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wednesday • may • 11 • 2011

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## funding the library



page 3

student art



page 8

## mayor's exchange day



page 9

mother of the day



page 8



# Overwhelming citizen participation causes fire chief to close down education forum

by Shelly MacNaughton

Hundreds of parents, teachers, administrators and community members showed up at the VFW Flat River Post 8303 on Monday night for a legislative forum on education.

Former local news anchor, Suzanne Geha, was the moderator and legislative panelists included Dave Hildenbrand, Mark Jansen, David Agema, Brandon Dillon, Thomas Hooker, Lisa Posthumus Lyons, Pete MacGregor, Roy Schmidt and Ken Yonker.

Cars lined both sides of Alden Nash surrounding the VFW post. After about 15 minutes of introductions, the fire chief shut down the meeting because of the huge crowd that had gathered inside and out.

Moderator Geha began offering solutions. One suggestion was to have half of the crowd wait outside for half of the meeting and then have the crowd switch places, another was to hold the meeting outdoors.



Both attempts failed for one reason or another and it was decided the forum would be postponed until a proper venue could be found. "Thank you all for being here, this clearly is not the venue. We exhausted a

Forum, continued, page 2

department budgets \$15,000

to purchase two 2010 leased

cruisers to replace Impalas.

located to fire department

operations. The city con-

tinues its refuse collection

program where residents

pay \$1.50 per bag and \$2

for yard waste. Red Creek

Waste Services offers recy-

cling and residents absorb

A total of \$75,000 is al-

# City crunches budget numbers in a work session, sets public hearings for May and June

by Emma Palova

The city officials worked on the 2011-2012 budget which again reflects tight economic times, decrease in revenues and expenditures and a low fund balance. The projected decrease in revenues is estimated at 11.6 percent due to decrease in taxable value and state shared revenues.

The highlight of the budget is the general fund which also funds local street improvements with one mill or \$90,000.

The property taxes levied are \$16.08 per \$1,000 of taxable value. This includes 0.25 mills for operating the Lowell Area Historical Museum. This millage is up for renewal in 2012.

"It will be brought before the council and the voters," said city manager Dave Pasquale.

No cost of living increases have been calculated into the budget for employees' salaries. The police

Mayor Jim Hodges, mayor pro tem Sharon

Ellison, councilmembers Maryalene LaPonsie and

Jeff Altoft crunch budget numbers.

the cost of it.

The city continues to make payments of \$337,185 on a 30-year bond issue for the city and police station.

A total of \$5,000 is allocated from the Lee Fund for park maintenance. The city budgeted \$11,000 for seasonal park employment, \$1,000 for vandalism and \$11,000 for utilities. There is a \$5 usage fee per participant.

City budget, continued, page 8

# Bluegrass returns to the fairgrounds

The Mayfest Bluegrass Music Festival, presented by the West Michigan Bluegrass Music Association (WMBMA), will be held at the Kent County Youth Fairgrounds in Lowell on May 20-22.

Bluegrass music is pure, honest American music, beautiful in its simplicity. There will be instrument workshops, a songwriter's contest, a barn and bake sale, craft and food vendors and plenty of campsite jammin'. Bluegrass music stage acts are scheduled all weekend long.

The headliner this year is Danny Paisley and the Southern Grass Bluegrass Band. Those attending should bring lawn chairs for the show inside the concert building. Show will go on rain or shine.

On Friday, the White River Pickers, Blue Water Ramblers, Uncle Betty and The Bluegrass Echoes will entertain from 6:00 to 10 pm. Friday admission is \$10.

Saturday's venue runs from noon till 10:00 pm with Paisley at 4:00 pm and 8:35 pm, plus The Doodads, The Olson Brothers, Family Traditions and the Mona Shores Fiddlers. A price of \$17 covers the entire day's events.

Sunday at 10:00 am starts off with the gospel sounds of The Bluegrass Echoes along with audition bands and a chance to win \$100. Admission is \$5.

Admission price for the whole weekend is \$20 in advance and \$25 at the gate.

For more information you can call WMBMA president, Dave Simmonds, at 616-897-6220 or visit their website www.wmbma.org

**School libraries** 

benefit from

collaborative

The Lowell Rotary

Club led a collaboration of

local service clubs in rais-

ing funds for Lowell School

libraries to purchase new

books. Partners with Rota-

ry for this project were the

Alto Lions Club, the Mur-

ray Lake Family Links,

the Alto Family Links, the

Cherry Creek kids, and

Lowell High School's In-

teract club. Each group

developed its own fund-

raisers and met their indi-

vidual commitments total-

munity Fund matched all

the funds raised so the total

gift to the school libraries

was \$9,900. All funds were

collected and the grant was

managed through the Low-

flect what the public wants.

West riverbank improve-

ell Rotary Foundation.

The Lowell Area Com-

ing \$4,950.

fundraising effort

project helped the school li-

braries immensely. Our stu-

dents get very excited every

time we have new books for

them to read; they literally

can hardly wait to check out

the newest arrivals," said

Christine Beachler. "We are

extremely grateful for this

amazing opportunity and

wish to extend our sincere

appreciation to all of the

wonderful people that made

tributed as follows, \$1,000

to Lowell Rotary; \$1,000 to

Alto Lions; \$1,000 to Mur-

ray Lake Family Links

\$1,000 to Alto PTO; \$750

to Interact; \$200 to Cherry

Creek kids' piggy bank fund-

raiser and \$4950 to the Low-

ell Area Community Fund.

The monies were dis-

this possible," she added.

## Forum, continued

Lisa Posthumus Lyons.

conspiracy to shut people on Michigan's budget crisaid representative sis, Governor Rick Snyder's

This crowd came look- it all means for education.

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**BLUEGRASS MUSIC FESTIVAL** 

22, at Lowell fairgrounds. Campground jamming, instru-

ment workshops, slow jams. Huge barn sale/silent auc-

tion, vendors, bake sale. Songwriter contest, kids activities.

Camping available. For details call 896-6220 or see www.

wmbma.org.

Bluegrass music concerts Fri., Sat., and Sun., May 20-

Sign up at the Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington

**Carol Baer** 

**Tammy Smith** 

**Angie Nauta** 

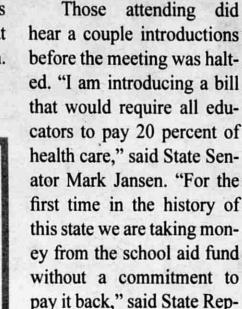
formerly of Brenda's Hair Design

formerly of Brenda's Hair Design

lot of options. This is not a ing for an open discussion They left sorely disappointbudget proposal and what

Suite B

Lowell, M



resentative Brandon Dillon.

ed amid mass confusion.



Cars lined Alden Nash as residents gathered for Monday's legislative forum on education.

## DDA approves 2011-2012 budget, appropriates \$6,000 for summer concerts

opment Authority (DDA) budget last Thursday. The DDA is funded through 384. The expenditures are Dave Pasquale.

Tax Increment Financing \$299,025. The ending bal-The Downtown Devel- Authority (TIFA) totaling ance is \$426,106. \$725,131 for the upcoming budget year including the for a certain fund balance, beginning balance of \$233, according to city manager

> The DDA has a capital outlay of \$120,000 which has provided a match for \$150,000. grant funding for riverbank improvements and the reconstruction of North Center Street. The DDA match

There is no requirement

trust fund application, for \$300,000, for proposed improvements along on the riverbank. The total local share for the riverbank project including monies from community funds is

is \$50,000 to an MDNR

wednesday • may • 11 • 2011

The city can make changes to the east river-

continued, page 3



**SEATS 150** Located at the **PLANT SALE** fairgrounds Too many plants? Call Karen at 897-7808 to donate to the Memorial Day weekend plant sale. All proceeds go to www.kcfg.org Call 897-6050

#### ADA LOWELL 5 616-897-3456 On M-21, 5 Minutes East of Amway H.Q. THEATERS www.GQTI.com \$4.50 BARGAIN TWILIGHT ○ THOR (PG-13) 4:35, 7:00, 9:30○ SOMETHING BORROWED (PG-13) 5:00, 7:20, 9:40 WATER FOR ELEPHANTS (PG-13) 4:05, 6:40, 9:20 **O FAST FIVE** (PG-13) 4:30, 7:10, 9:50 PROM (PG) 6:50, 9:10 HOODWINKED TOO (PG) 4:50

#### istries.com. Any questions, call Esther, 897-7395. LHS CLASS OF 1961

the LAS equestrian team.

The Lowell High School Class of 1961 will be hold-**CHESS CLUB CAR WASH** ing their 50th class reunion on July 9 and are desperately The Lowell Middle School chess club will be holding looking for classmates: Jane Potter, Tom Evans and Charles a car wash on Sat., May 14 from 11 am to 3 pm at Tractor Briggs. If you have any information call Linda Barnes at Supply.

> Feel free to send your event information to the Ledger for Along Main St. All submission requests for Along Main St. are subject to space limitations. The Ledger makes no assurances that they will appear in print. To ensure that an event notification will appear in the Ledger, it is best to place a paid advertisement. All efforts will be made to place suitable items in the Along Main St. column but they are printed at the discretion of the publisher. For profit events, church services, yard sales and the like, will not appear in

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- Thomas Jefferson (1743 - 1826)

\*\*\*

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on fire, without

inquiring

whether it

was fired

from within

or without, we

must try to

extinguish it.

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June 16-Aug 18, 201

hall are paid off. "We do not want to

ments remain a funding is- recreate the amphitheatre

concerts," said chairman motions. Pasquale said that city hall is in the DDA Jim Reagan.

keting and \$20,000 for pro-

**\*lëdger** 

"The concerts bring Out of the DDA bud- people in," said Reagan. get \$140,000 is transferred "The location sets the series into the city general fund for apart.'

debt service. "This reflects that the ates \$6,000 for the "Sizzlin'

Pictured, front row, left to right: Jaron DeVito (Cherry Creek student), Breckon Pawloski (Cherry Creek student), Hannah Diamond (Cherry Creek student), Kaylee Diamond (Cherry Creek student), a future Alto student (name not available), Justin Wade (Murray Lake student), and Steven Rickert (Murray Lake student); back row, left to right: Shelli Otten (Cherry Creek principal), Paula Blumm (Lowell Rotary Service committee chair), Greg Flick (president of the Lowell Rotary Foundation), Conner Swift (Lowell High School Interact club), Jeff Wilterink (president of Lowell Rotary), Christine Beachler (director of Library Services, Lowell Schools), Maggie Duimstra (Alto Family Links board), Taryn Endres (Lowell High School Interact club), Tammy Wade (Murray Lake Family Links board), and Kris Rickert (Murray Lake Family Links board).

