

the lowell ledger

wednesday • november • 23 • 2011

vol. 41 issue 7

for over 116 years • today - tomorrow - your lowell area news source

www.thelowellledger.com

Hoag & Sons'
145 N Main St
Eaton Rapids MI 48827-1225
*****AUTO**3-DIGIT 488

Happy Thanksgiving



designing rails to trails

page 2

sleigh bells & holly



page 7

featured artist



page 8



on to state



page 9

50 CENTS



Holiday season kicks-off with Christmas through Lowell

by Emma Palova

Antiques, knits, jewelry, ornaments and wreaths were among the many unique gifts available for purchase during the annual Christmas through Lowell home tour.

And the tour brought a lot of people to town in search of that special gift as they browsed the homes and the streets of Lowell.

The tour celebrated its 20th anniversary last weekend and it officially kicked off the holiday shopping season in Lowell and the surrounding peripheries.

decker out for Christmas. Most had baked goodies and Christmas music so women could immerse themselves into the holiday atmosphere. Shoppers enjoyed great

aunts and sisters, making it a family event. In a beautifully decorated home inside and outside, Jelsma sells repurposed furniture, florals, ornaments, candles, jewelry and just about everything else made by fellow crafters during Christmas through Lowell.

And every year someone new joins in and



Sophia Byar crochets and makes scarves.



Kristy Bem with ceramics.

weather and warm November sun as they made their stops along the route that also featured nonprofits and businesses.

"It's one time a year when my friends and relatives come to gather and celebrate Christmas season kick-off together for the weekend," said Karin Jelsma of

More than 300 artists and crafters created one of a kind shopping atmospheres inside their homes all along with her parents,



Rachelle Becker makes jewelry.

the event becomes bigger and bigger. Everybody has their own little job to do, like dad Dale Sprague puts



Karin Jelsma and Yvonne Post.

the garland on the front porch and sister Yvonne Post makes pies, fudge and apple peach pie in a jar from orchard fruits. Post runs the kitchen and the proceeds from the

Kristy Bem is a ceramic artist who has been opening the doors of her home to shoppers for the last six years right in the heart of town.

"I love it," she said. Bem estimated a minimum of 600 people going through the house during the event. Much like other stations on the tour, Bem was joined by

sales of jams, jellies and baked goods go to Susan B. Coleman Fund.

Christmas through Lowell, continued, page 8

Big win and Arrows head for Ford Field

Story page 9

City manager to set ZBA public hearings administratively

by Emma Palova

The city council adopted a motion that will allow city manager Mark Howe to set public hearings for Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) variance requests in order to expedite the process within publishing guidelines. In the past the ZBA set the dates and the times for public hearings.

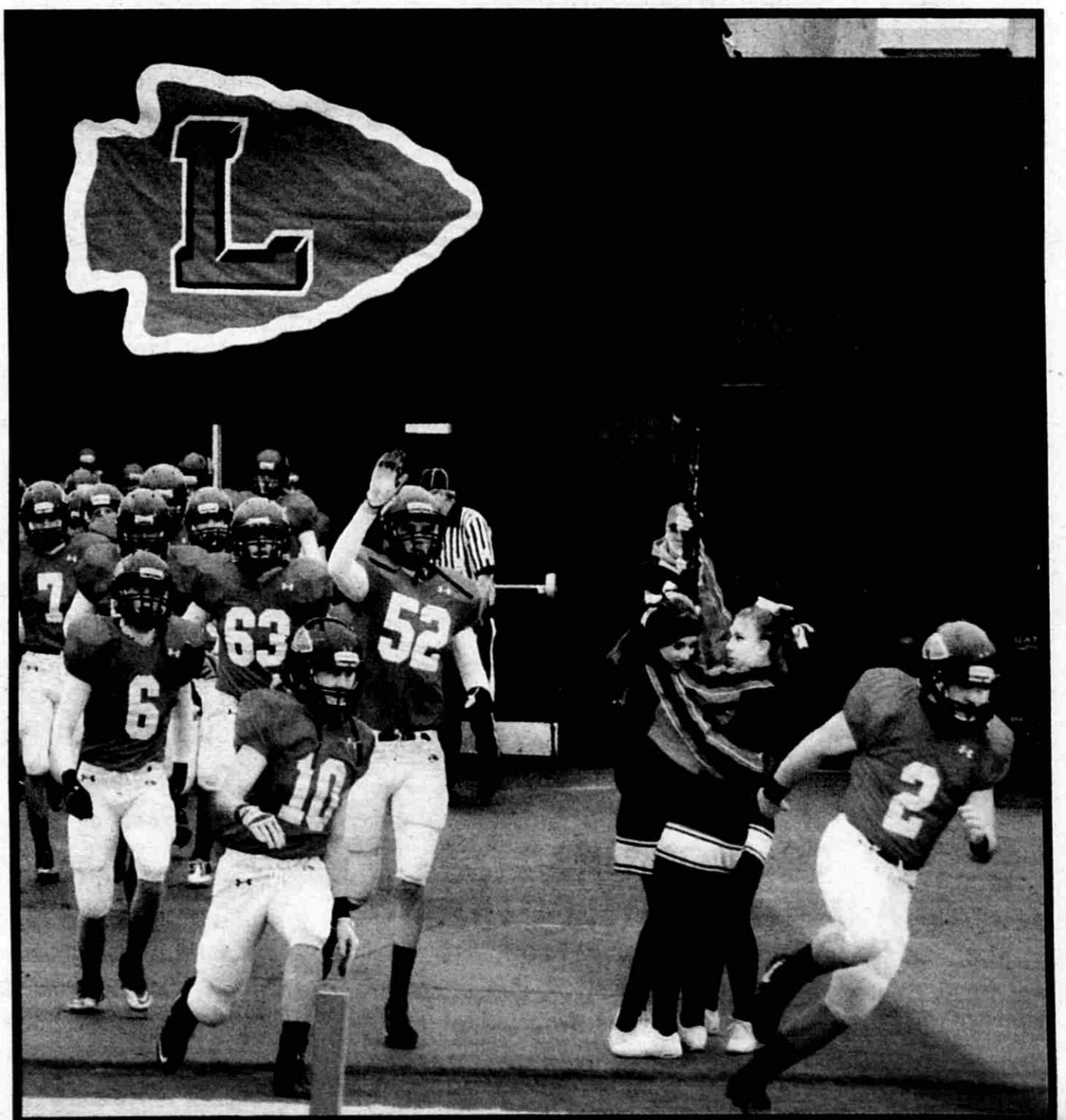
However, these have to be advertised 15 days in advance and the city council, also acting as ZBA, meets only twice a month. This

pushed back the process by an entire month.

"This could make us more efficient," said Howe. "This way we don't have to wait for a meeting."

The council unanimously approved the proposal in order to speed up variance requests, such as the one from King Milling related to the construction of new buildings.

Public hearings, continued, page 2



Rails to trails' core group transitions to design

by Emma Palova

The Grand and Flat River Valley rail to trail group is transitioning into a new design and planning phase to complete the trail project from Ionia to Lowell and Belding.

The key people from the original core group will continue on the design por-

tion of the project. The National Parks Service will assist with the planning and design process.

"I'd like to keep this core group together," chairwoman Carolyn Kane said.

The trail authority has made progress and it is also moving forward, according to Kane. The authority

is holding money for trail maintenance and for recreational planning.

The group has been making presentations to individual municipalities and townships along the trail. Lowell Township has made a financial commitment without a presentation. The following townships and

municipalities have made commitments to contribute to the project, Belding, Lowell, Grattan, Vergennes, Lowell townships, Ionia County, Easton, Berlin and the city of Ionia. A total of eight million dollars has been committed with the most money coming from the Michigan Department of Transportation and Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

Kane and Annmarie Bauer, of Department of Natural Resources (DNR),

have been offering a step up plan as a part of their fundraising efforts. The intent is to raise \$550,000 next year and one million dollars for the subsequent two years.

Kane also informed the group about the status of the federal lawsuit between the landowners along the trail and Department of Natural Resources. The owners will be paid for taking their property along the Flat River Trail due to rail banking.

"It goes back to the deeds," Kane said. "It's an easement issue."

The group received a \$1,000 grant from the Ionia Community Foundation for the website.

"It is in good shape," said Kane.

The washout of Page Creek, near Arrowhead Meadows, on the trail will cost \$5,000 to repair. There will be workdays on the trail.

The next meeting will be held on Jan. 12.

Public hearings, continued

"It's a good idea, it will speed up projects," said councilmember Jeff Altoft.

For applicants, it will eliminate one step of going through the ZBA to get a public hearing set.

Currently, the public hearing for King Milling's variance requests has been set for Dec. 19.

In other business:

Howe informed the council that the city received 23rd, ranking out of 100 projects, for a grant for East Riverbank renovations. There is a \$500,000 cutoff in funding of grant requests from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

"Things are looking good for the grant," he said. "We're anticipating being within the funding range."

The city staff is also making progress on street and sidewalk improvements, according to Howe.

"We're looking at appropriate fixes to get the best bang out of our buck," said Howe. "We're putting together priorities. Once the plan is in place we'll be proceeding."

In related business, Howe provided a rationale for the higher city water rates than in other communities. If more money goes into the water system for maintenance,

repair and improvements, then the rates are higher.

"By looking at the rate, you cannot make an apple to apple comparison," he said.

Howe and the staff are working with the Michigan Rural Water Association to analyze current and future rates for water and sewer systems to ensure the rates are covering short and long term costs of operating the systems. It has been five years since the rates have been analyzed.

A public information meeting has been scheduled for Nov. 30 at 7 pm regarding the proposed biogenerator project located on Chatham Street.

Snowmobile trail permit fee increases for 2011 season

The 2011 snowmobile season marks the next stage of a new fee structure for state snowmobile permit fees. This season, the price for a permit is \$45, an increase of \$10 over last year. The fee will remain \$45 through the 2015 snowmobile season.

A state law signed in 2008 provided for the

incremental increase in snowmobile trail fees, which support maintenance and grooming of the state's snowmobile trail network.

Michigan's snowmobile trail network is successful, said state officials, because of the unique relationship between the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and partners. The DNR provides grants to local snowmobile trail partners, who in turn

are responsible for the grooming and maintenance of the trails.

"We have strong relationships with our partners in the snowmobile community," said Jim Radabaugh, section manager for the DNR Recreation and Trails Program in the forest management division. "It is because of our partnership with 68 snowmobile trail sponsors that Michigan is able to offer over 6,400 miles of designated, groomed and signed trails."

The fee increase is necessary to offset the increasing snowmobile grant sponsor costs — such as fuel, engineering services and insurance — to maintain the designated and groomed trail network and to fund long-term trail infrastructure needs, such as bridges and culverts.

"When it comes to keeping Michigan's trails safe and groomed, a little goes a long way," added Lynne Boyd, chief of the forest management division at the DNR. "This fee increase is a way for every snowmobiler to do his or her part toward providing season-long access to miles and miles of magical Michigan trails."

Lowell dancers to perform with West Michigan Youth Ballet

West Michigan Youth Ballet (WMYB), a nonprofit organization, is celebrating their fifth anniversary season. Part of their mission is to provide young people with the opportunity to prepare and present to the public, full-length ballets under the direction of professional choreographers. WMYB is presenting The Nutcracker, a

complete ballet, this holiday season with over 90 young dancers from thirteen West Michigan ballet studios.

Dancers from Lowell include, Megan Dollar, Taylor Higgins, Nicole Mooney, Rachael Fotis, Hannah Briggs, Sierra Post and Christine Ringel.

The performances are on Sat., Dec. 10 at 1:00 and 4:30 pm and on Sun.,

Dec. 11 at 1:00 pm, at the Forest Hills Performing Arts Center.

The girls (pictured) are modeling tiaras, that will be given to the winners of drawings to be held on Dec. 10 and 11, on stage at the Forest Hills Fine Arts Center. They are Elianna Norder (Orchard View) and Ella Cusack (Immaculate Heart of Mary School).



Pictured dancers are Angelica South (Sugar Plum Fairy - junior, home schooled), Michael Aaberg (cavalier - sophomore, Forest Hills Northern High), and Megan Dollar (Clara - 7th grade, Lowell Middle School).

Fire department says holiday cooking can be dangerous

submitted by Capt. Roger Reed

The Thanksgiving turkey can be prepared many ways. Oven baking is the preferred method but some will choose to deep fry their turkey. It should be noted that Underwriters Laboratories (UL), after testing several turkey fryers, considers them to be dangerous to use and notes numerous safety hazards to the consumer.

carefully, the oil will continue to heat until it catches fire.

- Never let children or pets near the fryer even if it is not in use. The oil inside the cooking pot can remain dangerously hot hours after use.
- To avoid oil spillover, do not overfill the fryer.
- Use well-insulated pot-holders or oven mitts when touching pot or lid handles.
- If possible, wear safety goggles to protect your eyes from oil splatter.
- Make sure the turkey is completely thawed and be careful with marinades. Oil and water do not mix and

water causes oil to spill over causing a fire or even an explosion hazard. The National Turkey Federation (NTF) recommends thawing the turkey in the refrigerator approximately 24 hours for every five pounds in weight.

