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letters of love



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more pink arrow pics



page 9



page 16

Pink Arrow Pride shares its enthusiasm and experience with area fundraisers

by Darcy Meade

When the Lowell Red Arrows hit the field this fall for their second home game, it will be with Pink Arrow Pride.

Lowell High School invited several other schools on Friday hoping to demonstrate what goes into putting on their Pink Arrow game. There were many speak-

ers that showed up for the cause.

Keynote speakers were Chris Spielman, former Detroit Lion linebacker; and Paqui Kelly, cancer survi-

vor and wife of Notre Dame head football coach Brian Kelly.

Other area leaders, including Lowell Area Schools' athletic director Barry Hobrla, President and CEO of Gilda's Club Leann Arkema and head football coach Noel Dean, along with several other members of the community, also spoke during "breakout sessions" during the day.

This is the fourth year for the Pink Arrow game. This football game takes place at Lowell High school. The team trades their regular uniforms for pink ones bearing names special to others in the community.

A week before the game, community members are able to purchase a jersey and can have a name put on the back of it. The names represent a friend or a family member who was lost to cancer or a survivor. The team member plays in

honor of the person on their jersey.

"In my opinion, when our football team takes the field in those pink jerseys, it makes them stronger for that one night. That is what those pink jerseys have done; they have not just united our football team, but it makes our student body proud to wear the pink t-shirts," Teresa Beachum, Pink Arrow marketing director, said.

"Our goal today was to bring as many nonprofit organizations and schools together that might be looking to run a cause like this," Dean said. "There is nothing really like this today, out there, on how to run a cause event."

Dean also added that this cause started out to raise \$15,000 but raised \$97,000. It started out really small and with no idea it would generate this much enthusiasm.

Pride, continued, page 9



Former Detroit Lion linebacker Chris Spielman talks about his wife's battle with cancer.

First annual Paddle to Peddle to take place in June

by Emma Palova

The first annual *Paddle to Peddle* fundraiser for the Fred Meijer River Valley Trail will take place on June 11 from Belding to Double R Ranch in Smyrna. The main purpose of this event is to tie into the rails to trails bike paths, once established, from Greenville to Lowell and from Lowell to Ionia. And yes, it is spelled that way. Another organization already owns 'pedal'.

According to organizer John Ploeg, it is a one-day adventure on kayak or canoe, or by rental, down the Flat River.

After the float, the participants will embark on a bike ride in one of three loops.

The 12-mile mountain loop for mountain bikes or cross bikes is for all bikes with plenty of natural road. The route consists of 50 percent natural road and 50 percent gravel. You will enjoy the historical covered bridge on your way.

The 19-mile Roadie Loop is designed for road-

Paddle to Peddle, continued, page 2

Huge crowd gathers again for education forum

by Shelly MacNaughton

Legislators held an education forum Friday night at the Eberhard Center at GVSU.

Hosted by Representative Lisa Posthumus Lyons, this forum had previously been scheduled to be held at the Lowell V.F.W. but was shut down due to overcrowding.

The new venue had seating for 400, but was still overcrowded as people lined all sides of the room and at least another 50 people gathered in the halls struggling to hear the discussion.

Suzanne Geha was the moderator and legislative panelists included, Dave Hildenbrand, Mark Jans-

en, David Agema, Brandon Dillion, Thomas Hooker, Lisa Posthumus Lyons, Pete MacGregor, Roy Schmidt and Ken Yonker.

Again, parents, teachers and community members came looking for answers

Education forum, continued, page 3



It was standing room only at last Friday's relocated education forum.

50
CENTS



Hoax forces students out of building at LMS Friday morning

Last Friday, Lowell Middle School received a bomb threat early in the morning. Administrators believed the threat to be a hoax. Nevertheless, students were evacuated from the building while law enforcement officials swept and secured the building.

"Classes resumed once the building was cleared by officials," said superintendent Greg Pratt.

In a written letter to parents, Pratt cites the threat as disruptive and troubling. "Please understand that any perpetrator of threats, hoaxes, or other such felony acts

will be disciplined appropriately and prosecuted to the fullest degree possible," said Pratt.

Students spent approximately one hour outside the building on Friday morning after being dismissed for what they believed was a fire drill.

"Students are to be commended for the orderly fashion in which they followed directions today. As always, the number one concern of Lowell Area Schools is student safety," said Pratt.

Paddle to Peddle, continued

ies who want to enjoy rolling scenic paved roads. This course goes through Smyrna.

The registration closes on June 8th. Tour check-in opens on June 11th at 6 a.m.

The charge for a one-person boat is \$45 plus a bike. One boat plus two persons is \$80.

The lunch at the Double R Ranch includes a hamburger, a bratwurst or a hot-dog.

Ploeg said the goal of

the canoe ride is to connect into the rails to trails once they are fully established.

The registration fee includes t-shirt, transportation to landing, rest stops and hot lunch when you finish.

For more information go to www.rivervalleyrail-trails.org.

The river float takes approximately two to two and a half hours depending on paddle skills.

Double R Ranch has any style campsite you need to park or pop up a tent for the weekend. The pricing starts at \$10.



along main street

BLOOD DRIVE
Support LHS student council by donating blood Fri., June 3, 8 am to 1:30 pm at Lowell High School in the aux. gym. Public is welcome. This event is to benefit the West Michigan Community Blood Center.

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES
Sign up at the Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington St., Sat., June 18, 10 am - noon. You may also order online using your debit or credit card. Go to www.angelfoodministries.com. Any questions, call Esther, 897-7395.

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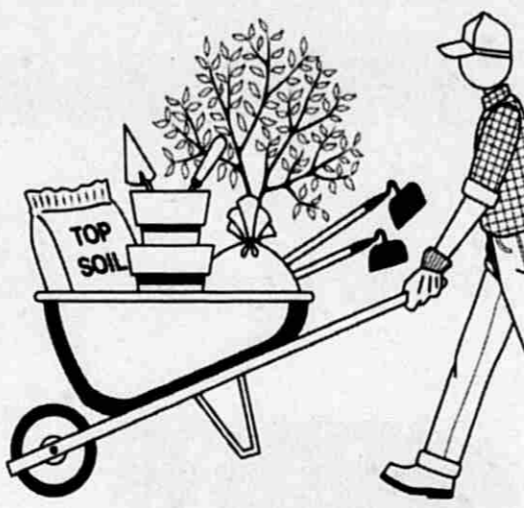
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ing opportunities

Education Center Help Needed

The Wittenbach/Wege Agriscience and Environmental Education Center is looking for high school students interested in volunteering at the Center this summer. Projects include landscaping, general lawn care, animal care, gardening, assisting with summer camps and more. Scheduling is flexible - we will work with your schedule. This is a great way to build your resume for college applications. If you are interested, please contact Meggan Johnson at mjohnson@lowellschools.com or 616-987-1002.



Volunteer Tutors Needed

The Literacy Center of West Michigan has scheduled an information session on Wednesday, June 1, 2011, for prospective volunteer tutors. This session is held at 6:30 pm 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 West 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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Education forum, continued

regarding education funding in the state of Michigan. During opening remarks, legislators did respond to the outpouring of support for education funding. "We are hearing your letters, we are getting your letters, we are getting letters from children," said Representative Hooker. "You have had an impact," said Representative Dillion. "We worked with legislators to reduce the education funding cut to 1.3 percent," said Lyons.

Suzanne Geha read questions to legislators who then took turns responding. The question: If we raise sales tax to seven percent everyone would share in the burden.

"We passed the largest tax increase for individuals in the history of this state to give tax breaks to corporations," said Dillion.

The question: Why is the focus on what employees pay for insurance and not what insurance costs? "Those are issues that are being addressed," said Lyons.

The question: When will the legislature restore the budget to what it was in 1998?

"When we get the economy rolling again and I believe that we will," said Hooker.

The question: Not all districts receive the same amount of per pupil funding, so why is everyone losing the same amount of funding?

"As we worked on the education budget, the house passed a percentage cut but as negotiations have progressed, that is not what ended up," said Lyons. "I

think a lot of us have been working to close the gap. I think we have closed the gap but there is more work to do. I will continue to work to close that gap. I believe every child in Michigan is worth the same amount," said Hildenbrand.

The question: How would you fund education? "Strengthen our economy and by doing exactly what we are doing now. We are spending 25 percent of our budget on education," said Hildenbrand. "Proposal A is a good funding mechanism but we don't have jobs," said Lyons.

"I want to thank everyone for coming out. We are in a crisis. We have to get our spending under control. This budget is balanced and structurally sound. This is an effort to reform the system," said Lyons.

"We do not have a crisis in the school aid fund. We could actually grant a per pupil increase with surplus in the school aid fund. We did raise your taxes but the problem is none of it is going towards services, it is going to corporations," said Dillion.

Suzanne Geha closed the meeting with the following quote: "A teacher affects eternity; he never can tell

where his influence stops," — Henry B. Adams.

The overall mood leaving the forum seemed to be disappointment. Teachers leaving the forum felt the

message coming from legislators was clear, their priority is business not education. Many felt they danced around the issues. "The forum is about what I expect-

ing and would not have cost anything," said Jim Turner, board member at Lowell Area Schools.

ed. I think there was an ulterior motive for when and where they had it. The LPAC was offered for free and at no cost. It has more seat-



Suzanne Geha moderated the forum last Friday evening.

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CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

Lowell City Hall, Department of Public Works, Police Office and Light and Power office will be closed on Monday, May 30, 2011 in observance of Memorial Day.

The City of Lowell refuse and yard waste will be delayed one day, Thursday pickup will be on Friday due to the holiday.



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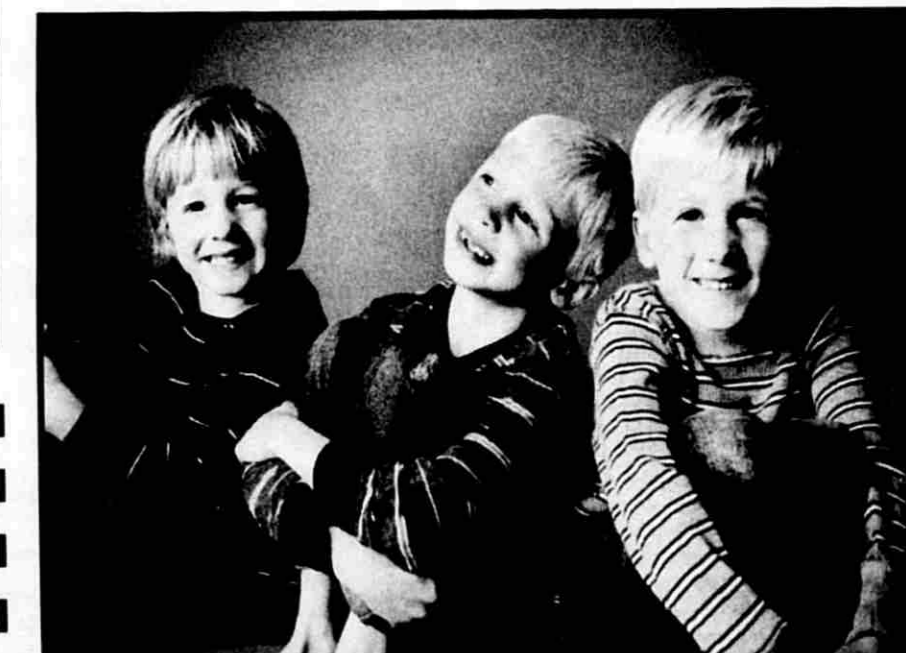
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At Your Local Library

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Run Monday, June 13 to Saturday, August 6

One World, Many Stories - Summer Reading Club for Kids

See the world at your library this summer. Sign up and travel globally while reading locally. Win a new bike and other great prizes. For kids entering grades 5 and under, both readers and pre-readers. And new this year: Baby Bingo, a special reading program for parents and babies 18 months and younger.

You Are Here - Summer Reading Club for Teens

Go where the compass points and enjoy a global reading experience. Read for your chance to win a \$100 mall gift certificate and other prizes. For grades 6-12.

Novel Destinations - Summer Reading Club for Adults

Let reading take you to a novel destination this summer. Read for a chance to win great prizes like books, gift cards and even a Barnes & Noble Nook Color eReader.

