

auction results



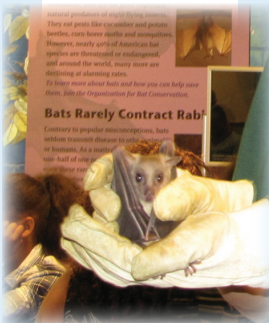
page 8

football season begins



page 11

batty



page 16

page 16

50 CENTS



Youth fair creates lifelong memories



Patchwork band played some bluegrass music.

by Emma Palova

The 2012 fair days are gone, but they have created unforgettable memories for exhibitors and visitors.

Some walked away from the fair with ribbons, others without money, spent on food, rides and auctions.

All in all it was a great fair, according to the organizers.

"The fair is all about having fun making lifelong memories," said fair secretary Bruce Doll.

For many participants, the fair week is the best week of the year.

More than 1,200 youth showed their still exhibit projects, including photography, sewing and duct tape creations. The teams got really creative with

this year's fair theme, "The Bounty of Kent County," as shown in the post office and sheriff's still exhibits.

"These kids spent most of the year working on their projects," said Doll.

During the fair, there are more than 75 different events where the kids show their projects.

The fun was for everyone, no matter the taste. From "My Adventure Theater" with Shelly Smith and her pirates and monkeys to chain saw carving, bluegrass and tractor pulls.

The weather was perfect for the Reading for Rides program on Tuesday.

Fair memories, continued, page 9

Agreements for park use approved by city

by Emma Palova

The Lowell City Council has approved park use agreements with YMCA and Youth Football.

Both organizations will continue to pay a user fee of \$5 per participant. However, for next year the fee will increase to \$7.50 per participant.

The organizations have to carry a \$2 million liability insurance according to the agreement.

In other business, the city council reviewed the ordinance that allows bow hunting in the city limits.

Park use, continued, page 2

Harpfest a serenade for the soul this week

by Emma Palova

This year's Harpfest will take place at the Franciscan Life Process Center on Friday and Saturday.

The theme "A Serenade for the Soul" explores the spiritual nature of the harp with Rhett Barnwell and soprano Lindsey Perrault.

"We would like to expose the people to the harp," said Sister Mary Margaret Delaski.

The Harpfest started as a wish of a donor to promote the harp program at the center. The Harpfest workshop is in its fourth year.

"It's getting bigger," said Delaski. "We have participation of great artists from different parts of the country."

The concert for the public is at 7:30 p.m. on Friday with the music of Bach, Jean Sibelius, Marcel Grandjany and many more. The tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door.

Barnwell will perform among other tunes, Bouree, from Cello Suite No.3 by Bach; as well as a Welsh hymn tune and an Appalachian Folk Hymn.

Barnwell has concentrated on music for healing, sacred and meditative purposes. He has played for numerous events in churches, hospices, nursing homes and hospitals.

Barnwell has given concerts throughout the U.S., Canada, Australia and Europe.

Harpfest, continued, page 3

Lowell to celebrate as Showboat turns 80



It will be a party like no other, celebrating the 80th birthday of the Showboat on Aug. 23 at 7 pm.

On the last night of the Sizzlin' Summer concert, there will be endmen and an interlocutor, Ron Wood, acting also as the master of ceremonies.

Alive & Well will perform that night with Roger MacNaughton. There will be crowd sing-

a-longs with some of the old Showboat tunes, as well as door prizes of Showboat memorabilia.

And the lighting of the birthday cake will take place on top of the Showboat. Also, video monitors on the Showboat will have slideshows from the past.

Alive & Well were one of the acts on the Showboat in the early 1980s.

"We grew up with

the Showboat," said MacNaughton. "We're going to have the biggest, most fun evening of all times."

That night will be an opportunity to relive some of the history of Lowell tied with the Showboat.

"It will be a great night, sort of a double whammy," said MacNaughton, a member of Alive & Well.

Park use, continued

The ordinance was passed in 2009 and it is subject to review every three years.

“It is the intent to follow state laws that supercede everything in the ordinance,”

said mayor Jim Hodges.

According to statistics, there has been a drop in car/

deer accidents in the city limits.

“I’d rather we work

with the DNR and do something for the city,” said councilmember Andrew Schrauben. “I don’t see this helping the city as a whole. We’re taking a stab in the dark. Alright, no one got hurt let’s continue.”

It has been the concern of some city residents that deer consume vegetation and flowers in landscapes.

The city council has also improved a contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation for milling and resurfacing of a portion of Bowes Road.

The project totals \$344,000 in Federal Surface Transportation Funds and a local match of \$85,700 budgeted from the Major Streets Fund.

The project is slated for completion in 2014.

MichWave Technologies

will be using the space on the city-owned tower on Shepard Drive. MichWave purchased the equipment from Red Frog Technologies. The term of the contract is for one year at a rate of \$200 per month.

The city may renegotiate the contract in one year after looking at costs.

Grants have been dispersed from the Look Memorial Fund for a total amount of \$54,268. Among the various recipients were WLHS for TV upgrades, the historical museum, the Lowell Arts and the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce for tents and tables, as well as the Lowell Area Recreation Authority.

The city council gave a special event permit to Pink Arrow Quiver 5K Walk/Run on the city streets and Riverwalk on Sept. 4.

Lowell Fire Department receives “heatseekers”

Global Vision Eyewear, a Byron Center business specializing in motorcycle and safety glasses, presented the Lowell Fire Department with a device known as the Heatseeker last Saturday.

The “Heatseeker” is a device that attaches to the truck’s pump and sprays out a mist that will cool the core body temperature down 15 degrees by simply walking through it.

It was invented by Tennessee firefighter Mike Robinson who, after realizing that most firefighter related injuries were due to overheating, wanted to help out his fellow fighters.

Robinson discovered a way to cool down firefighters after leaving a burning building. After his invention, he was recognized by Popular Science Magazine as one of the most innovative inventors of 2012. Later, he came out with a K-9 unit mister, to help cool off patrol dogs; as well as sporting misters, to cool off athletes in the heat.

Now, over a dozen departments in seven states use this technology, helping their firefighters beat the heat. For more information visit www.firegroundrehab.com



Lowell fire chief Frank Martin with Global Vision employee Andrew Reed.



along main street

...
"No one ever finds life worth living—he has to make it worth living."
~ Unknown

SHOWBOAT PICTURES REQUESTED

The Lowell Area Historical Museum is requesting pictures of the Showboat from the 50s, 60s and 70s. The Showboat’s 80th birthday celebration will be August 23 at the Sizzlin’ Summer Concert. A special exhibit with the history of the Showboat with pictures will be available for viewing. We can make a copy of your original photo to complete this exhibit. Call the museum at 897-7688 if you have any questions.

BATS OF THE WORLD

Step into the exciting and mysterious world of bats, with the Organization for Bat Conservation at the Wittenbach/Wege Center on Tuesday, August 21st. This presentation is sponsored by Critter Catchers Inc. of southeastern Michigan. For more information e-mail mjohnson@lowellschools.com or call 616-987-2565.

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.

JUNIOR MASTER GARDENERS AT FARMERS' MARKET

The Lowell Junior Master Gardeners will be selling their produce at the Lowell Farmer’s Market on Thursday Aug. 16 from 12:30-6 pm. Everything is fresh picked and raised organically in the community garden at the Wittenbach/Wege Center. All proceeds will benefit the Lowell Junior Master program.

AUDITIONS

LowellArts! and ThebesPlayers will present the comedy thriller, “A Tomb with a View” at Larkin’s Other Place in late October. Director Brent Alles is seeking four adult males and six females for roles. Auditions will be held at Englehardt Public Library, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell, on Wednesday, Aug. 22, from 6-8 pm and Saturday, Aug. 25, from 11am -1:30 pm. For a sample script, stop by LowellArts! during regular business hours Tuesday through Friday, 10 am-6 pm. Scripts will also be available at the auditions. For more information call LowellArts! at (616) 897-8545 or visit their website: www.lowellartsmi.org

Financing for whatever moves you.

Deborah A Wilks
State Farm Agent
Lowell, MI 49331
Bus: 616-897-9237
deborah.wilks.pwmq@statefarm.com

AS LOW AS
3.74%
APR

From cars to trucks and motorcycles to RVs, let State Farm Bank® finance or refinance all your vehicles. Call me today for more information on our competitive rates.

STATE FARM Bank
INSURANCE

*Annual Percentage Rate (APR) as of 04/27/11. Subject to credit approval and other requirements. The rate you receive may be higher. Advertised rates are subject to change at the Bank's discretion. Some products and services may not be available in all service areas.

P096010 State Farm Bank • Home Office: Bloomington, IL

We want to be your Other Family Doctor.

- Sick or Injured Animals Seen Same Day
- Evenings & Saturday Hours Available
- Early Drop-offs & House Calls
- 24-Hour Emergency Service
- Science Diet Pet Foods
- Boarding & Grooming

ANIMAL HOSPITAL OF LOWELL

Call 897-8484
11610 East Fulton Street • Lowell, Michigan

LOWELL

WE ACCEPT

MasterCard

VISA

Phone Orders Welcome

Lowell Ledger
897-9261

the lowell ledger

(USPS 453-830)

Published weekly for \$22⁰⁰ a year for zip codes beginning with 493 or 495 \$32⁰⁰ a year any other zip code.

Deadline for display advertising is Friday at Noon
Deadline for classified advertising is Monday at 5 pm

JON JACOBSPUBLISHER
JEANNE BOSS.....EDITOR
EMMA PALOVA.....LEAD REPORTER
TAMMY JANOWIAK.....CLASSIFIED/ACCOUNTING
JON JACOBS.....ADVERTISING SALES

(616) 897-9261

E-Mail: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com
Second Class Postage Paid at Lowell, MI
Published every Wednesday
POSTMASTER: Send address change to:
The Lowell Ledger
P.O. Box 128 • Lowell, MI 49331
www.lowellbuyersguide.com

Patio parties raise over \$1000 for FROM

by Karen Jack

Friday wasn't the typical patio party due to rain, but Mike Larkin made the decision to bring the band inside and continue the tradition of the Friday night patio parties as they have had for the past five Fridays.