- Keep an all-purpose fire extinguisher nearby. Never use water to extinguish a grease fire.
- Call 9-1-1 immediately in the event of a fire or injury.

Probably the most important thing is to read the directions on your fryer, think about what you are doing and take your time.



UL therefore doesn't currently certify turkey fryers with their trusted UL mark. The National Fire Protection Association also discourages the use of outdoor gas-fueled turkey fryers. If you insist on doing it yourself, take the time to read and follow the instructions. Oil heated above 350° can be as flammable as gasoline.

The Lowell Area Fire Department wants residents to enjoy that deep-fried turkey safely. So here are a few things that UL recommends to give you a tasty meal without causing a fire or a call to EMS:

- Never use turkey fryers in a garage or on a wooden deck.
- Make sure the fryer is on a flat surface to reduce accidental tipping.
- Never leave the fryer unattended. Most units do not have thermostat controls. If you do not watch the fryer

OPEN TIL DECEMBER 24

HEIDI'S FARM STAND & BAKERY
11999 CASCADE
(Corner of Cascade Rd. & Alden Nash)

APPLES • SQUASH • CIDER

BREADS • PIES • FUDGE

EVERGREEN CHRISTMAS TREES

OPEN BLACK FRIDAY 9-6

HOURS:
Monday - Wednesday 6 am - 6 pm; CLOSED SUNDAYS
Saturday - 8 am - 5 pm
897-6707
www.heidisfarmstand.com

USED BOOK SALE
AT
ALTO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
6150 Bancroft • Alto, MI
ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2
from 4 to 8 PM

Stock up on winter reading for a bargain!

1000s of new and used books for all ages
DVDs and video games too!

LOW COST SPAY & NEUTER

No restrictions. Available for everyone. Also vaccinations, tests and parasite control.
Call 897-8865
www.spayneuterepress.com

Flat River Outreach Ministries Needs YOU

Last year FROM helped Lowell residents recover over \$200,000 in tax credits and refunds through our free VITA tax preparation program! Be a part of helping low-to-moderate income taxpayers as a volunteer tax preparer. Training is provided, beginning in January.

The tax site is open on Tuesdays from 11 am until 8 pm
To volunteer please call FROM at 421-0029 or email us at volunteer@fromlowell.org

11535 Fulton East, Lowell, MI 49331
616.897.8260
www.fromlowell.org

ups WE SHIP UPS!

Our Prices Can't Be Beat!
Call Us for a Price Quote!
Weight & Zip Code Required for a Quote

The Lowell Ledger
105 N. Broadway, 897-9261

DOES YOUR DENTIST MAKE YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE?

At the Family Dentistry of Lowell you're more than a patient. You're part of my family.

That's why I want you to be comfortable... Heated neck pillows. Natural lighting. The music you like.

I've been serving families like yours since 1991. Aren't you ready for a better dental experience?

Family Dentistry of Lowell
ANN WILSON, D.D.S. | JENNIFER BYRD, D.D.S.
NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS - CALL: 616-897-4835
147 NORTH CENTER STREET, LOWELL
WWW.FAMILYDENTISTRYOFLOWELL.COM



FAN BUS

If 53 people sign up by 5:00 pm, Wednesday there will be a motorcoach fan bus going to Ford Field for the playoffs. To sign up, stop in at Pep Talk and pay the \$20 fee per seat or call Donna at 340-3025. This does not include your ticket, only the motorcoach. Pep Talk will be open Tues. and Wed. until 7:00. The bus will be leaving from the stadium at 9:00 or 9:30 a.m.

FREE ZUMBA

Stop in for free Zumba at the Lowell YMCA on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 24, from 8-11 am. Come for some or come for all, drop in anytime. Free to everyone, please bring canned goods for FROM. Call 855-9570 with questions.

BLOOD DRIVE

Vergennes United Methodist Church will host a blood drive Mon., Nov. 28 from 3-7 pm. Appointments preferred but not necessary. Photo ID or two pieces of non-photo ID required. Call 897-6141 to make an appointment. Public welcome.

FREE REIKI NIGHT

Learn about Reiki and experience this healing art on Tues., Nov. 29, at Gilda's Club of Lowell, 314 S. Hudson St., from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. For more information call Katie Ray or Brittany Rose at 616-987-3010.

COMMODITIES QUARTERLY DISTRIBUTION

The Kent County Emergency Food Program will have their quarterly distribution on Dec. 1 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Moose Recreation Hall, located at 1320 E. Fulton Street, hosted by Flat River Outreach Ministries. Recipients must be a resident of

Kent County and qualify for the program. To register or renew, please bring a picture ID, Social Security card for all household members and proof of income. Contact Sylvia Taylor, 616-676-0659, for more information or volunteer opportunities for this program.

LEARN TO SNOWBOARD

Students who currently attend Lowell Area Schools and would love to learn to snowboard at Cannonsburg are eligible for the Lucas Beachnaw Memorial Scholarship. Deadline is Dec. 1. Contact Mrs. Nauta at 987-2913 or lnauta@lowellschools.com for an application.

COAT DRIVE

The VFW and the American Legion, in conjunction with Curtis Cleaners, are holding a coat drive for the veterans at the Grand Rapids home for veterans. Coats can be dropped off at Curtis Cleaners, 1410 W. Main St., through November.

PANTRY STILL IN NEED

The Lowell Women's Club responded with overflowing three shopping carts with nonperishable food items and additional cash to help the Flat River Outreach Ministries call for food last week. Although the "Food Fight" is over, the pantry is still in need of food items.

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

ADA LOWELL 5

616-897-3456
On M-F 11:30-1:30
East of Amway H.Q.

QUALITY THEATERS 801.com and on Facebook

\$4.75 BARGAIN TWILIGHT
DAILY 4:00-6:00 PM
includes Digital 3D

DIGITAL PROJECTION
BRIGHTER AMAZING CLARITY
SHOWTIMES 11:23-11:24 No passes
TITLES AND TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

THE MUPPETS (PG)
11:35, 2:00, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45

3D ARTHUR CHRISTMAS (PG)
\$2.50 PREMIUM PER 3D TICKET
12:15, 4:40, 7:00

ARTHUR CHRISTMAS (PG) 2:10, 9:00

CTWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN - PART 1 (PG-13)
11:00, 1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 9:20

3D HAPPY FEET TWO (PG)
\$2.50 PREMIUM PER 3D TICKET 2:30, 9:10

HAPPY FEET TWO (PG)
12:10, 4:20, 6:30

IMMORTALS (R)
11:50, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:40

MOVIE GIFT CARDS
FREE \$1 CONCESSION COUPON
with every \$10 Movie Gift Card
DINE-IN ONLY. For a limited time.

the **lowell ledger**
(USPS 453-830)

Published weekly for \$22.00 a year for zip codes beginning with 493 or 495 \$32.00 a year any other zip code.

JON JACOBS.....PUBLISHER
JEANNE BOSS.....EDITOR
EMMA PALOVA.....LEAD REPORTER
CASEY CHENEY.....SPORTS
TAMMY JANOWIAK.....CLASSIFIED/ACCOUNTING
JON JACOBS.....ADVERTISING SALES

(616) 897-9261

E-Mail: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com
Second Class Postage Paid at Lowell, MI
Published every Wednesday
POSTMASTER: Send address change to:
The Lowell Ledger
P.O. Box 128 • Lowell, MI 49331
www.lowellbuyersguide.com

financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

be sure to discuss the different types of investments available; they may enjoy learning about the ways in which they can participate in the financial markets.

Above all else, talk to them about the importance of developing good financial skills and how these skills will play a part in your family's overall well being.

Now, let's turn to your parents. If they're elderly, you may find that talking to them about financial issues may be considerably more challenging than talking about these issues with your children. It's unfortunate, but true: People are sensitive about money and often don't want to talk about it.

You may find that you need to be persistent, especially if your parents are getting on in years. Perhaps you encourage them to consider their current position, and what planning might need to be considered. Do they have accounts in a local bank? Where are their investments held? Do they have a financial advisor? Have they worked with legal professionals on any arrangements?

If your parents have expressed interest in leaving a

legacy or passing assets to family members, you might consider encouraging them to seek assistance from the appropriate professionals. After all, if something were to happen to your parents without them having made the proper arrangements,

their wishes may not be carried out.

So this Thanksgiving, as you think about the value of your family, you might take some time to consider issues that need to be addressed. It may take time and diligence — but

when it comes to your loved one's wishes and well-being, it's probably worth the effort.

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

Kent Career Technical Center Students of the Month

Lowell High School has announced that, in one month, three Lowell High School students were named Students of the Month at Kent Career Technical Center (KCTC).

Dianna Krick, 12th grade; Ryan Nanzer, 12th grade; and Morgan Smith, 11th grade; have all been named Students of the Month. Krick was named

for health careers, Nanzer was named for auto tech, and Smith was named for health careers.



Dianna Krick



Ryan Nanzer



Morgan Smith

viewpoint

to the editor

city budget questions

It has been noted that Lowell's city budget has a \$150,000 deficit. Even if the budget is balanced without cutbacks, how does the city go forward in maintaining the community?

How much longer will city employees have to endure a cost-of-living wage freeze? I believe there shouldn't be any more cutbacks as long as Lowell has a DDA capable of delivering financial assistance. If the general fund received the taxes that the DDA now receives, there wouldn't

be a deficit; the city employees could have a cost-of-living wage raise and the city could go forward in maintaining itself properly.

The problem is that there are some in the community that continually want to spend on new projects when the city can't maintain what it has now. All you have to do is look at the high tax rate and then at the roads that are twice the age of replacement to tell you that there is something wrong in the way Lowell is run.

There are some in the community that want to scrutinize the cost of Lowell's police department.

In an article, in the Nov. 16 Lowell Ledger, new city councilmember Jim Valentine said that the Lowell Police Department is in line with industry standards of 30 to 35 percent.

But I say that doesn't change the fact that the police department budget

is around \$800,000 a year and is the single largest part of the city budget. It hasn't been mentioned that many communities, in Michigan, have either cut back on the size of their police departments or dissolved their police departments altogether and have gone to their county for their service to save money.

Sincerely,
Jim Howard
Lowell

no rhubarb in pasty

Dear Editor,

I must beg to differ with Ms. Palova's statement that Larkin's pasties were not like the pasties referred to in the play.

The pasties served are the traditional pasty with potato, beef, rutabaga, onion and beef suet (aka: lard).

You will have a very hard time finding rhubarb in a traditional pasty. That being said, the food was great and the play was extremely funny with a very talented cast.

I know that I'm looking forward to future dinner theaters here!

Sincerely,
Nancy Stroosnyder
Lowell Township

Dear Editor,

I would like to comment on the future of Lowell now that the Lowell city council election is over. Recent comments have Lowell headed in the right direction. But is it?

outdoors

long winter

Dave Stegehuis

Letters To The Editor:

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

Letters may be submitted via email to: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com ("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.



By Shelly MacNaughton

Friday to see his folks and sell his place. Good Luck Charles.

**75 Years Ago
The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo
November 19, 1936**

County agent K. K. Vining, in town Wednesday, reported that between 700 and 800 farmers participated in the recent drive to kill off rats. Over 1,500 pounds of poison bait was used.

On Monday of this week, the national Social Security board took the first step toward placing in operation the old-age security program for 26,000,000 workers. On that day, postal employees in Lowell and every other town, village and city in the state and nation began delivering application blanks to all employers of one or more persons.

**50 Years Ago
The Lowell Ledger
Entry missing from files.**

**25 Years Ago
The Grand Valley Ledger
November 19, 1986**

A Lowell man was taken to Butterworth Hospital following a freak accident, Friday, at the corner of M-21 and Alden Nash. Chris Wright, 21, of 3333 Guliford Dr., Lowell, was eastbound on M-21 at about 4:00, Friday afternoon, when the lumber on an approaching truck shifted and protruded into the eastbound lane. Wright couldn't avoid the collision with the two by six ft. lumber. The resulting impact demolished the cab of his late model Ford Ranger pickup. The lumber truck belonged to Erb Lumber of Lowell and was driven by Frank Phillips.

**100 Years Ago
The Lowell Ledger
November 23, 1911**

Charles Kropf has bought the general store of Earl Faulkner near Delton and is moving there from Kalamazoo to take charge. He was here Thursday and

equipment specifically designed for each style.

Trails vary greatly in degree of difficulty. Marked trails are rated on three levels: easiest, more difficult, and most difficult. These designations make it convenient to choose routes which will be safe and enjoyable relative to ones skill level and physical ability. Cross country trails are located throughout both peninsulas. Trails are found at resorts, public parks, and on state and federal land. It is not difficult to find places to ski at reasonable fees or for free.

One of the most practical pastimes is cross country skiing. The cost is reasonable and can be enjoyed by young and old alike. It makes a great family activity. Cross country skiing is an excellent way to get fit and stay that way. Skiing provides motivation to visit the Michigan backcountry at a time when being inside looking out would seem a better idea. There are so many trails that it is easy to access quiet places and share time with wildlife in scenic areas far from crowds.

