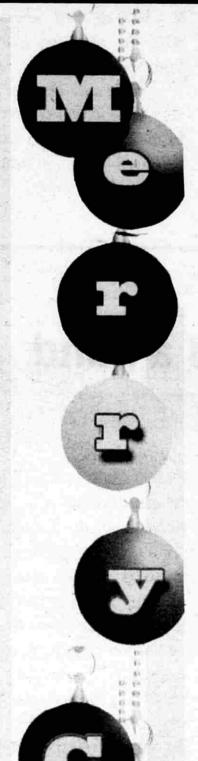


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Memories of beloved fair manager echo throughout the Lowell community

by Emma Palova

Ron Wenger had a special kind of a laugh. He laughed with his entire body. If you got lucky, you could find him sitting in the little picnic area at the fairgrounds between the food booths. Creating a respite area from the hustle and the bustle of the fair was

In a long string of events, Wenger accomplished one thing after another. He oversaw the complete remodel of the King Building, including putting in the final flooring without the fair board approval. And then came the horse arena that has been used yearround for events.





his idea. At Wenger was grounds he h Wenger County You passed awa Wednesday. Those c call him an

his idea. At all other times, Wenger was working on the grounds he loved the most.

Wenger, 65, Kent County Youth Fair manager, passed away last week on Wednesday.

Those closest to Wenger call him an idea man and a visionary, a person who could take an idea from its origin to final completion and make it look like somebody else did it.

"He never took glory for anything," said his friend Jim McFadden. Friends like Jessica Marks wish they had known Wenger longer.

"He gave of himself everything there was to give," Marks said.

A dairy farmer from Belding, Wenger was an imprint of the family.

"It's a genetic thing with the Wenger family," said friend Ray Hawkins. "They're inventors. If something needed to be done, they just did it."

The fair wouldn't be

what it is today if it wasn't for Wenger.

And the dream lives on. "The dream isn't gone. If it happens, it's because of him," said Marks.

Even though Wenger will be remembered the most for his involvement with the fair, he also volunteered for the Lowell Area Arts Council and the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce.

Sharing the warmth of the season

CLOTHEING ROOM



The VFW and the American Legion just finished their annual coat drive. Over 100 coats were collected at Curtis Cleaners for the men and women at the Veteran's Home in Grand Rapids. "We thank everyone who assisted in this year's coat drive," said VFW vice-commander Herb Rice. "The people at Curtis Cleaners did an outstanding job. They very graciously acted as the main dropoff point for the coats and they also cleaned all the coats." Pictured from left, Herm Westrate, VFW commander and Herb Rice.

"He was a big Teddy bear," said arts director Loraine Smalligan. "He helped us out with the staging of the concerts."

Wenger was a "go to kind of guy." You went to him whenever you didn't know where else to turn to.

Backwater Café owner Jeff Altoft said Wenger and him had a mutual help relationship.

Altoft had known Wenger for 30 years back from the farming era.

"We were friends for so long we were like brothers," said Altoft. "We worked on projects all night long. Ron was one of the most downto-earth people I've ever met. He didn't have a bad bone in his body."

And he was a good teacher, to make sure there are other people in place to carry his vision.

Wenger will be missed for his character and personality.

"I will just miss him," said former city manager Dave Pasquale.

Pasquale knew Wenger from many years of interaction with the fair business.

> Ron Wenger, continued, page 2

Variance granted for King Milling's growth

by Emma Palova

The city council granted two variances to King Milling for the construction of new buildings on Monday.

The variances were required to accommodate the construction of a millfeed storage and load structure due to the irregularly shaped parcel. Also, the setbacks were not in compliance.

The zoning board of appeals tested all the criteria for the variances and unanimously granted the request since no hardship was created by the company itself.

"We need the millfeed to grow our business," said Jim Doyle of King Milling.

The addition consists of a new facility including two storage bins similar to the numerous silos located on the adjoining site to the north.

The proposed development will be located on the

> City council, continued, page 3



"He kept everything going," said Pasquale. "He just erations of 4-H kids, such was very perceptive of pub- Stories about the pig races citizens. He also empha- he saw examples of this, he got the job done. He was a nuts and bolts kind of guy. Caine. You could count on him to get things done."

When asked what people have learned from Wenger, the answer was overwhelming: his work ethic.

ual," said Pasquale.

But, he didn't always ing with things." see eye to eye with coworkers, such as chamber direc- ta, who showed at the fair, he had plans for the future was for the kids. It was imtor Liz Baker. Sometimes things turned into a compe- when you needed support. tition. In the end, all worked out well for both sides.

Market.

he loved children," said er people did things. "He all the stories were true, but dedication to our communi-Baker.

Both were exhibitors at

the fair. Crosby had known Crosby:

Wenger ever since he was a

today," Crosby said. "I will "He was a rare individ- miss him. The fair was his stood everything it took to came up time and time life. He had a way of deal-

Wenger was a "go to guy"

"He was a busy guy who got the job done," Caine the fair had the opportuni-Wenger assisted the said. "He had an amazing ty to know Ron, but I did. I dedication to the fair was chamber with the Expo, the vision for the fair; the kids remember many times sitconcerts and the Farmers' were at the core." Caine re- ting at my grandpa's dinmembers visiting other fairs ing room table listening to have learned a lot from the "He was generous and with Wenger to see how oth- Ron's stories. I don't know if example Ron has set. Ron's

Wenger impacted gen- created a food area. Ron very generous." Following is a eulogy

"fedger

given by exhibitor Sarah

Ron was not just the guy on the gator. He was the "He made me who I am man behind-the-scenes that got the job done. He under- to his heart. The thing that when I accomplished my how, the way we learned make the fair be a success again was the kids of the he felt he was a part of it. and he was always trying to Kent County Youth Fair. Ev-For Caine of Spar- make it run more efficiently: erything Ron did at the fair and knew how to make those portant to him that the fair plans a reality.

his family and his friends at all learned from his abilithe Backwater Cafe.

Anyone who sat down solve problems. and spent time listening to Ron knew what was dear er. He was always proud the kids as best we know provided an opportunity for ing exhibitors grow and Not every exhibitor at every kid to have a positive learning experience. His like none other.

Like many of you, I

there were lots of stories. ty taught us how to be good give back to the fair. When as Jim Crosby and Kristi lic needs," she said. "He was and donkey rides; stories of sized the importance of re- would stop, smile and say, collecting sap, raising hogs sponsibility and knew that "this is why we do what we and milking cows; stories of the fair provided it. We have do. ty to plan events as well as with so many of us is just

> Ron was a great teachgoals. I think that's because from Ron. can be found in all of us.

great satisfaction in watch- us sitting here today.



for tutor training.

street

WORKS IN PROGRESS **ART EXHIBITION**

This January LowellArts! will host an art exhibition with a new twist - all art on display is purposely incomplete. The Works in Progress Art Exhibition runs from Jan. 10 to Feb. 5. Gallery hours are Tues.-Fri., 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and Sat., 1:00-4:00 pm. LowellArts! is located at 149 S. Hudson, Lowell. For more information call LowellArts! at 616-897-8545.

LAS ATHLETIC BOOSTER **CLUB MEETING**

The Lowell Area Schools Athletic Boosters will hold their regular business meeting in the high school staff lounge on Mon., Jan. 2 at 7:00 pm. Please come and sup-

Come meet and have a cup of coffee with your city United Way agency devotcouncilmembers on the first Saturday of the month from 8-10:00 am at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce office, 113 Riverwalk Plaza.

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.



· Alant - MAS

COFFEE WITH COUNCIL

The legacy that Ron left

that. We have learned to give back to the fair to serve

So, he may be gone and and he was. A part of Ron yes, we will miss him, but let me assure you his legacy Above all, Ron found will live on through many of

lend a hand

opportunities

The Literacy Center of 19,000 adults in Kent Coun-West Michigan has sched- ty cannot read at a funculed an information ses- tional level. At least 6,000 sion on Tuesday, January adults cannot speak or un-3, 2012, for prospective derstand English well. By volunteer tutors. This ses- training people to be tutors, sion is held at 6:30 pm and the Center can offer one-onlasts one hour. It allows per- one reading help to adults sons interested in becoming asking for assistance in volunteer tutors to find out reading or English as a Secmore about the Center and ond Language (ESL). You its literacy programs. At the end of the session, there will be an opportunity to sign up

The information session will be held at the Lit-The Literacy Center of eracy Center of West Michi-W. Michigan is a nonprofit, gan, located at 1120 Monroe Ave., NW, Suite 240, Grand ed to reducing illiteracy in Rapids, MI. Please call us at our community. Based on 459-5151 (ext. 10) to regis-1990 census figures, at least ter.

language to tutor ESL.

do not need to speak another

Every job is a self-portrait of the person who does it. Autograph your work with excellence. ~ Author Unknown

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wednesday · december · 21 · 2011

City bids farewell to outgoing councilmembers

Jeff Altoft.

they will be replaced by volved in the city politics. newcomers, Jim Hall and

The city, Monday Jim Valentine, who were night, said goodbye to elected to the council in outgoing councilmembers the November general Maryalene LaPonsie and election. Altoft will serve on the board of review and Starting in January LaPonsie wants to stay in-

> From left to right: Mayor Jim Hodges Maryalene LaPonsie and Jeff Altoft.

City council, continued

irregularly shaped parcel consisting of 11.337 square feet, where as the minimum al property taxes by the city lot area in the industrial district is 20,000 square feet.

In other business:

contract with Richard Wendt and Vergennes townships. of Dickinson Wright law the Lowell Area School disfirm who has served the city trict, the chamber of comfor a number of years.

Mr. Wendt has been very term vision for the commupositive," said city manager nity. Mark Howe. "He is efficient and carries a strong knowledge of the history of events within the city."

Also, the grant for East Riverbank renovations has been recommended for approval, according to Howe.

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A group of community The city approved a leaders representing Lowell merce and the city of Lowell "My experience with have met to create a long-

> The process will involve intensive public put that will help define the community's identity and chart its future.

> "This is an exciting positive step toward building collaboration among the key public entities who serve the community," said Howe.

> > LUALITY

OTOCOL (PG-13)

IPWRECKED (

ADOWS (PG-13) :50, 3:45, 6:40, 9:30 NEW YEAR'S EVE (PG-13)

:15, 1:50, 4:35, 7:15, 9:50



LEGAL NOTICE

AMENDED PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING

FILE NO. 03-175149-GM

R. MCCOMBS. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including: TONY STERK whose address(es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter be barred or the by affected following:

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on January 10, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. at 180 Ottawa Avenue NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 before Judge David M. Murkowski (P35026) for the following purpose: In the matter of TEAGAN Petition for appointment of guardian notice of hearing.



