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chess champs



page 3

lhs honor roll



page 11

red arrow sports





pages 14 & 16



City and Lowell Light and Power officials to travel to Germany to observe bio-digesters

by Emma Palova

Officials from the city and Lowell Light and Power (LLP) will travel to Germany in May to explore bio-digesters due to the upcoming construction of a similar \$3.4 million facility in Lowell.

A team of seven people will observe the sustainability and the side effects of bio-digesters that have been developed in German communities.

"The trip will benefit Lowell in that we will have firsthand knowledge of the technology and any potential drawbacks for the anaerobic digester system," said general manager of Lowell Light and Power Greg Pierce.

The team will also identify how German communities have successfully initiated and implemented sustainable programs for their constituents.

The trip comes as a result of questions about potential odor coming from the facility that will convert

Early Earth Day for

Bushnell Elementary

Bushnell Elementary students have already

started with Earth Day activities by sprucing up their

playground. Bushnell parents have organized a clean-

up day scheduled for Sunday, April 22 from 12:00 -

5:00 pm to help revitalize the playground. They'll be

painting structures, building sandboxes and adding

basketball hoops. A Girl Scout troop will be onhand

to plant flower gardens. Volunteers are needed to

help with this work day and they suggest you bring

your own rakes and shovels. The rain date will be

scheduled for Saturday, April 28.

food and agricultural waste into bio-gas.

The utility has chosen a German design of the digester that has not been yet utilized in the United States, but it is being used in rural German communities without any odor.

"We believe that part of our due diligence regarding this system is to have firsthand experience regarding the potential odor concern," he said.

And although the facility has been designed to avoid any potential odor, smelling one is the only real test, according to Pierce.

The team seeks to obtain firsthand information on the operation in Germany and on any potential odor concerns, since Lowell will be the first in the country with a similar facility.

The project, where the bio-gas will be converted into electricity and sold to LLP, is being developed by a local company.

As a consequence, the cost of the electricity will

be less than LLP is currently paying for renewable energy and ultimately it will provide savings to the utility and to the customers, according to Pierce.

A portion of the cost of the project will be reimbursed to the developers through a federal grant. In five years, LLP will have the option to purchase the facility at a reduced price.

"This could afford the utility and the citizens of Lowell even more savings," said Pierce.

Bio-gas generated by the facility is a renewable energy source that will allow LLP to meet the State Renewable Energy Standard. The standard requires that 10 percent of the utility's energy must be renewable by 2015.

The construction of the bio-digester facility is expected to start this summer and the developers hope to have it running before the end of 2012.

The bio-digester is also being viewed as a potential

economic development tool for the community. Coupled with lower electric costs, the facility could draw more food processing companies to Lowell.

Litehouse will be one of the major users of the biodigester for processing of their waste products directly in Lowell.

"It is an economic benefit to the Litehouse operation," said Pierce. "Likewise it could benefit other food processing companies."

Elementary students learn to get their plates in shape



Students prepare healthy parfaits during fruit and vegetable challenge

The March National Nutrition Month (NNM) theme was "Get Your Plate in Shape" which reinforces the key messages of My-Plate, the USDA's icon that supports the dietary recommendations from the 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans to fill half their plate with fruits and vegetables and serves as a less complex visual reminder to make healthier food choices.

As a USDA National Strategic Partner, this theme provides the dining service an opportunity to continue to provide nutrition information to students by combining nutritious, popular menu choices with educa-



tion programs that promote healthy eating.

During the week, Murray Lake Elementary conducted a "fruit and vegetable challenge" that appealed to elementary students and encouraged them

to try healthy fruits and vegetables in the spirit of competition. Each day of the competition, more and more students began eating more and more fruits and vegetables

Nutrition month, continued, page 2

Open house will focus on fitness training

An open house for the Ada community will be held on April 20 from 6 to 8:30 pm, promoting one-on-one and small group fitness training.

Dr. Jorge Rodriguez, Ph.D will be conducting the open house at Bodyworks. He is a personal fitness trainer, professional physical educator and a doctor in health and physical education, with over 30 years experience. His resume includes being the personal trainer of Brad Pitt for the filming of Seven Years in Tibet.

Rodriguez is the owner and director of Bodyworks Fitness Training, a fitness studio first opened in Rockford in 2003, now located in Ada. It is a personal training facility, offering an efficient combination of exercise techniques with therapeutic bodywork treatment.

Bodyworks is an innovative combination of functional workouts and post workouts; bodywork muscles release a system scientifically created by Rodriguez which helps the process to produce lifestyle changes.

"Being a personal trainer means helping people improve their lives," Rodriguez said. "During all these years I've developed my own training style with a scientific foundation considering the individual dif-

ferences and needs of each client."

There are many ways to train and exercise the body. Bodyworks Fitness offers various personal training packages, including a new promotion of small group personal training. Small group personal training is a unique way for people to benefit from the quality of service of a personal trainer.

Benefits include a cost effective program for individuals while maintaining quality training. Group training is very motivational, fun, interactive between group participants and encourages team morale and building.

Bodyworks Fitness is located at 6365 Knapp NE.

Assistance needed after overwhelming rescue



Over 300 Shih Tzu and Pomeranian puppies and dogs were rescued this week from breeder in Allegan County. The tragic story has had many residents wondering what they could do to help. The Allegan County Animal Shelter has a Facebook page that you can go to if you wish to adopt or foster a dog. You can also call the shelter at 269-686-5112. You must leave a message but messages are being monitored regularly. For those wanting to drop off muchneeded donations or send checks, the Allegan County Animal Shelter is located at 2293 33rd Street, Allegan, MI 49010.

Nutrition month, continued

On Monday, the first day of the challenge, the students at Murray Lake ate 393 servings of different fruits and vegetables.

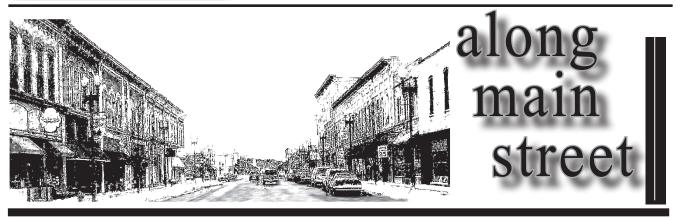
By Friday, the last day of the competition, the students managed to eat 516 servings of fruits and vegetables.

At the end of the week the winner of the competi-

tion was Nancy Russell's second grade class; they ate 173 servings of fruits and veggies during the competition week. Russell's class was presented with My-Plate placemats, along with a healthy afternoon snack where they were able to make their own fruit and yogurt parfaits with low fat yogurt and fresh berries with some granola on top. The students loved the parfaits and the visit from Mindy

Grant, the food service director.

"There are many simple changes that can be made to support healthy eating efforts and we can all benefit from these simple changes to improve what our children eat," said Grant. "Healthy eating requires planning so our NNM activities will help students become more conscious about what they are eating."



GILDA'S CLUB CLUBHOUSE ACTIVITIES

Book Club, Tues., April 17, 4:30-5:30 pm, "Teacher Man" is this month's book; Laughter Circle, Tues., April 17, 4-5 pm, Certified Laughter Leader, Lindsay Jousma, LLMSW will walk you through stress relieving techniques and fun activities to help promote overall emotional health. Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson St. For more information call 897-8600 or visit www.gildasclubgr.org/pinkar-row.

STUDENT COUNCIL BLOOD DRIVE

Come support the Lowell High School student council by donating blood on Friday, April 13 from 7:30 am - 2:30 pm at the Lowell High School in the small gym.

ONE MILLION DOLLAR CHALLENGE

From March 1 through April 30, all cash, checks, food or pledges to the Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) Food Pantry are tracked and recorded. The Feinstein Foundation will then give FROM a matching grant. The more

contributed, the bigger the matching grant. Please make your cash, check, food or pledge contribution before April 30. For more information or volunteer opportunities, please call FROM at 897-8260 or contact Sylvia Taylor at 676-0659.

LOWELL HUNGER WALK

Walkers needed on Sun., May 6, registration at 1 pm with the walk beginning at 1:30 pm at First United Methodist Church (across from Keiser's Kitchen). Each walker gets donors to sponsor him/her for this walk. Walker information packets available by calling Roger at 897-0105.

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.





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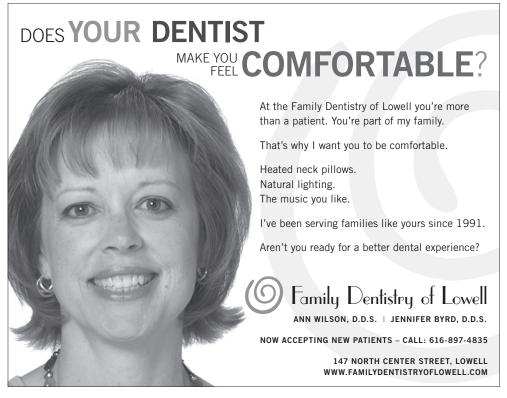
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Chess champs

dents competed at the Thornapple-Kellogg Schools' chess tournament. They represented Lowell Middle School, Cherry Creek and Murray Lake Elementary schools. Lowell brought

home lots of trophies. There were over 35 schools and 120 competitors.



Front row, left to right: Caleb Kaufman, runner-up; Zach Weston, runnerup; and Jessica James, all in seventh grade; back row, left to right: Donald Trierweiler, runner-up (seventh grade); Mitchell Haff, runner-up (sixth grade); Andrew deVoest, runner-up (seventh grade); Sean Hemry, runner-up (eighth grade); and Joel Fritsma (sixth grade).

Collecting supplies for Operation Military Canine

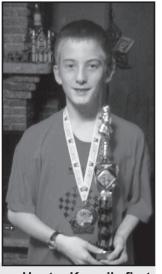
Emma Roderick and Cody Acker, two Kent County 4-H members, spent this past weekend volunteering at the Grand Rapids Pet Expo at the Delta Plex in Grand Rapids. During their time there, they visited the exhibitors' booths and collected supplies for Operation Military Canine, a 4-H community service project.

Kent County 4-H youths, Roderick, Acker and a third member, Molly Bainbridge, are delegates for the 2012 Michigan 4-H State Awards Assembly and are in the process of collecting supplies for military dogs and their handlers. Supplies collected will be packaged and prepared to ship to deployed military dog units.

This community service project will be distributed in conjunction with the Michigan Search and Rescue effort coordinated with US War Dogs Association. The delegates will also be creating cards thanking the soldiers and their dogs for their service.