There are several different kinds of cross country skiing. Telemarking is skiing over natural terrain similar to snowshoeing. Skating is done on wide groomed trails. Traditional skiing requires a pair of tracks set into the trail by machine or by you if you are the first on the trail after a fresh snow. All are done best by using

There are just a few basics to master which help make skiing enjoyable and relatively safe. A quick and economical way to get started is to find a resort or public park that offers a package which includes a short lesson, equipment rental, and trail pass.

It may seem like there is plenty of time to prepare for future skiing adventures, but by waiting too long there is the risk of missing that first big snowfall. Check it out now.

business directory

TO ADVERTISE IN THE LEDGER BUSINESS DIRECTORY Call 897-9261

FRY DADDY'S
608 West Main Street
Lowell, MI 49331
897-FISH
Fish Shrimp Wino Dinos - CHICKEN STRIPS
DAILY SPECIALS
OPEN TUESDAY - SATURDAY
Best Fish In Town!!!

Rich's Service Co.
In-Home Appliance Repair
Dryer Vent
Cleaning
INSURED • 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE
WASHERS • DRYERS • REFRIGERATORS
GARBAGE DISPOSALS • STOVES • DISHWASHERS
209 E. Main St. **RICH CURTIS**
Lowell, MI 49331 (616) 897-5686

KIRK COLLINS Owner
Showboat
AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLY, INC.
Auto Value
1450 W. Main St., Lowell, MI
(616) 897-9231
HOURS: MON - FRI 8-7; SAT 8-5:30; SUN 9-3

THE LAURELS OF KENT
A Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
• Rehab Services • Respite Stays
• Long Term Care • Palliative Care
Able to admit 24/7
350 North Center Street
Lowell, Michigan
616-897-8473
www.laurelsokent.com

The West Michigan Estate Planning Center
Cottrell & Jacobs PLC
Your Estate Planning Attorneys
Call today to schedule a FREE Medicaid and Estate Planning Workshop or Free Consultation
616-682-5574 or 888-878-7658
597 Ada Dr., Ste D, Ada
(Conveniently located next to The Schnitz)

EAST MAIN CASH OUTLET
BUY • SELL • TRADE 897-8888
WE BUY & SELL GOLD & SILVER
We always pay cash!
Featuring: Sports Goods - Electronics - Tools - Video Games
508 W. Main St. Lowell, MI 49331
616.897.8888
Hours: M-F 10-7; SAT 10-4

BILL WHEELER
Certified Public Accountant
W.J. WHEELER MICHIGAN
103 Riverside Dr.
Lowell, Michigan
49331
616-897-7711

Ostrander
WINDOWS, SIDING & ROOFING INC.
9019 W. Belding Rd. (M-44), Belding, Michigan
Phone: (616) 794-0661
Toll Free: (888) 750-7078
Fax: (616) 794-0105
Email: info@ostranderinc.com
Web: ostranderinc.com

CALL 897-9261 TO ADVERTISE IN THE LEDGER BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Check us out online ...

thelowelledger.com

Find us on Facebook

Make us your homepage!

In The Service

Navy Seaman Rodney D. Miller, son of Shannon L. and Matthew D. Miller of Saranac, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

During the eight-week program, Miller completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, fire-fighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

The capstone event of

boot camp is "Battle Stations." This exercise gives recruits the skills and confidence they need to succeed in the fleet. "Battle Stations" is designed to galvanize the basic warrior attributes of sacrifice, dedication, teamwork and endurance in each recruit through the practical application of basic Navy skills and the core values of honor, courage and commitment. Its distinctly "Navy" flavor was designed to take into account what it means to be a sailor.

Miller is a 2009 graduate of Saranac High School.

business matters

Wendell Christoff, co-owner, Litehouse, Inc., Lowell, was recently re-elected to serve on the 2012 board of directors for the Association for Dressings and Sauces.

The October 23 election was held in Lake Buena Vista, FL, in conjunction with the association's 2011 annual meeting.

The Association for Dressings and Sauces is an international trade association of salad dressing, mayonnaise, mustard and other condiment sauce manufacturers and their suppliers. For more information, visit the association's website at www.dressings-sauces.org



At Your Local Library

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

Gingerbread Lane

Take a stroll down Gingerbread Lane and enjoy some tasty gingerbread stories. Each child will make a simple gingerbread house. Registration is required and participation is limited. For families. Thurs., Dec. 8, 10:30 am.

Bookworms Adult Book Discussion

Join us for a friendly, informal book discussion on Hannah's Dream by Diane Hammond. All adults welcome. Tues., Dec. 13, 10:00 am.

A fanatic is one who can't change his mind and won't change the subject.

~ Winston Churchill

health



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

diabetes

Diabetes is one of the most common chronic medical conditions we see in the office. Unfortunately, the incidence of diabetes has increased drastically in the past decade.

Diabetes is a condition where there is too much sugar in the blood. Over time, this causes damage to the blood vessels resulting in cardiovascular disease, kidney disease, blindness, stroke and painful neurologic conditions.

There are two types of diabetes. Type I diabetes is usually diagnosed in children or young adults and is caused by lack of insulin. Type II diabetes is much more common and is usually diagnosed in middle-aged adults. Insulin resistance is the major problem in Type II diabetes. The body produces enough insulin, but fails to facilitate the proper uptake of glucose into the cells where it is needed resulting in high blood sugar levels.

Being overweight and having a family history of diabetes are the most common risk factors for developing diabetes. In our society, obesity has become an epidemic leading to a much higher incidence of Type II diabetes.

Most people with Type II diabetes will not experi-

ence symptoms especially early in the disease process. Some may experience increased thirst, more frequent urination, fatigue, poor wound healing and blurred vision.

There is no cure for diabetes, but it can be successfully managed by controlling blood sugars through diet, exercise, weight loss and medication. Patients with Type I diabetes will require insulin injection for life. Patients with Type II diabetes may be treated with diet and exercise alone, but most will eventually require oral or injectable medications. Maintaining normal blood sugar values will prevent the complications associated with diabetes.

You can prevent the development of diabetes by maintaining an active life style with regular exercise, following a diet low in fat and high in whole grains and vegetables and achieving your ideal body weight. If you have a family history of diabetes and are overweight you may want to be screened for diabetes through a simple blood test in your doctor's office. For more information contact your family doctor or the American Diabetes Association at www.diabetes.org

Sleigh Bells and Holly show celebrates the season

by Emma Palova

Lowell Arts! celebrates the holiday season with the annual market of fine art, known as Sleigh Bells and Holly, that runs through Dec. 23.

This year's show has many new and comeback

artists as well. The newcomers include jeweler Lauren Cooper, Kim Hayler who makes fleece flower hats, jeweler Sandra Inman, and Lisa Jarrell with nature inspired, mixed media artworks.

The comeback artists

are Lori Kammerad, with metal artworks and ornaments; Chari Jousman, who makes pottery; and basket artist Laurie Zientek.

"Having new artists freshens up the show," said arts director Lorain Smaligan. "Our goal is to have unique art and variety."

And the show definitely offers a broad spectrum of gifts, crafts and art, from unique ornaments, soaps and candles, blown glass, textiles, jewelry, hats and handbags, scarves and gloves, wreaths, metal pieces and baskets, to paintings and photography.

The show generates approximately \$12,000 in sales; 30 percent goes to the Lowell Arts! for marketing and handling of the exhibit.

"People who come in get introduced to Lowell Arts!," said Smaligan. "It is a nice exposure for us to get people in the door."

If you wander in, you might run into some of the artists themselves browsing the market. They're chatty



Wicker snowmen.

and they like to talk about their particular niche in the arts' marketplace. For example, Mary Bajema likes to photograph birds. Jochen Ditterich, who gives weaving lessons at the Franciscan Life Process Center, sells woven scarves and other knits.

mainstay artists are Sandy Bartlett and Gary Dietzel, who have created the tree in the window to showcase Christmas ornaments.

Tuesday through Saturday from 10 am to 6 pm. For more information about Lowell Arts! go to www.lowellartsmi.org

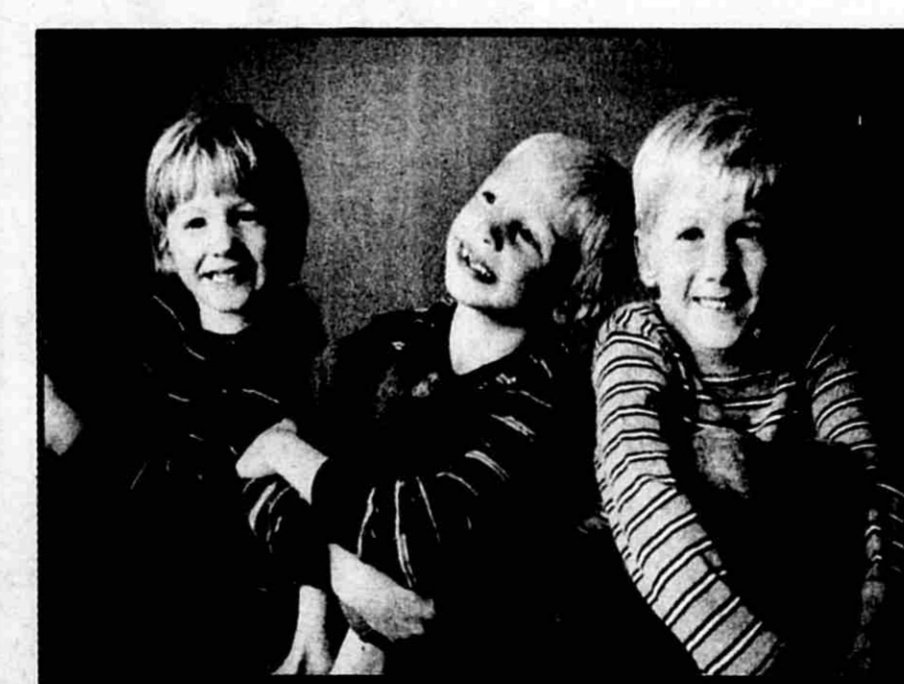
The gallery hours are



Handblown glass ornament.



Soaps and lotions.



Family Dentistry Since 1994

- ▶ Gentle Dentistry for Children & Adults
- ▶ Immediate Emergency Treatment
- ▶ Cosmetic Dentistry, Teeth Whitening
- ▶ Preventive Care
- ▶ Extractions/Broken Tooth Repaired
- ▶ Dentures (Same Day Repair)
- ▶ Implants
- ▶ Insurance Plans Accepted

Accepting New Patients

"Gentle & Painless Dentistry Is Our Goal"

Hours:
Monday.....9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Tuesday.....9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wednesday.....9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Thursday.....8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Judd T. Carroll D.M.D.
103 East Main • Lowell, Michigan
(616) 897-7595
www.juddcarrolldentistry.com

FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES

SIGN UP FOR CHRISTMAS FOOD & TOYS

Flat River Outreach Ministries is making plans for distributing food and toys to Lowell area families for this holiday season.

If you or someone you know could use our help this Christmas season, please contact us. You can fill out a registration form in the Food Pantry.

For more information, call FROM 897-8260

area churches

LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
201 N. Washington
Lowell, MI • 897-8800
Pastor Wes Hershberger
Sundays - Christian Education.....9:15 a.m.
Celebration.....10:40 a.m.
Wednesdays - Kid's Service, Teen's Service, Adult Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.



CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God)
3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery
Robert Holmes, Pastor
SUNDAYS:
Worship: 10 a.m.
WEDNESDAYS:
Family Night (for all ages): 7:00 p.m.
"The Source" Youth: 7:00 p.m.
"Loving God... Loving People!"

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL
2275 West Main Street • 897-7168
Internet: <http://www.fbcloowell.org>
Rev. W. Lee Taylor & Pastor Phil Severn
Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M.
Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M.
AWANA/EVOCITE - TEENS.....Wed. 6:15 P.M.
Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times
Nursery Provided • Barrier Free

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL
621 E. Main Street • 897-5936
www.lowellumc.com
Barrier-free entrance
Worship.....8:30 & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School.....9:30
Youth Groups (Jr. & Sr. High).....6:00
Wednesdays
After School Kids' Club.....UNTIL 5:30
Rev. Rick Blunt

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
402 Amity St. • 897-9820
www.stmary-lowell.com
Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM
Saturday confessions: 4:45 PM
Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:00 AM - 8 PM
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETE WIGNS 897-7915
SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 393, ENTN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING

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

CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL
897-7060
Pastor Rod Galindo
1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI
Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M.
Sunday School.....11:20 A.M.
Evening Worship.....8:00 P.M.
Nursery available at both services
Barrier-Free

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



happy birthday!

NOVEMBER 23
Trisha Propst, Sherri Vezino, Gregory Duiven, Mike Harding, McKinsie Rice, Dave Thompson.

NOVEMBER 24
Sabra Nicole Kinsley, Ryan Moore, Jenny Decker, Heather French.

NOVEMBER 25
Pat Vezino, Melissa Peterson, Amy Swift, Shawn Ayres Hazel, Megan Hewitt, Lorri Myers.

NOVEMBER 26
John Erickson.