State Farm Life Insurance Company (Not licensed in MA, NY or WI) State Farm Life and Accident Assurance Company (Licensed in NY and WI) Bloomington, IL



12/13/2011

Lori Lynn Ickes 10387 52nd Street Alto, MI 49302 616-868-0554

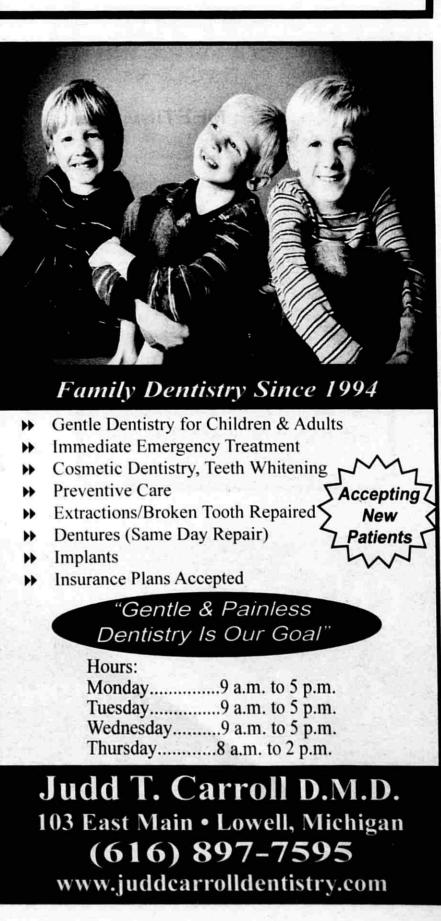
CITY OF LOWELL **HOLIDAY SCHEDULE NOTICE**

Lowell City Hall, Department of Public Works Police Office and Light and Power office will be closed on Friday, December 23 and Monday, December 26, 2011 for the Christmas Holidays and Monday, January 2, 2012 for New Year's Day.

Those who participate in the City of Lowell refuse program with the blue bags will have their refuse picked up on Friday, December 30, 2011 due to the Christmas holiday and Friday, January 6, 2012 due to the New Year's holiday



Betty R. Morlock **City Clerk**





topher C. Godbold How to cope with the "threat" of longevity

long you'll live. Nonethe- sponsored by Allianz Life style. less, you still need to con- Insurance, 61 percent said sider longevity as a key they fear depleting their as- Security. As the laws now able of life expectancy. factor in creating, and fol- sets more than they fear dylowing, a long-term invest- ing. ment strategy.

And your lifespan may be longer than sources - or if you think you had thought. Men who that you may become one of turned 65 in 2010 can expect those people — what steps to live another 18.6 years, should you take, both now while women who reached and during your retirement? 65 that same year can an- Here are a few ideas: ticipate another 20.7 years. according to the 2011 So- away as much money as you cial Security Trustees Re- can afford for your retireport. And these figures are ment. Take advantage of months, the police departjust averages; depending on tax-deferred accounts, such your health and family his- as your 401(k) and traditiontory of longevity, you could al IRA, or tax-free accounts, well spend two, or even such as a Roth IRA. (Roth three, decades in retirement. IRA earnings are tax-free

ple are now realizing they account at least five years may have to support them- and you don't start taking selves for far longer than withdrawals until you're at earlier generations did, they least 59-1/2.) And keep inseem to be growing increas- vesting, year in and year ingly concerned about run- out, despite the inevitable ning out of money in their market volatility you'll enlater years. In fact, in a poll counter along the way.

597 Ada Dr., Ste D, Ada

Conveniently located next to The Schnitz)

You can't predict how of people ages 44 to 75,

So, if you're concerned projected about outliving your re-

 Keep investing. Put Possibly because peo- provided you've had your

* ledger

· Re-assess your re- stand, you can start taking tirement age. If you enjoy Social Security as young as "withdrawal rate." lost years of any payments Delay taking Social against the unknown vari-

drawal rate and adjust it as Calculate vour Once time goes on. The possibility of outyour work, you might con- 62, but your monthly checks you retire, it's essential that sider staying at your job a will be bigger when you you know how much can living your resources is not few years later than origi- reach your "full" retirement withdraw each year from a pleasant thought. But by nally intended. Those extra age. You'll get your biggest your investments without taking the steps described years of income, not to men- monthly Social Security running out of money. Your above, as well as others, you tion extra contributions to checks if you wait until age withdrawal rate depends on can go a long way toward taking the fear out of lonyour 401(k) and potentially 70, when they "max out," a variety of factors, includbigger Social Security pay- but many people feel that ing your age, size of portfogevity, leaving you free to outs, can make a big differ- waiting that long may not be lio, risk tolerance and retirefully enjoy an active retireence to your retirement life- worth it, when weighing the ment lifestyle. A financial ment. This article was written by professional can help you Edward Jones for use by your local calculate your initial with-Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

.PD reminds of winter responsibilities

responsibilities.

ment begins stricter en-

With the approach of forcement of city parking keep the streets cleared of sible for keeping sidewalks winter weather the Lowell rules. Officers will pay close snow and ice. Police Department (LPD) attention to vehicles parked al important weather-related hours of 2:00 am and 6:00 that time so plow crews can around vehicles

Vehicles and other ob- bris. Sidewalks and pathreminds residents of sever- on city streets between the jects cannot obstruct sidewalks. Pedestrians must be am. Vehicles must not be able to use the sidewalks snow and debris within 24 During the winter parked on the streets during without having to walk hours of accumulation as

> or other obstructions. Officers will pay special attention to obsidestructed walks in school walk zones near Bushnell, Cherry Creek Middle schools

Homeowners and occupants are respon-

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business directory FRY DADDY'S **Rich's Service Co. KIRK COLLINS 608 West Main Street In-Home Appliance Repair** Owner Showboat Lowell, MI 49331 Dryer Vent 897-FISH Cleaning **AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLY, INC. INSURED • 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE** FISH SHRIMP WING DINGS Auto Value Parts Stores E CHICKEN STRIPS WASHERS • DRYERS • REFRIGERATORS DAILY SPECIALS ARBAGE DISPOSALS • STOVES • DISHWASHERS 1450 W. Main St., Lowell, MI (616) 897-9231 AtastorCare T 209 E. Main St. RICH CURTIS 1944 MONDAY - SATURDAY Lowell, MI 49331 (616) 897-5686 HOURS: MON - FRI 8-7; SAT 8-5:30; SUN 9-3 Best Fish In Town! **BILL WHEELER Certified Public** The West Michigan Accountant W.J. WHEELER MICHIGAN Estate Planning Center AN AD THIS \$850 44 44 103 Riverside Dr. Cottrell & Jacobs PLC SIZE ONLY PER WEEK! Your Estate Planning Attorneys Lowell, Michigan Call today to schedule a FREE Medicaid and CALL 897-9261 Estate Planning Workshop or Free Consultation 49331 616-682-5574 or 888-878-7658 for details!

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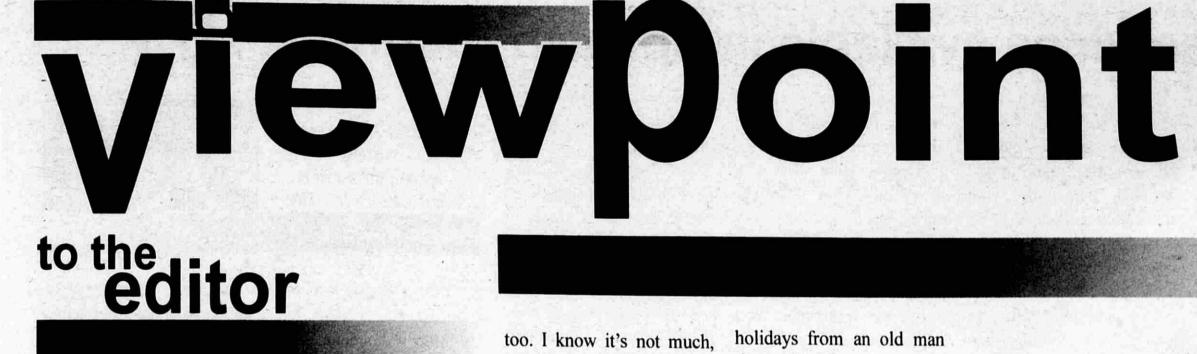
clear of snow and other deways between adjacent sidewalks need to be cleared of required by

> the Lowell city code. "With help your can we safe have streets and sidewalks through the winter season," said police chief Barry Getzen.



wednesday · december · 21 · 2011

"ledger



a poem for the holidays

To the editor:

A Gift From Me To You every year that's very spe- a silent night, others a night cial to us all.

spring or the summer or the every little girl and boy. fall. It's just a night in late December, the eve of a won- and family come together derful holiday. A night when people 'round the world if that happened all over each celebrate in their own earth? Think how happy we special way. You know the all would be. night I'm referring to.

from, what ever you call it. I'm sure the meaning is still There comes one night, the same. Some may call it of hope and joy or maybe a It doesn't come in the night of beautiful dreams for

It's a time when friends in love and harmony. What

Next time you see a I don't need to give it friend or a stranger, give a name. Where ever you're them a smile and this poem

but it came from my heart that really cares. and it's my gift to all of you. Best wishes and happy

holidays from an old man Robert Grant Lowell

appreciative crafter

Dear Editor,

cial

the Rogue River Art Show held Dec. 3. I was overwhelmed how nice and pleasant the show was. The hospitality was

awesome. The young men and ladies, high school students - jumped in to help and serve us. It was so spe-

We appreciate Rob-To everyone involved in and Rick White and all who organized the show. As a new crafter this year, I hope to be invited again and I look forward to next year. Linda Kropf Phillips Nature's Solitude Crafter

and equipment to R. G. Jefferies, publisher of The abandoned storage shed on are no pictures of mountain Lowell Ledger. Mr. Hutchinson reached his decision to the edge of a field as a blind lions or bears, although a sell the Journal in order to be freed from the duties for bow hunting. There is very long brown tail does and cares of newspaper work. His many friends join in wishing him well-merited rest and many years of good a hole in one corner. I as- photo.

Thanks to the magazine salesmen in the high school, to the generosity of the class of 1919 and to the goodness of the Board of Education, the Lowell schools will have the very latest in the way of visual education. A new moving picture projector with sound equipment and microphone has been ordered and will be used for instructional and entertaining purposes.

