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wednesday • may • 30 • 2012

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old-time radio show



page 2



page 9

red arrow sports







page 10 & 11



Memorial Day parade and ceremony pay homage to Lowell area Veterans

The annual Memorial Day parade marched down Main Street only to stop briefly for a 21 gun salute at the monument and to drop a wreath into the Flat River honoring those who perished at sea.

People sporting tees with American flags lined the sidewalks to take in the pageantry of the color guard, the bagpipers and the Kent County Youth Fair court. Also, the city councilmembers: mayor Jim Hodges, mayor pro tem Sharon Ellison and councilmember Andrew Schrauben were in the parade.

The highlight of the ceremonies was held at the beautifully groomed Oakwood Cemetery with master

of ceremonies Dave Thompson, commander of the Lowell American Legion. Pastor John Pinkney of the Lowell First Baptist Church led the invocation.

> Thompson reminded

the audience that 2012 is the sesquicentennial year for the great Civil War and the 150 flags at the cemetery represent the veterans of that war.

"It was a war that first divided this great nation and then reunited it," said Thompson.

A total of 640 flags decorated the graves of veterans from all wars. Each flag represented a single veteran from as far back as the War of 1812 and as recent as the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. However, many veterans are buried elsewhere, near the battle fields where they fell.

"Our community has had many of its citizens serve in the defense of our country and many of them made the supreme sacrifice in battle," he said. "Today we come together in this hallowed place to pay our

> **Memorial Day** story and pictures, continued, page 8



Lowell students give back to the community

Every year, the seniors of Lowell High School participate in a "Give-Back" day, where they go to many places in the community to help out in many different ways. It is considered a thank you to the community for all the years of support for the students while growing up.

They were split up in groups of 15-20 kids, with each having an adult and student leader and then went to several places throughout the community, including Fountain View, St. Mary's Church, Flat River Outreach Ministries, Wittenbach/Wege Center, First ory bags for the Relay for ship class at the high school, United Methodist Church, Life.

Green Acres, Keiser's, Lowell Area Historical Museum, Oakwood Cemetery, and three different senior citizens' homes. They also went to the chamber of commerce to decorate lunch bags for the Kids' Food Basket and decorated stones for mem-

This year, the effort reached across generations for one particular family. Robby Coffey (Robert Coffey III) was the senior leader at Fountain View because he goes there quite often to visit his own grandfather. As part of the student leaderthey were responsible for planning the logistics of the various venues, so Coffey called to see if they could go to Fountain View to help out with things he knew they wanted done, but just didn't have the manpower to do. "I just know from visiting my grandfather that there were many things that were being planned, but they just couldn't get to, so I thought it was important that we come here and do this," said Coffey III. "My grandpa has given me so much throughout my life, that I thought this was something I could do to help give back to him," added Coffey III.

His grandfather, Robert Coffey I, was happy to see his own grandson participating in the Give-Back Day, as he sat on a bench with a smile on his face. At a loss for words, you could see the pride in his eyes. Another resident at Fountain View, Billie Hill, was excited to

Students give back to community, continued, page 3



Creekside: The 2012 Lowell High School senior class celebrate the community on senior Give-Back

Old-time radio show reenactment captures Lowell's past

Decades ago, well before televisions, computers and video games, the radio was the main form of home electronic entertainment. Families gathered each evening to listen to the latest news about their community, interspersed with music and local advertising. Often it was the main connection to the outside world. 1930s Lowell epitomized this image with its extended rural community and tight-knit family connections.

Grand Rapids-based Celtic band, KinFyre, perfectly captures Lowell's past in their live theatre/musical production, "KinFyre - Old-Time Radio Show Reenactment" coming to Larkin's Other Place, Friday and Saturday evenings, June 1 and 2. Written by band member Brian Whittemore, the audience with enjoy watching actors Glen and Julie "listening to the radio and dancing to the music of KinFyre, all in their Lowell "home." Reserve seat tickets to the family-friendly event are \$21 for dinner and theatre or for show only \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door for show only.

For more information contact Karen P. (Kacey) Cornwell, project director, at 897-8545 or e-mail: kacey@lowellartsmi.org



ELEMENTARY MENU Week of June 4, 2012

MON: Grilled cheese sandwich on whole grain bread w/tomato soup & crackers, fresh baby carrots, fresh apple, milk.

TUES: Chicken nuggets w/whole grain breading w/ corn bread, mashed potatoes w/gravy, fruited jello, milk.

WED: Whole grain pancakes w/scrambled eggs, tater tots, orange wedges, milk.

THURS: Cheese pizza on whole grain crust, romaine side salad w/light dressing, diced peaches, milk.

FRI: Summer Vacation Begins!



along main street

AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY'S NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

Join the North Country Trail Association - West Michigan Chapter in celebrating NTD 2012. Activities include music by the Hawks and Owls string band, three scheduled hikes, varying in length; informative mini-clinics on hiking and backpacking and a free raffle ticket with each lunch purchased. On the Riverwalk, by the bridge in downtown Lowell on June 2, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.

COFFEE WITH COUNCIL

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

LAS ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB MEETING

The Lowell Area Schools Athletic Boosters will hold their regular business meeting in the high school staff lounge on Mon., June 4 at 7:00 pm. Please come and support the athletes.

RELAY FOR LIFE

Doggie wash and bake sale at Grand River Veterinary, 661 Lincoln Lake, Sat., June 9 from 1-3 pm. Hosted by Team Postal Connections.

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.

Enjoy when you can, and endure when you must.

~ Johann Wolfgang von Goethe 1749 - 1832

college

Michael Schumm earned a Bachelor of Science degree in advertising from Michigan State University on May 4, 2012.

He is the son of Al and Sandy Schumm and a 2008 graduate of Lowell High School.

Eric Schumm earned a doctorate in physical therapy from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, on May 18, 2012. He received his bachelor's degree in movement science from the University of Michigan School of Kinesiology in 2009.

Schumm is the son of Al and Sandy Schumm and a 2005 graduate of Lowell High School.







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Students give back to community, continued

Billie Hill, was excited to see all the kids there, as she sat on the bench watching. "I love children. They're all just special to us and it's so nice to see them all here. It's just a bright spot in our day."

At Fountain View, the students were planting flowers, re-painting some of the benches that are used on the outside grounds, as well as cleaning up the outside area where needed and weeding the various gardens.

Michelle Blough, the enrichment Director at Fountain View, was more than happy for the help. As a parent of Lowell students herself, she saw both ends of the benefit of the day. "It helps for the kids to see the importance of taking care of our senior citizens, as they have so much wisdom to pass on, but it is also impor-

tant for our residents to see the kids giving back with the added bonus of brightening their day," said Blough.

"It's hard to get the residents out here hands-on, so it's nice to have the kids do it while the residents watch.

That intergenerational thing for them is beyond wonderful. They love it when kids stop by and just play cards

with them or help call bingo. They'll stop anything to have that intergenerational time, even if it's for just an hour," added Blough.

After they were fin-

ished, the entire class met at Creekside Park for a picnic, to celebrate the community and reflect on what both the community and the students have given each other.



Jayme Peterson, and Brianna Thomet.

Hildenbrand announces \$1.6 million for **Grand Rapids Home for Veterans renovations**

A long standing goal resources since being elected of renovating a significant portion of rooms at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans (Home) is one step closer to becoming a reality today following actions taken by the Legislature. State Senator Dave Hildenbrand (R-Lowell) was successful in his efforts to get \$1.6 million in state funds included in the budget that will be used to renovate the McLeish Building at the Home.

