wednesday · december · 9 · 2015

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lhs honor roll

page 10 no shave funds raised



page 7

mayor resigns



page 2



Annual parade brings Christmas cheer and Santa Claus to Lowell

the lowell led ger

by Kathryn Atwood contributing reporter Holiday cheer took

over downtown Lowell last Saturday during the annual Christmas festivities and nighttime parade.

The day's activities kicked off for the 33rd consecutive year with the Rogue River Artisans Fine Arts and Crafts Holiday Show which took place from 9-4 at Lowell High School. Talented local artisans filled the large venue with creative works ranging from re-purposed goods to tasty treats to homemade soaps and lotions. Proceeds from the small admission fee will benefit future activities of the hosting Red Arrows.

Lowell schools' early education program TOTS (Tots on Track for School) offered up another fun and creative Rudolph's Craft Workshop held inside the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce building. The

> Christmas parade, continued, page 8

Santa and Mrs.Claus made their much anticipated debut to close out the day of festive celebrations.

More holiday fun to be had at Fallasburg Village and Bowne Center this weekend

by Tim McAllister contributing reporter There will be two very interesting Christmas events outside of Lowell this Saturday, a huge bonfire in

The party starts at 6 pm, then folks go outside and enjoy the massive bonfire. "Part of the Christmas

party is a bonfire in the field adjacent to our schoolhouse," Tamke said. "The bonfire actually goes

on after the festivities. About 7:30 or so the fire gets lit in the field and everybody starts to filter in Bowne Township will out about 8:00. Those who be in a cluster of historic appreciate seeing flames leaping 50 feet into the air hang out around the bonfire and shoot the breeze."

of heat at first, but then it becomes quite pleasant."

The Christmas action



www.thelowellledger.com

vol. 45

issue 8



page 11



Fallasburg Village and visits with Santa Claus in Bowne Township.

Fallasburg Village, 13944 Covered Bridge Rd., will be celebrating an old fashioned country Christmas starting at 6 pm on Saturday, Dec. 12. The town will be tastefully decorated and there will be food and entertainment.

"We'll have a live band in the school, Hawks & Owls. And we serve wine and cheese, hot cider and that kind of stuff." said Ken Tamke, president of the Fallasburg Historical Society. "Libations and live music. The band will play vintage variations on classic Christmas songs."



The Christmas party bonfire is an annual feature at the Fallasburg event. Stock photo

The giant fire is created by a local man who saves scrap wood all year long.

"There's a farmer in the neighborhood, Craig Wood, who spends all year long building this fire," Tamke said. "He is our official fire builder. He gets old pallets and uses those on the bottom row to let oxygen into the bottom of the fire and then he gathers yard clippings, tree branches, wood from remodeling projects. It all gets tossed into the mix. The thing is about 30 feet long and 15 feet wide and it's eight to ten feet high. It puts out an intense amount

buildings in Bowne Center at the corner of Alden Nash and 84th St.

"We open the museum up, which is right behind the historic town hall and serve cookies and warm drinks," said Sally Johnson, president of the Bowne Township Historical Society. "People can wander through the two floors of exhibits and see all the great history we have. There will be museum members there to greet you and answer any questions you might have about the exhibits."

Kids can visit with Santa Claus in the schoolhouse

> Holiday fun, continued, page 2

the leedger

Mayor announces resignation, fire chief to retire in new year, new appointment to planning commission

by Tim McAllister contributing reporter

Lowell is losing its mayor and fire chief according to announcements made at the city council meeting on Monday, Dec. 7.

Mayor James Hodges announced that he will step down as mayor after the next city council meeting. Hodges made an

emotional speech thanking his colleagues in city government and his spouse.

"It has been an honor, a privilege and a pleasure to have served our community as your mayor these past seven years," Hodges said. "It is my intention not to seek another term as your mayor when we choose our leadership in January. I will continue to serve on the city council [member] for the next two years to help our community, our new mayor and the council as they would find it suitable for me to."

Hodges' final meeting as mayor will be on Dec. 21. The council will have to pick someone from among their ranks to be the new mayor at the meeting on Jan. 4, 2016.



Mayor Jim Hodges announces his resignation at Monday's city council meeting.

Lowell Area Fire Department chief Frank Martin will be retiring in 2016 after decades of service.

"Chief Martin has had a distinguished career with the department lasting over 42 years," said city manager Mark Howe. "I will tell you that in my short time here it has been an honor to serve with Frank Martin and to

> City council, continued, page 4

Holiday fun, continued

and there will be a living Nativity scene.

"Outside the school house the Bowne Center Methodist Church will set up their live Nativity," Johnson said. "They have been doing this for many years. Church members will be taking the roles of the Nativity and real animals will be taking part also. It is



BONDAT: Papeon chicken witimer rol (con day served at Bushnell), baked lasans, fuit & veggie bar, spinach & ronaine side salad, cherry tenaloes, nized fuil, peach-E.

TUESDAY: - Alle, Charry Grank, Murray Lake: Retivi pasta némakanan K Invalstick, green beans, fuil. & veggie bar, spinach & ronaive site salad, paramber ceire, applesance, barana. dt Busso stiels w il fi man e ing sainada C. noncine cide catal ----

set up so you can drive by it or you can park your car and get out and walk around."

Christmas in Bowne Center will be on Saturday, Dec. 12 from 6 pm until 8 pm. The two events are a rare opportunity to celebrate Christmas the old fashioned way

"It's amazing," Tamke said. "People come and gather 'round and tell stories and reminisce and talk to each other. It unifies people, which is what we're all about. Bringing the community together."

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KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY

This event is open to the public for all ages of kids and there is no charge for this event. There will be snacks, games and prizes. There will be arts and crafts. Come sing a song with Herbie the Clown and win big bucks. Get your picture taken with Santa. Held at the Lowell Moose Lodge Sat., Dec. 12 from 10 am to 1 pm. For information contact Brenda Schullo, 616-282-663.

CHRISTMAS IN FALLASBURG

This community celebration is a benefit for the continued preservation of the historic village sponsored



by the Fallasburg Historical Society. The 140-year-old "Schoolhouse" once again will open its doors to welcome you with traditional holiday music by the "Hawks & Owls" band, wine, cheese, cider, coffee and lots of Christmas goodies, plus a roaring bonfire in adjacent Fallas Field to cap off the evening. Held at Fallasburg Schoolhouse, 13944 Covered Bridge Road from 6 to 9 pm, Saturday, Dec. 12. For more information go to www.fallasburg.org or call 616-682-0785.

FROM VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Volunteer orientation at Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) will be Thurs., Dec. 17 at 1 pm. Please call 897-8260 for additional information.

WRWW BROADCASTS

Lowell High School sports, concerts, community events, student 'on-air' shows, and your favorite music can be heard on the WRWW FM radio station (92.3) and Internet radio station located at www.lowellradio.org

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.



WEDNESILAY: Walkes & swage, sam dinana apples; fuit & veggie bar: sainach & ramaine side salail, broccii fiorels, peaches, apple suce.

THURSDAY: Henrich masarori & cheese oldinare roll (no sinner roll at Bushnel), sesand laccal; iuit & veggie har, spinach & remaine side salad, baby carnds, friit gazy, apple.

FREAT: Honorade classe pizza en WG enest, side salaut, finit & veggie bar: spinach & renaive side salad, bairy cands, fuit, mange slices (al Bashmell), juice.

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Local credit union celebrates grand reopening

by Kathryn Atwood contributing reporter

Portland Federal Credit Union (PFCU) celebrated a new location and newly expanded client services at their Lowell location with a grand reopening Monday morning.

The credit union's short move took them from their former location at 11645 Fulton Street inside suite 400 to suite 700 at the same address. The new larger office was deemed necessary after exponential membership growth since their opening in May of 2013.

"It [membership] has grown better than we could have imagined," said branch manager Ben Weller. "We had a five year lease on our previous space and had to move after two and a half. Lowell has been good to us."

The end unit provides extra space and privacy for customers inside and also several new convenience features on the outside. An ATM is now available in the front of the building for 24hour banking and a single lane drive thru offers both a night deposit and banking not previously available.

According to Weller, who has been with the company for seven years and has managed the Lowell branch since its original opening, the move provides big benefits for their ever increasing members.

"It's all around a better situation for our membership. Same building but a lot better and more convenient," said Weller.