#### DDA, continued bank improvements to re-

when the bonds on the city

\$25,000 for downtown mar-

outstanding bond issues on trict," said Pasquale. The DDA appropriates the city hall will be paid off In related business, the summer concerts on the Riv-"The bonds will be paid erwalk are only a month

off," said Pasquale, "there away. The series will open will be new funding oppor- with 126th Army Band.

The DDA appropri-

Summer Concert Series that annually runs from June through the end of August.

The total cost of the summer concerts is \$35,800. They are funded through a mix of monies from the Lowell Area Community Fund, DDA, entertainment sponsor, 14 corporate sponsors and concessions.

#### **BIGGEST TREE CONTEST**

In the city of Lowell is on for 2011. The contest is being sponsored by the Lowell Arbor Board. This is the third annual Big Tree Contest.

To be eligible the tree must be in the Lowell city limits and the deadline is Sept. 18, 2011. The top three entries receive plaques that can be placed on or adjacent to the tree. The 2009 winner is an oak tree at Schneider Manor on Bowes Rd. The 2010 winner is an elm tree adjacent to Duke Thomet's residence, 412 N. Division.

#### **CONTEST DETAILS**

Date of Contest: April 25, 2011 - Sept. 18, 2011

Winner announced at Harvest Celebration in Lowell Oct. 8, 2011 • Tree size will be confirmed by an arborist & a professional landscaper.

Entry form available at City Hall or City of Lowell website: www.ci.lowell.mi.us

ENTRY FORM Name Phone Location of tree within the city limits (nearest cross streets): Species of tree (if known): Girth of tree in inches (as measured 4.5 feet above the ground): Landowner of property where tree is located: Landowner phone(s):

Entries postmarked by Sept. 18, 2011 to:

**BIG TREE CONTEST c/o Lowell Arbor Committee** 301 E. Main St. • Lowell, MI 49331

## financial 7 focus

that can help you build re-



Own a small business?

Consider these retirement plans For a variety of reasons, timately, maximize income. you to make after-tax contrimany people, particularly And if you own a small busithose in the baby boom genness, you've got some ateration, are considering retractive plans from which to tiring later than they might

have originally planned. If Let's look at two of you're in this group, you'll these retirement plans — the want to take full advantage "owner-only" 401(k) and the of those extra working years defined benefit plan. by contributing as much as you can to a retirement plan

ees other than your spouse or a partner, you can estabsources, defer taxes and, ul- lish an "owner-only" 401(k),



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616.897.9261

also known as an individu- which might be appropri- them at the same time. But al 401(k). This plan offers ate for you if you are high- before you choose either or many of the same advantag- ly compensated and have both of them, consult with es of a traditional 401(k): a range of investment options, tax-deductible contributions and the opportunity for taxdeferred earnings growth. You may even be able to choose a Roth option for your 401(k), which allows butions that have the opportunity to grow tax free.

contributions consist of two parts: salary deferral and profit sharing. In 2011, you can defer up to \$16,500 of income, or \$22,000 if you're But you'll certainly be able If you have no employ- 50 or older. The amount of your profit-sharing contribu- A defined benefit plan is the tion is based on your earnings. The sum of your employer contribution and your salary deferral contributions can't exceed \$49,000 in 2011 (or \$54,500 if you're 50 or ally speaking, the closer you older). Keep in mind that if your spouse is employed by your business, you each tributions will be. (This is can contribute the maximum because you'll have fewer amount allowed.

> You've got consider- your defined benefit.) And able flexibility in funding your owner-only 401(k). Both the salary deferral and ductible, you are, in effect, the profit-sharing contributions are discretionary, so government to fund a generyou can change them at any ous retirement plan. time based on your business's profitability.

tablishing a defined benefit ment (or "benefit") for life, beginning at the retirement age specified by your plan. In 2011, the yearly benefit

limit is \$195,000. The amount you can contribute to your defined Your owner-only 401(k) benefit plan each year is based on several variables, including your current age, your compensation level and your retirement age. to contribute large amounts: only retirement account that allows contributions in excess of the limits placed on 401(k)s and other defined contribution plans. Generget to retirement, the larger your maximum yearly conyears left in which to fund

since your defined benefit contributions are tax-degetting a big boost from the Here's one more bene-

fit to owner-only 401(k) and Now, let's move on to defined benefit plans: You Month in April. the defined benefit plan, can contribute to both of

no other employees. By es- your tax and financial adplan, you'll be providing hard to help provide for a yourself with a monthly pay- comfortable retirement to-

a retirement plan working hard for you today.

This article was written visors. After all, you work by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Fi-



Kent District Library programs at Englehardt Branch, 200 N. Monroe St. For additional information call 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 and meet with other fans of these popular games. For ages 6 and up. Wednesday, May 18, 6:30 pm.

#### Pajama Storytime

For families who can't come to the library during the day. Pajama Storytime offers an evening of stories and fun. Bring your teddy bear or other snuggly friend, pajamas optional. For children ages 6 and under with a caregiver. Wednesday, May 25, 6:30 pm.



Greenridge Realty announced that Amy Reedy received Realtor of the success and achievements.

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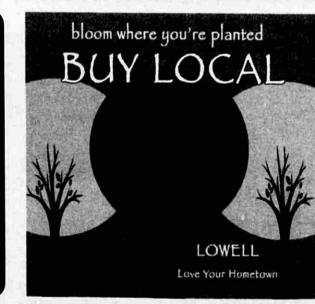
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# View Doint

#### to the ... editor

wednesday · may · 11 · 2011

#### volunteer response overwhelming

Back LEDGERS

125 Years Ago

The Lowell Journal

May 14, 1886

Occasionally a speckled mouth trout is found in

The Lowell Township board of review will meet at

Theo B. Carter has purchased the milk delivery and

100 Years Ago

The Lowell Ledger

May 11, 1911

Headline: Four Small Trout cost Freeporter \$2.00

Two gaslight spearsman were arrested at Murray

75 Years Ago

The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo

May 7, 1936

Corinne Callier died at 10:40 Wednesday night of

this week in Blodgett hospital. She was 13-years-old a

Lake about midnight, Monday night, by F.J. Maynard

Lansing State Deputy game warden and Deputy

Sherriff Scott of Lowell.

week ago last Friday.

route of R. Ryder and will continue the business as of

Grand River, near the mouth of Springbrook.

Supervisor Mitchell's office on Monday, May 24.

To The Editor.

Pink Arrow Pride committee reached out to the community to ask for volunteers row Pride. Please visit us. to represent Lowell at the One last call to action, if you finish line of the 5/3 Riverbank Run on May 14, 2011. The response was overwhelming and we are providing the race with almost 90 volunteers.

In return for the volunteer time, the 5/3 Riverbank Run committee has provided us with a free booth theirs." at the Health Expo on May

Looking

By Shelly MacNaughton

A few weeks ago, the 13, 2011, from 11 am - 8 pm at the DeVos Hall where we will be promoting Pink Arare running or watching the 5/3 Riverbank Run, consider wearing one of your Pink Arrow t-shirts to help promote our cause on the race course.

> We appreciate all who are "Serving our community and inspiring others to serve

Beth Kaminski

#### an educator's perspective on school funding cuts

Dear Editor,

Whenever an economy is in crisis citizens look for without appropriate educaa cause and a solution. They tion. The patch on the econwant to fix the problem so omy will eventually burst that people can start living and the need for a highlythat is supposed to be recov- for the jobs. Many of my ering. Society, in general, own family members feel and lawmakers specifically, that educators are getting economy in trouble will be contains ten things you may solved. Perhaps in the short- not know about teachers. term the leaking economy will be patched by diverting know: education funding, cutting pensions, and cutting teacher wages. In the long-term,

were gravely injured.

cause we will become more ignorant and short-sighted comfortably again. As an trained work force will not educator in Michigan, I also be met because we will not feel the pinch of an economy have a workforce qualified seem to feel that by target- what they deserve and have ing educators and education too long asked for more than funding, the problem of an anyone else. This response

Maybe you didn't

1. Most high school teachers currently have class sizes of 32 or more students our society will suffer be- in each section they teach.

riding with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey G. Callier,

and the east bound automobile of Dr. C.W. Foshee, of

Grand Rapids, which occurred at the foot of the first

hill west of Ada on highway M-21. All parties involved

recovery of all concerned, events took a turn for the

worse. Pleurisy, followed by pneumonia setting in, with

50 Years Ago

The Lowell Ledger

May 11, 1961

Ron Wilson and Roger Odell were the two boys

of the local high school track team who placed in the

Regional XII of Godfrey Lee Field, in Grand Rapids,

last Saturday to give Lowell a tenth place in a field of

17 Class B schools. Coach Bob Perry will take Ron

Wilson to Ann Arbor, University of Michigan Ferry

Field, to compete at the State Class B track and

field meet. Ron ran the mile, won the Regional's mile

championship with a time of 4:42, this being one of the

better times in the state. Roger Odell placed third in

the 880-run with a time of 2:09.

the result that a much loved young girl lost her life.

Many elementary school teachers have classes of 25 or more students. Please think back to the number student performance. This

were significantly fewer. 2. Teachers are currently paying for retirement four times. We pay into Social Security, we pay into our pension, we pay additional money into the pension of already retired teachers, and lastly we pay into our own retirement plans hoping that to afford to retire.

continuing education that is required to maintain our licenses, which are updated

also spend \$25,000-\$40,000 master's degrees.

vour children at holidays, some of our own copies, and many of us help support stu-When circumstances seemed most favorable for a dents who are struggling financially, as a staff or indi-

> 5. We pay into scholarship funds for your children so they may pursue higher education.