"Currently, some of our veterans are housed four people to a room," said Hildenbrand. "This arrangement provides for little privacy and dignity for these men and women who have selflessly served our nation. I visit the home on a regular basis and have been pushing for these additional to the Michigan Senate."

The Home began the process of renovating the rooms in McLeish by first "test" completing two rooms. Unfortunately, due to lack of funds the project has been stalled. The \$1.6 million appropriation is part of the recently announced budget agreement that was reached between the

ADA LOWELL 5 616-897-3456 3D MEN IN BLACK 3 (PG-13) .50 PREMIUM PER 3D TICKET MEN IN BLACK 3 (PG-13) 50, 7:10, 9:35 BATTLESHIP (PG-13) OWHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU'RE **EXPECTING** (PG-13) 4:30, 9:55 **DARK SHADOWS** (PG-13) 7:20 THE AVENGERS (PG-13) 6:50, 9:50

Governor and Legislative house four residents will leaders.

The McLeish building was built in 1975 when standards of care were very today. With this renovation 36 rooms that currently

be converted to house two residents in a semi-private setting. Additionally, rooms currently housing two private









Robby Coffey with his grandfather, Robert

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The Lowell City Council will conduct the final public hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, June 4, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowell City Hall Council Chambers, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

City Operating Budget for 2012-2013. The document outlines proposed revenues and expenditures for the coming fiscal year. The General fund has a total of \$2,671,000 in proposed expenditures.

Copies of the 2012-2013 Budget is available for inspection during normal business hours at City Hall, the Englehardt Public Library and the City web page www.ci.lowell.mi.us

Interested persons may submit comments to the Lowell City hall, Attn: City Clerk prior to the meeting or appear in person.



Betty R. Morlock City Clerk



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financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

Gen X'ers must juggle a variety of financial issues

If you're part of "Generation X" — the age cohort born between the mid-1960s and the early 1980s — you're probably in one of the busiest phases of your life, as you're well into your working years and, at the same time, busy raising a family. But just as you're "multi-tasking" in your life, you'll also need to address multiple financial goals.

In seeking to accomplish your key objectives, you may be asking yourself a variety of questions, including the following:

• Should I contribute as much as possible to my IRA and 401(k)? In a word, yes. Your earnings on a traditional Individual Retirement Account (IRA) and a 401(k) grow on a tax-deferred basis, so your money can accumulate faster than it would if placed in an investment on which you paid taxes every year. Plus, since you typically make 401(k) contributions with pretax dollars, the more you contribute, the lower your taxable income. And your traditional IRA contributions

may be tax-deductible, depending on your income. If you meet income guidelines, you can contribute to a Roth IRA, which provides tax-free earnings, provided you meet certain conditions.

- Should I put away money for my kids' college education? It's not easy to fund your retirement accounts plus save money for your children's college education. Still, college is expensive, so if you feel strongly about helping to pay for the high costs of higher education, you may want to explore college funding vehicles, such as a 529 plan, which offers tax advantages.
- Should I pay down my mortgage or invest those funds? Most of us dream of freeing ourselves from a mortgage someday. So, as your career advances and your income rises, you may wonder if you should make bigger mortgage payments. On one hand, there's no denying the psychological benefits you'd receive from paying off your mortgage. However, you may want

to consider putting any extra money into your investment portfolio to help as you work toward your retirement goals. Work with your financial advisor to determine what may be most appropriate for your portfolio.

- Do I have enough insurance in place to protect my family? You may hear that you need seven or eight times your annual income in life insurance, but there's really no "right" figure for everyone. You may want to consult with a financial advisor to determine how much life insurance is appropriate for your needs.
- Am I familiar with my parents' financial situation and estate considerations? Now is the time to communicate with your parents about a variety of issues related to their financial situation and estate plans. The more you know, the better positioned you'll be to provide assistance and support if and when it's needed. Just to name one example, you should inquire of your parents if they've designated a durable power of attorney to make financial decisions for them in case they're ever incapacitated.

By answering these questions, you can get a handle on all the financial issues you face at your stage of life. It may seem challenging, but taking the time now can help you better position yourself to reach your financial goals.

Be sure the company is licensed with the state if you hire a bus or limo

planning you're wedding or other special event, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) reminds you to make sure that if you hire a bus or limo service, make sure it is properly licensed with the state. There are more than 800 licensed limousine companies and more than 200 licensed charter bus companies in the state of Michigan with a combined total of nearly 6,000 vehicles.

Limousine and charter bus operators in Michigan are required to be licensed, carry sufficient liability insurance and undergo annual safety inspections on all their vehicles. Remember that an advertisement in the phone book, newspaper or Internet does not guarantee that the operator is licensed or that their vehicles have passed a safety inspection.

Operators who are not licensed are in violation of state law and subject to fines and penalties.

To find out if the limousine or bus service you plan to use is licensed with the state, visit the MDOT Web site at www.michigan. gov/mdot. On the home page, go to "Rail and Public Transit," click on "Bus and Limo Licensing," then select "Current List of Carriers." If you do not see the limousine or bus service listed, it is likely that the operator is providing service illegally and should not be hired. To help find a company close to you, there is an online option to search by county. (Note that carriers are certified statewide.)

Licensing info also can be obtained by calling MDOT's Office of Passenger Transportation at 517-241-0679 or 517-241-0680 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

To make your event extra special by using one of Michigan's quality limo or bus services, MDOT advises consumers to do their homework and ask questions. Here's a checklist to help:

- 1. The lowest price may not be the best price. Cost shouldn't be the deciding factor. Find out if the price is really "too good to be true."
- 2. Know the people you are doing business with and get references. If possible, visit the office, talk to the staff, and look at the specific vehicle you will be using to determine if it

fits your needs. Ask about the company's policy on breakdowns, missed or late pickups and cancellations.

- 3. Know the vehicles and drivers. The driver must make available a current copy of his or her driving record upon request. Find out about the vehicle you are using: ask to see the current annual inspection form, and look for the current year MDOT decal that is on the driver's side window. Check the seating capacity for the vehicle you are using. Any vehicle that can hold more than 15 passengers (including the driver) is a bus; a vehicle with a capacity less than 15 (including the driver) is considered a limousine. Each vehicle type has a separate MDOT Operating Authority license, which holds the company, vehicles, and drivers to higher regulatory standards for insurance, inspections and driver qualifications.
- 4. Check the invoice carefully. When you receive your bill, check it over thoroughly and make sure the prices quoted match the
- 5. Most important, go to the MDOT Web site to see if the company is licensed.

viewDoint

to the editor

Dear Editor,

The Lowell Farm and Wildlife Center is receiving a large amount of baby fawns and most of them are kidnapped by unknowing people that believe the mom has deserted them. This is untrue in most cases. The mom is probably watch-

ing you take her baby away. Please leave them alone for 24 hours and then go back and check. In most cases the fawn will be gone, moved by the mother.

If you notice the baby crying or it follows you, there is a possibility the mother is gone.

And, please do not feed the fawn cow's milk. This

Please call the Wildlife Center at 616-885-4223 or 616-752-0096. Thank you so much for your cooperation in this matter.

causes intestinal problems.

Doug Shassberger Lowell

health

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



pelvic inflammatory disease

Pelvic inflammatory disease, or PID, is a common infection that women

the household word in every well regulated family in all our land. God hasten the day.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo June 3, 1937

The mysterious disappearance of Paul Thomas, 94-year-old Vergennes Twp. citizen, which has baffled officers and members of the family for the past five months or more, was solved on Tuesday of this week when it was learned that the aged gentleman had been spending all of the intervening time in the neighboring county of Ionia where he had been an inmate of the infirmary under another name since the day following his disappearance on December 18 last. As soon as relatives here learned of his whereabouts, they went to Ionia after him and brought him back to his home.