Teen Crew Orientation

We're looking for a few good tweens and teens to volunteer their time this summer to help with our summer reading program. Euthusiasm and energy are a must. Fun times guaranteed! Registration is required via a paper application. Applications available after May 1. Sat., June 4, 11 a.m., for teens grades 6-12.

Take Katie L. on Vacation

Katie L., our elephant friend, loves to travel the world and this summer she'd like to take a trip with you. Visit your local library or go to www.kdl.org to find out how to take Katie on vacation and show us your Katie L. photo. For all ages.

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health



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

Tummy Time

Parents of newborns are encouraged to keep their babies on their back while sleeping. This has been shown to reduce the incidence of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome or SIDS. Unfortunately some babies may spend too much time on their back and develop a condition called Positional Plagiocephaly also known as a positional head deformity. This occurs because the infant develops a preference for laying their head in a certain position. When they lay in one position for too long, they can develop a flat spot on one side of their head. Over time this flat spot may resolve as the child grows older, but there is a chance that it may persist throughout their life, causing a misshapen head.

The best way to prevent infants from developing this condition is to begin "Tummy Time" exercises early. "Tummy Time" refers to time spent on their tummies when they are awake and alert. This allows them to strengthen their postural muscles as well as neck muscles. By developing these muscles early, they will be able to turn their heads much easier when sleeping on their backs. They will also reach developmental milestones, such as rolling over and sitting up, sooner.

"Tummy Time" should only be performed when the infant is awake, on the ground or on a parent's chest. The infant must be observed closely to prevent accidental injury from rolling over or objects blocking their airway. Initially, infants may not tolerate "Tummy Time" for very long, as they may tire easily and cry. However, if you start slowly and gradually increase the time spent on the tummy, they will become stronger and enjoy it more.

For those infants that do develop a positional head deformity, there are treatments available. Those treatments may involve physical therapy and possibly a cranial helmet for a few months.

viewpoint

to the editor

displaying our flag

Dear Editor,
Next Monday marks Memorial Day 2011 and it is time to take a look at your flag. If you have one that's been out there for a year or two and is showing signs of "weather stress," it is time to replace it. All of us love to see the flag, with its vivid reds, whites and blues, fluttering in a gentle breeze, but when it becomes faded or torn, well, it's time for it to be retired. While we love to see it displayed, remember to respect it too. If you need a new one, Memorial Day is a great time to make that change.

If you are uncertain how to properly dispose of an old flag, our Boy Scouts do a wonderful job each year and they do it right. Old flags may be dropped off at the American Legion Post #152 at 3116 South Alden Nash where we have a metal drop box marked for Flags. You might even want to attend their formal ceremony sometime, conducted by our Scouts, which is due to happen a few weeks from now. It is a beautiful piece of Americana that few ever witness and people are surprised how detailed this process is!

Have a safe Memorial Day and join us as we pay tribute to our fallen veterans with the Parade at 10:00 am on Monday followed by a Special Ceremony at the Oakwood Cemetery where

we will honor our Civil War's 150 Anniversary. Dave Thompson, Commander Lowell American Legion Post #152

financial focus



Stephen C. Godbold

"Munis" can still work for you - even in tough times

No matter where you live, the chances are good that a state or local government near you may be having some difficulty in balancing its budget. As a citizen, you're probably concerned about how this situation will affect your life and your community. But as

an investor, you may also wonder how this might affect your own. Fortunately, the outlook might be brighter than you think.

Of course, taken to the extreme, the financial challenges of some state and local governments could conceivably affect their ability to fulfill the payment obligations on their municipal bonds. But investment-grade quality municipal bond default rates historically have been very low, especially when compared to those of corporate bonds. And municipalities are cutting spending, eliminating nonessential programs and, in some cases, raising taxes or fees. In short, they are taking steps that, while potentially painful to residents, are likely to help them continue making timely payments of interest and principal on their municipal bond obligations. Furthermore, municipalities must still fund various projects, and even one bond payment default could impact their future ability to borrow money in the form of new municipal bonds.

So are munis right for you? The answer depends on your situation - your goals, need for investment income, current investment mix, risk tolerance and so on. But if you want to receive interest payments that are exempt from federal taxes, you may well be interested in exploring municipal bonds. Keep in mind, though, that municipal bonds may be subject to state and local taxes and the alternative minimum tax (AMT). In addition, you'll want to be familiar with "taxable-equivalent yield." Typically, municipal bonds pay an interest rate that's lower than those paid by taxable bonds. Since this interest is free from federal taxes, however, the rate may not be as low

as it appears. The taxable-equivalent yield measures the rate you'd have to earn on a taxable bond to match the income from a tax-exempt municipal bond. And the higher your tax bracket, the higher your taxable-equivalent yield.

Suppose that you're in the 35 percent marginal tax bracket, and you are considering a tax-exempt municipal bond with a 3.33 percent yield. You simply divide 3.33 percent (0.0333 in decimal form) by one minus 0.35 (your tax bracket), which would give you 0.0512, or 5.12 percent. In this tax bracket, a muni with a 3.33 percent yield is equivalent to a taxable bond with a 5.12 percent yield. (This example is for illustration purposes only.)

Keep in mind that, before investing in bonds, you should understand the risks involved, including interest rate risk, credit risk and market risk. Bond investments are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of bonds can decrease, and you can lose principal value if the investment is sold prior to maturity. So it's best to discuss municipal bonds with your financial and tax advisors.

By adding quality municipal bonds to your portfolio, you can show faith in your municipality, your investment dollars can help support worthwhile projects in your area, and you receive a steady source of tax-exempt income.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors cannot provide tax or legal advice. Please consult your attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.

75 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo May 21, 1936

The Lowell Metal Products Co., which has been occupying temporary quarters in Saranac since its organization a few months ago, will erect its own two-story factory building in Lowell on land recently acquired on West Main St. and adjacent to the Pere Marquette crossing.

John A. Arehart, general manager, states that it is expected that the new factory building will be completed and ready for use here by the first of the coming October. Plans and specifications for the new building are now under consideration and actual work of construction will begin in the not distant future.



By Shelly MacNaughton

125 Years Ago The Lowell Journal May 28, 1886

Joe Barkley's team ran away Tuesday night and he was quite seriously injured.

The rear of the Flat River log drive was this side of Six Lakes several days ago.

Now comes the startling report that Miss Folsom refuses to marry President Cleveland.

An eel weighing over five pounds was recently caught in Grand River between here and Saranac.

50 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger June 1, 1961

Baccalaureate services for 80 seniors of Lowell High School will be held in the all-purpose room of the Runciman Elementary building this Sunday evening, June 4, at 8 o'clock with the Rev. M Keith McIver of the Lowell Baptist Church delivering the address. He will speak on the topic "The Expediency of Do-It-Yourself."

The graduates, parents and friends will listen to commencement speaker Howard W. Wickett at the exercises to be held at 8 pm in Recreation Park.

25 Years Ago The Grand Valley Ledger May 28, 1986

Brenda Bittrick, a fourth grader of Bushnell Elementary School, never received so much attention in her life.

Brenda, touring the pop art train, Artrain, with her classmates, was hordeed by cameramen and reporters after she was named the one-millionth Michigan visitor to walk through Artrain's door since it has toured Michigan.

100 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger May 25, 1911

Miss Winnifred A. Leary, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Leary of Lowell, was married Sunday, May 21, to Mr. Ralph R. Kenyon, cashier of the Freeport State Bank.

The bride and groom were attended by Miss Elizabeth F. Kelley and Robert J. Cowan, both of Detroit.

Among the wedding gifts was a chest of solid silver from the Detroit Life.

Mrs. Kenyon is one of Lowell's most popular daughters, having been born and educated here, graduating from the high school with the class of 1906, teaching here for two years and later in Freeport, where she met her future husband. Her well-wishers are limited only by the circle of her acquaintance.

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anniversaries

Heaston

Gaylord and Betty Heaston will be celebrating their 70th anniversary on May 29, 2011. They live at 651 Birchwood Court in Lowell. They moved here twelve years ago from Beloit, WI, where they lived for the first 53 years of their marriage. Their children are Dean (Nancy) Heaston of Green Bay, WI, and Diana Bittrick of Lowell. They have five grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. They are members of The First United Methodist Church of Lowell. They will celebrate the day with a picnic at Fallsburg Park with all of their immediate family.

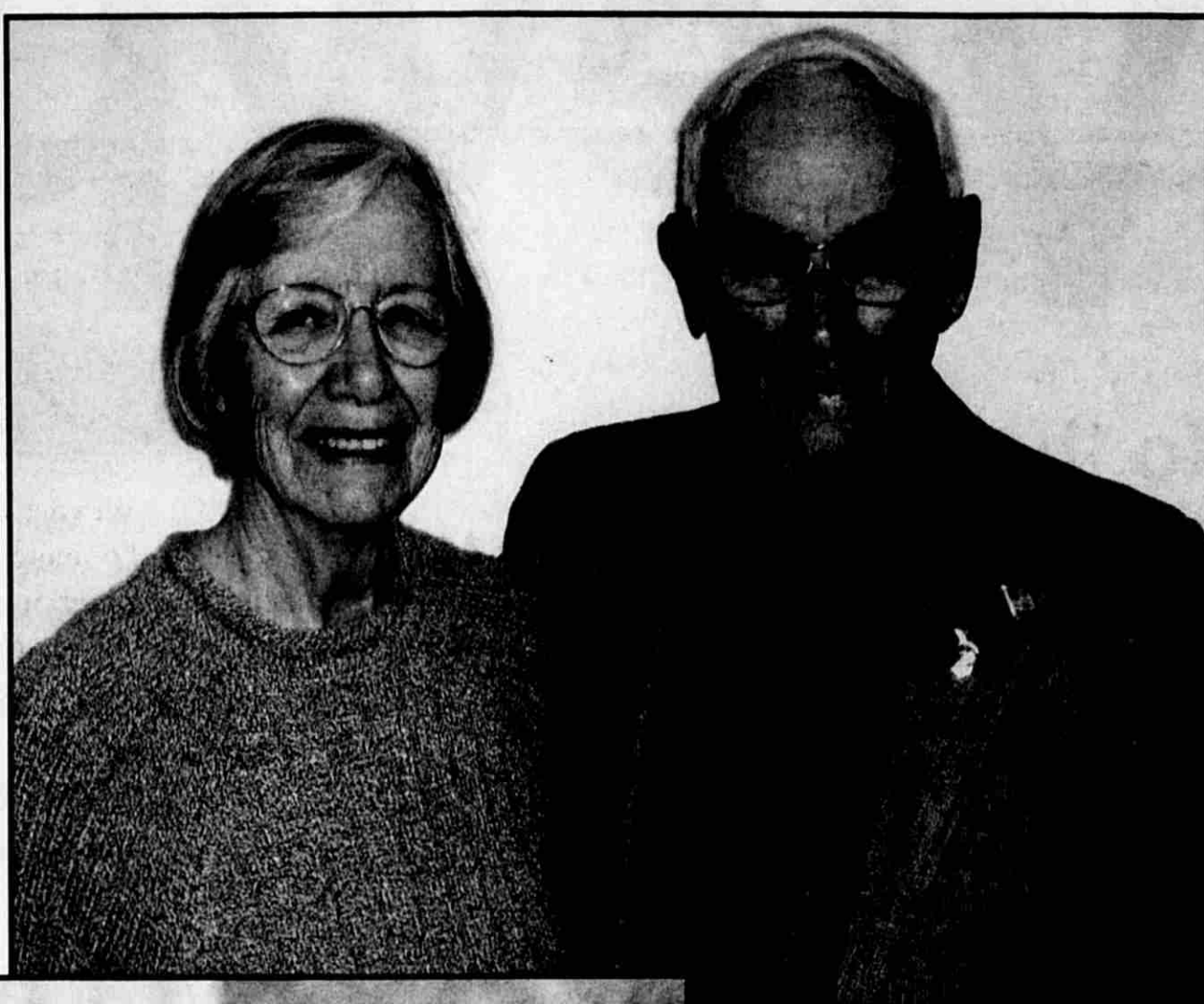


Gaylord and Betty Heaston today and on their wedding day in 1941.