6. We pay for insurance. Contrary to what you may think, teachers pay into sions we have negotiated in our contracts, but also many teachers do not have "teacher" insurance, but have a

spouse's insurance instead. 7. Our annual re-

views are now based on

of classmates you might may seem like a good idea have had when you were in at first, but think about how school; I bet the numbers you would feel if you were evaluated based on something out of your control. If you are a manager and your employee refuses to come to work, should you be marked down on your own evaluation because of that? Many educators struggle on a daily basis with students who are perpetually tardy or consissome day we might be able tently absent. I average 5-10 students gone each class pe-3. We pay for our riod on a daily basis. That would be an equivalent of 1/3 of your work force not showing up each day. How every five years. Many of us are we supposed to instruct a student who isn't in his or our of our own pockets for her seat? Grade point averages, and yes, standardized 4. We pay for teach- test scores are affected when The tragedy is an aftermath of the collision last ing supplies (because bud- the student is not present to September 21 between a car in which Corrine was get cuts no longer have learn the required materiitems like paper and art sup- al. Should a school district plies factored in), treats for be taken over by the state, should a teacher lose his or her job because students don't attend school?

8. Maybe you didn't know that most teachers who achieve tenure deserve a little job security because they have worked hours after school, love teaching your children, and constantly work to design and implement stimulating lesson plans. Many argue that there are poor teachers who achieve tenure, so we should attack the tenure pro-

> To The Editor, continued, page 7

## 25 Years Ago The Grand Valley Ledger

The Lowell Fire Department was called out to two major fires. Fire completely destroyed the Margaret Nowicki residence at 10712 Bennett Road on Friday, May 9. The residents left the house about 9:45 pm and the Lowell Fire Department received the call an hour

May 14, 1986

The fire apparently had a good start, as the firemen spotted heavy smoke while enroute and still a considerable distance away.

On Tuesday, May 6, the Lowell Fire Department was called to assist Alto with a fire at the Darwin LaLone residence of 11888 Cascade Rd. A fire of undetermined origin caused about \$20,000 in smoke and damage. No one was home when the fire was reported at 9:09 pm. The fire remains under investigation.

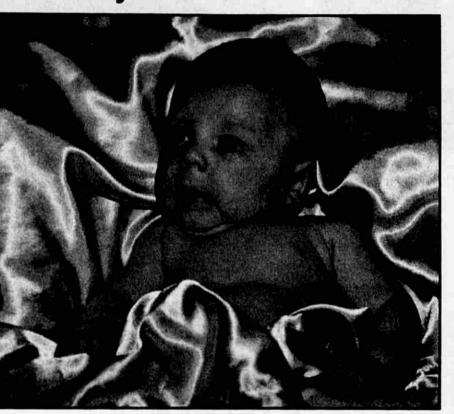
## the lowell der **Letters To The Editor:**

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

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

Hess/Klahn

engagements



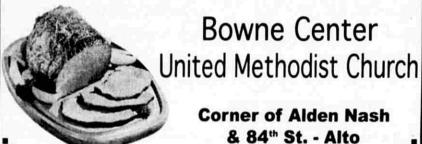
**Alan Thomas McCauley** 

Moss and Renee McCauley of Lowell are proud to announce the birth of their son, Alan Thomas "Cash," born March 19, 2011, ell. weighing 9 lbs. 3 oz.

Grandparents are Alan McCauley of Ohio, Dawn Jones of Missouri, and Terry and Jean Nugent of Low-

### **ROAST BEEF DINNER**

Sat., May 14 • 5-7 p.m.



Corner of Alden Nash

**Eric Klahn and Corinne Hess** The marriage of are Susan and Steve Hess.

Corinne Susanne Hess and Eric Douglas Klahn, both of Lowell, will be celebrated on June 25, 2011.

The future bride is a His parents are Kathy and graduate of Lowell High David Hoseth and the late School and Grand Valley Gordon Klahn. State University. Her parents

Lynch/Pritchett



**Renner Pritchett and Laura Lynch** 

gagement of Laura Lynch Lowell. Laura was raised 11, 2011.

Announcing the en- in Lansing; Renner (Cleveland) was born in Alabama. to Renner Pritchett, both of Nuptuals will be taken June



**MAY 11** 

Joel Uzarski, Kaczanowski, Hoag, Benjamin Hoag.

Michele Lindhout Christine Vickers.

**MAY 13** 

Winnifred Snieder.

**MAY 14** 

Kathy Thomas. David

**MAY 12** 

Kiczenski, Ian Duiven, Ryan Timmers,

Melanie Ligman, Jean Daverman, Ed Roth III.

**MAY 15** Maxine Gasper.

**MAY 16** Ford, Angela Dixon, Ryan Phillips, Janet Boerema.

**MAY 17** 

Maurice Hannah, Andy Dibble, Shawn Witherell, Blake Yeiter.

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know your family medical history

Medical such as diabetes, heart dis- run in families. The most ease, hypertension, cancers common ones are breast, and clotting disorders de- colon and prostate. If you velop as the result of many have a family member with factors. Some are caused by one of these cancers, it is environmental factors, such important that you begin a as poor diet, lack of exer- cancer screening program cise, smoking, drinking and sooner and more regularly chemical exposures. Some than the average person. are caused by genetic factors that are passed from often hereditary. Clotting

netic factors. can often be prevented with proper diet, exercise and

weight control. a strong genetic component and tends to run in families. not use tobacco and control their weight with diet and

Hypertension blood pressure) often detor is family history. If you have family members with your family's medical hishypertension, it is importory with your health care tant that you have your provider is the best way to blood pressure monitored prevent your family's mediregularly. You should also cal problems from becomcontrol your cholesterol, ing your own. not use tobacco and control your weight with diet and exercise.

Many cancers tend to

Clotting disorders are one generation to another, disorders can place a person while some are the result of at increased risk of a blood both environmental and ge- clot which can travel to the lung and cause a pulmonary Diabetes Mellitus Type embolism, or to the brain 2 (adult onset diabetes) has and cause a stroke. People a strong genetic component. with clotting disorders of-This means that relatives of ten develop blood clots eas-Type 2 diabetics have a high ier than the average person likelihood of becoming dia- as the result of trauma, surbetic in their lifetime. This geries, or prolonged immo-

Many people fail to realize the importance of Heart disease often has knowing their own family medical history. They often do not realize that they tion People with a family his- may be at risk of developing the same conditions that be sure to monitor and con- their siblings, parents or grandparents have been diagnosed with. It is very important that everyone learn not only their immediate family medical history, but also their distant family history and share that informavelops as a result of many tion with their health care factors, but the biggest fac- provider. Having regular physical exams and sharing

### °lëdger To The Editor, continued

giving tenure to a poor teach- highly trained work force. er is a result of poor admin- How are we supposed to fill istration. If an administrator does not "weed out" the less motivated teachers during the provisional contract Dear Ledger, years, then the administrator has not done his or her job. (I would like to qualify this statement by saying many administrators are working hard and doing a fabulous job. I am not going to attack administrators in general because it would be unjust for the hard-working ones.)

9. Most teachers are parents and we are concerned about the large class sizes our own children are in at school. We are worried that the teachers who really care about their students will get discouraged or will no longer be able to afford to be in the profession because of a society that targets them.

10. Maybe you didn't know that many teachers feel undervalued, feel they are not considered professionals, and feel the lack of respect given to them by a society who does not value education anymore. Test scores and dollar signs hold more value than a quality educa-

I pay the same high gas prices that you do. I live paycheck-to-paycheck just like many of you. I am criticized by family members, the public, and my government for working hard every day to educate your children and teach them to be valuable members of society. My summers are spent taking classes, researching information, and developing lesson plans that will engage young minds and teach them to think independently. I hold a master's degree, but I am excluded from the classification of "professional." earn less in a year than many who criticize me. Targeting education and educators is not the answer to our suffer-

cess, like it is the fault of all ing economy. The jobs that that demand with an educateachers that there are a few have been entering our state tional system that is underunmotivated ones. In reality, are already asking for a more valued?

Katrina Alexander

Lowell

A long time ago in Honduras I was mistaken for a "Limey." Whereas the English of old were quietly the immediate area. day are loudly self-congratulatory. They are endlessly "proud" and "proudly." We shall see if that impresses the Asiatics when they sail over to collect debts.

However, if one is in the mood to wax "proud," regardez the Kent District Library: now there is a good outfit. Some weeks ago I was on the home page of the

pondering library problems Royal Oak Public Library and saw an amazing sidebar regarding the possible closing of the Troy library, what it would mean for patrons in

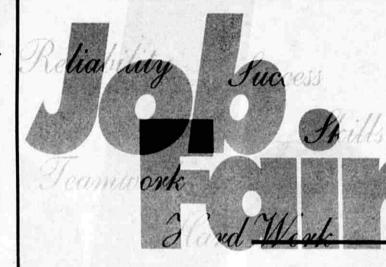
> la-debloody-da. Big city with a high school offering five languages, rich burg with a huge shopping center, an office avenue sporting an honest-to-god skyscraper and hundreds of hectares of banal but overpriced houses like Rhett Butler's. I travel

So here we have overrated Troy which was contemplating end times for the library at the same time Lowell's humble Englehardt was maintaining a six day a week operation, albeit on a truncated basis.

Troy is the east pole of the axis of wealth with the other pole as west "Bloomy." All this in the wealthiest county in the tri-state - and they cannot afford a ham sandwich or a library. As my dear mother would say, "The more they got, the more they

The library situation is now seemingly resolved. Troy is going to be adult like Kent County. Their motto is: "City of Tomorrow...Today."

