

ledger reporter in africa writes on mandela



page 9

parking on the street



page 3

lhs idol



page 14

lhs sports



pages 10 & 11

50 CENTS



Chilly weather fails to dissuade those in the holiday spirit for annual nighttime parade

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Despite the frigidly cold weather, holiday lights twinkled in the eyes of attendees and set Main Street aglow during the annual nighttime Santa parade last Saturday.

The parade wrapped up a day-long schedule packed with holiday activities and celebrations throughout Lowell.

Festivities kicked off early at Lowell High School where the Rogue River Artisans 31st Annual Fine Arts and Crafts Holiday Show took place. More than 120 local artisans showcased creative works from pottery to photography and soaps to specialty foods. The nominal one dollar admission charged at the well-attended event will be used to support future activities of the Red Arrows.

Rudolph's Craft Workshop, held inside the festively decorated chamber

of commerce building, welcomed children aged two to six to create take-home holiday inspired arts and crafts. Stickers, scissors, glue and crayons were used in abundance at the free event sponsored by Lowell schools' early education program TOTS (Tots on Track for School).

The Lowell Area Historical Museum celebrated the holiday by holding an open house entitled *A Civil War Christmas* which focused on the soldiers Christmas homecoming in 1863.

The event was hosted by special guest speaker and Civil War historian Bruce Butgergeit. Toys, clothing and traditional Christmas ornaments from that era were on display at the museum. Guests were invited to participate hands-on at the event creating Victorian Christmas cards to



Mr. and Mrs. Claus waving from their sleigh during the annual parade.

be delivered to area veterans at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans this holiday season.

Santa Claus made his first stop at the Lowell Showboat. He, along with Mrs. Claus and a cheerful elf helper, welcomed children of all ages to deliver their

wish lists and smile for a free photo inside the delightfully decorated Santa Room.

Families were then treated to hot cocoa and a variety of scrumptious cookies upstairs in the Cookie Room. The visit, which has become one of Lowell's time-honored

traditions, was sponsored by Laurels of Kent.

Santa's second stop for the evening was the King Memorial Center at the Kent County fairgrounds. There he joined diners for photos at the pancake supper.

Santa Parade, continued, page 8

Wilks presents check to LHS for Celebrate My Drive campaign



Deborah Wilks presents check to students at the assembly.

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Thanks to hard work and intense dedication from Lowell High School's Youth Advisory Council (YAC) and members of the leadership class, local State Farm agent Deborah Wilks presented the school with a check for \$25,000 on behalf of her company for their top notch finish in the State

Farm "Celebrate My Drive" campaign.

The campaign, which aims to encourage safe driving practices in teens while focusing on the positive aspects of earning driving privileges, awarded 100 cash grants to schools throughout the U.S. who earned the greatest amount of online safe driving commitments

from their student body and community members. LHS earned an amazing 15,000 plus votes to secure their grant win putting them in approximately 52nd place at the close of the campaign.

Wilks stressed that the joy of driving should be both celebrated and treated with

Celebrate My Drive, continued, page 14

City council votes to sell, lease land at special meeting

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

Approximately 20 citizens attended a "special meeting" of the Lowell city council Monday, Dec. 9.

The council held the special session to accomplish two goals. First was a resolution, "approving sale of a city-owned strip of property." Second on the agenda was another resolution, "approving lease and approving execution of biogas facility option agreement."

To start the meeting mayor Jim Hodges called for public comment on items not on the agenda. Perry Beachum, chairman of the parks and recreation commission, said there would soon be an opportunity for ice skating.

"I just wanted to let you know that probably by the end of this weekend, weather permitting, the ice rink will be opened at Richards Park," Beachum said.



Attorney Richard Wendt

Special city meeting, continued, page 7

A second chance showing for local artists from ArtPrize 2013

A Second Glance: a showcase of local artists from ArtPrize 2013 will be on display in the LowellArts! King Gallery from Jan. 8 - Feb. 16. Artwork on display was selected by the LowellArts! Gallery committee for its quality and uniqueness and includes only artists that live within 20 miles of the city of Lowell.



This is a wonderful opportunity to re-visit artwork or see for the first time artwork by local artists who worked hard to prepare for and be a part of ArtPrize 2013. Many great pieces were tucked away in venues less visited by ArtPrize crowds. In the hustle and bustle of the event, other great pieces were not admired as long as they should have been. This is a great opportunity to get

a second look at artwork by many talented local artists. The public is invited to a Meet-the-Artists reception on Sunday, February 16 from 2-4 pm. This is an invitational exhibition of around 20-30 pieces and includes only artwork that was displayed in ArtPrize 2013. The exhibit gives a snapshot of great artwork by local artists. LowellArts! hopes to make this event an annual

showcase of local artists displaying their work in ArtPrize. Gallery hours: Tues-Fri from 10am-6pm, Sat 1-4pm. For more info contact LowellArts! 897-8545 or visit www.lowellartsmi.org. If you would like more information, or to acquire images of artists' work, please contact Janet Teunis at 616-897-8545 or janet@lowellartsmi.org



along main street

FRIENDS REBUILDING WHITE'S BRIDGE MEETINGS

Meets the 3rd Monday of each month at the Keene Township Hall, 8505 Potters Road, Saranac, at 6 pm. Public is invited to join the group as they plan to raise funds to restore White's Covered Bridge. For additional information, email rebuildwhitesbridge@aol.com

LHS PRESENTS

"A SEUSSIFIED CHRISTMAS CAROL"

The Lowell High School theatre department will be presenting "A Seussified Christmas Carol" on Thursday and Friday, Dec. 19 and 20 at 7 pm and on Saturday, Dec. 21 at 9 am and 11:30 am. All ages are welcome for this 45-minute production. Making an appearance will be a slew of Little Loo Whos and jolly old St. Nick! Seuss never had the opportunity to collaborate with Charles Dickens, so Mr. Bioedel (author) was forced to write this whimsical

re-invention of the beloved Christmas classic himself. General admission is \$5. Tickets sold online at www.seatyourself.biz/lowellhs and at the door.

CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

Nov. 29 through Dec. 22, Mon.-Fri., 9 am – 7 pm, Sat. 9 am – 6 pm, and Sun. 12 pm – 5 pm at 677 Lincoln Lake SE, Lincoln Lake Business Park. All proceeds donated to American Cancer Society, Lowell Area Relay For Life.

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.



lend a hand

volunteering opportunities

Gilda's LaughFest seeks volunteers

Individuals interested in volunteering during Gilda's LaughFest can sign-up beginning Monday, Dec. 2 at laughfestgr.org. LaughFest officials will hold two informational meetings to learn about volunteer opportunities during this year's 10-day festival of laughter. LaughFest will be held in Grand Rapids, Lowell, and Holland March 6 through March 16, 2014. Opportunities to help include event promotion, logistics, ushering, selling merchandise, retail, office support and volunteer staffing needs during all LaughFest ticketed and non-ticketed events.

What: Volunteer Info Open House
When: Saturday, Dec. 14 at 10:30 am or Tuesday, Dec. 17 at 6:30 pm
Where: Gilda's Club Grand Rapids, 1806 Bridge St. NW, Grand Rapids.

A festival orientation kickoff is scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 30 from 6:30-8:00 at Steelcase Town Hall on 44th Street, Grand Rapids, for individuals who sign up to become LaughFest volunteers.

LaughFest headliners announced to-date include: Jay Leno, Lily Tomlin, Chris Tucker, Jim Gaffigan, Sinbad, and Mike Birbiglia. Other acts announced include: Maria Bamford, River City Improv, Miranda Sings with special guest Colleen Ballinger, The Tenderloins, and comedy trio Todd Barry, Rory Scovel and Nick Thune. Showcases and competitions returning to this year's LaughFest include: Best of the Midwest underwritten by Wolverine Worldwide, Gun Lake Casino Presents National Stand-up Comedy Competition, Bissell Presents Clean Comedy

Showcase, and the Bud Light Presents Blue and Late Night Comedy Series featuring Judah Friedlander and Jen Kirkman. The Meijer Presents the Family Friendly Series includes: kid's rock band Milkshake, Super Saturday Kids Zone and Saturday Nite Teen Zone. Additionally, LaughFest's Best, which features performances by surprise guests, returns to the Pyramid Scheme this year.

LaughFest 2013 will include 200 plus free and ticketed shows that feature over 60 artists at 40-plus venues in Grand Rapids, Lowell, and Holland during the 10 days of the festival. Festival ticket packages range from \$60 to \$175. Individual tickets are priced from \$7 to \$60, excluding the Signature Event. These will be available beginning Friday, January 10, 2014 at the VanAndel Arena Box Office or at Ticketmaster outlets through closing day of the Festival.

Gilda's LaughFest was created by a team at Gilda's Club Grand Rapids in 2011. Since inception, LaughFest has averaged 55,000 attendees per year. Proceeds from the festival will go to support the free cancer, grief and emotional health programs offered through Gilda's Club Grand Rapids. Visit www.laughfestgr.org or call 616-735-HAHA (4242) to learn more about Gilda's LaughFest.

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On street parking restrictions in force this winter

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

Now that winter is here Lowell police say they are going to start ticketing cars that are parked on the street at night.

"Because of snow removal, vehicles need to be off the roadway," said chief Steve Bukala. "We have started issuing citations for that this week."

It is always illegal to park on the street between two and six in the morning, but this law is rarely

enforced except during snowy months.

"It's actually year-round but we really tend to hammer it during the winter months because of the snow plowing," Bukala said.

There are some exceptions to the winter parking rules.

