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the lowell ledger

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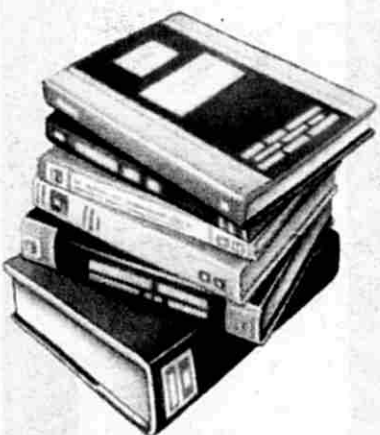
Favorite toys featured in Lowell's annual nighttime Santa parade

parade pics



page 9

l's honor roll



page 11



by Emma Palova

The annual nighttime Santa parade officially kicked-off the holiday season with nice mild weather last Saturday.

Hundreds of people lined up historic downtown on Main Street and watched the parade pass by.

Several bands played Christmas music, and many floats used flames of fire this year to warm up the season.

"It was one of our best parades," said Lowell area chamber director Liz Baker. "We had several floats, the competition was fierce and the weather overall was great. There were tons of people in town and it was a great way to start the Christmas season."

The following floats are the winners of this year's parade:

Santa parade, continued, page 9

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church received first place honors at the parade this year.

City continues discussion of sidewalk replacement plan

by Emma Palova

The city discussed the ongoing issue of sidewalk repair as city manager Mark Howe presented his plan to fix up bad sidewalks.

The city staff conducted a survey and an analysis of the condition of the existing sidewalks. The survey has shown that 1.19 miles are in need of repair.

According to the Rowe study conducted in 2000,

the amount of sidewalks needing repair has doubled in municipalities similar to Lowell.

As a standard, it is the homeowner's responsibility to repair his or her sidewalk. However, a change in the law has put some liability on municipalities, so a city could be held liable based on individual cases.

It would cost \$166,000 to repair the city sidewalks

or \$100 to \$1,500 per homeowner.

"I would pursue grants to fund 100 percent of sidewalk repair," said Howe.

For example, a homeowner could pay the first \$100 and the rest could be funded with grants or through a special assessment. The special assessment could be in the form of

City meeting, continued, page 3

Trees sales will help Relay for Life



Rudy Smith, Scott Grim and Brad Wade.

Christmas trees are now available in the parking lot of A-1 Laser Die and Engineering off Lincoln Lake inside the industrial park.

The company has sold \$10,000 worth of Christmas trees to benefit the Relay for Life. An anonymous donor donated \$8,000.

The trees come from Korson's Sales of Stanton and they include Fraser Fir, Scotch Pine, Spruce and Douglas Fir.

This year A-1 has added wreaths and tree stands. The trees will be available until Dec. 18 from Monday through Sunday.

The prices start at \$19.50 and go up to \$110 for a 12-foot Fraser Fir.

So far, the company has exceeded sales from last year during the weekend following Thanksgiving.

"We were supported well last year," said owner Lori Smith.

Deadline approaches for community fund requests

The deadline to request funds from the Lowell Community Fund is noon, Friday, Dec. 9, 2011.

To receive consideration and approval, all requests must be for funds that will aid local organizations in providing help to persons in the Lowell area.

The Heart of West Michigan United Way has set the December date aside for those qualified to receive funding for 2012.

Request forms may be picked up at Dr. James Reagan's office at 207 W. Main St., or at the main branch of Huntington Bank at 414 E. Main St.

The formal request forms include a demographic data sheet on clients served, how funds from the previous year were spent and the annual budget for the organization-requesting funds.

Since 1955, up through 2011, the Lowell Community Fund has dispersed over \$270,000 into the community.

"It is important to note that this funding program is entirely separate from the Harold Englehardt funding program which is handled through the Grand Rapids Foundation," said Dr. Bob Reagan, secretary/treasurer of the fund.

50 CENTS



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along main street

COMMUNITY FUND DEADLINE

The deadline to request funds from the Lowell Community Fund is Fri., Dec. 9 at noon. To receive consideration and approval, all requests must be for funds that will aid local organizations in providing help to persons in the Lowell area. The Heart of West Michigan United Way has set the December date aside for those qualified to receive funding for 2011-2013. Request forms are available at Dr. James Reagan's office, 207 W. Main St., or at Huntington Bank, 414 E. Main St.

LUMINARY HIKE

A luminary hike will be held at Wittenbach/Wege Center on Sat., Dec. 10 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm. As you meander through the forest on a candlelit path, you'll enjoy the serenity of the forest at night. If there is snow on the ground, snowshoes can be rented from the WWC for \$4 per person. There will be hot chocolate served inside while you make holiday crafts. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 987-2526.

CHRISTMAS IN FALLASBURG

On Sat., Dec. 10, "Christmas in Fallasburg" will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at Fallasburg schoolhouse. This is a benefit for the continued preservation of the historic village sponsored by the Fallasburg Historical Society. Traditional holiday music by the "Hawks & Owls" band, wine, cheese, cider, coffee and Christmas goodies plus a roaring bonfire in adjacent Fallas Field to cap off the evening. The schoolhouse is located at 13944 Covered Bridge Road. For more information go to www.fallasburg.org or call 682-0785.

PANTRY STILL IN NEED

The Lowell Women's Club responded with overfilling 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.

PANCAKE SUPPER PICTURES

Pictures that were taken at the pancake supper can be viewed and downloaded for free at www.kcfc.org

Remember that nobody will ever get ahead of you as long as he is kicking you in the seat of the pants.

~ Walter Winchell (1897 - 1972)



At Your Local Library

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

Drop-in Craft Time

Drop in at the library for some creative fun with this self-directed activity. For children ages 6 and under with a caregiver. Wed.-Fri., Dec. 21 - 23, 1:00 pm.

CALL FOR AUDITIONS

Magician's Nephew will be presented as a traveling theatrical production to three Lowell area elementary schools, Feb. 15 - 23, 2012. Auditions will be held at Englehardt Public Library, 200 N. Monroe, Thurs., Dec. 8 at 6 p.m. For more information, to pick up a script, call or visit LowellArts1.com, 149 S. Hudson, 897-8545 or www.lowellarts1.com

LOWELL GILDA'S CLUB ACTIVITIES

Cancer: New member meeting - Tues., Dec. 13, 2:30 - 3:30 pm and 7:15 - 8 pm. Introductory meeting for those who wish to join the cancer support group. **Building Fitness: A Gentle Approach** - Tues., Dec. 13 and 20, 1-2 pm. Low impact fitness activities. **Origami** - Tues., Dec. 13 and 20, 2 - 3 pm. Learn the ancient art of paper folding. **Adult Cancer Support Group** - Each Tues., 6-7:15 pm. A committed group for those diagnosed with cancer. **Grief - Adult Group** - Each Tues., 6-7:15 pm. A committed group for adults who have experienced the death of a family member or friend. **Kids Talk** - Each Tues., 6-7:15 pm. A group for children in first - fourth grade on a cancer or grief journey. Incorporates curriculum based activities, discussion and playtime. **Teen and Tween Talk** - Each Tues., 6-7:15 pm. A group for youth in middle school or high school on a cancer or grief journey. Incorporates curriculum based activities, discussion and playtime. **Noogieland** - Each Tues., 6-7:15 pm. Supervised play for children in kindergarten or younger on a cancer or grief journey. For more information on any of these programs call 897-8600, e-mail: info@gildasclubgr.org or visit www.gildasclubgr.org Club is located at 314 S. Hudson St., Lowell

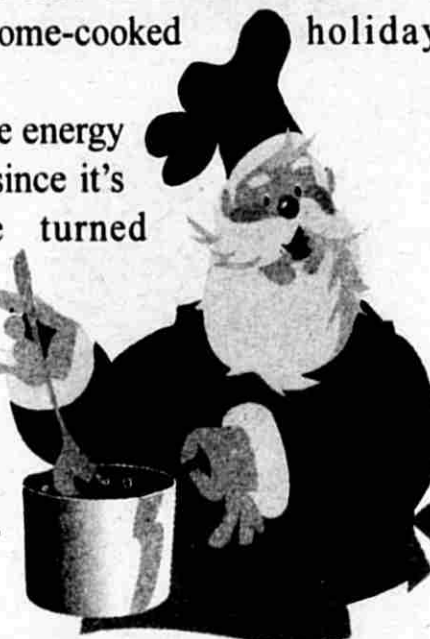
Now we're cooking with gas

(StatePoint) It's time to churn out those big family meals. And home chefs want to make sure all their dishes cook evenly.

Professional chefs know that natural gas affords greater temperature control, the key to evenly-cooked dishes. Natural gas even lets you keep your kitchen up and running during a power outage, so in case of severe weather, your family can still enjoy a home-cooked holiday meal.

Home chefs will also save energy and money with natural gas since it's more efficient and can be turned on or off instantly. In fact, it costs about half as much to cook with natural gas as with an electric range.

More information can be found at www.comfortableresponsible.org



LOWELL AREA COMMUNITY FUND ACCEPTS GRANT PROPOSALS

All Proposals Must Be Submitted Online No Later Than December 16, 2011 to be considered.

Visit www.grfoundation.org/lowell to submit your application.

The Lowell Area Community Fund, a fund of Grand Rapids Community Foundation, awards grants to tax-exempt, nonprofit charitable organizations that have an impact in the Lowell area. The LACF funds innovative projects or programs that encourage community cooperation.

the ledger

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City meeting, continued

a revolving fund over several years.

The Downtown Development Authority may provide 22 percent for sidewalk repair within the district. The rest could come from a combination of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Lowell Cable Television Fund and Lowell Community Fund.

A sidewalk is consid-

ered in disrepair if it has more than half an inch rise. However, the analysis did not break down further the condition of sidewalks that are either in very good, good, fair or poor conditions.

"I didn't break it down," Howe said. "I want every sidewalk walkable. I want to start with the really bad ones, but I don't want to cre-

ate hardship on citizens. We could have a scale [on] how to assist homeowners."

A system could be in place based on need criteria. The focus, according to Howe, will stay on the seven percent of sidewalks in need of repair, rather than on areas that have gaps between sidewalks.

"We need to maintain what we have," he said.

There may be some prioritization for repair, such as if the sidewalk is on a school route, or on a flat or hilly surface.

"We may have more meetings and nothing is going to get done," said councilmember Jeff Altoft. "People need to start fixing the sidewalks; it's not fair to those who have already fixed theirs. If there is a hardship

they can go to church and ask for money. By creating a special assessment, you are double dipping."

Finally an hour later, mayor Jim Hodges ended the sidewalk discussion. Hodges said the city council discussed the issue in January of 2011.

"We came to a conclusion that we have no money," he said. "Fix your sidewalks."

The council adopted an ordinance for sidewalk repair in May of this year.

The city council and Howe discussed the conditions of streets as well, coming to a conclusion that only 30 percent are in excellent

shape, the remaining 70 percent are in fair or poor condition.

In other business, a public hearing has been set for Jan. 3 to expand the Industrial Development District to include King Milling properties on the east side of South Hudson, on the south side of Main Street and west of the Flat River.

Under Public Act 198, the district qualifies King Milling for tax abatement certificates.

The unofficial prototype of the city website was unveiled during the meeting. It is expected to be launched next week. The city will also be on facebook.

It is possible to store the mind with a million facts and still be entirely uneducated.

- Alec Bourne

Entry Level positions available in the Mental Health Field - Hope Network Behavioral Health provides pathways to recovery through a continuum of care for individuals experiencing mental illness, personality disorders, co-occurring disorders, Alzheimer's disease and other behavioral health conditions. We focus on teaching and bringing about change, rather than simply "managing" behaviors. By emphasizing individuals' unique abilities, not disabilities, we empower them to assume control over their own lives and reach their greatest potential. We are seeking people with a positive attitude, patience and compassion for others to join our West Lake residential programs in Lowell. We have opportunities available on all shifts. Requirements include: High School Diploma required, BS/BA preferred, valid driver's license with acceptable driving record, demonstrated written and verbal communication skills, ability to pass physical/drug screen, lift 50 pounds, and pass a criminal background check. Paid training is provided! Starting pay is \$10.00 per hour. We offer benefits to part time and full time employees. We also offer a generous amount of vacation time which you will start earning your first day of work! Interested candidates can apply online at www.hopenetwork.org or in person at:

Hope Network Career Center
775 36th Street
Grand Rapids, MI 49509
H/V/M/F, EOE, Affiliate of Hope Network

business matters

Laurels of Kent and Green Acres Retirement Living Community, both health facilities in Lowell, recently received 2011 Great Lakes Caring annual Awards of Excellence. The facilities were selected as recipients from more than 2,000 candidates in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana.

Great Lakes Caring staff members presented the Award of Excellence to Green Acres staff members.



Murray Lake Elementary readers



Pictured are the Murray Lake Elementary Accelerated Reader (AR) winners for the month of November. Each month Murray Lake Elementary (MLE) students are able to fill out raffle slips for each 10 AR points they accumulate. Then at the end of each month, five lucky student names are drawn. These students win a \$10 gift card to a local business. The program is sponsored by the MLE Family Links. This month's winners were; from left to right: Hannah Devries, Kylie Alberts, Kaia Zimmerman, Madi Lilley, and Logan Staley. Murray Lake students have now passed 7,865 AR tests and have earned almost 10,000 points. They are well on their way to their goal of 30,000 points.