> G.M. Ross Lowell



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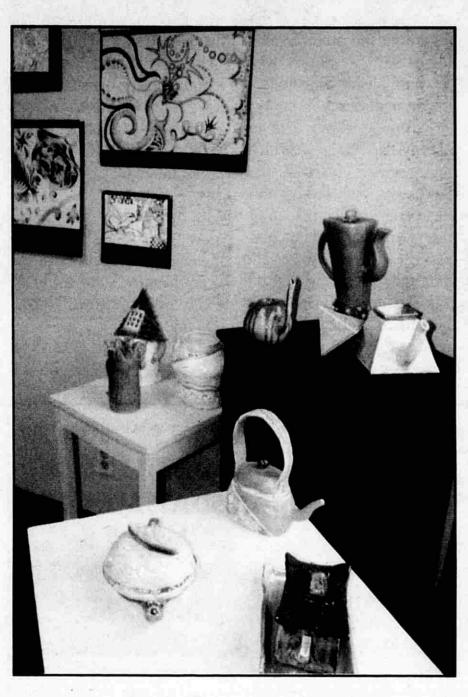
## Student art on display at Lowell Area Arts Council

ell Area Arts Council now features Lowell and high school student art, through May 26, with opening reception on May 10.

"Art education is paramount to student success,"

said Alto elementary princiby narratives next to the art- of the K-12 grades," said programs with two exhibits pal Randy Fleenor. "It provides an avenue for selfexpression, creative release and it builds confidence."

The exhibit is a good representation of the student artwork accompanied



"The teachers work cil director. hard to provide a broad representation of the art explo- cil supports the Lowell Area so supportive of the arts," rations of students from all Schools' visual art education

Lorain Smalligan, arts coun-

in April and in May. "We are very lucky to Lowell Area Arts Coun- live in a community that is

said Murray Lake principal Brett Noskey. "I am thankful our school district supports the arts as well."



## City budget, continued

Lowell will be getting a water funds. The airport is United Water already runs brand new street with 80 per- still looking at becoming a the operations of the wastecent of federal funding. The general utility airport, ac- water treatment plant. North Center Street project cording to Pasquale. has already started with the the construction is going out from Kent County.

new street," said Pasquale.

Other streets: Foreman, Bowes and South Hudson, have been reconstructed also under a federal program.

creases for water and waste- for operation of the plant.

The Department of water main and next week Public Works (DPW) budgets \$19,500 for crack seal- ees. for bids. The city received ing over and above regular an additional \$112,000 in maintenance. Crack sealing Ellison questioned wheth-CDBG block grant funding has to be done every four to five years, according to "You're getting a brand DPW director Dan Des-

Due to the retirement of water plant supervisor George Regan, the city will be exploring options of internal promotion or con-There are no user rate in- tracting out to United Water not there?"

There has also been an

increase in health insurance and pensions for employ-

Mayor pro tem Sharon er money is being budgeted for building maintenance so the city does not have to rely on community funds.

"We're always catching up," she said. "I mean longterm building maintenance. What do we do in 20 years, if [the] community fund is

DesJarden said he can'

get ahead enough to budequipment to DPW, but it would be just another loan, according to DesJarden.

There used to be an replacement schedule, but the department got away from it.

cording to DesJarden, is that the city, every year, adds recent years, these additions tures and upgrade data. included the dog and the skateboard park and municipal parking lot on Avery.

get for the equipment fund. a shoestring of all depart-The Lowell Light and Pow-ments," said Ellison. "I'd er offered to loan money for like to see an increase because it's such a visible part of our community."

The department maintains two miles of sidewalks. DesJarden estimated \$90,000 to \$100,000 to get the equipment replacement Part of the problem, ac- back on schedule.

Also, \$8,000 was budgeted for the assessor to resomething new outdoors. In assess parcels to include pic-

said councilmember Jeff Altoft. "So many parcels were not assessed in the right category. We're playing catch up."

In related business, the council will consider the purchase of a new video camera, tripod and SD cards, for approximately \$600 to \$650, for videotaping of all meetings.

The budget is up for public hearing on May 16 and June 6.

## 2011 Buyers Guide Mother of the Day enjoys special treatment

Bouncing and cracking jokes with sentimental few sentences merchants, 2011 Mother of that said it all the Day Jennifer Branagan enjoyed every minute of her

discoveries, food and fun in the sunshine

mother-in-law Shar

Husband Ty closely he could haul home all the eight months, they set up a

for the contest with a

"She has taken on me and my four kids and she has provided a house full of love, laughter and communication," Ty wrote. Jenn shared their story

during an interview at the Lowell Ledger offices in the

She met Ty on a blind date at a Griffins hockey game nine years ago. "I knew I was going to

marry him," she said. Not even the presence

of four stepchildren could change anything. After "coincidental" meeting on a Ty nominated Jenn Kent County Trail for some allows her the flexibility

rollerblading and biking to introduce the children to "This is my friend," Ty

That's how Jenn got football to meet Brittany, 15; Josh

14; Austin 12 and Makyla, 11. All are students of the Lowell Area Schools. Then Brittany invited

Jenn to a birthday party and everything was sealed. The couple were

married on the Muskegon River in October of 2004. "My two boys walked her down the trail," Ty

Jenn works as independent medical

to dedicate her time to transporting the kids back and forth to athletic events. So, at times it can

get pretty hectic between basketball volleyball, track and crew. "She supports kids' games and she bakes every

other day," Ty said. The kids call her Jenn or step Jenn with the same

ease as they call Ty daddy. Jenn likes to cook and bake. Her favorite dessert is chocolate chip oatmeal cake and of course cookies.

Jenn was the winner out of 118 entries dropped in boxes at the participating businesses.

> Mother of the Day, continued, page 15



Mother of the Day Jennifer Branagan begins her special day.

## Belding visits Lowell during mayor exchange day

visited Lowell for the annual mayor exchange day last Friday. The event highlight- hall. ed the community and pubmorning with a welcome by ered Mall. the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce. Lowell will go to Belding on May 20. The purpose of the event is to showcase communities of similar size.

wednesday • may • 11 • 2011

The officials toured the Riverwalk and the Enthe Lowell Area Historical Museum, Look Memorial Fire Station, Lowell Ambulance, skateboard park and dog park, the Lowell Water Treatment Plant, riding tour of the city, Lowell High School, Lowell Airport, and Wege property.

"We had a good time," tion at the city hall.

Roger Wills.

said city clerk Betty Mor-Belding city officials lock. "It was a beautiful day, everything went smooth. They really liked the city

Belding has a historical lic buildings starting in the old city hall next to the Cov-

> Mayor Jim Hodges said Lowell enjoyed the wonderful visit with Belding. Mayor Roger Wills used to live in Lowell. Each member of the mayor delegations received a small gift bag from the local merchants.

"It was a good exchange," said Hodges.

In the afternoon, there was rest and relaxation time at the Main Street Inn, finally a tour of the city hall and the police department, social time in the city council chambers, dinner and mayor exchange day presenta-

Lowell mayor Jim Hodges and Belding mayor

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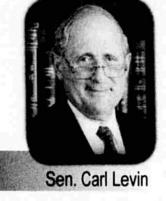
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Belding mayor Roger Wills and Lowell mayor Jim Hodges with Belding city officials: Nancy Wills, mayor pro tem Andrea Belding, councilmembers Jon Bunce and Mike Scheid, city manager Randy DeBruine, police chief Dale Nelson and city clerk Kareen Thomas and Lowell city officials: Chris Hodges, Jeff Altoft, Andrew Schrauben, city clerk Betty Morlock, and city manager Dave Pasquale.

We have struck a blow against terrorism



At 10 o'clock on a Sunday night I was in the ter- wife Barbara and I joined port. I had gone through the of cheering young people usual airport security drills waving American flags and bags, and all the other incon- the early morning darkness veniences designed to keep outside of the White House, us safe. And it was in De- part of an outpouring of rebe terrorist sought to bomb an airliner as it landed in De-

So I was surrounded by reminders large and small of how the threat of terrorism has affected our lives when Defense Secretary Gates called me with the momentous news that our forces had succeeded in raiding a compound in Pakistan and killing Osama bin Laden.

A few hours later, my minal at Detroit Metro Air- different scene: thousands - shoes off, liquids in plastic singing patriotic songs in cember 2009 that a would- lief and emotion across the

In the wake of this news, we should first turn to

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morning about 10 years ago, to those who have lost loved ones in the fight against terror in the years since, and to those who carry wounds of body, mind or spirit from that war. The death of Osama bin Laden cannot bring monstrous acts. But it can, I hope, bring some measure of relief from those losses. And we should turn

> with thanks and admiration our armed forces and the intelligence community. For them and their families, the last decade has been one of long separations, uncertainty and danger. And yet, time

those who still carry the grief and time again, they have and loss of that September answered their nation's call with courage, with competence and with skill. They have once again earned our utmost gratitude.

We also should commend President Obama for his courage and for his care in ordering the military misback the lives lost to his sion to capture or kill Osama bin Laden. The president courageously rejected the alternative options of launching a bombing mission, a missile mission or waiting until there was more evidence of bin Lad-

Levin, continued,

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## Red Arrow SPORTS



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 On Sports kids we're all so proud of in the

When did you start playing softball and how did you get interested in the sport?

I started with t-ball at age five. My mom played in college (Grand Rapids Community College) and got me interested.

What position/s do you play? I'm a senior. I pitch and play outfield, mostly right field.

What are your biggest strengths on the ball field?

I would say I am an encouraging teammate. Pitching and outfield are also strengths

What's your favorite food? Meat and mashed potatoes for sure.

What do you do for fun? I like to stay busy; I run, I like to shop and spend time with friends.

What are your plans after high school?

I am going to Grand Valley State University. I am going to major in business hospitality and minor in Spanish.

What are some of your goals this season?

Win conference and hopefully win another district title. We'd like to add a little 2011 to the banner in the gym. We have a showdown with Northview, in a couple weeks, who we'd like to beat since they beat us last year.

This Week - Kaylie Petroetie
Lowell Varsity Softball

What makes the sport of softball special?

Each person adds a different perspective to the team. Everyone works together for one goal. It's a lot of fun to meet so many people from other places and schools.

Describe the most exciting moment you've ever had in softball. Being a part of district-winning teams two years in a row.

Are softball players genuinely superstitious like baseball players? Do you have superstitions?

Not as big as baseball players, but I have a couple. In the past couple of years, the night before the game I always eat chicken and potatoes. I also wear a wristband, with the initials MH on the band, in memory of a friend who lost her life while playing softball.

What other activities are you involved in at Lowell High School?