Always get married early in the morning. That way, if it doesn't work out, you haven't wasted a whole day.

- Mickey Rooney (1920 -)

Roth



Edwin and Doris Roth of Lowell will observe sixty-five years of marriage on Wednesday, May 25. Their children are Steven and Barbara Roth, Jeanne and Glenn Vandersloot, and Nancy and Michael Moore. They have eight grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

Edwin and Doris Roth will celebrate sixty-five years of marriage.

Waid



Ron Janowski and Karen Waid celebrated their 30th Wedding Anniversary on May 23rd. Ron and Karen have been residents of Lowell for 14 years.

In The Service

173d Airborne Brigade National Memorial Honors Ceremony

The Board of Directors of the 173d Airborne Brigade National Memorial Foundation will conduct an "Honors Ceremony" on Saturday, June 11, 2011, in Columbus, GA.

The nine fallen "Sky Soldiers" who were taken from us during Operation Enduring Freedom X will be memorialized when their names will be unveiled at the 173d Airborne Brigade National Memorial, at the National Infantry Museum & Soldier Center.

SGT Lucas T. Beachnaw, of Lowell, who was killed in action on January 13, 2010, while serving in Afghanistan with "Destined" Company, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 503d Infantry Regiment, 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team, will be honored at this ceremony.

A previously unlisted "Sky Soldier" who died while serving in the Republic of South Vietnam will

also be added to the granite panels of the 173d Airborne Brigade National Memorial. His name was recently found and verified through the help of fellow "Sky Soldiers."

The name of SSG Salvatore Giunta, the first living Medal of Honor recipient since the Vietnam War, will also be added to the granite panel that includes the names of the thirteen "Sky Soldiers" who received the Medal of Honor for their valor while serving in the Republic of South Vietnam. SSG Giunta distinguished himself conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty in action on October 25, 2007.

Anyone wishing to make a donation to the 173d Airborne Brigade National Memorial can make a donation online by visiting www.173dairbornememorial.org

Our fallen will not be forgotten!

Frequently asked Social Security questions

Question: I can't seem to find my Social Security card. Do I need to get a replacement?

Answer: In most cases, knowing your Social Security number is enough. But if you do apply for and receive a replacement card, do not carry that card with you. Keep it with your important papers. For more information about your Social Security card and number and for information about how to apply for a replacement, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber. If you believe you're the victim of identity theft, read our publication Identity Theft And Your Social Security Number, at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10064.html.

Question: My husband doesn't have enough work under Social Security to qualify for Social Security retirement benefits or Medicare but I am fully insured and eligible. Can he qualify on my record?

Answer: Yes. The answer applies to husbands as well as wives. Even if your spouse has never worked under Social Security, he (or she) can, at full retirement age, receive a benefit equal to one-half of your full retirement amount. Your husband is eligible for reduced spouses benefits as early as age 62, as long as you are already receiving benefits. For more information, visit www.socialsecurity.gov and select the "Retirement" tab. If your spouse will receive a pension for work not covered by Social Security such as government employment, the amount

of his or her Social Security benefits on your record may be reduced. For more information, read the fact sheet, Government Pension Offset, Publication No. 05-10007 at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10007.html.

Question: What can Social Security do to help me plan for my retirement?

Answer: Social Security has some great online financial planning tools you can use to make an informed decision about your retirement. Social Security's online Retirement Planner and our online Retirement Estimator are both tools you can access online at any time. These will let you compute estimates of your future Social Security retirement benefits. They also provide important information on factors affecting retirement benefits, such as military service, household earnings, and Federal employment. You can access our Retirement Planner at www.socialsecurity.gov/retire2. Find the Retirement Estimator at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator.

Question: How long does a person need to work to become eligible for retirement benefits?

Answer: Everyone born in 1929 or later needs 40 Social Security "credits" to be eligible. You can earn up to four credits a year. So, you will need at least 10 years of covered employment or self-employment to become eligible for retirement benefits. During your working years, we post earnings covered by Social Security to your record. You earn credits based on those earnings. The amount of earnings needed for a credit rises as average earnings levels rise. In 2010, and 2011, you receive one credit for each \$1,120 of earnings, up to the maxi-

mum of four credits a year. For more information, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Question: I understand that to get Social Security disability benefits, my disability must be expected to last at least a year or be expected to result in death. But I'm disabled now. Does this mean that I must wait a year after becoming disabled before I can receive benefits?

Answer: You do not have to wait a year after becoming disabled. If you're disabled and expect to be out of work for at least a year, you should apply for dis-

Social Security questions, continued, page 12

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MAY 25 Rick Wernet, Phyllis Bier.	MAY 29 Sue Lindhout, Mike Lindhout, Justin Doyle.
MAY 26 Janet McIntyre, Guy Watrous, Joshua Bryant.	MAY 30 Kara Rasch, Allen McClure, Caroline Jane Blough, Ryan Barnes, Kevin Homrich, Heather Witherell, Jacquelyn Landman, Tabora Karp.
MAY 27 Dakota McClure, Bertha Brown, David Christiansen, Rittersdorf.	MAY 31 Mark MacDonald, Arleen (Bryant) Irving, Tiffany Condon, Hannah Burt, Lauren Wiley.
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FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

Flat River Outreach Ministries will again be offering a lunch program to continue the free or reduced lunch program into the summer. Last summer we helped feed over 300 kids.

Anyone who is currently on the meal assistance program at school or could use help with lunches throughout the summer can do so by signing up below. All contact information will be kept confidential.

Families can receive a week's worth of lunch supplies for their school-age children once per week per family. Children must attend Lowell Area Schools. We are also looking for anyone who would like to donate food items or their time to pack the food bags.

The distribution site will be at Flat River Outreach Ministries, on Mondays and Tuesdays from 2:00 to 4:30 pm.

If you have any questions, call 897-8260 and leave a message on the summer lunch program line (5) and someone will call you back.

Please return the registration form below, to Flat River Outreach Ministries (attention Sue) at 11535 Fulton St. East, Lowell MI 49331 no later than June 9th.

In August FROM will be distributing backpacks and school supplies to school-age children, grades kindergarten through middle school. If this program would be helpful to your family, please check the backpack box on the registration form.

REGISTRATION FORM

I am interested in receiving food for _____ children - ages _____
Does your child have any food allergies? _____ To what? _____
I am interested in donating my time and can be reached at _____
I am interested in donating food items _____
Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____
I am interested in receiving a backpack and school supplies for _____ children
Grade they will enter in the fall _____

Students pen letters of Love from Lowell

School children thank armed services' members in community card campaign

A patriotic theme of greeting cards, for active duty service members, accompanies this year's Lowell Sizzlin' Summer Series kickoff featuring music by

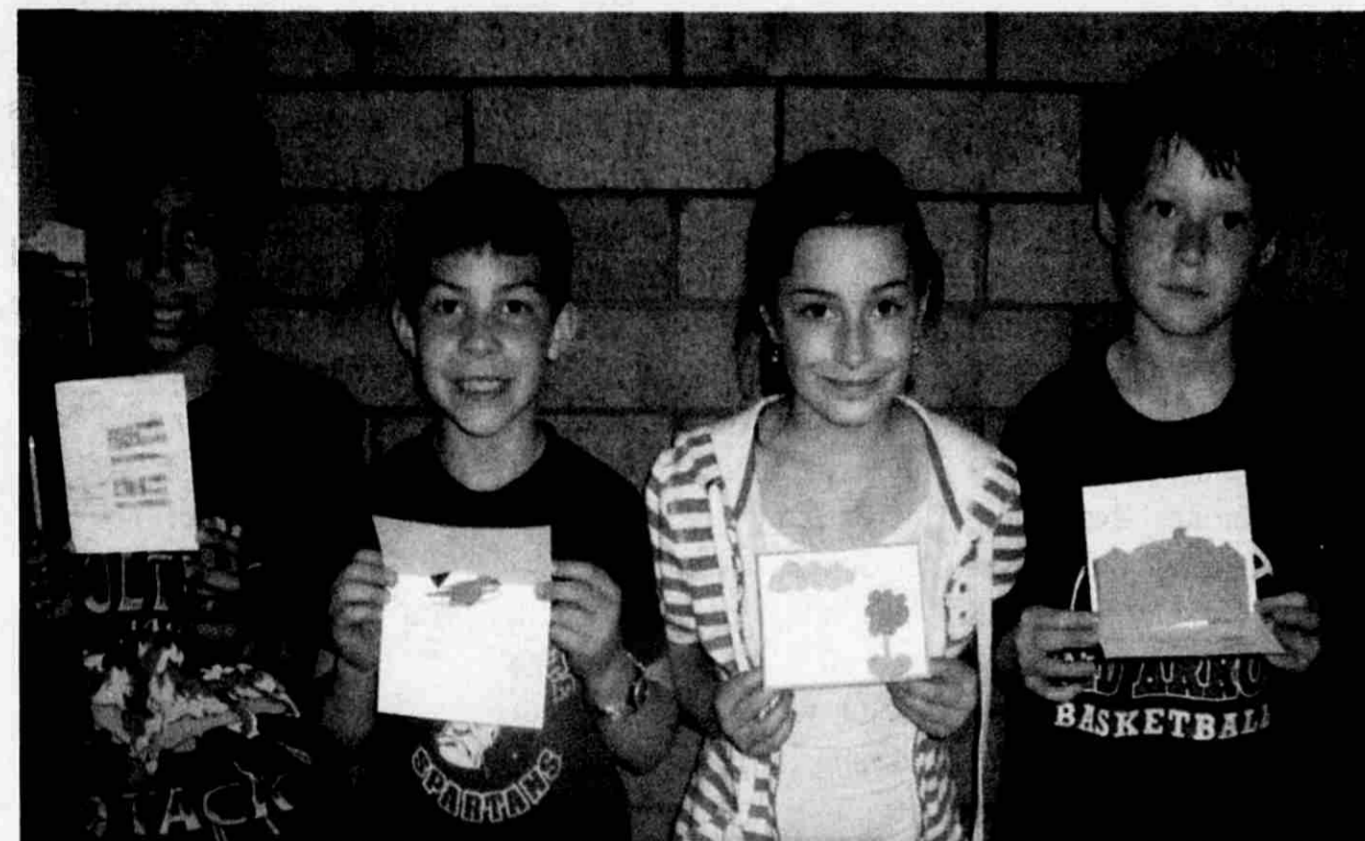
Michigan's official military band, the 126 Army Band.

In preparation for the free June 16 concert, students from all area elementary schools have been busy creating greetings for the "Love From Lowell" card campaign. Student cards will be

completed prior to Memorial Day.

