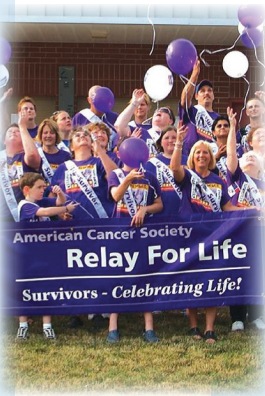


time for relay for life



page 3



page 8

lms honor roll



page 10

Screening of WaterWalk set for Father's Day in Lowell

by Emma Palova

The Michigan made feature movie "WaterWalk" opens on Father's Day at 30 theaters across Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Missouri including Ada Lowell 5.

The movie is based on the true story of Steve and Justin Faulkner's attempt to become the first single canoe team to retrace the 1,000 mile discovery route of the Mississippi River.

Directed by Bob Cicchini, who played in Godfather III and produced by Roger Rapoport, the film was shot completely on locations in Michigan and the Midwest.

It is a true family movie, not a kid movie, according to Cicchini.

"The movie has a lot of heart," he said. "It's not pretentious, glossy and it's not filled with movie devices,

such as sex, edgy behavior or quick editing and sound effects."

Cicchini plays the role of father Steve Faulkner, who lost his job as an editor at a small-town paper. His adopted Asian son Justin, played by Chase Maser of Kalamazoo, persuades Faulkner to join him on the trip of a lifetime that follows the discovery route of the Great River by explorers Marquette and Joliet.

Rapoport's goal was to make the movie using exclusively actors from Michigan or the Midwest states to help Michigan's struggling economy.

"We wanted to keep it as local as possible," said Cicchini. "Also, we were on a limited budget; it wasn't feasible to bring in actors from New York or Los Angeles."

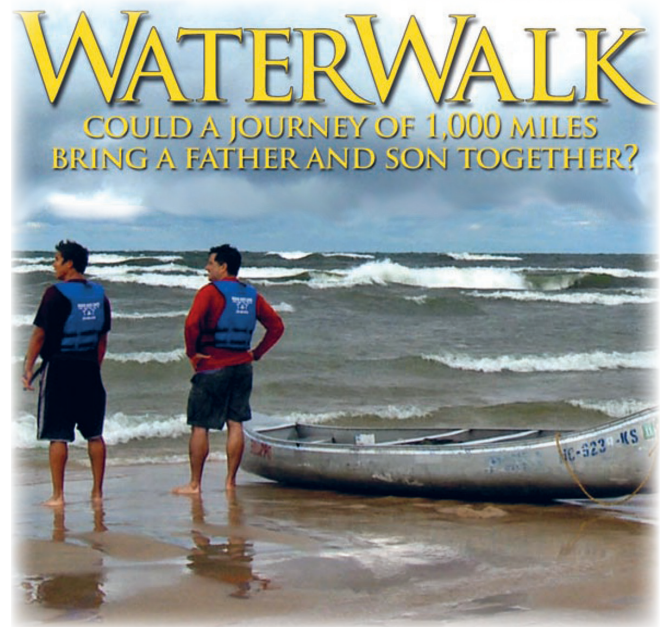
So, the filmmaking Rapoport Cicchini team sought out actors from Michigan, Chicago and Milwaukee.

"We wanted to be true blue Michiganders and show off the beauty of Michigan," he said.

Cicchini grew up in Detroit and cherishes great memories of trips to Mackinac Island. Rapoport, a book publisher and a travel writer, had the rights to the WaterWalk book.

"He wanted to make a movie from the book with artists who lived or live in Michigan," Cicchini said. "I think we did that effectively."

The movie was shot by award-winning cinematographer Bruce Schermer in more than 35 locations across Michigan, Wisconsin,



Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Illinois.

Goodrich Quality Theatres will be showing the film across the Midwest.

Theatre owner Bob Go-

odrich has supported the movie from pre-production.

"This story of an Asian American adopted son and

WaterWalk,
continued, page 3

Annual Paddle to Pedal adventure raises funds for Fred Meijer Flat River Rail Trail

by Emma Palova

The Paddle to Pedal event to benefit The Frederick Meijer Flat River Valley Rail Trail from Lowell to Greenville will take place on June 23.

The adventure combo trip in its second year, takes the participants with their kayaks and canoes from Double R Ranch in Smyrna,

not a race," said event director John Ploeg.

Once back at the ranch, participants can choose from four different bike loops. All bike rides start and end at RR in Smyrna; most of them cross at least one covered bridge.

The popular 12-mile mountain loop has been de-

bikes. Shuttle is available for the two-mile gravel portion of the route. The route goes through Fallasburg Covered Bridge only.

The 25-mile loop is on 100 percent paved roads and goes through Fallasburg Covered Bridge only.

The popular six-mile family loop runs through Whites Bridge Road Covered Bridge only.

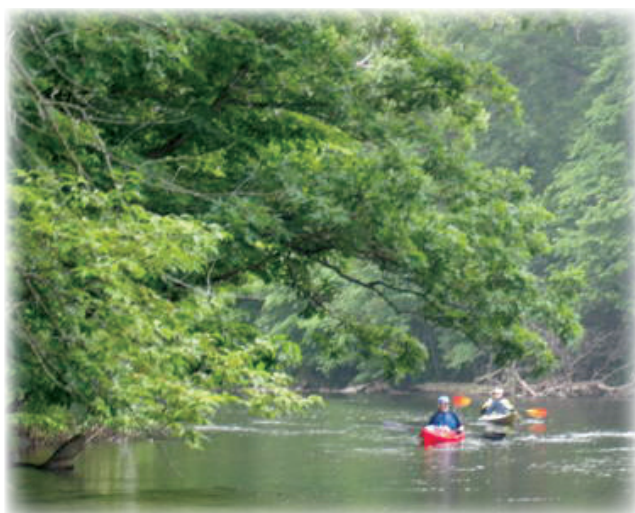
"The course follows the river," said Ploeg. "It is a nice family loop."

There's at least one food stop on every course usually by the covered bridges, where snacks, water and Gatorade will be offered by the organizers.

Lunch will be provided after the participants are done with their chosen course at the ranch.

The fee to enter is \$35 for one person with one boat, for two people with one boat it is \$55 and with a rental boat for one person it is \$50, for two people and a rental boat it is \$70.

"Everybody gets a shirt, lunch and food stops on the courses," said Ploeg.



2011 file photo

in a motorized vehicle, to a drop-off site in Belding.

The trip starts at 9 am at the ranch and the participants will paddle from Belding back to the starting point for approximately an hour to two hours.

"It's an adventure tour,

signed for mountain or cross bikes. The route runs on 50 percent tar and 50 percent gravel roads. It goes through Whites Bridge Road Covered Bridge and Fallasburg Covered Bridge.

The 19-mile roadie loop has been designed for road

Paddle to Pedal,
continued, page 2

New city website up and running

by Emma Palova

The new city website www.ci.lowell.mi.us is now up and running. Designed by I2Integration and funded through the Lowell Community Fund, the website is much more user-friendly than the last one.

"We looked at it from a standpoint of the user," said city manager Mark Howe. "We broke down the city services into simple categories."

So, for example the city services tab gives the user several options based on what they're looking for. That means the residents can pay their taxes online, apply for an absentee ballot, get info about something, request info through Freedom of Information Act or report a sewer back-up or a general complaint.

"The key is the services tab," said Howe. "We worked on the menu structure and on the content."

Howe said there are 30 pages of content as a word document. Also,

there are more than 200 documents on the site including agendas, minutes, ordinances and much more.

A lot of the information has been migrated from the old website which was too technical and oriented on the individual departments, rather than on practical information.

"I feel it's user-friendly, but a website is always [a] work in progress," Howe said.

The site has a link to the city's facebook page cityoflowellmichigan for greater interaction and to update people on happenings.

For people who do not have Internet access, the Englehardt Library offers access to the Internet. They can also stop in at the city hall or call for information.

"We still answer the telephones," he said.

Future plans entail having a newsletter in-

City website,
continued, page 2

50 CENTS



Paddle to Pedal, continued

Ploeg would like to get 50 participants this year.

People can register at www.rivervalleyrailtrails.org, send a flier in or call 1-616-754-5358 and ask for John.

Ploeg is hoping to raise \$500 for the Fred Meijer rail trail from Lowell to Greenville.

"I'd like to see it grow," he said. "It is designed for fun. There is no pressure, just [to] have a good time.

The areas around the covered bridges are gorgeous."

Ploeg has been producing and developing races for the last 20 years. The Paddle to Pedal is the only non-competitive event.

"It's the first adventure tour that I put together," he said. "We're trying to make the connection between the river and the trail, joining the two so people can utilize both."

Currently, a section of

the trail between Lowell and Ionia is being paved. Ploeg expects the Lowell to Greenville trail to be paved with cinder within the next two years.

"It will be completely rideable like the Kal-Haven trail," he said.

The combo event is different from other trips in the area because it is the only one where you can kayak or canoe and ride a bike.

Ploeg has received a lot of good comments about the event from participating families from as far as Detroit.

The section of the trail between Lowell and Greenville is especially beautiful because it has no heavy housing developments; it has open spaces and offers the use of the Flat River.

City website, continued

served into utility bills. The newsletter will cover taxes, parking, winter snow removal and maintenance, trash pick-up and much more.

The community tab has links to community organizations. If you cannot find your organization, feel free to contact the city hall at 897-8457 and you will

be added to the list. There's also a link to kaleidoscope, an online calendar that covers cultural, educational and recreational programs offered by the area non-profits. It is also available in a print version.

"We encourage people to go to the website and facebook," said Howe.

Residents will be able

to look up their water and sewer bills online starting in July/August.

The city is changing the interface for online payments to make them more user-friendly as well.

The website was soft launched last week on Monday while the bugs are being worked out.

And although the maintenance of the website is another thing to do for the city staff, Howe said he believes it connects the city hall better with the public.

"It makes us more accountable," he said. "It's a good thing to do."



along main street

JUNIOR GARDENER SUMMER CAMP

The Wittenbach/Wege Center is accepting applications for their Junior Master Gardener summer camp. The camp meets on Thursdays for 10 weeks starting June 14. For more information, contact Meggan Johnson at 616-987-2565 or mjohnson@lowellschools.com

SENIOR EXERCISE CLASS

Grant funded exercise class for seniors. 12 weeks beginning July 9. Mondays and Fridays, 11-noon. Call 855-9570 for details.