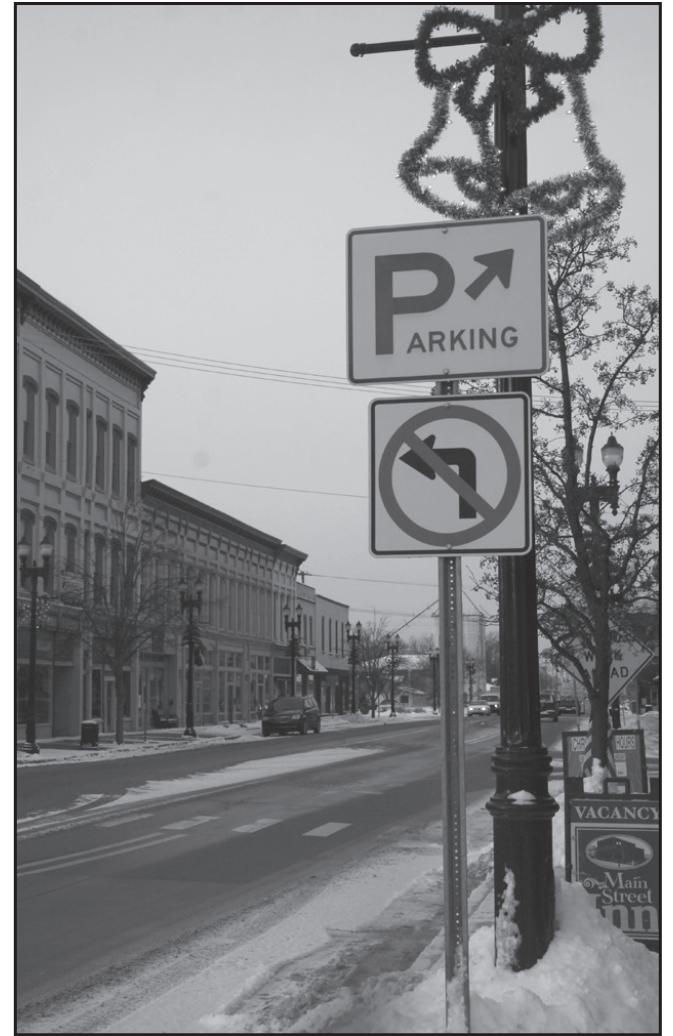
"We will give a parking permit if there's [an] exigent circumstances," Bukala said. "For example, one person's vehicle is a

large truck and it's a short driveway. It doesn't fit. It actually hangs out into the road so that person was granted a permit, but it's got an expiration date on it and they're still responsible for moving off the roadway before two am if there's a snowfall."

Residents of local apartments should also take note of where they leave their cars at night.

"We are looking at some of the city parking lots," Bukala said. "There are some apartments that are near those lots and we're getting designated areas for the apartment people to park in so the snow plows can keep the lot clear."

Tickets issued for illegal street parking are \$20.



LPD and city employees donate toys to Flat River Outreach Ministries

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

Lowell police and employees of city hall donated toys to a local charity Friday, Dec. 6.

Employees paid a dollar to dress casually and this money was saved all year.

"Every Friday we

collect a dollar for casual dress-down day," Bukala said.

This year they raised \$157. That money was spent on toys for kids who might not otherwise get a present this holiday season.

"We went and purchased some toys," Bukala said, "and then the employees bought toys as well with their own money."

The toys were donated to Flat River Outreach

Ministries (FROM), 11535 Fulton St. East.

"We did a toy drive for some families that are in need this year," Bukala said, "and then those are being donated to the Flat River Outreach."

They didn't count the toys but Bukala said there was a lot.

"We filled two of the recycle bins with toys," Bukala said. "Actually, they were over-flowing."



college news

University officials have announced that more than 1,631 students received academic honors for the semester that ended in August 2013 at Ferris State University and Kendall College of Art and Design.

To be eligible for academic honor, undergraduate students must have accumulated at least a 3.5 GPA in no fewer than 12 credit hours of coursework at the 100 level or higher during the given semester, while part-time students must have accumulated at least 12 credit hours of graded coursework at the 100 level or higher with a 3.5 semester GPA and a 3.3 cumulative GPA.

Local honor list students are: Ada: Marc Cauchi, Robert Van Dyke, Scott Teliczan,

Rajeshree Sawant, Megan Moore, Casey Newberg, Elizabeth Kaminski, Brooke Hanson, Julia Todd, and Justin Holmes; Alto: Kristine Huberts, Bethany Hesselink, Richard Clements, Brandi Miller, April Berseford, and Kristin Nagy; Lowell: Courtney Phenix, Bailey Both, Jodi Nederhoed, Patrick Vogel, Mitchell Mcrae, Courtney Wierzbicki, Sandra Bewell, Nicholas McVey, and Jordan Whitman.

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financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

Reinvesting dividends can be a smart move

As an investor, you'll eventually need to make all sorts of decisions — and some will be difficult. But there's one choice you can make that can be relatively easy: reinvesting stock dividends.

It's simple to reinvest dividends — you just need to sign up for a dividend reinvestment plan (DRIP). Once you do, you won't receive dividends directly as cash; instead, your dividends will be directly reinvested in the underlying equity. Be aware, though, that you may incur a fee when reinvesting dividends.

By doing some research, you can find companies that have not only consistently paid dividends year after year but also increased those dividend payments regularly. (Keep in mind that companies are not obligated to pay dividends and can reduce or discontinue them at any time.)

By reinvesting dividends, you may be able to realize some key benefits. First, you'll be building your share ownership, which can help you build wealth. No matter what the market is doing, adding shares can be beneficial — but may be especially valuable when the market is down. When share

prices are low, reinvesting dividends — which don't typically fluctuate with share price — can help boost your investment reach further, simply because each reinvested dividend can buy more shares than at the previous higher share price.

Consider this: It took investors 25 years to recover from the Crash of 1929 if they did not reinvest their dividends — but it only took them 15 years to recover from the crash if they did reinvest dividends, according to Ned Davis Research. And we've seen the same phenomenon in more recent years, too. Since 1987, according to Ned Davis Research, we've had three major market corrections: Black Monday in 1987; the bursting of the dot-com bubble from 2000 to 2002; and the bursting of the subprime and credit bubbles in 2008. The S&P 500 rose following those market corrections. Investors who stayed invested during those corrections had the opportunity to participate in rising markets. Those investors participating in a dividend reinvestment plan may have been able to buy more shares at a lower price. Of course, past performance doesn't guarantee future

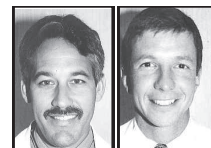
results and the value of your stock shares can fluctuate, including the loss of principal.

While reinvesting your dividends clearly can be beneficial, you do have to be aware that, even if you aren't receiving the dividends as cash, you will be taxed on them. But the dividend tax rate remains quite favorable — if you're in the 25 percent, 28 percent, 33 percent or 35 percent brackets, your dividends will be taxed at 15 percent. If your taxable income is more than \$400,000 (or \$450,000 for couples), your dividend tax rate is 20 percent. If your adjusted gross income is \$250,000 or more (for married couples filing jointly) or \$200,000 or more (if you're single), you'll also have to pay a 3.8 percent Medicare tax on your dividends.

While taxes are a consideration when investing, they should never be the driving factor. Consider also that investing in dividend-paying stocks does carry some risk — specifically, the value of your investment may fluctuate, causing you to lose some, or all, of your principal. But you may be able to reduce the impact of this possible volatility by sticking with quality stocks as part of a diversified portfolio.

As we've seen, reinvesting dividends can help you build your investment portfolio — so consider putting this technique to work in your investment strategy.

health



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

Zolpidem in the ER

A recent report revealed that emergency room visits involving adverse events from the sleeping medication zolpidem (ambien) have increased by 220 percent from 2005 to 2010. Almost 75 percent of these visits involved patients over the age of 45 and almost two-thirds of these visits involved women.

Zolpidem is one of the

most common sedative-hypnotic drugs prescribed for insomnia. About 60 million people in the U.S. have chronic sleep disorders. Adverse reactions that have been associated with zolpidem include daytime drowsiness, sleep walking, dizziness, hallucinations and driving while not completely awake. Zolpidem's sedation effects are increased when

taken in combination with other medications that depress the central nervous system (CNS), such as narcotic pain medications, anti-anxiety agents and alcohol.

In the report released earlier this year, half of all the emergency room visits related to zolpidem involved its use with other drugs.

Short-term sleeping medications can help many patients with chronic insomnia but it should be used for as short a term as possible at the lowest effective dose. Zolpidem should never be taken with other CNS depressant drugs or alcohol. The FDA has recommended that women and older patients should take no more than the 5mg dose of zolpidem.

Physicians and patients need to work closely together to address potential adverse reactions with any combination of medications that are prescribed. Often, medications are prescribed for you by different practitioners; make sure your doctor is aware of all the medications you are taking.

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viewpoint

to the editor

education funding

Dear Editor,

Given the numerous cuts in public funding to education, there is a necessary reliance on other funding for Michigan educators and schools.

Literacy Legacy Fund (LLF) of Michigan offers assistance to K-12 teachers and administrators to obtain professional development through a variety of grants. For example, in (the) 2013, LLF Michigan gave eight grants for over \$3,000, to qualifying teachers

in Michigan. For more information about the availability of grants, ways to donate to LLF Michigan and previous recipients, please visit our website at www.literacylegacyfund.org.

In 2014, we are pleased to offer grants in four different categories. We ask that you to be a donor or a grant applicant.

Carolyn Jane Blough
Board member of
LLF Michigan

Improving the safety of compounded prescription drugs



Sen. Carl Levin

In November, the Senate passed the Drug Quality and Security Act, legislation aimed at strengthening the safety of compounded prescription drugs in Michigan and around the country in the wake of a deadly meningitis outbreak.

It has been more than one year since the public became aware of what quickly became a far-reaching fungal meningitis outbreak affecting citizens

in 20 states including Michigan.

Following an investigation by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Food and Drug Administration along with local health departments, it became clear the outbreak was caused by contaminated steroid injections produced by the now defunct New England Compounding Center, a compounding pharmacy in Massachusetts.

According to the CDC, over 750 people across the United States seeking pain relief were affected by tainted steroid injections produced by NECC. Over 260 of these victims, more than one third of the hundreds made severely ill from contaminated injections, reside in Michigan; 64 of the victims lost their life as a result of illness, including 19 Michigianians. This tragedy brought a spotlight to bear on the opaque regulation of what are known as mass-compounding pharmacies – facilities that produce large amounts of custom-formula drugs.

On a bipartisan basis, members of the Senate and House of Representatives worked through this issue to produce legislation that both strengthens federal authority to regulate mass-compounding facilities and will lay the groundwork for a nationwide system to track prescription drugs. While not as far-reaching as some may have initially intended, the bill we passed represents an important and necessary step forward.