Born out of an idea by

manager Deb Apol who was trying to figure out how they could add to the FROM Food Fight, these fundraisers have raised over \$1000, where each week they sell prize tickets in which 100 percent of the money raised goes directly to Flat River Outreach Ministries

(FROM). The prizes mostly come from Mike Larkin's stash of antique mirrors he's collected over the years and from some of their distributors.

This past Friday was the most they've made since starting them. That's due, in part, by the entertainment

for the night, Whiskey Three + E.B. The band donated the money they earned for playing right back to FROM because they have always been big supporters of the program. They also made a donation jar and asked people to give more throughout the night.

Whiskey Three + E.B. do not formally play anywhere and just play for special events, such as fundraisers like these. "It's important that we keep giving, because so many people benefit from the services of FROM," said Craig Urban, one of the band members.

Whiskey Three + E.B. is a band of four members, including Urban and Mike Novy, who are both business owners, Mark Post who is an architect and Eric Bredin, a Cherry Creek Elementary teacher. They also do another fundraiser each year at

Larkin's Other Place, where they invite their friends only and raise thousands for FROM

Owner Mike Larkin is happy to do this. "I think it's important as a business owner, we give back to the community. FROM reaches so many people that I'm glad we can make these donations to them," said Larkin.

There are three more Friday night patio parties scheduled, with the last one being the Friday of Labor Day and they will continue to raise money for FROM at those as well.

Greater transparency on student achievement highlights statewide report cards available online

Over 280 schools in Michigan have been designated as Reward Schools for either high student achievement or making tremendous progress in student achievement, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) announced today.

Reward Schools is one of three new school designations that came as the result of Michigan receiving flexibility to the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act from the U.S. Department of Education.

"We applaud the hard work and achievement of the educators and students in our Reward Schools because they are zeroed in on improving learning," said state Superintendent of Public Instruction Mike Flanagan. "We need to instill that goal in so many more schools, in order to help all kids be career- and college-ready and successful in life."

Reward Schools include the top five percent of schools on the annual Top-to-Bottom ranking of all Michigan schools, and the top five percent of schools making the greatest academic progress over the previous four years. The 286 Reward Schools are located in 178 different school districts across the state. Schools that will be identified later this fall as Beating the Odds schools also will be deemed Reward Schools.

The schools that need to improve their attention on student learning include the 146 Priority Schools (previously known as Persistently Lowest Achieving schools), and the 358 Focus Schools that have wide achievement gaps between the various student populations.

"We believe that teachers in the classrooms every day have important responsibilities and they work tirelessly to help students learn," Flanagan said. "We will help the schools and teachers that need support to meet the unique needs of every student who depends on them."

Priority Schools are those in the bottom five percent of the annual Top-to-Bottom ranking, and any high school with a graduation rate of less than 60 percent for three consecutive years. As required under state law, Flanagan has placed Priority Schools under the authority of the State School Reform Office and the schools will be required to implement an intervention model to improve student achievement.

If any Priority School does not implement its intervention model and make substantial growth in student learning, it faces the opportunity of being placed in the statewide Education Achievement Authority (EAA) school system.

The 146 Priority Schools are located in 49 different school districts.

Under the recently-approved NCLB flexibility request, an achievement gap is calculated for all Michigan schools identifying the unique gap between the highest and lowest 30 percent of each school's student achievement.

Focus Schools are the 10 percent of schools with the widest gaps. That list includes some otherwise high-achieving schools that normally would not be expected to have low achieving students. However, this new designation places a brighter focus on the struggling students in those schools.

"We are committed to closing the achievement gaps in all of our schools for all of our students," Flanagan said. "With this measure of transparency, schools will be identified and held accountable for the achievement of all of their students."

The 358 Focus Schools are located in 176 different school districts across Michigan.

The Michigan Department of Education will develop and provide a District Toolkit for districts that have Focus

Schools. MDE will provide technical assistance to these districts on the use of the toolkits in the form of MDE-trained and paid-for District Improvement Facilitators.

With the assistance of these facilitators, districts will have one year to self-diagnose and self-prescribe customized changes in their supports to the Focus Schools and their students. There are escalating supports and consequences for Focus Schools that do not close their achievement gaps.

Additional transparency with school districts also is apparent in the district-wide Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) results. This year, the AYP calculated the district as an entire unit, instead of differentiating it by elementary, middle, and high school levels. The U.S. Department of Education also required that graduation rates for all students and all student population groups be included in the district AYP calculations.

Harpfest, continued

He has performed in Venice, Rome; Florence, Italy; and at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival with soprano Claire Teuber.

The workshops include Gregorian Chant for the Harp, Checking your Baggage, Getting a Handel on the Harp and Anything Goes, composing and arranging music for the harp.

The featured exhibitors are Kelly Yousoufian from the Michigan Harp Center, Jeff Lewis, owner and chief luthier of Lewis Creek Instruments; and Webster String Instruments.

For more information about the concert or the Franciscan Life Process Center go to www.lifeprocesscenter.org

No person was ever honored for what he received. Honor has been the reward for what he gave."

~ Calvin Coolidge

**BIRD BERRY FARM
BLUEBERRIES**

5256 Belding Road • Belding
616.794.5041

MONDAY - FRIDAY, 8AM - 7PM;
SATURDAY 8AM - 4 PM; CLOSED SUNDAY

*Sometimes we close for ripening.
Call before to make sure we are open!*

**LOWELL AREA
COMMUNITY FUND
ACCEPTS GRANT
PROPOSALS**

**All Proposals Must Be Submitted
Online No Later Than
August 17, 2012 to be
considered.**

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

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

**August 23
Happy 80th birthday
Lowell Showboat!!!**

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Lowell Showboat
Sizzlin' Summer Concerts

**Live Music on the Flat River
On the Riverwalk • Historic Downtown Lowell**

Alive & Well



www.aliveandwellband.com

A tasty mix of Classic Rock & Motown, **Alive & Well** is a seven-piece classic rock band that first began performing in Grand Rapids in the mid-70s. The musicians opened Grand Rapids' HOT SPOT, Pockets, in the 1980s where guest artists included Maynard Ferguson, Gary Puckett, the Turtles, and Dizzy Gillespie. The band will be headlining our 80th Birthday Bash for the Lowell Showboat, along with former endmen. Band members are Jerry Adams - Vocals, Congas; Carl Andrews - Drums, Vocals; Cindy Kropf - Vocals; Dale Kropf - Bass; Dan Lomas - Guitar; Roger MacNaughton - Keyboards, Mildly Dangerous Guitar; and Brian Adams - Vocals, Guitar.

Live Music • Food & Spirits • Free Admission • Free Parking

NEED MORE INFO ON THE PARTY?
www.lowellartsmi.org or 616.897.8545
www.discoverlowell.org or 616.897.9161

**LOW COST
SPAY &
NEUTER**

No restrictions.
Available for everyone.
Also vaccinations, tests
and parasite control

Call 897-8865
www.spayneuterexpress.com



business directory

TO ADVERTISE IN THE LEDGER
BUSINESS DIRECTORY Call 897-9261

FRY DADDY'S
608 West Main Street
Lowell, MI 49331
897-FISH
FISH SHRIMP WING DINES -
CHICKEN STRIPS
DAILY SPECIALS
OPEN
MONDAY - SATURDAY
Best Fish In Town!!!



Rich's Service Co.
In-Home Appliance Repair
Dryer Vent
Cleaning
INSURED • 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE
WASHERS • DRYERS • REFRIGERATORS
GARBAGE DISPOSALS • STOVES • DISHWASHERS
209 E. Main St. RICH CURTIS
Lowell, MI 49331 (616) 897-5686



The
West Michigan
Estate Planning Center
Cottrell & Jacobs PLC
Your Estate Planning Attorneys
WILLS • TRUSTS • PROBATE
Call today to reserve your space
at our next free workshop.
616-682-5574 or 888-878-7658
NEW LOCATION!
6739 E. Fulton, Suite A-10, Ada

BILL WHEELER
Certified Public
Accountant
W.J. WHEELER MICHIGAN
103 Riverside Dr.
Lowell, Michigan
49331
616-897-7711



KIRK COLLINS
Owner
Showboat
AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLY, INC.
Auto Value
Parts Stores
1450 W. Main St., Lowell, MI
(616) 897-9231
HOURS: MON - FRI 8-7; SAT 8-5:30; SUN 9-3



897-4123
Arctic Inc.
Heating & Cooling
• Heating & air-conditioning • Wall hung boilers & water heaters
• Geo Thermal systems • Radiant floor heat • Snow melt systems
• Whole house generators • Duct work • Humidifiers
SALES, SERVICE AND INSTALLATION, UPGRADES, NEW HOMES
www.HeatingCoolingOnline.com



Try before you buy with this
FREE WEEK PASS!
• Nearby and open 24/7
• No risk, no hassles—pay monthly
SNAP
FITNESS-24-7
fast • convenient • affordable
Lowell
2173 West Main St.
616-987-4000



ROOFING
NEW OR REPAIR
most roofs under \$5,000
• Home Maintenance
• Siding
• Decks
• Painting
Senior Discount
Call 616.272.2957



Find us on
Facebook

Check us out online ...
thelowelledger.com
Make us your homepage!

financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

Don't fret over changing bond prices

When you own stocks, you know their prices will always fluctuate. To help ease the effects of this volatility on your portfolio, you could add other types of investments, such as bonds. Yet bond prices will also rise and fall. But there may be — in fact, there should be — a big difference in how you view the ups and downs of stocks versus those of bonds.

Any number of reasons can cause stock prices to go up or down. But in the case of bonds, prices go up and down largely, though not exclusively, for one reason: changes in interest rates. Suppose you purchase a bond that pays four percent interest and then, a year later, newly issued bonds pay three percent. You could now potentially sell your bond for more than its face value because it provides more income to investors than the new bonds. Conversely, if newly issued bonds pay five percent interest, the value of your existing bond would drop because it's unlikely

that someone would pay full price for a bond that provides less income than newer bonds.

When you own stocks, or stock-based investments, you want their price to rise because you probably plan on selling those stocks someday — and you'd like to sell them for more than you paid for them. But it's not so cut-and-dried with bonds. While some people may indeed purchase bonds in hope of selling them for a profit before they mature, many other investors own bonds for other reasons.