NOVEMBER 27
Bonnie Vezino, Kim Harding, Marty Chambers, Chad Uzarski, Elizabeth Roudabush, Heather Burrows, Aaron Rittersdorf, Josh Spencer, Aiden Malone.

NOVEMBER 28
Shelly Hildenbrand Richmond, Lee Miller.

NOVEMBER 29
Gail Thomet, Kelly Sauber, Scott Swanson, Tara Propst, Ethan Pearson.

Printing

- CATALOGS
- FLYERS/COUPONS
- BROCHURES
- POST CARDS
- ENVELOPES
- LETTERHEAD
- BOOKLETS
- PROGRAMS
- POSTERS
- AND MUCH MORE!

from black & white to full color we'll give your printed materials

COMPLETE DESIGN STAFF

LOWELL LITHO
buyers guide
897-9555
105 N. Broadway
Lowell

WE ACCEPT

MasterCard
VISA

Phone Orders
Welcome
Lowell Ledger
897-9261

WINDOWS/SIDING DOORS/GUTTERS

SAVE **50% OFF**

HEATING/COOLING BILLS GUARANTEED!!!

SAVE 10% OFF WITH THIS COUPON

897-7300
319 E. Main Lowell
allweathersealing.com

All-Weather Seal

Not good where other offer Good on initial presentation

We want to be your Other Family Doctor.

ANIMAL HOSPITAL OF LOWELL

- Sick or Injured Animals Seen Same Day
- Evenings & Saturday Hours Available
- Early Drop-offs & House Calls
- 24-Hour Emergency Service
- Science Diet Pet Foods
- Boarding & Grooming

Call 897-8484
11610 East Fulton Street • Lowell, Michigan

Fire and Water featured artist experiments with new techniques

by Emma Palova

Artist Virginia Wieringa is the featured artist at the Fire and Water Art Gallery for the months of November and December.

Wieringa, who is a member of the International Society of Experimental Artists, likes to try new and different things.

Wieringa started painting full-time when she retired from an art teaching position at the Grand Rapids Public Schools and Grand Rapids Community College seven years ago.

Her most recent series, "Aerial Landscapes Rural Route I and II," was in-

spired by a flight over Allegan County. She could see from a bird's eye view the perfect geometric shapes of the fields separated by roads and accented with red and brown barns.

"Seeing the arrangements of the fields, that's amazing to me," she said.

The paintings take on the many different shades of green. Wieringa's "Green Variations" were part of Lowell Arts! exhibit "Going Green."

Inspired by Vincent van Gogh's "Starry Night," Wieringa has painted an advent series and she has a piece,

"Advent Starry Night four," on display at the Rush Creek Bible Church.

"I was wondering what did that sky look like that night," she said.

Wieringa has been the featured artist at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce and she has had her art on display at Fire and Water for the last six years.

"I met Kathleen at an art marketing seminar at Kendall College and the rest is history," said Wieringa, referring to gallery owner Kathleen Mooney.

Wieringa wants to continue with her work to see where God leads her.

"I want to see where does this path go," she said.

As the featured artist, Wieringa enjoys having the spotlight on her paintings at the prominent downtown gallery.

"My personal artwork has followed a varied path because of many years of teaching art to children and adults," she wrote in her artist statement.

Wieringa often uses imagery related to universal experiences of the hu-

man condition and spiritual growth.

"There are nuances of meaning, but the explanation of abstract work is left up to the observer," she says. "In still life and landscape, my work reflects the wonder I have found in the natural world."

Wieringa is inspired by the things she reads, hears and sees as well. Many of her pieces reflect the mysteries perceived in the world. She was even inspired by a quote from Rainer Maria Rilke in "Letters to a Young Poet" that starts with the following sentence: "Have patience with everything unresolved in your heart and try to love the questions themselves....."

Wieringa marvels at the salvation story of Christ. "I wonder about the way things are and about the way our lives are tied together across time and space," she said. "The Celtic knots, puzzle pieces and labyrinths are my way of contemplating the twists and turns in life."

The gallery features one of the displaying artists every month.



Virginia Wieringa is the featured artist for November and December.

Christmas through Lowell, continued

more crafters mainly Kris Endres with quilts, Cindy Hanson with soaps, Kristy Leccedone with purses and Gina Steuffen with glass.

Rachelle Becker of Our House to Your House offered custom made necklaces, and bracelets.

"I grew up doing this," she said. "I get a lot of it from mom. It's an avenue to show my creative side."

Even though Sunday

wasn't as busy as the previous two days, still business was good for Keri Fosburg of Family and Friends Crafts.

Fosburg had flowers, key chains, pot holders, dog bandanas and potato bags for sale.

"I try to sell what I make," she said.

Her friend Sophia Byar makes scarves and crochets.



Sherri Hall offered photography and cards.

Your Lowell
UPS SHIPPING HEADQUARTERS
 Call us for a quote to ship your holiday packages!
 the **lowell ledger**
 105 N. Broadway, Lowell • 897-9261

You get so much Peace of Mind from just one agent
 Life, Home, Auto, Farm, Business, Retirement, and more... your Farm Bureau Insurance agent brings you peace of mind in so many areas of life.
 Mark Johnson
 6095 28th St., Ste. 4
 Grand Rapids
 940-8181
 www.MarkJohnsonAgency.com
 FARM BUREAU INSURANCE
 MICHIGAN'S INSURANCE COMPANY

Red Arrow SPORTS

Last-second, overtime score sends Lowell to Ford Field for state championship

by Casey Cheney

A second-half shootout set up the Lowell Red Arrow victory in a thrilling overtime with Gabe Dean completing a 13-yard touchdown pass to Blake Lyman on the second play of their overtime drive.

With that, the Red Arrows inch past Walled Lake Western and on to their third consecutive state championship game.

Coach Noel Dean credits his defense.

"I think our defense played great that whole game," Dean said. "I think our defense has saved us all year."

Lowell will drive to Ford Field on Black Friday to play in the Division 2 state championship against Birmingham Brother Rice. Though the players have changed, it's a championship rematch. Lowell has played Birmingham in the state finals before, beating them 31-14 in 2002 to win the title.

Among its accomplishments are a forced turnover on downs in overtime and two stopped two-point conversions during regulation - either of which would have given them a regulation victory.

The epic Red Arrow victory got off to a rough start as they found themselves trailing by a score. Walled Lake's Kyle

Bambard connected with Connor Ruby for the first points of the game.

Lowell got the ball back with five minutes left in the first quarter and went to work.

Three and-a-half minutes later, the Red Arrows had the ball one yard out from the end zone. Dean punched in the score, but without the extra point they still trailed.

Tensions rose as a close game only got closer in the scoreless second quarter, both teams trying to edge ahead.

Dean said, "Then the game kinda became a shoot on. We'll continue to get better, and hopefully have a chance on Friday."

Midway through the third quarter, Lowell prevailed with a 45-yard touchdown pass to Jeff Houston. A pass to J. P. North on the two-point conversion gave Lowell a 14-7 lead. They padded their lead two minutes later when Dean ran it in from the one yard line. But the comfortable two-score lead didn't last long.

Walled Lake scored twice within 30 seconds. The first was a 42-yard pass from C.J. McGorisk to Nik Heglin with 2:08 on the clock. Then Bambard completed a one-yard pass to Brent Zdebski for the

score, Lowell blocking the extra point with 1:45 remaining in the quarter.

Lowell's thundering offense could not be stopped in the third. They retaliated with yet another touchdown, only 30 seconds left in the third quarter.

Lowell entered the final quarter of the game with a 28-20 lead. The two teams had a combined total of 35 points in the third.

Bambard connected with Cam Vieaux for a touchdown midway through the fourth. Their failed two-point conversion put them two behind the Red Arrows.

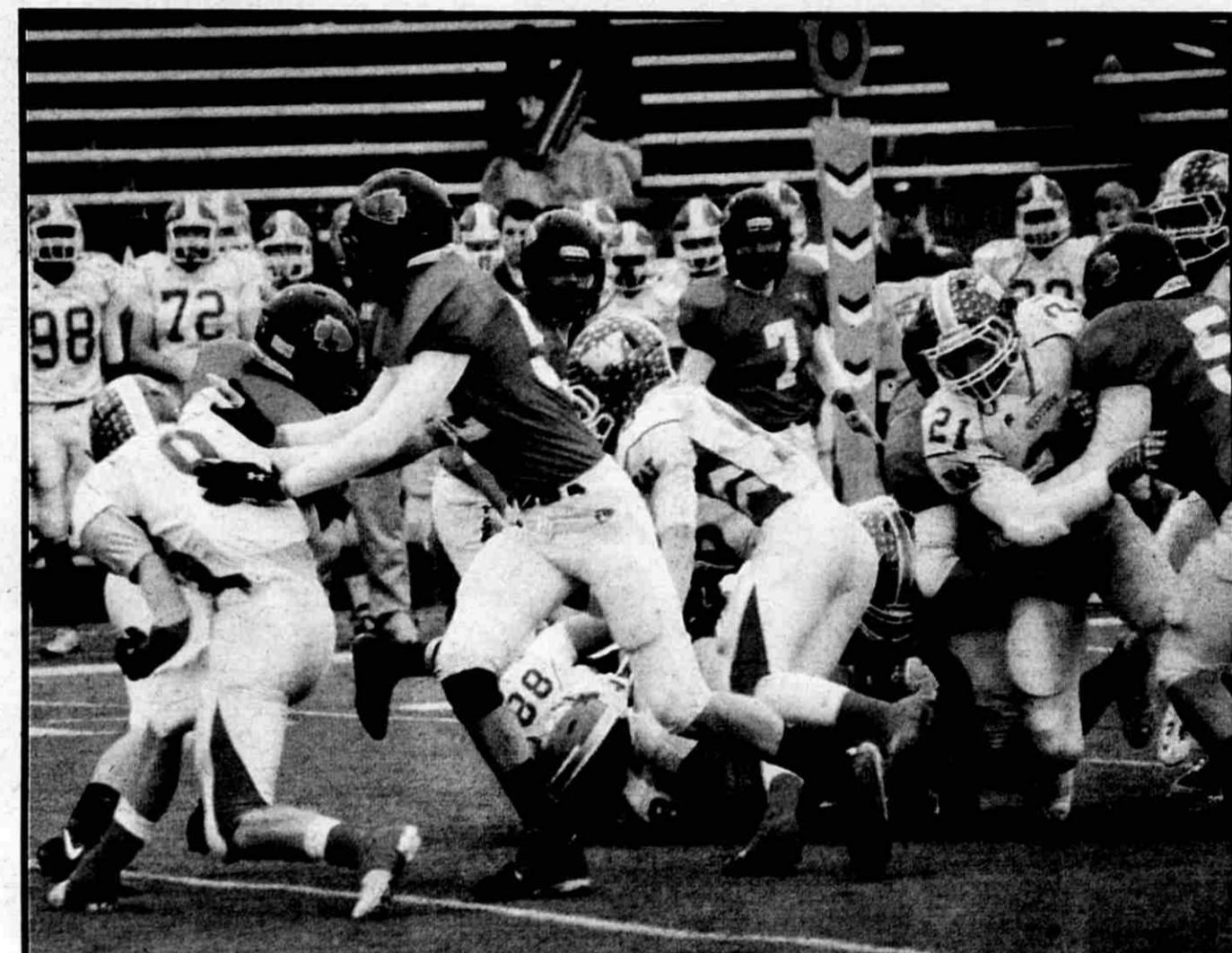
Three minutes later, Walled Lake's Alex Buchanan ran the ball into the end zone from the three. Once again, they went for the two point conversion and failed.

Their efforts, however, were enough to get the lead back, 32-28.

After a dizzying third quarter of offense for Lowell, they found themselves down with the clock winding down. But the Red Arrows weren't out.

Dean threw a 10-yard pass to Blake Lyman for the touchdown. Tack on Grant Bruker's extra point and Lowell had a three-point lead. They left Walled Lake with only a minute to respond.