I ran cross country, I am part of Lady Arrow varsity club, International Club and also an ambassador for new students. I help kids get acclimated to their new school. I show them around (give them a tour) and explain details. My school counselors asked me if it would be something I'd be interested in and I really enjoy it.

What has surprised you so far this softball season?

Going into the season we knew we were strong, but I think we're even better than expected. We played in a tourney in Detroit and won the whole tournament.

> What should our community know about the Lowell softball program?

We are working and having fun. Hard work pays off and we'd love to have Lowell fans to come watch us.

Family? Mom, dad, brothers, sisters, pets?

Mom, Jan; and dad, Dan. Sister, Abby; and brothers, Zach and Trevor, all younger. I am the oldest. I also have a dog named Roxie.

#### - TRACK

## Team shows progress in of spite loss to Greenville

The Yellow Jackets of Greenville stung the boys'

week, defeating our boys 99-30 in a dual meet.

Red Arrow track team last In spite of the loss,

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"Matt Kyllonen was

held out of the 400-meter be-

cause he had rolled his ankle



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aged as her young boys'

Martin Brubaker ran the track team shows progress. Coach Ellis and her coach-3200-meter, for just the third time, running it and finishing staff have had some ining with a time of 10:56 that juries and are still finding placed him second. out players' strengths.

Sophomore Hruskovsky is undefeated in the league, in the 110-high the day before and wants to hurdles. Hruskovsky placed make sure it's okay for con- in both the 110-high hurdle ference," stated Ellis. Even and the 300-low hurdle with with a tender ankle, Kyl- a 16.76 and a 45.83 respeclonen jumped to first place tively.

Leighton Watson took first in the long jump soar-

The boys' 4200-relay is improving at 1:36.06. Coach Ellis stated, "With some patience we could be competitive in this race at

Robby Coffey continues to be strong in the pole vault, getting first with a vault of 11'6". Coach Ellis loves his progress and is expecting even bigger things from Coffey in the future.





## Red Arrow SPIRS

- LACROSSE

wednesday • may • 11 • 2011

## Holland Christian falls to Red Arrows in overtime

man Taylor Martin scored The final score was 9-8. the tying goal in a thriller

With 2.3 seconds in the so wide open, I knew I had in never gave up hope. "We over yet." Sure enough, couldn't be prouder of my for a third-place finish headfourth quarter, junior attack- to feed him," said Bitterman. had a guy in the penalty with less than 30 seconds players' resilience," said

at Holland Christian. Three on to a one-goal lead late be ready, that our defense and capitalized on their last and a half minutes later, Jim in the game and with under would get them the ball. We chance to send the game into high expectations. The la- Grand Haven, Monday, in Collins took a feed from Ty- two minutes to play Lowell have the best longpoles (deler Bitterman and buried the was charged with a time- fensemen) in the business game winner. "I saw Jim cut- serving penalty. As bleak as and I knew this game wasn't early 5-2 lead in the second ting to the goal and he was it looked, coach Eric Bred-

box at the end of the game, on the clock, the Red Ar-Holland Christian held but I told my attackmen to row offense had possession

Lowell jumped to an and went into halftime down by only a goal. Three thirdquarter goals put Holland Christian in the lead, 7-6. his man sending the game in the state allow fewer.

ing lacrosse, this was one proved to 8-2 on the season, best lacrosse I've seen all of the most thrilling games 5-2 in the OK conference. season." I've ever been a part of. I The record is good enough

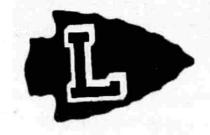
er marquee year with only 11 to advance to the confertwo regular season lossquarter, but the Maroons es in each of the past two strong defense has led the make a run in the state play-The teams traded goals in an average of 4.8 goals per seed," said coach Bredin. the fourth until Martin beat game. Only five other teams "We have an outstanding

ing into the conference tournament, that will help de-Lowell lacrosse heads termine the OK conference into the post season with champion. Lowell hosted crosse team has had anoth- the first round and won 18-

ence semifinals.

After the conference seasons. Currently ranked playoffs, Lowell will try to 12th in the state (Division make a run in the MHSAA 2), strong goaltending and tournament. "I think we can way holding opponents to offs if we get a favorable team and I think we're about With the win over Hol- to peak. The past week I've "In 17 years of coach- land Christian, Lowell im- seen us play some of the





Way to go Red Arrows!

## LHS April Students of the Month

The LHS Academic Boosters and Lowell High School have announced their April Students of the Month and they are: Ciera Bowden, ninth grade; Matt Houston, 12th grade; and Sage Maliepaard, 11th grade.

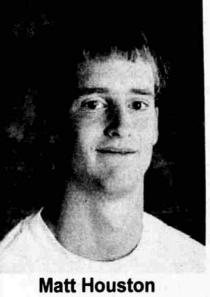
In order to be eligible for this honor a student must be nominated by a department. All the nomination forms for the month are then reviewed and voted on at the monthly department chair meeting. Students are selected based on academic achievement, character and work ethic. There are 1241 students eligible for nomination, so this is quite an accomplishment for Ciera, Matt and Sage. The students receive a \$20 movie gift card and a certificate.

Bowden was nominated by the Freshman Center East and they write, "Ciera is a terrific student who works hard each and everyday.



Ciera Bowden

Good grades are something Ciera has had to work hard to achieve, but she has been equal to the task this year. She comes in for extra help on a regular basis during her lunch and does everything she can to keep up on all of her assignments. She is very driven to succeed and has said on numerous occasions



kind to all who encounter her. She is always courteous and cooperative with fellow students and teachers."

Houston was nominated by the business department and they write, "Matt is by far the most hardworking and responsible student the business department has ever had the pleasure of working that she wants to attend the with. Currently Matt is the University of Michigan. She CFO for the yearbook and can be seen with a smile on has been for the past two her face everyday and is years. The attention to de-



Sage Maliepaard

tail and work ethic that Matt

displays on a daily basis is outstanding. Replacing Matt will be a challenge, as he has set the standards for this position so high and has been such a fantastic example. Matt strives for excellence in everything that he does and is willing to go above and beyond in order to reach

Maliepaard was nominated by the Freshman Cen-

those standards. He is truly

an outstanding student."





William Poulias



ter West and they write, "Sage is an amazing girl. She is thoughtful, hardworking, and responsible. In addition to being a good student, she exhibits all of the character traits that we encourage at LHS. While all five can easily be seen, her strongest and most compelling trait is compassion. Sage has a powerful

> Students of the Month continued, page 14

#### ACKER

On May 9, 2011, Ruby Maxine (Bogart) Acker, of Cascade, passed from this life. She will be missed by all that knew and loved her. She was born August 19, 1926 to Archie and Clara Bogart in Crystal, Michigan,

and was one of six brothers and Ruby sisters. married Berfield (Bud) Acker December 17, 1949 and together they raised three children, Karon, Randy and Gary. She was mostly a stay-athome mom who loved sewing. gardening care For



wintered in Mission, Texas, enjoying warmer weather and visiting with friends. At her passing she leaves behind her husband of 61 years, Bud; daughter, Karon (Richard) Baird; and sons, Randy (Ann) and Gary (Cathy). Also missing her will be grandchildren. Scot, Dennis, Rick, Douglas Baird; Tom and Tara Cariano; Cody, Connor, and Kyle Acker; and Jeff (Jennifer) Kuehle. She will also be missed by greatgrandchildren, Zack, Nathan, Wyatt, Shawn, Braxton, Madelyn and Myles; and several nieces and nephew. One grandson, Billy Kuehle, preceded her in death as did her brothers, Cecil and Glenn; and sisters, Olive, Ruth and Lila. Funeral services will be Friday 11:00 am at the O'Brien-Eggebeen-Gerst Chapel, 3980 Cascade Rd. SE. Rev. Timothy Murtaugh of Cascade Christian Church, officiating. Interment Blythefield Memory Gardens. Visitation Thursday 2-4 & 6-8 pm. Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice.

## the ledger

P.O. Box 128 Lowell, MI 49331 897-9261

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

## CITY OF LOWELL **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Lowell City Council will conduct public hearings at their regularly scheduled meetings on Monday, May 16 and June 6, 2011 at 7:30 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:

City Operating Budget for 2011-2012. The document outlines proposed revenues and expenditures for the coming fiscal year. The General Fund has a total of \$2,489,112.

Copies of the 2011-2012 Budgets are available for inspection during normal business hours at City Hall, the Englehardt Public Library and the City web page (www.ci.lowell.mi.us).

Interested persons may submit comments to the Lowell City Hall, Attn: City Clerk prior to the meeting or appear in person.



Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

#### **BURTON**

Martha Ann Burton, age 75, of Mecosta, formerly of Lowell, passed away Wednesday, May 4, 2011. She was preceded in death by her grandson, Jason Shoemaker. She is survived by her husband of 57 years, Ken; children, Linda (Ken) Miller, Larry Burton, Howard (Carol) Burton; sister, Nellie Scholfield; grandchildren, Charlene Shoemaker, Michelle and Dan Burton, Phil and Matt Burton: and seven great-grandchildren. Funeral service was held Monday at Roth-Gerst Chapel. Rev. Robert "Butch" Roush officiating. Interment Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens. Memorial contributions may be made to American Cancer Society, 129 Jefferson SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 or Spectrum Health Hospice, 100 Michigan Street NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49502.

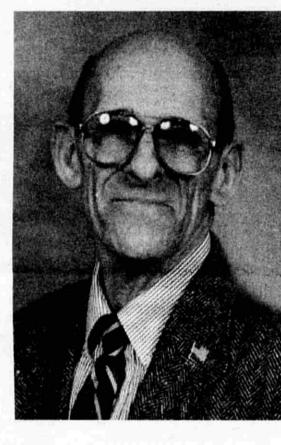
#### **MORRIS**

Ethel "Smit" (Veenstra) Morris, age 82, of Lowell, passed away peacefully at home of cancer on May 3, 2011. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ellis "Red" Morris; daughter, Carol Ann (Veenstra) Williams; and sister, Gladys Elaine Fritts. She is survived by her son, David (Renee) Veenstra of Belding; seven grandchildren; fifteen great-grandchildren; also nieces and nephews. Interment Ada Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Ethel Morris Fund to help with funeral expenses.