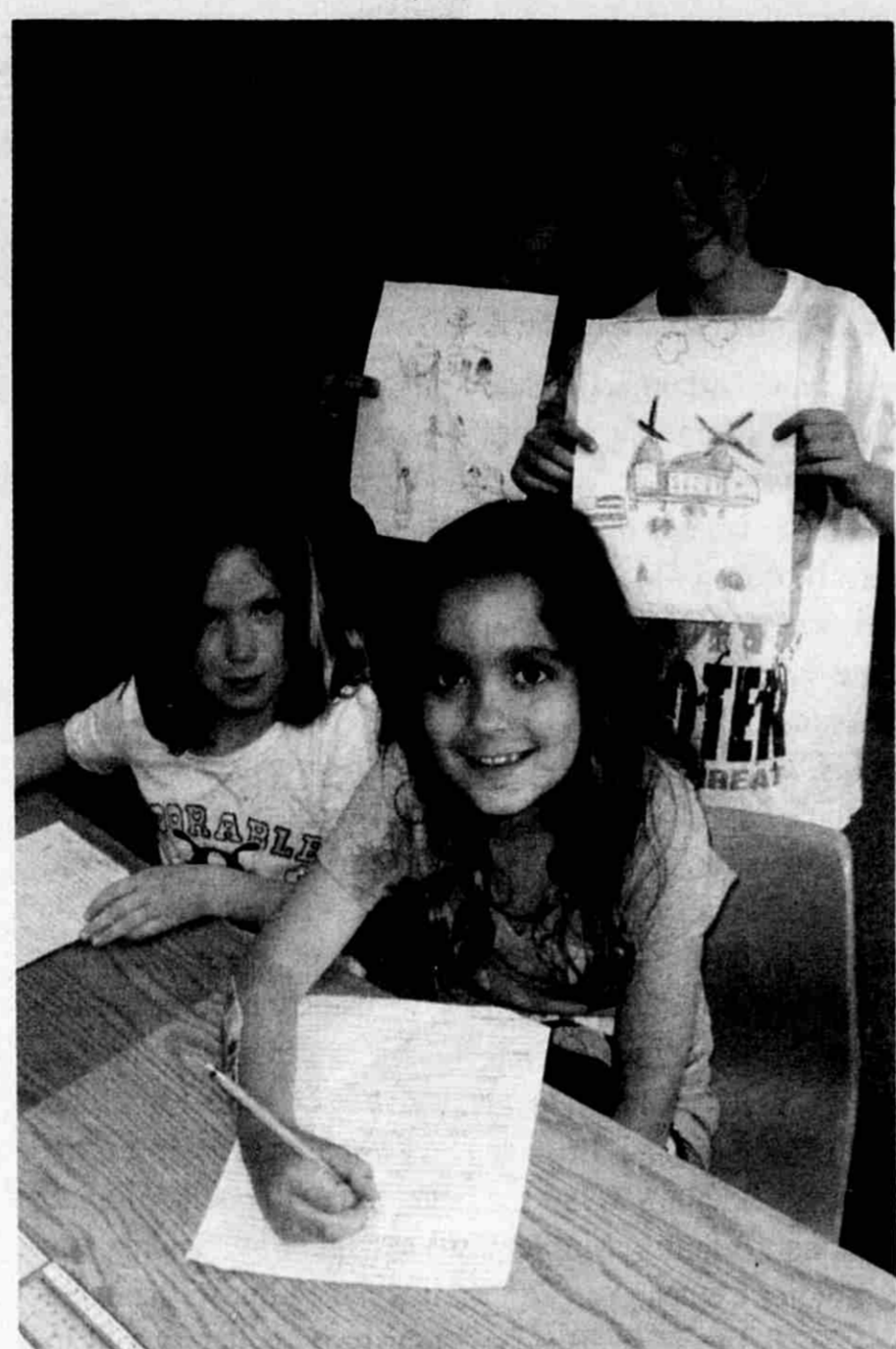
In addition, community members are invited to use supplies provided by the Lowell Area Arts Council and Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, at the June 16

concert, to write their own personal message to a service member. The chamber of commerce and arts council will see that all missives are mailed in time to reach deployed personnel for the Fourth of July holiday.



Pictured, at left, third graders: Quan Sprague, Collier Kauffman, Jordan Stephens, and Collin Conrad, showing their cards for service men and women.

At right, are second graders who wrote letters to members of the military, back row: Heather Buckley and Olivia Winn; front row: Lauren Todd and Brady Conlon.



Congratulate Your Graduate

In the Lowell Ledger 2011 Graduation Edition

The LAS Graduation Edition will be published on June 8. All graduates' photos (supplied by Lowell High School) will be included as well as coverage of the graduation ceremony. Prices to place an ad in this section start at only \$31.50. If you would like to place an ad - please contact the Ledger office at 897-9261 or via email at ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com DEADLINE 2 PM FRI., JUNE 3

the **lowell** ledger

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college news

Lindsay Hoogenboom of Lowell was named to the National Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at Grand Valley State University. Hoogenboom is the daughter of Dave and Barb Hoogenboom and is pursuing a bachelor's degree in biomedical science at Grand Valley.

Richelle Kimble of Lowell has made the dean's list at Indiana State University. To be eligible for the dean's list, students must have a 3.75 grade point average or above on a 4.0 scale.

Albion College is pleased to announce that Culver Redd graduated cum laude, Sigma Xi, with a degree in physics and computer science. Redd was one of just 20 students to graduate with Albion College Honors, signifying completion of the College Honors Program and an original thesis. The honor of cum laude signifies that Redd graduated with a cumulative grade point average above 3.5. Sigma Xi recognizes outstanding research accomplishment.

Redd is the son of James and Marsha Redd of Lowell and a graduate of Lowell High School.

Pride, continued

All the money that is raised through the different events, that go on throughout the week and from the game, go back into the com-

now knows his purpose is to serve.

Spielman spoke of how his priorities changed while driving with his wife one

a medical journey and that you need to keep a sense of humor when fighting it.

Leann Arkema of Gilda's Club and Kelly both dis-

There is a lot that goes into planning the Pink Arrow game. Lowell took it upon themselves to show others how they planned their game and everything around it.

Throughout the day there were different breakout sessions that were able to show others how they put everything together. Some of the sessions were Educating Your Students and Marketing and Media Relations. There was a session explain-

ing how the t-shirts and jersey auctions work. Other sessions discussed leadership and inclusion and facilities planning and logistics.

Each of these sessions gave something different to the students and staff that attended them. Impact on Lowell started with student representative Bryleigh Loughlin, who talked about how everyone was able to work together. "We are all one unit working together for a common goal. It gave

us the motivation to work together to create something to help our community to support others," said Loughlin.

Lowell High School principal Patricia Murphy-Alderman added, "I think the impact has changed over each of the three years." She also mentioned that it has been a moving, emotional and successful fundraiser.

This year's game will be played on Sept. 9. The Quiver Run will take place that Saturday.

The second annual Pink Arrow Pride Community Day will take place Tuesday, Aug. 2, at Gilda's Club of Lowell.

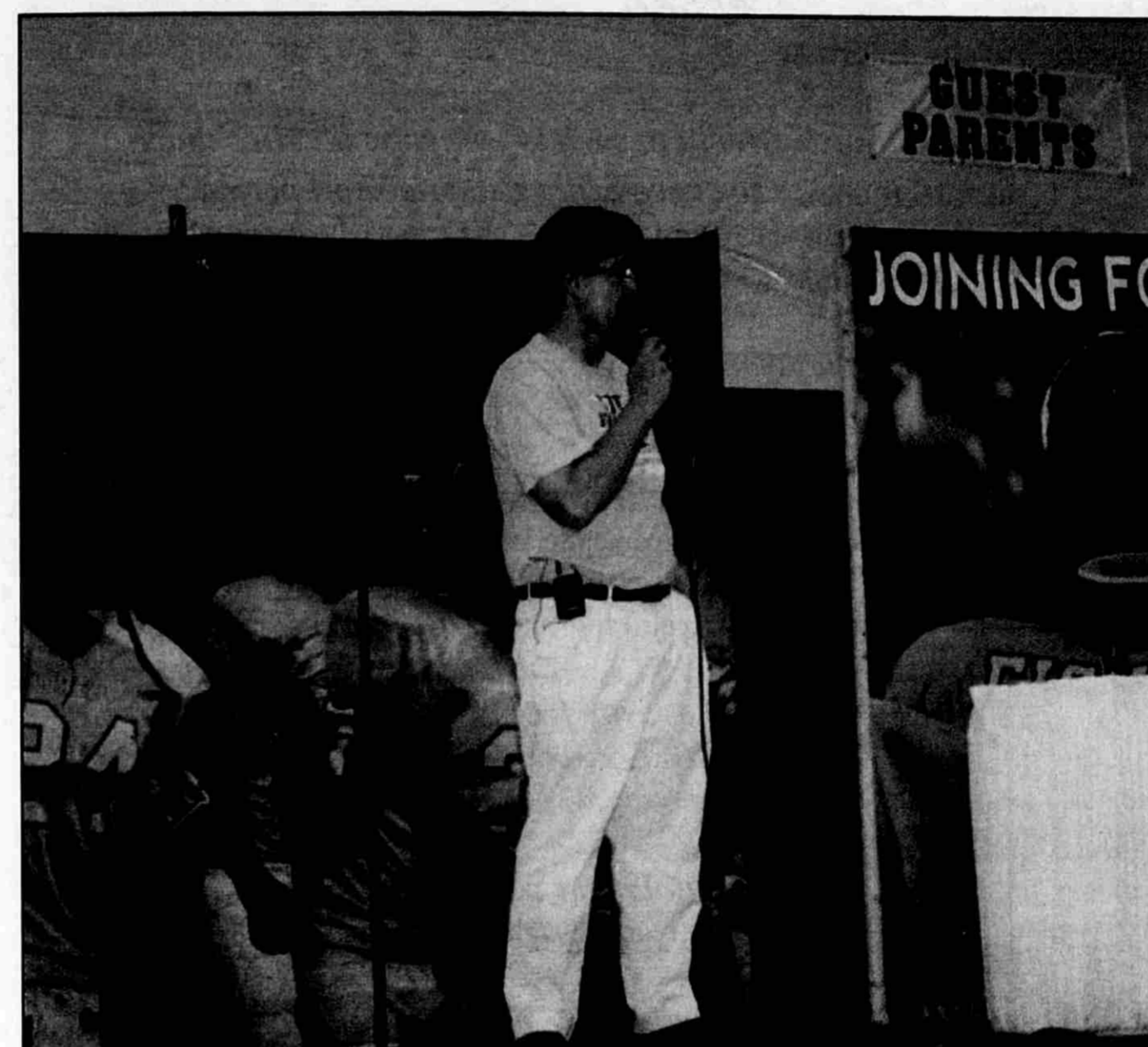
The day will have a carnival-like atmosphere with a bouncy house, face painting and sidewalk chalk.

The Benedict Family of Lowell will be sponsoring a table where people can sign up to donate their organs with the Gift of Life Donor Program.

"It is a free day to come to Gilda's Club of Lowell, to enjoy lunch on the grille, [and] carnival type atmosphere for children," Beauchum said.

This will also be when the new Pink Arrow Pride IV t-shirts will be unveiled. Two mobile units from the Michigan Blood Bank will be there for those who are willing and able to donate blood.

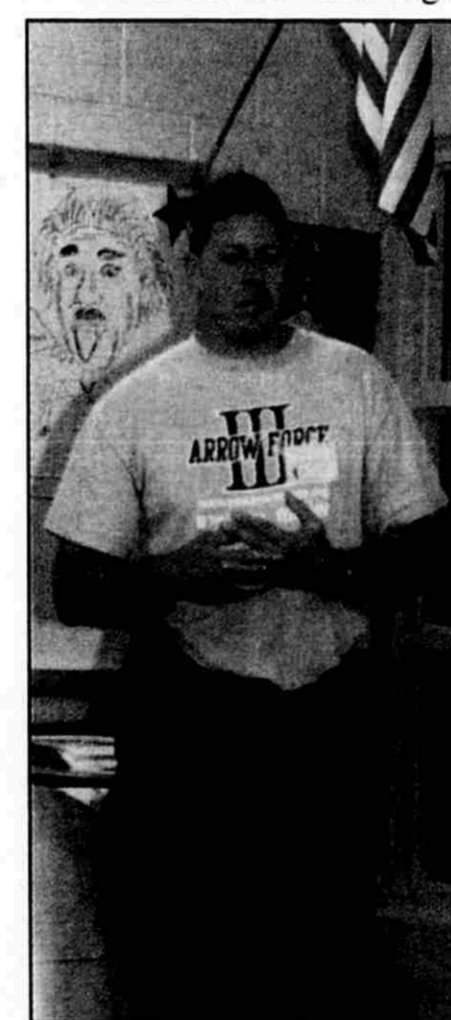
There will also be a food drive for non-perishable food items that will benefit the Flat River Outreach Ministries.



Lowell's head football coach, Noel Dean, talked about the start of Pink Arrow and how it has changed.

munity. The funds are used for families in the community that are in need, for things like rent, food and gas for trips to their treatments.

"I think it's amazing.



Touchdown Club president, Brian Krejewski, spoke at one of the sessions.

\$700,000 in three years for a small town is amazing. This is a testament to your community," said Spielman. Cancer hits very close to home for Spielman. His wife Stephanie passed away in 2009 and he told everyone his story before, during and after the fight.

He spoke about how his wife Kelly was diagnosed with cancer and how no one is ever ready for that kind of news. Stating he is the weakest man in the world. He has humbled himself and realized it is not about him or what he can do, but

day. He and his wife were at a stop light and he smashed the window out of his car and started screaming, "Why us?" His wife gave him a disgusted look and asked, "How dare you?" After that day he redefined his life from a football player to a husband and a father.