BAKED GOODS FOR GOD'S KITCHEN

On June 16, the wives of Lowell American Legion and the VFW veterans will be collecting homemade goodies from 10:00 am to noon at the Veterans' Center at 3116 South Alden Nash. These special desserts are for God's Kitchen in honor of Father's Day, June 17. Any questions, please call Jan Thompson at 897-2533.

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.

...
The Chinese use two brush strokes to write the word 'crisis.' One brush stroke stands for danger; the other for opportunity. In a crisis, be aware of the danger - but recognize the opportunity.

~ John F. Kennedy (1917 - 1963)



At Your Local Library

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

Dream Big Craft Party -

Dream Big this summer with awesome and inspiring crafts. Let your imagination loose with a variety of craft activities for all ages. Thurs., June 14, 10:30 am.

Summer Carnival -

Celebrate summer. Celebrate reading. Join us for games, crafts, prizes and tons of carnival-style fun. For families. Sat., June 16, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm.

Wii Gaming for Kids -

Show off your Wii skills or learn some new Wii tricks with friends and family. For school-age children, ages 6 and older. Tues., June 19, 1:00 pm.

Ruff Readers -

KDL teams up with the West Michigan Therapy Dog Association for a fun read-aloud program that pairs kids ages 6 and up with a trained therapy dog and handler. Each participant will get to read aloud to a dog for up to 15 minutes. Registration is required. Kids will be scheduled for a specific time slot as they arrive. Wed., June 20 - Aug. 1, 6:30 pm (no program on July 4).

...
It is absurd to divide people into good and bad. People are either charming or tedious.

~ Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)

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Relay For Life of Lowell slated for June 22 and 23

Celebrate. Remember. Fight back.

Excitement is building toward the 8th annual American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Lowell which will be held at the Red Arrow Football Stadium, at the high school, June 22 and 23. Currently 26 teams are busy preparing for the 2012 Relay which features the theme of "All Around The World For a Cure." Everyone is encouraged to join a team effort or simply plan on visiting the Relay next weekend and finding out personally or along with your family what Relay is all about. Both fun and inspiring, this around the clock, 24 hour event will kick off at noon on Friday, June 22. Relay For Life celebrates cancer

survivors, remembers loved ones lost and offers the community a way to fight back by coming together to raise funds to help support The American Cancer Society's on-going battle against this disease.

This year's Relay has 26 teams participating with a goal of raising \$69,000 for the American Cancer Society. Teams include families and friends, church and school groups, co-workers from area businesses, all of which take turns walking laps around the stadium track during the 24 hours of the Relay. The teams also host a variety of family friendly fundraisers around the track, including games

for kids, unique crafts and a variety of food, beverages and tasty treats. In addition, this family-oriented event includes a bounce house, giant inflatable slide and a dunk tank, Friday from noon till 8 pm and again Saturday morning from 8 to 11 am.

Key activities Friday include:
 Opening lap - 12 noon
 Silent auction - 2 - 8 pm
 Pink Arrow
 "Power Hour" - 5 - 6 pm
 Opening ceremony and survivor celebration - 6 pm
 Cancer survivor dinner - 6:30 pm
 Miss Relay contest - 7:30 pm
 Luminaria ceremony - 9:15 pm

Saturday special activities include:
 Pancake breakfast - 7 - 10 am
 Closing ceremonies - 11:30 am
 "Relay is a unique opportunity for our community to come together to celebrate people who have battled cancer, remember those we've lost and fight back against the disease," said Jaime Counterman, American Cancer Society Relay coordinator. "Many of the participants are cancer survivors, which serves as a reminder that the Lowell area is not immune to this disease. And participating in Relay, we are joining with the American Cancer

Society's efforts to create a world with less cancer and more birthdays," Counterman added.
 Participants celebrate the victory of local cancer survivors all 24 hours and especially at the opening ceremonies and during the special Survivors Lap following the official opening ceremony at 6 pm.
 Relay For Life's luminaria ceremony takes place near sundown, honoring the community's cancer survivors and remembering those we've lost to the disease. Participants will circle a track that is surrounded with glowing luminaria that bear the name of someone who has battled cancer. Luminar-

ia are available from any of the participating teams and will also be available at the Relay for a \$10 donation.
 Also a part of the Relay For Life of Lowell (RFL) is the "Fight Back" ceremony, in which a community leader will inspire Relay participants with his or her own commitment and will challenge them to take a personal pledge of action (e.g., stop smoking, eat more healthily, exercise regularly, etc.) in fighting back. More details available on the Lowell RFL website: www.RelayForLife.org/lowellMI

WaterWalk, continued

his workaholic father taking an epic journey showcases spectacular locations in Michigan and the Midwest," said Goodrich. "We're particularly proud of the fact that it was shot in our own backyard in West Michigan with some of the best actors in the region."

Some actors even live directly in the places of shooting.

"We shot on location on Lake Michigan, on Fox and Mississippi rivers, on Lake Muskegon and Lake Winnepago," said Cicchini.

The film directorial debut for Cicchini, who has previously directed theatre plays, was exciting.

"There's [a] tremendous amount of work involved," he said. "It stays

taxing all through the post production. But it was very rewarding."

The directorial role freed Cicchini as an actor due to the big picture vision.

"I have my vision and try to be collaborative," he said. "I feel intrinsic to the creation of the movie."

Cicchini considers his performance of Faulkner natural, rich and truthful.

"I made Steve into me," he said. "It was me in

Steve's shoes. I picked up on his physical attributes."

Having the double role of directing and playing gave Cicchini a different approach to the character of the father.

"It's a true story authentically told with beautiful photography and a lot of heart," he said. "I am pleased how we portrayed it."

The movie was shot in the summer of 2010 and

2011 over the course of 30 days. It had a preview screening at the Longwood University in Virginia, where the real Faulkner became a professor of writing. It premiered in Milwaukee two weeks ago.

WaterWalk is slated for wide release in September after the summer blockbusters. It will also be screened at film festivals.

"It will end up on Netflix," said Cicchini. "It has something for everybody."

Since it is still expensive to make a movie, the screenings with focus groups were often fundraisers for the film.

"I would encourage people to go out and see the Michigan based film," he said. "It is very authentic."

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- THE AVENGERS (PG-13) 6:50, 9:50

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financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

Don't fall victim to investment "biases"

If you're like most people, you go through many complex thoughts and emotions when choosing investments. In fact, a field of study called "behavioral finance" is devoted to understanding why people make their investment decisions. As part of their work, behavioral finance researchers examine "biases" that affect people's investment selections. And as an individual investor, you, too, can benefit from understanding these biases — so that you can avoid them.

Here are some of the key biases identified by behavioral finance experts:

- **Overconfidence** — Overconfidence leads investors to believe they know the "right times" to buy and sell investments. But if you're constantly buying and selling in the belief that you are correctly "timing" the market, you may incur more investment fees, expenses and taxes than if you simply bought quality investments and held them for the long term.

- **Representativeness** — If you make decisions based on preconceived ideas

or stereotypes, you may be suffering from a bias called "representativeness." For example, if you see that investments from a particular sector, such as energy, have performed particularly well in one year, you might think these types of vehicles will do just as well the next year, so you load up on them. Yet every sector will go through ups and downs, so one year's performance cannot necessarily predict the next year's performance. Instead of chasing "hot" investments, try to build a balanced portfolio that reflects your individual goals, risk tolerance and time horizon.

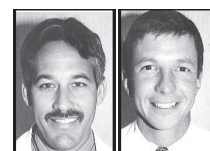
- **Anchoring** — Similar to representativeness, an anchoring bias occurs when investors place too much emphasis on past performance. If you own shares of XYZ stock, for instance, and the stock price hit \$60 per share, you might assume XYZ will always sell for at least \$60 a share. But if XYZ drops to \$30 per share — perhaps as a result of a broad-based market decline — you might think it's now "undervalued," leading you to "snap up" even more shares. However, XYZ

shares could also fall due to a change in its fundamentals, such as a shake-up in the company's management or a decline in the competitiveness of its products. As an informed investor, you need to work with your financial advisor to determine the causes of an investment's decline and any actions you may need to take in response.

- **Confirmation** — If you are subject to confirmation bias, you may look for information that supports your reasons for choosing a particular investment. This type of bias can lead to faulty decision making, because you'll end up with one-sided information. In other words, you may latch onto all the positive reasons for investing in something — such as a "hot stock" — but you may overlook the "red flags" that would cause you to think twice if you were being totally objective. To fight back against confirmation bias, take your time before making any investment decision — a quality investment will almost always be just as good a choice tomorrow as it is today.

Being aware of these investment biases can help you make better decisions — and over a period of many years, these decisions can make a difference as you work toward achieving your financial objectives.

health



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

cataracts

Cataract surgery is probably one of the most common surgical procedures performed in the United States annually, and cataracts are the leading cause of blindness worldwide. Most cataracts occur in people over the age of 40.

A cataract is a cloudiness that develops in the lens of the eye. The lens, located behind the pupil, focuses light on the retina in the back of the eye. As we age, the protein in the lens

begins to clump together causing the lens to go from transparent to cloudy. Light passing through a cloudy lens results in a blurry or brown tinged image.

Cataracts usually begin slowly and progress over a number of years. Cataracts do not require treatment unless they impair vision. Factors that contribute to cataract formation include aging, diabetes, smoking, eye injury, cumulative exposure to the sun, long-term

steroid use, and excessive alcohol intake. Symptoms that may indicate cataract formation are poor night vision, the appearance of halos around objects, blurry vision, glare around lights and colors that appear faded or brown tinged.

As we age we may not be able to prevent cataract formation, but we may be able to slow its progression by protecting our eyes when outdoors by wearing sunglasses or a wide brimmed hat, avoiding smoking, and controlling our blood sugar if diabetic.

Cataracts are easily diagnosed by examination of the eye with an ophthalmoscope. An ophthalmologist can perform an operation to remove the cataract and replace it with an artificial lens within the eye.

college news

Ian Woodworth, of Ada, a student at Baldwin-Wallace College, has been named to the dean's list for the spring semester. Stu-

dents who receive at least a 3.6 GPA for seven or more graded hours in a single semester are named to the dean's list.