PFCU is locally owned and has been in existence since 1947 when it was formed by employees of the Holley Carburetor plant in Portland. Since its inception the business has undergone expansions that took them from one location with limited membership to seven branch locations and several ATM only locations



Pictured at the ribbon cutting, from left to right: PFCU CEO Harvey Hoskins, teller Ashley Weitzel, branch manager Ben Weller, executive vice president Michele Makley, branch administration vice president Fawn Morris and lending vice president Joe Krieger.

o available to all. Their d membership is currently s around 23,000.



There's nothing sadder in this world than to awake Christmas morning and not be a child."

> ~ Erma Bombeck (1927-1996) American author and humorist



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LOWELL AREA COMMUNITY FUND ACCEPTS GRANT PROPOSALS

The online application must be submitted by December 18, 2015 for consideration. Please visit www.grfoundation.org/lowell to submit your application.



1103161.1

The Lowell Area Community Fund, a fund of Grand Rapids Community Foundation, awards grants to taxexempt, nonprofit charitable organizations for innovative projects or programs that encourage community cooperation.





City council, continued

work with Frank Martin. He was an employee of the wastewater department for many, many years with the city of Lowell as well as serving on the fire department as fire chief. [He is a] very honorable, very hardworking gentleman,

Hodges the sole dissenting vote.

Councilor Michael DeVore, seconded by Teelander, moved to table discussion of a \$935,000 amendment to the Light & Power budget until the new councilors can do some just in the spreadsheet here."

The council approved spending \$2,895 to supplement MuniCode, the online tool that allows area residents, city workers and people all over the world



very much a contributor to this community and he will be very tough to replace."

Later in the meeting the council voted to suspend its own rules in order to immediately appoint councilor Alan Teelander to a vacancy on the Planning Commission rather than waiting until after the new year. According to the city of Lowell website, the Planning Commission is "responsible for all of the activities required by statute of local planning commissions, including but not limited to developing and updating a master plan and reviewing proposed development plans to ensure compliance with the zoning ordinance." Teelander was appointed 4 - 1, with



more research on the issue. A memo was presented to the council from Greg Pierce of Lowell Light & Power. The memo stated, "It was recently brought to our attention that the budget document city council approved last spring [...] did not include our capital expense budgeting data. The attached budget amendment simply reflects that inadvertently omitted information."

"The net income and depreciation are used, ultimately, to pay for capital in that capital budget and that proposed capital budget is \$935,000," Howe said.

Teelander, who said he recently toured Lowell Light & Power facilities, said that the other councilors should also take the tour before the council makes a decision on the budget change.

"I would definitely like more information on capital projects before we vote on this budget amendment," DeVore said. "I don't think there's enough information to access Lowell's charter and code of ordinances. The MuniCode supplement will add recently passed updates to the laws and will make it easier to print and share material from the charter.

The council discussed work sessions the council is going to have, starting with a presentation called "Council 101" by Lowell attorney Peter A. Letzmann. According to his LinkedIn profile, Letzmann "solves legal-related issues for local governments, usually during a crisis mode." He has given his "Council 101" presentation to the city council three times in the past, including January 2015. The council also discussed archiving future work sessions, having the work sessions after the regular council meetings and possible topics for future work sessions.

The council's next meeting will be at city hall on Monday, Dec. 21 at 7 pm.







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viewpoint to the editor

kudos to the team

To the Editor

Kudos to the Lowell Red Arrow football team! I'm sure I can speak for the entire town when I say you were the victors. Your fighting spirit brought you through with flying colors. You are to be congratulated for your courageous fighting spirit that led you to the last two seconds of the game. I can only imagine your heartbreak; we were right there with you. In my book you won the championship. If I could, I'd throw a huge "thank you" party. Coach Noel Dean is one cool guy, always portraying true sportsmanship. Your team and Dean have put Lowell on the map. Thanks, guys, for giving us a season of football and an ending we'll never forget.

> Glad Fletcher Lowell

fortunate to live in lowell

Dear Editor,

My wife and I graduated from LHS in 1964, the first year of the new HS on Foreman. We went off to MSU and other than summer jobs, we did not return to live in Lowell until 2013. Over those almost 50 years we lived in 10 cities in Tenn., NH, NY, PA, IN and Michigan. But, I love living in the Lowell area. It is more than living in the house built by my great-grandfather, where my father, Donald and grandfather, Melville, were born.

Lowell had some wonderful football, basketball and wrestling teams in 1964 and 65. It makes us proud that we still have a rich sports tradition.

We love driving down Main Street of Lowell; it almost looks like 1964. Yes the stores are different. I Gee's remember and Hahn's hardware, Western Auto, Arnie's Standard Oil, Christianson's drugstore and many others. But I love the new stores and new restaurants on Main

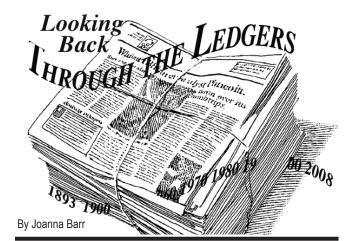
Street. There are other nice new additions like the library. It is great fun to see familiar faces as we walk the sidewalks and attend Lowell United Methodist Church.

I remember singing in the Lowell Showboat choir directed by Bruce Walters, as the Showboat came around the bend. I am glad to see we still have a Showboat even if it does not move.

I am very fortunate to be a member of Lowell Rotary, where father Donald was a member from 1940 to 1984.

Yes, we are very fortunate to live in a wonderful small town USA. Remember how blessed we are, remember to work to maintain what we have while changing for the better.

> Alec McPherson Lowell



125 years ago Lowell Journal **December 10, 1890**

Frank Peterson, a millwright, of Gd Rapids, met with a severe accident while at work in the King Milling Co's mill, last Wednesday. He was at work up in the apex of the roof when he lost his footing and fell to the floor below, breaking his shoulder.

The entertainment given by the W. R. C. and G. A. R. last Wednesday evening was a very pleasant affair. The tableaux were very nice, but the wedding was a disappointment, being no less than one of their must

Gay City hunters are charged with shooting farmers' turkeys instead of the genuine wild birds of the same name in some parts of the State. The farmers threaten to shoot some white men instead of Indians if it keeps up.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger **December 9, 1915**

The Lowell State bank is distributing some handsome calenders among its patrons, which is all right. But those kitchen-kinks for the ladies-that's another thing. Just as if the ladies couldn't think of enough things to buy without a list of lolly pops stuck up right before them all the time.

The Michigan Bent Rim & Basket Mfg. Co. is in need of logs to fill orders for stock and will pay a liberal premium above market price for logs delivered immediately at the yards in Lowell. See adv.

Thirty-One dollars and some scents. Frank Quiggle of Cascade, while on a hunting excursion, captured and killed 17 skunks out of one hole and sold them the same day for \$31; and it wasn't a very good day for skunks either.

In the season just closed, an Ionia foot ball player won a bride by his prowess on the field. We always claimed that foot ball was a dangerous game.

Lowell boy's bad tumble. Oswald Bieri, 28 years old,

still erect, but not as lively as when fighting down in Dixie. Born at Hamilton, Ontario on June 24, 1863, he will be 83 years old his next birthday. He came to Noble county, Indiana, in 1844. In 1860 he travelled with the Dan Rice's circus. While in Milwaukee, Wis., in 1862, he guit the circus and enlisted as a volunteer in Co. G., 24th Regiment Wisconsin Infantry. His regiment served in the Army of the Cumberland. He was engaged in the fight at Perrysville, also in the battle of Murfreesboro. Here he was captured by the rebels and taken to Libby prison where he suffered the horrors of a rebel prison for twenty-eight days. Weakened by the starvation and ill treatment incident to his imprisonment, he was sent to Annapolis, thence

Looking Back, continued, page 5

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. 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) or dropped off or mailed to: The Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell, MI 49331.

beautiful tableaux, representing the union of the Post and Corps.

John D. Nichols was a member of one of the first families and a regular society bud at Berrien Springs. He was also assistant postmaster and it was this little job and the way he mismanaged it that has given him a permanent position, at least for two years, as a guest at the Detroit House of Correction. You see he was very fond of the menagerie and delighted to gaze on the elephant and buck the Bengal, all of which requires silver and the place he found it easiest was in the postal order department. It takes money to fly high, so he took it.