Supplies need to be collected before the Michigan State 4-H Exploration Days held on June 20 - June 22, 2012. A few examples of supplies needed include, dog treats, leashes, brushes, grooming supplies, dog toys, puzzle books, snacks for handlers (excluding pork), toiletries, and money for postage to ship flat rate boxes (\$15/box). Anyone interested in donating supplies for the Operation Military Canine project can contact Cody Acker at 616-691-8157 or e-mail cacker5@hotmail.com.

More information about the partnering organizations can be found at http://michigansar.org



Hunter Krzysik, first place (sixth grade)



deVoest. William runner-up (third grade)



Max Hayden, runnerup (fourth grade)

LUNCH MENU

ELEMENTARY

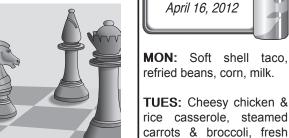
MENU

Week of



Mason Winters, runner-up (fifth grade)





WED: Chicken nuggets w/ whole grain breading w/ whole grain dinner roll, mashed potatoes w/gravy,

mixed fruit, milk.

THURS: Bushnell: Yogurt & cracker stackers fun lunch (Yogurt, cheese & crackers); Alto, Cherry Creek, Murray Lake: Pasta & Italian meat sauce w/ mozzarella cheese. Garbanzo bean salad banana, milk.

FRI: Cheese pizza on whole grain crust, mixed vegetables, peaches, milk.

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> This service is available by appointment only in the FROM Ministry Hall at 11535 Fulton Street East.

To register and verify eligibility, please call our tax services hotline at 421-0029.

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Most people have seen worse things in private than they pretend to be shocked at in public.

> ~Edgar Watson Howe (1853 - 1937)

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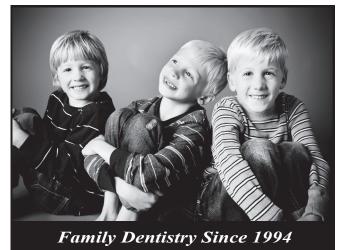
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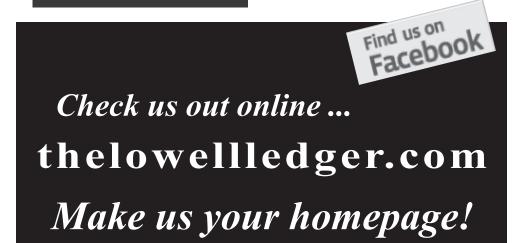


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financial focus



Put time – and tax-advantaged investments — on your side

If you're relatively young, and you've only been investing for a few years, you possess an asset that is invaluable and cannot be replaced: time. And the more time you spend contributing to tax-advantaged investments, the better off you may be.

As an investor, time is your ally for two reasons. First, the more time you give to your growth-oriented investments, the greater their growth potential. And second, the effects of market volatility have tended to decrease over time, though, as you no doubt have heard, "past performance is no guarantee of future results."

Clearly, it pays to put time on your side. And when you're investing in tax-advantaged vehicles, time becomes an even more critical component of investment success, especially when you're young and have several decades ahead of you before you retire.

that you put \$200 per month into to an investment on which you paid taxes every year. If you earned a hypothetical seven percent return on this investment, you'd end up with about \$324,000 after forty years. But if you put that same \$200 per month into a tax-deferred investment, such as a traditional IRA, and you earned that same seven percent return, you'd wind up with about \$513,000 after forty years. Of course, once you starting taking withdrawals, presumably when you're retired, you'll have to pay taxes on

Suppose, for example,

health

With Drs. Paul Gauthier, Jim Lang, Wayne A. Christenson III,



concussion

Much has been written lately about concussion, especially in the area of sports. A concussion is an injury to your brain. It happens when the brain shakes rapidly in the skull. Concussions often happen after hitting your head, being in a car crash or getting injured during sports.

The most common symptom of concussion is headache. Blacking out after a concussion is not com-

Other common symp-

- dizziness and balance problems:
- nausea and vomiting; confusion;
- concentration and mem ory problems; and

the above symptoms, you should see your doctor. If you have persistent headache, repeated vomiting or worsening sleepiness, you should be seen in an emergency room.

Once a concussion is diagnosed, the most important treatment is rest, both physical and mental. You should not do any heavy activity, like aerobic exercise or weight lifting, until your doctor says it's okay. There concussion. It is a bruising of the brain that should heal itself with time. You can return to sports when your doctor and coach decide together that it is safe. When you no longer have any symptoms of concussion, they will help you gradually



your earnings, so your after-tax accumulation would be about \$385,000, assuming you took your IRA in a lump sum (which most people don't) and also assuming you were in the 25 percent tax bracket. However, by the time you retire, you may be in a lower bracket. Plus, you have some control over how much you withdraw each year, so you may be able to affect the taxes you'll have to pay. Furthermore, depending on your income level, your contributions to a traditional IRA may be tax deductible in the years in which you make the contributions. (Keep in mind that this hypothetical example is for illustrative purposes only and does not represent a specific investment or investment strategy.)

While tax deferral is obviously a nice feature for an investment, tax-free may be even better. So, if you meet the income requirements, you might want to consider investing in a Roth IRA, which provides tax-free earnings withdrawals, provided you've had your account for at least five years and you don't start taking withdrawals until you're at least 59-1/2. This means that, in the above example, you'd have accumulated that same \$513,000 — but you won't have to pay taxes on your withdrawals. Generally speaking, the Roth IRA may make more financial sense for people who are eligible, but if you think you're going to be in a lower tax bracket when you retire, and your income level permits you to deduct some of your contributions, you may want to consider a traditional IRA. Consult with your tax advisor for guidance on the most appropriate approach for your situation.

When it comes to building resources for retirement, it's almost impossible to save and invest "too much." So take full advantage of both time and taxadvantaged investments. By putting these investments to are no medicines to cure a work for you, and by keeping them at work, you'll be putting time on your side as you work toward your financial goals.



view Doint

to the editor

lowell's lucky to have inn

To The Editor,

Thursday, the Vergennes Club was treated to a tour of the Main Street Inn and we were delighted by the beauty of the inn. The rooms are spacious, decorated with lovely colors and furniture and even had bathrobes for each guest.

There are two large gathering rooms that can be rented besides the overnight accommodations. Some rooms had balconies overlooking the river and the upstairs' rooms each had skylights. The marble coun-

tertops, stainless steel appliances and the tile detail provided an elegance that is not seen in motel chains.

We are fortunate in Lowell to have such a lovely inn right in the center of town. I encourage you to stop by for a tour to see for yourself what a treasure we have here for family reunions, weddings and out-of-town guests.

Lowell certainly is "the BEST place to be."

Sincerely, Marti Kelly Lowell



As days become lon-

ger and the weather warms,

it is time to return to do-

ing what we gave up when

ice and snow overwhelmed

the landscape. Planning for

ways to spend our time dur-

ing the approaching spring

and summer seasons is half

planning is easy because we

tend to do the same thing in

the same places year after

year. This is probably nat-

ural because we are doing

what we know and enjoy,

but it can also limit the pos-

For some of us, the

the fun.

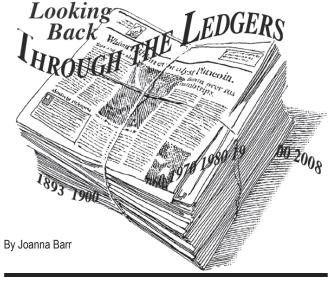
sibility of having new and interesting experiences.

Dave Stegehuis

My wife and I, as children, were raised in fishing families, so vacation time meant driving straight to the lake or river, spending the duration of the vacation on the water, then driving directly back home. The tourist attractions we passed by on the way were only fleeting images out of a car window. Our children experienced the same express tour. When we retired and had more time, every year we made it a mission to visit at least one of those places we missed. The Mystery Spot is no longer a mystery to us or to our grandchildren.

So, for those of us who are creatures of habit, this year is a good time to start looking around for new places to go and new things to do. Non-hunters can seek out classes or friends or family who are willing to help him or her get involved with the hunting lifestyle. The state has special programs which make it convenient to get started. Dozens of lakes and miles of streams afford public access to some of the best fishing in the country within a short drive from anywhere in Michigan. Investigate new water or revisit old hot spots. Hundreds of waterways open a long list of choices for boaters and paddlers to explore. Hiking trails and roads lead to campgrounds where one can get in touch with nature.

These are just a few examples of possibilities available to those who actively seek new experiences. Visiting unfamiliar venues is usually interesting and sometimes surprising. Returning to old haunts after years of absence can be nostalgic. This year let's get out of our comfort zone and make an effort to explore different places and seek new adventures.



140 years ago Lowell Weekly Journal April 17, 1872

Last Sunday was one of the finest days of the season and Monday decidedly the "blewest" and roughest. Several inches of snow fell and so did our fond hopes of an early season of uninterrupted ethereal mildness.

Robert Graham is busily engaged in building the foundation for his new brick residence on the corner of Main and Hudson Streets. The work will be vigorously pushed forward until the building stands completed.

Business is business, but it seems to be "nobody's business" to cover up that ugly hole in the sidewalk west of E. B. Hunter's place of business. It is a good place to break a leg and bump a head, but the laws of the Corporation don't require that we shall have any particular place fixed for that purpose.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger April 11, 1912

Dr. S. S. Lee, who has made a fine record in the Calumet country in his chosen profession is about to return to his boy hood home to continue his practice. He will receive a royal welcome from all his old friends and congratulations upon his return in all of which THE LEDGER heartily joins. The Calumet News says: Dr. S. S. Lee, chief physician of the Osceola staff, has resigned his position, to take effect May 1 and will leave early in May for Lowell, Kent County, where he will practice his profession. His departure will be regretted by a large circle of friends.

The rapid fall of the high water has enabled the Cutter factory people to replace their basement

pulleys and belts today and it is expected that the factory will resume operation Friday of this week. This is good news for the workmen and owners. The King Milling company announced that if the water continues to recede as rapidly as at present, operations may resume at both mills by the first or middle of next week.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger & Alto Solo April 15, 1937

Following the \$35,000 hold-up and robbery of the branch bank of the National Bank of Grand Rapids at Hall St. and Division Ave., about 10:30 Wednesday forenoon, Lowell assumed somewhat the appearance of an armed camp when all cars coming from Grand Rapids were stopped by armed officers. Police cars were stationed at M-66 and US-16, M-66 and M-21, and on the bridge across Grand River in Segwun and north of Lowell on Flat River bridge.