"I think if you have a passion and you want to give back to your community, it makes sense to me to imitate that," Spielman said.

Paqui Kelly started a foundation in 2008 called the Kelly Cares Foundation. She was first diagnosed with cancer in 2003. She had a first-grade child at home and says her hardest day coping with her cancer was telling her mother and letting her employer know she would not be coming into work anymore.

"Like any good coach's family, we made a plan, a game plan. The game plan we made was to get information and that information is for you," explained Kelly.

She told how her family had a head shaving party, twice. It was a way to help her children cope with what was happening.

"In the case of Pink Arrow, it is a great example of how little things started in three years. And we truly have no idea where it is going," Kelly added. She received a pink Lowell High School jersey for coming to speak. The number on the back, 63, was her husband's football jersey number.

Among the speakers, the theme that resonated was that cancer is more than

cussed the need to not lose your sense of humor while you or your loved ones are fighting cancer.

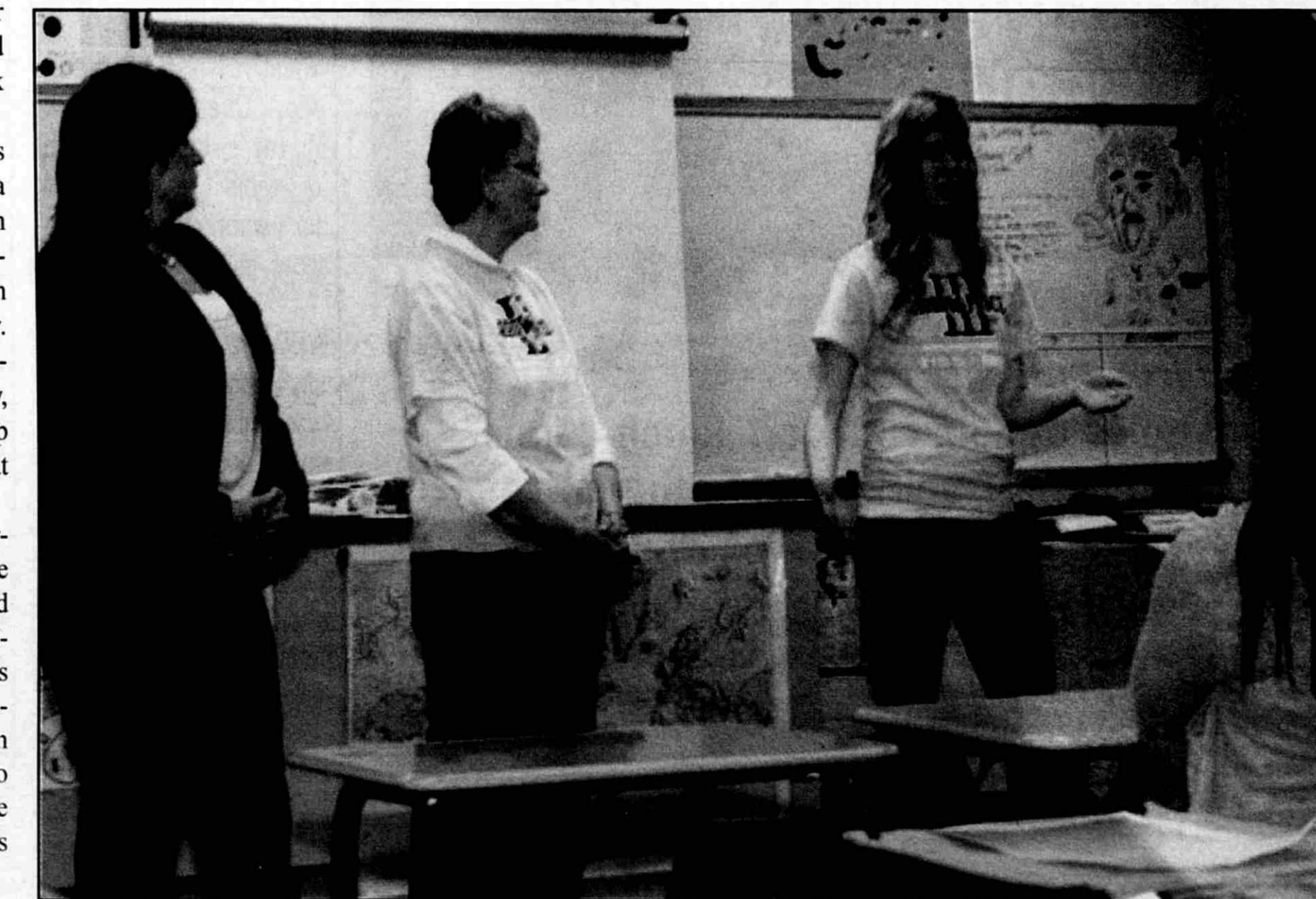
The Lowell Red Arrows would not be able to put on this event without the help of the Gilda's Club. Gilda's Club is a local organization that helps with the planning and preparation and they are all about free support.

"Gilda's gift to people on a cancer journey was you can still laugh, you can still live," said Arkema.

Kelly added, "I would not say that I would be the traditional cancer patient on a lot of levels. I used humor to get me through most of my treatments and I still use humor on a daily basis."



Paqui Kelly receives a Pink Arrow football jersey from Noel Dean, with her husband's football number.



Lowell High School principal Patricia Murphy-Alderman, Gilda's Club member Ethel Stears and student representative Bryleigh Loughlin talk about the effect Pink Arrow has on the Lowell community.

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 does it mean to you winning the first Lowell lacrosse conference championship?

I'm really happy to be a part of the first team to ever win a conference championship. That's just how we thought it was suppose to end in conference this year.

At what point did you feel you had a shot to win the conference?

Over the past two to three years we started to get better and we were very close last year. We really wondered, after last year, if we could get there this season. Before the season started that was our top goal in mind.

Now that you've won the conference, what's next?

We are competing in regionals now (vs. Okemos) hoping to advance. After school, I will attend the University of Michigan and study engineering. I've thought about trying out for the lacrosse team, but it is probably more realistic for me to try out after my freshman year, after I have a year of college under my belt.

What makes lacrosse special to you?

It's the only real sport that really stood out to me. I played it and enjoyed it ever since I started in sixth grade. It was the first season Lowell lacrosse was offered at the middle school level.

What are your strongest points on the field?

A positive attitude, making sure every minute is important and not slacking off. I try hard at all times and never give up.

This Week - Troy Petersen Lowell Varsity Lacrosse

What does coach Bredin preach to everyone that has made Lowell lacrosse so successful in such a short period?

The biggest is for the team to trust each other and to not rely on one person. We all play together and coach Bredin stresses working as a team.

Do you have a favorite moment in your lacrosse career?

Not just one, everything has been great.

What other school activities are you involved in?

A lot of AP classes (advanced placement classes that can transfer over to college credits), and Model United Nations classes (re-enacted United Nations' meetings) that go through actual world crises to make real world decisions.

Favorite food?

Any spaghetti! Also the triple decker from school. I like to eat on Thursdays when the lunch room serves them. They are especially best on Thursday game days.

Favorite athlete or role model?

Never really thought about it.

Anything else you'd like people to know?

The biggest is for future Lowell lacrosse players to take things seriously. As they come up, we want them to continue building the program stronger and stronger to earn a state championship some day!

Family? Mom, brother or pets?

Mom, Cindy; older brother, Eric, who attends GVSU; and a German shepherd dog named Smokey.

Red Arrow SPORTS

LASSO wins U-10 division

The LASSO (Lowell Area Select Soccer Association) U-10 Girls' Red team, led by coach Nicole Bieri and assistant coach Jason White, traveled to Kalamazoo for a spring tournament on Saturday, April 30 and Sunday, May 1, 2011. The girls finished undefeated to win the U-10 Girls' Black division of the Kalamazoo Kingdom's Crusader Cup.

The LASSO team won all four of its matches against opponents from across Michigan: Rush CA White (6-3), Red Arrow (3-1), Jaier (6-2) and GR Crew Juniors Grey (4-1). The team was propelled to victory through the hard work of sisters, Khloe and Jaki Hayes, who scored 10

and six goals, respectively, followed by teammate Jena Lyon with three goals.

The wins were truly a team effort supported by goalkeepers, Abby White, Amber Clouse and Rebecca Petrucelli; defenders, Anneke Breuker, Riley Fuller, and Isabel Remar; midfielder Marlie Fowler; and striker Aly Holdridge.

The girls were all smiles as they ended the tournament with a 4-1 win against the local GR Crew Juniors Grey team, who are in their division during GVSA league play. The weekend tournament was a lot of fun for the girls and their families both on and off the soccer field.



Front row: Riley Fuller, Aly Holdridge, Abby White, Amber Clouse, Isabel Remar, Marlie Fowler, and Rebecca Petrucelli; back row: coach Nicole Bieri, Jena Lyon, Jaki Hayes, Anneke Breuker, Khloe Hayes, and assistant coach Jason White.

Gilda's Laughfest sets dates for 2012

LaughFest and community officials are pleased with results of inaugural festival.

The nation's first-ever community-wide festival of laughter, Gilda's LaughFest, will return for a second year in Grand Rapids. Today, Gilda's Club Grand Rapids' officials announced the 2012 event will open on March 8 and run through March 18. During an early morning community briefing, Gilda's LaughFest organizers and community leaders announced the event's return and highlighted successes that contributed to the decision to continue with the festival.

"In its inaugural year, LaughFest had five objectives to accomplish for our board to determine the success of the event," said Leann Arkema, president and CEO, Gilda's Club Grand Rapids. "Gilda's Club board members believe that we accomplished all the objectives, which included visibility, increasing the awareness of Gilda's Club Grand Rapids; vision, promoting to the community the need to address the emotional health care needs of individuals, including the important healing role of laughter; viability, creating a positive cash flow and ongoing revenue stream; celebrating our 10th

anniversary; and engaging a broad and diverse sector of the community in LaughFest. The event also gave us an opportunity to give back to our community, which has graciously contributed to our free cancer and grief support programs. Our message of the importance of emotional health and the role of laughter has been delivered."

Until filing the official IRS forms later this year, Gilda's LaughFest officials estimate that the 10-day festival, including the 10th anniversary celebration that featured Betty White, had an income of \$2.1 million and expenditures totaling \$1.77 million.

"As a first year venture, we are extremely pleased that LaughFest came out in the black. \$330,000, is the estimated net profit from the festival, 100 percent of which will stay in the community and fund our cancer and grief support programs," said John Jackoboice, LaughFest co-chair/Gilda's Club board past president. "LaughFest took our message to more individuals than we've ever reached in the past and we are thrilled that message is resonating locally, regionally and even nationally."

The 2011 festival had the support and sponsorship of 262 businesses, nonprofits and community organizations. A final tally from both ticketed and free events indicate that the attendance at the festival was 55,376. 228 events were held at 49 locations in and around the Grand Rapids area. Ticket sales came from 25 states and Canada.

"Events like LaughFest are significant contributors to drawing people to our region," said Doug Small, president, Experience Grand Rapids. "We know the positive impact that it has on our community and the positive exposure it receives from outside the state of Michigan, too."

