit two baskets to help spark the Arrows. "Sammy and Jacob really sparked us in that quarter. It's fun to see Sam hit a couple of triples. He's been coming in and getting some extra shooting in," said an excited coach McDonald.

#### Greenville free throws help knock off Lowell

Lowell hosted the 11-6 Yellow Jackets on Friday night and played a tough 32 minutes, but lost to the Yellow Jackets 56-61.

Coach McDonald said, "This game was eerily similar to the first time we played them. They are huge and their rebounding really hurt us. They shot 38 free throws to our 14, which, like the first game, was the difference."

Roerig, Malling, Castro and Meyer accounted for the 13 points in the first quarter as the Red Arrows ended the first stanza down 16-13. Ian Drobish, all-conference player and Cornerstone bound center, chipped in eight.

The Red Arrows went

## Lowell youth place first and second at state finals



The Lowell middle school and elementary wrestling teams both placed in the state championships held at the Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek on Sunday, Feb. 27. The middle school team was undefeated making them the Michigan state champions. The elementary team placed second after a tough loss to Hartland, the returning state champs, 31-41. Both teams advance to wrestle in Minnesota on April 15 and 16. Wrestling for the first-place middle school team were Lucas Hall, Jake Denison, Zeth Dean, John Bigham, Danny Kruse, Jason Nagy, Nate Limmex, Dakota Barry, Louis Hart, Jordan Hall, Connor Stowell, Max Dean, Angus Arthur and Logan Wilcox.

Members of the second-place elementary team were Ramsey Mutschler, Zeth Strejc, Will Link, Doak Dean, Avry Mutschler, Tyler Lynch, Sage Serbenta, Jared Hough, Sam Russell, Hayden Barry, Lane Ryan, Keigen Yugas, Channing Perry, David Kruse, Austin Engle, Garret Taylor, Garret Pratt, Eli Boulton, Nate Stephens and Max Bishop.



616-897-0787

Given the plethora of online resumes (like LinkedIn), do you trust their accuracy or believe that people exaggerate their qualifications?

To vote on the current poll question go to: [thelowelledger.com](http://thelowelledger.com)

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

Do you think the new governor is on the right track with his budget proposal?

- YES ..... 50%
- NO ..... 25%
- YES Except everyone should be paying more taxes ..... 0%
- NO He is cutting and taxing the wrong programs ..... 25%

## 2011 LAS SPRING SPORTS SCHEDULE

### BOYS & GIRLS TRACK

\* Denotes a home meet at Red Arrow Stadium  
All meets begin at 4:15 p.m. unless indicated

4/14 Creston\*  
4/21 at Grand Rapids Christian  
4/23 at 9 a.m. Caledonia Relay  
4/25 EGR  
4/28 at Northview  
4/30 at 8:30 a.m. Lowell Invitational\*  
5/5 Greenville\*  
5/12 Conference at Greenville  
5/26 time TBA Jon Bos Meet  
5/13 at 6 p.m. Conference at Greenville

### GIRLS VARSITY SOFTBALL

\* Denotes a home game at Cherry Creek Ball Field

3/30 at 4 p.m. Wyoming Park\* - double header  
4/12 at 4:15 p.m. Unity Christian\* - double header  
4/14 at 4 p.m. Ionia - double header  
4/16 at 10 a.m. East Kentwood Invitational  
4/18 at 4:15 p.m. Byron Center  
4/21 at 4:15 p.m. South Christian - double header  
4/22 at 7:15 p.m. FHC at Leonard Field  
4/27 at 4:30 p.m. Jenison\* - double header  
4/28 at 4:15 p.m. Creston\*  
4/30 at 9 a.m. Lake Orion Tournament  
5/3 at 4:15 p.m. Grand Rapids Christian - double header  
5/5 at 4:15 p.m. EGR\*  
5/10 at 4:15 p.m. Northview - double header  
5/12 at 4:15 p.m. Creston\*  
5/14 time TBA Traverse City West Invitational  
5/16 at 4:30 p.m. Hudsonville\* - double header  
5/17 at 4:15 p.m. Greenville\* - double header  
5/19 at 4:15 p.m. EGR  
5/25 at 4 p.m. Tichell\* Tournament\*