And respond, they did. "We didn't close out a



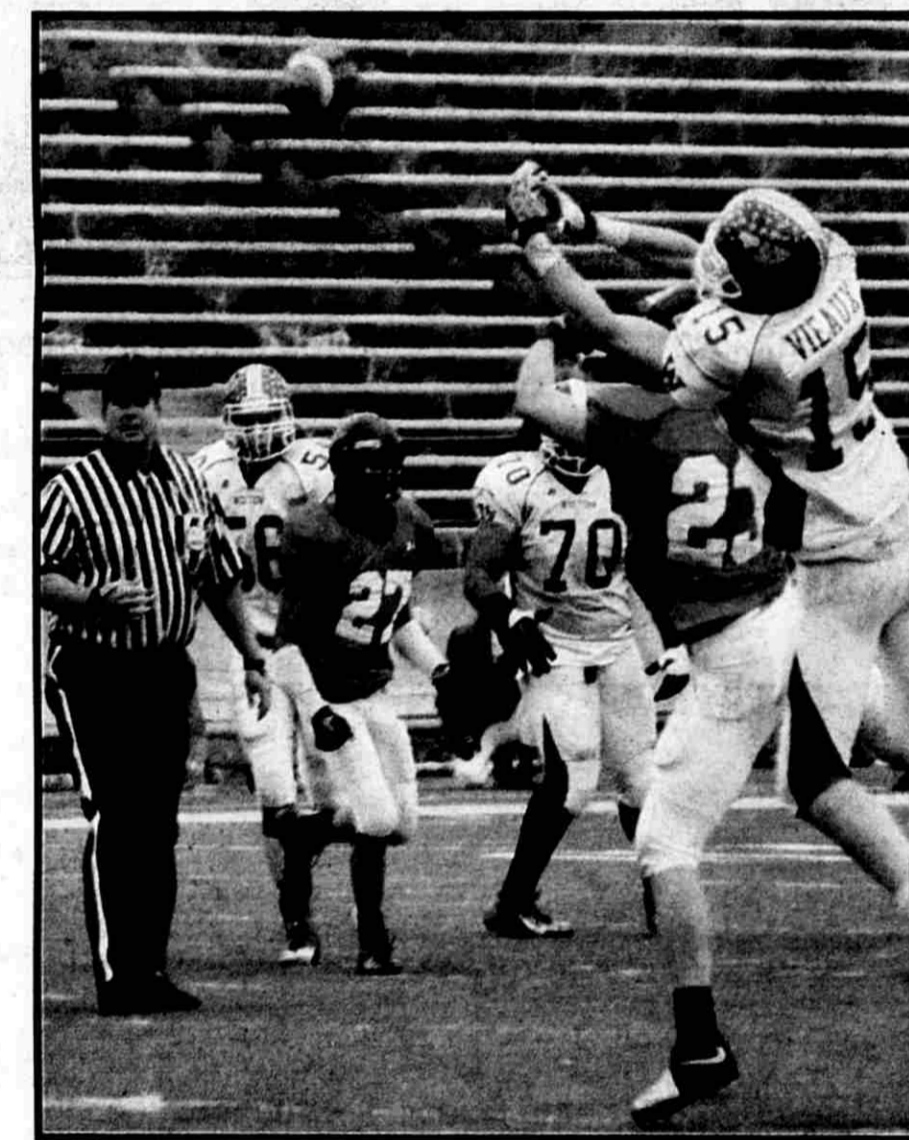
Jordan Drake makes the tackle.

Photos by Kurt Hieshetter

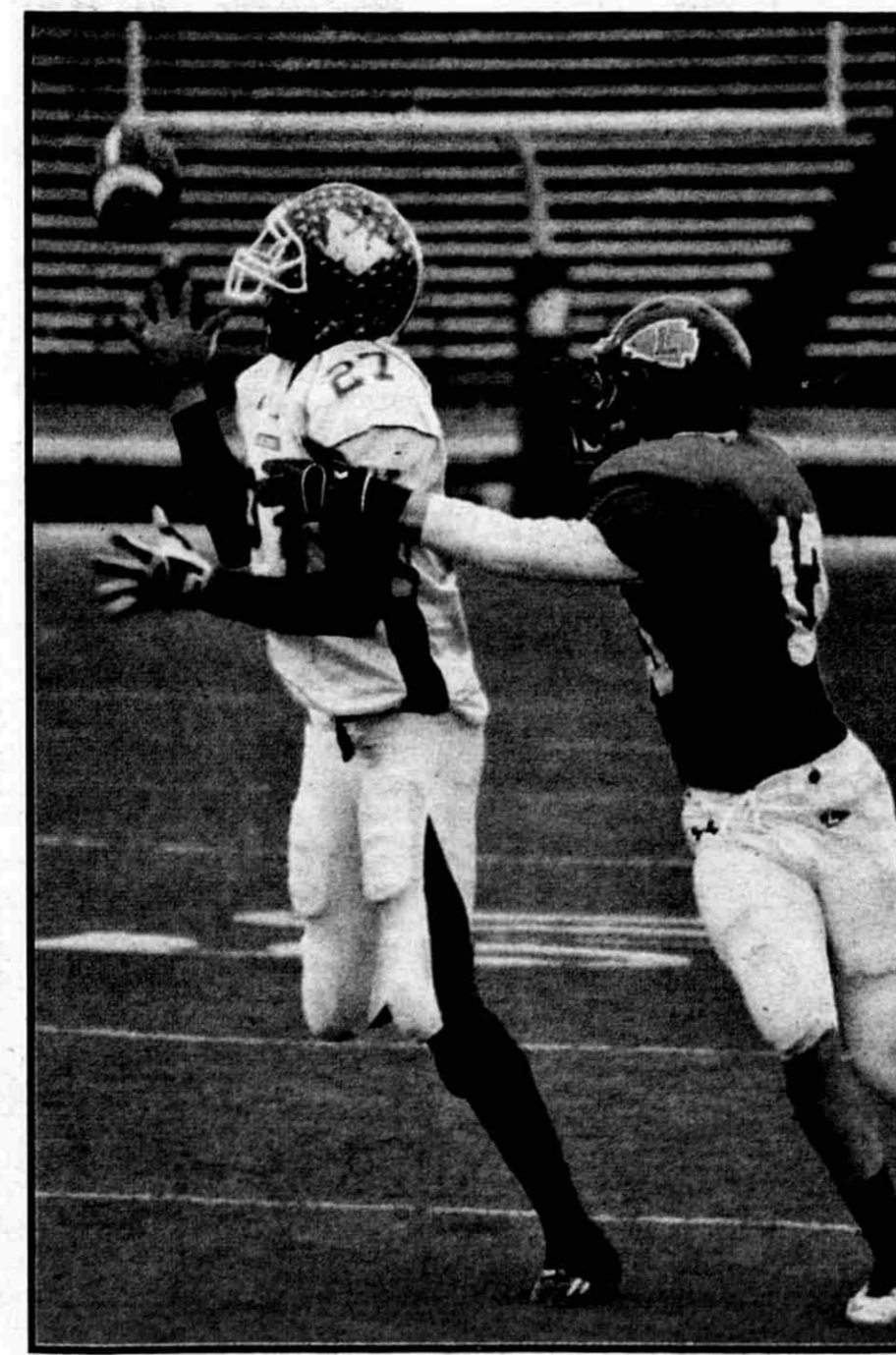
couple of our drives," Dean said. "We were playing great defense. Then all the sudden we had to fumble a kick and it just escalated. We had almost settled into what we are and who we are."

Walled Lake marched the ball up the field in earnest, knowing their championship dreams were on the line. There were 1.8 seconds left and Bambard set up for a 47-yard field goal. He'd booted through two extra points earlier. Lowell had blocked his third attempt.

"They made some but they missed most," Dean said of Walled Lake's kicking. "I liked our



The Lowell defense and Walled Lake offense battle for the ball.



Luke Bigham defends the Walled Lake pass.



The loyal and shirtless student fans bear the cold as they cheer on their team.

Lowell Middle School Students of the Month

Every month Lowell Middle School (LMS) teachers nominate students who demonstrate good leadership, good citizenship and good academics in each grade for the Student of the Month award.

For the month of November the following students were chosen as LMS Students of the Month: eighth grade -Keara Anderson and Derek Massey; seventh grade - Brady Fox and Bethany Geldersma; sixth grade - Katie Flier and Jon Berklich.



Pictured, back row, left to right: Keara Anderson, Derek Massey and Brady Fox; front row: Jon Berklich, Bethany Geldersma and Katie Flier.

LOOKING FOR PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS?

CLICK HERE

YOUR SPECIALTY PRODUCTS CONNECTION

CLICK HERE

THEN THIS IS THE RIGHT SITE.

WE ARE PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS EXPERTS WHO ARE COMMITTED TO YOUR SUCCESS.

From fun items to the traditional, you can easily search for some of the hottest items on the market, and we are here for you 24 hours a day - 7 days a week.

Quickly and easily search our vast database for the hottest products available.

Go to **thelowelledger.com**

Affordable home loans available

Would you like to purchase a home in Kent County but don't think you can

afford it? You may now be able to do just that thanks to a home loan program being offered through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Rural Development Agency.

Rural Development Loans offer affordable monthly payments with interest tailored to your income. This program is available for rural areas with a

population of 20,000 or less.

The program is for anyone who meets the income requirements and has an acceptable credit history.

Rural Development loans allow families and individuals the opportunity to purchase a single family home with no money down, no PMI and an interest rate between 1 percent and 3.5 percent (current maximum interest rate).

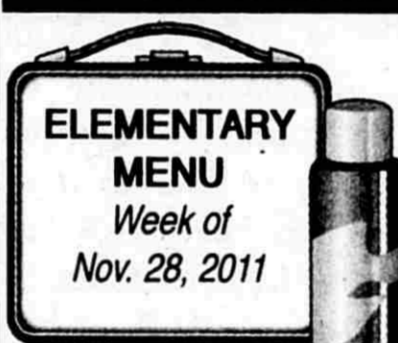
Loans can be used to purchase an existing home, purchase and repair an existing home or build a single family dwelling. The maximum loan amount for Kent County is \$145,000.00, however the actual loan amount is determined by the applicant's repayment ability.

The maximum income to receive a Rural Development loan in Kent County ranges from \$35,350 for a single household to \$62,600 for a household of seven.

For more information, please contact Rural Development at (616) 942-4111 Ext. 6 or toll-free at 888-771-6993 (TDD: (517) 337-6795).

"USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender." To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).

LUNCH MENU



MON: Thanksgiving break

TUES: Mini baked corn dogs (hamburger on wheat bun also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), oven baked beans, pineapple, milk.

WED: Chicken fingers w/ wheat bread (tuna salad sandwich also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), mashed potatoes & gravy, diced peaches, milk.

THURS: Homemade cheese pizza (fish sandwich w/cheese on wheat bun also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), celery sticks, low fat ranch dipping sauce, pears, milk.

FRI: Grilled cheese sandwich (Rib BQ on wheat bun also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), tomato soup w/crackers, mini carrots, applesauce, milk.



Deborah A. Wilks, Agent
2050 W. Main Street
Lowell, MI 49331
Bus: 616-897-9237
deborah.wilks.pwmi@statefarm.com

If you're between jobs, in school, or starting your own business, don't sweat it. I have plans from Assurant Health designed with your needs in mind. To find out more about short term, student or individual medical coverage, call me today.

ASSURANT Health

State Farm INSURANCE

See a local State Farm agent for more details on coverage, costs, restrictions, and renewability. Assurant Health products are underwritten and issued by Time Insurance Company, Milwaukee, WI, which is financially responsible for these products. No member of the State Farm family of companies is financially responsible for these products. Assurant, Assurant Health and Time Insurance Company are not affiliates of State Farm.

PH27300 State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company • Bloomington, IL • statefarm.com

Small Business Saturday hits Lowell, emphasis on year-round momentum

by Casey Cheney

Small Business Saturday has become a nationwide sensation as community businesses around the nation prepare for the big day, Nov. 26. The initiative raises awareness and, according to its Facebook page, "drives shoppers to local merchants across the U.S."

As big businesses cash in on Black Friday, Cyber Monday and even pre-Black Friday deals, Small Business Saturday directs that attention back to the businesses that serve their community and the owners who live in that community.

Cliff Yankovich of Chimera Design in Lowell said, "One thing that I'm especially proud of is that I've been part of the Marketing Committee on the Chamber of Commerce the last several years, and we were kind of ahead of the curve on promoting small businesses."

As Jon Jacobs at J-Ad Graphics emphasized, that promotion is never-ending. If people aren't reminded continually of what small town shops can offer, they will forget.

But both Jacobs and Yankovich agreed that

this promotion is a good way to get the ball rolling nationwide.

"It's getting tossed around on Facebook and all the other media outlets," Yankovich said. "It's fantastic."

The promotion isn't a charity to keep small businesses afloat. It benefits everyone, Yankovich said. "If you don't take care of stuff in your backyard, it's gonna bite you in the long run," he said.

Jacobs added, "If you don't have a downtown, your community will wash away... The more you shop

locally, the more empty storefronts are going to fill up and the better off the community will be."

Studies show that when people shop locally, 45 cents on the dollar stay local. With big businesses, it's more like 14 cents for every dollar.

Yankovich said shopping local doesn't necessarily mean a small range of products for consumers to choose from.

"Small towns like Lowell offer a whole package," he said. "Everything is interdependent. The city services need businesses to

pay taxes. The businesses need schools to make it attractive for families to move there. Schools need businesses to make it attractive for families to stay there."

He added, "It's all one hand washing the other. Small business Saturday just emphasizes that kind of thing."

Jacobs agreed. "This promotion is good, but you there has to be support for local businesses more than just one day a year, especially during this holiday season and the first quarter of 2012," he said.

"It's hard, and it's only going to get harder."

Chimera Design will be open Nov. 26 for the big, small business event with sales that truly mean savings for the customers, though he didn't say what those sales will be specifically.

It will resemble, he said, a promotion he did last year in which for the twelve days of Christmas Chimera Design offered a new deal each day. He assured his customers that on Saturday, "I'll have some honest deals."

Let us make a special effort to stop communicating with each other, so we can have some conversation.