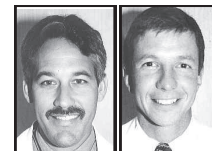
First, as mentioned above, owning bonds can be a good way to help diversify your portfolio. Second, and probably more importantly, people invest in bonds for the income they provide in the form of interest payments. And here's the good thing about those interest payments: They'll always continue at the same level as long as you own your bond, except in the rare case of a default. (Although defaults are not common, they

can occur, so you do need to take a bond's "credit risk" into account before investing.) Thus, if you plan to hold your bonds until they mature, you don't have to worry about a possible drop in their value. But if you need to sell your bonds before they mature, the price you receive will depend on current interest rates.

You can't control or predict interest rates, but you can help soften their impact on bond prices by building a "ladder" of bonds with varying maturities. Then, if market interest rates rise, you can sell your maturing short-term bonds and purchase new ones at the higher rates. And if market rates fall, you'll still have your longer-term bonds working for you at higher rates. (Usually, but not always, longer-term bonds pay higher rates to compensate investors for incurring inflation risk over time.) Keep in mind, though, that the investments within your bond ladder should be consistent with your investment objectives, financial circumstances and risk tolerance.

Whether you own your bonds until maturity or build a bond ladder, you can do something to protect yourself from price movements. And that type of control can prove valuable to you as you chart your course through the investment world.

health



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

Weight loss surgery

Weight loss surgery (also called bariatric surgery) includes several different procedures designed to make the stomach smaller. The two most common procedures are gastric banding and the

Roux-en-Y bypass. The goal of these surgeries is for patients to feel satisfied with less food, so they eat less and lose weight.

With gastric banding, a silicone band is placed around the upper part of the stomach. The doctor can adjust the band after surgery to control weight loss. With Roux-en-Y, a small pouch is created in the stomach that "skips" some of the small

intestine. After this surgery, the body absorbs less calories from food, which leads to weight loss.

People with a body mass index (BMI) of 40 or higher, or people with a BMI of 35 who have at least one weight-related medical problem, are usually eligible for weight loss surgery if they have not been able to lose weight in other ways.

After surgery, there are strict food recommendations that need to be followed. Patients will never be able to eat the way they used to, but they also will not be as hungry as they used to be.

Many insurance plans cover weight loss surgery. Check with your insurance provider for details about your plan.

...
"The first and best victory is to conquer self."
~ Plato

ups
WE SHIP UPS!
Our Prices Can't Be Beat!
Call Us for a Price Quote!
Weight & Zip Code Required for a Quote
The Lowell Ledger
105 N. Broadway, 897-9261

A-1 MOBILE ROOF-OVER SYSTEM
Michigan's Oldest and Finest Roof Replacement System
FREE ESTIMATES
12x60 Installed 14x70
\$3280 \$3980
Conserves Energy • Made in Michigan
1-800-872-2089
www.mobilehomeroofsmi.com



viewpoint

to the editor

and so it goes

Dear Editor,
A response to the August 8, 2012 letter from the Lowell city manager and Light & Power (L&P) general manager warrants a response. We, the undersigned L&P and city workers, would not have gone public regarding the labor negotiations but for the questions that we were asked by the public. The city manager and general manager have presented a rendition of the "facts" which are distorted. We would respond as follows to the city and L&P assertions.

Unfair labor practice. Unfair labor practices were filed against the city and L&P because we believed that their unilateral action in changing working conditions without notice were in violation of Michigan law. At the same time, we agreed to hold the unfair labor practice in abeyance to see if we could accomplish anything at the bargaining table. We have not.
Information requests. We have requested information from the city and L&P

which we are entitled to by law from both parties. L&P has been much more diligent in supplying some of the information requested than the city. For example, we have asked the city what non-union city workers receive in their compensation package. The request for this information was made due to a city proposal. The city proposed that we would receive whatever other non-union city employees received for wages and benefits. We have a right to know exactly what the city is proposing and all the information requested is in the public domain.
Yellow signs. We distributed yellow signs

because the public has told us that they support us and they have voluntarily put the signs up. We appreciate the public support. Shouldn't the city and L&P be pleased, rather than critical, that their employees have the public support?
Union office. The union office is located in the Grand Rapids area in Edmore, Michigan, not "far away" as claimed by the city manager and general manager.
Handbook. The city and L&P's handbook permits the city and L&P to do as they please, including terminating any employee as they see fit. The handbooks are not

Ledger, continued, page 11

outdoors

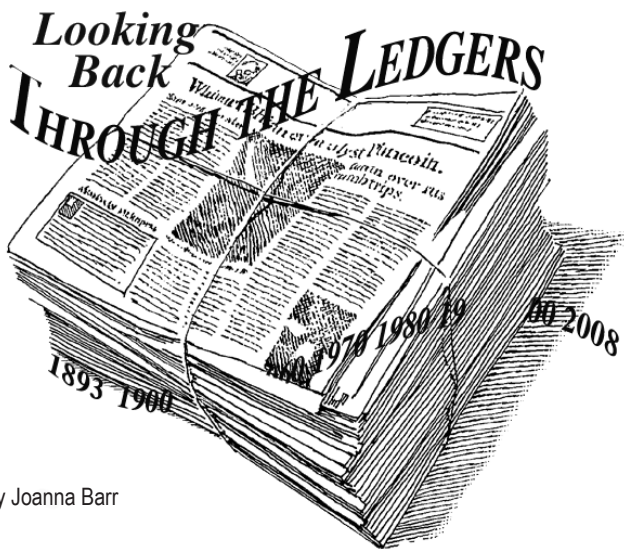


scouting

Dave Stegehuis

Scouting is an activity usually reserved for the hunting fraternity. Hunting success requires being in the right place at the right time regardless of what game is sought. To accomplish this it is necessary to seek out viable habitat, and then by identification of sign and actual sightings of birds and animals, determine the most probable place and time to encounter the quarry.
Although less obvious, fishermen face the same challenge. The difficulty of finding fish is that we can't see them underwater, and they do not leave tracks. And even if one does find them, fish have the choice to bite or not. That's why it is called fishing and not catching.
Assuming the angler has located a body of water known for the intended species, the search for the fish begins. A paper map of the lake or a digital download on a G.P.S. unit can be studied to identify likely places to find fish such as drop-offs, weed lines, or rock and wood cover. In larger bodies of

water the temperature at a given depth, called the thermocline, can be a draw for roaming schools of fish.
A sonar unit will speed up the process of locating fish. These units will produce images of the bottom structure as well as any fish in the area. Without the electronics, a trial and error search will take more time but is still effective. Shallows can be explored by fly fishing or casting artificial bait along the shoreline for cruising and feeding fish.
After the fish are located and an effective method, including a winning bait, has been selected, one can only hope the bite continues long enough to catch enough fish for the frying pan or provide enough action for catch and release fishermen to be glad they spent the day on the lake.
The greatest satisfaction in fishing is finding all the pieces of the puzzle and putting them together to have a memorable time on the water interacting directly with nature. Good fishing.



By Joanna Barr

135 years ago Lowell Journal Aug. 15, 1877

Another fight with the Indians and another bad whipping for our side. How long is the programme to be continued? If the object is to kill off what few soldiers we have left, then this marching of a handful of them at a time into the jaws of death is a sure plan and a safe one to the enemy. If we are fighting the Indians to whip them, why not increase our forces to a number sufficient to whip them at once and not be peddling out human lives in this inhuman manner?

Col. Birtsollo, the Egyptian officer who lectured in Lowell a few weeks since, is reported to be an imposter. He is charged with sailing under false colors, topping off temperance lectures with long and heavy nips at the bar, &c. A letter from the secretary of the Masonic Lodge in Jerusalem, of which lodge the Col. claimed to be a member, has just been received by the secretary of Excelsior Lodge of Feeport, Ill., stating that Col. Birtsollo is not a member of that lodge (in Jerusalem) and his name is unknown to the lodge. The Jerusalem secretary adds, "It is clear that the man is imposing and lying and unworthy to be received in any lodge." If all this be true, the Col. had better find "a lodge in some vast wilderness."

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger Aug. 15, 1912

"The Watch Came Back" - Lowell Man Receives Boyhood Trinket Again After Many Years. Will F. Howk was given a pleasing surprise last Thursday by a call from his oldtime playmate, John Hatchew, now of

Columbus, Oh., and the recovery of a valued boyhood possession, a small silver watch with Elgin movement. The watch was given Will on his twelfth birthday anniversary by his grandmother. Boylike, he was anxious for a trade and within a day or two "stumped" his next-door neighbor and playmate, John Hatchew, for a swap. John was ready for him and the result was that Will obtained a one-dollar brass watch and a few knicknacks for the fifteen-dollar silver-cased Elgin. Mr. Hatchew carried the watch only about five years and then laid it away and after forty-one years, brought it back to the original owner in perfect condition. Will is pleased as a boy over the repossession of the boyhood souvenir and the thoughtfulness of his old friend.
The Fall of Blackhawk - A beautiful, historically accurate, pictorial review of the Blackhawk war, faithfully depicting those stirring events which led to the wanton slaughter of countless white settlers, involved the destinies of four of America's greatest statesmen (Abraham Lincoln, Jefferson Davis, Zachary Taylor and Gen. Winfield Scott) and ended in the downfall of a great Indian chief, conceded indisputable right to all lands east of the Mississippi as provided for in the treaty of July 15, 1830, will be exhibited at the Idle Hour theater August 19 and 20.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo August 19, 1937

"It's a lie," says Frank McMahon, referring to the old saying that "a barking dog won't bite." Mr. McMahon learned this from experience Tuesday morning when a dog chained at the gas station one mile west of Lowell on M-21, bit him as he talked to the station proprietor. The dog, he says, barked all the time he was at the station.
Dale Aldrich, 15 year old son of Warren J. and Velma Aldrich of San Antonio, Tex., formerly of Bowne Center, was accidentally shot and killed August 4 by a boy companion as they were riding their horses to a ranch to spend the week with friends. The boys had spent the night in a camp about thirty miles from home and, on resuming their journey the next morning, were shooting at targets as they rode along, with a .22 calibre rifle. As the boy took aim and fired, his horse jumped and the bullet struck Dale in the heart. He said, "Bill, you've shot me," and fell from the saddle dead.
Miss Annette Decker of Ada escaped personal injury when for some reason or other she apparently lost control of her car and crashed into the lamp post at the corner of Main-st. and Broadway about six o'clock

Looking Back, continued, page 11

the lowell ledger

Visit us online at...

www.thelowellledger.com

Email Us!

ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com

Letters To The Editor:

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

Letters may be submitted via email to: 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.

Fun ways to give kids a leg up for the school year

Children will soon be headed back to school and it's important to prepare them for the year ahead. As the educational landscape grows increasingly competitive, even the smartest students need an edge.

With today's hectic lifestyles, however, it can be difficult for parents and kids to find the time for enrichment.

"Turning your regular activities into a learning experience can go a long way towards getting kids ready to go back to school," says Kim Tredick, a 5th grade teacher in Santa Clarita, CA, and the 2006 Milken Award Winner. "Just be careful to

make the learning fun and not too much like school-work."

Here are some cool ways to clear those cobwebs in preparation for a new school year:

Making the Most of Downtime

Be sure time away from school includes a good dose of intellectual enrichment. Museums, nature centers and historical sites should be a staple of your leisure time and weekends.

Take advantage of time in the car or downtime in general. Whether you're waiting for dinner to be ready, or you're on a lengthy

road trip, use learning tools like Brain Quest, a question and answer game to make the time both fun and educational. Because the materials are curriculum-based, the decks and workbooks will give kids a direct leg up on next year's curriculum.

"Kids don't necessarily want to think about being in the classroom when they are away from school, but educational games such as Brain Quest, can actually make prepping for the school year fun," says Tredick. "Let the kids quiz you while cooking or driving as they'll learn as much from asking the questions and it doesn't feel like homework."

More information and free downloadable activities can be found at www.Brain-Quest.com.

Reading and Writing

Give your children a variety of materials to read, like cookbooks, chapter books, nutritional panels, newspapers, magazines and movie schedules. Then test their understanding by summarizing what they read. Let them read aloud to you, siblings, neighbors and grandparents every day.

Children can practice writing and help you at the same time by compos-

ing grocery lists, to-do lists and car directions. Encourage them to keep journals and correspond with relatives -- both with handwritten letters and emails. Help improve their writing by editing together, paying attention to capitalization, punctuation and spelling.

Everyday Math

Math is everywhere, so use it to your advantage. Cooking together from a recipe is a fun and practical way to learn about measurements, timing, and following directions.

When you're out shopping, ask your kids to mentally add the total at the grocery store. This will be a lesson both in how money works and basic arithmetic. Work a percentages lesson into your day by having them calculate the sales tax at the register, or calculate the tip at restaurants.

School may not be in full swing yet, but savvy parents can help jumpstart their kids' minds well before their first assignments.

Preschool the Franciscan Way

Classes forming now for three, four and five year olds

Visit our scenic and peaceful environment down on the farm where children learn through both effective curriculum and the opportunity to engage with nature.

Franciscan Life Process Center

11650 Downes St., NE Lowell, MI

Monday - Thursday
Morning Sessions: 9am - noon
Afternoon Sessions: 1 - 4pm

Contact Ms. Fredna Rayford
or
Sr. Colleen Ann Nagle, FSE

616-897-7842
Enroll your child today!

college news

Emma Duvernay, of Lowell, has been named to the dean's list for the 2012 winter term at North Central College. To be eligible for the dean's list, undergraduate students must maintain a grade-point average of 3.6 (4.0=A) for the term and be enrolled as full-time students. Part-time students are recognized at the end of each academic year if they meet the same criterion and have completed at least eight credit hours, the equivalent of one term as a full-time student.

happy birthday!

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>AUGUST 15
Ben Raymor, Dick VanOverbeek, Bill Barber, Dena Baylis, Vivian Johnson, Donnie Shaffer, Barb Callihan, Kim Tubergen, Deb Wright, Pam Kline.</p> | <p>AUGUST 19
Peggy Idema, Joseph Thaler, Lois Boonstra, Braydon Brown, Brian DeBold, Daryl Chamberlain, Charley VanKeulen, Betty Wierenga.</p> |
| <p>AUGUST 16
Helen Vezino, Don Gasper, Trent Raab, Mike Mooney.</p> | <p>AUGUST 20
Mattie Dalziel, B.J. Rittersdorf, Alexis Holloway, Andrea Bryant, Katelyn Kaczanowski, Edwin Roth.</p> |
| <p>AUGUST 17
Brittany Essich, Jordan Harding.</p> | <p>AUGUST 21
Madelyn Pfaller, Charlene DeShane-Dalga, Joshua Hobrla, Tom Barnes, Ethan Shindorf, Katelyn Videto, Emma Yeiter.</p> |
| <p>AUGUST 18
Matthew D'Agostino, Sandy Dykhuizen, Sean Pawloski, Paul Reggie Owen, Paul R. Owen II, Matthew Milstead.</p> | |

...
"Talent is cheaper than table salt. What separates the talented individual from the successful one is a lot of hard work."
~ Stephen King

area churches

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod)
Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21
www.goodshepherdlowell.org

Worship Service.....Sunday -10:00 A.M.
(Nursery available)

Joseph Fremer, Pastor **897-8307**
All facilities are wheelchair accessible

CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL
897-7060
Pastor Rod Galindo

1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI
Morning Worship.....10:00 A. M.
Sunday School.....11:20 A.M.
Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.
Nursery available at both services
Barrier-Free

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

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

897-9863
Nursery & Children
Worship Programs Provided 

A friend...a family...a mission!

LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
201 N. Washington
Lowell, MI • 897-8800
Pastor Wes Hershberger

Sundays - Christian Education.....9:15 a.m.
Celebration.....10:40 a.m.
Wednesdays - Kid's Service, Teen's Service,
Adult Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

Lowell Naz - Where People Matter



CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God)
3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery
Robert Holmes, Pastor

SUNDAYS:
Worship: 10 a.m.

WEDNESDAYS:
Family Night (for all ages): 7:00 p.m.
"The Source" Youth: 7:00 p.m.
Loving God ... Loving People!

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL
2275 West Main Street • 897-7168
Internet: <http://www.fbclowell.org>
Rev. Jon Pickens

Rev. W. Lee Taylor & Pastor Phil Severn

Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M.
Sunday School Hour/ABF's.....11:00 A.M.
AWANA 6-8/Youth Ministry.....Wed. 6:15 P.M.
Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times
Nursery Provided • Barrier Free

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL
621 E. Main Street • 897-5936
www.lowellumc.com
Barrier-free entrance

MAY 27 - JULY 8 - Summer Worship.....9:30 a.m.
JULY 15 - AUGUST 26 - Summer Worship @ the Riverwalk • 9:30a.m.
Rev. Rick Blunt

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
402 Amity St. • 897-9820
www.stmary-lowell.com

Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 10:00 AM
Saturday confessions: 3-4:30 PM
Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:00 AM - 8 PM
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETE WIGGINS 897-7915
SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 393, EMTN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING



THE FOODMOBILE
MOBILE FOOD PANTRY
Available To Residents Of The Greater Lowell Area

THANK YOU AUGUST SPONSORS!
FROM BOARD

FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION
(mostly produce)

LOWELL FAIRGROUNDS
Foreman Building, S. Broadway

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17, 2012
6:00 PM (until food is gone)
Bring your own box or bag.

 **FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES** 11535 Fulton East,
Lowell, MI 49331
616-897-8260
www.fromlowell.org

Kids perform better in school when parents get involved

Children spend five times as much time outside the classroom as they do in school. With all this time away from teachers, it's important for parents to support their children's learning.

In fact, children whose parents are involved with them in family literacy activities score 10 points higher on standardized reading tests, according to the National Center for Family Literacy (NCFL).

"Learning can happen anywhere and at any time," advises Emily Kirkpatrick, Vice President of NCFL. "Go beyond homework help and find learning moments in everyday life that fit in with your schedule."

Here are some tips for how you can take a more active role in your child's education:

- It all starts with you. With some preparation on your part, you can be a better resource for your child. Make sure that you, and those who spend time with your child, are well-equipped to support learning.

- Turn a household shopping trip into a fun chance to do math. Take a walk outside to discuss nature or the community. Make a lesson plan out of the world around you.

- Develop a partnership with your child's teachers. Talk with them about homework and be sure you understand what is expected.

- Some children need and want time to play when they get home, while others may want to get homework out of the way first thing. Set a schedule for your child

that works for him or her, and make it a routine. Just be sure that your expectations are clear.

- Reinforce the idea that

homework is not punishment, but a chance to practice new skills. You can help make it fun by rewarding progress.

- Ask your children thought-provoking questions, like what they wonder about. For inspiration you can turn to free online re-

sources that emphasize fun in learning, such as www.Wonderopolis.org.

- Help set a timeline so that school assignments are not left until the last minute. Older children with assignments that will take several days or weeks to complete may need your help learning to manage their time.

- Checking to be sure assignments are complete is great, but don't forget it is your child's assignment, not yours. Do not do homework for your child.

- Read to your children or with them every night. Not only is this an enjoyable way to spend time together, it will benefit the child and help instill a love of learning.

By getting more involved, you can help your children make this school year their most successful one yet.



THERE'S STRENGTH IN OUR NUMBERS

160,000
Papers Delivered Weekly

Thank You

The family of Ivan K Blough would like to thank all those who attended the 2012 annual Members Golf Scramble on August 3 at Arrowhead Golf Course

We would especially like to thank the hole and tee box sponsors along with the silent auction participants, as those proceeds all go towards the Ivan K Blough Scholarship fund.

Our family has truly been blessed by the generous community of Lowell.

The Ivan K Blough family



Delivering over 160,000 papers each week where thousands of readers turn to one of our "People Papers" to find what's going on.

For local community news about your neighborhood, anniversaries, births, deaths, school, sports, events plus money saving specials from local advertisers and more.

Don't miss out on what's really going on around us...