It is important to draw a distinction, as this legislation does, between so-called “traditional compounding” – where a pharmacist tailors a particular drug to meet the unique needs of a patient, such as removing a certain dye or altering the dosage level of an adult medication to be suitable for a child – and the mass compounding of drugs for wholesale distribution.

Compounding pharmacists have long been regulated by state boards of pharmacy. However, as was made clear in the investigation that followed the meningitis outbreak, NECC, a mass compounding pharmacy, was operating in a regulatory gray area where neither the state nor the federal government

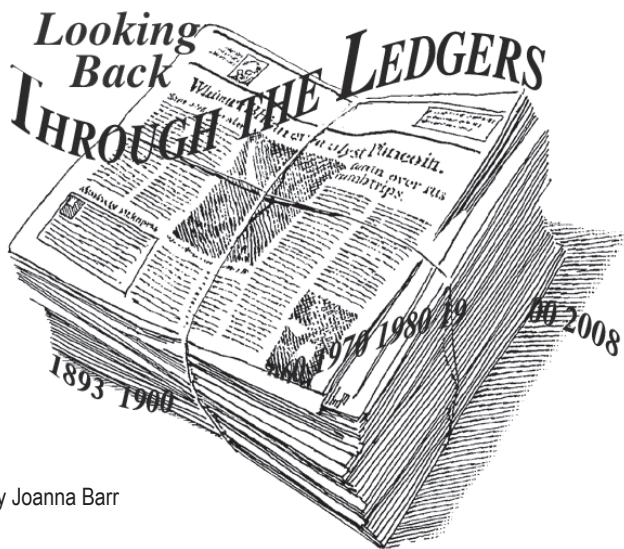
took full responsibility for ensuring their facility and compounding practices were safe and sterile.

The Drug Quality and Security Act, signed into law by President Obama in late November, aims to address this regulatory gray area by clarifying the responsibilities of the FDA with regard to the oversight of mass compounded pharmaceuticals. Specifically, it further defines the distinction between traditional compounding and compounding manufacturers that make large volumes of drugs without individual prescriptions.

Under this law, mass compounding pharmacies can choose to register as “outsourcing” facilities that would be subject to new FDA regulatory oversight similar to that of other pharmaceutical manufacturers. And in an effort to provide patients with better information about compounded drugs, the law calls for detailed labeling of compounded drugs and directs the FDA to make available on their website a list of FDA-regulated facilities.

Importantly, this law also will implement a new system for tracking drugs from the manufacturer to the pharmacy in an effort to ensure accountability at every step along the way. This new system will replace the current state tracing laws with a uniform standard and also will establish nationwide drug serial numbers to allow for efficient tracing.

While this law will not compensate those who have been harmed or bring back those who we have lost, I am hopeful it will help to ensure Americans are not faced with a similarly tragic, avoidable situation in the future.



By Joanna Barr

125 years ago Lowell Journal December 7, 1888

At the figures offered it is estimated that the cost of lighting the streets with electricity would be about \$500 per year more than a present.

In a few weeks, probably about the second week in January, we shall change the day of publishing the Journal from Friday to Wednesday and see if we can then get the paper to our subscribers six and eight miles away the same week.

Oak, in antique finish is all the rage now in furniture. The Lowell Furniture Company is putting nearly all its work in this wood now.

See these elegant toilet cases, just what you want for holiday presents, at Clark & Winegars. Prices way down.

Hogs are numerous and corn plenty in Michigan and the pork crop in coming forward in good condition and fair prices.

An agent for some Oregon lumber concern is here engaging men to return with him to do lumbering. He pays the railroad fare there and offers good wages. A good many have contracted to go.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger December 11, 1913

Advertisement: Be Safe—Not Sorry. Burglars have no open season. Your valuables are at their mercy night or day. There is, however, one way to forestall the burglar—a safety deposit vault. Why not bring your valuable papers, jewelry and treasured articles to our bank where you can rent a safety deposit box. You always hold the key. The Lowell State Bank.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger December 8, 1938

Local residents will be glad to hear that little 9-year-old Nancy Hessler of Courtland Twp., who appeared on the 1938 Showboat program and won the hearts of all who saw her, appeared before a group of moving picture talent scouts and theater men in Detroit Monday. Nancy's Showboat friends are all hoping that she will get a chance at Hollywood stardom.

140 years ago Lowell Journal December 11, 1873

The gale of last Wednesday night swept over Michigan with great violence; in many places uprooting trees, tearing down buildings, removing church spires, signs, fences, etc. In this village but little damage was done except to Music Hall block. A section of the tin roof, 34x44 ft. of this block, was torn up and several roof boards were carried several rods from the building. Three chimneys were also blown down. Mr. Leo thinks \$100 will pay the cost of repairing. In other parts of the village we hear of bricks rattling from chimneys and fences going out of the new line of survey. Lowell, however, fared better that gale-y night than many of her sister towns.

The Republican firmly denies the report that money is becoming “flush” in Middleville. The editor wants to raise \$3.75 to purchase supplies for the winter but his debtors think he ought to begin to economize these hard times, so they settle right back and don't propose to pay him any more than he actually needs.

Mr. H. H. Jencks, one of the injured in the railroad accident near this place in September and who for several weeks was cared for at the Franklin House in this village, is at his home near Providence R. I. in a very feeble condition. A letter from Mr. Jencks to Mr. Train gives us this unwelcome information.

The early riser who walks down town just as the sun is gilding the tops of the western wood, catches the redolence of buckwheat cakes which permeates the morning air; while the slothful one who goes to his labor an hour later, gazes in astonishment at the little boys in the streets, who stop in the midst of their play to scratch.

We love to hear from you!

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. Opinions expressed in in "To The Editor" are not the views of the Ledger employees or the publisher. All letters are subject to editing for length and grammar. Thank you letters and advertising will not be printed.

Letters may be submitted via email to: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com (“to the Editor” in subject line), dropped off or mailed to: The Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell, MI 49331.

Murray Lake students help with FROM's "Mission"

Murray Lake Elementary students were up for the challenge from Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM). FROM ran a program called "Mission Possible," which began in November, to collect items to help 350 local families have an enjoyable Christmas this year.

Murray Lake Elementary student council members took on this "mission." The students promoted and advertised the event. They also created a friendly grade level competition. Their efforts paid off.

The students from Murray Lake Elementary brought in over 900 items to help with "Mission Possible." The students are currently focusing on the character trait, caring, so their efforts were quite fitting.



Community invited to concert

On Saturday, Dec. 14, Bostwick Lake Congregational Church presents an early evening concert of beautiful Advent and holiday music by musician Joe Cisler. As the lead vocalist for the band "Broken Sunday," Cisler began singing and playing in college and describes himself as "an ordinary guy who also has a job." Bostwick Lake music committee chair Ann VanDusen describes him as anything but ordinary. "Joe has performed at our evening concert during the holidays once before. His

touching interpretations of holiday music perfectly embrace the true meaning of the season!" Cisler will be joined by Luke Galas on guitar, Eric Culver on bass and Roger MacNaughton on piano.

invited to the concert which begins at 5:00 pm at the church located at 7979 Belding Road, Rockford. A freewill donation will be accepted. Light refreshments will be served in Davis Hall immediately following the concert.

The community is

college news

Ferris State University and Kendall College of Art and Design have also announced the graduation list for the semester that ended August 2013. The following are local graduates, their degrees, majors and honors:

Ada: Brooke Hanson,

Bachelor of Science, business administration, magna cum laude; and Scott Werkema, Bachelor of Science, computer information systems, cum laude; Alto: Richard Clements, certificate, homeland sec/forensics (TECH); Lowell: Shannon

Johnston, Associate in Science, pre-science; Nicholas McVey, Bachelor of Fine Arts, digital media; Brian Scheider, Bachelor of Science, business administration; and Zachary Will, Bachelor of Science, computer networks.



DECEMBER 11

Dave Rhodes, Kathryn Zalewski, Amber Waldron, Mike Kline, Billie Fallstrom.

DECEMBER 12

Brad Briggs, Matt Newhouse, Sally Hacker, Charlie Young.

DECEMBER 13

Chrys Thaler, Jeff Bowne, Michelle Fyan.

DECEMBER 14

Chris Kropf, Bryan Robert Roth, Perry Beachum.

DECEMBER 15

Karen Latva, Tammy Baird, Roger Brown, Kathryn Duiven, Kristin Ellis, Danielle Brenk, Marea Borg, Kimberly Kline, Kelly Potter, Tom Kehoe.

DECEMBER 16

Timmy Buechler.

DECEMBER 17

Bill Ellison, Jerry Scott, Amy Riddle.

area churches

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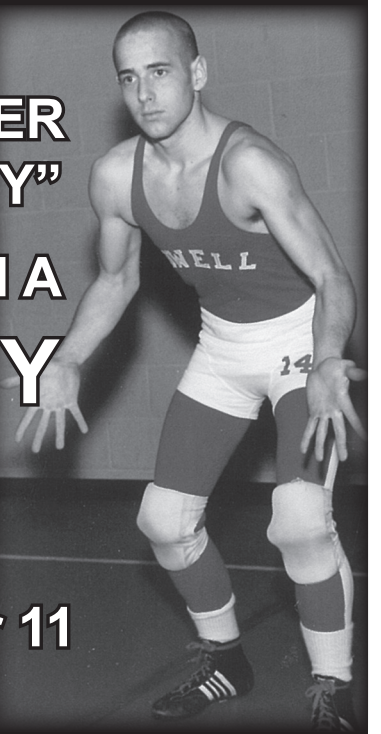
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 November 11



Special city meeting, continued

After Beachum's statement local resident Alan Teelander came to the podium and spoke about the recently defeated "Proposal III."

"A month ago we had a vote that said, it was Proposition III, where it said, 'Do the people of Lowell, do the citizens want

The defeated proposal was not specific about what types of city-owned real estate it applied to, simply stating, "Currently section 13.3(a) of the City Charter requires that City contracts for the purchase, sale or lease of real estate with a term exceeding ten years must first receive voter approval at a regular

City manager Mark Howe then made some remarks attempting to clarify the city's position on real estate deals.