Everyone is glad to see Robert B. Boylan home again and in good health after spending the winter in Florida. Lowell is proud of its sole surviving Civil War veteran.

50 years ago The Lowell Ledger May 31, 1962

An estimated 15,000 turkey poults were destroyed in a fire Thursday, May 24, at 3:30 am on the Cleo C. Thompson farm on Kissing Rock Rd. Lowell firemen managed to keep the fire from spreading from the five floor barn housing the young turkeys. Frank Baker, fire chief, estimated the damage at \$34,000, which Thompson said was partially covered by insurance.

Baker said that the barn was in flames before the Lowell firemen arrived and they were lucky in the high wind to save the house. Besides the barn and turkeys, the fire destroyed a truck, feed and tools.

Thompson, who has been a turkey farmer since

25 years ago The Grand Valley Ledger June 3, 1987

With the Gus Macker Tournament just a month away, the Lowell City Council was busy at their June 1 meeting covering some final details. Acting city manager Barry Emmons told the council that the long list of preparations to enable the tournament to be held downtown is finally coming together. Possibly the biggest hurdle has been the planning and permit applications necessary to close M-21 from Jackson to Hudson Street at 3:00 pm on Friday July 3. The backboards will be moved into position on the sidewalks prior to 3:00 and when Main St. is closed, they can be quickly set up and ready for play at 6:00 pm. Emmons said the Macker organization has paid over \$4,000 for the necessary signs to detour traffic across the two Grand River bridges and along Riverside Dr. Main St. is scheduled to be reopened at 11:00 pm on Sunday, July 5.

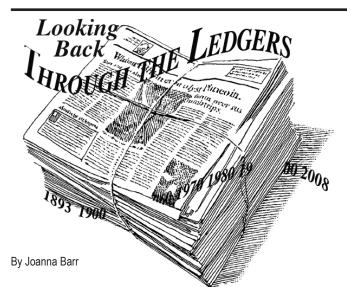
get in their pelvic organs. It usually starts in the vagina and cervix and spreads into the uterus, fallopian tubes and ovaries. Most women who get PID are between the age of 15 and 29 years old.

PID usually is caused by bacteria, such as chlamydia and gonorrhea. Most women get PID by having sex with a man who is infected, although he may not know he is infected. Having multiple sex partners can increase your risk of getting PID. Sometimes PID is caused by complications from pelvic surgery.

Symptoms of PID can range from mild to severe. They may include lower abdominal or pelvic pain, pain during sex, abnormal bleeding or spotting, abnormal vaginal discharge, fever, frequent urination, low back pain and nausea or vomiting.

Sometimes the symptoms of PID are similar to those of appendicitis, ovarian cyst, urinary tract infections or endometriosis. Some women have no symptoms. Diagnosis of PID is done by a pelvic exam and urine or bacterial cultures for the sexually transmitted infections gonorrhea and chlamydia.

Treatment of PID is antibiotics. Most patients do not need to be in the hospital unless they are pregnant or very sick. Sometimes women need surgery because of PID, but this is rare. Drinking plenty of fluids, rest and avoiding sex during treatment is also important. If PID is not treated, it could lead to chronic pelvic pain. It could also lead to scarring in the fallopian tubes which could lead to infertility. Rarely, PID causes a serious infection in the ovary called a tubo-ovarian abscess. This can be life-threatening. Regular screening for sexually transmitted diseases can help prevent PID. Condom use can prevent PID. If you are diagnosed with gonorrhea or chlamydia, it is important your partner get treated too.



135 years ago **Lowell Journal** May 30, 1877

Among the patents for Michigan inventors issued May 27, we notice the following: "Blacking Box, Jas. H. Weeks, Lowell." James invention is a good thing and we hope "there's millions in it."

At the meeting of the Lowell Reform Club last week, President Jas. B. Ormiston's resignation has been accepted. Mr. Ormiston has been an efficient and faithful officer, but as he expects to remain in town only a little longer, the club was obliged to accept his resignation. Mr. C. W. Fuller was chosen to fill his place, a man well qualified for the position. The offices of secretary and financial secretary were declared vacant and Jas. H. Weeks and E. M. Sprague were elected to fill them. Officers should bear in mind that it is necessary to be present at the club meetings.

"The Phoenix Saloon" – is the sign over the door of the Lowell Reform Club rooms. It has been suggested that the words - "Lowell Reform Club Successor to" be painted above the old sign, making it read, "Lowell 1957, lost all but 7,000 to 8,000 turkeys in the fire. Reform Club Successor to the Phoenix Saloon." Why These few were on the range and escaped. not have it so?

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger May 30, 1912

At a recent meeting of the W. C. T. U. the "Ballot for Women" was the afternoon subject for discussion and by request a very able paper was given by Mrs. Martha White who had previously prepared it for the Clover Leaf Club. The W. C. T. U. now as ever stand for the highest ideals of patriotism, traveling on all the way from the "Crusade" halting only to place a way mark along the track of the years to its attitude towards every phase of evangelical, moral and political reform. Thirty years ago, a woman with a broad vision pointed to the ballot box while she said, "Let every woman reach out until the ballot for home protection is within her grasp." "Blind fanaticism" was the verdict of a lesser vision, but today mothers, wives, sisters, everywhere, are seeing eye to eye and the science of pure government is taking a larger place in the home and will become



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Letters To The Editor:

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Letters may be submitted via email to: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com ("to the Editor" in subject line) or dropped off or mailed to: The Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell, MI 49331. Also, our website, www.lowellbuyersguide. com has a link to submit emails on the left side of the page.

area births

Green



Emberlynn Arvilla Green

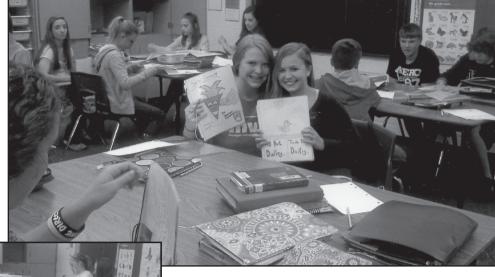
Marty and Kay Green of Lowell, are excited to announce the birth of their daughter, Emberlynn Arvilla, who was born on May 14 2012. She weighed 9 lbs. 4 oz. and measured 20.5 inch-

Grandparents are Ralph and Fran Clouser of Lowell and Craig and Jean Green of Muir. Great-grandmother is Nancy Green of Ada.

LMS student authors collect school supplies for needy children

Middle school students in Sara Guile's Spanish class spent over a month writing and illustrating children's books and collecting school supplies for children who are less fortunate in Mexico and Nicaragua, through an organization called Kids

To Kids International. "The students had a wonderful service learning experience creating books and practicing their language skills as well," said Guile. Students also added pictures of themselves on an author's page to share with foreign friends. "This was a wonderful hands-on experience for several of our middle school students! They did an amazing job!" added their teacher.





MAY 30

Kara Rasch, McClure. Caroline Jane Blough. Rvan Barnes. Kevin Homrich, Heather Jacquelyn Witherell, Landman, Tabora Karp.

MAY 31

Mark MacDonald, Arleen (Bryant) Irving, Tiffany Condon, Hannah Burtt, Lauren Wiley.

JUNE 1

Norma Raymor.

JUNE 2

Dave Thaler, Shad Propst, Tom Greenfield, Todd Dalga, Elaine Denton, Noah Burtt.

JUNE 3

Ron Nead. Norma Jerls, Brandon Butler, Addison Karp, Macy Potter.