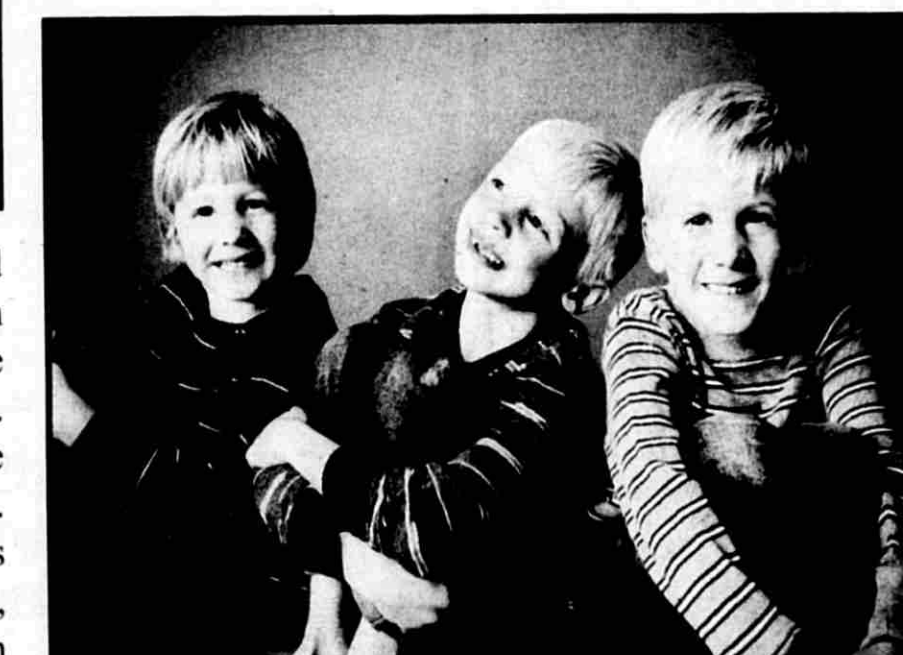
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Pictured, left to right: Jacki Jones, Laurels of Kent Administrator; Evelyn Goodson, LLMSW, Laurels of Kent social services; and Ed Van Cott, Laurels of Kent social services admission manager.



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financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

Manage your money carefully this holiday season

As you know, the holiday season can be joyous, hectic, celebratory — and expensive. And while you certainly enjoy hosting family gatherings and giving presents to your loved ones, you'll find these things even more pleasurable if they don't add a lot more weight to your debt load. And that's why you'll want to follow some smart money-management techniques over the next few weeks.

applies to your gifting. You don't need to find the most expensive presents or overwhelm recipients with the sheer volume of your gifts. This is especially true if you, like so many people, have been affected by the tough economy. Everyone you know will understand that gifts don't have to be lavish to be meaningful.

Furthermore, by sticking to a budget, you won't be tempted to dip into your long-term investments to pay for fabulous parties or mountains of gifts. It's never a good idea to tap long-term investments for short-term needs, but can be especially bad when your investment prices are down, as they may well be this year.

So, if you want to stick to a budget but you don't want to raid your investments, how can you pay for your holiday season expenses? If you can spread out your purchases, you may be able to pay for them from your normal cash flow. But if that's not possible, you might want to consider "plastic" — your credit card. Using your credit card does not, by itself, need to amount to a financial setback, especially if you've chosen a card that offers favorable terms and you've already shown the discipline not to over-use that card. Just

try to minimize your credit card usage over the holidays and pay off your card as soon as you can.

Of course, you can make your holiday season much easier, financially speaking, if you've set up a holiday fund to cover your various expenses. While it's too late to set up such a fund this year, why not get an early start on the 2012 holiday season? All you need to do is put away some money each month into an easily accessible account, separate from your everyday accounts. You don't have to put in a great deal, but you do need to be consistent, which is why you may want to have the money moved automatically, once a month, from your checking or savings account to your holiday fund. When next year's holiday season rolls around, you might be pleasantly surprised by how much you've accumulated.

But for now, following some common-sense money management practices can help you get through the holiday season in financial shape — and that type of result can get your new year off to a positive start.

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

THIS WEEK'S LEDGER POLL QUESTION

What do you think was the biggest story of 2011?

- Japan's earthquake
Death of Bin Laden
Global economic crisis
The Kardashians' sagas
UofM football
Republican Primary

GO TO: thelowellledger.com and vote!

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viewpoint

outdoors legacy Dave Stegehuis

Another firearms deer season is behind us. Deer hunting stories are being told and retold as hunters get together at work, social gatherings, and events. Out for a walk recently, I met a neighbor and heard the story of his grandson's first deer — a nice buck. He was also there when his granddaughter took her first wild turkey. Relaxed age requirements allowed me to hunt deer this year with my young grandsons. We grandparents now have memories which we can share with our grandchildren over a lifetime. Similar memories have been made by friends and families across the state. Did you take the opportunity to make your own memories? It is not too late, because there is still some hunting left and fishing seasons will cycle throughout the year providing additional opportunities to share experiences.

grips with this reality. Catch and released fishing is an exception.

In addition to making fond memories and contributing to our quality of life in an increasingly artificial world, there is a reason for all of us who value wildlife and natural resources to hunt and fish. The welfare of both game and non-game species requires the availability of viable habitat, therefore an essential part of game management involves the stewardship of our fields and forests which benefits everyone who spends time outdoors. The major source of funding for these resources is derived from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses and federal grants. The state's share of federal funding is calculated on the number of licenses sold. Although a minority of the state's population hunt and fish, we all have a stake in the number of people who do. So, if you don't hunt or fish and don't plan to do so, one of the most effective ways to support our outdoor culture and abundant natural resources is to buy hunting and fishing licenses.

Let's all get involved in some way to protect our outdoor legacy in Michigan. Our quality of life and that of future generations depends on it.



fire safety 411

Preventing chimney fires

by Lt. Paul Roderick

It's wintertime and you decide it is a great idea to build a fire in the fireplace or your wood stove. As the fire catches you sit back to enjoy the warmth. All of a sudden you hear what sounds like the low rumble of a freight train or you might think that a plane is flying by very low.

You walk outside to investigate and to your horror there are flames coming out of your chimney going six feet in the air. Hot, bright red embers are being scattered all over your roof and igniting it - a chimney fire.

The sound you heard was the rush of air being pulled into the chimney. As the temperature rose inside your chimney, pieces of substance called creosote were being pushed up and out onto your roof.

If you have a brick and mortar chimney, the temperature inside the chimney can get hot enough to melt the mortar from between the tiles and send it out onto the roof and collapse your chimney.

Fireplaces and wood stoves are designed to safely contain wood-fueled fires and heat your home. The chimneys above these fireplaces have the job of expelling the byproducts of combustion, the substances given off when wood burns. Problems arise when one of the byproducts (creosote) is allowed to build up in the chimney. Creosote is black or brown in appearance. It can be crusty and flaky, tar-

like, drippy and sticky, or shiny and hardened. Often, all forms will occur in the same chimney system. All forms of creosote are highly flammable.

You can eliminate a lot of this buildup by following some simple rules.

- Never burn pine wood in your fireplace. Pine will produce much more creosote than hard-woods like oak, maple or cherry.
Make sure your wood is well-seasoned. Dry wood produces less creosote.
If you heat your home with wood, build smaller fires that will burn more completely. Smaller fires produce less creosote than a fire that burns and smolders for eight to ten hours.
Never allow the buildup of creosote in your chimney to get over 1/8" thick.
Never burn cardboard boxes, wrapping paper, trash or Christmas trees. These can spark a chimney fire.
You can also install a stovepipe thermometer. This helps to monitor flue temperatures when wood stoves are in use so you can adjust burning practices as needed.
Have your chimney inspected and cleaned by a qualified chimney sweep on a regular basis.
If you ever find yourself with a chimney fire get everyone, including yourself, out of the house and call 911.



By Shelly MacNaughton

75 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo December 3, 1936

Miss Dorothy McCarty of Los Angeles, a Lowell native, has a brief singing "bit" in the picture "Walking On Air," at the Strand theater tonight (Thursday).

Regret has been expressed that more persons are not taking advantage of the opportunities offered by the night school which is conducted here at the high school every Monday evening under auspices of the WPA.

50 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger December 7, 1961

Lowell's Santa will make a dramatic entrance and open the Christmas shopping season here Saturday when he flies in by helicopter and lands in the school yard at 2:30 in the afternoon.

Plan now to bring the kiddies to town Saturday afternoon to watch Santa drop in by helicopter.

25 Years Ago The Grand Valley Ledger December 3, 1986

Lowell High School winter sport's programs get started this week with a quad wrestling meet between Lowell, Ionia, Belding and Union in the L. H. S. gym.

Officials from the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce will officially throw the switch on the downtown tree lights at 7:00 this evening. Members of the Lowell High School pep band will be onhand to provide music for the occasion

110 Years Ago The Lowell Journal November 28, 1901

William H. Potttruff was born in Vergennes, May 2, 1877. He died at his home in Fallsburg November 23, 1901.

Only a year ago on November 29, 1901, he was united in marriage to Miss Mina Lillie and to them was given a little daughter.

William was a very industrious, hardworking young man, always honest in his deal. He was also free from bad habits and surely, such a man is a credit to the community in which he lives.

Besides the young companion and sweet little daughter, he leaves a father, mother, one brother, three sisters and a host of other relatives and friends to mourn their loss.

100 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger December 7, 1911

The furniture factory building and plant formerly occupied by the Dratz Manufacturing company, now defunct and owned by the Lowell Board of Trade, is to be opened and operated under the style of the Winegar Manufacturing Company.

George M. Winegar, long and favorably known in Lowell business and social circles, is the promoter and manager of the new enterprise. He recently returned with his family after an absence of several years and again occupies his pleasant home on Bridge Street.

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.

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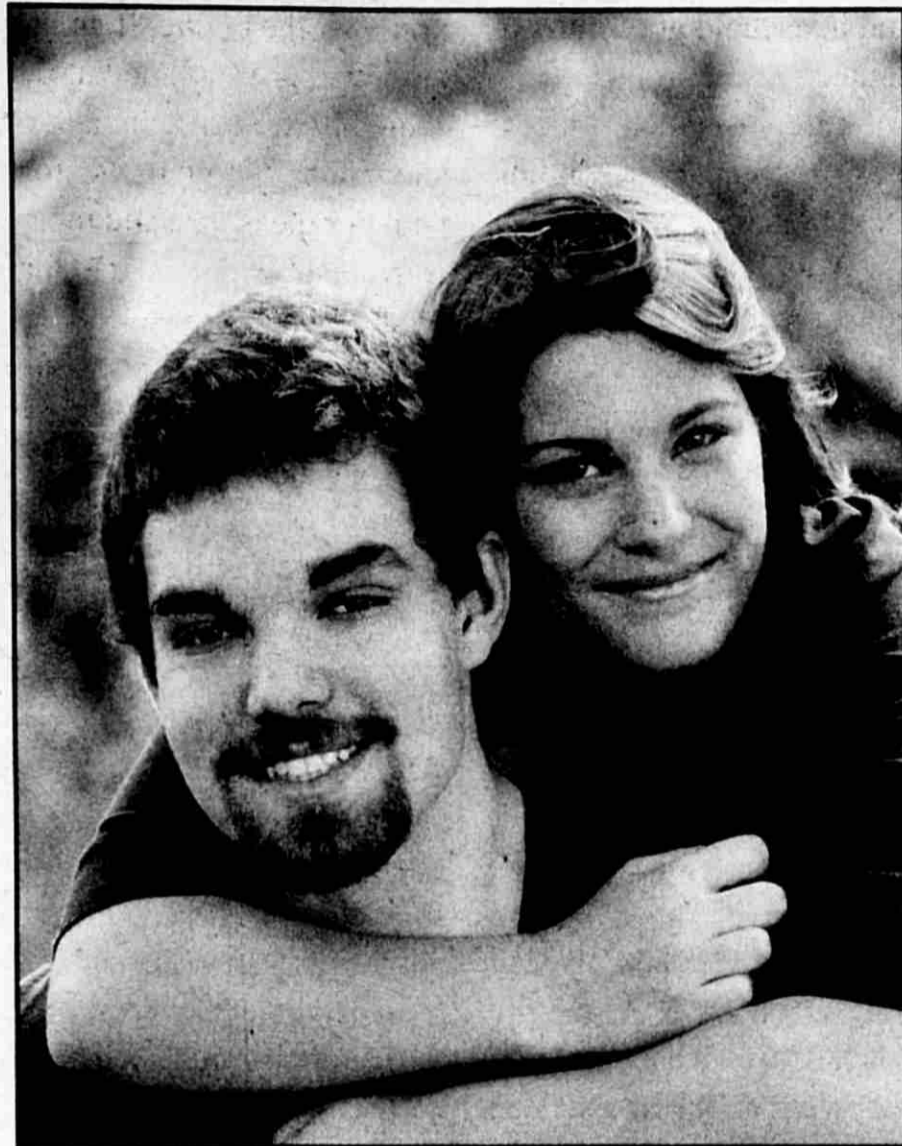
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engagements health

Lorentz/Schomaker



Cameron Schomaker and Rebecca Lorentz

Embracing the sanctity of marriage, the spirit of the family and the pride of our ancestry, we are pleased to announce the engagement of our children, Rebecca Lorentz and Cameron Schomaker.

Rebecca is the daughter of Craig and Melissa Lorentz of Lowell. She is a graduate of Lowell High School and is currently residing with her parents.

Cameron is the son of Connie Jo See and David

Schomaker of Lowell. Cameron also graduated from Lowell High School, attended Grand Rapids Community College and is serving our country in the US Army Airborne division stationed in Italy where Rebecca will join him following their marriage.

They plan to be married by Cameron's stepfather Layne See, on December 23 at the VFW in Lowell with a reception to follow immediately.

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



Osteoarthritis

Osteoarthritis of the knee The knee is one of the major weight bearing joints and thus, it is often one of the first joints to be affected by osteoarthritis. Osteoarthritis is a generalized wearing down of the joint. The smooth protective cartilage within the joint begins breaking down due to age and generalized wear and tear. Osteoarthritis is more common in people over the age of 50. We are not really sure why some people are more affected by osteoarthritis than others, but it does run in families and people who have knee injuries are more likely to develop osteoarthritis late in life.

Symptoms of knee osteoarthritis are stiffness, swelling, decreased range of motion, pain with activity and deformity. Diagnosis is usually

made by obtaining an x-ray which shows joint damage. Sometimes an MRI is done to look at the cartilage and internal ligaments of the knee. Cartilage or ligament damage is treated differently than osteoarthritis.