Created by the team at Gilda's Club Grand Rapids

in celebration of its 10th anniversary, LaughFest included comedians Bill Cosby, Betty White, Mike Birbiglia, Kathleen Madigan, Margaret Cho and other seriously funny performers. The opening ceremony included an attempt at breaking the Guinness World Record for the number of people toss-

ing rubber chickens at once. The record was recently certified by Guinness World Record officials. Festival goers threw 925 chickens onto Rosa Parks Circle in downtown Grand Rapids, breaking the previous record of 265 set in April 2010 near Boston, Mass.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 11-190204-DE

Estate of EUNICE E. KASLANDER. Date of birth: 09/26/1916.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Eunice E. Kaslander, who lived at 11535 E. Fulton, #200, Lowell, Michigan, died 01/01/2011.

forever barred unless presented to Kristine M. Omness, named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Avenue NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/ proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

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

Kristine M. Omness 1799 Veronica Lowell, MI 49331 616-240-6957

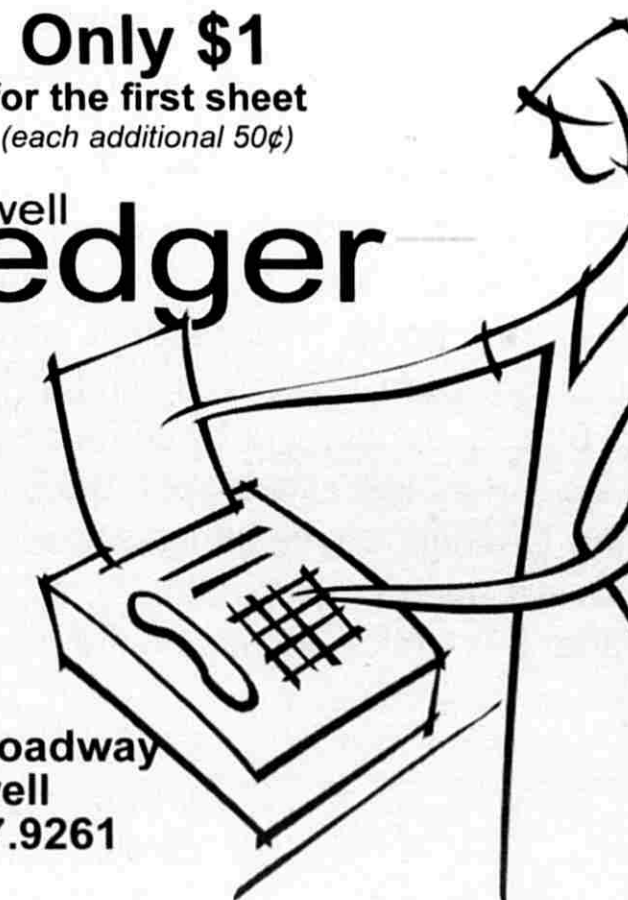
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LUNCH MENU

ELEMENTARY MENU
Week of
May 30, 2011

MON: Memorial Day - no school.

TUES: Bagel/string cheese, Danimals yogurt (beef teriyaki dippers w/ wheat roll also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), fresh vegetables & Litehouse dip, warm baked apple slices, milk.

WED: Pancakes or cereal w/graham crackers, each w/scrambled eggs, orange smiles, apple juice, milk.

THURS: Chicken nugget mashed potato bowl & wheat roll, mashed potatoes/gravy, peaches, milk.

FRI: Baked corn dogs (tuna salad sandwich also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), 2 hashbrown patties, pineapple, milk.

- BASEBALL

Red Arrows 15-19 so far this season

by Shane Beach

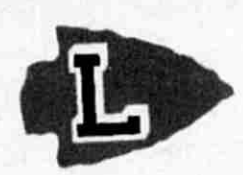
After a slow start to the season, coach Miller has his team firing on all cylinders. The baseball team has won 15 of their past 19 games.

The Red Arrows improved their overall record to 15-14, moved into a second-place tie with East Grand Rapids at 11-4 in the OK White, when Lowell defeated the Greenville Yellow Jackets 12-2.

Jake Boelens picked up the win on the mound for Lowell. Travis Gordon had a double. Sam Steed and Jordan Drake went raking at the plate, both going three for four in the route of the Yellow Jackets.

Earlier in the week the Red Arrows defeated the Yellow Jackets by a score of 10-4. Jordan Drake got the win and helped his own cause hitting a home run. Titan Anderson blasted a grand slam and recently picked up his fifth conference win on the mound. Will Plummer and Travis Gordon doubled, as did Sam Steed, 2-2; and JP North, 3-3; to lead the way in the game.

GO RED ARROWS!



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obituaries

JANKOWSKI

Mary Liddia Jankowski, of Lowell, went to be with the Lord and her husband Bernard, "Barney," May 19, 2011. She is survived by her children, Bernard (Johanna) Jankowski, Peggy (Jim)Hardy, Joanne (Ed) Ridgway; 15 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren. Mary's greatest love of her life was her family. Memorial service was held Monday at First United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main, Lowell, Rev. Rick Blunt officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery, Memorial contributions may be made to Schneider Manor, 725 Bowes Road, Lowell; Porter Hills General Benevolent Fund, 4450 Cascade Road, Ste. 200, Grand Rapids, 49546; or First United Methodist Church of Lowell.



MCBRIDE

Michael David McBride, age 62, of Mendon, lost his battle with cancer on April 18, 2011. He was born to Bernard Carrol and Betty Lou (Walker) McBride Sept. 30, 1948, in Allegan Co. Mike retired as a UPS driver after 32 years of service and started "living the dream" on his farm in Mendon with his four American Cream draft horses (Sissy, Timex, Kitt, and Clarann) and dog (Lexie). He is survived by his two daughters, Andria R. McBride and Carrie L. (Luis) Vasquez; his loving wife, Nancy L. (née Wedge); two daughters, Amy Stegall and Melinda (Mike) Sylvester; sister, Judy K. Nance; and brother, Dennis R. (Pauline C.) McBride. Mike will be greatly missed by his eight grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and many many relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Patricia L. (née Peck) McBride and father, Bernard. Memorial service to be held May 28, see www.avinkcremation.com

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

Grid of numbers for puzzle solutions.

Grid of letters for puzzle solutions.

Social Security questions, continued

ability benefits right away. It can take months to process an application for disability benefits. If we approve your application, your first Social Security disability benefit will be paid for the sixth full month after the date your disability began. For more information about Social Security disability benefits, refer to Disability Benefits (Publication No. 05-10029) at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10029.html.

Question: I get disability benefits. I would really like to try to work again, but I can't risk losing my medical coverage. I understand Social Security's Ticket to Work might let me try working without endangering my benefits. What can you tell me about it?

Answer: Ticket to Work is a voluntary program that

offers disabled Social Security beneficiaries a variety of choices in obtaining the support and services they need to help them go to work and achieve their employment goals. If you receive Social Security or Supplemental Security Income benefits based on disability or blindness and would like to work or increase your current earnings, this program can help you get vocational rehabilitation, training, job referrals, and other ongoing support and services to do so. For more information, visit our Ticket to Work website at http://www.socialsecurity.gov/work.

Question: What is the difference between Social Security disability and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability?

Answer: Social Security

is responsible for running two major programs that provide benefits based on disability. Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) is based on prior work and the taxes you pay into the Social Security program. To be eligible for a SSDI benefit, the worker must earn sufficient credits based on taxable work to be "insured" for Social Security purposes. SSDI benefits are payable to eligible blind or disabled workers, the widow(er)s of a disabled worker, or adults disabled since childhood. SSI disability payments are made on the basis of financial need to adults or children who are disabled or blind, have limited income and resources, meet the living arrangement requirements, and are otherwise eligible. SSI is a program financed through general revenues. For more information, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov or call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Question: What can I do if my Medicare prescription drug plan says it won't pay for a drug that my doctor prescribed for me?

Answer: If your Medicare prescription drug plan decides that it won't pay for a prescription drug, it must tell you in writing why the drug isn't covered in a letter called a "Notice of Denial of Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage." Read the notice carefully because it will explain how to ask for an appeal. Your prescribing doctor can ask your Medicare drug plan for an expedited redetermination (first level appeal) for you if the doctor tells the plan that waiting for a standard appeal decision may seriously harm your health. For more information, visit www.medicare.gov.

Question: Are Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits taxable?

Answer: No. Unlike Social Security benefits,

which may be subject to income tax, SSI payments are not subject to Federal taxes, and you will not receive an annual form SSA-1099. For more information, see Supplemental Security Income (Publication No. 05-11000), visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov or call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

FAXING Sending or Receiving \$1 or 1st sheet, 50¢ each additional sheet The Lowell Ledger 105 N. Broadway • P.O. Box 128 • 897-9261

NOTICE OF ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT ADOPTION BOWNE TOWNSHIP

On May 16, 2011, the Township Board for Bowne Township adopted several amendments to the Bowne Township Zoning Ordinance, as amended. The amendments cover medical marijuana, exotic animals, private zoos, animal preserves, wildlife rescue operations, nature centers, wildlife parks, and outdoor recreation facilities. The changes involve new or existing Sections 2.52a (definition of medical marijuana dispensary), 3.42 (prohibition on medical marijuana dispensaries), and 3.43 (unclassified uses) of the Zoning Ordinance, together with new or existing Sections 2.05(a) (animal preserve), 2.05(b) (animal rescue facility or animal sanctuary), 2.31 (exotic animals), 2.56a (nature center), 2.59 (outdoor recreation facilities), 2.64a (public or private zoo), 2.91a (wildlife park), 3.12a (exotic animals), 3.13(C) (introduction), 3.13(C)(4) (delete this subsection), 5.04(L) and (M), 6.04(J), 7.04(G), 11.04(C), 11.04(F) (delete this subsection), 12.04(E), 12.04(F), 13.04(B), 14.01(R), 14.01(Y), 14.05(R) and 14.05(X). Copies of those amendments to the Zoning Ordinance can be reviewed, purchased or inspected at the Bowne Township offices during normal business hours (Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to noon), or by contacting the Bowne Township Clerk at (616) 868-6846. These Zoning Ordinance amendments shall become effective upon the expiration of the seventh day after this Notice appears in the newspaper.

Respectfully submitted, By Sandra L. Kowalczyk Bowne Township Clerk

LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing to consider a request from Duane Fitzgerald for a Special Use Permit to establish a veterinary clinic on the site of the former Roark Landscape business located on the following described property which is zoned AG-2, Rural Agricultural.

LOCATION & ADDRESS: The property is located at 9599 East Fulton (formerly Roark's Landscaping). The property consists of a total of 4.17 acres with 1.72 acres in Lowell Township and 2.45 acres in Ada Township.

The hearing will be held as follows:

WHEN: MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2011 TIME: 7:00 P.M. WHERE: LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL 2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE LOWELL, MI. 49331

Information on the proposed request is available for review at the Lowell Charter Township Offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Lowell, MI. 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday or by calling 897-7600.

Tim Clements, Secretary Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission

classifieds

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

for sale

ADJUSTABLE BED - includes memory foam mattress. Never used. \$1,299. Can deliver. 616-682-4767.

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

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

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

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.

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

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

ELIMINATE RISING FUEL COSTS - Clean, safe & efficient wood heat. Central Boiler Classic Outdoor Wood Furnace. Heats multiple buildings. Call SOS your "Stocking Dealer" Dutton, MI 616-554-8669 or 616-915-5061.

TWIN BED - Mattress, box spring & frame, (Sealy), \$85 complete. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600.

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

2002 MTD YARDMAN LAWNMOWER - 16HP, 42 inch cut, 7 speed shift on the go. All wheel steer, asking \$400, call 987-4297.

RASPBERRY STARTER PLANTS - Everbearing Red. \$7 for 25 shoots. Near McCabe and Conservation in Ada. No Sundays. 616-855-4847.

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

CAMP FIRE WOOD BUNDLES - 32" x 32", approximately 40 pcs. 16" lg. \$9. Call 897-2985.

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

for sale

LAZYBOY LOVESEAT - double recliner, rarely used, \$799 new, asking \$300. 897-0389.

42 IN. ROUND TABLE - and 4 chairs, very good solid condition, asking \$180. 897-0389.

LATEX MATTRESS - Sleeps cool. Relieves "back pain." Best price in Michigan. Queen \$499, king \$699. Can deliver. Brand new, not used. 616-682-4767.

DRYWALL FINISHING TOOLS - Tape-Teck, complete set, plus extras, excellent condition, over \$6,000 new, asking \$2,800. 897-0389.

HOT TUB - 4 - 6 person, works great, new cover, \$900 obo. Call 897-7724.

for rent

WATERFRONT - Cottages. Martiny Chain of 10 Lakes accessible, Barryton, MI. Furnished, very nice, AC, cable, canoe, paddle & row boat included, pontoon rental available. Call Ron, 897-5062.

ROOMMATE WANTED - \$300 a month, everything included. 897-7090.

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

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.

LOWELL MOBILE HOME PARK - Under new management. Nice 1, 2 & 3 bedroom trailers for rent. Rent from \$350 - \$550. For info call George at 616-754-0276 or 616-813-8041.

help wanted

PIZZA LINE COOKS WANTED - Come join our team at Vitale's of Ada. Excellent pay & hours. Looking for experienced line cooks & pizza makers. Stop in & apply in person, or email your resume to Vitalesada@gmail.com

MASSAGE THERAPIST WANTED - Busy salon/spa is looking for a part-time, experienced, and motivated massage therapist. Please call 616-522-9870 or drop off resume at Manclui's Main St. Salon in downtown lonia.