~ Judith Martin, (Miss Manners)

JOIN US FOR

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

NOVEMBER 26



SPECIAL HOLIDAY HOURS

The FROM Thrift Shop - Boutique - Furniture Store will remain open on Wednesdays & Fridays 10 am - 8 pm for your shopping convenience.

We are located at 11535 E. Fulton Street
Regular store hours are:
Wed. & Fri.: 10 am - 8 pm
Thurs.: 10 am - 6 pm and
Saturday 10 am - 4 pm
Phone: 897-8250

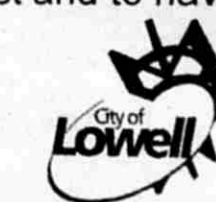
We look forward to serving you!

CITY OF LOWELL

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING NOTICE

A Public Information Meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 30, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Lowell City Council Chambers, Lowell City Hall, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street to discuss a bio-digester that is proposed to be located at the Lowell Light and Power facility at 625 Chatham Street in the City of Lowell.

A bio-digester uses animal waste and food production byproducts to generate gas that can be converted into electricity. The proposed project has been reviewed by the Lowell City Planning Commission and approved with conditions. The purpose of this Public Information Meeting is to give the public an opportunity to learn more about the proposed project and to have their questions answered.



Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

Canfield PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.

411 E. Main • Lowell
616-897-0887

- Residential
- Commercial
- Air Conditioning
- Heating Systems
- Licensed
- Insured
- Water & Sewer Hookups
- Video Inspection
- Same Day Water Heaters Installed
- Sales, Service & Installation of All Plumbing Fixtures
- Drain Cleaning
- Water Softeners

100% SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

obituaries

WEEKS

Inga Weeks, age 84, of Murray Lake, passed away Tuesday, November 15, 2011. She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Bruce; daughter, Barbara (Raymond) Zandstra; sisters, Taudi (Ervin) Zeigler and Sigrid Siedel, both of Frankfurt, Germany; grandchildren, Kim (Mike) Harding and Ryan (Chayo) Gould; great-grandchildren, Jordan Harding, Jacob, Brayden and Gavin Gould; and brother-in-law, Vic Weeks. In 1948 she came to the United States and was very proud to earn her American citizenship eight months later. Her membership in Eastern Star, for 50 years, gave her confidence throughout her life. Inga enjoyed cooking, bowling, dancing, church choir, camping and fishing throughout Michigan, fall color tours, occasional trips to the casinos and most of all, her family. She was truly good to the people in her life. Her legacy of love for her family and compassion for those less fortunate will live on in those who have known and loved her. Funeral services were held Friday at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, Rev. Dean Bailey of Bowne Center United Methodist Church officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to Faith Hospice, 2100 Raybrook SE, Suite 300, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49546.



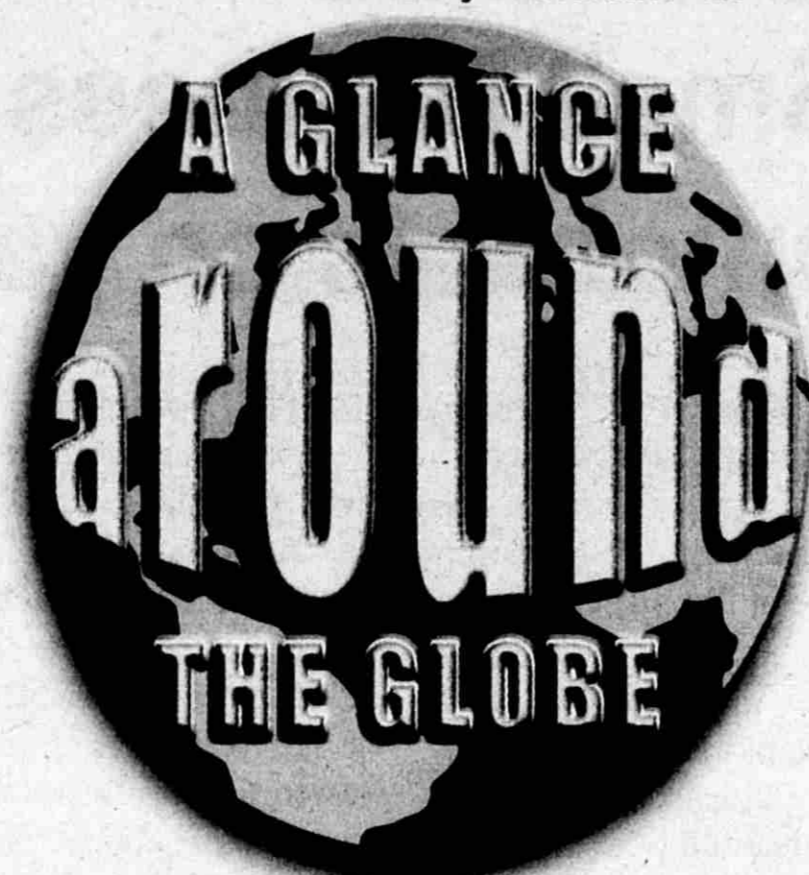
Save time during the holidays - go online

The holidays are here and that means busy days ahead for families across the nation: gift shopping, preparing for guests, sending out holiday greetings, looking up recipes for favorite traditional dishes, checking those credit card and bank account balances. Many people have found an easier way to manage many of those activities by going online. Some shoppers have eliminated the need to go to crowded shopping malls for holiday gifts by taking care of it over the Internet. Some even look up recipes online and others send electronic holiday greetings by email. You will find that these types of convenient, secure transactions are also found in places you may not ordinarily think to look — for example, at www.socialsecurity.gov/! You can apply online for benefits, obtain information, plan for retirement, and request a replacement Medicare card, even apply for Extra Help with your prescription drug costs all at www.socialsecurity.gov/. You can handle much of

your Social Security business quickly and securely from your home or office computer. If you visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov/, you will find that you can —

- get an instant, personalized estimate of your future Social Security benefits;
- apply for retirement, disability, and spouse's benefits;
- check the status of your benefit application;
- change your address and phone number, if you receive monthly benefits;
- sign-up for direct deposit of Social Security benefits;
- use our benefit planners to help you better understand your Social Security protection as you plan for your financial future;
- find the nearest Social Security office; and
- request a replacement Medicare card.

Vonda VanTil is the public affairs specialist for West Michigan. You can write her c/o Social Security Administration, 3045 Knapp St NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525 or via email at vonda.vantil@ssa.gov



NOVEMBER 16 - NOVEMBER 22

- Oklahoma State University women's basketball coach Kurt Budke and assistant coach Miranda Serna are killed when their single-engine plane crashes during a recruiting trip.
- Ramiro Ortega - Hernandez of Idaho is charged with attempting to assassinate President Barack Obama when he fired two shots at the White House.
- NASA discovers Jupiter's moon Europa has a body of water the size of the great lakes just two miles below its icy surface.
- U.S. Army's hypersonic weapon prototype streaks across the Pacific Ocean Thursday. This missile could hit anywhere in an hour.
- Michigan House speaker Jase Bolger tries to lure company Jack Daniel's Whiskey amid tax dispute in Tennessee.
- The Grand Rapids Press and Kalamazoo Gazette will layoff 223 workers; layoffs will be effective Jan 2, 2012.

classifieds

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

for sale

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

100% WOOD HEAT - No worries. Keep your family safe & warm with a Classic Outdoor Wood Furnace from Central Boiler. Call SOS your "Stocking Dealer" Dutton, MI 616-554-8669 or 616-915-5061.

SATURN AURA XE - 6 cyl., white w/ tan interior, 61,000 miles, power seats, windows, locks, cruise. Excellent condition, \$12,300. Call 443-4865.

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

WOW! POST FRAME PACKAGES - Act Now! 24x24x8-\$3749, 24x40x10-\$5449, 30x40x10-\$6249. Standard Lumber 616-676-2108 or 1-800-444-4075.

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

KENMORE REFRIGERATOR & STOVE SET - (2006), cost \$900, sell \$199 for pair. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600. See us on Facebook.

BODY TECH HOME GYM - squat arm, arm press, leg curl, stepper, ab/back station, \$200. 616-642-6736.

FOR SALE - Washer & dryer, + extra dryer, all electric; gas stove & refrigerator, like new; \$100 each. 616-706-7441.

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

KEY CARDS ARE HERE - Help support the LHS Academic Boosters. Cards are \$25. Stop by & get your card today, Lowell Ledger 105 N. Broadway. Cash or check only please.

OLDER, PROFESSIONAL MALE - looking for room/efficiency/very small apartment in the Lowell area. Require short term lease. Good references. 616-889-3860.

STOLEN LHS CREW TEAM PROPERTY - Shockingly rude. Tues., Nov. 8, persons of poor morals chose to steal the motors of the CREW TEAM launch boats, Evinrude 15HP & Johnson 15HP. The police are looking. Please, everyone, keep your eyes open for these engines. The kids on the CREW TEAM worked very hard to raise money to have a good program. We have an awesome town, this is a sad event.

help wanted

NOW HIRING - and training for career positions with West Michigan's leading real estate company. Call Rick Seese, Greenridge Realty, Inc. for a confidential interview. 616-437-2576 or 616-974-4250.

for rent

HALL FOR RENT - Lowell Veteran's Center, 3100 Alden Nash. Newly remodeled, smoke-free, private, great location & great rate! www.vfw8303.org. Also for those interested in dance classes at the post. Call John at 299-0486 or 897-8303.

HOME FOR RENT - Ionia area. 3 bedroom, 1 bath ranch with detached garage. 616-862-6712.

INDOOR BOAT & RV STORAGE - In Alto area. Call 616-293-2237.

SHARE LARGE COMFORTABLE HOME - near everything, before leaving for winter, private bath, entrance, garage, all utilities included. Child okay, deposit w/lease & monthly fee, references. Call for details 616-690-0331.

BIG CROOKED LAKE - Ground floor home for rent, \$850/mo. + deposit. Large deck & screened porch, fireplace, all dark wood floors, 616-691-8876.

1 BEDROOM APT. - in owner-occupied duplex near downtown Lowell, \$600/mo. includes all utilities. No smoking; pets negotiable. 616-516-1767.

PRICELESS STORAGE - Indoor/outdoor. New Units on Alden Nash, 1 mile South of I96. Call for specials 558-2900.

wanted

BUYING OLD & VINTAGE ITEMS - Toys, military related, retro furniture, jewelry, sports related, books, awards, knives, games, models, coins, any advertising items, & MUCH MORE. Cash paid. Call 616-550-0521.

misc.

LOST DENTAL IMPLANT - Looks like a tooth w/a hole in it. \$50 reward. 897-6598.

LOST MALE COLLIE - Wearing blue collar, no tags. Last seen 11/16 on Donna Dr. 897-7792.

services

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

PIANO INSTRUCTION - Experienced, patient, & professional performer has openings for fall & winter. Watch your child's confidence & academics improve as they learn notation, theory, & keyboard technique. Vergennes Twp. Ph. 897-9485. MissMeowsic@msn.com

SNOWFLOWING - Ada, Lowell, Cascade. Commercial & residential, insured, references available. Call Jon at Scenic Expressions LLC, 240-4464.

HAUL-AWAY DUMPSTERS - 15, 20 or 30 yard. Beat any price. Best service. 616-364-1320.

services

ANGELIQUE'S PROFESSIONAL HAIR DESIGN - both genders. Color, cuts & chemical treatments. NEW FLEXIBLE HOURS. New clients welcome. Ada, 616-914-1568.

FALL CLEANUP - Leaves, annuals removed, perennials & shrubs pruned, landscaping, Bobcat work & tree transplanting. Call Tom at Scenic Expressions LLC, 240-6215.

GOT STRESS? - Yoga classes offered by The Hammock will help. \$8 walk-in. Questions/schedule, call 893-5661. www.thehammockllc.com

HORSE BOARDING - at the end of dirt road, located N. of Murray Lake in Lowell, self service, 2 large pastures, paddocks & stalls also available. Call 897-5807.

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

services

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

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

SHIP YOUR UPS PACKAGES WITH US & SAVE!! - Call us for a price comparison. We will need: weight, zip code & dimensions of the box. No Hazardous materials or firearms accepted at this location. Daily UPS pickup at 3 p.m. Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, 897-9261.

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

services

MAKE SURE YOUR BUSINESS IS LISTED - in the 2012 Lowell City Directory! If you run a business out of your home & do not have a business phone number in the Grand Rapids phone book, there is a charge to put your phone number in the Lowell City Directory. The cost is \$15. Your business name & phone number will be listed in the red pages & under 1 category in the yellow pages. Please call Tammy at 897-9560 or email: citydirectory@att.net for further info or to place your order. All orders must be paid by Dec. 31, 2011 to be included in the book.

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

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 Rummage Sales as a coming event. All Coming Events or changes to coming events should be submitted by fax: 897-4809, email: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com, by mail: PO Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or in person: 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

at Bible Believers Church, 404 N. Hudson St., Lowell. For more information call 616-485-2385.

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

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

LOWELL AREA PRAYER & HEALING ROOMS - located in the FROM building, 11535 Fulton Street, most Monday evenings, 6-8 p.m. Christian Scripture based. No cost or fees, no appointment necessary, confidentiality respected.