JUNE 4

Becki Brown, Karen Roudabush, Dwight Nash, Grace Nowak.

JUNE 5

Amanda Vezino, Judy Rosenberger.



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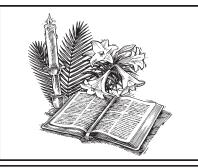


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Pastor Rod Galindo 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship......10:00 A. M. Sunday School......11:20 A.M. Evening Worship..... 6:00 PM

Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free

SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell

Pastor Dr. Mike Conklin

9:45 A.M. Sunday School 10:30 A.M. Fellowship 11:00 A.M.....Worship

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Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.

> ~ Thomas A. Edison (1847 - 1931)



Relay For Life



Relay for Life of Lowell is looking for some special people - people who have heard the dreaded diagnosis of cancer or have a loved one who has - people who are survivors for a week or a month or a year or 20 years or someone who has been a caregiver through a cancer battle. These very special people will be honored in a number of ways at this year's Relay, held once

again at Red Arrow Stadium.

The 24 hour event will kick off with a brief ceremony at noon on Friday, June 22. Plans are in place to repeat last year's popular Pink Arrow Power Hour at 5 pm - an hour when Pink Arrow followers will don their pink shirts and walk alongside American Cancer Society (ACS) walkers. At 6 pm, all will pause for an official opening ceremony which will highlight survivors and caregivers. Following that ceremony, the entire community is invited to celebrate, with cheering and applause, a special survivor's lap around the Kathy Talis Memorial Track. At the end of this lap, all survivors and caregivers will enjoy a complimentary meal, courtesy of Backwater Catering, Ball's Softee Cream and other local merchants, under a tent on Bob Perry Field.

At dusk, survivors and loved ones lost will be honored with lit luminaria all along the interior of the track. There will also be an opportunity to view names of the luminaria honorees as they scroll on a large trackside screen.

"This will be my sixth Relay for Life. I relay in honor of my mother, a cancer survivor and in memory of my dad, who lost his battle with cancer in 2001. This year, I will also be walking in honor of my sister, a cancer survivor just beginning her journey with stage one breast cancer," says survivorship co-chair Lori Ingraham. "I have so many other relatives and friends on the

cancer journey, all too many who have fought and lost or are fighting cancer now. I walk with a goal of bringing us all one step closer to stomping out this monster called cancer!"

The committee invites all survivors, caregivers or anyone who wants to fight back by raising money for ACS work, to register for the event by calling the Grand Rapids ACS office at 616-364-6121, by e-mail to: jaime.counterman@cancer. org or by visiting the Relay for Life of Lowell website at www.relayforlife.org/low-

Those unable to participate fully this year, but who have a little spare time available between noon Friday, June 22 and noon Saturday, June 23, are encouraged to stop out at the track; there will be something happening round the clock. Supporters are always welcome.



Lori Ingraham's mother, a 20-year cancer survivor, being accompanied by her grandson and great grandson at last year's Relay For Life.

volunteer tutors needed

Lisa Brown

to our team!

Cell: 616.485.2807

GRAND RAPIDS

630 Kenmoor SE, Suite 101 • Grand Rapids, MI 49546

The Literacy Center of West Michigan has scheduled an information session on Tuesday, June 5, 2012, for prospective volunteer tutors. This session is held at 6:30 pm and lasts one hour. It allows persons interested

in becoming volunteer tutors to find out more about the center and its literacy programs. At the end of the session, there will be an opportunity to sign up for tutor training.

Keller Williams Realty of Grand Rapids

WELCOMES

The Literacy Center of W. Michigan is a nonprofit, United Way agency devoted to reducing illiteracy in our community. Based on 1990 census figures, at least

19,000 adults in Kent County cannot read at a functional level. At least 6,000 adults cannot speak or understand English well. By training people to be tutors, the center can offer one-onone reading help to adults asking for assistance in reading or English as a Second Language (ESL). You

The information session will be held at the Literacy Center of West Michigan, located at 1120 Monroe Ave., NW, Suite 240, Grand Rapids, MI. Please call us at 459-5151 (ext. 10) to regis-





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Memorial Day, continued

respects to those who have gone before us and who have made individual sacrifices so that our freedoms can endure."

After the speech, different civic groups placed flowers at the Civil War monument while the Red Arrow Fiddler's Club played music, as well as the bagpipers led by Dave O'Neal. Jack Misner played the Taps.

The ceremony concluded with Thompson reading the names of the 22 veterans who passed since the last Memorial Day.

These were: Thomas Doran, Michigan National Guard; Boyd Noviski, US Navy; Robert Kammers,

US Marine Corps; Clayton Engle, US Marine Corps; John Timpson, US Navy; Dave Harding, US Army; Ryan Scott, Michigan National Guard; Nancy Yeiter, US Army; Cleamon Lay, US Air Force; Wayne Dowling, US Army; Jason Onan, US Army; Adrian Sterzick, US Army; Charles Hobbs, US Marine Corps; James McCormick, US Army; Gordon Briggs, US Army; Ronald Gerard, US Air Force; Gustave DeVries, US Army; Thomas Briggs, US Army; Terry VanderWal, US Air Force; Frederick Hosley, US Army; and Don Bogerd, US Army.



Dave Thompson announced the names of the deceased veterans by the monument at the Oakwood Cemetery.



The Red Arrow Fiddler's Club.



The bagpipers led by Dave O'Neal.



A 21 gun salute on Main Street at the downtown monument.



Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts marched in the parade.



Tim Haan conducts the high school band.

FROM Food Fight 2012 begins June 1

submitted by Rick Seese

Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) board member, Kraig Haybarker, still remembers how close FROM's annual Food Fight ended last year. The difference was only 29 food items. "As I counted that final big red barrel, I had a feeling that the ending was going to be one to remember." The annual community clash is about to enter its fourth year. The North Lowell team leads the South Lowell team, winning two of the first three years. "It's simply amazing how close the two teams are when drawing the boundary line down the middle of Main Street," said FROM board member Dave Emmette.

The North Lowell vs. South Lowell Food Fight is a friendly community-wide competition between businesses and residents to collect the most non-perishable food items and financial contributions to benefit the FROM Food Pantry. The competition begins June 1 and ends at the completion of the "FROM the Heart" Riverwalk Festival parade on July 14.

"There are over 100 businesses and individuals participating this year with



Middle, front: Roger LaWarre, Flat River Outreach Ministries; South Lowell team (white jerseys): Arctic Inc, Catharina Bek; Edward Jones, Chris Godbold; Farm Bureau Insurance, Mike Curtis; Grand Chrysler Dodge, Keith Kloostra; Greenridge Realty, Amy Reedy; Ice Cream Caboose, Tammi Wingeier; Lowell Mobil, Julie Fisk-Allison; Lowell Senior Neighbors, Bobbi Towne; Lowell Women's Club, Jan Thompson; Modern Photographics, Karen Lezan; Pauly's, Eric Westbrook; Rookies, Jack Reedy; Schneider Manor, Grace Neubecker; Three Brothers Pizza, Mike Ordway; Timpson Transport, Colleen Timpson; and Total Teknology, Jason; North Lowell Team (red jerseys): Ada/Lowell 5, Micah; AIC Insurance, Dave Emmette; Arrowhead Golf Course, Josh Bruwer; Dollar General, Lyra Walker; Firstbank, Diane Carroll; Flat River Grill, Matt Horan; Great Clips, Molly Braathart; Larkin's Restaurant, Deb Apol; Litehouse Inc, Susan Serne; Main Street Inn, Deb Canfield; Snap Fitness, Devon McQueen; Sneaker's, Ann Merigian; Springrove Variety, Mike Sprenger; and Quality Express, Bill Overbeck.



businesses offering proclaimed Kurt Lardie, FROM board member. "It's been really exciting to watch this event grow in such a few short years."