### GIRLS VARSITY TENNIS

\* Denotes a home meet at H.S. Tennis Courts

3/26 at 9 a.m. Fruitport Invitational  
4/13 at 4 p.m. Creston\*  
4/14 at 3:30 p.m. East Kentwood Quad  
4/16 at 8:30 a.m. Lowell Invitational\*  
4/19 at 4 p.m. Cadillac at Ferris State University  
4/20 at 4:15 p.m. at GR Christian  
4/23 at 9:30 a.m. Caledonia Tournament  
4/27 at 4 p.m. EGR\*  
4/28 at 4 p.m. Jenison\*  
4/30 at 9 a.m. Northview Tournament  
5/2 at 4:30 p.m. Mona Shores\*  
5/4 at 4 p.m. Northview  
5/5 at 4 p.m. Portland  
5/9 at 4 p.m. Greenville\*  
5/12 at 4 p.m. Hudsonville  
5/14 at 9 a.m. Conference\*

### GIRLS VARSITY LACROSSE

\* Denotes a home game. All times TBA

3/28 Northview  
4/13 EGR  
4/15 GR Christian\*  
4/16 Grand Haven  
4/20 Catholic Central\*  
4/25 Caledonia  
4/27 West Ottawa\*  
5/4 Northview\*  
5/9 GR Christian\*  
5/11 Grand Haven\*  
5/16 Caledonia\*  
5/18 West Ottawa

### BOYS VARSITY BASEBALL

\* Denotes a home game at Cherry Creek Ball Field

3/29 at 4:15 p.m. Grandville\*  
3/30 at 4 p.m. Wyoming Park\* - double header  
3/31 at 3:30 p.m. at Lakeview (Macomb Tournament)  
4/1 at 4:45 p.m. at Lakota (Macomb Tournament)  
4/2 at 3:30 p.m. at Detroit Western (Macomb Tournament)  
4/3 at 4:15 p.m. at Cousin (Macomb Tournament)  
4/9 time TBA Macomb Tournament  
4/14 at 4 p.m. Ionia - double header  
4/16 at 4:30 p.m. Lowell Invitational\*  
4/18 at 4:30 p.m. Creston\* - double header  
4/21 at 4:15 p.m. at Creston  
4/26 at 4:15 p.m. GR Christian\* - double header  
4/28 at 4:15 p.m. GR Christian\*  
5/3 at 4:30 p.m. EGR\* - double header  
5/5 at 4:15 p.m. at EGR  
5/10 at 4:15 p.m. at Northview\* - double header  
5/12 at 4:15 p.m. Northview\*  
5/14 time TBA Aquinas Tournament  
5/17 at 4:30 p.m. Greenville\* - double header  
5/19 at 4:15 p.m. Greenville  
5/21 at 11 a.m. Grand Ledge\* - double header  
5/23 at 4:15 p.m. Forest Hills Eastern\* - double header  
5/28 at 10 a.m. Oxford High School - double header

### GIRLS VARSITY SOCCER

\* Denotes a home game at Red Arrow Stadium

3/25 at 5:45 p.m. Caledonia\*  
3/28 at 7 p.m. Grandville\*  
4/12 at 6:45 p.m. Wyoming Park\*  
4/13 at 6:45 p.m. Forest Hills Central  
4/18 at 6:45 p.m. Kenowa Hills\*  
4/20 at 6:45 p.m. Creston\*  
4/22 at 6:15 p.m. GR Christian  
4/27 at 6:45 p.m. EGR\*  
4/29 at 6:45 p.m. Fruitport\*  
5/2 at 6:45 p.m. Northview\*  
5/4 at 6:45 p.m. Greenville\*  
5/9 at 6:45 p.m. Reeths Puffer\*  
5/11 at 5:45 p.m. Creston  
5/13 at 6:45 p.m. Cedar Springs\*  
5/16 at 6:45 p.m. GR Christian\*  
5/18 at 7:15 p.m. Greenville\*  
5/23 at 7:15 p.m. Northview  
5/25 at 6:45 p.m. Greenville\*

### BOYS VARSITY GOLF

\* Denotes a home meet at Deer Run Golf Course

4/13 at 12:30 p.m. Kent County Classic  
4/16 at 11 a.m. Lowell Invitational\*  
4/21 time TBA Pre-conference at Thornapple Point  
4/25 at 3:30 p.m. Portland\*  
4/27 at 3:30 p.m. GR Christian/Creston\*  
5/2 at 3:30 p.m. EGR  
5/4 at 3:30 p.m. Northview/Creston\*  
5/5 at 3:15 p.m. Kenowa Hills  
5/9 at 3:30 p.m. EGR\*  
5/11 at 3:30 p.m. Greenville  
5/16 at 3:30 p.m. Greenville/Northview\*  
5/18 at 3:30 p.m. GR Christian  
5/20 at 3:30 p.m. Caledonia\*  
5/23 time TBA Conference at Thornapple Point

For More Information please visit [www.lowellschools.com](http://www.lowellschools.com)  
Be sure to read the Lowell Ledger for coverage of the LAS Spring Sports.