TOTS PLAYGROUP - Meets every Tues., Wed. & Thurs. at Bushnell Elementary, 700 Elizabeth, Lowell, 8:30 a.m. or 10 a.m. Meeting at Alto Elementary, 6150 Bancroft, Alto on Thursdays at 10 a.m. For more info contact Lori at TOTS, 987-2532.

KENT COUNTY NARFE GROUP - for retired & current federal employees meet the 2nd Thursday at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2700 E. Fulton, 1/2 mile west of E. Beltline. Potluck at 12:30 p.m. & meeting begins at 1:30 p.m. Call Ed Moore for time, 616-784-6716.

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

COFFEE WITH THE COUNCIL - Come meet & have a cup of coffee with your council members. First Saturday of each month at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce office, 113 Riverwalk Plaza, Lowell, 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.

CIVIL AIR PATROL - Meets the second & fourth Tues. of the month, 6 p.m., Benz Aviation Building at Ionia Airport, teen/adult programs available, Call Shawna, 616-430-1348 or visit online <http://mi222.miwg-cap.org>

CELEBRATE RECOVERY - Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. A Christ centered program to help overcome life's hurts, habits, hangups. Impact Church, 1069 Lincoln Lake, www.impact-church.org or www.celebraterecovery.com

KIDS TALK - Every Tues., in 1st - 4th grade on a cancer or grief journey. Incorporates curriculum-based activities, discussion & playtime. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell, 897-8600.

ADULT CANCER SUPPORT GROUP - Every Tues., 6-7:15 p.m., for adults diagnosed with cancer. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

FREE SENIOR PICNIC - Every third Friday, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., at Laurels of Kent, 350 N. Center St., RSVP 897-8473.

FREE SENIOR COFFEE - Every fourth Friday, 8-9 a.m., sponsored by Laurels of Kent, Lowell McDonalds, 1300 W. Main St.

FOOD PANTRY - First Friday of month at Lakeside Community Church, 6201 Whitneyville Rd. Free frozen, perishable food. Registration 1 p.m., distribution 4 p.m. Bring own containers. 868-6402.

MOMS INTOUCH GROUP - forming for Alto Elementary. Call Suzanne for more info, 868-7337.

FREE SMOKING CESSATION CLASSES - offered at Lowell Family Medical Center. Call 616-446-7058 to register. The class runs for 8 weeks. Evening & weekend sessions are available. Time & dates will be determined by those registered.

VERGENNES CLUB MEETS - at 1 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month March thru Nov. Meeting at Schneider Manor Community Room. Program & refreshments. Guests welcome.

LOWELL WOMEN'S CLUB - Meets the second Wed. of each month, Sept. - May, 11:45 a.m., Schneider Manor. For more information call Jan at 897-2533.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY - Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. A Christ centered program to help overcome life's hurts, habits, hangups. Impact Church, 1069 Lincoln Lake, www.impact-church.org or www.celebraterecovery.com

FIRST & THIRD WEDNESDAYS - Fun at Calvary for boys & girls preschool - 8th grade. Cadets for boys 1st - 8th; GEMS for girls 3rd - 8th; Kingdom Kids for boys & girls preschool - 2nd grade. 1125 W. Main, Lowell, Ph. 897-7060, email: lowellcalvarycra@yahoo.com

LOWELL - Varsity sporting events, concerts, school board meetings, city council meetings, etc., can be downloaded for viewing from the www.wlhistv.org website. Many athletic contests & concerts can also be heard 'live' from the www.wlhradio.org website.

VETERANS COAT DRIVE - Month of Nov. The VFW & American Legion are holding a coat drive for veterans at the Grand Rapids home for the veterans & working in conjunction with Curtis Cleaners. Curtis Cleaners will be one of the drop-off points.

EXERCISE CLASS FOR PEOPLE OVER 50 - Meets Monday & Wednesday, 10:15 a.m. at United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main, Lowell. Call Peggy w/any questions, 897-7948.

KNITTING 101 - Nov. 29, 10 a.m. - noon. Beginning knitting to more advanced. Everyone welcome. Instructed by Diane Denny, Clarksville Area Library, 130 S. Main St., Clarksville.

FITWALKING CLUB - Nov. 22 & 29, 9 a.m.; Nov. 23 & 30, 4 p.m. Join us for a 2 mile walk, share healthy recipes & tips. Meet at Clarksville Area Library, 130 S. Main St., Clarksville.

GIVING TREE & FOOD FOR FINES - Begins Nov. 1. Library fines for Saranac/Clarksville can be waived up to \$10 per person/\$20 per family. One can = \$1 or a gift is equal to \$10. See library staff at Clarksville Area Library, 130 S. Main St., Clarksville.

MOVIE MATINEE - Wed., Nov. 23, 2 p.m. Free movie & popcorn at Clarksville Village Hall, 162 S. Main St., Clarksville.

Thank You



When we think of our blessings this Thanksgiving we are grateful for this wonderful community and the support and care shown to us since the passing of our husband, father and grandfather John Robert Timpson.

We are thankful for Reverend Chris Schwab and Reverend Roger LaWarre and the beautiful music provided by the women's choir group from First Congregational Church of Lowell. Such kindness was shown to us by the Gerst Family at Roth-Gerst Funeral Home.

The care and hospitality expressed by the Cahoon Family and staff from Keiser's Kitchen while catering the luncheon at our home after the funeral. The Lowell Ledger, Larkin's marquee and Lowell Township Hall for such thoughtful tributes to John.

Thanks also to Bowne Center Cemetery and Lowell Granite Company for their attention to detail. We are overwhelmed by the generous contributions to Pink Arrow Pride in memory of John Robert to honor his son Jeff Timpson.

We are thankful for your compassion.
~ Judy Timpson
~ Teresa, Perry, Zach & Meghan Beachum
~ John, Colleen, Katie (Bill) Roberson,
Emily & Elizabeth Timpson
~ Tracy, Michael and Gianna Toschi
~ Michelle, Jordyn Timpson and Tricia Thomas

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

3	4	7	6	5	1	9	2	8
1	9	2	3	8	4	7	5	6
5	6	8	7	2	9	4	3	1
2	1	3	9	7	6	5	8	4
8	5	6	2	4	3	1	9	7
4	7	9	8	1	5	2	6	3
9	2	1	4	3	8	6	7	5
7	8	5	1	6	2	3	4	9
6	3	4	5	9	7	8	1	2

G	O	V	A	M	A	L	A	P
H	I	K	E	B	L	E	W	S
A	L	A	R	R	A	T	E	A
P	L	Y	M	O	U	T	H	B
I	V	I	E	S	P	E	G	
S	C	E	N	E	S	E	A	R
W	H	A	R	E	A	L	L	I
E	I	G	H	T	N	O	S	A
E	L	L	A	M	I	T	E	R
T	I	E	R	C	E	S	O	P
V	O	W	S	O	B	E	R	
D	I	R	E	R	T	H	U	R
O	B	E	S	E	P	E	A	S
F	I	A	T	S	H	A	R	T
F	D	R	I	K	E	A	P	E

THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION

How do you feel about the super committee failing to meet its deficit cutting deadline?

go to www.thelowellledger.com and vote!

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

TURKEY HOTLINE

Cooking any major holiday dinner can be an overwhelming prospect. And there's something particularly nerve-wracking about Thanksgiving dinner. Whether you're a newbie in the kitchen or a seasoned chef, a turkey is a fickle thing, and you may have questions about preparing your meal's centerpiece.

Luckily, there's a Turkey Talk hotline. Manned by a team of experts in nutrition and home economics, the hotline has fielded thousands of calls annually for the past 30 years. Have all your turkey problems solved by giving them a call at 1-800-BUTTERBALL or email them at talkline@butterball.com throughout November and December.

Local teens are successful hunters



Brenden Spencer, of Lowell, shot this very nice five-point buck last Sunday morning. He was hunting with his grandfather, his father and cousin Nate on Bailey Drive in Ada.



Jake Stehley, Lowell High School senior, shot his first buck on Monday, Nov. 21, just before dark on property near Parnell and McPhearson. Stehley was hunting with his friend Reese Fox and downed it with one 25-yard shot as the buck approached him with two doe.

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council, acting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, will conduct a public hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting of Monday, December 19, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lowell City Hall Council Chambers. Second Floor, 301 East Main Street. The purpose of said hearing would be to receive comments on the following variance requests:

Requests by King Milling Company, 115 South Broadway Street, in regards to their property located at 139 South Broadway Street and also known as parcel number 41-20-02-453-030, to vary from Section 13.04, pertaining to required side yard setbacks, minimum lot width, minimum lot size, and landscaping. Specifically, two, 20-foot side yard setbacks are requested to establish a zero setback from both the north and south lot lines. Additionally, the applicant is seeking to vary from the 20,000-square foot minimum lot area requirement by 8,663 square feet to develop on a lot which is 11,337 square feet; and to vary from the 100-foot minimum lot width requirement by 50 feet to develop on a lot which is 50 feet in width. The applicant also seeks a variance from landscaping requirements in Section 13.04, C.

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

Betty Morlock
City Clerk

Thanksgiving dinners take eighteen hours to prepare. They are consumed in twelve minutes. Half-times take twelve minutes. This is not coincidence.

~ Erma Bombeck

Don't get cooked this Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving weekend can be an especially treacherous time on Michigan roadways with increased traffic, deer on the move, and the unpredictable late November weather. Add to that one too many cocktails and you could find yourself in a cornucopia of trouble.

The night before Thanksgiving is unofficially known as the biggest bar night of the year and last year, 159 people were arrested for alcohol-related offenses between 6 p.m. and 4 a.m.

Thanksgiving morning. On an average Wednesday night in November about 56 people are arrested for alcohol-related offenses. "Thanksgiving is a special time to celebrate with friends and family, but it should be done responsibly," Office of Highway Safety Planning Director Michael L. Prince said. "By making the decision not to drive after drinking you could be saving your life and the lives of others."

Party-goers are

encouraged to designate a sober driver before drinking, take a cab home, or spend the night. The only place scarier than the mall at 6 a.m. on Black Friday is jail. Motorists are also reminded to buckle-up and be sure to keep kids properly secured in car seats while traveling. Wearing a seat belt is the single best thing a person can do to protect yourself in the event of a crash, reducing the risk of death or serious injury by 50 percent. When

used correctly, car seats are 71 percent effective in preventing death and 50 percent effective in preventing injuries. During last years Thanksgiving holiday weekend, 10 people were killed in Michigan roadways in nine crashes. Three of those deaths were alcohol-related and three of the victims were not wearing a seat belt, according to the Michigan Department of State Police Criminal Justice Information Center.

CITY OF LOWELL THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY NOTICE

Lowell City Hall, Department of Public Works, Police Office and Light and Power will be closed on Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25, 2011 in observance of Thanksgiving.

City of Lowell residents who use the City's blue refuse bags will have their refuse and yard waste picked up on Friday, November 25th due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

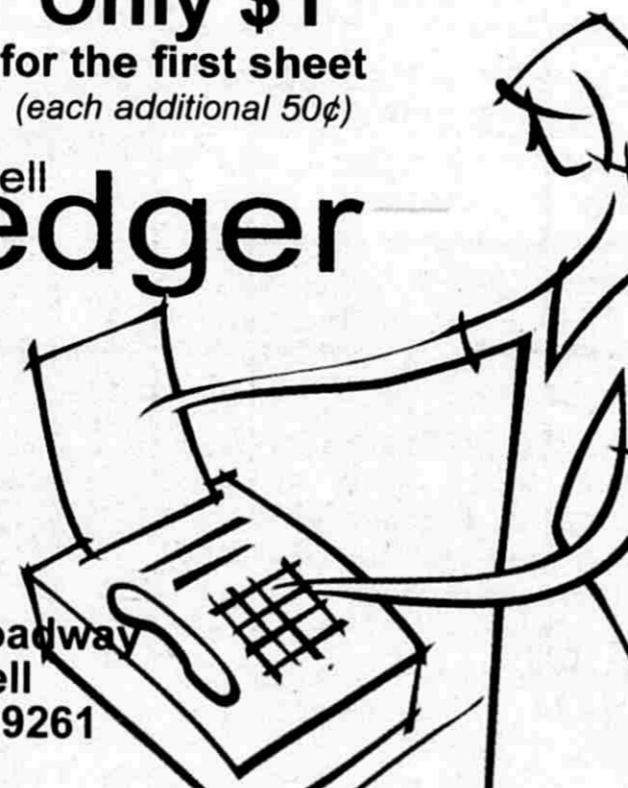
Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

NEED TO SEND A FAX? We CAN HELP!