If you've been diagnosed with knee osteoarthritis, your doctor will recommend treatment with Tylenol or an anti-inflammatory such as Motrin or Aleve. Some studies have shown that supplements containing glucosamine are useful for pain relief. Your doctor may give you a series of injections extracted from rooster combs that improve the health of the synovial fluid lubricating the joint. Cortisone injections may also relieve pain for several months. Knee replacement surgery is a last resort when other conservative measures have failed.

Anyone nit-picking enough to write a letter of correction to an editor doubtless deserves the error that provoked it.

~ Alvin Toffler

business matters

Greenridge Realty announced that Elaine Wingeier received Sales Associate of the Month in November.

This award recognizes Wingeier for her outstanding success and achievements.



Elaine Wingeier

happy birthday!

- DECEMBER 7**
Jennifer Berry, Jeni Buck.
- DECEMBER 8**
Mike Cummings, Ellen Miller.
- DECEMBER 9**
Allen Metternick, Sara Triplett, Deb Schuitema, Alison Nugent, Tammy Janowiak, Ben Nugent, Noah VanLaan.
- DECEMBER 10**
Bill Fluger, Evelyn Heim, Barbara Decker.
- DECEMBER 11**
Dave Rhodes, Kathryn Zaleski, Amber Waldron, Mike Kline, Billie Fallstrom.
- DECEMBER 12**
Brad Briggs, Joyce Stormzand, Matt Newhouse, Sally Hacker, Charlie Young.
- DECEMBER 13**
Chrys Thaler, Jeff Bowne, Michelle Fyan.

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

The Christmas Gift

ignite church

Saturday, December 10 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Ignite Church Next to Ada-Lowell 5 Theater

FREE Gift Wrapping ~ FREE Baked goods ~ FREE Refreshments

In honor of the True meaning of CHRISTmas we are offering an opportunity to the community to shop FREE to help alleviate some of the financial burden and to help bring focus to the True Meaning of the Season. We will be hosting a FREE shopping event where you can find gently used items that include; FREE clothes, FREE toys and FREE household items. Come and shop with us and enjoy home-made baked goods, gift wrapping and activities for the kids!

For more information call 616.773.0540

Frequently asked Social Security questions

Question: When a person who has worked and paid Social Security taxes dies, are benefits payable on that person's record?

Answer: Social Security survivors benefits can be paid to:

A widow or widower — unreduced benefits at full retirement age, or reduced benefits as early as age 60;

A disabled widow or widower — as early as age 50;

A widow or widower at any age if he or she takes care of the deceased's child who is under age 16 or disabled, and receiving Social Security benefits;

Unmarried children under 18, or up to age 19 if they are attending high school full time. Under certain circumstances, benefits can be paid to stepchildren, grandchildren or adopted children;

Children at any age who were disabled before age 22 and remain disabled; and Dependent parents age 62 or older.

Even if you are divorced, you still may qualify for survivors benefits. For more information, go to www.socialsecurity.gov.

Question: I lost my Social Security card. Should I get a new one?

Answer: You may not need to get a replacement card. Knowing your Social Security number is what is important. However, you can replace your Social Security card for free if it is lost or stolen. Remember, you are limited to three replacement cards in a year and 10 during your lifetime. Learn more at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Question: Can I get an estimate of my retirement benefit at several different possible ages?

Answer: Yes. We suggest you use our Retirement Estimator at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator to test

different retirement scenarios. This online tool will give you retirement benefit estimates based on current law and real time access to your earnings record. The Retirement Estimator also lets you create additional "what if" retirement scenarios. It's even available in Spanish at www.segurosocial.gov/calculador. You can test even more alternatives at www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/calculators.htm.

Question: If both my spouse and I are entitled to Social Security benefits, is there any reduction in our payments because we are married?

Answer: No. We calculate lifetime earnings independently to determine each spouse's Social Security benefit amount. When each member of a married couple meets all other eligibility requirements to receive Social Security retirement benefits, each spouse receives a monthly benefit amount based on his or her own earnings. Couples are not penalized simply because they are married. If one member of the couple earned low wages or failed to earn enough Social Security credits (40) to be insured for retirement benefits, he or she may be eligible to receive benefits as a spouse. Learn more about Social Security at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Question: I am receiving Social Security disability benefits. Will my benefits be affected if I work and earn money?

Answer: It can, depending on how much you make. We have special rules called "work incentives" that help you keep your cash benefits and Medicare while you test your ability to work. For example, there is a trial work period during which you can receive full benefits regardless of how much you earn, as long as you report your work activity and continue to have a disabling impairment. For more information about work incentives, we recommend that you read the leaflet, Working While Disabled-How We Can Help, at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10095.html.

Question: Is there a time limit on Social Security disability benefits?

Answer: Your disability benefits will continue as long as your medical condition has not improved and you cannot work. We will review your case at regular intervals to make sure you are still disabled. Learn more by reading our publication, Disability Benefits, at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10029.html.

Question: Is it true that a person can own a home and still be eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits?

Answer: Yes, a person who owns a home and lives in that home can be eligible for SSI benefits. SSI is for people who are disabled, aged, or blind and who have limited income and resources. However, there are some items we do not count as resources, such as the home you live in. For more information, read our booklet, Supplemental Security Income, at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/11000.html.

Question: I know you need to have limited resources to receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) but what is considered a resource?

Answer: Resources are things you own that you can use for support. They include cash, real estate, personal belongings, bank accounts, stocks, and bonds. To be eligible for SSI a person must have no more than \$2,000 in countable resources. A married couple must have no more than \$3,000 in countable resources. If you own resources over the SSI limit, you may be able to get SSI benefits while trying to sell the resources. Not all of your resources count toward

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the SSI resource limit. For example: The home you live in and the land it's on do not count.

Your personal effects and household goods do not count.

Life insurance policies may not count, depending on their value.

Your car usually does not count. Burial plots for you and members of your immediate family do not count.

Up to \$1,500 in burial funds for you and up to \$1,500 in burial funds for your spouse may not count.

If you are blind or have a disability, some items may not count if you plan to use them to work or earn extra income.

You may also wish to read our material on "resources" in the booklet, Understanding SSI at www.socialsecurity.gov/ssi/text-understanding-ssi.htm.

Question: If I call 1-800-772-1213, can a Social Security representative take my application for

Medicare prescription drug help over the phone?

Answer: If an interviewer is available when you call the 800 number, he or she can take your application over the phone. If an interviewer is not immediately available, we can schedule a telephone appointment for you. For the fastest and most convenient way to apply for Medicare prescription drug help, go online to www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp.

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LUNCH MENU

ELEMENTARY MENU
Week of Dec. 11, 2011

MON: Sloppy Jo Tostito scoops (egg, cheese & sausage on wheat English muffin also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), southwest corn & black bean salad, pears, milk.

TUES: Tony's flatbread cheese pizza (Rib BQ on wheat bun also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), tossed romaine salad w/ lite dressing, pineapple, milk.

WED: Pizza dippers (4) w/ marinara sauce (Jr. ham/cheese sub also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), broccoli florets w/low fat ranch dipping sauce, peaches, milk.

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

FRI: Chicken patty on bun w/crispy potato wedges (chili cheese potato wedges w/heat roll also offered at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), orange smiles, milk.

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.
Lowell Naz - Where People Matter

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 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 (8 & 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: 4-4:45 PM
Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:00 AM - 8 PM
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETE WIGGINS 897-7915
SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 393, ENTV FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21
www.goodshepherdlowell.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..... 6:00 P.M.
Nursery available at both services
Barrier-Free

SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell
Pastor Dr. Mike Cankin
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!

The Christmas Gift

ignite church

Saturday, December 10 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Ignite Church Next to Ada-Lowell 5 Theater

FREE Gift Wrapping ~ FREE Baked goods ~ FREE Refreshments

In honor of the True meaning of CHRISTmas we are offering an opportunity to the community to shop FREE to help alleviate some of the financial burden and to help bring focus to the True Meaning of the Season. We will be hosting a FREE shopping event where you can find gently used items that include; FREE clothes, FREE toys and FREE household items. Come and shop with us and enjoy home-made baked goods, gift wrapping and activities for the kids!

For more information call 616.773.0540

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WWW.FAMILYDENTISTRYOFLOWELL.COM

Make your holiday season extra festive

In the rush of the holiday season, it's easy to forget what the holidays are about. Make sure to spread some cheer and to make the season extra festive for your family and friends.

Here are some fun ideas to ensure your holiday season is a joyous one

that brings out the best in you!

• Hang a wreath. Even if you don't get to the lights or the tree, a simple live wreath will transform your home from Grinch-worthy to Santa-welcome.

The wonderful scent will

let visitors know upon arrival that you're in the spirit of the season.

• Send holiday cards early. Start spreading cheer by getting your holiday greetings into your recipients' hands as soon as possible. Ideally, holiday

cards should be mailed the Friday after Thanksgiving, according to the experts at online stationery store Minted.com. If your cards are mailed early, people actually have time to notice and appreciate them. If you need more time and flexibility, sending a Happy New Year card is a great option.

• Host a stamping / addressing party. Eggnog, fresh cookies, envelopes, stamps and address lists are all you need for a fes-

tive, yet productive evening! Turn on some carols and you're ready to tackle this task. Invite some friends and chat between writing personal notes on each card or enlist children to help stamp and seal!

• Throw a cookie party. 'Tis the season to indulge your sweet tooth. But if it's too much work to make sugar cookies, butter cookies, molasses drops, gingerbread and thumbprints all by your-

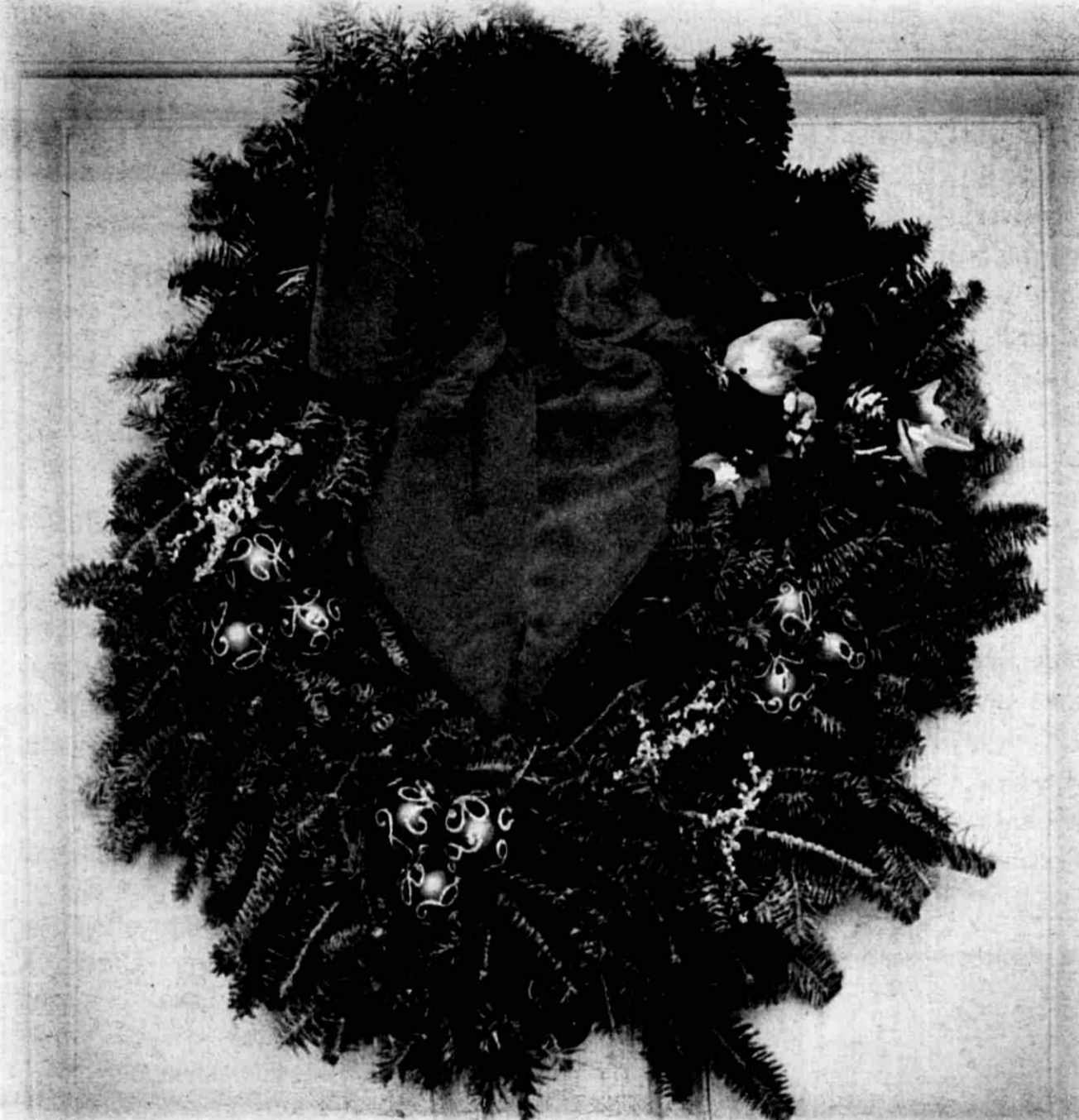
self, throw a party where everyone brings a plate of cookies! Send out invitations to make the night extra special and ask guests to RSVP with the type of cookie they'll bring, so you don't end up with four types of peppermint bark!

• Display holiday cards. Colorful cards act as instant, free decorative pieces. The mantle is an obvious choice, but if you don't have one, hang a piece of string and clip cards to it with clothespins. Bonus points for red or green pins!

• Send personalized thank you cards. Just because the season must end doesn't mean you need to stop spreading cheer. Why not order personalized note cards along with your Christmas cards for the inevitable thank you notes to come? Write notes for gifts received and for the pleasure of attending parties or dinners. While perfecting your manners, order personalized children's stationery so kids can learn this important discipline. Festive cards with their names make this chore more fun. You can find personalized cards for adults and kids online at such websites as Minted.com, saving you a trip to the stationery store.

• Get involved. Whether you participate in decorating the neighborhood, giving gifts to the needy or delivering food to the hungry, selfless actions help brighten the season.