Jonathan Ferris, of Ada, has been recognized on the dean's list at Norwich University for the spring 2012

viewpoint

Defense bill protects important priorities for nation and Michigan



Sen. Carl Levin

As chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, my most important responsibility each year is passage of the National Defense Authorization Act, which authorizes programs and sets policies for our military. So I'm pleased that in

May, the committee once again sent a strong bipartisan message of support for our troops and their families with unanimous approval of this authorization for 2013.

Annual passage of this bill is among the most important jobs not just for the

committee, but also for Congress. Literally, our national security relies on it, and so do our troops and their families. This year's bill includes a pay raise for military members, and it protects them and military retirees from proposals that would increase their out-of-pocket health care costs.

The bill supports our efforts to build Afghanistan's capability to provide

security for its people and to support our own operations as we draw down the U.S. combat presence there. It supports efforts to combat al Qaeda and other violent extremists in places such as Yemen and East Africa. It continues efforts to stop the spread of nuclear weapons and materials. It strengthens special operations forc-

Levin, continued, page 6

ask kathryn



Kathryn Denhouder Ph.D.

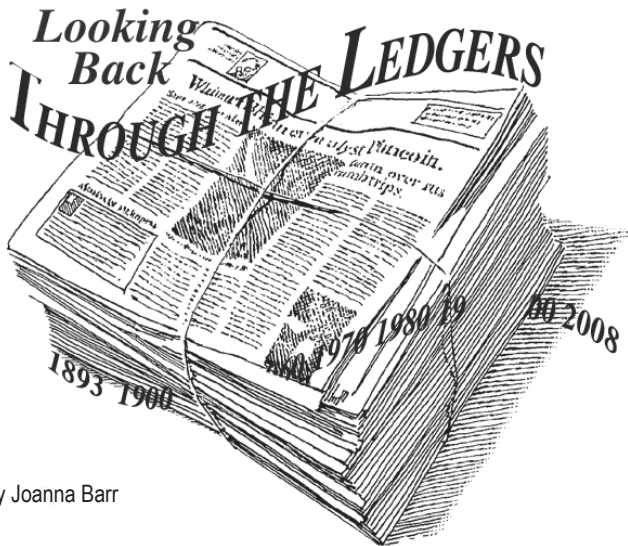
Autism is becoming a common household word. Even though we hear it more and more every day, it is a complicated condition that researchers are still trying to figure out. What we do know is that for whatever reason autism is on the rise. The latest figures from October 2009, reported by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, placed the diagnosis rate at one out of every 91 children, which would be one percent of children in the United States. Some experts are saying that autism is being diagnosed more frequently and that this is "inflating" the numbers. Dr. Thomas Insel, director of the National Institute of Mental Health states, "It is unclear from the new findings whether more children were affected or if there had been changes in the ability to detect autism."

The word is still out on that, but for sure, educators, psychologists and parents are recognizing the importance of getting the best information out there to help children and adults dealing with autism. I will present a series of six articles on autism in the following months. The purpose is to get the current information to all those interested, whether you have a child with autism or know of children and adults that are managing the symptoms of autism. These six articles are:

pose is to get the current information to all those interested, whether you have a child with autism or know of children and adults that are managing the symptoms of autism. These six articles are:

1. What is autism and what is a spectrum disorder?
2. What are the patterns of symptoms that constitute this condition?
3. What can parents, grandparents and teachers do to help a child with autism?
4. As a parent, how can I make sure my child gets a good education?
5. If I am a neighbor or someone in a community, how should I respond to someone with autism?
6. What does the future look like for someone with autism?

With this information, the understanding and acceptance of autism will improve and our communities will become supportive and productive. Next month, the first article, "What is autism and what is a spectrum disorder?" will be presented. If there are any questions or comments regarding autism, please contact me at kathryndenhouder@gmail.com



By Joanna Barr

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo June 17, 1937

A shopping crowd of extra large proportions was in Lowell Saturday during the day and evening bent on week end buying and to take in the balloon ascension and parachute drop at 7:30. The balloonist made a successful flight to a high altitude, the big bag presenting a graceful spectacle as it soared aloft outlining itself against the evening sky. The balloonist gave the onlookers an extra thrill by making what is known as a double parachute drop, that is, changing from one parachute to another in mid-air. When the jumper reached terra firma he found himself in Segwun.

50 years ago The Lowell Ledger June 14, 1962

Approximately \$71 in small bills was stolen from the store safe of Cary's Inc., 219 W. Main St., sometime Friday by thieves who apparently knew both that the money was in the safe and that the safe was not locked at the time. The robbery was discovered by Mrs. Beatrice Bailey, sales clerk, who noticed that the money box in the safe had been tampered with when she went to lock the safe at closing time Friday night. The \$71 was part of a balance that was kept in the safe for change-making purposes and the cashing of customer's checks as a convenience during hours when the bank is closed. Lowell police, who investigated the robbery Saturday morning, speculated that the theft was pulled either by youngsters or possibly by a pair of thieves, one of whom may have distracted the attention of the store clerks.

25 years ago The Grand Valley Ledger June 17, 1987

Headline: Macker dumps Lowell for site in Belding
After nearly two hours of heated debate in a sweltering Runciman gymnasium, Ivan Blough of Lowell put a point blank question to Gus Macker representative Mitch McNeal. "Is there a glimmer of hope for a Gus Macker Tournament in Lowell for 1987," Blough asked. McNeal's reply was a simple "No." At that, approximately 200 people who attended Monday's Lowell City Council meeting began to file out. Earlier in the day, tournament founder Scott McNeal, alias Gus Macker, held a press conference on the front steps of Belding City Hall to announce plans to move the fourteen-year-old tournament there. McNeal said the 75 to 80 courts will be set up along Congress St. and some adjoining streets near the city's centrally located shopping mall. McNeal made note of the tree lined streets and grassy lawns as being reminiscent of the tournament's earlier beginnings.

140 years ago Lowell Weekly Journal June 12, 1872

On Tuesday next (18) the first annual meeting of the Lowell Horse and Agricultural Association will commence and continue four days. Many of the best speed horses will be here and thousands of people are expected. The track is in fine condition and is pronounced by many strangers who have visited it to be equal to, if not better than any other in the State. The horse stalls, 110 in number, are admitted by all who have seen them, to be decidedly the best ever erected for the purpose in Michigan. The grand stand and dining rooms are also all that can be desired. There is yet considerable work that should be done before the fair, we trust we shall be pardoned for suggesting. The road leading to the grounds is somewhat obstructed by stumps, logs, brush, etc., which if not removed will be a great inconvenience while so many teams are constantly passing to the grounds. There is also a noticeable amount of timber, boards, etc., lying scattered on different parts of the ground.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger June 13, 1912

Last Friday, John Christman of Ionia, an old man who has been a booze hunter in Lowell, drew a fine of \$5 and costs at Judge Andrews court, together with some kind admonitions as to his misconduct and the misuse of his money. Christman said he had about \$60 when he came to Lowell. All but about \$10 had been squandered before he left for home.

J. S. Hooker has been making some improvements on his home, doing the work himself. It was a little too strenuous for Uncle John and he hasn't had his "hat in the ring" for several days. Mrs. Hooker too has been ill. We are going to advertise for some warm sunshiny weather and that will fix 'em both up right.

The Silver Family Tent Show at Recreation Park Monday evening deserved its large patronage. It is a good, clean show and plenty of it by clean people. The Silver Family always "takes" in Lowell.



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thelowelledger.com

Letters To The Editor:

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

Letters may be submitted via email to: 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.

engagements

Wernet/Severts

Shelly Wernet and Cody Severts, both of Coolidge, AZ, will be wed on July 7, 2012. The bride is the daughter of Tim and Sue Wernet of Lowell. She graduated from Aquinas College in Grand Rapids and is a fifth grade teacher at

Imagine Coolidge Elementary. The groom is the son of Darell and Karen Severts of Grygla, MN. He is a graduate of Bemidji State University in Bemidji, MN and is a third grade teacher at Imagine Coolidge Elementary.

Levin, continued

es, intelligence and missile defense, and cyber-security capabilities to help fight terrorism and other nontraditional threats.

Importantly, the bill also supports efforts to live within our means and reduce the deficit. The bill remains within the total spending level proposed by the president. It protects taxpayers in a number of ways: by halting expensive proposals to reconfigure our forces in the Pacific region until more cost-effective plans are developed; by eliminating unnecessary construction projects, by omitting funding for a troubled Army missile defense program, and strengthening oversight of the Defense Department.

These and many other provisions of the bill are of national significance, and as always, providing for the national defense was our highest priority. But the bill also includes a number of provisions that are of special significance to Michigan.

First, the committee, on a bipartisan basis, rejected proposals to retire Air National Guard aircraft and eliminate Guard personnel across the country. These proposals would have hit Air Guard units at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Battle Creek Air National Guard Base, and Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center especially hard.

The Air National Guard performs an extremely im-

portant function, and its capabilities should not be casually or precipitously changed. The Air Force proposed budget cuts that disproportionately affected the Air National Guard. The proposal was ill-conceived and unjustified. We prohibited the Air Force from retiring Air Guard or Air Force Reserve aircraft, rejected the proposed personnel cuts, and provided the necessary funding to account for those changes. We also established a procedure to prevent such poorly thought-out proposals in the future, through appointment of a commission that will make nonbinding recommendations to Congress on the proper structure of the Air Force.

Also, this year's bill continues to rely on Michigan's manufacturing, engineering and technological know-how to protect our country.

The bill authorizes procurement of systems and equipment that Michigan workers and companies help build, including several ground vehicles and the Littoral Combat Ship. It includes \$173.5 million for vehicle research and development efforts at the Army's premier vehicle R&D facility, the Tank and Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center in Warren.

It continues funding for the Defense Department's STARBASE pro-

gram, which originated in Michigan in 1989 as a way for the military to encourage science, technology, engineering and math education. And it continues programs to support the defense industrial base and boost research and development at universities and in the private sector, programs that for years have had a big impact in Michigan.

Now that the Armed Services Committee has

completed its work, I'm hopeful that we can soon bring the bill before the full Senate for consideration, work with our colleagues in the House to work out differences between our bill and the House's own bill, and send a final bill to the president for his signature. This legislation has been a bipartisan priority for more than five decades, and I am confident we'll uphold that tradition this year.