Where the catch comes in. There is a gang of men traveling about the country making contracts to paint building roofs. The proprietor of the gang offers to paint your roof for \$5. You think this very reasonable and allow him to do the work. When you ask for the bill this is the way he springs it on you: For painting the roof \$5, just as agreed, but here is where he catches you -forty gallons of paint at \$1.50 per gallon. \$60...

A new sport was introduced at Bay City Road House. A number of rabbits were let loose in the road, the hunter killing the most in a given time to get a prize. employed in the construction work on the Consumers Light company's dam two miles north of this city, slipped on a board Tuesday afternoon and fell 20 feet to the bottom of the dam, fracturing his collarbone. He was removed to the home of his father, Chris Bieri, a farmer residing one mile north of this city, where he was attended by Dr. W. B. Huntley. Beiri landed on a pile of stones at the bottom on the construction. He is getting along nicely.

Michael Byrnes of Cannon township was badly injured at the Thomas bean elevator last Friday. He was standing at the head of his team when they became frightened and started to run, crowding him against an elm tree. The wagon tongue just missed his body and he was struck by the neckyoke. He was taken into the bean elevator and a doctor summoned, who stated that he did not think injuries would prove fatal.

A certain Saranac man is always playing in hard luck. The other day a neighbor painted his front door, and the poor duffer "got up against that," too.

Camp fire chats - Nearly fifty years in Lowell makes veteran an old timer. John Wright, veteran, has lived in Lowell since March, 1866, nearly fifty years. He is

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LMS Students of the first trimester

the Students of the first the categories of academics, Trimester. Teachers chose citizenship and attitude,

Lowell Middle School the following students who Kylie Albert, Kira Bailey- Crace, is pleased to announce have been outstanding in

Waldron, Grace Barber, Elyse Bosscher, Jacob Chrisman, Savannah



Danica Cupp, Gavin DeKam, William deVost, Brett Evink, Erin Gibbons, Evan Groeneweg, Madison Halfmann, Zander Hamilton, Travis Harvey, Emily Hoeksema, Michael House, Jaymie Johnson, Lillian Kooistra, Dustin Kosbar, Cheyanne Martin, Makayla McCune, Mason Meadows, Austin Meyers, Sydney Munson, Zach Oberlin, Noah Oswald, Samantha Peterson, Sophia Powell, Skylie Raab, Ethan Riddle, Lexi Royer, Jadan Sanders, Lark Sawyer, Hannah Schmidt, Evyn Schneider, Brooke Shilton, Nolan Smith, Haleigh Strouse, Emily Struckmeyer, Alexis Verstrate, Elizabeth Vredevelt, Marissa Wever and Caitlin Williams.

Tree lighting ceremony held at Fountain View

by Tim McAllister contributing reporter

The non-profit assisted living facility Fountain View of Lowell, 11537 E. Fulton, had an outdoor Christmas tree lighting ceremony on Wednesday, Dec. 2. The ceremony was attended by Fountain View residents and a number of guests.

"This was our second year of doing a tree lighting," said Kurt Lardie, Fountain View administrator. "It was for current residents and in memory of past residents. Our residents attended with about 30 of their family and friends. We set a Christmas tree up outside with lights on it and we had a lighting of that. Our chaplain, Val Wykstra was here; she

read some bible verses."

Extensive renovations to a building at Fountain View of Lowell were recently completed There will be a followup story in next Wednesday's Lowell Ledger on those renovations.



John G. Meier & Tracy Lixie diabetic neuropathy

Jim Lang,

health

Diabetic neuropathy is a group of nerve disorders that can cause numbress including in the feet, legs,

and pain. Various nerves in the body can be involved,





arms and internal organs like the heart, digestive system and sex organs. An individual nerve can be involved, but more commonly, a pattern of neuropathy affecting many nerves and different locations (polyneuropathy) occurs. The risk of developing neuropathy increases the longer a person has diabetes. High blood sugar, impaired blood supply to the nerves, obesity, high blood pressure, smoking and alcohol all contribute to the development of diabetic neuropathy.

Most often, patients report a tingling and burning sensation or numbness in their feet and hands in a stocking-like or glove-like pattern that occurs in both extremities. There can be increased sensitivity to touch and varying degrees of pain. There may be loss of muscle in the feet, legs, hands and hips, along with

difficulties with walking, balance and coordination. With numbness of the feet, pressure points from shoes may not be felt, leading to ulcers and infections. This problem can lead to amputation.

The nerves to the feet are the longest nerves in the body and are often the first nerves affected. Patients with diabetes should have a detailed foot examination every year to look for early signs of diabetic neuropathy. Special attention should be paid to foot sensation and the ability to feel a pinprick, cold or vibration in the toes compared to the upper legs. The most important part of treatment of diabetic neuropathy is to achieve good control of blood sugar levels. Patients who smoke should quit to help reduce problems related to neuropathy. There are medications to help with pain.

happy birthday

DECEMBER 9

Allen Metternick, Sara Triplett, Deb Schuitema, Alison Nugent, Ben Nugent, Noah VanLaan.

DECEMBER 10

Bill Fluger, Barbara Decker.

DECEMBER 12

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

DECEMBER 13 Chrys Thaler, Jeff Bowne, Michelle Fyan.

"No Shave November" raises funds for Gilda's

Lowell Area Schools' teachers and administrators decided to ditch their razors this November and participate in an inaugural "No Shave November" event.

"I was sitting at the kitchen table eating my frosted mini wheats one October morning and saw how the Today Show men were going to do "No Shave November." I thought, We could do something like this," said Murray Lake principal Brent Noskey.

The next day, Noskey emailed his fellow male administrators and they agreed to participate. They then went out and recruited other male teachers in the building. The group decided that they would each attempt to raise \$100 from staff, students, parents and friends to earn the right to shave their beards on December 1. They also decided that their proceeds would go to benefit Gilda's Club.

"Our teachers were all about helping out for this great cause. One of my

teachers even set up a Go Fund Me Account. I was pleased with the response from our students and parents. We raised close to one thousand dollars middle school," the at commented Lowell Middle principal School Dan VanderMuelen.

Alto Elementary came up with the clever idea of having "Moustache Monday." Students could buy a toy moustache to wear throughout the day for \$1. They earned over \$300 just from selling moustaches that day.

"It was a fun event and a neat way to earn some money for Gilda's Club. I have been at Gilda's Club volunteering during their support groups on Tuesday nights. It has definitely grown. There were over fifty people there the last time I attended. If we can pitch in and help a little bit to keep this type of support continuing in our community, I am all for it," added Noskey.



From left to right: Nate Masterson, Kyle Carhart, Mike Arnswald, Jason Lake, Jacob Henige, Josiah Roberts, John Stempien, Dan Vander Meulen and Nate Kraatz at Lowell Middle School.



From Murray Lake Elementary, left to right: Brent Steele, Stuart Kohl, Paul Jacobus, Daniel Wright and Brent Noskey.



From Cherry Creek Elementary, left to right: Ryan Burnett, Matt Bishop, Rob Stevens, Joseph Audia and Jamie Holmes.



Elementary.

GILDA'S CLUB JOIN MR. PAPES Alto Elementary principal Paul Papes.



Greenridge Realty announced that Joshua McCracken received Realtor of the Month in November.

This award recognizes McCracken for his outstanding success and achievements.



105 N. Broadway, 897-9261



Christmas parade, continued

event hosted droves of children aged two to six who created take-home Christmas arts and crafts.

Santa Claus made his first appearance of the day at the well known Lowell Showboat along Riverwalk plaza. He, along with Mrs. Claus and equally jolly elf helpers, welcomed children of all ages to deliver their wish lists from 2:30-4.

The line for the first opportunity to see the man in red stayed long as the eager gift seekers waited outside for their turn in warmer than usual weather. Guests were also invited to smile for a free photo with Santa inside the delightfully decorated Santa Room and

feasted on colorful cookies for the parade were offered inside the Cookie Room courtesy of Laurels of Kent.

Santa stepped off of the Showboat and onto the fairgrounds for a 4:45 appearance at the King Memorial Center for the annual pancake breakfast where he was greeted once again by eager fans hoping to hop on his lap. Diners enjoyed pancakes with all the traditional breakfast fixings for a donation benefiting the operation of the Kent County Youth Fair.

Just prior to the representatives parade, from Walgreens in Lowell presented the first ever Sweet Tooth Jubilee where children already gathered

up treats as they waited for the main event.