50 years ago The Lowell Ledger April 12, 1962

Lowell fans of Glendon Swarthout who has written two best sellers, "Where the Boys Are" and "They Came to Codura" which were made into movies are looking forward to his latest book "Welcome to Thebes" due on the book stands May 2. The book, according to Swarthout's reports to friends, uses Lowell as its background and its characters, while not representing anyone in this community, may draw a similarity to those who wish to fill in the blank spaces.

As this story is going around now, half the town hopes they can find themselves portrayed in the story and the other half are afraid they will be.

25 years ago The Grand Valley Ledger April 15, 1987

Just two days after opening day at Tiger Stadium, the Lowell Red Arrow varsity baseball team hosted their season opener with the Rockford Rams. Although there were not 55,000 plus in attendance, the estimated crowd of 92 contributed to the same kind of excitement and enthusiasm that is generated on opening day at any professional baseball game. It was a great day for a ballgame. The temperature was in the mid 60s, the sky was clear and sunny and the sun seemed to amplify the beauty of the new diamond.

off the cuff

Jeanne Boss

"Guns don't kill, people do." I hear this bit of wisdom time and time again. Once again, a person with one of these innocent, peace-loving weapons has slaughtered children at a school. This time it was in California.

Collectively, we were all horrified and shocked at the Columbine shootings back in 1999. We were glued to the news as we watched terrified students flee from the school under siege. Since that fateful day, the news of a gunman killing several people is now followed by a "not again" response.

You'd have to be living in a cave to have missed the recent story coming out of Florida.

Here you have a cop wanna-be, George Zimmerman, wielding yet another innocent weapon.

In this case, the shooter is hopeful that a poorly thought-out law in Florida (stand your ground) will be the bottom line in his defense.

That law, regardless of what its defenders want to say, is redundant. Self defense is already a legal recourse

Not creating a bad situation or running from trouble are clearly not options. Especially when you're given permission to be judge and jury while pretending you are in the wild west.

Off the cuff, continued, page 6

ask kathryn



Kathryn Denhouter Ph.D.

This article, "Emotions and Pain," explores the interconnectedness of emotions and pain. Emotional pain and physical pain are intertwined. When we have chronic physical pain, our brain has an intense focus on that pain. This intense narrow focus on pain amplifies our anxiety and depression. When a person suffers from chronic pain, there are parts of the cortex associated with emotions that do not disengage. Dr. Chialvo

from Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine found that when a brain focuses intensely on the pain - it becomes a brain that "never shuts up." A brain that is in perpetual "overdrive" sometimes causes damage in connections between brain cells. Another interesting study from the Feinberg School of Medicine, by A. Vania Apkarian, found that the brains

Ask Kathryn, continued, page 6

engagements

Roudabush/Bell



Susan Roudabush and Chad Bell

Joel and Brenda Roudabush, of Lowell, are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter, Susan E. Roudabush to Chad E. Bell, both of Chicago.

Parents of the future groom are Jerry and Susan Bell of Sarasota, FL.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of the University of Florida and her fiance a graduate of North Western University and University of Virginia Law.

A June 2, 2012 wedding is planned.



Off the cuff, continued

It is now alleged that Zimmerman had been the the victim, Trayvon Martin, may have punched or pushed Zimmerman.

Consider the possibility that this kid felt threatened and consider that he did hit this guy. Zimmerman was dogging him. Zimmerman could have left the scene at any point. Why is it not considered "stand your ground" when you use your fists for defense?

Well, of course the obvious answer is racism.

But this is where I part from some of the folks on the Trayvon Martin side of the issue.

I truly believe that if

one walking down the sidewalk with a pack of Skittles and Martin was the neighborhood watch volunteer, they would have called it murder right away.

But in my opinion, the fact that racism is alive and well only muddies the waters in this case.

The point here is a person can kill another person, with a gun, if he or she is scared.

Everyone is scared at some point.

You can be assured that the unbalanced individuals shooting up schools and shopping malls are scared.

Everyday life can be frightening.

Zimmerman was not in his house; he had no right to demand answers from anyone walking down the street. He had ample opportunity for safety and he was released, on his own recognizance and not charged with a crime.

To me, all of the above shows a decidedly sad trend toward the devaluing of human life. That is the real tragedy.

It is so easy to be accepted as "mainstream" while making violent statements like, "I'd have shot him too; it's my right" or "he shouldn't have argued with the guy."

But it works both ways. Soon we'll all be living in our little forts, peeking through peepholes and terrified to express an opinion or, heaven forbid, argue with anyone. And don't even think about walking down a street where you don't know every single resident.

We must not, as a society, allow the weakest among us to play on our weakest moments.

We should not accept what should be a last resort, to become our first response.

Ask Kathryn, continued

of people with chronic pain can shrink 11 percent. Other research shows that people with chronic pain take longer to solve crossword puzzles for instance.

Dr. Fehmi in his book, Dissolving Pain, Simple Brain-Training Exercises for Overcoming Chronic Pain, stresses the importance of dealing with anxiety first when trying to manage pain. When anxiety is severe, it can actually increase the pain levels. To dissolve anxiety, it is important to first do a "body scan." A body scan is when the individual checks different parts of the body to determine where the anxiety

is located. Is the anxiety in the feet? the stomach? the chest? the head? Once the anxiety has been localized, then the strategy of open focus methods of visualization can be applied. This helps the narrow hyperfocus and the anxiety that comes with it to dissipate. Flexibility of focus is emphasized because this helps the brain regain equilibrium and helps the body become more normalized.

Stress and its impact on pain and health have long been researched. From the research, it is clear that stress has a huge impact on the immune system. A whole area of science has

been devoted to this topic. This field, called Psychoneuroimmunology (PNI), studies the interconnection between stress and the immune system. Because the immune system helps us fight off so many biological invasions, when our bodies are compromised by stress, it can threaten our very life. The stomach and the intestines are of particular interest to those that study the effects of emotional stress. This area of the body, some researchers believe, has a "second brain" which is known as the enteric system. This area has one of the largest number of neurons second only to the Central Nervous System (CNS). This enteric system func-

tions as a single independent nervous system with its own ability to learn and remember. It produces what we often call "gut feelings."

In summary, our body and mind are deeply intertwined. When we become emotionally healthy, our body "knows" this and this has a positive effect on our body. It can help us make great gains in helping us manage chronic pain. Next month, the article is entitled "Dissolving Pain." Its intent is to help individuals that are dealing with chronic pain. If you have any questions about this article please contact me at kathryndenhouter@gmail.com

Learn from the mistakes of others.

You can't live long enough

to make them all yourself.

happy birthday!

churche

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Worship...... 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday School.....9:30 Youth Groups (Jr. & Sr. High)......6:00

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Sarah DeShane-Dalga, Jesse Lewis-Anes.

APRIL 11

Gabrion, Adaline Thaler,

APRIL 12

Al Roe, David Johnson.

Toni Blough, Delores

APRIL 13

Addie Abel, Pete Baker, Marv DeVries, Carol Brzezniak, Melissa Quada.

APRIL 14

Phyllis Jones, Dennis Rasch, Joshua Anderson, Nichol Gurney, Bernie Boersma, Brenda Stuart, Cole Wade, Stephanie Ossewaarde.

APRIL 15

- Eleanor Roosevelt

Craig Yeiter, Margaret Yoder, Charles Behnke, Fred Oesch Jr., Dave Carpenter, Terry Kinsley.

APRIL 16

Sam Roudabush, Kathleen Zywicki, Jack Ryder, Jacob Billingsley, Lori Gerard, Steve Kropf, Angie Farrell, Kristin Lee, William Mitchell, Rayce Darby.

APRIL 17

Elsie Franks, Heather Vezino, Roger Teale, Dennie Ryder, Merriman, Jill Harris, Lucille Erickson, Betty Erickson, Gary Pieroni, Candice Bowne, Jace Eliason.

Fifteen Years of Doing Good Work in Lowell



For good. For ever.



Harold J. Englehardt 1900-1997

ongtime Lowell residents will remember Harold Englehardt as a kind person, someone who found it easy to help others and never needed much to be happy.

Harold Englehardt was anything but flashy. He drove a late model Cadillac Fleetwood. He liked taking visitors to the Lowell Showboat. He would buy a hot meal occasionally for a waywardlooking fellow walking the railroad tracks.

"He was just my uncle Harold, he'd come for Thanksgiving at our house or have us at his place for Christmas," great nephew John Darling said. "He liked to meet his friends on Saturday at Keiser's, a diner on Main Street. He liked to fish at his cottage on Blue Lake near Greenville. He and Aunt Mildred lived in that house in Lowell for decades."

Late in his life the banker and businessman donated his cottage to Grand Rapids Community Foundation, its proceeds

creating the Lowell Area Community Fund. When he passed away in 1997, Englehardt left an additional \$12.7 million for the fund. It remains the largest gift ever given to the foundation.

The Fund, which celebrates its 15th anniversary in 2012, works to support all the causes Englehardt found dear during his lifetime: education, arts and culture, economic development, the natural environment, health, human services and recreation.

Today the Fund balance stands at \$14.4 million. More than \$9.6 million has been paid to the community of Lowell in form of 807 grants.

"Knowing what Uncle Harold wanted to see happen, and able to witness the results of the Lowell Area Community Fund, I think he would be very pleased," Darling said. "The positive change he's helped bring about is monumental."



ent County Youth Fair (KCYF) is held each summer and is something children and families in the Lowell area look forward to all year.

The fair is free for visitors, and the cost of entering the competition—whether you're showing a goat, presenting a school art project or playing a guitar solo—is only 50 cents. Each year, more than 1,000 children enter an exhibit.

The success and reach of the fair is due to the hard work of KCYF staff, the many volunteers and continued support from the Lowell Area Community Fund. "The Fund has helped us grow in ways that we never could have otherwise," volunteer Beth Bowers said. "We're getting kids from all portions of Kent County and also Berry, Ionia and Montcalm counties."

The fair this year runs August 6-11.

In recent years the Fund has assisted with \$24,694 for increased staffing and new goat barns, as well as \$3,344 for technology upgrades. Previous grants helped with flood management and improved pathway access, which is vital particularly for people using wheelchairs or strollers.

"Having the Fund available for these huge capital projects has been so valuable for us," Fair Manager Jessica Marks said. "It makes things happen a lot quicker than having to start a fundraising campaign.