Vacation Bible School

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June 18-21, 2012

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Pledge cards are available at the church.

For more information about VBS or the Slam-dunk, event Call the Church at: 897-6141 or check out our website: vergennesumc.org
Email: children@vergennesumc.org

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| JUNE 14
Kyle Manszewski. | JUNE 18
Jessica Vezino, Lindsay Anderson, Whitney Patnode, Nancy Jane Kunard, Elizabeth Mol. |
| JUNE 15
Joey Hunt Jr., Courtney Baker, Caran Schalow, Rachel Heinicke, Katlin Manszewski, Alice Monks, Sam Richmond. | JUNE 19
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South team shatters Food Fight record

The annual Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) Food Fight is off to a blazing start in 2012. "We've never had either team score more than 5,000 food items in any given quarter of play," said Kraig Haybarker, FROM board member. "The dollars and food items are on a record pace and our Food Pantry is very happy."

Each quarter is an eleven day span, which began on June 1 and will conclude at the end of the "FROM the Heart Riverwalk Parade" on Saturday, July 14. The first quarter ended on Monday, June 11, with the South Lowell team leading the North Lowell team, 6,010 to 5,557, in the quest to collect the most non-per-

ishable food items and donated dollars to benefit the FROM Food Pantry. 2012 marks the fourth year for the friendly community competition between all businesses and residents south of Main Street against all those north of Main Street. The North team holds a 2-1 advantage after a miraculous comeback victory last year, win-

ning by a mere 29 items after a flurry of food donations during the 2011 parade.

"It was a remarkable finish," said Haybarker. "The South was leading by more than 1,000 items just a few days before the parade, but the North brought an overwhelming amount of food to the parade."

The 2011 final score

was 16,178 to 16,149, in favor of the North.

Monetary donations can be made online at www.fromlowell.org. Each dollar donated will equal one food item and the donation can be specified toward the North Lowell or South Lowell team. Sponsorships are still available, with donor recognition posted in the Buyers

Guide and Lowell Ledger along with scoring display pages throughout the competition. Inquiries and questions can be made by calling the Food Fight hotline at 421-0029.

Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc. seeks to meet the needs of people in the greater Lowell area in their time of hardship.

Student sets reading record at Murray Lake Elementary

Murray Lake fourth grader Sophia Hornik loves to read. That might be an understatement. Hornik shattered Murray Lake's all time record for Accelerated

Reader (AR) points this year by over 300 points. She accumulated 1,251 AR points this school year. To put these points in perspective, this is the equivalent of reading 25

Harry Potter length books in one school year.

"She was just amazing this year. I had to go out and buy new books for her to read, because she was reading through all of the books in our library," commented Hornik's teacher Glenna Blanding. "She would take a book home one night and come in the next morning bleary-eyed saying she finished the entire book in one night."

Hornik faced some

fierce competition on her way to the record. Fifth grader Ryan Roest, who was the top AR reader in 2011, finished the year with a very respectable 1,106 AR points and fifth grader Mia Mungler finished with 950 points. Hornik will be back next year and plans to break her 2012 record.

Sophia Hornik with her AR award



Franciscan Life Process Center to celebrate Festival in the Fields

by Emma Palova

The Franciscan Life Process Center will celebrate the annual Festival in the Fields on June 16 from 4 pm to 8 pm at the Lowell campus.

The family event includes live music, children's activities, tour of the farm, artisans, food, a country store and horse-drawn wagon rides. The country store will have breads, pies and more. The event will create many unforgettable memories in a relaxing atmosphere.

The entrance fee per car is \$20. The meal is \$5, for children under \$12 it is \$3. All proceeds will benefit the scholarship fund so that anyone in need can participate in the programs offered by the center for reduced tuition.

The major fundraiser for the center, LifeFest, takes place in October at the Lowell campus.

Lowell senior receives Burger King award

Quality Dining, Inc., local Burger King franchisee, announces the funding of \$113,000 in Burger King continuing education scholarships for high school seniors in 2012. This includes a scholarship of \$1,000 in Lowell. Since 2001, Quality Dining has funded over \$1,367,000 in continuing education scholarships. From this area, the scholarship recipient is Kelsey Mankel of Lowell High School. Mankel plans to attend Central Michigan University and major in neuroscience and music.



Kelsey Mankel

have to be, a Burger King employee.

"We thank our customers for their continued support of our scholarship program," says Gerald O. Fitzpatrick, senior vice president of the Burger King Division at Quality Dining. "We extend our congratulations to all our 2012 scholarship recipients."

lend a hand

volunteering opportunities

tutor info session on june 14

The Literacy Center of West Michigan has scheduled an information session on Thursday, June 14, 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.

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-on-one reading help to adults asking for assistance in reading or English as a Second Language (ESL). You

do not need to speak another language to tutor ESL.

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 register.

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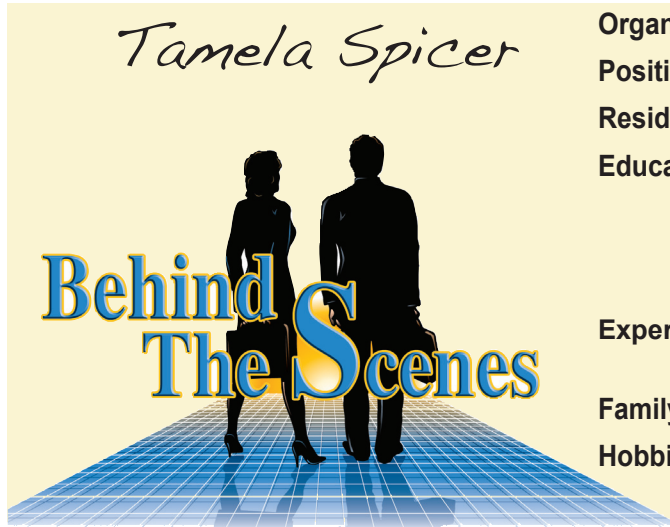
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Position: Executive director
Residence: Saranac
Education: Bachelor's in business administration, Aquinas College; bachelor's of arts, theology and religious education, Aquinas College; Master of Communications, Spring Arbor College projected completion 2013
Experience: Nonprofit sector for 20 years. Salvation Army, six years prior to coming to FROM
Family: Children, Ashley and James
Hobbies: Horseback riding, photography, freelance writing



Lowell woman finds work for nonprofit sector rewarding

by Emma Palova

Tamela Spicer of Lowell was working in banking and volunteering for Grand Rapids Jaycees in the mid 1990s when she realized she enjoyed her volunteer service more than her day job.

"I wanted to take that experience and make a living out of it, but I also wanted to make use of my business degree in the corporate," she said.

At that time, there were very few degree programs for nonprofits, so Spicer had to learn on her own.

"There were not a lot of people to learn from," she said.

But, she was fortunate enough to connect with the Association of Fundraising Professionals and learned the ropes by doing and talking to people in the industry.

"Now, there are more educational opportunities, such as degrees in non-profit management," she said.

Spicer is a firm believer in education and good business practices that help the nonprofit sector. That combination of love for the nonprofit and good business sense led Spicer to the executive director position for the Flat River Outreach Ministries. She started working for FROM last year after the major fundraiser: the annual Food Fight.

"What is great about nonprofit is that it requires a diverse skill set," she said.

In spite of being torn between the corporate world and volunteer work, Spicer says that nonprofit is her first love.

"I get bored easily and in nonprofit you're doing something different every day," she said.

So, Spicer gets to write press releases, grants, organizational material, as well as spend time working with people, volunteers and donors.

"It gives me a chance to stretch and to grow," added Spicer.

Now, both working and living in Lowell and being involved in Rotary gives Spicer a different perspective on her hometown and the community.

Like many other people, Spicer always thought of Lowell as being a bedroom community.

"I wasn't invested in the community," she said. "Now that I am invested, it has given me a lot of pride. After living here my entire life, I wanted to become involved."

And nonprofit suits Spicer well, because it fits her passion for helping others.

"I doubt I will venture into corporate America except for writing, but that is in the spiritual sphere," she said.

Spicer also does nonprofit management consulting, so she can develop a different skill set.



Tamela Spicer talks passionately about FROM's mission.

"When I connect with a different organization, I learn as much from them as they learn from me," she said.

Spicer always sets goals for herself and as an executive director for FROM. Her personal goals include completing graduate school and finishing the first draft of her book under the working title "An Act of Obedience" by the end of 2012.

She would like to create a consistent infrastructure for FROM that has been run by strictly volunteers for the last 10 years.

"For stability, you need to create a unified infrastructure with the same type of event planning," she said.

Some of the elements of the infrastructure already exist, but they need to be brought all together, says Spicer.

And since she likes a

good challenge, Spicer is determined to put the pieces of the puzzle all together whether it's through volunteer forums or community representation.

"I feel like I take every one of our volunteers with me to represent FROM," she said. "It is a great privilege."

And the way to reach these goals is to take it one day at a time, according to Spicer. Whatever the goal may be, Spicer finds helpful using networks, like writers' groups, friends, as well as articulating the vision and identifying steps necessary to achieve it.

Spicer considers her professional work for FROM a transitional process from a completely volunteer organization to one run by a professional director.

"I have to remember to be patient," she said. "I have to remember to be patient. It's a process for me and the organization."

The key to smoothing out that transition is breaking the goals into small manageable pieces.

"You also have to celebrate the little wins," she said.

Motivation is important for anyone whether in nonprofit or profit sectors. It varies from achieving company's goals, seeing people happy to making a buck.

For Spicer, it is seeing a job well done, personally and professionally.

"I'd like to do hands-on things and stay true to

the gifts that God has given me," she said.

Spicer feels like she has been called to do certain things, such as writing.

"I laid it down and picked it up again," she said. "I have a love/hate relationship with writing."

She likes to present an image of a caring and a compassionate person.

"I can be goal driven, but I try not to forget there's a lot of people involved in that goal," Spicer said.

And what's unique about FROM is that more than any other organization it has a sense of family.

"The volunteers take ownership in the ministry," she said. "Their heart is here. It's one of the great strengths, but it can also be a challenge."

Spicer focuses on the structural goals but also knows that it's not necessarily clear to others.

"I take time to educate," she said.