- <u>"ledger</u>

Main Street was flooded with onlookers for the nighttime parade which lit the streets with its festive glow and sound at 6 pm sharp. Emergency vehicles led the parade which culminated with the highly anticipated arrival of Santa on his horse drawn street sleigh. The between was filled with a flurry of green faced Grinches and a slew of hair raising Cindy Lou Whos as the participating businesses, churches, schools and performers embraced this year's WhoVille parade theme.

Winners of the annual float competition were selected by a panel of ten judges prior to the parade start. This year's winners were Tom Burri, who claimed first with his fire blowing Grinch. Second place was awarded to Lowell Little League whose student athletes designed and built their entire float. LowellArts! placed third with their float which featured the Grinch and friends busting a move to festive music. The whimsical holiday events were generously funded by the Lowell Downtown Development Authority.

King **Milling's** small fleet of festively decorated semi-trucks.





Members of the Lowell boys varsity lacrosse represented their team along the parade route.







The Heidi's Farmstand Grinch was one of nearly a dozen represented in the Whoville parade.

> The Lowell High School and middle school bands provided the soundtrack.

Crystal Carpet Care brought their crowd favorite "A Christmas Story" float .

Tom Burri's flame throwing Grinch claimed first-place float honors.



<u>"l</u>ëdger

Make sure gifts arrive on time

season, shipping companies work around the clock to ensure packages, merchandise and more make it to their destinations on time. What would December holidays be without gifts under the tree?

In 2013, overtaxed carriers failed to meet Christmas deadlines packages. for many Some analysts say big retailers and carriers may underestimated have consumers' growing reliance on online shopping especially for last-minute presents. Since those mishaps, both UPS and FedEx have spent millions on upgrades. More fuelefficient planes, upgrades to air cargo networks and improved infrastructure mailing addresses. Make

Come the holiday and ground shipping operations have helped shipping companies better handle the increased volume.

> As shipping companies work harder to ensure holiday packages arrive at their destinations on time, there also are things consumers can do to increase the chances that gifts make it under the tree before the big day.

> • Shop as early as possible. If you plan to buy online or ship gifts to family and friends, shop early so the gifts have time to make it to their destinations. Make a list of all the people whose gifts you will need to mail, then shop for their gifts first so you will have ample time for them to arrive on time. Double-check all

sure you have the correct addresses for all friends or family members you will be sending gifts to. An incorrect address can result in packages being returned to sender or floating around in shipping limbo. All of this only decreases the likelihood that gifts will arrive on time.

· Consider a shipto-store option. A number of big retailers now offer various options that allow customers to purchase items online and pick them up in a nearby store. In-stock items may be available the same day, while others may have to be shipped to the store for a later pickup.

 Enter shipping parameters. Signing up for either My FedEx or MyUPS gives you a little extra control over how packages are sent to you. For example, you can request that packages be held at a delivery center or you can presign for deliveries. These perks can help limit some lost or delayed packages.

• Use proper postage. Bulky envelopes or large packages are better off brought to the post office for shipping instead of mailing them from home. Inadequate postage could stall delivery of your items and

have them returned to you.

Research shipping cut-off dates. Shipping carriers often list the "last days to ship" for their services so that packages will arrive by the date you need them. This way you can plan around the cutoffs.

 Sign for up membership programs. Online retailers, such as Amazon, offer expedited shipping on many products as part of their membership programs.

For example, Amazon Prime-eligible products will generally arrive within two business days as part of your annual membership fee. The added cost may be well worth the peace of mind fast shipping provides.

An increase in online shopping as well as families living further apart has led to a high volume of gifts being shipped around the holidays. Plan accordingly so that gifts will arrive on time.



call for more information







page 10 _

Lowell High School Honor Roll for the first trimester wednesday • december • 9 • 2015

High Lowell School Honor Roll for the first trimester -2015-16 school year. First trimester term GPA must be a 3.000 or higher to qualify & is based on final grades

9TH GRADE

Chase Anderson Drake Anderson Nichole Anheuser Lauren Aud Danielle Barnes Hailey Barnhart Joslynn Battle Summer Bean Jacob Beke Zoee Bennett Kyle Bibbler Halaina Bladey Mikayla Boersma Renee Boersma Anneke Breuker Noah Brown Hunter Browning Nathan Bush Connor Cater Bridgett Clay Amber Clouse Eleanor Cooper Gavin Coxon Regan Coxon Morgan Cremer Tyler Cross Andrew Davidson Linnae DeBoer Sarah DeKam Conner DeKok Savanna Dempsey Jordan Dent Mackenzie DeRaad Easton DeWitt Katarina Doty Ella Dougherty Michaela Duursma Sarah Ellsworth Logan Everhart Zachary Fabis Aili Fisher Laine Fleszar Kaitlyn Florian Tristan Fogarty-Thomas Jace Forward Marlie Fowler Riley Frazer Lora Gable Nevada Gale Lin Gallagher Parker Georgacakes Charity Gerig Harlie Gerth-McMullin Asialin Gill Deijah Gissendanner Melissa Golden Kohl Goldsmith Zane Goldsmith Jailine Gomez-Tellez Allexis Gonzales Claire Gossman Samantha Graves Tyler Greenop Clayton Gregory Kollen Gruizenga Gwendolyn Hackett Kevin Hadley Emily Haefner Amaya Hansen Matthew Harrison Addie Hart Shannon Havlik Jaklyn Hayes Macie Hefron Sierra Heintzelman Jackson Helder Logan Hesche Caiden Hinzmann Carly Hoekstra Evangeline Hoke Alyvia Holdridge Jared Hough Brett Hudson Aileen Hussey Callie Ingram Ashleigh Jarrard Annabelle Johnson Olyvia Johnson Madison Jordan Olivia Kamradt Tyler Kapcia Patrick Kargl Ethan Kelley Danielle Kermeen Karsten Kirkendall Rylee Kovalick Justyn Kreps Kelly Kroll Samantha Kurti Emily Labron

Meghan Landgren Sara Landon Emily Larson Jeffrey Leach Paige Lewis Emily Lothian Kenzie Madden Matthew Mahalic Emma Malec Addison Mallindine Devon Maxim Gramm McCormack Megan Meadows Madison Melle Corah Miller Brendan Milligan Eric Mooney Bryce Morgan Mia Munger Jada Murley Avry Mutschler Hadyn Nash Ella Nauta Haley Nieuwkoop Case Olesko Grace Ostrander Natalie Paiz Andrew Parsons Katherine Peal Trevor Petroelje Brendan Philo Zackery Post Nadia Preston Ethan Ray Isabel Remar Ivan Revnolds Ruben Rios Soriano Julianne Ritsema Nathan Roest Rvan Roest Leanna Rose Diana Roth Andrew Russell John Russell Madison Sage Shianna Sawdy Robert Schneider Samuel Schwierking Lucas Sherman Calvin Simmet Mason Simmet Samuel Simmons Dwayne Simpson Jr Grace Sinen Marleigh Skibbe Gracyn Slagell Gabriel Smith Haley Sobie Maggie Spoelstra Daniel Staup Joel Steinebach Kylee Stephens Nicholas Struckmeyer Emily Stump Alex Summerfield Matthew Summerfield Faith Tava Alexander Taylor Xavier Taylor Jonas Thompson Philip Thompson Tony Tran Irene Trierweiler Mackenzie Uhen Michael VandenHout Colin VanderWarf Nathaniel VanDeWeert Elizabeth Vandiver Taylin VanDyke Sara Visser Amber Webster Abigail Wester Abigail White Hope Winters Mason Winters Madelynn Wittenbach Regan Zimmerman Anna Zook **10TH GRADE** Morgan Allison Madeline Anderson Christian Andersson Sky Angelo Agnes Hanna Astrand Collin Baker Atlas Barrie Christian Beimers Keaton Bell Hannah Bennett Jacob Bennett Jonathan Berklich Laurel Blakie Bethany Blattner Hailey Boggs-Osman Makyla Branagan Alexander Brandt Devin Breen Olivia Brenner Amber Brown Emily Brown Frank Buchmueller