This year don't lose the joy amidst the hustle and bustle.



CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council will conduct a public hearing at its regularly scheduled meeting of Tuesday, January 3, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lowell City Hall, Council Chambers, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan. The purpose of said hearing will be to receive comments on the following:

We would like to expand the Industrial Development District for King Milling Company to include parcels 41-20-02-453-030 and 41-20-02-451-005 in accordance with the provisions of Public Act 198 of 1974 as amended. This would include all of King Milling's properties located on the east side of South Hudson, south side of Main Street and west of the Flat River. The district qualifies the company for tax abatement certificates under Public Act 198 involving future expansions.

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



Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

MPA What do all those public notices cost us? Can't they just be posted on a Web site?

State law requires that citizens be informed of certain governmental activity through paid public notices like the ones in this newspaper.

It's one way to make government accountable to the people.

More than two-thirds of active Michigan voters* would be concerned if government placed these notices on Web sites because important information could be concealed from the public.

So, what's it worth to you to be able to pick up this newspaper and find out what's going on in your town, your county, or your local schools?

*EPIC-MRA November 2007



the powell ledger

This newspaper supports your right to know

MPCP

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4024 Park East Court SE | Suite C | Grand Rapids, MI | 49546

Santa parade, continued

First place - Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Second place - Grand River Veterinary Hospital

Third place - Lowell Area Bus Driver Association

The People's Choice will be awarded on Friday when Santa visits the Showboat for pictures.

You can enjoy hot cocoa and cookies in the Cookie Room on the Showboat during this holiday season. Modern Photographics will be taking free digital photos on Wednesdays, Dec. 7, Dec. 14 and Dec. 21 from 5:30 pm to 7 pm and on Friday, Dec. 9 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm with Santa in the Santa Room.

There will also be free horse and carriage rides, live reindeer, warming fires and hot dogs at the Riverwalk Plaza and much more.

River Valley Credit Union will be taking free digital photos on Sat., Dec. 10 and Dec. 17 from 10:30 a. to 1 pm

According to comments on the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce facebook, the parade was great with no winners or losers.

The lack of snow didn't stop paradegoers from enjoying the biggest parade of the year that helps most people get into the Christmas spirit.



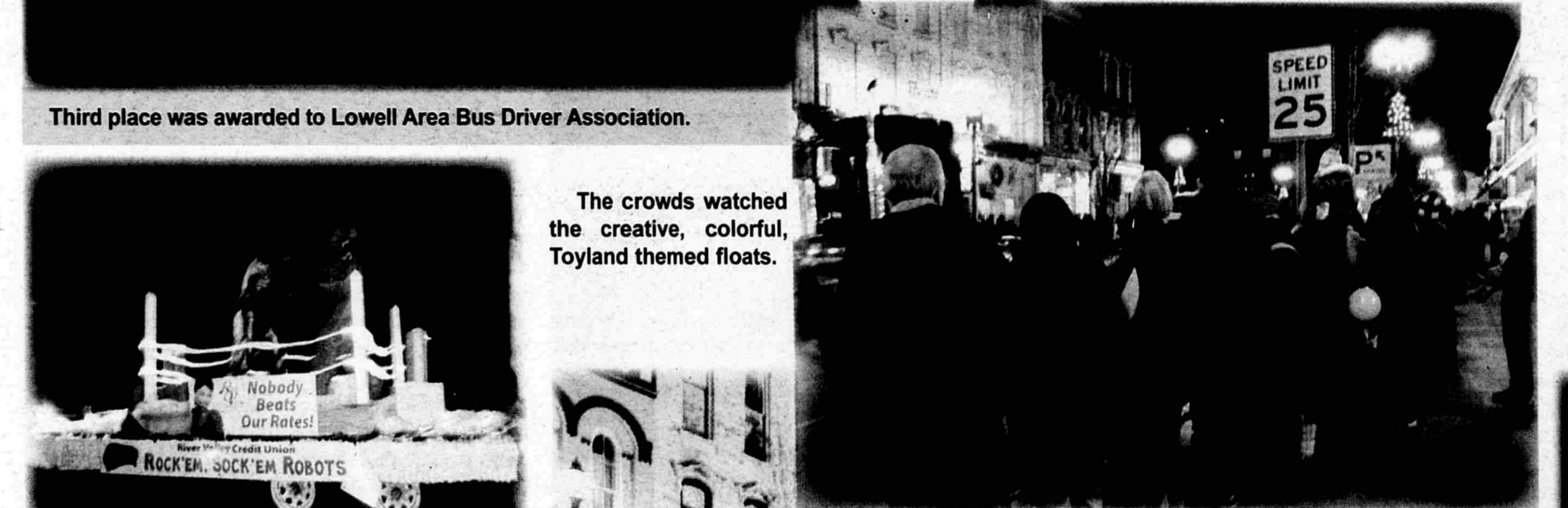
Second place went to Grand River Veterinary Hospital.



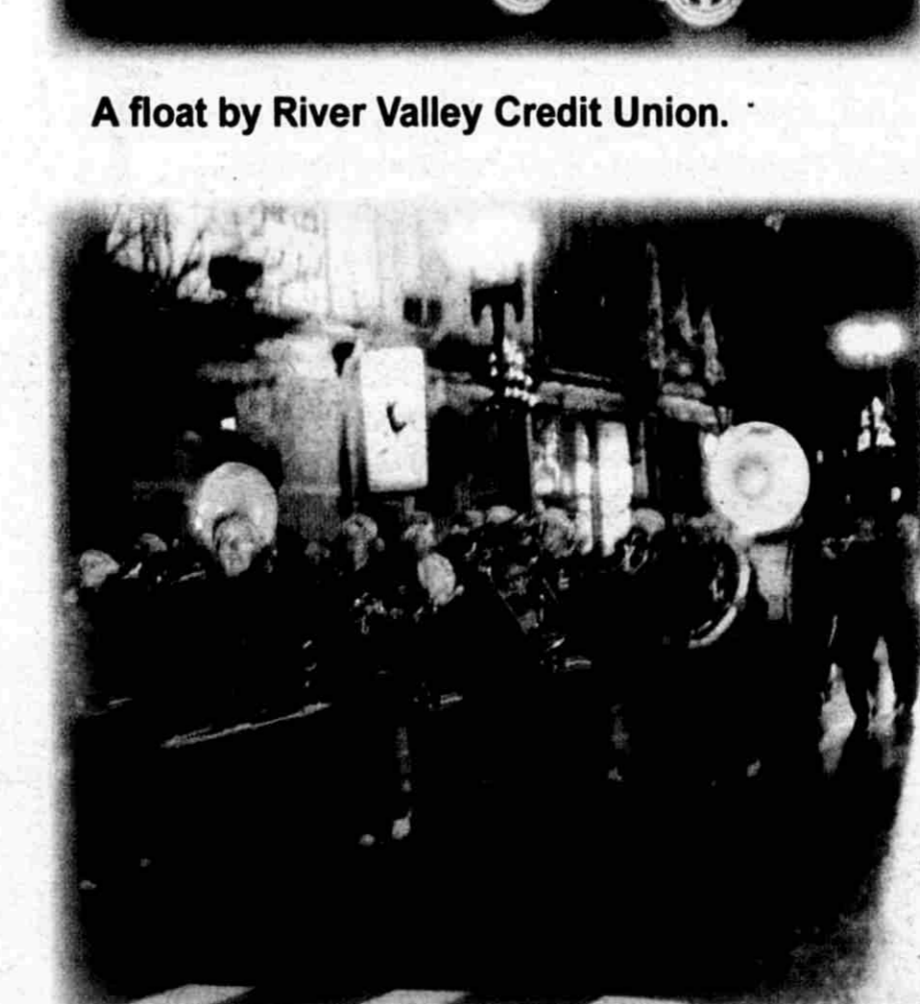
Third place was awarded to Lowell Area Bus Driver Association.



"Lone Ranger" Evart Bek used a motorcycle.



The crowds watched the creative, colorful, Toyland themed floats.



Also participating were Lowell school bands.



The Lowell Area Fire Department showed off their fire trucks.

**exploring
our national parks**



by Kurt Hieshetter

Black Canyon

Our 2010 summer vacation was almost over. We had driven over 2,000 miles, visited four national parks

center seemed like fifty. In five miles, the road climbs over 2,700 feet and pulling a 24 feet travel trailer with

and forth pretending to help the car up the hill.

Arriving at the south rim campground with our car still running and our trailer still in tow brought much relief. Located just inside the entrance station, the three loops of this campground offered a lot of privacy between sites. B loop offers electricity which is very rare for a national park campground. With the

With camp set up, we set off to the visitors' center. I could tell the car was thankful to leave the trailer behind since there was no sucking sound from the fuel system.

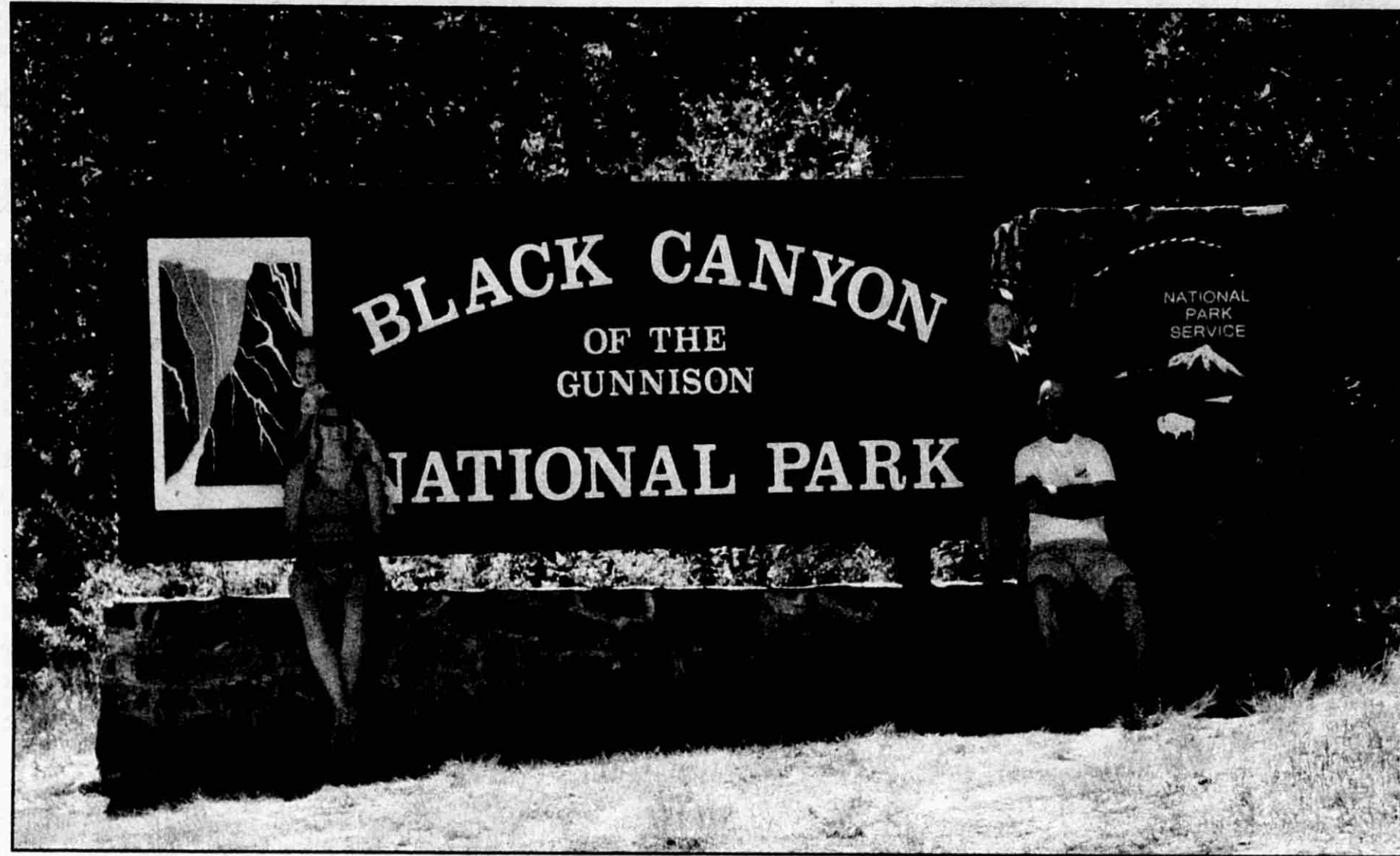
A mile into the park, the visitors' center sits on the canyon rim. From the large deck, you are able to see the visitors on the north rim with only this deep gorge between you. It is

South Rim Road. As with most roads in all the other national parks we have visited, this one was not built with safety in mind. Sharp curves. No guardrails. 2,000 foot drops into the abyss if you happen to miss a curve. There are many scenic overlooks with very unique names: Devils Lookout, Chasm View, Dragon Point and Sunset View, to name a few. The South Rim Road ends at HighPoint. At 8,289 feet, this is the highest point in the park and the only way out is to drive back the way you came.

Evening at a national park campground usually

tunnel would be six miles long and take four years to build. To accomplish this, a road would have to be built down to the river where a town and dam could be built. The town was called East Portal and the East Portal Road dropped you into the canyon.

Thankfully many improvements have been made to the road since 1900. For one, the grade has been reduced to 16 percent from 32 percent. That's right, they built this tunnel and dam with horse and wagon on a road with a grade of 32 percent! A few more switchbacks have been added,



Hieshetter family at Black Canyon welcome sign.

and three national historic sites. We had seen only a small portion of the American Southwest, yet learned a great deal about the historical significance this region played in the early years of our young country. We still had one more national park and 1,600 miles to go before home.

Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park lies 15 miles east of Montrose, CO, just north of US 50. The Gunnison River has carved a gorge so deep and so narrow that very little sunlight reaches the bottom. This is why it is called Black Canyon. 2,700 feet below the rim, the river drops nearly 100 feet per mile creating a wild, whitewater river. Unlike its much larger cousin on the Colorado River, the Grand Canyon, with a distance across the rim measured in miles, the Black Canyon's distance across is only 1,100 feet. Few canyons in the world have walls as steep as Black Canyon, falling nearly straight down from the rim.