FROM sets itself apart from other nonprofits in related fields by looking at the whole person and treating individuals with respect, dignity and kindness.

"We recognize there is a crisis, a hardship in your life," she said. "Other organizations tend to treat people like a number. It's the heart of every person that makes a difference."

Over the years, the non-profit sector has gone through major changes, such as being more competitive, professional and accountable. But like any organization it has to do more with less.

"We have that responsibility to the community and the sector has taken advantage of the business tools," she said.

As far as technology goes, the nonprofit is still trying to catch up with the business world using technological resources.

Fortunately enough, the

large foundations are now recognizing the need to help nonprofits with technology by providing grants.

"We are expected to have a website and to be on Facebook," she said.

The biggest project of the year for FROM is the Food Fight that started on June 1 and runs through the Riverwalk in mid July. The organization logs in on average 2,000 volunteer hours a month.

"We're blessed with incredible volunteer support," she said.

Christmas food distribution is another big project for FROM. Approximately 100 volunteers work on the day of the distribution.

"We need to be a little bit more consistent, mindful of the budget, timelines and using all our resources," Spicer said.

Also, the summer lunch program has been growing. The Rotary provides 10 percent for the summer lunch budget.

"The biggest challenge is getting the word out about the needs and the help available," she said.

The sluggish economy has impacted the non-profit in several different ways. First, there is a greater need; secondly, people can't give as much.

"We have to look at our spending," she said. "We also have to make sure that our story is in the community so people can support the need."

The Food Fight is already exceeding last year's yield. There are new companies as sponsors on board.

"Lowell is a unique community," she said. "People are willing to reach deep and continuing to support the ministry."

One of Spicer's greatest contributions to the industry is event management that she has learned from the Jaycees. She will be speaking about event management at the Junior Achievement National Conference in Grand Rapids in July.

What makes Spicer successful is her continued willingness to learn.

"If you think you know it all, you're in trouble," she said. "I am always open to

learning and I admit my mistakes."

Her major involvement in the community other than FROM is Rotary.

"It was an eye-opener for me," she said. "I was shocked how much they do all over the world."

Her dreams and wishes are that FROM is eventually out of business. The organization is looking at program development to help people, so they do not need assistance.

In conjunction with Goodwill, the two will be offering classes on budgeting and resume writing, as well as helping people develop life skills.

In a mentorship program, FROM will be working one-on-one with an individual or a family to get better with budgeting and not to rely on someone else.

FROM will also open a computer lab with volunteers helping people to write resumes and other skills. Currently, FROM offers tax preparation and e-filing.

Future plans include affordable housing that has been a concern in the community.

"There is homelessness," she said. "We're trying to assess the need and how to respond."

Knowing that a family has been taken care of is a major reward that comes with the job. The needs served may be as basic as fixing somebody's hot water heater and later finding out that the individual in need was thankful for a hot shower.

"When you're struggling, basic things that we take for granted can become a big deal," she said.

Spicer and the organization always want to be able to empathize with people who come through the door.

A bad day for Spicer is when she can't find needed information and the technology doesn't work. On the other hand, a good day is when she can check off an item off the "to do list."

"That list just keeps growing and growing," she said. "Every day is a good day at FROM. I am thankful to have the opportunity to do it."

Lowell Farmers' Market open for the season



On a beautiful Thursday afternoon both vendors and shoppers flocked to the farmers' market now located in front of Tractor Supply. In spite of being early in the season, the produce was abundant and good. Regular vendors and newcomers offered fresh strawberries, asparagus, blueberries, lettuce, herbs and plants.

Chase Young from the Corner Market in Crystal had some plump strawberries at the market and even ran out of blueberries.

Jessica Gonyou of Country Harvest Greenhouse in Caledonia offered fresh lettuce, herbs, honey, homemade soaps and hair clips.



??? ???

History Mystery

Do you know what this is? The Lowell Area Historical Museum has supplied this picture of something in the museum's collection. Next week they will supply a brief explanation and history of the artifact. Feel free to e-mail the Ledger at ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com with your thoughts on this week's picture, then read the Ledger to see if you were right.



???

???

...
Conversation should be pleasant without scurrility, witty without affectation, free without indecency, learned without conceitedness, novel without falsehood.

~ William Shakespeare (1564 - 1616)



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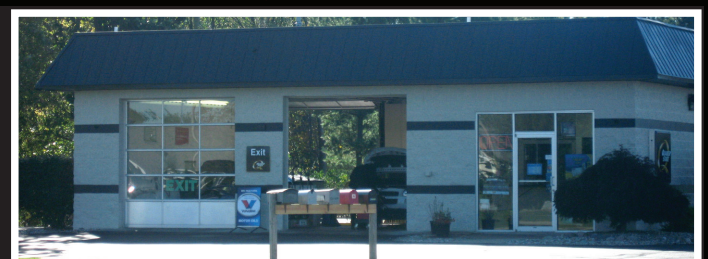
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June 15th and 16th

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Giveaways & drawings each day!
Free hot dogs, chips & pop on Saturday from 11am-2pm!



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Lowell Middle School third trimester honor roll

GRADE 6

Aikens, Taylor
Allison, Morgan
Anderson, Madeline
Anes, Paige
Angelo, Sky
Antel, Melody
Ashenbrenner, Bryan
Baker, Collin
Baker, Noelle
Barrett, Nathan
Barrie, Atlas
Beimers, Christian
Bell, Keaton
Bendall, Gabriel
Berklich, Jonathan
Bierling, Carter
Blakie, Laurel
Blattner, Bethany
Boggs-Osman, Hailey
Branagan, Makyla
Brandt, Alexander
Breen, Devin
Brenner, Olivia
Brown, Amber
Brown, Emily
Buckius, Addison
Bush, Joshua
Bussell, Mitchell
Camp, Margaret
Carmichael, Sydney
Chapman, Dawson
Charron, Ashton
Chase, Auden
Chertos, Tayler
Clark, Carson
Clouatre, Kimberly
Cody, Brynn
Conlan, Riley
Cook, Alexis
Cooper, Elizabeth
Cornell, Travis
Corner, Brittany
Crace, Madelyne
Creighton, McKenna
Cupp, Devin
Davis, Christian
Davis, Thomas
Dean, Cassandra
Dean, Darby
Devereaux, Caleb
Dial, Isabelle
Dimmick, Eric
Dixon, Elijah
Doty, Selena
Douma, Brady
Douma, Connor
Draigh, Jonathan
Droski, Katrina
Duhr, Quinne
Duimstra, Jarrett
Eckert, Jayce
Eggleston, Dylan
Eickhoff, Clarellan
Engle, Austin
Ettinger, Ethan
Evink, Mitchell
Fahrmi, Keana
Feeney, Jordan
Fleenor, Geoffrey
Flier, Katelyn
French, Autumn
French, Casey
Fritsma, Joel
Garcia, Josiah
Gordon, Makayla
Greenhoe, Tierney
Gutowski, Jacob
Hackstedt, Joshua
Haff, Mitchell
Halfmann, Hannah
Hancock, Joseph
Hanson, Jacob
Harper, Jenna
Harper, Ryan
Hart, Maria
Higley, Alexis
Hindley, Lindsay
Hoevenaer, Hailey
Hull, Lydia
Inman, James

Jack, McKenzie
Jankowski, Peyton
Jernberg, Dylan
Johnson, Audra
Johnson, Austin W
Johnson, Evan
Johnson, Jade
Johnson, Roman
Johnson, Shelly
Jones, Skyler
Kaminski, Ethan
Kastanek, Abigail
Kehoe, Jonathon
Kelly, Fiona
Kenkel, Haley
Kerkstra, Mitchell
Kleinedler, Rachel
Kolp, Annelise
Kondor, Dawn
Kramer, Kenzington
Kroll, Katherine
Kropf, Emily
Kruse, David
Krzysik, Dakota
Krzysik, Hunter
Kuhns, Elizabeth
Lachowski, Laura
Laird, Alexander
LeFebre, Andrew
Link, Joanna
Lobbezoo, Benjamin
Longway, Cassiopeia
Looman, Chloe
Lubbers, Courtney
Lupton, Avery
Lynch, Tyler
Mangus, Abigail
Martin, Marissa
Massel, Cameron
Mast, Caleb
McDonald, Kelum
McDowell, Abigail
McGee, Cody
McRee, Gabrielle
McVey, Blake
McVey, Rachel
McWayne, Justin
Mellema, Sadie
Miller, Raiden
Minier, Madison
Misak, Samuel
Mitchell, Nichole
Moore, Asher
Mrozinski, Karleigh
Mullins, Benjamin
Nethercott, Eden
Noffke, Ryan
North, MacKenzie
Nugent, Connor
Nugent, Jacob
Nugent, Nicole
O'Strander, Bailey
Oesch, Jeffery
Patrick, Alexander
Paulus, Nicole
Pawlowski, Ryan
Perosky, Grace
Perry, Channing
Plunkett, Justin
Poll, Alexis
Pollock, Austin C
Polsgrove, Morgan
Potter, Macy
Powell, Sydney
Pratt, Garrett
Preston, Nolan
Price, Natalie
Quiggle, Ethan
Rankin, Alec
Ransom, Miah
Rau, Jacob
Read, Devin
Reagan, Theresa
Roberts, Carrie
Roest, Brianna
Ross, Seth
Roth, Evan
Rozell, Roman
Russell, Payton
Russo, Mitchell
Ryan, Lane

Sanders, Brendan
Sawyer, Holton
Schluckbier, Kaelonnie
Schmidt, Chloe
Schwartz, Max
Seese, Drake
Senneker, Kaitlyn
Smithee, Erin
Sparks, Kya
Spencer, Noah
Starkweather, Olivia
Stockreef, Emma
Stump, Kenneth
Summerfield, Megan
Svoboda, Nathaniel
Swain, Caleb
Tavarone, Olivia
Tichelaar, Zachary
Tower, Mitchell
VanAmburgh, Brayden
VandeKopple, Griffin
VanderBoon, Vanessa
VanderMark, Bailey
VanOosten, Jordan
Virsik, Joshua
Whaley, Austin
Whittum, Elyssa
Wilcox, Kaitlin
Wilczewski, Justin
Williams, Jade
Williams, Kaitlynn
Willson, Jarod
Woern, Jason
Worsley, Noah
Wyant, Trenton
Yomtoob, Nathan
Yuhas, Keigan
Zimmerman, Kennedy