There will be full page ads in the Lowell Buyers Guide and Lowell Ledger throughout the six weeks of competition. Each page will update the scoring and recognize the sponsorships for the event. All sponsorship dollars are counted toward the scoring as one dollar equaling one food item, for the team of the donor's choice. "The dollars collected are just as important to the pantry as the food collected," stated Sylvia Taylor, FROM board member

and Food Pantry supervisor. "The money allows flexibil-Food Fight Specials or col- ity and the ability to purlecting food for our event," chase fresh food items for the families we serve."

FROM is continuing their Summer Lunch program, which provides school age children and their families food during the summer months. The program helps replace the school lunch void for those that qualify for free or reduced cost school lunches. Last summer, FROM fed approximately 300 children and they expect that number to grow in 2012. "In the summer, these children eat at home putting an added strain on already strained family budgets," added Taylor. "This time of year becomes challenging, because the food so generously donated during winter holiday food drives is long gone."

"We are so very thankful of the communitywide response to Food Fight. The economy continues to be sluggish; steady full-time employment is still difficult to find; and there are many families still hurting," stated Roger LaWarre, FROM board member. "We are doing our best to help and the community of Lowell continues to be extremely generous to our mission."

To re-cap last year, the North Lowell team made a miraculous comeback during the Riverwalk Festival "FROM the Heart" parade and edged the South Lowell team by a mere 29 food items. To explain how close the contest was, the total food items and dollars collected were over 32,000.

What does FROM expect this year?

"Another highly competitive contest," said Emmette.

"I think South Lowell is looking to even up the score," expressed Lardie.

"I think it will be decided at the parade again this year," said Haybarker.

"Of course, the real winner will be FROM," concluded LaWarre. "There is nothing more heartwarming than watching our entire community support families in their time of need."

pecial Invitation

Ice Cream Social



Free sundaes and classic cars are an Emerald Meadows tradition! John Amos will entertain us as we make sundaes and fellowship with friends and neighbors. Free raffle! Bring the whole family and join us in the front yard!

Thursday, June 7 — 6:00-8:00pm

Space is limited. Please RSVP by June 4—

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Red Arrow SPORTS



Jenna Smith

How long have you been playing softball? I've been playing softball since my t-ball days when I was younger.

> What other sports do you play? How long have you been playing those? I used to play basketball in middle school and I started playing around age seven.



What is your favorite sport?

My favorite sport is softball, by far. I love the feeling of getting a great hit and throwing out a base runner.

Have you received any awards for any of them?

Sophomore year I received all-conference and all-district and junior year I received all- conference. This year I will be getting my four-year varsity letter.

Have you broken any records?

I broke the seasonal put-out record my sophomore year and I broke the career put-out record my junior year. I believe I am also one double away from the career doubles' record. As a team, we broke the all-time wins' record this year. We're at 32 and counting. A put-out is when the player is the last person to touch the ball to make an out. For example, if the pitcher gets a strikeout, the catcher gets the put-out because she was the last to touch the ball for the out.

Do you have siblings?

I have a sister named Julie, who was in the spotlight last week.

What do you like to do for fun?

I like to hang out with my friends, play on the computer and texting.

What was your personal best during any of your sports? My freshman year during pre-districts I hit a double off of Alexa Gherls from Caledonia and threw out three runners the same game.

Do you plan on playing any sport in college? If so, which one? I was offered to play softball at Grand Rapids Community College, but I decided to focus on my studies instead. I am planning on playing intramural though.

Do you plan on attending college?

I am going to Grand Valley State University in the fall. I am going to try to get into the nursing program there.

Are you working right now?

I currently work for the Lowell Little League as an umpire. I love working with the young kids and helping them learn softball.

Our Spotlight Athletes This Week:

Lindsey Crawford
Team: Softball Jenna Smith Team: Softball

Grade: Senior Grade: Senior

Lindsey Crawford

How long have you been playing softball? I've been playing since I was eight, so for 10 years now.

What other sports do you play? I ran cross country in the fall my junior and senior year.

> What is your favorite sport? Softball is my favorite sport.

Have you received any awards for any of them?

My junior year, I was awarded all-conference outfielder for softball and was a member of the all-district team. I was also just awarded all-conference outfielder for my senior season as well.

Have you broken any records?

Not personally, but our softball team just broke the record for the number of wins in a season. As of now we're 32-6-1.

Do you have siblings?

I have a 16-year-old brother who's a junior, Zach Crawford.

What do you like to do for fun?

I like to hang out with friends and family, run, swim in my pool and bake.

What was your personal best during any of your sports?

My personal record in cross country was a 22:22 for a 5K.

Do you plan on playing any sport in college? If so, which one?

I don't plan on playing competitively, but I will probably play intramural softball in college.



Do you plan on attending college? I'm going to Grand Valley in the fall for a degree in Allied Health Sciences.

Are you working right now?

I'm taking some certified nursing assistant classes this summer and will hopefully find a job as a CNA for the next few years during college.

What is your GPA and your rank in your class? My GPA is 4.188 and I am third in my class.

Red Arrow SPICES PORTS

Groom pitches perfect game - Lowell wins Mandy Tichelaar tournament



by Karen Ia

Morgan Groom, the senior starting pitcher for the varsity softball team, had her best game yet last Wednesday to win not only her last regular season game, but to win the 17th annual Mandy Tichelaar tournament hosted by Lowell.

It was a perfect game for a tournament that means so much to so many people. Mandy Tichelaar was a softball player who passed away in a car accident after her sophomore season on the varsity team. The Tichelaar family started a scholarship in her name in 1996 and this tournament is a fundraiser for that purpose. Every year, a senior girl is given the scholarship. Irony isn't lost on the fact that Groom was the recipient of the scholarship this year and then went and threw a perfect game.

The Arrows won the first game of the tournament against Covenant Christian with a score of 5-0. Groom also pitched that game,

allowing only two hits. Groom, Sarah Mogor, Lindsey Crawford, Carissa Paiz, Julie Smith, and Kortney Beachler all got a hit in that game. Groom, Crawford and Paiz each got an RBI in that game. The Arrows started their scoring run in the third inning with one

run from Jenna Smith, but really rallied in the fifth inning, scoring four runs from Mogor, Crawford, Paiz and Shelby Wolbers.

Groom threw her perfect game in the championship game against Rockford to win the tournament 1-0. In that game, she faced 21

strikes. Pitching a perfect game is not an easy feat by any means, as the pitcher can have no hits, no walks and no hit batsmen. She also has to have a solid fielding team behind her to ensure that no errors occur if the ball does get hit and they throw the batter out at first. In essence, nobody can get on base for any reason and while Groom struck out 18 of the 21 batters, the infield did its job on fielding the three times Rockford was able to connect with the ball. For batting, the lone

batters and struck out 18 of

them. She threw 101 pitch-

es, with 74 of them being

For batting, the lone run came in the second inning when Paiz got a base hit, then the supporting cast of Julie Smith, Grace Quiggle and Jenna Smith got her across home plate. Paiz and Crawford each got a hit in that game.

"Our girls and assistant coaches have worked very hard for the past 12 months to put together the best season in the school's history at 32-6-1," said head coach Bill McElroy. "We also accomplished one of our season goals by going undefeated in the White and winning the OK White conference championship for the first time since 1989. This is a very determined and talented group of young ladies. Our next goal is to be able to compete well against Forrest Hills Central in our district game on June 2nd at Forest Hills Central," added McElroy.