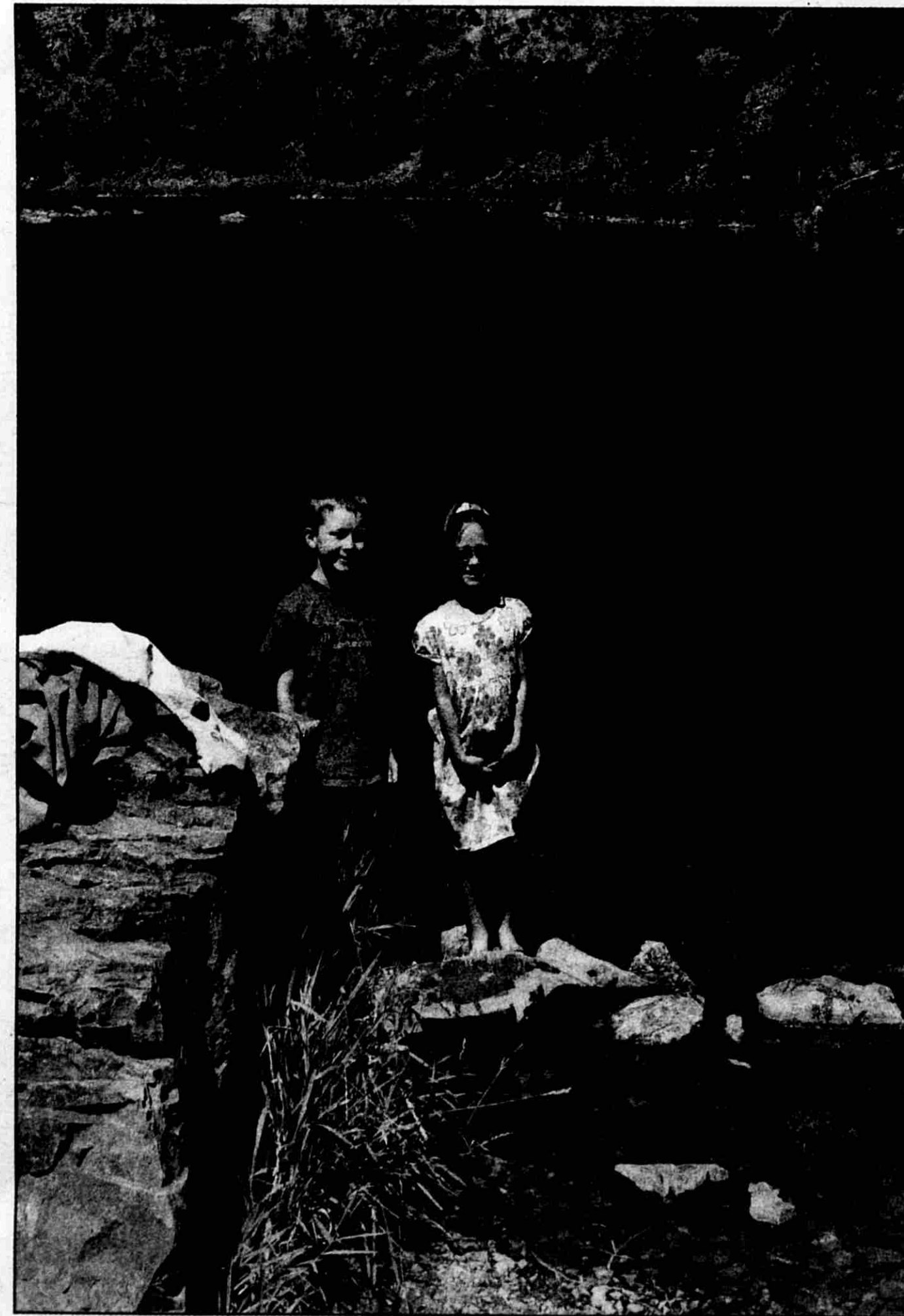
The three hour drive from Moab, UT, was uneventful. We pulled into the Montrose IGA for a few supplies for our two-night stay in the park. Driving east past well-irrigated fields made us wonder where all this water was coming from and making things so green. We would soon find out. Colorado Highway 347 is the only way to the south rim of the park. The short five miles from US 50 to the visitor

a Trailblazer up a grade that steep is no picnic. The engine raced and we held our breath. This was one of the steepest roads we have ever pulled the trailer up. The four of us were rocking back

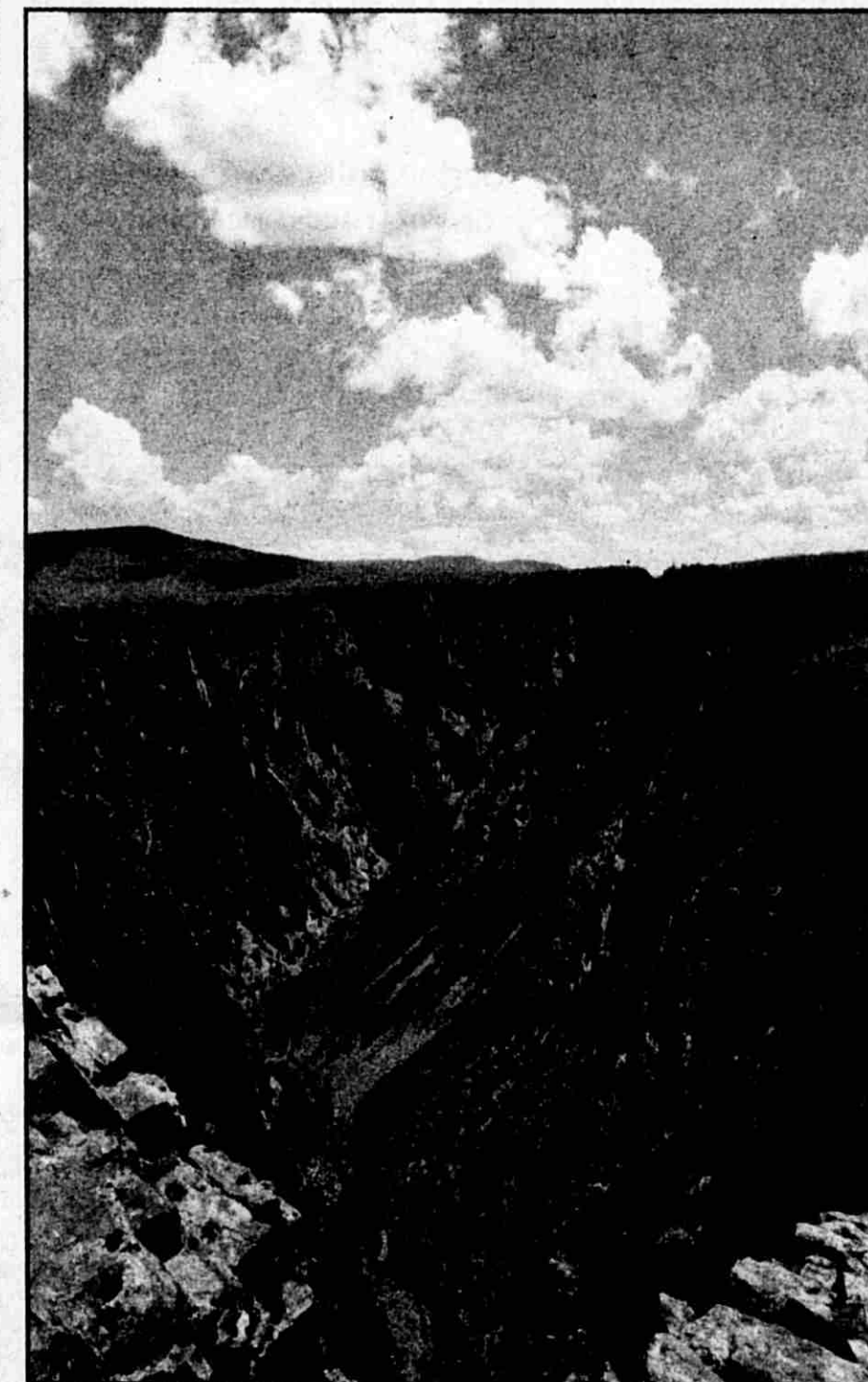
campground approximately 2,700 feet above the river, water is scarce. It has to be trucked up from Montrose over the road we just drove. Signs tell you to use water sparingly.

hard to imagine that this river carved this gorge through solid rock, even if it did take millions of years.

After leaving the visitors' center, we drove further into the park along the



Dillon and Sierra standing in the Gunnison River at East Portal.



Looking into the canyon from the South Rim.

includes a ranger program at the amphitheater. The program at Black Canyon was one of the best we've been to. With pelts from many native animal species, the ranger gave all the kids in the audience jobs as animals. Dillon draped the skin of a gray wolf around him. His job was to howl like a wolf on cue. Sierra, on the other hand, was a peregrine falcon. She did not get the real thing, but received a stuffed toy. Her bird call was however right on. With other kids pretending to be black bears, moose and elk, the adults were very entertained. A well-deserved Junior Ranger badge was earned by Dillon and Sierra.

Earlier I stated we would soon find out how the Uncompahgre Valley was so green. We spent day two investigating why. In 1905 the town of Montrose began digging a tunnel through the mountain from the Gunnison River to the Uncompahgre River. The Gunnison offered a much more reliable, steady water supply. This

which is the reason the grade was reduced. This limits the road to cars and trucks only. No motor homes or trailers.

Once at the bottom of the canyon, a Gold Medal trout stream awaits you along with a ranger station, tent only campground, picnic area and a few remains of the original town of East Portal. The kids played in the river and we ate our picnic lunch next to the diversion dam, amazed at how this was all built using horses and dynamite.

Our last night in a national park on this trip was spent by a large campfire. S'mores for the kids and an ice cold Lizard Ale for Steph and I. We still had about 1,500 miles 'til home. A two-night stay in Breckenridge to visit good friends is still on the itinerary. After that, it is all down hill.

Don't forget you can look back at the other parks we visited on this trip at nationalparkswithtwins.blogspot.com till next month when we visit Yellowstone.

Lowell High School first trimester Honor Roll

1st trimester term GPA must be a 3.000 or higher to qualify & is based on final grades

FRESHMAN

- Alderink, Anthony
- Annable, Allison
- Arthur, Angus
- Barber, Maxwell
- Barnes, Tanner
- Bazen, Rachel
- Bierling, Taylor
- Bigham, John
- Bladey, Abrielle
- Blattner, Nathan
- Blough, Maria
- Bohr, Alexander
- Boulton, Santana
- Bozman, Mikayla
- Branagan, Josh
- Briggs, Hannah
- Bronkella, Laurel
- Brown, Paige
- Bush, Katelyn
- Bush, Mackenzie
- Carpenter, Amy
- Casalina, Angela
- Castagno, Nicholas
- Cater, Colleen
- Chapelaine, Alexandra
- Chapin, Tess
- Chumney, Brendan
- Clark, Jay
- Clay, Mitchell
- Cook, Amber
- Cornish, Ciara
- Coxon, Kennedy
- Crosby, Paul
- Cummings, Bailey
- Curtis, Coty
- Dawson, Kailee
- Dee, Seth
- DeHaan, Lauren
- DeKraker, Maggie
- Doom, Taylor
- Doyle, Caitlin
- Draigh, Hannah
- Endres, Steven
- Everitt, Justin
- Fife, Ann
- Fisher, Bradley
- Fron, Danielle
- Garcia, Alexia
- Gauck, Caitlyn
- Gibas, Nathan
- Goos, Austin
- Gordon, Zachary
- Gorman, Shannon
- Hall, Jordan
- Hall, Tyler
- Hart, Louis
- Henderson, Isaac
- Higgins, Nickolas
- Hindley, Rachel
- Hoevenaar, Tayler
- Hofman, Megan
- Holzhueter, Katie
- Hooftman, Jacob
- Hovey, Todd
- Iteen, Madalynne
- Jacobs, Kelliann
- Johnson, Chloe
- Johnson, Jessica
- Johnson, Jocelyn
- Judd, Emily
- Kaczanowski, Bethany
- Kane, Samantha
- Kohtz, Benjamin
- Koory, Avreil

- Kooy, Amanda
- Krajewski, Danielle
- Kyburz, Nathen
- Lambert, Hannah
- Launer, Montana
- Leasure, Mary
- LeBarre, Cole
- Lehman, Nicole
- Lemmink, Phillip
- Limmex, Nathan
- Longway, Newton
- Longway, Nicholas
- MacDonald, Nicholas
- MacPherson, Allyson
- Mahalic, Thomas
- Makuski, Kaitlin
- Mankel, Dylan
- Martin, Andrew
- Mason, Brennan
- Mata, Selena
- McLane, Emma
- McQueen, Tara
- Meade, Jillian
- Milstead, Matthew
- Misiak, Esme
- Mokma, HeavenLeigh
- Montgomery, Kathryn
- Nethercott, Landon
- Newhouse, Brooke
- Newman, Nicholas
- Nolan, Kristen
- Norder, Anna
- Oesch, Breanna
- Onan, Daniel
- Organek, Anna
- Peterson, Anna
- Polsgrove, Jacob
- Potter, Kyle
- Price, Jason
- Quiggle, Grace
- Reed, Parker
- Reynolds, Anna
- Rich, Breana
- Rife, Adrienne
- Rife, Austin
- Ritchie, Zachary
- Roberts, Jonathan
- Robinson, Francesca
- Rose, David
- Russell, Victoria
- Schlenderer, Morgan
- Schmidt, Jesse
- Schreur, Rebecca
- Schultz, Robert
- Serne, Caitlyn
- Skibbe, Hannah
- Smith, Logan
- Spencer, Brendan
- Stark, Sean
- Steiner, Jessica
- Sterzick, Marissa
- Stewart, Bethany
- Stoutjesdyk, Scott
- Stump, Catherine
- Swartz, Samantha
- Tawney, Lydia
- Taylor, Calib
- Taylor, Morgan
- Thomas, Alaine
- Thomas, Jace
- Tozer, Zachariah
- Valentine, Khari
- VanAmburgh, Bailey
- VandeKopple, Gavin
- VanderLaan, Ashley
- VanNoord, Collin
- Velting, Clayton
- Viviano, Alexander
- Vulpetti, Morgan
- Watson, Alon