This Page Brought To You By [the lowell ledger](http://www.thelowelledger.com)



## lend a hand

Volunteering opportunities

### LITERACY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Literacy Center of West Michigan has scheduled an information session on Monday, March 7, 2011 for prospective volunteer tutors. This session is held at 6:30 p.m. and lasts one hour. It allows persons interested in becoming volunteer tutors to find out more about the Center and its literacy programs. At the end of the session, there will be an opportunity to sign up for tutor training.

The Literacy Center of

W. Michigan is a nonprofit, United Way agency devoted to reducing illiteracy in our community. Based on 1990 census figures, at least 19,000 adults in Kent County cannot read at a functional level. At least 6,000 adults cannot speak or understand English well. By training people to be tutors, the Center can offer one-on-one reading help to adults asking for assistance in reading or English as a Second Language (ESL). You do not need to speak another language to tutor ESL.

The information session will be held at the Literacy Center of West Michigan located at 1120 Monroe Ave., NW, Suite 240, Grand Rapids, MI. Please call us at 459-5151 (ext. 10) to register.

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## Market your business for the Special Section

LOWELL COMMUNITY EXPO

Appearing in the March 20 edition of the Buyers Guide this section is geared towards marketing your business, shopping local, business feature stories and what's new at the expo

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"The People Paper"

To place an ad in this section call **897-9555**  
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**Deadline is 5 p.m. Thurs., March 17**



FEBRUARY 23 - MARCH 1

- The Oscar battle for best picture is won by "The King's Speech." Acting honors went to Colin Firth, Natalie Portman, Christian Bale, and Melissa Leo.
- Libya - Beleaguered leader Col. Muammar Gaddafi slams the U.N. over the weekend. "The U.N. is not allowed to meddle in the internal affairs of other countries, unless a country is attacking another state."
- The last U.S. World War I veteran dies at 110-years-old. Frank Buckles was repeatedly rejected by military recruiters and got into uniform at 16 after lying about his age.
- Madrid - Libya's oil industry is in chaos and there's no telling when that will end. Libyan port workers, frightened of being caught up in Muammar Gaddafi's violent crackdown on protesters, fail to show up to work, leaving empty tankers floating around the Mediterranean Sea waiting to load crude.



# Lowell FFA members to compete at state competition

submitted by Kevin Nugent

Nine members from the Lowell FFA chapter earned the right to compete at the state competitions to be held March 9-11 at the State FFA Convention in East Lansing. The students competed in the regional contests against schools from around the West Michigan area. The top two teams in each contest advance to the state level.

Two of the students advancing from Lowell competed in the Public Speaking Contests. Greenhand Speaking is for first-year high school FFA members. Emma Blough advanced from the regional contests with her speech on grass based ethanol, detailing ways ethanol may be produced with crops such as switchgrass and miscanthus instead of corn.

John Mark advanced in the Prepared Public Speaking contest. His speech on EPA regulations comparing milk spills to oil spills earned him the right to compete against the best public speakers in the state.

In the Jr. High Conduct of Meetings contest, middle school members show their ability to run an efficient meeting using correct Parliamentary Procedure. Team members include Maria Blough, Amy Carpenter, Paul Crosby, Kelliann Jacobs, Mary Leasure, Brice Warner and Rebecca Weaver. They placed first at the regional contests, receiving a gold award.

Also competing at the regional contests for Lowell were Kendra Merriman in the Extemporaneous Public Speaking contest and Emma

Roderick in the Job Interview contest, as well as the team of Josh Bartholomew, Katie Bartholomew, Sarah Crosby, Melissa Grasman, Olivia Kauffman and Kelsey Ward

in Agricultural Issues. All received gold awards at the regional contests.

FFA is a national youth leadership organization that

strives to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth

and career success through agricultural education. The Lowell FFA is one of the largest chapters in Michigan with over 100 members.



Members of the FFA Jr. High Conduct of Meetings team competing at the State Convention are, front row, left to right: Amy Carpenter, Maria Blough, Brice Warner, and Mary Leasure; back row, left to right: Rebecca Weaver, Paul Crosby, and Kelliann Jacobs.

## Thank You

to everyone who helped us after our house fire December 28.

We have been so blessed by our church family, Alton Bible Church, many area churches, the American Red Cross, and the communities of Alton and Lowell.

**While we may not be big in numbers, Alton and Lowell are huge hearted communities!!!**

All our thanks to a young man who wishes to remain anonymous to the public. He saw the fire and alerted 911 and us. He then remained on the scene, helping our son throw snow on the fire until firefighters could arrive!!! He risked his own health, and paid a price for that.