The Arrows next play Forest Hills Central on June 2 at Forest Hills Central in the opening game of districts, with game time at noon. If they win, they will face the winner of the Caledonia v. East Kentwood game at 2:00 pm for the district championship.



Carissa Paiz slides into home to score the only run in the championship game.



The team proudly showing off their Mandy Tichelaar plaque with members of the Tichelaar family.

- SOCCER

Lady Arrows finish regular season strong

by Karen Jac

The Arrows girls' soccer team has really come on strong over the season. With the district tournament starting this week, winning both games in the last week of their regular season will surely give them the tenacity to continue at the excellent level they're playing.

Last week, they beat Greenville by a landslide with a score of 6-1. Danielle Ordway led the Arrows with three goals, followed by Hannah Fitzpatrick with two and Kate Montgomery getting one goal. Ordway also had an assist. Caitlin Fitzpatrick, Stephanie Ste-

vens, Taylor Vanderhorst and Amy Carpenter each had one assist.

In their second game of the week, their final regular season game, the Arrows once again rolled over their opponent, beating Creston 9-1. Stevens and Montgomery both got three goals each in that game, with Ordway, Carpenter and Tara McQueen each getting one goal. Fitzpatrick led the assists in that game with three. Ordway, Carpenter and Maddie Stadt each got two assists

The Arrows finished their regular season with a final record of 11-6-1 and will start their state title run in the first round of districts against Ionia at Ionia on May 29 at 5:30 pm. If

they win, they will play the winner of Lansing Waverly v. Greenville on Thursday, May 31. That game will be played in DeWitt, beginning at 5:00 pm.

obituaries

SMITH

Michael K. Smith, age 63 of Lowell, passed away Thursday, May 24, 2012 after a short battle with

cancer. was preceded death by his parents, Kenneth and Annie Smith. He is survived by his daughter, Jill (Christopher) Deamud sister, Carol (AI) Hovinga; granddaughter, Abigail Deamud; long time partner, Cindy Van; nephew, Jeff Hovinga; niece, Emily (Nathan)



Brandner; grand niece, Lilliana Brandner; and lifelong buddy Rick (Carol) Briggs. Mike was a Vietnam Veteran and an active member of the First Congregational Church of Lowell. Following Mike's wishes there will be a celebration of his life Saturday June 30, 2012 3:00 -8:00 p.m. at the American Legion Hall in Alto. Memorial contributions may be made to Gilda's Club, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331 or Boy Scouts Troop 102 c/o Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell.



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Summertime is the right time for electronic payments

When you are away from home, one thing you don't want to worry about is how you will receive your next monthly Social Security payment. That is why it is important for everyone receiving Social Security or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits to sign up for electronic payments.

Today, about 90 percent of all Social Security and SSI beneficiaries receive their payments electronically. That number is increasing because the law requires that by March 1, 2013 all federal benefit payments, including Social Security and SSI payments, be made electronically. Whether you receive Social Security or SSI, you can depend on your payment arriving in your account on time, every time. If you don't already receive electronic payments, there are many good reasons to sign up. For one, less money and time spent driving to the bank to cash your check helps you save. Second, fewer paper checks, envelopes, and stamps, and less fuel to deliver the checks means savings for the government.

When on vacation, an electronic payment ensures payments will be deposited into your account on time, so there's no reason to worry about the safety of your benefit or to ask a neighbor to look out for your check when you are away.

As an added bonus, many banks offer free checking accounts for people who use direct deposit because it saves the bank the cost of processing paper payments.

Skip the line at the bank, save money, get your payment faster, and know vou can depend on your payment being in the bank no matter what happens or where you are. You can do all of this with electronic payments. Learn more about it at www.socialsecurity. gov/deposit.

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



MAY 23 - MAY 29

- A YouTube video of an 80-year-old woman falling out of her harness while tandem skydiving is getting lots of hits online. That happened on her birthday. She is now 81 and thinking about riding in a race car.
- Six-year-old Lori Anne Madison has become the youngest person ever to qualify for the National Spelling Bee. When asked about the competition she says she is not at all nervous.
- An earthquake has killed at least 15 people in northern Italy.
- The U.S. State Department on Tuesday expelled Syria's top diplomat in Washington following what it described as the massacre of more than 100 civilians in a Syrian town.
- Mel and Joey Schwanke have been married for 64 years and for the last 35 years have been wearing matching outfits. His tie fabric matches her dress. The couple, from Fremont, Omaha, have 146 custom-made outfits.

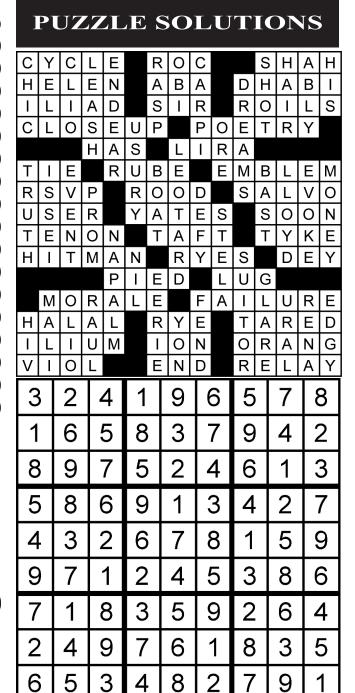




OFFICE HOURS Monday - Thursday: 8 am - 5 pm Friday: 8 am - 2 pm







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MATTRESS SETS - All new twin \$125, full \$139, queen \$149, king \$199 & up. Pillowtop sets \$175 up. 616-682-4767 or 293-6160. Can deliver.

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

CAMPFIRE WOOD - approx. 50-60 pieces, seasoned, split mixture, oak, maple, cherry, poplar, \$10. 897-2985.

for sale

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

QUEEN PILLOWTOP SET - All new. Compare at \$248. Thick & plush. Only \$229. 616-682-4767 or 293-6160. Can deliver.

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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

personals

CONGRATULATIONS GARY EICKHOFF - for your Hole-in-one at Deer Run Golf Club on Friday, May 18. Love, Sharon and

sales

THIS IS A GOOD ONE!! -5 family garage sale. Very organized w/lots of items for sale! Boys clothes (newborn - 4T), womens, mens, home decor, kitchen items, toys, yard items & much much more. Sale runs from 9 - 5 p.m., Thurs., May 31 to June 2 at 432 Lafayette, Lowell.

MOVING SALE-Fri. & Sat., 6/1 & 6/2, 9-4 p.m. Everything must go. Like new leaf vacuum, log splitter, boat, tools, housewares, clothing, etc. 6495 Timpson Ave., Alto.

RELAY FOR LIFE DOGGIE WASH & BAKE SALE - at Grand River Veterinary, 661 Lincoln Lake, 897-4900. June 9, 1-3 p.m.

HUGE 3 FAMILY SALE new & used, too much to mention, dining table & chairs w/leaf, exercise gym, grill, baby clothes, adult clothes, a lot of household items. June 1 & 2, 8 a.m. 6 p.m., 660 Forstrom Dr., Lowell (end of street on left).

NEIGHBORHOOD GA-RAGE SALES - Fri. & Sat., June 1 & 2, 9 to 5, Clear Ridge Dr., Ada (52nd & Snow). Lots of kids' clothing/toys, furniture, household items, tons of misc.

NEIGHBORHOOD SALES - 6472, 6517 & 6518 Hastings Road between Peck Lake Rd. & Grand River (Cascade Rd.) Thurs., May 31 & Fri., June 1, 8-6; Sat., June 2, 9-noon. Antiques, craft materials, furniture, name-brand adult clothing & shoes, paper shredder, bed frame, luggage, hunting stuff, stereo, and lots of misc.

misc.