- Weaver, Rebecca
- Wester, Maxwell
- Wetherbee, Philip
- Whaley, Danielle
- Wilcox, Logan
- Wilczewski, Anthony
- Wilson, Paige
- Wilterdink, Chase
- Winchell, Hunter
- Wissman, Catherine
- Wittenbach, Michael
- Woody, Rachel
- Yaw, Mallery
- Yomtoob, Rachael
- Yost, Anthony
- Ysseldyke, Isaacs

SOPHOMORES

- Alberts, Isobel
- Anderson, Kelvin
- Anderson, Sidney
- Antel, Shelby
- Ashenbremer, Kiersten
- Baker, Lauren
- Barr, Elijah
- Bauman, Zachary
- Beachler, Kortney
- Bearup, Joshua
- Bergin, Connor
- Bieri, Austin
- Bigham, Benjamin
- Bitely, Ashley
- Bladey, Kaeziah
- Blake, Michael
- Blanchard, Lauren
- Blattner, Brie
- Blough, Emmalee
- Bobko, Kristine
- Bocskey, Alexia
- Bodus, Christopher
- Borgholt, Kathrine Kingo
- Borton, Hayleigh
- Branagan, Brittany
- Bray, Tristen
- Brenner, Isaac
- Brinks, Randal
- Brubaker, Travis
- Bussell, Monica
- Cadwallader, Richard
- Cahoon, Casey
- Canfield, Katherine
- Carey, Taylor
- Carvajal, Blythe
- Chappel, Sarah
- Chiang, Ting-Ya
- Choi, Jiyeong
- Churches, Levi
- Cummings, Abigail
- Cummings, Abigail
- Darby, Alyssa
- Davis, Kayleigh
- Davis, Justin
- Dean, Bethany
- Dean, Kanon
- DeBoer, Luke
- Decker, Kaelobb
- Deiss, Samantha
- DeKraker, Kevin
- DenBraven, Ryan
- Dlouhy, Alexander
- Dubisky, Allysen
- Duma, Erin
- Duma, Isaac
- Engels, Hunter
- Epema, Haley
- Everhart, Max
- Falkenstern, Madeline
- Fitzpatrick, Hannah
- Flentje, Caleb

- Flier, Cassandra
- Fotis, Zachary
- Fox, Sydney
- Frederickson, Makenzie
- Fuller, Morgan
- Garcia, Jacob
- Gawichai, Unyamanee
- Goebel, Austin
- Gordon, Garrett
- Graves, Jessica
- Griffioen, Michelle
- Groendyke, Morgan
- Grohman, Ian
- Groom, Parker
- Grover, Noel
- Haan, Kathryn
- Haehnel, Scott
- Hale, Paige
- Harris, Taylare
- Hayden, Charlotte
- Heikkila, Brittney
- Hess, Nicholas
- Hewett, Mackenzie
- Hirose, Yuka
- Holmes, Madison
- Houston, Jeffrey
- Inda, Grace
- Itthichaicharoen, Pan
- Jack, Bailey
- Jahnke, Zachary
- Kabandana, Moises
- Kaminski, Alex
- Kargl, Joseph
- Kaywood, Zachary
- Kazen, Jordan
- Kelley, Liam
- Kornoelje, Alexander
- Krajewski, Derek
- Kramer, Mallory
- Krebill, Austin
- Lally, Colleen
- Lazar, Matthew
- Lee, Siha
- Lubbers, Ryan
- Lubitz, Vanessa
- Lyon, Spencer
- Lytle, Jordan
- Majinska, Catherine
- Marsman, Robert
- McCormick, Alyssa
- McCready, Kennedy
- McGruder, Paige
- McKenna, Paige
- McNaughton, Catherine
- Menzel, Joshua
- Metternick, Andrew
- Mitchell, Carl
- Moody, William
- Moseler, Kaelyn
- Mullin, Kelsey
- Murray, Sarah
- Nelson, Hannah
- North, Jacob
- Oesch, Sarah
- Oravcova, Frederika
- Paffhausen, Emily
- Paiz, Mallory
- Perkins, Morgan
- Perry, Paige
- Petersen, Jacob
- Peterson, Benjamin
- Peterson, Chase
- Petroelje, Abby
- Phelps, Rachel
- Plunkett, Jacob
- Plutschow, Meghan
- Poll, Jacob
- Proefke, Nicholas
- Reitsma, Matthew

- Ritsema, Sean
- Roberts, Bailey
- Rozell, Paige
- Ryder, Joseph
- Sage, Samantha
- Sanders, Maximilian
- Saunders, Jenna
- Selli, Cody
- Senneker, Brett
- Shelley, Brandi
- Shurlow, Tyler
- Simmons, Jackson
- Sirowatka, Austin
- Slupe, McKenzie
- Smelt, Julia
- Smith, Brook
- Smith, Karah
- Smith, Michelle
- Smith, Nicholas
- Smoes, Tyler
- Spielmacher, Racheal
- Starkey, Danielle
- Starkey, Michelle
- Stasiak, Hailey
- Steed, Aubreigh
- Stehley, Garrett
- Stevens, Jacob
- Stormzand, Ashlee
- Strzyzewski, Brandon
- Summerfield, Quinn
- Sweet, Jacob
- Taylor, Trevor
- Theisen, Joshua
- Tidd, Shy
- Tremblay, Alexandra
- VandenBerg, Marc
- vanOverbeek, Sydney
- VanOverloop, Kimberly
- VanTil, Evelyn
- Walters, Rachael
- Walters, Ryan
- Westhues, Laura
- Willemstein, Madelynn
- Wittenbach, Rachel
- Wyckoff, Jonathan
- Yan, Boya
- Young, Shelby
- Yuhas, Katelyn

JUNIORS

- Aitchison-Stevens, Glenn
- Anderson, Aaron
- Anderson, Hannah
- Anderson, Titan
- Antel, Timothy
- Babcock, Micah
- Bachmann, Michael
- Bancroft, Alanna
- Barnes, McKensie
- Barrett, Justin
- Bartkus, Amy
- Bencker, Perry
- Berends, Paige
- Betts, Rebekah
- Bieri, Cody
- Bieri, Corryn
- Bitterman, Derek
- Blanchard, Kevin
- Bowne, Skylar
- Brown, Kaeleb
- Buck, Haley
- Burke, Mikayla
- Burt, Hannah
- Chesebro, Bradlee
- Chittenden, Dean
- Clarke, Molly
- Cloud, Jordan
- Coble, Paige

- Collins, Jacob
- Collins, Scott
- Cowden, Daniel
- Crawford, Zachary
- Culross, Jacey
- Cummings, Nicole
- Daniel, Alexandria
- Davenport, Jacob
- Dawson, Zachary
- Dec, Emilyn
- Denison, Molly
- Dennie, Jordan
- Dimmick, Heather
- Dodde, Kennedy
- Dues, Jack
- Elliott, Joshua
- Ellis, Abigail
- Ferguson, Delainey
- Feuerstein, Licia
- Finch, Andrew
- Finkhouse, Collin
- Fisher, Kristin
- Flentje, Abigail
- Flier, Carissa
- Folkersma, Christina
- Foot, Michelle
- Fox, Jonathan
- Gauck, Joseph
- Gee, Joshua
- Gibas, Zachary
- Gibbs, Gabrielle
- Graves, Zachary
- Green, Hannah
- Hacker, Madison
- Haefner, Bailey
- Hanson, Anthony
- Harrison, Taylor
- Hause, Madonna
- Henderson, Lukas
- Hewitt, Joshua
- Higgins, Brianna
- Hills, Marissa
- Hindley, Brett
- Hinton, Alexandra
- Hrusovsky, Bryce
- Huber, Ashley
- Huffman, Jennifer
- Huver, Zachary
- Janowski, Philip
- Johnson, Jordan
- Johnson, Kaitlyn
- Johnson, Maranda
- Kaczanowski, Katelyn
- Kargl, Christianne
- Kehoe, Annette
- Khodl, Jacob
- Khodl, Sean
- Kloosterman, Kolby
- Kohtz, Sophie
- Lambert, Kayleigh
- Lemke, Austin
- Ligman, Maxin
- Lillie, Jordan
- Lobbezoo, Brendan
- Loughlin, Bailey
- Lytle, Dakotah
- Majinska, Matthew
- Malcolm, Kelli
- Malcolm, Kimberly
- Malling, Jason
- Mark, Johnathon
- Marks, Tobias
- Massey, Shannon
- McCormick, Nicholas
- McGregor, Keaton

obituaries

THOMPSON

James A. Thompson, age 69, of Lowell, passed away December 1, 2011, in Lowell. He was born September 11, 1942, in Boston Twp., the son of LeRoy and Ella (Geelhoed) Thompson.

BENSON

Ida May Scott Benson of Sweetwater Park, Zephyrhills, FL, died November 27, 2011, in the care of Hernandez Pasco Hospice in Dade City, FL.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ROBERT JOSEPH CURRAN TRUST

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

TO ALL CREDITORS: The Settlor, Robert Joseph Curran, who lived at 1705 Pontiac, S.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49506, died on 8/13/11.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 11-190726-DE Estate of LORAIN WATSON. Date of birth: 10/15/1923.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, LORAIN WATSON, who lived at St. Ann's Home, 2161 Leonard, N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan, died March 1, 2011.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Patricia Watson, 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.

Date: November 30, 2011 Thomas F. Curran, Trustee of Robert Joseph Curran Trust, uad 8/4/04

11/29/2011

1705 Pontiac St., S.E. Grand Rapids, MI 49506 616-243-5951

Patricia Watson 46801 Elmsmere Dr. Northville, MI 48167 734-295-4287

Prepared by: Craig A. Bruggink P.L.C. (P29358) Attorney for Trustee 429 Turner NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 616-456-5048

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

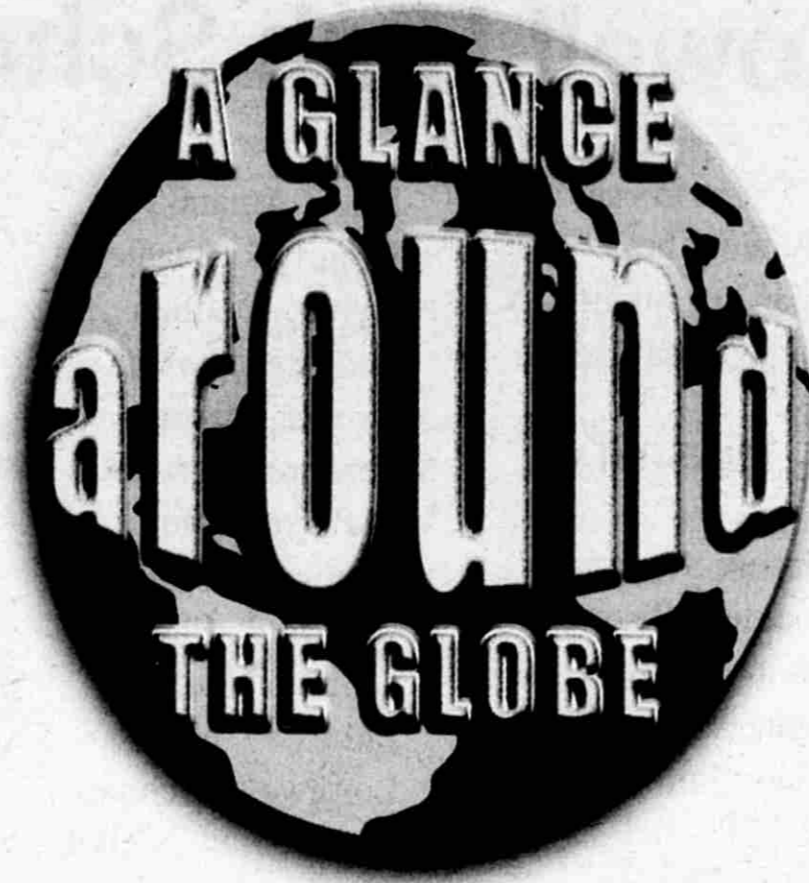
Grid of numbers for puzzle solutions: 4 7 9 1 2 3 6 5 8, 5 2 1 4 6 8 3 7 9, 6 8 3 9 7 5 4 1 2, 8 3 5 7 9 4 1 2 6, 1 4 2 8 5 6 7 9 3, 7 9 6 3 1 2 5 8 4, 3 5 4 2 8 1 9 6 7, 9 1 8 6 4 7 2 3 5, 2 6 7 5 3 9 8 4 1

Grid of letters for puzzle solutions: SPASM ABC COD, PARTI LAH CAPON, ARIAS EDO APART, RALPHIE RUDOLPH, HAL HELD, WEU PESO TIPOFF, HUNK UMBO ELVER, IRAN MONDO EURO, TOPER GOOS ALAN, ESTEEM BRIGELD, DIBS ERE, MIRACLE PRIMATE, UVULA LEE NIGHT, GALOP ILL CLEAN, NEE EFT HYENA

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The Lowell Ledger 105 N. Broadway, 897-9261



NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 6

- Pizza mogul Herman Cain drops out of the presidential race amid several allegations of impropriety. NASA's telescope Kepler discovers a new planet in the habitable zone. It is roughly 600 light years away and appears to be orbiting a sun-like star and could be capable of sustaining life. At this point it is named Kepler-22b.

DRAFT SYNOPSIS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOWELL CITY COUNCIL MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2011

- Motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion to approve the regular minutes of the November 21, 2011 meeting as corrected. Motion to approve the accounts payables as presented. Motion to establish a public hearing for Tuesday, January 3, 2012 to consider the request to expand the Industrial Development District for King Milling Company to include parcels number 41-20-02-453-030 and 41-20-02-451-005. Motion to adjourn at 8:22 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, December 19, 2011. Complete minutes will be available after approved on December 19, 2011 on the City's website at www.ci.lowell.mi.us or at City Hall. Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

classifieds

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

for sale

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.