50 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger December 21, 1961

Headline: Christmas Tree Slow to Gain Popularity Undoubtedly, the Christmas tree, widely popular in Germany, was brought to this country by Hessian soldiers in the American Revolution. They decorated their Trenton, N.J., winter guarters with Christmas trees, but the custom was slow in taking hold in this country. August Imgard of Wooster, Ohio, trimmed a small spruce for his nieces and nephews in 1847. Friends followed suite the next year, but the practice was for many years considered "pagan". As late as 1851, a Cleveland, Ohio, minister almost lost his pulpit because he set up a tree in his church.

25 Years Ago www.thelowellledger.com The Grand Valley Ledger December 24, 1986

Headline: Major grant is awarded to historic Fallasburg Pioneer Village

On December 1, the Board of Trustees of the Grand Rapids Foundation approved a grant of \$10,000 to help buy three historic properties in Fallasburg Pioneer Village. This grant is contingent upon the remainder of the money coming from other sources On December 18, the Steelcase Foundation awarded a \$12,500 Challenge Grant, contingent upon \$25,000 (2 for 1) being raised from other sources. The village of Fallasburg is three miles north of Lowell on Covered Bridge Drive, up the hill from the old covered bridge and Fallasburg Park.

Several properties within the village are presently being offered for sale. The most important for the development of the project are the Stagecoach Inn and J.W. Fallas' home, both built about 1840, plus the boarding house with outbuildings of a stagecoach



110 Years Ago The Lowell Journal [•]December 19, 1901

"The idea of a town of this size trying to run size churches is ridiculous," said a Lowell businessman and liberal contributor to church work, Tuesday, aner to the subject of practical Christian unity.

There is a growing sentiment among members of the Congregational and Baptist churches and societies Lowell that a union of effort would result in great good to the community. One strong body would certainly be more effective than two weak ones; the governments of the two are almost identical and sectarian matters might well be left to settle themselves.

100 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger December 21, 1911

Good cigars in fancy boxes at Clark's confectionary Miss Elizabeth Lennox is home from Whitby college, near Toronto, to spend the holidays with her father Rev. L. E. Lennox

The Bennett and Bailey schools will unite and hol their Christmas exercise together at Bailey church Friday evening at seven thirty.

75 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo **December 17, 1936**

J. M. Hutchinson, who came to Lowell twenty-three years ago to become editor and publisher of The Lowell Journal, last Friday sold his business and printing plant house and stables, blacksmith shop and harness shop.



ing day of firearm season. Many hours of stand setting on our pocket camera. have resulted in only a few. deer sightings.

animals including deer.

it was the work of a woodchuck as I sat comfortably in the shed on many occasions. Come to find out through trail camera photos, the residents are actually a family of skunks. I gave up the shed to the current occupants to avoid any territorial disputes.

by the trail camera some one-hundred vards from my wife, Gwen, as she used a grunt call to get his attention. The next photo, 60 seconds later, has the deer responding and walking in the

her tree stand. The final photo is of Gwen, the buck, and her bow posed for a picture

Dave Stegehuis

Other interesting trail camera photos include two It would seem that the bucks sparing, a pair of does animals have moved out of standing on their hind legs Happy New Year to all, the county. That did not hap- flailing at each other, a pair pen. Deer are showing up in of night roaming coyotes, the headlights when driving a family of seven turkeys after dark and our trail cam- passing through on several era has been regularly cap- different mornings, and a turing images of a variety of number of birds and squirrels engaged in routine daily I had been using an activities. As of now, there a mound of dirt dug from appear at the edge of one

We eagerly anticipate changing out the SD card in the camera because there are always surprises. An occasional image of a nice buck and several fat does kept us on stand during less than ideal December weather. Deer and other wildlife are out there doing business as Another series of pho- usual, so we look forward to tos caught a buck walking seeing what goes on when we are gone. What started out as a serious scouting tool, trail camera photography has turned into a fun and interesting outdoor activity.

the lowell dger Visit us online at...

Email Us! ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com 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: ledgera 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.

ledger

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c/o Social Security Adminis-

LEGAL NOTICE

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

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING

FILE NO. 11-191093-DD

In the matter of JAYCE guardian BEVIER.

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including BEVIER ANN whose whose interest in the Ada, MI 49301 matter may be barred 616-897-6632 or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: Α hearing will be held on January 25, 2012

Youth Groups (Jr. & Sr. High)......6:00

fter School Kids' Club.... UNTIL 5:30

Rev. Rick Blunt

ednesdays

area

at 8:45 a.m. at 180 Ottawa Avenue NW. Grand Rapids, MI 49503 before Judge David M. Murkowski (P35026) for the following purpose: on the petition of Emily Pierce for the appointment of a for Jayce Bevier.

12/19/2011

address(es) John D. Flynn (P27413) unknown and 1275 Hawthorne Hills SE

> **Emily Pierce 121 Franklin SE** Grand Rapids, MI 49507 616-248-1335



11:00 A.M. Worshi 897-9863 Nursery & Children Nursery & Children Worship Programs Provided



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

Celiac disease

Celiac disease is a com- tigue, bone or joint pain, ar-Vonda VanTil is the pub- mon digestive disease. It is thritis, bone loss or osteopo-Michigan. You can write her gluten-sensitive enteropathy tingling or numbness in the or nontropical sprue. In in- hands and feet, or an itchy Do you need a little help tration, 3045 Knapp St NE, dividuals with celiac, gluten rash. getting started on the com- Grand Rapids MI 49525 or (a protein in wheat, barley and rye) damages the small intestine and results in dif- nosis is often delayed and ficulty absorbing nutrients many individuals are never from food. The cause of celi- diagnosed. Standard diagac is unknown, but environ- nosis of celiac begins with mental, immunological and blood testing and is congenetic factors all contrib- firmed with small intestinal ute. Several auto-antibodies biopsy. are found in the blood of patients with celiac. There for patients with celiac is is also a genetic component avoiding foods containing to celiac. Almost all people or made from wheat, barley who have celiac have a par- and rye for the rest of their ticular gene. When people lives. Eating even a small with celiac eat certain foods amount of gluten can damor products containing glu- age the small intestine. In ten, their immune systems children, the small intesrespond by damaging or tine usually heals within a destroying villi. Without few months, but it may take healthy villi, people become years for it to heal in adults. what they eat.

unexplained anemia, fa- mins, and even Play-Doh.



DECEMBER 21 Al Smith, Brooke Page, Zachary Tykocki, Debbie Walendzik, Eric Koeppel.

DECEMBER 22 Jason Seeley, Cody Soyka.

DECEMBER 23 Norma Stevens, Marie Doyle.

DECEMBER 24 Jeffrey Pfaller.



LOWELL CHURCH **OF THE NAZARENE** 201 N. Washington Lowell, MI • 897-8800 Pastor Wes Hershberger Sundays - Christian Education......9:15 a.m. .10:40 a.m. Wednesdays - Kid's Service, Teen's Service, dult Bible Study. ..7:00 p.m. Lowell Naz - Where People Matter **CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER FIRST BAPTIST** (Assembly of God) CHURCH OF LOWELL 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery **Robert Holmes, Pastor** 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 SUNDAYS: Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org Worship: 10 a.m. Rev. W. Lee Taylor & Pastor Phil Severn Sun. Worship Service. WEDNESDAYS: -Sunday School Hour. .11:00 A.M. Family Night (for all ages): 7:00 p.m. AWANA/EXCITE • TEENS ...Wed. 6:15 P.M. The Source" Youth: 7:00 p.m. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Loving God ... Loving People! Nursery Provided • Barrier Free **FIRST UNITED METHODIST** ST. MARY'S **CHURCH OF LOWELL** TOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 **CATHOLIC CHURCH** FIRST www.lowellumc.com 402 Amity St. • 897-9820 Barrier-free entrance www.stmary-lowell.com 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM unday School. .9:30 Saturday confessions: 4-4:45 PM

Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:00 AM - 8 PM

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wednesday · december · 21 · 2011



Because of the diverse symptoms of celiac, diag-

The only treatment

malnourished no matter Oats are generally safe to eat. Rice, potato soy and Symptoms of celiac in- buckwheat are also safe to clude abdominal bloating eat. It is important for peoor pain, chronic diarrhea, ple with celiac to read prodvomiting, constipation and uct labels because gluten is weight loss. Adults with ce- used as an additive in some liac are more likely to have medications, lipstick, vita-

The best way to cheer yourself is to try to cheer someone else up.

~ Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

happy birthday!

Hayes, Star Daverman.

DECEMBER 26 Margaret Gasper, Shav Hacker, Stephanie Peel, Butch Landman, Kaitlyn Callihan.

DECEMBER 25

Woolfenden, Chris Treglia,

Jeni Clouser, Peggy

Scott Shindorf, Chris

DECEMBER 27 Mark Nyp, Jay Clark.

FAXING

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The Lowell Ledger 105 N. Broadway, Lowell

wednesday · december · 21 · 2011

ementary (MLE) student items and gave the students council started their food updates on which grade drive for Flat River Out- level was in the lead. The reach Ministries (FROM) school responded by bringshortly after Thanksgiv- ing in over 1,000 food items ing. Each day, the students valued at well over \$2,000.

The Murray Lake El- counted and boxed the food

Volunteer of the month



Beth VanderMeulen was named Murray Lake's Volunteer of the Month for November. VanderMeulen spends countless hours each week helping in both of her son's classrooms as well as around the rest of the school VanderMeulen is pictured with her sons, Peter and Brayden.



Murray Lake student councilmembers pictured, left to right: Regan Coxon, Ethan Furtaw, Regan Zimmerman, Morgan Cremer, Mike VandenHout, and Ally Pawloski.

Buying new electronics this season? Don't trash the old ones!

Electronics are once again dominating holiday including reuse and recy- back programs vary in terms handle large volumes of e- ther Responsible Recycler Not knowing exactly where shopping lists this season. In cling. fact, analysts with the Consumer Electronics Associa- is in keeping with the holi- local electronics retailer or dividuals. Depending on the that the recycler is adher- and the environment - at tion predict shoppers will spend six percent more on community electronics re- policy will provide instruc- tronics at their local facilelectronics this year compared to last - or about \$250 erly dispose of your outdat- cess. per consumer. And for every ed electronics while helping new laptop, tablet, phone, to raise funds for a local or- management divisions also riodic collection events with TV, gaming system and scores of other gadgets, an outdated device likely will be replaced. For those old electronics, the question is, "Now what?"