Give us a read this week!
616-897-9261

The People Papers

Family Dentistry Since 1994

- ▶▶ Gentle Dentistry for Children & Adults
- ▶▶ Immediate Emergency Treatment
- ▶▶ Cosmetic Dentistry, Teeth Whitening
- ▶▶ Preventive Care
- ▶▶ Extractions/Broken Tooth Repaired
- ▶▶ Dentures (Same Day Repair)
- ▶▶ Implants
- ▶▶ Insurance Plans Accepted

Accepting New Patients

"Gentle & Painless Dentistry Is Our Goal"

Hours:
 Monday.....9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Tuesday.....9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Wednesday.....9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Thursday.....8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Judd T. Carroll D.M.D.
 103 East Main • Lowell, Michigan
(616) 897-7595
www.juddcarrolldentistry.com

Rainy day livestock auction still draws a crowd

by Karen Jack

It was cold and rainy on Thursday at the Kent County Youth Fair, but that didn't stop hundreds of people coming out for the annual auction of rabbits, poultry, hogs, sheep, and steer. With most of the kids wearing plaid in honor of Ron Wenger, the longtime fair manager who passed away from Lou Gehrig's disease (ALS) last fall, they got up on the stage and did their best to get the highest price for their livestock.

Sponsored by Attwood, the sale started with 34 rabbits and then moved on to

the poultry section of the sale, including a total of 56 fryer and boiler class chickens, geese and turkeys sold. After that, they auctioned off seven goats, 227 hogs, 95 sheep and then saving the biggest sales for last, auctioned off 19 feeder calves and 62 steer. All together, they raised \$476,097.91, which is more than \$100,000 over last year's total. "This was a record for us. We raised more money with fewer animals being sold," said Jessica Marks, fair manager.

The sellers included kids from Lowell, Alto, Saranac,

Belding, Rockford, Belmont, Sparta, Cedar Springs, Ada, Clarksville, Lake Odessa, Caledonia, Wayland, and Byron Center.

With many companies being represented as bidders, competition was fierce with some of the auctions. Some buyers would win their particular auction and then donate the livestock back to be re-bid on and then sometimes it would be donated back to be re-bid on again. That happened mostly when one of the actual 4-H clubs were selling, as it helped raise money for that particular club. "Our buyers were great this year. I couldn't single one out because all together, we have great buyers," added Marks.

Two sellers: Nikki Nugent from Belding and Kristen Burkhardt from Fowlerville, who also happen to be cousins, were both selling their steer. They got into this about three years ago when their aunt, who owned a farm (Nugent Farm in Lowell), encouraged them to start showing and selling their steer.

Cassie Dean, of Lowell, just started showing her sheep for the first time this year. She won first place for showmanship in the category of first-time sellers. "I want to be a vet, so I thought this would be a good place to start." When asked what she was going to do with the money she raised from the sale of her two sheep, she said she was putting it away for college. She got \$3.00 per pound for one and \$2.75 per pound for the other, for a total of \$688.

The auction is mostly a fundraiser for the kids to raise money for college and/or to buy more livestock to sell again the next year. Rabbits averaged \$119.32 for each, poultry averaged \$144.60 each and goats sold for an average of \$276 each. Swine sold for an average of \$3.10/lb, lamb for \$3.78/lb, feeders for \$1.85/lb, and steer for \$2.36/lb. With each of the steer weighing at least 1,000 lbs., some of the kids walked away with a nice start for a college fund.



Alexandria Schut of Belding shows off her Supreme Market Lamb award winner.



Luke Henderson of Lowell shows off one of his two market hogs.



Kristen Burkhardt and Nikki Nugent proudly stand in front of their feeder cows.



Stephanie Stevens sells her market hog for \$3.00/lb. to the Garage of Lowell.



Selling a market hog for \$3.25/lb, Logan Blough gives the crowd a smile.



Cassie Dean poses with her market ewe lamb.

DOES YOUR DENTIST MAKE YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE?

At the Family Dentistry of Lowell you're more than a patient. You're part of my family.

That's why I want you to be comfortable.

- Heated neck pillows.
- Natural lighting.
- The music you like.

I've been serving families like yours since 1991.

Aren't you ready for a better dental experience?

 Family Dentistry of Lowell
ANN WILSON, D.D.S. | JENNIFER BYRD, D.D.S.
NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS - CALL: 616-897-4835
147 NORTH CENTER STREET, LOWELL
WWW.FAMILYDENTISTRYOFLOWELL.COM

WE ACCEPT





Phone Orders Welcome
Lowell Ledger
897-9261

Fair memories, continued

More than 1,300 kids were rewarded for reading with a couple hours of free rides at the carnival.

“The Kari Lynch Koncert for Kids was a blast in the afternoon,” said Doll.

The sky lantern launch in memory of late fair manager Ron Wenger was joyful, as well as tear filled. Two hundred and fifty lanterns were launched toward the sky. The proceeds of the

launch will be donated to the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Association of West Michigan.

The livestock auction delivered a record breaking

amount benefiting the kids and the fair.

That evening bluegrass music could be heard throughout the fairgrounds.

Even the rain, both on Thursday and Friday, could not stop fair goers from enjoying the indoor activities, such as the Save a Life Tour and animals in the barns.

Karaoke and family dance were packed full.

On Sat-urday, Rockford Ambulance was on the grounds giving away bike helmets to kids for free.

“It was a very safe day on the grounds as almost every kid had a bike helmet on,” said Doll.

The Scott Thompson band played in the evening. The Xtreme Cowboy Race was a little more Xtreme than normal with mud in the

arena from the rains on Friday. Both the junior and senior divisions of the race were filled up as were the stands with spectators.

“This year’s fair was a success thanks to all of the volunteers and staff that make it happen and to the best sponsors in the world,” said Doll. “We look back on the 2012 fair as we start planning for the 2013 Kent County Youth Fair which will be held from August 5-10, 2013.”



Grand champion goose by Cody Acker.



Gyros by Zach Nagel of Stus Concessions and Elliott Amusements were delicious.



The 2012 Kent County Youth Fair royal court: junior queen, Judi Reagan; court member, Becka Roth; senior queen, Caitlin Clover; senior king, Cody Acker; court member, Whitney Pierce and junior king, Ethan Nieuwkoop.



The horse competitions are always a big hit at the fair.



First place turkey was raised by Emily Biermacher.



My Adventure Theater with Shelly Smith.

I certainly did not plan on interrupting the Kari Lynch Band’s concert, but I owe many people thanks for the care and concern they gave me.

My CPR team made sure that I suffered no damage from anoxia. I owe a deep apology to the EMTs because I was conscious enough to know the mess I made in that ambulance. And then, there are those that never necessarily know the thanks that are owed them - those who offered up prayers for my protection and comfort and support for my wife.

This was my second confrontation with what is fondly referred to as “the widower”. That first encounter was almost two years ago and at that time, I was hit hard.

Afterward, my wife and I began comparing notes of the prayers that came in from families, classes and congregations. If you ever encounter anyone who doubts the power of prayer, point them our way.

*Bless you all.
We are so proud to belong
to this community.
Kevin & Sheila Hoag*

CURRENTLY IN SEASON

HEIDI'S FARM STAND & BAKERY
11999 CASCADE
(Corner of Cascade Rd. & Alden Nash)

- SWEET CORN •
- TOMATOES •
- PEACHES •

PAULA RED & GINGERGOLD APPLES

HOURS:
Monday - Wednesday 6 am - 6:30 pm; CLOSED SUNDAYS
Saturday - 7 am - 5 pm

897-6707
www.heidisfarmstand.com

WINDOWS/SIDING DOORS/GUTTERS

SAVE **50% OFF**

HEATING/COOLING BILLS GUARANTEED!!!

SAVE 10% OFF WITH THIS COUPON

897-7300 allweathersealinc.com

319 E. Main Lowell

All-Weather Seal

Not good w/any other offer/ Good on initial presentation

GREG VAN STRIEN HEATING AND PLUMBING

HEATING SERVICE & INSTALLATION
AIR CONDITIONING SERVICE & INSTALLATION
PLUMBING SERVICE & INSTALLATION
WARM AIR/RADIANT HEAT
OIL BURNER SERVICE

(616) 897-5569
Visa And Master Card Accepted

Social Security Questions and Answers

Question: How do I change my citizenship status on Social Security's records?

Answer: To change your citizenship status shown in Social Security records:

Complete an application for a Social Security card (Form SS-5), which you can find online at www.socialsecurity.gov/online/ss-5.html; and

Locate documents proving your:

New or revised citizenship status (Only certain documents can be accepted as proof of citizenship. These include your U.S. passport, a Certificate of Naturalization, or a Certificate of Citizenship. If you are not a U.S. citizen, Social Security will ask to see your current immigration documents);

Age; and
Identity.

Then, take (or mail) your completed application and documents to your local Social Security office or card center.

All documents must be either originals or copies certified by the issuing agency. We cannot accept photocopies or notarized copies of documents. For more information, visit www.socialsecurity.gov.

Question: My husband and I are both entitled to our own Social Security benefits. Will our combined benefits be reduced because we are married?

Answer: No. When each member of a married couple works in employment covered under Social Security and both meet all

other eligibility requirements to receive retirement benefits, lifetime earnings are calculated independently to determine the benefit amounts. Therefore, each spouse receives a monthly benefit amount based on his or her own earnings. If one member of the couple earned low wages or did not earn enough Social Security credits (40) to be insured for retirement benefits, he or she may be eligible to receive benefits as a spouse. To learn more about retirement, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/retirement.

Question: I just got back from an overseas military deployment and I want to plan ahead for my retirement. How will my military retirement affect my Social Security benefits?

Answer: Your military retirement won't affect your Social Security benefits at all. You can get both. Generally, there is no offset of Social Security benefits because of your military retirement. You will get full Social Security benefits based on your earnings. However, your Social Security benefit might be reduced if you also receive a government pension based on a job in which you did not pay Social Security taxes. You can find more information in the publication Military Service and Social Security at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10017.html. Or call us at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Question: Can I receive Social Security benefits and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits at the same time?

Answer: You may be able to receive SSI in addition to monthly Social Security benefits if your Social Security benefit is low enough for you to qualify for SSI. Whether you can get SSI depends on your income and resources (the things you own). If you have low income and few resources, you may be able to supplement your Social Security benefit with an SSI payment. You can find out more about SSI by going to www.socialsecurity.gov and selecting the "SSI" banner at the top of the page.

Question: What are the limits on what I can own to be eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI)? Can I have money in the bank, a car, and a furnished house?

Answer: We count real estate, bank accounts, cash, stocks, and bonds toward the resource limits on what you can own. You may be able to get SSI if your resources are worth no more than \$2,000. A couple may be able to get SSI if they have resources worth no more than \$3,000. Keep in mind that we usually don't count the house you

live in, personal items such as furniture and clothing, or the car you drive towards that resource amount. You can find out more about SSI by going to www.socialsecurity.gov and selecting the "SSI" banner at the top of the page.