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.

found

FOUND - Dog, black & white w/red collar on Portland Rd. in Clarksville. Call 616-693-2888.

services

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

for rent

HORSE LOVER'S DREAM - House, barns, pastures. 3 bedroom ranch, Lowell Schools. For more info search on Facebook Seaman Finn Ranch, go to wall. Call 616-897-5807.

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

FIREWOOD FOR SALE - split and seasoned, 12 months, \$150 per cord. Call Dan at 616-970-3832.

BOB'S 14TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BIRDHOUSE SALE - Feeders: bluebird, wren, bat houses, ready to go, make great Christmas gifts. New this year - wood duck nesting boxes, several on-hand, taking orders for spring. Bob's Birdhouses, 12279 60th St., Alto. 868-6633.

1/2 ACRE LOT WITH POLE BARN - Everything there but the house. Mobile homes welcome. 1 mile from Lowell on M21, Ionia County, Lowell Schools. Commercial or residential. By owner. 616-446-7426 or 897-6045.

HOME FOR SALE BY OWNER ON 5 ACRES - 11365 Foreman Rd., Lowell. 616-897-5632 or 616-328-4212.

2 LARGE GENTLE - Male house cats, neutered, no front claws, \$10 each. 616-914-6513.

FOR SALE - Mitsubishi VS-60609 Projection TV, Used/Manufactured 2003. Black, 60 in. screen, \$500. Please call 616-954-2366.

FREE ADI - 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

LAST CHANCE TO 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. All orders must be paid by Dec. 31, 2011 to be included in the book.

ROOM FOR RENT - Ada Village, private home. Includes washer/dryer, use of kitchen, cable, wireless internet, convenient to Amway. Call 682-5474.

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.

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

card of thanks

THE ADRIAN STERZICK FAMILY would like to thank the Lowell/Alto/Caledonia Community for their support and prayers in the death of our father and grandfather, Adrian Sterzick. Thank you for grieving with us and supporting our family in this time of sorrow. Steven & Karen Sterzick, Kirk Sterzick, Robert Sterzick, Anthony, Amanda, Jacob, Kimberly & Marissa Sterzick

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.

RIDE SHARE WANTED - Lowell to Woodland Mall area. I work Mon. - Fri., 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. I can drive half the time or give you gas money. We could set it up for 5 days a week or just a few - whatever works for you. I am flexible! I am a professional middle-aged woman. Let's see if we can both save some gas money! Call 616-540-3053.

services

ZOOLAND DAYCARE - has full time openings - Call 897-8386 or 308-0195. www.zoollanddaycare.com

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. MissMeowwic@msn.com

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

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

services

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

FREE! YES FREE! - No gimmicks, no cost. Do you have some or no prescription coverage? Save up to 10 to 85% on prescriptions, lab work & hearing aids. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope, with your address, and I will do the rest! It is designed to help the less fortunate. Mail to: Helping People, PO Box 922, Cannonsburg, MI 49317.

HOMESTEAD CHRISTMAS SALE - open now, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., no Sundays. We have many all-natural, homemade, unique gifts that are very affordable. 11111 60th St., Alto.

COPIES COPIES - We have color & black & white copiers! Excellent quality! As low as 10c per copy for black & white. Stop by our office, Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway.

services

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. Daily UPS pickup at 3 p.m. Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, 897-9261.

UPS SHIPPING COPY SERVICE, (black & white & color!) FAX SERVICE, LAMINATING, & MUCH MORE AVAILABLE AT THE LOWELL LEDGER BUYERS GUIDE 105 N. Broadway HOURS M-Th. 8-5 p.m. Fri. 8-2 p.m. Closed Sat. & Sun. Ph. 897-9261 Fax 897-4809 email: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com

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.

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 Kitchin.

COFFEE WITH THE COUNCIL - Come meet & have a cup of coffee with your city 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

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, 8201 Whitneyville Rd. Free frozen, perishable food. Registration 1 p.m., distribution 4 p.m. Bring own containers. 868-6402.

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.

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.celebrate-recovery.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: lowellcalvaryc@yahooc.com

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

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.

STORYTIME - Every Thurs. at 10:30 a.m., Clarksville Area Library, 130 S. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

DORIC CHAPTER #75 - of the Order of the Eastern Star, which serves the Belding, Ionia, Lowell, Lyons-Muir & Saranac areas, will conduct its stated convocation on Wed., Dec. 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the lodge room of the temple building, 211 E. Main St., Belding. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. All Stars may attend.

HOOKER CHAPTER #73 - of the Royal Arch Masons, which serves the Belding, Ionia, Lowell, Lyons-Muir & Saranac areas, will conduct its stated convocation on Wed., Dec. 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the lodge room of the temple building, 211 E. Main St., Belding. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. All Royal Arch Masons may attend.

IONIA-MONTCALM CHAPTER #6 - of the State Employee Retiree's Association, which serves Montcalm & Ionia Counties & the Lowell area, will hold its 2012 Officers' Installation & Christmas Luncheon on Wed., Dec. 14 at 12 noon. Luncheon reservations are necessary. Call 616-527-1825 before noon on Dec. 12. All State of Michigan retirees & vested employees may attend.

KNITTING 101 - Every Tues., 10 a.m. - noon, Clarksville Area Library, 130 S. Main St., Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

KNITTING 101 - Every Wed., 10 a.m. - noon, Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac, 616-642-9146.

WINTER READING - Begins Dec. 1 thru Mar. 31, ages 10 - adult, Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac, 616-642-9146.

WINTER READING - Begins Dec. 1 thru Mar. 31, ages 10 - adult, Clarksville Area Library, 130 S. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

SANTA'S SCAVENGER HUNT - Begins Dec. 1 & ends Dec. 22. See library staff for game piece at Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac, 616-642-9146.

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

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.

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.

SHOPPING TIPS/COUPON CLASS 101 - Thurs., Dec. 7, 6 p.m. at Clarksville Area Library, 130 S. Main, Clarksville. Register by calling 616-693-1001.

SANTA VISITS - Sat., Dec. 10, 12 noon. Free pictures at Clarksville Area Library, 130 S. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

BOOKWORMS - Mon., Dec. 19, 6 p.m. Book discussion group on "The Wives of Henry Oades" by Johanna Moran at Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac, 616-642-9146.

MOVIE MATINEE - Thurs., Dec. 29, 2 p.m. "Smurfs." Free movie & popcorn at Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac, 616-642-9146.

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

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

LAS WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULE

BOYS' & GIRLS' VARSITY BOWLING

* Denotes a home game at Lowell Lanes

12/10 at 10 a.m. Lowell Invitational*

12/17 time TBA Kenowa Hills Tournament

1/4 at 3:30 p.m. Kenowa Hills

1/7 at 8 a.m. White Pre-Conference at Creston

1/9 at 3:30 p.m. Creston*

1/11 at 3:30 p.m. Grand Rapids Christian*

1/13 at 3:30 p.m. Rockford*

1/18 at 3:30 p.m. Northview

1/23 at 3:30 p.m. EGR

1/25 at 3:30 p.m. FHC*

1/28 at 9 a.m. Union Invitational

1/30 at 3:30 p.m. Mona Shores*

2/1 at 3:30 p.m. Creston

2/6 at 3:30 p.m. GR Christian

2/9 at 3:30 p.m. Forest Hills Eastern

2/13 at 3:30 p.m. Northview*

2/15 at 3:30 p.m. EGR*

2/16 at 3:30 p.m. Forest Hills Northern

2/18 time TBA Conference at EGR

2/22 at 3:30 p.m. Byron Center*

BOYS' VARSITY WRESTLING

* Denotes a home meet at LHS gymnasium

12/10 at 9 a.m. WMWOA Tournament at E. Kentwood

12/16 at 7 p.m. Mishawaka High School

12/21 at 5:30 p.m. Lakeshore quad

12/28 9 a.m. Lowell Super Duals*

12/29 at 11 a.m. Glenbard North

1/4 at 6 p.m. Greenville/Kenowa Hills

1/7 at 9 a.m. New Lothrop Invitational

1/11 at 6 p.m. Creston/Reeths Puffer*

1/14 at 9 a.m. Rivers Memorial Tournament*

1/21 at 10 a.m. Detroit Catholic Central

1/25 at 6 p.m. EGR/Holland at FHC

2/1 at 6 p.m. Union at Northview

2/3 at 5 p.m. OK White Tournament at Greenville

2/8 at 6 p.m. District Tournament*

BOYS' VARSITY ICE HOCKEY

* Denotes a home meet at E. Kentwood Ice Arena

12/9 at 7 p.m. Portage Northern*

12/14 time TBA Kalamazoo Blades

12/16 at 6:20 p.m. Kettering Tournament

12/17 time TBA Kettering Tournament

1/6 at 8:30 p.m. Kalamazoo Blades*

1/11 at 7 p.m. Wayland Union

1/13 at 8 p.m. Creston

1/14 at 7:30 p.m. Grand Rapids Christian

1/21 at 5 p.m. Jenison

1/27 at 9 p.m. South Christian

1/28 at 3 p.m. West Ottawa

2/3 at 9 p.m. South Christian*

2/4 at 4 p.m. Essexville-Garber*

2/8 at 7 p.m. Northview

BOYS' & GIRLS' VARSITY SKIING

* Denotes event held at Cannonsburg Ski Area

1/3 at 4:30 p.m. GS Championship*

1/5 at 4:30 p.m. Slalom Championship*

1/10 at 4:30 p.m. Tournament*

1/17 at 4:30 p.m. Tournament*

1/24 at 4:30 p.m. Tournament*

1/27 time TBA Tournament at Caberfae

1/31 at 4:30 p.m. Tournament*

2/7 at 4:30 p.m. Tournament*

2/24 time TBA Brain Bucket Bonanza*

GIRLS' VARSITY COMPETITION CHEER

* Denotes a home meet at LHS

1/25 at 6:30 p.m. OK White/Black Jamboree at Northview

2/1 at 6:30 p.m. OK White/Black Jamboree at Reeths Puffer

2/4 at 10 a.m. Lowell Invitational*

2/8 at 6:30 p.m. OK White/Black Jamboree at Union

2/11 at 10 a.m. Conference at GR Christian

BOYS' VARSITY BASKETBALL

* Denotes a home game at LHS Main Gym

12/9 at 7:30 p.m. Grandville

12/13 at 7:30 p.m. Forest Hills Central*

12/16 at 7:45 p.m. Grand Rapids Christian*

1/3 at 7:45 p.m. Forest Hills Northern*

1/6 at 7:45 p.m. EGR*

1/10 at 7:30 p.m. Kenowa Hills

1/13 at 7:45 p.m. Northview

1/17 at 7:30 p.m. Reeths Puffer

1/20 at 7:45 p.m. Greenville*

1/27 at 7:45 p.m. Creston*

1/31 at 7:45 p.m. Grand Rapids Christian

2/3 at 7:45 p.m. EGR

2/7 at 7:30 p.m. Mona Shores*

2/10 at 7:45 p.m. Northview*

2/14 at 7:30 p.m. Holland*

2/17 at 7:45 p.m. Greenville

2/21 at 7:30 p.m. Union

2/24 at 7:45 p.m. Creston

2/28 at 7:30 p.m. Thornapple-Kellogg*

3/1 at 7:30 p.m. Forest Hills Eastern

GIRLS' VARSITY BASKETBALL

* Denotes a home game at LHS Main Gym

12/13 at 7:30 p.m. Forest Hills Central

12/16 at 6 p.m. Grand Rapids Christian*

1/3 at 6 p.m. Forest Hills Northern*

1/6 at 6 p.m. EGR*

1/10 at 7:30 p.m. Kenowa Hills

1/13 at 6 p.m. Northview

1/17 at 7:30 p.m. Reeths Puffer

1/20 at 6 p.m. Greenville*

1/27 at 6 p.m. Creston*

1/31 at 6 p.m. Grand Rapids Christian

2/3 at 6 p.m. EGR

2/7 at 7:30 p.m. Mona Shores

2/10 at 6 p.m. Northview*

GIRLS' VARSITY GYMNASTICS

* Denotes a home meet at LHS

12/21 at 6:30 p.m. Freeland/Kenowa Hills*

1/4 at 7 p.m. Kenowa Hills

1/7 at 10 a.m. Rockford Invitational

1/16 at 7 p.m. Forest Hills Northern

1/18 at 7 p.m. Rockford*

1/21 at 10 a.m. Lowell Invitational*

1/23 at 7 p.m. East Kentwood*

1/25 at 7 p.m. Kenowa Hills*

1/28 at 10 a.m. Kenowa Hills Invitational

This Page Brought To You By



Be sure to read the Lowell Ledger for coverage of the LAS Winter Sports.

THEME: HOLIDAY MOVIES

ACROSS

- Happens in back
- **"Santa Claus is Coming to Town" originally aired on this network
- Popular white fish
- Before Part II
- Follows soh
- "Put your thinking _____"
- Madama Butterfly's soli, e.g.
- a.k.a. Tokyo
- Not together
- *"Boy who's told, "You'll shoot your eye out, kid"
- *Misfit ungulate
- Actor _____ Holbrook
- _____ in captivity
- Western European Union
- 100 centavos in Mexico
- Start of basketball game
- Chunk or lump
- Rounded protuberance
- Young eel
- Ayatollah Khomeini's home
- "World" in Italian
- Troubled currency
- Drinker
- Thick, messy substances
- _____ Alda
- Attitude of admiration
- Place for mutinous sailor, e.g.
- Old age, archaic
- Kids often say this to claim something
- "But I heard him exclaim, _____ he drove out of sight, Merry Christmas to all ..."