"For instance, we were having flooding from the pig barn, which is not pleasant. We were able to get that fixed. We added wash racks so the kids could spray down the animals right before the show. This way the pigs are all washed and ready to go," Marks said.

An electrical upgrade from 120 to 240 volts helped vendors and performers at the fairgrounds, and the computer improvements cut down the

GRANT HISTORY

APPROVED GRANTS: 15 FUNDING RECEIVED: \$212,838

management of bids and payments from the livestock auction. "That's the biggest day of the fair, and there were years we weren't able to shut down until 1 a.m.," Bowers said. "Last year we were done at 10, so it has helped immensely."

Future Farmers of America and 4H are among the organizations that participate in the fair each year, but participants also are invited to enter individually.

"We feel we do a good portion of the things Mr. Englehardt had in mind for the community when he left this Fund, particularly as it relates to young people and education," Bowers said.

Supporting Education and Lowell Area Schools



anie Rice is a former second grade teacher who maintains her ties to Lowell Schools as a board member for Lowell Education Foundation. She was in the classroom for more than 20 years at Bushnell Elementary.

"Everything we fund ties back to curriculum," Rice said. Over the last 14 years the Lowell Area Community Fund has provided 23 grants to benefit the school foundation, offering more than \$168,000 toward everything from LeapFrogs to iPads, solar energy projects to forensics labs, and historic school house tours. Students have taken field trips to see the show Les Miserable.

"The most amazing thing is to be able to review a wide selection of ideas that seek to improve the sharing of information, the inspired development of course instruction and the desire to meet the everevolving needs of young people," Rice said. "It's extremely exciting to be able to give this money. As the person who's doing it, that's the prize."

Between 15 and 25 grants are awarded by the school foundation each year with funds from the Lowell Area Community Fund.

Linda LeSage serves as chair for the 13-member board that receives grant applications from educators and pares down the list to those that will be approved. The board is composed of three college professors, three business people, one stay-at-home mother, a social worker, a teacher and school board member, several retirees and the superintendent of schools.

All board members have an ear to the ground for rewarding projects and a love for education.

"We work on making sure we spread the money to every age group and every school (Lowell High School, Unity High School, Lowell Middle School and Cherry Creek, Bushnell, Murray Lake and Alto Elementary Schools) if possible," LeSage said. "I think it's very important for residents and families in the district to understand what a valuable resource our teachers and students have. This is an

GRANT HISTORY

APPROVED GRANTS: 28 FUNDING RECEIVED: \$430,050

opportunity for children to gain experiences they might never have had otherwise, and it remains the responsibility of each of us to bring the best ideas to the table."

Gilda's Club Lowell, a Place for Smiles and Support



ilda's Club Grand Rapids has found a second home in Lowell, and area residents who are learning how to cope with the effects of illness and loss have found a dependable community partner.

On Tuesdays, Gilda's Club counselors and support network gather at 314 Hudson Street with 50 to 60 people from early afternoon through middle evening.

In its third year, Gilda's Club continues to meet the high demand it anticipated in Lowell, and also continues to try to beat the preconceived notions of its being 'a sad place.'

"Gilda's Club is not about needing help,"
President Leann Arkema said. "It's about being real
and showing your expertise; if you've been diagnosed,
you're an expert. It is about being able to laugh and
share with others, and about being positive in a real
sense, not in the sense of denial or covering up," she
said. "There is no emotional benefit to being happy
all the time, for any of us, and that's something that
may have to be learned."

Gilda's Club, which has been a fixture in Grand Rapids for a dozen years, applied for a pair of grants from the Lowell Area Community Fund that were approved and served as start-up support for the Lowell program. The \$55,000 distributed by Grand Rapids Community Foundation went toward renovating the shared space with Lowell Senior Neighbors and to launch cancer and grief support programs unaddressed by funding from Lowell's Pink Arrow Project and general fundraising.

Programs offered through the Gilda's Club Lowell have included direct interaction with more than 300 young people in the schools, and another 1,400 in groups during all-school assemblies.

"Facing cancer, either through diagnosis or that of a family member or friend, is something that will touch nearly every one of us," Arkema said. "What we offer is free emotional and social support that seeks to normalize the experience."

And the counseling, while initially geared toward cancer issues, addresses all forms of disease and loss.

Brenda Peterson succumbed in May 2011 to Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease, a rare neurological

GRANT HISTORY

APPROVED GRANTS: 2
FUNDING RECEIVED: \$55.000

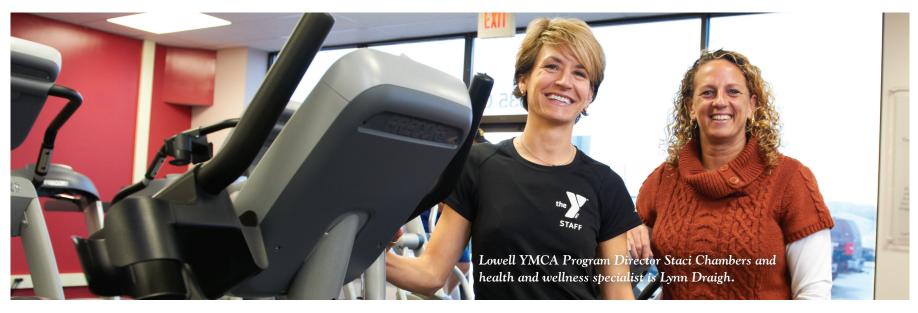
disorder. Her husband Dave Peterson and their teen sons attended grief programs through the summer at Gilda's Club Lowell.

"It's less about the disease and a lot about the loss," Peterson said. "It wasn't always comfortable for us, I think particularly for my sons, but it was always helpful.

"I'm very grateful that Gilda's Club is here doing what they do, because everything I hear and everything I read is that you have to find a way to address your emotions before they just come out on their own. Talking to people who understand and are in similar circumstances is very reassuring. It reassures you that you're not crazy, and that there are other people feeling the same things you feel."

wednesday • april • 11 • 2012 — page 9

Older Adults Seek Fitness at the Lowell YMCA



owell YMCA Program Director Staci
Chambers and Health and Wellness Specialist
Lynn Draigh see many health-minded people
come through the door, but there's one group
they refer to as "fitness seekers."

"The people we look to serve with our new program are those who maybe are seeing a difference in how their bodies are reacting to stress, or they're experiencing longer recovery times, or losing general stability," Chambers said. "We want to help people curb these signs of aging, and they want it too."

Ready Set Move for Seniors is a program designed to improve balance, coordination and strength for people 55 years or older. It is adapted for the demographic from a general program at Grand Rapids YMCA, and funded through Lowell Area Community Fund.

"My goal is to get the participants to walk away with the knowledge and confidence to continue with some kind of physical fitness regimen that will serve

them well in their everyday lives," Draigh said.

For 10 weeks, a group of 15 to 30 older adults meet twice weekly for the series' programs, which include cardiovascular training, stretching and light weight lifting. Heart monitors are used throughout the more strenuous portions of the program, as a precautionary measure and to add peace of mind. To help track progress, each participant receives a health screening at each session.

Further, there is a monthly educational component with information about nutrition, spiritual awareness, back care, arthritis management and other topics. The program is offered throughout the year.

Ready Set Move for Seniors meets requirements in three of the funding areas specified in the will of Lowell banker and businessman Harold Englehardt when he created the Fund; education, health and human services.

GRANT HISTORY

APPROVED GRANTS: 18FUNDING RECEIVED: \$656,616

"We feel that once our results have been achieved, Lowell will have a senior population with an improved quality of life and the ability to be more productive in the community," Chambers said.

A \$13,020 grant funded the new program.

Previously funded projects include the fitness facility at 1335 Main Street, before and after school programs at Bushnell, Murray Lake and Alto schools, a fitness regimen for teens, memberships for D.A.R.E. program participants, a child development center, and a feasibility study for a new Lowell YMCA.

Bringing Arts of All Sorts to the Lowell Area



owell Arts! gets creative in its approach to connecting all segments of the community to a myriad of artistic offerings.

The organization beets gallery shows

The organization hosts gallery shows on Hudson, dinner theatre on Main, music on the showboat, programs at the public schools, festivals at the park and occasionally arranges for traveling exhibits on the railroad tracks.

Each artistic endeavor is unique to its craft and designed to reach a particular audience at an opportune time. It is always done with humor, a sense of history, the intent to inform and always done with inspiration.

But the work of connecting artist with admirer is never done alone.

"Everything is done with community in mind," Lowell Arts! Director Lorrain Smalligan said. "This has been the case from our start. When Artrain (from Ann Arbor) initially stopped in Lowell shortly before we opened shop in 2005, we were able to obtain funding from the Lowell Area Community Fund to make that visit happen. The train happened to have an exhibit by Native American artists at the same

time Lowell Arts! was opening "Native American Artists from the Great Lakes Region". The Artrain visit added depth to the Lowell Arts! exhibition.

"With the Fund, we have a rare gift in our community, for people to turn when they're trying to make things happen for the better," Smalligan said. "Artrain is one example, as is being able to bring shows to Lowell area grade schools. These are perfect examples of things that would be impossible without help from the Lowell Area Community Fund."

The Fund, created through the estate of local businessman Harold Englehardt and managed by Grand Rapids Community Foundation allows parttime Marketing Coordinator Kacey Cornwall to independently manage lowellartscouncil.org website, promote events on Facebook and teach workshops like mask making.

The Lowell Area Community Fund targets education, arts and culture, economic development, the natural environment, health, human services and recreation. The 41 grants to Lowell Arts! (formerly known as Lowell Area Arts Council) total more than \$541,692. Funds have replaced windows and roofing,

GRANT HISTORY APPROVED GRANTS: 41

FUNDING RECEIVED: \$541,692

improved access to the Lowell Showboat, purchased costumes, provided tech support and transportation services, and kept nearly everything Lowell Arts! does, free of charge to the public.

Lowell elementary school students recently enjoyed in-school presentations of The Magician's Nephew, Gilda's LaughFest came to the Hudson Street Gallery for the PUNCHLINE exhibit, and April 27 through May 12 the Thebes Players will present The Odd Couple in dinner theatre at Larkin's Other Place.

"What we're able to accomplish could all be lost if not for the ability to make people aware, and to be able to tell them everything is free or very affordable," Smalligan said. "The Lowell Area Community Fund shines a light on what we do."



erhaps the most visible sign of Harold Englehardt's generous legacy is the building that bears his name: The Englehardt Public Library.