Joshua Bush Dawson Chapman Ashton Charron Tayler Chertos Morgan Chubb Carson Clark Marlon Coe Riley Conlan Alexis Cook Allissa Cooper Travis Cornell Madelyne Crace McKenna Creighton Devin Cupp William Curtiss Katherine Cussimanio Christian Davis Cassandra Dean Darby Dean Clemence Defouloy Caleb Devereaux Isabelle Dial Eric Dimmick Elijah Dixon Selena Doty Brady Douma Connor Douma Jonathan Draigh Katrina Droski Quinne Duhr Jarrett Duimstra Dylan Eggleston Mitchell Evink Keana Fahrni Maura Fitzpatrick Geoffrey Fleenor Katelvn Flier Casey French Joel Fritsma Pei-Wen Fu Pablo Gomez Morales Jacob Gutowski Leonard Hach Hannah Halfmann Elijah Hall-Jones Joseph Hancock Jacob Hanson Brandon Hare Jenna Harper Maria Hart Alexis Higley Lindsay Hindley Ellen Hoejlund Hailey Hoevenaar Samuel Hofman Lvdia Hull Morrison Ismond McKenzie Jack Peyton Jankowski Hendrick Jannenga Dylan Jernberg Evan Johnson Roman Johnson Shelly Johnson Ethan Kaminski Abigail Kastanek Fiona Kelly Haley Kenkel Akasha Khalsa Alyssa Klaver Annelise Kolp Dawn Kondor Katherine Kroll Emily Kropf David Kruse Dakota Krzysik Hunter Krzysik Elizabeth Kuhns Antonia Kux Laura Lachowski Alexander Laird Saskia Landman

Karleigh Mrozinski Eden Nethercott Rvan Noffke MacKenzie North Connor Nugent Jacob Nugent Nicole Nugent Mitchell O'Gorman Bailey O'Strander Jaime Ortueta Gomez de Ureta Giulia Pappalettera Alexander Patrick Nicole Paulus Ryan Pawlowski Justin Plunkett Alexis Poll Austin Pollock Morgan Polsgrove Sydney Powell Garrett Pratt Natalie Price Ethan Quiggle Miah Ransom Kelly Reitsma Brianna Roest Seth Ross Roman Rozell Brendan Sanders Holton Sawyer Chloe Schmidt Max Schwartz Drake Seese Kaitlvn Senneker Erin Smithee Lauren Snarski Kya Sparks Noah Spencer Justin Stadt Emma Stockreef Kenneth Stump Megan Summerfield Nathaniel Svoboda Olivia Tavarone Madeline Taylor Zachary Tichelaar Elisabeth Tricquet Brayden VanAmburgh Rena VandenBerg Abigale VanderBerg Vanessa VanderBoon Bailey VanderMark Jordan VanOosten Zachary Vatter Quinn Weakman Sanja Wiesenberg Justin Wilczewski Jade Williams Jarod Willson Tesfalidet Woldemihret Trenton Wyant Nathan Yomtoob Keigan Yuhas Kennedy Zimmerman **11TH GRADE** Hannah Allan Adam Anderson Karmen Anderson Sterling Anderson Brennan Battle Sela Bauman Matthew Beachler Johanna Bem Jeremy Bergin Delaney Bierlein Dakota Bileth Maxwell Bishop Faith Blakely Katherine Bodemann

Isabelle Fleszar Callie Ford-Weber Rose Ford-Weber Alise Forward Brady Fox Cassandra Franklin Laurel Frederickson Darby Fuller Taylor Furtaw Kamryn Gaines Bridget Garter Ciera Gaskin Bethany Geldersma Haley Godbold Parker Grant Sonia Grasman Abigail Green Emily Grochowalski Salem Grody Madeleine Haines Rebecca Hall Brianna Haywood Kollin Hieftje Taylor Higgins Emily Hock Olivia Hock Shannon Hoekstra Kamryn Holdridge Jacob Holmes Brianna Homrich Molly Hoseth Thomas Hubert Anderson Hudson Noah Huizinga Eric Judd Kelsie Jurmo Terese Kane Jeremy Kargl Caleb Kaufman Corah Kaufman Bretton Kooistra Adam Korzen Trevor Labron Josie Ladner Aidan Lane Clavton Launer Zachary Laux Jared Lezan Kyle Liddle Isabel Lillie Kayeleigh Lubbers Alyssa Lynn Christina Lyon Sara Majestic Madison McCormack Carsen McDonald Alvssa McIntire Marlae McKinney Kenzie McLarty Alyssa Mears Jarrod Melle Robert Meneghini Tessa Micho Chase Miller Kathryn Miller Kennedy Mitchell Nicole Mooney Daniel Moore Ryan Morris Brittney Mulder Benjamin Mullins Austin Murray Braden Myers Riley Nethercott Nova Nietling Benjamin Noffke Olivia Nurmikko Grace Paiz Tiana-Marie Peavev Nicolas Perry Jayce Perysian Jasmine Peters Katie Petersor Mary Peterson Tiana Petricevic Zachary Petroelie Caleb Pickens Abigail Pickett **Richard Pitcher** Josealyn Pontius Andrew Poulton Alexander Powell Griffen Preston Lisa Price Jacquelyn Pytlik Mansel Reed Aiden Remar Gina Ricards Jillian Riney Megan Ritchie Samantha Robinson Alyssa Roest John Rogalke Emily Roth Alexander Rozell Samuel Russell Seth Salinas Joseph Schaefer Marcus Schussler Kaden Schwarz Trevor Sherman

Christina Sherwood Courteney Simpson Brevon Slagell Brandon Smit Logan Smith Connor Smithee Caleb Sobie Sage Solomonson Hana Steinebach Jensen Stephens Nathan Stephens Benjamin Stewart Jonathan Stewart Bradley Stoffer Kayleigh Striplin Mason Sturgeon Evan Swanson Garret Taylor Patrick Travis Steven Tripp Nickolas Truba Sydney VandenHout Logan VanderMeulen Trevor VanDyke Nicholas VanTil Sara Walters Corrina Wenger Zachary Weston Meghan Whitaker Lauren White Nathan Whittum Kodie Wilcox Mava Williams Kiauna Woods Jacob Wosinski Kendra Wroten Rowan Ysseldyke Maya Aalsburg Keara Anderson Matthew Anderson Justine Anes Alexander Anschutz Riley Bancroft Anastasia Barnes Jessica Barrett Ethan Bates Kvle Bell Baylee Bennett Jenna Bessey Elena Bishop Logan Blough Amanda Brenner Dean Briggs Anna Brillhart Katerina Brim Paige Brooks Lauren Browning Jared Brzezniak Avery Buckius Timothy Buechler Ethan Campbell Sarah Carr Jason Cazier Lvdia Chandler Alina Chappell Elle Coble Jack Cooke Matthew Cooper Logan Copeyon Mitchell Davis Skyler Dawson Maxwell Dean Zeth Dean Sarah Dec Bradly Depew Austin DeWaard Billy Dickson Elizabeth Dickson Ellen Dilly Tyler Doane Kristin Eckman MeKare Elliott Madison Emelander Kelsey Emmanuel Haley Jo Engels Rachael Fotis Rachel Fox Alexis Frederickson Eric Gable Madison Gaskin Joseph Geisen Avery Gemmell Abigail Gerig Kaitlyn German Regan Gravitt Jennifer Green Austin Grim Addison Grohman Kyrsten Grover Kellen Guinn Greta Gustafson John Gutowski Brandon Haehnel Matthew Halford Lucas Hall Autumn Hamilton Cameron Harper Jessica Havlik

Mary Hess Ryan Hessler Victoria Hewitt Justin Hineline-Gilchrist Maranda Holloway Audrie Hoogerhyde Lance Huber Talitha Hull Haris Islamcevic Mathea Ismond Graham Johnson Madison Kaminski Reece Karns Megan Khodl Michael Kirby Kyle Klaver Joseph Kline Sara Kloosterman Kayla Kole Kalie Kopecek Hunter Kramer Daniel Kruse Allyson Laird Bridget Lally Justin Lambert Anna Litchfield Maxwell Majinska Claire Maksymetz Marcus Malling Kyle Mankel Adam Marks Marilla Marks Brianna Massey Derek Massey Jarett Maughan Brett Maxim Sarah Mayhew Collin McGee Hensley McMillian Diana Mexicano Jordan Meyer Evan Mierendorf Elizabeth Miller Richard Misak Jordan Mixon Aleecea Moomau Ellinor Morris Karson Murley Shelby Mutschler Garrett Nauta Abigail Nies Carter Noskev Sawyer Olesko Jacob Paffhausen Ashton Pallottini Brendan Paulus Liam Peterson Samantha Petrovich Cameron Philo Jocelyn Polinskey Anthony Pollock Blake Posthumus Logan Propst Bailey Reitsma Tess Richardson Tyler Ritchie Hannah Ritsema Trevor Roest Corynn Rogers KaRae Roscoe Noah Roth Amanda Russell Amy Russell Sara Schuitema Karen Senneker Trevor Shurlow Madison Smith Anthony Stedman Gabriel Steed Brooke Steffen Jazmine Stephens Rvan Steven Austin Stickney Allyson Stockreef Andrew Struckmeyer Hayden Sutton Katie Taylor Carter Thalison Sherri Trumbull Michael Trupke Valerie Tyler Jamie-Lynn Urban Micaela VandenBerg Courtney VanderMark Morgan VanEnk Breanna VanLaan Kenneth Vickers Elisabeth Vogt Elizabeth Waller Calvin Warning Kyle Washburn Amanda Webster Douglas Weed Donelle Weeks Leana Weiler Brian Whitsett Faith Wilson Sarena Wilterdink Morgan Wittenbach Nolan Yahrmarkt