AUCTION - every Friday night, 6:30 p.m. 420 N. Lafayette, Greenville, MI. Antiques, furniture, railroad, fishing items, dolls & much more. Always taking consignment. Visit auctionzip.com or call Rick at 616-302-8963.

TURTLE SOUP? - have at least 2 large snappers that need to be removed from home pond. Email: turtles8@gmail.com

PLEASE HELP - The **Grattan Fire Department** is in need of a pump to supply water for the fire trucks. We are trying to raise money for the pump by collecting the following: old scrap metal or aluminum; pop & beer cans or bottles; clean tin cans; copper, brass, old electric wire & old extension cords; old car, truck, boat & lawn tractor batteries; and old electric motors & fans. Contact Glenn & Janet Marble, 4155 Bedaki Ave. NE, 616-691-7136. Collecting until August 15.

<u>wanted</u>

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services

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

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

NEEDADUMPSTER? - 14 to 20 yards available. Garage, attic, household cleanup, roofing, trash, junk etc. Dependable service & affordable prices. Call for free estimates. Contact Doug 616-295-6640.

WALNUT HILL LAWN SERVICE - lawn mowing, rototilling & general lawn maintenance. Reasonable rates & free estimate. Call Aaron at 616-328-9558.

FREE APPLIANCE RE-MOVAL - Want it out today? Call J&J! We remove ALL household appliances, lawn mowers. vehicles, campers, batteries, radiators, bikes, grills, trampolines, metal fencing, metal windows & doors. Any metal. 616-719-9742.

in **memoriam**

PHIL ANIBLE 6/1/06

"The best things in life are the people we love and the memories we made along the way." Speak and smile often of you!

Love & miss you, Dorothy, Ron, Jim, Mike, Jon, Wyatt, & Tait

In memory of Faye Egan, who passed away four years ago on June 1, 2008.

Days and years go by, how we miss your love, kindness, thoughtfulness and the other things like your smile, laugh, dancing in the house, cooking, but most of all your hugs and kisses, and memories all of us will never outgrow. We love you.

Honey Gerald, Sally, Josh, Chris & Matt Downer & family (Precious, Patches & Alie-max)

Coming Events

PLEASE NOTE - Coming Events are for non-profit organizations. If you are charging admission for an event - it is considered an advertisement. Coming events are ran on a space available basis & ARE NOT GUARANTEED TO RUN. If you would like to make sure your event is placed in the paper, please call our office & place it as a classified ad. We will not run ANY Garage or Rummage Sales as a coming event. All Coming Events or changes to coming events should be submitted by fax: 897-4809, email: classifieds@I owellbuyersguide.com, by mail: PO Box 128. Lowell. MI 49331 or in person: 105 N. Broadway,

TOTS PRESCHOOL BUS RIDE & PICNIC - Tuesday, June 5, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Join us for a morning of fun & memories! Every parent & child will have an opportunity to ride the school bus. Grandparents welcome too. Bring a sack lunch & a blanket for the picnic. Questions? Call Lori at TOTS

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

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

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

TEEN GROUP - CANCER AND **GRIEF** - First & third Tuesdays, 5:30-7 p.m. A committed group for teens in ninth - twelfth grade on a cancer or grief journey. Incorporates curriculum-based activities & discussion. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

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. The first step is always the hardest. If your life has become unmanagable due to alcohol, please join us at 101 W. Main. 897-8565.

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

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

CARVING CLUB - Thursdays from 6:30-8 p.m. New members welcomed. Call for information, 616-752-0096.

NEW ALTO FARMERS MARKET - Saturdays, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Veterans Memorial Park, downtown Alto. Sponsored by Alto DDA.

PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY SUPPORT GROUP - Wed.. June 13, 4 p.m. Meets every other month beginning June 13 at St. Paul's Church, 2560 Lake Michigan Dr. N.W., Grand Rapids, 897-9794.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY TOPS MI #372 - every Tuesday at Key Heights Mobile Home Park Community Building. Weigh-ins at 5:45 p.m.

CUB SCOUT PACK 3188 - meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main.

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

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

AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY NATIONAL TRAILS DAY - Sat., June 2, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Activities include music by the Hawks & Owls, scheduled hikes, miniclinics on hiking & backpacking, free raffle ticket with lunch purchase. On the Riverwalk, downtown Lowell, www.northcountrytrail.org/wmi

NOOGIELAND - Tuesdays 6-7:15 p.m. Supervised play for children kindergarten or younger on a cancer or grief journey. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell, 897-8600.

ART ATTACK - Fri., June 22, 11:00 a.m. Create sculptures, prints, drawings, paintings & collages. For families at Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell. 784-2007.

FAMILY GEOCACHING-Tues., July 24, 6:30 p.m. High tech blend of hide-and-seek, scavenger hunting, puzzle-solving & navigating at Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell. 784-2007.

CANCER - KIDS TALK - Each Tuesday, 6-7:15 p.m. - A group for children in first - fourth grade on a cancer or grief journey. Incorporates curriculum-based activities, discussion & fun. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

EARTH TALK®

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk: I understand there is good news about the recovery of bird species like the Peregrine Falcon, Bald Eagle and others owed to the 1972 ban on DDT. Can you explain? - Mildred Eastover, Bath, ME

Rachel Carson's seminal 1962 book, Silent Spring, told the real-life story of how bird populations across the country were suffering as a result of the widespread application of the synthetic pesticide DDT (dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane), which

was being used widely to control mosquitoes and others insects. Carson reported that birds ingesting DDT tended to lay thin-shelled eggs which would in turn break prematurely in the nest, resulting in marked population declines. The problem drove bald eagles, our national symbol, not to mention peregrine falcons and other bird populations, to the brink of extinction, with populations plummeting more than 80 percent.

Luckily for the birds, Silent Spring caused a stir, and many credit it with launching the modern environmental movement. Indeed, one of the world's leading environmental non-profits, the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), initially formed in 1967 in reaction to the DDT problem. The group's first order of business included filing lawsuits in New York, Michigan, Wisconsin and Washington DC to force a ban on DDT. EDF enlisted the help of dozens of scientific experts — ornithologists, ecologists, toxicologists, carcinogenesis experts, and insect control specialists — to testify at multi-month hearings to prove its point in regard to the dangers of DDT. In 1972 environmentalists' prayers were answered — and their hard work vin dicated — with the federal government finally banning DDT.

But with lots of the pesticide already dispersed through ecosystems far and wide, not to mention myriad other threats to bird habitats and the environment in general, no one could be sure whether populations of eagles, falcons and other predatory and fish-eating birds would come back from the brink. While the federal Endangered Species Act went a long way to protect these at-risk species and some of their habitat, non-profits also played a key role in helping specific species recover. To wit, the Peregrine Fund was founded in 1970 by a leading Cornell ornithologist to help nurse peregrine falcon populations hit hard by DDT back to their once abundant numbers. Researchers with the group pioneered methods of breeding peregrines in captivity and releasing them into the wild; such techniques have since been adopted widely by biologists trying to bring other wildlife species back from the brink of extinction. Thanks to a combination of factors and the hard work of bird lovers and scientists, peregrine falcons are once again common across the U.S., graduating off the national endangered species list as of 1999.