Situated in the center of downtown, the library serves as a community classroom, a resource hub, a meeting place and a scenic getaway overlooking the Flat River. The building is owned and maintained by the City, and the programs are developed and run by the library.

A pair of recent grants through the Lowell Area Community Fund—totaling \$103,402—has allowed for roof repairs, new front doors and windows, an ice melt system, restroom upgrades, new paint and new carpet.

"We really needed a fresh, new look," Lowell Library Branch Manager Kristin Meyer said.

Another part of the new look comes from a \$12,000 grant for café-style seating that supports

and encourages patrons to use their laptops and the free wireless internet connection.

"For a long time we were seeing people dragging furniture around, trying to position themselves near an electrical plug and generally having to work too hard make the space a productive," Meyer said. "We brought in the café tables and seats as well as the tablet seats, added a few power strips, and it made all the difference."

From 2010 to 2011, use of the wireless internet connection at the library more than doubled. Patrons conduct research, study for school, read the news, look for employment and keep in touch with distant friends and family.

The branch also bought its own laptops and a projector so the community room could be used for computer classes. Subjects include basic classes like email, web searching and use; and the how-to's for social media. The classes are always filled and there is a waiting list.

GRANT HISTORY

APPROVED GRANTS: 10FUNDING RECEIVED: \$218,913

"People are so happy to have these technology resources at the library," Meyer said. "There aren't many places to go where you can do what you want to do, or what you need to do, and not have to worry about making a purchase or moving along."

"Technology has helped us get to where most libraries are going—to be a destination that meets many needs—a community center," she said. ■

Gifts that Benefit Lowell Forever

Harold Engelhardt is not the only donor to contribute to the Lowell Area Community Fund. Many other people in the community have made gifts to grow the fund and make the Lowell area even more vibrant. To find out more about how your donation can help, contact Grand Rapids Community Foundation at 616.454.1751.

185 Oakes Street S.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503 www.grfoundation.org/lowell



Grand Rapids community foundation

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Gabrielle Gibbs

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Joshua Gee

Christina Folkersma

LHS second trimester honor roll

Travis Brubaker

Monica Bussell

Casey Cahoon

Taylor Carey

Jiyeong Choi

Levi Churches

Jason Cupp

Raul Damian

Alyssa Darby

Justin Davis

Kanon Dean

Luke DeBoer

Kaelobb Decker

Samantha Deiss

Kevin DeKraker

Ryan DenBraven

Nicholas DeVito

Kerri Donselar

Isaac Duma

Hunter Engels

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Bethany Dean

Kayleigh Davies

Brock Creighton

Abigail Cummings

Abigail Cummings

Blythe Carvajal

Makela Chapman

Hannah Churches

Richard Cadwallader

Katherine Canfield

Lowell High School roll, second 2011-12 trimesterschool year

Second trimester term GPA must be a 3.000 or higher to qualify and is based on final grades

NINTH GRADE Anthony Alderink Brittney Applegate Angus Arthur Maxwell Barber Tanner Barnes Rachel Bazen Timothy Bem Taylor Bierling John Bigham Abrielle Bladey Nathan Blattner Maria Blough Blake Bochert Alexander Bohr Michael Bonney Santana Boulton Mikayla Bozman Josh Branagan Hannah Briggs Laurel Bronkella Paige Brown Katelyn Bush Mackenzie Bush Amy Carpenter Nicholas Castagno Colleen Cater Alexandra Chapdelaine Jay Clark Mitchell Clay Emma Clouser Braylin Conner Amber Cook Cornish Ciara Kennedy Coxon Paul Crosby **Bailey Cummings** Coty Curtis Kailee Dawson Seth Dee Lauren DeHaan Richard Devon Zachary Diamond Taylor Doorn Caitlin Doyle Hannah Draigh Steven Endres Justin Everitt Tyler Feeney Ann Fife Bradley Fisher Danielle Fron Alexia Garcia Caitlyn Gauck Nathan Gibas Zachary Gordon Shannon Gorman **Brayton Grant** Veronica Grieves Isaac Henderson Nicole Hewitt Nickolas Higgins Rachel Hindley Tayler Hoevenaar Megan Hofman Katie Holzhueter Jacob Hoofman Elizabeth Hoseth-Hooker Todd Hovey Madalynne Iteen Kelliann Jacobs Jocelyn Johnson

Chloe Johnson

Emily Judd

Jessica Johnson

Samantha Kane

Avreil Koory

Amanda Kooy

Nathen Kyburz

Hannah Lambert

Montana Launer

Jared Laux

Mary Leasure

Cole LeBarre

Nicole Lehman

Nathan Limmex

Kaitlin Makuski

Dylan Mankel

Andrew Martin

Alexis Martinez

Nicole McCaul

Emma McLane

Selena Mata

Nicholas Longway

Nicholas MacDonald

Danielle Krajewski

Bethany Kaczanowski

Tara McOueen Jillian Meade Haley Milks Matthew Milstead Esme Misiak HeavenLeigh Mokma Kathryn Montgomery Landon Nethercott Brooke Newhouse Nicholas Newman Kristen Nolan Anna Norder Breanna Oesch Daniel Onan Anna Organek Anna Peterson Victoria Pickens Jacob Polsgrove Jason Price Grace Quiggle Parker Reed Anna Reynolds Breana Rich Austin Rife Adrienne Rife Zachary Ritchie Jonathan Roberts Francesca Robinson Victoria Russell Morgan Schlanderer Jesse Schmidt Rebecca Schreur Robert Schultz Caitlyn Serne Hannah Skibbe Logan Smith Kaleb Smith Keegan Solon Brendan Spencer Sean Stark Jessica Steiner Colleen Sterly Marissa Sterzick Bethany Stewart Mackenzie Stiles Desiree Striplin Catherine Stump Samantha Swartz Lydia Tawney Calib Taylor Morgan Taylor Alainie Thomas Jace Thomas Zachariah Tozer Khari Valentine Bailey VanAmburgh Ashley VanderLaan Katherine VanDyke Alexander Viviano Morgan Vulpetti Brice Warner Alon Watson Rebecca Weaver Maxwell Wester Philip Wetherbee Danielle Whaley Paige Wilson Chase Wilterdink Mark Winogrocki Catherine Wissman Michael Wittenbach Rachel Woody Rachael Yomtoob Isaac Ysseldyke

TENTH GRADE

Isobel Alberts Sidney Anderson Kelvin Anderson Shelby Antel Kiersten Ashenbremer Lauren Baker Zachary Bauman Kortney Beachler Joshua Bearup Connor Bergin Benjamin Bigham Ashley Bitely Kaeziah Bladey Michael Blake Lauren Blanchard Brie Blattner Emmalee Blough Kristine Bobko Alexia Bocskey Christopher Bodus Alix Bohn Benjamin Boogaard Hayleigh Borton Kailey Botma Brittany Branagan Tristen Bray Isaac Brenner Randal Brinks Dylan Brower

Cassandra Flier Zachary Fotis Sydney Fox Makenzie Frederickson Morgan Fuller Jacob Garcia Unyamanee Gawichai Austin Goebel Garrett Gordon Jessica Graves Morgan Groendyke Ian Grohman Parker Groom Kathryn Haan Paige Hale Taylare Harris Charlotte Hayden Brittney Heikkila Yuka Hirose Madison Holmes Jeffrey Houston Grace Inda Pan Itthichaicharoen Bailey Jack Zachary Jahnke Alex Kaminski Joseph Kargl Zachary Kaywood Jordan Kazen Liam Kelley Luke Kloosterman Alexander Kornoelje Derek Krajewski Mallory Kramer Austin Krebill Colleen Lally Brianna Landheer Matthew Lazar Siha Lee Ryan Lubbers Spencer Lyon Jordan Lytle Catherine Majinska Alyssa McCormick Kennedy McCready Paige McKenna Catherine McNaughton Andrew Metternick Filip Milivojevic Carl Mitchell Athena Mohr Kaelyn Moseler Kelsey Mullin Sarah Murray Hannah Nelson Jacob North Sarah Oesch Mallory Paiz Morgan Perkins Paige Perry Jacob Petersen **Grant Peterson** Chase Peterson Benjamin Peterson Abby Petroelje Rachel Phelps Tonya Phillips Christopher Platz

Jacob Plunkett Meghan Plutschouw Jacob Poll Keaton Pomper Nicholas Price Nicholas Proefke Matthew Reitsma Sean Ritsema **Bailey Roberts** Paige Rozell Joseph Ryder Samantha Sage Maximilian Sanders Jenna Saunders Brett Senneker Brandi Shellev Kyler Shurlow Jackson Simmons Austin Sirowatka Mark Slaktoski McKenzie Slupe Julia Smelt **Brook Smith** Michelle Smith Nicholas Smith Karah Smith **Kourtney Spaulding** Racheal Spielmacher Michelle Starkey Hailey Stasiak Aubreigh Steed Garett Stehlev Jacob Stephens Ashlee Stormzand Brandon Strzyzewski **Ouinn Summerfield** Jacob Sweet Joshua Theisen Shy Tidd Marc VandenBerg Kimberly VanOverloop Evelyn VanTil Rachael Walters Ryan Walters Jeremiah Wenger Laura Westhues Garret White Madelynn Willemstein Rachel Wittenbach Alexander Woodman Jonathan Wyckoff Boya Yan Katelyn Yuhas

ELEVENTH GRADE

Aaron Anderson Hannah Anderson Sabrina Antcliff Timothy Antel Micah Babcock Michael Bachmann Alanna Bancroft McKensie Barnes Justin Barrett Amy Bartkus Perry Bencker Jorie Bennett-Walsweer Paige Berends Rebekah Betts Corryn Bieri Cody Bieri Derek Bitterman Kendra Black Kevin Blanchard Kyle Bowers Skylar Bowne Kaeleb Brown Nicholas Brzezniak Haley Buck Hannah Burtt Holly Canfield Bradlee Chesebro Molly Clarke Jordan Cloud Paige Coble Scott Collins Jacob Collins Daniel Cowden Zachary Crawford Jacey Culross Nicole Cummings Alexandria Daniel Zachary Dawson Emilyn Dec Jordan Dennie Heather Dimmick Kennedy Dodde Jack Dues Joshua Elliott Abigail Ellis Delainey Ferguson