Sylvia Hawley

Joanna Link Jayce Lixey Benjamin Lobbezoo Cassiopeia Longway Chloe Looman Blanca Lopez-Grueiro Valcarce Courtney Lubbers Tyler Lynch Abigail Mangus Miquel Masot Salva Cameron Massel Caleb Mast Zachary May Abigail McDowell Cody McGee Gabrielle McRee Blake McVey Rachel McVey Justin McWavne Sadie Mellema Ethan Meyer Conner Meyers Laura Michelsen Raiden Miller Madison Minier Samuel Misak Nichole Mitchell

Andrew LeFebre

Clayton Brown Madeline Burt Stephanie Carlson Kyle Cater Samantha Celori Emma Chapin Brodrick Chapman Colton Churches Ryne Clarke Paige Clouse Austin Comer Sydney Conard Riley Coxon Amber Curtis Makenzie Daly Andrew de Voest Maria DeCator Paige DeHaan Bryce Dempsey Casey Depew Samuel DeVito Kyla Dixon Svdnev Dodde Alexander Dommer Michael Doyle Robert Dubisky Jonah Epema Edward Fisher

Elijah Boulton

Collin Bowers

_____ the lowell dger

- BASKETBALL SPORTS

Arrows win season opener over Bulldogs 49-48

by Kathryn Atwood contributing reporter

Lowell varsity girls basketball team opened the season with a nail-biting overtime win on the road last week topping nonconference foe Ionia by one point 49-48.

The Lady Arrows trailed by two or three points for much of the game. Despite their inability to pull ahead, head coach Jake Strotheide said the girls kept up their momentum and continued to fight.

"I thought everyone really gave it their all. Each timeout and at the end of every quarter, the girls were talking on what needed to be done. They never gave up and I could see they really wanted this win," said Strotheide.

The second half of play mirrored the first with the Bulldogs just edging out the Arrows as the clock began to tick away. With just over a minute to go in regulation, the Arrows got on top briefly 41-40 but it was tied up again at 41 with 48 seconds of play.

After a timeout the Arrows came out and stood still. Literally. Sophomore guard Cassie Dean, who ended the game with nine points and six rebounds, kept motionless as the clock dwindled to less than twenty seconds before launching the ball off to point guard Riley Conlan in an effort to burn out the clock. The strategy had two possible outcomes. Either they would force overtime or land a last second winning shot. Ionia grappled hard for the ball and got it hoping for their own victory with a failed hail Mary from nearly full court that forced the later scenario.

Free throws made the difference in overtime as Lowell's Christy Lyon did some sharp shooting from the line to put the Arrows up by four with only ten



Point guard Riley Conlan netted four points and grabbed three steals for the squad.

seconds remaining. Lyon scored 12 points and nabbed eight rebounds for the team.

Ionia's top scorer Jaylin Williams dropped a three pointer at the buzzer but the Bulldogs were left one point short and the Arrows were able to celebrate their first victory.

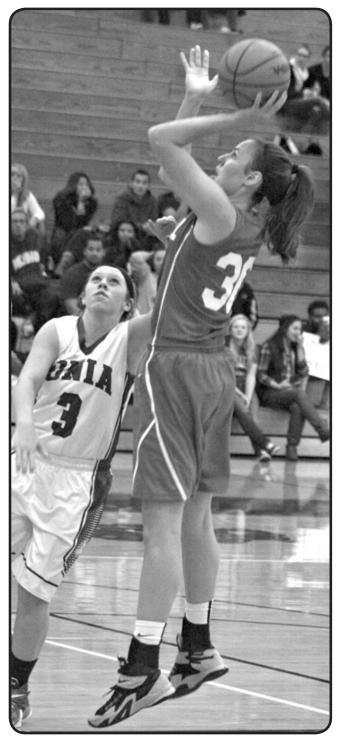
"Christy Lyon came up really big for us. She hit some big shots, especially the last two free throws in overtime. She just did so many little things to keep us in the game," said Strotheide following the win.

Senior team captain Ally Frederickson led the team on the court. According to Strotheide, "I thought Ally was tough all night. She was doubled-teamed all night and never put her head down. Thought she made very good decisions."

Frederickson ended the night with 14 points, six blocks and nine rebounds for the team.

Strotheide also noted Conlan's strong play and a key three pointer from senior captain Bailey Reitsma as key moments in the game.

Looking forward, Strotheide hopes to use this positive momentum moving forward but recognizes this is only just the beginning of their season battle. "It's nice to get the win but I think we all know that we still have a bunch of things to get better at. This group likes to work and we feel like we can get better every day," concluded Strotheide. This week the team will take on another non-conference rival, Forest Hills Eastern, on Tuesday. Friday they host their first home game of the season when they welcome Ottawa Hills. Tip off is scheduled for 7 pm.



Senior captain Ally Frederickson led the Arrows in points, blocks and rebounds.

Sports Summaries

HOCKEY

Lowell-Caledonia-South Christian hockey took to the ice twice last week taking on both West Ottawa and Airport Flat Rock to kick off their busy December schedule. Wednesday the team topped West Ottawa 4-3 while showing support for a Lowell middle school student recently diagnosed with Leukemia by taping their sticks orange. On Friday the team decimated Flat Rock with a 9-2 win. The team's current record is 5-1.

FOOTBALL

Red Arrow varsity football has continued their success into the postseason with a number of top honors. The team was honored for their academic achievements by being named First Team Academic All-State by the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association. The top eleven players combined for an average GPA of 3.95. Zeth Dean was named Academic All-State as an individual with a phenomenal GPA of 4.4. Father and head coach Noel Dean accepted his own honors as well after being one of the youngest coaches to ever be voted in to the MHSFCA Hall of Fame.

WRESTLING

Recently released rankings place the two-time defending Division II state champions Red Arrow varsity grapplers back at the top of the pack this season. The talented squad is currently ranked number one in their division as well as the state and are ranked 20th in the nation. Their first competition will take place this Wednesday in Rockford where Lowell will see champion Max Dean on the mat for the first time since a wrist injury benched him all of last season.

GIRLS BOWLING

Girls varsity bowling had a disappointing start to their season last Saturday when they traveled to Spectrum Lanes for the Wyoming tournament. The girls rolled a combined score of 1,875 to place 12th among the field of 19 teams. The Rockford Rams claimed first place at the tournament after topping Forest Hills Eastern, Sparta and Hudsonville.

VOLLEYBALL

The Lady Arrows of the varsity volleyball team were awarded for their talent off the court when the Michigan Interscholastic Volleyball Coaches Association recently named them Team Academic All-State. The squad ranked in the top 20 of all schools in the state with an impressive average GPA of 3.85.