#### ONAN

Richard Duane Onan, age 70, of Lowell, passed away Saturday, May 7, 2011. He is survived by his

wife of 49 years, Sandy: children, (Diane) Roger Onan, (Stephen) Weeks; mother-inlaw, Pearl Tingley: Robert (Virginia) Terry Onan; Cherri (Paul) Richardson. (Bruce) Dianna Bolthuis Georgeann (Tim) Hendricks: sixteen



grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. Funeral service will be Wednesday, 11 am, at First Baptist Church of Lowell, 2275 West Main, Lowell. Rev. Burland Margesson and Rev. Ken Ford officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to the family to assist with funeral expenses.

#### In Memory of CHRISTOPHER HENDRICK

May 13, 2001-2011

10 Years

Just one peek into heaven is all I'm asking for today, I just want to know



how he is doing, and heaven seems so far away. Is he playing on the clouds with angels? Is he laughing and running? Why is heaven so far away? If you just let me look for a moment

to catch a glimpse of his face, I promise I won't take him, I know he's in a better place. Just a peek into heaven is all I'm asking today.

Love, Mom, Dad, Family and Friends

**POSTHUMUS** 

Lola Posthumus, age 89, of Alto, went to be with her Lord Saturday, May 7, 2011. She was preceded in death by her husband, Earl M.; daughter-in-law, Pam Posthumus; brothers, Larry Wieland, Ray Wieland; and sisters. Wilma Paylich, Iris Livingston. She is survived by her children. Bonnie

Crumback (Paul) Caledonia. Posthumus Lansing, Dick Dale (Elena) Maryland; grandchildren. Tracy, Terry, Collin. Stacy, Darcy, Krista, Lisa, Bryan. greatgrandchildren Nate, Josh. Lyndsey, Allison, Dayna, Alex, Eric,

Jayden, Royce, Nadia, Easton, Charlie, Gage, Fisher, Desiree, Jacquie, Jadelyn, Jake, Jakob, Maya; and sister. Darlene VanderWood. Lola was a member of Hope Church of the Brethren where funeral services will be held Wednesday at 11 am, Pastor Doug Reichenbach officiating. Interment Bowne Center Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Earl Posthumus Scholarship Fund c/o Alto Lions Club, Faith Hospice, 2100 Raybrook St., Suite 300, Grand Rapids, MI 49546 or Hope Church of the Brethren, 14275 92nd Street, Freeport, MI 49325.

Save on your Auto and Home Insurance... If you have your personal auto and homeowners insurance with us, both policies will cost you less. Exclusively for Michigan drivers and homeowners... from Farm Bureau Insurance. Call now.



#### STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT **COUNTY OF KENT**

NOTICE TO **CREDITORS Decedent's Estate** 

FILE NO. 11-190210-DE NW, Grand Rapids, MI

MAITNER. 03/06/1921. TO ALL CREDITORS:

TO The decedent, Frances C.

John T. Conroy 410 Bridge St. NW 616-454-4119

Robert L. Chmurynski Grand Rapids, MI 49505

#### wednesday • may • 11 • 2011

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

## -fëdger classifieds

#### for sale

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.

200 APPLIANCES - Washers, dryers, refrigerators & stoves. Guaranteed. From \$69. Hammond Wholesale 320 W. Main, Carson City, 989-584-1600. Delivery available.

POTTED TREES - Maple. Spruce & Pine, \$10 & up. 616-761-7588.

MATTRESS - All new sets. Twin \$125, full \$149, queen \$159, king \$199 up. Pillowtop set \$175 up. Bunkbeds. 58 choices, \$199 up. Can deliver. 616-682-4767.

GRAIN OR HAY ELEVA-TOR-runs good, 1 hp., 110 electric motor, 38 ft., \$700. 691-8414.

MATTRESS SETS - Buy direct from local warehouse. Prices less than Sam's, Art, Dr, Carson City. Queen pillowtops \$249 brand new. All sizes. R.C.D. Direct, 1803 Plainfield NE. 616-682-4767. Can deliver.

2007 FLEETWOOD POP-UP CAMPER - Electric lid rise, 2 queen beds, sleeps 7-8, stove, refrigerator, grill \$7,000. Ph. 897-7548.

QUEEN PILLOWTOP MATTRESS SET - (new), \$248/set. Thick & plush. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600.

**BOB'S 14TH ANNUAL** BIRDHOUSE SALE - nice selection of bluebird, wren & bat houses; also feeders. All cedar, solid construction, best prices around. Bob's Birdhouses, 12279 60th St., Alto. 868-6633.

SPRINT - HTC EVO and new covers! Tech on staff. Located next to Subway. Mention this ad and receive 25% off accessories this week! Mon - Fri, 9 a.m. - 7 p.m., Sat, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sun, 12 p.m. - 5 p.m. 616-365-5760.

RE-FURBISHED COM-PUTERS - Different brands, different speeds, 90 day failure replacement. All w/Windows XP, priced from \$50 to \$165. Call Jim 897-7570.

8303.TEN

MOSSBERG 835 - Tactical Turkey, 12 ga., 3 1/2", all camo, collapsible stock, 20" vent barrel with extra full ported tube. NEW in box, \$475. 269-838-9187.

#### for sale

CHARMING OLD FARM ANNUAL DEERHAVEN HOUSE - Two story spa-PARK STREET SALE -May 12, 13 & 14, 10 a.m. cious house located in town Saranac on a large Variety of items. Some of corner lot for \$65,000. the deals will include baby 4 bedroom, one bath, a clothes, kids clothes, plus second bathroom could be size womens clothes to 5X easily installed & also has a tovs. housewares, Christdetached two car garage w/ mas decor, misc. building full electric. The house has materials. (Corner of Ware had many renovations but & Conklin Rds). there are still many ways to make it your own. There are beautiful hard wood floors

Elementary PTO garage sale, Sat., May 14, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Inside school 300 families donated. Whitnevville, just south of 68th Street. Last hour fill a bag for only \$2.

1991 REDMAN - 24x58 doublewide, 3 bed, 2 bath large shed, 3 season porch \$18,000. Located in Key Heights Community. (h 897-1292, (c) 616-901-

**BED & MATTRESS SET** gueen, Sealy \$95 includes frame. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main, Carson City, 989-584-1600. Delivery available.

TWIN BED - Mattress, box spring & frame, (Sealy) \$85 complete. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Mair St., Carson City, 989-584-

underneath new carpet

downstairs, also a fresh

coat of paint throughout the

whole house. The furnace

& hot water heater are also

brand new. Call 616-890-

LOGBED SET - Cedar (complete), \$125. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600. Delivery

TRACTORS - Kabota L2900 w/front end loader, 1300 hours, \$10,500 obo; Allis Chalmers, 1948 C, showroom condition, \$2,000 obo. Call 616-813-8376 or 897-2985.

1999 OLDSMOBILE SIL-HOUETTE VAN - good condition, 140,000 miles. asking \$4,000. Call 269-948-0502.th

**UPS SHIPPING AT** THE LOWELL LEDGER! Call for a price quote 897-9261 When calling please have

> dimensions of box. for rent

zip code, weight &

HALL FOR RENT - Lowell Veteran's Center, 3100 Alden Nash. Newly remodeled, smoke-free, private, great location & great rate! www.vfw8303.org. Cal

AGE - Indoor/outdoor. New Units on Alden Nash, 1 mile South of 196. Call for specials 558-2900.TFN

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.TFN

#### sales

CALEDONIA - Kettle Lake gym, rain or shine. Over

RELAY FOR LIFE BI-AN-NUAL SPRING GARAGE SALE - May 19 & 20, 8 a.m. 5 p.m. 430 N. Washington, Lowell. Furniture, children thru adult clothes, household treasures & holiday items, lots of books!

GARAGE SALE IN SARANAC - Sat., May 14, 142 Division St., Saranac. Tools, clothes, shoes, etc. Open from 8 a.m. to 5

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALES - May 12 & 13, 9-5, 2 mi. N of Lowell on Lincoln Lake. E on Burroughs to Foley's Grade. Household, kids to adult clothes, bikes, elec. edger, GE elec. stove, work bench, fertilizer spreader, Rockette air compressor, Ariens 824 snowblower, hand mitre saw, smoker, much more.

#### misc.

CURIOUS ABOUT CLOTH **DIAPERS** - but not sure where to start? Schedule a diaper party or personal consultation and the store comes to you! Better for baby, earth, and budget! West Michigan Diaper Parties by Everything Birth, 616-881-2310, tami@diaperparties.com

IT'S BACK! - Classic Car Fridays at Fry Daddy's. Car owners will enjoy a basket special when they drive & dine-in. 897-3474. 608 W. Main St., Lowell.

SNOW UNIT

ED METHODIST CHURCH - at 3189 Snow Ave. se wil serve a family style Pork & Dressing dinner on Wednesday May 11th, starting at 5:30pm. Adults are \$9, Children 6-12 are \$3, and children 5 & under are free. Take out dinners also available.

COPY SERVICE (black & white & color! FAX SERVICE, LAMINATING, & MUCH MORE

AVAILABLE AT THE

LOWELL LEDGER

**UPS SHIPPING** 

#### help wanted

LOCAL HAIR SALON looking for cosmetologist Stop in at Lowell Family Hair Salon, 2333 W. Main References and resume

#### in memoriam

BRISTOL Oct. 4, 1957 -May 26, 2008 No farewell words were spoken, no time to say

**JAMES IRWIN** 

goodbye. You were gone before we knew it, and only God knows why.

He took our brother

Sadly missed by sons, grandsons, sisters brothers & family

#### wanted

WANTED - Used Shore Station for wave runner. Jim, 897-5149.

#### services

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

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

#### services

BRICK - BLOCK - STONE -Chimney repair & concrete work. Call 897-0698 ask for Darryl.

**NEEDADUMPSTER?** -14 to 20 yards availhammocklearning.com able. Garage, attic, household cleanup, roofing, trash, junk etc. Dependable service & affordable prices. Mention this ad & receive 10% off. Call for free esti-

AUTO DETAILING SER-VICE - Serving Lowell for over 3 years. Call for appointment, 706-4421, ask for Eric. Professional Car

mates. Contact Doug

616-295-6640.TEN

Appearance, LLC.