GRADE 7

Amante-Dickman, Ethan
Anderson, Adam
Anderson, Karmen
Anderson, Sterling
Andrus, Jordan
Baerwalde, Angela
Barber, Nathan
Barnes, Keagan
Barnhart, Angelica
Barr, Shawn
Barry-Coulier, Hayden
Basinger, Shannon
Battle, Brennan
Bauman, Sela
Beach, Tyus
Beachler, Matthew
Bem, Johanna
Bergin, Jeremy
Bierlein, Delaney
Bileth, Dakota
Bishop, Jacob
Bishop, Maxwell
Blakely, Faith
Bloom, Matthew
Bodemann, Katherine
Boulton, Elijah
Bouman, Trevor
Bowers, Collin
Bramble, Casey
Branagan, Austin
Braybrooks, Majesta
Briggs, Maria
Brooks, Mikayla
Brown, Clayton
Brown, Mitchell
Burt, Madeline
Carey, Elese
Cater, Kyle
Celori, Samantha
Chapin, Emma
Chapman, Brodrick
Chrisman, Autumn
Churches, Colton
Clarke, Ryne
Clemenshaw, Katie
Clouse, Paige
Conard, Sydney
Coxon, Riley
Coyne, Troy
Curtis, Amber
Dalessandro, Nicholas

DeCator, Maria
Dee, Ricky
DeHaan, Paige
DeVito, Samuel
deVoest, Andrew
Dixon, Kyla
Dodde, Sydney
Dollar, Megan
Dommer, Alexander
Doyle, Michael
Dubisky, Robert
Dull, Preston
Endres, Shane
Ergang, Brayden
Falk, Devin
Fezzey, Victoria
Fisher, Edward
Fleszar, Isabelle
Ford-Weber, Callie
Ford-Weber, Rose
Forward, Alise
Fosburg, Paige
Fox, Brady
Frederickson, Laurel
Fuller, Darby
Furtaw, Taylor
Garter, Bridget
Geldersma, Bethany
Godbold, Haley
Grant, Parker
Grasman, Sonja
Green, Abigail
Grile, Elizabeth
Grochowalski, Emily
Guyer, Aliena
Haines, Madeleine
Hall, Megan
Hall, Rebecca
Hawkins, Nathan
Haywood, Brianna
Heffron, Joseph
Heikkila, Edward
Hieftje, Kollin
Higgins, Taylor
Hock, Emily
Hock, Olivia
Hoekstra, Shannon
Holdridge, Kamryn
Holmes, Jacob
Hoseth, Molly
Hubert, Thomas
Hudson, Anderson
Huizinga, Noah
Humphreys, Jerrod
Huston, Henry
Idema, Joshua
Inda, Bailey
James, Jessica
Jamison, Logan
Jeffries, Kara
Jernberg, Danton
Johnson, Savanna
Judd, Eric
Jurmo, Kelsie
Kargl, Jeremy
Kaufman, Caleb
Kelley, Kaitlin
Kline-Scheltmeyer, Harley
Koewers-Tefft, Bailey
Kooistra, Bretton
Korzen, Adam
Ladner, Josie
Landman, Logan
Lane, Aidan
Larson, Jacob
Launer, Clayton
Laux, Zachary
Lezan, Jared
Liddle, Kyle
Lubbers, Kayeleigh
Lynn, Alyssa
MacPherson, Mallori
Majestic, Sara
Malone, Jack
Martinez, Makyla
McCormack, Madison
McDonald, Carsen
McIntire, Alyssa
McLarty, Kenzie
Mears, Alyssa
Melle, Jarrod

Meneghini, Robert
Micho, Tessa
Mierendorf, Aron
Mitchell, Kennedy
Mooney, Nicole
Moore, Daniel
Moore, Skylar
Murray, Austin
Myers, Braden
Nault, Mikayla
Nethercott, Riley
Nietling, Nova
Noffke, Benjamin
Nurmikko, Olivia
Owens, Hunter
Painter, Isabeau
Paiz, Grace
Pantoja, Alicia
Patrick, Lawrence
Peavey, Tiana-Marie
Perry, Nicolas
Perysian, Jayce
Peters, Jasmine
Peterson, Chad
Peterson, Katie
Peterson, Mary
Petricevic, Tiana
Phillips, Remington
Pickens, Caleb
Pickett, Abigail
Pieroni, Zachary
Pontius, Josealyn
Powell, Alexander
Pratt, Jacob
Preston, Griffen
Price, Lisa
Pytlak, Jacquelyn
Quiggle, Lillian
Reagan, Jacob
Reed, Mansel
Reedy, Matthew
Remar, Aiden
Reyes, Eduardo
Reynolds, Andi
Ricards, Gina
Ritchie, Megan
Robinson, Samantha
Roest, Alyssa
Rogalke, John
Roth, Emily
Rozell, Alexander
Russell, Samuel
Schneider, Hayden
Schram, Madisen
Schramm, Braydon
Sheldon, Autumn
Sheppard, Gabrielle
Sherman, Trevor
Siciliano, Devon
Simpson, Courteney
Slagell, Brevon
Smit, Brandon
Smith, Amber
Smith, Benjamin
Smith, Landon
Smith, Logan
Smithee, Connor
Sobie, Caleb
Solomonson, Sage
Spliedt, Anthony
Steinebach, Hana
Stephens, Madison
Stephens, Nathan
Stewart, Benjamin
Stoffers, Bradley
Striplin, Kayleigh
Sturgeon, Mason
Swanson, Evan
Taylor, Garret
Taylor, Hailey
Thompson, Jakob
Thomson, Fiona
Travis, Patrick
Trierweiler, Donald
Tripp, Steven
Truba, Nickolas
Underwood, Jacob
VandenHout, Sydney
VanderMeulen, Logan
VanDyke, Trevor
VanTil, Nicholas

Vulpetti, Annina
Wade, John
Walters, Sara
Wenger, Corrina
Weston, Zachary
White, Lauren
Whittum, Nathan
Wilcox, Kodie
Williams, Maya
Winn, Sophia
Wosinski, Jacob
Wroten, Kendra
Ysseldyke, Rowan

GRADE 8

Aalsburg, Maya
Anderson, Keara
Bailey, Shelley
Bancroft, Riley
Barnes, Anastasia
Barrett, Jessica
Bates, Ethan
Bell, Kyle
Bennett, Baylee
Bessey, Jenna
Bishop, Elena
Bramer, Leah
Brenner, Amanda
Briggs, Dean
Brim, Katerina
Brooks, Paige
Browning, Lauren
Brzezniak, Jared
Campbell, Ethan
Carr, Sarah
Cazier, Jason
Chappell, Alina
Coble, Elle
Commire, Grace
Cooke, Jack
Cooper, Matthew
Copeyon, Logan
Dean, Zeth
Dec, Sarah
Delgado, Veronica
Depew, Bradley
Dickson, Billy
Dickson, Elizabeth
Doane, Tyler
Duvernay, Hannah
Emelander, Madison
Emmanuel, Kelsey
Engels, Haley Jo
Fotis, Rachael
Fox, Rachel
Frederickson, Alexis
Gable, Eric
Gaskin, Madison
Geiger, Dylan
Gerig, Abigail
Grim, Austin
Grohman, Addison
Grover, Kyrsten
Guinn, Kellen
Gustafson, Greta
Haefner, Katie
Haehnel, Brandon
Hamilton, Autumn
Harper, Cameron
Havlik, Jessica
Hawley, Sylvia
Hemingsen, Seth
Hess, Mary
Hessler, Ryan
Hewitt, Victoria
Hoffman, Hayden
Holloway, Maranda
Huber, Lance
Hull, Talitha
Huver, McKenzie
Jakubiak, Aaron
Johnson, Graham
Kaminski, Madison
Karns, Reece
Khodl, Megan
Kline, Joseph
Kloosterman, Nicholas
Kloosterman, Sara
Kole, Kayla
Kopecek, Kalie
Koster, Mallory
Kramer, Hunter
Kruse, Daniel
Laird, Allyson
Litchfield, Anna
Majinska, Maxwell
Maksymetz, Claire
Mankel, Kyle
Marks, Adam
Marks, Marilla
Massey, Brianna
Massey, Derek
Maughan, Jarett
Maxim, Brett
Mayhew, Sarah
McGee, Collin
McGillicuddy, Bryndal
McMillian, Hensley
McQueen, Jennifer
Mexicano, Diana
Mierendorf, Evan
Misak, Richard
Misiak, Mason
Mixon, Jordan
Moomau, Aleecia
Morris, Ellinor
Murley, Karson
Mutschler, Shelby
Nauta, Garrett
Nelson, Erica
Nies, Abigail
Noskey, Carter
Olesko, Sawyer
Paiz, Alexander
Pallottini, Ashton
Paulus, Brendan
Peckham, Alyssa
Peterson, Liam
Petrovich, Samantha
Philo, Cameron
Pollock, Anthony
Richards, Brittany
Richardson, Tess
Ritchie, Tyler
Ritsema, Hannah
Rodriguez, Adrian
Roest, Trevor
Rogers, Corynn
Roscoe, KaRaeFreeman
Roth, Noah
Rowley, Isaiah
Schmidt, Courtney
Schuitema, Sara
Serbenta, Ashley
Shurlow, Trevor
Sleeman, Anna
Smit, Austin
Smith, Madison
Sprague, Jacob
Stedman, Anthony
Steed, Gabriel
Stevens, Ryan
Stickney, Austin
Stockreef, Allyson
Struckmeyer, Andrew
Sutton, Hayden
Talalay, Joshua
Taylor, Katie
Thalison, Carter
Tyler, Valerie
Urban, Jamie-Lynn
VandenBerg, Micaela
VanderMark, Courtney
VanDerWarf, Kenneth
VanErk, Morgan
VanLaan, Breanna
Vescolani, Isabella
Warning, Calvin
Washburn, Kyle
Watson, Courtney
Webster, Amanda
Weed, Douglas
Weeks, Donelle
Wester, Rylee
Whitsett, Brian
Wilson, Faith
Wilterdink, Sarena
Wittenbach, Morgan
Worsley, Christian
Yates, North
Ysasi, Alysia
Ziomkowski, Mallory

LASSO U13 boys play championship game

The LASSO U13 boys took a two-win one-loss record in to the championship game in Traverse City on Sunday, May 20, at the Cherry Capital Cup tournament. They battled hard against RSC Lightning Gold who entered the game with two wins and a tie. The boys lost 2-1 in what was a great game, that was played in 94 degree heat, to finish as second place finalist.

