

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

LOWELL AREA
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& Industry
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photo by J. Boss

Holiday ice storm leaves many in West Michigan without power

Amid toppled-over trees and ice-covered power lines, many families were left without power on Christmas.

Consumers Energy reported that Michigan was one of the most heavily hit states, along with Maine and New Hampshire, where more than 150,000 homes remained without power early Christmas Day.

By day's end, repair crews had reduced that number to the tens of thousands.

However at its peak, the storm last Saturday affected more than 500,000 homes and businesses in Michigan.

Among those affected included Lowell, Hastings and Ada. Hastings was hit the most by the snow and ice storms.

"The whole town (of Hastings) was completely out of power," said Jon Jacobs, the publisher of the Lowell Ledger and the Buyers Guide. "Over the course of the following days the town sporadically got power back on. There was an incredible amount of trees and power lines down."

J-Ad Graphics, which is located in Hastings, is the parent company of the Lowell Ledger's/Buyers Guide. They ended up losing power and only partial power was back on Christmas Eve.

In a given week, J-Ad Graphics prints and publishes 30 different newspapers.

"We are still playing catch up on all of our printing," said Jacobs. "The latest update from Consumers Power is that they are hopeful to have power restored for all of Barry County by Dec. 30."

New healthcare laws may affect higher income families and businesses at tax time

by Tony Wittkowski
contributing reporter

One factor that the majority of American citizens will have to take into consideration come tax season will be the Affordable Healthcare Act.

Linda Todd, owner of D & L Tax Service which is located on 220 W. Main St., said she has already begun to tell her clientele what they can expect in the coming years.

"It's going to change quite a bit," said Todd, who has been doing taxes since 1980 at both her store and at H&R Block. "It could have a big impact because the people who don't have insurance will be penalized."

That penalized percentage will go up each year, she said.

Citizens are able to access the Market Place where they can choose from one of four tiers of health coverage. However, the deadline to have coverage by Jan. 1, 2014, was on Dec. 15.

A few extra taxes for higher income families will also be implemented, Todd said.

An extra 0.9 percent will be taken from an income of \$200,000 or more for an individual that is single. That same percentage will be taken out if the combined income for a married couple exceeds \$250,000. It would increase to 3.8 percent on unearned income, such as trusts, dividends and royalties.

This is one of the main things that Todd has disliked in regards to the changes that will go into effect in 2014.

"They are being penalized for basically being married," she said. "However, most of my clientele are under the \$200,000 mark."

The Affordable Healthcare Act, otherwise known as Obamacare, will also require employers, who

have 50 or more employees that work full time, to provide health insurance by 2015.

"They've got a free pass for 2014, but they get to do it in 2015," Todd said. "They will probably pay higher rates or discontinue it all together. It depends on the company and how much money they have."

Tax season will begin late this year again. The

late start, Todd says, was said to be attributed to the government's shutdown amid the Senate's negotiations over Obamacare.

Todd says there is another explanation for the late start.

"They are trying to stop fraud," she said, "because when you start really early, the IRS does not have all the forms yet to check."

If they choose to do so, people will be able to start e-filing between Jan. 28 and Feb. 4.

She also had one piece of advice for those who choose to do their own taxes with online programs.

"Make sure that they are around all year, that they have been around a long time, they are registered with the IRS and that they e-file."

Snyder signs bills allowing driverless vehicles in Michigan

Gov. Rick Snyder recently signed legislation allowing the testing of automated motor vehicles on Michigan roadways.

The governor called for the measures in his 2013 state of the state address.

"Michigan is the automotive capital of the world," Snyder said. "By allowing the testing of

automated, driverless cars today, we will stay at the forefront in automotive technological advances that will make driving safer and more efficient in the future."

Snyder said companies and universities in Michigan are leading the way in many intelligent, connected vehicle programs aimed at driverless cars. This

legislation, he said, is key to the future of research and development of automotive technology in the state.

Senate Bill 169, sponsored by state Sen. Mike Kowall, allows automakers and upfitters to test automated motor

Driverless vehicles,
continued, page 2

Be of service this Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 20 is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. On this day, we celebrate the birthday of the civil rights leader and nonviolent activist. To many people, the holiday is more than an

observance of an American hero. It is a day of service.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service is a part of United We Serve, the President's national call to service initiative. It calls for

Americans from all walks of life to work together to provide solutions to our most pressing national problems.

We at Social Security

encourage people everywhere to be of service to someone this Martin Luther King Jr. Day. A great way to do that is by helping someone you know

who may need assistance applying for Social Security, Medicare, or *extra help* with Medicare prescription drug costs. Each task is easy to do at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Some people who need these benefits may not be comfortable with computers or may not even know applying online is an option. They may put off the trip to a Social Security office for a number of reasons: inconvenience, wait time, transportation conflicts, or not being comfortable in crowds.

But it's easier than ever to apply for these benefits from the convenience of any computer at www.socialsecurity.gov.

For example, it's easy to apply for retirement benefits

at www.socialsecurity.gov/applyonline. It takes as little as 15 minutes from start to finish, and once the application is submitted electronically, in most cases, there is nothing more to do — no forms to sign and no documents to submit.

This holiday, make your Martin Luther King Jr. Day a day of service to someone who can use your help. Lead them to www.socialsecurity.gov. Online tasks that may be simple for you could make a world of difference to people who need assistance.

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 vondavantil@ssa.gov



along main street

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

For an environmentally friendly way to dispose of your Christmas tree bring it out to the Wittenbach/Wege Agriscience and Environmental Education Center before Jan. 12 to be shredded and used for mulch around the center. Please do not bring out any items that contain wire, such as wreaths or garland as we do not have the ability to remove the wire. No trees will be accepted after January 12. For more information, call 616-987-2565.

GILDA'S CLUB LOWELL CLUBHOUSE

Neuropathy Informative Workshop – Tues., Jan. 14, 3-4 pm. If you are living with neuropathy, come and join others who are also. We will learn, share and laugh together. **Woodcarving** - Tues., Jan. 21, 3:15-4:15 pm. Learn how to make easy and beautiful wood carvings with Doug Shassberger. Beginners are welcome and supplies are provided. **Book Club** - Tues., Jan. 21, 4:15-5:15 pm. Join Kathy Mieras for a relaxing and cozy book club. Pick up your book to borrow at the parlor desk. Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson St. For more information call 897-8600 or visit www.gildasclubgr.org/pinkarrow

LIVESTRONG AT THE YMCA

Cancer Wellness Program, Livestrong will be held at the Lowell YMCA starting Jan. 7, 2014 on Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:30 am to 12:45 pm. It is free of charge, for more information call 855-9570.

SMOKING CESSATION CLASSES

Free smoking cessation classes begin Wednesday, Jan. 8. Tobacco Free For Good class meets for six weeks on Wednesday evenings from 6-8:00 pm at Lowell Family Medical Center, 2550 East Main Street. Each participant receives an individual quit plan designed by a Mayo Clinic trained and certified facilitator. Registration encouraged. Call 616-446-7058.

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.

Driverless vehicles, continued

vehicles, but requires a human to be in the driver's seat to monitor performance and intervene if necessary.

A companion measure, SB 663, also sponsored by Kowall, protects original manufacturers from civil liability for damages caused by modified autonomous

vehicles, unless the defect from which the damages resulted was present in the vehicle when it was manufactured.

The bills are now Public Acts 231 and 251 of 2013. Visit legislature.michigan.gov for more information.

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Bed and breakfast finds an edge in wedding venues

by Tony Wittkowski
contributing reporter

Things changed for Bill and Brenda Schreur in a big way last year.

Bill originally started work on the River Edge Bed and Breakfast & Gathering Place in October 2012, while capping off the finishing touches with the addition of the Whirlpool this past month.

"We officially opened in September and we did not complete it until just now," Bill said. "It's been a lot of work. I started working on it over a year ago."

As the owners and operators, the two received numerous calls about the bed and breakfast, which is located on 786 Flat River Drive.

"We actually had a number of guests over the summer asking us and calling us 'when are you going to be open?'" Brenda said.

The couple offers a bed and breakfast, along with both outdoor and wedding venues, equipped with a terrace.

There is about a mile of river frontage, Bill said, which goes along with the activities that are offered. Such activities include hiking, cross country skiing, photography and snow shoeing.

Although the scenery speaks for itself in the 109 total acres. It has an atmosphere that lends itself to these types of activities.

"It's just a very unique, beautiful setting," Bill said. "We had noticed that



outdoor weddings were becoming very popular along with the bed and breakfast. We felt our place was unique to the ones we had been looking at."

Bill is a builder by trade, so when it came to fixing up the house there was no guesswork involved.

The couple tried to restore the house to its original era and time period to convey the image that would reflect its own atmosphere: seasonal.

From the glass knobs

on some of the old, wooden doors to some of the more finite details, it is a step back in time.

"It's great for couples that would come and want a romantic getaway," Bill says, thinking back on to previous customers, "but it's also great for groups, too."

The entire area offers three bedrooms total, including two full baths and two half baths.

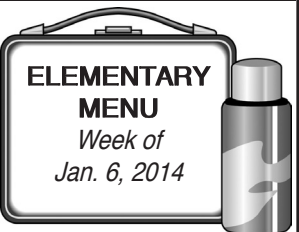
The types of food also varies for River Edge's customers, where Brenda

can make anything from buttermilk waffles to breakfast stir-fry."

"We don't feel like we're not that well-known yet," Bill said. "But the outdoor wedding venues are going crazy right now. Our biggest challenge is getting the word out."