PART-TIME LPN - delegated instructor for state-approved CNA program. Call Valley Training Center at 957-5600 or kay@valleytrainingcenter.com.

sales

HUGE YARD SALE - 14129 E. Fulton, Lowell, May 26-29, Thurs. & Fri., 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. & Sat. & Sun., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. New, gently used items for men, women, children & baby. Clothes, toys, furniture, household items & collectibles. Everything must go!

GARAGE SALE - Fri. & Sat., 9 to 5, 2991 Alden Nash Ave. SE, Lowell.

BARN SALE - Lots of unique pieces of furniture, small tables, antiques, primitives, shabby, etc. Don't miss this sale. No clothes or junk. May 27 & 28, 9-5 p.m. 10620 Three Mile Rd. (1/4 mile E. off Parnell Rd.)

MOVING/GARAGE SALE - Sun., May 22 through Sun., May 29, 10 a.m. - ? Hunting coats, exercise equip., books, tools, electric range, dryer, pellet stove & much more. Everything must go. 10960 Four Mile Rd. NE, Lowell, 616-485-5023.

PERENNIAL LOVERS! - Hundreds of plants, 50¢ to \$3. Memorial Day weekend, Sat. 8-5, Sun. 10-4, Mon. 9-2. All plant monies go to the Equestrian Team. Up to \$500 each day in a 50/50 raffle to benefit senior scholarships. 520 N. Monroe.

services

AFFORDABLE LIFE INSURANCE - Up to \$25,000 in Coverage * Policy Never Expires * No Medical Exam Needed * Rates will Never go up * Coverage will Never decrease. Call Don today 616-617-6596.

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

NEED A DUMPSTER? - 14 to 20 yards available. Garage, attic, household cleanup, roofing, trash, junk etc. Dependable service & affordable prices. Mention this ad & receive 10% off. Call for free estimates. Contact Doug 616-295-6640.

LAWN MAINTENANCE - Dethatching, mowing, cleanup, fertilizing and rototilling. Servicing NE Grand Rapids, Lowell and Ada area. Call for free estimate 616-328-9558.

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

services

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

COMPUTER VIRUS REMOVAL - 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.

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

KOETJE HORSESHOEING - 616-374-3286.

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

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

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

services

NEED A DUMPSTER - Want great service? 10, 15, 20 & 30 yards. Same day delivery. Best prices. Mention this ad & save \$10. Call Greg 616-915-0506.

JIM'S FLOOR COVERING INSTALLATION - 27 years. Carpet, vinyl & laminate. 897-0737 or 560-8515, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Leave message.

card of thanks

FROM THE RICHARD ONAN FAMILY With much love and thanks, for all the food, flowers, cards, calls and donations for the funeral expenses. To all who came to visitation. Roth Gerst Funeral Home family for all the help given us. To First Baptist Church for all the help given preparing lunch between viewings and the lunch after the funeral. A great big thanks to Pastor Margesson and Pastor Ford from Alton Bible for all their words of comfort.

In Christ Love, Sandy Onan & families

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 ran on a space available basis & ARE NOT GUARANTEED TO RUN. If you would like to make sure your event is placed in the paper, please call our office & place it as a classified ad. We will not run ANY Garage or 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.

WOMEN FOR SOBRIETY - meets every Monday, 7-8 p.m. at Bowne Center United Methodist Church, fellowship hall, 12051 84th St., corner of Alden Nash. Call Sue at 868-6219 or www.womenforsobriety.org

BOWNE TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY - meets the second Monday of the month at 10 a.m. in the Historical Museum at 84th/Alden Nash.

NEEDLERS - Second & fourth Monday evenings, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Schneider Manor Community Room.

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.

COFFEE BREAK/LADIES BIBLE STUDY - Sept. - May, Tuesdays 9:30 - 11:15 a.m. No church membership or experience required. Bring preschoolers for Story Hour & Craft. Free nursery for younger children. There's an evening class on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. No children's class. Calvary Christian Reformed Church, M-21 across from Burger King. 897-7060.

WOMEN OF THE MOOSE - third Monday at 7:30 p.m. for business meeting.

AMERICAN LEGION CLARK-ELLIS POST 152 - meets the fourth Monday at 3100 Alden Nash S.E. at 7:30 p.m.

ALTO AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY - meets the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Alto American Legion Post. 11535 E. Fulton, 9 a.m. social gathering, 10 a.m. meeting. LARC sponsors 145.27 MHz area radio repeater system.

LOWELL SHOWBOAT GARDEN CLUB - meets the 3rd Monday in the Church of the Nazarene Fellowship Hall, 211 N. Washington St. at 6:30 p.m.

BOYSCOUT TROOP 102 - every Monday, 7-8:30 p.m. during school year in Scout Cabin at the end of N. Washington St. Ages 11 and up or completing 5th grade. Call Scoutmaster Randy Jesberg at 897-4569 or Del Rockwell at 897-6814.

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.

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

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

DIABETIC SUPPORT GROUP - 2nd Tuesday at Schneider Manor Community Rm. 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. 897-2760 or 897-9160.

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.

LOWELL LIONS CLUB - meets third Tuesday at noon at Lowell City Hall.

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.

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

V.F.W. POST #8303 - meets the first Monday at 7 p.m. at 3116 Alden Nash S.E.

BLOOD DRIVE - Fri., June 3, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Lowell High School in the aux gym. The public is welcome. This event will benefit the West Michigan Community Blood Center.

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

FLAT RIVER WOOD CARVERS - meets every Wed. 2-4 p.m. at the Lowell Area Arts Council. New carvers welcome.

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

ALTO LIONS CLUB - Meets 1st & 3rd Thursday at 7 p.m. at Keiser's Kitchen.

LET'S TALK! - Come meet & have a cup of coffee with your city councilmembers. First Saturday of each month at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce office, 113 Riverwalk Plaza, Lowell, 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.

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

EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk: With all the talk of the need for safe, renewable energy sources, isn't the elephant in the room really that we should use far less energy than we do? Wouldn't more rules about conservation (like not leaving commercial building lights on all night) make the challenges easier?
-- Jennifer B., New York, NY

In short, yes: Scaling back our energy consumption significantly, whether voluntarily or as a result of laws and regulations, would go a long way toward achieving our pollution reduction and air and water quality goals. But Americans — and to a lesser extent those in many other developed nations — have never been very good at using less of anything, let alone the energy that makes everything in our whiz-bang modern world possible. That said, conservation is going to play an increasingly important role in all of our lives as we struggle to reduce our collective carbon footprints in a quickly warming world.

President Obama has repeatedly highlighted the need for greater conservation efforts when it comes to shoring up our existing and future energy reserves and reducing our dependence on foreign sources of oil. The American Recovery and

Reinvestment Act of 2009 set aside upwards of \$3 billion to bolster efforts across the country to weatherize existing buildings in order to conserve energy.

Grants to local communities for such projects, along with calls for voluntary reductions in energy consumption, are part of the plan. The White House is also betting on technology by subsidizing various initiatives aimed at reducing energy use and making our existing power network more efficient overall. Research has shown that investments in energy efficiency that promote conservation are cheaper and provide quicker returns than building new, cleaner power plants. A recent study released by Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory predicts annual spending on energy efficiency and conservation to quadruple to as much as \$12 billion a year by 2020.

As for what you can do to promote conservation, lead by example—and you'll see your energy bills go down, too. Turn lights, computers and TVs off when you are done using them. If you're remodeling or building a new home, occupancy sensors that turn lights on and off as people enter or leave rooms is a good investment, as is making use of natural light in more overt ways to obviate the need for artificial lighting in daylight hours. Also, purchasing appliances rated for good energy efficiency under the federal government's Energy Star program will save energy. Likewise, driving a hybrid or electric vehicle, or foregoing a car altogether in favor of public transit, biking or walking, is a great way to conserve energy.

One way that awareness about the importance of energy conservation is being promoted around the world is through "Earth Hour," which began in 2007 when two million individuals and 2,000 businesses in Sydney, Australia turned their lights off for one hour to make a statement about the need to fight climate change. Within a year, the concept had spread to more than 50

million participants in 35 countries. In 2011 Earth Hour drew participants in 135 countries; organizers expect the 2012 event (March 31 at 8:30 pm, wherever you live) to be even bigger. Similar but unique "Lights Out" movements in San Francisco and other American cities will align with Earth Hour as well.

CONTACTS: Energy Star, www.energystar.gov; Earth Hour, www.earthhour.org; Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, www.lbl.gov; Lights Out San Francisco, www.lightsoutsf.org.

Dear EarthTalk: I heard someone say that legalizing pot — as Californians considered doing last year — would benefit the environment. How would that be?
-- William T., Portland, OR

It is well known that legalizing pot could have great economic benefits in California and elsewhere by allowing the government to tax it (like it now does on liquor and cigarettes), by ending expensive and ongoing operations to eradicate it, and by keeping millions of otherwise innocent and non-violent marijuana offenders out of already overburdened federal and state prisons. But what you might not know is that legalizing pot could also pay environmental dividends as well.

Nikki Gloudeman, a senior fellow at Mother Jones magazine, reports on the change.org website that the current system of growing pot — surreptitious growers illegally colonizing remote forest lands and moving pesticides, waste and irrigation tubes into otherwise pristine ecosystems — is nothing short of a toxic scourge. Legalizing pot, she says, would clean things up substantially, as the growing would both eliminate the strain on public lands and meet higher standards for the use and disposal of toxic substances.

Legalization would also reduce the environmental impacts of smuggling across the U.S./Mexico border, says Gloudeman: "Cartels routinely use generators, diesel storage tanks and animal poison to preserve their cache, when the border area is surrounded by more than four million acres of sensitive federal wilderness."

Also, legalizing pot would move its production out into the open, literally, meaning that growers would no longer need to rack up huge energy costs to keep their illegal indoor growing operations lit up by artificial light. This means that the energy consumption and carbon footprint of marijuana growers would go way down, as the light the plants need for photosynthesis could be provided more naturally by the sun.

Yet another green benefit of legalizing marijuana would be an end to the destructive eradication efforts employed by law enforcement at bust sites, where the crop and the land they are rooted in are sometimes subjected to harsh chemical herbicides for expedited removal.

The legalization of pot in the U.S. would also likely open the door to the legal production of hemp, a variety of the same Cannabis plant that contains much lower amounts of the psychoactive drug, THC. Proponents say hemp could meet an increasingly larger percentage of our domestic fiber and fuel needs. Cannabis, the plant from which marijuana and hemp is derived, grows quickly without the need for excessive amounts of fertilizer or pesticide (it's a "weed" after all) and absorbs carbon dioxide like any plant engaged in photosynthesis. The fiber and fuel derived from hemp would be carbon neutral and as such wouldn't contribute to global warming—and in fact could help mitigate rising

temperatures by replacing chemical-intensive crops like cotton and imported fossil fuels like oil and gas.

Of course, one might argue that the best thing for the environment would be to stop growing cannabis altogether. "But let's be real: That's never going to happen," says Gloudeman. "In light of that, the next best bet is to make it legal."

CONTACTS: [Change.org](http://change.org), www.change.org; Drug Policy Alliance, www.drugpolicy.org; EarthTalk® is written and edited by Roddy Scheer and Doug Moss and is a registered trademark of E - The Environmental Magazine (www.emagazine.com). Send questions to: earthtalk@emagazine.com. Subscribe: www.emagazine.com/subscribe. Free Trial Issue: www.emagazine.com/trial.



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deborah.wilks.pwmg@statefarm.com

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Do not anticipate trouble, or worry about what may never happen. Keep in the sunlight.