Licia Feuerstein

Collin Finkhouse

Andrew Finch

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Anthony Hanson Taylor Harrison Evan Hedlund Lukas Henderson **Emily Hessler** Cory Heykoop Brianna Higgins Marissa Hills Alexandra Hinton Bryce Hrusovsky Ashley Huber Jennifer Huffman Zachary Huver Philip Janowski Jordan Johnson Abigail Johnson Maranda Johnson Kaitlyn Johnson Katelyn Kaczanowski Christianne Kargl Annette Kehoe Alyssa Kenyon Sean Khodl Jacob Khodl Kolby Kloosterman Sophie Kohtz Kayleigh Lambert Austin Lemke Jordan Lillie Brendan Lobbezoo Bailey Loughlin Dakotah Lytle Matthew Majinska Kimberly Malcolm Kelli Malcolm Jason Malling Johnathon Mark Tobias Marks Chad Martin Shannon Massey Delaney McCarrey Nicholas McCormick Keaton McGregor Breana McKendrick Morgan McVey Emily Milstead Sarah Misak Jacob Mitchell Kile Mitchell Jessica Montgomery Aaron Morris Mattie Newman Alexis Noonon Doug Nordman Grant Noskey Danielle Ordway Audrey Pearson Jacob Pelkey Megan Perkins **Emily Peterson** Nicole Platz Andrew Potter Hunter Race Audrey Rasch Louis Raymond Alexis Rife Austin Rix Joshua Rocco Abigail Rogalke Rebecka Roth Mark Russo Leah Schlosser Emily Schreur Justin Scott Dalton Seese Nichole Slupe Julie Smith Maxwell Spoelstra Brianna Steiner Hope Stepek Reed Stormzand Raechel Stougaard Ethan Sutton Brittany Tasma Brandon Tichelaar Alexander Tobin Emma Tompkins Gabrielle VandenBerg Scott VanOosten Erin Wade Nicholas Walker **Brad Walling**

Pierce Watson Gabriel Wehby Taylor Whaley Ashley White James Wierenga Kyle Wierzbicki Jenna Wilder Blake Willard Brice Wingerter Maggie Wissman RaeAnn Zachow Joshua Zalis

Ashley Worthington 12TH GRADE Chloe Aalsburg Joshua Addington Brandi Aikens Jessica Alberts Lindsay Anderson William Athmann Danielle Bagin Jeffrey Baker Justin Ball Kendra Belile Zoe Beloncis Analyse Bencker Luke Bigham Sydney Bishop Gregory Blanton Michaela Blough Alec Bobko Jacob Boelens Leigha Boogaard Kayla Boston Grant Breuker Martin Brubaker Dillon Buck Austin Buckius Casie Burr Micah Chapin Matthew Charrouf Caitlin Clover Robert Coffey James Collins Alexandria Cowden Lindsey Crawford Gabriel Dean Garrett DeBoer Moriah Dee Quincee Denault Aleesha DenBraven Karis Dilly Nora Donahue Justin Douma Elizabeth Downing Jordan Drake Jordan Drake Laura Droog Shawn Dulin Ryan Durkee Mackenzie Eickhoff Jordan Ervin-Wakefield Kaitlin Fisher Caitlin Fitzpatrick Joshua Flier Collin Foehr Alexandra Fotis Hannah Fowler Amber Geldersma Melody Gerig Daniel Geurkink Nicholas Gibson Travis Gordon Bailey Groendyke Morgan Groom Matthew Haan Aaron Hall Pauline Harrington Benjamin Hart Nicholas Hawks Zachary Hofman Matthew Hoogenboom Lee Hovey Ashlyn Hussey Helen Jacobs Amanda Jakubiak Kylie Jean Collin Johnson Hannah Johnson Adam Jones Lindsey Karasiewicz Michaela Kehoe Austin Kempker Stephanie Kline Hanna Kole Samantha Kooiman Lauren Kurtz Vonda Kyes Matthew Kyllonen Alan Lally Meredith Lane Andrew Light Alexander Ligman Jacob Litchfield

Lacey Lythgoe Emma MacDonald Sage Maliepaard Kelsev Mankel Kyra Marks Christin Marsalese Taylor Martin Amber Martin Drew Mayhew Alannah McBryde Kristen McCaul Hannah McLane Madeline McMahon Ashley McQueen Daniel McQueen Forrest McRee Jacob Merklinger Kendra Merriman Kalvin Meyer Allison Meyers Torie Milks Sarah Mogor Christopher Mokma Samantha Moody Taryn Morris **Bravot Morris** Gabriel Morse Andrew Morse Melissa Mosher Cassandra Mullins Ryan Nanzer Arielle Nausieda Jonathan Niemann Alexis Noffke Alicia Noffke Lauryn Noon Kristina Noonon Allyson Nora John North Jeffrey Onan Renn Osborne Hope Oudbier Carissa Paiz Benjamin Partridge Tyler Pawlowski Shelby Perkins Jayme Peterson Jelena Petricevic Joseph Potter Caleb Pratt Tyler Putney Mitchel Raspor Halley Reed Kristin Reid Kiran Riley Gloria Rivera Alec Roerig Kyle Rogers Zachary Rose Tara Rowley Anna Rozema Cory Russell Cassandra Rybicki Joseph Senneker Nicholas Shaffer Torrey Slocum Connor Smith Jenna Smith Kelsey Smith Kendall Solon Melissa Southwell Anthony Steffens Jacob Stehley Lucas Stephens Stephanie Stevens Shelby Strah Joseph Sweet Haley Talcott Yanni Tapia Hannah Tawney Skye Thebo Shanice Thomas Felicia Thompson Tabitha Tidd Madeline Tome Chase Treglia Catherine Tremblay Anne Vanderson William Velting Dakota Verbeck Antonella Vescolani Amanda Vietzke Cheyton Villaluz Alexandra Wabeke Samuel Whaley Mackinzie Whaley Nicole Wilcox Jake Will Amanda Willson Kelsev Wittenbach Jeremy Wodarek Kelsey Wold Kasey Woodhead Ryan Woodhead Hunter Zuk

obituaries

CORNISH

John Cornish, age 84, of Grand Rapids, passed away peacefully, surrounded by his loving family, on Sunday, April 1, 2012. John was born March 23, 1928,

in Standish, MI. He lived in Kalamazoo from 1965 to 1976, then moved to Grand Rapids. He was preceded in death by his son, James and his loving wife, Wilma. He is deeply loved and will be forever remembered by surviving family members: George, Nancy, Carole, Paul, Pat, Tom, his sister Betty Jo, and



his seven grandchildren. John worked at Consumers Power Company and after he retired he volunteered at Fredrick Meijer Gardens from 1995 to 2004 and also served on the Lowell Township Board. John loved to golf and was passionate about gardening. Service was held Monday, April 9, at St. Roberts Church in Ada. Memorial contributions may be made to Lowell Senior Neighbors, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331. Condolences may be sent online at www.lakefuneralhomes.com. Arrangements by Lake Funeral Home, 158 Mill Street, Saranac, Michigan.

GURNEY HAHN

February 1, 1927 - April 15, 1992

Dad & Grandpa, We love you and miss you everyday.

Bob & James Hahn

Anita, Dave, Patrick & Collin Roth

Gretchen, Paul e3 A∂am Jones



LOWELL AREA COMMUNITY FUND ACCEPTS GRANT PROPOSALS

All Proposals Must Be Submitted **Online No Later Than** April 20, 2012 to be considered. Visit www.grfoundation.org/lowell to submit your application.

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

JENSEN

Yvonne E. Jensen, age 73, of Lowell, passed away Monday, April 9, 2012. She was preceded in death by her

son, Greg Jensen. She is survived by her husband of 48 years, Bob: daughter. (Jim) Geldersma; grandchildren, Keegan and Kyle Geldersma. She worked at Grand Rapids Metal Plant #1 for 28 years and belonged to the Supper Club. Funeral service will be held Thursday at 11:00 at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell.



Pastor Phil Struckmeyer of Impact Church - Lowell officiating. Interment Bailey Cemetery. Visitation will be Wednesday, 4-7:00 pm. Memorial contributions may be made to Pink Arrow Pride, PO Box 246, Lowell, MI 49331. Arrangements by Roth-Gerst, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, Michigan 49331.



www.gerstfuneralhomes.com

PAULSON

Genevieve Paulsen, age 87, of Lowell, passed away peacefully, surrounded by her loving family on Sunday, April 8, 2012. She was preceded in death by her husband of 64 years, Emil. She is survived by her daughter, Ann (John) LaBine; sisters, Beverly Zahn, Pat Davis, Shirley Heiftji; grandchild, Emil (Laura) Carroll; great-granddaughter, Camberlie; and many nieces and nephews. Private memorial service will be held at a

later date. Memorial contributions may be made to Spectrum Hospice, Spectrum Health Foundation, Michigan Ave. N.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49503. Arrangements by Roth-Gerst. N. Hudson, Lowell, Michigan 49331.





www.gerstfuneralhomes.com

WEEMHOFF

Virginia June Weemhoff, age 78, of Lowell, went to be with the Lord Thursday, April 5, 2012. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ernest. She was the beloved mother of Bonnie (Robert) Bruce of Lowell, Gary (Kathi) Weemhoff of Battle Creek, Carrie (Stephen) Nicolia of Almont, Norman (Diane) Weemhoff of Lowell, Carol (Ray) King of Rockford; and the beloved grandmother of 12 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. Funeral service will be held Wednesday at 11:00 am at Impact Church, 1069 Lincoln Lake, Lowell. Pastors, Jason Holdridge and James Nora officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Faith Hospice, 2100 Raybrook S.E., Suite 300, Grand Rapids, MI 49546. Arrangements by Roth-Gerst, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, Michigan 49331.



www.gerstfuneralhomes.com

Alto United Methodist will hold open house of new facility

secration ceremony for their kitchen. church building on Sunday, is located at 11365 64th tion of the United Meth-Street in Alto.

The 8110 square foot facility can seat approximately 225 people and is fully handicap accessible. Three stained glass windows from the old building have been built into the new church to link the present and the future with the past. In addition to the sanctuary, there is a nursery, classrooms, a pastor's office, a 1900 square

Alto United Methodist foot gathering area and pro-Church is hosting their con- visions for a fully functional

Alto United Method-April 15 at 3 pm. The church ist Church is a congrega-

odist denomination. They have been in their old building on the corner of Kirby and Harrison n Alto since 1907. In 2004 land was purchased and on July 24,

2011, the church dedicated the ground. Reverend Dean Bailey has been serving the Alto United Methodist Church since July of 2002.