First off, do not throw toxic components that can and the environment if discarded in the same waste find an event near you. stream as the rest of your

day spirit is to find a local manufacturers' recycling company, some accept elec- ing to environmental best risk. The best recyclers are cycling fund-raiser to prop- tions for their take-back pro- ity at any time, some have think your electronic device cycle," offering a complete ganization. With the current economic climate most nonprofits, schools and other organizations are experiencing harder times. Not only will recycling benefit an organi- collection sites, while others nicipalities and businesses zation in need, but the envi- might host periodic events should take several imporreplaced electronics in the ronment as well by diverting to collect e-waste. Typical- tant steps before selecting trash. Electronic devices the e-waste from the land- ly municipalities contract a recycler, thereby ensurare comprised of a range of fill. Visit us.simsrecycling. with third-party e-waste re- ing their e-waste is propercom/events or contact your cyclers that process the col- ly managed. For example, be harmful to human health favorite nonprofit or other lected material on behalf of charitable organization to the city. Check your city's

Another option is to portunities to drop off your household garbage. Trashed look into electronics take- e-waste or have it collected. electronics, or "e-waste," back programs. Many eleccontain heavy metals such tronics retailers, like Best should look to see if e-waste

have electronics recycling local partners. programs, though opporscope. Some municipaliwebsite to learn about op-

Finally, consumers

disposing of your e-waste, ucts, although these take- zations and businesses to make sure the recycler is ei- the material for recycling. of fees and conditions. A waste, but many welcome (R2) or e-Stewards certi- your electronics are being One ideal method that quick internet search of your materials directly from in- fied, which is one indicator recycled could put you -Many cities' waste drop-off and others host pe-

> Unfortunately, howevtunities differ in size and er, there are some bad seeds in the e-waste recycling inties have designated e-waste dustry. Individuals, mu-

and the



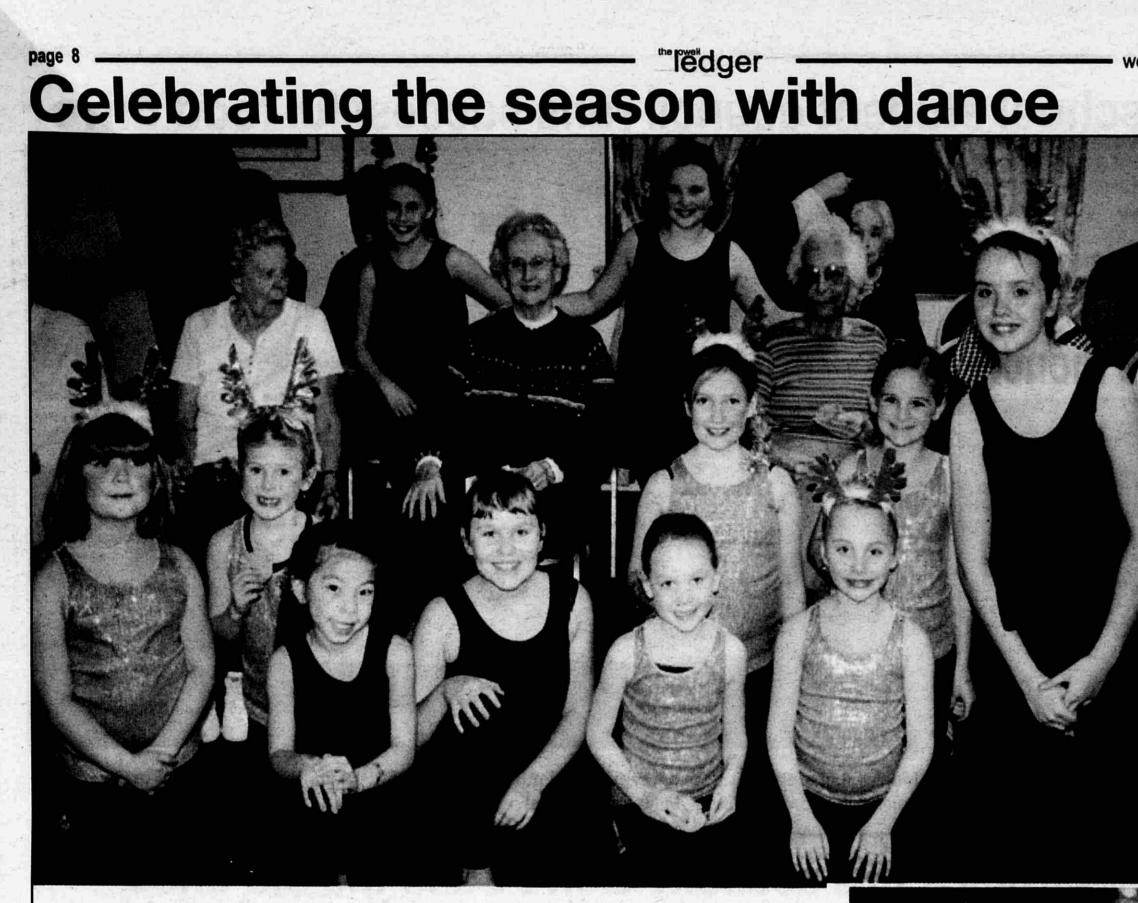
al data, be sure the recycler offers data destruction compliant with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to make certain all data is wiped clean

a recycler does business. vices, remember there are equipment and only collect one of them.

practices. Also, even if you those that "own the lifedesignated days for public has been cleared of person- range of remarketing and recycling services internally, thereby eliminating reliance on subcontractors, and thus improving accountability and security.

This holiday season when you are making room Lastly, ask with whom for your new electronic de-Some recyclers don't actu- plenty of homes for your old ally handle the recycling of ones, but the garbage is not

Thank You	
The family of Inga Weeks wishes to extend their gratitude for the many acts of kindness provided throughout the past few years and since her recent passing.	
We thank Reverend Dean Bailey for his heartwarming eulogy, our soloist Sylvia Taylor for the beautiful music, the Rockford Chapter #215 Order of the Eastern Star for their moving tribute and the Gerst Family at Roth-Gerst Funeral Home for their kind- ness and attention to detail.	
Our thanks to the Lowell Township Hall for providing the perfect setting for Bif and her crew at Backwater to cater the delicious luncheon after the funeral. Also, our neighbors at Mur-	
ray Lake - Mike and Gladys Little, Don and June Dilly and Chris and Peggy Kropf - your thoughtfulness over the years will never be forgotten. To Faith Hospice and Visiting Nurses for added encouragement as well as continued emotional support.	×
A special thank you to Dr. James Lang, his colleagues and the entire staff at Lowell Family Medical Center, for their compas- sion, flexibility and loving care.	(y
We truly appreciate each and every one of you. Having your support has made this journey less stressful.	
Bruce Weeks Barb & Ray Zandstra Kim, Mike and Jordan Harding	
Ryan, Chayo, Brayden, Gavin and Jacob Gould	



Front row, left to right: Allexia Rudegeair, Catherine Reed, Olivia Staley and Julia Wilterink; second row: Lauren Pearson, Leah Davidson, Emma Pearson, Emma Hollern and Kari Gerard; third row: Fountainview of Lowell residents; back row; Grace Ostrander and Mica Gladding.



MPAL 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 newspape It's one way to make government accountable to the people More than two-thirds of active Michigan voters* would be concerned i government placed these notices on Web sites because important nformation could be concealed from the public

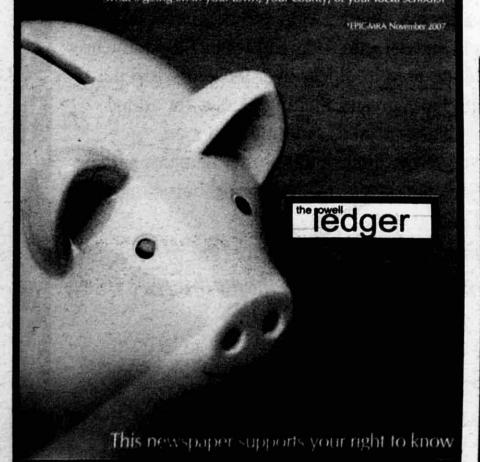
So, what's it worth to you to be able to pick up this newspaper and find ou what's going on in your town, your county, or your local schools

The truest expression of a people is in its dance and in its music. **Bodies never lie.**

~ Agnes de Mille



From front to back, (Rudolph) Emma Hollern, Emma Pearson, Grace Ostrander, and Leah Davidson.



Biggs, Hausserman, Thompson & Dickinson, PC **Certified Public Accountants** Start your 2012 Payroll off with three (3) months of free processing! BHT&D, PC, Certified Public Accountants is offering free payroll processing for the months of January, February and March 2012 for qualified, new payroll processing clients. Sign up now to be ready for your first payroll in January 2012 and maximize your discount. Contact Beth Thomas at the Saranac, MI office for details: 616-642-9467/betht@bhtdpc.com Promotion limited to first 10 enrollments.

> 477 Pettis, SE, PO Box 8, Ada MI 49301 (616 676-9084) 356 E Main St, PO Box 60, Saranac MI 48881 (616 642-9467)

> > Visit our website at www.bhtdcpa.com

Residents

Fountainview of Lowell

were treated to a dance

performance by Celebrate

Dance Studio dancers of

class dances, as well

as a parade including a

marching band, floating

balloon animals along

with a celebration of the

Olympic spirit complete

with torch runner and the

Olympic rings. The parade

concluded with Santa and

his reindeer. The artistic

director for the group is

dancers

special

Lowell last month.

The

performed

Lori Teft.

Ministries broke ground on possible." December 16, 2011, for an cessing of donated items," tive director at FROM.

> volunteers walk the length of a football field from the encourage everyone to come current donation room on in and shop to help support the southwest corner of the the continued ministry of building to the thrift shop FROM." showroom and sorting areas. The new donation room will is open Wednesdays and minimize that travel down Fridays from 10:00 am to to just a few steps and pro- 8:00 pm, Thursdays from vide a larger drop off area 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and and sorting room. Construc- Saturdays from 10:00 am to tion on the 600 square foot 4:00 pm. Donations of genaddition to the northwest tly used and new items are corner of the FROM facility sold to help fund the minis expected to take approxi- istry. FROM also provides mately six weeks according thrift shop vouchers to famto Greg Halonen, construc- ilies facing hardship and in tion services manager for Facilities Resource Group.

"This addition is posous support to the River of Hope Capital Campaign," said Ann Dimmick, board ell in their time of hardship chair of FROM. "we are You can find more informathankful for the donors and tion at www.fromlowell.org

Flat River Outreach volunteers that make this all

The FROM Thrift Shop addition to their building at is staffed and managed by 11535 Fulton Street East. volunteers, with every dol-"The new donation room lar raised going directly to will provide a secure drop help people in the greater off location for the commu- Lowell community. "Revenity and facilitate easier pro- nue from the thrift shop accounts for nearly 43 percent said Tamela Spicer, execu- of our annual budget," Dimmick said. "Not only do we According to Spicer, need the donation of those gently used items, but we

> The FROM Thrift Shop need of clothing or household items.