Their website can be found at riveredgebnb.com and those interested can call 616-897-5928.

LUNCH MENU



MON: WG cheese quesadilla w/salsa, refried beans, fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, fresh baby carrots, applesauce, pears, milk.

TUES: Sweet & sour WG popcorn chicken over brown rice (served at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake) WG Bosco sticks w/ dipping sauce (served at Bushnell), seasoned green beans, fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, cucumber coins, strawberries, fresh grapes, milk.

WED: Scrambled eggs w/ sausage & WG biscuit, hashbrowns, fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, fresh cauliflower bites, fresh pear, orange slices, milk.

THURS: WG breaded chicken nuggets (served at Bushnell), hot dog on WG bun (served at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), mashed potatoes & gravy, fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, cherry tomatoes, pineapples, apple, milk.

FRI: Tony's pepperoni pizza on WG crust, side salad, fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, baby carrots, mixed fruit, juice, milk.

LOWELL WOMEN'S CLUB

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financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

Financial Resolutions for the New Year

About 45 percent of Americans usually make New Year's resolutions, according to a survey from the University of Scranton. But the same survey shows that only 8 percent of us actually keep our resolutions. Perhaps this low success rate isn't such a tragedy when our resolutions involve things like losing a little weight or learning a foreign language. But when we make financial resolutions — resolutions that, if achieved, could significantly help us in our pursuit of our important long-term goals — it's clearly worthwhile to make every effort to follow through.

So, what sorts of financial resolutions might you consider? Here are a few possibilities:

- *Boost your contributions to your retirement plans.* Each year, try to put in a little more to your IRA and your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plans. These tax-advantaged accounts are good options for your retirement savings strategy.
- *Reduce your debts.* It's not always easy

to reduce your debts, but make it a goal to finish 2014 with a smaller debt load than you had going into the new year. The lower your monthly debt payments, the more money you'll have to invest for retirement, college for your children (or grandchildren) and other important objectives.

- *Build your emergency fund.* Work on building an "emergency fund" containing six to 12 months' worth of living expenses, with the money held in a liquid account that offers a high degree of preservation of principal. Without such a fund, you might be forced to dip into your long-term investments to pay for emergencies, such as a new furnace, a major car repair, and so on. You might not be able to finish creating your emergency fund in one year, but contribute as much as you can afford.

- *Plan for your protection needs.* If you don't already have the proper amounts of life and disability insurance in place, put it on your "To Do" list for 2014. Also, if you haven't taken steps to protect yourself from

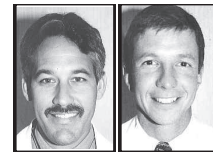
the considerable costs of long-term care, such as an extended nursing home stay, consult with your financial professional, who can suggest the appropriate protection or investment vehicles. You may never need such care, but that's a chance you may not want to take — and the longer you wait, the more expensive your protection options may become.

- *Don't overreact to market volatility.* Too many people head to the investment "sidelines" during market downturns. But if you're not invested, then you miss any potential market gains — and the biggest gains are often realized at the early stages of the rally.

- *Focus on the long term.* You can probably check your investment balance online, which means you can do it every day, or even several times a day — but should you? If you're following a strategy that's appropriate for your needs, goals, risk tolerance and time horizon, you're already doing what you should be doing in the long run. So there's no need to stress yourself over the short-term movements that show up in your investment statements.

Do whatever you can to turn these New Year's resolutions into realities. Your efforts could pay off well beyond 2014.

health



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

antibiotic resistance

Antibiotics kill bacteria that once routinely caused fatal illnesses. Since the 1940s, antibiotic use has reduced death and disease related to infections around the world. However, some bacteria have become resistant to the antibiotics that were previously used to treat them. They can

continue to grow and make people sick even when exposed to a drug that killed the bacteria in the past. As a result, different and stronger drugs are constantly needed to fight bacterial infections.

There are many reasons antibiotic use is so widespread. Antibiotics are relatively low cost,

are easy to take as a pill, liquid or injection and have been very effective in controlling diseases related to bacteria. There are dangers in using too many antibiotics. Antibiotics result in complications such as rashes and other allergic complications. Using too many antibiotics can increase resistance to the drugs by the bacteria targeted by the antibiotic.

In 2013, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) released a report about antibiotic resistance. Overall, resistance causes two million bacterial and fungal illnesses and 23,000 deaths yearly. Antibiotic resistance could have a serious effect on recent medical advances. Procedures like organ transplants or cancer treatment are often associated with infections. As bacteria become more resistant to antibiotics, these infections become more difficult to treat. There are very few new antibacterial drugs ready for the market. The best approach to decrease antibiotic resistance is to use antibiotics only when they are absolutely needed and to use them for as short of a time as possible.

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viewpoint

ENDA's passage honors our founding ideals



Sen. Carl Levin

This nation began not as merely a plot of land or as a group of people united by language or ethnicity. It began with an idea: "That all men are created equal." Our story since Thomas Jefferson wrote those words has been a story of progress toward honoring what has been called "the immortal phrase."

A few weeks ago, the Senate voted to move our nation one important step forward in honoring the truth of those words by finally

passing the Employment Nondiscrimination Act or ENDA. This legislation would ensure that no American is deprived of the opportunity to work – the opportunity to succeed – merely because of sexual orientation or gender identity, just as we have acted to protect that opportunity against discrimination based on age, race, color, religion, national origin or disability.

This legislation is carefully crafted to protect

the sincere religious beliefs many Americans hold. It embodies a simple but powerful American ideal: On the job, what matters is your work, not your gender or skin color or faith or your sexual orientation any other extraneous matter.

There may have been times in the past when the Congress pushed Americans into new and perhaps uncomfortable territory in the march toward equality. But today, the law lags public opinion in this area. Public opinion polls show that roughly seven in ten Americans believe workplace discrimination against gays, lesbians and transgendered individuals should be against the law. In fact, they think it already

is – according to one poll, 80 percent of Americans believe such discrimination is already a violation of federal law.

And support for ENDA is not confined to one region of the country – polls show that majorities in every state in the union support it, including Michigan, where more than 30 municipalities already have local statutes prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation. So passage of ENDA is not some bold social experiment or engineering process. It is what the American people want and are ready for.

That is as true today as it was in 1996, the last time the Senate held a vote on this measure. Even then, a majority of

Americans supported it, and just as today, it enjoyed the support of a diverse group of religious and business organizations. Then, as today, American businesses recognized that discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity is just bad business.

This is also not a partisan issue. The Senate's bipartisan vote was possible because members of both parties showed principled leadership and dedication.

But the ultimate reason I have supported this legislation for decades now is not related to public opinion polls or endorsement letters from churches and corporations, though those are heartening and welcome. Simply, it is

wrong to deny employment to anyone who can do the job, just because of their sexual orientation. "All men are created equal" means giving every American the opportunity to earn what their talents and dedication allow, to provide for themselves and their families. Denying anyone that right is at odds with the ideals on which this country was founded and on which it depends to this day.

I was proud to vote for this legislation. I have urged the leaders of the House of Representatives to recognize just how far behind the American people they have fallen on this issue and bring the Employee Nondiscrimination Act to the House floor for a vote.

power lines

Greg Pierce

Dear Lowell

Light & Power Customers, The Lowell Ledger has given me the opportunity to communicate to you through a monthly column that we will call the "Power Line Press." During my tenure as general manager of Lowell Light & Power we have used several techniques to keep you informed regarding the direction and changes occurring at the utility. I am thankful for this opportunity to now bring you information on a regular basis.

This first column appears January 1, 2014, marking the beginning of a new year as well as the end of an exciting year. During the past year Lowell Light & Power won its second National RP3 award as a Reliable Public Power Provider. This award is a huge credit to the entire staff of Lowell Light & Power and not only recognizes their accomplishment in providing reliable electric service to their customers,

but also for Workforce Development, for Safety and for System Improvement. By receiving this award we are considered among the top 10 percent in our industry, for all those categories. Lowell Light & Power has been able to accomplish this level of recognition, which really translates into exceptional service for our customers and rates that still average 15 percent lower than our neighbors.

In addition to this national designation and part of the reason we were selected for the award, is the

way we continually strive to improve the "system" that brings you the electricity. In 2013 we were able to complete installation of a combustion turbine generator that will assist us in meeting our peak loads during the summer months of 2014 and we have a second turbine in the installation process. These system upgrades are being completed without bonding (borrowing), which reflects our financial strength. A further indication of our

power lines, continued, page 6

outdoors



winter fun

Dave Stegehuis

Winter came early to Michigan this year. Water was freezing in the wash basin at bow camp in October and below normal temperatures continued into late December. There was plenty of snow to go with it. If we don't have an early spring, it's going to be a long winter for some people and a lot of wildlife. A long winter is just fine with those who participate in winter sports or have a hobby related to the winter season. If one is going to live in this part of the country, it is wise to seek out winter activities in order to stay active throughout the year.