The Reverend Laurie Haller, the district superintendent of the Grand Rapids District of the United Methodist Church, will be speaking. Refreshments and tours will be provided.

> For more information about the church, visit www.altoumc.org



PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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4	7	5	3	2	6	8	1	9
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office hours:

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

classifieds classifieds

for sale

FREEAD! - 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@lowell buyersguide.com, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell. Ph. 897-9261.

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.

HEAT YOUR ENTIRE HOME FOR FREE - Outdoor Wood Furnace. Instant rebates up to \$1,145 for a limited time only. Central Boiler Classic. Call SOS your "Stocking Dealer" Dutton, MI 616-554-8669 or 616-915-5061.

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

143 S. PLEASANT, \$69,900 - No Money down. Move in ready. Well built & cared for ranch in Lowell. Rivertown Realty, 616-238-6935.

1997 FLEETWOOD WILDERNESS TRAVEL TRAILER - sleeps 6, everything works. Moving, must sell. Asking \$5,500 but will entertain a reasonable offer. 616-648-2869 or 616-889-6950.

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.

GOLF CLUBS - Orlimar complete set; Powerbilt GSX 100% graphite shaft irons; Callaway X12 Big Bertha irons. 987-6014 or 255-6247, call anytime.

NORDIC TRACK PRO EXERCISE MACHINE Excellent condition, fully equipped with workout display screen, pulse sensor, operations inst., training programs, etc. \$120 (was \$1,299 new). Call 897-8896.

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

for sale

BOB'S 15TH ANNUAL SPRING BIRDHOUSE SALE - Be an "early bird" & get your houses & feeders from the great selection we have on hand - bluebird & wren houses, bat houses, bird feeders, entertaining squirrel feeders. New this year - wood duck nesting boxes for your creek or pond area. Several on hand, taking orders. All solid cedar built to last for many years. Best prices anywhere. Bob's Bird-houses, 12279 60th St., Alto. 868-6633.

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.

for rent

LARGE 1 BEDROOM APARTMENT FOR RENTdowntown second floor apt. \$775 + utilities. 214 E. Main, Lowell. 616-291-1760.

ONE BEDROOM UP-PER - quiet neighborhood, clean & cozy. \$475/mo. plus deposit \$475. Heat included. Available Mav References required. 987-9124.

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

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._{TFN}

in memoriam

IN MEMORY James Fahrni, 7/23/1940 - 4/15/2011 and

Brian Marenlette, 9/27/1968 - 4/18/2011. We love you and miss you

so very much. Ruth Anne Fahrni & children, Robert Fahrni. Mark Marenlette & Michelle Oesch & their families. also special friend, Tom Vaughan

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.TFN

DRIVER WANTED - to chiropractor in Grandville once a week. Must be reliable and available late mornings. Call Linda, 897-

RECEPTIONIST - P.T. at small Christian Assisted Living, Wed., 4-8 p.m. & every other Sat. & Sun., 3-8 p.m. Apply in person at 6117 Charlevoix Woods Ct., SE, G.R. 616-954-

ALL WEATHER SEAL - is looking for a few outgoing people to work in our Direct marketing department. Part-time, day and evening shifts available. Pay is \$8/hr + bonuses. Average producers make \$300-\$600 per week. Call 897-7300 and ask for Megan.

PART-TIME DRIVER - seasonal, 2 days per week, Class A & tanker license needed, flexible hours. Call Fuller Septic, 897-3050.

ANIMAL CARE GIVER-an opportunity for a hardworking adult to gain a long term position caring for many small dogs at a large facility. Experience not required. Alto/Caledonia area. 616-437-0342.

JOB FAIR - Sunrise of Cascade, 3041 Charlevoix Dr. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546. April 17, 2012, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Med Techs, Caregivers, Part time & Full time. Experience preferred. 616-942-7200

wanted

I WANT TO BUY - refrigerator, stove, washer, dryer & furniture in good shape. Have cash. 989-584-6818.

misc.

SNOW UNIT-ED METHODIST CHURCH - at 3189 Snow Ave. SE, will serve a family style Turkey & Dressing Dinner on Wednesday, April 11, starting at 5:30 p.m. Adults are \$9. children 6-12 are \$3, and children 5 & under are free. Takeout dinners also available.

misc.

JOIN US - Saturday, April 14th at 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce (behind Flat River Grill) as the East Kent County Republicans host Tommy Brann, local owner and restaurateur to learn about "10 to Defend · 10 Reasons to Defend Free Enterprise." Principles include job creation, paying taxes and limited government. Call 897-6380 for more info.

sales

ESTATE SALE - Fri. & Sat., April 20 & 21, 8-4 p.m. Look for the big red barn. Antiques, woodworking tools, power tools, furniture, horse items, misc. treasures. Don't miss this one! 11464 Bailey Dr. NE, Lowell, MI 49331.

GARAGE SALE - Help Cub Scout families send all kids to camp. Saranac Community Church, Fri., April 13, 9-6:30 p.m. & Sat., April 14, 8-3:30 p.m. Multiple families.

AUCTION & FLEA MAR-KET - every Friday & Saturday starting April 13. Flea market every Fri. & Sat., 8 to 4; auction 6:30 p.m. every Friday night. Always looking for vendors & cosigners for auction. Peddler's Market, Greenville, MI. Call Rick for more information, 616-302-8963.

sales

MULTI-FAMILY SALE -Thurs.-Fri., April 12-13, 9-? 1100 Parnell between Bailey & McPherson. Name brand clothes, girl/boys, infant to tween, wom-ens to xl, mens to xxl, household, home decor, pictures, bedding, books, toys, new double stroller, sports equipment, purses, St. Nicholas village, much

services

TAXES, PAYROLL, QUICKBOOKS, & AC-**COUNTING SÉRVICE** - by certified Quickbooks advisor. Call Kathy 897-6351.TFN

COMPUTER REHAB - and more - Virus & Spyware removal. No diagnostic fees! Mon. - Sat., 505-B West Main, Lowell. 987-1155, www.computerRehab.ws

HANDYREPAIRSERVICE All kinds of service work: locks rekeyed, deadbolts installed, screen & window repair. Call Bob Ford, 299-3198._{TEN}

YOGA CLASSES - Tues. & Fri. 7:30 a.m. & Tues. & Thurs. 6:30 p.m. at 901 W. Main. \$8 walk-in. Specials at www.thehammockllc.com Questions, 893-5661.

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services

COUNSELING SERVICES from a local licensed therapist. Pain management, mental/behavioral health & career. 238-2116 Life Transitions Therapy.

THINK SPRING! - Free appliance removal. Want it out today? Call J&J! We remove most household appliances, lawn mowers, cars, batteries, campers, etc. any metal. 616-719-9742.

PRAIRIE CREEK - Tom Smith. Spring clean up and lawn care. Call for a quote, 293-0977.

BUYING OR SELLING A HOME - Call Joice Smith, Country Hills Realty, 897-1061 or **293-0980**.

NEEDADUMPSTER? -14 to 20 yards available. Garage, attic, household cleanup, roofing, trash, junk etc. Dependable service & affordable prices. Call for free estimates. Spring special, 10% off, exp. 4/30/12. Contact Doug 616-295-6640.

WALNUT HILL LAWN MAINTENANCE - Lawn mowing & rototilling for lawns & gardens, will apply fertilizer, weed killer, insecticide & general clean up. Free estimate & reasonable rates. Call Aaron at 616-328-9558.

Coming Events

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@I owellbuyersguide.com, by mail: PO Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or in person: 105 N. Broadway,

BOOKWORMS BOOK CLUB - Mon., April 16, 6 p.m. "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146

HOURS - Tues. - Fri., 10 - 6 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m.; Monday by appt.; 149 S. Hudson. Visit www.lowellartscouncil.org or call

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. ondays: 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursdays: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Nondenominational. Help for pregnant women/adolescents in need. Provides support, referrals, food, clothing/infantitems. Lowell area. 897-9393.

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

Cascade Fellowship Christian Ref. Church, 6655 Cascade Rd. Free perishable food. 1st Monday. Register: 4:30 p.m. Distribution: 6 p.m.lic.

MOMS IN TOUCH INTERNA-

TIONAL - Thursdays 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. at Friendship Country Chapel, 10200 Grand River Ave. Moms & grandmas come pray for our kids & schools. Contact Missy at 308-7920 or missykooistra@gmail.com with any questions.

ORIGAMI - Each Tuesday 2-3 p.m. Learn the ancient art of paper folding. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

CANCER - TEEN & TWEEN TALK GROUP - Each Tuesday, 6-7:15 p.m. - A group for youth in middle or high school on a cancer or grief journey. Incorporates curriculum-based activities. discussion & fun. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell

classifieds

to place an ad

in person: 105 n. broadway, lowell

by email: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com

by phone: 616-897-9261

classified ad rates:

20 words...\$4, each additional word 10¢ bold \$1 each or box \$2 each

classifieds also posted online! www.lowellbuyersguide.com



Danielle Ordway

How long have you been

running track and playing soccer?

I have been playing soccer and basketball since kindergarten and I did track in seventh and eight grade. I am currently doing both track and soccer this season and plan to [do] both next year as well.

For track, Ordway does the 100 meter dash, 400 meter relay and long jump. She also plays basketball.



Out of the three sports you play, which one is your favorite?

I love sports and I can't choose a favorite.

Have you won any awards

for any of your sports?

I haven't personally won awards for my sports, but last year, my basketball team won districts. I do have two varsity letters for basketball and I will be getting my second one for soccer this year. I will also get my first varsity letter for track this year.

What was your personal best at a track meet?

Running the 400 relay and getting the fastest time in a couple of years. I run the relay with Michelle Foote, Danielle Starkey and Alon Watson.

LEGAL NOTICES

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS **Decedent's Estate** FILE NO. 12-101691-DE

CORNELIA Estate of **MARJORIE** KOOL-SNEDEN, deceased. Date of birth: 01/21/1927.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO **CREDITORS:** The decedent, Cornelia Marjorie Kool-Sneden, who lived at The Green House Homes, 1015 East Paris Ave., Grand Rapids, MI 49546, died 09/23/2011.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Dennis J. Kool, named personal representative or personal proposed representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Avenue NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504 and the named/ personal proposed representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

04/03/2012

Craig A. Bruggink (P29358) 429 Turner Ave., NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 616-456-5048

> Dennis J. Kool 4385 Burton St., SE Grand Rapids, MI 49546 616-942-5849

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate FILE NO. 12-191931-DE

Estate of JOHN J. WELTON. Date of birth: 05/22/1938.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO **CREDITORS:** The decedent, John Welton, died 02/06/2012.