Flat River Outreach sible because of the gener- Ministries is a nonprofit organization whose mission is serving the people of Low-



Continue webble of wars bidd in north as



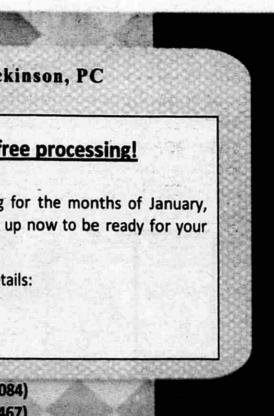
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with the excitation of the analysis of



into 2012 with one loss, eight wins

by Casey Cheney

Going 3-0 in their last week of 2011, the Lowell-Caledonia varsity hockey as Blades' players consisteam looks ahead with an tently occupied the penalty tween periods was simple," 8-1 record.

"It was a really good week for the Lowell-Caledonia varsity hockey team." wins to finish out the 2011 year with an 8-1 record in Finkhouse. our first nine games.'

The team's first zoo Blades at Wings Stadium Arena on Wednesday. Dec. 14. "It was a one-sided game in our favor on this day," Beurer said.

C) jumped out to an early 3-0 lead in the first period with goals by Caledonia se-McGillicuddy, Finkhouse, Balut. Caledonia junior Jake Rossman, and Steger.

were scored on power plays an 8-2 lead. box.

ed right where the first peri- were doing and stay out od had ended. The first two of the penalty box and we coach Tim Beurer said. "We goals of the period were would be able to get out of finished the week with three scored shorthanded by Low- this game early." ell senior Andrew Light and

op- to get two quick goals in a Green, assisted by Caledoponent was the Kalama- span of approximately 15 nia junior Bailey Rietman seconds.

Beurer said, "At that The team clamped point, the team managed to down on the defense to enfocus again on their task and secure a victory. We scored get another opportunity to Lowell-Caledonia (L- three more goals before the score. end of the period while playing even strength."

by Lowell senior Braden and Caledonia junior Eric game 10-2.

Each of these goals ods, Lowell-Caledonia held

"The message in be-Beurer said. "We just need-The second period start- ed to keep doing what we

The third period started with a quick L-C goal The Blades managed by Caledonia senior Tage and Pinto.

sure the Blades would not

At the 8:37 mark of at a 1-1 deadlock. the third period, Finkhouse These goals were found the back of the net nior Cam Steger, Lowell ju- scored by Caledonia junior to end the game under the up and start skating out

At the end of two peri- annual Waterford-Kettering

BRASH

ROGUE

AMEER

AVON

POPE

GADDAFI

PACKERS

OCHER SHINY

TENT

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EMIR

started the tournament playing the host team on Friday in Waterford.

nament is always a good measuring stick for our team when compared to some of the competition on the east side of the state."

tight with both teams coming out strong and getting chances on each goaltender. L-C scored first on an even strength goal by Rietman and an assist by Green.

Kettering scored about one minute later to tie the score. The first period ended

"During the intermission, I told our team to wake nior Collin Finkhouse, and Jake Roetman, Finkhouse, mercy rule for Lowell-Cale- there," Beurer said. "I felt junior Ben Smith put on a point, we had a good lead Caledonia senior Kyle Jan- Caledonia junior Justin Pin- donia. L-C had a total of 44 they were being too com- strong performance in this and just needed to finish out sens. They were assisted to ,with assists to Rossman shots on goal and won the placent and needed to pick game by turning away 21 of the game. Unfortunately, it up a little. They answered Next, L-C played in the my challenge and started

SPAS

SCUBA

LATEX

MESA

SMEW

SIN

SHUTTLE

SPRING

C

WILLIAM

98

TONGA

ESSAY

RETRO

5

3

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2

9

5

6

53

holiday tournament. They the second period with a lot er play advantages. McCoy more energy."

scored the first power play L-C's first of two goals goal with assists by Jannight at the Lakeland Arena in the period was scored sens and Finkhouse. Green by Steger with an assist by scored the second with just Beurer said, "This tour- Rossman. Kettering got into 33 seconds left in the period. some penalty trouble in the Rossman had the assist. Lowell-Caledonia led period, providing for many opportunities for L-C to in- Milford 5-1 at the end of the crease their lead. They capisecond period. The third period starttalized on such an opportu-The game started out nity about half way through ed out with a quick penalty against Milford. L-C capithe period. Rossman found the back of the net after a talized once again on the opportunity, Finkhouse scoring pass by Light. L-C ended the period with a 3-1 lead. with Jansens assisting.

Lowell-Caledonia continued to play tough defensively in the third period and good opportunities to score. They padded their lead with

Trevor McCoy and Light. Goalie and Caledonia

22 shots on goal. championship game against

Milford Saturday night. "The second game of facing a tough Milford team, period. who won the night before our team."

the game.

got us in a good rhythm to responsibilities." start the game."

period. L-C couldn't respond goal. before the period ended.

team to play better in the opportunities."

sage and started out the we are." second period moving the Rossman respectively. L-C scored twice more on pow-

DRAFT SYNOPSIS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOWELL CITY COUNCIL MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2011

Motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion to approve the regular minutes of the December 5, 2011 meeting as presented.

Motion to approve the accounts payables as presented.

Motion to approve the variances as requested from King Milling Company for new buildings located at 139 South Broadway.

Motion to approve the resolution authorizing the renewal agreement for legal services with Dickinson Wright.

Motion to strike the 2006 delinquent personal property taxes owed to the City amounting to \$154.78 of Faros Pizza, Lowell Auto Body and Goldworks.

Motion to adjourn at 8:26 p.m. The next regular scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, January 3, 2012.

Complete minutes will be available after approved on January 3, 2012 on the City's web site at www.ci.lowell.mi.us or at City Hall.

> Betty R. Morlock City Clerk



wednesday • december • 21 • 2011

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ledger

Red Arrow SPORS

- BASKETBALL

Girls' basketball takes losses against Forest Hills Central, Grand Rapids Christian

by Casey Cheney Take the two losses suffered by the boys' basketball team last week, repeat them and you've got the results for the Red Arrow girls' team.

Lowell faced the undefeated Forest Hills Central on Tuesday. The game

Coming off a narrow

loss to Forest Hills Cen-

tral earlier in the week, the

Lowell Red Arrow boys'

basketball team lost big to

the Grand Rapids Christian

game Friday looking for

their first win, but it was not

main offensive threat, Drake

Harris, finished with only

six points, 13 of his team-

mates stepped up, racking

up points uncommon to high

school basketball. Chris-

tian's 11 three-pointers cer-

The Eagles (2-1) out-

Blake Lyman led all

scored Lowell every quarter,

though only by two points in

a nail-biter on Tuesday to

tainly didn't hurt them.

the fourth quarter.

scorers with 20 points.

Lowell went into the

Though the Eagles'

Eagles on Friday.

to be had.

by Casey Cheney

looked to be within reach after the first quarter, the - making it 28-17 going into tin with five points, includ- gles' 21. Rangers with only a 16-9 halftime – three points in the ing a three-pointer. lead over the Red Arrows. However, that was the most points Lowell could sneak past Forest Hills in one up losing that one 59-21 quarter.

third quarter and a single point in the fourth. The Red Arrows ended

points in the second quarter Behind her was Amber Mar-

free throws.

Aubreigh Steed led her

Lowell's game against Grand Rapids Christian looked like it might take the same route. The Red Arrows got off to a slow start with They were held to eight teammates with nine points. only seven points by half-

Echelbarger scored with not give the opponents any And, finally, L-C managed to get one more goal in this goals by Caledonia junior Coy with an assist to Finkhouse.

Beurer said, "At this This put L-C in the penalty trouble in the third period forcing us to play shorthanded."

"We found ourselves 5-2 against Reeths Puffer," trying to do too much and Beurer said. "They were a gave them some opportunistrong and physical team ties which resulted in goals and would be a good test for for them," Beurer said. "After the third Milford goal of Once again, L-C got the period, we called a timeon the scoreboard first with out so I could talk to the an unassisted goal by Fink- team again. I told them to house in the first minute of relax and get back to playing our game. We needed to Beurer said, "I believe be committed to playing dethat goal eased a little of the fense first and everyone had pressure for the team and to remember their defensive

But Milford evened the and starting playing well in game at 1-1 with just over their defensive zone, allowtwo minutes left in the first ing only one more Milford

"We were playing well. cured the tournament victo-However, I challenged the ry with a final score of 8-5.

second and continue to significant reason for the move the puck around," wins was our power play. Beurer said. "If we could Both power play units were start getting their goalie to responsible for scoring alplay side to side, we would most half of our goals during start getting better scoring this stretch of games. At this point in the season I could The team got the mes- not be happier with where

Lowell-Caledonia puck around in the offensive 8-1. Of their 15 games rezone. Light scored twice in maining, ten are conference this period with assists by games. They play next on Rietman and Caledonia se- Friday, Jan. 6 at the Kentnior Colin Echelbarger and wood Ice Arena at 8:30 pm.

assists by Balut and Caledonia freshman Josh Dillon. period on the stick of Mc-

we found ourselves in some

the tournament found L-C the next three goals of the

Forest Hills Central (2-1) in a 45-42 defensive struggle. Lowell held a six-point lead at halftime, which the Rangers whittled down to a single point at the start of the fourth.

Marquef Mondy led the Rangers with 14 points, his height and ball-handling making him tough to guard. Mondy struggled to finish in traffic and his 50 percent free throw percentage justified the fouls.

Early in the fourth, Mondy snagged a defensive rebound - the Rangers held a one-point lead – and took the ball coast-to-coast, looking to cap off the play with a slam dunk finish.

ploded as Mondy not only missed the dunk but was sent back on defense after The Red Arrows lost being called for a charge.

The Rangers extended

their lead to 40-36, effectively shutting down Lowell's offense. Then, Mondy missed a chip shot off the backdoor ally-oop, paving the way for a transition bucket for Lowell.