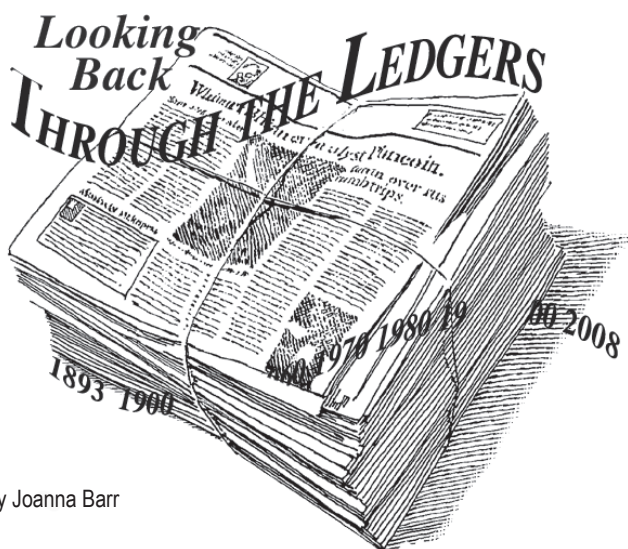
Some activities leave a small footprint on the environment. Snowshoeing and cross country skiing lead one into the backcountry to experience solitude and to get acquainted with the local forest residents. Ice fishing and rabbit hunting are challenging as well as productive if fish and game are brought to the dinner table.

For folks who prefer to cover a lot of ground in a hurry, hundreds of miles

of snowmobile trails weave through the woods and fields across the state. Ski resorts provide landscape for downhill skiing, as well as sledding runs, and cross country ski trails at many locations. County and city parks often have sledding hills for kids of all ages.

Feeding birds can transform your backyard from a bleak empty space to a bevy of activity as birds of all kinds show up for lunch. Water and places that provide cover will also help the birds through a rough winter. Once begun, feeding must continue until spring so the now dependent birds are not left abandoned.

These are just a few suggestions of things to do during the winter. Getting involved with winter sports and other activities makes the season go faster and also provides an opportunity to get some fresh air and lots of exercise. Rather than dreading the cold snowy winter weather, turn the season into something to look forward to in anticipation of good times.



By Joanna Barr

140 years ago Lowell Journal December 31, 1873

Christmas day was a quiet day in Lowell. We couldn't think of sending the Journal out this week without wishing its many readers "A Happy New Year." F. D. Stocking shows us a sample of native rye from Montana. The kernel is very large and full, measuring nearly half an inch in length. It grows in great abundance in Montana and makes excellent flour. Mr. Stocking has a small quantity of this rye which he will give to any farmer who desires to try the experiment of raising it in Michigan soil.

125 years ago Lowell Journal January 4, 1889

Advertisement: Messrs. Proctor & Gamble, Cincinnati, O. Gentlemen – Although a stranger to you and my testimonial entirely unnecessary, as it certainly is unsolicited, yet I take great pleasure in testifying to the excellence of your Ivory soap and thanking you for putting it on the market at so low a price. It has entirely supplanted the use of Castile and other fine soaps in my household for several years past, being in no way inferior and from fifty to seventy-five per cent more economical. A good test I find for the purity of

Editor Journal — Allow us through your columns, to sincerely thank those citizens of Lowell who assisted in making up the amount of \$72.50, as a Christmas gift to us. We are also very grateful for those articles which were among the five hundred on board our heavily loaded and beautifully trimmed Christmas ship. We are thankful for these favors not only for their intrinsic values but also as tokens of your kindly feeling toward us and the cause for which we labor. We hope this friendship between us may grow stronger as we know each other better and that we may be instrumental, under God, of serving you in our humble capacity. Our earnest prayer is that God may bless you and your homes. A. Rogers, Mrs. Mary Rogers, Lowell, Mich., Dec 25, 1873.

Looking Back, continued, page 12

State police remind citizens to use extreme caution after ice storm

Citizens are reminded to use extreme caution as recovery efforts are underway after a weekend ice storm caused power outages and downed trees and power lines.

The Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) continues to work with local emergency management partners to ensure communities have all the resources they need to respond and recover. The State Emergency Operations Center is currently in monitoring mode, with key positions staffed to track and evaluate

conditions and additional personnel on standby.

“This weekend’s ice storm has severely impacted our communities,” said Capt. Chris A. Kelenske, Deputy State Director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and commander of the MSP/EMHSD. “We are closely monitoring the situation to ensure the public health and safety of Michigan citizens.”

Power Outage Safety

As of 4 p.m. Dec. 24, there were more than 307,000 customers without power in the state of Michigan.

Citizens who have lost power are encouraged to remain vigilant and patient as utility companies work to restore power. Below are some reminders on staying safe during a power outage:

- Stay at least 25 feet from any downed lines and assume that every line is “live” and dangerous.
- If clearing trees or limbs, make CERTAIN they are not in contact with a power line. Trees and branches can conduct electricity and electrocute you on contact.
- Do not call 911 to ask about the power outage.

Report outages to your utility company.

- Never run a generator indoors. Ensure it is outside – far away from windows or any other area where exhaust can vent back into a living area. Carbon monoxide can cause injury or death.
- Have an emergency preparedness kit ready with supplies to last three days per person (e.g., food, water, first aid kit, hand-crank flashlight and radio, extra clothing and blankets).
- Check on elderly and disabled neighbors to ensure they are safe.
- Use battery-powered

lanterns, if possible, rather than candles to light homes without electrical power. If you use candles, make sure they are in safe holders away from curtains, paper, wood or other flammable items. Never leave a candle burning when you are out of the room.

• Use extreme caution when driving. If traffic signals are out, treat each signal as a stop sign. Come to a complete stop at every intersection and look before you proceed.

• Dress in warm clothing and layers, keep doors shut and never use the stove or charcoal as a source of heat inside a home.

The American Red Cross and many local communities have

established shelters and warming centers for those who have lost power. Citizens are encouraged to contact their local emergency management agency or call 211 for location information.

The MSP/EMHSD continues to monitor the situation and will take prudent action should conditions warrant. Citizens are encouraged to monitor local news media for up-to-date information.

For more information on what to do before, during and after an emergency or disaster, check out the MSP/EMHSD’s website at www.michigan.gov/emhsd or Twitter page at www.twitter.com/MichEMHS.

Power lines, continued

financial strength occurred in 2013 when we started realizing the effect of refinancing an older bond that will save the utility more than \$600,000 over the next 20 years. Lowell Light & Power also took the opportunity in 2013 to be a “collecting agent” for the State of Michigan’s Low Income Heating Fund. Although not required to participate in this fund, we believed it was the right thing to do for the community. You may have read the recent announcement where the Flat River Outreach Ministry (FROM) received a grant from this fund, which

in effect returned all the dollars we collected back to the community to assist those who are experiencing hard times.

Looking forward into 2014 we are excited about the potential development of the Lowell Biodigester. Having this project come to fruition would be a huge benefit to our community and to the generation portfolio of Lowell Light & Power. I will discuss the biodigester in more detail next month. In the meantime, all the staff at Lowell Light & Power would like to wish you, our customers and friends, a very Happy New Year.

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| JANUARY 3
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LOWELL AREA

Business & Industry

For several weeks The Ledger will be running a series on local businesses. These stories, highlighting thriving businesses in the area, will also run the following weekend in the Buyers Guide.

B.C. Pizza

B.C. Pizza is a restaurant chain that started in Boyne City, Mich., in 1988 and has expanded to over 30 locations in three states. Their eatery at 1335 W. Main is one of Lowell's most popular pizza destinations.

"We strived to deepen our footprints in the community," said restaurant manager James Fegel.

The restaurant is active in Lowell's school system.

"We have a pretty great relationship with Lowell Area Schools," Fegel

said. "The community-based instruction program, boosters, sponsorships and fundraisers are a lot of fun every year."

B.C. Pizza can also be counted on to pitch in during a crisis.

"We try to lend a hand where we can," Fegel said, "whether it be working with Flat River Outreach Ministry's food bank or helping feed the volunteers who kept this past spring's flood water at bay by filling sand bags."

Fegel said the strong

sense of community in Lowell is his favorite thing about the town.

"What I love about Lowell is you know what to expect," Fegel said. "I count on my neighbors, friends and family."

The company is optimistic about Lowell's future.

"I see another great year of growth and sense of belonging," Fegel said. "We plan on contributing to that any way we can. We are very blessed to live and work here."



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LOWELL
AREA

Business & Industry

Fuller Septic Services

According to the late Tom Tschannen, there are three things you could count on in life, "death, taxes and waste."

The Tschannens were new to the area and utilized Fuller Breshnahan Septic Services for their own home. After using their services, Tschannen realized the need for a quality septic service business and knew that he could do exactly that. After seeing that the company was for sale, Tom Tschannen decided that he was interested in purchasing Fuller Breshnahan Septic Services in the 1970s.

When he purchased the company he inherited one broken down truck in the dump site. Tom got a young neighbor who was handy with mechanics and he got the truck up and running. He eventually dropped the Breshnahan name and the rest is history.

"Originally he ran the business out of the house in Ada," said Tschannen's wife Jane. "From there we moved the trucks into Ada East and we still operated the office from our home. In 1994 we bought the building here in Lowell and moved both the offices and vehicles out here and have loved it ever since!"

"The move to Lowell has allowed us to expand from a one truck operation to now having three pumpers," said Tschannen.

In 2011 Tom's wife Jane took over her husband's dream and made it her own. "I began working in the office for Tom several years ago part time. I took

over running the business after Tom passed away in January 2011."

Throughout Fuller Septic Services' fifty years in business their main focus has been on septic systems. They offer services ensuring a quick response to your septic cleaning, inspection and service needs. These services include routine maintenance, emergency cleaning, certification of septic systems and replacements of failed septic tanks.

In a business where the problems are often big, Fuller Septic Services realizes that it is the little things that make a big difference to their loyal customers. From leaving a lawn the way they found it to going beyond the call of duty and repairing pipe work between the house and the pump, Fuller Septic Services will go the extra mile.