"Just to clarify, Proposal III was an issue where we went to the voters and we asked the voters whether or not we could have a contract for the sale or lease of property for the period of more than 10 years," Howe said. "That's what Proposal III was about. It wasn't about whether or not the selling of real estate actually had to go before the voters. It would not have changed the provision regarding park land."

The meeting then proceeded to its first agenda item, selling an 8.3 foot wide strip of property to Lowell Area Schools for \$1.

Lowell Area Schools wants to sell vacant property west of Monroe Avenue between High Street and King Street, the former site of Unity School, to a developer. Due to a clerical error 8.3 feet of this property technically belongs to the city.

"What happened was that when the property sale occurred the conveyance of the strip of property to the school was never recorded," Howe said. "The deed was never drafted; it was never recorded and so we paid the \$25,000, we got the property that we wanted, but we never conveyed to

that has been approved," councilperson Sharon Ellison said.

Councilperson Jeff Altoft was the lone dissenting vote on the resolution, which was approved 4-1.

"I just want to make sure we're doing this right, because we're going to rush into another thing that we're having a special meeting for and I don't really have enough facts," Altoft said.

The council moved on to the second and final item on the agenda, approval of a 10 year lease of the building at 625 Chatham St. to Spart for the biodigester project.

City manager Howe summarized the biodigester project's progress up to this point. The council then opened the floor to citizen comment. Lowell maintenance supervisor Ralph Brecken addressed the council about the biodigester's proposed Chatham Street location.

"My concern is location," Brecken said. "Why aren't we building it at the waste treatment plant?"

Spart's Greg Northrup was on hand to respond.

"The location that we're proposing to go into meets our requirements," Northrup said. "I think it meets your requirements for reliability in operation system and for that reason we think it's a good location. That's why

"I just want to make the comment that I just think it's sort of ridiculous that we end up rushing into everything," Altoft said. "I would've liked to did [do] a little bit more research, but I've only been on the board for a month."

"But you've lived here for the last two years that we've been going through this," said councilperson Jim Hall.

"Okay, but I was making a comment," Altoft said.

"Sorry," Hall said.

"All right, I'll make another comment," Altoft said. "It also said in the light and power board minutes and in Spart's information

that there was 200 of these units in the United States. Is that a fact or is that a misprint?"

"It's a fact," Northrup said.

"So we had to go to Germany to look at something when there was 200 of them in the United States?" Altoft asked. "The other thing I want to state is the city of Grandville has [had] a biodigester for quite a few years. It took them almost six years to go through the process."

The resolution passed 4-1 with councilperson Altoft the only 'no' vote.

The next city council meeting will be at city hall on Dec. 16.

"I don't know if this is the right time or not, but Alan, you're wrong,"

~ Mayor James Hodges

to give up the right to say 'yay' or 'nay' on the sale of property?" Teelander said. "Here we are to sell property without taking it to the city, to the voters. So I'm wondering, are you listening? Because Prop III was defeated and here we are."

"I don't know if this is the right time or not, but Alan, you're wrong," Hodges said. Hodges then asked Lowell city attorney Richard Wendt to respond to Teelander.

"The sale of property is governed by section 13.3(b) of the city charter," Wendt said, "and there is a process involved requiring, first of all, two published notices of the sale of the property requesting proposals, the receipt of a proposal for the sale of property and then once the proposals are received it takes a vote of four councilmembers to approve the sale of property. That's the provision that we're operating under this evening."

"Okay and I saw that. I fully understand that," Teelander said, "but yet the citizens of Lowell had spoken."

"I don't want to get into a dialogue here, but that particular proposal had to deal with park land," Hodges said. "Okay? Thank you."

However, the word "park" does not appear anywhere in Proposal III.

or special election. The amendment would delete the requirement for voter approval of these real estate contracts with terms up to and including ninety-nine years."

Section 13.3(b) of the charter says that real estate transactions, "shall be in accordance with section 5.12(a)," which states, "The Council shall not have the power to sell any park, except where such park or part thereof is not required under an official master plan of the City, or engage in any business requiring an investment of money in excess of ten cents per capita, unless it be a utility presently operated by the City, or, unless approved by three-fifths of the electors voting thereon at any general or special election."

In a paragraph not mentioned by the council or city attorney, section 13.3(a) of the charter states, "The council shall only have power to enter into contracts which, by the terms thereof, will be fully executed within a period of ten years, unless such contracts shall first receive the approval of a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon at a regular or special election." The city seems to be interpreting sections 13.3(b) and 5.12(a) to mean that the council only has to get voter approval for the sale of park land and is ignoring section 13.3(a) completely.

"So we had to go to Germany to look at something when there was 200 of them in the United States?"

~ Jeff Altoft

the school the property that they wanted."

"I don't think it's something new that's coming up; I think we're just correcting something

we're happy to enter into the lease agreement for that site."

Mayor Hodges then asked for comments from the councilmembers.

LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HOLIDAY HOURS

2013 Holiday hours for Lowell Charter Township:

Monday, December 23 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
 Tuesday, December 24..... Closed
 Thursday, December 26 Closed

Monday, December 30 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Tuesday, December 31..... Closed
 Thursday, January 2, 2014..9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

GRATTAN TOWNSHIP
 Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 Synopsis of Minutes
 Nov. 20, 2013

Motions Approved:

SAW Grant Application
 Consumers Energy Resolution

Budget Amendments:
 5,000.00 From Sewer Operation & Maintenance Revenue to Sewer Projects.
 4,674.00 From Insurance Recovery to Sewer Secondary Contractors.

Our next Township Meeting will be
Dec. 9, 2013
 The minutes may be reviewed on our website
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Santa parade, continued



Piping hot pancakes, fluffy eggs and savory sausage were served to attendees along with their choice of hot or cold beverage. Proceeds from donations collected will benefit the activities and operations of the Kent County Youth Fair.

Just prior to parade kickoff guests and citizens of Lowell gathered for the lighting of the newly donated community Christmas tree. White lights, candy canes and a star topper adorn the towering pine which was a generous gift to the city from River Valley Credit Union.

At 6 pm sharp a convoy of brightly decorated

holiday floats started out from the fairgrounds and headed down to Main Street for the nighttime parade. This year's chosen theme, *Old Fashioned Christmas*, was well-represented by the nostalgia of the many participant floats.

Businesses, churches, schools, musical performers and more were present at the event, each representing their groups with the spirit of the holiday season. The top five finishing floats in the juried creativity competition were the Lowell Area Schools Bus Drivers, Tom Burri, Cub Scouts Pack

#3188, River Valley Credit Union and Green Acres of Lowell. Santa, pulled through historic downtown Lowell on his sleigh, made his final spirited appearance

of the evening and rounded out the enchanting holiday procession to much fanfare from bundled-up spectators who lined the streets.



The Lowell Showboat lit up the Riverwalk.



Traditional carolers helped bring to life this year's parade theme "Old Fashioned Christmas."



Relay for Life displayed their purple ribbon.



Volunteers served up breakfast and smiles at the King Memorial Center during the fundraising pancake supper.



The Lowell High School marching band brought music to the streets.



Children aged two to six were welcomed for crafts at the chamber, like this cotton and red paper stocking creation.



At left, members of the Kent County Youth Fair royal court warmly accepting donations at the pancake supper.

Mandela's legacy and what it means for Benin: A Peace Corps volunteer's perspective from Benin, West Africa

by Ellen Mork
contributing reporter

I am a Peace Corps volunteer serving in Benin, West Africa. I am a Community Economic Development volunteer working with women's village savings and loans groups. The Ledger asked that I write a piece on Mandela's life through the lens of West Africa, my new home.

Madiba Nelson, or better known by his American name Nelson Mandela, was a man of great conviction, fortitude and forgiveness. One would believe that being born a black man in an African country would place him in the majority, but that was not the case for Mandela. Throughout his life, despite being born into a royal family, he faced an uphill battle both in his public and private life. Believing in equality and justice, he sought to break from the norm and make a new way of life for his fellow citizens in South Africa.

He began his career as a lawyer and after a life-long sentence in jail, of which he served twenty-seven years, Mandela forged his way to the forefront of national headlines. He fought against apartheid and injustices against his people, won the Nobel Peace Prize and became South Africa's not only first black president but opened the first black law firm.

For Africa, looking at his life offers a glimpse of a life that could be and a model of how to achieve it. Rarely has one found a stronger example of character than in Mandela. His values carried around the world throughout his life and will continue to carry on long after.

One should look at life through Mandela's very own rose-colored glasses, seeing the best in those around you and eyes looking out towards the horizon.

Where some might have exacted revenge, Mandela forgave (against all odds). This perhaps showcases his best trait – to forgive and move forward, for hatred and dwelling on the past only slows down future progress.

Throughout Africa and in particular Benin, this is a lesson worth committing to memory. Benin, a country the size of Pennsylvania, colonized by France for well over fifty years and where the majority of the population lives on less than a \$1.50 a day, struggles with the basic concept of forgiveness and blame.

How can Benin forge ahead if it is stuck in the past?



Ellen Mork with her host brothers: Gabriel and Jacob.

Stuck with the remnants of a post-colonial regime, what appears to be an inefficient, corrupt, albeit democratic government and an urge to blame those who came before them? The answer is clear: they cannot. So like my host brother Gabriel said upon hearing of his death, "Mandela was a strong man,

a benevolent leader and a revolutionary idealist. He is an example for all of us in Africa to live up to."

So the Beninese must forgive the mistakes and shortcomings of their ancestors, not blame their ancestors for their actions, but see the light that shines as they move forward into the

next day. The Beninese may have inherited the problems, but in the solution, there is only "u."

Mandela sought to make a right in the world,

no matter how impossible others thought it was. Part of the problem West Africa has is its dependence on others for help. In a world where colonialism was persistent and now a world of aid, they rely too heavily on others than on themselves. They do not see the strengths that lie within, something Mandela excelled at.

The Beninese have a proverb, that translated says "it is the ones who sleep in the bedroom that know the places where the roof leaks." That is to say, it is the Beninese that understand the problems the country faces. There is more to development than money. It's organizations like the Peace Corps that work to strengthen the people, transfer knowledge and ultimately give them the confidence to persevere.