BOYS BOWLING

Sophomore Carson Clark led Lowell's boys varsity bowling team to a third-place finish at their first event of the season held at Spectrum Lanes on Saturday. Clark bowled a 260 game and had the best series among all bowlers finishing with a 506. The team topped Sparta 389-285 in the quarterfinals and lost to Hudsonville, who went on to win the tournament 379-316.



obituaries

CHASE

Dick Chase, of Lowell, passed away on November 30, 2015, five days past his 85th birthday. He was born November 25, 1930, in Oakland, Maine, the son of Guy and Annie (Taylor) Chase. After high school Dick entered the U.S Air Force and was stationed at Langley Air Force Base in Langley, Virginia, where he met and later married Joycelyn Jean Kyser of Lowell. This is where their first son Terry was born. When their time in the Air Force passed, the young family moved to Ionia County where two more sons, Kim and Scott, were born. They both enjoyed their jobs and family in Michigan but wanted to move to Sacramento, CA in 1963 where they would raise their three boys and Dick would work at Mather Air Force Base. After retirement they enjoyed traveling and used Michigan as their base since 1996 until Joy passed away in May of 2009 after 55 years of marriage. Dick is lovingly remembered by his brothers, Chet (Milly) Chase of Indiana, Phillip Chase of Indiana and Dean Chase of Mississippi; his sons, Kim (Sue) Chase of Lowell, Scott (Maureen) Chase of Fair Oaks, California; sister-in-law, Toni Haller of Lowell; grandchildren, Amber Betz, Scott Chase Jr., Kayle Chase, Bridget Chase and Josh Chase; great-grandchildren, Rachel Betz and Jacob Betz: special nieces and nephews. Sandra, Loretta. Vaughn, Valerie, Mike and Sonia; and many other nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife Joy and son Terry. Memorial services were held Monday, December 7, 2015 at the Lake Funeral Home in Saranac with Pastor Ken Ford officiating. Luncheon followed the service at Grand Volute Ballrooms in Lowell. Visitation was Sunday at the funeral home. Those wishing may make memorial contributions to Visiting Nurses or Visiting Angels. Online condolences may be made at www. lakefuneralhomes.com

Gather the family around My Social Security

Each holiday gathering is special. Families and friends get together to see how big the kids have gotten,

holiday catch up on family news special. from the summer and new nds get school year, and remind ow big each other to be grateful gotten, for what we have.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 15-198414-DE

Estate of ARLENE M. BRUGGINK, deceased. Date of birth: 05/08/1926.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICETOCREDITORS:Thedecedent,ArleneM.Bruggink,died10/25/2015.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be

forever barred unless presented to Craig A. Bruggink and Robert E. Bruggink, 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.

December 3, 2015

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

Craig A. Bruggink and Robert E. Bruggink 429 Turner Ave., NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 616-456-5048 But what's the best way to know what you have to be thankful for when it comes to Social Security disability or retirement benefits?

This year, between holiday presents and egg nog, give your loved ones the gift of access, knowledge, and empowerment that they'll be thankful to have.

Before everyone gathers around the glow of a fire, gather around the glow of the computer screen and pull up www. socialsecurity.gov/ myaccount to open a free *my Social Security* account. There, your friends and family who don't yet receive benefits can access their:

Earnings information;
Social Security Statements; and

• Estimates of future benefits if they are still working.

This information is invaluable to family members — both young and old — or family members who are planning to file for disability benefits. It can help them make informed financial decisions about the future.

If your loved one is already receiving retirement or disability benefits, *my Social Security* is useful for quick and easy updates and changes like:

• Changes of address;

• Direct deposit information;

• Replacing a Medicare card; and

• R e c e i v i n g replacement SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S documents for tax season.

By showing your loved ones how to access this resource and encouraging them to open their own my Social Security accounts, you can keep the good feeling of gratitude going all year round. Join the more than 20 million families and friends already using my Social Security to stay informed of their benefits and prepare for the future. Gather the family around www.socialsecurity.gov/ myaccount. It's the gift that keeps giving all year long.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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Stay Connected ->>>>

in print, online or on the go - the lowell ledger keeps you connected to what's happening in the community



^{the}leedger



Dear EarthTalk: How are environmentalists and environmental groups using crowdfunding to get their projects off the ground? — Sean Jackson, Baltimore, MD

Crowdfunding relies on the collective effort of a large amount of individuals making online contributions to allow a project or venture to happen. ArtistShare, a website that allows fans to fund the creation of new artistic works, was the Internet's first fan-funded crowdfunding platform, launching its initial project in October 2003. Today, crowdfunding is a bit more crowded, to say the least, and among the most popular sites for this purpose today are GoFundMe, IndieGoGo, Kickstarter and Razoo. Crowdfunding has grown from a market of \$880 million in 2010 to \$16 billion in 2014, with 2015 estimated to surpass \$34 billion.

A wide variety of both small and large-scale environmental endeavors are now utilizing this revolutionary new kind of fundraising. In November 2015, Indiegogo. com, the largest global crowdfunding platform, allowed the HomeBiogas system to reach their fundraising goal of \$100,000 in 24 hours. The HomeBiogas system is a familysized biogas system that converts any organic waste into clean cooking gas and a high quality liquid fertilizer for the garden. With the system, 2.2 pounds of food waste produces an average of about 200 liters of gas, which generates around one hour of cooking over a high flame. Also, using the HomeBiogas for one year saves six tons of CO2, the equivalent of your car's yearly emission. The campaign will be active on IndieGoGo until December 23, 2015, and with the support gained they hope to streamline the products to households by May 2016.

On KickStarter.com, a creative project-focused crowdfunding site where "every project is an opportunity to create the universe and culture you want to see," over 2,000 people pledged a total of some \$280,000 to fund the Little Sun Charge high-performance solar phone charger, developed by artist Olafur Eliasson and engineer Frederik Ottesen. Backers of the Little Sun, which offers a full smartphone charge from five hours of sunshine, are projected to receive the product in March 2016. The device is handheld and can be clipped to a backpack to collect sun when walking outdoors.

Smaller scale-but equally impactful-current environmental efforts seeking crowdfunding include: Ashley Hoffman's Fundraiser for the Kentucky Association for Environmental Education; the World Parrot Trust USA's effort to save wild parrots from being stolen from their nests and forced into captivity; the Washington Youth Garden's living garden classroom that provides hands-on science learning, inspires environmental stewardship and cultivates healthy food choices in youth and families; the Franklin Land Trust's work with Western Massachusetts landowners to conserve farms, woodlands and scenic vistas; and the Nature Conservancy's innovative approach to turn farmland into temporary habitat for millions of migrating birds. All of these campaigns are posted on Razoo.com, which has helped non-profit organizations raise \$450 million since 2006. Any registered non-profit can claim its Razoo page and start raising money online immediately through the site's customizable fundraising portal.

While crowdfunding to support environmental campaigns and projects may still be in its infancy, no doubt more and more non-profit leaders and activists will embrace it as a way to expand their constituencies and pay for operations in the most democratic way possible.

CONTACTS: ArtistShare, www.artistshare.com; GoFundMe, www. gofundme.com; IndieGoGo, www.indiegogo.com; KickStarter, www. kickstarter.com; Razoo, www.razoo.com.

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Looking Back, continued

to Nashville, Tenn., thence to the Asylum hospital at Strawberry Plains. Prison experience unfitted him for active service and he remained at the Asylum hospital until the close of the war. He was honorably discharged at Nashville, Tenn., May 15, 1865. From Nashville he went to Rome City, Indiana, and visited his mother. Came to Lowell in the spring of '66 and has lived in Lowell since that time working as a painter and paper hanger. July 15, 1866, he was married to Mrs. Loretta Howser, widow of George Howser, who died in the service. A few years ago she passed away. Their son, William Wright, lives in Detroit and wishes his father to come there to live. Lowell, however, is his home and the old soldier prefers to remain where he is.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger December 12, 1940

Show windows attract crowds – Christmas trees, color lights a feature. Such a noise you never did hear! Sirens blowing, boys and girls hollering and the "Ohs" and "Ah's" of spectators, combined to make Lowell's annual Christmas window night, Wednesday evening, a great success. The sirens were on Santa Claus' car as he raced through town to the Municipal Garage where he passed out boxes of candy to children of the community. The beautiful street decorations added much to the festive spirit of the evening.

Local man saw airliner crash. One of our local men saw news made last week Wednesday night when the United Airlines "Mainliner" crashed at Chicago airport. The local witness was Wm. C. Doyle of the King Milling Company, who was returning from St. Louis, Mo., having been called home by the death of his sister, Mrs. R. M. Shivel. Mr. Doyle took a plane from St. Louis to Chicago, then boarded a plane for Grand Rapids. Upon arriving in Grand Rapids, however, the pilot was unable to land due to bad weather conditions and returned to Chicago. The Douglas transport, in which Mr. Doyle was a passenger with about 14 others, circled over the Chicago airport at an elevation of 6,000 feet for more than an hour before the weather cleared enough for them to make a safe landing. About five minutes after Mr. Doyle left the plane, the "Mainliner" from New York came in and crashed just across the street from the airport. Mr. Doyle was only a block away when the accident occurred and he described the scene as gruesome.

were destroyed. Mr. Ryder was away at the time and Mrs. Ryder discovered the fire, carrying the baby and another small child from the house, the two older children being at school. The Lowell fire department was called but the blaze had gained such a start it was impossible to curb it.