"Helping the homeowner is what differentiates us from the rest," Tschannen said. "We send out reminder cards to our clients every two years, we keep excellent records and we are ready to assist you when you sell your home."

Education of customers is also key for Fuller Septic Services. They offer an extensive website to further explain and educate homeowners about the basic septic maintenance steps, septic system mechanics, resources to help locate your septic tank, and signs of septic system failure.

In addition to education, the Fuller Septic Services

website also gives you the tools and resources needed when something does go wrong. Fuller Septic Services sells Bio-clean, a septic maintenance product and offers a 24 hours / 7 days a week emergency line to call when emergent septic needs arise. In addition, there is an extensive list of things to help diagnose if your septic system is failing.

"We pride ourselves in doing quality work and standing behind it," said Tschannen. "We guarantee that our customers will be happy."

As Fuller Septic Services looks into the future they are thinking with the city of Lowell and the environment in mind. In addition to new trucks and a new backhoe for installing fiberglass tanks, Fuller Septic Services is also building a pre-treatment wastewater facility on site which will allow them to process the waste right here in Lowell.

Tschannen explains, "We have not been land applying for over a year now and haul all of our waste to the Muskegon facility. That is the closest facility along with Gun Lake that will accept raw septic waste. Our new pre-treatment (de-watering) facility will allow us to save the expense of hauling and disposing in Muskegon. This facility will allow the treated effluent to go to the Lowell Treatment Plant and the solids that are left to go to the landfill."

By getting off the land for application Tschannen believes it is much better



for the environment. "We process too many gallons a year and there is not enough suitable acreage available for the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to license a dump site for us. Land application sites are where the pumper discs raw septage into the ground and then the land is used for animal crop only," said Tschannen.

"This will help us in two ways. We will not have to haul waste all of the way to the Muskegon wastewater facility and we will be paying Lowell to utilize their waste water facility," Tschannen said.

"Building the pre-treatment facility was always a dream of Tom's so we are all happy to see it come to fruition," said Tschannen.

"We are not disposing on land anymore," said Tschannen "It is our mission to provide good service, build good relationships and to be environmentally responsible."

As Fuller Septic Services continues to expand, they also hope to spread the word that they are here to help. This year was their first year at the Lowell Expo that was held on March 23rd. "We wanted to let people know we are here. Septic maintenance is important and we want to help people avoid costly drain field expenses," said Tschannen. "For most people if it is out of sight it is out of mind."

Fuller Septic Services has also had a tradition of excellent employees

for many years. "It is a dirty job that is not suitable for everyone," said Tschannen. "It is getting harder and harder to find tradesmen for a job like this, but the drivers we have enjoy the flexibility and freedom found in this job."

Employing eight people, Tschannen said, "It is staff here that have helped me transition after my husband's passing. They are a great group to work with."

In reflecting on the past forty years Tschannen said, "As a business person, you are only as good as your employees. We have a phenomenal staff at Fuller Septic Services. They have helped me grow this business."



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LOWELL
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Business & Industry

Cousins' Hallmark

Cousins' Hallmark first opened its doors on December 7, 1984, just over one hundred years after the historical building, in which it resides, was built. In the beginning the historic building housed the local grocery store. Since that time, 223 W. Main Street has been the home to many staple businesses in Lowell, including Scott Hardware, Gee's Hardware and Riverside Fireplace.

The longtime owner of Cousins' Hallmark, Karen Hale, said, "The historic downtown area of Lowell was sparse when Cousins' first came to the Lowell community." With only the dime store, an antique store and The Radio Shack nearby, Hale noticed the need for their store in the Lowell community.

Knowing that Lowell had much to offer, Hale decided to pursue her dream of opening up a Hallmark shop. "When Lipperts Pharmacy was bought out by Rite Aid, we found a building and away we went," said Hale. "We loved that the people of Lowell were friendly caring people, that they had a great active chamber of commerce and they had the small-town atmosphere."

Early on, Cousins' Hallmark did very well. "We were excited and had nothing to compare it to. We made every mistake there was and that is how we learned," said Hale.

In 1990, Hale took over the sole ownership role of the store and continued to maintain the Hallmark brand. While the Cousins'

store is not considered a Hallmark franchise, it is a dealer that keeps the brand pure and maintains certain qualifications to keep their gold crown level. Maintaining this marketing agreement with Hallmark allows Hale to take advantage of the many resources and knowledge that Hallmark has to offer. Hale stated, "The freedom of not being a true franchise is that we can have a more quaint, historical Hallmark store and continue to be one of the smaller ones nationwide."

From the beginning, Cousins' has strived to meet their customer's needs by supplying cards and products that fill their customer's emotional and personal needs for gift giving and personal purchases.

"We try hard and care about our customers. They have allowed us to be part of their lives, whether it is a birth of a child or a challenging health issue. We honestly laugh and cry with our customers," said Hale.

As the needs of their customers have changed in the almost thirty years that they have been in business, Cousins' Hallmark has made the commitment to change, adapt and grow along with them.

"Trends and products change, so we continue to try to improve and give our customers the very best friendly customer service," said Hale. "We have added several different greeting card captions and departments to fill a large variety of price points,



starting from .99 cents. We have expanded our captions to cover the ever changing needs of our customers."

From the beginning, Cousins' Hallmark has always put their customers first and have only been interested in their satisfaction. "If a customer is not happy with any purchase, we will offer them a return or cash back with a receipt or in-store credit."

Cousins' Hallmark's customer service does not end there. Cousins' also loves to show appreciation for their customers by hosting several events throughout the year. Most notably is the Girls' Night Out event, which is hosted each year. Cousins' first began that event in 2003 as a way to thank their customers and in 2006 took the idea to the Lowell Chamber of Commerce and 14 other businesses jumped on board. Now in the last year there were 27 businesses who took part in this customer appreciation

event. "It is an event that is a highlight in the village of Lowell," said Hale.

In addition to Girls' Night Out, Cousins' Hallmark hosts a variety of seasonal events, as well as ornament premieres and debuts. "We try to offer as many events as we can to appreciate our customers and set ourselves apart," said Hale.

When it comes to the future for Cousins' Hallmark, they are not only planning to continue to serve the Lowell community, but they are currently looking into the MSHDA (Michigan State Housing Development Authority) grant for Main Street revitalization. With this grant Cousins' Hallmark would improve the exterior of their historical shop, as well as the interior by adding apartments to rent in their upper level.

"The benefits of apartments means not only will it make the buildings downtown be more appealing, but it will

bring in people to rent the apartments which can be so beneficial for the community and bring up the value of the buildings," said Hale. "Studio apartments in downtown areas are becoming a wonderful trend. It is the old story of live local, shop local and helping communities thrive."

If awarded this grant, the MSHDA would assist in creating affordable living that would engage and invite community members to revitalize the Lowell Main Street area. "As the building would be historically revitalized, we would have really cool apartments that have the high ceilings, exposed bricks [and] wood floors," said Hale. "It is a great opportunity all around. We have so much to offer in this great community. From our school system to our riverfront activities, we

would offer a great place to live that is just far enough away from the big busy cities."

As Cousins' Hallmark is looking into the future, they are also remaining true to the service they always have had and will continue to provide the Lowell community. "We have friendly, outgoing employees that go the extra mile," said Hale. "We always want our atmosphere to be comfortable, friendly and pleasant. A place where customers can come in and concentrate on what they need to accomplish in that day, while offering help from our knowledgeable and pleasant sales associates."

After thirty years in business, what is Hale most proud of?

"That we are still here," said Hale. "Our business is not just a money exchange type of business. It is personal."

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LOWELL
AREA

Business & Industry

Bernard's Ace Hardware

Bernard's Ace Hardware, 1601 W Main, has been a cornerstone in the community for over two decades.

The store is active in the community in several different ways.

"We sponsored Little League, we have Mrs. Santa come in the store every year and we pass out cookies on the weekend occasionally," said owner Charlie Bernard. "I think those are some positive things that we've done."

The store is a long-time sponsor of a Little League baseball team.

"We've sponsored one



practically every year since we've been here, 26 years," Bernard said.

Bernard predicts an end to the union negotiations.

"I think we'll resolve the Light and Power issue," Bernard said, "and I think that we're going to continue to make improvements in our

tax structure and business atmosphere." According to Bernard a positive attitude is the key to the store's success.

"We're just going to try to do the best job we can serving people," Bernard

said. "That positive attitude benefits everybody, us included."

River Valley Credit Union

In the mid-1960s, Jay Van Andel and Richard DeVos planted a successful mega-corporation in the heart of West Michigan when Amway Sales Corporation, Amway Services Corporation and Amway Manufacturing Corporation merged to form Amway Corporation. This was nearly 15 years after DeVos and Van Andel first went into business with the creation of Ja-Ri Corporation and it was about five years before Amway expanded overseas to become the vast

international corporation that it is today. During the early years of Amway there was a boom in employment in Ada and the surrounding areas and with this new wave of capital entering the area, the executives at Amway decided they needed a place that could meet the specific banking needs of their employees. The result was the creation of Amway Employees Credit Union (AECU) on May 13, 1965, a cooperative not-for-profit credit union that would become better known as River Valley Credit Union (RVCU) in the years to come.