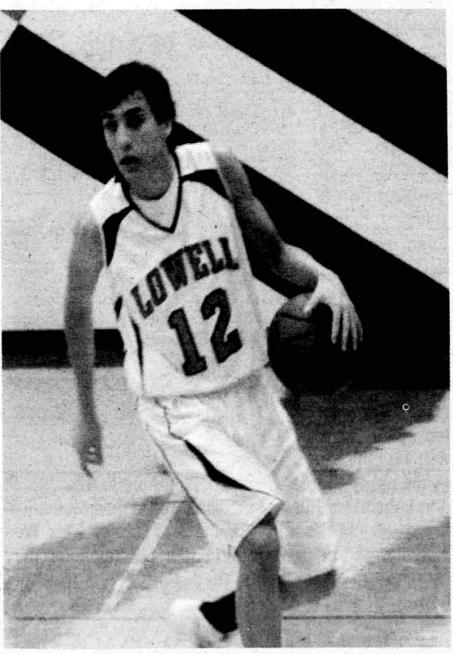
Another quick score tied the game at 40.

Forest Hills went one- missed. for-two on the bonus free throws and Jason Malling connected with Lyman to put Lowell back on top, 42- line. 41.

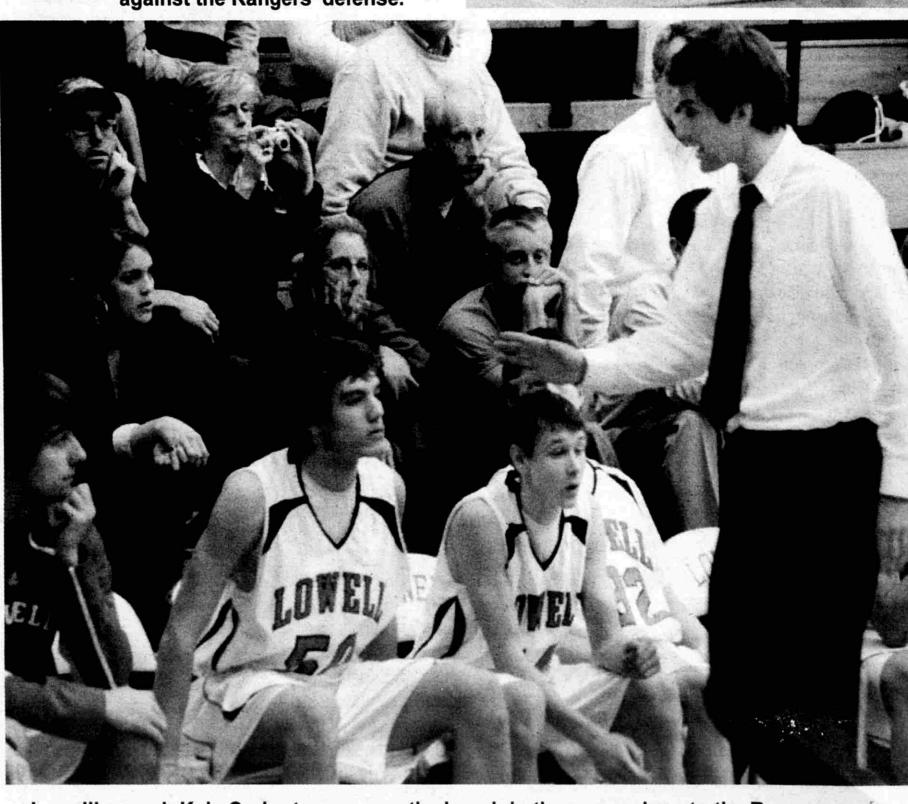
A.J. Sharkey drained a ers lead all scorers with 16 three-pointer from the top of points. Lyman had 12 and the key to return the lead to Alec Roerig had 10. the Rangers, 44-42.

Once again, Forest Hills now 0-3. Their next game is made only one of two shots Jan. 3 at home against Forfrom the free throw line. est Hills Northern. The home crowd ex- They led by three with 37

> Blake Lyman drives to the hole against the Rangers' defense.



Jason Malling dribbles up the court in Tuesday's tough loss to the Forest Hills Central Rangers.



Milford managed to get

The team buckled down

Lowell-Caledonia se-

Beurer concluded, "One

time, compared to the Ea-

The girls were able to get their offense going in the second half, however, scoring 10 points to Christian's 12. The Eagles led 33-17. Lowell mounted comeback in the fourth, out-

scoring Christian by five, but the surge fell short. The Red Arrows lost 44-33.

Martin led the Lowell scorers with 12 points, including another three-pointer and five-for-six shooting a from the charity stripe.

G.R. Christian crushes Lowell 92-61 in home defeat

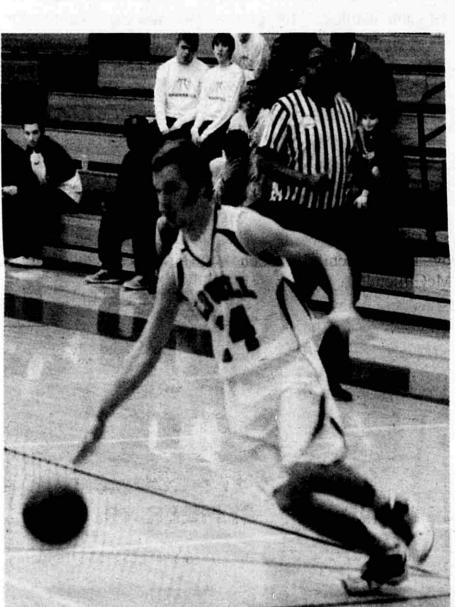
seconds in the game. With 9.8 seconds left, Mondy had a chance to put the game out of reach, but missed both

Malling tossed up a three-pointer as the buzzer sounded, surrounded by Rangers, but the shot

The Rangers finished the game shooting only 65 percent from the free throw

Lowell's Kyle Rog-

The Red Arrows are



Lowell's coach Kyle Carhart pumps up the bench in the narrow loss to the Rangers.

obituaries

BEYER

Loreen Carol Beyer, of Lowell, age 68, devoted wife and beloved mother, passed away Thursday, December 15, 2011. She was preceded in death by her father,

Ralph Smith. She is survived by her husband of 49 years, John; children, Lisa Byrnes, Lori (Matt) Miller, Jeff (Nicole) Beyer; mother, Dariel V. Smith; sister, Julie (John) Kline; seven grandchildren, five great-grandchildren: and three nieces. Funeral services will be Wednesday 11:00 am at Roth-Gerst Funeral Home.



305 N. Hudson, Lowell, Pastor Randy Vruggink of River of God Church officiating. Interment Wacousta Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Ionia County Humane Society, 3256 State Road, Ionia, MI 48846.

BRIGGS

Lillian Marie Briggs (Kropf), of Belmont, passed peacefully on December 17, 2011, at 101 years of age. Born November 18, 1910, in Vergennes Township, her life was full of happiness. She will be welcomed in heaven by her husband of 55 years, Hilton L Briggs; her two sisters, Emma Herron and Cora Ford; and brothers, Carl, Del, Earl and Gene Kropf. She wants her passing to be a time of joy, as she had a long and healthy life

and was at peace. She leaves behind daughter, her Pamela M. (Bill) Wengorovius; granddaughter. Lori Anne (Michael) Weeks-Moore; grandson, William Rudoph (Carrie) Wengorovius granddaughter, Gina (Adam) Wengorovius-Scheidel; two great-grandsons. Ryan M. Moore and Cody Moore; four



great-granddaughters, Rhyan and Carlie Wengorovius and Mia and Jordan Schiedel: several nieces and nephews; and special nieces, Donna Jean Ford, Kay (Charles) McDonald and Pat (Roger) Kropf. She was known as the clock lady, repairing clocks in her home for years after World War II. An avid gardener, her special flowers were roses and iris. She loved to play cards and even at 100 years old, was known to love Euchre and Bridge. The mention of a card game always brought sparkle to her eyes. Dad, mom says she is bringing the cards with her. Always the fashion lady, she took pride in wearing the latest and was on the Fashion Board at Herpolsheimers back in the 50s. She also enjoyed watching the squirrels and birds. Funeral services will be held Thursday at 10:30 am at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell. Pastor Bob Holmes of Christian Life Center Assembly of God officiating. Interment Alton Church Cemetery. Family will meet Wednesday, 5-8:00 pm at Roth-Gerst Chapel. Memorial contributions may her be made in her name to Hospice of Michigan. We thank them for their help and care of Lillian in her last months with us.

NOTICE: Due to increases in mailing and paper costs, beginning January 4, 2012, the Ledger will charge \$20 to run an obituary. An additional \$5 will be charged to run a photo with the obituary. These fees must be paid before publication unless you have an account with the Ledger. This nominal fee only slightly offsets the cost of printing. We have deliberately kept the cost a minimum for our customers. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

ledger

GEHRINGER

Catherine Mary Gehringer, age 93, of Lowell, passed away Tuesday, December 13, 2011. She was preceded in death by her husband, Claude; son, Thomas Gehringer; and

granddaughter, Elizabeth Gehringer. She is survived by her children, Richard (Linda) Gehringer, (Barry) Karen Andrus; daughterin-law, Jeanne Gehringer: sister-Helen in-law. nine Huver; grandchildren and ten greatgrandchildren. Funeral service

was held at Roth-Gerst Chapel, Lowell, Rev. Theron "Ted" Bailey officiating. Interment St. Patricks Calvary Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to American Lung Association of Michigan, 25900 Greenfield Rd, Ste 401, Oak Park, MI 48237-9910.

KIMBALL

Agnes Irene Kimball, age 98, of Lowell, formerly of Northville and Birmingham, AL, passed away on December 3, 2011. She was employed by Kroger for many years. She was a tender and loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She was preceded in death by her husband, Emory Kimball, Survivors include her daughters, Shirley Baxter (James) and Janice Sauber; grandchildren, David Baxter (Bonnie), Kathryn L. Sauber, and William Sauber, Jr (Angie): step-grandchild, Jonathan Phillips (Chrissy); and greatgrandchild, Evelyn Hastings (Daniel). Memorial service was held Friday, December 9 at Jefferson Memorial Funeral Home. Burial will be in Jefferson Memorial Gardens East, Reverend Joel Mills officiated, Jefferson Memorial Trussville directed.

PRATT

Robert Carl Pratt, age 73, of Lowell, passed away unexpectedly Friday, December 16, 2011. He is survived by his wife of 46

years, Rita; children, Debra (Nick) Mion, Carl Edward Pratt, Jonathan Pratt; brothers. eo (Mvrtle) Pratt. Kenneth (Ann Henry) Pratt; sister, June (Rudy) Roth; grandchildren. and Donavan Pratt. Alaina Mion. Robert broadcast was а engineer for ABC (13) and CBS (3).