Through this system of teaching and reinforcing,

Beninese can become reliant on themselves to build their communities, bolster their economies and expand their horizons. No longer will they be forced to live the lives that came before them. They can look back and say, "I see the struggles of the past and I know how to overcome them." With this mentality, Benin can rise to the occasion.

Perhaps Bono said it best, "it was as if he was born to teach the age a lesson in humility, in humor and above all else in patience. In the end, Nelson Mandela showed us how to love rather than hate, not because he never surrendered to rage or violence, but because he learned that love would do a better job."

With this, Benin has a lot to learn, an even greater amount to overcome and a future that beckons full of hope, love and success.

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- Nelson Mandela

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Lowell Community

CHRISTMAS

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Player Spotlight

Our Spotlight Athletes This Week:

Katelyn Yuhas

Team: Competitive Cheer

Grade: Junior

&

Paige Rozell

Team: Bowling

Grade: Senior

Katelyn Yuhas

How long have you been involved in competitive cheer?

I have been doing competitive cheer since my freshman year.

What other sports do you play?

I am also a fall cheerleader, which I have been doing since I was in third grade.

What is your favorite sport?

My favorite sport is definitely cheerleading, gymnastics being a close second.

Have you received any awards for any of them?

I received an MVP award as well as a "Most Spirited" award.



Do you have siblings?

I have a younger brother in the 8th grade,

What do you like to do for fun?

For fun, I like to hang out with my friends and family.

What got you into cheerleading in the first place?

I was born a cheerleader! Glitter in my veins, sparkle in my heart and a bow in my hair!

What do you like best about participating in sports?

I like the bond that happens between team-mates. It's irreplaceable.

What was your personal best during any of your sports?

I don't have a personal best anything but I've seen how much I have improved in all aspects of the sport.

What kind of grades do you get?

I get good grades, my GPA is around a 3.5.

Do you plan on playing a sport in college?

I don't really plan on playing sports in college but I do plan on attending a small, local college first and transferring to a bigger university in a few years.

Paige Rozell

How long have you been bowling?

This will be my fourth year on the bowling team for the high school. I went to the summer bowling camp for three years before that.

What other sports do you play?

I do not participate in any other sports.

What is your favorite sport?

My favorite sport to play is bowling, but my favorite sport to watch is baseball. Go Tigers!



Have you received any awards for bowling?

I am the captain of the girls' team and I received the MVP award last year.

Do you have siblings?

Yes, I have two brothers. Alex is a freshman at LHS. Roman is an eighth grader at LMS.

What do you like to do for fun?

I love to read, cook and bake.

What got you into bowling in the first place?

I went to the summer bowling camp and got convinced to try-out for the high school team.

What do you like best about participating in bowling?

The feeling of family from the team, people you can trust.

What was your personal best bowling?

My personal best is a 202 game.

What kind of grades do you get?

My GPA is a 3.818.

Do you plan on bowling in college?

I want to bowl in college, but the probability is low. I plan on attending Grand Rapids Community College next year; I don't know what I am going to go into yet.

Lowell wrestling teams to participate in "Mat Mayhem"

by Karen Jack

The varsity and youth wrestling teams will travel together on Sunday, Dec. 22 to participate in the Michigan Youth Wrestling Association (MYWA)'s "Mat Mayhem" at Perani Arena in Flint, Michigan. They will compete against

Davison's youth and varsity teams, but in between the youth and varsity competitions, professional AGON wrestlers will blow out the arena with intense competition in four different matches.

The youth duals start at 9:30 am and the AGON matches are scheduled to start at 2 pm with Ben Bennett, a native of Rockford, who will face Cam Simaz from Allegan in

a battle of Michigan natives. Between the two, they have eight All-American honors and have dominated their prep careers. In another match-up for the day, Brent Metcalf will face Iowa State alum Chris Bono in a physical battle of champions. Two more match-ups are slated for AGON, including former Michigan State Spartan Andy Simmons against former University of Michigan Wolverine Kellen

Russell; and then Missouri alum Max Askren will face Wyoming alum Sam Wendland.

After the AGON match-ups, the varsity team of Lowell will face off against Davison High School in a battle of powerhouse teams. Davison is currently ranked #2 in Division 1 and ranked nationally at #20. Lowell is ranked #1 in Division 2 and ranked #26 nationally.



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Red Arrow SPORTS

- WRESTLING

Wrestlers start the season with strong lineup

by Karen Jack

Returning eight state placers and loaded with some new talent, the Red Arrow wrestling team put on a strong display at two different venues this past weekend, winning one tournament and placing seventh in the other.

They sent five returning starters to Lansing Eastern's tournament and took first place in the team portion of the event, filling only nine spots of the 13 weight classes. Returning state runner-up Garrett Stehley and state placer Max Dean were both sick and absent from both tournaments. The champions for the day were Lucas Hall (112 lbs.), Jordan Hall (140 lbs.) and Logan Wilcox (285 lbs.). Both Zeth Dean and Kanon Dean were runners-up. Placing fifth were Jake Garcia, Sam Russell and Louie Hart. Tom Mahalik placed eighth.

The other tournament

was at Allegan and Lowell was represented by returning state champ Bailey Jack (130 lbs.), state placer Derek Krajewski (125 lbs.) and Josh Colegrove (285 lbs.), who was forced to take last year off due to a knee injury. Jack and Colegrove both took first and Krajewski placed second. Freshman Josh Kinsley (135 lbs.) took fourth and sophomore Brandon Churches (140 lbs.) placed fifth at that tournament.

That was Colegrove's first time out in two years of wrestling and he had to wrestle at heavyweight because he still had some football weight on and weighed in at about 225 lbs. Heavyweight wrestlers go all the way up to 285 lbs., so Colegrove gave up some weight and still managed to take first.

All in all, the team ended up with five champions for

the weekend, three runners-up and placements by some underclassmen that make it promising for the year. With a schedule aimed to give them the toughest competition, it was a good start for the season.

"We generally use the first meets to get an idea as to where we're at and what we need to work on," said assistant coach RJ Boudro. "We're pretty happy with what we saw this weekend. Sending three teams out without full lineups and doing as well as we did says a lot about our program."

The team travels to Cedar Springs on Wednesday at 7:00 pm and then travels to Marist High School in Chicago on Friday. On Saturday they will compete in a quad event at Mt. Carmel High School in Chicago.



Danny Kruse hangs tough.



Kyle Washburn gets the pin.



Josh Colegrove gets one of his three pins.

- BASKETBALL

Girls win season opener, drops a tough one to Ionia

by Karen Jack

Defense was the name of the game for the Lady Arrows in their season opening game against Cedar Springs. Holding the Redhawks to only 29 points in the game, it was a runaway from the start as the Arrows scored 55 points.

The team came out strong outscoring the Redhawks 15-5 in the first quarter. In the second quarter, they held Cedar Springs to only two points,

obviously playing tough defense. The Redhawks gained some momentum in the third quarter, but were still outscored 11-9 by Lowell. The Arrows managed to hold them off in the fourth quarter, outscoring them by four points to end the game.

Aubreigh Steed and Kate Montgomery both had 13 points, while Tara McQueen scored nine and Catherine Stump scored

eight. Stump had two three-pointers in the game. On defense, Steed had five blocks and Montgomery had four steals.

"We were able to force tough jumpshots and rebounded well for the most part," said coach Jake Strotheide. "Tara McQueen was really good on their point guard and caused for a bunch of problems for them in the half court. This allowed our other guards

to get up and defend the passing lanes, getting some steals and easy baskets for us."

The team wasn't so fortunate in the Ionia game on Friday night. The team came out strong in the first quarter scoring 12 points to Ionia's 14 and in the second quarter only being outscored by one point. Coming out at halftime down 25-22, Ionia took over the game as they outscored Lowell 22-9. That

quarter made the difference in the game. Lowell was outscored by only two points in the fourth quarter and ended up losing with a final score of 60-42.

Steed had a double-double with 14 points and 11 rebounds. Montgomery had 11 points and Tara McQueen scored seven.

"Ionia is a really good team with a bunch of length and they were much more aggressive on

the boards than we were," said Strotheide. "We didn't box out well and gave them extra possessions which hurt us a bunch. We'll have to continue to work on that for the remainder of the season or we're not going to be very good. Hopefully we'll get that corrected before Tuesday."

The Lady Arrows travel to Hastings on Friday. Game time is 7:00 pm.

obituaries

HAYES

Donna June Hayes passed away December 5, 2013, in Grand Rapids. Donna was born May 7, 1929 in Grand Rapids to Maynard and Carrie Ford. She moved to White Cloud with her family and graduated from White Cloud High School in 1947. She then went to Grand Rapids Community College and was employed by MESO. Donna met Ralph Hayes at a YWCA dance in Grand Rapids. They were married July 21, 1951 and lived in Ann Arbor while Ralph completed his law degree at U of M. They returned to Grand Rapids and later moved to Thompsonville, Connecticut, where Ralph worked for Traveler's Insurance. In 1969 they pursued their dream of living in Key West where Donna became well-known for her oil painting talent. Donna was a professional artist, who spent many years immersed in the beauty of Key West, Florida, documenting its historic architecture and landscapes. Her collection of blue ribbons and Best-in-Show awards from nationally recognized art festivals attest to her remarkable skills in her chosen field. Her paintings are in private art collections across the country and in Europe. Donna was also an intrepid traveler and adventurer, who loved the excitement of finding and visiting exotic locales with her husband Ralph. The couple returned to Grand Rapids in 1985 where they have remained since retirement. Donna and Ralph were life partners for 62 years and he survives her. She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers Jeff Ford (Judy) and Jim Peck (Doris), and sister Carol (Jim) Dougan. In addition to Ralph, Donna is survived by a sister, Pat (Earl) Babcock, cousin Judy Plummer and several nieces and nephews. Visitation was already held. Interment Alton Cemetery.