**LEGAL SERVICES - Save** the cost of gas & don't travel out of town to receive high quality legal services. We are your local legal connection. Mention this ad & receive a \$50 credit toward exemplary legal services. Davis Legal Advocates 897-7010.

WATSON'S HANDYMAN SERVICE - Decks, Doors, pairs. Small jobs welcome. As always 10% senior citizen discount. Call Steve 897-6906.

COMPUTER VIRUS RE-MOVAL - Computer repair. We remove viruses & adware from all brands (not Mac). We repair all brands (not Mac). \$65/hour delivered. \$80/hour on-site. 897-7570.

#### services

YOUR CHILD STRUG-GLING IN SCHOOL? -Tutoring/Academic Mentoring. Educational programs at The Hammock, Call 616-893-5661, mention ad & receive 10% off, www.

NO FEE HAUL AWAY Unwanted appliances. scrap metal, autos, mobile home tear downs, dump runs. 269-605-7905.

GEE'S ROLLING DUMP-STERS - 15 yard, \$170 for household trash or \$250 for shingles/drywall. 616-205-6871.

NEED AFFORDABLE LAWNCARE? - call S&S Turf Care at 616-902-

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

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

> DANI'S CLEANING SER-VICE - Spring cleaning discounts. Detail cleaning, organizing, gardening & offices. 12 years experience. 616-322-3634.

# ommunity (alendar

If you are charging admission or an event - it is considered an dvertisement. Coming events & ARE NOT GUARANTEED TO 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@lowellbuyersquide. com, by mail: PO Box 128, Lowell MI 49331 or in person: 105 N

LOWELL SHOWBOAT GAR-DEN CLUB - Mon., May 16 at 6:30 pm. Ranger Steve, former director of the Wege/Wittenbach create a garden to attract birds & butterflies. Lowell Showboat Garden club meeting held at the Nazarene Church.

Broadway, Lowell.

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES Sign up at the Nazarene Church. 201 N. Washington St., Sat., May 14, 10 a.m. - noon. You may also order online using your debit or credit card. Go to: www.angelfood ninistries.com. Any questions, call Esther 897-7395.

/.F.W. POST #8303 - meets the rst Monday at 7 p.m. at 3116 Iden Nash S.E.

PLEASE NOTE - Coming Events ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY GILDA'S CLUBLOWELL CLUBare for non-profit organizations. HOURS - Mon.-Wed., noon - 8 p.m.; Thurs. & Fri., 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sat., 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

> **KDLville RIBBON-CUTTING** PARTY - 10:30 a.m. on Thurs., May 12 at Englehardt Branch Library. KDLville is KDL's new early literacy play space. Families w/children 6 & under are invited for crafts, games, balloon animals, face painting & a dance party. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 616-784-2007. www.kdl.org

**BOWNE TOWNSHIP HISTORI** CAL SOCIETY-meets the second Monday of the month at 10 a.m. in the Historical Museum at 84th/

WOMAN'S LITERARY CLUB ANNUAL MEETING - Sat., May 21, 11 a.m. at the LeValley United Methodist Church at 1460 E. David Hwy., Ionia. Sally Cook will give some pointers on weaving.

GILDA'S CLUB LOWELL CLUB-HOUSE CRAFT WORKSHOP May 10, 17 & 24, 3:30 -5:30 p.m Learn how to creat a variety of different projects with Janel Yoder. 314 S. Hudson, Lowell. For more

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

**HOUSE GARDEN DAY - Basic** gardening & landscaping projects p.m. 314 S. Hudson, Lowell. For more info call 897-8600.

**CLOTH DIAPERING 101 - May** 16, 5:30 p.m. Information, demonstration & laundering with Tami Hanson. Pre-register for this class, Saranac Public Library,

(NITTING 101 - May 12, 19 & 26, 10 a.m. - noon. Saranac Public Library, 642-9146.

GARDENING 101 - Tues., May 24, 4-5:30 p.m. Advanced Master Sardeners, Carol McGregor & Gwen Hughes show the basics of gardening. Create your own potted plant to take home. Gilda's Club Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell. For more info

FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MIN-ISTRIES 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. 987-9533. Diapers, formula, clothing & free pregnancy testing

## LEGAL NOTICE —

Estate of FRANCES C. deceased.

NOTICE **CREDITORS:** 

Maitner, who lived at 2410 - 3 Mile Rd. NW. Walker, Michigan, died 02/07/2011. Creditors of the

decedent are notified

that all claims against

the estate

will be

05/02/2011 Grand Rapids, MI 49504

forever barred unless

presented to Robert L.

49503 and the named/

representative within 4

months after the date

of publication of this

personal

proposed

140 Sligh Ave. NE 616-450-5206

Chmurynski, named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Avenue

> **MEMORY FOAM OR LA-TEXMATTRESS-Relieves** back "PAIN"!! Best prices in Michigan. Queen starting at \$499. Kings \$699. R.C.D. Direct. 616-682-4767. Can

ACHIEVE ENERGY INDE-PENDENCE - with a Classic Outdoor Wood Furnace from Central Boiler. 25 year warranty. Sale. Call SOS your "Stocking Dealer" Dutton, MI 616-554-8669 or 616-915-5061.

John at 299-0486 or 897-PRICELESS STOR-



Farm animals live in the country. People who don't want to listen to farm animals belong in the city.

## last week's Sound Off poll results:

Should the U.S. release images of Bin Laden after he was killed?

### Do you feel safer now that An explanation Bin Laden has been killed?

NO ......63% 

### **LOWELL FAMILY HAIR SALON** (formerly Riverbend East Hair Styling Salon)

**2333 W. MAIN** Same Salon Same Location 897-7442

· Spring Pedi/Mani combo ·



to win 4 tickets to 1-96

Speedway UMP Summer

Nationals on June 26.

 Septic Tanks Cleaned

 Home Sale **Evaluations** 

LOWEST **PRICES** IN TOWN

Rudal o

897-8560

## May designated Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month R-Charlotte; Sen. Tom

Proposed military mo- and safety advocates at the to an enthusiastic crowd At a Capitol news con-

ference today to kick off May as Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, Secretary of State Ruth Johnson reaffirmed that the best way motorcyclists can stay safe on the road is to get trained and licensed, wear the proper gear and share the road.

"Operating a motorcycle is a responsibility that requires putting safety first," said Johnson, who has ridden for years and drove a Harley-Davidson motorcycle to the news conference. "Even experienced riders can benefit from a motorcycle safety course."

tained her first motorcycle endorsement as a teenager, is believed to be one of the first women in Oakland County and the state to get display. endorsed. A motorcycle endorsement on a driver's liride on public roads.

podium, Johnson also announced her strong support for legislation creating new military motorcycle license plates for veterans under

"I would like to thank the legislature for its support of these new military motorcycle plates and encourage the passage of the bills without delay," Johnson said. "These plates honor those who have valiantly served our country and al-

service with pride."

Johnson recognized the bills' sponsors, Rep. Matt Huuki, R-Atlantic Mine, and Sen. Judy Emmons. R-Sheridan, for their hard work. Artwork showing the plates with the emblems of the Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, National Guard and Air Force was on

Also speaking at the news conference were Mike cense is required by law to L. Prince, Office of Highway Safety Planning direc-Flanked by lawmakers tor; Rep. Deb Shaughnessy,

To help prepare you,

Proof of death — either

from a funeral home or

Your Social Security

number, as well as the

deceased worker's;

Your birth certificate:

or widower:

widower:

year; and

Your marriage certifi-

cate, if you are a widow

Your divorce papers,

Dependent children's

Social Security num-

Deceased worker's W-2

forms or Federal self-

employment tax re-

turn for the most recent

The name of your bank

ber so your benefits can

into your account.

birth certificates;

a death certificate;

will need:

# of Social Security survivor benefits

The loss of a loved one can be painful. The death of a wage-earner upon whom a family depends also can be financially devastating.

If you're like most young or middle-aged workers, you probably think of Social Security only as a retirement program. But some of the Social Security taxes you pay go toward providing survivors insurance for workers and their families. Think of it as a life insurance policy you never knew

you had - paid for by the same taxes that cover you for retirement or disability. When you die, certain

members of your family may be eligible for survivors benefits. These include widows, widowers (and divorced widows and widowers), children, and even dependent parents. In many cases, there also is a onetime lump-sum payment of \$255 that can be made to a surviving spouse or minor children who meet certain

Vonda VanTil is the public affairs specialist for West If you are a survivor. Michigan. You can write her you should apply for survivors benefit right away. To c/o Social Security Adminmake an appointment with istration, 50 College SE. the local Social Security of- Grand Rapids, MI 49503 or via email at vonda.vantil@ fice, call 1-800-772-1213 (TTY: 1-800-325-0778).

1st Lt. Ryan Lundquist from the Army National Guard in Grand Ledge; and Jim Rhoades, legislative director for ABATE of Michigan.

Casperson, R-Escanaba; Lt.

Col. Jerome Hurtgen and

In addition, the U.S. military has made motorcycle safety a priority by requiring its members who

ride to complete a motorcycle safety course. Johnson concluded the news conference by recognizing Hurtgen and Lundquist with a plaque honoring the military's efforts to promote motorcycle safety. The two BRP Can-Am

Spyder motorcycles exhib-

Motorcycle awareness, continued, page 15

In addition, Lowell

High School would like to

recognize Daniel Blake, 12th

grade; Benjamin Partridge,

11th grade; and William

Poulias, 12th grade. Kent

Intermediate School Dis-

trict has named Blake as the

March Student of the Month

for Automotive Technology

and Partridge and Poulias as

the March Students of the

Month for Electrical/Elec-

tronics Trades at Kent Ca-

school in many ways. If

you are interested in helping

support the LHS Academic

Boosters you may call Jan-

ine Mork at 897-5671.

This program is made

reer Technical Center.