### THANK YOU!!!

Special thanks also to the Lowell, Ada, Grattan, and Cannonsburg firefighters who, through doing their "job", saved our kitties, and kept our house from completely burning, enabling us to preserve some things not high in money value but special to our hearts.

From the very bottom of our hearts we thank SO many special friends who stepped in and helped us with everything from the first clothes on our backs and shoes on our feet to food to outfitting us for temporary life, to beginning to outfit a new house.

Thank you to the following area businesses, we hope you are blessed in your business, as you were so quick to help us, not worrying about the costs.

- Ada Valley Meat Company • Avon – Kristin Harrington
- Baker Book House • Blue Ribbon Feed Store
- Broadmoor Convenience Store
- CABI by Mari Stone • Cousin's Hallmark • Daisy Floral
- Dave Emmett – Auto Owner's Insurance • Duane Rasche Orchards
- Firstbank of Lowell • George's Men's Clothing (Ada)
- Grand Rapids Hide • Grand Volute, and Chef Kim Chase
- Heidi's Farm Stand and the Blough/Kaeb families
- KDL Lowell Englehardt Library • Larry's Pizza (Grand Rapids)
- Maly's – Salon Centric Midwest
- Mary Kay – Diane Davidson, Kenna Knapp, and Shirley Stuart
- Mason Dynamics • Menards – Ionia • Norman Family Dentistry
- Pinckney Hill Meat Processing • Roth-Gerst Funeral Home
- Sandy's Shear Delight (Sandy Onan and Sue Weeks)
- Sneller's Landscaping • Stuart Farms • Tip Top Gravel
- Trudy Holtz Photography • Vergennes Township Hall ladies

Thank you Ken Wittenbach (Dirt Cheap) and Tim Wittenbach (Wittenbach Services) for indulging our historical preservation concerns while doing your jobs despite the bitter blizzard conditions!!!

### The Ford Family

**Ken, Shantell, Justin, Alissa, Kendra, Courtney, Caleb, Micaiah, and Katie**

\*\*\*

**Yesterday is but today's memory, tomorrow is today's dream.**

- Kahlil Gibran

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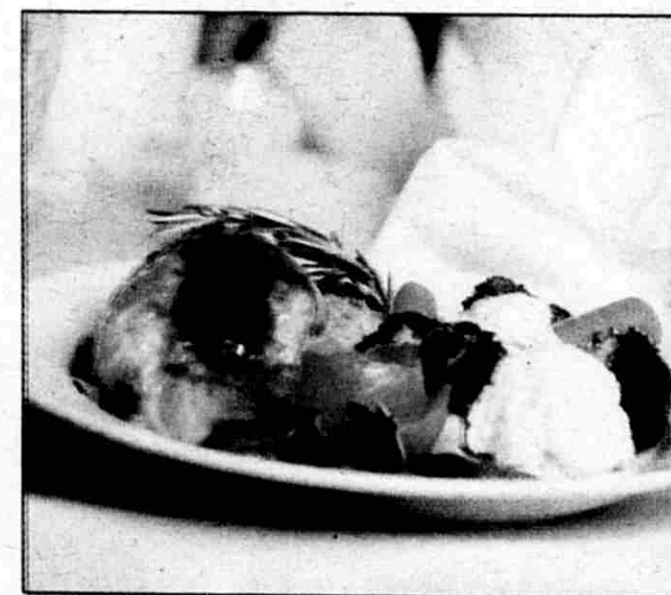
## Diet and Nutrition

— Emerald Meadows' Wellness Series concludes in March

**GRAND RAPIDS** The Wellness Series that began at Emerald Meadows in January with "Making the Most of Your Doctor Visits" and continued in February with "Heart Health" will conclude with a "Diet and Nutrition" presentation on March 10.

Kathy Higgins, Community Manager at Emerald Meadows, has been delighted to see the public's interest in the series. "People really are interested in good health," she says. "Often they just need practical tips about how to achieve it and maintain it. That's what this series has been about."

The March 10 "Diet and Nutrition" session, presented by Great Lakes Home Health and Hospice Group, will give attendees an opportunity to learn practical tips about getting essential nutrients, as well as balancing appetite and activity. Families with aging parents or grandparents are encouraged to attend and learn together.



The Wellness Series at Emerald Meadows is ideal for seniors to attend with their children or grandchildren. Session 3, "Diet and Nutrition," is scheduled for March 10 at 2:00pm.

THIS MONTH'S EVENT

### Wellness Series

Thursday, March 10, 2:00pm — "Diet and Nutrition" (RSVP to Emerald Meadows by March 4)

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

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



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