ROTH GERST
www.gerstfuneralhomes.com

WILLIS

Mrs. Jane K. Willis of Kalamazoo, beloved wife, mother and grandmother, died peacefully on Monday evening, December 2, 2013. Jane was born August 30, 1918, in Buffalo, New York, a daughter of Harry and Della (Rankin) Weaver. Jane lived in many states and Hong Kong, but considered Kalamazoo her favorite home. Jane was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Clifford E. Willis in August of 2001; a daughter, Judith Muntz; and a grandson, William Camp. She is survived by two daughters, Sandra (William) Camp of Portage and Shirley (Tim Howard) Willis, both of Lowell; eight grandchildren, David Camp, Judith (Bob) Melvin, Jeffrey (Sue) Muntz, Anne (Bob) Coyle, Dorothy (Mark) Alesio, Jane (Michael) Holewa, James (Mary) Matthews, Susan (Richard) Nason; 16 great-grandchildren; and two great great-grandchildren. A private family celebration of her life will be held at a later date. There will be no visitation. Memorials may be directed to the Salvation Army, Michigan Diabetes Association, or the charity of your choice. Please visit Jane's personalized webpage for online guestbook or to leave a condolence. Arrangements were made by the Langeland Family Funeral Homes, Memorial Chapel, 622 S. Burdick St. Kalamazoo, MI 49007. www.langelands.com.

Medicare is the best care if you are age 65 or older

If you are age 65 or older and haven't signed up for Medicare Part B (Medical Insurance), now is the time to consider doing so. The general enrollment period for Medicare Part B runs from January 1 through March 31 each year. Before you make a decision about general enrollment, we want to share some important information.

Remember: Most people are automatically enrolled in Medicare Part B when they become eligible. If you don't enroll in Medicare Part B when you first become eligible, you may have to wait until the general enrollment period, which is January 1 through March 31 of each year. At that time, you may have to pay a higher Medicare Part B premium.

Most people first become eligible at age 65, and there is a monthly premium for Medicare Part B. In 2014, the premium for most people is \$104.90, the same as it was in 2013. Some high-income individuals pay more than the standard premium. Your

Medicare Part B premium can be higher if you do not enroll when you are first eligible, also known as your initial enrollment period. There is a Medicare Part B deductible of \$147 in 2014.

You can delay your Medicare Part B enrollment without having to pay higher premiums if you are covered under a group health plan based on your own current employment or the current employment of any family member. You can sign up for Medicare Part B without paying higher premiums.

For more information about Medicare Parts A, B, C, and D, visit www.medicare.gov or read our publication on Medicare at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs.

Information about Medicare changes for 2014 is available at www.medicare.gov.

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



In Remembrance of
HAROLD & GRETA (Gretchen) KETTNER
2003 ~ December ~ 2013



Though absent from us for the past ten years,
Your lives were a blessing that we hold dear,
Wonderful memories of family times are a treasure,
We all miss and love you beyond measure.

The Kettner Family
Harold & Elizabeth; Michael & Diane;
grandchildren and great-grandchildren

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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LOWELL AREA COMMUNITY FUND ACCEPTS GRANT PROPOSALS

All Proposals Must Be Submitted Online No Later Than December 20, 2013 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.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 13-194736-DE

Estate of LENA G. HARBERTS, deceased.
Date of birth: 09/25/1913.

TO ALL CREDITORS: November 25, 2013

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: John T. Conroy (P43709) 410 Bridge St. NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 616-454-4119

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against John T. Conroy 410 Bridge St., NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 616-454-4119

the estate will be forever barred unless presented to John T. Conroy, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Avenue NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

THE CLASSIFIEDS
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Fri. 8 a.m. - noon
closed Sat. & Sun.

classifieds

for sale

A BED - A brand new queen pillowtop mattress set in plastic, w/warranty, sacrifice, \$135. Call 989-584-6818.^{TFN}

EDEN PURE INFRARED HEATER - Gen 3 model 1000 with remote. Used 1 season, \$250 obo. Call Linda 897-7633.

200 APPLIANCES - Washers, dryers, refrigerators & stoves. Guaranteed. From \$69. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600. See us on Facebook. Delivery available.^{TFN}

DON'T PAY HIGH HEATING BILLS - Eliminate them with a Classic Outdoor Wood Furnace from Central Boiler, 25 year warranty. **BIG SALE**, call for details, SOS your "Stocking Dealer" Dutton, MI. 616-554-8669 or 616-915-5061.

BOB'S 16TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BIRDHOUSE SALE - Great gifts! Blue bird, wren & bat houses, bird feeders, squirrel feeders, wood duck nesting boxes. Top quality cedar construction, best prices anywhere. Bob's Birdhouses, 12279 60th St., Alto. 868-6633.

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

SHADOWLAND CHRISTMAS TREES FOR SALE - Fine quality, fresh cut Christmas trees will once again be sold at The Community Church, 7239 Thornapple River Dr., Ada. Shadowland has serviced the Ada area for the past six years with trees at The Community and Grand River Grocery/Ninth Ridge. A portion of all sales will be donated to The Community. Delivery available. \$20 & up. Cut out & redeem for 10% off purchase of your tree. Additional coupons available at The Community. Shadowland, 231-414-0044.

HOUSE FOR SALE IN IONIA - 3 bedroom, 2 bath, full basement, excellent condition. Land contract terms, \$64,900, \$6,000 down, \$650/month. 616-915-2517.

QUEEN PILLOWTOP MATTRESS SET - New: thick & plush, reg. \$345, now \$245; twin & full starting at \$175. Free del. in Ada & Lowell in Dec. Grand Mattress Co., 616-293-5188 or 616-293-6160.

ESTABLISHED TOWING & REPAIR SERVICE BUSINESS - owner retiring. Servicing Ada, Lowell, Saranac & surrounding areas. Will divide. 616-446-5909.

BED & MATTRESS SET - queen, Sealy, \$95 includes frame. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600. See us on Facebook. Delivery available.^{TFN}

for sale

FEDEX NOW AVAILABLE AT THE BUYERS GUIDE Buyers Guide, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

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

FREE AD! - Place & pay for a classified ad in the Buyers Guide & Lowell Ledger for 3 weeks & receive the 4th week FREE! You must mention the special in order to receive this offer. Valid only with new classified ads, and must be paid for when ad is placed. Call 897-9555. 105 N. Broadway, Lowell. Ph. 897-9261.

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

MAKE SURE YOUR BUSINESS IS LISTED - in the 2014 Lowell City Directory! Please call Tammy at 897-9560 or email: citydirectory@att.net for further info or to place your order. Deadline for all advertising is Dec. 31, 2013.

help wanted

NOW HIRING - and training for career positions with West Michigan's leading real estate company. Call Rick Seese, Greenridge Realty, Inc. for a confidential interview. 616-437-2576 or 616-974-4250.^{TFN}

DRIVERS - CDL-A. Dedicated Lanes! Company drivers & owner operators. Teams & singles. \$1000 sign on bonus for O/O! Fuel discount, safety bonus program, excellent fuel surcharge, 6 mos verifiable exp. Call: 800-599-0087.

MECHANIC WANTED - State certified, engine, brakes, tune-up, drive train, heating/air conditioning, 5 yrs. experience & own tools. Apply in person, Rick's Automotive, 1450 W. Main, Lowell.

GRAND REOPENING - Management training, no experience necessary, paid vacations, full vacations, full company training, customer service, \$572.50 to start. **For an interview call 616-698-2256.**

NOW HIRING! - Large Michigan manufacturer has opened a new facility in Grand Rapids, MI. We are interviewing for all department and entry level management. **\$572.50 average per week, \$1,500 production bonus.** We offer on the job training and long term employment. We believe our company is one of the best opportunities in America! Call Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. **616-698-2256.**

for rent

WE DO BUSINESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FEDERAL FAIR HOUSING LAW - Equal Housing Opportunity. It is illegal to discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin. In the sale or rental of housing or residential lots; in the advertising the sale or rental of housing, in the financing of housing, in the provision of real estate brokerage services and in the appraisal of housing. Anyone who feels he or she has been discriminated against may file a complaint of housing discrimination: 1-800-669-9777 (toll free) 1-800-927-9275 (TTY).

HALL FOR RENT - Lowell Veteran's Center, 3100 Alden Nash. Newly remodeled, smoke-free, private, great location & great rate! www.VFW8303.org. FREE All Vets Coffee Hour at the center the 3rd Thursday of each month. Bring a friend. Call John at 299-0486 or 897-8303.^{TFN}

for rent

ASSISTED LIVING - Beautiful modern country home in Alto, excellent care. Cathy, 616-891-1840. Email: AssistedLivingAlto@charter.net

PRICELESS STORAGE - Indoor/outdoor. New Units on Alden Nash, 1 mile South of I96. Call for specials 558-2900.^{TFN}

UPS SHIPPING FEDEX PICKUP COPY SERVICE, (black & white & color!) **FAX SERVICE, LAMINATING & MUCH MORE AVAILABLE AT THE LOWELL LEDGER BUYERS GUIDE**
 105 N. Broadway
HOURS
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services

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

BUSINESS CARDS - Before you order your cards from somewhere else - check our rates! Call Lowell Litho, 897-9261.

SNOWPLOWING - Proseal Asphalt still has some openings for 2013-2014 snowplow season in & around the city of Lowell. Residential & commercial plowing as well as sidewalk clearing. **Call 293-9363 for estimate.**

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

TAXES, PAYROLL, QUICKBOOKS, & ACCOUNTING SERVICE - by certified Quickbooks advisor. Call Kathy 897-0686.^{TFN}

services

LAMINATING SERVICE AVAILABLE - Next day service. Drop off & pieces will be available by 9 a.m. the next day. Cards, .50 each, 8 1/2 x 11 paper, \$1 each. Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

sales

MOVING SALE - Fri. & Sat., Dec. 13 & 14, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 2991 Alden Nash Ave., SE.

SHOP LOWELL - Little Shop In The Middle, 104 E. Main. Art, antiques, books, collectibles. Wed. - Sat., 11 to 5 p.m.

wanted

I WANT TO BUY - Refrigerator, stove, washer, dryer & furniture in good shape. Have cash. 989-584-6818.^{TFN}

Coming Events

PLEASE NOTE - Coming Events are for non-profit organizations. If you are charging admission for an event - it is considered an advertisement. Coming events are ran on a space available basis & **ARE NOT GUARANTEED TO RUN.** If you would like to make sure your event is placed in the paper, please call our office & place it as a classified ad. We will not run ANY Garage or Rumage Sales as a coming event. All Coming Events or changes to coming events should be submitted by fax: 897-4809, email:

MUSH! - Sat., Jan. 10, 10:30 a.m. Tun-Dra Kennels owners will talk about sold dogs, mushing equipment & the Iditarod. Families can meet the dogs & watch a demonstration outside, weather permitting. For all ages. Alto Branch Library, 6071 Linfield Ave. SE, Alto, 616-784-2007.