## Students of the low them to display their service with pride." Month, continued

positive influence on those who she is." around her. She is always willing to help others in any way she can. She goes out of her way to be kind to others. especially our lower achieving students and those who may have social issues. She doesn't do this out of pity or to make a statement; this is just the kind of girl she is. She truly sees the good in those around her and is able to legitimately find interesting and appealing characteristics in students others may completely ignore. She truly empowers these possible by the support of students simply by being the LHS Academic Boostherself. She isn't extremely ers, who support the high outgoing or showy, but she is a true leader who leads by example and with her heart. Sage knows who she is and she doesn't care what others think of her. She simply is here is the information we

## Levin, continued

skill of our military and intelligence professionals, our nation struck a tremendous blow not just against a single, depraved individual, but against the hateful ideology that he espoused. Let there be no mistake, al Qaeda is weaker today. Its leader is a divorced widow or dead, and so is the myth surrounding him. The mystique of Osama bin Laden has been punctured. bers, if available, and

The victory over hateinspired terrorism is not yet complete. Our successful mission against bin Laden will no doubt lead al Qaeda's remaining leaders to issue calls for retaliation. It is critical that our intelligence and military strength continue to seek out the remnants of al Qaeda. The threat may be diminished, but it re-

This is an effort worthy not just of this nation, but of all nations. And that is why it is important that we find answers to the significant questions raised by the news from Sunday night. Thirtyfive miles from the Paki stani capital, and a comfort-

able walk from the Pakistani military's most important academy, al Qaeda appears to have built a massive complex as the dedicated hiding place for Osama bin Laden. The American people,

who have provided billions of dollars of aid to the Pakistani government, deserve to know whether elements of Pakistan's military and intelligence services or local officials knew of bin Laden's location over the five years or so he was there, and if they claim they did not know, how that could possibly be the case. Just as importantly, the Pakistani people deserve these answers, for they have suffered greatly from al Qaeda's violent

So it is urgent that the Pakistani government get answers to the questions about what its military and intelligence agencies and local officials knew, and share the answers to those questions with the world and with their own people, so that we can continue this



## **Comic Book Day** brings out true fans

Heroes and superheroes flocked to the sidewalk in front of Rookies Sportcards Plus last weekend for Free Comic Book Day.

utoff as Wonder Woman, Olivia Reedy as Flash, Aurora Weeks as Batgirl, Matt Roth as Wolverine, Josh Bland-

ing as Thor, Annie Blanding today's times," said Rookies as Supergirl and Jack Reedy owner Jack Reedy. as Green Lantern.

lion comic books are given with the Green Lantern pow-Pictured are Lauren Ar- away. Free Comic Book Day er ring. Other popular comhas proven to be a smashing ics include Kung Fu Panda.

"Comics are perfect for to stir imagination.

Reedy dressed up as

More than 2.7 mil- Green Lantern complete Comic books are for all ages

#### The more you find out about the world, the more opportunities there are to laugh at it.

On the ride back to

Wittenbach, Jenn seemed

"It's a little overwhelming

According to Prince,

Riders must success-

- Bill Nye

## Mother of the Day, continued

"I thought I was the only one," she laughed.

wednesday • may • 11 • 2011

Day event, sponsored by the and a huge clock. Buyers Guide, has grown in

for the day with a full gas McDowell tank at Wittenbach

with general manager Todd Flat River Grill.

treme makeover including Inn. cleaning, an oil change

excited," she said.

The entourage first of Main Street. That is Eja room at the Inn. Salon where Jenn got her

the shady side at the beauty display. shop. The north side of the street is known as the sunny a gift card for \$50.

"I had no idea it was said Jenn. here," said Jenn.

the same location for the last her favorite flowers mauve seven years, and like Jenn many people don't know Stephanie Heaton. about it. "That's because we're said Heaton

on the shady side," laughed receptionist McClure. It was like in a chat room

inside the salon with Marilyn leading the conversation, that started out first with the location and then switched to a red shoe.

"I have 120 shoes," said Shar, who collects shoes.

favorite movie here at the shop is "Steel Magnolias." was getting married all over again with the hairdo and all

the attention.

Owner April McClure gifts, Jenn and the rest were Park back to town and over decked the shop out with The annual Mother's colorfuldressers, chandeliers lunch.

The next stop took Jenn popularity since it started in and her entourage to All Weather Seal. The group Jenn picked up her car was greeted by owner Scott

Office manager Cindy "Can I have it for two Kelsey presented Jenn with years," Jenn laughed as she a \$500 gift certificate for the filled out the paperwork store and a \$50 certificate to

In the meantime her sunny side of Main, Jenn own hardworking car and her cohort entered the had undergone an ex- elegant lobby of Main Street

They enjoyed the and new windshield wiper breathtaking views of the Flat River both upstream "It really needs it, I am and downstream from the second story of the Inn.

Receptionist Leslie entered one of "the best kept McCracken presented Jenn secrets" on the shady side with a certificate for any

Heading west on Fulton, the next stop was Bernard's The beauty shop is Ace Hardware. The store is located on the south side of undergoing a remodel and it Main Street referred to as showcased a new Craftsman

Matt Bernard gave Jenn

"Ty's going to like this,"

It was all smiles at The salon has been at Daisy Floral since Jenn got gerbera daisies from owner "We're really busy,"

The shop was bustling

Marilyn with activity preceding this year's Mother's Day weekend Back on the sunny side

of Main. Jenn who couldn't remember the last time she visited a Hallmark store, browsed through the aisles. Cousins' owner Karen

Hale presented Jenn with a It became clear that the huge mug with a flower and a certificate for \$25. Written on the mug was:

And Jenn felt like she "I am who I am, let it be." "I am definitely going

to use this," said Jenn. Now, with so many

Assistant Matt Horan greeted them at the Flat River Grill with premiere window seating overlooking Main and the Riverwalk.

"We come here every week," said Jenn. "We watch Brittany practice crew."

Jenn frequents 'The Grill' with her friends as Still staying on the well. Moreover, this is the presented Jenn with a \$37 place where Ty nominated hanging basket of her very appreciated," she said.

The Branagans ordered

with sausage, pepperoni and Jenn A new menu will be

coming out soon. Jenn ordered elaborate cob salad because of the al

the blue cheese involved "I am excited about the new menu," said Jenn.

After lunch, it was time to head out into the country aboard the Terrain to Jones Meat Market. The vehicle cut well through the curves of Johnson Road.

"It's very smooth once you get over how touchy it is," she said.

Jenn loved the keys to the car, and the back cup holders where she placed Passing big dairy barns

Shar wondered if Jenn i also picking up a cow as a "Are you going to get a

cow," Shar asked. Jones Meat Market on

Potters Road is another "best kept secret" in the area. No one in mom's entourage knew about the meat market that has been in the Jones family for generations.

"Congratulations," said Jones presented Jenn

with a \$40 certificate reminding to visit on May 21 for a day of specials. From the market, mom's

gift tour continued through beautiful scenic Fallasburg

Jenn got her final gift ready for a break and some the tracks by the Grand at the Village Bike Shop in River and up the hill on Ada. Brian Krause greeted

> "Am I going to get that Greenhouse is a delight little green bike," she asked. Krause presented her cemetery. This "secret" has with a \$30 gift card, and been around for the last 16 since the entire family loves biking, it will definitely

Walking the come in handy. greenhouse is like walking into botanical gardens.

Owner Dave VandeBurg overwhelmed

"I'll come back here to in a good way. I didn't know a sizzling wood-fired pizza fill my big planters," said what to expect."

## Motorcycle awareness, cont'd.

ited at the news conference the state. Since 2007, the gave viewers a sense of how number of endorsed riders innovation and technology has jumped almost 50,000, are making motorcycling to 553,000. safer. The Spyders have two wheels in the front and it is important for riders to one in the back, anti-lock get properly trained and enbrakes, traction control and dorsed and to not ride bestability control systems for yond their skills. better maneuverability and

fully complete a knowledge Technological advanc- test and a safety course or a es and materials are making skills test with a third-parmotorcycles stronger, light- ty tester before an endorseer, more dependable and ment is issued. A safety safer, too. Innovations such course is required for 16as air bags, anti-lock brakes, and 17-year-olds as well as and stability and traction for adults who fail the skills control systems are being test twice. offered with increasing reg-The Department of State

administers Michigan's Mo-Improved safety fea- torcycle Safety Program. tures are not limited to just It oversees a network of 29 public and private training machinery. Premium helprograms. More than 87,000 students have attended train-Kevlar and carbon fiber to make them stronger. Jacking since 2004. Visit www. ets with airbags, riding suits Michigan.gov/sos for a list with protective "armor" for of motorcycle safety trainwrists, knees, shoulders, el- ing programs or for more inbows and other areas, and formation about safe motorboots formatted especially cycling. for each type of riding are Information about mo-

available on today's market. torcycle safety training pro-Motorcycling continues grams www.Michigan.gov/ to grow in popularity across sos

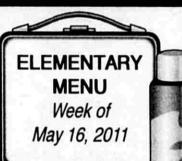
Jenn was surprised with the generosity of the businesses.

"This was quite variety," she said.

She suggested the next Mother of the Day should wear a tiara and have a banner on the car.

"They really should have to," she laughed

## LUNCH MENU



MON: Hamburge (Danimals yogurt American cheese also offered at Alto, Chern Creek & Murray Lake saltine crackers, salad w itehouse dressing, fresh apple slices, milk.

UES: Egg, cheese & sausage on wheat English nuffin (sloppy jo scoops also offered at Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), coleslaw Litehouse dressing ineapple, milk

WED: Murray Lake Field Day. Soft taco w/shredded cheese/lettuce uesadilla w/salsa also ffered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake) refried beans. tomatoes, Festida tortilla chips, applesauce, milk.

HURS: Pasta marinara /cheese & bosco stick (J am/cheese sub also offered at Alto. Cherry Creek & Murray Lake) asparagus, pineapple

RI: Chicken patty on wheat bun (fish sandwich) cheese on wheat bun also offered at Alto. Cherry Creek & Murray Lake crispy oven French fries peaches, rice krispy treat,



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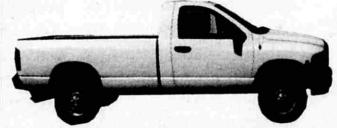
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