Sending or Receiving
Only \$1
for the first sheet
(each additional 50¢)

the ledger

105 N. Broadway
Lowell
616.897.9261



THEME: THANKSGIVING

ACROSS

- The White House domain
- American Medical Association
- Once around
- "Take a ___!"
- What the wind did
- Metal shaving
- Having wings
- Goes with interest
- Hunter, e.g.
- *Site of Mayflower passengers' colony
- *Like Friday after Thanksgiving
- Brown, Dartmouth and Yale, e.g.
- Cribbage piece
- Parts of a play
- "Girl with a Pearl ___" novel
- NHL's rival, 1972-1979
- Truly?
- America's choice
- "___ Is Enough"
- As opposed to yes-es
- "Bust ___"
- "___ Enchanted," teen novel
- Carpenter's corner joints
- Local network
- Follows deuces
- Mozart's works, e.g.
- Pledge
- Stone-cold ___
- More dire
- *Lincoln declared the final one of Nov. to be Thanksgiving
- Like "The Biggest Loser" contestants
- Found in pods
- Strong desire
- Fabricca Italiana Automobili Torino, pl.
- Robert Wagner or Stefanie Powers, 1979-1984
- Oaf
- *He designated

CROSSWORD								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10				11			12	13
14				15			16	
17			18				19	
		20				21		
22	23	24			25		26	27
29			30	31	32		33	
34		35		36			37	
38			39			40		41
42			43			44	45	
		46			47	48		
49	50	51			52		53	54
56					57			58
59					60			61
62					63			64

PRESENTED BY



© StatePoint Media

Thanksgiving as the 4th Thursday of November
63. He followed "Give'em Hell Harry"
64. King Kong

DOWN

- Used for breathing, but not by people
- No problem
- Cockroaches and rats, e.g.
- With winglike extensions
- Methamphetamines
- "Shock and ___"

- Dalai ___
- Smart ___
- Fringe benefit
- Accidental happening
- Colorful mark
- Cavalry weapon
- *Early resident of #17 Across
- Open, as in military operation
- Ante up
- * ___ potato
- Texas is know for making this hot
- It can be bald or golden
- "Do it, or ___!"
- Plural for #33 Across
- Less bright than supernovae
- Scotland is know for these
- Black tropical cuckoo

- Land parcel
- *Cause for celebration
- Turkish monetary unit
- Feline sound
- Like full-bodied coffee
- Central part, pl.
- The Little Mermaid's nemesis
- Turf, as in "surf and turf"
- Chicago's ORD
- Throw off
- In the same place (used when citing a reference)
- In the back
- Water quantity
- Malaria symptom
- Up to the present time
57. 21st letter of Greek alphabet

Puzzle solutions on page 12

WE SHIP UPS!

Our Prices Can't Be Beat!



Call Us for a Price Quote!
Weight & Zip Code Required for a Quote

The Lowell Ledger
105 N. Broadway, 897-9261



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.

We just wanted to say thank you to the coaches and football players for an enjoyable season of football. We have been impressed with your hard work and dedication. Best of luck in the final game at Ford Field.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Lowell Y Turkey Trot on Saturday, Nov 12.

Why is it that we have pay-to-play and our high school football team doesn't have their names on their shirts? I can understand the younger ones, even though a lot of towns even put their names on those. Just wondering, seeing as there are some welloff people that could sponsor something like that.

THIS WEEK'S ONLINE POLL RESULTS

Thanksgiving -
Would you prefer to?

- Spend it with family and friends 50%
- Make reservations 13%
- Take vacation 25%
- Go to a football game 12%

Football, continued

chances. [Bambard] made a heck of a kick. It wasn't a very pretty looking thing, but it was effective. Credit to him."

The referees extended their arms, indicating Bambard's kick was good. Walled Lake still had a shot.

Blow-for-blow the teams had gone back and forth. It seemed only fitting that it should be decided in overtime.

Dean said, "We had four plays to do it. Steady as you go. It was one step at a time."

Dean connected with Lyman to give them the lead on the second play of their drive. The Red Arrow defense then forced a turnover on downs. They would move on to the championship game yet again.

"I was really proud of the way our guys handled themselves in overtime. They had great composure," Deans said.

Lowell rushed for 122 yards in the game, Dean accounting for 52 yards and Addington for 72. Walled Lake had 57 rushing yards.

Dean also threw 16-23 for 316 yards and three touchdowns. The Red Arrows totaled 438 yards of offense.

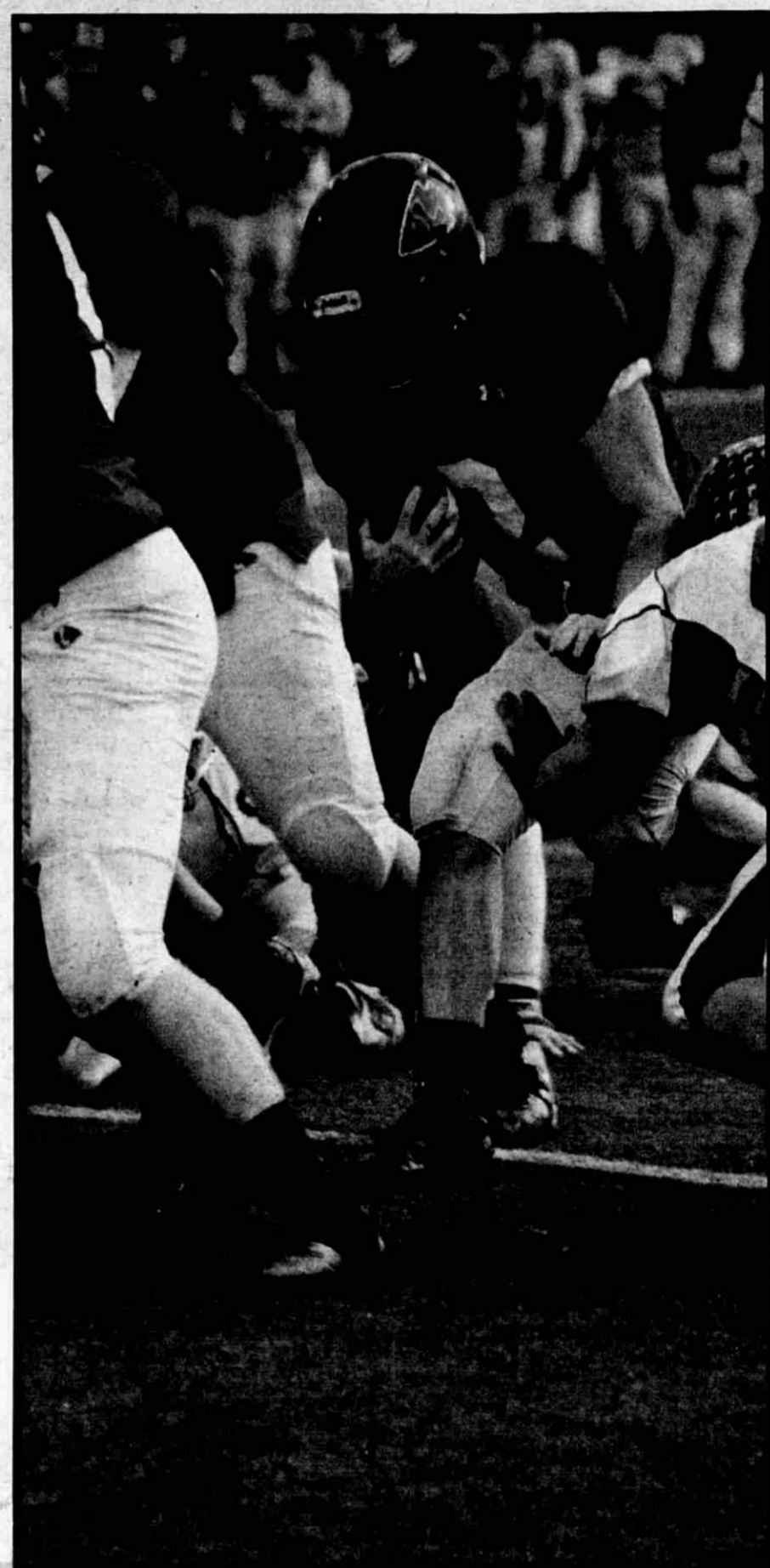
Walled Lake had 389 yards through the air.

Lyman led all receivers with 174 yards on eight receptions. Vieaux of Walled Lake had 159 yards on ten receptions.

Against Birmingham, "We're going to try to memorize what they're going to do offensively and just do our best, you know play enough big games over time."

As for the pressure of a state final at an NFL stadium, "We don't talk about that kind of stuff."


Our focus is on the target, not the prize."



Gabe Dean rushes the ball in for a touchdown.

GOOD LUCK ARROWS!

MPCP
MICHIGAN PRIMARY CARE PARTNERS
INTERNAL MEDICINE | FAMILY MEDICINE | PAIN MANAGEMENT



WELCOME
CHRIS VAN RYN, P.A.-C

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

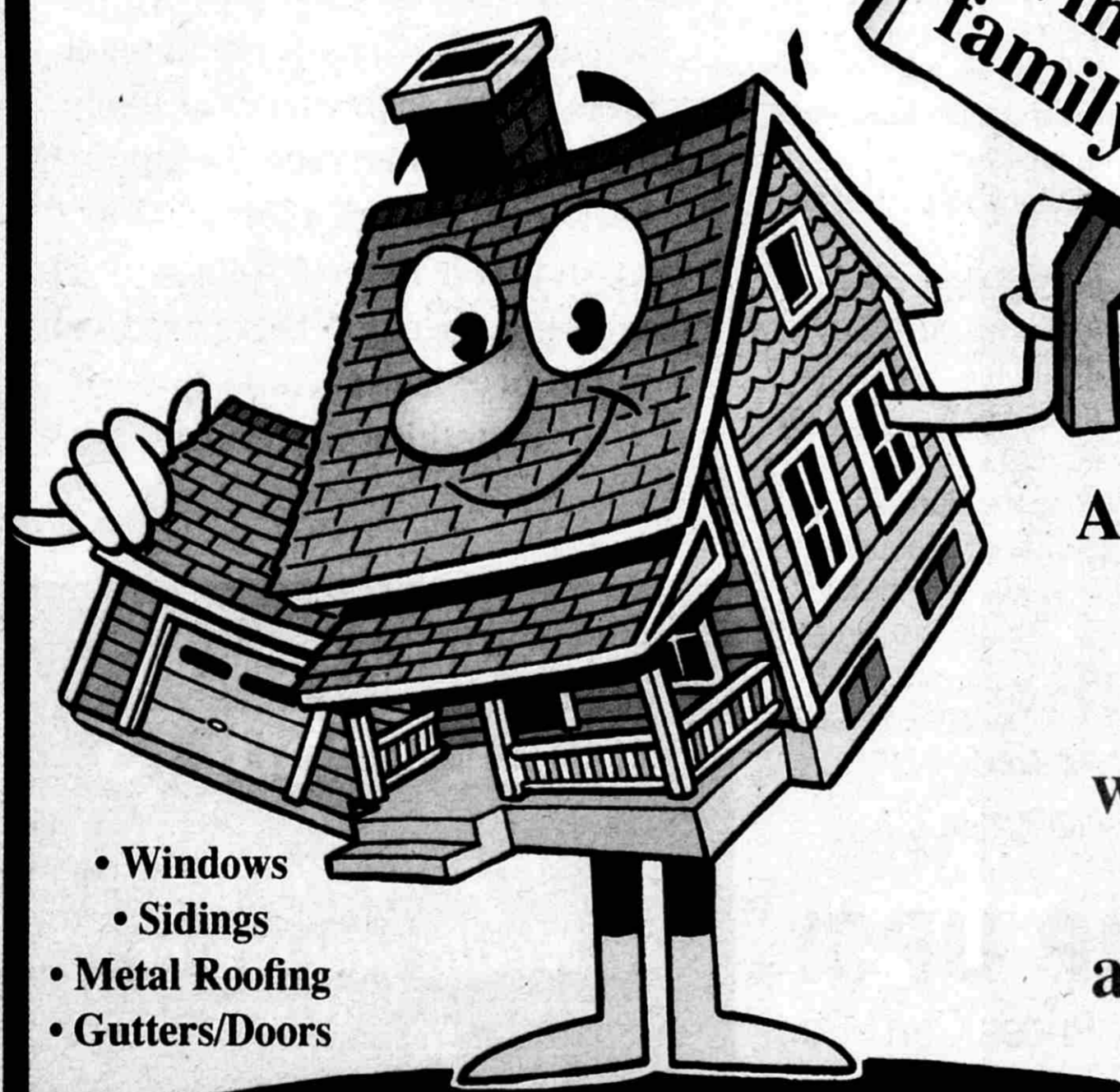
P: 616.214.1615

- INTERNAL MEDICINE
- SPORTS PHYSICALS
- INDEPENDENT HEALTHCARE PRACTICE

4024 PARK EAST COURT SE. I SUITE C
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49546

It's That Time Of Year Again!

Christmas will soon be here!



- Windows
- Sidings
- Metal Roofing
- Gutters/Doors

We would like to give away a houseful of windows to a family in need!



ALL WEATHER SEAL is searching for a local family whose home needs to stop the winter air from sneaking in.

Please submit your nominations with an explanation of why that family deserves this special gift this holiday season.



Submit entries to:
ALL-WEATHER SEAL
CHRISTMAS GIVEAWAY
319 E. Main St. • Lowell
616.897.7300
scott@awswest.com