It would be nearly 40 years before the RVCU that the people of Lowell have come to know, love and most importantly trust with their finances would emerge from the seed of AECU and the switch would involve massive changes both at Amway and the credit union that created was for and by its employees. AECU started with 14 Amway employees and ballooned at much the same rate as the company it was created to serve. Amway and AECU were completely in synch until 1998, when Amway was forced to downsize, leaving many of the employee-owners



of AECU unemployed. In order to offset the potential loss of members at AECU, the credit union needed to change its charter.

"In the fall of 2000, we changed our field of membership from a single employee group to select employee groups within a 25 mile radius," Cutter Phillips said. Phillips is the current vice president of marketing and information technology, and an employee of RVCU for nearly 15 years. "With the limited amount of companies that had over 25 employees, we were not seeing the growth like we had hoped."

At about the same time that RVCU expanded its membership qualifications, Amway, Access Business Group, Amway Grand Plaza Hotel and Quixtar joined together under the control of a newly formed parent company called Alticor. This posed a second problem for AECU that would compound the difficulties of looking for a new membership base. The name Amway Employees Credit Union no longer made

sense as a description of a financial institution devoted to the employees of Alticor and several other area businesses. The solution to the name problem came on Jan. 15, 2001, when Amway Employees Credit Union was officially renamed River Valley Credit Union. The solution to the membership problem came three years later, on Jan. 15, 2004, when RVCU opened its membership once again and became a community-based credit union.

"This change in our field of membership has dramatically helped our credit union attract new members and diversify our member base," Phillips said.

In the early years, RVCU offered loans, checking and savings accounts and certificates of deposits (CDs). Since then, the credit union has evolved into a full service modern financial institution offering mortgages, e-services, Android and iPhone banking apps, credit cards powered by VISA, vehicle, RV and boat loans, and many other

services that you expect from larger banks. RVCU has 27 employees at three locations in Ada, Edmore and Lowell. Membership is open to any individual who either lives in, attends school in or is employed in Kent, Montcalm or Ionia County.

"We are growing in members and assets. We are constantly expanding our services and pushing the limits of technology," Phillips said. RVCU has experienced noted improvements in terms of the services they offer, brand management and the efficiency of banking processes since the early days.

Since the financial crisis of 2008, hundreds of major banks in the United States have simply blinked out of existence and many people blame the crisis itself on mismanagement on behalf of bankers at large financial institutions. On November 5, 2011, an offshoot of the Occupy movement called

River Valley Credit Union,
continued, page 16



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Lowell Middle School first trimester Honor Roll

*The Lowell Middle School Honor Roll for the first trimester of the 2013-2014 year. The honor roll is for students who earn a B or better; * after name denotes all As.*

6TH GRADE

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Conner Balabuch
Grace Barber
Neely Bardwell *
Noah Barnhart
Kathleen Basinger
Krin Beach
Jacquelyn Bileth
Jayleigh Bileth
Isabella Blakely *
Ryleigh Blough
Ashley Boehr
Mary Buechler
Caleb Clark
Collin Clark
Jacob Cleaver *
Lucas Cossar
Savanah Crace
Danica Cupp
Jacob Cutler
Abigail Davis
Mackenzie DeBold
Logan DeKok *
Olivia Dennie
Jaron DeVito
Bernie Diekevers
Ellery Droog *
Miles Droski
Delaney Duimstra *
Akalia Foreman *
Aaron Fox *
Ember Fox
Molly Frederickson
Aaron Fritsma *
Riley Fuller
Anna Gaskin
MaKenzie Givens
Brayden Gould

Madison Halfmann
Braidon Hamilton
Emma Hancock
Jonathan Harwood
Khloe Hayes *
Emily Hoeksema
Roy Hoin *
Sophia Hornik
Logan Hudson *
Addison Karp
Collier Kaufman *
Benjamin Klein
Kambry Kloosterman
Connor Kooistra
William Kuhns *
Jared Lardie
Grant LeBarre
Renee LeFebre
Breanne Lett
Phoebe Looman
Jake Lotterman
William Martin
Nolan Mazarka
Abigail McMillian *
Nigel Mika
Alyssa Miles
Jada Millhisler
Isabelle Misner
Graysen Nauta
Zachary Oberlin
Ian O'Strander *
John Patrick
Isiah Perysian *
Alexander Pollock
Grant Pratt *
Julia Pytlik
Breyden Race *
Zuriel Ragan
Paige Romig
Devan Rutz
Kyla Sanders *
Lark Sawyer *
Benjamin Schmidt
Josie Schwierking
Sage Serbenta
John Sherman *

Ryan Sikkenga
Tyler Sikkenga *
Nolan Smith *
Cade Solomonson
Ezra Stadt
Donald Staley *
Madison Stevens
Hayden Stickney *
Jared Sweet *
Sebastian Szymanski
Isabelle Tackmann
Matelyn Torline
Carson VanNoy
Carson VanVeelen
Jenner Willard
Zachary Williams
Alexis Winglar
Ford Yates
Stephanie Zalis *
Shea Zeck
Kaia Zimmerman*

7TH GRADE:

Nichole Anheuser *
Danielle Barnes *
Joslynn Battle *
Kyle Bibbler *
Mikayla Boersma
Lennox Brinks
Hunter Browning
Connor Cater *
Bridgett Clay *
Amber Clouse
Eleanor Cooper
Gavin Coxon *
Regan Coxon
Tyler Cross
Dylan Cudney
Linnae DeBoer
Sarah DeKam *
Conner DeKok
Jordan Dent
Mackenzie DeRaad *
Ella Dougherty *
Zachary Fabis
Aili Fisher *

Laine Fleszar
Marlie Fowler *
Ava Frederickson
Lin Gallagher *
Parker Georgacakes
Charity Gerig
Harlie Gerth-McMullin *
Deijah Gissendanner
Kohl Goldsmith
Zane Goldsmith *
Samantha Graves
Tyler Groeneweg *
Kollen Gruizenga *
Kevin Hadley
Shannon Havlik *
Jaklyn Hayes *
Logan Hesche
Carly Hoekstra
Alyvia Holdridge *
Aileen Hussey *
Callie Ingram *
Ashleigh Jarrard
Annabelle Johnson *
Olyvia Johnson *
Madison Jordan
Patrick Kargl *
Ethan Kelley *
Danielle Kermeen
Karsten Kirkendall *
Nicholas Korhorn
Kelly Kroll *
Samantha Kurti *
Meghan Landgren *
Sara Landon
Jeffrey Leach
Paige Lewis
Emily Lothian
Addison Mallindine
Gramm McCormack
Brendan Milligan
Eric Mooney
Avry Mutschler
Hadyn Nash
Case Olesko *
Grace Ostrander
Andrew Parsons *
Katherine Peal *
Trevor Petroelje *
Brendan Philo
Tyler Pitcher
Ethan Ray
Isabel Remar *
Ivan Reynolds *
Mary Ricards
Julianne Ritsema *
Megan Roe *
Ryan Roest *
Leanna Rose *
Robert Schneider *
Samuel Schwierking
Lucas Sherman *
Samuel Simmons *
Grace Sinen
Marleigh Skibbe *

Gabriel Smith
Maggie Spoelstra *
Daniel Staup *
Joel Steinebach
Kylee Stephens *
Nicholas Struckmeyer *
Emily Stump *
Faith Tava
Philip Thompson *
Colin VanderWarf *
Nathaniel VanDeWeert *
Abigail Wester
Abigail White *
Hope Winters
Mason Winters
Anna Zook *

8TH GRADE

Morgan Allison
Madeline Anderson *
Melody Antel *
Collin Baker *
Noelle Baker
Christian Beimers *
Keaton Bell *
Jonathan Berklich
Laurel Blakie
Makyla Branagan
Alexander Brandt *
Olivia Brenner
Amber Brown
Joshua Bush
Mitchell Bussell
Dawson Chapman *
Ashton Charron
Tayler Chertos *
Kimberly Clouatre
Brynn Cody
Riley Conlan *
Travis Cornell
Madelyne Crace *
McKenna Creighton *
Cassandra Dean *
Darby Dean
Isabelle Dial *
Elijah Dixon
Brady Douma *
Connor Douma
Jonathan Draigh *
Katrina Droski
Quinne Duhr *
Jarrett Duimstra
Geoffrey Fleenor *
Katelyn Flier *
Tierney Greenhoe *
Hannah Halfmann *
Jacob Hanson
Jenna Harper *
Alexis Higley *
Lindsay Hindley
Hailey Hoevenaar *
Lydia Hull
Evan Johnson *

Jade Johnson
Roman Johnson
Skyler Jones
Abigail Kastanek *
Fiona Kelly
Akasha Khalsa *
Annelise Kolp *
Dawn Kondor *
Katherine Kroll *
Emily Kropf *
David Kruse
Hunter Krzysik *
Laura Lachowski
Alexander Laird *
Andrew LeFebre
Jayce Lixey
Benjamin Lobbezoo *
Cassiopeia Longway
Chloe Looman
Courtney Lubbers *
Abigail Mangus *
Abigail McDowell
Cody McGee *
Blake McVey
Rachel McVey
Justin McWayne
Samuel Misak
Karleigh Mrozinski *
Eden Nethercott
Ryan Noffke
MacKenzie North *
Connor Nugent *
Jacob Nugent *
Nicole Nugent *
Alexander Patrick
Nicole Paulus
Ryan Pawlowski
Justin Plunkett *
Alexis Poll
Morgan Polsgrove *
Sydney Powell *
Natalie Price
Miah Ransom
Roman Rozell *
Payton Russell *
Brendan Sanders *
Holton Sawyer *
Chloe Schmidt *
Kaitlyn Senneker *
Erin Smithee
Kya Sparks *
Noah Spencer
Emma Stockreef
Megan Summerfield
Nathaniel Svoboda
Madeline Taylor *
Bailey VanderMark *
Jordan VanOosten *
Jade Williams
Kaitlynn Williams *
Keigan Yuhas
Kennedy Zimmerman