CRAFT AWAY THE WINTER BLUES - Sat., Jan. 25, 10:30 a.m. Shake off the winter blahs with Jennifer Ackerman-Haywood, crafter extraordinaire. In this session, participants will learn English Paper Piecing. Pre-registration is required & participant spots are limited. Alto Branch Library, 6071 Linfield Ave. SE, Alto, 616-784-2007. www.kdl.org

KNITTING - Tuesdays, 6-7:15 p.m. Instructional knitting class by Cathie Richter. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

SANTA VISITS - Dec. 21, noon. Storytime with Santa & free photos. Clarksville Area Library, 130 S. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

SUPPER TOGETHER - Tuesdays, 5:30-6 p.m. Join in a meal together before group begins. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

GRIEF - ADULT GROUP - Tuesdays, 6-7:15 p.m. A committed group for adults who have experienced the death of

a family member or friend. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

KIDS TALK - CANCER OR GRIEF - Tuesdays, 6-7:15 p.m. A group for children in 1st - 4th grade on a cancer or grief journey. Incorporates curriculum based activities, discussion & playtime. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

FREE ALL VETS COFFEE HOUR - Third Thurs. of each month. Bring a friend. Lowell Veteran's Center, 3100 Alden Nash, Lowell. Call 868-7426 or 897-8303 for more information.

GRIEF - NEW MEMBER MEETING - Call the clubhouse to schedule your introductory meeting for grief support groups. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell, 897-8600.

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

MOTHERS WHO HAVE OR HAVE HAD - sons/daughters serving in the military. We are meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. For more info call Sally 616-761-2042.

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

LOWELL AREA PRAYER & HEALING ROOMS - located in the FROM building, 11535 Fulton Street, most Monday evenings, 6-8 p.m. Christian Scripture based. No cost or fees, no appointment necessary, confidentiality respected.

KENT COUNTY NARFE GROUP - for retired & current federal employees meet the 2nd Thursday at

Trinity Lutheran Church, 2700 E. Fulton, 1/2 mile west of E. Beltline. Potluck at 12:30 p.m. & meeting begins at 1:30 p.m. Call Ed Moore for time, 616-784-6716.

ALTO LIONS CLUB - Meets 1st & 3rd Thursday at 7 p.m. at Keiser's Kitchen.

FREE SENIOR COFFEE - Every fourth Friday, 8-9 a.m., sponsored by Laurels of Kent, Lowell McDonalds, 1300 W. Main St.

FOOD PANTRY - First Friday of month at Lakeside Community Church, 6201 Whitneyville Rd. Free frozen, perishable food. Registration 1 p.m., distribution 4 p.m. Bring own containers. 868-6402.

MOMS IN TOUCH GROUP - forming for Alto Elementary. Call Suzanne for more info, 868-7337.

FREE SMOKING CESSATION CLASSES - offered at Lowell Family Medical Center. Call 616-446-7058 to register. The class runs for 8 weeks. Evening & weekend sessions are available. Time & dates will be determined by those registered.

LOWELL WOMEN'S CLUB - Meets the second Wed. of each month, Sept. - May, 11:45 a.m., Schneider Manor. For more information call Jan at 897-2533.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY - Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. A Christ centered program to help overcome life's hurts, habits, hangups. Impact Church, 1069 Lincoln Lake, www.impact-church.org or www.celebraterecovery.com

FIRST & THIRD WEDNESDAYS - Fun at Calvary for boys & girls preschool - 8th grade. Cadets for boys 1st - 8th; GEMS for girls 3rd - 8th; Kingdom Kids for boys & girls preschool - 2nd grade. 1125 W. Main, Lowell. Ph. 897-7060.

LOWELL - Varsity sporting events, concerts, school board meetings, city council meetings, DDA meetings & planning commission

meetings can be viewed on the 'local' Comcast public access channel (25) within a day or two of when they were held. Many athletic contests & concerts can be heard 'live' from the www.wlhrsradio.org internet radio website.

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

FREE SENIOR PANCAKE BREAKFAST - Every third Wed. from 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. at Laurels of Kent, 350 N. Center St. RSVP 897-8473.

SARANAC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR - Now through Fri., Dec. 13, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Saranac Elementary School library, visitors must stop by the office first to receive a visitor's pass. Extended hours on Dec. 9 from 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. Book fair is also available online: http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/saranac-elementaryschool. Books ordered online will be sent to the school library for you to pick up.

NAMEETING - Mondays, 6 p.m. at Lowell Serenity Club.

LEGOS AT THE LIBRARY - For youth ages 5-11. Second Sat. of each month, 10 a.m. - noon. Bring your imagination & be ready to build. Legos provided. Alvah N. Belding Library, 302 E. Main St., Belding, 616-794-1450.

LEGO DAYS - first Saturday of the month, 10 a.m. - noon. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac.

STORYTIME - Wednesdays, 11 a.m., children 0-18 mos.; Fridays, 10 a.m., children 18-36 mos.; Fridays, 11 a.m., children 3-5 years. Books, rhymes, songs & crafts at Alvah N Belding Library, 302 E. Main St., Belding, 616-794-1450. www.belding.michlibrary.org

Celebrate My Drive, continued

respect. "This is the most important thing that changes young people's lives. Mobility and independence. The ability to go back and forth to school and sporting events. Driving their younger siblings when they are freeing up time for their parents. It is a huge responsibility," added Wilks.

Superintendent of Lowell schools Greg Pratt had this to say about the Celebrate My Drive campaign win, "I am extremely proud of our students demonstration of leadership and the support that the entire community showed. We thank Deborah Wilks and State Farm for their continued support of quality education and community initiatives."

Lowell's local State

Farm agent since 2006, Wilks announced, "I am so proud of the YAC and the leadership class," as she enthusiastically presented the over-sized check to the successful group and their advisor, Chaye Klomparens, this past Friday in their classroom headquarters.

Klomparens, advisor of the YAC for the past three years, shared Wilks' pride in her student's efforts. "They are so willing to work hard. They really are positive influences. They do the right things and make the right choices," Klomparens said.

Prior to the week-long commitment drive held this past October, students from both the YAC group and leadership class began their rally to make people aware

of the upcoming event. "We really wanted to hit as many people as possible in the community, so we went out as a group to events in the fall to let people know about it," said first-year YAC member sophomore Zeth Dean. "We also advertised as much as we could with posters and yard signs throughout the city," he added.

The group also said they used the power of social media and email to encourage participation. "It feels good to win," said Caitlyn Gauck, junior, who participated in the project as part of the leadership class. "We did a lot of work for Celebrate My Drive week. We were at all three lunches everyday, with computers going, encouraging students

to vote. It is so rewarding to win because we were all so involved," said Gauck.

The diverse group of students has decided to distribute the money equally between the arts, the athletics' department and the purchase of technology with ten percent being reserved for the YAC's continued effort to raise safe driving awareness among their peers. "We will definitely do the teen safe driving again next year and make sure that it is even better. Get more commitments and more people involved," said YAC member Kelsey Emmanuel, a sophomore at the school. The group is already in the beginning stages of their next driving awareness mission, making plans to spread their

message at next year's prom festivities. "They want to have a presence there in regard to teen driver safety, because there have been so many youthful drivers, under 25, killed here in the Lowell area," Wilks said of the group's upcoming effort.

Wilks also proudly notes that prior to this huge financial victory, the YAC also earned nearly \$10,000 over the past two years participating in State Farm's previous program, "Project Ignition."

"Our first year we were able to get a grant. Last year we earned another and now this! I don't know what to expect next year because it keeps getting better. We know now that it is something we can do," said

Klomparens, attributing the victory to both the amazing support of the community and to her talented and driven students. "We really did not even know what we were getting ourselves into. It was the kids that did this. They worked so hard. They touched people and hopefully influenced people to drive safely."

Students from the group returned similar praise for the efforts and support of their advisor, "She is awesome! We all love her," said Dean, who clearly spoke for the group as each one of them smiled brightly when asked to comment on Klomparens. "We could not ask for a better leader," said Dean.

Talent on display at LHS third annual Idol contest

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Talent ignited the stage at the Lowell High School (LHS) Performing Arts Center on December 4th for the third annual LHS Idol vocal competition which took place in front of a record-breaking crowd for the event.

The show, which kicked off at 7 pm, was hosted by students Shelby Antel, Keaton Pomper, Zach Fotis and 2012 LHS Idol first-place performer Nick Smith. The group handled their hosting duties with both humor and ease displaying an off-the-cuff sense of professionalism during the unscripted banter with participants.

LHS music director and organizer of the LHS Idol event, Heidi Kolp, had nothing but warm praise for her masters of ceremony, "I can't say enough about my hosts. Shelby, Nick, Keaton, and Zach were perfect. With a live show and no script, you have to be able to think on your feet and interact with others in a witty and professional manner. They just nailed it. They have so much poise for their age. I can't wait to see what they do after high school."

In the style of the TV hit *American Idol*, the contestants were critiqued after their performances by a panel of guest judges. This year's panel included radio personalities Nicole Hughet and Internio Mike from 104.5 WSNX and LHS's own choir director Nathan Masterson, who was applauded enthusiastically when introduced to the audience. Each of the judges offered constructive compliments and advice and were blown away by the vocal strength displayed in the talent showcase. "My

you guys got some talent out here in Lowell," exclaimed judge Internio after a series of solid performances.

This year's chosen winner was awarded a full scholarship to Broadway Breakthru, a singing, dancing and acting camp run by David Petro, a Broadway actor and casting director for several major television networks. Second- and third-place positions were awarded with half scholarships to the intensive week-long program.

Sixteen diverse performers, with an equally diverse musical line-up, took to the stage in the competition. This included fun and entertaining pop performances by male vocalists Tim Bem and Mike Slaktoski and by female vocalists Anne Shirley Capman and Keara Anderson.

Several performers sang while also playing instruments at the show, including Bridget Lally who played an engaging acoustic version of the John Mayer song *Who Says* and Alysia Ysasi, who was highly complimented on her cool and unique sound, who played her own accompaniment music on the piano.