Creditors of decedent are notified that all claims against estate will forever barred unless presented to Stephen Faas, 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.

04/04/2012

Daniel Blauw (P37283) 2020 Raybrook SE, Suite 204A Grand Rapids, MI 49546 616-336-5098

> **Stephen Faas** 940 Clancy St. NE **Grand Rapids, MI** 49503 616-235-2195

Our Spotlight Athletes This Week:

Morgan Groom
Team: Softball **Grade:** Senior

Do you plan on playing a sport in college?

If I get a scholarship for any one of the sports,

I will play in college. I'm thinking about Ferris State, Davenport or GVSU. She currently holds a 3.9 GPA and just got inducted into the National Honor Society.

Do you have any siblings?

I have an older sister, Karlye, who graduated from Lowell in 2010. She currently goes to Grand Rapids Community College and helps manage my dad's pizza shop in Lowell (Three Brothers Pizza).

What do you like to do for fun?

When I'm not playing sports, I like to ride dirt bikes, play with my dog, hang out with my friends, travel, and go to football games.

Morgan Groom

How long have you been playing softball?

I've been playing softball since I was in fifth grade. This is my eighth season playing. She also plays golf and played basketball her sophomore year.

What is your favorite sport?

My favorite sport is definitely softball.

Have you won any awards for any sports?

I was all-conference, all-district, all-regional, and most-valuable-player the past two years in softball. Last year, I was all-state, honorable mention as well. All three years I played golf, I was second team all-conference and MVP.

What was your personal best in any of your sports?

My best high school softball moment was when I pitched a no-hitter against Northview and in that same game, I hit a three-run home run.



Are you going to play a sport in college?

Yes. I will be playing softball for Harvard University. I'm honored to continue my education at an academically renowned school and thrilled to play softball for their team. Groom carries a GPA of 4.156.

Do you have any siblings?

Yes. I have a brother, Parker, who is a sophomore at the high school, who plays tennis, basketball and baseball.

What do you do for fun?

I like being outdoors and reading for fun.



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THEME: **PRIMETIME TV ACROSS**

- 1. *Usually second half of "Law & Order"
- 6. Nada 9. Do, re or mi
- 13. All plants and animals
- 14. Dental group
- of Honor
- 16. On the move
- 17. Scottish hero Rob
- 18. Egg-shaped object 19. *What survivors and
- losers have in common
- 21. Often considered wise
- feathers 23. Makes stick
- 24. "The ____ of Life," movie
- 25. Pipe material
- 28. Forbidden
- 30. Crushed grain of various cereals
- 35. *What "CSI" does on CBS on Wed. nights 37. Original Cohiba producer
- 39. It's delayed in sum-
- 40. Christmas season
- 41. *In search of an apprentice
- 43. Italian money
- 44. Remote in manner
- 46. Attorney's bargain
- 47. Disparaging remark
- 48. Praying insect
- 50. Not in favor of 52. Printing unit, pl.
- 53. Scoff
- 55. *They know drama? 57. *What Aguilera
- judges 59. *One show has 60
- of these
- 63. Laughing predator
- 65. *Everybody used to love this actor
- 67. Visual or picture
- 68. Related to oats 69. Overnight lodging
- 70. Water wheel

- CROSSWORD 13 14 16 17 19 21 22 35 40 41 42 43 44 47 48 49 54 56 64 66 68 69 70 72 73
- 71. "Odyssey," e.g.
- 72. Approximated landing time
- 73. *He was the dad in "Family Ties"

DOWN

- 1. Type of ski lift
- and shine!"
- 3. Tiny amount
- 4. Like Tower of Pisa 5. Cowboy's rope catch-
- 6. "Not a" or "never a"
- 7. *Bachelor's words?
- 8. Extra shirt, e.g.
- 9. *Actress Campbell, formerly of "Party of Five"
- 10. Smell
- 11. Mai
- 12. Old age, archaic

- 15. *Like the Pritchetts
- 20. Parcel of land
- 22. Drumstick
- 24. Shaped like a tube
- 25. *Flight's glory days
- Oscar nominee Davis
- 27. Famous king of **Thebes**
- 29. Stomach reflex
- 31. Rembrandt's medi-
- um 32. Nimble
- 33. Monotonous hum
- 34. *They salsa and rumba
- 36. One-armed bandit

- 38. Prayer's end
- 42. Singer LaBelle
- 45. Fiji native
- 49. Part of a min. 51. The 9th in baseball.
- 54. Fear-inspiring 56. Cancer symptom
- 57. Obama's right
- 58. Singles
- 59. Asian starling
- 60. Tropical edible root
- 61. Knight's chest plate
- 62. Neptune's domains
- 63. Gardening tool
- 64. High-pitched bark
- 66. Marching insect

Puzzle solutions on page 12

Social Security Ticket to Work inspires dancer

Megan Riggs was just like many other people in their late twenties: bright, ambitious, and full of life. She earned Bachelor degrees in Forensic Science and Biology, with a minor in Chemistry. Riggs started working and building her career. In her spare time, she pursued her passion, competitive ballroom dancing.

In January of 2008, Riggs had a major depressive episode. Her illness caused her to lose her job and financial struggles resulted. Riggs qualified for Social Security disability benefits. The monthly payments helped keep her afloat financially, but even then she had the desire to work again. Knowing she would need help returning to work, she looked to Social Security's "Ticket to Work" program and other work incentives for support on her path back toward selfsufficiency.

Once Riggs made her choice to participate in the Ticket to Work program, she decided to work with an Employment Network (EN) that provides employment support and guidance.

Using her Ticket, she was able to test her abilities, build her confidence, and continue to receive her benefits while working toward becoming fully self-sufficient. Through Social Security's work incentives, she maintained her health care coverage, which gave her peace of mind

The Ticket to Work program helped Riggs achieve a more fulfilling life by helping her regain the satisfaction of work. She now enjoys working, reading, spending time with her Cocker Spaniels, and has even been able to return to competitive ballroom dancing.

Thousands of Social Security beneficiaries like Megan Riggs have earned more money, begun careers, learned new skills, and met new people through the Ticket to Work program. If you're disabled and ready to change your life through work, this program may be the ticket for you, too. To learn more, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/work.



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.

Our family would just like to thank the boys at the skateboard park for helping our grandmother when she fell down. We are all deeply appreciative and are grateful for the kindness that you showed to her and for being such responsible young men.

~ Sincerely, The Mooney Family

The "leaders" of the community scoff at Jim Howard's comments only because they know he is right. All areas of Lowell should benefit from the high taxes we all pay, not just the tax abated DDA businesses, lest we become just a glittering facade while the rest of the community crumbles. Thank you Mr. Howard, keep those letters coming!

I believe that it is totally outrageous that the Lowell Community Expo would charge a group such as the Girl Scouts to pay for their booth... I think the Expo needs to reconsider their mission...God forgive you all.

It's always so nice to see the kids helping out with the Foodmobile. Their help is always appreciated. Thank you everyone.



SUDOKU **Volunteer**Match.org Where volunteering begins. 6 3 8 1 5 2 4 7 6 4 3 9 2 8 5 6 9 5

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.

Red Arrow

National champions come to Lowell for Quik Stix Invitational

Bob Perry Stadium will be filled this Saturday (April 14) with lacrosse players of all ages at the annual Quik Stix Invitational (OSI) hosted by Lowell High School. Middle school teams, high school teams and the reigning college national champions, Davenport University, will all be here to play that

The event began back in 2005 when the boys' coach, Eric Bredin, heard about East Grand Rapids hosting the Michigan v. Michigan State lacrosse game. He knew Sean Mandle, a Lowell graduate, played lacrosse for Northern Michigan University, so he contacted him about hosting one in Lowell. That was the first year of the annual event.

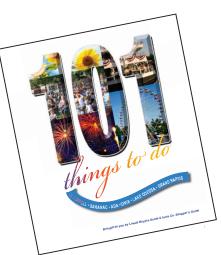
The purpose of the event is to raise awareness of the sport within the community. "The idea is to showcase Lowell lacrosse from the very youngest of the players to the most experienced players who have gone on to play in college," said Bredin.

"QSI was organized to create some interest in the game of lacrosse for our area. Up until a few years ago, lacrosse was thought of as an east coast yuppie sport. It has exploded in popularity in the last few years, as it is a fast-paced, exciting game and is contagious to watch," commented girls' coach, Kaiser Downing.

The event also helps raise money for the program. The lacrosse program



Coaches strategize with their players for a win.



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is totally self-funded (with the exception of the monies they receive from the Lowell Boosters), so the money raised helps cut the cost of playing the sport. Normally, it costs each player around \$500 to play and this event helps reduce that amount by about half.

Games begin on Saturday at 11:30 am for the middle school teams. Six to eight teams from the area will come in for a middle school tournament.

At 3:00 pm, the LHS Red will play against Battle Creek and the LHS White team will play against Grand Haven. Also at 3:00 pm, the girls' varsity will play against Kalamazoo United. Following that game, the boys' varsity will challenge Grand Haven at 5:00 pm.

The highlight of the day will be the college game that starts at 7:30 pm which pits Grand Valley State against Davenport University. These two teams battled last year in the national play-offs where they faced each other in the semifinals in Denver. That game came down to four overtimes and Davenport came out as the victor and then went on to win the national championship. On that Davenport team were Lowell graduates, Adam Bowers and Bredin's assistant coach, Nate Adkins. Joining them this year are three more Lowell graduates: Tyler Bitterman, Drake Chittenden and Alec Down-

"I would like to see a couple thousand people come out and support our players," added Bredin.

Downing also commented, "We would love to fill the stadium but realize it is still a new sport for the area. Collectively, with local players and parents, along with surrounding schools, we hope to bring in a nice crowd. It will be a day full of lacrosse fun."

Along with lacrosse, there will also be prizes given out during the day. Each student will get a ticket as they walk in and raffles will be drawn for local vendor prizes throughout the day. Also, there will be a hot dog toss for free hot dogs and various tosses throughout the games giving away pizzas and other prizes.

Tickets for the event are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students.

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