Funeral services will be held. Wednesday at 2:00 pm at Roth-Gerst Chapel. 305 N. Hudson, Lowell. Rev. Dean Bailey officiating.

THALER

Lila Grace (Smith) Thaler, 97, of Lowell, died peacefully on Friday, Dec. 15, 2011, at Clark Retirement Community in Grand Rapids, where she had been a resident for the

eight years. past Surviving are children. five Robert (Janet Thaler of Patrick) City, David Bay (Karen) Thaler of Suzanne Lowell, (Mike) Martens Muskegon. Stephen (Linda) Thaler of Kent City. and Jerald (Janet) Thaler of Pinckney; grandchildren. Brad (Melissa) Thaler

Drew

(Nancy) Thaler, David (Kaylene) Thaler III, Adam (Amie) Thaler, Jay (Richelle) Thaler, Betsey Walker, Chrys

(Jason) Kolenda, Cara Thaler, Joe (Randi) Thaler, Lindsey (Armando) Rivas, Dan (Marissa) Thaler, Amy (Keith) Hussar, Kristine (Mark) Peppin, Scott (Sarah) Thaler, Lisa Thaler, Nicholas Thaler, and Matthew Thaler; 24 great-grandchildren; one brother, Bryce (Mary Ellen) Smith of Caledonia, one sister-in-law, Lois Thaler of Middleville: one brother-in-law, James Jackson of Arkansas; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Orion J. Thaler; a stillborn son, Howard; her parents, Robert and Mary Smith; three brothers, John, Elton, and Edward Smith; and two sisters, Leora Fay and Margaret Mutschler. Lila was born Sept. 15, 1914, on the Smith family farm in Leighton Township, Allegan County. She attended the one-room school in Corning and Caledonia High School, where she graduated salutatorian of the Class of 1930 at age 15. She attended Grand Rapids Junior College and Allegan County Normal School and taught in one-room rural schools. She graduated from Western Michigan Teacher's College in 1937 with a bachelor's degree in elementary education and taught in Battle Creek for two years. Following her marriage to Orion Thaler on June 29, 1939, she taught for two years in Schoolcraft and then spent the next 14 years as a full-time mother. She returned to the classroom in 1955 to teach first grade in Lowell. She received her master's degree in reading from Michigan State University in 1969 and was a reading specialist for Lowell schools until she and Orion retired in 1974. They celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in 1999. Lila was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Lowell for 66 years and was the oldest member of the congregation. For many years she was a Sunday school teacher and was active in the United Methodist Women and the district UMW. She was a co-founder in 1972 of the Lowell United Methodist Preschool, which continues today. She also was one of the organizers of the Child Study Club in Lowell in the 1950s and was a den mother for Lowell Cub Scout Pack 3102 when her sons were in Cub Scouts. At Clark, she was active in the creative writing group, drama club, bell choir and had been secretary of the resident council. In her early 90s, she published two volumes of memoirs: Remember and I Remember More. Friends may greet the family from 4:00 to 7:00 pm on Thursday, Dec. 29 at the First United Methodist Church in Lowell. Memorial services will be held at 10:00 am on Friday, Dec. 30, at the church and at 2 pm at Clark Retirement Community. Grand Rapids. Interment of her cremains will be in the Leighton Township Cemetery, Allegan County, Memorial contributions may be made to First United Methodist Church of Lowell, the Orion and Lila Thaler Scholarship Fund at Lowell High School, Lowell Senior Neighbors. or the Clark Benevolent Fund.

Ronald Jay Wenger, age 65, of Lowell, passed away Wednesday, December 14, 2011. He was preceded in death by his son Mike Wenger. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; children, Dr. Julie (Dr. Randy Vagelos) Wissink, Carrie (Sandy Foster) Wenger, Mike Wissink; parents, Cliff and

Grace Wenger; brothers. Ken (Pat) Wenger (Mary) Larry Wenger. Tom (Paula) Wenger; grandchildren. Olivia, Emma. Evan, and Alex Vagelos; and nieces many and nephews. He managed the Kent County Youth Fair Lowell for over ten years and will be missed

by the many people he helped. Ron's motto was, "It's all about the kids." Funeral services weree held Monday at Lowell High School Performing Arts Center. Rev. Wes Hershberger officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to Kent County Youth Fair, 225 S. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331

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WENGER



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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.

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

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

CENTRAL BOILER CLAS-SIC - Outdoor Wood Furnace. Safe, clean, efficient, wood heat. 25 year warranty. Call SOS your "Stocking Dealer" Dutton. MI 616-554-8669 or 616-915-5061

GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPPIES FOR SALE - 5 months old, professionally trained, AKC registered, world champion bloodline. 616-293-5653 or website www. k9academy international com

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

LOWELL - 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch for sale or rent. Land contract terms. Call Ron or Marvie, 897-6757 or 485-9703.

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.

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.

FAMILY PROTECTION DOGS FOR SALE - Pro- starting at \$200. Call 616fessionally trained, custom training available 616-293-5653 or website www.k9academy international.com

for sale

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

BROWNING HYDRO FLEECE - 4-1 parka & bibs. Mossy oak, Gor-tex and very warm. Parka has small corner tear in sleeve. \$200. 517-703-6790.

HORSELOVER'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

BEAUTIFUL, UNIQUE AUGGIE PUP FOR SALE blue merle, utd on shots, crate trained, very strong herding instinct so no small children. Minda is very smart & would do well in any kind of training. Asking \$400. Call 897-4573.

1996FORDVAN-Equipped w/handicap lift, excellent condition: both mechanically & body. \$3500 obo. 460-1861 or 691-8834.

ROLLTOP DESK W/CHAIR Round drum table, pineapple base, leather top w/gold leaf trim & matching coffee table (pull-out tea trav). Serious buvers 616-633-4654.

HOYER 400 LBS. CAPAC-ITY - \$335. 633-4654.

for rent

AVAILABLE JANUARY 1ST - There will be a one bedroom, one bath, newly remodeled home on the Causeway with a great view of Murray Lake. No pets or smokina. For more information please call Denise at 897-8848.

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

LOWELL - 1 bedroom, bath apartment, carport water, sewer & trash in cluded. \$500/mo. \$300 deposit. No smokina & no pets. 897-4829.

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.TEN

HORSE BOARDING IN LOWELL - on Grand River Dr., SE. Pasture board and stall board available 690-0646.

Visit our website:

www.thelowellledger.com

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.TEN

OCCASIONAL BABYSIT-TER - New Christian familv in Lowell looking for occasional babysitters for day & eve. appts. 5 wellbehaved children, \$8/hr. 616-987-3356.



WHY? NOT AGAIN **Baby Jesus was** taken from our nativity scene on the front porch either late Dec. 17 or early Dec. 18. Baby Jesus is Xmas. Please bring him back. P.S. Thanks to you, you have ruined our Christmas! John & Lucille Erickson 517 Avery St., Lowell.

PLEASE NOTE

Events are for non-profit orga-

nizations. If you are charging

admission for an event - it is

considered an advertisement

Coming events are ran on a

space available basis & ARE

If you would like to make sure

NOT GUARANTEED TO RUN

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

V.F.W. POST #8303 - meets the first Monday at 7 p.m. at 3116 Alden Nash S.E. LOWELL SHOWBOAT GAR-DEN CLUB - meets the 3rd

vour 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. 897-6814.

- Coming

THE LOWELL BOARD OF EDUCATION - second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Administration Building, 300 High St., Lowell.

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

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

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

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

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

BUSINESS CARDS - Before you order your cards from somewhere else checkourrates! Call Lowell Litho, 897-9261

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

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

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

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

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services

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

wanted

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

card of thanks

TEAM A-1 LASER THANKS YOU

Thank you to the Lowell community and all of those who supported our Relay for Life Christmas tree and wreath sale. Special thanks goes to Fisk Trucking for tree delivery. Ferrellaas for keeping us warm, Skyline Electric and Mike Hovenar for lot lighting, Fisk Lawncare and Snowplowing for lot office, and to all our team members who gave their time to staff the lot.

The family of NORA BELL SIMINGTON RASH

would like to thank the staffs of Laurels of Kent, Hospice of Michigan, Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, Lowell Church of the Nazarene and the many friends for the loving kindness, care and service given to our mother, sister, grandmother, greatgrandmother, and greatgreat-grandmother. We appreciate and thank you for the support and prayers during this time.



Monday in the Church of the Nazarene Fellowship Hall, 211 N. Washington St. at 6:30 p.m.

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

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBL' TOPS MI #372 - every Tuesday at Key Heights Mobile Home Park Community Building. Weigh-ins

CUB SCOUT PACK 3188-meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church.

at 5:45 p.m.

621 E. Main.

City Hall

QUA-KE-ZIK SPORTSMANS CLUB - meets second and third Tuesdays at 8 p.m. at 8731 West Riverside Dr. Go to www.guake-zik.org for information. New members welcome.

MOVIE MATINEE - Thurs., Dec. 22, 2 p.m. "Mr. Popper's Penguins." Free movie & popcorn at Clarksville Village Hall, 162 S. Main St., Clarksville,

LOWELLLIONS CLUB - meets third Tuesday at noon at Lowell

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

LOWELL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - meets the 2nd Saturday 11535 E. Fulton, 9 a.m. social gathering; 10 a.m. meeting, LARC sponsors 145.27 MHz area radio epeater system.

THE EAST KENT COUNTY **REPUBLICANS** (EKCR) - meets the second Saturday of the month at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce (113 Riverwalk Plaza) from 8:30 to 10 a.m. to discuss current events on the local, state & national levels. Bring your concerns & issues to our meeting for open discussion! Share nformation about what you can do to become involved! For more information, please call Dave Emmette, 644-0759 or Nancy Steckler, 897-6380.

FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MIN-**ISTRIES THRIFT STORE** open Wed. 10 - 8 p.m.; Thurs. Fri., 10-6; Sat., 10 a.m. - 4 p.m at 11535 Fulton St. E. Thrift Shop, 897-8260; Food Pantry, 897-8260 Emergency Services, 897-8260.

ALPHA WOMEN'S CENTER - 517 E. Main. Hours: Mon. 11-5 p.m.; Tues. 6-9 p.m.; Thurs. 10-6 p.m. 987-9533. Diapers, formula, clothing & free pregnancy testing available.

AVERILL HISTORICAL MU-SEUM OF ADA - 7144 Headley. is open every Friday & Saturday 4 p.m. or by appointment. Closed Jan. & Feb. 676-9346.

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.

FIT CLUB - Every Tues. at 9 a.m. Clarksville Area Library, 130 S Main, Clarksville. 616-693-1001

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.