Question: How do I apply for Social Security disability benefits?

Answer: There are two ways that you can apply for disability benefits. You can:

1. Apply Online at www.socialsecurity.gov; or
2. Call the toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778), to make an appointment to file a disability claim at your local Social Security office or to set up an appointment for someone to take your claim over the telephone.

If you are applying online, a Disability Starter Kit is available at www.socialsecurity.gov/disability. The kit will help you get ready for your disability claim interview. If you schedule an appointment, a Disability Starter Kit will be mailed to you.

Question: My doctor said he thinks I'm disabled. Who decides if I meet the requirements for Social Security disability benefits?

Answer: We first will review your application to make sure you meet some basic requirements for Social Security disability benefits, such as whether you worked enough years to qualify. Then we will send your application to the disability determination services office in your state, often called the "DDS" or "state agency" to determine whether you meet the legal definition of disabled. Your state agency completes the disability decision for us. Doctors and disability specialists in the state agency ask your doctors for information about your condition. They consider all the facts in your case. They use the medical evidence from your doctors and hospitals,

clinics, or institutions where you have been treated and all other information.

The state agency staff may need more medical information before they can decide if you are disabled. If more information is not available from your current medical sources, the state agency may ask you to go for a special examination. The preference is to ask your own doctor, but sometimes the exam may have to be done by someone else. Social Security will pay for the exam and for some of the related travel costs. Learn more about disability benefits at www.socialsecurity.gov/disability.

Question: Who can get Extra Help with Medicare prescription drug coverage?

Answer: Anyone who has Medicare can get Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage. Joining a Medicare prescription drug plan is voluntary, and you pay an additional monthly premium for the coverage. People with higher incomes might pay a higher premium.

If you have limited income and resources, you may be eligible for Extra Help to pay for the costs — monthly premiums, annual deductibles, and prescription co-payments — related to a Medicare prescription drug plan. To qualify for Extra Help, you must reside in one of the 50 states or the District of Columbia. Your resources must be limited to \$13,070 for an individual or \$26,120 for a married couple living together. (Resources include such things as bank accounts, stocks, and bonds. We do not count your house and car as resources.) Your annual income must be limited to \$16,755 for an individual or \$22,695 for a married couple living together.

Even if your annual income is higher, you still may be able to get some help. Learn more at www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp.

Would You Bet Against Warren Buffett?



Warren Buffett believes in Newspapers!

He should - he just bought 65 community newspapers.

"Newspapers that intensively cover their communities will have a good future" ~ Warren Buffett

A man worth over 44 billion dollars who can invest in anything he wants - WANTS NEWSPAPERS!!!

We're proud that you want the Buyers Guide & The Lowell Ledger - YOUR community papers for local coverage & advertising you care about and won't find anywhere else!


the lowell ledger — **B** Guide

Just say "I saw it advertised in the Buyers Guide!"

105 N. Broadway • Lowell, MI

616.897.9261 • lowellbuyersguide.com

e-mail: displayads@lowellbuyersguide.com



COPY SERVICE

Black & White and Color
Quick Service, Great Quality

the lowell ledger

105 N. Broadway, Lowell • 897-9261

EARTH TALK™

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk: Which are the most fuel-efficient hybrid and/or all-electric cars available to consumers today (just the affordable ones, please!)? -- Jack Madison, Chicago, IL

Given increased environmental awareness, high gas prices and a continually slumping economy, it's no wonder that more fuel efficient cars are all the rage these days. The best deal going may be Honda's hybrid, the 42 miles-per-gallon (MPG) Insight (\$18,350). Meanwhile, the newest version of Toyota's flagship hybrid, the Prius (\$23,015),

garners an impressive 50 MPG. Other solid choices include Toyota's 41-MPG Camry hybrid (\$25,900), Ford's 39-MPG Fusion hybrid (\$28,700), Lexus' 42-MPG CT 200h (\$29,120) and Lincoln's 39-MPG MKZ Hybrid (\$34,755).

For even greater efficiency and lower sticker prices, consider going electric, whereby you can charge your vehicle at ordinary electric outlets at home or work. Mitsubishi's new MiEV (\$29,125) electric is the most fuel efficient car available to U.S. consumers in the 2012 model year, achieving 112 "MPG-equivalent" (the U.S. Environment Protection Agency's rating for electric vehicles that swaps in electricity for gas in its calculations) and a 62 mile range per full charge — not bad considering four adults can fit fairly comfortably inside. Another option is Smart's FourTwo Electric (\$28,752), a two-seater with an 87 MPG-equivalent. And Nissan's all-electric Leaf (\$35,200) achieves 99 MPG efficiency for a range up to 100 miles.

So-called "plug-in" hybrids also allow drivers to charge their vehicles' electric batteries via common power outlets, but also can use gasoline as needed for a longer range. Though pricey at \$39,145, the Chevy Volt may save you money in the long run because it gets a whopping 94 MPG-equivalent in its preferred all-electric mode. An on-board gas generator produces more electricity as the vehicle is driven, extending the car's range with a full tank of gas to some 375 miles. Toyota released a plug-in version of its Prius (\$32,760) this year, as well. It gets 87 MPG in electric mode (but this will only get you 15 miles without gas as-

sistance) and a respectable 49 MPG in regular hybrid mode.

Another factor to consider when deciding which of these new uber-efficient vehicles may be right for you is the availability of additional incentives. Buyers of a new Volt, MiEV, FourTwo Electric or Leaf, for example, can cash in on a federal tax credit of \$7,500 — and some states may offer additional incentives — bringing the overall cost of these cars down to within the range of similarly sized traditional car models. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) posts all of the relevant federal tax incentives online at its Fuel Efficient Vehicle Tax Information Center website. For state-by-state incentives, check out the Database of State Incentives for Renewable Energy (DSIRE), a free online resource maintained by the North Carolina Solar Center and the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC).

Of course, consumers don't have to go hybrid or electric to enjoy improved fuel efficiency these days. Scion's iQ (\$15,265) and Honda's CR-Z (\$19,545) each get 37 MPG out of sporty little gas-powered internal combustion engines. Kia, Toyota, Chevrolet, Hyundai and Nissan also make smaller traditional cars that get a respectable 33-34 MPG for sticker prices under \$15,000.

CONTACTS: DOE's Fuel Efficient Vehicle Tax Information Center, www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/taxcenter.shtml; DSIRE, www.dsireusa.org; Edmunds' "Decoding Electric Car MPG," www.edmunds.com/fuel-economy/decoding-electric-car-mpg.html.

To The Editor, continued

binding and were prepared by the city and L&P without any input from employees. The handbook does not provide any safeguard for any employee rights. Both the city and L&P have refused to include handbook policies into an agreement as we have proposed.

Subcontracting. We agree that the city and L&P's proposal would permit them to subcontract all of our jobs without any notice. The city and L&P's handbook permits the subcontracting of our jobs without notice.

Temporary employees. We agree that the city and L&P have proposed that employees can be laid off or let go and replaced with temporaries. The city and L&P's handbook allows temporary employees to replace regular employees who are laid off or let go.

Secondary jobs. We agree that the city and L&P have refused to agree that employees can hold a second job, even if it does not cause a conflict with the city or L&P. The police contract with the city permits second jobs.

Grievance procedure. The grievance procedure proposed by the city and L&P insures that the city and L&P will have the final say if a grievance is filed. The city handbook does not provide for a grievance procedure. The L&P handbook gives L&P the sole authority to decide any employee complaint. The police agreement with the city permits a neutral to decide on any grievance. We are asking for no more than what the city has agreed to with the police union in the city police contract.

The city and L&P do not disagree that thousands of dollars have been spent on a downstate attorney with no settlement in sight. One

of the citizens at the council meeting called the city's conduct at negotiations as being "all one-sided and heavy-handed." We would agree. Compromise and mutual respect will go a long way to bringing us all back together. Many of us have been raised in the city and live in the city and are proud of the work we do for its citizens. We are ever hopeful that the city and L&P's management will finally come to recognize that we should be working together in the best interests of the citizens. We intend to continue to do so.

- Ralph Brecken
- Robert Robinson
- Todd Phillips
- Joe Baker
- Scott Fosburg
- Brian VanVeelen
- Jon Francis
- Simon Kelly

reader still has questions

Dear Editor,

I recently attended the Aug. 6 city council meeting. I went to voice my opinion along with many others on a subject that has many in the city upset in the way it's being handled by the city council and the city manager.

The subject is the quest for a contract through negotiations by the employees of the Lowell Light and Power (LL&P) and the Department of Public Works with the city of Lowell and the Lowell Light and Power.

One after another of highly motivated constituents came to the podium to speak their

dissatisfaction with the city council, the city manager and the LL&P. I have to say that the group was very vocal and determined to get their point across. The question is, did all their effort go to deaf ears?

The city council and the Lowell Light and Power saw fit not to comment at that time. The first attempt by the city council and the LL&P to respond came in an Aug. 8 'viewpoint' article. But that article failed to bring forth the proposals of the contract. The city manager, in his first city update in the Lowell

Ledger, said my role is to bring you the facts and the reasons for those decisions.

Well all I can say about that statement is that we're still waiting. This is all about what the city council, the city manager and the LL&P want and the community has been left out.

I believe the city council should curtail all negotiations over a contract until the constituents of Lowell are properly informed of all proposals and then a public hearing held so the constituents can debate the subject. It's time to do it the right way, the fair way and the only way.

Sincerely,
Jim Howard
Lowell

...
"One thing is sure. We have to do something. We have to do the best we know how at the moment . . . ; If it doesn't turn out right, we can modify it as we go along."

— Franklin D. Roosevelt
counseling Frances Perkins

Looking Back, continued

Monday evening. The damage to the car was slight, but Supt. F. J. McMahon estimates damage to the lamp post will run over a hundred dollars. It is reported that Miss Decker lays the cause of the accident to a tire going flat.

The Hastings Banner says that a large amount of Hastings' people saw the Lowell Showboat and adds that those who did not see it, now wish they had.

Now that the Lowell Showboat has become an established institution and its sight on Lafayette-st. a permanent one, the Ledger respectfully suggests that the name Lafayette-st. be officially changed to "Showboat Street."