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obituaries

McBain

Kenneth Charles McBain, age 46, of Saranac, passed away December 14, 2013. Kenneth is survived by his fiance' Holly Rueckert of Saranac; sons, Mitchell Blood, Evan Rueckert, Kenneth McBain Jr., and Garrett McBain, all of Saranac; and special friend, Ron Utley of Lowell. Memorial services will be held Sunday, January 5, 1 pm at First Congregational Church of Lowell with Pastor Chris Schwab officiating. Memorial contribution may be made to his family. Funeral arrangements by Lake Funeral Home of Saranac. Online condolences may be made at www.lakefuneralhomes.com

MILLS

Shirley Joan (Lemke) Mills passed to heaven peacefully December 23, 2013 at the age of 79. Born in Detroit to the late Arthur and Lenna (Ashton) Lemke on November 6, 1934, Shirley grew up at the family's resort on the north shore of Green Bay outside Cedar River, MI. She met John Mills, who predeceased her earlier this year, while in college. They married in 1956. About one thousand adults remember Shirley as "Mrs. Mills," their favorite first grade teacher in Mancelona, after she and John moved to nearby Bellaire. Excellence in her work brought Shirley recognition as a state semi-finalist in the 1985 Teacher in Space program and a year teaching in Scotland on a Fulbright Exchange. She retired in 1990. Unquenchable thirst for adventure led Shirley to all seven continents, over the Arctic Circle, and to exotic locations with some of her grandchildren. Shirley is survived by her sons Paul (Margaret) of Munger and Neil (Lisa) of Lowell, grandchildren Calina, Ian, Aja, Forrest, Nigel, Matteus, Kateri, Isaac, Malachi, Laurine, Kolbe, Lucia, Levi, Sarah, and Mercedes, sisters Verda McGowan of Kenneth City, FL, Claudia (Carl) Arko of Gladstone, MI, and Lorna Phillips of Pewaukee, WI, and in-laws Joan Brunett of Lake Orion, MI and Norman (Dorothy) Mills of Davisburg, MI. A funeral is planned for 11 am, January 4, 2014 at Trinity-St. James Lutheran Church in Munger, MI. Visitation will be at the church from 10 am till service time, and a luncheon will follow in the church's multi-purpose room.



LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 13-194834-DE

Estate of **MARY HELEN TRUSOCK**, deceased. Date of birth: 07/25/1925.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

December 19, 2013

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Mary Helen Trusock, who lived at 6271 Archtrave SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546 Michigan died 11/28/2013.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against

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

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

Mark Trusock
4643 Westnedge NW
Comstock Park, MI 49321
616-632-5008

a soap is to try it with a brush for cleansing the teeth and the taste of the Ivory so used is perfectly sweet and clean. Very respectfully yours, W.S. Baker M.D. A word of warning. There are many white soaps, each represented to be "just as good as the 'Ivory': they are not. But like all counterfeits, lack the peculiar and remarkable qualities of the genuine. Ask for "Ivory" soap and insist upon getting it.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger January 1, 1914

Mrs. C. C. Winegar has a fine Victrola outfit, which was purchased for her as a Christmas present from R.D. Stocking by her children. Mrs. M. N. Henry is enjoying the music rendered by a new \$200 Victrola, a Christmas present to her from Nort, who purchased it from R. D. Stocking.

Fined for assault - Dollaway to pay \$25 for assault on Betts. Judge Andrews fined W. G. Dollaway \$25 for an assault committed on J. D. Betts in the gravel pit on the good roads job recently. Dollaway is said to have used a stone and Betts to have had a narrow escape from death or serious injury; and his head is still in a very bad condition. Dollaway plead guilty and was given until Friday, January 2, to pay his fine.

Rev. D Q. Barry says the Baptist Parsonage looked like an old fashioned donation party after Christmas. Guess his people know the way to a preacher's heart is thro his stomach by the way they stacked up the provisions.

Many Northern Michigan saw mills are idle - not on account of Wilson and the Democrats, as Grand Rapids Daily Howler would like you to believe - but simply for lack of snow to deliver their logs.

The United States Court of Appeals has re-affirmed previous decisions that manufacturers cannot dictate the prices of their products charged to consumers. Such attempts are held to be violations of the Sherman anti-trust law. This is an important and far-reaching settlement of a much mooted question.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger January 5, 1939

Meeting the situation of being without a skating rink in the village, Rodney Kropf, young son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Kropf, with the help of William Haysmer flooded the vacant lot on the corner of N. Jefferson Ave. and Avery St., next to the Kropf home. It proved to be a popular place for the youngsters and at times there have been 20 to 25 children on the pond at one time.

Mr. and Mrs. Will J. Morse will have occasion to remember New Year's Day 1989 for a long time to come. Their home at 223 Maple St. caught fire while they were visiting at the home of a daughter in Ionia; the house and contents being damaged to the extent of around \$250. The fire, which originated somewhere in the attic, was discovered by Lew Morse about one o'clock in the afternoon as he sat listening to the radio. The fire department responded promptly to the alarm and by good work soon had the fire under control. Most of the damage was in the sleeping rooms and closets on the second floor. Mr. and Mrs. Morse and their son Lew are staying at the Al Morse home on Lafayette St. pending repairs to their home. They feel very grateful to the members of the fire department for their good work in checking the flames and to the neighbors for their kindness and help.

50 years ago The Lowell Ledger January 2, 1964

Headline: Citizens voice complaint. At the meeting of the Lowell Planning Commission last week, four local citizens who are residents of Riverside Drive were present to protest the plan presented to make a major thoroughfare of this street. Their protests centered on the report revealed two weeks ago by the planning commission that two one-way streets would be created to handle the north-south traffic through the town. The plan was to bring M-91 and Lincoln Lake Avenue, the two main highways north out of town, into Hudson Street going south and Riverside Drive going north. These highways would cross Main Street and rejoin into a two-way street near a new bridge to be built over Grand River.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger January 4, 1989

Headline: Stormzand retires to yard full of antique cars. When Ed Stormzand, exmechanic, ex-service manager and now body shop manager says that Vennen Chrysler, Dodge, Plymouth, formerly Jackson, formerly Speerstra and formerly Goulds, has a good product - take his word for it. Stormzand has not only worked with the Chrysler, Dodge, Plymouth cars for 40 years, but he also owns a few. "I have a 1924 Dodge, a 1938 Dodge, a 1951 Dodge, a 1953 Chrysler Windsor, a 1962 Corvair station wagon, a 1963 Imperial, a restored 1967 MG, a 1980 D-50 Dodge Pickup, and a Dodge Motor Home," Stormzand said. The Lowell native, will use his time spent in retirement, which went into effect Friday, Dec. 30, to work on and to restore old antique cars. As a youngster coming out of the Army in 1946, Stormzand worked with his dad at the family garage on Main Street until 1949, when he landed a body work, mechanic position with Goulds. "Mechanic work is all I ever did," he said.

The pre-Christmas shopping days are over and local merchants are focusing in on how sales for 1988 compared to Christmas sales in the past. Whether the sales were slightly up, roughly the same or a touch below sales of a year ago, no one knows for sure the reasons why? "If we knew the answers, we wouldn't be here, we'd own our own little island," said Bob Pfaller, owner of Pfaller's Clothing. Pfaller added that the national retail trend has been flat. "I think the spending rate remained the same, but there weren't as many people out shopping. Many merchants agreed it's important that local retailers work together in helping people realize many of their shopping needs can be met in Lowell. "Just being located in Lowell doesn't draw customers. Retailers must give customers a reason to shop here - appeal to their needs," Casual Touch owner Dee Korb said. "That means lower prices." Korb said she found much success in offering discount prices the week prior to Christmas. "The Christmas rush came later, but I'm pleased with what business we did do and it was what we had hoped for," she added. Jim Hodges, owner of Lowelectronics, was very much pleased with how well his store's Christmas sales went. One of the keys he pointed to was his advertising program. "I thought the advertising program worked well for us. I'm very appreciative of the efforts the Buyers Guide put forth. I think it got local residents to stop and think about what's here in Lowell."

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

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

office hours:
Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.
Fri. 8 a.m. - noon
closed Sat. & Sun.

classifieds

for sale

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

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.

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.

HEAT YOUR ENTIRE HOME - domestic water & more with the Classic Outdoor Wood Furnace from Central Boiler. Call SOS your "Stocking Dealer" Dutton, MI 616-554-8669 or 616-915-5061.

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

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.

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.

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.

HURRY - 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.

LEDGER OFFICE HOURS:
MON. - THURS. 8-5
FRI. 8-12
 Closed Sat. & Sun.
 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.
 Phone 897-9261
 Fax 897-4809

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.

ANIMAL CAREGIVER - Looking for an ambitious, physically fit person to care for many small dogs in a large, impeccably clean facility. 1st or 2nd shift, includes some weekend hours, Alto area. E-mail resume/inquires to: animalcare@outlook.com

SERVERS WANTED - Call Toni at Deer Run, 897-8481, tvsruys@deerrungolfclub.net

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).