- Benjamin Franklin (1706 - 1790)

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THEME: POP ICONS

- ACROSS**
- Get lost!
 - *Martial artist
 - Z, NATO phonetic alphabet
 - Defendant's excuse
 - Boat propeller
 - Nazareth's famous resident
 - Second most populous city in Africa
 - Tote
 - Like "The Biggest Loser" contestants
 - *Pop icon-painting pop icon
 - Mob offensive
 - Makes feathers stick
 - Part of house frame
 - Roman goddess of fertility
 - One of Three Bears
 - Meddle
 - *Tubby little cubby
 - Like a limo window
 - ___prosequi
 - Thumb for it
 - Waiter's last word?
 - Accompanies gain?
 - Stopped by hitting snooze
 - Spiritual leader
 - Either right or left
 - European cavalryman
 - St. Louis tourist attraction
 - Not old nor borrowed nor blue
 - Multicolored horse
 - Architect's software
 - Streamlet
 - *An angel?
 - Scoundrel
 - 19th letter of Greek alphabet
- DOWN**
- Salt in Spanish
 - Bird foot
 - Capital of Latvia
 - Terminate mission
 - Unfortunate outcome
 - Bum around
 - ___de toilette
 - Plant fungus
 - Domesticated ox
 - Functions
 - Boozer
 - Make work
 - *"His Airness"
 - Speak like Pericles
 - Brazil, e.g.
 - Capital of Puerto Rico
 - *She's a media mogul
 - Southern chicken stew
 - Fizzy drinks
 - Goes with pong
 - Floor cleaners
 - "Sarah, ___ and Tall"
 - Leave or strike out
 - Extend subscription
 - ___, not his
 - Millimeter of mercury
 - American evergreen shrub
 - *Dreaded singer
 - Wade's opponent
 - Soil-smoothing cultivator
 - Below roof
 - Moving crowd
 - Fat and flour sauce base
 - Tangerine/grapefruit hybrid
 - Zilch
 - Be angry
 - Away from wind
 - Animal group
 - Dietary guideline, acr.
 - Type of tray
 - Wilbur's home

CROSSWORD

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71							72				73	

- *James Dean's Jim Stark and Elizabeth Taylor's Maggie, e.g.
- Without liveliness
- Communism or Taoism, e.g.
- Not hidden
- Angle between branch and offshoot, e.g.
- *He is symbol of rebellion
- Like untended garden

SUDOKU

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

616-897-0787

When submitting your opinion to Sound Off!, we ask you to follow a few guidelines.
Sound Off! is meant to be a way for you to compliment or vent your feelings with civility. A healthy way to get something off your chest or spread a little kindness.
We welcome your comments, with or without signatures, but signing your name to your comment does increase the odds of seeing it in print.
Threatening or deliberately cruel comments will not be accepted and, of course, no advertising a product or service please.
So basically, submit anything - but not everything will make it to print.
The Ledger reserves the right to choose what is printed, and reminds the public that views expressed in Sound Off!, unless otherwise stated, are not the opinions of The Ledger staff or its publishers.

THIS WEEK'S ONLINE POLL

The shuttle is taking its last mission, which is your favorite space program memory?

When John Glenn first orbited the earth?

- The moon landing?
- The Apollo XIII Mission?
- When the first Space Shuttle Columbia was launched?

A GLANCE at FOUND THE GLOBE

- MAY 18 - MAY 24**
- Twister kills 89 in Joplin, Missouri. Parts of the city are unrecognizable. Cars are stacked and strewn everywhere. Houses are piles of wreckage. A hospital was hit and a high school extensively damaged.
 - A hat that created a stir when Britain's Princess Beatrice wore it to last month's royal wedding sells for more than \$130,000. (It's also ugly.)
 - President Barack Obama begins a four-nation tour in Ireland, on Monday, where he will explore his Irish roots.
 - Tiger Woods drops out of Top 10 in world golf rankings.
 - Chrysler repays nearly \$5.9 billion in government loans and interest payments on Tuesday and will celebrate the milestone.

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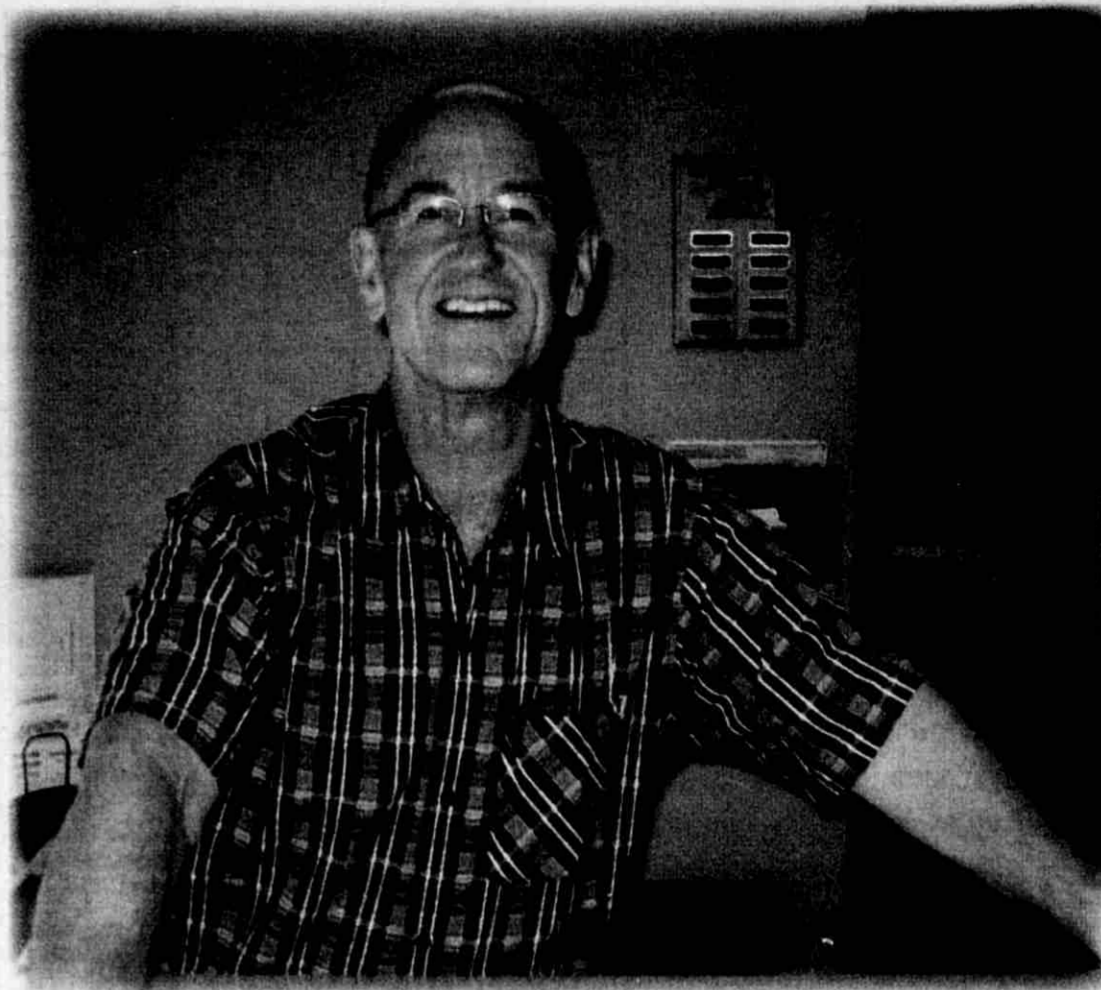
The Lowell Ledger
105 N. Broadway, 897-9261

Kurt Hieshetter

Behind The Scenes



Position: Account Representative
Residence: Lowell/35 years
Education: GRCC and the University of Cincinnati at Batavia
Experience: Over 30 years in sales, mainly the automotive business
Family: Wife, Stephanie, two children, Dillon and Sierra
Hobbies: Family camping, exploring our National Parks and Historic Sites, hiking, backpacking and skiing



Major career switch for automotive sales representative

Q: How did you get started in your line of business?

A: I was offered the opportunity to join the staff of the Buyers Guide from Jon Jacobs after developing a working relationship as a client. I stayed in touch with Jon after General Motors gave Good Chevrolet the big shaft.

Q: What were some of the early challenges and how did you overcome them?

A: The perception that print advertising was going the way of the dinosaurs. Small town commu-

nity newspapers are very much alive. I was able to utilize the data from audits and opinion's of successful businesses that very much relied on community papers to reach their target audience. Some past practices were hard to overcome or should I say past personalities.

Q: What were some of your early accomplishments?

A: True accomplishments are hard to judge. Just being able to talk to some clients can be an accomplishment. Hopefully getting along with everyone

that I see on a day-to-day basis is an accomplishment.

Q: Tell us about the switch in your career?

A: It was very eye-opening on how a small town paper is run. Coming from the client side of things, I had no idea how important time was. I do miss the car business, but am thankful for the opportunity to still be able to meet new people, establish relationships and try to help their businesses grow.

Q: What is the most important thing when entering a new field?

A: The most important thing is to keep a positive attitude. Always look at the bigger picture.

Q: What goals do you set for yourself?

A: Establish a new relationship with one new client a week. It may not seem like a lot, but with research on their business it is hard work.

Q: What motivates you?

A: My kids and my wife. At 55-years-old I never thought I would have eight-year-old twins. They are so much fun and work. My wife gets up at 5 am so I get up also. I make everyone breakfast, work out, make the kids lunches and take them to school. They are all the motivation I need.

Q: How do you want your peers/customers to view you?

A: As someone who truly understands the value of an advertising dollar. As someone they can rely on to do what I say I will do.

Q: What gives your business competitive advantage?

A: I think the staff at The Lowell Ledger gives us an advantage over the competition and the fact that we are part of our community and not some PC in an office 1,000 miles away. A lot

of people are trying to put all their eggs in the Internet basket or TV. When was the last time you could get that new car smell from your computer monitor? How many people are getting sick of paying over \$100 dollars from nothing on cable. We are still able to pick up the paper and spend as much time as we want looking and reading all we want.

Q: How do you integrate technology and innovations into this business?

A: Speaking about computers, e-mail has made this business run on a faster scale. Proofs and approvals can be sent back and forth in the blink of an eye.

Q: How do you think this business changed over the years?

A: Having not been around this business long, I don't know exactly how it was in the past. I assume it has gotten tough in the last few years. Since 2008 we have lost a lot of businesses. Most of them used to advertise. Some people think the Internet is the answer. While it definitely has helped it also, in my opinion, has hurt some businesses like the auto business. No other industry has its absolute cost published online.

Q: How do you make a business thrive in hard economic times?

A: I don't think any business is thriving right now, other than the oil companies. Once again, when things are down just keep a great attitude. Always let people see you smile. Don't be negative. We are all in this together. Support each other. Shop close to home. The business next door supports our schools.

Q: How do you feel you have most contributed to your field?

A: Helping out now and then with a car ad. I think my best contributions are yet to come.

Q: What does a good/bad day at work look like?

A: There are no bad days at the Ledger. Whether I sell an ad or not, it is great to come in and have fun.

Q: What do you like about this business the most?

A: Definitely the fact that the Jacobs family has kept this paper in Lowell. It could have been very easy to consolidate everything in Hastings. They truly believe in small town success and we as residents should be very thankful.

Q: Any community involvement or fundamental reinvestment into the community, philanthropy?

A: I have in the past tried to get involved in organizations. The kids changed most of that. I did coach Dillon in football and help out at the school when possible. Right now, most spare time is spent walking or riding with the kids.

Q: Where do you see yourself and this business in five years?

A: This business could be thriving in five years. The recession will have positioned everyone toward sustainable growth. Newspaper consolidation will make the remaining paper stronger. I just hope I am around to be part of it.



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FOR THE KIDS — Make-Your-Own Sundaes

FOR THE LADIES — Sentimental Journey's meaningful musical memories

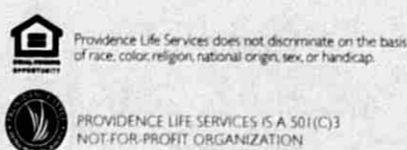
FOR ONE LUCKY WINNER — A fantastic raffle prize!

FOR EVERYONE — Old-fashioned summer fun!

Space is limited, so please RSVP to Sylvia by June 6 — (616) 954-2366.



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CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

ATTENTION CITY OF LOWELL WATER CUSTOMERS

The Department of Public Works will conduct a hydrant-flushing program of the complete water system. Flushing will begin on Monday, June 1 through Friday, June 17, 2011.



City of Lowell
 Water Department