50 years ago The Lowell Ledger Aug. 16, 1962

Five Fires Keep Lowell Dept. Busy Last Week - Local firemen were kept busy over the weekend as five fires struck in the area on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. First call to the local fire department came Thursday noon after burning paper blew into the excelsior at the N. E. Borgerson home, 219 North Washington Street. The Borgerson house was singed and filled with smoke before the flames were extinguished. At 6:15 in the evening Thursday, firemen were summoned to the Timpson Orchard on M-91 south of the city where a grass fire was raging. Another grass fire call came in

Friday and firemen rushed to the scene near Murray Lake. Following this, a second outbreak of fire at Timpson Orchard occurred in the afternoon between 4 and 5 p.m. Saturday noon a grass fire at the rear of St. Mary's school kept the firemen busy for a short time.

25 years ago The Grand Valley Ledger August 19, 1987

Headline: Boat goes over dam - Lowell police and fire personnel were alerted Monday morning when a small fishing boat washed over the King Milling Co. dam on the Flat River. The boat contained a life cushion, oars and some fishing tackle, so the possibility of a drowning was likely. Lowell Chief of Police Barry Emmons began a rundown of the boat's registration numbers, only to find that it had last been registered to a now deceased Ada resident. The mystery was finally solved when a reserve police officer arrived at the scene and remembered impounding the same boat at an earlier date. The owner, Brian DeBold, was located at work in Holland, but fears arose again when DeBold said that his younger brother may have been using the boat. Police tracked the younger DeBold down at football practice. Emmons said the bow line on the boat had been cut and the boat was probably set adrift as a prank.

Printing

- CATALOGS
- FLIERS/COUPONS
- BROCHURES
- POST CARDS
- BUSINESS CARDS
- ENVELOPES
- LETTERHEAD
- BOOKLETS
- PROGRAMS
- POSTERS
- AND MUCH MORE!

From black & white to full color we'll give your printed materials IMPACT!

COMPLETE DESIGN STAFF

LOWELL LITHO

The buyers guide
"The People Paper"

897-9555

105 N. Broadway
Lowell

obituaries

PHILLIPS

Wilma Delores Phillips, age 76 of Lowell, passed away Sunday, August 12, 2012. She was preceded in death by her husband Don Phillips and daughter Pamela D. Faulkner. She is survived by her sons, Don H. Phillips, Scott A. (Linda) Phillips, Dale L. (Mary) Phillips, Dan E. (Sue) Phillips; brother, Larry Precious; sister, Bertha (Bill) Franks, Vivian (Tom) Morse; sisters-in-law, Gail (Howard) Acheson, Harriet Phillips; brother-in-law, Rex Phillips; 13 grandchildren; 5 great granddaughters. Wilma was a life member of the First United Methodist Church of Lowell.



Funeral service will be held Thursday 11:00 a.m. at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell. Rev. Melody Johnson officiating. Visitation Wednesday 2-4:00 p.m. and 6-8:00 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to First United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main, Lowell, MI 49331.



RYDER

Roger Keith Ryder, age 75 of Cascade, passed away Saturday, August 11, 2012. Funeral services will be Friday 2:00 PM at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell. Visitation Thursday 5-8 p.m. Please log on to Gerst Funeral Homes website for the complete obituary.



In Loving Memory
DONALD L. REEDY SR.
APRIL 22, 1937 - AUGUST 19, 2010



Don with granddaughter, Anna

Memories ...

Reminders of your love still touch our lives.

Dearly missed by your family & friends.

160 new citizens have the opportunity to register to vote

Michigan Secretary of State representatives will offer new citizens the opportunity to register to vote after two naturalization ceremonies in Grand Rapids today.

Wednesday's ceremonies will be held at the Gerald R. Ford Museum. About 80 participants are expected at each ceremony.

"This is a tremendous opportunity for our newest citizens," said Johnson. "By registering to vote, they will be able to exercise a treasured, fundamental right for citizens of this country — to have their voice heard and their vote count on Election Day."

As Michigan's chief elections officer, Johnson

will have a voter registration table on site for the convenience of the newly sworn citizens. People also may register to vote at their local clerk's office, at their local Secretary of State office or by mail.

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Bureau, part of the Department of Homeland

Security, is conducting the ceremonies, during which residents who want to become citizens take the oath of citizenship and receive their certificate of naturalization.

This follows a detailed application process including interviews, fingerprinting and an English and civics test.

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month

Hispanic Heritage Month begins on September 15, and whether you prefer communicating in English or Spanish, there are some important online services we'd like you to know about. You can find them at www.socialsecurity.gov and at our Spanish site, www.segurosocial.gov.

If you are ready to apply for Social Security retirement benefits now, you can do it quickly and easily on your home or office computer. The online application takes as little as 15 minutes. Once you complete the online application and "sign" it with the click of a mouse, your application is com-

plete. In most cases, there are no documents to submit or additional paperwork to fill out. Online is the easiest way to apply, and you can do it in English or Spanish.

However, you can do more than apply for benefits. You can find a lot of information and a number of online services that allow you to complete your Social Security business online, in English or Spanish. One of the most popular is our Retirement Estimator, which provides an instant, personalized estimate of your future Social Security benefits. Using the actual wages posted in your Social Security record, the Estimator will give you a good picture

of what to expect in benefits. It protects your personal information by providing only retirement benefit estimates — it does not show the earnings information used to calculate the benefit estimate, nor does it reveal other identifying information. You can plug in different retirement scenarios and future wage amounts to get estimates for different situations.

Whether you prefer to do business online in Spanish or English, our website is the place for you. Visit www.segurosocial.gov or www.socialsecurity.gov during Hispanic Heritage Month, or anytime. It's so easy!

To all of you who called, came to the house and visitation and service. To those who brought food, cards and hugs and flowers and contributions for the girls. To Roth-Gerst (esp. Mark and Dave) who gave such compassionate care.

Thank you so much!

We were helped through a personal tragedy and a loss for many besides our family. Many people loved Andy.

Carol
Heather, Cassidy, Bailey, Eric, Nick, Kendra, Miley, Dianna
Susan, Todd, Autumn, Patrick Murphy, Laurie, Eric Teasley
Ashley, Colin, Alexis, Adelyn
Geoffrey, Paige, Xen
Jean Jeltema
Jo Ann Denkema
Rick & Deborah Denkema
Len and Linda Hamp
Angela

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

S	W	A	M	P		C	W	M		L	O	G	O	
T	I	N	E	A		L	E	I		D	I	V	A	N
A	N	E	A	R		E	T	A		A	M	A	Z	E
B	O	W	L	I	N	G		M	A	R	B	L	E	S
			S	A	O		P	I	C	K				
B	O	A		H	I	G	H		T	E	N	S	E	R
O	N	L	Y		S	O	A	P		N	E	H	R	U
C	I	T	E		E	L	L	I	S		B	E	R	G
C	O	A	T	S		F	A	S	T		S	L	O	B
E	N	R	I	C	H		N	A	Y	S		F	R	Y
					H	O	A	X		L	E	E		
C	R	O	Q	U	E	T		D	I	A	M	O	N	D
R	E	M	U	S		O	N	E		M	C	G	E	E
U	V	E	A	S		N	U	N		E	E	R	I	E
D	E	N	Y			E	S	T		R	E	E	L	S

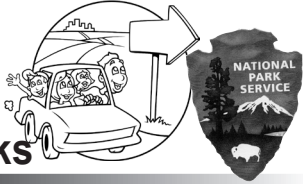
NEED TO SEND A FAX?

We CAN HELP!
Sending or Receiving
Only \$1 for the first sheet (each additional 50¢)

the ledger

CLASSIFIEDS
small ads **BIG** deals
CALL 897-9261

exploring our national parks



Kurt Hieshetter

**Brought to you by -
KOOL TOYOTA • www.kooltoyota.com
3780 Plainfield Ave • 866-421-3030**

As the curtain begins to fall on the summer of 2012, I thought it would help to let everyone know the progress of our national park quest before I start sharing the adventures with you again. Since I last visited with you, our family has driven over 5,000 miles on our way to visit three more national parks and one very large national recreation area. Due to an unforeseen injury, I was able to see first-hand what a mess our health care system is in. I must also tell you that this summer was not the best time to be camping in a tent. You will have to check these pages later to read about the details.

Let me tell you where we stand to date. We have now visited 31 out of 56 true U.S. national parks. We have driven over 30,000 miles with most of that pulling a travel trailer. I will let you do the math on the amount of gas that we used

to accomplish this. We have slept in Walmart parking lots, under the stars on the beach at Lake Powell and in primitive shelters on Isle Royale. We have crossed Lake Michigan, Lake Superior, Lake Champlain and the Straits of Florida by ferry boat.

Along the way, our children have been able to participate in a reenactment of the Lewis and Clark expedition at Pompey's Pillar National Monument, crawl around in cliff dwellings last inhabited over a thousand years ago at Mesa Verde National Park and earn over fifty Junior Ranger badges along the way. Sierra has even acquired an e-mail pal, Skylar, that she met on the boat ride to the Dry Tortuga National Park in Florida.

We, as a family, have been able to see the first sunrise on this great country in Acadia National Park and the last sunset at Mallory



The Hieshetter's at the southernmost point in the U.S.

Square in Key West, Florida. We have traveled to the north woods of Minnesota at Voyagers National Park and to the southern tip of Florida in the everglades. We have been very fortunate to see some of the greatest sights this country has to offer... most without too many major mishaps!