RENOVATED 2-BEDROOM VICTORIAN (circa 1870) HOME IN LOWELL - 8 room (original woodwork/stained glass) including a pantry w/floor-to-ceiling cabinets & bonus room. New kitchen/bathroom cabinets & fixtures. Newer fridge. Washer & dryer included. New gas furnace & central A/C. Utilities (except water) included. Newly painted inside & out. Yard maintenance provided. Sits on 1 acre wooded lot w/plenty of space to play. Only a 3-minute walk to historic downtown Lowell. No smoking. \$950/month. Call 312-203-7350 for details. Available Jan. 1, 2014.

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

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.

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

wanted

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

lost

PLEASE NOTE - All ads in this category must be prepaid.

LOST DOG - 7-year-old Walker hound named Peggy Sue, name & phone on collar. Lost between Vergennes & M-21 along the powerline. Reward. 262-1815.

HELP US DELIVER THE PAPER...please DIG OUT around your newspaper tube, mailbox, steps, walkways & porches! Let's all try to HELP EACH OTHER survive the Winter.

services

BECOME A FAN OF THE LOWELL LEDGER ON FACEBOOK - Go to www.thelowellledger.com, scroll down & click on the Facebook icon.

WORK WANTED - General carpentry, remodeling, repairs of all kinds, windows, doors, decks, etc. Licensed & insured. Hull's Construction, 800-731-7148 or 897-7792.

STICKNEY ROOFING - Licensed & insured, free estimates. 10% senior discount. Call Jamie at 897-4369.

services

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

BELDING AREA - We have an opening for an individual needing assisted living. Private room, home cooked meals, medication administration, 24-hour supervision & care. Call 616-862-6712.

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

SCATCH PADS - of paper for \$1.50/lb. Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, 897-9261.

services

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.

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.

Coming Events

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

BOWNE TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY - meets the second Monday of the month at 10 a.m. in the Historical Museum at 84th/Alden Nash.

NEEDLERS - Second & fourth Monday evenings, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Schneider Manor Community Room.

WOMEN OF THE MOOSE - third Monday at 7:30 p.m. for business meeting.

ALTO AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY - meets the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Alto American Legion Post.

V.F.W. POST #8303 - meets the first Monday at 7 p.m. at 3116 Alden Nash S.E.

LOWELL SHOWBOAT GARDEN CLUB - meets the 3rd Monday in the Church of the Nazarene Fellowship Hall, 211 N. Washington St. at 6:30 p.m.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 102 - every Monday, 7-8:30 p.m. during school year in Scout Cabin at the end of N. Washington St. Ages 11 and up or completing 5th grade. Call Scoutmaster Randy Jesberg at 897-4569 or Del Rockwell at 897-6814.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY TOPS MI #372 - every Tuesday, weigh-ins at 5:45 p.m. Key Heights, 11335 Fulton, Lowell.

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.

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.

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

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

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

LOWELL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - meets the 2nd Saturday at Flat River Outreach Ministries, 11535 E. Fulton, 9 a.m. social gathering; 10 a.m. meeting. LARC sponsors 145.27 MHz area radio repeater system.

FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES THRIFT STORE - is open Wed. & Fri. 10 - 8 p.m.; Thurs. 10-6; Sat., 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at 11535 Fulton St. E. Thrift Shop, 897-8260; Food Pantry, 897-8260; Emergency Services, 897-8260.

ALPHA WOMEN'S CENTER - 517 E. Main. Hours: Mon. 11-3 p.m.; Tues. 12-8 p.m.; Wed. 10-3 p.m.; Thurs. 10-6 p.m. 987-9533. Diapers, formula, clothing & free pregnancy testing available. www.awclowell.org

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

ALTO LIBRARY HOURS: Tues. & Wed., 12-8 p.m.; Mon. & Sat., 9:30-1:30 p.m.; Thurs., 1-5 p.m. Info., call 784-2007.

KID CRAFT SATURDAY - Third Saturday of each month. Drop in anytime between 9 a.m. - noon. Make a craft & take it home. All ages are welcome. Alvah N. Belding Library, 302 E. Main, Belding. 616-794-1450.

ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY HOURS - Mon.-Wed., noon - 8 p.m.; Thurs. & Fri., 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sat., 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. 784-2007.

LOWELL ARTS! GALLERY HOURS - Mon. - Fri., 10 - 6 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m.; 149 S. Hudson. Visit www.lowellartsmi.org or call 897-8545.

EVERY THURSDAY - Night service at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 865 Lincoln Lake SE at 6:30 p.m. Public welcome.

NEW CLASSES FOR EVERYONE - children - adults at Christian Life Center, 3050 Alden Nash SE, Lowell. Every Wednesday 7-8 p.m. Bible-centered classes for children through 5th grade, youth group for 6th grade thru high school & adult prayer & Bible study. Everyone is invited to attend.

LEGODAYS - first Saturday of the month, 10 a.m. - noon. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146.

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

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

TODDLER THURSDAY - Every Thursday 11-11:30 a.m. Stories, songs, rhymes & learning. Ages 18 mo. - 36 mo. Alvah N. Belding Library, 302 E. Main, Belding. 616-794-1450.

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

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.

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.

KIDSTALK - 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.

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

TEEN & TWEEN TALK - 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.

COFFEE WITH THE COUNCIL - Come meet & have a cup of coffee with your city councilmembers. First Saturday of each month at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce office, 113 Riverwalk Plaza, Lowell. 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.

CIVIL AIR PATROL - Meets the second & fourth Tues. of the month, 6 p.m., Benz Aviation Building at Ionia Airport, teen/adult programs available, Call Shawna, 616-430-1348 or visit online http://mi222.miwg-cap.org

**THEME:
WINTER FUN**

ACROSS

- 1. Kenyan warrior
- 6. That male
- 9. * ___ down snow pile to build fort
- 13. Graven images
- 14. E in B.C.E.
- 15. Coveted publicity spot
- 16. Flooring choice, pl.
- 17. Bag in Paris
- 18. Get up
- 19. *Ice fisherman's gear, pl.
- 21. *Christmas, e.g.
- 23. Of a female
- 24. Farmer's joy
- 25. Nile viper
- 28. Famous bus rider
- 30. Comes clean
- 35. Denials
- 37. "National Velvet" author Bagnold
- 39. Like 1950s style, today
- 40. Put one over
- 41. Paisley in paisley fabric, e.g.
- 43. Large aquatic tetrapod
- 44. Impede
- 46. Lush
- 47. *"I flew like a flash, tore open the shutters, and threw up the ___"
- 48. Sci-fi weaponry
- 50. Snaky swimmers
- 52. Yellow river tributary
- 53. "Twelve ___" of "Gone with the Wind"
- 55. Feverish
- 57. *Cozy fabric
- 61. Dough
- 64. Sanctioned by law
- 65. Boiling blood
- 67. Pontifical
- 69. Convex molding
- 70. Convent dweller
- 71. Manicurist's file
- 72. Pay for work

CROSSWORD

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- 73. Down Under bird
- 74. Rane'e's wrap

DOWN

- 1. Technology school
- 2. Mine entrance
- 3. Solo activities
- 4. First in Hebrew alphabet

- 5. Federal Reserve in relation to U.S. currency
- 6. Hitler's deputy
- 7. George Gershwin's brother
- 8. "___ Man" (Village People)
- 9. Reality TV actress Spelling
- 10. Full of enthusiasm
- 11. ___ Verde National Park
- 12. Mouse to a snake
- 15. Less agitated
- 20. Intro
- 22. Stupid person
- 24. Groups of lay people
- 25. *Winged impression
- 26. Composer of U.S. military marches
- 27. *Hides or skins used for hats and gloves
- 29. *From above in winter
- 31. Shorter than seconds
- 32. Scarecrow stuffing
- 33. Jagged, as a leaf's edge
- 34. *2014 Olympic site
- 36. ___ gin fizz
- 38. Can be done in our out
- 42. Manuscript sheet
- 45. Quick, to Dora
- 49. Ed.'s request
- 51. *To be hit in winter?
- 54. "A Fish Called Wanda" star
- 56. Andean animal
- 57. Move like lava
- 58. Bulgarian money
- 59. All excited
- 60. Cairo's waterway
- 61. MaÔtre d's list
- 62. Copycat
- 63. Fabled racer
- 66. *Hot buttered ___
- 68. Caustic chemical

Puzzle solutions appear on page 12

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

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Red Arrow SPORTS

Lowell takes on Division 1 powerhouses

by Karen Jack

The Lowell wrestling team doesn't shy away from tough opponents and last weekend was no exception when they faced the #1- and #8-ranked teams in Division 1 of the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) at the Mat Mayhem in Flint. In a much-touted match-up between the two #1 teams out of Divisions 1 and 2, Lowell came out on top beating Davison 34-33. Prior to that match-up, Lowell crushed #8 Temperance-Bedford 51-22.

In the Temperance-Bedford matchup, Lowell won 10 of the 14 weight

classes. And of those wins, they won by major decision or more, which means each winner stacked up the bonus points for the team. In wrestling, they can win by pin (six team points), technical fall --winning by 15 points or more and the match is stopped (five team points), major decision --winning by eight or more points (four team points), and by decision --winning by seven or less points (three team points).

Kyle Washburn, Bailey Jack, Derek Krajewski, Max Dean and Garrett Stehley all won by pin in the match-up. Getting a technical fall

was Lucas Hall. Zeth Dean, Jordan Hall, Danny Kruse and Kanon Dean all won by major decision.