LOWELLAREA ARTS COUNCIL GALLERY HOURS - Tues. - Fri.. 10-6 p.m.: Sat., 1-4 p.m.: Monday by appt.; 149 S. Hudson. Visit

www.lowell artscouncil.org or call 897-8545.

LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM - open Tuesday, Saturday & Sunday:1-4 p.m.; Thursday: 1-8 p.m. Families: \$10: individual \$3; ages 5-17 \$1.50; members free. 897-7688.

ST. MARY'S PREGNANCY CRISIS CENTER - 402 Amity. Mondays: 5:30-7:30 p.m. and Thursdays: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m Non-denominational. Help for pregnant women/adolescents in need. Provides support, referrals, food, clothing/ infant items. Lowell area. 897-9393.

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

LOWELL SERENITY CLUB MEETINGS - (AA) Mon., Wed. Thurs.: 12-1 & 8-9 p.m.; Tues & Fri.: 12-1, 4:30-5:30 p.m. & 8-9 p.m.; Sat. & Sun.: 10-11 a.m. & 8-9 p.m. 101 W. Main. 397-8565.

SHOTGUN & ARCHERY SHOOTING LEAGUES - at Caledonia Sportsman's Club (Alto/Freeport). Contact Al Potas 698-2051 or email shooting@csc.us.com

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY - at Cascade Fellowship Christian Ref. Church, 6655 Cascade Rd. Free perishable food. 1st Monday. Register: 4:30 p.m. Distribution: 6 p.m.

BINGO - Every Sunday, 2 p.m. The Moose Rec Hall, 1320 E Main St. Sponsored by W.O.T.M. Chapter #1388. Open to the public.

ORYTIME - Every Thurs. at 10:30 a.m., Now at Clarksville Village Hall, 162 S. Main St. Clarksville.

State police report increase in traffic fatalities

The Michigan State lost their lives in eight Police (MSP) confirmed separate traffic crashes today that preliminary during the 2011 Lifesaver reports indicate eight people holiday weekend.

In comparison, five

eight victims were known to have not used restraints.

"These numbers are in fatalities from this same people died in five traffic preliminary and only reflect holiday period last year, holiday weekend ran from crashes during the 2010 those fatalities reported to law enforcement agencies 6 pm on Friday, Dec. 16, Lifesaver holiday weekend. the MSP as of 11:30 am throughout the state remain 2011, through midnight on Alcohol was not a today," stated Capt. Kari devoted to the task of Sunday, Dec. 18, 2011. known factor in any of the Kusmierz, commander of preventing these tragedies fatal crashes, but three of the the MSP Training Division. and continue to strive "While the preliminary toward making Michigan a numbers show an increase safer place to travel."

EGLOBE

DECEMBER 14 - DECEMBER 20

South Korea put its military on alert after North Korean leader Kim Jong II dies at the age of 69 of a heart attack. U.S. diplomat calls the peninsula a tinderbox.



Dear EarthTalk: Recycling can be a somewhat timeconsuming task; so can you please provide some benefits of taking the time to separate my trash? -- Joseph Jiminez, Houston, TX

Recycling, which turns materials that would otherwise be incinerated or become landfill-clogging waste into valuable resources, has become second nature for many Americans. As many as four out of five U.S. households already

> take the time to separate recyclables from trash. Those hold-outs not yet willing to benefits to their household and society at large.

consumers is saving moncharge customers for curb- to landfills and incinerators. side pickup of recyclables garbage pick-up, so recypany willing to buy them in bulk. Some municipalities operate drop-off centers where consumers can trade

- another two months.
- investors.

in aluminum cans and other scrap metal (copper, steel, etc.) for cash. Yet another way to recycle and make some cash is to sell your old stuff in a yard sale. Likewise, shopping at yard sales and second-hand stores will also prevent the manufacture of new items altogether.

And there are many benefits to recycling beyond each household's own bottom line. Recycling saves resources. By recycling paper we save oxygen-providing, carbon-sequestering trees from the axe. By recycling plastic, we save petroleum, contributing (however slightly) to national security. By recycling metals, we take a bite out of energy-intensive mining. And recycling anything saves large amounts of energy and water that would otherwise be expended in making new goods from virgin materials. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) adds that recycling "protects and expands U.S. manufacturing jobs and increases U.S. competitiveness."

Yet another benefit of recycling is reducing the amount of waste we send to overcrowded landfills and polluting incinerators. At the other end of the consumer loop, buying products made out of recycled rather than virgin materials is another way to save money, as they are often less costly and just as good quality.

Beyond recycling, reducing our consumption of goods that are heavily packaged (often with materials not recyclable themselves) is another important part of any effort to spare bulging landfills and reduce greenhouse gas emisbother should consider the sions. And the re-use of materials that would otherwise end up in landfills is yet another way to conserve resources. It's not difficult to think of many ways that used boxes, pack-First and foremost for aging, paper and plastic bags can be re-purposed to extend their usefulness and spare the garbage (or recycling) man. ey. Many municipalities Also, composting food scraps - either at home or as part of across the U.S. today don't a community effort-helps reduce the amount of waste sent

With world population still growing and developing but continue to charge for countries now fully embracing an American-style consumer culture, recycling and other waste reduction techniques take cling is a way to reduce a on an increasingly important role in efforts to protect the household's overall waste environment. Indeed, there's no time like the present to step expense. Otherwise, con- up reducing, re-using, recycling and composting. To find sumers. who collect large out where to recycle just about anything near you, visit the amounts of recyclables may Earth911 website, where you can search by entering your be able to find a local com- zip code along with the item you're looking to unload.

> CONTACTS: EPA, www.epa.gov/osw/conserve/rrr/recycle.htm; Earth911, www.Earth911.com.

whom would you vote? Newt Gingrich Mitt Romney **Barack** Obama **Ron Paul** Michelle Bachman None of the above

THIS WEEK'S LEDGER

POLL QUESTION

If you had to cast your vote

for president today, for

GO TO: thelowellledger.com and vote!



DOES YOUR DENTIST MAKE YOU 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?

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- wednesday • december • 21 • 2011

The 2011 Lifesaver

 House of Representatives are expected to vote Monday night on payroll tax holiday. The \$33 billion bill will extend payroll tax cuts for 160 million, extend unemployment benefits and delay pay cut to Medicare physicians for

Saab Auto files for bankruptcy on Monday, giving up a desperate struggle to stay in business after previous owner General Motors blocked takeover attempts by Chinese

The last American troops cross the border from Iraq into Kuwait early Sunday, ending the U.S. military presence there after nearly nine years. As the convoy left Iraq at daybreak Sunday, soldiers whooped, bumped fists and embraced each other in a burst of joy and relief, the Associated Press reports.

Former Czech president, Vaclav Havel, dies at 75. The dissident playwright led the 1989 Velvet Revolution that peacefully toppled communism in the former Czechoslovakia

THEME: 2011 in Review ACROSS 1. Presumptuously daring 6. He has final say at the plate 9. Where to get pampered, pl. 13. Scoundrel 14. Needlefish 15. Diver's lung 16. Independent African ruler 17. Big Island necklace 18. Type of paint 19. *Deposed despot 21. *Atlantis was the last one 23. Right-angle building extension 24. Another spelling for #16 Across 25. Bon Jovi 28. Like Jekyll and Hyde's personality 30. *Arab Stratfor-up-35. Shakeonspeare's birthplace 37. "The Man Who Too Much" 39. Become established 40. Holy Father 41. It cuts edge of yard Verde Na-43. tional Park 44. A rooster to farmers? 46. Ready and eager 47. Eurasian duck Scandinavian, 48. e.g. Puzzle solutions on page 10

wednesday · december · 21 · 2011

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VolunteerMatch.org Where volunteering begins.

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50. It can be wringed? 66. Witness 52. Greed or sloth, 68. Polynesian kinge.g. 53. Diamonds or hearts, e.g. 55. Nervous twitching 57. *They were super 61. *Royal beau

65. Autumn color

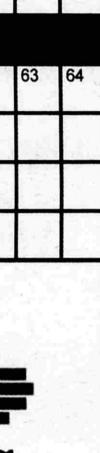
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	9. Jazz singing	59. B
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26. Convex molding 27. With no face val-

29. *Retired from "60

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When submitting your opinion to Sound Off!, we ask vou 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.

Lowell needs to post a speed limit on Riverside Drive. Too many people treat it as their personal drag strip. Speed bumps would be the best solution.

THIS WEEK'S ONLINE POLL RESULTS

Do you have your Christmas shopping done?

•	YES	60%
•	NO	40%
•	I don't celebrate the holiday	·0%
•	I wait till Christmas Eve	0 %



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ledger

wednesday · december · 21 · 2011

Byrne named Staff Member of the Month

Kindergarten teacher Karla Byrne was named Staff Member of the Month at Murray Lake Elementary School. Byrne was nominated by several fellow staff members.

"It has been fun working with Karla this year. She is great with the kids and has been so patient and helpful in the library," commented Murray Lake librarian, Patti Harreld.

Byrne and her hus-

band Christopher grew up in Lowell and are thrilled that their own children are able to attend Lowell Schools as well. They have three children (Kaylee, Colton and Cooper), two of which attend Murray Lake.

"I've been teaching kindergarten in Lowell for 14 years. I absolutely love teaching these young learners. It's such a treat to get to see the sparkle in their eyes when they read for the very



first time! I feel blessed to be part of such a wonderful staff and community."

teaching she spends her time with family. She loves cooking, decorating cakes, skiing and being outdoors.

teacher. She is always pushing herself to become better. She has had a profound im-When Byrne is not pact on all of the kindergarten students that have had an opportunity to call her their teacher," said Murray Lake principal, Brent Noskey.

"Karla is an outstanding

Byrne with two of her children, Kaylee and Colton.

If there were in the world today any large number of people who desired their own happiness more than they desired the unhappiness of others, we could have paradise in a few years.

~ Bertrand Russell (1872 - 1970)





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Week of Dec. 19 Mon. - Thurs. 8-5 p.m. Closed Fri., Dec. 23 Deadline for the 12/25 Buyers Guide is 5 p.m. Wed., Dec. 21. Deadline for the 12/28 Lowell Ledger is 5 p.m., Thurs., Dec. 22. Week of Dec. 26 Mon. - Thurs. 8-5 p.m. Closed Fri., Dec. 30 Deadline for the 1/1 Buyers Guide is 5 p.m. Wed., Dec. 28. Deadline for the 1/4 Lowell Ledger is 5 p.m., Thurs., Dec. 29. Jyers the lowell dger . Broadway 897-926