Now the real challenge begins. Up until this point, we have been able to visit at least one park in a two week travel window, sometimes driving all night to reach our destination to give us more time to explore once we arrive. This becomes more difficult with the remaining

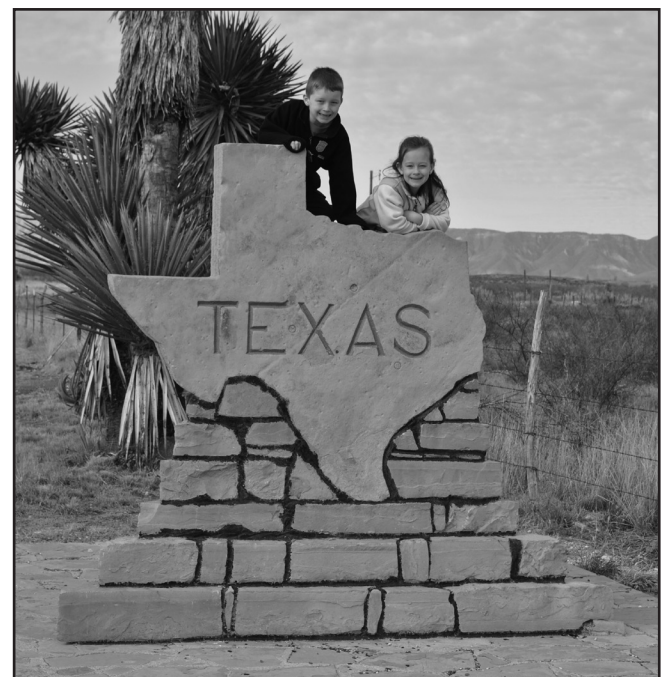
parks since most are over 2,000 miles away. While we know that it would be possible to fly into a gateway city, rent a car and stay in hotels, we much prefer the camping route. Some of the things you discover on the road to your destination are just as cool to see as where you are headed and we'd hate to miss these sights. However, we were able to visit three parks in west Texas by flying into El Paso, so it is an option. Our goal is to start knocking out

these far-away parks next year and with eight national parks located in California, I'll have my work cut out for me to figure out the logistics to get from Lowell, MI to wherever we decide to go. But, I have most of the winter to figure this out, since you can't start making reservations for Yosemite until February.

Please check back in a few weeks to check out my next story on our adventures at Everglades National Park.



Dillon and Sierra get a chance to sit in the cockpit before the flight home from Texas.



At the Texas state line

CALL 897-9261 TO ADVERTISE IN THE LEDGER BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Check us out online ...

thelowellledger.com

Make us your homepage!

Find us on
Facebook

**THEME:
BALL GAMES**

ACROSS

1. Alligator's milieu
6. Semicircular mountain basin
9. *Many baseball teams wear it on their chests
13. Ringworm
14. Big Island flower necklace
15. Long backless sofa
16. Antonym of afar
17. Estimated arrival
18. What racers do on CBS
19. *The goal is strikes
21. *a.k.a. Ringer
23. ___ Paolo, Brazil
24. Select
25. Shel Silverstein's poem "___ Constrictor"
28. Elevated state
30. More agitated
35. "___ the Lonely," song
37. Daytime TV program
39. Jawaharlal ___
40. Make a reference
41. ___ Island, NY
43. Cause of Titanic's demise
44. Paint layers
46. *___-Pitch Softball
47. Slovenly person
48. Make wealthy
50. They oppose the yeahs
52. Fast-food staple
53. Pull one's leg

CROSSWORD														
1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13						14				15				
16						17				18				
19					20			21	22					
			23					24						
25	26	27		28		29			30		31	32	33	34
35			36			37			38		39			
40						41			42		43			
44				45		46					47			
48					49		50			51		52		
				53		54			55		56			
57	58	59	60					61				62	63	64
65						66	67			68				
69						70				71				
72						73				74				



AUGUST 8 - AUGUST 14

- Legendary Cosmopolitan editor-in-chief, Helen Gurley Brown, dies at the age of 90.
- Mitt Romney picks Tea Party favorite Paul Ryan of Wisconsin as his running mate.
- The final medal count for the 2012 Olympics (the top five countries) has the USA with a total of 104 medals; China with 88; Great Britain with 65; Russia with 82; and Korea with a total of 28 medals.
- An alligator trainer, at an Ohio county fair, failed to get his arm out of the way during a demonstration and the alligator's jaws snapped down. His partner had to pry the gator's jaws apart and surprisingly there was no nerve or muscle damage.
- Just before President Obama visited Iowa, his Agriculture Secretary, Tom Vilsack, announced the USDA will purchase "up to" \$170 million of chicken, catfish, lamb and pork, within the fiscal year to help livestock producers impacted by the drought. The meat will be used in federal nutrition programs and food banks.
- Three people are killed in another shooting near the Texas A&M campus in College Station. Four others were wounded. The gunman was shot, taken into custody and later died. The man began shooting when an officer tried to serve an eviction notice to the suspect.
- Johnny Pesky, former Boston Red Sox player, died at the age of 92.
- 25-year-old Dustin Heathman bragged about the fish he caught on an Austin, TX fishing forum saying, "put around 40 fish in the boat with 22 keepers". Turns out he broke the law. One person on a boat is allowed to take home five fish. Others on the website attempted to warn him and some reported him to the parks and wildlife department. The fisherman feels he deserves to keep that many fish because he usually throws them back. He said he had family in town to feed who wanted a fish fry. He may have to pay a fine of up to \$500 per extra fish.

**if you could save \$522 ...
why wouldn't you?***

Call 1-866-929-9071 to get your fast, free car insurance quote.

esurance®
an Allstate® company

*National average annual savings based on data from customers who reported savings by switching to Esurance between 1/1/10 and 5/19/10.

© StatePoint Media

- | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 55. Writer Harper ___ | 69. Part of eye containing iris, pl. | 29. *Subject of "A Good Walk Spoiled" |
| 57. *Played on grass | 70. Mother Teresa, e.g. | 31. Beaks |
| 61. *Infield | 71. Spooky | 32. Often found under books |
| 65. Romulus' twin | 72. Declare untrue | 33. *E in baseball box score |
| 66. *Free throw value | 73. NYC time | 34. *Named after school of same name |
| 68. "Me and Bobby ___" | 74. Olden-day movie form, pl. | 36. Giant Himalayan? |

DOWN

1. Back wound
2. A drunk
3. Afresh
4. Fast interruptions
5. One rejected
6. Horsefly
7. ___ bar
8. *Dolphin home
9. Trunk extension
10. *Shape of an American football
11. Fixed look
12. Singles
15. Make dark
20. Neil Diamond's "Beautiful ___"
22. Part of a play
24. Military group
25. *Another form of bowling
26. It can be a tear-jerker
27. Sacrificial spot
42. PDA pens
45. Ski downhill
49. Gardener's tool
51. *a.k.a. Seam bowler in cricket
54. Do penitence
56. Master of ceremonies
57. Foul substance
58. French dream
59. Black cat, e.g.
60. Wharf built parallel to shoreline
61. Fender-bender damage
62. Fiona or Shrek, e.g.
63. He took a giant leap
64. Sandra and Ruby, actresses
67. National University of Singapore

Puzzle solutions on page 12

SUDOKU

dish DISH NETWORK

Starting at **\$19.99/mo** for 12 mos.

SAVE! & Ask About SAME DAY Installation!

PLUS 30 Premium Movie Channels FREE for 3 Months!

CALL 1-888-903-6814

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

© StatePoint Media
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.

Planning
A Wedding?

We offer the
Carlson Craft
line of invitations.

LITHO

105 N. BROADWAY • LOWELL
616.897.9261

Bats come to Wittenbach/Wege Agriscience Nature Center

by Emma Palova

Myths about bats will be dispersed at the Wittenbach/Wege Agriscience Nature Center during the upcoming presentation “Bats of the World” on Aug. 21 at 7 p.m.

The program about bats comes appropriately during the International Year of the Bat 2012.

The nocturnal creature has been the subject of numerous misinterpretations of the importance of its existence partly due to horror movies, books, Halloween and diseases.

“There are a lot of myths because of rabies,” said education specialist Michelle Maust. “Actually, only half a percent of bats have rabies, but they don’t survive.”

There is a natural fear of bats since they come out at night.

“They’re scary and spooky because of being nocturnal,” she said.

And the vampire bats, that are native to Africa, are really small, about the size of the palm of the hand.

“They prefer animal blood,” Maust said.

The program will explain why the bats are important to the ecosystem.

Maust will bring along four live bats, including local and African bats.

“It’s a chance to have people exposed to bats,” said Maust, “and to get close and personal.”

Bats are tremendous helpers to all farmers and gardeners because they eat thousands of insects.

Michigan has a good population of bats due to open fields, rich water sources and dead and dying trees.

“By having bat houses, you can control insects and you will have a lot less pest control,” she said.

The bat species that live in Michigan eat nothing else but insects. The big brown bat has a 10 to 12 inches wing span.

At one time people kept bats as pets, like the

Egyptian fruit bat. That’s how the Organization for Bat Conservation ended up with different types of bats, from research or rescue.

Maust will also have a Jamaican leaf nose bat and a straw colored bat.

This is a first time presentation at the

Wittenbach/Wege Nature Center.

“I hope to bring out people that have interest in bats to

teach them more about these unique creatures,” Maust said.



Michelle Maust with bats during presentation.

High school football gearing up for the season

by Karen Jack

Are you ready for some football? With this year’s summer being so hot, it doesn’t seem like it should already be football season, but it’s here. Just ask the players out practicing from 7:00 am to 10:30 am each day.

Last Monday kicked off the first practice and they were clearly at it, already running plays. Of course, there was no tackling

involved as the players cannot wear pads for the first four days of practice, according to MHSAA rules. Those days are preserved for conditioning each year.

With the first game being held August 23rd this year, each day of practice is important so that they get as much done as they can. The Red Arrows have a tough schedule this year, starting with four out-of-conference

games against Rockford, Lansing Eastern, Grand Haven and Muskegon. With the realignment of the OK conference, the Red Arrows will face Jenison in their first OK White conference game. The other conference games include Forest Hills Central, East Grand Rapids, Caledonia and Grand Rapids Christian.

The Arrows will have almost a whole new offensive

line, complete with a new quarterback. Head coach Noel Dean said he wasn’t sure if the quarterback will be Titan Anderson or Kyler

Sherlow. He said there’s always anxiety when you’re replacing your quarterback. “It reminds me of when Gabe Dean started for us.

We’ll have to work out the kinks as we go, but either one of these kids will do a great job,” said Dean.

They will also have to fill in some vacancies on the defense left by graduating seniors. “We’ll be relying on our defense early on and I know they’ll help us out,” added Dean.

When asked who the kids to watch this year would be, Dean named Pierce Watson, Reed Stormzand, Zach Hoover and Danny Dyer. “They’ll be exciting to watch,” he said.

“The whole team is filled with typical Lowell kids - hardworking, dedicated and intelligent. I’m excited for this year and come the Rockford game, we’ll be ready,” Dean said.



The coaches assessing their players on the first day of practice.



Football players running plays during conditioning practice.