Davison was a little tougher for Lowell, although at first it seemed like Lowell was going to run away with the match, being up at one point 34-6. With the matches starting at 160 lbs., Lowell blew through Davison, winning seven of the first eight matches. Then Davison's powerhouse wrestlers came to wrestle and gave Lowell a run for their money, while Lowell juggled their weights to try to minimize losses and possibly pull out a few



Josh Colegrove works on turning his opponent over on his back.



wins. Unfortunately, Lowell lost the next five matches, with Davison catching up to Lowell and the score 34-29 with one match to go and Lowell in the lead. To win the dual, Lowell just had to either win or lose by nothing more than a major decision. Jake Garcia was holding Lowell's cards in his hands walking out on the mat facing Davison's Thomas Garty (ranked #5 in division 1). Garcia hung with him during the first period, only allowing Garty to score two points to his one. In the second period, he gave

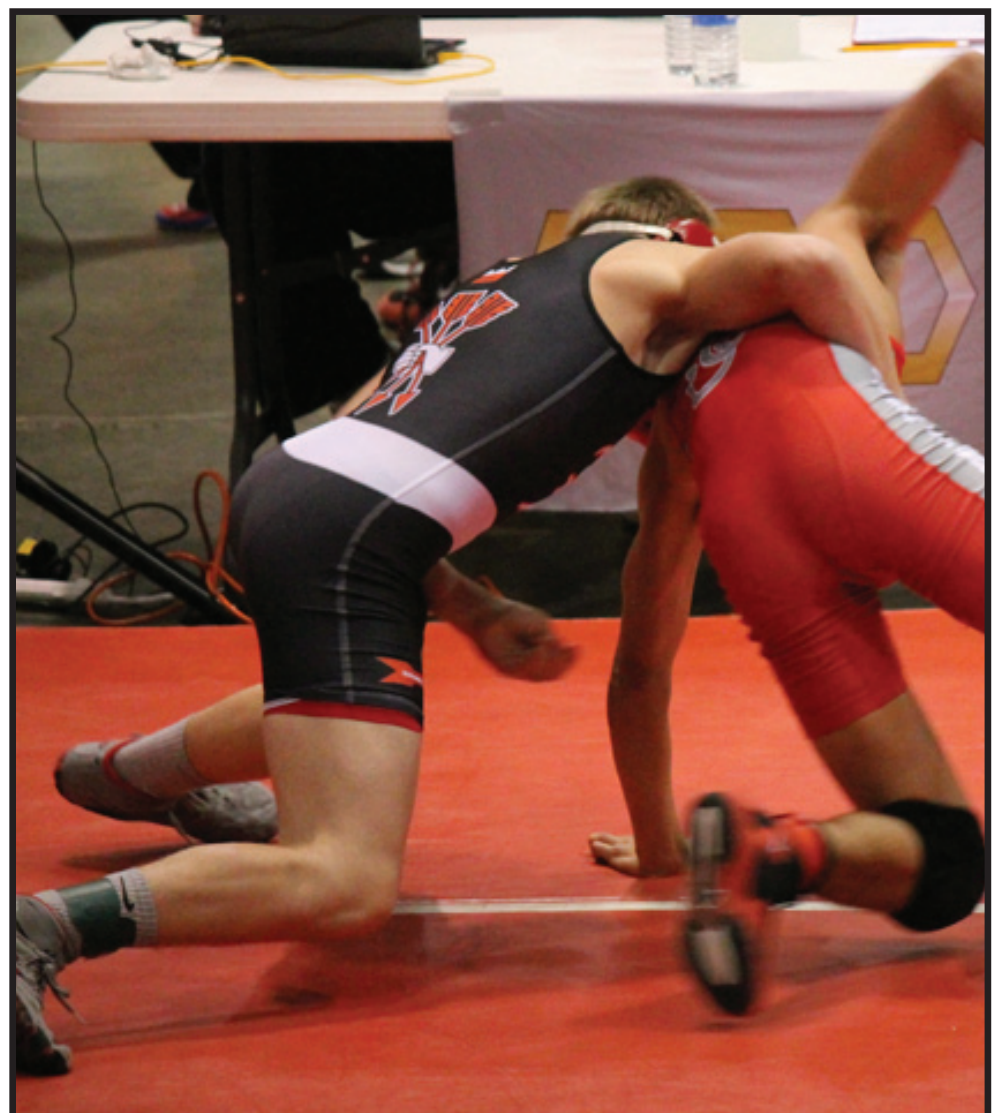
up a little more, but the win was still possible and it was looking like it might only be a loss by decision. Things changed in the third period when Garcia got turned to his back, but to Garcia's credit, he fought hard and turned back over escaping the pin. He ended up losing the match 12-4, which was the major decision Lowell was looking for. Most people wouldn't be happy with a loss, but this loss was a win in Lowell's book.

Getting pins for Lowell were Max Dean and Sam Russell. Stehley

and Colegrove each had technical falls. Lucas Hall and Zeth Dean both won by decision and Kanon Dean won by injury default.

"This is the best I've seen this group work together as a team," said assistant coach RJ Boudro. "I thought our guys competed well against the top competition in the state. This is one of the best team efforts I've been a part of."

Lowell will travel to Detroit Catholic Central on Jan. 4. Start time is 9:00 am.



Danny Kruse going for the takedown.

LAS WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULE

BOYS' VARSITY ICE HOCKEY

* Denotes a game at East Kentwood Ice Arena
1/3 at 8 p.m. Northview at Griffis
1/4 at 5:30 p.m. at Waterford Mott High (Lakeland)
1/10 at 6 p.m. West Ottawa

GIRLS' VARSITY BASKETBALL

* Denotes a game at Lowell High School main gym
1/3 at 7 p.m. Lakewood*
1/7 at 6 p.m. Forest Hills Northern*

BOYS' VARSITY BASKETBALL

* Denotes a game at Lowell High School main gym
1/3 at 7 p.m. at Lakewood
1/7 at 7:45 p.m. Forest Hills*

BOYS' VARSITY WRESTLING

* Denotes a game at Lowell HS
1/4 at 9 a.m. Detroit Catholic Central Invitational
1/10 at 7 p.m. Grandville* at LMS gym

GIRLS' VARSITY BOWLING

* Denotes a game at Lowell Lanes
1/9 at 3:30 p.m. Mona Shores*
1/13 at 3:30 p.m. Forest Hills Central*

BOYS' VARSITY BOWLING

* Denotes a game at Lowell Lanes
1/4 time TBA Fruitport Bowling Invitational at Northway Lanes
1/9 at 3:30 p.m. Mona Shores*

GIRLS' VARSITY COMPETITIVE CHEER

* Denotes a game at Lowell High School
1/11 time TBA Gull Lake Invitational
1/15 time at 7 p.m. at West Catholic

GIRLS' VARSITY GYMNASTICS

* Denotes a game at Lowell High School Auxiliary Gym
12/30 at 6 p.m. Kenowa Hills*
1/4 at 9:30 a.m. Rockford Flip-Flop Invitational
1/6 at 7 p.m. Forest Hills Central at Rockford

River Valley Credit Union, continued

for a Bank Transfer Day in which Americans were challenged to switch from commercial banks to not-for-profit credit unions like RVCU. According to Phillips, we haven't seen the end of the mass migration to credit unions.

"More and more people are joining credit unions nationwide and I look for that trend to continue with the mega-bank dislike,"

Phillips said. In order to meet the need of their growing membership, Phillips

expects that RVCU will need to have more than just three locations. The future of RVCU is expansion, not only in terms of brick and mortar offices for customer convenience, but also in terms of broadened e-services which will allow members to have more control of their finances.

While growth can often be difficult, Phillips joins the leadership and staff of RVCU in a commitment to uninterrupted, quality, personal service for the members who have come accustomed to such excellence.

While RVCU may have been founded on the American dream of Jay Van Andel and Richard DeVos, it

continues, like many similar credit unions, to embody many of the principles that the United States of America was founded on. Since RVCU is a cooperative enterprise, anyone can join and each member is elevated to the status of co-owner. Members make democratic decisions for the future of the company and those decisions are shielded by

external pressures by the fact that RVCU is independently owned. As a result of educational opportunities, such as the annual meeting and various other communications, members of RVCU find themselves making more money simply because the good of one member is the good of the institution itself and vice versa. With community

membership and ownership, places like Lowell benefit substantially from credit union membership. All of these principles are embodied in one line that can be found on the RVCU web site myrivervalleycu.org

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Showboat Automotive

Showboat Automotive Supply, 1450 W. Main, has been Lowell's auto parts store since 1973. They've been very active in the community throughout the years, sponsoring many organizations and events.

"[We] plan on contributing to the school and to athletics, the museum and the arts and Touchdown Club," said Showboat's Kirk Collins.

Showboat is one of the sponsors of Red Arrow robotics.

"It's a group of kids and they build robots and they go and compete," Collins said. "It's pretty cool. It's through the school. They have a

website, it's lowellrobotics.org."

The robots aren't as complicated as R2D2 and C3P0, they're programmed by the kids to perform specific functions.

"They have these tasks that they have to do, like maybe throw a Frisbee through a hoop or something," Collins said. "And it has to be able to do something else, it has to do more than one thing and they have competitions."

Showboat also helps put on the annual car show.

"We do the car show every year, I'm a sponsor of the car show," Collins said. "Most of my stuff

is financial because we really don't have time to do volunteer work."

Collins said the ongoing union negotiations should come to an end.

"Hopefully they'll get the stupid labor contracts settled, because that's about

ridiculous at this point," Collins said. "I hope they do."



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