LASSO had seven teams competing in the tournament that weekend.

college news

Rochelle Bieri graduated cum laude from the University of Detroit Mercy, receiving a Bachelor of Science in nursing. She is a 2008 graduate of Lowell High School and the daughter of Chris and Mary Jo Bieri of Ada.



Pictured, back row, right to left: head coach Pat Heffron, Adam Korzen, Jacob Holmes, Robbie Dubisky, Sam Hofman, Riley Coxon, Jonah Epema, Kyle Cater, Aiden Remar, Ben Noffke, and assistant coach Curtis Cater; front row, right to left: Nick Chambers, Logan Landman, Trevor Sherman, Landon Smith, Logan Smith, Jay Stadt, and Larry Patrick III.

business matters



Aric L. Salgat, C.P.A. and shareholder was appointed managing partner for Biggs, Hausserman, Thompson and Dickinson PC (BHT&D, PC) for 2012.

A partner in BHT&D PC since 2006, Aric is highly respected for his extensive knowledge in business tax and advisory services and related individual income tax issues. Aric joined BHT&D PC in 1995 as a member of the business services department and rapidly became a leader within the firm.

Established in 1971 in Saranac, BHT&D PC, CPAs is a full service accounting,



Aric L. Salgat

tax and management advisory firm that has been providing services to individuals and businesses throughout West Michigan for over 40 years. The firm expanded to a second office in Ada, in

2003. BHT&D PC provides services to businesses and individuals in a wide scope of industries from the family farm, to manufacturing and building contractors, health care providers and attorneys.



Biggs, Hausserman, Thompson and Dickinson, PC, (BHT&D PC) a certified public accounting firm in Saranac and Ada, is pleased to announce Joseph M. Turnes, C.P.A. as a new shareholder as of January 1, 2012.

During his 15 years with the firm, Joe has contributed significantly to the growth of the firm through his role as manager of the tax department and his expertise in providing high-quality tax services to the agricultural clients.

Joseph M. Turnes

"Consider the rights of others before your own feelings and the feelings of others before your own rights."

~ John Wooden

Projected trust fund exhaustion three years sooner than last year

The Social Security Board of Trustees released its annual report on the financial health of the Social Security Trust Funds. The combined assets of the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) Trust Funds will be exhausted in 2033, three years sooner than projected last year. The DI Trust Fund will be exhausted in 2016, two years earlier than last year's estimate.

In the 2012 Annual Report to Congress, the Trustees announced:

The projected point at which the combined Trust Funds will be exhausted comes in 2033 – three years sooner than projected last year. At that time, there will be sufficient non-interest

income coming in to pay about 75 percent of scheduled benefits.

Over the 75-year period, the Trust Funds would require additional revenue equivalent to \$8.6 trillion in present value dollars to pay all scheduled benefits.

Other highlights of the Trustees Report include:

During 2011, an estimated 158 million people had earnings covered by Social Security and paid payroll taxes.

Social Security paid benefits of \$725 billion in calendar year 2011. There were about 55 million beneficiaries at the end of the calendar year.

The cost of \$6.4 billion to administer the program in 2011 was a very low 0.9 per-

cent of total expenditures.

The combined Trust Fund assets earned interest at an effective annual rate of 4.4 percent in 2011.

The 2012 Trustees Report is posted at www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/TR/2012/.

Rasch Farm Market

Strawberries

New Location!

2730 Alden Nash NE
(Between Witt's Inn & 3 Mile)

**CALL FOR AVAILABILITY IN
CASE WE ARE STILL RIPENING**

(616) 897-8212

CITY OF LOWELL


KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF ADOPTION AND SUMMARY OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2.20, "DEFINITIONS – V," OF CHAPTER 2, "DEFINITIONS," SECTION 12.03, "SPECIAL LAND USES," OF CHAPTER 12, "C-3 GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT," SECTION 13.02, "USES PERMITTED BY RIGHT," OF CHAPTER 13, "I-INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT," AND SECTION 17.04, "SITE DESIGN STANDARDS," OF CHAPTER 17, "SPECIAL LAND USES," OF "APPENDIX A-ZONING ORDINANCE" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LOWELL

The Lowell City Council adopted Ordinance No. 12-03 amending Section 2.20, "Definitions – V," of Chapter 2, "Definitions," Section 12.03, "Special land uses," of Chapter 12, "C-3 General Business District," Section 13.02, "Uses permitted by right," of Chapter 13, "I-Industrial District," and Section 17.04, "Site design standards," of Chapter 17, "Special land uses," of "Appendix A-Zoning Ordinance" of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell on June 4, 2012. Ordinance No. 12-03 defines "vehicle towing service," permits it as a special land use in a C-3 General Business District and as a use permitted by right in an I-Industrial District and describes the standards to be applied to such use.

Ordinance No. 12-03 is effective 10 days after this publication.

Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk



obituaries

MALCOLM

Stella Malcolm, age 89 of Lowell, passed away Saturday, June 09, 2012. She was preceded in death by her husband, Howard. She is survived by her children, Leone Rhoades, James Malcolm, Jerry (Laurie) Malcolm, Tony (Candis) Malcolm, Howard Jr. (Connie) Malcolm; many grand and great grandchildren; also several nieces and nephews. Stella's family would like



to thank everyone at Trillium Woods (Faith Hospice) for the wonderful care given to our mother, grandmother and to our family. Funeral service was held Monday, June 11, 2012 at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell. Memorial contributions may be made to Faith Hospice, 2100 Raybrook SE Suite 300 Grand Rapids, MI 49546-5783 or VFW Post 3023, 1535 Monroe NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49505.



To travel hopefully is a better thing than to arrive.
~ Robert Louis Stevenson (1850 - 1894)

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF LOWELL REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR OF MSHDA GRANT(S)

The City of Lowell is publishing a Request for Proposals from interested consultants to provide professional assistance in applying for and administering a Rental Rehabilitation Program Grant using Community Development Block Grant funds from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority. The Rental Rehabilitation Program Grant assists in the rehabilitation and /or creation of residential units, with 51% of the units available for tenants with incomes at or below 80% of area median income. All property owners in the Downtown Development Authority District are considered potential applicants and given an equal opportunity to participate. A copy of the RFP is available under Public Notices section of the City web site.

All questions regarding this RFP should be directed to:
Mark Howe, City Manager
City of Lowell
301 East Main Street
Lowell, MI 49331
Tel: (616) 897-8457
mhowe@ci.lowell.mi.us

To be considered, a proposal must be received at the City Manager's office on or before 3:00 p.m. LOCAL TIME on June 22, 2012.



MILLER

Lucy Miller nee Manoogian, aged 92, of Grand Rapids, went to be with the Lord on May 19, 2012. She was surrounded by her family. Lucy was preceded in death by sister, Doris Jones; brother, Jack Manoogian; and parents, Agnes and Avedis Manoogian who were Armenian refugees. She is survived by her husband of 71 years, Ferris G. Miller (formerly of Lowell); children, Jerry P. Miller, Bonnie J. Miller, Karen M. (Michael) Silverstein, Judy L. Moon; grandson, Corey N. Moon; also other relatives and many friends. Lucy was a loving and devoted mother and wife, an active volunteer with the PTA, church, Fallasburg Historical Society, Fallasburg Art Festival, and many other organizations. She was a member of St. Andrews Episcopal Church. According to her wishes, cremation has taken place. A memorial service was held on Saturday, May 26 at St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 1025 Three Mile Rd., Grand Rapids, MI. Father Mike Fedewa officiating. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions to the Mary and Martha Fund of Beacon Hill at Eastgate or to the St. Andrews Memorial Fund at St. Andrews Episcopal Church. The family is very grateful to the staff at Beacon Hill at Eastgate and Odyssey Hospice for their wonderful and tender loving care to Lucy.

PATTERSON

Helen M. Patterson passed away on Wednesday, June 06, 2012, at the age of 82. Born May 20, 1930, in Eureka, Michigan. She was the daughter of Frank and Arvilla (Miller) Robinson. Helen married Clinton L. Patterson on April 20, 1947, in Burton, Michigan and he preceded her in death on July 3, 1976. Helen is survived by her children, Harry (Martha) Patterson of Jusup, GA, Sarah (Morrice) Noonan of Elsie, Betty (Duane) Saylor of Bannister, Barry (Bridget) Patterson of Harrison, Julie (Mike) Worden of Sheridan; 17 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; special nephew, Mark Black; many other nieces, nephews; daughter-in-law, Lynne Patterson; and sister-in-law, Glenna Patterson. She was also preceded in death by her parents; son, Perry Patterson; and grandchildren, Tracey Saylor and Michael Worden, Jr. As per Helen's wishes, she was cremated and the family will hold a memorial service at a later date. The family is being served by the Osgood Funeral Homes.

In Memory of BOYD NOVISKEY and LINDA SCOTT

If tears could build a stairway
And memories were a lane
We would walk right up to heaven
And bring you back again

No farewell words were spoken
No time to say goodbye
You were gone before we knew it
And only God knows why

Our hearts still ache in sadness
And secret tears still flow
What it meant to lose you
No one can ever know

Since you'll never be forgotten
We pledge to you today
A hallowed place within our hearts
Is where you'll always stay

You are sadly missed by your family
Marion, Larry, Danielle and
Linda's devoted pet dog Lizzie

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 12-192227-DE

Estate of SHIRLEY
LOIS BROCK. Date of
birth: August 4, 1932.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Shirley Lois Brock, died May 19, 2012.

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

06/06/2012

Daniel L. Blauw, PLC
Sarah Kirkpatrick (P69452)
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DeLiefde named May Staff Member of the Month

Murray Lake third grade teacher Mary Helen DeLiefde was named May's Staff Member of the Month. DeLiefde and her husband, Bill; have two adult children, James and Rebecca; who both graduated from Lowell High School. James is currently an environmental engineer and Becky recently graduated from Bethel College with a Bachelor of Science in nursing.