The bald eagle's recovery is perhaps the best known example of how our environmental laws worked to restore not just a resource but our very national symbol. In the mid-1960s fewer than 500 nesting pairs of bald eagles existed in the continental U.S.; today, thanks to the DDT ban and other conservation efforts, some 10,000 pairs of bald eagles inhabit the Lower 48 — that's a 20-fold population increase in just four decades! In 2007 the



federal government removed the bald eagle from the Endangered Species List. Without the 1972 ban on DDT and ensuing protections, the bald eagle, let alone dozens of other bird species, would likely be gone now in the continental U.S. And without the song of the birds, the spring would be a very silent time indeed.

CONTACTS: EDF, www.edf.org; Peregrine Fund, www.peregrinefund.org.

Dear EarthTalk: A few years back a study found over 200 chemicals in the umbilical cords of newborns, particularly African American, Asian and Hispanic babies. What are the causes of this phenomenon and what can be done about it? -- Bettina Olsen, New York, NY

The study referenced found traces of some

232 synthetic chemicals in cord blood samples from 10 different babies of African American, Asian and Hispanic descent born in 2009 in different parts of the U.S. Study sponsors Environmental Working Group (EWG) and Rachel's Network were looking to find out if the hormone-disrupting chemical Bisphenol A (BPA), a plasticizer widely used in food and drink storage containers, is present in the cord blood of minority babies in the U.S. Sadly and not surprisingly, BPA turned up in

nine of the 10 cord blood samples tested. But perhaps even worse is the study's detection of whole new raft of chemicals showing up in babies' cord blood for the first time. Some of these newer offenders include tetrabromobisphenol A (TBBPA) from computer circuit boards, synthetic fragrances used in common cosmetics and detergents and Teflon-relative perfluorobutanoic acid.

The 2009 study was a follow-up to an earlier analysis of chemicals in cord blood in the main-

stream U.S. population during 2004 births. That earlier study found some 287 different industrial chemicals and pollutants in babies' cord blood, although BPA was not yet on EWG's watch list at the time. The more recent study focused on minority babies because minority communities in the U.S. tend to bear a disproportionate pollution burden given their closer proximity to busy roads, industrial sites and older housing. But EWG points out that they tested for chemicals that are likely found in virtually every American household, so none of us are immune to exposure. EWG hopes that by continuing to monitor the chemicals we are born with it can hold corporate polluters' and govern-

ment regulators' feet to the fire in regard to waste outputs and pollution mitigation.

EWG did not look for chemicals associated with smoking or alcohol consumption on the part of mothers, instead focusing on contaminants from exposures to consumer products and commercial chemicals omnipresent on supermarket shelves. To EWG, the presence of these chemicals in umbilical cord blood represents "a significant failure on the part of the Congress and government agencies" charged with protecting human health. "Our results strongly suggest that the health of all children is threatened by trace amounts of hundreds of synthetic chemicals coursing through their bodies from the earliest stages of life."

Part of the problem is outdated laws governing the handling and use of toxic chemicals. Currently 1976's Toxic Substances Control Act is the law of the land in regard to controlling the distribution, use and disposal of toxic chemicals nationwide. But EWG and other groups complain that hundreds of thousands of new chemical formulations are unleashed on an unwitting public every year via America's store shelves because the federal government assumes new products and ingredients to be innocent until proven guilty. These critics would like to see the federal government take a more proactive role in approving new substances for use in consumer products, not to mention residential and workplace environments.

On the legislative front, green groups are pinning their hopes for a reformed Toxic Substances Control Act on New Jersey Democratic Senator



Frank Lautenberg's Safe Chemicals Act (S. 847), introduced last fall. The bill is currentspinning ly its wheels in committee hearings, but its 17 bi-partisan co-sponsors are optimistic that it will come up for a floor

vote before the 112th Congress wraps up the end of this year.

CONTACT: EWG's "Pollution in Minority Newborns," www.ewg.org/minoritycordblood.

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10

THEME: **MOVIE QUOTES**

ACROSS

- 1. Balanced ride
- 6. Mythical giant bird
- 9. Iranian monarch
- 13. Her face "launched a thousand ships"
- 14. Lawyer group
- 15. Abu ____, United
- Arab Emirates
- 16. It describes the
- siege of Troy 17. *"Thank you
- may I have another."
- 18. Churns
- 19. *"I'm ready for my
- 21. Whitman's craft
- 23. -been
- 24. Italian money
- 25. An NBA game can never end with this
- 28. Bumpkin
- 30. Bald Eagle
- Americans, e.g. 35. Party request
- 37. Crucifix
- 39. Outburst of firearms
- 40. One who employs something
- "Revolutionary 41. Road" novelist
- 43. In the near future
- 44. Mortise and
- joint 46. Corpulent President
- 47. Youngster
- 48. The Terminator, e.g.
- 50. Whiskey grain, pl. 52. Laurie Partridge
- actress
- 53. _ Piper
- 55. Tote
- 57. Team spirit
- 60. *"What we've got here is
- communicate."
- Shariah-approved
- meat
- 65. What Salinger's
- catcher was in

13 14 16 17 18 19 21 22 23 24 26 28 33 32 35 40 41 44 47 45 48 49 53 54 56 58 59 62 64 68 69 72 73 Thrill Dad this Father's Day! **OMAHA STEAKS**

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- 67. Weighed 68. One of three
- hipbones
- 69. Charged particle
- 70. Bornean ape
- 71. It preceded the 6. Wood file
- violin 72. Defensive ___ in
- football
- 73. 4 x 4 race, e.g.

Puzzle solutions on page 12

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

DOWN

- 1. Elegant and stylish

- 7. *"Help me ___-Wan

- 10. *"Give me down to
- 11. Competently
- are made of."
- 22. Metal-bearing
- 25. *"You can't handle

- 29. *"You're gonna need a bigger

- 2. Holler
- 3. Greek muse of history
- 4. Fido's restraint
- 5. Make lovable
- Kenobi"
- 8. Plural of "carpus"
- 9. Heard round the world?
- there ____. Shoulder length or longer"
- and her towels 15. *"The stuff that
- 20. Shylock's line of
- work
- mineral 24. Olga Korbut's outfit
- 26. Nisei's parent 27. Movie premiere,

- Cat-headed Egyptian goddess 32. Silent film comedian
- Harold 33. Call forth
- 34. *"Show me the
- 36. High school ball
- 38. Confront
- 42. Ancient stone slab with markings
- 45. *"I love the smell of in the morning."
- 49. Zip
- 51. Bachelor on "The Bachelorette." e.g.
- 54. Suggestive of the supernatural 56. Sunlight distraction
- 57. a.k.a. French Sudan
- 58. Medley
- 59. Ralph in Spanish
- Manage without help
- 61. Eurasian mountain
- range 62. Actress Sofer
- 63. Trend-setting
- Human immunodeficiency virus
- 66. Old-fashioned "far" ine lendger





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.

Hats off to Karen Wade (The Plant Sale Lady) for hosting her 10th annual fundraising perennial sale for yet another LAS student group. She has raised over \$20,000 in the past 10 years and has given 100% of the profit to various student groups.

LAST WEEK'S ONLINE **POLL RESULTS**

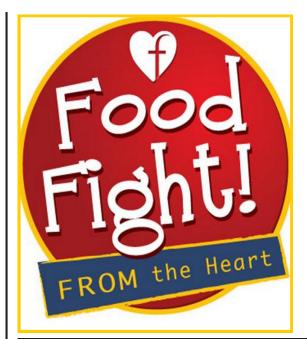
www.thelowellledger.com

Are you going out of town or staying home this Memorial Day weekend?

67%HOME 33% OUT OF TOWN

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Friday, June 1 FIRST QUARTER ENDS MONDAY JUNE 11

www.facebook.com/fromlowell

For up to date scoring, pictures, stories and on-line donations

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North					
South					



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