Emotional ballads were well-rendered by Mike Partin, Morgan Ziegler and surprise standout Brandi Shelley who received extremely positive feedback from the lovely judge Hughnet. "I want you to know that you have an incredible voice," Hughet exclaimed while encouraging Shelley to continue on a musical



Kennedy McCready, left, and Morgan Ziegler



path. Exchange student Sophia Bartz, who hails from Germany, gave a strong and well-received performance for the crowd, taking on the popular song *Sweater Weather* by The Neighborhood and choir member Kennedy McCready also gave an impressive performance with her upbeat song selection *Primadonna* by Marina and the Diamonds.

Junior Jaylene Milton took the stage to a roaring ovation before she even displayed her talented pipes exciting the crowd with her stage presence alone. Her powerful performance of Aretha Franklin's *Respect* wowed the audience and the judges who gave her immense praise after her stand-out performance. "Well you have everybody's respect in here now," said judge Masterson, "I think the other performers better check that stage because I think you own it now!"

Masterson's sentiment

proved true when Milton was later crowned the 2013 LHS Idol. "It feels great to know that I was good enough to be the LHS Idol. I went out there and sang my little heart out. I did my best and well, it looks like hard work and dedication really paid off," said Milton.

Milton has been singing since the age of four and aspires to a career performing, producing and composing on Broadway. "I couldn't ever possibly give up music. Music has allowed me to be free and express myself," she explains. Milton is part of both the school and her church choirs and performed as a freshman in the LHS musical *Annie*. She plans to audition for the school's upcoming musical *Annie Get Your Gun* and also has a scheduled tryout for *The Voice*, a talent scouting show that airs on NBC.

Milton says that her victory feels "great" and she is enjoying her unexpected

success. "I walked into it with an open mind. The thought of winning never crossed my mind. I mean sure, yes, it's always fun to win something, you get that feeling of accomplishment, but I thought everyone had an equal chance of winning," she said humbly.

Her teacher and judge Masterson, who is enjoying his second year as LHS choir director, had this to say of his student's victory, "Jaylene Milton definitely deserved to win this competition. She did not just come on stage and sing. She engaged the audience, she used good vocal technique and she chose a song that highlighted the extent of her vocal talent. She was the entire package that night."

This year's second-place spot was awarded to talented freshman Josealyn Pontius who performed her moving rendition of *Holdin' Out for a Hero* while playing giftedly from behind the piano. Third place in the

competition went to the 2012 Idol runner-up Sidney Anderson, who sang her own funky version of Wild Cherry's *Play That Funky Music* with the talent and ease of a seasoned performer. Fourth position ended in a tie between sophomore talents Brianna Massey and

Archer Pina. Massey took on the Adele powered ballad *Make You Feel My Love* in a striking performance coined by all three judges as beautiful. Pina, who played the electric guitar during his country performance, delivered a strikingly accurate version of the Johnny Cash classic *Folsom Prison Blues* that surprised judge Masterson, who says he looks forward to the opportunity to work with him in the future, "Archer definitely made my eyebrows raise as he approached those low notes. A voice like that does not happen very often," he commented.

Masterson went on to compliment the entire cast of the show saying, "I feel that the performances consisted of some of the best voices in the school. It takes an incredible amount of courage to get out on a stage in front of people and even more courage to sing in front of them. I am very proud of all the contestants

**THEME:
HOLIDAY
TRADITIONS**

ACROSS

- 1. Fire or passion
- 6. *Yule firewood
- 9. Winston Churchill's "___ Country"
- 13. France's longest river
- 14. 401(k) alternative
- 15. Squirrel's stash
- 16. Wake Island, e.g.
- 17. Official
- 18. Indian restaurant yogurt staple
- 19. *Cratchit's boss
- 21. *Typical holiday guests
- 23. Duffer's goal
- 24. **Go ___ it on the Mountain"
- 25. Prime time ruler
- 28. It can be crunched
- 30. Pass on
- 35. Caught outside?
- 37. "Cheers" regular
- 39. Ma Bell, e.g.
- 40. Backward arrow command
- 41. Iraqi money
- 43. Andean land
- 44. Utopian
- 46. Drawn in sand
- 47. Petitions
- 48. Sluggish
- 50. Back talk
- 52. "Comprende?"
- 53. "Gee!"
- 55. Flightless and down under
- 57. Potpourri bag
- 60. *Pan-African celebration
- 64. Sober Ness
- 65. Tropical American cuckoo
- 67. Walk clumsily
- 68. Mother ____, pl.
- 69. Summer glow
- 70. Vasily Alekseyev's weight

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Looking Back, continued

**50 years ago
The Lowell Ledger
December 12, 1963**

Residents of East Main Street are keeping an eye on a boundary dispute between Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hahn and Keith Buck, owner of the former Hahn property. The dispute is now in the stage of the "Berlin Blockade" with the Hahn driveway being blocked by a truck. Neighbors are waiting for the present 'cold war' to warm up!

Lowell drivers hit deer on highway; list growing. Two Lowell drivers hit deer on the highway during the past week to add to a growing list. Many feel that the growing herd of deer in eastern Kent and Ionia counties will have to be reduced to protect motorists. There are two and three deer killed every day in this area. Gary Vosburg reported to Lowell police that a deer ran into the side of his truck on Lincoln Lake Avenue, 3 miles north of Lowell on Saturday afternoon about 4:35 pm. The damage was minor. Tuesday morning State Police reported that Herbert VanAlstine, 28, Lowell, said that two deer were observed in the medium. He slowed as one lunged across in front of him; the second crashed into the car seconds later. The car was damaged, but the deer apparently were not seriously injured and ran off.

**25 years ago
The Lowell Ledger
December 14, 1988**

Lowell's Senior Citizen Coordinator Claire Voetberg, instrumental in the commencement of the "Lunch and Learn" program for the senior citizens in the Lowell community, is both excited and happy with its growth. "This is where it's at for the senior citizens on Thursday afternoon," Voetberg said. The program offers lunch, motor coach tours, field trips and weekly guest speakers. The recent unit has been entitled 'Discover Michigan.' "This is to help acquaint the senior citizens with the people, places and events in Michigan," Voetberg said. The program, when it first originated, drew between 12-20 guests a week. Now in its second year, the "Lunch and Learn" concept has roughly 30-40 people gather each Thursday afternoon for a couple of hours. This past Thursday (Dec. 9), however, nearly 45 senior citizens were on hand for the Christmas party.

Lowell Rotary opens doors to first woman Rotarian. Of the three women invited, Linda Zaczek walked away from the October Rotarian lunch knowing that she wanted to become a member. 'To Lowell Rotary's credit, the organization invited me, I wouldn't have sought an invitation,' Zaczek said, "Lowell Rotary members are the modern 80's type of group." Zaczek listed, the need to return something back to the community; her working title as Lowell Community Education Director fits in with the community orientation of the Rotary; the network of people a person comes in contact with at Rotary; and she believes Rotary is the best community service organization in Lowell as reasons she enjoys being a member of the Lowell Rotary. "Outside of those formal reasons, the Rotarians are a great group of people," she said. Zaczek said she feels a sense of pride being the first woman Rotarian in Lowell history. "It's important that people know I was accepted as a Rotarian and not as a woman Rotarian. I'm not a pathfinder or a militant. I'm not even a strong advocate of the women's movement and I don't join the Lowell Rotary with any preconceived agenda," added Zaczek. Her sponsor, Jim Hodges, owner of Lowelectronics and second vice president of the Lowell Rotary, believes that with Rotary representing the community it should also be representative of it. "Rotary is a civic type organization that provides services, therefore I feel it should tap all the community resources whether it be male or female," said Hodges, "I am pleased with the receptiveness of the club toward Linda Zaczek. I think clubs need more people like Zaczek. She is enthusiastic, supportive and energetic. I always found it funny that years ago the Rotary held a Women's day to honor women, but would not allow them to become members."

Lowell Cable TV airs "The Job Show." This week's topic is Leisure Service Industry opportunities. The variety of jobs available in the industry is wide-ranging, encompassing everything from lifeguards and recreational therapists to foresters, groundskeepers and security personnel at recreational facilities. "The Job Show" is produced as a public service by the MESC.

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- 71. ___ a cold
 - 72. Finish
 - 73. Investment
- DOWN**
- 1. "Sad to say..."
 - 2. Campus military org.
 - 3. Last name in fashion
 - 4. Lowest deck

- 5. Load again
- 6. Italian money, 1861-2002
- 7. Bauxite, e.g.
- 8. Bloopers
- 9. Smoothie berry
- 10. *Popular tinsel material in 20th Century
- 11. Bohemian
- 12. Biochemistry abbr.
- 15. Arm decoration
- 20. \$1,000
- 22. Matterhorn, e.g.
- 24. Sully
- 25. *Holiday cake filler
- 26. "No ___"
- 27. *Hot ___ serving, archaic
- 29. Hard work
- 31. Sales force
- 32. ___ Intestinal obstruction
- 33. Rocks at mountain base
- 34. *Gingerbread sculpture
- 36. Sold in bars
- 38. Supernatural life force
- 42. Stitch again
- 45. *Hanukkah's eight
- 49. *Rudolph's Clarice, e.g.
- 51. Slaps
- 54. HI, e.g.
- 56. Without illumination
- 57. ___ gin fizz
- 58. Campaign worker
- 59. College girl
- 60. Warm-hearted
- 61. "J'accuse" author
- 62. Run ___
- 63. Cathedral area
- 64. *Holiday shelf watcher
- 66. A Bobbsey twin

Puzzle solutions appear on page 12

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Idol, continued

and applaud their effort and preparation for this competition.”

Music director Kolp agrees that the event was a success and says she is glad to provide a forum for her “exceptionally gifted”

students to display their talents. “Every year these students astound me. I keep thinking that it can’t possibly be better than last year. The judges couldn’t believe there were this many

students with such great voices at one high school. Lowell students are just phenomenal and I feel so lucky to be able to work with them,” added Kolp.



2013 LHS Idol Jaylene Milton during her winning and crowd-pleasing performance.

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Host Shelby Antel listening to the judge’s critiques with third-place winner senior Sidney Anderson.

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