50 years ago Lowell Ledger December 9, 1965

Citizens protest, and city council decides Story should pay for land. A large group of Lowell citizens at the council meeting on Monday night protested giving away city property to Royce Story as was voted by council on November 22 and the council changed its mind and decided to sell the property to the highest bidder. Story who had bulldozed a road across city properly to a new home he is constructing off Shepard Drive on Reservoir Hill was given an easement over the strip of city owned property free, with no strings attached at the last meeting of the council. If no one had protested the easement would have taken affect after the meeting on December 6. Citizens speak out. After a brief review of the proceedings at the November 22 meeting by Manager Olson, comments were asked from the dozen citizens present at the meeting. Peter Speerstra spoke first asking the council to reconsider and not set a precedent by giving away city property. He also mentioned that the city might want to use this property at a later date and would have given away control of it. Hugh Young, who owns property in the same area, said if the council was giving away easements he would like one too. Robert Hahn was present to give his opinion of Mr. Story and to tell some of his experiences in dealing with him. Mr. Story recounted his story of how he happened to put the road across city property. He told the citizens that with friends like he had in the community, who needs enemies. Mayor Arnold Wittenbach who was not present at the meeting on November 22 told the council that he felt the council had made a mistake and selling the property was the best way to settle the matter. City street department trucks have been hauling fill dirt this week into the parking lot being developed on the location of the old Forest Mill on East Main Street. The new fill will add about one third to the size of the original mill site. The city expects to have about \$7,000 into the development of this parking area when the blacktopping is completed.

Christmas. Old Santa will be on hand to greet the children at 105 West Main Street, next to the bridge every evening and on Saturday afternoon.

Officer Steve McCarthy picked up Richard Balabon, 22, who escaped from the Ionia Reformatory, early Tuesday morning as he was hitchiking along Main Street. Balabon's escape had not been discovered by prison authorities until after he was apprehended, officers said.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger December 12, 1990

Headline: Qua-ke-zik Club is a prime target for the new Lowell High School. Members of the Qua-Ke-Zik Sportsman's Club were in the audience at the December Lowell Board of Education meeting Monday night urging the school to consider using undeveloped property for its new high school rather than trying to obtain the 120 acres currently owned and being used by the Sportsman's Club. If not, the members made it clear, the club will not just give the land to the school. "We won't give the land to the school, not without a fight," said Sportsman Club member, John Pursley. "The DNR has told us the school can't tell us what to do as long as we continue to do what we've been doing – it has something to do with the grandfather clause."

Council donates \$1,950 to Lowell Ambulance. Lowell Ambulance made it two-for-two with municipalities at a December City Council meeting. The Lowell Ambulance asked for and received a pledge of \$1,950 from the City for the defibrillator. With the pledge from the City, all but roughly \$1,700 of the \$10,150 for the defibrillator has been collected. The City agreed to give \$1,250 toward the purchase of a defibrillator and \$700 toward the \$1,400 battery charger for "Life Pak." Audit reflects a possible need for rate hikes in Cable & Power, Of every Lowell Cable dollar, 71 cents is expended to operate the system. Lowell Light and Power's revenue amount declined in money amount and in percentage in 1990. "I think the audit report for both Lowell Cable and Lowell Light and Power reflects what has been anticipated - the rates for both have to be looked at," Pasquale said. "It's up to both of those Boards to make a recommendation. At this time the City has received no guidance." Lowell Light and Power Supervisor, Herb Haines, said a study on the rates is currently in progress. No rate study has been started on Lowell Cable, Haines said, because the board has not vet reviewed the audit. He said that would probably be done at the next meeting. Virgil Biggs, of Biggs, Hausserman, Thompson and Dickinson presented Lowell's City Council with his firm's findings on the Light and Power and Cable Television funds.

Mother saves babes from burning house. Fire of unknown origin broke out at the Charles Collar tenant house, occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ryder and four children last Monday morning around 10:00 or 10:30. The farm is located just east of the Bailey church in Vergennes Twp. The house was covered by insurance but the furnishings were not. Nearly all the contents

Light & Power plant employees were busy last Thursday putting up the Christmas lights on Main Street. These gay Christmas decorations dress up the street for the holiday season. Lowell Stores will begin next Monday staying open every evening until **STATEPOINT**

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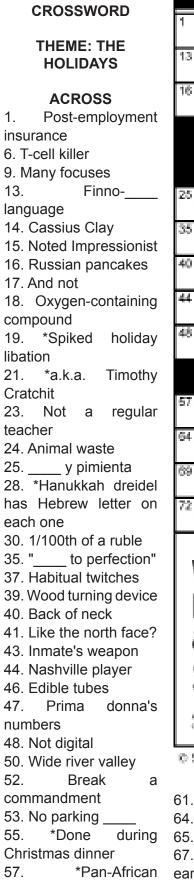
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Puzzle solutions on page 12

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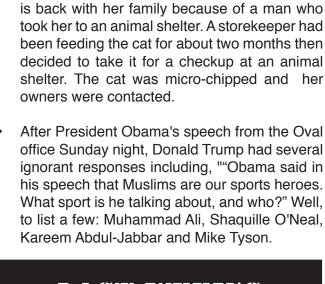
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26. "Encore!"

6. *Done to ornaments

27. Former Greek coin 29. Flighty person 31. Aaron Rodgers' move 32. Community spirit 33. Popular cook-off dish 34. *Macaulay Culkin's character 36. *Look for a good one on Black Friday 38. " ____ good example" 42. Mushroom caps 45. Hose attachment 49. India's smallest



people and injured 21.

THE GLOBE

DECEMBER 2 - DECEMBER 8

Employees of San Bernardino County began

returning to work Monday, five days after

a county restaurant inspector and his wife

opened fire on a gathering of his co-workers.

The reopening of much of the government's

offices signals an effort to return to normalcy

for a community that has been in shock and

mourning since Wednesday's attack killed 14

A cat that was missing for more than eight years



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7. International Labor 51. Aerie baby Organization 54. Like Forrest Gump 8. Taste for fine objects or C-3PO? of art 56. Not these 9. Like Jimi Hendrix' 57. Wounded Massacre Lady 10. "Put a lid ____ 58. Hit this when tired? !" 59. Tiny piece of 11. Ghana monetary anything unit 60. Takes a siesta 12. Found on a list 61. Like TV's famous 15. Golden Horde ranger 62. *Marines' holiday member 20. Newspaper notices donees 22. Octopus' fluid 63. Dick and Jane's dog 24. Do like Pinocchio 66. *Boxing 25. *One "chubby and 68. Melissa McCarthy's plump, a right jolly old 2015 role elf"

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- I budget loosely and charge some 56%

TO VOTE IN THIS WEEK'S **ONLINE POLL**

WWW_ thelowellledger.com

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Santa Visits on the

Come and experience the magic of Lowell this holiday sensor. Visit with Santa in the Santa room on the magical Lowell Showboat. Enjoy hot cocce and cookies in the Cookie Room. The Showboat will be decorated to enchant and delight young and old. A memory will be waiting for you this holiday sensor in Lowell - the Next Place to Be!

Wednesdays - 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

December 9 - adopted by Lonedl YMCA

December 16 - adopted by Addonio Technologies and Arrowhead Golf Course

Free digital photos by Modern Photographics with Santa

Saturdays - 10:30 am to 1:00 pm

December 12 - adopted by Lonedl Rotary Club December 19 - adopted by Gilda's Club Lonedl Free digital picture by River Valley Credit Union with Santa.

Friday ... A Nite of Christmas Cheer!

December 11 - 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm Warm up your holiday traditions on the Riverwalk Plage, Historic Lowell

- Visit with Santa and get a free digital picture by Modern Photographics
- Het dogs sponsored by Arctic Inc. Heating and Cooling
- Rossted chestnuts sporeored by Louell Area Elistorical Musicum
- Hot coces and cookies in the Cookie Room
- · Horse and carriage rides
- Warming fires
- Ice sculpture carving
- * Entertainment

Suggested donation for Holiday activities and pictures \$2

Please note that the line to see Santa on the Lowell Showboat is outdoors, dress accordingly for the weather.

Check the website at unum.discoverlowell.org for complete schedule or call the chamber at