DeLiefde recently announced that she is retiring from Lowell schools after teaching at Cherry Creek Elementary and Murray Lake for a combined 16 years.

"Mary Helen deserves

this award for all the years she has loved and given so much, not only to her students, but also to her parents and staff around her. I am going to miss her!" commented first grade teacher Karen Eldridge.

DeLiefde says, "Teaching is a rewarding profession because every day is different. Teachers are greeted daily by enthusiastic students who are eager to learn about the world around them. It's a privilege getting [to] know their minds and hearts and watching them develop into lifelong learners. Experiencing the "ah ha" moments is so

delightful. When teachers witness their students making connections and learning something new, it is a beautiful thing. These moments are the most rewarding and make teaching so enjoyable. I am truly going to miss the kids, parents and staff members, but I am also looking forward to spending more time with my family in my retirement."

When DeLiefde isn't working, she enjoys volunteering, reading, cooking, traveling, camping, fishing, and hiking. She will have much more time for these hobbies in retirement.



EARTH TALK™

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk: How do I learn about what pesticides may be on the food I eat?

-- Beatrice Olson, Cleveland, OH

Along with the rise in the popularity of organic food has come an increased awareness about the dangers lurking on so-called "conventionally produced" (that is, with chemical pesticides and fertilizers) foods.

"There is a growing consensus in the scientific community that small doses of pesticides and other chemicals can have adverse effects on health, especially during vulnerable periods such as fetal development and childhood," reports author and physician Andrew Weil, a leading voice for so-called integrative medicine combining conventional and alternative medical practices. He adds that keeping one's family healthy isn't the only reason to avoid foods produced using chemical inputs: "Pesticide and herbicide use contaminates groundwater, ruins soil structures and promotes erosion, and may be a contributor to 'colony collapse disorder', the sudden and mysterious die-off of pollinating honeybees that threatens the American food supply."

In general, fruits and vegetables with an outer layer of skin or rind that can be peeled and discarded are the safest in terms of pesticide residues. Most pesticides are sprayed on the outside of produce. So if you are going to toss the rind of that cantaloupe, you might as well save money and buy a conventional version. But a red pepper would be a different story: For those items consider it money well spent to go organic.

The non-profit Environmental Working Group (EWG) lists a "dirty dozen" of fruits and vegetables with the highest pesticide load so that consumers know to look for organic varieties of them when possible. The dirty dozen are: apples, celery, strawberries, peaches, spinach, nectarines, grapes, sweet bell peppers, potatoes, blueberries, lettuce and kale/collard greens.

Another non-profit working hard to raise awareness about pesticide residues on foods is the Pesticide Ac-

tion Network (PAN). The group's recently launched website and accompanying iPhone app called "What's On My Food" helps consumers know specifically which pesticide residues are likely ending up on their foods (and in their bloodstreams). In creating the database, PAN linked pesticide food residue data with the toxicology for each chemical and made the combined information easily searchable. "Pesticides are a public health problem requiring public engagement to solve," the group reports, adding that "What's On My Food" can be an important tool in raising awareness.

While the website version of "What's On My Food" is helpful for advance planning, the iPhone app is handy while plying the supermarket produce aisles to help decide whether to go for organic vegetables or stick with the cheaper conventional ones. For instance, the database shows that conventionally grown collard greens likely contains residues of some 46 different chemicals including nine known/probable carcinogens, 25 suspected hormone disruptors, 10 neurotoxins and eight developmental/reproductive toxins — not to mention 25 different compounds known to be harmful to honeybees. Spending a little quality time on the website or app is enough to drive anyone to more organic food purchasing.

CONTACTS: Andrew Weil, www.drweil.com; PAN, www.whatsonmyfood.org; EWG, www.ewg.org.



Dear EarthTalk: One of the objections to wind power has been that the turbines can kill birds. Has there been some progress in developing bird-friendly wind power?

-- Marcie Mahoney, Boston, MA

Bird collisions have been one of the primary negatives of the recent growth in wind power across the United States and beyond. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) estimates that almost a half million birds are killed each year in the U.S. by wind turbines. "Birds can die in collisions with the turbine blades, towers, power lines, or related structures, and can also be impacted through habitat destruction from the siting of turbines, power lines, and

access roads," the non-profit American Bird Conservancy reports. "Some birds, such as sage-grouse, are particularly sensitive to the presence of turbines, and can be scared away from their breeding grounds several miles away from a wind development."

In response to this growing problem, the USFWS released new federal guidelines in March 2012 for land-based wind developers trying to avoid or minimize impacts to birds and their habitats. The guidelines are voluntary at this point, but U.S. wind developers interested in a smoother ride through various permitting processes and the blessing of environmental groups — several were consulted extensively in drawing up the new guidelines — are doing their best to make their designs and implementations comply.

The federal government's 22-member Wind Turbine Guidelines Advisory Committee, which included experts from the National Audubon Society, Nature Conservancy, Defenders of Wildlife, Massachusetts Audubon and Bat Conservation International, developed the guidelines. Committee members report they are optimistic that the new guidelines provide a path to better protection for birds and their habitats.

"The guidelines steer wind turbines away from vital habitat... and toward land already marked by development," says David Yarnold, National Audubon's President. "They give the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service a place at the table for siting decisions; they help protect sites with high potential risk for birds; and they minimize habitat fragmentation." He adds that the guidelines are based on the best available science and "provide a roadmap to better bird protections across each of America's four great flyways."

Audubon pushed to ensure that the guidelines address habitat fragmentation, one of the biggest potential impacts of wind development on birds. Wind developers that cooperate with the guidelines will avoid dividing important habitats like forests and grasslands, thus maintaining their suitability for wildlife.

"These first-ever federal guidelines are a game-changer and big win for both wildlife and clean energy," says Yarnold. "By collaborating with conservationists instead of slugging it out, the wind power industry gains vital support to expand and create jobs, and wildlife gets the protection crucial for survival."

For its part, the American Bird Conservancy would like to take the voluntary out of the guidelines and instead require wind developers to comply. The group recently filed a petition with the U.S. Department of the Interior calling for mandatory rules protecting millions of birds from the negative impacts of wind energy and rewarding responsible wind energy development.

CONTACTS: National Audubon, www.audubon.org; USFWS "Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines," www.fws.gov/windenergy/docs/WEG_final.pdf; American Bird Conservancy, www.abcbirds.org.

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**THEME:
FATHER'S DAY**

ACROSS

1. A woman of refinement
6. *He made it an official holiday in 1966
9. Locus, pl.
13. Italian friends
14. Promissory note
15. It's twirled and thrown
16. Opposite of unravel
17. Beaver construction
18. Teamsters, e.g.
19. *Royal father
21. *Father to Sasha and Malia
23. Trifecta, e.g.
24. "The _____ Show" (1976-1980)
25. _____ Lanka
28. God of thunder
30. Mouth infection, mostly in infants
35. Arising from trunk
37. Wading bird
39. Spanish saint
40. UN civil aviation agency
41. Cheat or trick
43. One on a list
44. Mulled wine
46. Poet Pound
47. It meanders through Egypt
48. Small cave
50. Boys
52. Corn piece
53. High-strung
55. Signature substance
57. Russian truth
60. *Sofia Coppola's dad
64. Unit of electrical energy
65. North American country

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When submitting your opinion to Sound Off!, we ask you to follow a few guidelines.

Sound Off! is meant to be a way for you to compliment or vent your feelings with civility. A healthy way to get something off your chest or spread a little kindness.

We welcome your comments, with or without signatures, but signing your name to your comment does increase the odds of seeing it in print. Threatening or deliberately cruel comments will not be accepted and, of course, no advertising a product or service please.

So basically, submit anything - but not everything will make it to print.

The Ledger reserves the right to choose what is printed, and reminds the public that views expressed in Sound Off!, unless otherwise stated, are not the opinions of The Ledger staff or its publishers.

Congratulations to the 2012 summa cum laude seniors. My question is - Such a vast number, doesn't that diminish the honor? I always thought that s just meant the top couple, not 30 students.

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67. "Moulin _____!"
68. It starred Sigourney Weaver
69. Defective firework
70. Craze
71. Japanese money, pl.
72. "Oui" in English
73. Cubic meter

- DOWN**
1. *Dad to J. Lo's twins
 2. Wet nurse
 3. Mariah Carey, e.g.?
 4. Sour
 5. Cereal grain
 6. Hats
 7. Flapper's accessory
 8. Huge or giant
 9. Legendary actress Turner
 10. Ear-related
 11. One who hangs in the galley
 12. Weary traveler's welcome spot
 15. Borough in Scotland
 20. Principal of right and wrong
 22. The little one "stopped to tie his shoe"
 24. Salmon lover
 25. David's weapon of choice
 26. Kind of potato masher
 27. Idealized image
 29. Bassoon cousin
 31. Golfer's disdain

32. Unlace
33. Commemorative stone slab
34. *Dad to Lisa, Bart and Maggie
36. Round of influenza, e.g.
38. "Que sera _____"
42. Rock bottom
45. *Liv's "judging" dad
49. Not divisible by two
51. Pilsers
54. Tasteless and flashy
56. Type of whip
57. There's one north and one south
58. Downfall
59. A in IPA, pl.
60. Bell-bottoms or Chia Pets, e.g.
61. Antibiotic to infection, e.g.
62. Composer Stravinsky
63. Withered
64. *Head of "Modern Family"
66. Famous T-Rex

Puzzle solutions on page 12

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JUNE 6 - JUNE 12

- NBA playoffs begin between the Miami Heat and the Oklahoma Thunder.
- The Los Angeles Kings beat the New Jersey Devils to win the Stanley Cup.
- The trial against accused child molester and former Penn State assistant coach Jerry Sandusky begins.
- What started out as a two-acre wildfire in Colorado is continuing to grow. Homes are being evacuated as some 20,000 acres have burned, authorities said.
- After 32 years, an Australian coroner has officially ruled that in 1980 a dingo really did eat her 9-week old baby. The mother, Lindy Chamberlain, was wrongfully imprisoned back then and it was one of the most famous missing child cases in history.



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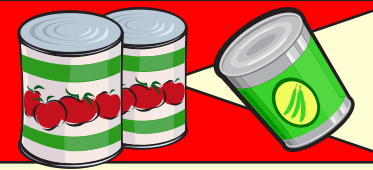
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