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		28		29		30	31	32
35			36		37		38		39	
40				41			42		43	
44				45		46			47	
48				49		50		51		52
				53		54		55		56
57	58	59	60			61			62	63
65					66	67		68		
69					70			71		
				72				73		74

- *This happened on 34th Street
- Koko or Sampson, e.g.
- Lobe at back of palate
- "To Kill a Mockingbird" author
- **"The _____mare Before Christmas"
- Lively dance
- Not in good health
- "_____ as a whistle"
- Maiden name indicator
- Newt in terrestrial stage
- Laughing predator
- Boxer training
- "For" in Spanish
- Seed cover
- Type of infection
- Unfortunate outcome
- Toward the lee
- *Like Billy Bob's Santa
- Laundry, e.g.
- Chief or top dog
- October stone
- Village or hamlet in South Africa
- Attendant to Tiger, e.g.
- _____ degree
- Part of small intestine
- Last month
- Rubs elbows with
- *Like Bing Crosby's Christmas
- Plural of #43 Across
- Unfit or inappropriate
- Smoke plus fog
- Type of bargain
- Immature ovum
- Like domesticated cat gone wild
- Compound leaf of a fern
- Location of MCL
- O in B.O.
- Twig of a willow tree
- Member of military police in Britain
- One thousandth of an inch
- *His heart was two sizes too small
- Misrepresent
- Poet Dickinson
- Type of shot to criminal
- Director Reitman
- _____ of thumb
- Medicinal plant
- Pepper or bombard
- "A Death in the Family" author
- Conjunction used in comparatives
- Sicilian volcano
- *Will Ferrell character in 2003

SUDOKU

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

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.

Puzzle solutions on page 12



THEN THIS IS THE RIGHT SITE. WE ARE PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS EXPERTS WHO ARE COMMITTED TO YOUR SUCCESS.

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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.

I have held my tongue for months while trying to be grateful that we now have sports reporting back in the local newspaper. But, I really have to speak out. The current reporter said that Lowell football has lost three straight championship games. That is not correct. In 2009 we won the state championship.

Loved the Toyland parade theme this year! Mr. Potato Head was my favorite.

If you're not making mistakes, then you're not doing anything. I'm positive that a doer makes mistakes.

- John Wooden

THIS WEEK'S ONLINE POLL RESULTS

Did you go shopping on Black Friday?

- Of Course 14%
- Never 36%
- No, it's gone too far 29%
- I prefer to shop locally 0%
- I prefer to shop online 14%
- Ba Humbug 7%

LHS Honor Roll, continued

McIntire, Alexander
 McKendrick, Breana
 McVey, Morgan
 Milstead, Emily
 Mitchell, Jacob
 Montgomery, Jessica
 Morris, Aaron
 Nethercott, Foster
 Newman, Mattie
 Noonon, Alexis
 Nordman, Doug
 Noskey, Grant
 Ordway, Danielle
 Pearson, Audrey
 Pelkey, Jacob
 Peterson, Emily
 Platz, Nicole
 Potter, Andrew
 Prill, Tyler
 Race, Hunter
 Rasch, Audrey
 Raymond, Louis
 Rife, Alexis
 Rix, Austin
 Ross, Jacob
 Roth, Rebecka
 Russo, Mark
 Schlosser, Leah
 Schreur, Emily
 Scott, Justin
 Sebel, Janelle
 Slupe, Nichole
 Smith, Julie
 Spoelstra, Maxwell
 Steiner, Brianna

Stepak, Hope
 Stormzand, Reed
 Stougaard, Raechel
 Stubbins, Kyle
 Sutton, Ethan
 Tasma, Brittany
 Timmers, Ryan
 Tobin, Alexander
 Tompkins, Emma
 VanOosten, Scott
 Wade, Erin
 Walker, Nicholas
 Walling, Brad
 Watson, Pierce
 Watson, Tori
 Weaver, Lauren
 Whaley, Taylor
 White, Ashley
 Wierenga, James
 Wingerter, Brice
 Wissman, Maggie
 Zachow, RaeAnn
 Zalis, Joshua

SENIORS

Aalsburg, Chloe
 Addington, Joshua
 Aeder, Sarah
 Aikens, Brandi
 Alberts, Jessica
 Anderson, Lindsay
 Athmann, William
 Bagin, Danielle
 Baker, Jeffrey
 Baker, Kirsten

Ball, Justin
 Belile, Kendra
 Belliel, Joshua
 Beloncis, Zoe
 Bencker, Analyse
 Bigham, Luke
 Bishop, Sydney
 Blanton, Gregory
 Blough, Michaela
 Bobko, Alec
 Boelens, Jacob
 Boogaard, Leigha
 Breuker, Grant
 Brubaker, Martin
 Buck, Dillon
 Burr, Casie
 Chapin, Micah
 Charrouf, Matthew
 Clover, Caitlin
 Coffey, Robert
 Collins, James
 Corson, Drew
 Cowden, Alexandria
 Crawford, Lindsey
 Dean, Gabriel
 Dee, Moriah
 Denault, Quincee
 DenBraven, Aleesha
 Dilly, Karis
 Donahue, Nora
 Douma, Justin
 Downing, Elizabeth
 Drake, Jordan
 Droog, Laura
 Durkee, Ryan

Eickhoff, Mackenzie
 Ervin-Wakefield, Jordan
 Fisher, Kaitlin
 Fitzpatrick, Caitlin
 Flier, Joshua
 Foehr, Collin
 Fotis, Alexandra
 Fowler, Hannah
 Geldersma, Amber
 Gerig, Melody
 Geurkink, Daniel
 Gibson, Nicholas
 Gordon, Travis
 Groendyke, Bailey
 Groom, Morgan
 Gross, Casey
 Haan, Matthew
 Halford, Zachary
 Hall, Aaron
 Harrington, Pauline
 Hart, Benjamin
 Hofman, Zachary
 Hoogenboom, Matthew
 Hovey, Lee
 Hussey, Ashlyn
 Jacobs, Helen
 Jakubiak, Amanda
 Jean, Kylie
 Johnson, Collin
 Johnson, Hannah
 Jones, Adam
 Karasiewicz, Lindsey
 Kehoe, Michaela
 Kline, Stephanie
 Kole, Hanna
 Kooiman, Samantha
 Krick, Dianna
 Kurtz, Lauren
 Kyes, Vonda
 Kyllonen, Matthew
 Lally, Alan
 Lambert, Jordan
 Lane, Meredith
 Light, Andrew
 Ligman, Alexander
 Litchfield, Jacob
 Liu, Hanna
 Lyman, Blake
 MacDonald, Emma
 Maliepaard, Sage
 Mankel, Kelsey

Marks, Kyra
 Marsalese, Christin
 Martin, Amber
 Martin, Taylor
 Mayhew, Drew
 McBryde, Alannah
 McCaul, Kristen
 McLane, Hannah
 McMahan, Madeline
 McQueen, Ashley
 McRee, Forrest
 Merriman, Kendra
 Mexicano, Jorge
 Meyers, Allison
 Milks, Torie
 Mixon, Derek
 Mogor, Sarah
 Moody, Samantha
 Morris, Bravot
 Morris, Taryn
 Morse, Andrew
 Nanzer, Ryan
 Nausieda, Arielle
 Niemann, Jonathan
 Noffke, Alexis
 Noffke, Alicia
 Noonon, Kristina
 Nora, Allyson
 North, John
 Nurmikko, Jordan
 Onan, Jeffrey
 Osborne, Renn
 Oudbier, Hope
 Paiz, Carissa
 Perkins, Shelby
 Petricevic, Jelena
 Potter, Joseph
 Pratt, Caleb
 Reed, Halley
 Reid, Kristin
 Riley, Kiran
 Rininger, Jeffrey
 Rivera, Gloria
 Roderick, Emma
 Roerig, Alec
 Rogers, Kyle
 Rose, Zachary
 Rozema, Anna
 Russell, Cory
 Rybicki, Cassandra

Senneker, Joseph
 Shaffer, Nicholas
 Slocum, Torrey
 Smith, Connor
 Smith, Jenna
 Smith, Kelsey
 Solon, Kendall
 Southwell, Melissa
 Steffens, Anthony
 Stehley, Jacob
 Stephens, Lucas
 Stevens, Stephanie
 Strah, Shelby
 Swartz, Alexander
 Sweet, Joseph
 Talcott, Haley
 Tapia, Yanni
 Tawney, Hannah
 Thebo, Skye
 Thomas, Shanice
 Thomet, Brianna
 Thompson, Brandi
 Thompson, Felicia
 Tidd, Tabitha
 Tome, Madeline
 Treglia, Chase
 Tremblay, Catherine
 Vanderson, Anne
 Velting, William
 Verbeck, Dakota
 Vescolani, Antonella
 Videto, Katelyn
 Vietzke, Amanda
 Villaluz, Cheyton
 Vosburg, Stephanie
 Wabeke, Alexandra
 Whaley, Mackenzie
 Whaley, Samuel
 Wilcox, Nicole
 Will, Jake
 Willson, Amanda
 Wittenbach, Kelsey
 Wodarek, Jeremy
 Wold, Kelsey
 Woodhead, Kasey
 Woodhead, Ryan
 Zuk, Hunter



FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES CHRISTMAS BOX DONATIONS

Flat River Outreach Ministries will be collecting new, unwrapped toys and gifts through December 15, 2011

TOY BOXES OR BARRELS

are in place at the following locations:

Brenda's Hair Design, Dollar General, Fifth Third Bank, Grand River Veterinary Hospital, Rite Aid, Showboat Automotive, Springrove Variety, Walgreens Pharmacy & Lowell High School

ANGEL TREES

will be in place at the following locations:

Firstbank, Ella's Coffee Shop, Huntington Bank, Huntington Bank (branch), Englehardt Public Library and Ada/Lowell 5

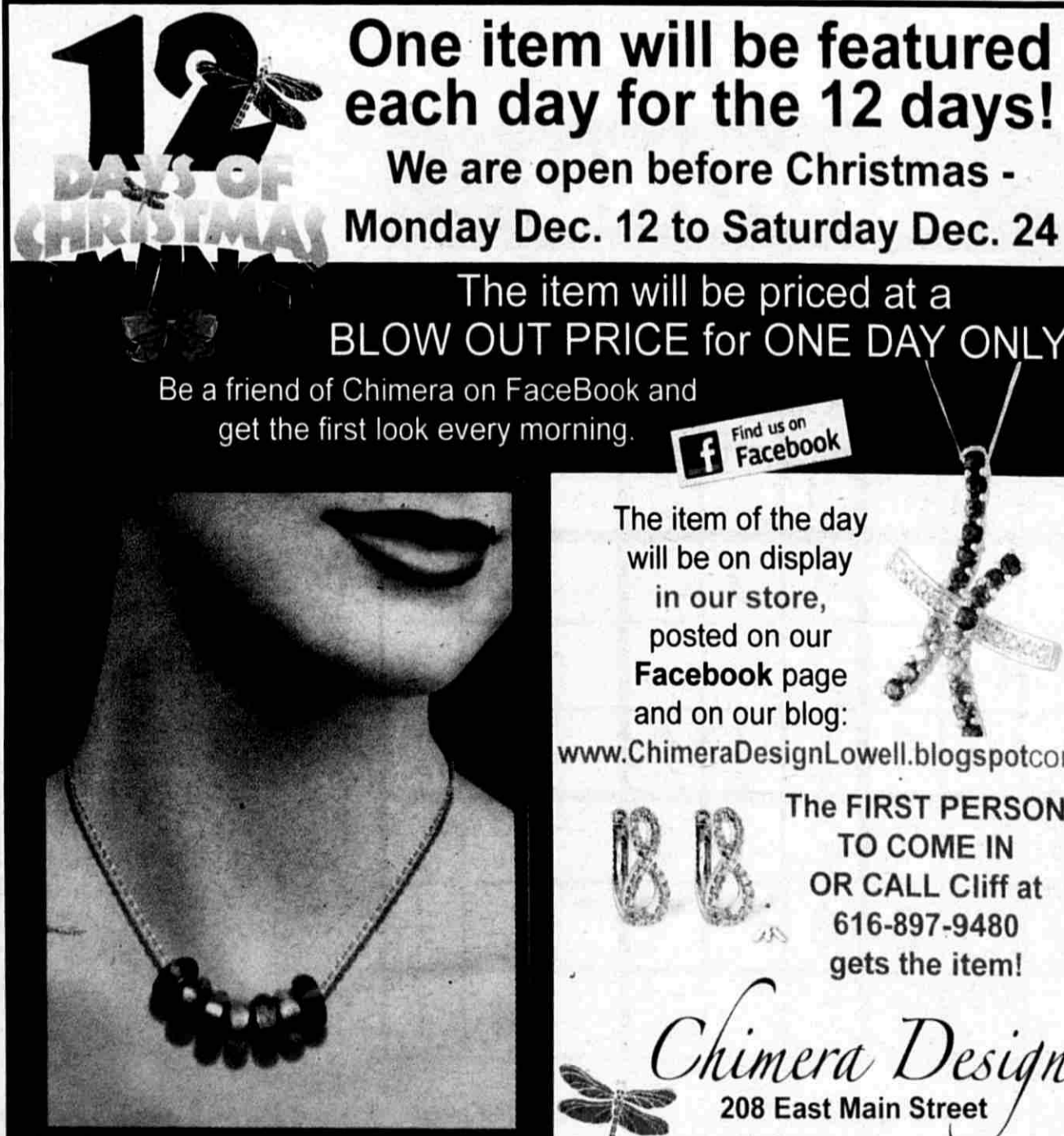
FOODS, TOYS & MONETARY DONATIONS

can be dropped off at the **FROM Food Pantry, 11535 Fulton St. E.** on Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 14 and 15, between 10 am and 4 pm. Food and toys will be distributed on Saturday, Dec. 17 from 9 am to 2 pm.

If we can be of assistance to your family with food and/or toys, please come to the Food Pantry to sign up.

REMEMBER

This program is for members of our community



12 One item will be featured each day for the 12 days!
 We are open before Christmas - Monday Dec. 12 to Saturday Dec. 24
 The item will be priced at a **BLOW OUT PRICE** for ONE DAY ONLY!
 Be a friend of Chimera on FaceBook and get the first look every morning.
 Find us on Facebook
 The item of the day will be on display in our store, posted on our Facebook page and on our blog:
www.ChimeraDesignLowell.blogspot.com
 The FIRST PERSON- TO COME IN OR CALL Cliff at 616-897-9480 gets the item!
Chimera Design
 208 East Main Street